GAINESVILLE – The United Nations flag was flown on the same pole as the American flag at City Hall to honor the controversial organization despite fierce protests and criticism the event has attracted in past years. Mayor Pegeen Hanrahann also issued a proclamation praising the organization and declaring October 18 “United Nations Day” in Gainesville.

The City has drawn sharp criticism from conservative organizations, veterans, and local business owners in years past, particularly the first year when the U.N. flag was raised above the American flag.


As he sat down having candid and at times lengthy conversations with members and fans, passer-bys may not have realized he was the leader of one of the most powerful non-profit organizations in the country.

Supporters expressed renewed hope for their cause with the release of LaPierre’s extensively researched book. The N.R.A., which has over 4 million members, is also seen as a source of hope in what supporters call a “battle for freedom.”

Some attendees expressed concern with the direction the country has taken recently in terms of gun rights.

“Unfortunately, critics like us are kind of endangered right now,” said Beatrice Straker after getting her book signed.

Continued on page 6

Florida Presidential GOP debate from the inside

ORLANDO – After covering the Presidency IV debates, it was hard not to think about the 1964 Presidential Race.

Just 43 years ago, proto-neo-conservative Nelson Rockefeller and Old Right, small government Republican Barry Goldwater were the two main contenders for the GOP nomination. The former supported foreign intervention, welfare programs, and more liberal policies, while the latter advocated non-interventionism, low taxes, and abolition of wasteful social programs.

While Goldwater would sweep the primaries after a crusade for a Rockefellerian Republican, while good ‘ol Romney, McCain, and Huckabee are makeshift mixes of Old Right and Reaganism.

Continued on page 5

Local college students wear empty holsters to school in nationwide protest against gun bans

College students in Florida and around the nation held a weeklong “empty-holster protest” asking legislators to repeal laws that disarm licensed students and faculty on campus.

Leading the effort is a national group called Students for Concealed Carry on Campus. With over 7,000 members on Facebook, a social networking Web site popular with students, the group has been making headlines across the world.

After the massacre at Virginia Tech on April 16 where 32 unarmed victims were shot to death by a student, concerned gun owners and gun-rights advocates waited in long lines at Barnes and Noble for Wayne LaPierre, the Executive Vice President and C.E.O. of the National Rifle Association, to sign copies of his new book, “The Global War on Your Guns: Inside the U.N. Plan to Destroy the Bill of Rights,” while visiting Gainesville on Oct. 26.

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Continued on page 6

Head of NRA discusses “The Global War on Your Guns” with The Liberty Sentinel

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Continued on page 6
Dear readers,

Thank you very much for the overwhelmingly positive response to our last issue. I enjoyed reading your letters.

If you have story ideas or comments about anything, feel free to get in touch with us or go to the new forums on our web site.

Also, we will have another new feature on our site as soon as possible: a daily news section, updated constantly from dozens of news sources with up to the minute information on breaking events.

Our paper’s name reflects the job we hope to do: guard liberty. The press was not protected by the first amendment simply to entertain us - we have a duty to keep the citizenry informed. Many in the media seem to have forgotten that, but we promise we won’t.

If you like what we do, please send us a small contribution or subscribe. Thanks!

The Editor
JASPER – After going head to head with the world’s best, the Special Olympics athletes and coaches who make up the “Stompers” basketball team of Hamilton County, Florida, returned from the 2007 Special Olympics World Summer Games in China, with a world title, medals and memories for a lifetime.

The Stompers handily took the Gold Medal. They outplayed their opponents by such a wide margin that organizers set up an exhibition match with the Shanghai Jiao Tong University (SJTU) team (non-disabled). Before a packed arena, the game ended in a 45-45 tie - with the Chinese team refusing to play to overtime. John Brown, of Alachua served as the team’s assistant coach.

With a theme of “Yes I Can!” the Special Olympics Games were the largest international sporting event to occur in 2007. The event, which went from Oct. 2 to Oct. 11, also marked the first time the games were held in Asia.

Attending the games were seven thousand athletes from 169 countries, 40,000 volunteers, 3,500 event officials and thousands of families, spectators, and journalists from every continent.

Team Florida-USA sent 21 athletes and three volunteer coaches. Athletes competed in eight sports including bowling, golf, tennis and basketball.

Erik MacLean
Sentinel Staff Writer

Local Special Olympics athletes take gold at World Games in Shanghai

GAINESVILLE – Armed federal agents raided two local tobacco shops with a warrant for “drug paraphernalia” at 10:30 a.m. on October 25.

Over $300,000 worth of merchandise was seized but no charges were filed, the owner of the stores told The Liberty Sentinel.

Seven agencies including branches of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the Gainesville Police Department (GPD) served the warrant with “about 24 agents who were dressed like they just got dropped in from desert storm,” said Patrick Patton, the owner of Modern Age Tobacco & Gifts who was present during the raid on one of his stores.

“They took anything you could smoke out of,” Patton said. He added that his stores have sold the same items for 25 years.

