



LIBERTY PLEDGE NEWSLETTER

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Tax Protest Groups to Join Forces Nationwide For 'Taxpayer's Action Day' on October 27th

Libertarians across the country will be participating in "Taxpayer's Action Day" on Saturday, October 27.

The event's sponsors, Council for Citizens Against Government Waste, invited Libertarians to serve as local organizers. Hundreds of tax protest organizations will also be participating. Rally organizers are supplied with sample flyers,

T-shirts, press releases, etc. And, of course, local organizers will be given names of all people in their area expressing an interest in the event—a valuable asset for local LP organizations.

The LP has also printed a special run of LP tax flyers, available free from LP Headquarters, for use at the event.

The day will begin with "Taxpayer's Revolt," a television special airing on *The Family Channel* at 10am (EST), available on cable across the country. The program will take a look at why so many people are angry at the political establishment. LP National Director Nick Dunbar and LP Vice Chair Mary Gingell were part of the studio audience for the program when it was taped earlier this month in Washington, D.C.

Following the program, tax protest rallies will be held in every Congressional district in the country. The theme for the rallies is "It's Time for a Clean Sweep." Some Libertarian participants will be using the slogan, "For a Clean Sweep, Vote Libertarian."

For more information on Taxpayer Action Day activities, call Taxpayer Action Day staff at 1-800-BE ANGRY.

'Campaign 1990' Hopes Funds Will Bring Legislative Victories

A recent fundraising appeal from the LP's Campaign '90 Committee has been doing very well. The appeal was put out on behalf of several state legislative candidates who are in what are perceived to be winnable races and, therefore, worthy of special consideration.

The first \$15,000 raised will go directly to Greg Johnston, candidate for state representative in Idaho. Johnston has raised a significant amount of money on his own—a prerequisite for consideration for Campaign '90 funding—and is running a very active race. Amounts over \$15,000 raised will be donated to Toby Nixon's campaign for state legislature in Georgia and Bob Waldrop's state legislative campaign in Utah.

Nixon has been successful in gaining the support of some active but disenchanting Republicans. Waldrop plans to knock on every door in his district before Election Day.

BALLOT ACCESS UPDATE

The LP Ballot Access Committee is moving ahead with the job of gaining ballot status for the LP's 1992 presidential ticket. This month, petitioners will be sent into Alabama to begin collecting signatures to gain ballot status there for the 1992 elections.

LIBERTARIAN PARTY NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

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Clovis, CA, Independent, Aug. 8 1990.

Libertarian councilmember plans to avoid 'professional politics'

By Julie Phillips
Managing Editor

Despite recent votes that appear to go against his Libertarian bent, Mayor Pro Tem Bob Subers says he is sticking by his political philosophy and plans to avoid becoming something he deprecates: a professional politician.

During a recent interview, Subers said he has a "real problem with professional politicians" and said "there is no way" he would serve on the Clovis City Council for more than two terms.

Subers is midway through his first four-year council term and was selected as mayor pro tem last April. He said he hasn't decided if he will run for re-election in April 1992.

"We have a system of government where citizens serve reluctantly and for a short time," Subers said.

In further explaining his Libertarian philosophy, Subers said he believes "everybody has a right to do what they want with their own life, if they don't infringe on others' rights."

Libertarians believe people should be left to spend their money and as they see fit and pursue civil liberties, as long as it doesn't infringe on anyone else, he said.

Libertarians have tossed out the classical horizontal scales used to label political beliefs and have instead created their own scale which measures civil liberties and economic freedom allowed by each political philosophy.

Subers, who also has a Clovis medical practice, was a physician during the Vietnam War and the only American doctor to be granted a private practice in Vietnam after the war.

Subers earned his medical degree at the Loyola Medical School in Chicago.

He admitted his most recent vote on the controversial Shaw-Fowler corner "stood out like a sore

thumb." But, Subers said, when analyzed, his vote to support a 45-day commercial building moratorium on east Shaw Avenue is in perfect step with his Libertarian beliefs, adding:

"Promises were made in the Shaw Specific Plan. If you make promises, someone better make them stick to it. But government doesn't keep promises."

As a Libertarian, he said, he was keeping to his philosophy by trying to keep the promises made first, the promises made to the residents.

