



New Jersey Libertarian

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Chair's Message

Thank you to everyone for your hard work during this busy campaign season. 2014 promises to be another year of historic growth for the New Jersey Libertarian Party. We are the third-largest and fastest-growing party in the state. With Election Day approaching we stand in a unique position to surprise people at the ballot box.

New Jersey is fed up with the two-party system. Today a shocking 25% of New Jerseyans live in poverty. Property taxes continue to eviscerate the middle-class. The state government is now over \$78 Billion in debt. Corruption is rampant in both major parties.

We are the party of the future. Libertarianism is exploding in popularity among young people. A recent Gallup Poll found 60% of Americans now favor the rise of a third political party. There has never been a more exciting time to be a Libertarian.

Thank you to our excellent candidates for representing our party and our libertarian principles. Steven Uccio has been gaining momentum in his race for Mercer County Freeholder. Brian Pizza is running a very strong campaign for Ocean County Freeholder. Dorit Goikhman is running a high profile campaign for US House in the 6th Congressional District. Jim Gawron is running for US House in the 7th District. Joe Baratelli is representing the NJLP for US Senate.

Thank you to John Paff for his outstanding achievements in the pursuit of government accountability. His efforts have won victories too numerous to cite, including the repeal of

unconstitutional municipal curfews. John is proof that one determined Libertarian can make a difference.

I'm looking forward to our Liberate Trenton event 10/25 at the Trenton Public Library. Please join us for a discussion of issues facing urban communities in New Jersey. These include education, the war on drugs and jobs. There will be an Election Night Party at Killarney's in Hamilton hosted by the Central Jersey Libertarians 11/4 at 7pm. Then make sure to attend our NJLP General Meeting 11/8 at 3pm at the Omega Diner.

We need your help to continue our extraordinary growth. Please support our party and our candidates. Now is the perfect time to get involved.

Patrick McKnight
Chair, NJ Libertarian Party

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High Property Taxes are Destructive to NJ's Economy

By Mercer County Freeholder Candidate Steven Uccio

Like most citizens of New Jersey, I detest our property taxes. I don't think that's such a controversial statement to make. They are the highest in the nation. For me it's not just the amount of money we pay in property taxes, but it's also the nature of them that bothers me.

Federal and state income taxes are a tax on work. Sales tax is a tax on consumption. Your property taxes, on the other hand, are a tax on ownership. You own something, yet you have to continue to pay for it every year. These high taxes raise the cost of land and in turn raise the cost of everything. Even if you rent instead of own, you are still paying property taxes. Your landlord isn't going to pay those taxes. He's going to make you pay them for him. These costs are rolled into the food at our grocery stores and the fuel at our gas stations. We all pay for these property taxes whether we know it or not.

If we want to make New Jersey more liveable for everyone then one of the things we need to do is make drastic cuts at the county level. Assistance programs will need to be cut, failing businesses that the county owns should be sold off, and excessive land should be auctioned to pay for our massive debts.

I understand some people might be hesitant to cut certain services. Something like home heating assistance might seem very helpful. Please don't forget that this money isn't free. It comes right out of the money you're giving to the county. Meanwhile you are also paying for child care assistance for a second family and first-time homebuyer assistance for a third. Nothing is free.

I'm sure our current freeholders are very proud of all these programs. The problem is that people who need them the most are likely no longer here. Besides being number one in highest property taxes, we're number one in something else. People are leaving this state faster than any other state in the country. People are fleeing New Jersey. I think it's time for a change in Mercer County and I would be glad to bring it. ♦

NJLP State Board

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Public Speaking for Libertarians

By Jim Tosone

Effective communication is critical for the success of Libertarian Candidates and Activists. On September 21, Jim Tosone and Ken Krawchuk, both Advanced Toastmasters, hosted a special session at the International Roasting Post. The workshop was designed to help candidates and activists convey the message of liberty, and turn NJ residents into Libertarian supporters and voters.

Ken, who is the 2014 LP Party candidate for Governor in Pennsylvania, began the session with a series of talks based on his personal experience running for a variety of elective offices over the years. The topics covered were "How to Run a Campaign," "How to Go Door-to-Door," and "Why Vote Libertarian?"

