

# ILLINOIS LIBERTARIAN

Newsletter of the Libertarian Party of Illinois

Vol. 17 no. 4

April 1991

# **Independence Day Parade**



by Kenneth Prazak

The LPI for the second straight year will participate in the Downers Grove Independence Day Parade on July 4. This should be an especially big event this year considering the wave of "patriotic" fervor. Downers Grove appears to have a diproportionate share of libertarians. We were received quite well last year as we handed out copies of the Declaration of Independence.

This year I would like to enter a float as well — possibly on the theme of the Bill of Rights — founding fathers turning over in their graves is one visual possibility. If you would like to help, and especially if you have access to a trailer or flat-bed truck (or something similar to use for the float), please contact me at 708-810-1974.

An outdoor BBQ will follow the parade at my house. Plentiful libations, and food will be provided. Fireworks, volleyball, and good conversation...



## FIJA Organizational Meeting

The first organizational meeting for the Illinois Fully Informed Jury Amendment committee will take place on April 16, at 7:30 PM. Location to be announced. Contact Ken Prazak, 708-810-1974 for details. Special guest for the meeting will be Red Beckman, the fightin' redhead from Montana and the granddaddy of the jury nullification movement. He is author of several books which include Born Again Republic, Do Unto the IRS as They Would do Unto You, and his new book, Walls in our Minds.

In the late 1970s, Red decided to research the origins and activities of the IRS and the Sixteenth Amendment after experiencing typical tyrannical difficulties with the IRS. His research led him to Lysander Spooner, and *Trial by Jury*, in which Spooner lays the foundation and history for the validity of jury nullification.

This led Red to produce and participate in local cable-TV access programs distributed throughout Montana that educated his fellow citizens on the right and power of jury nullification. One year after such distribution, the usually successful (95% of the time) Department of Justice brought five criminal tax cases to trial in Montana. The juries acquitted four out of five times.

Red has spread the word of this magic bullet of freedom ever since and now travels the country promoting FIJA.

Come to the meeting to meet this extraordinary man and help us inform Illinoisans of this already existing right to nullify bad, immoral, and unconstitutional law through the jury system.

## Tax Protest Day (April Fools' Day?) on April 15

The LPI will take part in the annual Tax Protest Day in front of the Chicago Main Post Office, 433 W. Van Buren, from 5:00 PM until 9:00 PM., on April 15. There is always good press coverage at this event. Come and help deliver literature to the hapless folks waiting in line in their cars to pay Caesar. For more information, contact Ken Prazak, 708-810-1974.

# How to Help the Environment

"Hemp can be grown quickly

enough and in sufficient quantities

to serve as a total replacement for

all fossil fuels."

by Dave Hoscheidt

The health of the environment is a big issue these days. Most people agree that many environmental problems stem form the burning of fossil fuels. Fossil fuels pollute the air, use up valuable oxygen, and may even lead to much larger problems such as global warming.

The solution is to switch to biomass fuels, meaning fuels

derived form plants. Methane and methanol are examples. Fuel from plants would still have to be burned, of course, but the difference is that biomass fuels burn much more cleanly, thus producing less air pollution. Also, since biomass fuels are made from plants, those plants would use up the large amounts of carbon dioxide produced from burning fuel, and give off life-giving oxygen

as well. The growing and burning of fuel can thus become a part of a natural cycle. Fossil fuels, by contrast, are not so beneficial. They give off carbon dioxide when they are burned and yet they produce no oxygen.

Scientists will tell you that there is unfortunately no plant which can be grown quickly enough and in sufficient quantities to serve as a total replacement for all fossil fuels. Also, no plant exists from which fuel can be produced cheaply enough to compete with gasoline. Or is there?... What about hemp? Hemp can be grown quickly enough and in sufficient quantities to serve as a total replacement for all fossil fuels. Also, no plant exists from which fuel can be produced cheaply enough to compete

## **Hemp Tour**

The Cannabis Action Network is organizing a series of rallies in Illinois as part of a nationwide effort to promote the legalization of Marijuana. A rally will be held on "Hemp Day," April 17, on the campus of the University of Illinois, in Urbana IL. Ken Prazak, representing the Fully-Informed Jury Amendment (FIJA) Illinois campaign, will speak at the rally on the importance of fully-informed juries as a tool in restoring freedom for everyone. Hemp Day is an annual event on the campus and has grown bigger and more peaceful every year. It is not intended to be a "everybody bring out a joint and smoke it" event, but a rally to focus on political action to effect change.

