

Aug - 1988

The Liberty Pledge News

Instead of a campaign update report this month, which I had originally intended, I have given space to this late-breaking news-story below, which appeared in the *New York Times*. Already, calls from the television networks have started to arrive here, requesting interviews with Ron Paul. Media kits have already been sent to the major national news magazines (*U. S. News and World Report* is planning to do an article in late August or early September on Ron). I want to thank you all for helping to make this happen, especially our new pledgers and those who have either increased or extended their pledge for the campaign year.--K. M.

SOME REPUBLICANS BACK FOE OF BUSH

Key Supporters of Robertson Push Candidacy of Former Texas Congressman

BY WAYNE KING

In a move that could embarrass Vice President Bush next week, some key supporters of Pat Robertson are quietly pushing the candidacy of Ron Paul, a former Republican Congressman from Texas, as a Presidential candidate.

Supporters of Mr. Robertson this week began circulating a letter contrasting Mr. Bush's economic views with those of Mr. Paul.

"If we expect George Bush to carry the standard of our vision, we are wrong," the letter said, adding that Mr. Paul would "carry the standard" of a free market economy and that Mr. Bush would not.

Mr. Paul, the libertarian candidate for President, has said he qualified for the Presidential ballot in 40 states by petitions.

The forces behind the letter are Robertson supporters from Michigan, a state where the former television minister made a strong showing against Mr. Bush and where friction between the two factions led to fist-fights. Mr. Robertson was Mr. Bush's toughest opponent in Michigan and Iowa and was the last in the Republican field to concede to the Vice President. In May, Mr. Robertson suspended his campaign, although he did not withdraw, and he endorsed Mr. Bush.

Conservative Disaffection

But despite the endorsement, and conciliatory gestures from the Bush camp, including a prime-time spot on the speaker's agenda at the convention, many of the Robertson supporters refuse to support Mr. Bush.

There are also signs of more general conservative disaffection for Mr. Bush. Howard Phillips, head of the Washington-based Conservative Caucus, and Richard Viguerie, a major fund-raiser for conservative causes and candidates, met with Mr. Paul yesterday in Washington.

Mr. Phillips said in a telephone interview yesterday that while neither he nor Mr. Viguerie endorsed Mr. Paul, they encouraged his running to dramatize conservative economic issues. Mr. Phillips said he would act as an adviser to Mr. Paul but remain a Bush supporter.

The Robertson forces in Michigan are planning to circulate the letter of support for Mr. Paul among Robertson supporters in other states. Mark Koldys, the Wayne County prosecutor who led Ronald Reagan's campaigns in Detroit in 1980 and 1984, endorsed Mr. Paul last week. Mr. Koldys is chairman of the Michigan Conservative Union, the largest conservative organization in the state.

"Bush won't carry Michigan without conservative support," he said. "From what I can see right now he's going to have a hard time getting it."

Mr. Paul, who served in the House of Representatives from 1976 through 1984 before running for the Senate and being defeated by Representative Phil Gramm in the Republican primary, espouses a conservative fiscal policy, including a return to the gold standard, coupled with maximum individual freedom.

Mr. Paul was campaigning in Texas yesterday and could not be reached for comment. But he said in a recent interview in The San Diego Union. "I identify with Robertson and I identify with a lot of the people who follow him." But he said, "He's not a libertarian — he's weak on civil liberties and I'm not sure about his foreign policy — but we all know Pat Robertson is not going to go anywhere, so we're the only place they can go afterward."

New York Times Aug. 10, 1988

The Liberty Pledge News is produced monthly for members of the National Libertarian Party's Pledge Program, Independence '88 and the Torch Club. It is also distributed to State Party Chairs and National Committee members in appreciation of their contributions and to make available information on Headquarters activities and Libertarians in the news. Clippings and other items of interest are greatly appreciated.

Libertarian Party Headquarters * 1528 Pennsylvania Ave., SE * Washington, DC 20003
Can we be of help? Want to raise your pledge? Call 1-800-682-1776.

Ron Paul spreads Libertarian gospel in White House bid

By Margo Hernandez
The Arizona Daily Star

A third-party candidate is taking on the Republicans and Democrats in a run for the White House.

Though Libertarian Ron Paul is not a household name, he has put in his time as a member of the establishment, serving four terms as a Republican congressman from Texas.

This week, his supporters turned in more than 17,000 signatures in Phoenix to secure his spot on the Arizona primary ballot.

