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*Jim Mueller:  
Proof that  
Libertarianism  
works in office*

**J**im Mueller is town administrator and clerk in Middleton, Wisc. He's been on the job for five years and has cut the town's administrative costs down to about two-thirds of the state average per capita cost. Even though Middleton's population has grown from 4,000 to about 5,200 since 1999, taxes have not increased and services have improved under Mueller's leadership during that time.

Jim Mueller is a Libertarian. A former chairman of the Wisconsin Libertarian Party, Mueller was elected to the Middleton town board in 1997, then was appointed town administrator in late '99.

"Since he's been there he has cut government waste and the town's budget [for administration] has gone way down, to 65 percent of the average for the state," said Jeremy Keil, a regional representative to the Libertarian National Committee who is also on the Wisconsin LP's executive committee.

"The Middleton budget used to be much higher per capita than it is now," Keil said. "It shows what having a Libertarian in office can do."

Mueller, 52, is also now deputy treasurer for the town; the treasurer recently died and he was tapped to fill the slot on a temporary basis.

While residents of larger cities wouldn't consider surpassing the 5,000-resident mark a sign of massive growth, Mueller said he spends much time "fighting the 'sprawl costs us all' mentality that some people spread around."

Some people claim that growth in the town will by necessity force taxes to increase to provide services, he said.

So he took it as a challenge to prove them wrong.

When Mueller was appointed administrator, some local officials were obviously not in the frame of mind to "look at where

See **MUELLER** Page 4

## Badnarik heats up the campaign trail

**L**ibertarian Party presidential candidate Michael Badnarik has been campaigning furiously since he captured the nomination in an upset victory at the LP's Atlanta convention — logging well over 100 media interviews, performing outreach to non-libertarian groups and appearing at campaign rallies from coast to coast.

And his Libertarian message has struck a chord with the American people, who are learning to recognize this pro-small government candidate when they see him.

"If you want bigger government, more taxes and continued warfare, vote for Democrats or Republicans," an Associated Press reporter quoted Badnarik as saying at an appearance in Wilmington, N.C., over the July 4 weekend.

The AP report went on to acknowledge that "the Libertarian Party stresses the rights of individuals over the power of government," and that Americans can show they are fed up with the status quo — big government, the war in Iraq and high taxes — by voting for Badnarik and other Libertarians in November.

"He gets a very warm reception everywhere he goes," said Fred Collins, a Badnarik campaign manager and one member of a constantly growing group of volunteers who surround Badnarik.

And his reception is getting warmer as people realize he's serious about supporting the Constitution and reinforcing the American tradition of personal rights and responsibility.

"He's been in Indiana, Tennessee and North Carolina in just the past few days, and before that he was in northern California, where he was in the Gay Pride parade," said Barbara Goushaw-Collins, who with Fred Collins is a member of the Michigan-based Libertarian campaign management team, The Troika.

"The reception at the parade was just extraordinary," Goushaw-Collins said. "After it, Badnarik went over to the Outright Libertarian booth, where they were signing up new members left and right."

"He was the only presidential candidate who bothered to go to the parade, and that translated into many people joining the party — people who recognize that he is genuinely dedicated to personal rights."

Later in July, Badnarik was headed for a campaign swing through New England.

"It's really amazing how people have embraced the campaign and this candidate. There's so much activity going on around the country that we can't keep track of everything. People are really getting the word



■ LP vice presidential candidate Richard Campagna and Michael Badnarik greet delegates at the LP National Convention following their elections in May.

out, and it's truly delightful."

At one appearance, Badnarik was questioned about varying reports that he'll steal votes from Democrats or Republicans.

"If I'm talking to a Democrat, that person is usually complaining that I'll steal votes from the Democrats," he

said. "If I'm talking to a Republican, they think I'm stealing votes from the Republicans. I'd like to point out that the candidates don't own the votes. The voters do."

For more information on the Badnarik campaign, go to [www.badnarik.org](http://www.badnarik.org).

## Fla. Libertarians defeat massive sales tax hike Second attempt in less than a year in Brevard County

**L**ibertarians in Brevard County, Florida, geared up quickly in mid-July to fight another tax-increase attempt by their county commissioners — less than a year after voters in the county voted down a proposed \$1.3 billion tax hike — and the commission decided not to bring the increase to a referendum this fall.

"As a result of our e-mail, fax and telephone campaign, the board of county commissioners rejected the proposal made by Commissioner Sue Carlson," who had suggested an additional 1 percent sales tax for

seven years, to pay for road work in the county, said Bruce Wechsler, chairman of the county Libertarian Party.

Libertarians have been credited in the local media with "playing a big role" in defeating last year's tax hike — which would have levied a 1 percent sales tax for 20 years, with funds going to building schools and libraries, expanding jails and funding arts — and they now have another tax victory to add to the list.

In last year's referendum, 65 percent of voters opposed the proposed tax.

Carlson's new proposal would have raised \$463 million over seven years, and the other commissioners recognized that the voters weren't interested in seeing their taxes go up.

"As three of the county commissioners are up for re-election in November, their political motivations may have been instrumental in declining to advance the tax" to a referendum, Wechsler said.

"They obviously learned their lessons a little bit in the sense that the new tax proposal was better structured, for a shorter time period

and for specific projects," he said.

But the proposal would still have raised taxes unnecessarily, he added: While widening some roads and extending others may be necessary, there's no reason this work can't be done with road money the county and cities already receive.

The problems have existed for years, but county commissioners didn't get the work done while it would have been much cheaper — and in some cases actively blocked getting work done, while campaigning for more expansive (and ex-

See **FLORIDA** Page 3

**NEWS BRIEFS**

**'American Candidate' premieres Aug. 1**

**R**ichard Mack, who was running for governor of Utah on the Libertarian ticket until he was selected as a finalist on Showtime's "American Candidate" show, says he is enjoying the program — but he can't talk about it.

"I can tell you that the show premieres on Aug. 1 and will run for 10 weeks, and I can tell you that I'm on it, but anything more than that you'll have to get off the Web site," Mack said.

"American Candidate" selected 10 candidates from across America to run for president in the months preceding the actual presidential election. The reality show is following the candidates around as they participate in various "challenges," and the final episode will feature a debate between the top two contestants. Longtime talk show host Montel Williams will host the show.

The winner will be awarded \$200,000 and will have the option to actually run for president as a write-in candidate.

A two-time elected sheriff of Arizona, Mack was running for governor on a platform of reducing the size and scope of government, legalizing marijuana, and cutting down on gun control laws. And while his candidacy has changed, his message has not.

A visit to the show's Web site — [www.americancandidate.com](http://www.americancandidate.com) — on July 15 revealed Mack's image on the front page, saying he would "abolish the IRS. Freedom cannot survive such a Gestapo-like organization."

On the same page, he was described as "a 51-year-old former Arizona sheriff. Opposed to most government regulations, especially gun control laws, the Utah native's first-hand experience in the drug war has convinced him marijuana should be decriminalized."

The list of Mack's opponents includes a director of PETA (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals), the president of the National Black Justice Coalition board, and a former chief law enforcement officer for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency — a disparate group if ever there was one.

"You can speculate about what's happening from looking at the Web, but to really get a good idea of what's going to happen you'll have to watch the show," said Rob Latham, who was Mack's campaign manager in the gubernatorial race until he pulled out to do the American Candidate show.

"I can tell you this," Mack said. "Libertarians across the country have been extremely helpful, and I'm very grateful to them for that."

**'Libertarian Yellow Pages' launched**

**I**n cities across the nation you can find phone books targeting various subsets of the community — yellow pages dedicated to the black community, for example, or in Spanish for Hispanics, or featuring solely Christian-owned businesses.

Two young entrepreneurs from Atlanta, Georgia recently launched such an endeavor, with Libertarians as the target audience.

Mark Augustyn and Maria Kessler-Reaves were at the LP's national convention in Atlanta to debut their "Libertarian Yellow Pages," as well as a Libertarian-themed merchandise company called Think Libertarian.

"We got wonderful feedback from convention attendees, both for the yellow pages and for the merchandise," Augustyn said.

The company's most common message — "2 parties = 0 choice" — certainly beats the Libertarian drum, and Kessler-Reaves said she thinks the message is a theme that "will appeal to a lot of alienated non-voters."

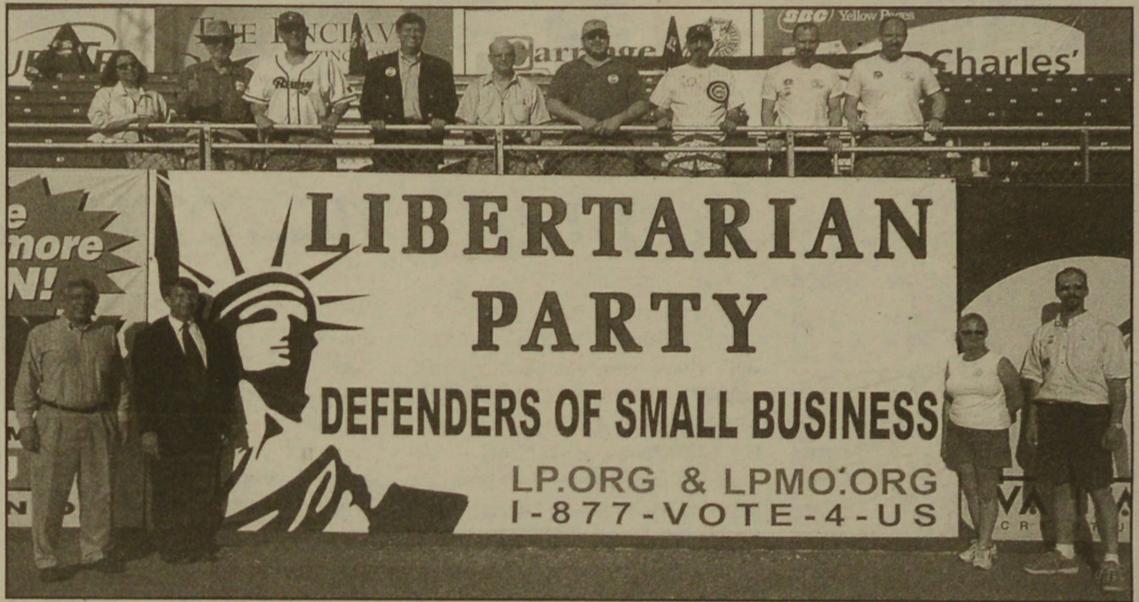
The Libertarian Yellow Pages is intended to give libertarian-minded people a place "to find and support Libertarian businesses and professionals," Augustyn said.

"We chose the tag line 'support your own' because those three simple words explain exactly what we are trying to do," he said. "If you're going to pay anybody to do anything for you, why not try to direct that business to someone who shares your Libertarian political perspective?"

The duo hopes the site will eventually become "a mecca for all things Libertarian," Kessler-Reaves said. "Whether you're looking for Libertarian businesses, organizations, candidates, politicians, merchandise, or discussion forums, we want you to be able to find it on the Libertarian Yellow Pages."

You can find the yellow pages — and attendant merchandise — at [www.libertarianyellowpages.com](http://www.libertarianyellowpages.com) and [www.thinklibertarian.com](http://www.thinklibertarian.com).

**Missouri Libertarians plan a baseball-themed summer**



**■** Libertarian candidates and activists pose with the billboard installed in O'Fallon, Missouri's Frontier League baseball park by members of the St. Charles County and Lincoln County LP affiliates. Pictured are (from left, in front) vice presidential candidate Richard Campagna, presidential candidate Michael Badnarik, U.S. congressional candidate (and billboard sponsor) Darla Maloney, and Missouri House candidate Greg Arrigo. In the stands, from left, are Odalys Campagna, Glenn Blackmon, LNC secretary Bob Sullentrup, former LNC chair Jim Lark, Roy Lieberman, John Schultz, Glenn Nielsen, Andy Shirkey, and Hugh Emerson. U.S. Senate candidate Kevin Tull of Missouri designed the billboard. (Photo provided by Jon Airheart)

**"T**ake me out to the ball game," goes the theme song of baseball. And following this advice, a group of Libertarians in Missouri have embarked on a baseball-themed summer.

Members of the St. Charles County and Lincoln County affiliates of the Libertarian Party have purchased an 8-by-16-foot billboard at the local ball park — T. R. Hughes Ballpark in O'Fallon, Mo., home of the Frontier League's River City Rascals — and are planning a "Candidates' Day" at a home game in August, says Darla Maloney, who chairs the St. Charles County LP.

"Libertarian Party, defenders of small business," reads the sign, which also includes the Web addresses of the national LP and Missouri LP. It has been in place since May 22, and will be there throughout the 49-home-game season.

Maloney said traffic on the Missouri LP Web site — [www.lpmo.org](http://www.lpmo.org)

— has "definitely increased" since the billboard went up, and that several comment cards turned in to the ballpark staff have mentioned the sign and the Libertarian Party.

"This area thrives on small business, just like most of the rest of the country, so we thought this small business initiative could be very effective," said Maloney, who is also on the executive committee for the Missouri LP.

Alone among the political parties, Libertarians support decreasing regulation for both business and individuals, recognizing that government regulation is a primary obstacle for both.

Maloney is office manager and field supervisor for a small business, and she understands the struggle that goes along with running such an organization.

"Because of the fact that I do all of the tax reporting, I realize the impact that all the regulation has

on small business," she said. "When you're constantly having to pull out this form and that form for the government, it takes away from the time you can spend actually running your business."

Business owners will be invited to participate in the LP's "Candidates' Day" on Aug. 28, at which they will be able to meet and speak with Libertarian candidates for local, state and federal offices.

Maloney is one of the featured candidates, running for U.S. House of Representatives, District 2.

"Two years ago I ran for the same office," she said. "Unfortunately I did not do any campaigning — I signed up essentially as a paper candidate — but I still got about 5 percent of the vote. So I'm hoping to increase that by quite a bit this time by doing extensive campaigning."

"This time it's serious." She will oppose a Republican  
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**The Mission Statement of the Libertarian Party: "To move public policy in a libertarian direction by building a political party that elects Libertarians to public office."**

# Private flight signals the end of government monopoly on space

**T**hey've done it: A privately funded rocket plane on June 21 managed to escape the earth's atmosphere by flying 62.5 miles from the earth's surface — that's 330,000 feet, straight up — thus becoming the first manned craft to do so without government funding.

Libertarians presidential candidate Barry Hess and talk radio host Ernest Hancock of Arizona were among those observing the launch in Mojave, California — which Hancock called "an enormous, historic event" with distinctly Libertarian overtones.

"This is a whole new era in travel," he said. "These people are sending a pilot — an astronaut — into space with zero government involvement. It's phenomenal. We're talking about privately funded space travel."

The new space vehicle, which was dubbed SpaceShipOne by investor Paul G. Allen and the design team headed by aviation legend Burt Rutan, will eventually take on a new goal: Winning the Ansari X Prize of \$10 million that has been promised to the first team that can send a reusable space craft with three people

into orbit twice in two weeks.

It's not about the money. As a founder of Microsoft, Allen doesn't need the money. Besides, he's spending \$20 million on his private space program, so winning the X Prize wouldn't even pay him back.

Rather, the goal is to make space travel affordable — and to prove that government involvement isn't necessary for space travel.

As the X Prize mission statement says: "We believe that spaceflight should be open to all — not just an elite cadre of government employees or the ultra-rich. We believe that commercial forces will bring spaceflight into a publicly affordable range. We will use our best efforts to achieve this goal."

The Libertarian Party's presidential candidate Michael Badnarik couldn't be at the launch because of schedule conflicts, but he agrees with many other Libertarians that the SpaceShipOne project shows that government involvement hurts private enterprise.

"We didn't have commercial space flight until today because of government interference," Badnarik said. "From harassing high-power



■ Pilot Michael Mevill stands atop SpaceShipOne, the plane in which he became the first non-government-funded astronaut. He's holding a sign given to him by Arizona Libertarian Ernest Hancock: "SpaceShipOne - Government Zero."

rocketry enthusiasts, to trying to stop Dennis Tito's private flight on a Russian rocket, jealous government bureaucrats have stifled innovation in space.

"SpaceShipOne's launch shows

what private enterprise can do when government gets out of the way."

The craft is equipped with three seats and is designed to carry a pilot and two passengers, so Scaled Composites (Burt Rutan's team) has

a great head start on some of the other 26 groups trying to be first to orbit the earth.

Shortly after the craft landed, Rutan reportedly handed pilot Michael Mevill a sign that Ernest Hancock and other libertarian activists with the Western Libertarian Alliance had given him, reading "SpaceShipOne - Government Zero."

Yes, people are keeping score.

"Since Yuri Gagarin and Al Shepard's epic flights in 1961, all space missions have been flown only under large, expensive government efforts," Rutan said before the space attempt.

"By contrast, our program involves a few dedicated individuals who are focused entirely on making spaceflight affordable. Without the entrepreneur approach, space access would continue to be out of reach for ordinary citizens. The SpaceShipOne flights will change all that and encourage others to usher in a new, low-cost era in space travel."

Rutan predicted suborbital space tourism could become routine and affordable within the next 15 years, as the free market drives what he called "a space age for all of us."

# Tom Cox: 'We made the mistake of doing what we were told'



■ Tom Cox

**T**om Cox, the Libertarian Party's candidate for Oregon House District 29 representative, has been slapped with a \$17,126 penalty by the state Elections Division for being late with campaign finance reports.

He is disputing the fine, saying

he did what he was supposed to and hasn't broken any campaign rules.

"I filed what they told me to file, when they told me to, and then they changed their minds and said, 'No you were supposed to do something else, and here's your fine,'" Cox explains.

He is appealing the decision with the Oregon secretary of state, and believes the confusion will be ironed out in the appeals process.

"They had the law right the first time, and my appeal is based on the fact that they misread the law the second time, when they decided I had done something wrong," said Cox, a former chairman of the LP of Oregon who two years ago ran for governor in that state.

"They told me at first that I didn't need to file. Then they told me on June 7 that they had changed their minds and I should have filed a report, and the next day I filed my first report. Everything was on

hand, ready to go; we hadn't filed the finance report simply because we had been told not to."

Two dozen other candidate committees were also late with their reports, according to the Elections Division — including incumbent Mary Gallegos, Cox's Republican opponent in the Nov. 2 general election. They were also fined.

"We'll submit our evidence to

the Secretary of State's Office, explaining why this fine should not be levied, and we'll take it from there as necessary," Cox said. "We've got a woman who works about 20 or 25 hours per week on our financial records and our records are in extremely good shape."

"We're really on top of this, and we've taken multiple steps to ensure that this will not be a problem in

the future."

Even if the secretary of state upholds the Elections Division's decision, the Cox campaign will not suffer.

"Ultimately, I've got personal assets I can put on the line if necessary, so the campaign is not going to be affected by this," Cox said. "We just made the mistake of doing what we were told."

# Florida tax hike defeated — again

Continued from Page 1

pensive) projects instead, Wechsler noted.

"The key points you missed last year were these: What have you done and what are you doing with the money you're already getting?" he told the commissioners in their July 13 meeting.

"As I said last year, giving you more money would be akin to giving an out-of-control junkie a fix. If you get this sales tax money, you will have even less motivation to do the right thing with the revenues you already receive."

Wechsler and other Libertarians had warned local taxpayers that voting in the referendum to increase the sales tax would be "rewarding incompetence and fiscal irresponsibility by letting [the commissioners] have the additional tax."

"And you know that, if they get it, the money already supposed to be budgeted for road construction will be wasted on something else," Wechsler said. "We already have

transportation impact fees in Brevard County and the cities. What are they using that money — and the other budgeted road construction money — for?"

For one thing, they have agreed to use some of the money for projects other than road work.

"Our freshman state Rep. Thad Altman introduced, as his first piece of legislation, a bill that was passed unanimously, that authorized the local gas-tax money to be used, not only for road construction, but also for bike paths and walkways," Wechsler said.

"So obviously, we must have enough money for road construction if we can expand the use of the gas tax to build other things as well, right? Ask our Brevard delegation (and the county commission) why they supported using that tax for expanded purposes, if they didn't have enough already to build the roads."