According to Title 21 of the U.S. Code, drug paraphernalia is defined as anything intended for use with controlled substances. The distinction between drug paraphernalia and legal goods, however, is very vague.

A variety of items intended for legitimate tobacco use including glass pipes and “roach-clips” can also be used to consume drugs. Many of the items the DEA lists as “paraphernalia” can be found in chain stores across the country.

A customer outside the store on University Ave. noted that aluminum soda cans could also be used to smoke drugs, and that he thought the DHS was supposed to be fighting terrorism, not harassing local businesses.

“The whole idea is just absurd,” he said about the raid.

Patton, the owner, stressed that Modern Age doesn’t sell anything that isn’t sold at other tobacco stores in the area.

“They targeted us because we are the largest tobacco distributor in North Central Florida,” he said. “I am happy to follow the law, but if glass pipes are paraphernalia, other stores shouldn’t be able to sell them either.”

In addition to the goods seized from the two stores, Patton voluntarily surrendered merchandise at his warehouse that agents may not have known about.

A spokesperson for Immigration and Customs Enforcement confirmed that no arrests were made and no charges were filed, but said the investigation is ongoing.

Patton was not angry about the confiscation of his merchandise because it can be written off when he files taxes.

“The IRS could have either had glass or cash,” he said. “They chose glass.”

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Women’s Resource Center

Free Services
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Confidential Counseling
Post-Abortion Counseling

We are a group of volunteers who care about women in crisis and reach out in love to share the community resources available.

We do this by promoting the values of the sanctity of human life, premarital abstinence, and marital fidelity in our community.

We serve the University of Florida, Santa Fe Community College, Gainesville, and the surrounding communities in Alachua, Bradford, Clay and Union Counties.

We help people in need, regardless of race, age, religious background or financial status, who are affected by an unplanned, untimely or unwanted pregnancy.
Top NRA chief tells the Sentinel that the U.N. plans to destroy the Bill of Rights

Continued from page 1

LaPierre discussed some of the themes of his book in an exclusive interview with The Liberty Sentinel. It centers on historical corruption in the United Nations, the anti-gun measures they have taken, and the threat he believes they pose to the American way.

“The U.N.‘s philosophy is that governments should have guns and individuals shouldn’t,” he explained. “They don’t think in terms of rights or freedoms or liberty.”

He continued by asserting that the U.N. is a massive bureaucratic assembly of governments that are completely out of touch with their own citizens.

The U.N.’s intention is to have an America without guns, he said. He reemphasized that their eventual goal is a “governmental organizations” surround the world having rallies and meetings trying to have guns banned for individuals.

“I was the largest seizure of firearms on our soil since British General Gates seized them from Boston colonists in 1775,” he said. “These are the types of situations where the 2nd amendment is most important.”

LaPierre elaborated on the NRA’s actions following the gun seizure explaining that they sued the City of New Orleans on behalf of thousands of plaintiffs: families and property owners who were left defenseless against looters.

“Fortunately we won, but unfortunately, they still haven’t returned all of the firearms,” he said. “The court has put the mayor of New Orleans in contempt of court recently for failure to return firearms to their lawful owners.”

LaPierre also said that with the help of Louisiana Governor-elect Bobby Jindal, they were able to pass a bill at the federal level forbidding the confiscation of firearms from law-abiding citizens during declared emergencies. Since then, dozens of states have adopted similar bills.

LaPierre sounded proud of the NRA’s accomplishments but stopped short of celebrating. He said the U.N. was making the fight more difficult.

LaPierre told the Sentinel that guns aren’t the only thing the U.N. wants to take away.

“They want to control the Internet too,” he said, adding that they had chosen China as the location for their conference regarding Internet regulation. “If they succeed, it will destroy our freedom of speech.”

When asked whether he believed this was being done maliciously, LaPierre responded: “I don’t think you can look at the U.N. and not be shocked with its corruption, whether it’s their sex scandals with U.N. peacekeepers, or their Oil for Food program scandals, or the massacres in the so-called U.N. protected enclaves in Rwanda and Kosovo. The list goes on…”

Infants have had their names placed on the list and an 8-year-old was prohibited from flying because of it.

Since 2003, people on the list have been questioned by authorities 53,000 times. Most of the time, the people are questioned and then released.

The report found that the list was also ineffective at preventing people on the list from flying. Many people whose names were on the list were let through security undetected. The GAO also found that the list contains errors which caused delays to thousands of travelers.

Christian foster parents in England lose child for not teaching “gay tolerance”

A Christian family from Somerset County, U.K., had their 11-year-old foster son taken by social services for refusing to sign a contract requiring them to promote homosexuality, the Daily Mail reported on Oct. 24.

The parents, both ministers who said the contract would have been against their faith, had a spotless record. They have fostered 28 children but despite having excellent results, they have now been banned from ever caring for children again.

The regulations they refused to obey could have also required them to attend “gay association meetings” with any teenagers in their care.

When the couple asked if they could at least continue caring for the boy until a permanent home was found for him, the request was refused. The boy was assigned to a local hostel.

