



The Liberty Sentinel



DELIVERING REAL NEWS
AND COMMENTARY TO
NORTH-CENTRAL FLORIDA.



"An army of principles will penetrate
where an army of soldiers cannot— It
will march on the horizon of the world,
and it will conquer." ~Thomas Paine

VOLUME II, ISSUE I

FREE

JANUARY 2008

FREE

WWW.LIBERTYSENTINEL.ORG

'Underdog' Soars to 'Top-Tier'

Read about The Sentinel's exclusive interview with Dr. Paul in Iowa on page 6

The Republican presidential candidate raised almost \$20 million in the fourth quarter from about 130,000 donors despite being shunned by the establishment media. He also beat 'front-runners' Giuliani and Thompson in early states.

GARY R. SCHOR - Sentinel Staff Writer

What makes a presidential candidate a "frontrunner?"

Mitt Romney has loaned a lot of money to himself. Does that make him a frontrunner? John McCain had to borrow three million dollars last month to stay in the race. Is he still a frontrunner?

Giuliani is financed by the big money politics of the status quo, and Mike Huckabee is receiving financing from long-time Clinton allies like Stephens Inc. & Tyson Foods.

With more donations, more straw poll victories, and

more active and enthused supporters, it seems clear now that there is a new frontrunner in the race for the Republican nomination for president.

Call his "the little campaign that could". Dr. Ron Paul made history (again) on December 16th, the anniversary of the Boston Tea Party, by raising over six million dollars, breaking John Kerry's one day fundraising record set back in 2004. Kerry's record was set the day he accepted the Democratic nomination.

What makes The Tea Party numbers even that much more impressive and unprecedented is that Paul broke the record this early in the primary process.

Continued on page 9



Two supporters posed with signs in front of the 'Ron Paul Blimp' at Gainesville Regional Airport on Jan. 7. The \$400,000 publicity stunt, part of the 'Ron Paul air corps,' was paid for by supporters independently of the campaign. The other side of the first presidential blimp in history instructs people to 'Google Ron Paul.'

'Florida Hometown Democracy' Initiative Misleading

Proposed amendment to Florida Constitution threatens economy, property rights and affordable housing.

LEONARD GILROY

A group called "Florida Hometown Democracy" is gathering signatures for a constitutional amendment requiring a referendum on any proposed change in comprehensive land-use plans. Those are the "comp plans" that guide the type and location of development in a city or county.

In most Florida communities, this decision-making responsibility is shared by elected officials and urban planners at the local and state levels. As part of the process, citizens serving on planning boards conduct thorough reviews of development proposals in an effort to balance a host of interrelated concerns, including economic development and environmental quality.

Hometown Democracy would place decisions about growth and development in the hands of the voters, many of whom are more interested in getting their kids to soccer practice or trying to keep their businesses afloat than the nuances of real estate markets or the economic viability of different types of land development. Granted, Hometown Democracy's plan has a surface-level appeal. The name itself conveys an alluring image of empowered citizens in neighborhoods of white picket fences. But this populist mask conceals an anti-growth, "close the gates" agenda that could threaten housing affordability, economic opportunity, and private

Continued on page 3

Property Tax Reform Amendment Explained

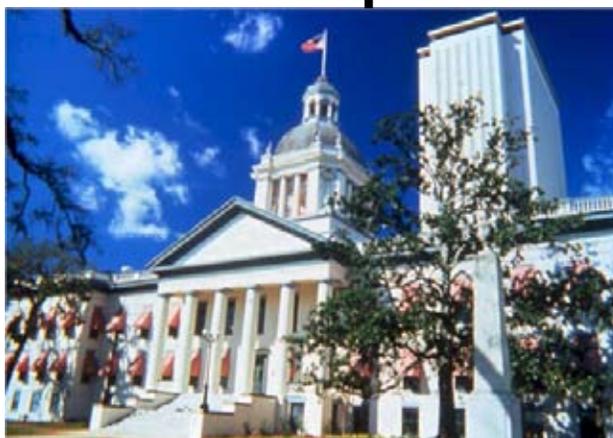
Florida property owners hoping for a simple reduction in their taxes won't be pleased with the complex amendment up for a vote this month.

GARY R. SCHOR - Sentinel Staff Writer

When Florida voters go to the polls on January 29th, they won't just be picking presidential candidates, they will also be voting on an important property tax reform amendment to the Florida Constitution.

Florida property owners looking for clear and concise reductions in their taxes may be disappointed with the perplexing complexities of an amendment that tries to be all things to all people.

"Many homeowners are now 'trapped' in their homes because buying a new home would cause the tax rate to be reset on the current value of the new home."



Florida Capital Building, Tallahassee

There are essentially four parts to the property tax reform amendment, and each part has its own benefits and detractions. There are also a few more obscure provisions that believers in the free market could find troubling.

The most straightforward part of the measure involves doubling the homestead exemption from 25 to 50-thousand, saving the average homeowner about \$240

Continued on page 12

Also in this Issue:

- Ocala elementary school student arrested for steak knife - page 3
- Ten most corrupt politicians of '07 - page 5
- Exclusive interview with Ron Paul - page 6
- Clinton record reveals doubts about what would 'change' - page 9
- The wisdom of Reagan applied today - page 10
- An open letter from a concerned citizen - page 11
- A touch of religion for healing - page 11
- Brief interview with Gainesville candidate Armando Grundy - page 12
- Marion County 'Taxpayer Action Group' forms - page 12
- Solid gold silver surge - page 13
- Patrick Henry: 'Give Me Liberty, or Give Me Death!' - page 14
- From our readers: 'Vote Fraud' - page 15

FROM THE EDITOR:

Dear readers: Thank you! The response to The Liberty Sentinel has been beyond anything we could have expected. Increased revenue has allowed us to expand the size of the paper and the amount of copies we're printing.

You have helped us prove our premise: there IS a market for a community newspaper that will look out for YOUR rights.

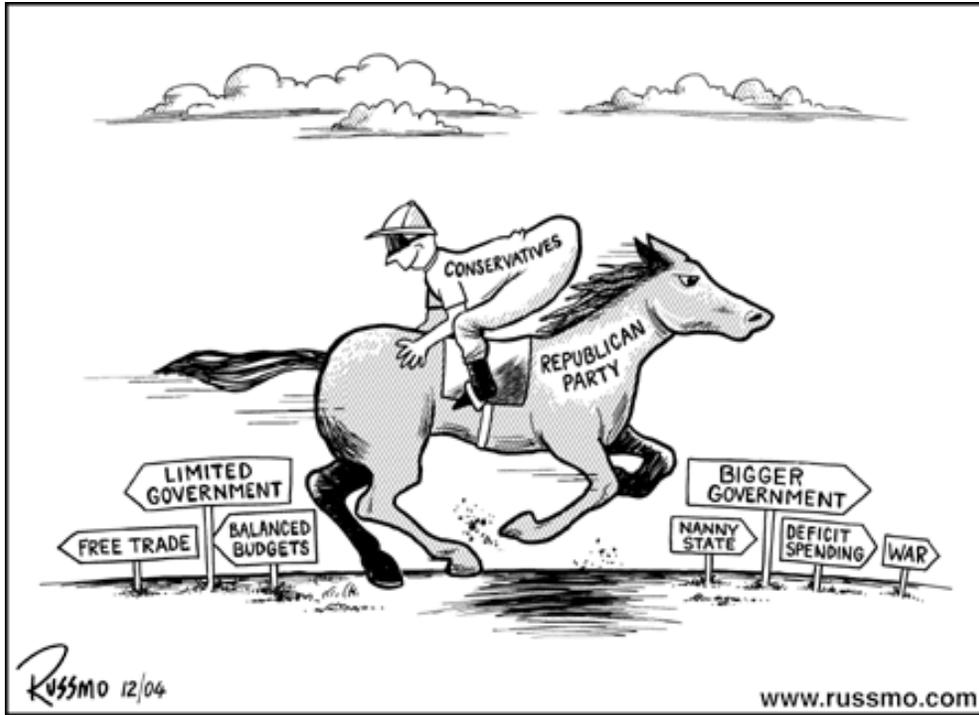
Our goal is to keep you informed and guard the liberty that our wonderful country was blessed with and that so many have sacrificed so much for.

In closing I would like to make two requests:

1) Visit our Web site and check out our newest feature, a daily news section that is constantly updated. Now you can read about news that is important to you every day.

2) Send us your concerns. My e-mail address on the right side of this page.

Sincerely, The editor



Sentinel Staff
ALEX NEWMAN Executive Editor
NEAL CONNER Publisher
ERIK MACLEAN Associate Editor
CHRIS ARIAS Director of Marketing
ALEX DE LA PAZ Online Editor
GARY SCHOR Ocala Bureau Chief
KEVIN MEARS Distribution Manager
TASHY SUAREZ Creative Editor

About The Liberty Sentinel:

The Sentinel strives to provide information about current events from a freedom-oriented perspective to donors and readers in the North-Central Florida region.

We have a dedicated staff of volunteers and we operate on a budget provided by the generous contributions of our readers and business sponsors. With a combination of free-lance writers around the world, local reporters, and generous authors and publications who donate their material, The Liberty Sentinel contains a wide variety of information and opinions to encourage lively debate and discussion.

The Sentinel adheres to the highest principles of journalistic integrity and will always run corrections if something is reported inaccurately. We try to offer an assorted array of views so readers can hear about issues from several perspectives and form their own conclusions.

The goal of education and the principles enshrined in our Constitution guide our organization to do the job the press is supposed to do: guard liberty, expose corruption, and keep the public informed.

From the local level to Tallahassee and from D.C. to the international arena, the Liberty Sentinel covers

issues of importance to all citizens while steadfastly upholding the values of life, liberty and property.

