



MICHIGAN LIBERTARIAN

NEWSLETTER OF THE LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF MICHIGAN

DECEMBER, 1993 - JANUARY, 1994

NEWS IN BRIEF

Mary Ruwart was a guest on the Mark Scott talk show on WXYT-AM on December 13. She was interviewed regarding Dr. Jack Kevorkian and the case of her sister Marti, who was one of Kevorkian's patients. She handled listener questions with her usual clarity and poise.

Mark Scott seems to have moved from his long held Objectivist- limited government position to the anarchist mode, influenced by the book, The Market for Liberty, by Morris and Linda Tannehill. He may encounter some flack from local Objectivists, but there is room for both sides in the libertarian spectrum. There will be some premise-checking now.

Investor's Business Daily had a front page article titled "Libertarian's Increasing Clout" on December 2. The article covered think tanks, privatization, libertarian-leaning public figures and the LP itself! The article was extensive and refreshing in contrast to its rival, The Wall Street Journal, which, while it prints a lot of Cato reports, has totally blanked out any knowledge of the LP.

Keith Edwards has been speaking on campus. During the fall, he spoke to eight political science classes at two colleges and two classes at Plymouth-Salem High, the latter arranged by former LPM Lieutenant-Governor candidate Steve Furr (1982). He was very well received by the faculty at all three schools and is to return in the next semester. The students like the new approach.

Tim O'Brien is trying to get a spot as talk show host on WXYT. He does a regular commentary on WDET-FM.

(Continued on Page 6)

SCARBOROUGH MAINTAIN PRINCIPLED STANCE

By Karen Scarborough

The U.S. Government's three and a half year persecution of us is still not over. On November 18, we were sentenced by Federal Judge Nancy G. Edmunds. My sentence was 3 years probation with the first 8 months to be served in home confinement. Scott received 18 months in federal prison. Both our motions for bond pending appeal were denied. We were, however, granted 60 days to petition the Appeals Court for bond, which we expect will be granted given that we are responsible, productive citizens with no previous record. According to our attorneys, judges use this tactic whenever they are not sure of their decisions and do not wish to be held civilly liable.

After handing down the sentences, Edmunds stated "the evidence in this case was overwhelming." According to our attorneys, it was overwhelmingly absent. Assistant U.S. Attorney Terrence Berg's anger at my probationary sentence was obvious, as he stormed back to counsel table, running into my injured foot, causing additional damage. I was in a wheelchair on doctor's orders. An injury lawsuit against Berg is being prepared. Before Scott was sentenced, the judge chastised him for being a decent, responsible individual, stating that had he been a disadvantaged drug dealer, he would have fared much better in her court! The judge's lunacy went on to include admonishing the entire courtroom not to expect probation if they ever decided to bomb a post office. She was not pleased at our lack of remorse or the fact that we maintained our innocence. The government coerces

(Continued on Page 6)

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Society in every state is a blessing, but Government, even in its best state, is but a necessary evil; in its worst state an intolerable one . . .

Tom Paine in Common Sense

FROM THE CHAIR - ELECTION YEAR

With our Annual Convention less than four months away and this being an election year, it is time to review our nomination process and to start lining up candidates.

According to state law, ballot status is determined by the vote received by a party's Principal Candidate, the statewide candidate highest on the party ticket. The order, per the State Election Bureau, is President (not on this year's ballot), Governor- Lt. Governor, Secretary of State, Attorney General, U.S. Senator and the education offices, starting with the State Board of Education. We nominate candidates for these offices at our State Convention, but rarely do so for all of them because of the Principal Candidate rule jeopardizing ballot status. Jon Coon has announced for the nomination for U.S. Senator and if he receives it, will head the ticket. If not, the State Board of Education candidate will be the head. No one has announced for the offices higher than Senator and it is unlikely that the Convention would nominate someone for them and endanger ballot status

The candidates for other offices are nominated by county caucus (or district caucus if an office covers more than one county) at the Convention. This can be time consuming and to speed up the process it would be helpful if those county organizations in existence would pick a slate ahead of time to be confirmed at the Convention. You can always add to the slate then. Each local group knows which people would be good candidates who would help, not embarrass, the LP.

Scott Boman is our Campaign Coordinator and will be checking with the local groups to see if we have candidates for the key spots such as U.S. House and the State Legislature (Senate and House). If you want to run for an education post, contact him early. We don't want a lot of empty slots.

