

NEWS IN BRIEF

The Libertarian Party of Michigan has regained its position on the ballot. The Secretary of State certified our petitions on January 21. We had 40,769 signatures, well in excess of the 26,000 needed and we have a reputation for having a high percentage of valid signatures from our efforts in the past. Thanks again to those who did so much to make our effort successful.

Wasting no time after that approval, Dan Marsh filed on the LPM ticket for the State Senate seat vacated by Vern Ehlers who moved up (?) to Congress. Dan filed on the deadline date thanks to help from Glenn Barr, Erwin Haas and Bill Hall. The Grand Rapids group will give Dan a lot of support and he has our best wishes.

At the January 10 Executive Committee meeting the following resolution, moved by Jon Coon, was adopted:

Media communicatios in any way represented as official Libertarian Party of Michigan position must have Committee approval prior to release. Submission process is as follows;

1. Libertarian Party of Michigan members must submit written copies of any proposed release to all Committee members for their review, at least one week in advance of a scheduled Committee meeting.

2. Committee members proposing a media communication will, as a minimum, communicate verbally with all other Committee members prior to release.

If you are planning to run for office in the November election, contact Scott Boman.

CONVENTION PLANS ARE COMPLETE

The 1994 Convention plans are done and final preparations are underway. It will be held on April 22-24 at the Ramada Inn near Detroit Metro Airport. The Washtenaw group is planning the Friday night entertainment. The will be workshops Saturday morning and general meeting, bylaw discussion, etc. in the afternoon. The Banquet will be held on Saturday night with Attorney Ralph Musilli as the featured speaker and the Freedom Fighter Award posthumously to Dick Jacobs. Nominations for public offices will be on Sunday morning and LPM elections in the afternoon. In between there will be a brunch with Aaron Zelmanspeaking on gun control. The theme of the Convention will be "Freedom Under Siege."

Information on registration will be sent to you shortly. Don't miss it!

LPM BACKS ASSISTED SUICIDE PETITION DRIVE

At its February 20 meeting, the Executive Committee voted to endorse and support the petition drive to put the assisted suicide issue on the November ballot. The drive was started by the Movement Ensuring the Right to choose for Yourself (MERCY).

The proposal is to amend Article I of the Michigan Constitution by adding Section 25 to read, "The right of competent adults, who are incapacitated by incurable medical conditions, to voluntarily request and receive medical assistance with respect to whether or not their lives continue, shall not be restrained or abridged."

While not a perfect libertarian solution, the proposal is a major step forward.

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FROM THE CHAIR - THE YEAR IN REVIEW

The 1993-94 year, the 22nd in the life of the Libertarian Party of Michigan , was one of our best in most respects.

We have regained our position on the ballot.

Three years ago we had only 3 or 4 local groups. Now we have 18in operation or ready to go. These will be the strength of the Party in future years.

We have established specific appointive jobs to spread the work and to coordinate local and state action, such as Campaign Coordinator (Scott Boman) and Regions Coordinator (Barbara Vozenilek).

We are planning a speakers bureau to expand on the appearances at colleges and high schools I have made to other areas.

I am well along on the Operations Manual to assemble past experiences in running conventions, ballot access campaigns, local organizing, membership processing, political campaigning, etc. We need more input from those who have done these things.

We have continued to emphasize cooperation and good feeling among our activists. We all have to be part of a team and have team spirit. So far, so good!

Jon Coon has run an aggressive, innovative and exciting campaign for the US Senate which is already attracting media attention.

The Freedom Fighter Award Banquet was a huge success both from the standpoint of the quality of the program and the financial result. We set a high standard to meet in the future, but we can do it.

This newsletter has been expanded, published regularly and re-organized to provide a balance between current news for our older members and issues discussion for our newer people. We have started to run ads. Our Directory guides members to the contact (Continued on Page 6)

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SCARBOROUGHS' BOND CANCELED

Extension of bond for Scott and Karen Scarborough was denied by Federal Court during the appeal process of their conviction on charges of obstruction of justice. It had been thought that the bond would be extended due to the appearance of judicial error in the case.