This educational newspaper is published by Liberty Sentinel Media, Inc. The organization is based in Gainesville and incorporated under the laws of the State of Florida. The views expressed herein are not necessarily those of the Sentinel or our advertisers.

LIBERTY SENTINEL MEDIA, INC.
P.O. Box 14973, GAINESVILLE, FL. 32604
(352) 275-5876

American Shop & Services



Jet Ski Repairs

Full Service Auto Repair

1230 South Main St. Gainesville (352) 338-1904



Foreign & Domestic

Tune-Up Special \$89 And Up

Most cars & trucks. Includes spark plugs, wires, air filter and labor. With coupon only. Expires 2/15/08.

Front Strut Replacement \$65 And Up

Most cars & trucks. Parts & labor extra. With coupon only. Expires 2/15/08.

Computer Diagnosis \$35

Most cars & trucks. Let us find your car's hidden problems! With coupon. Expires 2/15/08.

OIL CHANGE INCLUDES FILTER \$19.99 And Up

Most cars & trucks. Up to 5 qts. of quality oil & new oil filter. With coupon only. Expires 2/15/08.

Jet Ski Repair Same Day Service YAMAHA SEADOO

SCOOTER & MOPED REPAIRS FREE PICK-UP WITH REPAIRS SAME DAY SERVICE

CV JOINT Replacement \$115 And Up

Most cars & trucks. Installed. Price is per axle. With coupon only. Expires 2/15/08.

Front Brake Special \$65 Per Axle

Most cars & trucks. Call about your car. We use quality parts. With coupon only. Expires 2/15/08.

Critics: 'Hometown Democracy' will hurt Florida economy

Continued from page 1

property rights.

Hometown Democracy would turn Florida into a laboratory for a statewide experiment in the radical sort of "ballotbox zoning" that has fueled sky-high housing costs in places like San Francisco, where the median housing price now stands at \$620,000.

A 2001 study in the Journal of the American Planning Association examined ballot-box zoning in 63 Ohio cities and concluded that subjecting rezoning decisions to public referenda had a consistent negative impact on housing construction.

Fewer homes being built translates into higher housing costs for everyone.

Florida already faces a severe shortage of affordable housing, and the need for more housing will grow because the state is projected to add 12.7 million more residents by 2030. Therefore, making it harder to develop new housing will drive up prices and push low- and middle income families ever further away from the American Dream.

Likewise, the amendment would threaten the state's economic health. Giving voters a de facto veto power over commercial development will make it far more difficult for mom-and-pop shops and large corporations alike to start up, expand, and/or relocate. That would imperil Flor-

ida's recent status as the national leader in job creation.

It could also slow the growth of the tax revenues that commerce provides. As a result, city and county governments may feel pressure to hike tax rates as a means to increase local revenues in the absence of robust economic growth.

More fundamentally, Hometown Democracy represents a direct frontal assault on private property rights. Under the current planning system, property owners have recourse to appeals and formal procedures for regulating development in the

community interest. Throwing landowners' ability to develop their property to the whims of public opinion shaped by costly public relations campaigns embraces the ultimate tyranny of the majority over individual property rights.

Last November, almost 70 percent of Florida's voters supported a constitutional amendment to protect private property rights from local governments' abuse of the power of eminent domain. So it's clear that Floridians care very deeply about protecting private property rights.

Hometown Democracy would be a significant step backward. Statewide, thousands of local comprehensive plan amendments are adopted each year as local communities adjust to new economic

conditions. The decisions are made after extensive hearings and reports from consultants and experts on land development.

Most voters can't possibly do the research necessary to cast an informed ballot on every single development proposal in their community. To expect them to do so is both unrealistic and unreasonable. But, of course, the Hometown Democracy Amendment is not about better planning. Rather, it's a goal of anti-growth zealots who have become known as BANANAs: "build absolutely nothing anywhere near anyone."

Yet reasonable citizens already have a strong voice in community planning. The law requires urban planners, planning boards, and elected officials to provide numerous opportunities for citizens to voice their opinions on comprehensive land-use plans and, subsequently, on individual development proposals.

These professionals weigh public input seriously in their analyses and decisions. Hometown Democracy would subvert this well-established process, reducing opportunities for families and businesses and threatening Florida's economic future.

Leonard Gilroy, a certified urban planner and senior policy analyst at the Reason Foundation, is an adjunct scholar of the James Madison Institute, a non-partisan policy center based in Tallahassee.

Editor's Update: Despite bringing in out-of-state signature gatherers, there are still not enough petitions to get the measure on the ballot. They now have less than one month.

An organization called Save our Constitution is leading a charge to inform people about the true nature of the amendment and the special interests behind it. So far they have had over 500 people revoke their signatures and the number is increasing. To check for your name and to revoke your signature visit www.takebackmysignature.com.



Ocala elementary student arrested for steak knife

GARY R. SCHOR
Sentinel Staff Writer

OCALA – It's a dangerous world out there, so it's great that our schools are taking steps to keep children safe. Schoolyard violence is the horror of any parent.

But, is there such a thing as going too far? Perhaps there is – when a 10-year-old child is arrested for possession of a knife – while eating lunch in the school cafeteria!

Citing a "zero tolerance policy," school faculty of Sunrise Elementary School in

Ocala reported the 5th grade girl to the Marion County Sheriff's Department.

"She didn't threaten anyone with the knife, she just used it to cut up her food," said classmates.

Ric Ridgway, Chief Assistant State Attorney, said the State Attorney's Office decided not to prosecute the child because she had no previous criminal record and apparently meant no harm in bringing the knife to school.

Perhaps more frightening than the knife is the precedent the arrest represents.

Actions are "criminal" or "innocent," not property. Virtually anything can be used as a weapon – cars, baseball bats, even pencils. Are we to ban them too?

"Actus non facit reum nisi mens sit rea,"

means "the act does not make a person guilty unless the mind is also guilty."

While the December 17th arrest drew national attention, no one was harmed, not even the steak.



**Women's
Resource
Center
& Medical Clinic**

Women's Resource Center is a 501(c)(3) organization supported by individuals as well as local churches and businesses.

We are always looking for people to partner with us in being a blessing for life. If you would like to help support us please contact:

912 NW 13th Street, Gainesville, FL 32601
(352) 377-4947
www.YourWRC.org

THE PURPOSE of the Women's Resource Center is to demonstrate the love and life-changing message of Jesus Christ as it relates to pregnancy and sexuality by...

Informing women facing potentially stressful pregnancies of alternatives to pregnancy termination by offering pregnancy testing, ultrasound and health education,

Encouraging pregnant women by providing personal help to meet their emotional needs and referrals for practical and material needs,

Influencing individuals, churches, campus groups and youth groups as well as the general population in integrity-based behavior choices regarding sexuality,

Restoring women, through God's Word, who have been broken by past abortions.



FREE TALK LIVE
IT'S THE TALK SHOW YOU CONTROL
LIVE WORLDWIDE 6 DAYS A WEEK

WWW.FREETALKLIVE.COM
LIVE Monday through Saturday 7-10pm EST

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO
HEAR RADIO
IN YOUR TOWN
THAT ACTUALLY
TALKS ABOUT
WHAT FREEDOM MEANS?**

You can. All it takes is a few phone calls. Here's what to do:

1. Visit local.freetalklive.com or open your yellow pages and find your local talk stations.
2. Call them all, and ask to speak with the Program Director. Tell him you want to hear Free Talk Live!

Until
YOUR
local station
starts airing
Free Talk Live,
listen to our
live streaming,
our archives, or
the FTL Podcast
all for FREE on
our website!

HARRY BECKWITH GUN DEALER



Guns, Safes & Paintball

SMITH & WESSON M&P

40 or 9mm Cal. (Black & Stainless)

As low as **\$479.00** after \$50 dollar mail-in rebate

Includes 4 Magazines



SMITH & WESSON SIGMAS

40 or 9mm Cal. As low as **\$279.00** after
\$50 dollar mail-in rebate

Includes 4 Magazines



*Protect what you own...Liberty gun safes as
low as **\$995.00** delivered & set up...*

*Only **\$895.00** when you bring this ad in!*

***Liberty Centurion 23
holds up to 25 long guns***

*(352) 466-3340 • 12120 Highway 441 S, Micanopy, FL 32667
5 miles south of Gainesville on US 441 (Gainesville's 13th Street)*

Judicial Watch: Ten Most Corrupt Politicians in 2007

JIM KOURI

VP of National Association of Chiefs of Police

The attorneys at Judicial Watch, a public interest group that investigates and prosecutes government corruption, released their list of Washington DC's "Ten Most Wanted Corrupt Politicians of 2007." The list is in alphabetical order and includes several presidential candidates such as Hillary Clinton, Rudy Guiliani and Barack Obama. The list also includes leaders from both major political parties.

1. Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton (D-NY): In addition to her long and sordid ethics record, Senator Hillary Clinton took a lot of heat in 2007 -- and rightly so -- for blocking the release her official White House records. Many suspect these records contain a treasure trove of information related to her role in a number of serious Clinton-era scandals. Moreover, in March 2007, Judicial Watch filed an ethics complaint against Senator Clinton for filing false financial disclosure forms with the U.S. Senate (again). And Hillary's top campaign contributor, Norman Hsu, was exposed as a felon and a fugitive from justice in 2007. Hsu pleaded guilty to one count of grand theft for defrauding investors as part of a multi-million dollar Ponzi scheme.

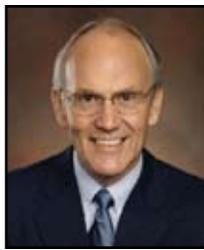


2. Rep. John Conyers (D-MI): Judicial Watch accuses Conyers of repeatedly violating the law and House ethics rules, forcing his staff to serve as his personal servants, babysitters, valets and campaign workers while on the government payroll. While the House Ethics Committee investigated these allegations in 2006, and substantiated a number of the accusations against Conyers, the committee blamed the staff and required additional administrative record-keeping and employee training. Judicial Watch obtained documentation in 2007 from a former Conyers staffer that sheds new light on the activities and conduct on the part of the Michigan congressman, which appear to be at a minimum inappropriate and likely unlawful. Judicial Watch called on the Attorney General in 2007 to investigate the matter.