Ken and Jim then conducted a mini-master classes in prepared speeches. Two of our 2014 NJLP candidates, Joe Baratelli (U.S. Senate) and Steven Uccio (Freeholder) gave stump speeches to the audience. Ken and Jim then gave each candidate feedback on their speeches: what worked well, and ways they could enhance the substance of their talk and their presentation style. The candidates appreciated the constructive comments. The program ended with a Q&A session.

Thanks to NJLP Chair Patrick McKnight for securing the venue and to Steven Uccio for promoting the event. The NJLP plans to have more special events and programs in 2015 to help attract and retain members. ♦

NJLP Open Government Advocacy Project Chair Wins National Award



Well known for his public advocacy and a frequent panelist and speaker throughout New Jersey, John Paff this year becomes the 15th inductee into the [State Open Government](#)

[Freedom of Information Hall of Fame](#). Known as the “Heroes of the Fifty States,” the joint initiative of the [National Freedom of Information Coalition](#) (NFOIC) and the [Society of Professional Journalists](#) recognizes the recipient’s “long and steady effort to preserve and protect the free flow of information about state and local government that is vital to the public in a democracy.” Formal induction takes place on October 24 at the [2014 NFOIC Freedom of Information Summit](#) in St. Petersburg, Florida.

Paff has been dubbed “New Jersey’s busiest open government activist” by reporter Colleen O’Dea, who featured him this February in her New Jersey Spotlight article “[Profile: The Man Who Makes Sure Government Works – Right Out in the Open](#).”

Paff’s interest in government transparency began in 2002 shortly after the New Jersey Open Public Records Act was passed. Since then, he has taken a lead role in the work of the [New Jersey Libertarian Party’s Open Government Advocacy Project](#) and has served as Project Chairman since 2003. He has also served for the past five years on the board of trustees for the [New Jersey Foundation for Open Government](#), a non-profit organization devoted to improving compliance with the state’s Open Public Records Act and Open Public Meetings Act. Paff is also a gifted writer and blogs about noteworthy issues at [NJ Open Government Notes](#).

Having earned a reputation as a government watchdog, Paff typically juggles five public records requests at any one time. He has filed and won numerous lawsuits against non-compliant public agencies and, in doing so, has made a significant contribution to the body of case law giving teeth to the statutes. “The award judges had a wealth of riches this year in choosing its ‘hero,’ but John Paff stood above the crowd,” said Sarah Nordgren, Director of Content Development for the [Associated Press](#) and one of the NFOIC judges who reviewed the nominees. “John is tireless not only in his support of open government, but also in imparting

the deep knowledge he has to others, so that they, too, can work to ensure transparency.”

NFOIC’s president, Hyde Post said “John joins a distinguish group of 14 deserving men and women: outstanding individuals who selflessly volunteer their time to ensure open, transparent government, and freedom of information in their states and for their communities.” ♦

Reason Foundation Report on Highways

By Jay Edgar

The [Reason Foundation](#) released their [21st Annual Report on the Performance of the State Highway System](#). This report ranks the quality and spending on the state highways based on data reported by each state for 2012 and part of 2011. Our legislators should be hanging their heads in shame while the taxpayers should be sharpening their pitchforks.

The condition of New Jersey highways ranks very low while spending per mile far outpaces the rest of the nation. New Jersey spends 12.5 times more than the national average per mile. This is over 3 times more than Massachusetts, the next lowest spender.

Of note is that these numbers only take into account highway miles. New Jersey has more lanes per mile than any other state with 3.65 lane miles per mile of highway. However, even taking this into account, New Jersey still spends far more than any other state. Taking this into account New Jersey spends 8.2 times more than the national average per lane mile and 2.6 times as much as the next highest spender, Massachusetts.

Overall in highway performance we rank at number 48. In good news, NJ ranks at number 5 for fatalities.

