

Dec 1992



# LIBERTY PLEDGE NEWSLETTER

Published exclusively for members of the Libertarian Party's Monthly Pledge Program

## 1993 May Be Banner Year For LP Controversial Goals Endorsed

The Libertarian National Committee met in Las Vegas, Nevada on December 12 and 13 and approved an ambitious program and budget for 1993. Included in the plan:

- ▶ \$100,000 to get a jump-start on ballot access for 1996 by doing as many ballot drives as we can in 1993;
- ▶ \$150,000 in net revenues to be placed in a fund to assist winnable races in 1994;
- ▶ \$99,000 to send prospecting letters to lists of potential sympathizers;
- ▶ \$94,000 for mailings to our 1992 and 1993 inquiries, inviting them to become members and contributors;
- ▶ \$81,000 for our campus organizing program;
- ▶ \$116,000 for a high-powered national director, associate director and staff.

### Good Luck to Departing Staff Welcome to New Director

Our national office will be experiencing a complete turnover in staff during January. National Director Nick Dunbar will be completing a four-year stint in late January, during those four years the LP contributor base doubled and the annual budget more than tripled. Nick plans to return to his home state of Florida with his wife Jacqui and four-month-old daughter Victoria. Good luck to the Dunbars, and thanks for a productive four years with the LP.

We will also be saying goodbye and good luck to staffers Marc Montoni and Steve Feldman.

Stuart Reges will begin January 1 as Interim National Director. Stuart worked in the national office for seven months during the height of the Marrou/Lord Campaign. Prior to that he was an instructor and administrator at Stanford University where he won the Dinkelspiel Award for Outstanding Service to Undergraduate Education

for his superb management performance in the Department of Computer Science.

Stuart will be joined in the office by Rick Sincere as Associate Director. Rick is currently Chair of the LP of Virginia, and previously worked in media and public relations for a Washington, D.C. based think tank.

Stuart and Rick will spend January learning the ins and outs of the office and hiring new clerical staff. Welcome aboard and good luck!

### Goals Endorsed by LNC Stir Excitement, Controversy

In addition to approving an aggressive 1993 budget, the National Committee adopted the following mission statement:

"The mission of the Libertarian Party is to move public policy in a libertarian direction by electing candidates of the Libertarian Party to public office."

The LNC also endorsed a extensive list of goals intended to change the image of the LP and make it more appealing to the general public, professionalize our internal operations, increase revenues, improve local and campus organizations, and provide support for LP candidates.

Two of the most controversial goals endorsed by the LNC are:

- (1) eliminating the requirement that a member certify in writing that he or she opposes the initiation of force to achieve social or political goals; and
- (2) drastically downsizing and changing the scope of our Platform.

These two goals can only be implemented by vote of the delegates to our national convention. Watch upcoming issues of LP News for much discussion on these controversial proposals.

LIBERTARIAN PARTY NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

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# Brooks blames plan for defeat

By SCOTT STREATER  
Citizen Staff

State Sen. Chet Brooks blames a federal panel's redistricting plan for his stunning defeat to Republican challenger Jerry Patterson in Tuesday's District 11 race.

Brooks, D-Pasadena, has yet to concede his defeat to Patterson and hinted Wednesday he may ask for a recount if evidence surfaces that some voting precincts in the reconfigured district were left out or additional precincts added to District 11.

Regardless, Brooks' tenure in the state Senate, which stretched to almost three decades, came to a crashing halt Tuesday.

"It became pretty clear that the Nowlin plan designed to decimate my portion of Harris County worked," Brooks said. "It was the basis for my narrow loss."

The redistricting plan was designed by a Republican federal three-judge panel in Austin in December and is referred to as the Nowlin plan after U.S. District Judge James Nowlin, who put it together. The plan added a slew of Republican voters to District 11 and carved Brooks out of the district he held 26 years.

Brooks lost a tight race that was not decided until the early-morning hours Wednesday. Patterson defeated the dean of the Texas Senate

with 94,970 votes, or 48.4 percent, to Brooks' 92,252, or 47 percent.