3. Senator Larry Craig (R-ID): In one of the most shocking scandals of 2007, Senator Craig was caught by police attempting to solicit sex in a Minneapolis International Airport men's bathroom during the summer. Senator Craig

reportedly "sent signals" to a police officer in an adjacent stall that he wanted to engage in sexual activity. When the police officer showed Craig his police identification under the bathroom stall divider and pointed toward the exit, the senator reportedly exclaimed "No!" When asked to produce identification, Craig presented police his U.S. Senate business card and said, "What do you think of that?" The power play didn't work. Craig was arrested, charged and entered a guilty plea. Despite enormous pressure from his Republican colleagues to resign from the Senate, Craig refused.



4. Senator Diane Feinstein (D-CA): As a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee's subcommittee on military construction, Feinstein reviewed military construction government contracts, some of which were ultimately awarded to URS Corporation and Perini, companies then owned by Feinstein's husband, Richard Blum. While the Pentagon ultimately awards military contracts, there is a reason for the review process. The Senate's subcommittee on Military Construction's approval carries weight. Sen. Feinstein, therefore, likely had influence over the decision making process. Senator Feinstein also attempted to undermine ethics reform in 2007, arguing in favor of a perk that allows members of Congress to book multiple airline flights and then cancel them without financial penalty. Judicial Watch's investigation into this matter is ongoing.



5. Former New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani (R-NY): Giuliani came under fire in late 2007 after it was discovered the former New York mayor's office "billed obscure city agencies for tens of thousands of dollars in security expenses amassed during the time when he was beginning an extramarital relationship with future wife Judith Nathan in the Hamptons..." ABC News also reported that Giuliani provided Nathan with a police vehicle and a city driver at taxpayer expense. All of this news came on the heels of the federal indictment on corruption charges of Giuliani's former



Police Chief and business partner Bernard Kerik, who pleaded guilty in 2006 to accepting a \$165,000 bribe in the form of renovations to his Bronx apartment from a construction company attempting to land city contracts.

6. Governor Mike Huckabee (R-AR): Governor Huckabee enjoyed a meteoric rise in the polls in December 2007, which prompted a more thorough review of his ethics record. According to The Associated Press: "[Huckabee's] career has also been colored by 14 ethics complaints and a volley of questions about his integrity, ranging from his management of campaign cash to his use of a nonprofit organization to subsidize his income to his destruction of state computer files on his way out of the governor's office." And what was Governor Huckabee's response to these ethics allegations? Rather than cooperating with investigators, Huckabee sued the state ethics commission twice and attempted to shut the ethics process down.



7. I. Lewis "Scooter" Libby: Libby, former Chief of Staff to Vice President Dick Cheney, was sentenced to 30 months in prison and fined \$250,000 for lying and obstructing the Valerie Plame CIA leak investigation. Libby was found guilty of four felonies -- two counts of perjury, one count of making false statements to the FBI and one count of obstructing justice -- all serious crimes. Unfortunately, Libby was largely let off the hook. In an appalling lack of judgment, President Bush issued "Executive Clemency" to Libby and commuted the sentence.



8. Senator Barack Obama (D-IL): A "Dishonorable Mention" last year, Senator Obama moves onto the "ten most wanted" list in 2007. In 2006, it was discovered that Obama was involved in a suspicious real estate deal with an indicted political fundraiser, Antoin "Tony" Rezko. In 2007, more reports surfaced of deeper and suspicious business and political connections. It was reported that just



two months after he joined the Senate, Obama purchased \$50,000 worth of stock in speculative companies whose major investors were his biggest campaign contributors. One of the companies was a biotech concern that benefited from legislation Obama pushed just two weeks after the senator purchased \$5,000 of the company's shares. Obama was also nabbed conducting campaign business in his Senate office, a violation of federal law.

9. Rep. Nancy Pelosi (D-CA): House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, who promised a new era of ethics enforcement in the House of Representatives, snuck a \$25 million gift to her husband, Paul Pelosi, in a \$15 billion Water Resources Development Act recently passed by Congress. The pet project involved renovating ports in Speaker Pelosi's home base of San Francisco. Pelosi just happens to own apartment buildings near the areas targeted for improvement, and will almost certainly experience a significant boost in property value as a result of Pelosi's earmark. Earlier in the year, Pelosi found herself in hot water for demanding access to a luxury Air Force jet to ferry the Speaker and her entourage back and forth from San Francisco non-stop, in unprecedented request which was wisely rejected by the Pentagon. And under Pelosi's leadership, the House ethics process remains essentially shut down -- which protects members in both parties from accountability.



10. Senator Harry Reid (D-NV): Over the last few years, Reid has been embroiled in a series of scandals that cast serious doubt on his credibility as a self-professed champion of government ethics, and 2007 was no different. According to The Los Angeles Times, over the last four years, Reid has used his influence in Washington to help a developer, Havery Whittemore, clear obstacles for a profitable real estate deal. As the project advanced, the Times reported, "Reid received tens of thousands of dollars in campaign contributions from Whittemore." Whittemore also hired one of Reid's sons (Leif) as his personal lawyer and then promptly handed the junior Reid the responsibility of negotiating the real estate deal with federal officials. Leif Reid even called his father's office to talk about how to obtain the proper EPA permits, a clear conflict of interest.



The Sentinel interviews presidential candidate Ron Paul

CHRIS ARIAS
Sentinel Staff Writer

CEDAR RAPIDS, Iowa – Republican presidential hopeful Ron Paul addressed a room full of student volunteers in a private room at the Marriot on December 18, 2007. They weren't being paid, but they spent hours walking through the bitter, sometimes single-digit temperatures of Iowa just to spread what they believe to be a message of hope.

The young people explained that he is the only candidate that is really speaking about things that will be affecting them as they get older—things like social security being bankrupt, the national debt, the erosion of our civil liberties and the cost of the war in Iraq.

Ron Paul has become a phenomenon on the Internet as well as on college campuses across the country, in addition to his growing support from older Americans and his popularity with the military and veterans. Fascinatingly enough, they seem to cheer loudest when Paul talks about abolishing the Federal Reserve.

While addressing the students he stated, "You're going to be living in exciting times. You will be involved in a peaceful revolution which won't be new. It'll be a continuation and refinement of what we started over 200 years ago."

This speech was different than from his campaign speeches. It was as if he was preparing troops for a true revolution to take back the country from big government.

"Things are changing and I think that's what is happening in this campaign," he said. "I think regardless of what happens [in the election], you will be able to continue this."

"You have a right to your life! You have a right to your liberty! You have a right to pursue your happiness and you ought to have a right to keep what you earn!" he exclaimed.

"That's a system that works. That's a system that produces. If you assume that the government is going to provide it, you have to ask, 'who empowers the government?' Where are they going to get it? If they have to take it from someone else, it's going to undermine the whole productivity of the system," he continued.

"If you are truly a compassionate person, you truly want freedom, because that's where the greatest prosperity is," he later added.

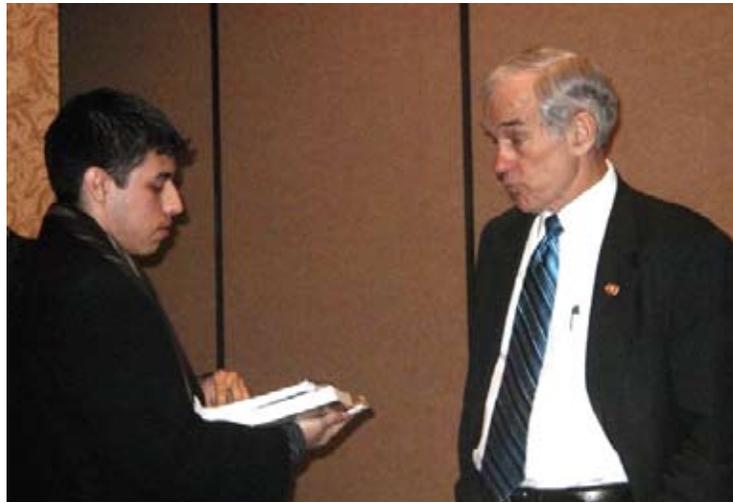
After his address, I got a chance to ask Congressman Paul some questions for The Liberty Sentinel. This is the transcript:

"they seem to cheer loudest when Paul talks about abolishing the Federal Reserve."

CHRIS ARIAS: You've been running a bottom-top campaign, letting your supporters run the show, so-to-speak. Is this how you intended it to

go from the very beginning?

DR. RON PAUL: We probably didn't think it through. I think we probably were thinking more conventionally that you would run a top-down, because that's the way all campaigns have ever been run. But, just by our nature... my nature, we like to let people be creative and let people go their own way, because we like that in our personal lives and our economic lives and all of a sudden I guess the supporters thought it was a great idea too and it sort of came about automatically and of course the thing I always told the supporters is, 'If you go and do things on your own, try to have fun doing it, because it's pretty boring and it's hard work if you didn't do it and they sort of grabbed it and were



Chris Arias of The Liberty Sentinel interviews Ron Paul in Iowa.

very creative and they're raising money, so to me it was fantastic and maybe it was a major discovery. A lot of people ask me about this. They say oh, 'how do you do it?' you know, 'How did you organize all these people through the internet?' I think everybody knows that it wasn't our organization. It was the people – the supporters that organized themselves and came to us.

ARIAS: Were you expecting to make \$6 million in one day?

