

# Let Freedom Ring!

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## Here Comes The Pork!

The national LP has ridiculed Springfield for our proposed pork barrel project honoring Dr. Seuss. I think this is grossly unfair. This construction project is low-cal, artificially flavored bacon-bits compared to our new Basketball Hall of Fame (opening in 2002). Springfield should be honored nationwide for the most useless expenditure of taxpayer money ever conceived. The hundred-million dollar project was funded, in part, by state tax money and the land was taken from productive businesses by the use of eminent domain.

We are funding a shrine to 7-foot tall millionaires with personality disorders. If the NBA won't pay the full bill, there is a good reason. The Hall will continue to lose money. This is the second time the politicians have "played ball" with the trustees. The first time the building was upgraded, the present site, visible from I-91, complete with

(Willis Confesses! Continued on page 2)

## The Browne Scandal

**Browne Stonewalls!** Writing on [lpusmisc@dehnbase.org](mailto:lpusmisc@dehnbase.org), LNC Executive Committee Member Joe Dehn said in part: 'What I heard Lark say was that Browne said that he would "not cooperate"...There was nothing in what Lark said that indicated to me that there had been earlier cooperation... I have not heard of anything resembling a confession" from Browne since his message of 15 May.'

**LNC Acts:** The LNC Executive Committee, meeting by teleconference on May 23 acted on a motion by Joe Dehn. The motion as amended was The motion passed by a vote of 4 (Bisson, Dehn, Givot, Martin) to 0. Fylstra and Lark abstained. Gilson was absent. The Motion reads:

In light of information recently made available concerning violation of LNC policy by Perry Willis and the possible concealment of information about this violation by other persons associated with the Harry Browne campaign, the Executive Committee hereby

1) Recommends that no action be taken to involve the Libertarian Party in the lawsuit against the FEC proposed by Browne and Willis, or any other project proposed or managed by them, until all re-

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## Fredrickson, Freedman to run!

Libertarians Jim Fredrickson and Ilana Freedman are running for Congress, in formally winnable (no incumbent) races. Fredrickson (Fredrickson for Congress, 214 Florence #E, Roslindale, MA 02131) runs this fall in a special election to fill the late Congressman Moakley's seat. He's petitioning *now* and would appreciate help. He has money to hire petitioners. Last Fall, Ilana Freedman ran for State Senate, getting 42% of the vote in her home town. She's heavily involved in local politics and community groups. Unlike other Massachusetts Federal candidates, she's run for office before. She'll declare for Congress when the incumbent announces his run for Governor. Freedman for Congress (6 Biagiotti Way, N Billerica MA 01862) plans a \$2 million campaign, creating strong permanent activist groups in every town, and finding candidates for every State Rep and State Senate seat in the district.

## Tuniewicz Speaks

Mark Tuniewicz, writing in response to a screed from Bumper Hornberger, has defended himself against charges of fiscal irregularity:

Hornberger has written: "LNC members serving on the Bylaws Committee included LP National Treasurer Mark A. Tuniewicz, who recently and without explanation resigned his post and his membership in the party and who so far has declined to come forward and disclose whether or not he has information about the use of third-party intermediaries to funnel money to third-party beneficiaries.

Tuniewicz responded: "With the exception of the recent disclosures by Mssrs. Famularo, Willis & Browne, I don't recall LNC, Inc. or the Browne campaign utilizing 3rd party intermediaries to funnel money to third-party beneficiaries...with one exception:

In the first quarter of 2000 LNC, Inc. paid about \$20,000 in two payments to petitioning firm National Voter Outreach on behalf of the Carla Howell for Senate campaign after having received a similar-sized soft money contribution from a generous Mas-

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*(Continued from page 1)* [**Here Comes the Pork!**]

easy access and signs pointing the way, was supposed to lead to profits and a great increase in the local economy. It didn't work. People were still disappointed. Compared to a televised basketball game, a visit to the Hall was boring and a complete waste of time. Consequently, the trustees demanded a bigger building, more land, tax money and a host of other concessions to prevent them from taking their ball and going elsewhere.