About 4,000 voters in Arizona are registered Libertarians. Nearly 1,200 are in Pima County, said a supporter, Peter G. Schmerl. Only 15 states allow voters to register as Libertarians, Schmerl added.

As Paul explains, the Libertarian philosophy is based on personal freedoms and a bare-bones government obligated to provide only police protection, a judicial system and a strong national defense.

A free market economy is a party cornerstone.

Libertarians oppose the federal income tax and the Federal Reserve; oppose U.S. military intervention in other countries and wars; support the decriminalization of drugs; and support a volunteerism ethic, Paul said in an interview with The Arizona Daily Star yesterday.

He was on a two-day swing through Arizona and spoke last night at the Radisson Suite Hotel.

The Libertarian message is based on one pledge — "nobody has a right to initiate force or aggression against anybody else," Paul, a physician, said. The other half of the pledge is a commitment to volunteerism.

The federal government has no business telling people how to live their lives, he said. Governments cannot regulate the sexual, eating, smoking, religious and philosophical habits of their citizens.

As for foreign policy, the philosophy would prohibit the interference or regulation of other countries. "That means no CIA running around planting takeovers, murdering dictators and picking our own friends to run certain countries," Paul said.

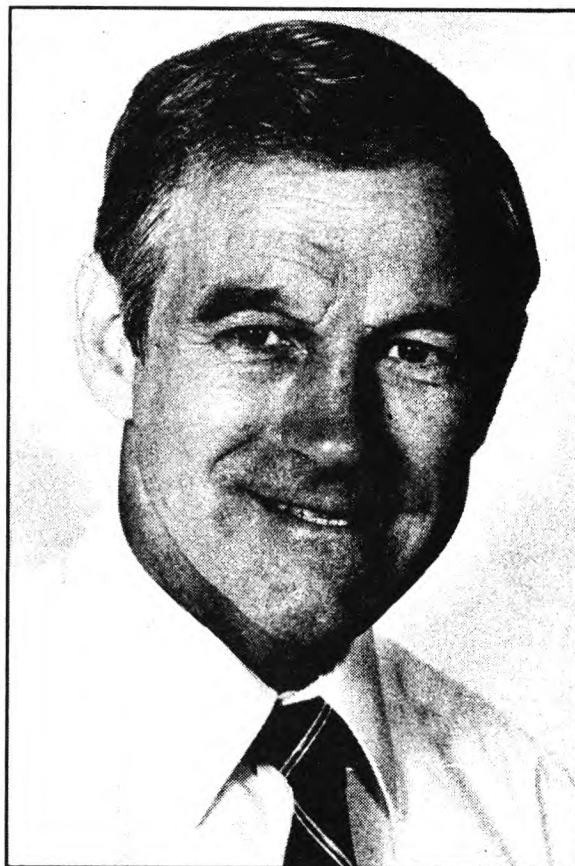
Though the Libertarians call for a strong national defense, all American troops abroad should be brought home, they say.

As for the national budget, Paul said income taxes provide only about 38 percent of the country's revenues. Alternatives, such as bonds and user fees, would have to be found to fund government projects.

"There are lots of alternatives to the system we have now."

He contends that those concerned with poverty and unemployment should also look to the free market system.

Libertarians do not support any government inter-



Jim Davis, The Arizona Daily Star

"We never sacrifice any part of freedom no matter how well-motivated it is because nothing is sacred enough to sacrifice freedom."

Ron Paul
Presidential candidate

vention such as farm subsidies, income taxes or tariffs on imported goods.

"There are still going to be poor people, but a lot less than there are now," Paul said, maintaining that more people will prosper under a free market system.

Paul said the government now provides for 60 percent of all health care in the country. "It doesn't work," he said. Government intervention drives up the cost of care, and less care is offered.

He noted that Americans gave \$97 billion to charities last year, despite a shaky economy.

"We would say it has to be voluntary; we never sacrifice any part of freedom no matter how well-motivated it is because nothing is sacred enough to sacrifice freedom," Paul said.

The party is not predicting a presidential victory this year. But Paul predicted a victory in what the party is trying to accomplish.

In the 1990s, the Libertarian Party "will be a major force in the country," Paul said.

Libertarian candidate Ernsberger is enjoying a growing popularity

By LORI B. WINCHESTER
Free Press staff

Libertarian candidate Donald C. Ernsberger knew he would run a successful campaign but he didn't anticipate the growing popularity he currently is enjoying.