A cursory look at the voting results in Harris County seem to support Brooks' claim that the redistricting plan that extended the district into portions of South Houston and the Republican-based Clear Lake area had a profound effect on his bid for re-election.

While only 2,718 votes separated the two candidates, Brooks was trounced in Harris County — 45,507 votes to Patterson against Brooks' 30,546 votes.

"I think the federal three-judge panel had everything to do with the 11th District," said Ken Bentzen, the chairman of the Harris County Democratic Party. "They clearly had every intent to make Chet's district more Republican." It was "gerrymandering by the federal courts."

Patterson acknowledged Wednesday the redistricting plan had a tremendous impact on his victory, but said the presence of Libertarian Party candidate Marshall Anderson had as much to do with it as the redistricting plan, saying voters who were seeking

# Petition filed to contest race for Precinct 3

By MICHELE MAJORS  
Staff writer

Brenda Anderson, former Libertarian candidate for county commissioner Precinct 3, has filed a petition contesting the Nov. 3 election and asked that the ballots cast in her race be declared void.

The petition was filed in the 367th District Court in Denton County on Monday.

Anderson came in second to Republican Scott Arme, who captured 52 percent of the vote. Independent write-in candidate Barbara Morrison came in third. Arme and Morrison both are named as "contestees" in Anderson's petition.

Anderson's petition cites a number of what she calls "voting irregularities." She is requesting that the ballots be independently inspected. She also is asking for the court to order a special election.

Anderson said she does not believe it is "sour grapes" to contest the election results.

"We offered voters a change to break the monotony of the Commissioners Court," she said. "I thought long and hard before doing this. I believe every citizen has a right to a fair election. I feel we have a sufficient number of irregularities to warrant a contest."

Anderson has cited 10 irregular-



Patrick Springfield/Staff photo

Brenda Anderson files the forms contesting the election results for county commissioner Precinct 3 in the Denton County District Clerk's office Monday. Anderson, who was defeated by Republican Scott Arme, is contesting the election because of what she says are voting irregularities.

ities in her petition. They include an accusation that some election judges

Lewisville Leader, Lewisville TX -- Nov 11 1992

# Election

From 1A

were not administered oaths of office, while others gave out incorrect voting instructions at polling sites.

Anderson said she believes a number of mail-in ballots failed to list both her and Arme on the ballot for Precinct 3, and voters were permitted to vote for Commissioners Court candidates outside of their precincts.

"I voted for Kirk Wilson, and he's not in my precinct. Why was he on my ballot?" Anderson said.

Wilson was a candidate for Precinct 1 county commissioner.

Another irregularity Anderson said she personally witnessed was the issuance of more than one voter registration card to some voters. She received two registration cards addressed to her with two different precinct numbers, 316 and 302. However, both had the same mailing address. Anderson's daughter also had more than one registration card.

Arme said Anderson's filing is nothing more than an outburst of her disappointment at losing the commissioners race.

"She did better than expected," he said. "It's so hard to let go when you come so close to it. She's trying to create some confusion. I don't think anything will come of it."

Arme said a special election is not necessary.

"The voters have spoken," he said. "It's a clear representation of what the voters of Precinct 3 want. I feel that it's a great honor to be chosen by the voters."

Morrison, however, said the irregularities of the election must be dealt with fairly. She supports Anderson's contest to the election.

"It's my sincere desire that this election be overturned," she said. "I believe in my heart that if this election were held, there would be a different outcome. The only people who will vote will be informed voters."

Ted Lewis, county Democratic Party Chairman, said he does not doubt the validity of Anderson's allegations.

"We've known there have been a lot of irregularities," he said. "A recall election has never happened before in Denton County to my knowledge, but then there haven't been as many irregularities here either. We wish her luck."



Brenda Anderson shows two she received. Each card had though her home address

# 'Grandma Marijuana' t

By RALPH R. ECHTINAW  
STAFF WRITER

A former Garden City resident popularly known as "Grandma Marijuana" will bring her argument for legalized medicinal marijuana to Redford Township tonight.

May Nutt, 71, of Beaverton will be the guest speaker at the monthly meeting of the Metro Detroit Libertarians Supper Club at 8 p.m. in the Ram's Horn restaurant at Telegraph and Plymouth roads.