PAUL: I didn't expect that much. I mean it became believable in the recent months that something could happen like this, especially after the 5th of November, but if six or eight months ago, or you know when we started, to think that we could have two days and raise over \$10 million in two days. No, I would have said, 'We're not even going to raise \$5 million in the whole year,' so it is, it's a very pleasant surprise. Yet, sadly we shouldn't be shocked, we should say, 'well, why *shouldn't* our views be popular' and 'why *shouldn't* people be enthusiastic.' But, I guess, over time we become sort of stereotyped to the point where we think that the support isn't there and I've always said that there's a lot more support out there than I ever dreamed.

ARIAS: Where are you planning on spending all this money?

PAUL: Well, we don't have every nickel and dime allotted yet, but it's going to be spent in conventional ways: television, radio, direct mail, travel... I mean it is expensive. The big thing is... is if we can get through these early primaries and do decently, we'll have the money in the bank for February 5th where the other candidates will have to really do some hustling because a lot of them don't have that much money in the bank. It's sort of what I look at.

ARIAS: Do you feel you've reintroduced conservative politics into the Republican Party, possibly changing the party for years to come?

PAUL: Let's hope so, because they certainly need change and it is "reintroduce" that is the right word, because some people think this is all new stuff and I'm not the Republican and 'why don't you go some place else' and yet, I think what we're doing is reintroducing

these ideas and only time will tell. So far the encouragement has been so great that it looks like there will be some momentum that will be carried through, you know, after the selection.

ARIAS: One of the keynote items of your campaign seems to be monetary policy, something that hasn't really been discussed in some time. What is your vision for the United States monetary policy and how could you hope to implement it?

PAUL: What I'd really like to do is just to obey the Constitution and have a backed currency: silver and gold, but I know I can't do that overnight, so I advocate you know, just allowing gold and silver to circulate in parallel to the dollar and not being more disruptive by closing down the Fed. In time the dollar is going to go by the way side, because it'll eventually be destroyed, but I think if we had a circulating hard currency next to the dollar, that it might even help the dollar. Just like if you have competition in public schools, it seems to improve the public schools. So, if you have competition in currency, maybe it would be an embarrassment to the Federal Reserve—maybe they would be more sensible.

ARIAS: Some people say that the Democrats are the anti-war party. How do you feel about the Democrats' stance on the war?

PAUL: The Democrats? There's a couple. As a matter of fact, we do a lot of arguing and debating on the war issue in Congress. It's a coalition of Republicans and Democrats. There's a lot more Democrats in that coalition than Republicans, but the number of Republicans is growing. But, when it came to the Iraq Resolution, there were six of them—six Republicans that voted against it. There were like 100 Democrats, but it still easily passed with a lot of Democrats. When you look at policy makers, the Democrats versus the Republicans, I would say they're the same. They both have an international agenda. They're both willing to use troops overseas. They both think we have to protect oil. The foreign policy doesn't change. That's why I would like to make a difference. [Under me], foreign policy would change. But basically the average Republican who's on the stage other than myself [and] the average Democrat other than Dennis Kucinich, [have] policies [that] really remain very much the same. So it's not so much that one is the war party and one isn't. In the year 2000, Bush was representing the anti-war party, you know, because he ran on criticizing Clinton for getting involved in so many things. Over the years—over the last hundred years or so, Republicans were much more the anti-war party, because they argued against the World Wars and they got elected in 1952 to stop Korea, in '68 to stop Vietnam, and we won in the year 2000 with this position, but right now it's a real mess and this administration has been most aggressive with war of any Republican administration I think in our history.

ARIAS: Thank you, Congressman.

SUPPORT THE LIBERTY SENTINEL BY SUBSCRIBING FOR A HALF-YEAR!

Enclose a check or money order for a minimum of \$9 addressed to Liberty Sentinel Media, Inc. and mail it to P.O. Box 14973, Gainesville, FL. 32604 with the form below.

The Liberty Sentinel

Subscription form

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone (optional): _____

E-Mail (optional): _____

Send to:

P.O. Box 14973

Gainesville, Florida

32604

or use a credit/debit card or bank transfer
online at

<http://www.libertysentinel.org/subscribe>





**To learn more about the NAU,
visit www.JBS.org/nau
or call 1-800-JBS-USA1**

**Call your Representative today and tell them to
support H.R. 22 to repeal NAFTA and H.R. 40
to block the NAU!**

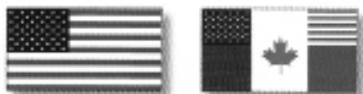
CLIFF STEARNS, Florida's 6th
(202) 225-5744
2370 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

CORRINE BROWN, Florida's 3rd
(202) 225-0123
2336 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

ANDER CRENSHAW, Florida's 4th
(202) 225-2501
127 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

GINNY BROWN-WAITE, Florida's 5th
(202) 225-1002
414 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

**To which flag will you
pledge allegiance?**



The John Birch Society
Standing for Family and Freedom

I pledge allegiance
to the flag...

...of the
**NORTH AMERICAN
UNION?**

Can you imagine combining the Canadian and Mexican flags with Old Glory and pledging allegiance to a North American Union (NAU)? In reality, the NAU process is already underway to erase our borders and form a new nation by merging the U.S., Mexico, and Canada.

"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*



"We are determined to forge the next generation of our continent's success.... The Security and Prosperity Partnership that we are launching today is the road map to getting there."

- *Former Canadian Prime Minister Paul Martin, March 23, 2005*

"As to what kind of [North American] union might there be, I see one based upon free trade, that would then entail commitment to markets and democracy, transparency, rule of law."

- *President George Bush
March 23, 2005*



*Sponsored ad,
unaffiliated
with any
campaign or
candidate, by:*

Lloyd Bailey's
SCUBA & WATERSPORTS

"LOWEST PRICES IN THE WORLD"
Gainesville, Florida
(352) 332-0738

Armando Grundy

for Gainesville City Commission, District 3



**CARING ABOUT
DISTRICT 3,
CARING ABOUT
OUR FUTURE**

**Vote Armando Grundy
on January 29, 2008**

Armando:

Served his country in the United States Army for 8 years and received The Army Achievement Medal, Good Conduct Medal and numerous other decorations for his dedication and Honorable Service to his country.

Served during Operation Enduring Freedom receiving the National Defense Service Ribbon for his contribution to service during combat.

Is employed full time at a local retailer and also an energy company

Helped feed the homeless at Saint Francis House

Helped rebuild New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina

Is always active in his community

Is passionate and committed to results

**Making Gainesville Better
For You AND Your Wallet**

***Saving Neighborhoods**

***Building Economic Opportunities**

***Improving Government Accountability**

www.vote4armando.com

Republican rebel rises to 'top-tier' with freedom message

continued from page 1

The average donation on this record setting day was an unimpressive fifty dollars; small potatoes in today's age multimillion-dollar campaigns. But these small donations added up to big results. The Boston Tea Party fundraiser, combined with the 5th of November fundraiser, will put Ron Paul in an enviable position financially.

Paul is racking in straw poll victories at an impressive clip, even in the face of some glaring improprieties. Some of the Liberty Sentinel staff were among those who witnessed first hand how Mitt Romney "won" his victory at the Florida straw poll, even in the face of an overwhelming turnout for Paul.

Why bother to call it a poll at all if attendees are allowed to vote multiple times; more accurately call it "finger calisthenics."

It was even more extreme at the California straw poll. When Ron Paul supporters showed up in mass, they called the election off. Even so, Paul has still won 29 straw poll victories all over the nation, and placed second or third in many more.

The one area that Ron Paul still seems to be lagging in is the media polls, conducted by the likes of Rasmussen, Gallup, and Zogby.

In order to measure the significance of these polls, it is important to know how they are conducted.

Some of these polls use selective qualifiers to "filter out" bad data. This process often leaves those who didn't vote in previous Republican primaries ineligible to participate in the poll.

The campaign is finding strong support among the Republican base, but Paul also attracts libertarians, constitutionalists, Reagan Democrats, and independents who did not vote in the '04 GOP primary, making the polling methods questionable.

Trevor Lyman, the grassroots supporter who organized the November 5th and Boston Tea Party fundraising drives which have netted over ten million dollars in donations, has never voted before in his life.

With those numbers, it's obvious that Mr. Lyman and people like him are a new force to be reckoned with in this election. But he still wouldn't be considered a "likely voter" in a Gallup poll.

Other polls simply leave Paul out altogether. The calls have been recorded and uploaded to the internet.

No campaign in recent history has motivated this level of grassroots support or encouraged this number of individuals to

switch party or register for the first time. Writing his predictions down for all to see, pollster John Zogby said of Ron Paul, "He's going to do better than anyone expects. Look to Paul to climb into the double-digits in Iowa. Why? He's different, he stands out. He's against the war and he has the one in four Republicans who oppose the war all to himself. Libertarianism is hot, especially among free-market Republicans and 20-somethings. And he's an appealing sort of father figure. He's his own brand. All he needs to do is beat a couple of big names in Iowa, then New Hampshire is friendlier territory. After all, the state motto is "Live Free or Die."

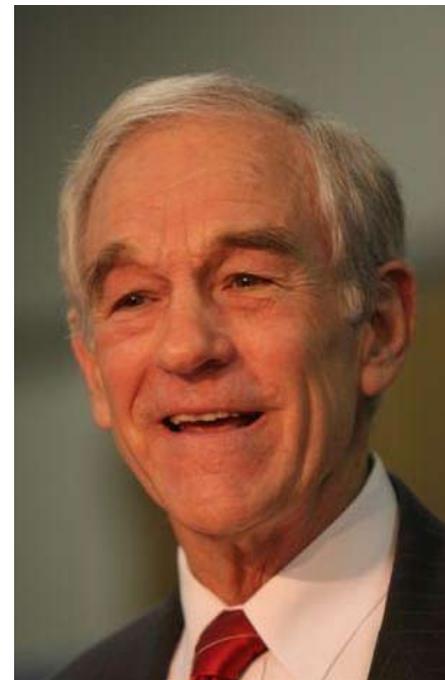
Zogby was right - Paul was in the double digits in Iowa, even placing ahead of 'national front-runner' Giuliani. He also beat Thompson in New Hampshire.