Not only is the new structure big; it is also ugly. It may not turn out as ugly as the last one. The old site is shaped like a brick and has 30-foot tall modern-art depictions of hoop players adorning the side. You really have to squint to even recognize what they are. The new building will surround a sphere that is supposed to resemble a deflated (or partially buried) basketball. The 80-foot pimple on the skyline of the city serves as a monument to inefficient construction. The shape is so impractical to build, use and support that it is never considered by sane architects in the private sector.

The political ramifications of the project are disturbing. We destroyed seven thriving businesses to prop up one failing one. The big failure of the hall of fame will now be a bigger failure – once the bloom is off the rose. Why would a city and state conspire to do something so stupid? The answer can be summed up in two words – Peter Picknelly. He is the richest person in Western Mass. In addition to the tallest skyscraper in town, he also owns the Springfield Sheraton and Peter Pan Bus lines. This man has a real interest in bussing tourists into town and putting them up for the night. With enough hype, someone just might waste a day on the Hall tour. He's a big supporter of the Democratic power structure. I bet he winds up with the old building.

Between the trustees, Picknelly and newspaperman David Starr, the politicians quickly caved. Starr can make or break a politician with his poison pen. He destroyed former mayor Bob Markel and created new puppet—Michael Albano. Western Mass legislators of all stripes voted for the bill, which also included funding for projects in the Eastern Bloc. Local citizens, unable to recognize pork on their own plates, rallied behind the fiasco.

My impression of the Hall, which I visited for cheap entertainment in the last recession, was mostly negative. It struck me as a big locker room filled with giant sneakers. You look at jerseys inside glass cases and read little signs. Yawn. Two things were worthwhile. A hoop-shooting exercise where the ball is returned on a little conveyor belt is the perfect basketball game for a lazy, non-athletic type. That was fun. Also, a virtual virtual-reality room had images projected on all four walls and surround sound. The thundering noise and sneaker-squeaks made me feel like I was about to be trampled by real NBA players from the 1970's. I felt an urge to get off the court so I wouldn't disturb the game and cause a scene in front of the crowd. The whole tour lasted two hours and there weren't but a few people walking through.

I don't know what new and exciting attractions will be added to the new hall. I can't fathom anything that would

make me waste \$8 on another tour. I suppose I have some obligation to help the visionaries realize their dream but I just don't feel it. The sooner economic reality sets in and the Hall goes broke, the better things will be for everyone. Unfortunately, they'll probably just ask for a bigger building.

....Pit Warren

*(Continued from page 1)* [**Tuniewicz Speaks!**]

sachusetts donor. The first of these payments took place on 1/26/00, just five days after the donation was received. The payments in question were made on the authority of National Director Steve Dasbach and without the knowledge of any LNC officer, including myself and to my knowledge then-national chair David Bergland.

The issue in this case, raised by me after learning of the transaction several weeks later, was whether or not it constituted an illegal "directed" contribution--whereby a campaign solicits a soft money contribution payable to a national political party while making clear that the donation is to be "passed through" or "directed" to the benefit of a federal candidate's campaign, presumably in violation of individual contributor limits.

Interestingly, during one of the executive committee teleconferences where this transaction was discussed, then-chair Bergland repeatedly attempted to move the discussion into a closed, executive session. Since this would have prevented me from disclosing information about it (as I'm doing in this message, for example)to our membership, I strongly opposed this and had to threaten to leave the conference call if that was done--a fairly extreme situation.

While our general counsel later gave a verbal opinion at my request that the transaction was legal "given the current state of campaign finance enforcement," I continue to question some the facts upon which he based his opinion—facts provided by by Mr. Dasbach.

For example, Mr. Dasbach denied knowing who had solicited the \$20K contribution, which I found to be hard to believe, and claimed that the decision to fund the ballot access expense (originally classified on the LNC's books as "campaign support" then changed later to "ballot access" after the transaction was questioned) was made independently from the contribution, despite the coincidence of dates and the fact that the expenditure was not part of our ballot access budget presented just a short time prior in 12/99.

In the interest of full disclosure, my recollection from discussions at the time is that Massachusetts LP state chair Elias Israel, as well as Howell campaign manager Michael Emerling Cloud, were both aware of this transaction around the time it was happening.