Since 1978 when her 23-year-old son Keith was diagnosed with testicular cancer, Nutt has advocated the use of marijuana to alleviate the effects of nausea often caused by prescription drugs used to treat cancer and other illnesses.

Nutt helped to make medicinal marijuana legal in Michigan, but the federal government has since made the herb almost impossible to obtain legally.

Keith, who smoked marijuana to reduce his pain, died on the same day the legalization law was passed, Oct. 22, 1979, and his mother has been crusading for medicinal marijuana since.

"What have you got to lose if you're laying in bed dying?" she said.

Along the way, Nutt has testified before committees in Lansing and before a federal judge in Washington D.C. who was gathering information for the federal Drug Enforcement Administration. She's been profiled by CBS News, the Bay City Times newspaper and by High Times magazine.

Marijuana, Nutt said, is not a cure for anything, but can be a great help in reducing or eliminating the side effects of drugs taken to fight illness. Some of the people she has talked to, Nutt said, report that they can walk if they smoke a little marijuana, whereas the prescription drugs alone "make them into zombies." Others say marijuana enables them to maintain a somewhat normal routine when they'd be more or less invalid otherwise.

Nutt currently does volunteer work with cancer patients at the Mid Michigan Regional Medical Center in Midland, but got out of the marijuana distribution business shortly after Keith died.

"All I do now is talk to peo-

ple and explain use (marijuana),"

Nutt wears a when she works and "if (patients) I answer them. I see (the pin) they icance."

Although Nutt ings" about drug erally, she belie ment policy regar

# Bull

From Correspondent GILMANTON looked pretty candidate Dan big bull moon put up a camp. "A lot of the saw that thin Libertarian Parker said Wednesday Road in Gilmant

# Balance of power: Marshall Anderson...

Pasadena Citizen, Pasadena, TX -- Nov 5 1992



# Campaign 1992: 25th District

## Bucciarelli: Oust lawyers

By AIMEE A. HARTNETT  
Hour Staff Writer

NORWALK — No government for the people is the plan of Libertarian Party candidate Richard A. Bucciarelli. He is one of three men vying for the 25th District Senate seat.

"We have to repeal the tax and reduce the myriad of laws on business and people," Bucciarelli charges. "I understand and support the U. S. Constitution and wish to eliminate much of the abuses in the state and state government that confiscate people's liberties and properties."

Bucciarelli supports impeaching Gov. Lowell P. Weicker Jr., because his party fears that the governor will use any and all veto powers to stop the repeal effort.

Getting rid of all of the "unlawful attorney legislators that have created unlawful legislation" is another objective of the Libertarian party, Bucciarelli said.

Evidently, persons who serve in

the state's General Assembly should not be appointed as commissioners of the Superior Court, as all attorneys are, Bucciarelli said, citing Connecticut law.

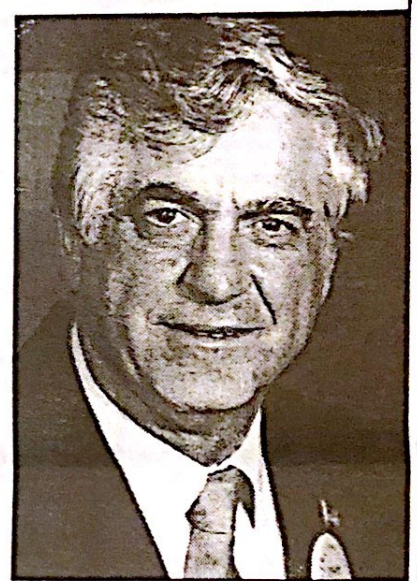
The Libertarian and his opponents all support education initiatives, however Bucciarelli advocates a voucher system and home schooling, removing the "socialistic and fascist" influence of state government.

Bucciarelli strongly supports privatization of state services to save money, as the Libertarian party's literature concerns reducing government and the size of taxes.

Regarding abortion, Bucciarelli again stands alone in the 25th district race. "Roe v. Wade is a contract to kill and sets a dangerous precedent.