The county has a proposed budget of \$782 million for the 2004-

2005 fiscal year.

"If they would stick with those limited things government should be doing — such as the roads — instead of silly feel-good stuff, then we could get work done," Wechsler said.

One commissioner, Nancy Higgs, distanced herself from the tax hike, saying Carlson did "an outstanding job putting together" the proposal, which gave the public another "opportunity to bash our piñata," according to a local newspaper.

"We're never going to build our way out of bad planning and road management," Higgs said.

In the end, only Carlson voted for her own proposal, as the commissioners who had earlier spoken in favor of it decided to vote no on the idea.

And once again, the local media noted that Wechsler and other Libertarians were behind 2003's "Ax the Tax" campaign, and that they were continuing to fight increased taxes.

# Baseball billboard

Continued from Page 2

two-term incumbent, Todd Akin, as well as local businessman George Weber Sr., a Democrat.

Representatives of both the Democrat and Republican parties have "come up to the management at the ballpark and asked where their signs were," Maloney laughed. "I understand that they responded that all three parties — Democrat, Republican and Libertarian — were

invited to put up a sign, and only the Libertarians decided to.

"It really is attracting a great deal of attention. There are about 4,500 or 5,000 spectators at every game and the sign is right out there in center field. And later this year this field is going to host the All Star game, which will be broadcast on Fox Sports News.

"That equals a lot of eyeballs scanning that billboard."

**POLITICAL NEWS**

**Attack on 'Fahrenheit 9/11' shows 'Constitution is on fire,' LP says**

The attack on Michael Moore's new movie, "Fahrenheit 9/11," shows that free speech has come under an unprecedented assault in America, thanks to the campaign finance law passed by Congress last year, says Libertarian presidential candidate Michael Badnarik.

"The Constitution is on fire — a fire that was set when Democrats and Republicans passed their so-called campaign finance reform law," Badnarik said in a June 28 press release. "The attempt to gag Michael Moore demonstrates that McCain-Feingold was just an excuse to outlaw political criticism."

Under an advisory opinion from the Federal Election Commission (FEC), Moore may be prohibited from advertising his controversial anti-Bush movie after July 30.

Under McCain-Feingold, corporate-paid radio or TV ads that identify a federal candidate are illegal to broadcast within 30 days of a primary or 60 days of a general election.

And because Moore has publicly stated that his goal is to help defeat Bush, Democrats and Republicans are waging partisan warfare over "Fahrenheit 9/11."

But Badnarik — who teaches classes on the Constitution — says the freedom of speech is also at stake.

"The truth is that Democrats and Republicans committed a bipartisan crime against the First Amendment when they passed the McCain-Feingold law," he said.

"This law allows politicians to determine what their critics can say, when they can say it and how much they can spend in the process — which is exactly what's not supposed to happen in a free country."

Noting that the First Amendment clearly states that "Congress shall make no law ... abridging the freedom of speech," Badnarik asked: "What part of the words 'no law' doesn't the government understand? The First Amendment doesn't contain exceptions for advertisements that might offend the president or cost him his job — and it certainly doesn't authorize federal movie police."

**Badnarik may not be on Michigan ballot**

The Libertarian Party will have 65 candidates across the state of Michigan this November, but according to Michigan's Secretary of State Office, Michael Badnarik and Richard Campagna may not be among them.

Badnarik and Campagna were nominated — for president and vice-president respectively — by the Libertarian Party at the National Convention in Atlanta, Ga., on May 30.

Even though the Libertarian Party of Michigan does have ballot status, state law requires that the party submit the names of all those nominated by the end of the first business day after the conclusion of the convention.

The secretary of state claims that no notice was given before 5 p.m. on June 1 after the convention ended on May 31, so our presidential and vice presidential candidates won't be allowed on the ballot.

The Michigan LP is working with the secretary of state to resolve the issue, in hopes that a waiver will soon be granted to allow the Libertarian candidates to be on the ballot.

"Michael Badnarik is an outstanding candidate and I urge all of you to get behind his campaign and support it in whatever way you can," state LP Chair Michael Donahue told members of the party in a recent column in the Michigan Libertarian newsletter.

And supporting the campaign this year includes simply getting the candidate on the ballot.

As a second possible remedy, the Michigan LP's executive committee voted to hold a special convention on July 21, to "nominate and confirm" candidates. The state convention was held in April, before the national convention.

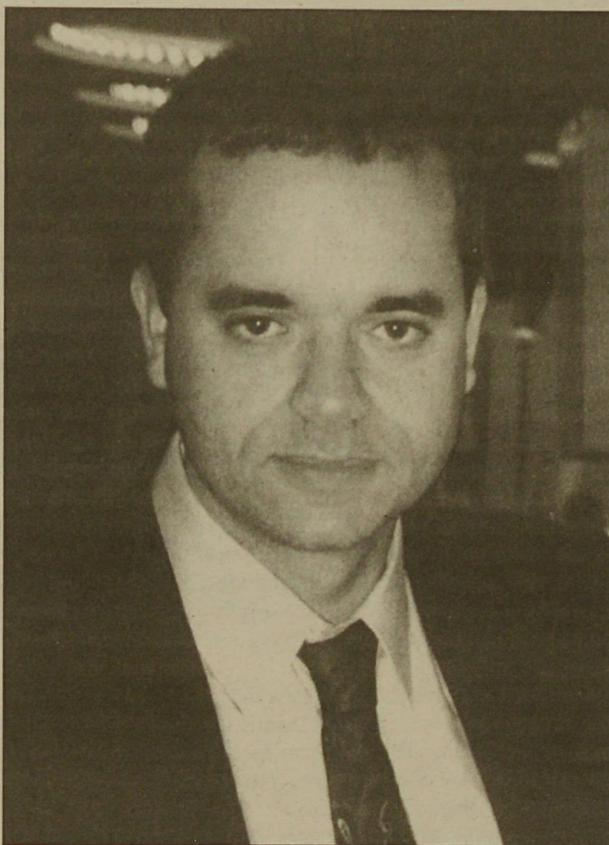
The special convention's purpose is to confirm the nominations of Michael Badnarik and Richard Campagna for their respective races, and their names will be submitted to the secretary of state's office before the close of the next business day, thereby complying with the letter of the law.

In the event that the Michigan secretary of state changes his position and renders a decision favorable to the LP by accepting the names of the candidates who were selected at the LP national convention, the special convention could be cancelled, at Donahue's discretion.

Any cancellation or change will be noted on the state LP Web site ([www.lpmich.org](http://www.lpmich.org)) and on the LPM office telephone, 1-888-FREE NOW.



**Controversy over Cuba should help Florida LP's congressional candidate**



■ Florida LP congressional candidate Frank Gonzalez

**63,313 votes.**

That's what Frank J. Gonzalez figures he's going to need if he is to win his race for the U.S. House in Florida's 21st District on the Libertarian ticket.

Based on the voting history and the number of registered voters in this district — roughly comprising the area of west Miami — Gonzalez estimates he needs roughly 63,313 votes to kick an incumbent Republican out of office.

No Democrat joined the race by the May 7 qualifying deadline, meaning the race is between Gonzalez and incumbent Lincoln Diaz-Balart.

There are 122,190 registered Republicans in District 21 — but there are also 91,793 Democrats and 59,501 who registered "Other," Gonzalez points out.

In the 2000 election, far fewer

of the Democrat and "Other" voters went to the polls, compared to Republican voters, so Step 1 in Gonzalez's plan is to get those who oppose the incumbent to actually cast their ballots.

And the opposition is growing, due to some decisions the incumbent has made.

"He is very unpopular in a very large segment

see overwhelming disapproval of the incumbent."

"Lincoln Diaz-Balart is more vulnerable than he has ever been," said Gonzalez, who is of Cuban descent. "With a voter constituency heavily concerned with and increasingly opposed to the tightened sanctions on Cuba favored by my opponent, and with the equally controversial invasion of Iraq in general, my opponent is irreversibly committed to the failing Bush Administration. He will go down with Bush's sinking ship."

Gonzalez hopes to draw out many potential voters, those who may have been interested in the race in the past but who didn't see any reason to vote when there was only one man running for the job. In 2000, almost 74 percent of registered voters cast a presidential vote, while only 46 percent voted in the congressional race.

With about three months remaining before the election, representatives of other county Libertarian Party affiliates in south Florida have decided to put their efforts behind Gonzalez, since there is "no other major candidate for federal office here in south Florida, that I know of," said Susan Lipschultz of Palm Beach County.

Like any other Libertarian candidate, Gonzalez "needs to get brochures, bumper stickers and other information out to the voters in his area," Lipschultz said. "Singing to the choir is fine and it may help him get the funds he needs, but it won't get him votes."

"We're going to do what we can to help him out."

"With enough campaign funding, we see him being able to knock the incumbent out of the box," said Bustamante, who is serving as treasurer of the Gonzalez campaign. "We really think we can run a viable campaign and get an elected Libertarian in Congress."

For more information or to contribute, go to [www.electfrank.org](http://www.electfrank.org), call (305) 595-7606 or e-mail [VoteLibertarian@aol.com](mailto:VoteLibertarian@aol.com).

of the Cuban community, which is about 55 percent of that district, because of his recent support for further increasing restrictions on travel to Cuba," said Brian Bustamante, a regional representative of the Florida Libertarian Party.

These increased restrictions on traveling to Cuba — and even sending money to relatives there — have caused many former Diaz-Balart supporters to rethink their position, Bustamante said.

"I see it as very promising for winning," he added. "The incumbent has been unopposed in six out of the seven last elections for House, he doesn't deviate from the Republican platform and he is essentially a statist."

In the two months that he was collecting signatures to get on the ballot, Gonzalez said he talked to roughly 30,000 voters, and "from my in-person petitioning experience, I

**Mueller proves Libertarianism works**

*Continued from Page 1*

they were wasting money," he said.

Some even pointed out that "this is government; this isn't business," he added.

"Too much in government, they don't look to see where they can cut costs. They don't even look at the common sense things you'd look for in your own budget. I had quite a battle, at the start. They said, 'If it's not broke, don't fix it.' And my attitude was that pretty much everything is broken."

The town board chairman even resigned in 2002, saying he didn't like the way Mueller was running

the town. He apparently hoped the other officials would fire Mueller. But they decided to let the chairman go and keep their administrator — a tribute to his effectiveness.

Middleton now provides more services than ever before — and the tax rate in the town hasn't gone up during Mueller's administration.

"We have a volunteer fire department. We have a volunteer recreation department so we're not having to tax people a lot to take care of other people's children. We've contracted with a private company to do garbage pickup. Our population has increased, but we're keep-

ing costs down.

"It can be done."

And it was through meeting Mueller that Ed Thompson — who ran for governor of Wisconsin in 2002, winning 10.4 percent of the vote and becoming the highest-drawing third party gubernatorial candidate in the state in 60 years — joined the Libertarian Party.

"We need more like him," Thompson said of Mueller, noting that while a lot of people talk about eliminating waste and keeping taxes down, it took a Libertarian in office in this small Wisconsin town to pull it off.

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  - What if you could develop a Midas Touch for liberty – transforming person after person into libertarians?
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Libertarianism is 24-carat pure gold. But most of the time we can’t even give it away. Why? Why isn’t everyone desperately seeking freedom? Why are so many people indifferent? Why are many others *opposed* to liberty? And why have so many people just given up?

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**What You’ll Learn**

- Why libertarians don’t need “A Better Mouse-trap.” (p.23)
  - What libertarians can learn from Mark Twain’s Cat. (p.34)
  - When impatience undermines libertarian progress. (p.52)
  - How to gently dissolve many objections in 60 seconds. (p.63)
  - Get people to “Push the Button” and become libertarians. (p.81)
  - Treasure Map for finding people who urgently want freedom. (p.83)
  - One deadly mistake almost every libertarian makes – and how to avoid it. (p.96)
  - “You know enough about libertarianism to buy it, but do you know enough to *sell* it?” (p.126)
  - When to “Save Your Breath.” (p.165)
  - The Biggest Libertarian Communication Turnoff. (p.171)
  - How to handle “The Toughest Prospects: Family and Friends.” (p.185)
  - Danger: “Counterfeit Libertarianism.” (p.210)
  - “The Unsettling Question Libertarians Almost Never Ask.” (p.236)
- And much more!*

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If you joined the Libertarian Party in the last 10 years, you’ll reap huge rewards from *Secrets of Libertarian Persuasion*.

If you talk about libertarianism with your family, friends, co-workers, or neighbors, you will start seeing astonishing differences almost *immediately*.

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**Why Michael Cloud Wrote This Book for You**

“Some libertarians succeed by re-inventing the wheel. Most libertarians fail by re-inventing the flat tire,” says Michael Cloud.

Michael Cloud is uniquely qualified to unlock the mysteries of effective communications. A professional speechwriter, he has penned more than 460 speeches for business, non-profit, and political clients. In 2000, Michael won the Thomas Paine Award as the best Libertarian Communicator in America.

For 29 years, Michael Cloud has studied, investigated, tested, and refined hundreds of different approaches to persuasive libertarian communication. He’s mapped the safest and best paths through the dangerous communication minefield.

*Secrets of Libertarian Persuasion* is the result. Michael Cloud wrote it for you. Why? To give you a head start. To turbocharge your libertarian conversations. So you can quickly and simply win people’s hearts and minds to liberty.

*Secrets of Libertarian Persuasion* is a charming and readable book. It’s rich with new insights and outlooks, parables, one-liners, stories, unforgettable phrases, and power tools for persuasion. It’s 240 pages. It’s \$15 (+ \$4.50 S&H)

It’s NOT available at bookstores. *Secrets of Libertarian Persuasion* is distributed exclusively by the Advocates for Self-Government.

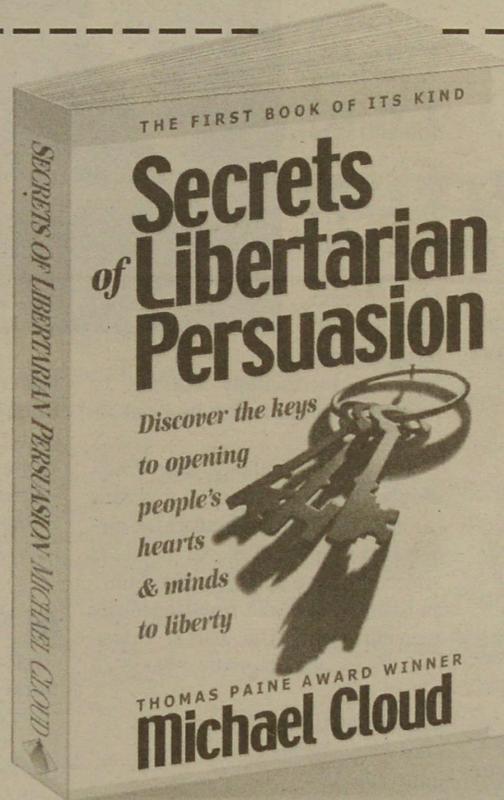
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**TALKING POINTS**

# Cigarette fires, tax delinquents and rethinking our freedom

## ■ They hate us why?

President Bush has answered the question "Why do they hate us?" by saying that "they" hate us because we are a democracy, that "they hate our freedoms..."

It seems like it never occurred to the president that Osama bin Laden and his supporters hate us because of our foreign policy in the Middle East — our first Persian Gulf War with Iraq, the war in Afghanistan, the second Persian Gulf War, and for what is seen as our blind support for Israel.

Bush was asking the wrong question. He should have asked, why do they still love us, despite our foreign policy.

[The author recently returned from a trip to Lebanon and Syria.]

I came back with the impression that people there don't hate "us" at all. They hate our government. They hate U.S. foreign policy.

Even the Grand Ayatollah Muhammad Fadlallah of Lebanon, one of the most revered Shiite religious leaders, told our group, "We should be clear that we distinguish between the U.S. administration and the American people. We would like to be friends with the American people. Our problem is with the American administration."

—LARRY JOHNSON  
*Seattle Post-Intelligencer*  
June 20, 2004

ruins of the old Ottoman Empire. Guided by the United States, Iraq's new leadership faces the same chal-

lenge as the one that bedeviled the British from the 1920s to the 1950s: how best to structure the Iraqi political system to prepare that country for democratic self-government.

Iraq has always been difficult to govern. She became progressively more, not less, difficult to govern because external powers found it increasingly difficult to resist interfering in her internal affairs.

It's highly unlikely that Iraq's deeply ingrained political divisions can be erased through peaceful, negotiated compromise. All previous efforts to bind together the Sunni and the Shia, while simultaneously accommodating the Kurds, shared one basic characteristic: They all failed.

—PATRICK BASHAM  
*Cato Daily Commentary*  
June 30, 2004

## ■ Back to normal

Senator Kerry is recovering very nicely after having shoulder surgery. The doctors said the senator was fully awake, lucid and joking after the surgery was done, but cautioned that that was just the drug. He went back to his boring self soon afterward.

—JAY LENO  
*The Tonight Show*  
June 12, 2004

## ■ New justification

President Bush's May 2003 announcement aboard the USS Abraham Lincoln that "major combat operations" had ended in Iraq has been replayed endlessly. What is less well remembered is just what the president claimed the United States had accomplished.

"The battle of Iraq is one victory in a war on terror that began

on September the 11<sup>th</sup>, 2001," he declared.

The defeat of Saddam Hussein, he told the American people, was "a crucial advance in the campaign against terror."

In fact, the consensus now emerging among a wide range of intelligence and counterterrorism professionals is that the opposite is true: The invasion of Iraq not only failed to help the war on terrorism, but it represented a substantial setback. ...

Not only did the war divert resources and attention away from Afghanistan, seriously damaging the prospects of capturing Al Qaeda

staggering \$867 million. And what about IRS workers? Their numbers are wrapped into the Treasury Department, whose employees owe nearly \$8 million.

—ANDREA MCCARREN  
*WJLA-TV* (Washington, D.C.)  
July 8, 2004

## ■ Fight tyranny

The Fourth of July is Independence Day, but America's leaders and intellectuals have been trying to move us further and further away from the meaning of Independence Day, away from the philosophy that created this country.

What we hear from politicians, intellectuals, and the media is that independence is passé, that we've reached a new age of "interdependence." We hear demands for mandatory "volunteering" to serve others, for sacrifice to the nation. But this is not the message of America.

It is the direct opposite of why America became a beacon of hope for the truly oppressed throughout the

world. They have come here to escape poverty and dictatorship; they have come here to live their own lives, where they aren't owned by the state, the community, or the tribe.

Jefferson at Philadelphia and Washington at Valley Forge pledged their "lives, fortunes, and sacred honor." For what? Not for mere separation from England. Not — like most rebels — for the "freedom" to set up their own tyranny.

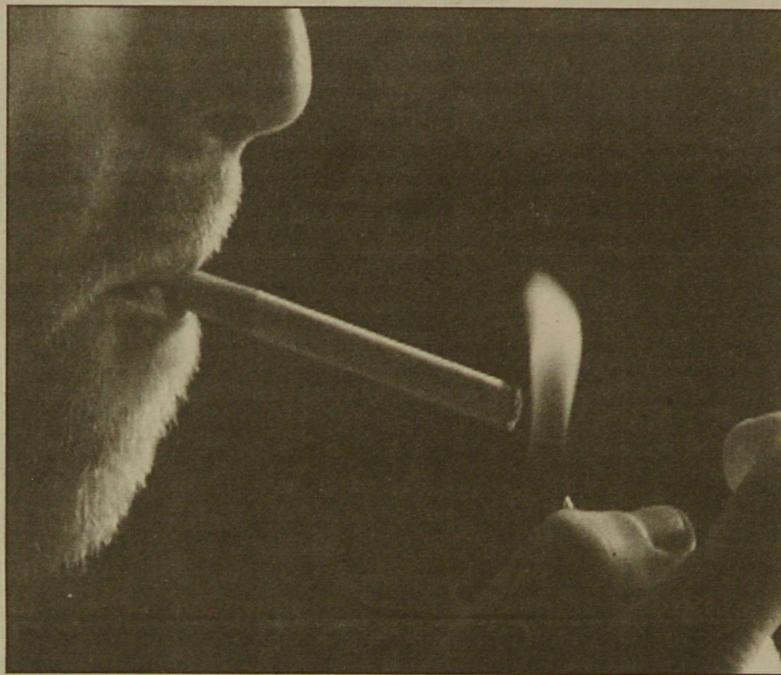
Jefferson and Washington fought a war for the principle of independence, meaning the moral right of an individual to live his own life as he sees fit.