Category	NJ	National State Average	NJ Ranking
Rural Interstates in Poor Condition	2.05%	1.78%	31
Urban Interstates in Poor Conditions	10.71%	4.97%	46
Percent of Urban Interstates Congested	47.36%	42.15%	41
Deficient Bridges	25.33%	21.52%	36
Fatalities per 100 million vehicle miles	0.79	1.13	5
Total Disbursements per mile	\$2,027,711	\$162,202	50
Total Disbursements per lane mile	\$555,537	\$67,584	50

Spending on state-owned roads totaled \$132 billion in 2012, up 6 percent from 2011. Spending varied wildly from state to state according to the Annual Highway Report. South Carolina and West Virginia spent just \$39,000 per mile of road in 2012 while New Jersey spent over \$2 million per state-controlled mile. Rhode Island, Massachusetts, California and Florida were the next biggest spenders, outlaying more than \$500,000 per state-controlled mile.

It is my opinion that the two main reasons for the large amount of money spent on our roads is a combination of administrative overhead and the federal [Davis Bacon Act](#). According to the report, New Jersey has the sixth highest administrative costs at \$44,000 per mile. The Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that the mean 2013 annual income for Road Construction Laborers is \$46,500 in New Jersey, nationally the mean wage for this industry is \$37,940. ♦

More than 10 percent of urban Interstate mileage in New York, New Jersey, Arkansas, Louisiana, California and Hawaii is in poor condition. Those six states account for nearly half of the nation's potholed urban Interstate pavement mileage.

- [Summary Annual Report on Highway Performance](#)

Perth Amboy, in a Sanctimonious Display, Gives up Police Report on Alleged Sexual Assault

By John Paff

In a September 3, 2014 letter, Perth Amboy (Middlesex County) City Attorney Mark J. Blunda, provided a redacted copy of a two-page police report regarding an alleged sexual assault by one Perth Amboy school teacher against another. [The letter](#) and the report bring [my lawsuit](#) to an end.

Blunda's letter, written to Middlesex County Assignment Judge Travis L. Francis and copied to my lawyer, Walter M. Luers of Clinton, contains a fair amount of sanctimony. In his letter, Blunda intoned:

“While some may consider re-publication of salacious details of a sexual assault to be an act of intentional infliction of emotional distress upon the victim, since the events happened more than four years ago and the criminal and civil matters have been completed, the municipality's grant of access to the record will not interfere with the judicial or criminal process. Any potential liability for further

publication, or the chilling effect that it may place on future victims, falls on the Plaintiffs shoulders.”

So, according to Blunda, I am intentionally inflicting "emotional distress" upon the alleged victim by seeking police reports that would disclose what, if anything, the Perth Amboy Police Department did about this alleged sexual assault. Never mind that the alleged victim, who received a [\\$199,000 secret settlement](#) from the Perth Amboy Board of Education, herself put on public display in her [lawsuit](#) the same "salacious details" that Blunda now feigns an interest in protecting.

In sum, and as I reported in my earlier blog entry, Perth Amboy could have avoided this entire lawsuit had it been more candid about which records the City had on file regarding this incident. It was only after my OPRA lawsuit was filed that the City disclosed that it only possessed one initial police report and that the matter was thereafter transferred to the Middlesex County Prosecutor's Office. ♦

NJLP Recruiting 2015 Candidates

By Patrick McKnight

The New Jersey Libertarian Party needs YOU to run for office in 2015! The NJLP is not comprised of scripted career politicians. We are regular working people volunteering our time and energy so our children can live in freedom and peace. If we can do this so can you!

"If elected, I will sponsor legislation to abolish the NSA, grant clemency and full whistleblower protection to Edward Snowden, consolidate our 18 spy agencies into one accountable agency, and cut taxes accordingly."

- Joe Baratelli, Libertarian Candidate for U.S. Senate

Now is the time to capitalize on the explosion of interest in the Libertarian Party. We're especially looking for candidates to run on the local level for town council, school board and county Freeholder. These local races allow us to interject real issues such as property taxes, education reform and municipal over-regulation.

