

LIBERTY PLEDGE

newsletters

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OCTOBER 2002

ENDORSEMENT NEWS...

Two more LP candidates get campaign endorsements

Two more Libertarian candidates have received endorsements, bringing the total number of LP candidates for federal office with major endorsements to six.

On October 4, national LP Political Director Ron Crickenberger received the support of the National Taxpayers Union Campaign Fund (NTUCF), the political-action arm of the 335,000-member National Taxpayers Union.

Crickenberger is running for a U.S. House seat in Virginia (District 8).

"I thank the NTUCF for having the vision to recognize that Libertarian candidates can be the best choice for taxpayers," he said.

Also receiving an endorsement was Stephanie Sailor, LP candidate for U.S. House in Illinois (District 9), who won the backing of the Illinois State Rifle Association (ISRA) on September 28.

"I graciously accept the ISRA's endorsement and am appreciative of their support," said Sailor. "This endorsement signifies that the ISRA values my passions for the cause."

Sailor also received the endorsement of the Illinois Committee for Honest Government on September 13.

Already endorsed LP candidates include Massachusetts U.S. House candidate Ilana Freedman (NTUCF), California U.S. House candidate Maad Abu-Ghazalah (Mexican American Political Association), and Montana U.S. House candidate Mike Fellows and U.S. Senate candidate Stan Jones (Montana Shooting Sports Association).

CAMPAIGN 2002...

Senate candidate arrested for anti-war demonstration

Saying that she "cannot condone theft followed by murder," Tamara Millay, the LP candidate for U.S. Senate in Missouri, has been arrested for participating in an anti-war demonstration.

On October 1, Millay was booked on a charge of "obstructing a public thoroughfare" during a peaceful protest in St. Charles.

Millay and 38 other activists had blocked the exits from a local weapons plant, preventing a shipment of Boeing cruise missiles from passing through. Many believe the missiles are being produced for a war against Iraq.

As a result, St. Charles police arrested the 35-year-old Millay and took her to the local jail, where she was processed and released on \$100 bond. A court hearing has been scheduled for November 19.

Millay, who works as a research assistant in the department of psychiatry at Washington University in St. Louis, said she felt she had an "ethical obligation to be there."

"This is a clear case of tax money being taken from the pockets of working Missourians and used to prepare for war in a region where the U.S. has no legitimate security interests," she said. "I can't condone theft followed by murder."

On the other hand, both Democratic candidate Jean Carnahan and Republican candidate Jim Talent support the war-building effort, noted Millay — and have been rewarded for it.

According to Federal Election Commission reports, the Boeing Political Action Committee has given \$10,000 to Carnahan and \$4,500 to Talent in campaign contributions this year.

"Missouri is the 'Show Me State,'" she said. "So I'm showing Missourians that I'm willing to put my money where my mouth is and risk arrest for my principles."

"Talent and Carnahan are showing Missouri's voters something, too — they're showing Missourians that they'll put their corporate donors' money in their wallets and sell out the people they've pledged to serve, just to get elected."

Millay has run as a Libertarian for a U.S. Senate seat and twice for a U.S. House seat in the past. She faces a fine of between \$5 and \$500 and up to one year in the county jail if convicted.

For more information about the Millay for U.S. Senate campaign, visit: www.tamaramillay.org.

LP wins board majority

Libertarians have gained a majority on the Guadalupe-Coyote Resource Conservation District Board, an environmental planning body in California.

In late August, Libertarian Carle Hylkema became the third Libertarian to serve on the five-member board. Elected to a five-year term, Hylkema joins Libertarians Gilbert Carroll and Board President Gary Molle on the non-partisan body.

Hylkema, who will be sworn into office during the first week of December, said she was "enthusiastic about being able to do something substantive for my community."

Chamber opens governor debate to uninvited Libertarian candidate

BY LE TEMPLAR
TRIBUNE

The Arizona Chamber of Commerce reversed its stance this week and will include the Libertarian candidate for governor on the same stage with Republican, Democrat, and independent candidates during a debate Tuesday in Phoenix.

Barry Hess of Phoenix already has accepted an invitation to the first major debate of the general election, although the offer would go to fellow Libertarian Gary Fallon if a statewide ballot recount changes the outcome of the Sept. 10 primary.

The Tribune reported Wednesday that the chamber had decided before the primary to exclude any Libertarian in the general election debate that will be broadcast on radio across the

Valley. Chamber officials had said his tory has demonstrated the Libertarian Party has no realistic chance of winning, and more debate time would be available for Democrat Janet Napolitano, Republican Matt Salmon and independent Richard Mahoney.