—MICHAEL BERLINER  
*CNSNews.com Commentary*  
July 02, 2004

## ■ Free as free can be?

As the saying goes, there's no such thing as being a little bit pregnant. When it comes to freedom, the same applies: People either are free, or they aren't. Either they're sovereign individuals who own their lives and the results of their productive efforts, or they're servants to the state. If basic rights are always subject to a majority vote, it's not liberty, but mob rule.

Free trade is one of those rights. As philosopher Ayn Rand wrote, "political freedom cannot exist without economic freedom; a free mind and a free market are corollaries." People who aren't free to trade their property, time or productive



**"THE SMALLEST  
MINORITY  
ON EARTH IS THE  
INDIVIDUAL."**

— AYN RAND —

Not to argue with Ayn Rand (who would dare to?), but sometimes it seems that the smallest minority on Earth are the Libertarians. There just aren't as many of us as there should be. That's why the support of each individual Libertarian Party member is so crucial for our party to succeed. And Job One (for all of us) is to figure out ways to get more Libertarians. Here's one way you can do your part to help the party grow: Name the party in your will or insurance policy. For a confidential discussion of this option, call National LP Treasurer Mark Nelson at (563) 344-0013. Or e-mail him at: treasurer@lp.org, and include "Planned Giving" in the subject line.



## ■ Home-schooling

Chance that an American adult believes that "politics and government are too complicated to understand": 1 in 3.

Chance that an American who was home-schooled feels this way: 1 in 25.

—HARPER'S INDEX  
*Harper's Magazine*  
May, 2004

## ■ Question authority

As Americans, we have a right to question our government and its actions. However, while there is a time to criticize, there is also a time to follow in complacent silence. And that time is now.

True patriots know that a price of freedom is periodic submission to the will of our leaders -- especially when the liberties granted us by the Constitution are at stake. What good is our right to free speech if our soldiers are too demoralized to defend that right, thanks to disparaging remarks made about their commander-in-chief by the Dixie Chicks?

At this difficult time, President Bush needs my support. Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld needs my support. Vice-President Dick Cheney needs my support. It is not my function as a citizen in a participatory democracy to question our leaders. And to exercise my constitutional right — nay, duty — to do so would be un-American.

—ELLEN DUNST  
*The Onion*  
June 30, 2004

## ■ Ruling Iraq

Iraq was an artificial British creation stitched together from the

effort in accordance with their own values aren't free at all.

Yet slowly, under the leadership of both major political parties, free trade has become systematically exorcized from civic life. Most citizens, the business community included, now completely accept that the government has a right to regulate, orchestrate and otherwise micromanage their affairs in any fashion it sees fit.

While we pay lip service to freedom as being unalienable, we routinely permit free trade to be curtailed on the basis of public-opinion polls. It's a reality that damages not only our economy, but the very philosophical framework on which our republic is based.

—JONATHAN HOENIG  
SmartMoney.com  
June 21, 2004

### ■ Safe fire

"Smokers who linger between drags on their cigarette may need to be a tad more careful in New York," according to the Associated Press. "Their smokes will self-extinguish if not puffed on regularly.

"New York became the first state yesterday to require new 'fire-safe' cigarettes to be sold. The law is meant to cut down on the number of smoking-related fires."

In "Fired-Up About Safe Cigarettes," Cato Senior Fellow Robert A. Levy writes: "Just when you think the politicians have wasted their time and our money on every hare-brained scheme imaginable, New York lawmakers prove that they haven't yet plumbed their potential for legislative foolishness.

"And before we exhaust fire-related legislation, let's go after the makers of lighter fluid, gas grills, and match manufacturers, who have the nerve to call their product 'safety matches.' ... You don't have to be a state legislator to know that this [law] is quite simply ridiculous."

—CATO DAILY DISPATCH  
June 29, 2004

### ■ Rotting freedom

America, as envisioned by the Founding Fathers, is dead. By every measure, large and small, the original vision of limited government by, for and of the people has been folded, spindled and mutilated beyond recognition. When one reads the Constitution, one simply marvels at the distinct difference between its words and our present reality.

Regardless of whether one sees these changes as blasphemous treason against the Constitution, or as reasonable and necessary modifications to what was designed to be a living document that evolves with the times, it is impossible to deny that they have been made. It is likewise impossible to assert that a massive central government possessing eminent domain, owning over a third of the land and claiming more than a third of all income is either limited or small.

For many years, conservatives and other freedom lovers have placed their trust in the Republican

Party, hoping that it would fulfill its promises to return America to its national birthright of freedom and individual liberty. Those promises, unsurprisingly, were broken by the party of Abraham Lincoln, who is most famous for converting what had been a voluntary Union of free association into a forced Union by military might.

Any last vestiges of hope in the Republican Party have been shattered by the current regime, wherein a Republican President, Republican House, Republican Senate and Republican-nominated Supreme

Court have demonstrated that they have zero interest in the timeless vision of America's founders.

There are those who say that a vote for a third-party candidate, such as the Libertarian's Michael Badnarik or the Constitution Party's Michael Peroutka, is wasted. Nothing could be further from the truth. Indeed, these are the only votes that are not wasted, for positive change will only come from those outside the corrupt bi-factional system. After all, it was neither the Tories nor the Whigs who fought for American independence.

—VOX DAY  
WorldNetDaily.com  
July 12, 2004

### ■ Self-inflicted poverty

Did you learn that the United States is rich because we have bountiful natural resources? That has to be nonsense. Africa and South America are probably the natural resources-richest continents but are home to the world's most miserably poor people. On the other hand, Japan, Hong Kong, Taiwan and England are natural resources poor but

its people are among the world's richest.

Maybe your college professor taught that the legacy of colonialism explains Third World poverty. That's nonsense as well. Canada was a colony. So were Australia, New Zealand and Hong Kong. In fact the richest country in the world, the United States, was once a colony. By contrast, Ethiopia, Liberia, Tibet, Nepal, Sikkim and Bhutan were never colonies but they are home to the world's poorest people.

—WALTER E. WILLIAMS  
June 21, 2004

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You do *not* need to be a libertarian scholar. You do *not* need to be a "silver-tongued devil." You do *not* need long hours of practice.

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September 25 & 26, 2004

#### COLUMBUS, OH

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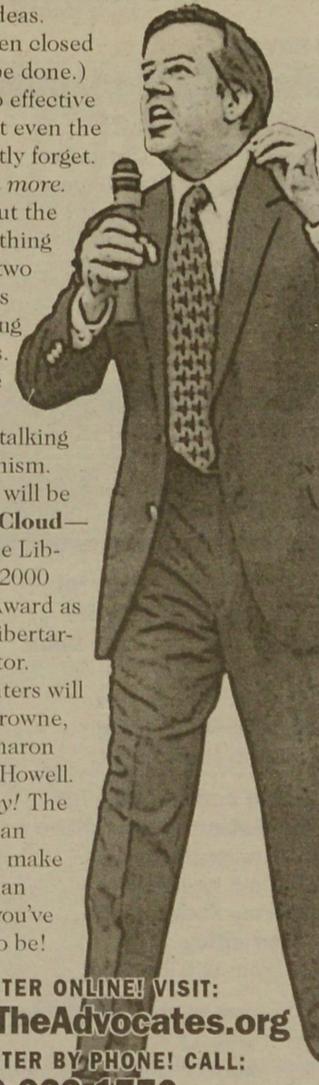
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The seminar will be led by **Michael Cloud** — the winner of the Libertarian Party's 2000 Thomas Paine Award as America's best libertarian communicator.

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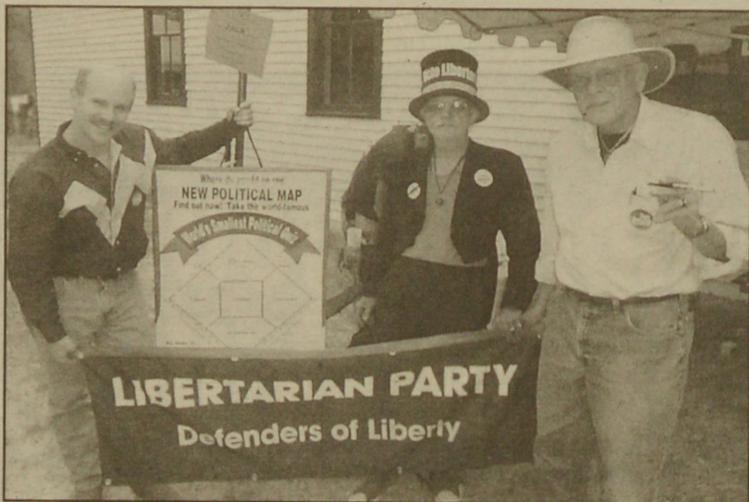
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**AFFILIATE NEWS**

# Anti-war protest, public debt and LP ballot access



Colorado Libertarians pose near their outreach booth at the Crestone Community Center on July 4th. Shown here (l-r): Colorado LP Outreach Director Rand Fanshier, Saguache County LP Chair Jahree Burton, and John Wetherell, LP candidate for Saguache County commissioner. Wetherell, dressed as Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas author Hunter S. Thompson, waved to the crowd from a 1968 T-top Corvette during the town's 4th of July parade. At the outreach booth, Libertarians gave parade attendees the World's Smallest Political Quiz, Fanshier said. "We tested 46 people, and seven registered on the spot to vote as Libertarian," he said. "Everyone got to take their Quiz home as a souvenir and [got] a copy of the *Libertarian Viewpoint* tabloid."

## ■ HAWAII Libertarians running for five offices

One of several Libertarians running for office in Hawaii, Dennis Triglia is running for the state House in the Puna District and is the sole LP candidate for the Hawaii legislature.

Triglia ran for California State

Assembly in 2000 as a Libertarian, coming in third out of four candidates and receiving about 6,000 votes, or 4 percent of the total.

He has a five-fold platform for his race:

- Reduce taxes, including making food and medical services exempt from the state excise tax.

- Decriminalize recreational marijuana use by adults. "My district is known for growing some of the best pakalolo in the country and this would be a big-money agricultural crop for the impoverished rural Puna District," Triglia said.

- Reduce or eliminate unjust tax and regulatory burdens from small businesses in Hawaii, making it worthwhile for businesses to set up here and become prosperous.

- Legalize same-gender civil marriages in Hawaii.

"I am running as an openly-gay candidate and want the state of Hawaii either to start granting civil marriage licenses to same-gender couples or to get out of the business of granting marriage licenses altogether," he said.

- Repeal some of Hawaii's oppressive gun control laws.

Nomination for the state House doesn't end until July 20; Triglia's current opponents are the 86-year-old Democrat incumbent, Helene H. Hale, and two relative unknowns who have run "paper campaigns" for the seat in the past.

Other Libertarian candidates for office in Hawaii include Lloyd Jeffrey Mallan for U.S. Senator, Elyssa A. Young for U.S. Representative in District 1, Roger C. Christie for mayor of Hawaii County (a non-partisan race) and Aaron Anderson for Hawaii County Council (a non-partisan race).

## ■ ILLINOIS Ballot access drive successful

After a grueling 90 days of work to get Libertarians on the ballot in Illinois for upcoming elections, the Libertarian Party in that state on June 21 turned in well over the required 25,000 valid signatures to get on the ballot.

Jeff Trigg, executive director of the Illinois LP, noting that he "breathed a big sigh of relief" when the June 28 deadline passed without objections being filed.

"Another statewide petition challenge this year would have been awful," he added. "But in fact, no one even bothered to view or copy our petitions, due to the Libertarian Party's show of strength in Illinois during recent years."

Jerry Kohn, the candidate for U.S. Senate, is a high school teacher in Oak Lawn who ran for state representative in 2002. He was endorsed by two Chicago newspapers — the *Tribune* and the *Sun-Times* — with the *Tribune* paying particular attention to his "well-crafted ideas" and strong candidacy for that race.

The party also has several candidates running for the Illinois House of Representatives and for numerous local offices, and every candidate for those seats had to gather signatures equal to 5 percent of the votes cast in the previous election for that seat, Trigg said.

## ■ LOUISIANA Legislature approves LP-authored ballot bill

After months of working a bill through the Louisiana legislature, the Libertarian Party in that state finally has the result they were looking for: Both the House and Senate approved House Bill 1605, which will allow all political candidates' party affiliation to appear on the ballot.

The bill was approved on June 21, the last day of the legislative session, and on July 12, Gov. Kathleen Blanco signed the bill into law. It will now be known as Act 889 of the 2004 regular legislative session, said Louisiana LP secretary Michael

Wolf.

"We hit a pretty good home run here," said Vinson Mouser, chairman of the Louisiana LP.

How is it a home run?

Michael Wolf and activist Peter Jacobs wrote the bill; it received strong support from both Republicans and Democrats, passing through the House 95-3 and the Senate on a vote of 36-1; and the state has a growing number of Libertarian, other third party and independent voters. This bill will allow candidates to run on those tickets under certain circumstances.

Before, the smaller parties had a very hard time getting their party affiliation marked next to candidates' names on the ballot in Louisiana, so voters didn't know about the range of choices that were available. People who went into the booth to vote for a Libertarian couldn't identify their candidate unless they knew the name beforehand.

Now, any party that has 1,000 registered voters in the state and has paid a one-time fee of \$1,000 will be represented on the ballot, as will any party that has had a candidate receive at least 5 percent of the vote in any statewide election.

"Today's legislators are aware of the growing trend toward political independence among the voters," Wolf said. "They are aware of growing dissatisfaction with the performance of the major parties, as well as of the role that independent and third-party candidates have been playing in affecting national and state elections."

"Literally dozens of activists got together and worked on this in different levels, going door to door in the capital building, as well as getting people to call their senators and representatives," Mouser said. "We thought we were going to have more trouble getting it through, so we were really surprised when it got almost 100 percent approval."

## ■ NEW YORK Manhattan LP plans anti-war protest

Claiming that the only permit they need to peaceably assemble is the First Amendment to the Constitution, members of the Manhattan Libertarian Party have announced that they intend to gather on the Great Lawn at Central Park on the eve of the Republican National Convention to protest the war in Iraq and the Patriot Act.

The Republican convention will be held in New York City from Aug. 29 to Sept. 4.

"If you ask the government for permission to protest it, you deserve to be told no," said Manhattan LP chair Jim Lesczynski, referring to the city's denial of permits to other organizations that have requested permission to hold protests on the Great Lawn on Aug. 29.

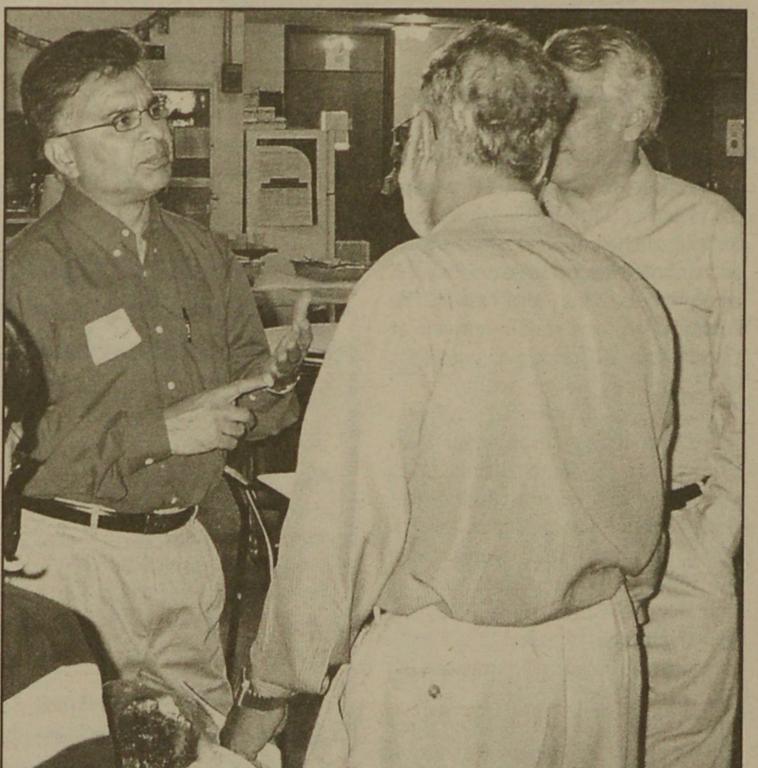
So the Manhattan LP won't be asking for permission — since they've already been given permission by the Bill of Rights to "peaceably assemble," Lesczynski noted.

"Organizers will not be available to negotiate with the New York Police Department, because this protest will have no organizers," he said. "Absolutely nobody is in charge. Libertarians are individuals, not a collective."

## ■ OHIO LP fights proposed Beaver Creek income tax

Libertarians in Ohio are gearing up to fight a proposed income tax in Beaver Creek, a 42,000-resident suburb of Dayton.

"Every other city in that county has an income tax, and if Beaver Creek passes one they'll just be taking money from the other cities," said Robert Butler, executive director of the Libertarian Party of Ohio, noting that the other cities would



■ Arif Khan, left, a Muslim who is running for the U.S. Senate in Wisconsin, addressed a July 4 meeting of the Muslim Professional Association. See related story on Page 9.

### Online Resources for LP Members

■ Find contact info for your state Libertarian Party or your State Chair

Visit: [www.LP.org](http://www.LP.org)  
Click on: Organization  
Click on: State Parties  
Click on: [Your state]

■ Find contact info for the National Committee

Visit: [www.LP.org](http://www.LP.org)  
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Click on: National Committee  
Click on: LNC Directory

■ Renew your membership

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then increase taxes to make up for the lost revenue.

Specialist Jeffrey Wellbaum, a U.S. Army inactive reserve member who recently returned from Iraq, is one of many Greene County residents fighting the tax. He said his first priority after returning from Iraq was to defend liberty here at home by fighting taxes.

"I became active in the Libertarian Party to defend fiscally responsible policies here in Ohio and in the local community," Wellbaum said.

And initiating a new tax is the opposite of "fiscally responsible."

"This new income tax is just another excuse for an undisciplined city council," noted LP state chair Jason Hallmark of Dayton. "The Beavercreek Council is constantly trying to raise taxes, and the citizens have consistently denied them the opportunity."

### ■ SOUTH CAROLINA State Chair Panos calls public debt 'a fraud'

The story ran in most newspapers across South Carolina. The headline: Government owed \$10.1 billion in 2002, nearly double the level only four years earlier.

But according to Chris Panos, South Carolina LP chairman, the state has approximately \$5.62 billion of the taxpayer's money it is not using.

These surpluses equal to \$1,358 for every man, woman and child in South Carolina. This does not include all the additional surpluses that exist in the school districts, cities, or counties in South Carolina.

"Reporting deficits in government sets up the politicians to increase taxes or cut services," Panos said. "Taxpayers need to understand that it is possible to have a simultaneous budget deficit and financial surpluses. In reality, South Carolina can — and does — simultaneously have a budget shortfall and a financial surplus of the taxpayers' money."

"South Carolinians continually hear the phrase 'budget shortfall' or 'budget deficit,'" Panos explained. "What this means is that projected expenditures will probably exceed projected revenues. When this happens, the politicians immediately want to raise our taxes and/or reduce services — regardless of the financial condition of the state. It works every time."

Panos said the South Carolina LP is actively seeking out and investigating all taxing authorities in the state, and will "do everything it our power to inform the people of the fact that the state, along with the school districts, is hiding surpluses and over-taxing the people."

### ■ WISCONSIN Candidates reach out to Muslim businesses

Those who regularly attend the Muslim Professional Association's annual Independence Day picnics in Milwaukee, Wisconsin are accustomed to hearing from politicians.

But this year's picnic brought something new: Libertarians.

