

Michigan Libertarian

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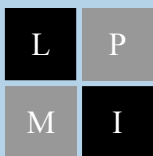
July/August 2001

PETITION'S PROGRESS

by Nancy O'Brien

The petition drive to restore the ballot access of the LPM kicked off on May 5, 2001. As of July 14, 2001, we had 11,818 signatures checked and logged in at headquarters. The number of valid signatures we are required to collect within 180 days is 30,272. We plan to collect 50,000 as "cushion" against the inevitable invalid signatures collected in every petition drive.

We split the petition drive into three "phases" in order to assess how we are doing along the way. This is to avoid coming to the end of our 180-day limit and realizing we are short the necessary number of signatures. We need to collect 17,000 signatures in each phase to stay on track. Unfortunately, (cont'd on pg. 11)



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STEINPORT WINS!

by Jason Miller

GRAND RAPIDS. Jeff Steinport, who rose to become chair of the West Michigan affiliate of the LPM when barely old enough to legally celebrate his position with a beer, has now won election to the Grand Rapids Board of Education.

Garnering 14% of the vote in the June 11 election, Steinport finished third of eight candidates vying for three seats, just 62 votes ahead of the first runner-up, in his second bid for the office he missed by only a few hundred votes in 1999.

"The enormity is starting to sink in," he said of the responsibilities associated with being on the school board for Michigan's second largest city.

Intelligent, knowledgeable, eloquent and charismatic, Steinport is a natural candidate who quickly drew support from his Libertarian Party compatriots.

He was provided free training and consulting services by the Nevada-based Libertarian Victory PAC. His race was recommended for support by that group's national publication *Libertarian Victory News* which noted afterwards, "The kind of tenacity that Jeff has displayed by

coming back to win this year should serve as an inspiration to former Libertarian candidates everywhere."

"This is a huge Libertarian victory because the Grand Rapids school district has over 180,000 residents, making Steinport a very high-ranking elected official," said Chris Azarro, head of the PAC. "[Also], Steinport, just 21 years old, is now one of the youngest elected Libertarians in the country. Future young LP candidates need to look no further than Jeff Steinport to see that victories can be won on the local level, regardless of age, if you run a good campaign with a quality candidate."



Steinport was also one of the first candidates supported by the Liberty Leadership Council, the new Michigan PAC founded by LPM vice chair Ghazey Aleck and Tri-Cities chair Stephen Townsend specifically to support and advise candidates for public office. Following Steinport's election the LLC issued a statement saying of the young elected official "He is not just a rising star in Michigan politics, Jeff is a shooting star!"

Steinport also had substantial local support outside of LP circles. He was endorsed by the city's major daily newspaper the *Grand Rapids Press*.

He was also endorsed by an organi- (cont'd on pg. 4)

MS. LIBERTY GOES TO LANSING

by Tim O'Brien

The Libertarian Party of Michigan has organized a new committee chaired by veteran activist Bill Shotey to lobby for (or against) state level legislation of particular concern to the party and its members.

The effort was begun early this year when then state chair Stacy Van Oast and I, as executive director, met with *Inside Michigan Politics* publisher and widely regarded Lansing pundit Bill Ballenger.

We had a single purpose in mind -- making contacts in the legislature in order to get a bill introduced to amend Michigan election law.

The 2000 general election saw the party once again lose ballot status, despite the fact that we fielded 115 candidates who garnered a total of over 1.5 million votes,

because of our state's unique "top-of-ticket" rule (under which our fate rested entirely on the success or failure of our candidate highest up on the ballot). Faced with another expensive and non-productive petition drive, we wanted the rule changed. Permanently.

The standard is arguably unconstitutional, making a successful legal challenge a possibility. But lawsuits are costly. And even if we won, the courts would at best merely strike down the existing law, ultimately sending the matter of creating a new standard to the legislature in any event. Such a circumstance could easily spiral out of control. We certainly didn't want to end up trading the 1% "top-of-ticket" standard for one that could be met by any candidate but raised the thresh- (cont'd on pg. 6)

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NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

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Submissions: Please email articles to newsletter@lpmich.org

Only electronic format will be accepted. Acceptable formats are plain text, Word97, WordPerfect 6.X/5.X, RTE, HTML, Pagemaker 6.5.

Any other formats, please ask first.

Deadline: The next deadline for submission of articles and advertising is September 1, 2001.

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FROM THE CHAIR

Greetings, fellow Libertarians.

I am very pleased and proud of the progress that the LPM has made in just a couple of months since the state convention in Frankenmuth.

You have undoubtedly noticed the new look of the newsletter. It was decided by the executive committee at our last meeting that the job had become just too big for one person to do and a committee was appointed to handle it. On behalf of the entire party I would like to express our sincere gratitude to Keith Edwards for his years of service in writing, editing, designing, publishing and distributing the newsletter -- almost single-handedly.

Thanks to your efforts, the ballot access restoration drive is in full swing. The Fourth of July weekend was a great opportunity for collecting signatures, and many of you took full advantage. For example, at last count, Al Titran had collected almost 700 hundred signatures, on his own! Many other dedicated Libertarians have impressive totals as well. I am quite confident that all of us will chip in, and we will succeed in this crucial task.

Summer is the best time to collect signatures, so get out there and go for it! On the other hand, please don't think that the LPM is letting a little thing like oppressive ballot access laws stand in the way of our battle for freedom. I am very pleased to report that the LPM has begun a serious lobbying effort in Lansing (See the story Ms, Liberty Goes to Lansing on page 1). Last month, both our Executive Director, Tim O'Brien, and I testified before legislative committees in Lansing against a new effort to enforce the Use Tax on purchases made outside of Michigan. The new bill, which would create a multi-state entity to force out-of-state businesses to begin collecting the tax, is now stalled, and may never reach the floor of the legislature. This despite the fact that our governor has put all of his political muscle behind the bill. We will be monitoring this legislation, as well as several others in Lansing, and you can expect to hear more about Libertarians testifying in future committee hearings.

In June, the LPM Executive Committee (technically, "The Committee," as several informed Libertarians pointed out), met for over six hours at the LPM Headquarters in Hazel Park. Dozens of Libertarians were in attendance as well, and there was spirited debate on a wide range of important issues. The next Committee meeting will be on August 5th at 1:00, and I am hoping for an equally large turnout. Additionally, if you have an issue you would like to see addressed by the Committee, please contact me, or any Committee member. We are in the Leadership Directory.

Before I sign off for now, some additional thank-yous are in order. First, I would like to thank those of you who were able to attend the state convention, and who chose me as your state chair. I hope to earn your approval throughout the year. Secondly, thank you for your kind thoughts and various offers of assistance during my wife's battle with breast cancer. I am very happy to report that her treatment appears to be working, and she is doing well.

That's it for now. I look forward to reporting on more Libertarian successes in upcoming newsletters.

Michael Corliss
Chair, LPM

RE-ELECT LIBERTARIAN FRED COLLINS BERKLEY CITY COUNCIL

- ◆ Provides Credibility for the LP of MI
- ◆ Proves that LP Policies Work in Local Government
- ◆ Enhances MI LP's Reputation throughout the National Party
- ◆ Provides Insight into Local Government for all LP Candidates
- ◆ Has built a network of political contacts throughout the state to promote the LP
- ◆ Proven consensus builder on the council
- ◆ Made sure that Berkley was one of the only City Councils in Michigan that did not approve the anti-medical mariuana resolution
- ◆ Well known on the council and in the community as a partisan Libertarian
- ◆ Effective voice of Freedom in his community
- ◆ Appoints other LP members to local boards increasing total number of LP members in public office



Fred Collins, Councilman

- Good for Berkley
- Good for Michigan
- Good for the Libertarian Party

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Fred Collins for Council
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I'd like to volunteer, please keep me informed.