Additional rallies will take place on April 17 at Eastern Illinois University, Charleston, IL April 19 in DeKalb, at Northern Illinois University, April 20 in Carbondale, IL at Southern Illinois University, and in Chicago on April 27. Prazak will speak at the NIU rally and possibly the Chicago rally. For more information, contact Joshua 217-352-HEMP, or Mike Linksvayer, our Champaign representative at 217-344-1326.

with gasoline. Hemp can be grown in all 50 states on even the most marginal land. One acre of hemp is equal to 4.1 acres of trees. Only 6% of U.S. land would be needed to raise hemp as an energy crop. Methanol can be produced far more cheaply from hemp than from corn or sugar cane and thus compete successfully with gasoline.

There's just one problem, though. The growing of hemp is illegal. This is because part of the hemp plant (marijuana) can be used to get high. And such a practice is dangerous. Why, the use of marijuana for such purposes can lead to all sorts of trouble. Trust me.

The prejudice against marijuana runs very deep in America for two

reasons. first, Americans distrust substances they are unfamiliar with, and especially, because of America's puritanical past, those that cause pleasure. Second, Americans have been bombarded by anti-marijuana propaganda since the 1930s.

What other useful purposes are there for hemp besides as a source of fuel? How has hemp been used by people throughout the ages? Is there scientific evidence to prove that marijuana is harmful? The answers to these questions and others are answered in a fascinating and well-documented paper-back book called *The Emperor Wears No Clothes*, by Jack Herer. This book can be purchased through H.E.M.P. (Help End Marijuana Prohibition), 5632 Van Nuys Blvd, Suite 210, Van Nuys, CA 91401.

# Traveling Libertarian Show in the Works

Jeanette Clinkunbroomer has come up with the idea to organize a small group of Libertarians to travel throughout Illinois holding seminars on Libertarian beliefs. Many inquires that the LPI receives states that they would like to learn more about libertarian philosophy. This would be an excellent way to spread the message and network with fellow travelers on the philosophical road. If you have any suggestions or would like to help, contact Jeanette, 708-966-0565.

## **Become Your Own Economist**

Attend classes at the Henry George School of Social Science.

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## **Public School Indoctrination**

by Lenny Grom

Thumbing through the homework and school papers of my two elementary school-age children, my wife and I came across a worksheet completed by my eldest, Jackie, entitled "The Sign in Mendel's Window."

I'd like to share this bit of left-wing propaganda with my fellow libertarians. The anti-wealth, anti-intellectual mentality can be easily detected even though it is subtly suggested.

Read the story and notice how the exercise implies that the people believe being a landlord, having prosperity, and being educated or speaking eloquently are not good qualities to make the candidate a good mayor, but that a poor slave to the landlord, who is awkward will be better.

Qualities such as wealth, intelligence, success and owning property are loosely associated with bragging and dishonesty. On the other hand, being poor and uneducated are tied to being humble and honest.

I can't help but draw parallels to the thinking of the Red Chinese-backed Kymer Rouge in the middle 1970s when 2 million Cambodians' heads were being chopped off. The first ones selected for decapitation were those who had higher education, professionals, and property owners.

All in all I have to thank the public education system for supplying me with this much milder form of communist propaganda. It just gives me another opportunity to teach my children the dying art of questioning authority.

## Chicago Tribune 3/29/91 "Letters"

John McCarron's March 17 column on conservative think tanks "(The Write Stuff of Conservatives") was genuinely disturbing.

One of his more grievous errors is to mislabel the Cato Institute and the Reason Foundation as "conservative" organizations; in fact, both are libertarian. You'd think McCarron would have noticed that these two groups are at odds with conservative doctrine on drug policy, immigration, foreign policy and a half-dozen other issues.