As a Muslim man and a small business owner, Arif Khan — Wisconsin's Libertarian candidate for U.S. Senate — has deep ties to the Muslim community. His involvement paid off with an invitation to address the 150 picnic attendees, many of whom are small business owners themselves.

"The Muslim vote is critical in Wisconsin, especially Milwaukee," Khan said. "But the Muslim community wanted to hear something different this year — something that is actually in line with our Muslim beliefs of individual rights and non-interventionism."

"That is why they invited [Libertarian vice presidential candidate] Richard Campagna and me to address their issues and concerns."

"I just recently became a U.S. citizen and I can't wait to make my first vote Libertarian," said Umar Akram, a college student whose family moved from Pakistan to the United States in 1997.

Akram was one of the more than 25 attendees who requested more information regarding the Libertarian Party and its candidates.

Libertarian National Committee member Jeremy Keil said he was amazed at the excitement the Libertarian candidates generated.

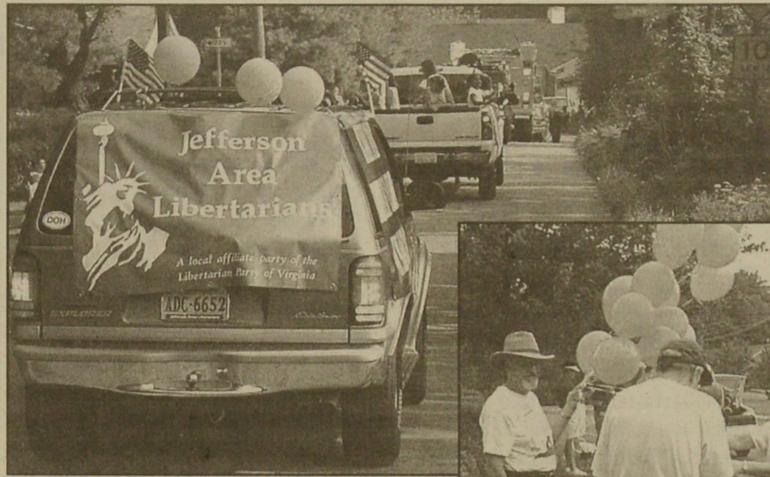
"The Muslim professionals I spoke with have a deep love for this country and a deep love of freedom," he said. "But they want their voice heard. They were excited that the Libertarians are reaching out to their community and feel that we may become their voice in politics."

"If we as a party can help empower the Muslim community through the political process, we can build a foundation for reaching out to other constituencies, such as small business owners, that are politically active and believe in Libertarian ideals."

"As a Muslim small businessman, Arif Khan knows that government is often at odds with both Muslims and small business owners," Campagna said. "His campaign will reach out to these constituencies and be their voice in the political arena."

The Libertarian Party could be Muslim Americans' ticket to changing the way they are viewed in America, Khan said.

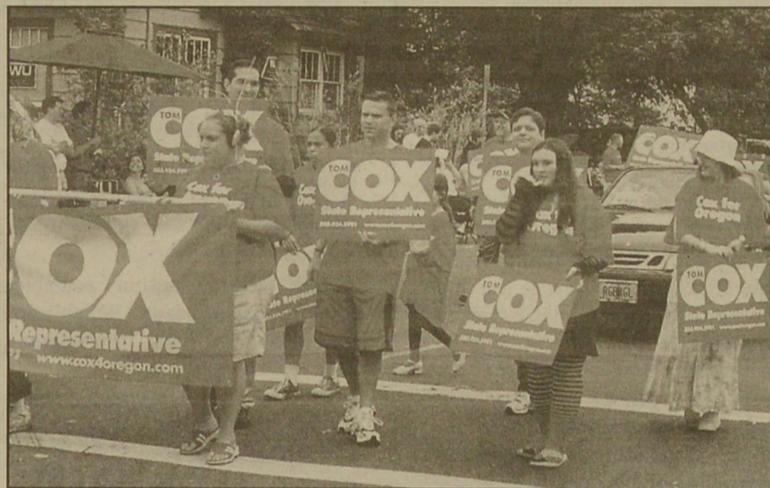
"It is incumbent upon all Muslims to dispel the myth that we are all terrorists and war mongers and butchers, as portrayed by the media," he said. "I think the only party capable of doing that is the Libertarian Party, since we are the only ones actually willing to listen and pay attention and then do the sensible thing."



■ Members of the Jefferson Area Libertarians — based in Charlottesville, Va. — took part in the Independence Day parade in Crozet, a small town just west of Charlottesville. They drove a truck festooned with "Michael Badnarik for President" banners and balloons, and distributed balloons and Badnarik flyers to the onlookers. Arin Sime, James Lark, James Curtis, Gary Westmoreland, Nancy Howell and Larry Gavel were among the Jefferson Area Libertarians participating in the parade.



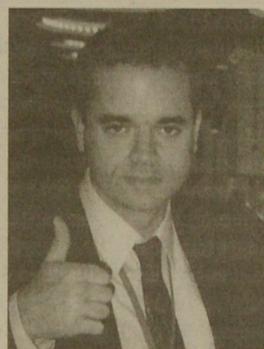
Happy 4th of July



■ Wearing bright red T-shirts and carrying placards, more than 30 supporters of Tom Cox for Oregon state House of Representatives march with Cox in the Hillsboro, Ore., July 4 parade, which drew thousands of onlookers. Cox's two opponents for the seat each had a contingent in the parade as well, but "the Cox campaign brought out more volunteers than his two opponents combined," said Benjamin Garcia, volunteer coordinator.

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## THE REVIEW

## A 'Third Revolution' is here

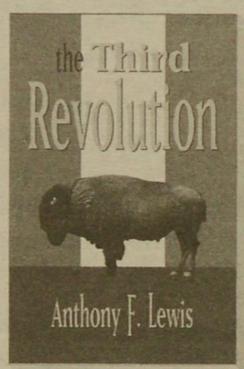
■ *The Third Revolution*, by Anthony F. Lewis. Ten Mile Press. 332 pages, soft-cover, \$16.95. Available at [www.anthonylewis-books.com](http://www.anthonylewis-books.com) and at [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com).

Reviewed by **J. Daniel Cloud**  
LP NEWS EDITOR

While there are many books about libertarianism or that deal with libertarian ideas, there aren't many works of fiction about Libertarians. Anthony Lewis's first novel certainly fits that bill, and it does so in unapologetically frank style.

Lewis explains a good deal of libertarian thought — delving into market economics, expounding on the evils of over-taxation, and showing the natural outgrowth of government regulation.

"If you don't do things our way, if you break the law, you run the risk of death," the Big Government proponents make clear in the book — and the perils faced by libertarian activists seem very real.



*The Third Revolution* presages a radical rise in anti-federal sentiment and concern for state (and individual) rights, prompted by legislation in 2012 that would federalize "all teachers, day care workers, police, social workers ... and prosecutors."

Known as the "One Nation" proposal, this intrusive legislation is opposed by the more conservative Republican legislators and others who recognize its far-reaching negative consequences.

But it is Montana's Libertarian Governor Ben Kane who must decide whether to remain the firebrand he was in his days as a state representative, standing with the people of his state to oppose the One

Nation, or whether he will go along with the American masses in supporting the federal government's ambitions.

*The Third Revolution's* main characters are driven by libertarian philosophy — by their compelling desire to regain personal freedoms and responsibilities — and proceed via political channels to achieve their objectives. Kane is a highly principled yet still-very-human hero whose flaws make him all the more likeable and believable. He is an imaginative political figure who is frustrated by politics as usual.

When lawmakers pontificate in this book, Lewis differentiates between the Libertarians like Kane — who would make changes via the established political methods — and the radical Libertarians who insist on immediate change via the "Damn the torpedoes; full speed ahead!" route.

Libertarian Party members will recognize the speech, the occasional jargon, and the looming hatred of Big Government; legislative sessions (in Lewis's world) begin to sound like a Libertarian convention.

As one Libertarian legislator says in a heated speech, "In the name of health, they take our freedom. In the name of safety, they take our freedom. In the name of security [and compassion and fairness and jobs and progress] they take our freedom. My God, in the name of Freedom, they take our freedom!"

Another: "You may well think your generation has no draft. If you intend to be working and paying taxes for the next 30 years, believe me, you've been drafted. ... They just haven't told you yet."

Polemic like this doesn't dominate *The Third Revolution*, however; not all characters are out for federal blood. Kane is torn between serving his state's residents in his elected position — actually representing them — and his desires to leave politics and return to his earlier job as a purveyor of beer and buffalo burgers at a Helena eatery.

In an author's note at the end of the book, Lewis explains that "actual flesh-and-blood Libertarians don't advocate revolution," as the characters in the book do.

LP members and other lovers of liberty will know this without reading the note; some non-libertarian readers may not believe it, disregarding the fact that the book is fiction and assuming — like fans of Oliver Stone's movies — that it is a documentary based on facts to which no one else is privy.

*The Third Revolution* reads easily and well, flowing through 17 months of Governor Kane's term and giving enough backstory to inform the reader without burdening us with minutiae. Lewis does at times over-elaborate on side issues (the process of brewing beer among them) but for the most part he avoids non-integral material.

Is *The Third Revolution* to be regarded as a lesson in Libertarian apologetics? No, and it's not intended to. But it is an enjoyable — sometimes belligerently libertarian — book, and it deserves to attract the attention of Libertarians and fiction lovers alike.

## Tennessee property tax hike thwarted

A proposed property tax hike in Hamilton County, Tenn., was narrowly voted down by county commissioners this week, following persistent opposition by the local Libertarian Party.

"There were about 300 pro-tax supporters and 10 of us, but the county commission voted 5-4 against this property tax increase," said Hamilton County LP chair Trevor Southerland — noting that the county recently increased its sales tax, so another tax hike would have been particularly hard on local taxpayers.

Most of the pro-tax activists claimed that by calling for a property tax increase they were supporting the local schools, with the school board "saying they've got a \$22 million cut," Southerland said.

"Actually, even without the in-

crease, they're getting \$9 million more than they did in the previous year."

While the newly approved budget is "still the largest county budget and largest school budget in the history of Hamilton County, it didn't go up nearly as much as it could have," he added.

While the Libertarians aren't claiming responsibility for defeating the tax hike, their activities certainly contributed to the defeat.

"We wrote continual letters to the five commissioners who voted down the tax increase; we had two opinion pieces and two news articles on a Chattanooga news Web site in one week and were mentioned on radio several times; and this morning we offered some opposition to the pro-tax rally" held before the commission's vote, Southerland

said.

"The school board and pro-tax supporters spent tens of thousands, including running a full-page ad in the Sunday Chattanooga Times-Free Press to influence the commissioners who opposed the tax, but thanks to grassroots support the commissioners did not waver."

And when the press showed up at the county commission to cover the tax story, they looked to Southerland and other Libertarians — namely state House candidate Daniel Lewis and Joe Dumas, founder of the anti-tax group Friends of Signal Mountain Taxpayers — for interviews on the issue.

"Hamilton County, Tennessee is just another example showing that government-run schools are failing," Southerland said. "It's time

See **TENNESSEE** Page 11

## GUEST COMMENTARY

## Don't take 'liberty' out of Libertarian

What do a car and grass have in common? They both have wheels — except the grass.

You don't get it?

How about another example: What do Libertarians, Republican, and Democrats have in common? They are all opposed to the war on drugs, support limited government, are opposed to the federal income tax, support individual freedom and property rights over governmental interests, etc. — except the Republicans and Democrats.

The point is, as Libertarians, we aren't like the Republicans and Democrats. We are different.

In the July *LP News* there was a great article called, "Clean up your act..." in which Mark Selzer made some valid points that need saying to us Libertarian types.

If we want credibility then we are going to have to appear credible. If you've ever been to a Libertarian meeting there's one thing that is very obvious: As a group, we look weird.

There are people there with multi-colored tattoos in strange places. There are people wearing odd clothing like tri-corner hats and knickers or fringed leather pants with a matching mountaineer coat. They'll have really bad haircuts or no haircuts.

I know all of this is a fashion statement that is supposed to express our individualism but, hey, what good is the statement if the people we want to listen can't hear it because they're laughing too loud? It wouldn't hurt to appear more mainstream.

However, I was disturbed that in the same issue of *LP News* the question was asked, "Should we end

our War on Drugs focus?"

Oh, absolutely! And while we are at it, why don't we drop the whole tax-protest thingy, too. That makes us look like a fringe group. In fact, we really need to stop defending unpopular causes like smoking in public and opposition to environmental regulation.

We need to become so mainstream that no one can really tell the difference between us and the two major parties. That way we can ensure that members of the Libertarian Party will eventually lose interest in being Libertarians and wander off to join more distinctive parties, while current dissatisfied Democrats and Republicans won't see any point in leaving their parties to join ours.

Sounds like a plan made in Washington — by the two major parties to destroy ours.

Come to think of it, having brought up the subject a few paragraphs ago, we are a fringe group. If I had wanted to be a Democrat, I would have stayed in the Democratic Party. If I had wanted to be a Republican I wouldn't have left the Republican Party to join the Libertarians.

I wonder if it's being implied that we should tone down some so that we don't scare off potential Libertarians. Then we can really be mainstream like the other guys!

We can represent ourselves as being for one thing and then, once we get their votes and get in office, we can work to accomplish our real purposes. Just like when the Republicans say that they are for small government and big business and then grow the government and business regulation faster than the Democrats.

No, I think I'd prefer we just be up-front regarding what Libertarians are about instead of trying to sneak

one by the potential newbies.

The suggestion was that by opposing the War on Drugs we come off like a pro-drug group or get lumped in with NORML.

Well, you know, if we support the idea of getting the government out of the marriage we'll be labeled a gay group.

And if we fight to keep the government out of abortion, we'll seem pro-abortion. And if we fight for people's right to smoke in public, we'll be pro-tobacco folks.

Guess what? Look around. Some of our members are pro-gay, pro-abortion, pro-tobacco, and even pro-drug!

So what? It doesn't matter. Our party isn't about these particular issues. It's about the principle of limited government, just like the tax issue and everything else. If we lose sight of this, then there isn't a Libertarian Party anymore.

Right now, the drug issue is the biggest, most expensive, most enduring example of the thing that Libertarians oppose — government interference in individual lives and all its consequences.

If we drop this issue, what's next? Every part of our platform is outside of the mainstream, sometimes way, way outside.

I'm all for winning credibility by cleaning up the outside. But while we are at it, let's be very careful that we don't wash so deeply that we wash away our ideas in an effort to court the mainstream vote.

I don't want to be Democrat and I don't want to be a Republican and I won't be a Libertarian if the party stops standing for the principles of liberty that gave the Libertarian Party its name.

■ **About the author:** Bill Shaw is a professor of criminal justice at Louisiana College.

# Tennessee property tax hike defeated thanks to LP persistence

Continued from Page 10

for the American people to take our schools back!"

This resolution to the tax increase issue also apparently clears up another Libertarian battle that Joe Dumas has been fighting in nearby Signal Mountain.

Residents in two small towns — Signal Mountain and Walden — recently narrowly approved a \$10 million bond issue to build a school on the mountain, "with that bond predicated on the county coming up with the remaining funds to complete the school construction project," Dumas said.

"I feel confident in saying that yesterday we killed two tax increases for the price of one. It is my understanding that (absent this county tax increase) construction on the Signal Mountain High School will not go forward at this time, nor probably any time soon.

"Even the proponents were estimating the total cost [of the high school] to be about \$22 million, meaning the county would have had to issue \$12 million in bonds to match the town funding. My guess is that it would have cost more like \$25 to \$30 million; either way, the county would have had to fund more than half of the cost."

While the overall school budget increased by about \$9 million for the 2004-2005 fiscal year, chances are the school board won't be willing to issue bonds to pay for Signal Mountain's proposed new school -- since it wasn't certain even before the tax increase was voted down that the school would be funded.

"Of course, the school supporters are crying that their costs have increased by more than the increase in their budget, and so there is much wringing of hands and gnashing of teeth," Dumas said.

"The problem with our school system is not a lack of funding,"

Southerland said. "We pay a lot for our government-run school system, but sadly a lot of the funding is spent in the wrong places for the wrong purposes by administration."

"My take on the situation is this: Suppose I ask my employer for a \$30,000 per year raise, and he says he can't afford that but gives me an \$8,000 raise instead," Dumas said. "Would I be right to go around complaining that my employer gave me a \$22,000 pay cut?"

It seems the \$10 million bond for Signal Mountain and Walden is no longer an issue — at least for now — despite the high school's proponents' earlier confidence that their bribe would allow construction to begin this year, he said.

"I am particularly pleased that their efforts appear to have been thwarted because of the tactics they used to try to make it happen," Dumas said. "I'm not against the idea of having a school on the mountain.

Unlike the U.S. Constitution, the Tennessee Constitution does provide for public education.

"But the other side took a sneaky, incremental approach. Earlier this year they pushed hard for a half-cent county sales tax hike ... saying, 'Oh, if we can get that through, then we will get our school.'"

"Once that was accomplished, then suddenly the towns needed to issue \$10 million worth of bonds, but that will only take a 35-cent

tax increase, that'll cost the average family less than \$200 per year.'

"Then, only after that was very narrowly approved over the opposition of my Friends of Signal Mountain Taxpayers group, did they bother to mention that 'Oops, we need a 55-cent county tax increase, too.'

"I guess they knew that if they proposed all the tax increases at once, the proposal would have been crushingly defeated."

## TOM COX.

## A SERIOUS CANDIDATE.

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### This is a winnable race.

Tom Cox is running against a self-titled "fiscal conservative" — who voted for the largest tax increase in Oregon's History — in a district that defeated that same tax 60 to 40. With a proven campaign team and tremendous volunteer support, Tom has the opportunity to do what no Libertarian in Oregon has: *Win at the state level!* Cox has already put in \$50,000 of his own money and raised contributions and pledges of tens of thousands more!

### Tom Cox is serious about this race.

As a statewide candidate in 2002, Tom pulled 5% of the vote in a race decided by 1%. With *some of the best name recognition in Oregon's political arena*, Tom Cox can win for state representative and bring Libertarian principles to "The Left Coast!" A professional campaign team has been established for this race. Campaign Manager Richard Burke, also Executive Director of the LP of Oregon and former Gubernatorial candidate in 1998, has run fifteen winning Libertarian campaigns. His media consultant Ken Montone has worked on two winning campaigns for U.S. Senate.

### Vulnerable opponent.

The incumbent against whom Tom is running barely won in her fiscally conservative district, touting "fiscal conservative values". With vote after vote, she showed her true colors by voting for the largest tax increase in the state's history. She is vulnerable and the field is open to someone with real answers.

### Principled and Qualified.

Tom Cox is uniquely qualified to address the central issue of

this race — principle. His background and broad experience are simply unmatched by any other candidate. Tom has worked for IBM Global Services as a management consultant, and has consulted on four continents over the past decade. Simply put, he is a critical thinker and often his "outside-the-box" strategies are copied and implemented by others.

### Bottom line

Tom is a leader. In his race for Governor, he was the only candidate to have a detailed budget, a 38-page plan for cutting taxes, cutting wasteful spending and fully funding vital services. In his bid for State Representative this year, Tom has outlined his Five Elements of Agency Reform, based on proven strategies that have shrunk government — not just slowed its growth — and collected numerous endorsements from fiscally conservative groups and individuals.

### Help us make history!

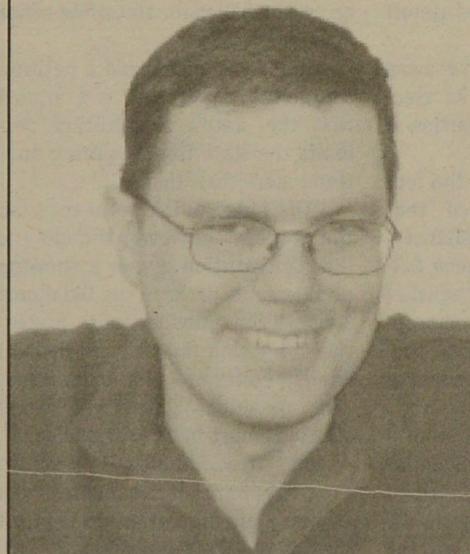
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**POLITICS 2004**

**Candidates, Advocates and 'Ribs for Reb'**

■ Republican candidate for U.S. Senate, **Jack McMullen**, officially joined the Libertarian Party in June and plans to seek the Vermont LP nomination. As a minor party, the Vermont LP is not required to conduct a primary. Instead, candidates are nominated and selected by the state committee. A number of candidates were nominated earlier this month, including Hardy Machia, who is running for governor. McMullen is also seeking the Republican Party nomination in the 2004 race against five-time incumbent Patrick Leahy, a Democrat. McMullen ran for U.S. Senate in the 2000 Republican primary but did not secure the Republican Party's nomination that year.