Congressman Paul is the first to admit that his grassroots campaign has achieved much of his success. "It's not a top-down organization, it's sort of bottom up. All we have done at the campaign is provide the message and the message turns out to be popular."

His grassroots organization has paid for billboards, radio and television air time, and produced their own commercials. Supporters have even launched the first presidential blimp, the "Ron Paul Blimp,"

soon to be hovering at a bowl game near you. It was recently in Gainesville hovering over the University of Florida.

The Internet is facilitating a rebirth of grassroots political activism that is sure to have repercussions well beyond the 2008 election. Whether or not his supporters prevail on Election Day, one thing is certain: Ron Paul is quixotic no more.



Clinton record reveals doubts about what would 'change'

Despite fundraisers by owner of Fox News, her "Inevitability" seems to be slipping. Governor of Iowa and Clinton co-chair speaks with The Liberty Sentinel.

CHRISTOPHER ARIAS
Sentinel Staff Writer

CHICAGO — As the presidential candidates scrambled to grasp last minute votes for the Iowa caucus about 200 miles away, former presidential candidate and Governor, Tom Vilsack of Iowa sat down to read a newspaper while his plane docked at the terminal, a rare moment of peace before the circus that awaited him in Des Moines.



On January 3, 2008 Iowa took part in its caucus, the first major electoral event of the 2008 presidential nomination process. Clinton lost to Obama.

For over 30 years the Iowa caucus has served as a prime indicator of which candidate each party might nominate for the presidency at their respective national conventions. As a result, the event regularly receives wide national attention as the presidential election draws closer.

A caucus works differently than a primary, where each individual simply votes for a candidate via a secret ballot. A caucus is more like a town hall meeting. It involves debate, discussion, and the selection of delegates. The rules vary by party, but both involve interaction with members of the community to choose the candidates.

In the past, Governor Vilsack played the role of aiding Democratic candidates during the caucuses. Some credit him with helping Al Gore and John Kerry win Iowa, but up until now he has never officially backed a single candidate for the caucus.

Earlier this year, Vilsack dropped out of the presidential race, citing financial reasons, and almost immediately afterwards endorsed Senator Hillary Clinton (D-NY) for the nomination. Vilsack was then named the national co-chair for Clinton's campaign. Setting his newspaper down for a moment, Vilsack explained, "I think she will bring serious change. She was ready to be president from day one."

Recently, Clinton criticized her opponent, Senator Barack Obama (D-IL), accusing him of running for president since kindergarten; however, according to the Federal Election Commission, April 1, 2007 Senator Clinton transferred \$10 million to her presidential campaign, left over from fund raising for her Senate campaign, prompting some to accuse Clinton of the same thing; "being ready to be president from day one".

"Obviously I want someone who can win and she's been bringing all sorts of women, many of whom have never voted before", Vilsack continued.

Clinton placed third in the Iowa caucus (29%), with former Senator John Edwards (D-NC) placing second (30%), and Obama taking first (38%). Clinton was behind Obama in the latest polls for the first

primary state, New Hampshire. She won but a recount is likely.

The Iowa caucus also resulted with more women coming out for Obama than Clinton.

Inevitability for Clinton seems to be a thing of the past, despite what Vilsack believes about her ability to win.

Where foreign policy is concerned, Clinton's record actually brings her likelihood for change justifiably into question. She has taken a relatively hawkish stance on relations with the Middle East, which bares resemblance to that of her neo-conservative opponents.

She voted to authorize the invasion of Iraq, makes no promise to bring American troops home prior to 2013, plans to keep residual troops in the country indefinitely, voted for and supports the Patriot Act, voted to declare Iran's 125,000-member terrorist organization

(furthering tensions with the country), and has made no promises to meet with leaders of some of America's more adversarial countries within her first year as president.

With that said, one

might not think this was the record of a leading Democratic contender, but maybe that of someone supporting the Bush administration's foreign policy.

The current administration has received heavy criticism for its spending habits; however, Clinton's campaign spending proposals currently total over \$600 billion in new spending, including \$440 billion for her healthcare plan.

Despite Clinton's similarity with the current administration in foreign policy and spending habits, Vilsack is convinced Clinton will bring some sort of change.

"Iowa is going to be crazy in the next couple of weeks and then it's going to be very quiet", concluded Vilsack, before taking his seat on the plane.

Clinton's disappointing results in the Iowa caucus speak tumultuously loud and clear that many Democrats actually have doubts about how much change she can bring.



The wisdom of Reagan applied today

CHRISTOPHER ARIAS
Sentinel Staff Writer

SIMI VALLEY, Calif. - Ronald Reagan once said, "Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We didn't pass it to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected, and handed on for them to do the same."

As I made my way around the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library in Simi Valley, California, I couldn't help but begin to consider how far we've strayed from the messages of Ronald Reagan. What are we leaving to our children right now?

"This is the issue of this election: whether we believe in our capacity for self-government or whether we abandon the American revolution and confess that a little intellectual elite in a far-distant capitol can plan our lives for us better than we can plan them ourselves."

For starters, at this rate, they will not be awarded their social security benefits. The trust fund has been raided by Congress and will be completely bankrupt by 2042. Social Security will

become cash flow negative in 2018 according to some estimates. At the start of Social Security there were 37 or more workers to every person retiring. That figure is now 3.3 and will be 2.3 by 2025. The growth of retirees will go from 35 million in 2000 to 62 million in 2025.

Often a 9 trillion dollar debt is discussed, but this is only the debt the U.S. currently has. When debt from future social security benefits, Medicare benefits, and other implicit future expenditures is calculated, the debt actually totals about 48 trillion.

To put this into perspective, forty-eight trillion dollars is equal to just over 91% of the total household net worth of the United States. This means every person in America will owe hundreds of thousands of dollars. According to some estimates, in order for Congress to balance the budget in 2040 they will either have to reduce spending by 60% or double the current tax rate.

When Ronald Reagan gave his famous "Time for Choosing" speech in Los Angeles while working for Barry

of it as a problem for the distant future. But, this problem is only growing and it will catch up with future generations if we don't start changing it now.

But, why must we continue down this route? What ever happened to the option of cutting taxes AND cutting spending? Our government has grown so bloated that it is almost beyond repair. It doesn't have to be this way. I believe we can change it. There is still time.

Ronald Reagan believed in reducing the growth of government spending, reducing the marginal tax rates on income from both labor and capital, reducing regulation, and reducing inflation by controlling the growth of the money supply. These are the sort of principles we need once again to be set in the hearts and minds of our elected leaders.

By refusing to follow these standards, Congress is enslaving us all to the confines of a centralized government bureaucracy. We are becoming more dependent



on government, as it takes more of our tax dollars in order to pay for the thickening of the bars in our cage. So how do we fix this problem? How do we make sure that we can still hand down freedom to our children and not just an insurmountable financial burden? Electing a fiscally responsible president would help, but even Ronald Reagan couldn't stop all the spending he hoped to.

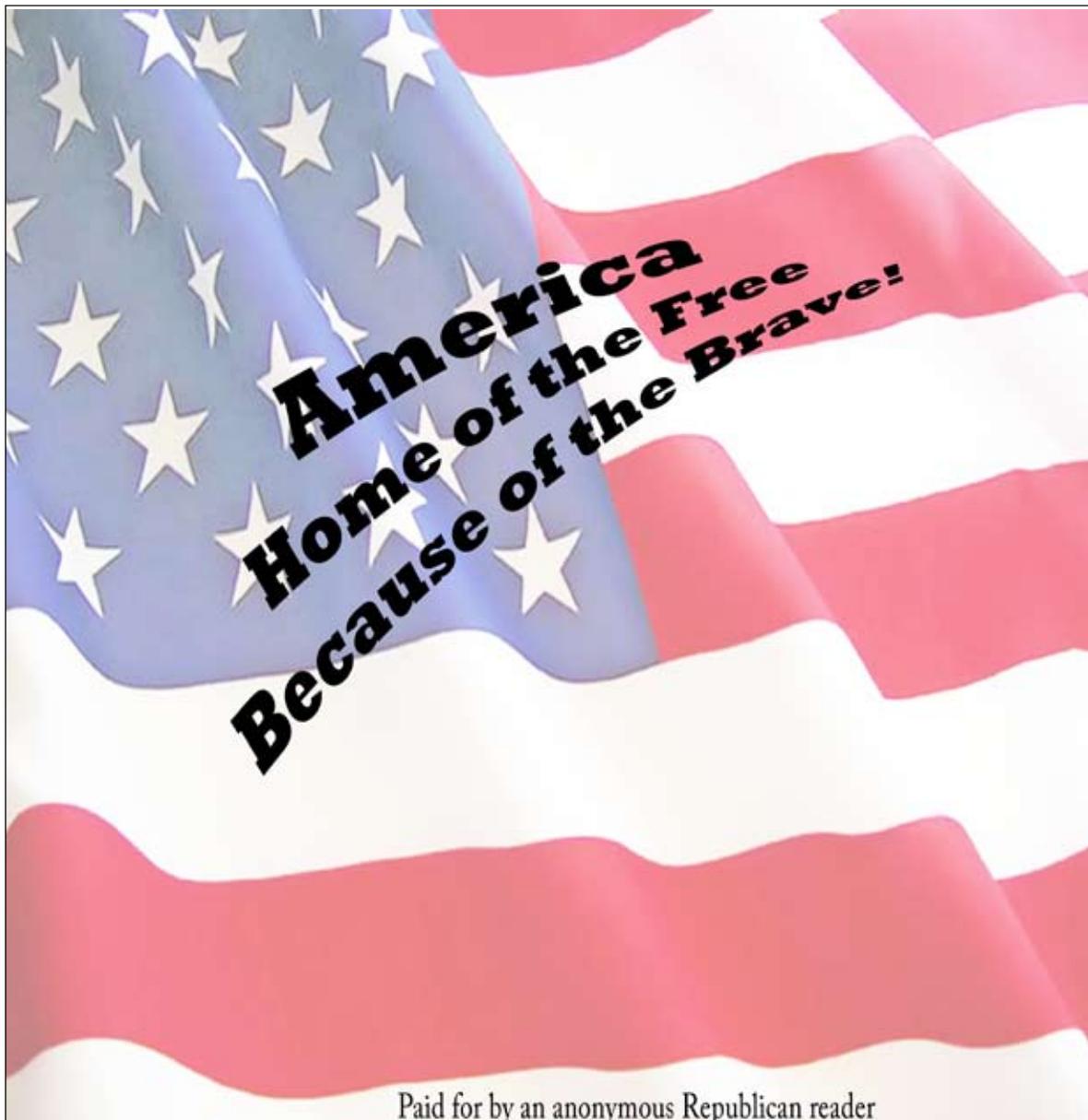
Goldwater's campaign, he was faced with a relatively similar situation: spending was spiraling out of control. It was not until he later became president that America began to embrace fiscal responsibility once again.