"Promises were made. Let's hold governments' feet to the fire and make government stick to them (the promises)," Subers said.

He said all the council voted to do at Shaw and Fowler avenues is "stop and think for 45 days. It's not that big of a deal. It's been blown out of proportion."

Subers also recently cast the only dissenting vote against the city's entire 1990-91 budget.

His vote, which he said is in line with Libertarian philosophy, was made "in an effort to slow the growth of bureaucracy."

He said the city's staff, under the new budget, would grow by 10



Dr. Bob Subers

percent, while the city's population increased by only 5 percent.

"If we're trying to keep minimal government," he asked, why should staff increases be double the population increases?"

Subers joined the council majority in the recent vote on a new contract for the city's police officers.

Although the proposal, which will give officers the retirement

package they requested, will be costly to the city, Subers said, "It met the parameters of the best compromise we could get out of the council and the Clovis Police Officers Association."

"That doesn't mean it was the best deal. It was the best deal we could get."

Again, he said, his vote was consistently Libertarian because Libertarians are strong supporters of public safety issues and providing basic city services.

"I'll fight to keep bringing us back to the basic services," Subers said.

On the issue of growth in

Clovis, Subers said, he is "growth neutral."

"I'm not pro-growth, I'm not anti-growth. I don't want to artificially stop it."

Subers said he also takes a strong stand against growth inducements, such as offering to fund off-site improvements or helping developers by selling bonds to support projects.

"I am against those kinds of giveaways," Subers said.

Rumors of Subers himself being involved in development are unfounded, he said, adding that he

currently owns five properties that will be paid off by the time he is 63, and they will provide for his retirement.

He listed the properties he owns as: a house on DeWitt, an apartment in San Diego, a small apartment complex in Fresno, and two condominiums in Fresno.

The Washington (D.C.) Times, Oct. 10, 1990.

JOSEPH SOBRAN

The political establishment is getting good and scared, the latest shock being David Duke's strong showing in Louisiana's senatorial race. Even with world-class negatives and the virtually unanimous denunciations of politicians and press, the former Klan leader got 44 percent of all votes cast.

Some see this result as a measure of the covert racism they say still lurks in the national psyche. But there is another way to look at it. Mr. Duke repudiated his past, and those who cast their ballots for him may have taken him at his word. It's highly possible they were voting not for his sheets and swastika of yesterday but for his 1990 message: equal rights for all races and lower taxes.

In other words, Mr. Duke might have won 64, not 44, percent of the vote if he had run on his message without the albatross of his past. His opponents wanted to run against his past, not against his current themes.

Joseph Sobran, a senior editor of National Review, is a nationally syndicated columnist.

In still other words, Mr. Duke's real appeal was less racial than anti-government, anti-establishment and libertarian. Abstract the message from the messenger, and you may be seeing the future of American politics.

Here in Washington, the Libertarian Party is fielding its own candidate for mayor, a young lawyer named Nancy Lord. She is as unlike David Duke as anyone can be, which has the drawback of denying her Mr. Duke's great asset of free publicity. Her sensibilities are liberal, her style is low key. She just happens to believe strongly in private property and not at all in government's power to intervene beneficently in the economy.

Miss Lord faces other drawbacks: She is running on a third-party ticket, which all but guarantees she won't be taken seriously by the media. And though she is an outsider in an outsider's year, she has to run against the city establishment's anointed "outsider," the Democrat Sharon Pratt Dixon, who won a surprise victory in the recent primary after getting the endorsement of The Washington Post.

A Duke and a Lord

Miss Lord thinks Washington could easily cut 6,000 people from the city payroll.

Miss Lord thinks Washington could easily cut 6,000 employees from the city payroll, and she wants to slash property taxes by a third. But she is especially passionate about her pet cause: deregulating the city's street vendors.

The vendors are one of the city's charms and conveniences. You can grab a quick lunch or do your Christmas shopping in Washington without entering a building.

Most of the vendors are immigrants: Africans, Chinese, Arabs, Hispanics, Pakistanis, Vietnamese. But J.W. Marriott also began as a street vendor. Miss Lord points out, right here in Washington, and eventually accumulated the wealth to launch his hotel chain.

