



# New Jersey Libertarian

## NJLP prods the ACLU

by Len Flynn

### Signs Available -- Post Yours Now!

Nice 3 color signs for Badnarik for President are available and volunteers are calling to get them placed on NJLP members' lawns or windows. If you haven't received a call or sign yet, contact Len Flynn at 732-591-1328 or lenflynn@wallnet.com quickly, so these signs can go up well before Election Day.

Later, funds permitting, more of the signs can be posted in public areas, but for now they belong on your property for maximum exposure and duration. Along with the signs you will also receive information about your NJLP Congressional candidate and contribution forms to help our federal candidates plus Badnarik/Campagna.

Signs are also available for Ken Chazotte. Please contact Ken at 732-625-9320 or Ken@Chazotte.com for information.

Let's make every effort to tell the voters that there is a real alternative to the old parties.

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At the September 19, 2004 meeting the NJLP State Board reaffirmed the Open Letter (below) to the ACLU National Director. In April the NJLP Steering Committee endorsed a similar letter to the Director of the ACLU's New Jersey affiliate but received no response. This issue arose when I noticed "balancing civil liberties and security" as a discussion topic at a local ACLU-sponsored event. I could not imagine a more foolish debate for civil libertarians to enter, since authoritarians are ceded the high ground of protecting public safety at the start. As a member of both the ACLU and the NJLP, I sought to reject this false dichotomy through our "Open Letter" in April. We shall see if the ACLU national office finally responds. Stay tuned to future issues of the NJL for an answer.

### OPEN LETTER FROM THE NEW JERSEY LIBERTARIAN PARTY TO ANTHONY D. ROMERO, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE ACLU

Past ACLU-NJ conference descriptions stated that the American people "wonder about the personal sacrifices **to be made** in order to **keep** America 'safe and free.'" They continued "Is our Democracy strengthened or weakened by the **need** for more intrusive surveillance?" The July 6, 2004 the national ACLU membership conference had a discussion titled '**Balancing** National Security and Liberty.' (emphasis added)

After 9-11 millions of Americans expected the federal government to protect them from terror attacks. Civil liberties protections were perceived as unimportant—or even an obstacle—by many political leaders and members of the public. The ACLU perhaps inadvertently has accepted this view by its choice of seminar topics about "balancing" and "personal sacrifice."

Accepting such a call for greater security presupposes that limiting or abolishing civil liberties protections—most notoriously by the infamous Patriot Act—has somehow made the public safer and more secure. True friends of freedom need to ask this question: How does abandoning Constitutional principles lead to a more secure America? Accepting the trade-off of freedom for security ends the debate before it starts.

Civil liberties **enhance**, not diminish, our security! Safety and freedom do not require compromises, nor that one be traded off against the other. Rather, they are inextricably bound together and share an essential unity of purpose. There is little security in a fascist state. These are points that the New Jersey Libertarian Party urges that the ACLU explicitly embrace.

The NJLP calls on the ACLU to encourage real debate about what the so-called "war on terror" is actually accomplishing. Only constitutional rule of law—complete with open proceedings and full protection of defendants' rights—can prove that the "war on terror" successfully prevents actual threats, and is not simply a political publicity stunt or a cover-up for government oppression and lies. Surely, three years after the September 11 terrorist attacks, Federal prosecutors should, by now, have adequate evidence to establish any purported criminal activities by their detainees.

After the attack on Pearl Harbor, the Northern California ACLU valiantly opposed the deportation of Japanese-Americans, even though the national ACLU had acceded to the unconstitutional procedure. Here is an opportunity for the national ACLU (or its N.J. affiliate, so far silent) to lead the way in defending civil liberties in the same tradition.

## LPCNJ on Front Page of Home News Tribune

Published in the Home News Tribune 9/24/04

By JONATHAN TAMARI

STAFF WRITER

### High cost of council records spurs suit

MIDDLESEX COUNTY: When John Paff, secretary for the Libertarian Party of Central New Jersey, wanted 3 1/2 months of Edison Township Council meeting minutes, he asked for the documents in electronic form and sent the clerk his request along with a computer diskette and \$2 for postage.

The way he figured it, the clerk's office could easily download the minutes from their computer onto the disk and mail it out.

Instead, Paff got a \$55 bill.

His response: a lawsuit, filed in his name and that of the party. The suit, along with one that argues that Middlesex County also overcharges for photocopies of public records, is scheduled to be heard today before Superior Court Judge Robert Longhi, sitting in New Brunswick.