New Jerseyans are increasingly looking to our party for leadership against the corrupt two-party machine. We have a responsibility as Citizens to organize ourselves politically. Anything less represents an abdication of our Natural Rights as human beings and our obligation to future generations.

Our party is already having an incredible impact but we need you to take our organization to the next level. We have the answers for the problems of unemployment, taxes and tyranny that burden our families and communities. It's up to us to be the change we want to see in the world.

We can fix New Jersey but we need your help. When you run for office you will be shocked by how many of your neighbors are in complete agreement with our libertarian principles. You will meet other leaders in your community and make the contacts needed to maintain our extraordinary growth.

It's time to take this movement into overdrive and get our hands dirty spreading the message of liberty. Our present situation as New Jersey citizens and taxpayers is intolerable. The future is up to us. ♦

Shopping Bag Tax a Waste of Mercer County Freeholder Time

By Steven Uccio

While our property taxes and debt climb, the Mercer County freeholders are focused on other things. What could be more important than making living here more affordable? Plastic shopping bags and new taxes.

Our freeholders want to levy a 5-cent per bag tax on each plastic shopping bag used here in Mercer County. First, I consider it a waste of time, when there are more important things to be done. Second, let the actual stores worry about their shopping bags. The freeholders should mind their own business; the stores can charge a fee if they deem it necessary. Most grocery stores already sell reusable shopping bags and some offer a discount to those who use them. I've never seen any reason that the county government had to step in.

Even against the advice of its attorney, the freeholders decided to put a non-binding referendum on the ballot ("Bag-fee question approved for ballot — freeholders override attorney's objection to nonbinding vote," Aug. 15). I'm confident our voters won't give a vote of approval to the state Legislature to raise their own taxes.

If I am elected to freeholder, residents will see me vote against every unnecessary law and every new tax. Challenging this mindset that only the government can solve problems is exactly why I'm running. Usually, the government is creating the problems. If our county government did only what was absolutely necessary, we would all be better off. ♦

Eminent Domain Abuse in Atlantic City

By Jay Edgar

The NJ state Casino Reinvestment Development Authority is attempting to seize private property once again. They are attempting to use eminent domain to seize the home of Charles Birnbaum in Atlantic City. Mr. Birnbaum's parents purchased this home in 1969. Mr. Birnbaum uses the home as a base for his piano-tuning business and rents the apartment in the house. The [Declaration of Taking](#) filed in February by the CRDA presents Mr. Birnbaum with a sum of \$238,500 for the taking of his property. Zillow estimates the house worth to be \$381,161.

The filing indicates that the property is being condemned, yet the property is in excellent condition.

The CRDA announced plans for a "South Inlet Mixed Use Development Project" in 2012 to meet demands created by the newly opened Revel Casino. Mr. Birnbaum's house sits in the way of this project. The Revel has run into financial difficulty and is closing on Monday yet the CRDA has not expressed any interest in backing down.

Fighting the eminent domain order is the libertarian law firm, [Institute for Justice](#).

Back in 1994 the CRDA attempted to seize the home of widow, Vera Coke, to build a parking lot for Donald Trump for his new Trump Plaza. (Trump Plaza will be closing down next month.) The [Institute for Justice fought this case](#) and [successfully saved Vera Coke's home](#) from the CRDA.

The 2005 Kelo v. City of New London decision led to a backlash against states seizing private property to transfer to private interests. Many states passed laws that attempted to reform eminent domain abuse. Last year New Jersey [passed a bill that purported to limit eminent domain abuse](#), however large exceptions in the law have made it ineffective. This law creates a method of seizing property that is not blighted at all. It allows municipalities to designate "Non-Condensation Redevelopment Areas" so that the properties can be taken for public or private use.

New Jersey needs real eminent domain reform. No one should suffer having their private property taken from them for the benefit of politically connected private interests. ♦

New Jersey Libertarians Fight for Fair Ballot Position

The New Jersey Libertarian Party is considering legal action after the New Jersey Division of

Elections declared that the Democrats and Republicans had met the voter threshold to get advantageous positions on the general election ballot.

