

**August 2nd is ripe for picking away at our liberty.**

**By Andrew Wrenbeck**

Michigan's new election law requires that all local governments and schools to hold elections on one of four available days a year. Unless we are proactive on these election days, this law could turn against people who want less tax and more freedom.

The August 2 election date will be fertile ground for tax increases and liberty depleting legislation to be passed at the local level. Unless freedom-minded people are willing to research these dates, and announce what is going on to rest of the voters, we will certainly be overrun by people who wish to mandate where our hard earned money is spent, and how we are allowed to act.

For instance, both Delta and Wayne Counties will be attempting to take millions of dollars out of our wallets in August. Will your county? I suggest a call to your county clerk to ask, or to visit the clerk's website to look.

The good news is that because these special election dates draw smaller crowds to the polls, it is a great opportunity for your local party to defeat unwanted legislation. It takes less voters for a positive outcome. All we have to do is act, and we can make Michigan a freer place to live.

**Support Senate Bills 138-143**

**By Leonard Schwartz**

Michigan law allows the police to confiscate a motor vehicle if they suspect that anyone used the vehicle for an illegal purpose. It does not matter whether the owner gave consent. It does not even matter whether someone stole the vehicle.

For example, if the police claim that they found any marijuana in your car, they can seize your car. How the marijuana got there does not matter. Maybe it fell out of the pocket of an auto mechanic, valet parking attendant, or auto thief. Or maybe the wind blew a miniscule amount of marijuana through an open window. The police can confiscate your car. Although the government sometimes is required, and often is willing, to return the vehicle to an innocent owner, the owner must pay a large fee. In Wayne County, the fee is \$900.

Senate Bills 138-143 will help protect innocent owners from unjust forfeiture. These bills will require the government to return a motor vehicle, without any fee, if (A) the owner is not charged with a crime, civil infraction, or civil violation, or (B) the owner is charged with, but found not guilty of, a crime, civil infraction, or civil violation.

Please ask your state senator and state representative to support Senate Bills 138-143.

SpeakOutMichigan provides an easy way to send e-mail to them. It provides a prewritten letter, to which you can add personal comments. Type in your zip code and SpeakOutMichigan will identify your state legislators and send them the letter. It takes only a minute or two. SpeakOutMichigan also provides an easy way to send e-mail to your friends, so that they can contact their state legislators. Again, there is a prewritten letter.

SpeakOutMichigan is a public service sponsored by the Libertarian Party of Oakland County. Help protect yourself and other innocent owners from unjust forfeiture. Support Senate Bills 138-143. SpeakOutMichigan is located on the web at: [www.speakoutmichigan.org/](http://www.speakoutmichigan.org/)

**By James Allison**

Macomb County Sheriff Mark Hackel will be the guest speaker at the July 13th meeting of the Libertarians of Macomb County. Sheriff Hackel will be speaking to us on his views of creating a county executive for Macomb, and how his department would effected.

As libertarians, we view the creation of a new government office with deep suspicion, and we look forward to discussing our concerns with the Sheriff.

*James Allison is the Chairman of The Libertarians of Macomb County*



Macomb Co. Sheriff Mark Hackel

# MICHIGAN LIBERTARIAN

**Volume 33, Issue 7**

**July, 2005**

**Watching For A  
Sneak Attack**

**Help Stop Unjust Forfeitures**

**Sheriff Hackel to Visit Macomb  
Libertarians**

The Libertarian Party  
Of Michigan  
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**[www.lpmich.org](http://www.lpmich.org)**

# Libertarian Party Of Michigan Officers and Directors

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## Newsletter Information

The *Michigan Libertarian* is published bimonthly as the official newsletter of the Libertarian Party of Michigan, 913 W. Holmes Rd., Lansing, MI 48910. Phone: (888) FREENOW

*Have something to share with other Michigan Libertarians?*

**Submissions:** Please email articles to newsletter@lpmich.org

Only electronic submission will be accepted. Acceptable formats are plain text, MS Word, HTML, Freehand. Any other formats, please ask first.