Vincent and Pauline Matherick, who have six biological grandchildren and one great grand child, were devastated and shocked. This had never been an issue for them in the past.

“They were saying that we had to be prepared to talk about sexuality with 11-year-olds, which I don’t think is appropriate anyway, but not only that, to be prepared to explain how gay people date,” Pauline Matherick explained.

Bureaucrats insisted they were not discriminating against Christians.

“The council is committed to promoting the interests of children and young people and welcomes foster carers from all backgrounds and faiths,” a director for the county social services department stated.

The new “Sexual Orientation Regulations” are part of the Equality Act 2006. The bill was introduced by the Labour Party.

With the new regulations in place, the foster program has incurred a shortage of about 8000 foster parents.
College students protest laws by wearing empty holsters

Continued from Page 1

supporters stepped up their efforts to be allowed to defend themselves on campus by creating groups such as SCCC, lobbying the state and federal level, organizing protests, contacting their representatives and spreading their message to whoever would listen.

SCCC has campus leaders at five universities and colleges in Florida. Dozens of UF students, maybe more, participated in the protest. Some wore T-shirts with messages supporting gun-rights.

Several unaffiliated local student groups have also gotten involved in the action.

“If a psycho comes to campus to shoot the place up, they aren’t going to be deterred by a ‘gun-free school’ sign,” said Meagan Rice, a spokeswoman for True Conservatives and Libertarians United and a senator at Santa Fe Community College.

“Getting a permit to conceal a weapon is an extremely difficult process and it’s possible that tragedies could be minimized or averted by simply allowing permit holders to carry their weapons at school.”

A large student group at UF whose members have been active promoting gun-rights for years has also been involved in this movement.

“We are seeking congressmen in the Florida legislature to introduce a bill that would recognize our right to defend ourselves at school,” said Alexander Villacampa, the vice president of the Libertarian Activist Network at the University of Florida who participated in the protest.

“That’s the first step in this process.”

The group has been distributing fliers titled “Equal Rights for America’s Gun Owners” around campus and encouraging students to contact their representatives and support legislation that would lift the gun ban at state universities. “The protest was the next step to raise awareness about the cause.”

Florida residents who are over 21 can obtain a permit to carry a concealed weapon by taking a class, passing a background check, paying a fee and submitting fingerprints. But, even with the permit, students and faculty are not allowed to possess weapons on campuses.

“The process to obtain a concealed carry permit in Florida is extremely rigorous,” Villacampa said. “Students and faculty who are qualified should be able to defend themselves and those around them, and we have already established that ‘gun-free school zones’ are only gun-free for law-abiding citizens; criminals don’t obey laws, that’s the definition of a criminal.”

Marc Adler, the UF campus leader for SCCC and a former student body president, did not respond to requests for comment.

The protest ran from October 22 to 26. Participants wore empty holsters to class to: “demonstrate that you are just one more trained individual that is forced to disarm, showing that there is one less person to defend yourself and those in your immediate proximity on campus in a worst case scenario,” according to SCCC’s Web site.

Villacampa said that after every school shooting there are always “misguided” people calling for more guns, and the organization’s stance on the movement is, “let’s talk about it, all options are on the table.”

He noted that university campuses are already among the safest places in the nation and that most people believe they should remain “gun-free zones.”

“We enforce the laws passed by the legislature and right now the law says no guns on campus,” said Capt. Jeff Holcomb, the public information officer for the UF Police Department. “If next year a bill is passed that changes the situation, we will support it as well.”

He noted that students have the right to express themselves peacefully and that UF has a long history of students engaging in political activism.

SCCC sent out a press release regarding the protest that said: “There is a wide discrepancy between the intent of campus gun bans and the actual consequences of such bans. It is this discrepancy to which the students of SCCC hope their Empty Holster Protest will draw attention.

While opponents may argue that guns have no place in institutions of higher learning, SCCC contends that it is the threat of uncontested, execution-style massacre that has no place in America’s colleges. The students of the Empty Holster Protest respectfully ask that steps be taken to take the advantage away from those who seek to harm the innocent.

Governor Charlie Crist created a task force to research safety on university campuses but the final report did not make any recommendations relating to the possession of weapons on campus by concealed carry permit holders.

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City flies controversial U.N. flag despite criticism

Continued from page 1

The Liberty Sentinel repeatedly requested information weeks in advance but the City did not return phone calls until the day after the flag had been lowered.

No notification or announcement was available on the City’s Web site either.

The events have attracted angry protesters from around the U.S. in previous years. Groups including the “Tyranny Response Team,” the Military Veterans Motorcycle Club and the “P’Keepers” have waved American flags and carried a variety of signs over the years.

One that was there several years read: “The penalty for treason is death.” Another proclaimed: “The U.N. is Commun.U.Nism.”

Several militias have also expressed concern in the past. The North Central Florida Regional Militia issued a statement in ’94 that said while a person is free to fly any flag on their own property, a government agency is not. Flags that are flown on government property indicate jurisdiction, according to the statement. It concludes by arguing that City officials are either treacherous or ignorant of the law, and that they should be removed from office.