"The state law connotes that it's all right to kill or do away with another human being," Bucciarelli said. "I oppose that unequivocally."

Bucciarelli said his party's platforms will free people from government regulation.



Richard A. Bucciarelli

**Libertarian**

**Age: 56**

**Occupation: owner of The Barber Shop**

**Address: 16 St. John St.**

**Family: single**

**Political experience: None**

**Education: 1953 Norwalk High**

**School graduate**

**Lived in district: since 1957**

**Community activities: none**



Patrick Springfield/Staff photo

of the three voter registration cards her listed in different precincts even as listed the same.

## to discuss medicinal legalization

to them how to she said.

marijuana pin in the hospital, ask me about it as soon as they know the signif-

as "mixed feel- legalization genes the govern- ing recreational

drugs is "totally wrong."

"All we're doing now is building more jails," she said. "They spend so much money flying federal helicopters over this area (to spot marijuana patches), but they're not getting anywhere. I think we've got our values pointed in the wrong direction."

But to the federal government - chagrin, Nutt continues to recommend marijuana. "I have (mari-

juana) cookbooks," she said. "Over the years I've accumulated a stack of material."

She favors smoking as the most effective way to ingest marijuana, but brewing tea with the herb is also good for people who aren't able or willing to smoke. Eating marijuana, in brownies for exam-

ple, is the worst way to use it, Nutt said, because the effect takes hours to be felt. And marijuana suppositories are often best for children.

As for the question everyone wants answered, i.e. has May Nutt ever smoked marijuana? "I don't have any reason," she said.

Westland Observer, Westland MI -- Oct 26 1992

## Moose Campaign Charges Again

endent and Wire Reports  
N — An angry voter would have  
dam good to state Senate  
Parker right about the time a  
decided to charge him as he  
sign sign.  
ights crossed my mind when I  
coming at me," said Parker, a  
aking the District 4 Senate seat.  
he was putting up signs  
ht on Route 140 near Hall's Hill  
tion when he noticed a moose

crossing the road about 100 feet away. Suddenly, it swerved and charged toward him.

That was enough to make Parker stop thinking about votes and start thinking about self-preservation. "I did the fastest 50-yard dash of my life," he said.

Actually, Parker ran about 100 feet toward his car before the moose veered off the road and went into the woods, Parker said.

"After all you go through on the campaign trail, to be charged by a bull moose. It's unbelievable," he said.

## Libertarians planning city chapter

Plans are under way to organize a Martinsville chapter of the Libertarian Party which, among other things, intends to field candidates for the next Martinsville City Council election.

The Martinsville Libertarian Committee will hold organizational meetings within the next few weeks, according to Michael Dalton of Martinsville, a member of the party's state central committee who briefly ran for Congress as a Libertarian earlier this year.

"The local party plans to run a full slate of candidates for local offices, including Martinsville City Council," Dalton stated in a written release. The next council election will be held in spring 1994.

The committee has released a seven-point pro-

gram for local improvement that includes creation of a ward system for electing council members, a freeze on city workers' salaries, repeal of zoning laws, and shifting the focus of law enforcement away from victimless crimes toward those that affect people and property.

In addition, the committee endorsed privatization of government services, property tax incentives for new industries or those that increase employment, and opposition to any form of government censorship or harassment of any member of the press, according to Dalton's release.

The committee also plans to monitor and issue regular reports on the actions of government officials and sponsor lectures, debates and seminars on local issues, the release stated.

News is... well, everything we do. Plan & carry out activities and they will get in the news.

Martinsville Bulletin, Martinsville, VA -- Nov 1 1992

Union Leader, Manchester NH -- Oct 16 1992



# Stumped on the vote

## Libertarian leaves contenders in the dust at Arlington High

By MARY DOCLAR  
From North Star Telegram

ARLINGTON — The victory of Libertarian presidential candidate Andre Marrou at Arlington High School yesterday had the school's amateur political analysts scratching their heads.

Some speculated that the results of the mock election were a protest vote, while others said the vote indicates that many students are apathetic about this year's presidential contest.