Since then, America seems to have forgotten his warnings. Spending has cut across party lines. Congress has simply adapted. They know that tax hikes are unpopular, so what do they do? They spend, borrow, or print the money, leading our children into a world where the American dollar could actually be completely destroyed.

Tax raises and cutting spending affect the here and now. The public seems to ignore the growing debt because they think

President Reagan said this of the 1964 presidential election: "This is the issue of this election: whether we believe in our capacity for self-government or whether we abandon the American revolution and confess that a little intellectual elite in a far-distant capitol can plan our lives for us better than we can plan them ourselves."

Forty-four years later we are faced with the same challenge. Let us not abandon the American revolution. Let us secure a solvent future for our children and live up to the vision of President Reagan. Let us make 2008 a year of change for our system.



Paid for by an anonymous Republican reader

An open letter from a concerned citizen

KEVIN MEARS

Sentinel Distribution Manager

America has always been about "Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness (and Property)."

Our government is unique; it was created to protect the rights of Individuals from oppression.

The Founding Fathers understood that tyranny is a government that does not obey its contract with the people, the Constitution.

Our government has certain limits. Legislation can't make people morally better. The decision to be morally good has always been the choice of Individuals. Laws can't protect me from myself, or anyone else. Law enforcement cant stop crime, it can only punish those that

commit crimes and hopefully deter future crimes. Ultimately, I am accountable for my own Safety and Well-Being. It's my choice to find out what's in my own best interest.

We've given so much of our freedom to our government. Those that can't afford good education go to public school. Those that can't afford healthcare get government paid medicare. There was once a time when people had money in the bank, and people would have laughed if you said you bought medical insurance. Doctors used to do house calls and people could easily afford it.

We hear how government programs are failing almost everyday. Our education system is failing. Social Security is broken and broke. Medical costs continue to rise. Gas is constantly reaching new

record highs. Taxes keep going up. And everywhere I go I hear "But how are we going to pay for all these "Social Programs." The reason these programs are failing isn't because they "don't have enough money."

The reason these programs fail is because they prevent and discourage competition. Anyone who would be able to provide a better service is run out. If a business doesn't provide what a customer expects, they don't get money. If a business didn't have to worry about making money, they probably wouldn't be worried about being better than competitors.

Government intervention in American Industries promotes a government monopoly, and therefore prevents innovation, entrepreneurship, and the very basis of the "American Dream." I do not mean we need to rid ourselves of all

government regulation. Small businesses can't bring better services to the market place when government spending, subsidies, and tax breaks are only given to the largest of corporations.

How can alternative renewable energy ever compete in the energy market when huge tax breaks and government spending support the oil conglomerates? They can't compete, at least not on prices. Consumers will always pay higher prices when the demand is inflated by the biggest spender: government.

Please act to protect Liberty, Property, and the Constitution.

Sincerely,

A concerned Citizen

A touch of religion for healing

MICHELLE BRYANT

Sentinel Contributing Writer

Imagine you and your neighbor are playing with your father's favorite train set when the boy unintentionally leans on the track and pops off one of the wheels on a cargo car. Turning around, you call out, "Dad, can you come here a minute?"

"Be right there, son," you hear from the kitchen.

As Dad approaches the scene of the accident he sees the sad, ashamed, and deeply regretful young man's face. Reaching out to the boy, he says, "It's okay, son, it's fixable."

Things are already starting off with a whirlwind in 2008. February is the

month we remember our country's past presidents, so I find it ironic that as we are celebrating these leaders' birthdays, we are also preparing to select a new president. This election is bound to bring many changes, not just with policies and procedures but also with Supreme Court seat vacancies that are destined to open and other positions certain to arise. It is a very crucial election and a very critical time for our nation.

So what does this have to do with trains and broken wheels and little boys?

2 Chronicles 7:14 tells us: "if My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and

heal their land."

If My people... - that is You and Me. Everyone one of us needs to humbly pray and ask God to forgive our country, as a whole for the greed, hate, perversion, and filth that we have allowed to filtrate our nation, our schools, our homes, and our lives; for the moral dysfunction we have permitted to seep into our very beings little by little, perhaps unintentionally, without even knowing it.

Please join me in a quest to save a

homeland, to pray for the healing of a broken nation, believing "things will be great in 2008." If we humbly ask for forgiveness and turn from our wickedness then perhaps, *then and only then*, our country can be saved. Perhaps then we will hear our dad say, "It's okay, son, it's fixable."

c. michelle bryant is a freelance writer for the Liberty-Sentinel and the author of the devotional book "God, are You listening?" www.godareyoulistening.com



Pulse of the Taxpayer
Weekdays
10AM-11AM



ANTHEM TATTOO
352.395.6789
myspace.com/anthemtattooaparlour
102 SW 6th St
www.anthemtattoo.com

Respect • Pride • Glory Bound



IS ANYONE OUT THERE LISTENING?

www.jimmydoane.com
email: jimmy@jimmydoane.com
1-866-95JIMMY

The most popular Libertarian podcast
(Google "libertarian podcast", and we're number one on the list.)

Look, I know I am preaching to the choir in this ad, but the show is most entertaining and informative. It will give you facts and viewpoints that you can use to befuddle and bedazzle your liberal, commie, pinko, fascist, statist friends. And I mean that in a nice way.

About every ten days or so, Jimmy and the gang get together and discuss many current topics with a special emphasis on the loons who are our local Gainesville and Alachua county officials. And I mean that in a nice way.

The shows usually are in two parts of about an hour each and are ideal for listening while working out or driving around Alachua County. Additionally you can download over 100 shows that we have done over the past two and a half years and be amazed at how "ahead of the curve" we have been.

Personal guarantee: If you are in any way dissatisfied with the show, then for a sufficiently large donation we will call it quits and retire to a non-extraditable safe haven.

P.S. I collect and restore Apple II, IIE and IIE as well as elderly Macintosh computers. If you have any laying around, please leave me a message..

Property tax reform amendment confusing

Continued from page 1

per-year. But even this part is a little tricky. Known as the "split 50," the first 25-thousand of exemption would come from the first 25-thousand of a home's value. The second would come from the third 25-thousand of a home's value. This means that there is no additional exemption for homes valued between 50 and 75-thousand. This is probably to avoid destroying the tax base in poorer neighborhoods.

Increases in commercial real estate and rental properties would also be capped, albeit at 10% annually, a number that is unlikely to relieve much pressure on struggling businesses.

Florida TaxWatch, a private, non-profit, non-partisan research institute, stated on the matter, "The 10% cap for non-homestead property is so high as to be of little value to most properties. The average annual growth in the value of non-homestead property is less than 5%. And since school taxes are not covered under the cap, it only applies to approximately 60% of the average tax bill. Moreover, if the non-homestead cap works the way Save Our homes does, in years where a covered property's just value does not rise as much as the cap, the assessment can still increase 10%, as long as it does not exceed just value. So while the cap may help some properties with high price spikes, it will be very hard for the vast majority of non-

homestead properties to accumulate any savings."

Another aspect of the reform is a 25,000-dollar exemption on tangible personal or business property. This will relieve a serious burden on small business that often have to pay more in accounting fees than they have to pay in tangible property taxes. This category of taxes usually covers items like office furniture, computers, and light equipment. An estimated one million small, mostly home operated businesses will no longer have to file this part of their state taxes, and that is certainly a step in the right direction.

One of the most welcomed yet confusing part of the amendment is the homestead exemption portability. Back in the 90's, the "Save Our Homes" amendment capped property tax increases on homesteads at a maximum of 3% per year. As a result, many homeowners are now "trapped" in their homes because buying a new home would cause the tax rate to be reset on the current value of the new home.

This amendment attempts to address that problem, but it does so in a manner that is complex and confusing. There is one equation used to calculate homestead exemption when moving from a more expensive home to a less expensive one, and another equation used to calculate the exemption when moving from a less expensive home to a more expensive one.

If "downsizing" to a home with a lower

just value, the homestead owner can transfer the same percentage of value held exempt from the former homestead, up to 500,000. The amendment would also allow homestead owners to transfer 100 percent of the benefit (again up to 500,000) to a new homestead if they "upsize" to a home with a greater or equal value. The important thing to remember with this part of the amendment is that your percentage of exemption stays the same whether you move to a less expensive home or a more expensive home.