■ "Libertarian Michael Badnarik for President" T-shirts are now available from the LP of North Carolina. Featuring a logo designed by a NCLP member, the shirt features an image of the "We the people" portion of the Constitution, and says "Use it or lose it." The image is overlaid with a "Constitution Security Advisory System" similar to the federal terrorism threat level, AKA "the national mood ring," and shows that the Constitution's current threat level is high. Proceeds from the sale of this shirt are promised to the Badnarik campaign's efforts in North Carolina. See it — or order it — at [www.NCLiberty.net](http://www.NCLiberty.net).

■ Former LP News editor **Bill Winter**, who also served as LP director of communications from 1993 to 2002, has been named director of communications for the **Advocates for Self-Government**. His new role includes working on publicity, writing and design projects for the Georgia-based Advocates. "I am proud and excited to welcome Bill Winter to the team," said Advocates President Sharon Harris. "Bill brings extraordinary expertise, experience, and talents." The Advocates is a non-profit, non-partisan organization that teaches libertarians how to be more effective communicators.

■ In mid-July, **Gary Nolan** returned to the radio airwaves, hosting two shows on Austin, Texas-based KLBJ (590 AM), which is considering adding Gary to the regular weekday lineup. Nolan, who set aside his career in radio broadcasting while campaigning for the LP's presidential nomination, is also looking at other radio shows. He continues to make regular on-air appearances, often using the opportunity to promote LP presidential candidate Michael Badnarik.



■ Gary Nolan

■ Proposed federal legislation currently in Congress would require all 50 states to pass laws granting police the power to drug test drivers via blood, urine or saliva — and to arrest anyone with any amount of a controlled substance in his or her system. Proponents of the law claim it would remove drug-impaired drivers from the roads. But the true implications are that all drivers would be subject to random drug testing, and — in the words of one columnist — that "the 30,000,000 or so pot users in this country are subject to near-random testing and arrest. Not for driving under the influence, but primarily for using pot within the last 2 to 6 weeks."



■ Jim Gray

■ Superior Court Judge and Libertarian U.S. Senate candidate **Jim Gray of California** spent his Father's Day at a meeting of the Islamic Society of Corona/Norco. He told the society members that their involvement in the political system is a great way to publicly present an accurate image of Islam — and of Muslims as supporting the issues that are important in their lives, particularly that of maintaining high morals and standards. "They are people — good-hearted, family-oriented people," Gray said. "And they are being unjustly used as a scapegoat for people who use terror in the name of peace. I am not a Muslim, but I am beginning to understand their struggle, and I feel honored that I can help."

■ Libertarians in North Myrtle Beach hosted a fundraiser for **South Carolina's U.S. Senate candidate, Rebekah "Reb" Sutherland**, on June 26. Television station WPDE — the local ABC affiliate — covered it in the evening news, allowing Sutherland to explain that Libertarians "believe that people have the right to life, the right to speak and act as they wish so long as they do not physically hurt anyone, and the right to own property without government intervention." The rib cookout — "Ribs for Reb" — was a success, according to Horry County (S.C.) LP Chair Joe Clarkson: Besides raising money for Sutherland, five new LP members signed up at the event.

*Presidential candidate's mom enters race for Indiana lieutenant governor*



■ Kenn Gividen, Libertarian candidate for governor of Indiana, speaks at a June 29 press conference in Indianapolis, as LP presidential candidate Michael Badnarik and his mother, Elaine Badnarik, look on. During the press conference, Elaine Badnarik was introduced as the party's candidate for lieutenant governor. (Photo provided by the Indiana LP)

Libertarian presidential candidate Michael Badnarik introduced his mother to delegates at the Libertarian Party National Convention in late May as one of his major influences — as a person who taught him self-reliance and the urgency of doing what's right.

And this week, a month later, he has begun introducing her as Elaine Badnarik, the Libertarian Party's candidate for lieutenant governor of Indiana.

The Hammond, Ind., resident was

a delegate to the Libertarian Party's convention, and spoke on behalf of her son in the nominating speeches. Then after Michael Badnarik won the party's nomination for president, she approached the stage and said: "I gave you the candidate. Now you get him to Washington."

Her son can now say the same, with the state capitol as the destination.

Elaine Badnarik joined the party about a year ago, after Michael announced that he was running for

the presidential nomination.

"I invited her to the national convention in Atlanta, and she wanted to come as a delegate so she could vote for me," he said.

Mrs. Badnarik's "transparent love for her family and her country impassioned the audience" during her brief comments after her son won the nomination, Indiana LP executive director Brad Klopfenstein said. He noted that her talk also inspired Libertarian gubernatorial candidate Kenn Gividen to invite her to join the ticket.

"Elaine Badnarik has been an incredible activist in Hammond," Gividen said on June 29. "She will stand up for Indiana voters, just as she has fearlessly and tirelessly stood up for her neighbors when government failed."

Badnarik said she agreed to run because new property tax assessments have hit taxpayers in her area particularly hard and she wanted to do something productive to change it.

"We have been in our house for 48 years. I don't want to be taxed out of it," she said. "Instead of wringing my hands, I decided to clean house — the State house."

She noted that it's becoming a family joke that she got her best political experience at home — dealing with a budget, which government has forgotten how to do.

"We fed three boys with the appetite of nine on one income," she said. "We learned to prioritize. We did what we could afford. We worked with a lot of ingenuity."

"It's about time we did that in government."

**OKLP ballot access suit moves forward**

Libertarians in Oklahoma have won a partial victory in their quest for better state election laws. A federal appeals court judge ordered the State Election Board to allow the Libertarian Party to invite voters registered in other parties to vote in the LP's primary and runoff elections.

The ruling does not take away the party's right to close its elections to voters from other parties, if it chooses to do so.

The main victory is that the federal appeals court recognized "that this state law is not in compliance," Oklahoma LP state chair Steve Galpin said. "The court said that what the state has been doing is improper," and that such prohibition violates all political parties' freedom of political association.

This is, however, only a step in the right direction: A state Superior Court judge on June 25 refused to issue an injunction putting the LP on the ballot for this fall, so the

party plans to appeal to the Oklahoma Supreme Court, seeking ballot access for this year's elections.

Oklahoma is the only state that still requires a party to get a petition signed by 5 percent of the state's voters before that party can be on the ballot for statewide office elections.

The LP had submitted a petition containing 2 percent, and argued that the state's constitution prohibits the state from requiring anything more than that.

"The judge didn't seem to grasp the concept that even though the U.S. Constitution allows a showing of 5 percent, perhaps the Oklahoma Constitution provides more protection for voting rights," said Richard Winger, editor of *Ballot Access News*. "The Oklahoma Constitution says elections must be 'free and equal.'"

But "free and equal" elections can't happen when candidates from smaller political parties are kept off the ballot, Libertarians feel.

"With no judicial relief, Oklahomans will not be able to vote for anyone for president this November except President Bush and U.S. Senator John Kerry," Winger said.

One way or another, the LP's court case against the state was bound to go to the Oklahoma Supreme Court, Galpin said, noting that the state had made clear its intention to appeal to the high court had the Libertarians won at the Superior Court level.

As of now, the party's win — being allowed to permit other parties' voters to vote in the LP primary and runoff elections — seems moot, since the party isn't on the ballot. But once the LP is back on the ballot "we'll probably open it up to the other parties," he said. "We have already allowed Independents to vote in our primaries."

And he holds on to a strong belief that the state Supreme Court will recognize the LP's right to be on the ballot for statewide elections.

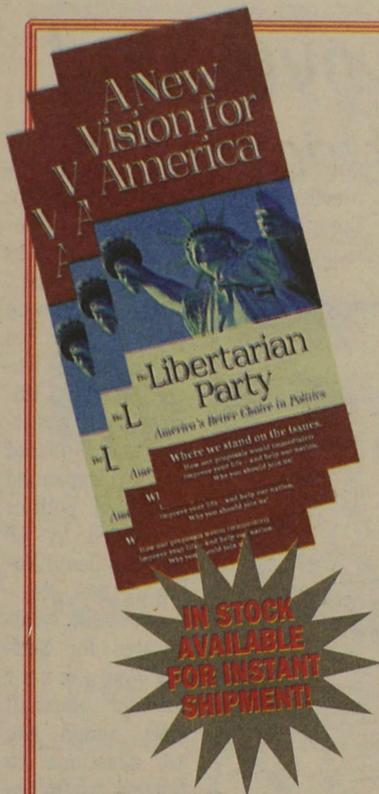
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Our popular "New Vision for America" brochures are back in stock and ready for immediate delivery, just in time for the 2004 election cycle.

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"A New Vision for America" is a 24-page, full-color outreach brochure ... a prospecting tool that presents our vision for America in a positive, upbeat manner. And it's loaded with gorgeous photographs of Libertarians in action. "A New Vision for America" takes a warm, human approach – telling true stories that illustrate libertarian principles. Instead of focusing on how bad the Republicans and Democrats are, we gently ask readers to imagine a better America – an America of prosperity, tolerance, and freedom.

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## LP Literature & Books

■ **Why Government Doesn't Work** by Harry Browne. The 1996 Presidential campaign manifesto: Explains why government doesn't work, and why it will never work as well as voluntary solutions. Outlines a Libertarian plan for victory. Hardbound, 245 pages. **Cost:** \$11.95

■ **Libertarianism in One Lesson** by David Bergland. Expanded 8th edition. The classic introductory work. Outlines Libertarian positions on all major political issues and contrasts them to liberals and conservatives. A must-read. Softbound, 158 pages. **Cost:** \$10 each; or 5 for \$35.

■ **Which Political Party is 100% Pro-Gun Rights?** Full-page flyer. 2-color (red & blue). Hard-hitting defense of the Second Amendment, designed especially for the gun community. Explains why the LP will never betray gun owners – unlike the Republican Party, which constantly sells them out. **Cost:** Sample: 50¢ or \$7 for 100

■ **America's Libertarian Heritage** by David Bergland. 16-page booklet. Concise overview of Libertarian philosophy and solutions in an easy-to-read question-and-answer format. **Cost:** \$1 each

■ **Million Dollar Bills:** Green Ink. A faux \$1,000,000 bill that highlights excessive federal spending – and points out that the federal government spends more than \$1 million every few seconds. Perfect for Tax Day, taxpayer groups, and almost any other outreach project! **Cost:** Sample: 50¢ or \$5 for 100

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■ **Don't Blame Me... I Voted Libertarian** (Blue & white; 800-ELECT-US phone number below.)

■ **Vote Libertarian/800-ELECT-US** (Blue & white.)

■ **Buttons**  
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■ **Vote Libertarian** 1-800-ELECT-US

■ **Libertarian Party: Pro-Choice on Everything** 1-800-ELECT-US

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■ **LP Statue of Liberty Logo master.** Camera-ready sheet, ready for scanning. **Cost:** \$1 each

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# World's Smallest Political Quiz gets major overhaul

The World's Smallest Political Quiz, widely hailed as the libertarian movement's most popular and effective outreach tool, has gotten its most significant overhaul in more than 10 years.

The updated quiz, distributed by the Advocates for Self-Government, has new questions, a new graphic look, more links to libertarian resources, and a new explanation of what the results mean, according to Sharon Harris, president of the Advocates.

"With these modifications, we think the quiz is more visually interesting, more intellectually solid, more informative, and more useful," she said.

The new quiz made its official debut on July 4, although a preview version was made available at the Libertarian National Convention in Atlanta, Georgia in late May — to overwhelmingly positive response, Harris noted.

"People love it," she said. "Ac-

tivists appreciate that the Quiz is easier to use with friends and in OPH [Operation Politically Homeless] booths. We have also received a lot of praise for the look of the quiz. Most people's first reaction is, 'Wow!'"

Changes to the quiz include:

■ A question about immigration was replaced by a national ID card question.

"The 'open borders' question was the least popular one on the quiz," Harris said. "It's a difficult issue to explain, especially since 9/11. It is also an issue that libertarians disagree with among themselves. A national ID card is a looming civil liberties threat, and much easier to understand."

■ A minimum wage question was replaced by a question about privatizing Social Security.

"The minimum wage question was simply too complicated for many people to understand," Harris said. "Our Social Security question

is an equally important economic issue, but much clearer. And it's more timely."

■ A foreign aid question was replaced by a question about ending welfare.

"Welfare is a fundamental economic issue that definitely separates liberals from conservatives and libertarians," Harris said. "One's answer is a strong indicator of one's political leanings."

■ A "replace taxes with user fees" question was replaced by a "cut taxes and government spending by 50 percent or more" question.

"The old question was often misunderstood," Harris said. "We needed a bold tax question that both libertarians and conservatives could answer yes to."

■ The "About the Quiz" section now notes that "the quiz measures political tendencies, not absolutes."

This was done because the quiz "doesn't really label a person," Harris said. "You can't tell for sure if someone is really a libertarian, for example, if they score in the bottom part of the Libertarian quadrant. Rather, it tells someone which political group they have most in common with. We wanted to make this point very explicit."

■ On the chart, the "Authoritarian" quadrant is now called the "Statist (Big Government)" quadrant.

"Statist is more precise and more neutral," Harris said.

■ When answering questions, "Yes, Maybe, or No" has been replaced by "Agree, Maybe, or Disagree."

"It makes answering much easier," Harris said. "It takes care of the problem some people have when they see a 'negative' statement

Quiz asks 10 questions about economic and personal issues. Based on the answers, a person's political position is pinpointed on the so-called "Nolan Chart."

That five-way chart includes conservative, liberal, centrist, libertarian, and statist, and is based on an expanded model of politics developed by LP founder David Nolan in 1969.

In 1987, Advocates for Self-Government founder Marshall Fritz added the 10 questions to Nolan's chart to help people find their place on the map — thus creating the World's Smallest Political Quiz.

Over the past

16 years, more than seven million copies of the paper version of the quiz have been distributed, and three million people have taken the online quiz.

The three-million mark was passed on July 8, just over 10 months after it passed the two million mark. It took four and a half years for one million people to take the quiz after the Advocates put it online, and another three years to hit the two million milestone. More than 13,400 Web sites link to the quiz, and more than 4,000 people take the online version every day.

While not a representative sample of the American public, of the 3,000,000 online quiz takers, 30.1 percent scored Centrist, 34.9 percent Libertarian, 19 percent Liberal, 7.4 percent Conservative, and 8.6 percent Statist.

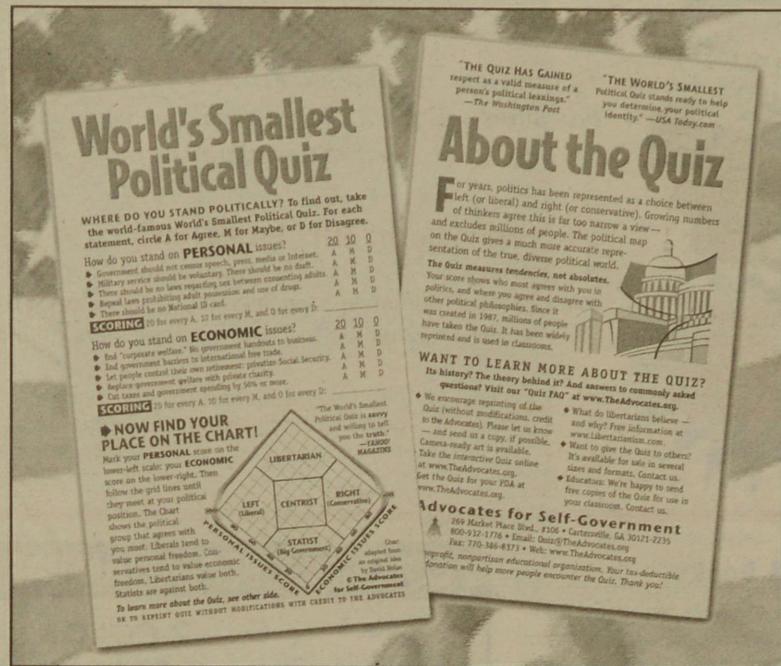
The quiz has earned acclaim from political scientists and journalists. In 2001, *The Washington Post* reported, "The quiz has gained respect as a valid measure of a person's political leanings." *Suite101.com* called it "the most concise and accurate political quiz out there."

"We don't want to make changes to the quiz very often," Harris said. "There is great value to having the same basic questions, year after year, rather than an ever-changing quiz."

"This allows us to track results, making it an ongoing informal survey of people's attitudes on these issues."

The Advocates for Self-Government is a non-profit, non-partisan organization that teaches libertarians how to be more effective communicators, and encourages the public to understand and embrace libertarian ideas.

For more information about the quiz, or to order copies, visit: [www.TheAdvocates.org](http://www.TheAdvocates.org).



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A flamboyant WWF wrestling star is elected governor of Minnesota.

Texas legislators skip town to avoid a vote on redistricting.

California recalls a recently re-elected governor and replaces him with a Hollywood action hero.

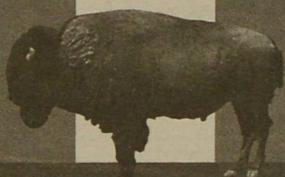
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### CORRECTIONS

■ Mark Nelson, the new treasurer of the Libertarian National Committee, lives in Iowa, not in Ohio as was reported in the July 2004 issue.

■ Printing error: *A New Vision for America*. Due to a processing error, some of the new run of the *New Vision* brochure includes doubles of pages 5-8 and 17-20 and leaves out pages 9-16. Please review your stocks of this brochure. If you find bad copies, please e-mail [RodSeverson@hq.LP.org](mailto:RodSeverson@hq.LP.org), and they will be replaced at no charge.

like 'Government should not...' and they don't know if 'Yes' might mean 'No.'"

■ A design overhaul, including a new 3-D look for the chart and two-color printing.

"The exciting new graphics make it more appealing and interesting," Harris said. "And that's half the battle right there — getting attention! Kudos to our new Director of Communications Bill Winter, who did an extraordinary job on this."

The new quiz also contains slightly tweaked language for many questions, a section explaining the purpose and history of the Quiz, and a list of libertarian and outreach resources, Harris said.

"The new material makes it far more useful, both as an educational and an outreach tool," she said. "There's more information about the quiz itself, making it self-explanatory."

"We also wanted to help Quiz users learn more about libertarianism, so we included the address of our [Libertarianism.com](http://Libertarianism.com) Web site. A person totally new to libertarianism can pick up a quiz, find he's a libertarian, go online, learn all about the libertarian movement, and get involved!"

Despite the changes, Harris said, the Advocates worked hard to make sure the quiz still accurately measures people's political beliefs.

"It is vital to protect the integrity of the quiz," she said. "A key reason the quiz is so popular is that it gives honest, valid insights to anyone who takes it — regardless of their political views. It's not a trick to get people to score Libertarian, and it must never be perceived as such. All our changes were made with this in mind. I think, as a result, we have the most accurate and useful version of the quiz ever."

The World's Smallest Political

# 2004 LP Ballot Access: We're in the home stretch

## Dear Libertarians,

**THIS JUST IN:** The Libertarian Party of Illinois's petition was successful! The LP presidential ticket and a U.S. Senate candidate will be on the ballot in the nation's fifth most populous state.

We're now in the home stretch of this year's petition drives, and we face the following petition deadlines:

Here is what we face, in order to make sure we're on the ballot in 50 states and DC.

**8/17/04 — District of Columbia.** 3,600 valid signatures needed.

**8/17/04 — New York.** The LPNY will have to gather 15,000 valid signatures between early July and late August. National needs to be ready with \$20,000 to help out the LPNY.