But the Napolitano and Salmon campaigns requested inclusion of the Libertarian candidate as an issue of fairness, the Tribune reported. The debate's radio broadcaster, KFYI (550 AM), extended the length of the debate from an hour to 90 minutes to make it easier to add a fourth candidate, said chamber spokesman Farrell Quinlan.

"There wasn't any pressure. There weren't any ultimatums," Quinlan said. "Once we were presented with all of these voices to reconsider, we reconsidered."

(Left) *East Valley Tribune* – Mesa, Arizona – September 19, 2002

(Bottom) *Wisconsin State Journal* – Madison, Wisconsin – September 19, 2002

Libertarian Thompson bets on casinos in his run for governor

He's pledging support for new Indian proposals in Beloit, Shullsburg and Kenosha.

By Scott Milfred
State government reporter

Libertarian candidate for governor Ed Thompson will travel across southern Wisconsin today touting his support for casino proposals in Beloit, Shullsburg and Kenosha.

Thompson, the former mayor of Tomah and younger brother of former GOP Gov. Tommy Thompson, is betting his support for more casinos will improve his long odds at winning the Nov. 5 election.

The two major party candidates for governor — Republican Gov. Scott McCallum and Democratic Attorney General

Jim Doyle — have repeatedly said they oppose allowing more casinos in Wisconsin.

Dane County Executive Kathleen Falk had made her support for a Beloit casino an issue in the Democratic primary for governor, but she lost to Doyle.

American Indian tribes operate 17 casinos in the state.

Thompson said Wednesday that Beloit and Shullsburg in particular "so desperately need something" to boost economic development and create jobs. Those cities and

Kenosha have voted in favor of adding casinos, he said. He added that he's against a casino in La Crosse because voters there rejected it.

Thompson will appear today at a Kenosha library, Janesville job center and Shullsburg park. Shullsburg is about 75 miles southwest of Madison in Lafayette County.

McCallum is committed to boosting economic development in all three cities, said spokeswoman Debbie Monterrey-Millett.

"But he does not believe casinos are the way to do that," she said. "Casinos don't create wealth, they redistribute it."

Doyle has warned that allowing one tribe an additional casino might legally force the state to allow every other tribe an extra casino.



Thompson

Libertarian hopeful used pot too, but never inhaled the brownies

BY SCOTT FORNEK
POLITICAL REPORTER

Libertarian gubernatorial candidate Cal Skinner voluntarily walked into the "Past Marijuana Use Confessional" on Tuesday, but said not only did he not inhale—he didn't even know he was using pot until it was over.

In one of the most bizarre marijuana revelations yet, the former Republican state representative admitted to reporters that he unwittingly tried marijuana about 20 years ago when someone cooked up a batch of pot brownies for him as a birthday present and didn't tell him about the secret ingredient.

So did he inhale?
"I guess I swallowed," Skinner conceded. "I mean, I like brownies a lot. I probably ate two or three or four."

Skinner volunteered the information at an unrelated news conference a day after Democratic rival Rod Blagojevich, 45, admitted to reporters that he had smoked marijuana twice while in his late teens or early 20s but does not remember whether he inhaled. A spokesman for GOP nominee Jim Ryan said the attorney general has never smoked marijuana.

"If you ask me the marijuana question, I can give you the answer," Skinner said. "I have never smoked

marijuana in my life."

Skinner, 60, a conservative from northwest suburban Crystal Lake, then recounted the tale of the tainted brownies, saying they were baked for him around 1980 by a free-lance artist who wanted to see whether he would turn into a party animal.

"She wanted to see what effect it would have on me, and it was real exciting," Skinner said.

"I fell asleep. I told her never to do it again," he said.

Skinner told reporters he does not share his new party's position that marijuana use should be decriminalized.

Asked if the brownie prankster should have been locked up, Skinner hesitated and said, "I don't know how to answer that question."

Skinner also confessed he was confused by all the discussion on talk radio Tuesday morning about whether Blagojevich had the "munchies" during his youthful experimentation with marijuana

"I just didn't have a clue what they were talking about," Skinner said.

But he got the concept quickly when a reporter explained it was slang for marijuana users' desire to stuff their faces with food after they get high.

"I have the munchies all the time," Skinner said. "It doesn't have to be triggered by marijuana."



Cal Skinner
"I fell asleep"

(Top) *Chicago Sun-Times* – Chicago, Illinois – September 18, 2002

(Bottom Right) *Dayton Daily News* – Dayton, Ohio – September 23, 2002

(Bottom Left) *The New York Times* – New York, New York – September 26, 2002

WEIRD NEWS LIBERTARIANS POSE FOR ELECTION FUNDS

GREENSBORO, N.C. — North Carolina's Libertarian Party has found a way to get a little exposure for its platform.