But most described the outcome as a prank.

"I think some are disillusioned," said Roy Hayhurst, 16, staff editor for the student newspaper, The

Colt. "I think some didn't care. It was just a big joke."

Marrou, whose candidacy for president has been easily overshadowed by the major party candidates and Ross Perot, won 301 votes to President Bush's 215, Perot's 101 and Bill Clinton's 87.

In discussions after the vote yesterday, many students and teachers attributed Marrou's upset as an attempt to poke fun at the electoral process.

"They were voting to show that the election didn't mean anything," said Chris McFann, 17. "Everyone's trying to be a revolutionary."

Several teachers who had focused classroom discussions on the cam-

paigns of the three major candidates admitted that they were stunned when the election results were released late yesterday.

An estimated 704 out of the school's 1900 students voted in the mock election.

"My first reaction was, 'We've got a bunch of jokers around here,'" said Phyllis Forehand, journalism adviser. "But maybe this is their protest. . . I don't know."

Clint Hulsey, the Libertarian candidate in the race for state representative, District 93, was pleased with the results.

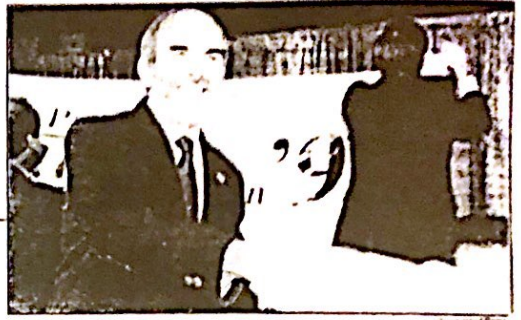
"That's fantastic," said Hulsey, an Arlington engineer. "I'm overwhelmed. It goes to show that our

ideas appeal to young minds that haven't been corrupted yet."

Marrou and his Libertarian Party promise to repeal the federal income tax and abolish the Internal Revenue Service. The Libertarian platform urges legalizing so-called victimless crimes such as drug use and prostitution and lifting regulations restricting firearm ownership.

In an editorial that will be published in The Colt Friday, journalism students raise the question of whether Marrou's victory was the result of voter fraud.

When Marrou overwhelmingly beat Clinton and Bush, "things smelled a little fishy," the editorial states.



Libertarian presidential candidate Andre Marrou, shown in this file photograph, was the winner at Arlington High School.

But Student Council sponsor Brenda Gilmore said that students' names were marked off a master list after they voted. It would have been difficult for students to vote more than once, she said.

"No one was as shocked as the kids that organized it and as I was," she said. "I talked to my two classes and they were just flabbergasted."

Staff writer Kathryn Bopper contributed to this report.

### And the children shall lead

Here the message from the "educators" at the school seems to be "no way these students learned about libertarianism in our classes!" Unfortunately, the reporter chose not to find and interview one or more of the students who voted for Marrou. Submitted by Wally Strong. Ft Worth Star-Telegram, Ft Worth, TX -- Oct. 28, 1992

# Libertarians start small

## Group of Foxboro voters seeks alternative message

By JULIET PENNINGTON  
SUN CHRONICLE STAFF

FOXBORO — With the election only two days away, there are still many voters unsure if they will pull the lever next to the name of Clinton, Bush or Perot.

Not local resident Ray Laughlin. He doesn't plan to vote for any of them.

A Libertarian, Laughlin plans to vote for presidential candidate, Andre Marrou, and vice presidential candidate Nancy Lord.

The party, whose presidential and vice presidential candidates are on the ballot in all 50 states, espouses limited government, a free market economy, legalization of drugs, repealing the personal income tax, getting rid of public welfare, abolishing censorship and privatizing public schools.

"I believe in classical liberalism. If you look at our society today, it's nothing like our founding fathers' envisioned," said Laughlin, 37, one of four registered Libertarians in Foxboro. "Just look at the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution."

Laughlin said that the current economic malaise is a clear indicator that there is a need for change, adding that change needs to begin with attitudes about government and society.

"People have to realize that they can't turn to government for all their answers," he said. "They have to take responsibility for their actions."