There are three levels of activity of candidacy. The least active is the "paper"

(Continued on Page 3)

DUTCH APPROVE EUTHANASIA

The Associated Press has reported that the Netherlands parliament passed a bill on November 30 legalizing euthanasia. Physicians who assist the suicide of a patient who suffers from unbearable pain and requests death clearly and repeatedly are free from legal action. The doctor must report each case. The law does not help such cases as deformed babies, comatose patients or others who cannot or do not request death. Some 2% of deaths in the country are physician-assisted suicides and prosecution was absent even without the law, but it is now legal in those specific cases.

The law falls short of libertarian standards, but is a major step forward. It seems to be less than the position held by Dr. Jack Kevorkian as well, for he has assisted some patients who were more helpless than pain-ridden. Just goes to show that governments, even when they try to do the right thing, don't get it right. The Dutch move may, however, give politicians in other countries a nudge to solve this serious humanitarian problem. With vicious grandstanding prosecutors such as Thompson out there, they had better, or face early retirement.

FREEDOM FIGHTER AWARD TO DICK JACOBS

The Libertarian Party of Michigan will present a special Freedom Fighter Award to the late Dick Jacobs at the Banquet at the 1994 Convention, April 23. It is a lifetime award in honor of Dick's sustained period of leadership as a libertarian in Michigan politics both inside and outside the LP. Carol Jacobs will be there for the occasion. Dick died June 26, 1993.

Little minds are easily wounded by little things; great minds experience all things, and even so are left unscathed.

Crudeness often will pass in camp, never in court.

Maxims of LaRouchefoucauld

FROM THE CHAIR (Continued)

candidate who just fills out the filing forms at the Convention and answers ALL questionnaires received from newspapers, civic groups, etc. If you won't do that much, don't run.

The semi-serious candidate does the above and also attends candidate night debates, meets with local media and maybe places a few ads or hands out his literature.

The serious candidate does all of the above and raises funds, spends a lot more on advertising, walks as much of his district as possible, attends neighborhood events and goes all-out with the help of a campaign staff. Jon Coon is an example.

All three kinds of candidate are welcome on our ticket. Do what you find comfortable. We will have candidate training sessions both at the Convention and within a month after. We plan the latter both in Metro Detroit and Lansing and they will include practice in TV interviewing by our own Tim Skubick-sadist type, Gary Bradley.

The time to start lining up candidates is NOW! Don't wait until April 24. The Convention agenda will be heavy and tightly timed to get everything done with a minimum of parliamentary trivia, so the better prepared county organizations are, the better ticket we will present in November. Please help by not procrastinating.

ON VIDEO TAPE

Karen Scarborough addressing the Ohio Libertarians on her persecution by the federal government.

Send \$15.00 check payable to:
Scarborough Defense Fund
2357 Pine Orchard Dr.
Waterford, MI 48329

IT COULD HAPPEN TO YOU

* Proceeds benefit Scarboroughs' defense

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

'Let the free market work'

Regarding the Oct. 31 article "Struggling with superstores":

So America's small-town merchants are losing business to Wal-Mart and other major chains. What do they expect? Instead of being open when day-shift workers, who have most of the money to spend, are able to buy their products, they've always liked to roll up the sidewalks every day at 5 p.m.

Instead of trying to financially punish consumers by getting the government to dictate minimum prices at Wal-Mart, they should look to the examples of featured entrepreneurs like Rick Hallett, Bob Rehman and Cheryl Crawford, who understand and respect the free market.

Let's quit making excuses. Repeal all the laws against "predatory pricing" and let the free market work.

DETROIT NEWS

11-3-93

Jack Elder

ROCHESTER

Protection against government

In 1939, the U.S. Supreme Court held that shotguns should not be protected from legislation by the Second Amendment because they had no military utility.

Now you endorse the attempt to regulate so-called assault weapons precisely because they are only useful to the military ("Assault Weapons: Another small but sensible gun-control step," Nov. 19). Which is it?

The Second Amendment has nothing to do with hunting, target shooting or even protection against crime. It was included in our Constitution to ensure that citizens would have the means to protect themselves against their government.

The right to private ownership of military-type weapons should be the most zealously protected of all.

Dar Tisdale

New Haven

Nov. 30, 1993

Detroit Free Press

READER DEBATE

Canadian gag order:

Canada's ban on press coverage of Paul Teale's murder trial should be a wake-up call to all Americans. As totalitarianism has evolved in Canada, America has played copycat — the childish seat belt laws, restrictions on gun ownership, etc. After President Rodham and her husband foist crown corporation medicine on us, will the press censorship of murder trials be next?