Scott is now incarcerated in the minimum 'security federal prison at Morgantown, West Virginia. Karen is serving her sentence in home confinement although permitted to go to work and the doctor. She was supposed to be tethered, but has not been. Her sentence is for eight months plus probation while Scott's is for 18 months.

Scott would like to hear from his many friends in Michigan while he is in custody. The Scarborough's are confident that the Appeals Court will overturn the lower court decision, but in the meantime, Scott could use a cheering up. Write to him at the following address, but do not send personal items, magazines, etc., as these are not allowed.

Scott Scarborough No. 17567-039 P.O. Box 1000 Alex Unit Morgantown, WV 20507-1000

If you need to get away to Florida for a week... Call: 810-684-5158 Located 2-miles from DISMEYWORLD, sleeps up to 6, 2 BR's, Kitchen, Washer/Dryer, TV, 2 Pools . . . - - - LIMITED OFFER - - -Must reserve 3 wks in advance w/ deposit - ALL for \$550./wk. Mditional 4days/3nights Packages with car rental for \$177+tax, available...

PROCEDURE FOR CANDIDATES

On December 8, Keith Edwards, Emily Salvette, James Hudler, Michael Emhart and Scott Boman delivered 40,769 petition signatures to Josephine Scott of the Elections Bureau and the petitions were certified on January 21. The Bureau checked 28,000 signatures and found that 97.7% were valid. We needed 25,646. Thanks to all who helped, especially Bill Redpath of the Libertarian National Committee.

Now that the ballot access work is done,I have moved on to be Campaign Chair. Since we have a state-wide organization with local affiliates in place, I am asking those who worked on ballot access to remain for the campaign effort. If you are uncomfortable with this, please help us find a someone else to help.

After doing a superb job as Volunteer Coordinator on the petition drive, Barbara Vozenilek will do the same for the Campaign Committee and is the new Regions Coordinator, succeeding Karen Scarborough.

I call on the local groups to find viable candidates for the November election. If you want to run, chances are that you will find an opening. There are two basic types of candidates, serious and paper. Serious candidates are expected to devote a significant amount of time to running for office which means distributing literature, making public appearances, advertising and answering inquiries from the local media. Serious candidates must be prepared to convey a positive image of the party. They must be articulate and appropriately dressed. I like to wear tie-dyes and a motorcycle jacket and use a lot of slang, but if a TV camera is pointed at me, it's time to don the power suit and speak the King's English. If we are going to play the Man's game, we must play it well.

Paper candidates have it easy. We simply ask that their names be on the ballot and that they respond to requests by groups such as the League of Women Voters and local media for their position on the

(Continued on page 6)

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MICHIGAN LIBERTARIAN

FEBRUARY-MARCH, 1994

Here are more recently published letters to editors by Michigan Libertarians. I like to reprint these as a tribute to those articulate freedom fighters who take the time to compose them and to encourage others to do so. They are not "preaching to the choir."

Citizens must have

access to weapons

Lawrence Ollman writes (in a Dec. 29 letter), "Following World War II, Germans were not allowed to have firearms of any kind."

Perhaps a more pertinent revelation would be the fact that prior to the war Hitler outlawed the possession of guns by common citizens. He knew well ahead of time how much simpler it would be for his agents to yank the 6 million Jews and other so-called undesirables out of their homes. Throughout history, every time a government turned on its own people, it was preceded by the disarming of the common citizen.

Robert Hamelman (Public Pulse, Dec. 22) writes to advocate that the U.S. government should suspend the Fourth Amendment, then fan out to confiscate all handguns, jail and fine people without trial.

This reasoning, if ever enacted by a future government, is the exact reason the framers of our Constitution included the Second Amendment: "To defend against a tyrannical government." It's not about duck hunting as the gun control lobby would have us believe.

Switzerland, with its very low rates of crime, disproves the nonsense notion that guns cause crime and violence. Out of a population of 6 million, the citizens own over 2 million firearms – including 600,000 fully automatic assault rifles.

