

LIBERTY PLEDGE

NEWSLETTER

Libertarian National Committee, Inc. ♦ 2600 Virginia Ave, NW, Suite 200 ♦ Washington, DC 20037 ♦ Phone: (202) 333-0008 ♦ Fax: (202) 333-0072
www.LP.org March 2014

Libertarian appeal further complicates Ohio governor's race

County boards of election left in difficult situation as Libertarians seek right to be on ballot

**From the *Chillicothe Gazette*
Published on March 21, 2014**

CHILLICOTHE — A Thursday appeal brought by the Libertarian Party of Ohio against a federal judge's order striking the party's gubernatorial candidate from the May 6 primary ballot further complicates the situation for county boards of elections.

Following a directive from Ohio's elections chief, the Ross County Board of Elections is expected to remove Libertarian candidates for governor and attorney general from the May 6 ballot. The directive was issued Wednesday after Ohio Secretary of State Jon Husted's decision to disqualify Libertarian gubernatorial candidate Charlie Earl and attorney general candidate Steven Linnabary was upheld by U.S. District Court Judge Michael Watson.

Husted had disqualified Earl and Linnabary after their nominating petitions were challenged on two grounds: That signature gatherers failed to comply with Ohio laws requiring them to be either Libertarian or political independents and another requiring them to disclose their employer.

Husted agreed with a hearing officer who found that two Earl petitioners failed to properly disclose their employers.

Libertarians sought to reinstate Earl's ballot status, arguing Husted's ruling violated petition circulators' First Amendment rights and conflicted with previous state rulings allowing them to submit signatures without declaring an employer.

Watson ruled against the request, concluding the law challenged by the party "places only a minimal burden on political speech and the disclosures it requires are substantially related to Ohio's significant interest in deterring and detecting fraud in the

candidate petition process."

Earl's candidacy would have the potential to draw votes from Republican Gov. John Kasich as the incumbent faces likely Democratic challenger Ed FitzGerald, the Cuyahoga County executive.

Nora Madru, Ross County elections director, said she received an email from Husted's office after Wednesday's ruling that directed her office to remove the candidates from the ballot. The county's Board of Elections has called a meeting for 3:15 p.m. today at its office, in part, so Madru can explain the situation to members.

"At the moment, we already have the ballots (with Earl's and Linnabary's names) ready and we'll have to bring our software people in to change (the voting machines)," Madru said Thursday.

Madru said — prior to the appeal being filed — that legal action on the matter was pending, which gave her some cause for concern that if the decision was reversed again it could cause problems, especially if it's closer to the primary. At that point, some people already might have voted and some machines already might have been delivered to their polling places, she said.

Attorneys for the Libertarian party have asked the 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Cincinnati to compel Ohio's elections chief to ask for an exemption to avoid printing the primary ballots, which are slated to be mailed to certain military personnel and overseas voters on Saturday. Some local election boards already have printed primary ballots, while others can print them right before mailing them.

Separately, Linnabary is asking the Ohio Supreme Court [to] force Husted to certify his candidacy and place him on the ballot.

Attorneys for Linnabary argue the man who protested his petitions lacked standing to do so.

Libertarian Party in the News

Tonie Nathan, R.I.P.

(The First Woman to Receive an Electoral Vote for Vice President)

By Brian Doherty

From *Reason*

Published on March 20, 2014

Theodora “Tonie” Nathan, the woman who was the vice presidential candidate for the first Libertarian Party ticket in 1972 (underneath philosopher John Hospers, who was a gay man), has died at age 91, the Libertarian Party reports.

It is a shame that her historical status for the advancement of woman’s role in what had been entirely a man’s world has been little noted or long remembered,

mostly I suspect because the Libertarian Party is not much respected by institutional feminism (though it should be).

In an example of the charmingly ramshackle quality of the L.P. as it launched, as I wrote in my book *Radicals for Capitalism: A Freewheeling History of the Modern American Libertarian Movement*, Nathan, then a “TV producer from Oregon with a left-liberal and then (after being converted by her son, home from the navy with a fresh yen for Rand) Objectivist background, showed up to cover the convention. Because of some well-phrased comments from the floor during debates over the platform and statement of principles that impressed the rest of the delegation, she left as a candidate for vice president of the United States.”