A heavy police presence has been the norm most years in case of any disturbances, but no violence has been reported.

Donald and Ann Wolff, local business owners who have participated in the protests every year, said they think City officials are either paranoid or unfairly trying to demonize peaceful protesters concerned about American sovereignty and freedom.

The group they protested with, Citizens for Better Government, is one of the dozens of organizations that have been involved in opposing the City’s yearly recognition and praise of the United Nations.

“We tried to be as polite as possible in expressing our concerns, but they were absolutely belligerent and hostile,” Mr. Wolff said, referring to City officials, police and attendees. “This is still America and we have a right to protest against our City recognizing something as illegitimate and dangerous as the U.N.”

He emphasized that the protesters were peacefully exercising their rights on public property and that nobody made any threats.

“I felt like a foreigner in my own country,” added Mrs. Wolff. “It was very sad.”

During a commission meeting about city flag policy several years ago, angry residents expressed their opposition to the flying of the U.N. flag and petitioned to stop it. A S.W.A.T. team was waiting in a room nearby, Mr. Wolff said. When protesters discovered where the officers were hiding, they ordered pizza for them and helped deliver it, he said.

“Last year we decided ‘Let’s not show up next year; it will make them even more paranoid,’” he said, laughing. “Their efforts to do this quietly just show that the evidence and eventual conviction.

“We feel that the U.N. is about promoting peace,” Hornberger said. He added that many people aren’t aware of the “non-controversial things” it does, so this year’s theme was stopping AIDS.

Hornberger argued that the world’s countries should use the U.S. as a model of States cooperating in considering the U.N.’s future role.

“People who think we are traitors should come to some of our meetings,” he said. “We are not advocating a world government, just more cooperation to solve global problems.”

When presented with quotes from various U.N. publications and documents confirming that the organization “strongly endorse[s] community initiatives to encourage the disarming of civilians” (Our Global Neighborhood, 1995, Commission on Global Governance) and believes that “public control of land use is indispensable,” U.N. “Habitat I” conference support) he said he was not familiar with the documents but that they are probably not significant. He added that the U.S. still has veto power on the U.N. Security Council.

City Commission candidate Armanada Grundy expressed his concerns about the U.N. flag in a meeting with the mayor a few days before the ceremony.

“I told her that I thought, as a veteran who fought for this country and for freedom, that I found the raising of this flag very disrespectful,” he said. “We don’t fight for the U.N., we fight for the freedom of the United States of America.”

The mayor told Grundy that she issues proclamations all the time and that people should not be alarmed, she said. She added that there have been concerns about the protesters possibly taking down the flag or worse, and that she would consider an “American sovereignty” proclamation if local organizations requested it.

When asked about the U.N. flag being raised at City Hall, Wayne LaPierre, the C.E.O. of the National Rifle Association who was in Gainesville the week after the event, said occurrences like this are exactly the reason he wrote his new book: “The Global War on Your Guns: Inside the U.N. Plan to Destroy the Bill of Rights.”

Lloyd Bailey, a local business owner, is the leader of the Gainesville chapter of the John Birch Society, an organization well-known for defending America’s Constitution and sovereignty, and for its steadfast opposition to communism, the U.N. and infringements on people’s rights.

“I really think raising that flag is a slap in the face to everyone in this country,” he said. “The U.N. was created by the Council on Foreign Relations as a vehicle for global government, and if people knew the truth about it the U.S. would not be involved, I guarantee it.”

He noted that polls show a vast majority of Americans dislike the U.N. and that bills to stop funding it and to withdraw entirely are gaining support in Congress.

Bailey, who jokingly referred to the U.N. as “TyranTs, TerroristS and Thugs R’Us,” sells a wide variety of literature about the organization at his store. He also referred to a U.N. invasion of the Congo where U.N. military forces were caught slaughtering civilians and bombing hospitals and refugee camps.

“Americans should really do some research about the U.N.,” he said. “Probably 98% of the people who support it just don’t know what it’s really about; that’s the problem.”

City knows people are outraged. Lucky for them, we weren’t going to show up this year anyway.

Mr. Wolff explained that the U.N. has an indisputable record of promoting communism, supporting dictators, and raping and pillaging in countries they invade.

Americans must carefully guard their rights and their sovereignty, he added.

Another opponent noted that the organization is increasing its control over the U.S. as evidenced by Bush “groveling before the U.N. for permission to go to war,” but failing to obtain a Declaration of War from Congress as required under the Constitution.

“It was nice that the protesters didn’t come this year,” said Hornberger, the president of the local U.N. Association. “They’ve come every year.”

He said the turnout was good and that they had several guests who made speeches including Sherriff Sadie Darnell who was the chair of the U.N. celebrations at the Gainesville Woman’s Club.

“I’m very much in favor of giving the U.N. more power,” Hornberger said. He believes the U.N. should have a stronger military force and that the U.S. should provide more troops.

Hornberger admitted that many members of the local U.N. chapter were “certainly left-of-center” politically, but that the U.N. supports communism.