Paff said the charges for public records go against the idea of open government.

"What good is an open public records act when townships are allowed to get away with charging \$55 for a 25-cent disk?" he asked.

Attorneys for both Edison and the county said the government bodies followed state law governing public records. The county's charges match the maximum allowed photocopy charge listed in the Open Public Records Act, approved in 2002. Edison has an ordinance establishing \$55 as the charge for delivering documents on floppy disk or CD.

The law allows public bodies to charge up to 75 cents per photocopied page, but Paff argues the government should only charge the actual cost for copying. He points to for-profit companies that charge 5 to 10 cents per page, and thinks the government charges should be similar. The county charged him \$35 for 110 pages of meeting minutes, but Paff feels the charges should have been closer to \$3.

"This is public information and we should have ready access to it without having to pay exorbitant fees," Paff said. "We have limited funds. Thirty-five dollars is a limit to me and the Libertarian Party."

First Deputy County Counsel Eric Aronowitz, however, said the county's fees are in line with state law.

"There has been no showing that this fee impairs their right or anybody's right to access these records," Aronowitz said. "This is essentially a case over \$30."

Edison Township Attorney Louis Rainone said Edison established a \$55 fee as a one-size-fits-all fee for any computer downloads. Although Paff's request was relatively simple, Rainone said other requests may require significant time or use of equipment.

"That's a reasonable estimate for what it (the cost) would be for a whole host of tasks," Rainone said.

He pointed out that the Township Council minutes are now available online, although they were not all on the Internet when Paff requested them.

An unscientific survey of eight Middlesex County governments found that they all charge the maximum allowed fee for photocopies: 75 cents for the first 10 pages, 50 cents for the next 10 and 25 cents for every page over 20.

Paff said he wanted the information on disk instead of in hard copy because he could then easily redistribute the information to other members of his party. He said Edison's \$55 fee, established as the public-records law was passed, is a barrier to the public.

"It just strikes me as a slap in the face to the legislative concept of opening government," Paff said.

Rainone said the law requires Edison to establish the charge. None of the other government bodies contacted yesterday -- East Brunswick, Middlesex County, Monroe, New Brunswick, North Brunswick, Perth Amboy and Woodbridge -- have established specific charges for information requests via computer disk or CD.

The public-records law says the cost of duplicating records should be "the cost of materials and supplies" and should not usually include labor or other overhead. Special charges are allowed for records that require "extraordinary" time and effort, for requests in media not normally used by the agency, or requests requiring a "substantial amount of manipulation or programming."

Paff hopes the court strikes down the \$55 fee in Edison and reduces the amount that can be charged for copies. "This case, if we win, could have potentially serious impacts throughout the state," Paff said. He hopes reduced costs will spur others to take more interest in government records.

## LPCNJ in Star Ledger

Wednesday, September 08, 2004

BY JASON JETT

Star-Ledger Staff

### **Council rethinks Sunshine Law disclosure Roselle Park advised to provide more detail**

The Roselle Park Borough Council is reconsidering how much detail to give members of the public before going into closed session.

John Paff, a member of the Libertarian Party, told council members at a July meeting the governing body routinely violated the Open Public Meetings Act, also known as the Sunshine Law, by not announcing the specific topics of discussions held in private.

Paff, a member of the party's Task Force on Open Public Meetings, said Roselle Park is not alone among municipal councils in going into closed sessions "to discuss labor, personnel and matters of pending litigation."

After a challenge by Paff in June, a Superior Court judge in New Brunswick ordered the Perth Amboy City Council to provide more information to the public before going behind closed doors.

Judge Robert Longhi ruled that to comply with state law, the council must list the actual names of people involved in litigation, or the location of properties in real estate transactions.

Roselle Park Councilman Robert Zeglarski said, "My understanding is that you have to give enough information so individuals who have an interest can know where to look at a later date.

"What we have been doing," he added, "does not give enough information for them to know where to look."

Zeglarski is spearheading a borough council effort to fully comply with the state law. The law requires public meetings, but excludes citizens from discussion on sensitive matters such as personnel actions, pending litigation, land purchases and contract negotiations.

"What he presented was news to us," Zeglarski said of Paff. "I think that his concerns have substance and should not be ignored by the council, so I asked that we seriously consider looking at the issue."