Although only on the ballot in two states, the Hospers-Nathan ticket won the vote of renegade Republican elector Roger MacBride of Virginia (who went on to be the next



Tonie Nathan

“She was Theodora Nathan, and she was the first woman to receive an electoral vote for vice president. Also, as the L.P. notes, the first Jewish person to receive an electoral vote for vice president.”

presidential candidate for the L.P.)

As I wrote in *Radicals*:

MacBride has alerted the media beforehand of his intentions, under a strict embargo. For the first time in its history, the room where Virginia’s electors met was flooded with klieg lights as most of the electors passed in their preprinted ballots with Nixon’s name on them. MacBride crossed out the president’s name and wrote in Hospers’s. When the vote count for vice president was announced, Theodora Nathan... had become, to the puzzled man reading the results, “Theodore”....

But she was not Theodore; she was Theodora Nathan, and she was the first woman to receive an electoral vote for vice president. Also, as the L.P. notes, the first Jewish person to receive an electoral vote for vice president.

The very idea might have seemed crazy in 1972; but she and L.P. were pioneers in opening space for new ideas and new types of people in American politics. What would have seemed unthinkable to a “respectable” Party then was a no-brainer for the pioneers of radical libertarianism in American partisan politics.

Nathan stayed active in the L.P. the rest of her life, running for many elective offices and holding Party offices, and announced Gary Johnson as the Party’s presidential nominee from the convention floor in 2012.

She was as helpful and encouraging as she could be to me when I interviewed her for *Radicals*, and I personally appreciate her efforts on behalf of libertarian ideas in politics as well as her personal kindnesses.

Overby covers margin of victory, signals upward trend for LP

By Matthew Reece

From *Examiner.com*

Published on March 12, 2014

On March 11, a special election was held in Florida's 13th Congressional district to fill the seat that has been vacant since the death of Rep. Bill Young (R) in October.

The election was won by Republican David Jolly, who had a slim margin of victory over Democrat Alex Sink. The vote totals with all precincts reporting are 89,099 votes (48.43 percent) for Jolly and 85,642 votes (46.55 percent) for Sink.

But the story neglected by most of the establishment media is the performance of Libertarian Lucas Overby, who finished with 8,893 votes (4.83 percent). This is more than 2.5 times the margin of victory between the Republican and the Democrat in the race, and it is the first time that a Libertarian has ran for the House seat of Florida's 13th Congressional district.

This comes only months after a historic performance by Libertarian Virginia gubernatorial candidate Robert Sarvis, who managed 6.52 percent on Nov. 5. Both performances are well above the normal 2-3 percent achieved by Libertarian candidates running for governor or U.S. Congress seats, and signal a potential upward trend for Libertarian candidates.

While no exit polls are available for the Florida special election, the exit polls from the Virginia election

continued on page 4

New and renewing Liberty Pledgers

Karlos E. Abel	Robert A. Marlowe
James M. Artis	Stephanie McConnon
Justin Ash	Terry L. McFadden
Matt Bennett	Chuck Morse
Jonathan P. Butchar	Peder Muller
Jason S. Clifton	Clint Murphy
Joe Cobb	Patricia R. Norcom
Matthew J. Cochi	Dwight OQuinn
Nicholas Combs	J. Joseph Ory
Deja Crutcher	Larry Parks
Daniel J. DeCicco	Michael T. Penrow
David den Boer	Robert Perez
Diana L. DiCesare	Carly Pickens
James E. Dickerson	Noah Pokorny
Zee Doctere	Jeffrey Powell
Melodee Eby	James H. Pritchard
Craig S. Fassler	Kevin Redding
Thomas K. Faulkner	Joseph N. Repoley
Ruth E. Ferris	David P. Robertson
Craig O. Gilkison	Scott Rosenberg
David Goldie	Samuel Sapp
Mark A. Grannis	Jennifer Schradeya
William Greene	Marshall E. Schwartz
Joshua Hall	Kevin Smith
Jeffrey Hammack	Austin J. Speaker
Brad W. Henry	Glenn E. Stoltz
Patrick Hill	Jacquetta Szathmari
Mark W. Hinkle	John R. Thompson
Steven A. Hoffman	John Thompson
Steve A. Hoverman	Robert Torene
Marta A. Howard	Laura Valle
Vincent Ioia	Charles W. West
Mary Jordan	Carl Wikstrom
Nathan Kleffman	James Williams
Barry Kruse	Patty A. Williamson
Brad Lorenzen	Seth Wood

I would like to make a one-time donation to the LP:

- \$5,000 \$100
 \$1,000 \$50
 \$500 \$25
 \$250 _____ Other

I would like to increase my **monthly pledge to this level:**

- \$2,500** **\$100**
 \$1,000 **\$50**
 \$500 **\$30**
 \$250 _____ **Other**
 (minimum \$10)

(Please make checks payable to **Libertarian Party**.)