McCarron's attacks on the Heritage Foundation and the National Center for Policy Analysis; two other fine organizations, never rise above name-calling and mislabeling. The problem with these groups is apparently not that they've ever been factually wrong on an issue, but that their authors own "Burberry's umbrellas" were "top economic advisers" to the Reagan administration or have been "hired to hawk Cadillacs on TV." Gosh, what a devastating critique.

Calling my own organization, The Heartland Institute, a "right-wing" think tank is also a mistake. If our search for alternatives to high taxes, more government spending and

## The Sign in Mendel's Window

Read the story below, paying attention to the underlined words.

In the village of Rivka, there lived a 'poor 'tenant named Grinkov who decided to run for mayor. He gave speeches in the marketpiace, telling everyone what he would do if elected. Although Grinkov was a very 'awkward speaker, the villagers were not 'disappointed by what he had to say. Everyone who knew Grinkov said he was a 'humble man. He was also regarded throughout the village as 'an honest person. The people of Rivka believed these qualities would make Grinkov a good mayor, and so they voted for him.

Below is the same story, with blanks in place of the underlined words. On each blank, write a word from the box that means nearly the opposite of the word with the same number in the first story. The first one has been done for you.

In the village of Rivka, there lived a prosperous 2 mallon named

Gr:nkov who decided to run for mayor. He gave speeches in the marketplace, telling everyone what he would do if elected. Although Grinkov was a very a through the speaker, the villagers were not a more received by what he had to

say. Everyone who knew Grinkov said he was a surface. He was also regarded throughout the village as a commence. The people of Rivka believed these qualities would not make Grinkov a good mayor, so they did not vote for him.

scoundrel
landlord
impressed
prosperous
eloquent
braggart



VOCABULARY

26

Book 3 Battle of Wits

excessive regulation makes us right-wing, I have to wonder who besides the most entrenched Soviet bureaucrat McCarron considers "left-wing," McCarron is seriously confused about where the "center" of pubic policy debate is.

What practicing economist (or even well-informed businessman) believes, as McCarron does, that deregulation and the Reagan tax cuts caused the savings and loan collapse, the wreck of the Exxon Valdez and the current recession? What planet is this guy writing about?

Joseph L. Bast

President, The Heartland Institute

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Kenneth Prazak

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## The Health Care Crisis

by Dave Hoscheidt

Libertarians have really missed the boat insofar as analysis of the health care crisis is concerned. All of the arguments I have heard really miss the mark. Libertarians usually claim that the problem lies with occupational licensing and restrictions on advertising. Supposedly, without these things, people would be able to pick up a good deal on an appendectomy while out running household errands. Sorry, this argument won't cut it. While the issues of occupational licensing and advertising are important ones, and while cash 'n' carry medicine could play a significant role in the future, the fact is that medical care will always be an expensive proposition, associated frequently with emergencies, and the average American will want to protect himself against economic devastation through some kind of insurance plan. It is the current insurance system which is drawing the biggest complaints, and it is here that analysis must be concentrated. Regarding the high cost of health care, many libertarians contend that it is health insurance itself that is to blame. This is because doctors are tempted to overcharge and perform unnecessary procedures and because the patients are tempted to overuse the facilities since the insurance company is paying the bill. They recommend extremely large deductibles in order to deter such abuses. Sorry, but this argument also won't cut it. While it is certainly true that the current form of health insurance allows these abuses, high deductibles are not the answer. Deductibles are an ineffective way of keeping the doctors honest. As for the patients, when a person is sick, they are sick, and will use medical facilities regardless of whether or not there is a deductible. Hypochondriacs notwithstanding, people generally dislike doctor visits and it is this fact and not financial penalties which provides the necessary safeguard against overuse of facilities.