**Deadline:** The next deadline for submission of articles and advertising is August 15, 2005.

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Only electronic format will be accepted. Because of the nature of various programs, please send ads in Photoshop format. Above formats, are also acceptable, but layout or resolution may be lost in the publication process. Please mail payment to:

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# EVENTS CALENDAR

## **June 22, 2005 - 7:30 PM**

Libertarian Party of Oakland County general membership meeting. Nonmembers are welcome. Meeting starts at 7:30. Optional dinner starts  
Location: Sila's Restaurant, 4033 W.12 Mile, 2  
Contact: Leonard Schwartz  
Phone: (248) 546-3569  
Email: chair@lpocmi.org

## **June 25, 2005 - 3:00 PM**

Shootout fundraiser for Libertarian candidates running in nonpartisan elections. We will provide a variety of pistols with ammo and targets. No experience needed.  
Orientation at 2:45.  
Shootout from 3:00 to 5:00.  
Location: Double Action Indoor Shooting Center, 32411 Dequindre, south of 14 Mile, in Madison Heights.  
Contact: Mike Netski Phone: (586) 350-5596  
E-mail: michael@netski.org

## **August 02, 2005**

Primary Elections and Ballot Proposal Polling  
Contact: Your county or local clerk's office

## **August 09, 2005**

Filing deadline for candidates for city elections in cities without a primary  
Contact: Leonard Schwartz  
Phone: 248-546-3569  
Email: Leonard@Schwartz45.com

For more events, see the online calendar at: <http://www.lpmich.org/lpmonline/events.php>

## **Proposal "R" To Cost Taxpayers 60 Million** Wayne County's park proposal for higher taxes

### **From the Wayne County Affiliate**

At a time when the economy is slow, The Wayne County board can't slow down the spending. They are requesting for nearly \$60,000,000.00 from voters for park improvements. This is actually being billed as a "renewal." Marketed to the public as OK because they have already been paying this tax for years.

The *Taxpayers Of Wayne County Ballot Committee* (TOWC) has been formed and is attempting to organize voters to fight this proposal (Proposal R). They have begun to set up an online home for the cause and will continue to assemble a group of people to defend the taxpayers. They can be contacted at TOWC@MAC.COM

This tax is a waste of Wayne County residents' income and hurts the local economy, so is the act of holding a special election to pass the tax

- This millage will not help fund Metro Parks or State Parks
- Waste begins even before the millage is approved. With an estimated cost of \$400,000.00 just to hold the election
- The owner of a \$250,000.00 home will be soaked with over \$300.00 in new property taxes.
- The owner of a \$400,000.00 home will be soaked with over \$500.00 in new property taxes.

Stay tuned... The website will be updated with resources to help prevent this tax increase shortly. Wayne Co. can defeat this proposal with your help! Want to volunteer? Email TOWC@MAC.COM. Time is short, with election day coming on August 2.

### **Andrew Wrenbeck From Page 3**

had this information printed in the paper – EVERY paper. There is a way to introduce the information to the public that guarantees it gets in the paper, I now know this tactic. It requires a friend in office.

Another thing I learned is that in a two-way campaign may be easier to win over the voters. You need less information to convince the voters that you are the right choice. It is easier to identify the problems with the opponent and since you are the only other choice, the voters come to you automatically. It also nets votes from people who just will not vote the other side. You cannot guarantee that this will be the case, but in areas where one side of the isle has won repeatedly for the last twenty or thirty years, the opposition will be relying on the primary to be where the decision is made. If you are not facing an incumbent, the other side may even spend nearly all of their capital on the primary and consider the actual election as more of a formality than a question.

How do I know this from running a non-partisan election? Easy, I did not run a non-partisan election. The opposition pointed out that I was a Libertarian right off the bat, and identified Libertarians as people who only wish to eliminate public education. Of course, this was not something a school board trustee could do, nor was it actually part of my agenda. It does not matter, it made me sound less ideal, and therefore I was called a Libertarian in every single article written about the election. It was not non-partisan. I was glad that I had written a complete agenda, from top to bottom, that was not a copy of the state or national platform. It was my own platform and it only included items on which Republicans and Democrats could vote "yes." I did not want to scare away potential voters with a part of the platform that I would not gain the power to enact, nor the votes needed by other board members to be passed. I wrote my agenda based on my research of the mistakes the incumbent had made in his three terms, and Libertarian minded solutions to those problems. The big break I received was when I went to a board meeting at Canton Township Hall, which is an overpriced massive castle that screams, "This Township is run by an overspending overlord." I spoke about how the Canton residents in Van Buren schools were being ignored by the district and actually considered lesser residents who did not belong there. At the same time they had sued the district to get out, but the schools fought hard and won. The reason I spoke was because one of the all-Republican board had introduced a proposal to the board officially calling for an end to this treatment. I had never met this man his name is Todd Caccamo. Afterwards we talked, I told him he was not a Republican he was a Libertarian. He chuckled and we moved on.