STEINPORT WINS!

(cont'd from Pg. 1)

zation called the Coalition for Community Involvement which advocates increased parental involvement in education and decreased roles for administrators, as well as by several community groups and PTAs.

Steinport ran a very active campaign, appearing at public forums throughout the district, displaying his articulate style and solid grasp of the issues.

"I built a lot of bridges in my campaign and it paid off," he said. All the advice and support from his fellow Libertarians was the other important factor in his victory. "This year," he noted with a sigh, "I worked smarter rather than harder."

Did the young Libertarian find any truth in the frequently heard observation that LP affiliation is a liability?

"Most [voters] had heard I was a Libertarian and asked me about it," he said. "I told them I was, and that it completely gibed with my plans for the district."

The Libertarian school board member said he will work for decentralization, fiscal responsibility, and contracting out government school services to private companies.

Although confident he will be able to forge a coalition with other board members, Steinport said the job will be a challenge.

"With some local schools closing down lately because of budget crunches, I have my work cut out for me," he said. "But I'm looking forward to it. I'm excited to work for the parents of Grand Rapids," said Steinport.

LESSONS LEARNED

by Jeff Steinport

I've been telling everyone who asks me "How did you do it?" one thing above all. Know Your Stuff. I have been attending Grand Rapids Public Schools Board meetings, work sessions, public forums, and committee meetings for two years. I've been researching as much as I could, getting district profile information, visiting schools, getting input from parents and staff, and reading everything I could on the district, Know Your Stuff. Voters won't vote for you if they don't believe that you understand the issues. I had one gigantic thing working against me; my age. Everyone knows I am 22, but I made up for it with knowledge and sincerity.

Second, I would say that direct mail is the next most important campaign tactic. Not everyone gets to hear you speak or discuss the issues, so you have to reach the average voter and get your name in front of them. Last year I had a relatively boring flyer with a couple of pictures of myself. The text and graphics were blue or black. This year I made a flyer that had one picture of myself on the front and all text was in blue or red. On the inside my name was huge. In small races, especially school board, the race is often solely about name recognition. Get your name in front of the person, with some personal information, as well as a few main points highlighting your views. I had a web site and my phone number on the brochure, so if voters were truly interested, they would have a way to find out more. This flyer was sent to about 10,000 people who either were voting this year as absentee voters, or had voted last year in the school board election.

Get your voter list from the local clerk (be it city or county). In my city you can ask for the list of voters for a particular election, so it is easy to find out who actually votes in that election. This is particularly important for a low turnout election, like mine (8%). My city also offers to email the names and addresses of all the voters who had requested absentee ballots. The names came in to me as the ballots were being mailed out. I sent out about 1,700 flyers to absentee voters so that my flyer arrived the same day as their ballot. In this election, absentee voters made up about 28% of the total number of voters. To ignore them can be fatal.

As mentioned, I sent flyers to about 10,000 people. This also included a number of people who had voted in previous school board elections. I ran out of flyers, and had 2,500 post

cards printed (again, with my name really big), those were sent out as well. In all, I reached about 14,000 voters with my flyers and post cards. Anyone who voted in a school board election in the last five years received something from me.

Third, it is important to talk to community groups. I spoke with PTAs, the Chamber of Commerce, the NAACP, and concerned parents. Again, this is where the "know your stuff" adage comes in. Very important. I would print up a balance sheet for the school I was speaking with to point out where budgetary savings could be realized if central administration were cut out. Everyone was very receptive and no other candidate was even close to my knowledge level.

Fourth, I had 500 yard signs printed up for last year's race and was able to place only about 100 around the city. It is extremely difficult to get yard signs placed when no one knows you. I had a friend place around 100 of them himself this year. The trick was to take his young son with him, so no one could say no. The signs were placed in the yards of the homes surrounding each precinct's voting spot, regardless of if that person was a voter or not. My signs surrounded each voting location so each voter had to see my sign on the way in. An additional 100 signs were placed around the city by other supporters.

Finally, I would like to go through a few things that **didn't** work. I ran for school board last year and spent a lot of money on radio ads. Radio ads are bad for such a local race. They are very UNtargeted. Your money is much better spent on direct mail. Also, and this is just for me, but precinct-walking was very unproductive. I looked at the precincts that I and other volunteers walked through last year and the vote totals for me were only marginally higher than the other precincts. Although I'm not a statistician, I would say that the effect of precinct-walking was statistically insignificant. One candidate that walked about every precinct this year came in dead last in votes - among 8 candidates.

Of course, your experience as a candidate will be uniwue to you and your race. The single most important lesson I learned in my campaign for the Grand Rapids school board was best summed up by President Calvin Coolidge, who once said: "Nothing in the world can take the place of persistence. Talent will not. Genius will not. Education will not. Persistence and determination alone are omnipotent."

Paid Political Ad

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KNOW YOUR COUNCIL

by Councilman Fred Collins



Berkley MI.

It started out like any other Friday before a council meeting. A large yellow envelope arrived at my door. Sometimes it's as much as a couple of inches thick, filled with the motions and memos,

newsletters and notices that the council will address a few days hence. But, this packet held a very special bombshell.

"Whereas... The Berkley City Council resolves its opposition to any legalization of Marijuana for any purpose."

The "whereas" statements were filled with inaccuracies and the anti-marijuana hype that the opposition loves to quote. This resolution has been making the rounds of City Councils across the state. I believe it's a political ploy to have the names of every council listed as opposing PRA, if they are successful in getting on the ballot this year.

"I don't THINK so!" I bellowed, startling

the people in my immediate vicinity.

But what to do? I knew that there were 3 other council members who agreed (after a few late-night-informal-over-a-beer conversations) that the war on drugs was a travesty. And that they would, (at least in those conversations) support medical marijuana. But all of us are up for re-election. Would they give me their votes on this important resolution, knowing that it could come back to haunt them in November? Most City Councils are just passing it without opposition, covering their political behinds. In fact, the only Council I know where it was even debated was Troy. And Troy passed it 6 to 1, with only my fellow LP councilman, Martin Howrylak opposing it.

The first thing to do was call my strongest ally on the council. To my surprise, she was as upset about it as I was. She agreed with me that it was wrong for this to even BE on our agenda, much less to be on our "Consent Agenda" which implies automatically that we are in agreement. (Glad I spent all that time and money on beer) I left messages for the two other council members and continued the process of preparing for the upcoming meeting. But I knew that I had to speak with my allies before the meeting. I had to make sure that I had the votes lined up

before we went into session on cable TV. The last thing I wanted was for the two Council members I knew would support this resolution to have a chance to posture about it for the cameras.

Ultimately, the good guys won. We got a majority vote to have it REMOVED from our agenda – so it was never even debated. The vote was 6 to 0 (one member absent)

Unfortunately, it will probably be back. I don't think they will give up that easily, and I know that I may have handed potential opponents an issue on a silver platter. But if I had not fought this, what would be the point in being an elected Libertarian?

I am glad that I had previously created the opportunity to discuss this issue in an informal setting, so that when it was presented, my fellow council members already had the facts. That's part of what the consensus building process is about. It's what I have tried to do over these four years on council; promote the freedom agenda as a common sense approach to governing.