The 5th Ward council representative said he will lead the governing body through a "retraining" process on issues of open public meetings and records.

"It takes a second longer to give more detail, and does not take away from the ability of us doing what needs to get done," said Zeglarski.

Paff said his objection to the Roselle Park council was sparked by difficulty in obtaining information on why the municipal court assault case against former police captain Cris Tucci was transferred to Fanwood.

"I was being ignored," he said, adding it took writing to Superior Court Judge Joan Robinson Gross in Elizabeth to learn of a 1999 court order establishing Hillside, Fanwood and Union as back-ups for the borough municipal court.

Jacob Magiera, a former councilman who frequents council meetings, has supported Paff's call for the governing body to inform the public on what matters are addressed privately.

"As per the Sunshine Law, they have to give general information," he said of borough officials. "Not the nitty-gritty, but the specificity."

Jason Jett reports on Roselle Park. He can be contacted at [jjett@starledger.com](mailto:jjett@starledger.com) or (908) 302-1509.



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## The LP at the RNC

By Josh Scher

A collective roar of dissent was heard all the way across the nation last month. The site was as hypocritical as it was strategic. Staged on the coast in the economic, ethnic, and political capital of the world, home to the world's largest Jewish population outside of Israel, the Republican National Pep Rally's message of a more secure America through "our government" inspired a protest the country has not felt since Vietnam. Within the march that took place along 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, the irony summed up the weeklong theme: a feeling of merriment belonging to an extraordinarily diverse people brought together over a common hatred. Every group disenchanted or disgusted with President Bush II took part (including Canadians for Kerry). Determined to have our voice heard among the many, the Libertarian Party participated in the protest, ensuring that small government politics was represented during the Republican National Convention.

I first became aware of the Libertarians' role in the RNC protests when the national website ([www.lp.org](http://www.lp.org)) posted an article about the Manhattan LP calling for a rally on the Great Lawn of Central Park. The stated purpose was to bring attention to a standard Party theme—the wrongs of taxation. The repugnant abuse of ill-begotten fund includes sponsoring the Republican division's national pep rally. Rubbing salt in the wound, our taxes are appropriated towards marketing the one party-two division system. In contrast, the Libertarian Party's convention is 100% self-sufficient, keeping in line with Party ideals.

Shortly after reading the article, I heard a sound bite on the radio of Mayor Bloomberg warning anarchists that their disingenuous tactics would not be tolerated. According to Bloomberg, the anarchists' goal was to gather for the purpose of distracting police attention from the "actual" protest! I feared Bloomberg was referring to us, refusing to grant our name publicity, rather playing on a misconception. Fortunately, I later realized he was not referring to us at all. Nonetheless, it confirmed that Town Hall had no qualms about manipulating the media (*distraction my ass!*) in their opposition.

When I arrived at Central Park on the early Sunday afternoon preceding the RNC, Michael Badnarik & Friends were in full swing. Chants of "Drop Taxes, Not Bombs!" and "Who's Park? Our Park!" (*a bit collectivist?*) garnered snickering from the softball game close by. It was not until "Bloomberg Sucks" that other Park visitors began paying attention.

The LP did achieve some attention from big media on this day. Video cameras from CNN as well as local stations zeroed in on Badnarik who was glad-handing tirelessly, answering questions ad infinitum from both reporters and park visitors; a CBS radio news reporter's dictaphone recorded our chants (until an attractive female Communist activist monopolized his attention); and even the right-wing Weekly Standard was on hand. I was approached for an interview by the



The author, left, with Michael Badnarik

reporter from The Weekly Standard but I soon realized from her line of questioning that our portrayal would not be favorable. I reiterated our disapproval of using federal taxes to fund the RNC, but it was to no avail. Her article (published in the online edition) made no mention of the issue for which the LP was gathering. The title's spin was representative of the publication's commitment to the Corporate Party cause: "Everything is Permitted: Manhattan Libertarians protest the rules about RNC protestors—and make a few bucks while they're at it." Instead of daring to expound on an obvious unjust advantage benefiting her constituency, The Weekly Standard focused on the LP defiance of Bloomberg's refusal to allow protesting in the Park and the fact that they were selling t-shirts supporting the cause.