Though there is a market for the vendors, there is also an anti-market. They are resented by the local merchants who lose business to them. So the merchants have pressured the black city government to invoke old regulations to drive vendors off the streets — regulations that originally were passed, as it happens, when white merchants wanted to rid themselves of competition from black street vendors, back when Washington was ruled by whites.

A new set of regulations was passed in 1985, sharply reducing the total number of vendors to about

3,000. Miss Lord observes that the number of constraints on street vendors "rivals regulations for heart surgery."

"They're eliminating the lower rungs of the economic ladder we all hope to climb," she says. "We wonder why so many people turn to drug dealing. Well, drug dealing and panhandling are the only businesses left that aren't regulated."

Someone has noted that Marion Barry's great virtue as mayor was that he didn't do his job. Many of the city's innumerable laws went unenforced, allowing the economy to bustle. Mrs. Dixon, his likely successor, would probably do her job all too conscientiously, with unhappy consequences. The enforcement of bad laws can be as destructive as the violation of good ones.

When we speak of our two-party system, we're acknowledging that we aren't going to give candidates like Nancy Lord a real chance. It would be a pity, now that many voters are ready for change, to have ruled it out in advance. The cause of change should not be left to the likes of David Duke.

The New Mexican, Santa Fe, NM, Sept. 1, 1990.

A campaign to cut the government Libertarian opposes property tax, war on drugs

By DAVID ROYBAL
The New Mexican Staff

Joseph Knight of Farmington doesn't like government and, if he's elected governor in November, he'll get rid of as much of it as he can.

Knight is a Libertarian running as a write-in candidate on a unorthodox platform, a man with a tiny political budget, low or nonexistent voter recognition, and zero chance of being elected unless all other candidates develop terminal illnesses between now and November.

Knight didn't just fall off a chile truck, however. He knows the astronomical odds against him, and he has an answer when he is asked why he is bothering to run:

"He is in the race in part to assure that the Libertarian Party remains registered as a legitimate party in New Mexico," he said.

Back to his budget. It's small.

"I've spent less than a thousand dollars so far," he said.

Will he be able to raise \$2,000 . . . \$3,000?

"I hope so. I hope so," he said, aware that Republican and Democratic gubernatorial nominees each will spend \$1 million to \$1.5 million in the same race.

Not only does he not have much of a budget, he also doesn't have a surplus of photographs of himself.

"I had a half dozen made up and they went real fast," he said.

He does have a platform, though.

Knight, 42 of Farmington, was a long-time farmer and has worked the past two years as a volunteer for the Libertarian Party.

"If you ask me what I would do for you as governor, my answer would be, 'Not a damn thing,'" he said. "More importantly, I wouldn't do anything to you, either."

Knight is opposed to the nation's recently launched war on drugs.

"Philosophically, if you chose to ruin your life, it's your right as long as you don't bother anybody else," he said.

"A junkie should be able to stop off at a drug store and buy a hit of heroin just like he can buy a six pack of beer. There is a lot of

crime associated with drug use but a lot of that has to do with the suppression of drugs.

"Rather than pay \$10 for a day's supply of heroin, a junkie has to pay \$1,000. He can't make that working overtime at the car wash. He's got to go rob you and me."

Knight said he is opposed to the statewide property tax.

"Paying property taxes is really like paying rent. You pay the government to own your own property," he said.

Knight said most of what government does should be done by private companies.

"We'd like to see the services provided without the coercion of government. Most government is force," he said.

When government must collect money to provide services, it should be done through user fees, he said.

Knight has to run as a write-in candidate because he did not collect the 2,517 signatures on nominating petitions to get on the Nov. 6 ballot, state Elections Bureau Director Hoyt Clifton said.

Knight said that either he or his party's

People's Press, Owatonna, MN, Sept. 9, 1990.

Oregon proposal would broaden school options

SALEM, Ore. (AP) — A petition drive has put a proposed constitutional amendment on Oregon's Nov. 6 ballot that supporters and foes alike call the most far-reaching school choice measure in the nation.

Backers of the Educational Choice Initiative, or Measure 11, say it would greatly broaden educational opportunity by giving parents the means to send their children to schools of their choice — public or private.

Opponents say it would severely weaken the public school system and violate constitutionally required separation of church and state.

The proposal would allow parents to send their children across district lines to any public school. State school aid would follow the students.