Backers of the Second Amendment, having long ago been abandoned by the Democrats, are now seeing the Republican Party starting to waiver in its support. It now seems the Libertarian party is the only one left with unequivocal support for the Second Amendment.

The Swiss have two famous sayings, which apply here as well. "If the state cannot trust the people, the people cannot trust the state" and "If weapons are a token of power, then in a democracy they belong in the hands of the people."

GRAND RAPIDS PRESS

ou have an uncanny ability to analyze a tragedy such as the recent shooting rampage on the Long Island Rail Road and derive a conclusion that contradicts the facts

("Gun Control: N.Y. shootings make a strong case for stricter gun laws," Dec. 10). New York's tougher-than-average gun

laws were 99-percent effective on that train. Undoubtedly, you regard it as an unfortunate coincidence that the only person who disregarded the law happened to be psychotic.

Far from showing the need for stronger gun control laws, this horrifying incident is an example of how effectively laws have disarmed normal people. No one can say for certain how this tragedy might have ended were all sane, law-abiding people permitted to carry the means of protecting themselves.

Perhaps there might have been a halfdozen victims instead of two dozen. Or perhaps the suspect would have reconsidered the wisdom of opening fire in a crowded railroad car, knowing that not all of his targets would be as defenseless as ducks in a shooting gallery.

Tim O'BrienDET. FREE PRESSMadison Heights12/20/93

Anti-drug hysteria

JACKSON - Prosecutor Dennis Hurst's remarks concerning the accidental shooting of a drug suspect show how extreme the hysteria about substance abuse has become. The man had not even been arrested for, let alone convicted of, a crime; the act he is supposed to have committed was not violent or destructive; yet Mr. Hurst seems to think he deserved to be shot. I admit that selling narcotics is not the most honorable way to make money, but to gloat publicly over the injury of an individual simply because he engages in a disreputable business displays a callous disregard for human life. I cannot imagine Mr. Hurst behaving the same way if the victim were a lawyer or a politician, many of whom also profit from the misery and ignorance of others.

The scrious crime problem we face can only be solved with the help of reason. I ask Mr. Hurst to study the ethical implications and historical background of the prohibition of undesirable behavior. I do not claim to know all of the answers, but I think it is safe to say that shooting people is rarely one of them.

Jeffrey L. Grund 11-12-93 JACKSON tITIZEN-PATRIOT

Missing the point

HORTON — People who become apoplectic at the mere thought of discussing drug legalization are missing the point entirely. It is the crime associated with the sale of drugs that is giving us so much grief, and it is the crime that we want to eliminate. The point being missed is that the crime is caused by the very fact that these substances are illegal.

Coca derivatives and marijuana have been available for human consumption for hundreds, maybe thousands of years, and humans have been using them for that long with very little detriment to society as a whole. These substances were not criminalized in America until the Harrison Act of 1914. Before that time, Americans were free to use opium, morphine, cocaine and marijuana in any amounts they wished — without prescription. Marijuana was a weed that grew wild all over North America and coca leaves were a cheap substance used in many over-thecounter remedies as well as the popular beverage Coca-Cola in its original formula.

If marijuana and cocaine were available indrug stores for a few cents a dose, which is what the cost would be if they were available on the free market, there would be no need for a user to mug citizens on the street for money to support his habit any more than it is necessary to hold up citizens for cigarette money.

The unbelievably huge profits to be made from selling these products illegally provide the fuel that keeps the war on drugs alive. Take away the profit motive and drug crime would disappear. Big-time dealers would be out of a job.

It is sheer idiocy to equate the legalization of drugs to the legalization of murder and rape. Murder, rape and theft are crimes against another person, whereas a drug sale is a voluntary transaction between individuals and as such should not be considered a crime. The decision to use drugs or not is a personal choice. As free citizens, we, not the government, should decide what to put into our bodies. The use of so-called recreational drugs in and of itself is no more immoral than is smoking a cigarette or drinking a beer.