On the Tuesday of RNC vs. Everyone Else Week, the Libertarians joined forces with the Green Party in staging a genuine debate. The setting was in a church less than ten blocks from Madison Square Garden where the RNC'ers were gathered, protected by scores of police and freedom fences. You would not have recognized what took place. There were poignant questions covering important issues such as the war in Iraq, healthcare, social security, ease of amending the constitution, and gay marriage. Neither Badnarik, nor Green Party candidate David Cobb pre-approved them. They were not designed to put the candidates on a soapbox of spin. The foundation for their campaigns was not purple hearts, nor celebrating a devastating tragedy. After several delays, CSPAN eventually aired a delayed telecast of the event on Labor Day afternoon.

Oh yeah. There was the Convention too. In short, Bush and Dick shamelessly pimped out 9/11 for four days, rationalized sending our soldiers to war, reinforced anti-Kerry propaganda, and perfunctorily mentioned a plethora of hollow promises that will all be enacted if America elects Bush (or finds another means of getting him in office).

## It Takes When It Takes a Village

By Sean Carothers

With successes like “The Sixth Sense” and “Signs,” we moviegoers expect the unexpected when we check out an M. Night Shyamalan film, and he sure delivers with his recent trick flick, “The Village.”

What a trick, and even better, what a treat.

The surprise was its theme: Government doesn’t solve problems, it creates them.

While the best libertarian thinkers give limitless proof that the “it takes a village” solution is always a cure worse than the disease, Mr. M. Night shows us the village.

Let me emphasize. He shows *us* the village. He shows libertarians and everyone else.

Usually movies can trigger friendly debates over entertainment value, plot value, acting quality and overall grade. This movie was different. It sent me into applauding rapid fire about its concealed political value . . . and . . . and . . . and . . . I was able to share it with my apolitical friends. Happy-Happy-Joy-Joy.

It became an instant conversation gateway that we libertarians lack so often. And it fell in my lap like so many popcorn kernels did that night, unnoticed until the movie was almost finished. And with M. Night, I wouldn’t have it any other way.

If you haven’t seen it yet, please do.

I’m a libertarian so I won’t force you to stop reading, at gunpoint, if necessary . . . but you will spoil a true thrill if you finish this article before you’ve seen the film. OK, here goes.

“Life without Public Schools . . . Aghhhhhhhhh! . . . Scary. Schools that can guarantee an education are the dreams of science fiction. We shouldn’t have any more thoughts like that . . . ideas sponsor choice. Aghhhhhhhhh!”

“Life without Social Security . . . Oh my God, I just lost my breath . . . People can’t save on their own. Hah . . . it’s impossible. No more time on that subject.”

Ok . . . those aren’t quotes from the movie, but if you keep a libertarian ear, irrational government fear, is exactly what you’ll hear.

In “The Village,” fear is the gospel of the elders (the village’s government). Fear of monsters in the woods. Fear of townspeople beyond the woods. Fear . . . wait . . . this village has no system of money . . . so . . . why is this government instilling such terror? What else could be corrupting its leaders who govern only a small community of friends and family? I thought money was the root of all evils? Or is this notion of money just another statist jingle accepted by government schools, their colleges and their brainwashed children we call the media.

Hmmm, maybe it’s power that corrupts. When given the facility to design the lives of others, what person ever honors his neighbors’ choice? Not many, if any at all. I can’t imagine a substance more addicting, more destructive, or more overlooked, than power. I contend playing God is the deadliest of deadly sins.

Ok, back to the movie . . . with their governing powers, the mere mortal elders instill fear to limit thinking, possibilities and choices. Why? - To control the people, to preserve their social experiment. To protect their vision of a peaceful, prosperous world . . . one ruled by . . . umm . . . terrorism?

But don’t you fear my fellow “Potterheads.” Just get ready to grind your teeth.

The protagonist in this movie . . . well . . . she so values her life that she is willing to risk it to pursue the happiness in it.

See, the elders’ one size fits all scheme didn’t fit her, so she enters those woods seeking a medicine her rulers couldn’t provide. She not only does it as a blind girl and against the wishes of her government, but does it in constant fear.

She had every disadvantage that they had advantage. Yet she doesn’t run from these terrors, she runs against them and does so in the deep dark woods . . . on their turf . . . and only then is the disgusting truth revealed: Her villains were just the elders dressed up in silly costumes.

Wow! But isn’t it true that silly costumes are the custom of all government lies and fear? We only need to be close enough to discover the farce for the trees, the bad stitching, and the human eyes peeking out from beneath, to recognize the grand human mistake of not honoring your neighbor’s choice.