There are many who feel that this reform doesn't go far enough, and there are still more who claim that the estimated cut in state revenues will adversely affect public services. A coalition of doomsayer media and public workers unions is forming to campaign against the amendment. The Liberty Sentinel finds these protestations laughable, set on the backdrop of soaring government revenues over the past years that have by far outpaced inflation, given the miniscule size of the cuts. Local taxes on schools and special assessments for other services, which can often be as much as the base property tax, are all exempt from this amendment.

Troubling from a conservative and libertarian perspective is language in the amendment, which sets the groundwork for municipalities to give special tax breaks for undefined environmental reasons, historic preservation, and start-

up business purposes. There are also special exemptions for adding on to your property to accommodate aging parents, and for disabled veterans, provided the homeowner can decipher the complex legal qualifiers.

In other words, local governments retain the right to hand out political favors and extract penalties as they deem fit. This creates an uneven playing field. Some business will get these exemptions, and those who do not will pay for government services.

A free and fair society is one in which all persons are equal under the law. Local governments shouldn't be able to play favorites with some citizens at the expense of others, but playing favorites is a popular pastime for our elected officials. If the property tax reform amendment of 2008 is any indicator, they won't be changing hobbies anytime soon.

It would be nice if the each part of the amendment were offered to the voters separately. Then we could vote "yes" to the increase in the homestead exemption, tangible property tax exemptions, and exemption portability, and leave the rest of the reforms where they belong - in limbo. As it is, we must choose whether or not to drink from a cup that is two parts food and one part poison. Florida voters must approve the property-tax proposal by 60 percent on Jan. 29, 2008 in order for it to become law.

Brief interview with Gainesville candidate Armando Grundy

GAINESVILLE - The Liberty Sentinel interviewed Armando Grundy, candidate for Gainesville City Commissioner, District 3. He is a military veteran who served 8 years in the army and earned a number of awards. A portion of the transcript is below.

ERIK: What do you want to accomplish as City Commissioner?

ARMANDO: I want to keep our neighborhoods safe, build economic opportunities and hold our government accountable.

Within my first 90 days I would like to hold a summit to address the growing economic problems. Higher paying jobs and more businesses don't come here because of the interference of our government - it has stifled those opportunities.

The City of Alachua is a good model of lessening government's role in business.

We can encourage business development by reducing our tax burden and lessening the ever growing regulation that is strangling our great city.

We can protect our environment without destroying the economy.

I would propose capping taxes unless 60% of citizens approve of a hike. Elected officials should also seek voter approval before increasing their pay.

Taxpayer money should never go toward private entities. Public dollars are for the public's use.

ERIK: Where could you cut the budget?

ARMANDO: We must address numerous concerns of wasteful spending in our budget. Artificial brick sidewalks to

nowhere and corporate welfare giveaways would be a good place to start.

Our City Commission spends money like a kid in a candy store. Our district and our citizens are tired of this kind of behavior. My opponent Jack Donovan has supported this sort of spending and it must stop.

These giveaways, like the widely publicized subsidy of the Marriot hotel, amount to stealing from the public.

ERIK: What do you think about traffic in Gainesville and what are your plans to address it?

ARMANDO: Traffic has been a constant problem. We received an "F" from National Highway Safety Board in both condition and safety of our roads. The commission has taken steps to fix the issue by improving the timing and signaling of

all traffic control devices throughout the city. We should await the results before exploring other options.

ERIK: Your opponent Jack Donovan has argued that the city should do something about the homeless problem. What do you think should be done?

ARMANDO: The city has encouraged this problem. Caring about people is one thing, and actions are another. I find Jack Donovan to be a dishonest leader. He says one thing and then the opposite.

ERIK: Thank you Armando. Is there anything you would like to add?

ARMANDO: The most qualified candidate to move District 3 forward is Armando Grundy. We cannot afford another 3 years of Jack Donovan. We need a leader who cares about District 3 and our future. Vote for me on January 29.

Marion County 'Taxpayer Action Group' forms

GARY R. SCHOR
Sentinel Staff Writer

OCALA - It is the duty of our elected officials and a well-informed populace to diligently guard the liberty our forefathers fought and died for.

The First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution enshrines the freedom of the press so that nothing can infringe on the ability of our nation's newspapers to educate and inform the public.

But, with a public that is struggling under the burden of regressive taxation, more worried with keeping food on the table than keeping an eye on government, and a press which more often behaves like

lapdogs to the political establishment than the watchdog media envisioned by our nation's forefathers, how does the average person make informed decisions about the laws and policies that affect their daily lives?

The Liberty Sentinel was founded to help answer that question, by returning watchdog journalism to the people of North Central Florida, but it will take more than one community newspaper to make up for years of neglect.

Enter T.A.G. - acronym for the Taxpayer Action Group of Marion County.

For years during the recent real estate boom, local government revenues surged on the waves of new construction and

staggering property value increases.

But now that the increase has stopped with the current real estate bubble, local government is crying broke, and even cutting some essential services like recycling facility operating hours.

Where did all that money go? T.A.G. wants answers, and they intend to find them by holding government accountable.

Committees are being formed to look into all aspects of local Marion County government, including the municipalities of Belleview, Dunnellon, and Ocala.

To call the goals of T.A.G. ambitious would be an understatement. In addition to the focus on local government, they have issued statements calling for the

withdrawal from the United Nations, and opposition to NAFTA and the North American Union.

If that seems like a stretch to some, remember that these international organizations have real effects for the local community and the quote by former Speaker of the House Tip O'Neill: "All politics is local."

Indeed it is, and T.A.G. is conceived with the noble intention of keeping our political traditions alive and making sure that our political institutions are held accountable to the people. T.A.G. meets on the first and third Monday of each month at 6:00 PM, at the Ocala Library, 2720 East Silver Springs Boulevard, Ocala, FL.

Solid gold silver surge

RICHARD DAUGHTY
"THE MOGAMBO GURU"
 www.dailyreckoning.com

Roger Reynolds of the famous "Shame on you Federal Reserve!!!" newsletter, (sporting three exclamation points for added emphasis!), notes that gold, "ALWAYS does well as long as the inflation rate is above the interest rates."

And in case you ain't noticed, inflation in consumer prices is almost 300% higher than even the yield on the 30-year T-bond! And gold is up over 30% this year! See how it works, my darling Junior Mogambo Rangers (JMRs)?

And in case you STILL ain't noticed, even though I just freaking pointed it out to you, inflation in consumer prices is so horrific that it is (when measured the old-fashioned way) running north of 10%, and the growth in the money supply is running north of 15%, meaning that consumer prices will continue to go terrifyingly up, and up, and up for a long, long time, meaning that (here I pause to let you come up with the answer on your own, which you don't because you can't, because you don't pay attention when I am talking to you, which I have already spoken to you about, which you have no doubt already forgotten, too) the lesson is that gold will continue to go up and up and up and up for a long time.

How much will it go up? Since you asked, I will merely quote James Turk of the Freemarket Gold & Money Report, who fearlessly forecasts that in 2008, "Gold will finally break into 4-digits, which will be an event that gains worldwide attention. I

think the high in 2008 will be \$1,500, and the low will be \$780."

Seeing how excited we are at this glorious news, he goes on, "Gold will probably end the year at \$1200-\$1300, generating at least a 50% gain in 2008. The same monetary problems driving gold higher for the past six years continue, including: (1) the dollar will continue to decline, threatening its 6-decade global monetary stranglehold as the world's reserve currency, (2) inflation will worsen as the prices of commodities as well as other goods and services rise, (3) the federal government budget deficit will grow, further debasing the dollar, and (4) global trade imbalances will continue to create huge pools of hot-money looking for a safe home, much of which will end up in gold."

Now, for those who ponder the timeless riddle of why all of the people in history always rushed to gold in economic turmoil, and who turn in desperation to the Loudmouth Mogambo Know-It-All (LMKIA) to ask me why they do it, I tell you: "I don't know. They just do. Go away!"

But perhaps a part of the answer may be gleaned when he goes on to say, "Add to the above monetary problems a new

worry - counterparty risk. This risk was highlighted by the bank-run at Northern Rock, and the depositor withdrawals presently underway in some institutional money-market funds in the US. Funds and more financial institutions will collapse in 2008, further highlighting this growing counterparty risk. Gold will benefit from this turmoil because it is the only money without counterparty risk - its value is not based on the promise of some financial institution", and that, "This attribute of gold will become more widely recognized in 2008, significantly increasing worldwide demand for gold."

And as for silver? I'm glad you asked! He thinks, "Silver will clear \$30 in 2008, as the (gold-silver) ratio falls below 40. A \$1200 gold price and 40-to-1 ratio puts the price of silver at \$30. Silver is the best play for 2008, but silver is never a smooth ride."

And if you think that silver could go to its rough 15-to-1 long-term ratio to gold, then a \$1,200 per ounce gold price would mean an \$80 per ounce silver! Wow! The stuff is selling for 15 bucks right now!

And for those holding gold mining stocks, too, the news is just as good or better, as he figures that "The XAU Index

will nearly double, closing over 300 at some point during the year." Double!

Then he started getting into that technical analysis stuff, which is over my head, so I started to leave, maybe grab a burger. But I was halted mid-stride when he said that "the technicals are fascinatingly bullish", and that the long-term silver chart has shown that "silver continues to trade within its long-term accumulation pattern" which it has, "been forming for more than two decades." A two-decade accumulation period? Wow! Who the hell ARE these long-term thinkers?

He doesn't want to get stuck in one of my wild conspiracy theories, and to change the subject by waving a shiny object in front of my eyes, he says that one highly unusual thing is silver's chart pattern of an "upward pointing flag," which he says is significant because "Upward pointing flags are rare. They illustrate unusual strength. In effect, there is so much demand for silver, every dip is bought. Buyers (particularly the shorts) therefore get anxious, and don't wait for a price retracement. They just keep buying, which describes what's happening. Silver is being accumulated."