This issue will undoubtedly be brought before YOUR City Council too. Without an elected Libertarian there to stop it, it will probably pass. Be on the look out, and get to your council members now. Go to the meetings and speak out! Citizen involvement with the coun-

WASHTENAW LIBERTARIANS ANNOUNCE 6TH ANNUAL SAM ADAMS DINNER

by Lawrence Purdy

The Libertarian Party of Washtenaw County announces its sixth annual Sam Adams Dinner. The event will be held on Saturday, September 29, 2001 starting at 6 p.m. at the Creekside Grill, 5827 Jackson Rd, Ann Arbor.

Guest speaker will be Terence Pell, chief executive officer of the Center for Individual Rights. CIR is the Washington, D.C.-based public interest law firm that is representing individuals in their legal challenge of the admissions policy at the University of Michigan. The title of his speech is "Affirmative Inaction at the University of Michigan."

In what *Time Magazine* describes as "the Alamo of Affirmative Action," the Center for Individual Rights has brought two lawsuits against the university: Gratz v. Bollinger filed

on October 13, 1997 against the undergraduate College of Literature, Science and the Arts; Grutter v. Bollinger, against the Law School, filed on December 13, 1997. Each case alleges that the defendants discriminate on the basis of race in violation of the Equal Protection Clause of the 14th Amendment and Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

The university community is vigorously resisting the challenges to its admissions policies. Lee Bollinger, president of the university, has publicly proclaimed his commitment to defending affirmative action at Michigan. The university hired one of the country's most prestigious law firms to represent it and even commissioned research to scientifically prove the benefits of affirmative action. Total tab so far: \$4.5 million.

In December 2000, Judge Patrick Duggan, gave the university a victory by upholding its current undergraduate admissions policy, a point-style admissions system that awards 20 points for minority status, but, by contrast, only 12 points for a perfect SAT score or 3 points for an exceptional essay. However, in late March of this year, the CIR was victorious when Judge Bernard Friedman ruled that the admissions system at the Law School was illegal because it favored black and Hispanic applicants. Both cases have appeals pending. One or both could end up in the U.S. Supreme Court. For more information, visit the CIR's web site at:

www.cir-usa.org

The Sam Adams event is open to the public. (See advertisement on page 8 for details). All proceeds from the dinner will be used to

MS. LIBERTY GOES TO LANSING

(*cont'd from pg. 1*) old to, say, 10%. So it was decided to try negotiation instead of confrontation, skipping the courts and going directly to the legislature -- to not only do away with the current standard but, just as important, replace it with one we wanted.

With former LP member Greg Kaza now gone from the legislature (where he had served three terms as a Republican state rep) and no other sympathetic legislators, the best we could do is to simply knock on the front door of the house and/or senate committee that considers changes to election law.

Then, as if in fulfillment of the old business proverb "The harder I work the luckier I get," Leon Drolet, a long-time libertarian activist in the Republican party (who had always had a comfortable alliance with the LP on most issues) won a special election to represent Macomb county's 33rd district in the state house.

Rep. Drolet and his whole staff attended the LPM convention in May. He was among the first to sign our petition to restore our ballot status. He unhesitatingly offered to introduce the kind of election law reform we wanted that would not change the current 1% threshold for retaining ballot status but simply permit it to be met by any of a party's candidates, rather than only its top-of-ticket candidate.

(Jack McHugh, former aide to Rep. Kaza and current aide to libertarian-leaning state rep Robert Gosselin (R-42), also attended our state party convention. McHugh and his boss will be re-joining our story a bit later.)

A preliminary meeting with Rep. Drolet and his staff was scheduled for May 1 in Lansing. The LPM contingent would include campaign guru Barb Goushaw, Berkley city councilman Fred Collins, Shotey and me.

The date had no sooner been set when a small item appeared in the papers noting that a house Criminal Justice committee hearing on a proposal to require police to videotape confessions had been scheduled for 10:30 a.m. on May 1. The impetus for the proposal was a Macomb county incident in which two teens were held in jail for six months after being browbeaten by police into falsely confessing to a murder subsequently shown to have been committed by others.

Seeing the possibility of getting a "two-fer" out of the trip, Shotey contacted committee

chair Jennifer Faunce (R-29) to ask if they would be willing to take testimony on the subject from the executive director of the Libertarian Party of Michigan. Rep. Faunce said she would be pleased to add us to the witness list.

The house committee appearance had barely been confirmed when there was a development concerning another issue the LPM had been battling for more than a year. Gov. Engler's effort to facilitate taxing e-commerce was being advanced in the form of a Senate Bill 433 -- scheduled to come before the Senate Finance committee for a hearing... at 1 p.m. on May 1!

Shotey contacted that committee chair, Joanne Emmons (R-23), and got us added to this witness list, as well.

The May Day trip to the capital was a spectacular success.

I followed Macomb County prosecutor Carl Marlinga at the house committee hearing, expressing strong agreement with his testimony in favor of the confession-taping requirement.

I suggested that the power of the state over criminal defendants had become so overwhelming that any representative who had any doubt could easily see a demonstration by asking most anyone: "How many of the amendments in the Bill of Rights protect the rights of criminals?" The correct answer, I observed, is: "One." The 8th amendment prohibits excessive fines and cruel and unusual punishments. All of the other protections are for the rights of the accused. "The fact that the distinction escapes so many people," I concluded, "is proof enough of the need for this additional protection."

We then met up with fellow Libertarians Goushaw and Collins in Drolet's office for a working lunch with the representative and his aide Ken Braun. The six of us defined in broad terms the kind ballot access reform we wanted. We even offered to provide actual draft legislation for Drolet to review and submit. However, he preferred to follow standard procedure and put in a request through channels for draft legislation -- commonly called a "blueback" -- which he would then forward to us for review and amendment before introducing it (See "The Blueback is Back" article on pg. 7).

Unfortunately, we had to skip the lunch part of the working lunch in order to make it to the senate hearing in time.

SB-433 would authorize Michigan representation at a National Council of State Legislatures conference to unify state sales and use taxes. The plan, being aggressively promoted by Gov. John "31 Tax Cuts" Engler (who is set to assume leadership of the National Governors Association in August), is to permit reciprocal collection and remittance of taxes on Internet purchases among the states -- something that, under current law, is inconveniently prohibited by the U.S. Constitution.

It was apparent from the beginning of this "hearing" that it was a mere formality. The Republican members were obviously in thrall to the Engler administration. And the Democrats, of course, never saw an opportunity to get their hands on more revenue that they didn't instantly love.

Still, the committee dutifully sat through a couple of hours of testi- (*cont'd on next pg.*)



Tim O'Brien testifies before the House Criminal Justice Committee

(cont'd from prev pg.) money. The Chamber of Commerce would support SB-433 as long as they could be guaranteed that nothing would interfere with the phase out of the Single Business Tax. Officials from the teacher's union were practically hyperventilating, dollar signs spinning in their eyes faster than lemons and cherries in a slot machine window.

I made a valiant, but doomed, defense of both consumers (pointedly noting that, contrary to MEA assertions, no money was being "lost" but was merely staying in the pockets of the people who earned it) and the free market system (proposing that Michigan become a model for the nation by instead declaring Cyberspace a free trade zone).

Indeed, Sen. Emmons and I had some rather sharp exchanges -- notably over the Engler administration's commitment to tax reduction.

But, inevitably, the committee voted unanimously in favor of SB-433. And it was on the floor and out the senate door faster than you can say: "How many tax cuts was that governor?"