Laughlin, a real estate developer and electrical contractor, said the government should have a "limited role" in society, and should provide solely for the defense of the United States.

"Why should we be defending Western Europe and Japan?" he said. "We're talking about extremely rich nations that we're subsidizing."

He also argued free-market economics would greatly curtail the potential for war.

"Everybody should be free to trade with everybody," he said. "You don't shoot your customers."

The government should also provide protection for citizens from being harmed by others, but not be an enforcer of moral standards.

### Legalize drugs

"The police should be putting criminals in jail and making the streets safe for law-abiding citizens," said Laughlin, who agrees with his party's stand on legalizing drugs.

"Do you know how many people have been killed over drugs? If they were legalized, prices would fall through the floor and there would be nothing left to fight over," said Laughlin.

Besides the legalization of drugs, eliminating government programs for the poor is another controversial idea to which Libertarians subscribe.

"About 70 percent of welfare funding goes to pay the salaries of bureaucrats," he said.

Ronald Pearson, 28, another locally registered Libertarian, argued that welfare should be picked up by charitable organizations and not be a role of government.

"Families should play a role, too," said Pearson, a 1982 Foxboro High School graduate who, until recently, worked as an inventory clerk. "You are your brother's keeper - the government isn't."

Laughlin said he is also against "corporate welfare" such as farming subsidies.

"Four percent of the U.S. farms produce 94 percent of the food in this country," he said. "The others are being subsidized by the government because of this idyllic image of farming and what it used to be in America."



MARTIN GAVIN / THE SUN CHRONICLE

Ray Laughlin in his back yard overlooking Foundry Pond in Foxboro. Laughlin will be voting Libertarian on Tuesday.

## Libertarians gain, then lose

The Libertarian Party is no more in North Carolina — at least under the state's burdensome election laws.

Libertarians lost their official designation as a political party in the state — and automatic qualification for the ballot — in last week's general election. The Libertarian candidate for governor, Scott McLaughlin of High Point, didn't get the number of votes state law requires in order for upstart political parties to maintain official status.

So now, supporters of the Libertarian cause must begin a petition drive if they want to get back on the ballot for the 1994 and 1996 elections. State law will require them to gather, based on results of this year's governor's race, nearly 52,000 signatures of registered voters.

But here's the rub. McLaughlin garnered 103,681 votes last Tuesday, or nearly twice the number of signatures that Libertarians now must get to qualify again as a political party. The voices of 103,681 North Carolinians who chose to vote Libertarian should carry more weight than state law allows.

Under election law, forming a political party and getting on the state-wide ballot requires a petition drive gathering signatures equal to 2 percent of votes cast in the last governor's race. But once the party gets on the ballot, it must win 10 percent of the vote in order to maintain its party designation. Last Tuesday, McLaughlin's total amounted to just 4 percent of the vote.

The situation McLaughlin and the Liber-

tarian Party are in now highlights the absurdity of state election laws on formation of political parties. Fewer signatures should be required — perhaps 10,000 would show sufficient interest. And a requirement that a candidate get just 2 percent of the vote — in this election about 50,000 — in order to remain on the ballot seems reasonable.

McLaughlin's votes last week represented nearly a 2,500 percent increase from the 4,611 votes the Libertarian candidate for governor received when on the ballot in 1984. Although many of McLaughlin's votes may have been cast more against Democrat Jim Hunt and Republican Jim Gardner than in support of McLaughlin, the strong showing still demonstrates remarkable progress for North Carolina's third "major" political party.

The support McLaughlin and other statewide Libertarian candidates received, generally 3 percent to 4 percent of the vote, indicates an undercurrent of dissatisfaction with the two party system, and it also shows that the Democratic and Republican parties don't hold exclusive rights to valid ideas of political thought.

When state laws discourage expression of other viewpoints by maintaining the status quo of a two party system, opinions that could be examined and debated in the public forum are squashed. By preventing that discussion and free exchange of ideas we are not protecting our freedom, we are endangering it.

The Sun Chronicle, Attleboro MA -- Nov 1 1992

High Point Enterprise, High Point NC -- Nov 9 1992