Other than this item, I don't recall any use of intermediaries from 1996 when I joined the LNC through the end of my term as National Treasurer earlier in 2001. I'd like to

stress that these issues have absolutely nothing to do with my resignation as Treasurer and from the LP. Any suggestion to the contrary is libelous. I strongly recommend that Mr. Hornberger share this message, in its entirety, with his email distribution list, so as to correct any misconceptions his readers may have inferred from his prior message. With best wishes,

*(Continued from page 1) [Browne Scandal]*

lated questions have been answered to the satisfaction of the full LNC.

2) Directs the national staff, until such time as the matter can be addressed by the full LNC, to not enter into any business relationships, including but not limited to rentals of the LP mailing list or advertising in LP News, with Browne or Willis or any entity of which either of them is an officer, director, or employee, without prior approval of the Executive Committee.

3) Expresses its appreciation to those individuals who have been willing to assist the LNC by bringing forward information about this matter and requests that anyone else who may have relevant information make it available to the LNC without delay.

**Wilhoit May Run for Governor of Tennessee—Scandal has Consequences**

Former Tennessee State Chair Charles Wilhoit, addressing Tennessee county and state LP officials, wrote Dear LPTN Officers and County Chairs;

I have given this idea considerable thought for I know that, should I be the candidate, it will require, virtually, my full time endeavor and a great deal of my own money for the next seventeen months.

That is why I suggested that Richard submit the idea to you all for your consideration and approval/disapproval. Obviously, I am deeply touched and flattered by the confidence in me which Richard has expressed. At the same time I want it understood that I will always consider the total effort to be your campaign, not just mine or that of the other candidates.

I have but three considerations, which might even be classified as conditions:

1. The LPTN must let it be known to all concerned that we do not approve of the shoddy performance of the LP National Headquarters nor of the lack of appropriate action on the part of those members of the LNC (Libertarian National Committee) (whoever they may be - and it certainly isn't our own Deryl Martin) and that we will seek the replacements of those clearly so identified. The analogy is to a perfectly good ship with a perfectly good crew which nevertheless runs aground or, worse, suffers a collision, all because of poor performance of some responsible people on the bridge.

The reason for this is that I simply could not be an aggressive candidate for Governor under the, now largely proven, conditions of corruption and conflict-of-interest which appear to

still exist today at the National level.

2. You will all have to be committed to a real grass-roots campaign, the basis of which is "The LPTN Plan For Growth." I couldn't explain it any better than it has already been explained in "The Plan."

3. We must do our level best to field candidates for U. S. Representative in all nine Congressional Districts and in all the Tennessee Legislative races in 2002.

There you have it. While some of you have been very quick to express your support (for which I am extremely appreciative), I'll consider the slate clean, now that I have stated my conditions.

....Charles Wilhoit

**LNC ExComm Urges Willis Censure:**

The first part of the divided motion -- to adopt points (1), (3), (4), (5), and (6) -- passed by a vote of 5 to 0. The second part of the divided motion -- to adopt point (2) -- passed by a vote of 3 to 2. Bisson, Givot, and Martin voted for the motion; Dehn and Gilson voted against the motion. The adopted resolution reads:

Resolution of the Executive Committee of the Libertarian National Committee, 30 May 2001

To clarify the intent of, and expand upon its resolution of May 23 2001, the Executive Committee hereby

1) Recommends that the LNC censure Perry Willis for his acknowledged violation of LNC policy in 1995-96 in working for the Browne campaign while being employed by the LNC.

2) Recognizes that while Harry Browne was the head of the campaign, it is presently unclear to what extent he or others were involved in Willis' actions or decisions.

3) Requests that Harry Browne provide a public statement to the LNC to clarify the circumstances surrounding Willis' actions, and any lessons that may be learned therefrom.

4) Requests that all persons having any information relating to Willis' actions, or any other intentional violation of LNC policy by other persons, provide that information to the LNC Chair no later than August 18, 2001.

5) Clarifies that its resolution of 23 May 2001 requires the national staff to seek Executive Committee approval before entering into new business dealings with Willis or Browne, but is not per se a blanket prohibition against such dealings.