**8/26/04 — Kentucky.** 5,000 valid signatures needed.

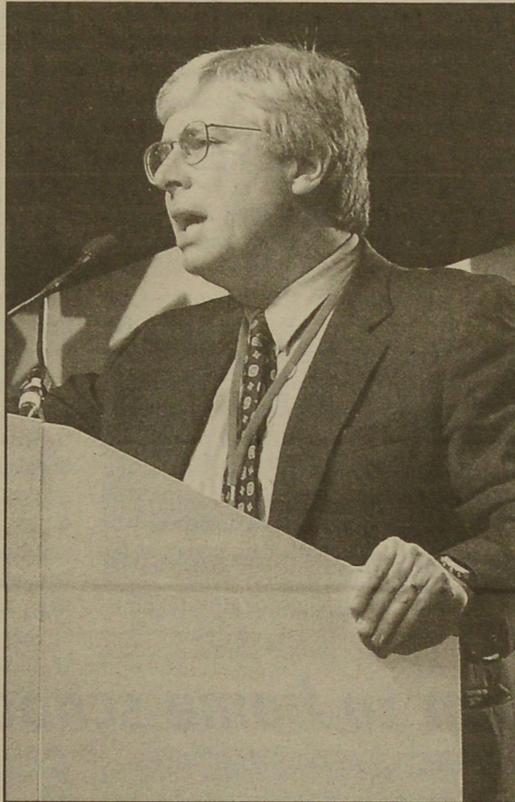
**9/3/04 — North Dakota.** 3,000 valid signatures needed.

**9/6/04 — Alabama.** To

cap off the ballot drive, 5,000 valid signatures are due. We've got paid petitioners ready to go in Alabama. I want to start them ASAP, but we need more contributions to get them started.

**Oklahoma and Ohio Update:** At our Oklahoma lawsuit hearing, we were not granted a temporary injunction to put us on the ballot. This result was expected, and we are taking our case to a higher state court. We remain very hopeful that we will win this lawsuit, get on the ballot in Oklahoma and strike a blow for better ballot access laws in the future there.

In Ohio, we are awaiting a decision by a federal judge in our lawsuit against the Secretary of State. However, we have to be prepared with \$10,000 to do an Independent presidential



petition with 5,000 valid signatures in the unlikely event that we lose that lawsuit. That petition is already being circulated by the Ohio LP.

We're fighting outrageous ballot access laws — and succeeding in petition

drives. But we can't keep this moving forward without your generous financial support.

Please send a check ASAP to the Libertarian Party Ballot Access Fund, 2600 Virginia Ave., NW, Suite 100, Washington, DC 20037, or contribute to the Ballot Access Fund via the LP's Web site, [www.LP.org](http://www.LP.org).

Thank you very much. With your help NOW, every American will have a Libertarian (or several) on their ballot in 2004.

*Bill Redpath*

**William Redpath**  
LNC Ballot Access Coordinator

## PETITIONERS NEEDED for LP BALLOT DRIVES

The Libertarian Party currently has petition drives underway in several states. While it is our goal to get as many volunteer signatures as possible during these ballot drives, many signatures need to be gathered by paid petitioners. We are looking for paid petitioners to petition now or soon in the following states:

**Alabama**  
**DC**  
**Kentucky**  
**New York**  
**North Dakota**  
**Oklahoma**

**Good petitioners who are willing to work hard can earn \$1,500 per week or more. Earn good money and advance the LP at the same time.**

Interested?  
Please e-mail Ballot Access Coordinator Bill Redpath at [wredpath@his.com](mailto:wredpath@his.com). Put "petitioning" in the subject line. He will respond to you as soon as possible. Thank you.

**THE FORUM**

# Platform reformat continues: The Immigration Plank

The '04 Platform Committee re-wrote nine planks from whole cloth under the new format, all of which were approved by delegates to the Atlanta convention.

The committee also looked at the Immigration plank, one of the party's most difficult and controversial, both for our candidates who are dealing with a post-9/11 America, and for our members, who recognize that our current position of purely open borders is philosophically inadequate.

**By George Squyres**

The traditional position of open borders recognizes the rights of economic freedom — to enjoy an unrestricted labor pool. Our government should not be able to restrict the labor pool as a protectionist measure for American workers or their jobs.

Indeed, the globalizing economy depends on the free flow of human capital as markets demand.

But is economic freedom the only consideration to be given?

Most see it as one of our most basic freedoms, appropriately placed into the World's Smallest Political Quiz.

While basic, it is certainly not the only issue we must confront with respect to national borders.

The legitimate function of government is the protection of our lives, rights and property. In the context of national defense, we must recognize that controlling immigration is integral with the security of the country.

Dr. John Hospers' recent article "A Libertarian Argument Against Open Borders" makes a compelling case against purely open borders, from a different perspective.

His argument is that we cannot demand open borders while also demanding the elimination of public property, without creating the impossible situation that any foreigner visiting our country will do so only by trespassing. Embarrassingly, this conflict is embedded in the platform already, in the immigration, government debt and pollution planks.

Others have recognized the traditional position as oversimplified and inadequate; along our southern

border from Texas to California, the position is regarded as unrealistic.

The de facto open border and the trespass, murder, rape, and robbery of Arizona residents has resulted in the formation of militia groups — in turn leading to confrontation between the militias trying to protect the lives, rights, and property of citizens, and the government that is supposed to be doing that job.

In this environment anyone advocating an open border is regarded as unrealistic. How then to balance the needs of security with the needs of the free market?

I would like now to introduce this proposed plank, with the intent of carrying on the debate over the upcoming months so that by the time the '06 Platform Committee convenes, the membership will have reached a consensus on where we stand on the Immigration plank.

This draft version of a proposed replacement for the immigration plank is by no means presented as finished, but as an attempt at balancing the conflicting issues of security, free markets, welfare abuse and the ideology of private prop-

erty.

We invite the membership, our best and brightest, to help us work towards resolution by providing input into this most difficult of issues.

Feedback and suggestions must be submitted only in the new four-part format. If you see a better way to state the Issue or have suggestions for transitional action steps, please submit them to the new Web site at [www.LP.org/issues/platfor-mdebate](http://www.LP.org/issues/platfor-mdebate).

Let the debate begin.

**I.18 Immigration (Proposed)**

**Issue:**

The closed but porous border restricts the labor pool, forcing employers to hire illegal workers, while leaving those workers unaccountable to the law. A completely open border allows foreign criminals, carriers of communicable diseases, terrorists and other threats to individual Americans to enter the country unchecked. The current guaranteed access to the welfare system by illegal aliens acts as a magnet for freeloaders to enter the country at the expense of working Americans. Allowing unchecked immigration into our country removes the incentive of foreign nationals to address the problems in their own countries which drove them to emigrate in the first place.

**Principle:**

Economic freedom demands the unrestricted movement of human and financial capital across national borders, while protection of the lives, rights and property of our citi-

zens demands awareness and control over entry of foreign nationals who pose a threat to security, health and property. If public property is illegitimate and to be abolished then immigration must be accomplished without trespass.

**Solution:**

Borders must be controlled and immigration must be regulated, neither fully open nor fully closed. It should be open to those who have gainful employment waiting or who are sponsored by someone here who will be responsible for them. Documenting the entry of individuals must include screening for health, criminal background, sponsorship by an individual citizen and other concerns, including threats to national security. While this may be administered by government, it must be implemented by private sector security companies.

**Transition:**

Programs such as the now-regular amnesties must be abolished as they fortify the existing problematic system. Border security must be upgraded to be able to handle the volume of attempts at illegal border crossing and stop the often murderous activities of "coyotes." Citizenship must be made and enforced as a requirement for obtaining welfare. Immigration must include screening for health, criminal background, international security concerns, gainful employment and financial solvency.

**About the author:** George Squyres is the Region 6 LNC Representative.

## 'Just say no!': The freedom to home school without being killed

Today most Libertarian home schoolers take for granted the freedom to "just say no" to government schooling. We do now have the legally-recognized right in all 50 states to choose an alternative private school, or to teach our own children at home, generally with minimal government interference. But this was not always true.

Most home schoolers are unaware of the high price their predecessors paid to protect this liberty after government made school attendance compulsory. That price sometimes included jail time or even death.

It was during this period (late 1960s and early '70s) that a host of teacher-authors like libertarian John Holt served to heighten the public's awareness of just how bad schools can be.

It is worth noting that just about this time, when the Libertarian Party was being born, widespread criticism of schooling by the government also led to the birth of the New Schools movement. In response to grant requests from all over the country, private foundations contributed substantial amounts that helped start hundreds of alternative and community schools, among which was the Santa Fe Community School in 1968.

Fearing competition, loss of control and loss of funds, government schooling officials

adopted inappropriate standards to regulate these newly-formed, philosophically "free" community schools out of business.

Compliance with government schooling standards often resulted in frustrated efforts to free children from their 12-year sentence; government policies and a lack of funds forced many new schools to fail.

When the New Mexico Board of Education imposed their standards on the Santa Fe Community School and threatened prosecutions of our families in 1972, we sued.

Meanwhile, dozens of alternative schools in other states were also being forced to fight in courts for their right to provide an educational choice, and we discovered parents who were seeking some other, less expensive, less troublesome choice for educating their children.

So we began offering parents a home study program under the auspices of the Santa Fe Community School ([www.sfcs-homestudy.org](http://www.sfcs-homestudy.org)).

In 1975, we won our case; the New Mexico Supreme Court unanimously decided that "the State Board of Education has no constitutional authority to exercise control ... over nonpublic schools in New Mexico."

But while alternative schools

blossomed in New Mexico following this decision and parents from all over the country were teaching their own children using our home study program, many parents and schools in other states were still fighting government harassment.

To inform parents of their fundamental right to choose the place and manner in which their children would be educated, and to assist them in resisting government infringements of that right, we established the National Association for the Legal Support of Alternative Schools ([www.nalsas.org](http://www.nalsas.org)).

The climate for choosing home schooling remained oppressive, even though home-schooling parents were winning more than 90 percent of the truancy cases brought against them by government officials.

While the most frequent government tactic involved abduction of "truant" children by an agent of Social Services, one mother in Colorado was actually jailed for home schooling, and her children were placed in protective custody until she agreed to enroll them in a government school.

But the most egregious government act in the history of home schooling that we ever covered involved a Utah father who obeyed the state laws there in this regard for two years. This law required that attendance be recorded and the

parent allow a government school official periodically to monitor the teaching.

As he began home schooling his seven children for the third year, he failed to submit a new application, so he was summoned to court.

After explaining to the judge that he was continuing with the same program that the school

He armed himself and remained marooned on his property for months. Finally, on January 18, 1979, when Singer left his property and crossed the street to get his mail, police officers on snowmobiles surrounded him and demanded his surrender. He refused and turned to go back up his driveway — and one of the officers shot him in the back, killing him.

[A more detailed account of our involvement with this case can be provided upon request, or you can read the book *Death of An American*.]

It is ironic that John Singer escaped from Nazi Germany only to be killed in a free country — where our government constitutionally guarantees tolerance of individual differences.

But all that is in the past, along with the Bill of Rights we are guaranteed. Libertarians who read this now know the price of liberty to home school.

So, if you dare, join me and "just say no" to government schooling.

**About the author:** Ed Nagel is CEO of the National Association for the Legal Support of Alternative Schools, and has been principal of SFCS for more than 25 years. He is a former chairman of the Santa Fe County LP and a former member of the LPNM central committee.

**MOST HOME schoolers are unaware of the high price their predecessors paid to protect this liberty....**  
—ED NAGEL

monitors had witnessed for the past two years, and that it did not make any sense to take attendance of his own children every morning, John Singer was told that unless he complied with the requirements of this law, he would be arrested.

Singer stated that he was following the dictates of a higher law, and he continued his refusal to comply. A bench warrant was issued for his arrest.

**THE VOLUNTEER**

# When doing good is bad

Isn't it always good to help an orphanage, hospital, or church? Isn't it always good to provide food, money and volunteer time for such worthy endeavors? What could possibly be considered bad about helping noble institutions?

Doing good becomes bad when people are physically forced to provide charity at the point of a gun instead of from the warmth of the heart, when free choice is replaced by violence and coercion.

Many people assume that if the ends are good and noble, the means do not matter; murder and robbery are permissible if the end result is good. But to paraphrase Machiavelli, do the ends really justify the means?

If so, the State can force citizens to do anything, as long as the overall result would be a better society.

But what happens when we put this into personal terms? What if armed men came into your home each day to force you to work at an orphanage, hospital or church? Would you feel grateful? Or would you feel abused, resentful at the injustice that had been committed?

Most individuals would be resentful.

Generally, people want the right to give personal consent. They want to determine what they do with their time and their lives. Anything else would seem unjust.

But what about the unfortunate? Why shouldn't society forcibly take

money from its citizens, or kidnap people or even murder them in the name of the unfortunate? Why cannot we hurt others for the good of all?

Is this possible? Could anyone justify cold-blooded murder as a good deed?

**By Lawrence K. Samuels**

Many serial killers believe that they have helped society in some fashion, particularly through a societal "cleanup." And what about the Nazi (National Socialist) program to gas and incinerate seven million Jews, gypsies, homosexuals and others? Most would agree that this was a bad act, but Hitler and his administration considered it a good government policy.

Unfortunately, governments often sanction any violent act to accomplish what they perceive to be a good deed, contending in an egocentric way that they are right and everyone else is wrong, therefore everyone must participate.

In truth, a particular governmental program may indeed be important, even helpful. But the positive end achieved is not the point. Forcing others to do your bidding is bad, no matter how good the hopeful outcome. Nobody's pet project is more important than another person's life, liberty and pursuit of

happiness.

The question becomes: who is to determine what is good? Is it government? Or should it belong to individuals?

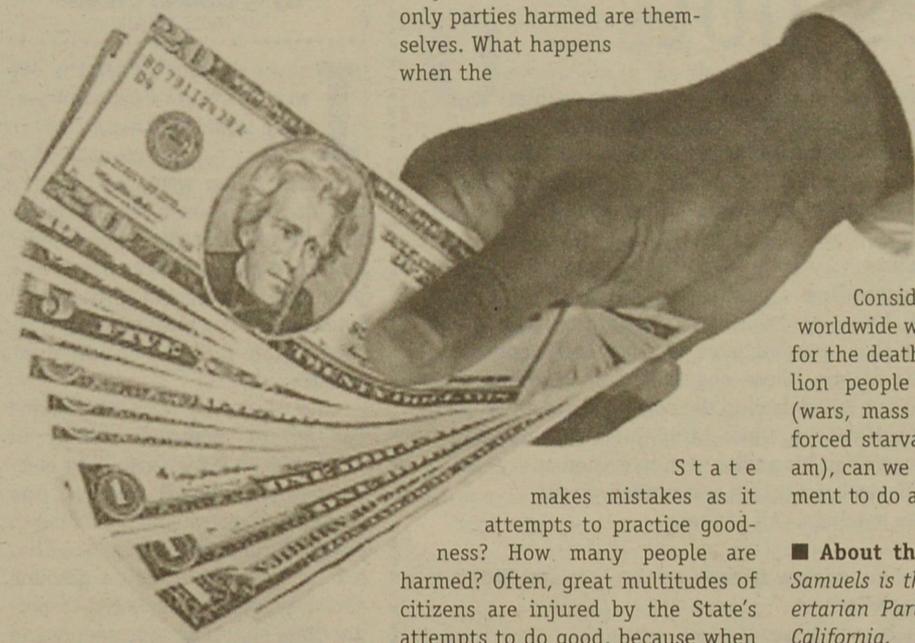
The libertarian viewpoint is explicit. Only individuals can determine what is good for them. Sure, they can make mistakes, but the only parties harmed are themselves. What happens when the

government tries to do good, it is done on a gigantic scale. Almost everyone is affected. Most are forced to pay and conform to a program that may or may not do the good that was

originally intended.

Considering that governments worldwide were directly responsible for the death of up to a quarter billion people in the 20th Century (wars, mass executions, genocides, forced starvation, Gulag, ad nauseam), can we actually expect government to do any good at all?

■ **About the author:** Lawrence K. Samuels is the vice chair of the Libertarian Party of Monterey County, California.



State makes mistakes as it attempts to practice goodness? How many people are harmed? Often, great multitudes of citizens are injured by the State's attempts to do good, because when

**Miss Liberty's Guide to Film and Video**  
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## Picture yourself...in LP News!

Did you know that a majority of the photographs included in this newspaper are submitted by our readers? Despite this wonderful help, we frequently find ourselves scratching our heads because we often cannot use the photos submitted.

**We need your help!** We want to vary our content, and put the best face on the LP, our members and Libertarian activities!

**Help us picture you!** To stand a good chance of getting your photos in LP News — where they'll be seen by Libertarians nationwide — follow a few simple guidelines.



✓ **HI-RES:** If you send a photo via e-mail, make sure it is a high-resolution image — meaning at least 300 dpi. We cannot use images found on a website.

✓ **SEND THE ORIGINAL:** When sending a digital photo, please send the original image. Do not edit it. That way, we can crop, adjust color, or otherwise modify the image for the specific spot where we need it.

✓ **CLOSE-UP AND PERSONAL:** When taking pictures of speakers or other events, always remember: Closer is better. Don't be afraid to stand in front of the crowd for a minute or two and get a good picture.

✓ **ACTION SHOTS:** Even if it's only one person, get photos of that person doing something — even laughing. If you've got a group, show them interacting, working on a project, talking to each other — anything other than lining them up and having them smile for the camera or sitting around a half-cleared dining table looking at each other over the scattered remains of a dinner meeting.

✓ **FOCUS:** If you have an activity with 10 or 15 people, don't try to work all of them into the photo unless it's absolutely necessary. Focus on people doing things and on the people who are important to the story you're trying to tell.

✓ **SEND IN A VARIETY:** If you take 12 photos and don't know which one is appropriate, feel free to send them all.

✓ **SEND IN AS MANY AS YOU CAN:** We can always use pictures!

## Yes, vote Libertarian!

Thousands of Libertarians ask me the same question, again and again. The most frequent question I am asked by Libertarians from all over the world is if they should vote for Libertarian candidates.

Of course, what else is there?

They think their vote will be wasted! Well, no vote is wasted, because every single vote carries a message. The Libertarian Party of America gets only 2 percent of the popular vote, because most Libertarians vote for the Republican Party.

In reality most people in America are Libertarians in their hearts. Libertarians are against violence, and the Republican Party led the nation to the Iraq war, without any real reason.

The European Libertarians, called Liberal-Democrats, are doing fantastically well in many nations of the European Union. They have become the third largest party. In all European nations the two larg-

est parties are centrist, like the Republican and Democratic parties in USA.

In Greece, for example, Nea Demokratia is like the Republican party, and Pasok is like the Democratic party. The only difference is that European parties do not have primaries, so the party candidates are picked up arbitrarily by the party leaders, usually from their kith and kin.

This has transformed the parties to political mafias, and democracy to oligarchy of kith and kin. It's ironic, that there is no democracy in Greece, the cradle of democracy!

In some countries, like Greece, there is no Libertarian party. Under these circumstances, you should vote for individual candidates who are committed to the elimination of taxes and the privatization of everything.

■ **About the author:** Basil Venitis: Forwarded by Howard L. Wilson, of Andover, New Hampshire, who notes: "Mr. Venitis is a Greek Libertarian who contacts me at irregular intervals."

Questions? Contact Daniel Cloud at (202) 333-0008, ext. 226, or by e-mail at [editor@hq.lp.org](mailto:editor@hq.lp.org).

**THE DIRECTOR**

# What's hot and what's not

I'm not a fashion designer. One quick look at me confirms that. But if I were, and if I looked at our convention in Atlanta as a fashion show, here's a preview of our "Fall Lineup." Sort of a "What's Hot" and "What's Not" — a look at what you might expect to see in the LP's fashion catalogues for the 2004-2005 season.

**What's Hot: Party Unity**

**What's Not: Factional Feuding**

Our 2004 presidential race was exciting — as contested as it gets. After all the hard work that the candidates and their staffs put in campaigning across the country, those who didn't win could have been grumpy and unsupportive. But following the convention, Gary Nolan started campaigning for Michael in Ohio. Aaron Russo immediately offered the Badnarik campaign his advice with television ads. We're marching toward the November election as a unified party.