Libertarians correctly view the Medicare program as being a major cause of high health care costs. But many claim that Medicare should be abolished "so that the elderly may buy private health insurance." This is a foolish thing to say. For one thing, under the current system of indemnity insurance, virtually every elderly person is "uninsurable." Second, it was the private health insurance carriers who were the principal proponents of Medicare in the 1960s—they wanted to get rid of the bad risks. Surely they don't want them back. Any libertarian analysis of health care must include a reasonable analysis of the problems of the elderly, namely, how much medical care should be given—or withheld—from a person during their declining years.

Libertarians praise the growing phenomenon of for-profit hospitals. Since these establishments are for-profit, it is assumed that this represents a positive development from a libertarian standpoint. The reality is that these hospitals came about principally to milk the Medicare and indemnity insurance systems and thus cannot be considered a market-oriented phenomenon.

...Health Care solutions continues next month...

## Sent out to 926-libraries in Illinois on March 26—

Dear Reference Librarian.

Enclosed please find two copies of the basic brochure of the Libertarian Party of Illinois to be placed in your "civic/political organization files." Though our organization is listed in many major "white pages" in Illinois, many people who want to know more about our political organization often begin to look for us in their local libraries. Often times librarians, too, do not know where to find us, so we have taken the initiative and are providing some basic literature for your files. If you wish more literature or information please feel free to contact us.

P.S. Chicago will be the site of the 20th Anniversary meeting of the National Libertarian Party, August 29-September 1, 1991, which should bring about more awareness of our organization.

## Have any "Red, White & Blue Brochures?"

Before passing them out, please make sure the prices are right — for 'State and National'=\$40; National=\$25. The SCC has 2 stamps available to use, if you need them to make the changes. To borrow the stamp, call 708/299-7564, and leave a message as to how long you need to borrow the stamp, your name and phone #.

### **Quotables**

"The public money is a lot like drugs," says James Byrne—a retired Air-Force colonel. "It is very easy to become addicted to it. The solution: send the supervisors to a de-tox center."

December 1840 — "Prohibition...goes beyond the bounds of reason in that it attempts to control a man's appetite by legislation and makes a crime out of things that are not crimes...A prohibition law strikes a blow at the very principles upon which our government was founded."

Abraham Lincoln

#### **Bumper Stickers for Sale**

"Don't blame Me, I Voted Libertarian 1-800-682-1776" \$1— Make checks out to: Libertarian Party of Illinois P.O. Box 313, Chicago, IL 60690 vol.17 no.4

## **Directory** National National New-Member Information (tall-free) 800-682-1776 State Libertarian Party of Illinois ..... P.O. Box 313, Chicago, II. 60690 LPI Officers Chair: Sue Walton 708-475-0391 Northern Vice Chair: Eric Banfield 708-960-1552 South!Central Vice Chair: Paul Salander 815-539-7839 Recording Secretary: Maggie Kohls 708-635-6441 Corresponding Secretary: Jeanette Clinkunbroomer 708-966-0565 Treasurer: Scott Walton 708-475-0391 **Local Clubs** North Cook: Greg Bezdek 708-251-2870 Springfield: Jerry Naughton 217-744-0104\* Belleville area: David Hoscheidt 618-235-7743 University of Chicago, John Brendel 312-702-5638 Champagn area: Mike Linksvayer 217-344-1326 Decatur area: Jim Lacher 217-728-4001 Kenosha WI area: Ken Zollner 414-545-0842 La Salle Hardee Libertarians: Paul Salander 815-539-7839

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## Illinois Libertarian Calendar

### April 11

• North Cook County Libertarian Club, and North Shore Individualist meeting, Thursday, 7:00 P.M. at the Henry George School, 4536 N. Ravenswood, Chicago. Location: just south of Wilson on Ravenswood on the west side of the tracks. One and a half blocks north of the CTA Ravenswood line Montrose Station, one and a half blocks south of the CNW north line, Ravenswood. More info: Greg Bezdek, 708-251-2870 or Sue Walton, 708-475-0391.

#### April 14

 LaSalle County Libertarians, meeting Sunday, 8 P.M. at the Waltham Curling Club, Triumph, IL. Meets every 2cd Sunday of month here. More info: Call Paul Salander: 815-539-7839.