6) Sets a goal that any and all questions related to these matters be resolved to the satisfaction of LNC members by the time of, and be reflected in the minutes of the LNC's August meeting, and asks all LNC members and other persons to work together to achieve resolution by that date.

## Where Your Money Went

This column has been a bit absent recently, because many groups within the LP are hiding behind an off-year 'quarterly' reporting schedule to avoid filing more often than twice a year. To keep in practice, here are some of the major expenditures of the Massachusetts State Libertarian Party for 2000.

So where did your money go? The Massachusetts State Party started the year with \$26,718 in the bank, and ended the year with \$8,513. Large expenditures include \$39,500 in October-November for in TV ads for Carla Howell (and \$2,200 to Michael Cloud for an agency fee), \$5,000 in April to the Howell Campaign, and \$1,500 in March to the Eucher campaign. These are the only reported candidate support efforts, though supposedly toward year's start each State Rep and Senate candidate got \$100, which would account for another \$2000 or so. That's 93% of spending going to one candidate, who lost very badly. Fortunately the \$40,000 in TV ads for Howell was balanced by \$40,000 in late-October \$500-\$5000 donations.

Other expenses included: \$2500 to the National Party for "Party Building" (these are not UMP payments, which are reported separately), \$23200 for staging the 2000 state convention (includes \$2275 in speaker fees, namely \$1500 for Roy Innis and \$775 for Barb Goushaw) and \$5000 toward the 2001 convention. Goushaw used the opportunity to herald her "Shut the Fuck Up!" campaign, an attack on critics of the Browne Presidential effort.

In addition, the state party paid \$5550 in legal fees, \$2000 to an accounting firm, \$4500 for mailing and \$10100 for printing, \$4300 for an election-eve party, \$1373 for letters to registered Libertarians, \$500 for web support, \$940 for cards, and \$648 for health insurance as part of hiring a new staffer. On asking MALP Board members about the last of these, I was told by one of them that the hiring was done unilaterally by the Massachusetts State Chair without Board or Executive Committee discussion in advance.

## National Party Finances Poor

Our sources deep inside the scenic Watergate Building report that National Party finances are in a state of stringency. In the first two months of the year, the National Party lost more than \$80,000; since then net has been about +15,000. At the start of the year, the LNC committed the party to investing \$25,000 a month for six months in Certificates of Deposit. There has been a great fuss that for May National Treasurer Derryl Martin unilaterally decided not to buy the May CD, because the party had Bills 90+ days outstanding. So far as I can determine, most LPUS members have not yet noticed that the Party also did not buy the April \$25,000 CD, so the purchase plan has failed two months in a row.

## Our Web Pages

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## Editorial

### Mom was right! Fibs Grow!

It's obvious to anyone who has been in the Party since Browne's first run, that some very dedicated activists took part in what was a large scale effort... that being the Browne run for President.

Many long time and well known activists spent countless dedicated hours to a campaign that, by all appearances, we the best well run campaign Libs had ever seen.

It was led by leaders which many looked up to (and with good reason)... Jack Dean, Sharon Ayres, David Bergland, Perry Willis, and others.

But somewhere along the path of their dedicated activism, they felt their end goal was more important than ethics and ethical standards.

Their peers in our National org had placed an explicit restriction on the boundaries of a candidate's campaign and the political party.

Such potential conflicts arise not just at the National level, but I know they rise at the State and Local levels as well.

The small, simple act of Willis, Browne, and Dean (all known at this time who participated in this act) has spear-headed into a huge issue within our Party. What started out small is now \*large\*.

It goes back to what our mommas taught us....

That a small fib turns into a large one. Mom was right.

A dedicated group of activists were so focused on their desires and goal, that they forgot (or ignored) momma's advice.

And look at the result.

The lesson?

That we Libertarians can be prone to making such ethical mistakes....even the best of us... and that as we increase are activism and take on larger projects, we must always step back and check ourselves.

We must check ourselves to see if we are being ethical. We must check ourselves to ensure we are operating within the law. We must check ourselves to make sure we choose right over wrong when focused on our goal.

Otherwise, our hard work and effort can be reduced to nothing all because of one indiscretion done long ago or early in our efforts  
....Mark Murphy