Ernsberger, 40, of Warminster Township, says he is paving the way for future success of libertarian candidates, not only in Bucks County but in the entire state.

Tuesday, Ernsberger filed his second quarter Federal Election Commission financial statement noting huge advances for himself and the libertarian party.

"I am the first independent candidate in the state of Pennsylvania to become certified by the state bureau of elections for ballot position in November," he said.

By law, a candidate who exceeds \$5,000 in contributions has to file with the federal elections commission.

Ernsberger is also the first independent candidate for Congress in Bucks County to meet these requirements in addition to being the first independent to raise more than \$10,000, he said.

So far, Ernsberger has documented \$11,449 raised by 114 contributors, according to his July 4 report of receipts and disbursements. The report also states he has spent \$8,757 on the campaign trail.

"I will make history in Bucks County this year by running an active challenge to the two-party system. I will raise issues they are afraid to face and I will break all records on November 8," Ernsberger said.

In contrast to contributors for Ernsberger, whose average donation is around \$100, incumbent Congressman Peter H. Kostmayer (D) is financed by large labor unions and business pacts, Ernsberger says.

"Most of my contributors are \$100. Kostmayer's typical contributions are \$5,000 a shot from political action committees," he explained. "Political action committees can give 5,000 a shot, I am not allowed to take that."

Ernsberger said he is allowed a maximum of \$1,000 political action committee.

"I am meeting all kinds of people who have not voted in years. My task is to get them to register and vote for

me," he said.

"That is why 96 percent of the incumbents are reelected. It is hard for somebody to beat an incumbent because of PACs and also because in-

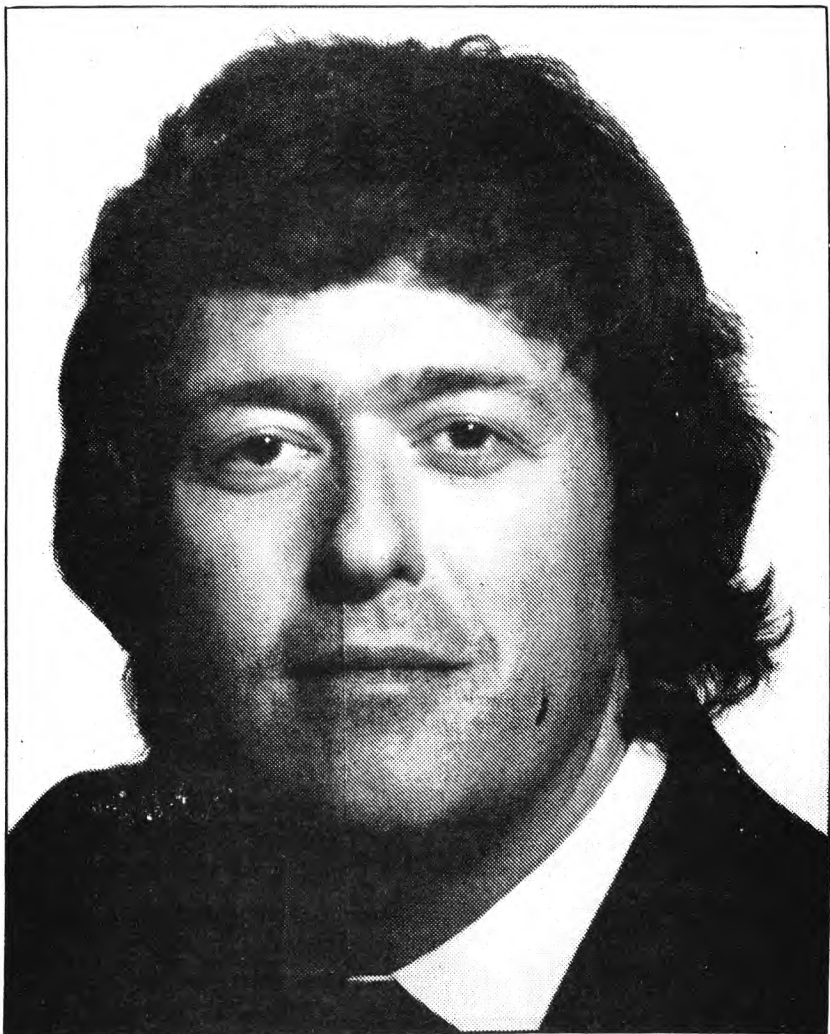
cumbents are allowed to use franking privilege.