Usually, the Democrats and Republicans get the preferred far-left positions on the ballot. Then any remaining candidates are listed to the right, and their positions are chosen by lottery, which is taking place today in each of the 21 counties.

For a recognized political party to get a prime position on the ballot, the party must have at least 10 percent of the votes cast in the preceding general election, which was last November.

Neither the Democrats nor Republicans had 10 percent of the votes in the primary, therefore, according to New Jersey election law, all candidates in each race should be chosen through a lottery in each county for ballot position.

[New Jersey election law 19:5-1](#) says, "no political party which fails to poll at any primary election for a general election at least [10 percent] of the votes cast in the State for members of the General Assembly at the next preceding general election, held for the election of all of the members of the General Assembly, shall be entitled to have a party column on the official ballot at the general election for which the primary election has been held."

However, the Department of Elections is using a 1999 appellate court decision that stated the vote totals should include all races on the ballot, including town council races. These extra votes would give the Democrats and Republicans the vote totals they need to meet the 10 percent threshold.

Last year, a judge agreed that the appellate court decision was wrong, and that the Republican candidate for the U.S. Senate in a special election should not have been allowed a party column, but dismissed the case because she said it was too close to the election to change the machines.

"Either the Libertarian Party and people of New Jersey will have won a victory for ballot equality, or we're going to have a historic battle on our hands," said Patrick McKnight, LP New Jersey chair. "I'm hoping for the former, but preparing for the latter."

Waterford Secretly Pays \$260,000 to Settle Police False Arrest/Excessive Force Suit

By John Paff

On July 21, 2014, the insurer for two Waterford (Camden County) police officers agreed to pay \$260,000 to a father and his parents who sued them for alleged harassment, unlawful arrest and use of excessive force.

In their separate suits, Tracey Miller and his parents Ronald and Lavina Miller said that Waterford Police Sergeant Joseph McNally is a "very close friend" of Thomas Watson, who is the father of Tracey's ex-wife Jennifer Miller. According to the complaints, the divorce between Tracey and Jennifer was "highly contested" and involved a domestic violence complaint and custody of the couple's child.

According to the parents' complaint, "[e]very time that an issue arose with respect to this matter including the filing of a domestic violence complaint, Defendant, Sergeant McNally, a Waterford Township Police Officer, was involved in the investigation." The complaints go on to say that the animosity that pitted the Watson family and the Waterford police against the Millers caused Tracey to be "constantly under surveillance." The Millers, who all lived in the same house, claimed that Waterford Township Police Department, would frequently pass by Plaintiffs' house, slow down as they approached their house and would stay there for several minutes in an attempt to harass and/or intimidate Mr. Miller and his family members, including the Plaintiffs."

According to the Millers, the police harassment graduated into physical violence. One of three official encounters between the Millers and the police occurred on April 9, 2011. The parents and their granddaughter were driving home and allegedly saw a police vehicle parked near their home. The granddaughter called her father, Tracey, who was following behind them and told him to be "very careful" for they were "in fear for his life." When Lavina asked one of the officers in the waiting car why the police were there, the officer, Timothy Lyons, reported said that Tracey was being stopped for "tinted windows".

At this point, the complaints allege that Lyons beat Tracey severely while he was on the ground while his minor daughter was "crying and screaming hysterically for Officer Lyons to stop beating her father." This allegedly provoked Lyons to swing his nightstick at the daughter and her grandparents.

During this time, McNally allegedly took Lyon's place on top of Tracey's back and continued holding his face in the wood chips and . . . punching him in the left side of his face and head almost knocking him unconscious. Lavina said that she went in the house to call 911 to get help from the State Police. The 911 operator allegedly told her that the State Police would not respond because Waterford police were already there.

After finishing with the alleged beating of Tracey, Lyons then reportedly approached Tracey's father, who was then 69 years old and "suffers from many chronic disabilities." Lyons allegedly "slam[ed] him violently on the concrete ground causing a phone to fly out of his hand." (The father was allegedly on the line with 911.) According to the complaint, this caused a "serious right shoulder fracture." A few days after the incident, both Ronald and Lavina said that they were called to the police station to be processed for various charged including resisting arrest and aggravated assault on a police officer. The Millers claim that the officers themselves are "under criminal investigation by the Camden County Prosecutor's Office."