#### April 15

Annual Tax Protest, in front of Chicago Main Post Office on 433
 W. Van Buren, 5:00 PM-9:00 PM. Call Ken 708-810-1974 for info.

#### April 16

 (FIJA) Fully Informed Jury Amendment meeting, 7:30 PM, location to be announced, call Ken, 708-810-1974.

#### April 28

 LaSalle County Libertarians, meeting Sunday 8 P.M., at Hardees, I-39, Oglesby, IL, meets here every last Sunday of month. More info:, call Paul Salander, 815-539-7839.

#### April 29

Illinois Valley Libertarian Association, meeting Monday, 7:00
 P.M., at Scott Tillman's, 1218 Henrietta, Pekin, meets every last
 Monday of the month, call Scott Tillman for confirmation,
 309-353-1500.

#### May 6

 DuPage Libertarian Club, Monday, 6:30 P.M. at the Fox Restaurant, formerly called the Minuette, Ogden and Main St., Lisle, IL. Meets first Monday of every month same place and time. For more info: Steve Nelson, 708!969!1088.

#### May 9

North Cook County Libertarian Club, and North Shore Individualist Meeting, Thursday. Site: the Henry George School, 4536 N. Ravenswood, Chicago. Time: 7 PM. Location, just south of Wilson on Ravenswood on the west side of the tracks. One and a half blocks north of the CTA Ravenswood line Montrose Station, one and a half blocks south of the CNW north line, Ravenswood. More info: Greg Bezdek, 708-251-2870 or Sue Walton, 708-475-0391.

#### May 12

 LaSalle County Libertarians, meeting Sunday, 8 P.M. at the Waltham Curling Club, Triumph, IL. Meets every 2cd Sunday of month here. More info: Call Paul Salander: 815-539-7839.

#### Northwest Libertarians

 The Northwest Libertarian club meets on mariable times and places. Call Lyn Tinsley for more info:, 708-297-8219

## Honor Roll

The Illinois Libertarian Party salutes those leaders who have shown the courage to speak out for decriminalization of drugs.

Milton Friedman .. Nobel Laureate William Buckley Jr pub. Nat. Review Mike Royko . . . . Chicago Tribune columnist Robert Ringer . . . . writer Kurt Schmoke . . . . Mayor of Baltimore, MD ..... former prosecutor Alan Dershowitz . . law professor

Randy Barnett ....law professor Frank Zappa . . . . musician George Carlin . . . . comedian

Steve Dahl ..... radio pers. WLUP Stephan Chapman . Chicago Tribune columnist

Louie Nizer ..... de fense attornev Joseph Sobran .... conservative col. George Shultz .... former Sec. of State

Ethan Nadelmann . . professor of poli. science, ..... Princeton

Jefferson Morely .. journalist for the Nation Stacy Taylor . . . . radio pers., WLS Bob Lassiter . . . . . radio pers., WLS

Don Wade ..... radio pers., WLS Tom Braden . . . . . liberal journalist Judge Robert Sweet U.S. District Judge, New

York Cong. George CrockettDetroit, MI. Richard Cohen . . . . syndicated . . . . . . . . . . . . columnist

Tom Snyder . . . . . talk show host Carl Sagan . . . . . popular scientist Russell Baker . . . . journalist Edwin Yoder . . . . journalist Vermont Royster . . editor, emiritas,

..... Wall Street Journal Garry Trudeau . . . . cartoonist Hugh Downs . . . . TV journalist

Ed Schwartz . . . . . U.S. District Judge ..... of San Diego The Economist

John McLaughlin . . journalist, TV moderator Joseph Galiber . . . . State Sen. N.Y., . . . . . Dem. Bronz

Dr. Dean Edell . . . . med. talk show host F.A. Havek . . . . nobel economist Phil Donahue . . . . TV talk show host

David Letterman . . TV entertainer Michael Kinsley . . . liberal national columnist

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#### the Illinois Libertarian

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Contributors: Articles, letters, book reviews, photos, and activities reports (local or national) are welcomed. Please send contributions, to the editor's address. We reserve the right to edit for clarity and space.

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