It's time to bury the hatchets. All of them.

**What's Hot: Reaching out to new friends on the Left and Right**

**What's Not: Limiting ourselves**

Who could have predicted the sizable and positive reception shown to Carl Pope, executive director of the Sierra Club? While there are plenty of areas where we don't agree, there is a surprising number of issues we can at least begin to discuss. What's the potential impact on our membership rolls if we are seen by the public as a source of practical free-market solutions on environmental issues?

Ditto for Bob Barr, former Republican congressman from Georgia. Barr has said some pretty nice things about us lately. He's even publicly called us "mainstream." What if America agreed with Bob on that? We don't see eye-to-eye with the congressman on everything, but we should be open to working with groups and individuals when we agree on particular issues. Can making friends with the ACLU and the Heritage Foundation be far behind?

There is nothing like an old friend, and ours are great. We should work to make our relationships with the Heartland Institute, the Marijuana Policy Project, the Cato Institute and others stronger than ever. But shouldn't we begin finding common ground with others?

**What's Hot: Leadership**

**What's Not: Ego trips**

Leadership is the hard work of bringing together different people and groups to make progress for the common good. It's about encouraging people, getting them involved and focused on important projects. Leaders take the heat that naturally occurs while differences are ironed out. It's become clear to me over the past several months that local, state, and national LP leadership is flourishing.

**What's Hot: Using language our neighbors can understand**

**What's Not: Esoteric jargon**

We may be ready to look outside the party for answers, not on the substance of our message but on its delivery. Other groups say some of the things we are trying to say, but they say them differently. They talk in language that hits home with their target audience — so their neighbors can understand. If we do the same we become more approachable. When people feel comfortable, they are more apt to listen. The delegates' approval of reformatting the Platform is a positive step in that direction.

**What's Hot: Action**

**What's Not: Organized navel-gazing**

Indira Gandhi, former prime minister of India, once said: "Have a bias toward action — let's see something happen right now." Don't we all know what needs to be done to make this party a real force in America? At all levels — local, state, and national — we need to get new members, earn more media, recruit quality candidates in winnable races and then properly fund them.

So let's all acquire a bias toward action: Man the phones, stuff the envelopes, bring in new volunteers, write a letter to the editor, run for office. I'm psyched for campaign 2004. How about you?



**By Joe Seehusen**  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

# Energy-saving technology or pseudo-environmental lies?

By J. Daniel Cloud  
LP NEWS EDITOR

## Libertarian SOLUTIONS

I never thought I'd see the day when \$1.97 for a gallon of gasoline sounded cheap.

But that's exactly what happened a few weeks ago when I was driving through rural Virginia to visit my in-laws; I pulled over and filled up, pleased to see such a price break. Compared to the \$2.29 I had paid that morning just outside Washington, D.C., it was very inexpensive.

The escalating price of gasoline has led to increased interest in more fuel-efficient (including electric-gasoline hybrid) vehicles. And the use of petroleum products to power motor vehicles in general has led to increased focus on gasoline additives that are supposed to produce less pollution, save energy and make petroleum reserves stretch further.

What do hybrid cars and fuel additives have in common, other than the obvious desire to cut down on vehicle emissions and other potentially harmful pollution?

For one thing, they're both encouraged — and in some cases mandated — by government; second, the industries that produce them enjoy millions in tax-funded subsidies; and third, both technologies have been proven not to work as intended.

As Fred L. Smith Jr. noted in the June 30, 2004, edition of *Cato's Regulation Magazine*, government regulations on technology (such as mandating the use of oxygenating additives in gasoline) are supposed to spur technological innovation.

Apologists for such regulation "argue that tough regulatory standards force businesses to ... adopt energy-efficient and environmentally friendly technologies," with the assumption that the regulation will "force businesses to channel their entrepreneurial energies into the most productive enterprises," Smith said.

But what has happened is a premature introduction of technology that endangers consumers, wastes energy, makes a laughingstock of EPA regulation, and eventually penalizes the manufacturers who were trying to do what the federal government told them to do.

Fuel additives are supposed to cut down on the amount of harmful emissions from car tailpipes. The problem becomes finding an additive that does so without causing other unintended consequences.

When the additive MTBE (methyltertiarybutylether) was intro-

duced to the market, it was lauded as a miracle product that would allow gasoline to burn more cleanly, reducing vehicle pollution. And with the federal government's mandate that gasoline be treated with such an oxygenated additive, MTBE became a cornerstone of the additive market.

On May 12, Arizona Gov. Janet Napolitano signed legislation that bans the sale of gasoline containing MTBE in the state, joining 17 other states that had already enacted such bans.

Arizona began relying on MTBE in 1997 to satisfy the 1990 Clean Air Act amendments, which require that gasoline be blended with oxygenated additives to reduce



pollution.

But when MTBE began leaking from underground storage tanks into the groundwater, contaminating the water supplies in some Arizona communities, it tarnished the additive's gold star as a miracle product.

Also, due to studies that show that ingesting high levels of MTBE in drinking water can cause cancer, "juries have begun to assess large financial penalties on gasoline companies for MTBE contamination," says James M. Taylor in the July 2004 issue of *Environment & Climate News*, published by The Heartland Institute.

So the companies are being penalized by the judicial branch of government for using additives, as the legislative branch of government mandated that they do.

Alternatives to the MTBE additive haven't been proven to be any less environmentally harmful, and they present their own difficulties.

The most common additive used to "oxygenate" gasoline, ethanol, is very expensive to produce and can't be transported long distances after being mixed with gasoline.

Yet the federal government subsidizes ethanol production — hitting taxpayers for billions of dollars each year — despite the fact that the supposed efficiency, energy-saving and environmental benefits of using the additive have continually been called into question.

"One of the most inefficient tax subsidies is that for the production of ethanol — a corn-based gasoline substitute," Dean Stansel and Stephen Moore of the Cato Institute

wrote in a 1995 policy analysis, noting that even a study by the U.S. Department of Agriculture found that the then-\$500 million subsidy

for ethanol "is not cost effective" once the economic costs and benefits are tallied.

David Pimental of Cornell University discovered in the 1990s (the study was published in the September, 2001 issue of the *Encyclopedia of Physical Sciences and Technology*) that it takes 131,000 BTUs of energy to produce the corn and convert it to one gallon of ethanol; a gallon of ethanol has an energy value of only 77,000 BTUs, meaning that every gallon of ethanol results in a net loss of 54,000 BTUs, hardly an efficient enterprise.

Only a government regulatory agency would tout the efficiency benefits of an additive that uses more energy than it produces.

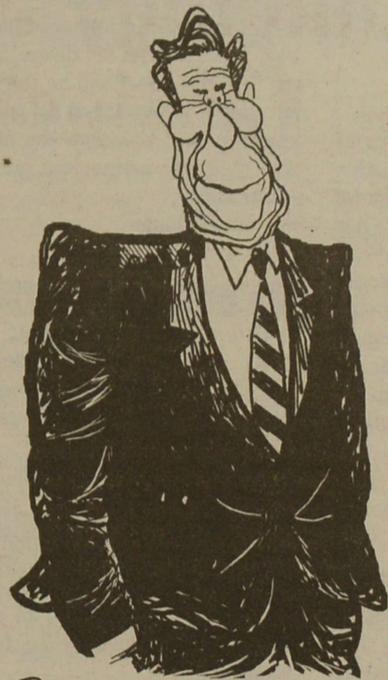
But corn is a renewable resource, so it's worthwhile to use it and mandates should force new technology to comply and use the fuel additive, right?

Pimental referred to the production of ethanol as a fundamental input-yield problem, concluding that "abusing our croplands to grow corn for an energy-inefficient process that yields low-grade automobile fuels amounts to unsustainable subsidized food burning."

So our government forces gasoline producers to mix gasoline with ethanol (thereby creating a product they can't transport in gas pipelines), while subsidizing the process

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## Ronald Reagan 1911–2004

40th president of the United States known for his unfailing humor and wide appeal. He promoted cutting government<sup>1</sup> and taxes<sup>2</sup>. He also believed in individual responsibility<sup>3</sup> and freedom<sup>4</sup>. During his two terms in office he pushed for reining in the size of government<sup>5</sup> and maintaining fiscal responsibility<sup>6</sup>. Considered by most to be a limited-government conservative<sup>7</sup>.

1. Except for military expansion.
2. Except for increases in the payroll tax.
3. Except for promoting the war on drugs.
4. Except for new gun control laws.
5. Except for federal spending increases of 53%.
6. Except for running a deficit in every budget.
7. Except for anyone living in the real world.

RUSSMO 6/04

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## THE MAILBOX



### ■ Tweezer fan

I like the article "Clean up your act with Liberty tweezers" in the July issue of LP News. I agree with Mark Selzer that we Libertarians represent the LP and the libertarian movement, not just ourselves.

I think that unless we learn how to make our lives more enjoyable, more satisfying and more fulfilling while also improving our interpersonal skills we will probably continue to scare more people away than we win over.

—VLADIMIR RAZDOLSKY  
Roseville, Michigan

### ■ 4th Amendment

[Re: Racial profiling letters and editor's note in the July 2004 issue of LP News]

It's a Fourth Amendment issue.

Should the Fourth Amendment be amended, or should it perhaps be abolished? Why didn't President Bush declare martial law for a time, instead of attacking our American Constitutional liberties? The U.S. ship of state is now being commanded by overtly statist, socio-fascist pirates. Man the lifeboats or swim for your lives!

—DAVID MELVIN THORNBURGH  
Miami Beach, Florida

### ■ Supreme law

In an age of political double-speak, Libertarian presidential nominee Michael Badnarik has developed a message that is brilliant in its stark clarity. His theme of requiring politicians to obey the Constitution is one that other LP candidates for federal office should consider.

The entire Congress takes an oath to uphold the Constitution,

yet about two-thirds of the annual federal budget is spent on unconstitutional programs. With all the laws and regulations Americans have to obey today, the average citizen is eager to see the politicians obey a few of them, too. The "supreme law of the land" is the logical place to start.

Citing the Constitution also pro-

**WITH ALL THE LAWS  
and regulations  
Americans have  
to obey today,  
the average citizen  
is eager to see  
the politicians obey  
a few of them, too.**

—BRIAN GOMEZ

vides a solid defense against the usual broad-brush attacks that LP candidates face. The major party candidates often dismiss Libertarian proposals as "radical," "anti-government" and "anarchist." But anyone who calls a policy based on the Constitution "anti-government anarchy" will only sound like a fool.

—BRIAN GOMEZ  
Cleveland, Ohio

### ■ 1st Amendment

I know I will raise the ire of most Libertarians, but I must disagree in part with those who have blasted the FCC for trying to clean up tele-

vision and radio indecency.

The First Amendment was not designed to protect this filth, which sometimes undermines human dignity. The First Amendment was designed mainly to protect political speech and to allow dissent to be expressed. This is a gray area in which a lot of debate is taking place across the country.

I sincerely believe that much of the garbage on radio and television undermines liberty by demeaning people and showing lack of respect for individuals in general. For liberty to come back into favor, there has to be a general atmosphere of respect and dignity for each person. This atmosphere does not exist on much of the current radio and television programming.

I personally feel that many Americans will not start respecting liberty until they first lose their desire to see and hear "indecent" words and actions.

Of course, government censorship is problematic and potentially dangerous. Voluntary methods are always preferred. However, these issues must be faced. There might be times when the choice between liberty and authority are not as clear as one would like.

—DAVID C. MORRIS  
Lexington, South Carolina

### ■ The Amish

While admirable for their pacifism and family bonds, the Amish are as far as you can get from being libertarian role models. [July 2004 LP News, The Forum].

Their authoritarian culture is strictly ruled from the top down with everything from dress to social behavior to religious beliefs dictated

## THE PULSE

# No drug-war emphasis?

**O**f the 35 responses to this month's (unscientific) Pulse poll, just under half (17 respondents) said Libertarian Party's opposition to the War on Drugs is one of the party's most important issues; 43 percent (15 respondents) said the party needs to begin de-emphasizing such opposition; and 9 percent (three respondents) gave ambiguous answers.

The last group — the ambiguous responses — said the party shouldn't emphasize the issue because it's damaging to us, and that we can't stop emphasizing the issue because it's so important.

This internal conflict is what prompted the question in the first place. When *The Pulse* asked in June what issues Michael Badnarik should focus on during his Libertarian campaign for president, most readers who wrote in said to avoid divisive issues, with many specifically saying the LP should continue to oppose the War on Drugs, but not to make legalization a primary focus of the party's efforts.

Other readers remarked that the LP's vocal opposition to the War on Drugs is representative of the party's entire reason for being: It's about resisting excessive laws and standing up for personal rights.

But those who would end the LP's emphasis on the War on Drugs say the fact that many Americans aren't concerned with that war is exactly why we should de-emphasize the issue.

Is the Libertarian Party going to reverse its position on the War on Drugs? No. And even those who suggest downplaying the issue aren't saying to eliminate our official opposition.

Here is a representative sample of what LP News readers had to say on the issue:

■ The LP's emphasis on the Drug War is its single biggest mistake. I am not suggesting that we change our opinion on the Drug War, only that we stop focusing on it.  
—TONY CORRENTI, West Islip, New York

■ Many potential members refrain from joining due to this single divisive concern.  
—JASON O. SELF, Atlanta, Georgia

■ The most pressing internal issue for the United States Government is the 90-year-old policy of drug prohibition. Remember the real goal: Liberties for Americans, not merely votes for Libertarians.  
—JAMES STEWART CAMPBELL, MD., Pfafftown, North Carolina

■ I heard about and eventually joined the LP solely because of its strong stance against the Drug War.  
—ADAM WIGGINS, Glendale, California

■ Much of the demise of the Bill of Rights and present intrusiveness of the government is a direct result of the Drug War. Opposing the Drug War isn't just about drugs. It's about freedom.  
—ERIC V. LEAVER, Davis, California

■ Move it to the back burner. The public seems to have a hard time distinguishing between drug use and drug abuse, just as they have a hard time distinguishing between toleration, approval and promotion.  
—REX BELL, Hagerstown, Indiana

■ The Drug War is wrong! Libertarians are right to oppose it. The Drug War stands for everything Libertarians are supposed to be against.  
—RANDY KESSLER, Bend, Oregon

■ This issue should not be our "principle focus," but an equal issue among many in our "principle focus" of defending liberty.  
—JAMES ABSHIER, Austin, Texas

■ Our steadfast and vehement opposition to the War on Drugs is our most principled and vital stance against government tyranny.  
—WILLARD BAKER LECROY II, Centre, Alabama

■ The Libertarian Party's opposition to the War on Drugs is probably the main issue that attracted me to the LP 17 years ago. It would be a grave mistake to de-emphasize this issue now that public support for the LP's position has doubled or tripled in the last 10 or 15 years.  
—MIKE A. BOZARTH, St. Joseph, Missouri

## THE PULSE

Continued from Page 19

■ We should stop wasting so much energy on opposing the Drug War, and even try to avoid the subject; it's not worth the controversy and negative press.

—MARK STRYKER, Jersey Shore, Pennsylvania

■ Can you imagine ending the War on Drugs while our justice system is handing out lottery-size awards for irresponsibility? Together with reining-in spending, we need to make reform of the justice system a high priority.

—JOHN R. PACK, Parker, Colorado

■ The War on Drugs should and must remain a central focus of the LP. The War is used as a launching platform for numerous other assaults on civil liberties and to expand the police state.

—KEITH W. KIMMEL, Columbus, Ohio

■ The Drug War should be of prime concern to all Americans. It has expanded government and dismantled the Constitution at an unprecedented rate!

—KEMP WOODS, Paicines, California

■ I think it would be a mistake for the party to de-emphasize our party's opposition to the War on Drugs. Nothing better illustrates our opposition to mob rule than does our anti-Drug War stance.

—WALKER L. CHANDLER, Zebulon, Georgia

■ The focus on ending the War on Drugs is alienating prospective members, if for no other reason than it is not relevant for most.

—TONY GONZALEZ, SR., Gardners, Pennsylvania

This month's **Pulse** question received more responses than most in recent months, probably because of its inherently divisive nature. The possibility of controversy often leads more people to respond.

And that's one reason we have decided to end **The Pulse** after the September 2004 edition: It sometimes prompts unnecessary internal conflict. Another reason is the low number of responses we get each month. As the beginning of each column states, this is a very unscientific poll of *LP News* readers — at least in part because so few respond.

In other words, most of you aren't feeling a pulse in **The Pulse**.

That said, I want to continue hearing from you. If you have something to say, by all means send it my way, for use on the MailBox, Forum or Volunteer pages or in the news sections.

I thank you in advance for helping me produce a quality paper that accurately reflects our growing Libertarian Party.

—J. DANIEL CLOUD, Editor, *LP News*

## September Question: How should we leave Iraq?

A few months ago, the **Pulse** question was whether the war in Iraq was justified on any grounds. A vast majority of readers responded that the war was unjustifiable, that Iraq hadn't attacked the United States, so we had no business retaliating.

Now that we're there, however, how do we get out?

Saddam is gone. He'll not be terrorizing his own people any more.

Meanwhile, thousands of soldiers are still there, and hundreds have been killed in conflict or by bombing attacks. The Libertarian Party and other groups who oppose the war have been calling for the troops to come home.

Regardless of the rationale for going to Iraq, what's the proper way to leave? Is it our government's responsibility to clean up and restructure the nation now that Saddam Hussein is out of power?

In lieu of the usual presentation of the **Pulse** responses, with short snippets from many readers represented, the September responses will be printed in longer form — probably 200-250 words — and fewer of them will appear.

By printing longer versions of fewer responses, we hope to allow you to make a complete argument.

■ **QUESTION:** Do we owe it to Iraq's people to help them put their lives and country back in some semblance of order, or should the United States military and military contractors simply leave? Please keep responses to a maximum of 400 words.

■ **DEADLINE:** August 8, 2004

■ **ENTRY GUIDELINES:** Include your name and your city/state; anonymous answers won't be tallied. Enter just once per month.

■ **E-mail:** Editor@hq.LP.org. (Put "Pulse" in subject line.)

■ **Fax:** (202) 333-0072 (Attn: The Pulse).

■ **Mail:** Libertarian Party, Attn: The Pulse, 2600 Virginia Avenue, NW, Suite 100, Washington, DC 20037

## THE MAILBOX

by the elders — a control enforced by severely limiting education and isolating the community from the rest of the world.

And since when is it libertarian to "be indifferent to the state," not vote and "not talk politics," as Santorelli applauds. And what kind of libertarian will "take the state to court ... and do battle for his rights," yet refuse to support or defend the country he expects to protect those rights.

Indeed, the Amish have created their own oppressive mini-state which subjugates women and children to the rule of men and is the very antithesis of a libertarian society.

—GEORGE MCGEE  
Wexford, Pennsylvania

## Did Bush fail?

Thomas Palven of Farmingdale, New Jersey writes in The Mailbox that Bush's "effort to achieve peace and freedom for the Iraqi people ... has failed to produce positive results."

My question to Palven is: How does he know that it failed?

A year's occupation is hardly enough time to know if it has worked or not. And we're in dire straights if we allow the media to shape our opinions of world affairs. We can't be so arrogant as to insist that the war in Iraq is a failure merely because we're opposed to it.

I was and still am opposed to the war; however, I'm neither rooting for it to be unsuccessful nor making the assumption that it will be unsuccessful. Either outcome will fail to change my mind about the war.

Personally, I'm just sick and tired of watching more of my fellow countrymen and more of my tax money go into dictator-ravaged countries. Let Sweden do it!

In the meantime, let's not delude ourselves with fantasies that things in Iraq aren't working merely because we're opposed to our being there.

—IVAN ZABROWSKI  
Crofton, Maryland

## Un-Patriot Act

Libertarians face a bleak dark outlook seeing our nation's Constitution and Bill of Rights being torn apart by the so-called Patriot Act!