12-11-93

Jeff Hampton

DET. NEWS BLOOMFIELD HILLS

Letters to the Editor

A right to health care creates 'slavery' system

In response to the Morning Sun's "Question of the Week" in (a recent) Sunday paper: "What do you think of President Clinton's proposed health care plan? How will it affect you?" Clara Agardy answered: "We all need this, we all have the basic right to good and decent health care. It's for the betterment of us all."

Ms. Agardy is wrong. Health care is not a "right." In fact enforcing a "right" to health care creates slavery. This is a harsh, but true, statement. Health care must be performed by someone. Forcing someone to work is forced labor or slavery. Such is the path to perdition that the "progressives" lead us on.

A true right creates no obligation upon anyone else. Freedom of the press, speech or expression infringes upon no one's rights. The false "right" to health care, housing, food, education, shoes, air travel, umbrellas or whatever else one can imagine is simply the flip side of the coin to slavery.

It is actually seeing the provision of services from the slavemaster's point of view. The slaveowner has the false "right" to the services, work and property of "his" slave. In Greece and Rome there were slaves who were physicians and nurses. Obviously, the ancients created an early version of Clinton's health care plan.

John Tuttle

Mt. Pleasant

Nov. 12, 1993

Mt. Pleasant Morning Sun

More casualties in the 'war on drugs'

"Let's hope that we've learned something from this human tragedy." This was the closing sentence of the Oct. 13 *Macomb Daily* editorial regarding the sentencing of former Detroit police officers Larry Nevers and Walter Budzyn in the beating death of Malice Green.

Indeed, the "something" that we all should have learned is the nightmarish consequences of the "war on drugs."

Admit it or not, Green was hurting only himself, not "society," with his addiction. Had his problem been properly recognized as a disease instead of a crime, the officers would have had no lawful authority to interfere with him, and the entire tragic scenario would probably have been avoided.

Therefore, regardless of how each of us feels about the sentences, we should all work together to end this insane drug war.

Let's rise above the emotional race-baiting rhetoric of the NAACP, the Macomb Coalition of Republicans, and their fellow-traveling agitational elements of the left and right respectively. Let's listen instead to the rational thinking of such free-market organizations as the Libertarian Party and the Cato Institute, which have been advocating drug decriminalization for years, and which work to elect leaders so committed.

Let's recognize the uncanny parallels between today's drug-law-related crime and that which resulted from alcohol Prohibition in the 1920s.

Let's also be concerned about the latest drug war development in which police practically have carte blanche leverage to seize cash at their whim from people who are neither remotely involved with illegal drug nor formally charged therewith.

But most importantly, let's ask ourselves: Just how seriously does the government take its own "politically correct" drug war when it thanks two loyal, dedicated veteran combatants by throwing them to the wolves the instant it becomes "politically correct" to do so?

Messrs. Nevers and Budzyn, are you listening?

KENNETH G. MORRIS

New Baltimore

MACOMB DAILY 11-4-93

The first letter on this page was sent to approximately 100 newspapers in Michigan and has appeared in many of them. If you see it in your local paper, please let me know. Although signed by me as Chair, the letter was drafted by our Ann Arbor group and edited by Barbara Vozenilek and me. We will be doing this from time to time.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A painless solution to school funding

No one seems to be talking about an obvious and painless solution to educational funding in light of the excellent property tax cut from our state government.

Since private schools do a better job and cost much less than the public schools (about one-third less according to one study), Michigan should privatize all public education, thereby eliminating that need to replace school funding lost by the property tax cut.

Further, mandatory education should be repealed to ensure that only those who wish to learn are in school. There would be no thugs with knives and guns roaming the halls assaulting serious students. With modern computer technology and data bases most education can occur at a student's pace with minimal teacher supervision. The enormous administrative bureaucracy would be the only loser.

This plan has the support of the Libertarian Party, but what Democrat, Republican or tax addict has talked about such a sensible, inexpensive plan without gagging at the thought of losing its slop in the public trough.

Keith Edwards

DET NEWS
12-16-93 CHAIR,
LIBERTARIAN PARTY
OF MICHIGAN, LIVONIA

Hunters prove you wrong

For two weeks, hundreds of thousands of individuals arm themselves with high-powered rifles and shotguns and go off to spend a week or two during deer hunting season with equally well-armed people. For many, if not most, alcohol is a part of the social experience after the day's hunt.