On January 30, 2014, U. S. District Court Judge Joseph E. Irenas dismissed all the counts against Waterford Township and most of the counts against the individual police officers. The only counts that survived the motions were civil rights and other tort claims against Lyons and McNally.

Also named in the suits were Waterford Police Officer Brent J. Staiger and Sergeant Richard J. Passarella,

The cases are captioned [Miller v. Waterford](#), Federal Case No. 1:11-cv-03405 and 1:11-cv-03578 and the Millers' attorney was Charles A. Fiore of Williamstown.

The settlement agreement contains a confidentiality clause, which prevents the parties to the suit from publicly disclosing the settlement terms. Fortunately, however, these confidentiality clauses do not trump the public's right to obtain copies of settlement agreements that arise out of lawsuits in which a government agency or official is a defendant.

None of the Millers' allegations have been proven or disproven in court. The settlement agreement resolution expressly states that the \$260,000 payment does not constitute an admission of wrongdoing by Waterford or any of its officials. All that is known for sure is that Waterford or its insurer, for whatever reason, decided that it would rather pay the Millers \$260,000 than take the matter to trial. Perhaps the

defendants' decision to settle was done to save further legal expense and the costs of trying what were in fact exaggerated or meritless claims. Or, perhaps the claims were true and the defendants wanted to avoid being embarrassed at trial. This is the problem when cases settle before trial--it is impossible to know the truth of what really happened.

Something to Think About (Property vs. Force Based Libertarianism)

By Major William H. Howcott USAF Retired

"The moment the idea is admitted into society, that property is not as sacred as the law of God, and that there is not a force of law and public justice to protect it, anarchy and tyranny commence. If "Thou shall not covet," and "Thou shall not steal," are not commandments of Heaven, they must be made inviolable precepts in every society, before it can be civilized or made free." John Adams 1787

This is the view of John Adams and many other Founders. I would take it one step further. Property ownership is not only a necessary ingredient of freedom; it is freedom! Libertarians tend to be force-based; that is, generally speaking, believing that people should not be compelled to do things. I would suggest that the true center of libertarianism is property, not force. I would agree that force is important, but it is just one of many subordinate aspects of property ownership. Property ownership, not force is the imperative.

A measure may be devised for the willingness of a government to take assets from its citizens; that is, to violate their property rights. The various political philosophies may then be placed on a chart in accordance with this measure. Those political philosophies that least require control of its citizen's assets to function, and are therefore most reluctant to take them, would fall to the right side of the chart. Those political philosophies that most require the assets of its citizens to function, and are therefore least reluctant to take them, would fall on the left side of the chart.

If an array of political philosophies is placed on the chart based on their relative regard for the personal property of the citizenry, you will find that the political philosophies that you intuitively believe to be similar will fall close to each other. Likewise, dissimilar political philosophies will be widely separated. The utility of this line of thought is that people may not only identify themselves as, for example, a democrat, but may also discover exactly how democratic they are. It also provides a solid

ground from which to understand the politics of others ... it provides clarity. You will find that people with widely disparate political philosophies usually have what they believe to be good and noble intentions. And for the most part, the intentions are not just believed to be good and noble, but are good and noble indeed.

For example, the extreme libertarian believes that the property you earn or own belongs to you, and you only. This is a property centric position. When your property is taken, or to the degree that one does not receive the full measure of his earnings, theft has occurred. This is an assertion that most, whether they agree with the position or not, can understand and find to be reasonable. It is a position not of evil or greed, but of logic and morality. Take a moment to think about this important concept. Can you think of any justification for denying workers the pay they have legitimately earned?

My great, great grandfather, Miles, worked hard all his life and never even once received the fruits of his labor. He was a slave in Chowan County, North Carolina. Had he been allowed to labor and be entitled to the fruits of his labor, he would have been as free as a man could be. My father realized this and often said "No man is entitled to the fruits of another man's labor, for in that is the making of a slave".