But the bill still had to get through the house. To do that it had to get past the house Tax Policy committee. And guess who just happen to be two of the nine Republicans on Tax Policy?

Leon Drolet and Robert Gosselin.

NEXT ISSUE: "The Battle to Derail the Governor's E-Tax -- We're havin' some fun, now!"

In matters of conscience, the law of the majority has no place.
- Mahatma Gandhi
father of modern
non-violent resistance

LADY LIBERTY WINS AGAIN!

by Jason Miller

Lady Liberty wins another award. The Van Buren County Libertarian Party's lady liberty statue won second in the Jamestown Township Memorial Day Parade.

Lady Liberty was entered as a float by the Miller for School Board campaign. This award is the latest in a series of awards this float has won. If you'd like to use lady liberty in an upcoming event, please contact Bill Bradley of the Van Buren County LP.



Bill Shotey and Rep. Leon Drolet in front of Drolet's office in Lansing

THE BLUEBACK IS BACK

by Bill Shotey

Following a meeting with LPM officials, State Representative Leon Drolet (R-33) requested a proposal for new legislation — informally called a "blueback" because the original can be identified by its blue paper backing — from the Legislative Services Bureau

The specific request was for language to modify MCL 168.685 of Michigan election law that bases a political party's ballot retention entirely on the election results of its "principal candidate," defined as the candidate whose name appears highest up on the ballot.

This standard, informally known as the "top-of-ticket" rule, is unique to Michigan and makes so-called "third parties" especially vulnerable to the Wasted Vote Syndrome. The LPM's 2000 slate is a perfect example this phenomenon. The party ran well over 100 candidates — more than twice as many as all the other minor parties added together — collectively garnering a total of more than 1.5 million votes. Nevertheless, the relatively weak showing of Harry Browne in the historically close presidential race between Republican George Bush and Democrat Al Gore resulted in the entire party tripping over this ballot access hurdle.

As if to underscore the bizarre consequences of the top-of-ticket rule, the Reform Party retained ballot status despite losing to every LP candidate in every race in which both parties had a candidate. (Secretary of State Candice Miller's refusal to permit Pat Buchanan to appear on the ballot as the Reform Party presiden-

tial candidate dropped that party's top-of-ticket to its senatorial candidate — whose vote total, though lower than LP candidate Michael Corliss, was sufficient to retain their ballot status.)

Forced into yet another expensive petition drive, LPM officials are seeking to modify the law — not so much to change the threshold for ballot retention as to merely allow any of a party's candidates to meet the standard.

The proposal as returned from the Legislative Services Bureau is simply to change the definition of "principal candidate" from "the candidate whose name appears nearest the top of the party column" to "the candidate who receives the greatest number of votes of all candidates of that political party for that election."

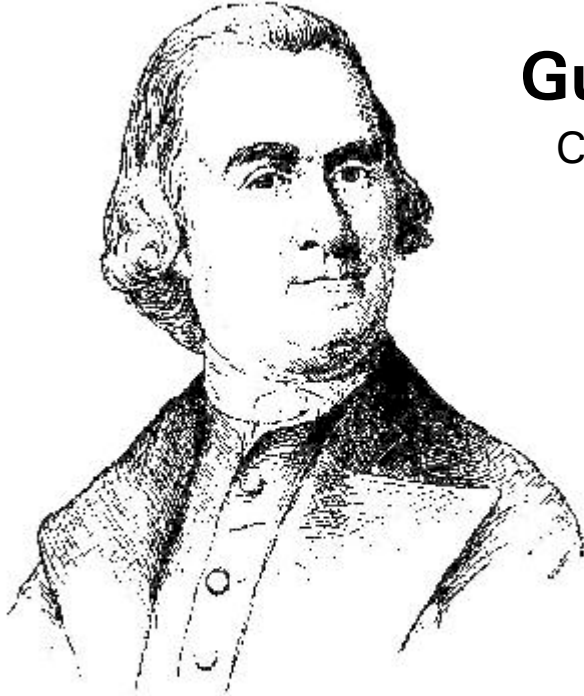
Representative Drolet expects to introduce a bill to make this change shortly after the legislature reconvenes in September. After being assigned a bill number, it will be referred to the House Redistricting and Elections committee for hearings.

We will be looking for cosponsors for the bill. Any state rep can sign on as a cosponsor and we will be pleased to add as many as possible. However, we are especially eager to have as cosponsors Redistricting and Elections committee members Bruce Patterson (R-21), Andrew Richner (R-1), Jason Allen (R-104), Michael Bishop (R-45), Nancy Cassis (R-38), Doug Hart (R-73), Nancy Quarles (D-36), Ruth Ann Jamnick (D-54), LaMar Lemmons (D-2) as If you are in a position to help persuade any of these committee members to become cosponsors, please contact the LPM at 248-591-3733.

The Sixth Annual

Sam Adams Dinner

“Affirmative Inaction at the University of Michigan”



Guest Speaker: Terry Pell

CEO, The Center for Individual Rights

Saturday, Sept. 29, 2001

At the Creekside Grill, Ann Arbor

Dinner at 7:00pm

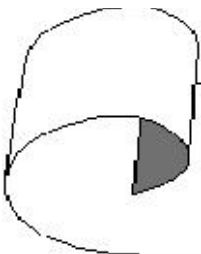
Cocktails at 6:00pm

Guest Speaker at 8:00pm

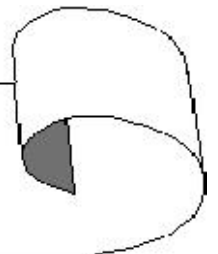
Music of the colonial era provided by:
The Liberty Minstrels

Sam Adams

Hosted by the Libertarian Party of Washtenaw County



The Center for Individual Rights, a Washington, D.C.-based public interest law firm, brought the successful suit overturning the University of Michigan Law School's unconstitutional admissions policy. Mr. Pell joined CIR as chief executive in 1997. He received his Ph.D. from Notre Dame in 1996, his J.D. from Cornell Law School in 1981, and his B.A. from Haverford College in 1976.



SPECIAL SUMMER OFFER: \$35 OR \$275 TABLE OF 8

(\$50 per person after Sept. 10, 2001 or at the door)

Name:

of Guests:

Address:

City/State/Zip:

Phone:

Please send this form to:

Emily Salvette, 2016 Devonshire Rd,

Ann Arbor, MI 48104

Phone: 734-668-2607

Email: salvette@ameritech.net

Please enclose a check for \$35/person, \$275/table payable to Libertarian Party of Washtenaw County

CELEBRATING INDEPENDENCE DAY



LPOC GETS STATUE OF LIBERTY

by Keith Wesselmann

The Libertarian Party of Oakland County continued its longstanding tradition of having a float in the Clawson Independence Day Parade. Clawson is sandwiched between Troy and Berkley, the two cities where we have Libertarian city councilmen, so we were, once again, well received.

This year, the LPOC purchased a Statue of Liberty and built a float for the parade. Fred Martin, accompanied by Greg Dirasian, flew down to Peru, Indiana to pick up the statue.

When LPOC Chair, Chris Pellerito, was asked if he was embarrassed about copying an idea from the LP affiliates in western Michigan, he responded, "No, of course not! It's a great idea, no matter who thinks of it, and when an idea is tried and proven, we should be quick to adopt what works!"