According to your anti-gun, anti-hunting columns and stories, this is surely a recipe for carnage and mayhem. Yet year after year, no murders are committed by hunters during deer season. On any given night, a typical inner city has more murders than 25 years of deer camps.

Could it be that it's not guns but the character of the people who have them that is the key element in violent crime? Yet all we get from the media and politicians is a never-ending eagerness to pass more gun laws that only punish the people who obey them.

Jack McHugh
Gladstone
Nov. 30, 1993
Detroit Free Press

Ehlers' star

Newly elected 3rd District congressman Vern Ehlers is anxious to serve on the House Science, Space and Technology Committee, which will surely add another star to his political resume ("Ehlers hopes to use background in Congress," Dec. 9).

The average constituent in the district couldn't care less. With all the talk about change from Republicans and Democrats, it would be refreshing if some of them would defend the civil and economic liberties of their constituents against the ravages and tyranny of big government, instead of putting ego trips at the top of their priorities.

Richard Whitelock
Ionia
12-16-93
Detroit Free Press

The right of consenting adults to ingest prohibited substances, to have an abortion, to choose assisted suicide, or to engage in prohibited sexual behavior, all boils down to the same basic right of self-ownership and self-determination. Once you concede that the government may dictate what any individual can do with his or her own body, then it becomes merely a matter of which power structure's morality and agenda gets imposed on the rest of us.

As long as drug users do not engage in acts of force or fraud against others, they may ingest any substance they like. But they do so at their own risk. It's not society's responsibility to rescue them from the consequences of their choices.

12-21-93 **Nancy Geragosian**
DETROIT NEWS ALLEN PARK

Returning drugs to free-market status is an idea that's 79 years overdue. The only people left who still support drug laws fall into one of three financially and/or politically motivated groups: law enforcement employees; non-addicted drug traffickers who haven't been caught yet; and special interest groups that craftily exploit drug-related social conflicts like the Malice Green killing for their own benefit.

12-21-93 **Kenneth G. Morris**
DETROIT NEWS NEW BALTIMORE

According to the government's own figures, one American in 10 uses drugs that are currently illegal. And of those who use drugs, only one in 10 has a problem controlling that use.

Is this Drug Jihad really justified in a futile attempt to save one person in a 100 from the consequences of his own bad habits?

DETROIT NEWS **Tim O'Brien**
12-21-93 MADISON HEIGHTS



Capital & Liberty

For a FREE copy of this new letter opposed to statism, send a self addresses stamped envelope to; Capital & Liberty, Seymour Enterprises, PO Box 694, Wayne, MI 48184

NEWS IN BRIEF (Continued from Page 1)

The group "People Achieving Legislative Power" (PALP) kicks off its petition drive January 8 aimed at restructuring Michigan government. The proposal features a unicameral, part-time legislature with 16 multi-member districts with proportional representation, no slush funds or retirement benefits for legislators and no mid-term pay raises. The brainchild of the late liberal gadfly Zolton Ferency has received the support of the LPM and our Lansing group headed by Jon Addiss is active in a leadership role.

It is not too late to donate to the Scarborough Defense Fund. As the article on this page indicates, the battle goes on and the cost mounts. The federals are going to have to learn that Libertarians are not to be persecuted, intimidated or underestimated. They revealed their true nature at Ruby Ridge and Waco as totally unprincipled tyrants. They must be opposed while there is still a trace of justice remaining. YOU could be next! The address is:

Scarborough Defense Fund
Charles L. Hahn, P.C.
26261 Evergreen #120
Southfield, MI 48076

Plans for the 1994 LPM State Convention are moving right along. Among the speakers are Aaron Zelman who has written a book condemning gun control, and Attorney Ralph Musilli who will cover the attack on our liberties.

Gillie's Inc.

RESTAURANT

6524 N. Dort Hwy
Mt Morris MI 48458

313-686-1200 Dave Gillie



SCARBOROUGH (Continued from Page 1)

80% of people charged with federal crimes to plead guilty, using deceitful, fear-inducing tactics and the ability to bankrupt the defendant with staggering legal fees.

To date, our legal expenses have totalled almost \$40,000. Many, many heartfelt thanks go to all those libertarians, too numerous to mention, who have given so generously to our Defense Fund. Approximately \$4,000 has been donated, due in part to the generosity of Barbara Goushaw, Mike Miller and Mark Sellers. We know that for the libertarians and others it was a great sacrifice. We also convey our gratitude to Scott Boman and Barbara Vozenilek for organizing a candlelight vigil attended by enough supporters to generate media coverage. There are many to whom we will always be grateful knowing that without their help, we could not have fought this battle.