So even in a seemingly simple setting, government means are mean and their ends are endless failures. What about our complicated world? Well, the monsters in our woods are more complicated, but still silly and invented by our elders.

Monsters like Vietnam, illiteracy, marijuana, poverty, Iraq, retirement savings, health care, Osama Bin Laden, etc, are all government creations (for deeper analysis, see books written by Mary Ruwart, Richard Maybury and Harry Browne.)

Their solution: Wars on Iraq, illiteracy, drugs, etc.

They say it would be a scary place without government solutions. Yeah, it would be really scary to live in a world without war.

It takes so much when “it takes a village”, so I urge you to do something for liberty today because it’s like life. Its health requires immediate and regular attention. Thump. Thump.

## The Strangulation Of Free Trade

By Brian J. Phillips

Ocean / Monmouth LP Chapter

Free trade is a cornerstone of Libertarianism. To achieve free trade we do not need further government intervention, regulation or the establishment of more national or international bureaucracies. We all know that the free market is self-regulating and self-adjusting. It requires not the intervention of government, be it national or international. Things that work, and work well, we should just leave alone.

A new international trade agreement has been proposed called the Free Trade Association of the Americans (FTAA). Most Americans are unaware of the FTAA and perhaps this is a deliberate tactic on the part of its proponents. Even in this national election year you will rarely hear free trade discussed or debated. Mention the proposed FTAA and the vast majority of people have no idea what you are talking about.

The FTAA would be a broadening of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) to include all the nations of North and South American, excluding Cuba. Supporters of the FTAA have described it as a stepping stone to an "European Union for the Americas."

Since the United States joined the World Trade Organization (WTO) and NAFTA we have seen the decisions of US courts, the laws of our Congress and the policies of the US government over ruled by international bureaucracies that are unaccountable and unresponsive to the citizens of this nation. We have also seen the UN and its tentacle like agencies seeking to regulate many aspects of our life from education, transportation, the environment, the internet, social and cultural exchanges and even the control of the high seas. This trend towards world government, of which the FTAA is a part, should be of concern to every Libertarian.

The proposed FTAA was agreed to by President Clinton and has been endorsed fully by the Bush administration. The Bush administration intends to present the FTAA to Congress for their approval after the November election. The FTAA agreement, if approved by Congress, will be fully implemented in January 2006. The FTAA will be presented to Congress as a trade agreement, not a treaty, which will require a simple majority vote in both the House and the Senate. Before the FTAA is voted upon the Central American Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA) will be presented to Congress. It is possible that a vote on both CAFTA and the FTAA may take place in a lame duck secession of Congress. Please recall that approval for the USA joining the World Trade Organization took place in a lame duck secession of Congress. The acts of a lame duck Congress always require our special scrutiny as members know that they will not have to face voters until the next election.

You can help by writing to your Congressman and US Senators opposing both the proposed CAFTA and FTAA agreements. Please inform others about the FTAA and encourage them to express their opposition. I was disappointed that Libertarian opposition to the proposed FTAA was not directly expressed in our current national platform. However, I believe that such strong and vocal opposition to the proposed FTAA is in full accord with Libertarian principles. We must work to build opposition to the FTAA and to educate our fellow Americans as to the danger this agreement presents to liberty and to the free market. We must help in breaking the news blackout on this vital issue.

We seem to be drowning in bowl of regulatory alphabet soup: the UN, UNESCO, UNCIEF, WHO, IMF, WTO, NAFTA, CAFTA and now the proposed FTAA. We must work tirelessly to cut ourselves free from these tentacles of regulation and strangulation before it is too late. Time is running out and we must speak out in opposition now.

## Calendar

Steering Committee  
Sunday, October 17th  
1pm  
254 Tennent Road,  
(Flynn Residence)  
Morganville, NJ

General Meeting  
Sunday, November 14<sup>th</sup>  
1 pm  
361 George Street,  
New Brunswick  
(Tumulty's Pub)

**Libertarian  
presidential candidate  
Michael Badnarik  
bumper stickers are  
now available in New  
Jersey!**

Make your check payable  
to NJLP Federal Fund,  
and mail to:

NJLP Federal Fund  
1308 Spruce Ave.  
Ocean, NJ 07712

Send \$1 per sticker.

Let Jerseyans know  
they have a choice this  
November! Order your  
stickers today!