While waiting for the parade to start, Leonard Schwartz petitioned. Some people declined to sign the petition, including: former Governor James Blanchard, Sen. Debbie Stabenow, Sen. Carl Levin, and Rep. Sander Levin. We suspect they fear the competition.

LPOC members walked along with the float handing out a flyer specially prepared for this event. On one side, it told the story of what happened to the signers of the Declaration of Independence. On the other side, it had some introductory information, contact information, the World's Smallest Political Quiz, and a membership application. This flyer made a great companion piece to the Declaration of Independence that we handed out 2 years ago. 3,000 flyers were distributed during the parade. Next year, we will get 5,000 printed.

After the parade, LPOC members had an OPH booth where we gave people the World's Smallest Political Quiz and continued our petitioning efforts. Many thanks to Andy LeCureaux for organizing the booth.

The LPOC float is available to other affiliates for a nominal rental fee.

PARADING AND PETITIONING CLARE-GLADWIN STYLE

by Ghazey Aleck

On the 4th of July, Clare-Gladwin Libertarian Party not only put a unit in the parade, but James Miller of Clinton Twp. (a dual CGLP and Macomb County member) and Ghazey Aleck, CGLP Chair, petitioned for signatures along side the parade route at the same time. Dennis and PJ Gargin and family along with brand new members Albert and Salwa Tadros put a unit in the 4th of July Parade in Harsion, Michigan in Clare County. Not only was the Libertarian parade entry well accepted along the route but a lunch was served for parade participants at the VFW and many citizens and elected

officials (from congress, state and local offices) made a point to inquiry of the Libertarian point of view from these CGLP members.

Both James Miller and Ghazey Aleck were able to get one signature per minute for about 25 minutes just prior to the parade. James Miller also made a point to tell Congressman Dave Camp, State Senator Bill Shuette and State Representative Sandy Caul to keep the Internet free as they came down the parade route. Only congressman Dave Camp committed to keeping the Internet free. All in all, the parade was a major success in many ways at once as well as being fun in the process.



Liberty Leadership Council

Making Freedom Ring!



A Michigan Political Action Committee

- ↳ Contributor to the Jeff Steinport Campaign
- ↳ Contributor to the David Eisenbacher Campaign
- ↳ Contributor to the Jason Miller Campaign

- ✓ Distributed to LP affiliates a new tabloid flyer for outreach free.
- ✓ Distributed to LP affiliates seven professional radio ads on CD free.
- ✓ Free online campaign guide *Winning Local Elections Made Simple*.
- ✓ FM Radio Campaign waged during Memorial Day Weekend and the 4th of July.
- ✓ Distributed Statewide 2,000 Libertarian Party Bumper Strips free.
- ✓ Presently putting up Michigan's first Libertarian Party Highway Billboard.
- ✓ Free online Newsletter *Liberty Bell Online* at www.makingfreedomring.com.
- ✓ Qualified Independent PAC that can donate 10 times as a Political PAC.
- ✓ Presently working on 3-30 second Television Ads.

The LLC is only 6 months old but we put your contributions immediately to work because we have no overhead. No one associated with this PAC will receive any salary or other compensation whatsoever. If you want to contribute to a Libertarian organization and see your money go immediately to work, join the Liberty Leadership Council today. We are the leaders in Making Freedom Ring! Our results prove it! Join us today!

Join Us Today!

____ \$25 Annual Member ____ \$45 2 Year Election Cycle Member ____ \$100 2 Year Sustaining Member
____ \$250 4 Year Sustaining Member ____ \$1,000 Bell Ringer Lifetime Member ____ Other Donation

Make checks or money orders payable to the Liberty Leadership Council, 2623 S. Clare Avenue, Clare, Michigan 48617. We cannot accept cash or corporate checks. Donations are not tax deductible. The following personal information is required for the LLC to comply with Michigan Campaign Finance Laws and to properly record your membership.

Name: _____ E-mail _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code _____ Phone: _____
Occupation: _____ Name of Employer: _____

Paid for by the Liberty Leadership Council, 2623 S. Clare Avenue, Clare, Michigan 48617, not authorized by any candidate.

PETITION'S PROGRESS

(cont'd from pg. 1) we only collected approximately 6,000 signatures during Phase I.

We have contracted for 10,000 signatures from paid petitioners to make up the shortfall we experienced in Phase I of the petition drive. The good news is that we are cautiously optimistic that the 17,000 signatures necessary to complete Phase II can be gathered entirely by our volunteers. In fact if all of the affiliates come through with the signatures they have promised, we will exceed our Phase II goal.

Want to know what your affiliate's "fair share" is?

At the beginning of the petition drive we divided the number of signatures needed for success by the number LPM members. We then multiplied the quotient (27) by the number of members in each affiliate. The table below is the resulting signature goal for each affiliate and how each is doing so far.

Congratulations Shiawassee and Washtenaw! You guys really know what it means

Affiliate	Sigs. Collected	Goal	Percent Of Goal
Allegan County	43	560	7.7%
Berrien County	107	560	19.1%
Clare-Gladwin Counties	69	320	21.6%
Ionia County	11	240	4.6%
Kalamazoo County	36	1013	3.6%
Lapeer-Genesee Counties	16	1413	1.2%
Livingston County	69	1732	4.3%
Macomb County	1026	5784	17.7%
Mid-Michigan	421	2852	14.8%
Midwest Michigan	79	560	14.1%
Oakland County	1974	10688	18.7%
Ottawa County	56	800	7.0%
South Central Michigan	43	1652	2.6%
Shiawassee County	1145	293	390.8%
Saint Clair County	11	693	1.6%
Traverse Bay	7	773	0.9%
Tri-Cities	355	1173	30.3%
Upper Peninsula	39	1119	3.9%
Van Buren County	45	426	10.6%
Washtenaw County	2870	2799	102.5%
Wayne County	588	8422	7.0%
West Michigan	65	2799	2.3%

to kick butt and take names!

It should be noted that the totals do not reflect monetary contributions from members of each affiliate, although these will ultimately be counted toward their signature totals. Remember: if you don't have the time or inclination to collect signatures, you may always make a contribution instead, and we will contract for your "fair share" from paid professionals. Every dollar you donate to the BARC effort counts as one signature toward both your individual and affiliate goals. Send checks to: LPM-BARC, 619 East Nine Mile Road, Hazel Park, MI 48030.

Volunteers Needed for Special BARC Project

Do you hate to petition? Would you like, nevertheless, to help the ballot drive by doing something equally important? Are you at least moderately proficient in word processing technology? Can you commit to working at HQ for a few hours between now and November 1?

If you answered "Yes" to all of these questions, BARC needs you to help with a project that could save us thousands of dollars and hundreds of hours of petitioning during Phase III of the campaign. We have obtained the state's voter registration list on CD ROM. If we can verify a higher validity rate than we have assumed for the signatures we have, it will reduce the number of signatures we need to gather as a "cushion" against the inevitable bad ones collected in every petition drive. It will require you to work on a special database at HQ, checking names and addresses of signers to see if they live where they say do and are really registered to vote. If you are interested in helping with this project, please email me at nobrien321@home.com, or call me at (313) 562-5778.

BARC ANNOUNCEMENTS

■ Please submit your petitions as soon as they are completed. We can't check and log them, nor give you credit for the signatures you have collected until we have them in the HQ. If you don't trust the U.S. mail (a prudent concern), mail them certified to my address: Nancy O'Brien, 17015 Cicotte, Allen Park, MI 48101. To mail a stack of 300 or so petitions certified mail will cost approximately \$7.00. I will sign for them and let you know they have arrived safely.