When asked about Alger Hiss, the convicted Soviet spy who was “representing America” at the convention that created the U.N., Hornberger said he probably shouldn’t comment. He later mentioned that he did not believe the first secretary-general of the U.N. was guilty of spying despite the evidence and eventual conviction.

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– President George Bush
March 23, 2005

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– Former Canadian Prime Minister Paul Martin, March 23, 2005

“As eventually our long-range objective is to establish with the United States, but also with Canada, our other regional partner, an ensemble of connections and institutions similar to those created by the European Union.”

– Former Mexican President Vicente Fox, May 16, 2002

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Objective law is the foundation of any society that is fair and just; that is “a government of laws, not of men.” American legal traditions reject the arbitrary whims of dictators and kings in favor of laws that are clear and definable. Laws should be easily understood, and it should not take an expert to know if a law has been broken.

Our legislators sometimes seem to forget these principles. Some law, like the tax code for instance, is so complex and confusing that it is nearly impossible to be sure that you have followed the law to the letter. Other laws step even further from our legal heritage and enter the realm of the arbitrary and indefinable. These “subjective” laws are open to interpretation and therefore, to abuse.

H.B. 537, signed into law by Governor Charlie Crist earlier this year, is an example of subjective law at its worst. This is the same hodgepodge legislation that garnered headlines by moving Florida’s 2008 presidential primary to January 29th, and by outlawing the paperless electronic voting machines Florida spent millions on just years before.

Deep beneath the H.B. 537’s more attention-grabbing provisions is a little-mentioned section that could have a chilling effect on the fundamental structure of our democratic process. Signed into law as Title IX, Chapter 103.161 “Removal or suspension of officers or members of state executive committee or county executive committee,” H.B. 537 gives the chairperson of any state party executive committee the power to remove or suspend from office any official within the chair’s political party, for any violation. The chairperson has sole discretion to determine if a violation has occurred. Such violation may include engaging in activities that have or could have injured the name or status of the political party or interfered with the activities of the political party.

Commenting on the law, Miami attorney Lance Harke stated, “It could be interpreted as an infringement on first amendment free speech rights.” The problem is so broad that it could be interpreted in a way that infringes on a constitutional right, then it should be declared unconstitutional. It seems clear that complete fidelity is demanded by this statutory provision; anything that runs counter to the chair’s party loyalty is subject to action under it. I would be surprised if it could survive a constitutional challenge. ”

Critics say the measure could stifle dissent within political parties. “Dissent is an essential part of our political process. It is the means by which we flesh-out the differences in our beliefs and actualize our abstractions into the concrete. The broad language of H.B. 537 cast that process aside. It makes dissent a possible violation and demands absolute conformity in thought and opinion. Is the party official who exposes abuses or corruption interfering with the name or status of the party? Is the party official who disagrees with policy interfering with the activities of the party? H.B. 537 answers these questions with a definite maybe.”

To call the language of this law ambiguous and overbroad would be a tragic understatement. But, the message sent to party regulars in Florida could not be clearer; tow the party line or you have no place within the process. Dissent will not be tolerated.

A Chinese national who lives in Connecticut has been indicted by a San Diego federal grand jury for conspiring to purchase and export military-grade accelerometers used in “smart bombs” and missiles from the United States to the People’s Republic of China.

Qing Li, 36, of Stamford, Conn., is charged with attempting to buy and export piezoresistive accelerometers for what her co-conspirator described as a “special” scientific agency in China. The charges are the result of a seven-month undercover investigation by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and the Defense Criminal Investigative Service (DCIS). ICE and DCIS agents arrested Li at New York’s JFK International Airport Oct. 14 as she was checking in to board a flight to China.

The piezoresistive accelerometer measures massive shocks and has many military applications, including use in “smart” bombs and missile development. The accelerometer is designated as a defense article on the United States Munitions List and cannot be exported from the United States without the written permission of the United States Department of State. The United States maintains an arms embargo against China, and the State Department’s policy is to deny permission for the export of defense articles to China.

“The controlled military sensors that were the focus of this technology procurement plot are extremely sensitive devices used in the development of missiles and artillery and the calibration of large-scale nuclear and chemical explosions,” said Kenneth L. Weinsten, Assistant Attorney General for National Security. “I applaud the agents who infiltrated this foreign procurement network and prevented these items from being illegally exported to China.”

“Accelerometers are a designated defense article frequently used in missiles, ‘smart bombs’ and other major weapons systems and in the wrong hands, could prove catastrophic,” said Julie L. Myers, Department of Homeland Security Assistant Secretary for ICE. “These devices are simply not for export to China or anywhere else without explicit permission from the U.S. Government. Stopping the illicit export of weapons technology is paramount to the national security of our country and the public safety of all.”

“This investigation and prosecution demonstrate the firm commitment we in federal law enforcement have to prevent the illegal exportation of items on the United States Munitions List,” said United States Attorney Karen P. Hewitt. “This plot was foiled and the defendant was apprehended because of the tireless efforts and hard work of agents from ICE and DCIS.”