It amazes me the bloody sacrifice of every man and woman in uniform on foreign soil has been in vain, as veterans returning home find they have fought for a "Big Brother" state where American freedom is abolished for a little security.

That's why I ask every fellow Libertarian to ask friends and neighbors between now and November 2 to flood members of Congress by mail or e-mail, lobbying their representatives and senators about passing Senate bill S. 1709 — an amendment to this un-Patriot act.

Right now it is stuck in committee while the incumbents campaign,

preparing for Election Day.

We can still win a victory, as citizens are now waking up to this crisis. By lobbying our legislators we can alter what direction America has been going in since September 11. A now-galvanized population would hear our party issues and support an alternative choice by changing these unconstitutional laws or by getting out the vote so every LP candidate can do this by the gift of democracy, on the ballot.

—JERRY ESKRIDGE  
Port Royal, North Carolina

## Election law debate

Finally, meaningful discussion of election law.

Pat Michl provided an insightful commentary to the June *LP News* about the change in Washington's election law, criticizing the party's decision to join the Republicans and Democrats in challenging Washington's blanket primary.

How refreshing to see that we are debating about what election law might best advantage Libertarian candidates. How refreshing to find we are actually invited by the legislature to participate in crafting state election law, something wholly unimaginable only a few years ago.

Ms. Michl makes a well-organized argument for why the old blanket primary could be better for LP candidates than the alternative passed by Washington's lawmakers earlier this year. She might be right ... or not; there are many countervailing arguments to consider — all things we debated long and hard for months.

This September, the state will be mailing a D, R, and L ballot to every voter in Washington. Voters are allowed to return only one of the three ballots they receive in the primary. The absolute value of simply putting us alongside the Ds and Rs with parity is unknown.

If the LPWS wanted to mail something to every voter in the state it would cost millions. And, in an environment where there is considerable dissatisfaction with the two old parties, we could experience a great leap forward.

Or, as Ms. Michl observes, the new rules could tragically "result in the extinction of the LP in Washington State."

For now, it is much too early to tell whether we do better, worse, or about the same, under the new election law, but at least we are all arguing about things with real meaning to a major political party in Washington State.

—J. MILLS, FORMER CHAIR LPWS  
Tacoma, Washington

## Waste it yourself

In response to the "Libertarian" who suggested raising the gas tax 25 cents to address the liberal estimate of health care costs due to vehicle pollution: [July *LP News* MailBox]

As someone who covers his own health care costs, might I suggest a

more practical solution.

For every four dollars of gas you buy, flush a dollar bill down the toilet. The end effect will be the same, but you will have the satisfaction of knowing that you were the one responsible for wasting your money.

—KURT SNYDER  
Warren, Michigan

## Confederate flag I

It is apparent to me that letter writer Robert Joseph Underwood [July *LP News* MailBox] knows very little about the Confederate flag that he is so upset about.

[That] flag Mr. Underwood refers to ... was a soldier's flag, the design based on the old Scottish flag of St. Andrew, a symbol of Scottish resistance to English tyranny and therefore a likely choice to represent Southern defiance to federal tyranny.

Most Confederate soldiers weren't slave-owners; they were fighting for their native region, their homes, their land and their families.

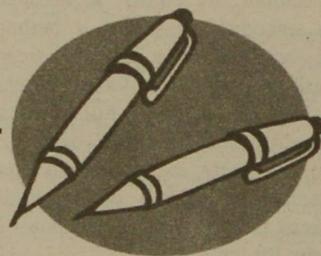
If Mr. Underwood wants to object to a flag, what about Old Glory itself? Blacks were slaves under that flag far longer than they were under any banner of the Confederacy.

The American flag flew at Army forts that were aiding in stealing the land of the Native Americans at that time, and in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century it flew over the National Guard installations and FBI offices that helped round-up Japanese-Americans during Roosevelt's war. Is Mr. Underwood proud of all that?

Libertarian Jim Burns uses the Confederate Battle flag as a backdrop isn't "negative," but folks like Mr. Underwood might certainly be, with his desire to be "politically correct."

The reason I quit being a "conservative" was because I really do believe in free speech for all and Libertarians are the only ones who consistently defend it along with our other rights — and that certainly includes the right to use the flag of one's choice, or no flag at all for that matter!

—MARK RICHARDS  
West Milford, New Jersey



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**THE MAILBOX**

**Confederate flag II**

I think Robert Joseph Underwood needs a history lesson ["LP, not CSA," The Mailbox, LP News, July 2004].

It consists of only one question: Just how many slaves in the United States of America were freed by the Emancipation Proclamation?

You might think that people would get tired of spewing the same old "logic" about the Confederate States of America. Don't you think that if the Confederacy only wanted to preserve slavery that they could have done it much easier?

How, you might ask? By staying in a country (the USA) that had a Constitution that protected slavery, a Supreme Court that supported the institution of slavery, and a U.S. Senate that, for the most part, still supported the South. After all, slaves were not freed in the USA until the passing of the 13th amendment, ratified in the United States nearly eight months after Robert E. Lee surrendered at Appomattox Court House.

The Confederate flag is a symbol of brave men fighting for what they believed. Will the Confederate flag have a negative effect in most of the country? I don't think so. Eighty-seven percent of all Americans (68 percent black, 88 percent Hispanic, and 90 percent white) are not offended by Confederate symbols, according to a Lou Harris poll from July 4, 1994.

By the way, the answer to the history question is "zero." Just read the item, easily found on the web at [www.nps.gov/ncro/anti/emancipation.html](http://www.nps.gov/ncro/anti/emancipation.html). You might learn something.

—MICHAEL D. HAYES  
Grinnell, Iowa

**Confederate flag III**

I had to reply to Mr. Underwood's letter in the July issue of LP News. I don't intend to get into a debate over how the issue of slavery influenced Southern secession (many other factors were involved), but being a Southerner and a Libertarian, I have to point out that it is only natural for true Southerners to be libertarian minded.

In my humble opinion, Mr. Lincoln wanted to destroy the Founding Father's concept of a weak federal government, and impose his idea of a strong central government (the Republican's "American System") that we unfortunately have today.

Independent and patriotic Southerners would not stand for this undermining of state's rights and the U.S. Constitution, so they exercised their constitutional right to resign from Lincoln's new Union.

Mr. Underwood fails to see that many slave states — including Maryland, Kentucky, and Missouri — did not join the Confederacy. Is it not a common goal of Libertarians everywhere today (including Southern Libertarians) to work together

toward returning the federal government back to its Constitutional limit?

—SCOTT ROSE  
Tampa, Florida

**Go Wolverines!**

I want to suggest that the LP ask its members to vote on an animal to represent the party. Picking an animal now has several advantages, including the following:

It could save the LP from getting stuck with an unflattering animal representative at some future date, such as — hmmm — a donkey or an elephant. An animal representative would act as a unifying symbol in the same manner a high school or college mascot does.

An animal representative can also be used to increase LP awareness. For example, I kept finding a penguin symbol on computer products I bought, as well as on Web sites, books and T-shirts. I eventually investigated and learned about an alternative to Microsoft Windows called Linux.

I sincerely hope that you will consider the suggestion that we select an animal symbol and encourage membership to adopt the idea.

In fact, if I may be so bold, I would suggest the wolverine — tough, courageous, and tireless.

—RICHARD A. STOVALL  
Stockton, California

**National candidate**

Now that the convention has passed, it is time to focus on getting Michael Badnarik a good showing at the polls, getting him on the ballot in the few states he's not.

But is it enough, and how can the average non-activist do their part? Surprisingly, those two questions share a similar answer. It all lies in the labeling.

One of the things I saw and used firsthand in my previous post as media director of the Colorado LP was how to wordsmith information to our favor, be it in interviews, letters to the editor, press releases, or just talking to the average person on the street. In today's short-attention-span world, labels stick, and (gasp!) spin matters. So why not turn that to our favor for a change?

Based on the ballot access numbers, there are three national candidates in this election, two regional ones, and the usual "Who, Me?" candidates.

The three national candidates are Bush, Kerry, and Michael Badnarik. The two regional candidates are

David Cobb of the Greens and Ralph Nader of the whatevers. For some reason — possibly short attention span again — no politically average person or media seems to recognize that simple point.

So we need to do it for them. We should refer to Michael as a national candidate while dismissing Nader and Cobb as mere regional candidates. The sheer ballot access numbers (46 for Badnarik, 22 for Cobb, and seven for Nader as I write this) bear this out: Michael Badnarik is a much more readily available choice than the others.

This strategy, if applied consistently and constantly, will elevate Michael to where he belongs, onto the national stage. And in this recall election on Bush, it [also] serves to offer two alternate choices to Bush, while minimizing Cobb and Nader in the regional mode and closer to the "Who, Me?" candidates. Third, it is the truth. If the LP is to truly be the "alternate choice" politically vs. the Hobson's choice we have now, then we need to minimize the other choices as well.

—MICHAEL SEEBECK  
Fountain, Colorado

**Open borders?**

As a Libertarian, I understand the open borders concept.

However, as a practical matter, it is killing us in the political arena. We have a long way to go towards reducing "free" social services and other incentives for immigration before we can allow open borders.

Too many of us are caught in the trap of maintaining philosophical purity and thus are unable to appreciate the practical realities of environmental damage, property damage, and overwhelmed social services that the southwestern border states currently suffer.

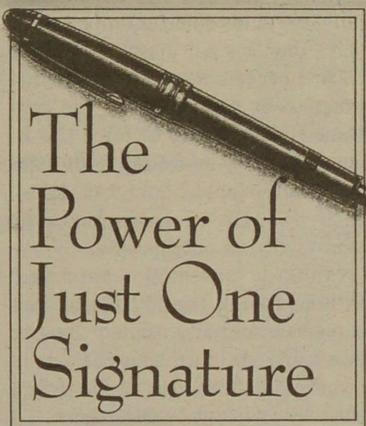
Opening the borders to all is the last step in creating a libertarian nation, not the first, and it must come after reduction of the welfare state.

The Republicans and Democrats have sold out their philosophical base for practical matters; we suffer from the opposite extreme of sacrificing practicality for philosophy — and thus earn the reputation for being on the fringe of American political thought.

I can't tell you how many times I've heard, "Well, I'd vote Libertarian, but I can't agree with their position on opening the borders to allow immigrants to come over here and get on welfare."

Opening the borders to all can wait until we set the conditions for such a step's success.

—MARK MATTHEWS  
Newport News, Virginia



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# Are we being duped into pseudo-environmental behavior?

Continued from Page 18

(using taxpayer dollars) every step of the way from the corn field to the gas pump.

The subsidies are a necessity, Pimental said: Ethanol costs about \$1.74 per gallon to produce, compared to about 95 cents to produce a gallon of gasoline.

Those who produce ethanol use fossil fuels to power the production process, he said, noting that the "growers and processors can't afford to burn ethanol to make ethanol. U.S. drivers couldn't afford it, either, if it weren't for government subsidies to artificially lower the price."

There are several solutions to the health-endangering, energy-wasting, tax-increasing debacle that is caused by the forced use of oxygenating additives in gasoline, but they boil down to one simple solution: Get government out of the business of deciding how gasoline should be refined.

By introducing bureaucrats to the petroleum industry, govern-

ment managed in one fell swoop to poison the water, to waste an amazing amount of petroleum-based fuel in the process of producing an inefficient gasoline substitute, and to scam taxpayers out of billions of dollars by driving up the cost of gasoline.

What's "green" about wasting energy to create an alternate energy source? Where's the ecological benefit in mandating the use of additives that cause more pollution, or in over-farming Midwestern cornfields?

There must be some reasonable explanation for why the federal government subsidizes ethanol.

"Politics, not economics [or efficiency], is the principal motivation behind the ethanol subsidies," Cato's Moore and Stansel said, noting that ethanol-producing giant Archer Daniels Midland (ADM) "produces 70 percent of the ethanol used in the United States" and is among the nation's most generous campaign contributors.

Enough said.

The argument for hybrid vehicles is no more compelling than the argument for ethanol-"enhanced" gasoline.

Several states — California, Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New York, Rhode Island and Vermont — have enacted low-emission vehicle programs that encourage the use of hybrid vehicles, and other states are considering following their lead.

The programs use a combination of tax-money subsidies and mandates that encourage auto makers to build (and consumers to buy) these cars, which run on a combination of electric and gasoline power.

The federal Environmental Protection Agency is behind the state laws, telling consumers that paying the additional \$4,000 to \$6,000 up front for a new hybrid vehicle will pay off in the long run, as the vehicles are supposed to get 40 or 50 percent better gas mileage than their gasoline-powered counterparts.

For example, Honda Civics with conventional engines should get

about 34 miles per gallon, while those with hybrid engines should achieve 48 mpg, according to EPA estimates.

But owners of the hybrid cars aren't realizing the fuel efficiency that was promised, according to a July 2004 article by Iain Murray of

But the hybrid vehicles' manufacturers — Honda and Toyota — are allowed to cite the EPA estimates in their marketing materials, and neither manufacturer is willing to be the first to admit that the "estimates" should more reasonably be termed "propagandistic guesses."

The knowledge that hybrid cars don't save nearly as much gasoline as expected doesn't sway the EPA, though.

Chris Grundler, deputy director of EPA's transportation and air quality office, admitted to *USA Today* that "the last thing we want to do is discourage further development and market penetration of this technology."

Or, as Toyota spokesman Mike Michels said, "Potential reputation damage to the technology is a very valid point. We hope that doesn't come out of this."

You think consumers might catch on to the fact that gas-electric hybrid cars don't save the money they're supposed to, and accordingly decide to buy a different vehicle instead? But if that happens, Honda and Toyota will lose the estimated \$1,500 subsidy they are paid by the federal government (using tax dollars) for each hybrid vehicle they produce.

Instead of subsidizing faulty technology and pushing it off on the American public as more environmentally conscious or otherwise "green," politicians should simply step out of the way and let the automobile manufacturers come up with the technology on their own — and prove that it does what it says.

If the technology really does work, it won't require fraudulent estimates by the Environmental Protection Agency to sell the idea to the public.

The same goes for bureaucratic mandates that gasoline producers mix their product with poisonous chemicals, or with corn-based products that use more energy than they produce. By forcing fuel refiners to comply with clean-air standards by an arbitrary point in time, politicians managed to foist inefficient technology on the market before the technology was ready for the marketplace.

And they did so by using taxpayer money, "encouraging" gasoline refiners and car manufacturers to meet federal guidelines by selling bad products.

As repugnant as wasting tax money is, it should come as no surprise that state and federal governments operate inefficiently and waste billions of taxpayer dollars. We've come to expect that of politicians and bureaucrats.

But using federal mandates and tax money as bribes to coerce manufacturers, leading them to further penalize the ecology-minded consumers who purchase their faulty products?

That's going above and beyond the call of tax-wasting duty.

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"Data from *Consumer Reports'* extensive road tests show the Honda Civic Hybrid and Toyota Prius averaged well under 60 percent of EPA's reported miles per gallon when operating on city streets. The Civic Hybrid was getting only 26 mpg in the city," Murray said.

"There's no doubt alternatives to the conventional gasoline engine ... will become more affordable and practical as time goes by," he continued. "But trying to force the issue, especially by calling it an 'ethical' matter [as Al Gore has done], runs the risk of producing some very unethical outcomes."

Those "unethical outcomes" include having the EPA lie to consumers, essentially bribing them to purchase hybrid vehicles that are in some cases even less fuel-efficient than the conventional versions.

[The Civic Hybrid's fuel economy — 26 mpg — is lower than I enjoyed in my '94 Ford Mustang even after it passed the 200,000-mile marker. The car was recently totaled in an accident, but you can bet I'll not replace it with a hybrid vehicle. Instead, I purchased a five-year-old BMW motorcycle that gets better than 40 mpg on the Interstate, and in the mid-30s around town. Just doing my part for the environment.]

As *USA Today* writer James R. Healey wrote in a June 11, 2004, story, "So many people have complained about the disappointing fuel economy of gas-electric hybrid cars that the federal government is telling automakers to consider putting more realistic mileage labels on their cars or do a better job warning buyers that they won't get the advertised mileage."

Translation: The federal government needs to acknowledge that its own EPA estimates on the fuel efficiency were grossly overstated and should be jettisoned in favor of reasonable figures.

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**UPCOMING**

**August 20-22, 2004**

**South Carolina Libertarian Retreat**, in North Myrtle Beach, S.C. The retreat will center around "letting everyone in the state know how we're shaping up for Nov. 2, and to see how campaigns will unfold for 2006 and 2008," said Joe Clarkson, chair of the Horry County Libertarians. Speakers to include a candidates' forum, author Adrian Krieg, and state LP chair Chris Panos. For info, contact Clarkson at 843-249-8847 or [joe.clarkson@email.com](mailto:joe.clarkson@email.com), or go to [www.horrycountylibertarians.bigstep.com](http://www.horrycountylibertarians.bigstep.com).

**August 21-22, 2004**

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**August 28-29, 2004**

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■ Howell

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**September 23, 2004**

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**October 2, 2004**

**New Hampshire State LP Convention**, Concord Country Club, Concord, NH. Luncheon speaker Fred Bramante, chairman of New Hampshire state board of education. Dinner keynote speaker Mary Ruwart, author of "Healing our World" and "Short Answers to Tough Questions." For more information or to register, call 1-800-559-LPNH; e-mail Rhonda Keiper at [treasurer@lpnh.org](mailto:treasurer@lpnh.org); or go to [www.lpnh.org](http://www.lpnh.org).



■ Ruwart

**October 28-31, 2004**

**Cato University Fall Weekend Seminar**, "Arguments for Liberty: How to Defend Individual Rights and Limited Government," Le Chateau Frontenac, Quebec City, Canada. Sponsored by the Cato Institute. Speakers include Tom Palmer (director, Cato University), Don Boudreaux (Department of Economics, George Mason University), and Robert A. Sirico (Acton Institute). For information, visit: [www.cato-university.org](http://www.cato-university.org).

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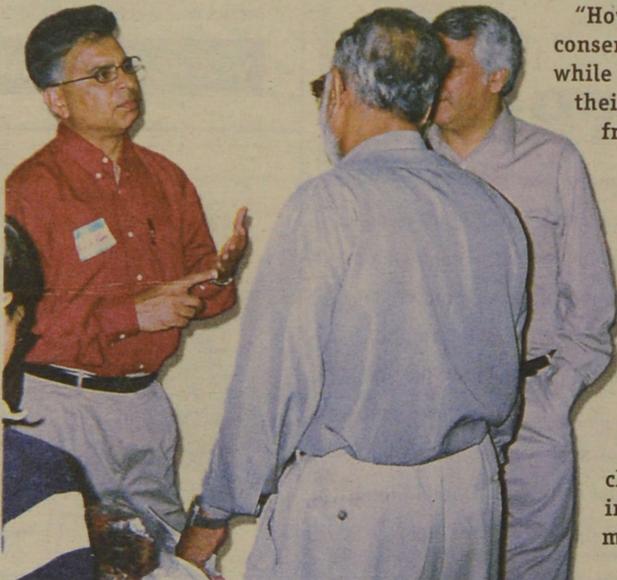
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**FIRST WORD**

"How you define big government is really a case of your political stance. Many conservatives are aware of their own big government policies ... and support them fully while at the same time fighting welfare programs — the same way many liberals support their own big government, but fight tooth and nail against programs they feel will limit freedom for the sake of security.

"In fact, the only party I know of that is consistent in its anti-big government views is the Libertarian Party. ... To learn more about their message, check out [www.lp.org](http://www.lp.org) — it has a definitive list of platforms, a list of candidates (they ran over 1,500 across the US in 2002), and the 'World's Smallest Political Quiz,' my favorite part of the site. It can really tell you something about yourself."

—JOE ZORBINO, *The Daily Mississippian*, University of Mississippi, June 22, 2004

"Although this newspaper holds to a libertarian philosophy, it has no affiliation with the Libertarian Party and does not endorse candidates in any race.

"But we do favor giving voters more choices in elections, especially when the choice this year among the top two candidates is not an especially good one. We are in sync with Mr. Badnarik in favoring limited government and a plan to have our military exit Iraq sooner rather than later."

—THE ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER, Santa Ana, California, June 29, 2004