■ **Remember: the submission deadline for Phase II is Saturday, August 18. All petitions — even those with only one signature — must be returned to HQ so we can assess what we still need to do in Phase III. This is crucial to the effort, so please don't let us down on this. Keep petitioning, but send in what you have collected up to that point!**

PETITIONING TIPS & TRICKS

■ Many cities have free concerts in the park. These are great places for petitioning. It is easy to gather 40 signatures an hour while listening to good music. - *Leonard Schwartz*

■ Evening softball games are excellent places to petition. Softball games generally have some slow spots and people look for distractions. - *Ben Bachrach*

■ I left my petitioning clipboard at my mother's house after getting her to sign. She called me up the next day and asked if she could take it to her senior citizen luncheon. She got 60 signatures. - *Greg Dirasian*

■ The best opening line that I have found for getting people to sign the petition is, "Can you help me out with a signature?" People usually ask what the petition is for. I tell them it is to get the Libertarian Party back on the ballot and we need to get 50,000 signatures. If they ask what the party believes in, I tell them we believe in less government, but signing the petition doesn't mean that you support us, just that you want the choice available in case you ever decide to. - *Greg Dirasian*

AFFILIATE CONTEST UNDERWAY!

by Ben Steele

Seven LPM affiliates submitted goals for the 2001 Affiliates Contest by the July 1 deadline. Those affiliates and their goals are:

Libertarians of Allegan County (4 goals):

1. To collect more than "their share" of signatures for the ballot drive (at 31 signatures per member); meaning they will collect more than 600 signatures.

2. To increase LP membership in Allegan County by 50%; bringing them to at least 30 members.

3. To go out and meet each Allegan County LP member and donor, current or lapsed, face to face, at their homes; that is a total of 34 people they will have to visit.

4. To defeat the Kalamazoo Valley Community College annexation by opposing the county-wide election if it comes up, or by convincing the Allegan County Commissioners that opposition is so strong and organized against the plan, that it would be a waste of money to bring it to the voters.

The Clare-Gladwin Libertarian Party:

To participate in five specific events: a St. Patrick's Day Parade, 4th of July Parades in Clare and Harrison, manning a fair booth, and hosting "Freedom Banquet 2001."

The Libertarian Party of Lapeer/Genesee Counties:

To have no less than 25 people in Lapeer

and Genesee Counties circulating petitions for the ballot drive.

The Libertarian Party of Ottawa County (three goals):

1. To collect 1,000 signatures for the ballot drive.

2. To double their average meeting attendance.

3. To do a "Tax Rebate" fundraising mailing.

The Libertarian Party of Shiawassee County:

To collect 5,000 signatures for the ballot drive.

The Libertarian Party of Wayne County:

To host a successful 2001 Liberty Fest Awards Banquet ("success" defined as getting more than 100 people to attend).

The Libertarian Party of West Michigan:

To grow their membership by twice the rate they did in 2000.

Wow! I certainly hope that each of these affiliates meets its goal, as we will all win if they do! Each affiliate which does meet its goal by April 15, 2002, will be entered into a drawing to win a \$150 certificate for the Advocates for Self-Government, which can be used for further outreach and improvement.

Watch this newsletter for updates on the progress of each affiliate toward meeting its goal. **Good luck, everyone!**

WANT A LIBERTARIAN PARTY IN YOUR COUNTY?

by Ghazey Aleck

Do you want to go to a Libertarian Party meeting in your county only you have found that no county party exists?

Are you willing to help start a Libertarian Party in your county but just need some help?

The Libertarian Party of Michigan is here to help you. We will provide you with all of the help you need to start a local Libertarian Party. Just call us.

We will help you find other Libertarians in your county and we will help with your first mailing notices. You will be provided with a packet on how to start and maintain a local

Libertarian Party. Even more important, State Vice-Chair Ghazey Aleck will come to your first two meetings to make sure that you are solidly on your way. He will even remain available by phone or e-mail to assist you in building your local party into a political powerhouse.

There are still many gaps of unorganized areas around the State of Michigan. Our goal is to organize the entire State of Michigan by 2002 and we could use your help. Starting a local Libertarian Party will be one of the most important things anyone can do for the cause of freedom. Call or e-mail Ghazey Aleck today (989)386-2699 or vicechair@lpmich.org today!

BLESSING OF THE BIKES

by Trevor Peck

When thousands of bikers rolled into the Michigan town of Baldwin, May 18th - 20th, for the annual "Blessing of the Bikes," they probably never dreamed that anyone would ask them for their political opinions, let alone agree with them. And when members of the Libertarian Party of Midwest Michigan set up an "Operation Politically Homeless" booth for the same event, they certainly never dreamed they would find so many closet libertarians. Fortunately for both groups, the weekend was a blessing in disguise.

Of the 156 motorcycle enthusiasts who took the "World's Smallest Political Quiz," a whopping 114, or 73%, landed squarely in the libertarian portion of the Nolan chart. "What a lot of libertarians!" said 6 year old Danielle Peck, as her parents Trevor and Lisa Peck, who sponsored the booth, and LPMWM Chair Brian Kluesner, tabulated the final results of the survey.

"This event was a huge success for several reasons," said Kluesner. "But the two that stand out most for me are the way the bikers - unknowingly - confirmed our belief that the vast majority of people are peaceful, honest, reasonable individuals who neither need nor deserve to have politicians and bureaucrats keeping tabs on them. The second reason, of course, is the idea that so many people have found a new political home."

LAKE COUNTY "A HIT!"

by Jason Miller

BALDWIN — The Lake County Libertarian Caucus held its first meeting on June 12. Trevor Peck, the Libertarian who organized the meeting, described it as "a hit."

While only seven people attended, Peck described this as a good start. The meeting resulted in a few new members and the potential for many more. "We look forward to growth in future meetings," he said. "We will make a difference in our community."

The meeting may also be a spring-board for recruiting local Libertarian candidates in the Lake County area. The group will now meet on the third Tuesday of every month at the Government Lake Lodge in Baldwin.

LECUREAUX CAMPAIGN REVVING UP

by Dave Collver

Andy LeCureaux kicked off his campaign for Hazel Park City Council recently. There are seven candidates running to fill the four seats on the Hazel Park City Council and only two incumbents are running. Andy has lived in Hazel Park since 1994, but he has been a resident of the southeast Oakland County area his whole life.

Andy's father, Tom LeCureaux of Royal Oak, who is also a party member, has been helping Andy, using his lifetime of contacts in southeast Oakland County to garner support and endorsements.

Andy kicked off his campaign at the LP of Oakland County's April meeting. He has also spoken at other LP affiliate meetings, including Wayne and Macomb. At the state convention

in Frankenmuth, Andy also spoke, and aided by his campaign manager, Dave Collver, raised the seed money for his campaign.

Andy was in the Hazel Park Memorial Day Parade. He walked behind a Viper sporting his campaign signs (see picture below) with his daughter and some of her friends handing out candy to folks in the crowd.

During the school board election on June 11th campaign volunteers were at the polls handing out LeCureaux refrigerator magnets and encouraging voters to support Andy and vote for him in November.

To gather the signatures necessary to get on the ballot, Andy went door-to-door in his neighborhood and was pleased to see how much his neighbors welcomed him. He plans to continue going door-to-door and visit every registered

voter in Hazel Park before election day.

Thus far, his campaign and message of limited government have been well received by members of the Hazel Park political establishment, residents, business owners, and Libertarians.