When Dr. Joycelyn Elders calls for a discussion on the legalization of drugs, she is not advocating the use of drugs. She is saying that just as the prohibition of alcohol did not work in the 1920s, so prohibition of drugs is not working now. Dr. Elders is to be commended for daring to bring this controversial subject to the light of day where it can be debated and discussed by all citizens.

Nancy J. Bennett, Libertarian

JACKSON CITIZEN PATRIOT, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 5, 1994



Thursday, Dec. 23, 1993

Letter to the Editor

'Advanced thinker' would actually sacrifice individual rights

I was appalled at the article about Paul Robeson Junior and Senior (Dec. 17). The AP reporter Mary Campbell is obviously an advocate for multiculturalism, because she omits some very interesting information on Robeson Sr. and neglects to challenge Robeson Jr. on his plans to re-racialize America.

Let's take on Robeson Sr. first. Campbell notes Robeson Sr.'s two All-American awards, she mentions his lettering in baseball, basketball and track, she praises his singing and acting skills, then we get to the nub: ... spoke out for black betterment in America and praised the Soviet Union as having less racial prejudice.' Cambbell 'forgets' to mention Robeson Sr.'s long career in the Communist Party of the USA and his role as an apologist and advocate for Stalin and the real existing Communist system. How establishing communism in America will lead to the "betterment of blacks" is left unmentioned.

Robeson Sr.'s attachment to communism was not a youthful fling caused by naivete. Senior was committed and his commitment survived the Stalin-created Ukrainian holocaust of 15 million, the Great Terror, the systematic creation and expansion of a unionwide system of concentration camps, ie the GuLag. Robeson Senior stuck with Stalin through the Hitler-Stalin pact, Stalin's slaughter of the top officers of the Red Army, which left the Soviets unprepared to meet Hitler's later invasion and led to 20 million deaths. Robeson Senior was unfazed by Stalin's mountains of victims, by Stalin's "racially harmonious" uprooting of several entire nationalities and their transport to the far ends of Siberia, killing additional millions. Stalin admired the hatred generated by

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Hitler's anti-semitic propaganda. Stalin's own and semitic terror, the "Dector's Plot," was only stopped by his death.

Such are the wonders of the Robeson Sr. admired Soviet racial harmony. Would the Morning Sun so prominently display the musings of the son of a Nazi collaborator, indeed spread his opinions on achieving racial justice? I don't think so.

On to Robeson Jr.'s odious views: "... we are a community of ethnic groups ... and that individual rights don't override those relationships ... " Nothing Hitler, Stalin or Slobodan Milosevic could disagree with. Let's dump the Bill of Rights and set up a system of group rights based on ethnicity. Robeson Jr. would progressively and in racial harmony, generously sacrifice our individual liberties to establish some sort of racialist, multi-cultural, feel-good governmental tyranny. What a guy! What a "progressive" vision for America! Isn't this special!

Fortunately for us, we can see how ethnically based group rights work out in practice. The former Yugoslavia is multi-culturalism is action. Hitler only wanted to establish ethnic German community rights, the Jews just were in the way. Canada, as French and English, is doomed. Ethnic rights are truly respected in Africa, just ask the Ibo's and Hutu's. How about Malaysia, which officially discriminates against the Chinese? How about multiculturalism in Sri Lanka with Tamil-Ceylonese warfare?

Such is the future of the United States under Robeson Jr.'s vision of an ethnically-based group rights. What an advanced thinker, what a progressive guy!

John Tuttle Mt. Pleasant

Blame the British

The British, rather than the Irish, are obstructionists in the effort to end the conflict in Northern Ireland ("Northern Ireland: Adams' U.S. visit was a missed opportunity for peace," Feb. 4).

It is possible to have a cease-fire in Ireland, if the British would agree to one. Unfortunately, they have steadfastly refused. They continue to call for the Irish to forever forswear the use of force, while they maintain a 30,000-troop presence in occupied Ireland.

The Brits demand Irish surrender as a condition of discussions. Who is responsible for the "missed opportunity" here?