The franking privilege allows incumbents to use federal monies to

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Donald Ernsberger



Donald C. Ernsberger

Ernsberger

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pay for items such as press releases and postage for them.

Ernsberger also notes that campaign contributions for Republican Edward L. Howard are from Doylestown lawyers whose "typical contributions are around \$1,000."

Hoping Quakertown residents will be attracted to his campaign, Ernsberger stresses a free enterprise system and an individualistic attitude.

"I think the Quakertown residents are believers in free enterprise. I think they are starting to see Ed Howard is too liberal to get their support," he said.

"Many residents in Quakertown are basically individualists who are attracted to the libertarian philosophy. Libertarians are individualists. They don't like government telling them what to do with their personal lives."

For example, Ernsberger is challenging laws which forbid residents to use fireworks in their own backyards and he is also in favor of legalizing drugs to lessen the high

profitability of drug trade.

"The more you tell people how to live their lives, the more they depend on control of their lives by the government. You have to let them be free to choose themselves," said Ernsberger.

"I think there are a lot of people in the northern end of the county who believe in that. These are people who believe in private property, people are used to living with guns in their homes and making their own decisions with their lives.

"My goal was to set all kinds of records this year. My intention now is to pass Ed Howard in campaign activity and become the major opponent of Peter Kostmayer."

However, Ernsberger admits he has a tough road ahead of him.

"Of course he (Kostmayer) has a lot more money than I have. But I expect to spend a total of \$40,000. When I started I expected to spend \$15,000," he said.

On October 2, Ernsberger intends to go on a whistle stop train campaign where he will make several stops in the county while speaking at the back of a caboose.

Ernsberger said he will particularly target the needs of small business owners in the county, an issue he said neither candidates addresses in their campaigns.

"These are the people that feel the brunt of federal bureaucracy and paperwork and also people forced to pay high social security tax," he said.

Detroit News July 12, 1988

Letters to the Editor

Revolutionaries Were Really Libertarians

Regarding the July 4 editorial "The Fourth of July":

The News is correct to point out that the American Revolution was fought over "the specific issue of taxes," a fact our modern-day liberals generally overlook. It is, however, somewhat Orwellian to proclaim the American revolutionaries "conservatives" when they were in fact libertarians.

Even the famous liberal historian Bernard Bailyn was sincere enough to note that the revolutionaries "infused into American political culture ... the major themes of 18th century radical libertarianism." Foremost was "the belief that power is evil, a necessity perhaps but an evil necessity." The Bill of Rights, limitations on executives, legislatures and courts, and restrictions on the right to coerce and wage war all express this profound libertarian distrust of power that lies at the ideological heart of the American Revolution.

ROBIN FOSTER,
Libertarian Student Network,
Trenton

Renton Valley Daily News July 21, 1988

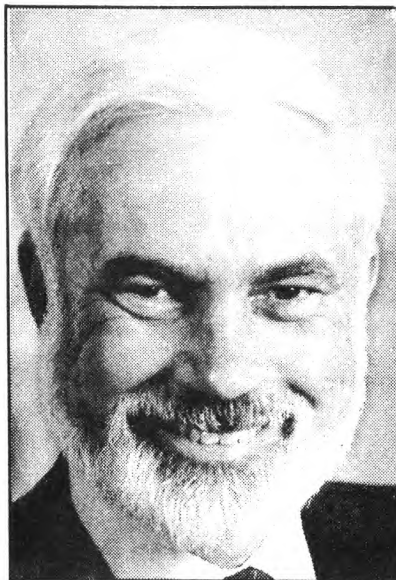
Libertarian Rathjen plans campaign for Cantu's seat

Arthur D. Rathjen has announced his candidacy as Libertarian candidate for the state Senate in the 41st District, representing Bellevue, Mercer Island and part of Renton.

Rathjen, a Boeing engineering supervisor, lives in unincorporated King County, in what he calls a "pocket of relative freedom between Renton and Bellevue."

The Libertarian party believes in reducing government's involvement in people's lives. Many of the 315 state agencies in Washington could be replaced by private enterprises, which could do the same work for half the cost, Rathjen said.

He would replace the public-school system with a voucher system, in which parents are encouraged to shop from a broad range of private schools. "Parents, not the state, should choose where their children are educated and the values they are taught," he said, adding that the government teaches values of mediocrity and dependence on the state.



Arthur Rathjen

Rathjen is a Vietnam veteran and a former teacher at Washington Technical Institute in Seattle. He is running against incumbent Sen. Emilio Cantu.