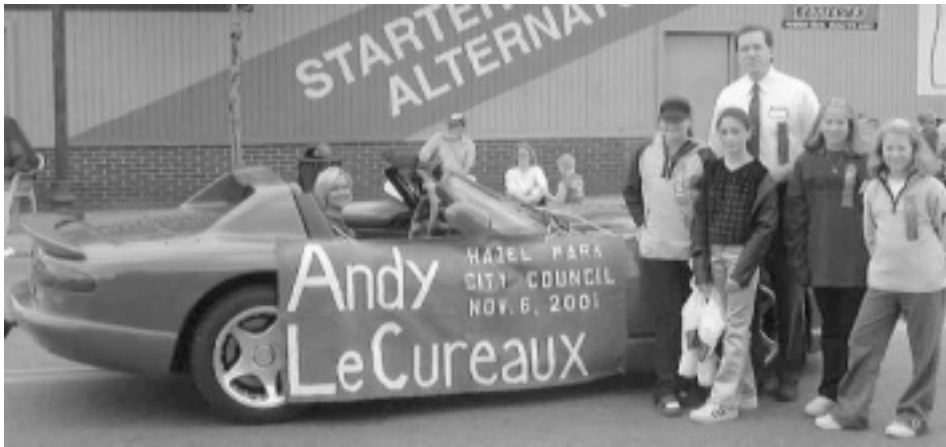
Andy has received the endorsement of the mayor of Hazel Park and several prominent business owners.

Tuesday, July 31st at 6:00 PM, there will be a fundraiser for the campaign at the Hazel Park Bowl & Lounge, at Hughes and Woodward Heights. (From the HQ, go east on 9 Mile, turn left on Hughes, go north about 1/2 mile until you see the bowling alley.) This is a family event. \$25 for adults, \$12 for kids - includes three games of Cosmic Bowling, shoe rental, pizza and soft drinks.

THE FIRST LIT DROP will be Saturday, August 11th. Volunteers will meet at the LPM HQ in Hazel Park at 1:00 PM. Please mark your calendars and bring your kids! After the lit drop we will have a BBQ picnic at the HQ - compliments of the campaign.

If you're looking for an opportunity to get a Libertarian elected, THIS IS IT!

For more information on the LeCureaux campaign, email Andy at: andy@lecureaux.org or visit the campaign web site at: www.lecureaux.org.



LIBERTARIAN OUTREACH--YOUR WAY!

by Leonard Schwartz

What's the most efficient way to encourage people to vote Libertarian and join the Libertarian Party? What issues should we emphasize? How should we present those issues? Should we use leaflets, newspaper ads, magazine ads, radio ads, or TV ads? Where should we place those leaflets and ads?

Some complain about their national, state, or local Libertarian Party outreach methods.

My suggestion: Instead of complaining, use one of these options:

(1) Give money to independent organizations that are doing Libertarian outreach the way you want.

(2) Make an offer to your national, state, or local Libertarian Party to pay for a special out-

reach project that you designed.

(3) Do your own Libertarian outreach. Produce your own leaflets and ads. Place them wherever you want.

If you do your own outreach, you sometimes must register as a political committee. Here are the rules according to Michigan's campaign finance law:

If two or more individuals (acting collectively) spend more than \$500 a year encouraging voters to vote for or against any specific candidate or ballot issue, the group must register with the Bureau of Elections.

If a group spends less than \$500 a year on such activities, it need not register. As long as the outreach material is not for or against specific candidates, a group can spend as much as it wants encouraging persons to vote straight Lib-

ertarian.

If only one individual pays for the outreach material, that person need not register, even if the person spends more than \$500 a year encouraging voters to vote for or against specific candidates or ballot issues.

[Leonard Schwartz is the LPM's campaign finance law adviser]

LP OF WAYNE COUNTY MEETING CHANGE

The Libertarian Party of Wayne County will now be meeting the first Tuesday of each month at the City Tavern at 14316 Michigan Avenue in Dearborn, MI.

EDITORIAL

A CALL TO ARMS

by Stephen Townsend

In the three years since I became a “card-carrying” Libertarian I joined the Tri-City affiliate, ran for County Commissioner — receiving 27% of the vote — and was elected to the chairmanship of the local affiliate. This was no accident. Not only am I devoted to the cause of liberty, I am willing to give it everything I have.

Lately I have been noticing a trend with activists in the LP. Too many Libertarians are feeling sorry for themselves since the election. It has to stop. We can't change the past. And to change the future we must take action now. We can no longer do things the same way we did before and expect to move the cause of liberty forward.

We all believe in a society that allows you the right to pursue happiness, as you see fit, so long as you do not interfere with another's right to do the same. We also believe that you alone should bear the responsibility and consequences of your decisions.

Our country is the way it is today because we have allowed it. I am reminded of a scene in the movie *The Patriot*.

The Mel Gibson character is talking to his sister-in-law. One of his sons has been murdered by redcoats. Another is going back to rejoin his unit, against his fathers' will. The sister-in-law says to him, “You have done nothing for which you should be ashamed.” He replies, “I have done nothing, and for that I truly am ashamed.”

What have you done for liberty? Looking at our country today, the answer must be: not enough. If we are going to succeed, each and every one of us **MUST** do more!

Until now I don't believe there has been a strategy laid out for success. We at the Liberty Leadership Council do have a strategy.

We need qualified candidates to run for office. We can't start at President or US Congress and expect to win. Lets face it, to change anything we must first be elected to office. So here is my proposal.

I would like Libertarians everywhere to concentrate on local offices. Specifically, your local County Commission. Why County Commission? First, it is a partisan office. To win, people will have to cast their vote for a Libertarian can-

didate. Second, County Commissioner is a race that is small enough to win. Finally, not only do County Commissioners have the ability to lobby their state legislature, it is a good background for running for a state representative.

This is a version of the “Just One” plan laid out by the LPM. I believe that this will be a much better use of our limited resources. I ask that our affiliates use strategy. Look for vulnerable races. And go after them! I propose that our affiliates run someone for every county commissioner district. Some will be “educational” candidates. But who will ever take us seriously if we can't field candidates?

We have some very good things working in our favor. 2002 is an off year. That means there will not be a large voter turnout. Lower voter turnout is usually a very good thing for third parties. The Liberty Leadership Council will provide professional experts to train you in running a campaign, debating your opponent, and so much more.

The Liberty Leadership Council is a Political Action Committee (PAC) devoted to getting Libertarians elected to office in Michigan. We

have a staff of professionals to help you get started in a run for office. If you haven't heard of us yet, just wait. Our professionals volunteer their time to the cause. No one is ever compensated in anyway.

If you are in a county not served by an affiliate, don't worry. The Liberty Leadership Council will assist you in filing your paperwork, getting trained, and getting your campaign off the ground. You may even find that enough enthusiasm is created by your campaign that your county may be able to start an affiliate. If that should happen, then the Liberty Leadership Council will be there to get it off the ground.

This is a full time fight. Our opponents are moving us to a socialist society faster than ever before. They know politics is war and it is about time we start playing to win. Take a long look at what you can do. We need you for the cause of liberty.

To get started, contact the Liberty Leadership Council at (800) 608-7375 or go to www.makingfreedomring.com. Don't wait. Our opponents have already begun.

Cartoon courtesy of Jesse Hecksel. Reprinted with permission.



"I'm from the Political Action Committee for Campaign Finance Reform. We appreciate your hard work and we want you re-elected."