Meanwhile, the man "loaned" me his access to the press, and many votes. He has discovered that he fits as well with the LP as the GOP, and he may be an asset available in the future.

Having an ally in public office is a big plus. It need not be in the same genre as the office you seek. He is a Canton board member; I live in Van Buren and was running for the school board. His endorsement gave me more than just his core group of voters; it gave me credibility in a conservative area. Because generally people do not know what Libertarians stand for, they need such a security blanket. The people I ran into really did not know what a Libertarian was. Even Trustee Caccamo really did not know at the onset. However, a substantial percentage of these residents in Canton have now voted for one. This is a start! From this start, I think we can build.

We need to tap into the masses of irritated voters. Our luck, they are easy to find in these local elections. They are easy to cultivate. The sources are the planning commissions, DDA's and the zoning boards. A candidate can follow the land owners that were turned down and do not have the right to do what they want on their own property and say "My name is X and if elected I will do everything in my power to ensure you can do the project you are currently being told you can not do." The beauty of this is that the town has a list of every mad voter and all we need to do is talk to them. They also have meetings where these people come to complain. These people announce themselves to us – not the other way around.

**Continued next page**

## **Macomb County Literature Drop**

**By James Allison**

On April 30th and May 7th, the Libertarians of Macomb County participated in a literature drop in two areas, reaching about 1200 houses. We dropped off literature and a flyer announcing our meetings and website at every house in the targeted areas.

The first targeted area was the precinct in St Clair Shores that had the highest libertarian voting percentage in the 2004 election. The second target was a neighborhood close to our meeting place. I'd like to thank Scott Allen, Dan Flamand, Nicole Michalak, and Steve Samoranski for distributing the literature with me, and another special thanks to Dan Flamand for designing a very attractive flyer. *James Allison is the Chairman of The Libertarians of Macomb County*

The R's and D's are ignoring these voters. There is no need to turn them into Libertarians; they just need vote Libertarian one time. If they do it one time, it will be that much easier of a decision to make the next campaign season. If we tell them "I am running as a libertarian, because in order to be in one of the other two parties, I too would have to be part of the problem, not part of the solution." It is my opinion that if we can find 3 to 5 offices in Michigan that are Simply:

- In an area leaning heavily right or left (for a more likely two person race)
- A situation where there will not be an incumbent; and there is a Libertarian or libertarian leaning office holder that can be made an ally.
- Where we can run a properly laid out campaign and have enough member/volunteers
- We can set up a properly laid out money machine
- Run an electable (yet very libertarian) platform for change and good internet presence we can win these campaigns.

If we take a few of the paper campaigns off of the table and push that energy into these 3 to 5 offices, along with volunteers from the surrounding areas, a win is all but certain.

The accomplishments that are possible in 2006 are substantial. If we can raise \$5,000 to \$10,000 per campaign (about \$5.00 to 10.00 per member just here

in in Michigan) get ten to fifteen volunteers per campaign, and get a solid candidate with charisma and charm, we will win these offices. We can push these voters to cross the line and they can say "I have voted Libertarian" and they will be much more willing to do it again. We will have Republicans and Democrats who really are Libertarians beginning to switch to our side, and they just need a push. Someone winning in their town under the Libertarian banner would erase their doubts about the chances of winning. We would introduce the dangerous "slippery slope" to a new direction, the right direction.

So how hard is this to do? Well, I already have one town lined up. Canton Township. No incumbent, an ally already elected, a one-party town, and as a bonus, many frustrated voters because of mega-high taxes and the frivolous spending habits of the current GOP board. I cannot run, because I do not live there. However, a Libertarian interested in the \$115,000.00 per year Supervisor position in this town can be elected. The key is that we have to start working on 2006 right now. As the song goes, we need to "get this party started." I would love to see the shock and awe in the press if we can take three to five offices at the local level right here in Michigan. I am willing to work my butt off in the fall of 2006 to insure victory in Canton, because I know it will pay back exponentially.