More controversially, it also would grant state income tax credits of up to \$2,500 a year for pupils at private schools, including church-supported schools, and for children taught at home.

A poll of 600 registered voters conducted in late August for The Oregonian newspaper of Portland found 48 percent in favor of the proposal, 47 percent opposed and 5 percent undecided. The margin of error was plus or minus 4 percentage points.

Minnesota is the only state with statewide open enrollment for

public schools. It also is the only one that gives tax breaks to parents of students who attend private schools, but the breaks aren't so generous as in the Oregon measure.

Minnesota permits taxpayers to deduct from taxable income up to \$1,000 in private school expenses. The Oregon measure would allow tax credits — a direct subtraction from taxes owed — of up to \$2,500 a year.

The Office of Legislative Counsel said Measure 11 is similar in most respects to the Minnesota law, which was upheld by the U.S. Supreme Court in 1984.

If the Oregon measure is passed, it will take effect in the 1991-92 school year.

The proposal "is certainly the most extensive" one of its kind, said Sister Catherine McNamee, president of the National Catholic Education Association in Washington. The association, which represents 200,000 Roman Catholic educators, strongly backs the proposal.

The idea for Measure 11, however, largely came from Libertarian Party adherents.

Opponents say one of their major arguments against passage will be that the measure would result in using taxes to aid religion.

The Oregon Education Association, the state's largest teachers union, opposes the whole idea.

Grants Pass, OR, Daily Courier, Aug. 9, 1990.

Libertarian candidate touts tax freedom

By Paul Fattig
of the Daily Courier



NATHAN

Tonie Nathan knows her chances of unseating 4th District Congressman Peter DeFazio are about the same as winning the state lottery.

As a Libertarian candidate for the position, Nathan does concede that "I am an underdog — definitely."

"And he is a very shrewd politician," she added. "He's very good at playing the game. He's a hard

worker. He responds well to his constituents. He does his homework. He's an activist."

But that doesn't mean Nathan isn't serious about winning the seat held by the Democratic incumbent.

"We represent a broad spectrum of people but we hold one thing of prime importance: individual liberty," said the Eugene resident. "We recognize that individual rights are sacrosanct, that our Declaration of Independence was a philosophical statement about the rights of every individual."

Those rights include not being financially buried by taxation, a

fighting word to Libertarians, she said.

"Taxation is a way of saying, 'Either you pay me your money or you go to jail,'" she said.

"Very obviously, if you honestly earn something, nobody has a right to take that away from you," she added. "A group of men don't, a thief doesn't, and the government doesn't just because it calls itself the government. Morally it's wrong."

She acknowledged that finding alternatives to taxes is difficult. "Privatization" is the answer, she said.

"Government doesn't have to provide services like building roads, furnishing buses or furnish-

ing garbage disposal or whatever," she said. "That should be in the private sector. All the government should do is be a policeman and make sure the people providing these services don't defraud the customers or don't do things that would endanger the health and safety of the people."

As a Libertarian, Nathan is also a staunch advocate of property rights.

"We feel you are not really free, and you really don't own anything if you can't put your hard-earned money into property and not be able to use that property anyway you choose as long as it doesn't endanger the health and safety of others," she said.

Furthermore, Libertarians support the legalization of marijuana, she said.

"I'm thoroughly opposed to drug use myself," she stressed. "I think we should be as healthy as possible."

"But, even though I strongly oppose it and can say in my own home that I don't want someone smoking pot or snorting cocaine, I don't have the right to go next door and force my values on them."

"The way you end drug violence is to decriminalize it," she added. "You stop making criminals out of people who are doing unwise, unhealthy things . . . we won't have the overloaded courts, we won't have the prisons to build."



JOSEPH KNIGHT
"Most government is force"

1992 presidential candidate must receive one of every 200 votes cast for the Libertarians to remain registered.

Libertarians seek to house 'politically homeless'

The following guest column was written by Erin T. Hallinan, a Bloomington resident and freelance writer.

Guest columnist

It takes a dynamic and appealing personality to toss a salad of differing views with a dressing of high-spirited humor, and form a strong political coalition. Dick Boddie, attorney, professional motivational speaker, comic, African American, third generation preacher, and self-proclaimed revolution-ary, just may have what it takes.