According to court papers, from April 2007 to October 2007, Li and her co-conspirator used e-mail messages and telephone calls to negotiate the illegal export transaction with an undercover ICE agent in San Diego, who repeatedly stressed the illegality of the transaction. Li and her co-conspirator, a New York resident, pledged to protect the elderly couple during a brief call from a federal prison in Ohio last month.

Brown and his wife, Elaine, are sentenced to over 5 years in prison in April for failing to pay taxes since 1996. They refused to leave their home, insisting that there is no law requiring them to pay an income tax. They said they would be happy to pay it if the IRS would show them the law making them liable.

Supporters of the Browns and China, advising the undercover agent that if the accelerometers tested properly, large orders would follow. According to court papers, during a three-way telephone call, when the undercover agent advised Li and her co-conspirator that the accelerometers are used to measure massive explosions, and even nuclear explosions, Li’s co-conspirator stated that “our client knows exactly what this thing is used for.”

Li, a legal permanent resident of the United States, is currently in federal custody in New York. She is scheduled to appear Oct. 22 before United States Magistrate Judge Steven Gold in the Eastern District of New York to determine whether she will be returned to San Diego to answer to the indictment. The conspiracy charge carries a maximum penalty of five years in prison and a $250,000 fine.

**Tax-protester claims he is being tortured in prison**

Ed Brown, the 65-year-old New Hampshire tax-protester who gained national notoriety during his stand-off with the government, is being professionally tortured,” he said during a brief call from a federal prison in Ohio last month.

Brown and his wife, Elaine, was sentenced to over 5 years in prison in April for failing to pay taxes since 1996. They refused to leave their home, insisting that there is no law requiring them to pay an income tax. They said they would be happy to pay it if the IRS would show them the law making them liable.

Supporters of the Browns and militiamen from around the country had pledged to protect the elderly couple from arrest, but federal agents posted as supporters gained entry to the property on Oct. 4. The couple stated numerous times that they would not be taken alive, but the arrests were made without incident.

Ed was allegedly Tased 3 times before being taken away to prison, where he is serving a 64-month sentence. During the phone call, Ed said he was gassed with “caustic chemicals” in his cell and put into solitary confinement naked for over 15 hours.

U.S. Marshall Stephen Monier dismissed the allegations of torture.
### Spotlight on local candidates: Gainesville District 2

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<tr>
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<th>Candidate for Gainesville City Commission District 2</th>
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Bryan Harman, 32, thinks that Gainesville is a great place. He also thinks he is the right candidate to represent district two on the Gainesville City Commission.

Though he has never held a publicly elected position before, Harman, a real estate agent originally from Richmond, Va., said he knows what Gainesville has and what it needs.

“A broad diversity of community involvement has given me the insight to understand our community’s challenges and what needs to be done to overcome those challenges,” Harman said.

His involvement includes being the vice chairman of the Alachua County Republican Executive Committee since December of ’04, being on the board of directors for the Peaceful Paths Domestic Abuse Network, and being on the public policy committee for the Gainesville Area Chamber of Commerce.

He is also a member of the Gainesville Jaycees, an organization that raises funds for area charities, and the Alachua County Emerging Leaders.

Harman feels that the biggest issues facing the next district two commissioner are the allocation of funds and the lack of support for the police and fire forces. He said too much money is spent on consulting fees and various causes.

Harman doesn’t believe Gainesville needs new taxes, just a re-prioritizing of the commission’s budget.

“Because of a limited tax base, we have to stay within a reasonable budget,” he said.

Harman would also like to combat the 16 percent increase in violent crime in Gainesville with a larger police force.

Another priority for the University of Virginia alumnus is decreasing the poverty in Gainesville. With higher-paying jobs and more projects in east Gainesville, such as the Southeast Gainesville Renaissance Project and the building of the new Wal-Mart Supercenter, Harman believes residents under the poverty line and those just barely above can finally see some improvement.

“The Wal-Mart Supercenter is a powerhouse that is needed to help stimulate economic growth in east Gainesville,” he said.

Harman also supports local businesses as a medium for people to release their “entrepreneurial spirit and create new local jobs in Gainesville.”

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Lauren Poe, a Gainesville native, also thinks he is the right candidate to replace Ed Braddy on the City Commission.

He has had no experience as a publicly elected official, but he has served as the vice president of the Alachua County Young Democrats and as the corresponding secretary of the Alachua County Democratic Executive Committee.

He is not willing to rule out tax increases, and tax relief would be extremely unlikely, he said.

“I’ve seen the city transform and envision what it has been great but other things were not so well planned,” said Poe, an economics and government professor for the Santa Fe Community College Dual Enrollment program.

For Poe, some of the negative transformations have been in Gainesville’s budget. He believes it doesn’t allow much “wiggle room”, and cutting taxes would only decrease the amount of programs the city could fund.

In order to try and avoid raising taxes, he believes the city can increase economic development in Gainesville through what he calls “enterprise zones.” Businesses in underdeveloped areas like Depot Road could receive incentives from the city such as “help with infrastructure” and possible property-tax breaks. He argues that it would encourage new businesses to move to Gainesville.