Scott has until January 18 to report to the prison receiving facility. As a result of this travesty, his 15 year engineering career at Ford Motor ended November 23 and he has been trying to obtain employment just to hold on to what he has left. We have every reason to suspect that the government played a major part in Scott's losing his job. Given his conscientious work record, Ford was willing to lay low and keep him employed. The government, however, knows that this case will be overturned by the Appeals Court. The only means left to the government is to ensure that we have no money left with which to appeal. Of course, this also means that the judge and prosecutor, after a successful appeal, can and will be held civilly liable.

It is not over yet, obviously, even after the financial devastation. We are steadfastly maintaining our innocence and will continue to fight political harassment until it is finally eradicated and true justice prevails once more.

Whenever a man first seeks public office, a certain rottenness begins in his conduct.

Thomas Jefferson

CALENDAR

First Tuesday of each month: Wayne Co. LP meets at the Red Lobster, 6850 N. Telegraph in Dearborn. Cocktails at 6:00, dinner at 6:30, program at 8:00. Call JoAnn Karpinski at 313-925-6917.

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

Third Wednesday of each month: Oakland Co. Libertarians meet at the Red Lobster, 101 W. Twelve Mile Rd., Madison Heights.

Every Thursday: Washtenaw Libertarians meet at Dominic's Restaurant in Ann Arbor. Some lecture events held at U-M Union. Call James Hudler at 313-475-9792.

Second Thursday of each month: Macomb Co. Libertarians meet at Rumors Restaurant, Walnut St. off Cass Ave., Mt Clemens. Cocktails at 6:00, program at 8:00. Call Stacy Van Oast at 313-784-8783.

April 22-24, 1994: State Convention at the Ramada Inn, Metro Airport, Romulus, Mich.

Libertarian Advisory Council Meeting will be held on February 20, 1994 at a place to be determined. Call Keith Edwards after February 10.

**Paid political advertisement
DEMOCRACY NOW IN THE LPM**

If you want DEMOCRACY within the LPM, send a SSAE to T. Jones, 15336 Cruse, Detroit, MI 48227-3227 to get proposed LPM bylaws having (1) direct nomination and election of party officers by all LPM members (which will cause legislative candidates to talk about doing something substantive to repeal statist laws), (2) proportional representation in party legislative bodies with a changeable proxy, (3) separation of powers to avoid tyranny, and (4) the recall, initiative, referendum and bylaws amendments by LPM members. Without major reforms the LPM will die.

MICHIGAN LIBERTARIAN

The Michigan Libertarian is published bi-monthly 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

POLICY ON OFFICIAL MEETINGS

All meetings of the Executive Committee and the Libertarian Advisory Council will start at the scheduled time.

Under the By-laws, the Council is the legislative body of the LPM between annual Conventions. It requires a quorum of 30% of the membership, including proxies. If there is no quorum at the scheduled time, the meeting will not be held. Instead, a meeting of the Executive Committee will begin right away.

All LPM members can vote at the Council meetings, but only members of the Executive Committee can vote at Committee meetings although any member may attend.

At the Annual Convention, all members who register and attend may vote. There are no proxies. First-time members of the LPM must have been a member at least 30 days prior to the Convention in order to vote.

LPM PROXY

I, _____, A MEMBER OF THE LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF MICHIGAN, HEREBY GIVE MY PROXY FOR THE LIBERTARIAN ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING ON Feb. 20, 1994 TO _____.

SIGNED _____

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JOIN TODAY

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\$_____ Additional donation for operating fund (dues cover less than one-half of the operating budget)

_____ I want to join the Pledge Program. Please send me the registration material.

Note: All memberships include the LPM newsletter. National memberships includes a subscription to Libertarian Party News. Make checks payable: Libertarian Party of Michigan

GOVERNMENT MANDATED NOTICES: The United States Postal Service requires that we notify you that the cost of newsletter subscriptions (\$25 national, \$15 Michigan) are included in your membership dues. The Internal Revenue Service requires that we print "contributions are not tax-deductible".

Name: _____

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City: _____ State _____ Zip _____

Send to:
Libertarian Party of Michigan
11700 Merriman Road
Livonia, MI 48150

Telephone: Day _____ Evening _____

Applications for membership must indicate concurrence with the following statement by signing below.

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

This does not preclude self-defense or resistance to tyranny.

Signature _____



MICHIGAN LIBERTARIAN
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