Hopeful for nomination for Libertarian presidential candidate for 1992, Boddie was the main attraction of the 1990 Libertarian Party of Indiana Convention May 12 in Indianapolis.

When Barbara Bourland, M.D., now chair of the Libertarian Party of Indiana, heard Libertarian 1990 presidential candidate Ed Clark speak on television, "It was like turning on a light! I had finally found a political home." Housing the politically homeless is the key tactic of the Libertarian party. Their eclectic platform places them

in opposition to authoritarianism, far left on personal issues, and far right on economic issues. Their goal is less government, and their watchwords are privatization and free market enterprise.

The state convention's theme, appropriately, was "Allies in Liberty," alluding to various factional representatives who support Libertarian ideals.

Boddie opened his keynote address with a Nixon impression ("I am not a crook"), followed by a lengthy and humorous quote assuring Libertarians that "We can do anything with absolutely nothing."

Absolutely nothing is what many Libertarians feel they have to work with, in the U.S.'s two-party monopoly. Increasingly restrictive ballot access regulations are another party's greatest obstacle, and were a recurring topic of lament at the convention.

Though the L.P. is the strongest third

party in terms of national membership and elections results, with 100 elected and appointed officials nationwide, it has never elected an official in Indiana, and was unable to generate the 35,000 signatures per office necessary to appear on Indiana ballots in 1988. In his speech, Boddie encouraged Libertarians to circumvent such difficulty by appealing to an international constituency.

Ironically, newly democratized countries in Eastern Europe offer much freer access to ballots than the states of Indiana and often feature more than 10 parties competing in local and national elections. Boddie said he had heard Taas has called the L.P. "the American dissidents," and he was enthusiastic about the spectacle of the international press calling attention to "the American dissident party, led by a black guy."

Peppered with jokes about lawyers, blacks, politics ("How can you tell a politician is lying? His lips move.") or "Democracy is three votes and a sheep voting on what to have for breakfast," and more, Boddie's keynote speech suggested practi-

cal ways to increase L.P. membership.

No-nonsense, quick portrayals of Libertarianism are most effective at generating interest, such as Boddie's comparison of Libertarianism to jazz, as "the freedom of improvisation, the freedom to be myself."

He advocates using examples like the L.P.'s opposition to excessive taxation and victimless crime laws to illustrate the party's representation of values many Americans hold deeply but do not identify with Libertarianism. Rather than "the party of principle," as the L.P. has dubbed itself, Boddie would call it "the party of good intentions, working for everyone's liberty on all issues at all times."

He described a Libertarian as someone with "the heart of a liberal and the brain of a conservative: a person who understands the market economy, who is humane." He called the L.P. "the un-party."

Boddie began his after-dinner speech with a Reagan impersonation. His most memorable quip of the evening was "It's too bad ignorance isn't painful."

Humor gave way to inspiration for his conclusion, as Boddie moved from a quote from Charles Dickens — "We forge the chains that bind us." — to impressions of Howard Cosell and Muhammad Ali, to definitions of success, models of optimism and self-actualization to live by.

Currently keeping a fast-paced speaking schedule, Boddie's visibility matches his appeal. Bourland feels he "can bring Libertarianism to the common people — and I don't just mean blacks."

If his candid and rakish demeanor, typified by his lapses into racial-oriented slang with comments like, "You've got to learn to party in the party (in order to relate to black people)" is accepted by L.P. diehards as complementing the traditional image of Libertarians as stuffy intellectuals, he promises to be a quick-witted presidential candidate who could unite the diverse interest groups who share what Indiana Civil Liberties Union Director Michael Gradson termed, "belief in the integrity and competence of the individual to manage his or her life."

Suburban Life Citizen, Hodgkins, IL, Aug. 22, 1990.

Marshall banks on senior vote

By Joseph Sinopoli

Burr Ridge Trustee Robert Marshall says senior citizens are mad and they're not going to take it any more.

What they're mad about is high taxes and low Social Security benefits. And according to Marshall, the 32-year career of Dan Rostenkowski is going to prove to be a debit come



Marshall

November instead of a credit to the veteran Democratic representative of the 8th District, and an advantage to the challenger from Burr Ridge.