Poe also believes that strict environmental regulations enforced by the city are an important part of the commission’s role.

“I know these regulations divert businesses’ resources away from producing goods and services,” he said. “But, I think they are important because we live in a sensitive area.”

Poe would also like to bring more code enforcement to Gainesville neighborhoods. He said many residents are concerned that the effects of rental houses, such as multiple cars and an increase in trash, depreciate property values. He would like to create a “mechanism” so that tenants and landlords can be held responsible for breaking city codes.

The election for the district two Gainesville city commissioner who will succeed Ed Braddy will be held on January 29, 2008. For more information about voting, visit http://elections.alachuaf.us.

### GOP Presidential candidates debate in Florida

**McCain, Hunter and Paul speak to the Sentinel**

Continued from page 1

McCain, the most outspoken supporter of the Iraqi war, speaks of influential footsteps in the desert. How about America’s trillion dollar footprint in Iraq? How long will it stay, and how deep will it go?

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The Florida GOP debate: An insider analysis

Continued from page 9
was right when he said the “Republicans have lost their way.”

The Rally

On the night before the debate, some candidates had a rally where they spoke about their plans for America.

Giuliani had a presence no doubt, and he surprisingly said nothing about September 11th! He did, however, brag about how he, the omniscient Rudy, single-handedly defeated crime, poverty, and social unrest in America’s largest city.

Next came McCain, who was his typical gung ho, staunch self. He spoke very well and played his part suitably, even saying “we gotta kill the bad guys” out loud.

Following McCain was Romney, who brought his wife and oldest son. Trying to scratch out that polygamous history to appease those Republican traditionalists, perhaps?

As for Fred Thompson -- who’s that? Well, some movie star with a southern drawl did speak for five minutes after Romney, but he left too quickly for us to know what he was about.

Ron Paul, Carol Paul: Post-debate spin room

We were glad when the debate finished. After all, it mostly consisted of nonsensical Hilary bashing (we know she’s a terrible, anti-freedom candidate already!), and an immature competition to see “who is the most powerful nation over there; nobody is going to touch them because they have 300 nuclear weapons”.

He finished by telling us: “If we were out of their business, Israel would most likely be talking to the Arab League and working better with Palestine.” We also had a chance to meet Carol Paul, his wife of 50 years, and ask her a few questions.

“He really cares about our country, and what’s going on,” she said. “We couldn’t happen to the movement he has inspired if he didn’t win. He gave it a thought, and sharply replied:

“Some people say if we don’t win, there will be a disaster...but I don’t necessarily think that’s the case,” he explained.

He added that he hoped his candidacy would encourage people to run for congress and help like-minded people get elected into office as well.

“Winning the presidency itself doesn’t finalize a revolution,” he said. “I’m just trying to lead the charge, so we can change these things before we have a major, major political-economic crisis - it’s more crucial now than ever that this process continues.”

We wanted to focus our next question on the Middle East so we asked the Doctor what his policy concerning the Arab-Israeli crisis would be.

“When you give a lot of handouts to somebody, it’s like saying ‘you’re so poor you can’t help yourself,’” he said. “To me, it’s an insult. By giving Israel all of these billions of dollars, we treat them like a third world nation, like they’re not capable of taking care of themselves.”

“They sell out their sovereignty to us,” he continued. “They’re the most powerful nation over there; nobody is going to touch them because they have 300 nuclear weapons”.

Beginning around 2 p.m., more than 300 Ron Paul supporters from around Florida converged on One Eyed Jacks, a bar in Orlando. They were there to watch the debates on TV live and cheer for the Doctor every time he opened his mouth.

Throughout the day they waved signs at passing motorists and handed out “slim-jims,” little cards with information about the Doctor’s voting record.

Comedian to run for President of South Carolina in ‘08?

Matt Kovarsky /Sentinel Staff Writer

It’s official. After much speculation, there is another candidate entering the already crowded race for the White House in 2008, at least in South Carolina.

Stephen Colbert of The Colbert Report announced on his show that he will be seeking the nomination. He will only be on the ballot in South Carolina and was trying to run as both a democrat and a republican.

While the GOP wasn’t too pleased by the move, they said as long as he paid the filing fees it would be fine. He announced later that he paid all the fees, it would have been enough to make him subject to federal election laws which he does not want to worry about.

To get on the ballot in South Carolina it takes either $2,500 or 3000 signatures for the democrats and $25,000 to get on the republican ticket.

Actors have been influential in American politics for years, and Colbert is the second TV personality entering the race after Fred Thompson announced.

The move seems to conveniently coincide with the release of his new book, “I am America (and so can you).”

How serious is Mr. Colbert? Will we see him in any of the debates? These are just some of the questions that are still up in the air, but one thing is sure: this is just one more happening that is going to make 2008 turn out to be a seriously interesting event.
Letters to the Editor:

Regarding the Jena 6,

I am writing in response to my disgust with the Gainesville Reverend that recruited a few students from UF to protest the Jena 6 incident. Although I am not a theologian, it’s not mentioned in the church that we are to forgive our brothers 70x7 times? Doesn’t the church also mention something about turning the other cheek? With this in mind; that we are to forgive our brothers 70x7 times? Doesn’t the church also mention something about turning the other cheek? With this in mind; that we are to forgive our brothers 70x7 times? Doesn’t the church also mention something about turning the other cheek?