## Libertarian Party of Michigan Affiliate Contacts

<b>Affiliate Name</b>	<b>Contact Name</b>	<b>Website/E-mail</b>	<b>Phone/Website</b>
Capital Area Libertarian Party	Bob Broda	www.calparty.org	517-321-7647
Libertarian Party of Kalamazoo/St. Joseph County	Matt Umlor	www.kalamazoolp.org	269-324-2282
Libertarian Party of Livingston County	David Buck	Not Available	810-220-5741
Libertarians of Macomb County	Keith Edwards	www.macomblp.com	586-777-7468
Midwest Michigan Libertarian Party	Brian Kluesner	www.pecktec.com/lpmwm/	616-723-7087
Libertarian Party of Oakland County	Leonard Schwartz	www.lpocmi.org	248-546-3569
Libertarian Party of South Central Michigan	James Parker	jamesp@hillsdale.epcorp.com	517-439-0643
Libertarian Party of Saint Clair County	Mark Byrne	iwantska@hotmail.com	810-987-9856
Libertarian Party of Southwest Michigan	Jason Gatties	www.lpswmich.org	269-465-6725
Libertarian Party of Washtenaw County	Lawrence Johnson	www.lpwash.org	734-476-7817
Thumb Area Libertarian Party	Paul Hitch	phitch@intouchmi.com	810-667-7218
Traverse Bay Libertarian Party	Jerry Coon	jtcoon@gtii.com	231-369-2395
Tri-Cities Libertarian Party	Richard Jozwiak	www.TriCityLibertarianParty.org	989-922-5226
Libertarian Party of Wayne County	Loel Gnad	cynical_bob@juno.com	313-381-7697
West Michigan Libertarian Party	Jamie Lewis	www.lpwm.org	616-254-2878
Kettering University	Adam Hogan	hoga4008@kettering.edu	Not Available
Hillsdale College	Heidi Morris	hcmorris@hillsdale.edu	www.hillsdaleliberals.com
Northern Michigan University	Michael Brown	docbrown_77@yahoo.com	Not Available
University of Michigan College Libertarians	Andrew Moylan	admoylan@umich.edu	www.umich.edu/lpumich/
Michigan State University Libertarian Club	Brendan Dennis	dennisb3@msu.edu	www.msu.edu/dennisb3/libertarian3
Western Michigan University	Brian Harris	bharris5781@vipmail.kvcc.edu	Not Available

# Meeting Minutes

**PERSONAL ISSUES?**

**ECONOMIC ISSUES?**

Libertarian Party of Michigan  
913 W. Holmes Rd  
Lansing, MI 48910



# World's Smallest Political Quiz

For years, politics has been represented as a choice between left (or liberal) and right (or conservative). Growing numbers of thinkers agree that this is far too narrow a view - and excludes millions of people. The political map on the quiz gives

a much more accurate representation of the true, diverse political world. The quiz measures tendencies, not absolutes. Your score shows who most agrees with you in politics, and where you agree and disagree with other political philosophies

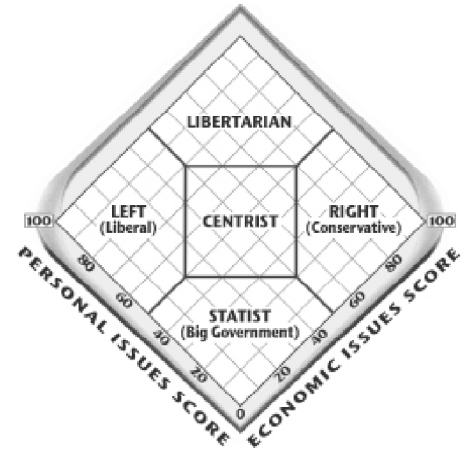
**Scoring:** For each statement, circle "A" if you agree, "M" for maybe (or don't know), or "D" if you disagree

## How do you stand on

- Government should not censor speech, press, media or Internet
- Military service should be voluntary. There should be no draft
- There should be no laws regarding sex between consenting adults
- Repeal laws prohibiting adult possession and use of drugs
- There should be no national ID card

20 10 0  
A M D  
A M D  
A M D  
A M D  
A M D

**SCORING:** 20 for every A, 10 for every M and 0 for every D: \_\_\_\_\_



## How do you stand on

- End "corporate welfare." No government handouts for big business
- End government borders on international free trade
- Let people control their own retirements: privatize Social Security
- Replace government welfare with private charity
- Cut taxes and government spending by 50% or more