On the other end of the spectrum, the pure socialist believes that property should not be owned by any individual but communally by the group, and used for the good of the group. Every man is entitled to the fruits of every other man's labor. This is also a reasonable position of logic and morality that can be understood by good people of all political flavors. Can you think of any justification for a person with an overabundance of food denying lifesaving sustenance to another?

What is the fundamental difference in these two disparate positions? The difference is where the center of interest is placed. For the extreme libertarian, the center of interest is the giver, or property owner. For the extreme socialist, the center of interest is the property receiver, not the owner. The socialist is primarily interested in helping people, the libertarian in securing their property.

At first glance, this appears to make the libertarian look cold and heartless. But when you consider that the property of interest of the libertarian includes the human body, human mind and the human soul, it becomes evident that the libertarian too is concerned with humanity. But the libertarian is concerned with a humanity that comes from within; from one's heart

and from one's soul; and opposes those who would enforce an artificial humanity upon the citizenry at the point of a government gun. Many libertarians, maybe even most libertarians, see this notion of internal virtue as a religious concept. Be it religious or not, it promotes social freedom.

And so, we now realize that the true basis of politics is not how, or whether or not, votes are taken, but how property ownership is perceived and implemented. How willing is a political ideology to take the property of its citizens for government use? Instead of standing on different sides of the political boundary and hurling grenades at each other, we now understand that our differences are not based in malevolence, greed or stupidity. We differ but in our *relative regard for the personal property of others*. With this realization, a comity can be created that allows people of different political philosophies to, if not resolve their differences, at least approach each other civilly with a mutual understanding of their disagreement.

I end with the suggestion that libertarianism be defined, not by the non-aggression, force-centric principle, but by the property-centric principle "*No man is entitled to the fruits of another man's labor*". It is more personal, more cogent, more encompassing and easier to see, feel and understand, and virtually impossible to morally argue against.

From the Archives – 40 Years Ago – An Editorial – October 1974

By Robert A. Steiner

President Ford's pardon of ex-president Richard M. Nixon is not only outrageous, but also obliterates the meaning and purpose of Justice.

President Ford stepped out of bounds by granting a pardon to Nixon. Article II, Section 2, Paragraph 1 of the U.S. Constitution states, "he [the President] shall have the power to grant reprieves and pardons for offences against the United States except in cases of impeachment."

Though Nixon was not impeached, legally what offence did he perpetrate against the United States? Since Nixon was never taken to court on any counts whatsoever nor found guilty on whatever counts he might have been charged with, President Ford went beyond the Constitution, beyond the law of this country. In order for one to get a pardon, of any nature, one must first be found guilty of a crime. A pardon for something that has never been legally found to have taken place, and may never have, is in

NJ Libertarian Party General Meeting Announcement

Saturday, November 8, 2014 3:00 PM

**Omega Diner
1337 Route 1 South
North Brunswick, NJ**

The NJLP post-election General Membership Meeting will be on Saturday November 8th starting at 3:00 PM at the Omega Diner in North Brunswick.

All members are urged to attend. We will be discussing the 2014 election results and planning our strategy for the future. County organizations will be caucusing and planning local action. Please Plan on Attending.

itself an obstruction of justice – something Nixon was probably to be charged with doing.

President Ford should not only be prosecuted for obstruction of justice, as should Nixon, but Ford now has put certain members of our society above the law. Are we to treat a president as a person above those laws that pertain to us and all other members of our society?

As all dictators and bureaucrats believe they know what is best for us, so does Ford when he sates, “I am absolutely convinced ... I made the right decision in an effort, an honest, conscientious effort, to end the [Watergate] divisions and the turmoil in the United States.”

How this justifies his putting himself and Nixon outside the law is beyond me. Ford’s rationality and logic appear quite non-existent.

What means are left to the people of this country to reverse Ford’s decision – he is now beyond the trivia of the law we humans must deal with every day. President Ford and Mr. Nixon are now to be treated as superhumans above reproach.

Men like these must be kept out of politics – and out of the Libertarian Party if we are to reach our goals and reap our rewards.

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