Tim O'BrienDET. FREE PRESSMadison Heights2-12-94

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Don't forget Libertarian candidates

The last two paragraphs of the Jan. 25 front-page story "Blanchard says he's not in Senate race" announced the Republican candidates running for the U.S. Senate seat. Even Gil DiNello, who hasn't announced, was mentioned as "considering getting into the contest."

No mention was made, however, of Jon Coon, the Libertarian candidate. Jon Coon announced his candidacy in September and has been preparing a serious campaign for more than a year now. For example, he has been interviewed by David Newman and Denny McClain of WXYT-AM 1270 and by WJR-AM 760. In fact, Denny McClain declared Jon Coon "the most electable candidate of all the guys running." In addition, he has run radio advertisements on WXYT-AM 1270 and in late spring plans on running television ads.

Obviously, the story was focused on the Democratic side of the race. Please allow me to suggest that in future coverage of the U.S. Senate race that The News consider including coverage of Jon Coon's campaign.

> Paul M. Soyk STERLING HEIGHTS

DETROIT NEWS FEB. 10, 1994

Good speech vs. bad laws

P hilip Gailey is to be commended for the Feb. 3 column "Second to none: Protecting the First Amendment." Although I'm not exactly looking for new ways to protect abortion mills, I found his assessment of today's assault from all directions on freedom of self-expression to be balanced and thorough.

I, for one, could never understand this pervasive "hate crime" mentality that decrees that an act of violence magically becomes a greater offense if it's motivated by the perpetrators attitude toward the victims race, religion or sexual orientation

It's time we all realize that the solution to bad speech is good speech, not bad laws.

DETROIT NEWS	Jack Elder
2-14-94	ROCHESTER

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FEBRUARY-MARCH, 1994

CANDIDATES (Continued from Page 3)

issues.

There may be variations between these two types of candidates, but these are the basic forms. Some paper candidates get more aggressive and do literature, etc.

All of our candidates represent this Party. We cannot afford bad tenpers or any lack of civility. We need to approach our opposition as we would competitors in a chess match, not as enemies in an ancient feud. Many of us may view elections as th moral equivalent of war, but Joe Sixpack doesn't see it that way. We need his vote, so let us be good sports.

There is apossibility that a candidate's views may differ from the LP Platform on a particular issue. If this is the case, the candidate should make this distinction clear at all stages of her or his campaign starting with the Convention.

Once campaigns are underway, it will be the responsibility of all candidates to piggy back each other's literature with their own in appropriate jurisdictions. This will bring the most publicity with the least effort.

Scott Boman

SOUTH CENTRAL LP REACHES OUT

The Libertarian Party of South Central Michigan participated in a chili cook-off on February 13. The event was sponsored by the Jackson Citizen Patriot and Wendy's Hamburgers in the field house at Jackson Community College. Proceeds from chili sales went to JCC scholarships.

Nick and Nancy Bennett, Tim Clampit and Jeff Grund cooked up a pot of chili in the best Libertarian style, being neither too hot nor too bland. A crowd of 4,000 people were exposed to Libertarian ideas and the self-government political test.

Nancy Bennett

FROM THE CHAIR (Continued from Page 2)

person for the information or action desired. The Letters feature gives some guidance to newer members on Party positions and recognizes those who publicize our ideas.

All of this means that we are getting much closer to the goal I set in my first term in 1990, to professionalize the LPM.

There has been very little bad news this year, but what there was left us saddened. Dick Jacobs, one of our best campaigners, died in June. Scott and Karen Scarborough were persecuted by the Federal Gestapo and its acquiescent judiciary, Scott to prison and Karen to house arrest. In a sense, that tells us that the federales consider us to be a threat to the statist quo. We accept this a compliment and tells us we are on the right track.

We're doing great! Let's keep rolling in 1994-95.

And, thanks for all your help.