Please bill my Visa MasterCard AmEx Discover

Card number: _____ Exp: _____

Name on card: _____

Signature: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Occupation*: _____

Employer*: _____

Home Phone: _____

Work: _____ Cell: _____

Email: _____

* Federal law requires us to use our best efforts to collect and report the name, mailing address, occupation and name of employer of individuals whose contributions exceed \$200 in a calendar year. Political contributions are not tax deductible.

Libertarian Party statement on unemployment for Press TV

From *Press TV*

Published on
January 14, 2014

U.S. Department of Labor figures show that actual unemployment is much higher than the federal government's number of "officially unemployed" workers. When added to the Department of Labor's number of workers "not in the work force," the total comes to 102.2 million — almost 10 million more unemployed since Barack Obama took office.

In response, Carla Howell, political director for the Libertarian Party, made the following statement to Press TV:

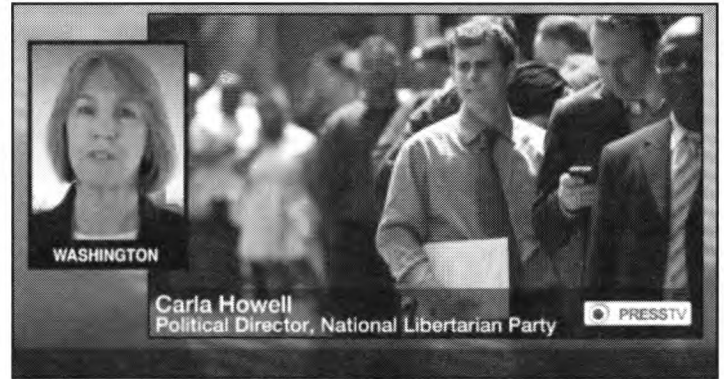
Manipulating the unemployment rate is one of many ways that the federal government deceives American voters.

No matter what politicians claim the unemployment rate is, workers searching for jobs know better. They see that Democratic and Republican promises to "stimulate the economy" have utterly failed.

In order to hand out pork and create artificial government jobs for special interests, Democrats and Republicans raise taxes, overspend, discourage investment in small businesses, and keep overall unemployment dangerously high.

The only real cure to unemployment is to drastically and immediately cut taxes and cut government spending. And to remove unneeded government regulations that stifle economic growth. By simply getting government out of the way, we can create millions of productive private-sector jobs.

The unemployment rate is dangerously high for young workers. They're trapped between a rock and a hard place. They cannot find jobs reflective of their investment in education while being saddled



with school loans they won't be able to pay off for many years. It's demoralizing and a tremendous waste of young talent and ambition.

But young workers aren't the only ones affected. Workers of all ages struggle to find well-paying jobs.

Americans are becoming deeply concerned by Democrats' and Republicans' refusal to stop government overspending. Voters fear that the entire economy could suffer a major crash or prolonged recession, much like the decline of many European economies under socialist policies.

The Libertarian Party is the only political party in America dedicated to dramatically reducing government spending, taxation and debt, creating real economic growth.

Libertarian candidates such as Danny Bedwell, running for the U.S. House in Mississippi, vow to cut government spending dramatically and to regulate the federal government — rather than micromanage the people and businesses of the United States.

This is the kind of Libertarian vision we need in Washington, D.C., to turn this country around. We need to elect every small government Libertarian possible to both federal and local offices to create millions of private-sector jobs in America.

Overby covers margin

continued from page 3

indicate that Sarvis narrowed the margin of victory for Democrat Terry McAuliffe. If a similar effect

happened in the Florida special election, then it is possible that David Jolly has Lucas Overby to thank for his victory due to a spoiler effect against the Democrat, which is contrary to conventional

wisdom that Libertarian candidates disproportionately hurt Republican candidates. This is quite possible, as Overby's positions on foreign policy and social issues would be palatable to a disaffected Democratic voter.