A Libertarian candidate for the state House of Representatives has put together a pin-up calendar featuring herself and 11 other Libertarian women, including five other candidates. The candidates plan to sell the calendar to raise money for their campaigns.

None of the Libertarian women appears wearing less than lingerie, said Jennifer Schulz Medlock, a candidate who appears in the calendar in a tank top, shorts and boxing gloves.

MIDWEST

WISCONSIN: A CANDIDATE'S LAMENT The Libertarian candidate for governor, Ed Thompson, left, said his older brother, Health and Human Services Secretary Tommy G. Thompson, has not delivered \$300 in promised campaign contributions. Ed Thompson said his brother promised to vote for him and give him \$500, but sent a check for only \$200. A spokesman for the cabinet secretary declined to say how much he had agreed to give his brother. Ed Thompson faces an uphill battle to beat Gov. Scott McCallum, a Republican, and Attorney General Jim



Doyle, the Democratic candidate.

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SHAVINGS

by

Wendell H. Woodman



Income tax repeal might be therapeutic

Nobody is working harder for the Libertarian Party this year than the Democratic Party. State Treasurer Shannon O'Brien calls state government a mess. Warren Tolman says it's broken.

To Robert Reich it's dysfunctional.

Senate President Tom Birmingham nods at their characterizations. So in playing to the cynicism of voters, the Democratic candidates for Governor seem agreed that Massachusetts is a broken, dysfunctional mess. Which just happens to be the Libertarian Party's diagnosis, too. But the elixir in the Libertarian bag of remedies is one that Democrats consider far too draconian -- repeal of the state income tax.

The Libertarian asks, "If something's a broken, dysfunctional mess, why chase good money after it?"

There the Democrats and Libertarians part company. The Democrats want to keep their dream of paternalism alive for another thousand years, and the Libertarians want to put the cadaver to rest. In the last gubernatorial contest, Republican Paul Cellucci tied his prospects to a ballot question on reducing the income tax rate. He won.

Carla Howell, the Libertarian candidate for Governor, is going the Republicans one better this year. Her party -- the smaller-is-prettier party -- wants to put the broken, dysfunctional government on a crash diet by abolishing the income tax.

Just as Paul Cellucci and the tax cut shared the ballot four years ago, Carla Howell and repeal of the income tax are this year's happy couple. Carla has far less money and popular support for her cause than the Republicans had in 1998, but she's getting unexpected help from the enemy. She's got the Democrats trashing everything the Democrats represent -- government failing year after year at triple the rate of inflation.

PA4
The Libertarians want to stop reeding caviar to this pandemic of ineptitude and starve it back to something manageable. Instead of wasting further resources on new experiments, they'd like to close down the lab. The Democrats think the lab needs new direction -- and fresh money. The Republican nominee-apparent, Mitt Romney, is embracing the same theme. He promises in his ads to fix "the mess" on Beacon Hill, too. So it's unanimous: the Commonwealth is a broken, dysfunctional mess.

The Libertarian challenge asks that trite old questions, "Are you getting more from your government to day than you were getting 10 years ago?" The follow-up question asks if you are \$9 billion better off. That \$9 billion in revenue and spending growth is the equivalent of this year's yield from the state income tax. By cutting the budget back by \$9 billion -- to a level indistinguishable from services rendered a decade ago, the state could stop taxing your income, claim the Libertarians.

Democrats (and most Republicans) think the ramifications of abolishing the income tax would be frightful -- an extremist idea, they say. Well, if Beacon Hill is as broken and dysfunctional as they claim, then what the ship of state probably needs is an extended sabbatical. What better way to force it into dry-dock than to eliminate the income tax?

Even after "cutting everything to the bone," the legislature didn't have the heart to send Gov. Jane Swift a balanced budget. They left it to Her Excellency to sheer off several hundred million more with her veto. Reaction at the University of Massachusetts was typical. Funding of almost three dozen duly negotiated collective bargaining contracts with employees at all UMass campuses was vetoed.

Gov. Swift wiped \$29.6 million off the budget for identical reasons: "I am vetoing this item because it is no longer recommended in view of revenues currently projected to be available." Employees who did not or could not take advantage of an early retirement package were rewarded with a two percent pay raise -- in writing. Those contracts were vitiated by the Governor's veto.

UMass employees blame the governor for renegeing on the deal. The truth is the legislature put those raises in an unbalanced budget knowing that the governor would strike them out, and that is why no effort was made to override those vetoes during the last two days of July.

If voters do choose to abolish the income tax, they should probably elect Carla Howell and trust her to tackle the broken, dysfunctional mess with a ruthless paring knife instead of soapbox rhetoric.

(Top) *The Daily Times Chronicle* – Woburn, Massachusetts –
September 10, 2002