## Show your true colors in NJ

At long last, you can register as a Libertarian. Fill out the form below and mail it to your county election board.

### Atlantic County

1333 Atlantic Ave., 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Atlantic City, NJ 08401

### Bergen County

1 Bergen County Plaza, Room 310  
Hackensack, NJ 07601

### Burlington County

P.O. Box 6000  
Mount Holly, NJ 08060

### Camden County

P.O. Box 1066  
Camden, NJ 08101

### Cape May County

10-12 W. Mechanic Street  
Cape May Courthouse, NJ 08210

### Cumberland County

60 Broad St. W., Suite 210  
Bridgeton, NJ 08302

### Essex County

33 Washington Street  
Newark, NJ 07102

### Gloucester County

P.O. Box 352  
Woodbury, NJ 08096

### Hudson County

595 Newark Avenue  
Jersey City, NJ 07306

### Hunterdon County

P.O. Box 2900  
Flemington, NJ 08822-9952

### Mercer County

P.O. Box 8068  
Trenton, NJ 08650

### Middlesex County

777 Jersey Avenue  
New Brunswick, NJ 08901-3605

### Monmouth County

300 Halls Mill Road  
Freehold, NJ 07728

### Morris County

P.O. Box 900  
Morristown, NJ 07963-0900

### Ocean County

P.O. Box 2006  
Toms River, NJ 08754-2006

### Passaic County

311 Pennsylvania Ave.,  
Room 103  
Paterson, NJ 07503

### Salem County

90 Market Street  
Salem, NJ 08079-9856

### Somerset County

20 Grove Street  
Somerville, NJ 08876-1262

### Sussex County

18 Church Street  
Newton, NJ 07860-9965

### Union County

271 North Broad Street  
Elizabeth, NJ 07207

### Warren County

413 Second Street  
Belvidere, NJ 07823

**State of New Jersey  
Political Party Affiliation  
Declaration Form**

I, being a registered voter at the address listed below, do hereby declare that I wish to affiliate with the following political party:

Democratic\*       Republican\*  
 Green Party       Libertarian Party       Natural Law Party  
 Reform Party       U.S. Constitution Party

**OR**

I, being a registered voter at the address listed below, wish to formally disaffiliate with any political party:

Independent

---

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_  
First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Middle Initial \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Birth: (month) \_\_\_\_\_ (day) \_\_\_\_\_ (year) \_\_\_\_\_  
New Jersey Residence:  
Street \_\_\_\_\_ Apt. No. \_\_\_\_\_  
Municipality \_\_\_\_\_  
County \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Signature or mark of registered voter \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

*\*If you are a registered member of the Green Party, Libertarian Party, Natural Law Party, Reform Party, U.S. Constitution Party or an Independent, you cannot vote in either the Democratic or Republican Primary.  
Declaration must be filed no later than 50 days preceding the primary in which the voter wishes to vote. A newly registered voter or a voter who has never voted in a primary election, can affiliate with the Democratic or Republican Party on the day of the Primary.*

v11.12.02

**LPS**  
New Jersey Department of  
Law & Public Safety

**Division of  
Elections**  
[www.NJElections.org](http://www.NJElections.org)

## Libertarians in Print

*Home News Tribune*

09/18/2004

Also printed in the South Brunswick Post

09/09/04

### Alternative parties challenge status quo

All taxpayers should oppose Assemblywoman Linda Greenstein's legislative bill to further subsidize politicians. She wants to give taxpayers' money to state legislative candidates of the two government-sanctioned political parties, the Democrats and Republicans.

It is a pity that we already have to subsidize the presidential and gubernatorial campaigns. Just think, your hard-earned money is paying for those vicious political ads. Your money is going to the salaries of political consultants to destroy what is left of decency.

The candidates are using your money to further their beliefs on war, abortion, capital punishment, affirmative action, immigration, censorship, etc.

It is interesting that Greenstein wants to help out only the two government-sanctioned political parties. Alternative political parties threaten the status quo power structure. She is wise to fear them.

Alternative political parties will bring new ideas and offer the voters freedom of choice.

Fred Stein, Dayton

*Star Ledger*

09/06/04

### Reduce government

New Jersey does not need a lieutenant governor. The first problem is expense – salaries for the lieutenant governor, staff and security personnel. Office space and stationary would be additional expenses. In one term, we would spend millions of dollars. And what would the lieutenant governor's job be? Would this official merely wait for the governor to resign or die? The governor's job does not involve much time. When Christie Whitman was governor, she spent many days campaigning for Republicans around the country. When Jesse Ventura was governor of Minnesota, he had enough leisure time to become a sportscaster. California's governor has just become the publisher of a health magazine.

