

The Jersey Libertarian

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THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK

CORPUS CHRISTI (AP) - Corpus Christi city fathers didn't think much of a limit on taxes approved by the community, so they filed suit - against everybody in town.

"It's just unbelievable," said one resident after learning of the lawsuit that challenges the validity of a controversial city charter amendment limiting local taxes. "They have now challenged the last right and privilege that you and I have and that's the ballot box," said Tom Hunt, one of the organizers of the amendment known as Proposition 14. The proposition, passed by an overwhelming margin in the April 5 city election, lowered the tax rate ceiling from 74 cents to 68 cents per \$100 valuation and limited annual tax-rate increases to 6 percent.

The suit named as defendants "all taxpayers, residents, property owners, non-resident property owners and persons having or claiming interest in any funds or property" in this Gulf Coast resort city of 210,000. David Diaz, one of the five council members who voted to file the suit, defended it as a necessary action. "It's like a doctor who had to cut off a patient's leg," he said. "As an elected official you have to do some things that people don't like."

In response, the Corpus Christi Taxpayers Association, angered by the city's court challenge of its successful tax-cutting measure, is off and running on a campaign to recall the mayor and six council members. Association secretary Joe O'Brien said, "The response is absolutely unbelievable" as thousands of Corpus Christi citizens rush to sign the petition to force the city's first recall election.

"Proposition 14 is the will of the people, an order from the taxpayers to the City Council that we are tired of big tax increases," said Taxpayers Association president Lewis Lovelace, who blames the council for the turmoil. In revenge, Councilman Jack Best filed a \$17 million libel suit against the Corpus Christi Taxpayers Association, charging the group defamed him in its petitions to recall the entire council.

IN MEMORIAM: HAL CUNDARI

On July 29, 1980, Hannibal Cundari, 68, passed away after suffering a massive heart attack. A longtime Libertarian activist, Hal was a gentle, caring man whose sacrifices to the Libertarian Party throughout the years should be an inspiration to us all. Born in New York City, he became a mechanical engineer. His political affiliations over the years included the N.J. Conservative Party, the American Institute for Economic Research, and the N.J. Conservative Union. Hal was always ready to assist the LP. This year, he allowed his name to be placed on the ballot for Congress in the 12th District. In 1976, he was the Libertarian candidate for the United States Senate and received 19,999 votes, the highest number ever cast for an LP candidate in New Jersey. A charming, dedicated man of principle, Hal will be dearly missed by everyone who knew him. Even as he left us, his generosity was evident - he willed his body to science. He is survived by his wife and son.

Jersey Machine Fields Full Congressional Slate

New Jersey's Libertarian Party, under the vigorous leadership of state Chairman Ray Blanco, has been making large strides toward establishing itself as a major force in state politics. In an interview with the *Libertarian News*, Blanco said, "We have 38 candidates for public office in 1980. We will have full county slates in 8 of New Jersey's 21 counties. We will also have a full congressional slate. It's the first time that any third party in New Jersey, and perhaps in the entire country, has accomplished such a task." Blanco continued, "We have targeted four races where each candidate expects to spend at least \$5,000. We even have one race which we intend to win. For the first time a northeastern Libertarian could be elected to public office."

The other three targeted races in the state are for congressional seats. They are: Livingston lawyer Carl Sampson's challenge to incumbent Rep. Millicent Fenwick(R) in the 5th district; Virginia Flynn's race against Rep. Edwin Forsythe(R) in the 6th district; and Bergen County Libertarian Party Chairman Bob Shapiro's race against Rep. Harold Hollenbeck(R) in the 9th district.

Not all of the New Jersey party's time has been spent on running candidates for office, however. An active membership drive begun in March is beginning to pay off in increased support. The party has also extensively revised its publications as well. The newsletter, *The Jersey Libertarian*, has been given a face-lift with some new graphics and has been expanded to include more copy and advertising. The costs of the new newsletter, in fact, are completely covered by the advertising. *The Jersey Libertarian* also began an activist bulletin in May called *Actionline* that keeps party members up-to-date on Libertarian news around the state.



National Taxpayers Legal Fund

The National Taxpayers Legal Fund, a non-partisan organization, is involved in a number of projects of interest to Libertarians. The Legal Aid Referral Service lists law firms who will challenge the IRS in court. Interested lawyers should contact NTLF. Taxpayers Against Military Excess (TAME) desires information on military spending that actually impairs defense, especially technical data that doesn't raise issues of foreign policy. Taxpayers for Fair Campaign Practices is a project on the FEC's impact on the electoral process. NTLF also documents IRS harassment of taxpayers and brings taxpayers whose rights have been violated by IRS agents to testify before Congress. For more information, write to Bruce Majors, NTLF, 325 Pennsylvania Ave. SE, Washington, DC 20003 or call 202-628-0455.

Jersey Libertarian

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MAJOR CLARK EFFORT IN JERSEY

The July 27 state committee meeting was held at Bob Shapiro's home and it commenced at 2:15 PM.

There were three announcements: (1) We have won the postal law suit, (2) the Clark ballot drive is on target, (3) Bill George resigned from the State Committee due to his political involvement in the Republican campaign in the 15 CD.

Barry Siegel, chair of the NJLP College Liaison committee, reported on the recent Tri-State College Libertarians convention held at New York University.

The 1981 Convention was discussed. Interested county organizations are encouraged to submit bids at the August 17 meeting. The Bergen and Union LPs plan to make a joint bid. They are discussing Atlantic City and the Morristown area as possible sites.

A resolution for joint fundraising action in the initial cost for the mass distribution of the self-mailer response Clark brochure was unanimously approved. A quarter of a million brochures will be distributed in New Jersey by direct mail and door to door, with a potential of close to one million registered voters. Needless to say, this will be the major Clark effort in Jersey. Funds are needed. Contact Ray Blanco,

Mike Fieschko, Ken Kaplan and Jeanne Macron will no longer serve on the state committee due to personal conflicts. Carl Samson was unanimously approved as the party's legal counsel. A motion to move the state party phone to Ray Blanco's office was unanimously approved.

Ray Blanco said that unemployment among NJLP members was running higher than the national average. He urged members who have job leads to contact the Jersey Libertarian and him. Also, anyone who is unemployed should contact Ray. Employment does not have to be libertarian-related.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:30 PM. Members present: Ray Blanco, Mike Perry, Len Flynn, Bob Shapiro, Barry Siegel, Ken Edwards and Howard Tedder Jr.

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NJLP MEETINGS SCHEDULE

Date	Time	Place
August 17	2 PM	Ray Blanco's home
Sept. 14	2 PM	Mike Perry's home
Oct. 19	2 PM	To Be Announced
Nov. 4	7 PM	Victory Celebration at Ray Blanco's. Results from around the nation will be phoned in to Plainfield.
Nov. 16	2 PM	To be announced
Dec. 14	7 PM	NJLP Holiday Dinner

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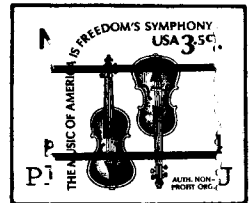
"THAT GOVERNMENT IS BEST WHICH GOVERNS LEAST"
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TO:

Domenser,

73

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