"He represents a lot of things I disagree with," Marshall said. "We think we have a pretty good chance. Thirty-two years is a negative, not a positive. People think they need a change."

Marshall, who is a radiologist by profession, has established a second residence in the 2000 block of Harlem Avenue, right on the Chicago city limits. "His (Rostenkowski's) district is close to my office," Marshall said.

The challenger had collected over 13,000 signatures for his petitions, which he filed Aug. 13 in Springfield. State law requires a minimum of 8,236 signatures from registered voters in the district. He intends to unseat Rostenkowski through the support of the Libertarian Party.

"Around July 1, started to talk to the Libertarians, he said. "We have a lot in common. I'm running as a Libertarian now. They're the third largest party. They always run a full slate-wide ticket in the state."

Like the party he has embraced, Marshall believes in less government, which he maintains will lead eventually to

lower taxes.

"That's what I'm interested in. There's plenty of federal taxes that are too high. You could cut a lot of these taxes and let the people take care of their own money. If they want to support the arts, help the poor, or give money to a foreign country, they'll have the extra money to do that."

Social Security is another hot topic among senior groups. Marshall said that he sympathizes with the problems of seniors who are dependent on those benefits and believes that they are not getting a fair return on their investment.

"Right now they're not getting what they worked for," he said. "The government has taken their money and not given it back to them (Social Security recipients)."

Marshall is claiming a large support-base from seniors but said his views also are being touted by younger voters as well. Seniors "were extremely angry at Rostenkowski" fueled by an appearance Ros-

tenkowski made at a senior center that garnered national press attention when the representative walked out. "But there were many other people one or two decades younger who are concerned about Social Security."

Marshall cited two issues of vital importance to senior citizens receiving Social Security.

"The cost of living increase is one," Marshall said. "He doesn't want to give them any cost of living increase at all. I couldn't see any reason in the world that they couldn't have given them an additional four percent. They (Congress) gave themselves a 40 percent increase."

Marshall also believes that the current restrictions on working after retirement need to be changed. "I don't think they should be penalized for working," he said. "If anything, they should be encouraged."

Marshall ran unsuccessfully in the March Republican primary for governor.

8-A—The Evening Post, Charleston, S.C., Wednesday, August 22, 1990

District 98 Libertarian Optimistic

By TONY BARTELME
Of the Post-Courier staff

When Erin Kersting, Libertarian Party candidate for the House District 98 seat, went crabbing last weekend, she was a political longshot who never truly believed she would beat state Rep. Thomas Limehouse in the November elections.

"I was running on principle," the 31-year-old nurse from Summerville said. "I would be the first to say I'm not a politician."

But when she came back home Sunday, she learned Limehouse had dropped out of the race, a move triggered by a federal investigation into the General Assembly.

She's now the only official candidate on the ballot.

"I think it would be wonderful to win," she said Tuesday.

Ms. Kersting, however, doesn't expect to remain the only candidate for the Dorchester

County seat. At least two people have said they're interested in running on the Republican ticket.

Ms. Kersting decided to run for office, "to let people know there's an alternative out there" and spread the word about the Libertarian Party.

She is one of five Libertarian candidates for the Statehouse. Others are running in Horry, Orangeburg, Aiken and Oconee counties, said John T. Harlike of Florence, an ex-secretary of the party who's running for state Superintendent of Education.

"If Erin Kersting is elected, it will be a great victory for the taxpayers of South Carolina who need to throw the good old tax-eaters out of the Statehouse," he said, noting that he had urged more party members to run against incumbent legislators, "so that voters would get the choice they deserve."

Libertarians generally believe people have the right to live their lives unfettered by government regulations.

"Every day we see more of our personal freedoms taken away from us," Ms. Kersting said.

Ms. Kersting, a nurse at the Medical University of South Carolina, said she became interested in the Libertarian Party about four years ago.

"I read something somewhere. I got a Libertarian handbook and thought, 'Gee, these people seem to have it together.'" She went to meetings "They were a good group of people."

A year ago, she decided to run against Limehouse.

She said she won't be disappointed or surprised if the Republican Party finds a substitute for Limehouse and the voters pass over her.

The important thing, she said, is to let voters know they can participate in the political process.

"I'd love to win, but I'm a nurse right now," she said. "So, if I don't win, I haven't lost anything."