Even if you were adhering to the old creed of an eye for eye; by that measure alone, the boy that beat the white child is guilty. He could have easily painted something on the sidewalk or posted pictures of something that he felt would be of equally offensive to the white child and left it at that.

Whenever I see a court case on TV (such as Judge Judy), the one thing that is repeated over and over is that words or gestures do not justify violence. I believe most of society agrees with this or they’d be fighting to change such laws. Therefore, to allow the boy(s) who were involved in the brutal beating to go unpunished through the laws we must all abide by is undeniably unjust and unfair, and any person who is protesting justice - such as the local reverend - should not be preaching from a pulpit.

First I wanted to thank you all for starting The Liberty Sentinel – it’s about time these liberal rags had some competition. I will be supporting your advertisers whenever possible.

I was really hoping you all could talk about the Law of The Sea treaty that Bush and the liberals in Congress are pushing because so far there hasn’t been much info about it available to the public.

This treaty would give control of 2/3 of the world’s surface to global bureaucrats and it would mean the UN would have the authority to tax American businesses, and worse still, make our Navy ask for permission to use the ocean.

The highest ranking Republican in the Senate has already pledged to try to block it, but if the liberals get their way, the ocean will be controlled by the UN from here on out.

I hope you all can do a story about this or at least mention it in some way – Americans really need to start paying attention to what those idiots in Washington are doing to our country.

Thanks again!

Milagros Ruiz
Gainesville, FL

Michael Thompson
Alachua, FL

Al Gore doesn’t deserve a Nobel Prize

By: Paul Symons
Sentinel Staff Writer

So Al Gore won the Nobel Peace Prize. What a joke.

I’m amazed they even dare to put his face on television after he lied about inventing the internet, but there he was again, spewing more lies about how we’re all going to be faced with certain doom if we don’t do exactly as he says. Another cruel joke, but unfortunately, there are actually people who believe him, or at least who pretend to.

So far, dozens of “factual inaccuracies,” as Gore apologists like to put it, have been exposed in his alarmist nonsensical video about his convenient lie – excuse me, “inconvenient truth.” Despite this, his hysterical, cult-like defenders claim that the lies are just fine; it serves a greater good, they argue. He may have distorted the truth and/or made stuff up, his supporters whine, but it helps “raise awareness” about how humans are evil and need to be restrained lest they hurt a cockroach or a plant or heaven forbid, a polar bear.

Despite his track record of “factual inaccuracies,” the liberals in the lame stream media gobble up his global warming hysteria, and for a while, I couldn’t figure out why. Now I think I know – it’s a convenient excuse to promote more taxes, more regulations, more government, and more United Nations control.

The U.N. is already sending swarms of spokespeople and bureaucrats around the world telling us we don’t have time to think; we must immediately submit to U.N. taxes on our gasoline, travel, etc. or we are doomed. Their propaganda sounds suspiciously similar to the solutions to the “global cooling” problems of the ’70s. I guess with the benefit of hindsight we know how that one turned out.

Before we go giving the U.N. the authority to tax us, let’s defy their bureaucrats and stop to think for a minute. The Earth has been getting warmer and cooler naturally since it was created, this is a fact. Mars and Venus are also getting warmer right now; another interesting fact Gore conveniently forgets to mention. In fact, the whole premise of his film is a fraud – carbon dioxide doesn’t cause warming, higher temperatures release carbon dioxide from sources such as the ocean.

The last time the Earth got warmer, woolly mammoths died off. Cars or factories hadn’t been invented yet, but you can bet some snake-oil cave-salesman like Gore was out trying to push an agenda and gain power; That’s what power-hungry liars do.

He claims scientists agree with him. Actually, 17,000 real scientists signed a petition basically stating that Gore was full of crap. (The “scientists” on the International Panel on Climate Change included anyone and everyone who ever came in contact with it, including spell checkers and U.N. bureaucrats; the only real climate scientist resigned in disgust claiming that the panel was trying to make the facts fit the premise.)

By giving Al Gore and the U.N. the Nobel Peace Prize for spewing lies, the Nobel Prize people permanently tarnished any prestige the award may have had left. And next time you hear Gore lecturing you about riding your bike and paying “carbon taxes” (we exhale carbon dioxide and the trees need it to grow!) as he flies between his mansions on his private jet polluting more than 20 regular Americans, remember, he’s nothing but a liar promoting an agenda.

I’d like to commend you on the first publication of The Liberty Sentinel. I was pleasantly surprised by the content of your newspaper and found it particularly restorative. I consider the publication of this paper to be a wonderful achievement and predict that it will achieve lasting importance among the people of the State of Florida. I hope for its continued success.

Jose Francisco Marquez
Miami, Fl.

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