20 10 0  
A M D  
A M D  
A M D  
A M D  
A M D

**SCORING:** 20 for every A, 10 for every M and 0 for every D: \_\_\_\_\_

### Now find your place on the chart

Mark your PERSONAL score on the lower-left scale; your ECONOMIC score on the lower-right. Then follow the grid lines until they meet at your political position. The chart shows the political group that you agree with most

If you scored Libertarian, we invite you to join the Libertarian Party

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_, MI Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 email address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

\$25.00 Michigan and National  
 \$35.00 Tri-level (County, MI and 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 advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving social or political goals  
 Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (signature required for NATIONAL membership)

Please charge my credit card (Visa or M/C only:)  
 Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Expires / /20  
 Signature \_\_\_\_\_

I have enclosed a check or money order  
 (Payable to the Michigan Libertarian Party)  
 Mail To: Libertarian Party Of Michigan 913 W. Holmes Rd Lansing, MI 48910

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# How I Spent 17¢ a Voter

## And received 44 percent of the vote

**By Andrew Wrenbeck**

Recently I ran for school board. After spending \$150.00 on the campaign, plus \$100.00 to get on the ballot, I was able to achieve 44% of the vote in the Van Buren School District, which is second only to Detroit in geographical size for Wayne County. I did a few things right, and I did a few things wrong. I managed to tap into a bed of Republicans that are fed-up with the GOP spending and the theocracy their leadership seems to be trying to administer. Some of the lessons learned and details of this campaign may be helpful to future candidates in Michigan, so I wanted to share them.

First off, I did not spend a lot of money per vote. In the price above, I did not include the \$50.00 I spent on a pair of Nikes that were an essential part of the campaign. In my opinion, a good pair of walking shoes should be the first thing you purchase if you want to win. I walked a lot. When a voter meets you in person, and gets a chance for one-on-one communication it is something they will remember on election day. It is hard and time consuming, but essential in securing votes. I chose to walk the conservative area of the district, Canton Township. Due to illness, I did not get to walk as much as I really needed to in order to win.

I was running on conservative spending and the fact that the three-term incumbent I was running against was a puppet for special interest. These two things went over very well in a conservative area but I had help.

The area had many issues with the district before the election, and the assistance of a Canton Trustee whom is a libertarian-Republican. This area sent 67 percent of their votes my way. Even though I am not a conservative, and I was torn apart in the papers for being a some sort of sex maniac (my wife did some modeling and the pictures were available on the internet), convincing these conservative people that I was the right choice was very easy.

Had I known in January what I know today, I would have won the office. This is why I want to share this information with the rest of the party. Many already are familiar with how this works, but there some who are not. If you have never run for public office with the intention of winning, there are some surprises that slap you in the face if the other side feels you can win. They spent considerable time researching me from the day I appeared on the ballot, before they even knew who I was, what I stood for, or why I was running. I know this because of the logs from my campaign website.

The first thing I learned is that there were two campaigns going on. One is the campaign to get the candidate more votes; the other is the campaign to get the opponent less votes. My opponent had a group of people that researched my private life, positions and family, and in the last few weeks of the campaign, they



**Continued on Page 5**

## A Libertarian Stress Test

The Hungry Man

**By Major William H. Howcott (USAF RET.)**

This one-question test will press the limits of your Libertarianism and give you insight into your own, personal Libertarian views.

You're a traveler, walking alone through a forest carrying two hamburgers, one of which you do not need or even want, when you come across a hungry man sitting on a log. The man is starving to death, he's about to die from lack of food. You are aware that if you give him your unwanted hamburger, he'll live. But if you pass him by without giving him food, he'll starve to death. His life is in your hands. Now here is the question: If you decide not to share your food with the hungry man, and thereby cause his death, should the government have the authority and power to prosecute and convict you for the death of the hungry man?

(YES/NO)

This is the one-question Libertarian Stress Test. It pits liberty against the government's duty to protect innocent life. What do you think is the correct Libertarian answer ... and why? I would be interested in your answer and your reasoning. Major Howcott can be contacted with answers by e-mail

whowcott@optoline.net or by snail mail:

Major William H. Howcott, USAF RET.  
106 Coldspring Rd. Freehold, NJ 07728