Instead of creating another bureaucracy, the government should reduce its size and expenses. The salaries of all elected officials should be reduced and their free health benefits and extravagant pension programs should be abolished.

Fred Stein, Dayton

*Suburban Trends*

08/29/04

### Faith is Irrelevant

The letter by Richard Haskowich ("Vote Christians into office", *Suburban Trends*, Aug. 22) can't go unanswered. Mr. Haskowich has shown what I've suspected all along, namely that "Conservative Rightwing Christians" are just as ignorant (and perhaps hostile) toward the idea of a free society with constitutionally limited government as are the "Liberal Leftwing Secular Humanists."

Article six of the US Constitution closes with the phrase "no religious test shall ever be required as a qualification to any office or public trust under the United States." Has Mr. Haskowich ever read the Constitution?

"Fundamentalists" of any faith are generally anti-liberty. I say this not out of rancor or bias against any particular religion or creed, but rather based on what I've seen and heard the leaders of these groups advocate in the public forum. It's ironic that in our country we tolerate the intolerance, but I for one wouldn't want it any other way!

As a Libertarian, I evaluate people (including candidates for office) on an individual basis. I want to know if they are consistently pro-freedom on all issues or if they wish to restrict individual rights. Their private religious faith is irrelevant to me. I am a white Anglo-Saxon Protestant, but I had no trouble voting for a fine Jewish man, Murray Sabrin, when he was the Libertarian candidate for Governor of New Jersey in 1997. Would I be correct in assuming that Mr. Haskowich wouldn't vote for Sabrin because he wasn't a Christian?

George Bush is a Protestant and John Kerry is a Roman Catholic, but they are both committed to Big Government and no true lover of liberty should support either of them. I don't know what religious beliefs Michael Badnarik, the Libertarian candidate for President, professes. All I know is that he is 100 percent for the Bill of Rights, a document that applies to all of us!

Mark Richards, West Milford

*More Libertarians in Print, next page.*

## DWI Checkpoint Unconstitutional

I read on Page 1 of the September 2nd Sentinel that 166 tickets were issued at Malaga's DWI checkpoint on the night of Saturday, August 29th.

According to the Sentinel, of those 166 tickets, two were for DWI. Four criminal arrests were made; two for drug possession, one for hindering police and one for giving police false information. Nine vehicles were towed from the checkpoint.

What people often fail to realize about these checkpoints is that they're unconstitutional. The fourth Amendment to the Constitution was specifically written to protect us from search and seizure without probable cause.

Simply being at the location the police have selected for the checkpoint doesn't constitute probable cause, or mean that I've surrendered my fourth amendment rights.

It does mean that the government has assumed the power to trample them.

Aside from the Constitutional question, here are some others people should ask themselves:

What were the other 160 tickets issued for? What did it cost us to run the checkpoint, whether at the local, state or federal level? How much money was collected? Who gets it? How many drivers were detained and questioned and NOT issued a ticket? Assuming a 50% "success" rate (which would be astronomically high), we can safely guess that at least 332 drivers were stopped and questioned and even searched.

How would you have felt if you were stopped and searched? Now ask yourself how you'd feel if, while you were being patted down, your employer happened to drive by. Or your pastor. Or your friend or neighbor. I'd be willing to bet that at least 166 innocent people were subjected to the stress and humiliation of being searched - unlawfully searched.

How many drivers were delayed or inconvenienced? What was the impact on area business? Pizza deliveries, Wawa customers, gas station customers, diner patrons and McDonalds and CVS customers all need to use that intersection.

How many drunk drivers would have been arrested if the dozens of police working that checkpoint had been out on patrol? Two arrests for DWI at a Saturday night DWI checkpoint isn't what I'd call a successful operation.

But the government's definition of "successful" depends on finding what they were looking for - which they did.

Checkpoints aren't about seat belts or DWI drivers, obviously, or the government wouldn't continue to run them with numbers like two drunk drivers out of hundreds.

They're about money. When we surrender our constitutional protection against unlawful search and seizure we eliminate law enforcement's requirement for probable cause. We agree, in effect, to be searched any time they wish to search us. We sign off on fishing expeditions like this one, that removed two DWI drivers and subjected hundreds of innocent taxpayers to delay and inconvenience, and to being searched right along with those two drunks.