(313) 885-1800

FAX (313) 885-3037

THOMAS A. CASEY ATTORNEY AND COUNSELOR

LAW OFFICES THOMAS P. CASEY, P.C. VERNIER OFFICE CENTER 19701 VERNIER ROAD, SUITE 220 HARPER WOODS, MICHIGAN 48225



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CALENDAR

First Tuesday of each month: Wayne Co. LP meets at Red Lobster, 6850 N. Telegraph in Dearborn. Dinner at 6:00, program at 8:00. Call JoAnn Karpinski at 313-925-6917.

Third Wednesdays: Oakland Co. LP meets at Mr. B's, 423 Main St., Rochester.

Second Thursdays: LP of Mid-Michigan meets at Sneeker's in Lansing at 6:00. Call Jon Addiss at 517-394-0122.

Second Thursdays: Macomb Co. LP meets at Rumors Restaurant, 15 N. Walnut, Mt. Clemens at 6:00, program at 8:00. Call Stacy Van Oast at 810-784-8783.

Every Thursday: Washtenaw Libertarians meet at Banfield's, 3140 Packard Rd., Ann Arbor at 6:30. Some lectures held at U M Union: March 17- Marc Baker speaks on Objectivism, a philosophical root of libertarianism. At Banfield's April 14- Pornography and the State of the First Amendment by Brad Schaeffer, attorney for the Deja Vu dance clubs.

April 22-24: Libertarian Party State Convention at the Ramada Inn, Metro Airport. Nomination of candidates and election of officers . Don't miss it!

Libertarians can't get mentioned

In a Jan. 25 story in which James Blanchard declined to run for the Senate seat being vacated by Donald Riegle, several other Republicans and Democratic candidates for that seat were mentioned. However, the story failed to mention the Libertarian Senate candidate, Jon Coon of Henderson.

Coon, 34, is running the largest, highest-profile campaign ever by a Libertarian candidate in Michigan. His "800" telephone number has helped the campaign raise thousands of dollars. He is holding rallies across the state, including in Grand Rapids. However, Coon is regularly ignored by the media in stories about the Senate race.

IEEB, 1994 DAN MARSH GRAND & APIDS PRESS Grand Rapids

MICHIGAN LIBERTARIAN

The Michigan Libertarián is published bimonthly as the official newsletter of the Libertarian Party of Michigan. Scheduled publication is January, March, May, July, September and November.

Articles and letters to the editor should be submitted by the 15th of the previous month and be typewritten, double-spaced and signed. Submissions may be edited.

Advertising is available at \$5.00 per column inch or fraction thereof for camera ready copy. Send to:

Keith Edwards, Editor 22131 Marter Rd. St. Clair Shores, MI 48080

If you are going to be a candidate for public office, be sure to bring your voter registration card with you to the Convention. We will need to know your district number.

Achieve reform via free market

I, for one, believe that the majority of physicians are not in agreement with the basic Clinton health care philosophy, which adds ¹/₇th of GNP into the socialistic camp. All its worthwhile goals can be achieved in the free-market arena. The culprit, from the start, has been government intervention in the health care field, with predictable, disastrous results. Government health care, as any other government endeavor, is doomed to failure.

I believe majority of physicians will support the individual-medical-savings accounts concept as the foundation of health care reform. All the desirable goals — including universal coverage, choice, portability, affordability and quality — can be achieved under its umbrella, if given a chance. **NICHOLAS G. BENNETT, MD** Jackson, Mich.

22 AMERICAN MEDICAL NEWS/FEBRUARY 14, 1994

Ending the extortion

The decision by the state Legislature and the governor to force voters to choose between two tax proposals without putting both on the ballot is extortion and an insult to the intelligence of us all.

This choice is a false alternative. These politicians made virtually no attempt to reduce expenses by doing away with the rainbow of giveaways to their favorite pressure groups nor did they give parents any meaningful choice in education.

We don't have to put up with this extortion. We should vote no on the sales tax amendment March 15 and then put on the fall ballot a proposal to not only cancel the income tax increase from 4.6 to 6 percent, but to cut it back to 3 percent, thereby forcing the state to reduce other spending and to start privatizing education.

Keith P. Edwards,

CHAIR, LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF MICHIGAN, ST. CLAIR SHORES DETRO:7 NEWS 2/28/94

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