EISENBACHER TROUNCES INCUMBENT

by Barbara Goushaw

Perhaps “trounces” is too strong a word. After all, he only beat the incumbent by 108 votes. But, considering that Eisenbacher, a relative unknown, beat an incumbent, and that the incumbent outspent Eisenbacher by almost 3 to 1, “trounces” may be an accurate description of what happened.

Eisenbacher still lost the election. But, with nine candidates running for two seats, placing a respectable third leaves Eisenbacher positioned well for a future race. The cable TV reporter covering the election referred to Eisenbacher as the “heir apparent,” and advised the audience to “watch this young man and expect great things from him.”

The *Troy Eccentric* tried to turn this non-partisan race into a partisan race by publishing Eisenbacher’s political affiliation. This tactic backfired on them when a flurry of letters to the editor asked why only one candidate’s political affiliation was published. The *Troy Eccentric* then began publishing all candidates’ political affiliations - infuriating some candidates with a Democrat background in predominantly Republican Troy.

The political establishment in Troy was clearly concerned about another Libertarian candidacy - so concerned that they put up two shill candidates. Antoine DeLaForterie claimed that he wanted to petition the federal government to end Social Security in Troy. He seemed to be a gross caricature of a Libertarian. James Rocchio was a more mainstream candidate, and even spent \$7,000 on his campaign.

Election night, DeLaForterie, Rocchio, and

various members of the political establishment were all sitting together, laughing and joking, and sucking on unlit cigars. A person who spends \$7,000 on a campaign is generally sitting on the edge of his seat waiting for the returns to come in. Rocchio seemed to have another agenda.

The turning point in the Eisenbacher campaign came during the League of Women Voters debate. Taking a page from the recent New York Senate race, Eisenbacher asked all nine can-



didates to join him in signing a pledge to oppose pensions and benefits for the part-time, term-limited city council. The pledge was on an 8½ x 11 sheet of paper, as well as enlarged to poster size. Co-campaign manager, Greg Dirasian, was ejected from the debate for holding up the poster version in the back of the room (i.e. “using a prop”).

Six of nine candidates signed the pledge. One of the candidates who refused to sign was the incumbent. The Eisenbacher Pension

Pledge was so popular that the mayoral candidates also asked if they could sign. The campaign issued a press release the next day and the local papers picked up the story. The only candidate who got more coverage than Eisenbacher was the one accused of spousal abuse. (I do not recommend this as a means of getting publicity).

There were also letters to the editor in the local paper, which pointed out that Eisenbacher is a Libertarian and implied that he had a hidden agenda.

Ultimately, good campaigning and a sincere candidate overcame the negative propaganda. The *Troy Eccentric* published a headline article about campaign web sites and prominently featured the Eisenbacher site, Eisenbacher quotes, and Eisenbacher supporters. You can check out the Eisenbacher web site yourself at: www.Eisenbacher.org.

Eisenbacher’s principal issues resonated with the residents of Troy. They were simple issues. But they were sincere, inspired confidence, and showed respect for the residents.

Although the close loss was disappointing, it was a well-run race, and we look forward to coming back and doing it even better next year.

Election Results

Lambert	5,089
Beltrami	3,633
Eisenbacher	3,242
Stevens	3,134
Rocchio	1,560
Green	1,140
Hughes	1,084
Delaforterie	403
Bertin	326

LIBERTARIAN HELPS STOP ANIMAL ORDINANCE

by Trevor Peck

Manistee – After two public hearings and three drafts, a proposed ordinance to regulate the possession of “Wild and Exotic Animals” in Manistee county has been dropped. In a meeting of the county’s Public Safety Committee, on June 4, it was decided that current state laws would be sufficient to address the issue, without the need for a new ordinance.

“I don’t have any animals myself,” said LPMWM chair Brian Kluesner, who spoke at the last public hearing on May 15. “But, I know

that permits – of any kind – are routinely used as an excuse to enter private property without a warrant, and that was all the reason I needed to voice my opposition.” Although Kluesner opposed the ordinance on the basis of property rights, his comments to the County Commission focused on the need for, and the enforcement of the ordinance.

“Perhaps I missed the headlines concerning wild beasts running rampant around the county,” Kluesner told the Commission, “but it seems to me that this is a regulation in search

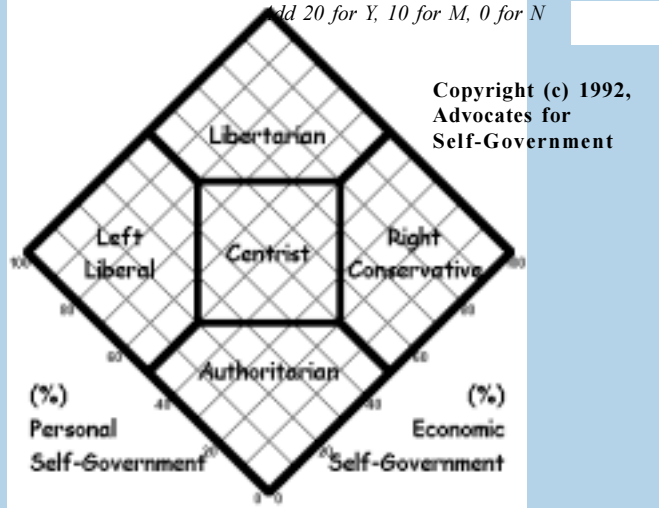
of a problem. If someone is injured by another person’s pet, it’s a matter of personal liability which can and should be handled by the courts.” He also noted that the ordinance would only penalize responsible pet owners, since the irresponsible would most likely ignore it.

“I don’t know if my comments made a difference,” explains Kluesner, “but they sure didn’t hurt. I was expecting the Commission to rubber stamp this thing so I’m delighted that it’s no longer an issue - regardless of the reasons for the decision.”

World's Smallest Political Quiz

Personal Issues	Y	M	N
Military service should be voluntary. (No draft)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Govt. should not control radio, TV, the press or the Internet	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Repeal regulations on sex for consenting adults	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Drug laws do more harm than good. Repeal them.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Let peaceful people cross borders freely.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>Add 20 for Y, 10 for M, 0 for N</i>			

Economic Issues	Y	M	N
Businesses and farms should operate without govt subsidies	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
People are better off with free trade than with tariffs.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Minimum wage laws cause unemployment. Repeal them.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
End taxes. Pay for services with user fees.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
All foreign aid should be privately funded.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>Add 20 for Y, 10 for M, 0 for N</i>			



Take the **WORLD'S SMALLEST POLITICAL QUIZ**. Then, use the Self-Government Compass to find your political position. Mark **Y** when you agree with a statement, **M** for Maybe, Sometimes, or Need-More-Information, or mark **N** for No.

If you score Libertarian, we invite you to join the Libertarian Party.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

ZIP Code: _____ Email Address: _____

Phone: _____

\$25 Michigan & National

\$35 Tri-Level (County, Michigan & National)

Occasionally we make our list available to other groups that wish to offer products or services to our members. Check here to be EXCLUDED from additional mailings.

I certify that I do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving social or political goals.

Signature: _____
(Signature required for national membership)

Please charge this to my credit card (Visa or Mastercard only):

Card #: _____ Exp Date: _____

Signature: _____

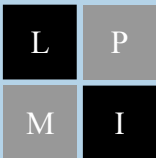
My check or money order (payable to LPM) is enclosed.

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619 E. 9 Mile Rd.
Hazel Park, Michigan 48030

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Michigan Libertarian