Checkpoints are about collecting money and exploiting power. They're about giving hundreds of taxpayers a hard look at the will of the government.

Let's make the cops do their jobs, and pull over drivers for any of the many lawful reasons that they can do so - reasons that constitute probable cause. Let's make the government abide by the constitution, and leave the law abiding among us alone.

Deb Sackett, Malaga

## Praise for the Free-Market System

I'd like to comment on your paper's editorial of Aug. 4 ("The Guilty Pleasure of Convenience"). There is nothing about the material benefits of a free-market economy to feel guilty about. All people that possess the ability to think should be grateful for the conveniences and technology that our private enterprise system has created.

I never fail to be amazed how anyone can be attracted to socialism and collectivism of any variety.

Those who think that you can have a society in which there is regimentation and control over private property and still retain civil liberties and personal freedom are living in a fantasyland. They say "mass consumerism" is ugly, really? I can think of something a lot uglier, namely the millions murdered by governments that embrace the notion that the individual must be secondary to the "good of the group" - a notion that has blighted mankind down through the ages.

No one is forced to shop at any business they don't like. In a free society, consumers "vote" with their dollars. Businesses only become "big" by satisfying customer demand and choice.

Of course it should go without saying that no business or industry should receive any kind of government aid or subsidy. If people won't voluntarily support a firm with their patronage then it deserves to go under. I know from my own experience that a large business moving in doesn't mean that small ones fail.

In 1999 Home Depot opened in Riverdale and many thought it would drive out smaller lumberyards and hardware stores, but it didn't. I work at a smaller independent lumberyard in this area and we are still going strong five years after the Home Depot opened its doors!

We need more choices in the marketplace and there is nothing wrong with that concept. "Growth" and "profit" are not dirty words. In order to make sure we have those choices we need to start repealing laws and abolishing these bureaus and agencies that inhibit economic freedom.

If you think that makes me sound like some sort of Libertarian - well you would be right!

I only wish more people in the business community would start growing some backbones and start standing up for their rights in front of all these quasi-fascist "planning boards" that we are saddled with. The key to our prosperity was that the government was kept very small and on a very short leash. We can have that prosperity again only if people want liberty again. Or will they continue to accept piecemeal enslavement by their own government?

Mark Richards, West Milford



Protestors Arrested at the Republican National Convention  
Photo by Josh Scher



Libertarians Protesting at the Republican National Convention  
Photo by Josh Scher

### **Political Kittens**

*John Kerry, taking a stroll with a senior member of Congress, meets a little girl carrying a small basket with a blanket over it. Curious, he says to the girl; "What's in the basket?". She replies; "New baby kittens" and opens the basket to show him. "How nice" says Kerry. "What kind are they?" The little girl says, "Democrats".*

*Kerry smiles, pats the little girl on the head and continues on. Three weeks later, again taking a stroll with a friend, he sees the little girl again with the same basket.*

*Kerry says, "Watch this, it's very cute". They approach the little girl. Kerry asks how the kittens are and she says, "Fine." He then says, "What kind of kittens are they?" and she replies, "Libertarians."*

*Somewhat abashed, Kerry says, "Three weeks ago you said they were Democrats!"  
"I know," she says. "But now their eyes are open".*

- Shared by Tom Ryan and Dan Karlan

**Thanks!**

The following NJLP members are running for office in 2004. They deserve our thanks, and any help we can give their campaigns. Where available, contact info is provided.



Michael Matthews

Congress, 2<sup>nd</sup> District Michael Mathews, Jr.  
 Congress, 3<sup>rd</sup> District Frank Orland  
 Congress, 4<sup>th</sup> District Richard Edgar  
<http://www.redgar.com/>  
 Congress, 5<sup>th</sup> District Victor Kaplan  
<http://www.liberty5th.org/>  
 Congress, 6<sup>th</sup> District Virginia Flynn  
 Congress, 7<sup>th</sup> District Thomas Abrams  
 Congress, 9<sup>th</sup> District David Daly  
 Congress, 11<sup>th</sup> District Austin Lett  
 Congress, 12<sup>th</sup> District Ken Chazotte  
<http://kenforcongress.com/>



Ken Chazotte

Borough Council, Sayreville Chris Koszalka  
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