I was hoping to make some sense of it, maybe make a few bucks on it, but since I am clueless and stupid, it promises to be a long night of research and work. Fortunately, I was saved from the prospect of actual labor when he volunteered, "2008 will be the 'Year of Silver'. Look for silver to outshine gold in 2008." Wow! Just what I wanted to hear! You, too, I'll bet!



WORLD'S SMALLEST POLITICAL QUIZ

See where you stand on the new political spectrum!

How do you stand on **PERSONAL** issues? 20 10 0

- ➔ Government should not censor speech, press, media, or Internet. A M D
- ➔ Military service should be voluntary. There should be no draft. A M D
- ➔ There should be no laws regarding sex between consenting adults. A M D
- ➔ Repeal laws prohibiting adult possession and use of drugs. A M D
- ➔ There should be no National ID card. A M D

SCORING 20 for every A, 10 for every M, and 0 for every D: _____

How do you stand on **ECONOMIC** issues? 20 10 0

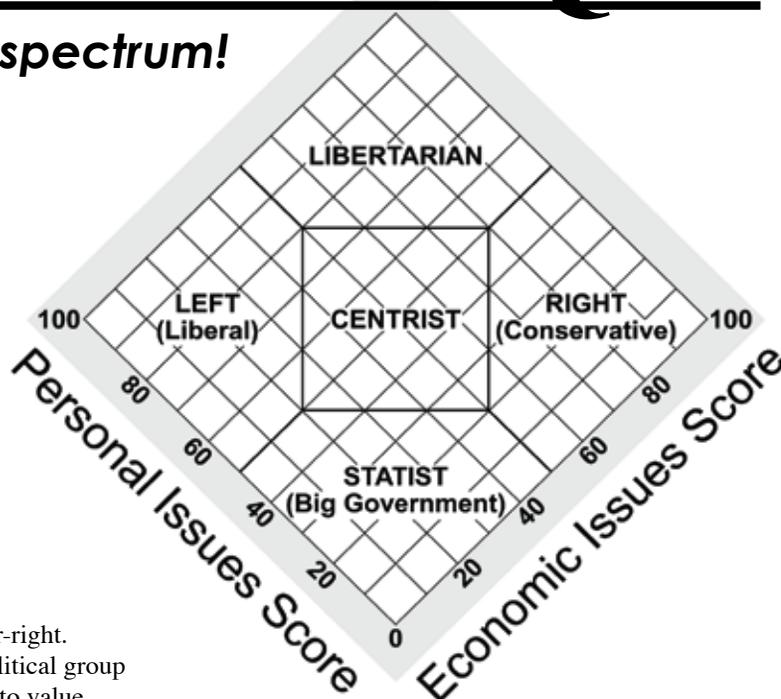
- ➔ End "corporate welfare." No government handouts to business. A M D
- ➔ End government barriers to international free trade. A M D
- ➔ Let people control their own retirement: privatize Social Security. A M D
- ➔ Replace government welfare with private charity. A M D
- ➔ Cut taxes and government spending by 50% or more. A M D

SCORING 20 for every A, 10 for every M, and 0 for every D: _____

Mark your **PERSONAL** score on the lower-left scale; your **ECONOMIC** score on the lower-right. Then follow the grid lines until they meet at your political position. The chart shows the political group that agrees with you the most. Liberals tend to value personal freedom. Conservatives tend to value economic freedom. Libertarians value both.

ARE YOU A LIBERTARIAN?

Libertarians believe in, and pursue, personal freedom while maintaining personal responsibility. Libertarians strongly oppose any government interfering in their personal, family and business decisions. Essentially, we believe all Americans should be free to live their lives and pursue their interests as they see fit as long as they do no harm to another.



SUGGESTED READING: *The Law* by Frederic Bastiat, *Free to Choose* by Milton Friedman, *Libertarianism: A Primer* by David Boaz, *Libertarianism in One Lesson* by David Bergland.

SUGGESTED WEBSITES: **The Cato Institute** - cato.org, **Reason Magazine** - reason.com, **DownsizeDC.org**, **FreeStateProject.org**, **The Libertarian Party** - lp.org, **Republican Liberty Caucus** - rlc.org, **Libertarian Party of Florida**, **lpf.org**

Patrick Henry: "Give Me Liberty, Or Give Me Death!"

A speech to convince the meeting of Virginia delegates to join the American Revolution, delivered on March 23, 1775

This is no time for ceremony. The question before the House is one of awful moment to this country. For my own part I consider it as nothing less than a question of freedom or slavery; and in proportion to the magnitude of the subject ought to be the freedom of the debate. It is only in this way that we can hope to arrive at truth, and fulfill the great responsibility which we hold to God and our country. Should I keep back my opinions at such a time, through fear of giving offense, I should consider myself as guilty of treason towards my country, and of an act of disloyalty towards the majesty of heaven, which I revere above all earthly kings.



Mr. President, it is natural to man to indulge in the illusions of hope. We are apt to shut our eyes against a painful truth, and listen to the song of that

siren, till she transforms us into beasts. Is this the part of wise men, engaged in a great and arduous struggle for liberty? Are we disposed to be of the number of those who, having eyes, see not, and having ears, hear not, the things which so nearly concern their temporal salvation?

For my part, whatever anguish of spirit it may cost, I am willing to know the whole truth—to know the worst and to provide for it. I have but one lamp by which my feet are guided; and that is the lamp of experience. I know of no way of judging of the future but by the past. And

judging by the past, I wish to know what there has been in the conduct of the British ministry for the last ten years, to justify those hopes with which gentlemen have been pleased to solace themselves and the House?

Is it that insidious smile with which our petition has been lately received? Trust it not, sir; it will prove a snare

"They tell us, sir, that we are weak... But when shall we be stronger?... Will it be when we are totally disarmed?"

to your feet. Suffer not yourselves to be betrayed with a kiss. Ask yourselves how this gracious reception of our petition comports with these warlike preparations which cover our waters and darken our land. Are fleets and armies necessary to a work of love and reconciliation? Have we shown ourselves so unwilling to be reconciled that force must be called in to win back our love? Let us not deceive ourselves, sir. These are the implements of war and subjugation—the last arguments to which kings resort. I ask gentlemen, sir, what means this martial array, if its purpose be not to force us to submission? Can gentlemen assign any other possible motives for it? Has Great Britain any enemy, in this quarter of the world, to call for all this accumulation of navies and armies?

No, sir, she has none. They are meant for us; they can be meant for no other. They are sent over to bind and rivet upon us those chains which the British

ministry have been so long forging. And what have we to oppose to them? Shall we try argument? Sir, we have been trying that for the last ten years. Have we anything new to offer on the subject? Nothing.

We have held the subject up in every light of which it is capable; but it has been all in vain. Shall we resort to entreaty and humble supplication?

What terms shall we find which have not been already exhausted? Let us not, I beseech you, sir, deceive ourselves longer.

Sir, we have done everything that could be done to avert the storm which is now coming on. We have petitioned; we have remonstrated; we have supplicated; we have prostrated ourselves before the throne, and have implored its interposition to arrest the tyrannical hands of the ministry and Parliament.

Our petitions have been slighted; our remonstrances have produced additional violence and insult; our supplications have been disregarded; and we have been spurned, with contempt, from the foot of the throne. In vain, after these things, may we indulge the fond hope of peace and reconciliation. There is no

longer any room for hope.

If we wish to be free—if we mean to preserve inviolate those inestimable privileges for which we have been so long contending—if we mean not basely to abandon the noble struggle in which we have been so long engaged, and which we have pledged ourselves never to abandon until the glorious object of our contest shall be obtained, we must fight! I repeat it, sir, we must fight! An appeal to arms and to the God of Hosts is all that is left us!

They tell us, sir, that we are weak—unable to cope with so formidable an adversary. But when shall we be stronger? Will it be the next week, or the next year? Will it be when we are totally disarmed, and when a British guard shall be stationed in every house? Shall we gather strength by irresolution and inaction? Shall we acquire the means of effectual resistance, by lying supinely on our backs, and hugging the delusive phantom of hope, until our enemies shall have bound us hand and foot?

Sir, we are not weak, if we make a proper use of the means which the God of nature hath placed in our power. Three millions of people, armed in the holy cause of liberty, and in such a country as that which we possess, are invincible by any force which our enemy can send against us. Besides, sir,

"Is life so dear, or peace so sweet, as to be purchased at the price of chains and slavery?"

we shall not fight our battles alone. There is a just God who presides over the destinies of nations, and

who will raise up friends to fight our battles for us.

The battle, sir, is not to the strong alone; it is to the vigilant, the active, the brave. Besides, sir, we have no election. If we were base enough to desire it, it is now too late to retire from the contest. There is no retreat but in submission and slavery! Our chains are forged! Their clanking may be heard on the plains of Boston! The war is inevitable—and let it come! I repeat it, sir, let it come!

It is in vain, sir, to extenuate the matter. Gentlemen may cry, "Peace! Peace!" — but there is no peace. The war is actually begun! The next gale that sweeps from the north will bring to our ears the clash of resounding arms! Our brethren are already in the field! Why stand we here idle? What is it that gentlemen wish? What would they have? Is life so dear, or peace so sweet, as to be purchased at the price of chains and slavery? Forbid it, Almighty God! I know not what course others may take; but as for me, give me liberty, or give me death!

Why not have your own ADULT STEM CELLS work to enhance your health?

Stem Enhance™

is the only product on the market that makes your body's stem cells work to achieve your optimum health!

Call: 620-294-1132 to learn about Stem Enhance.

Is it too good to be true? YOU DECIDE



Stem Enhance is patented, and it's available only from Stem Tech Distributors in your area.



Business Opportunities Available

352-216-4090 stemcellsatwork4u@yahoo.com www.ingersollsales.stemtechbiz.com



15 W. University Ave. • Gainesville, FL 32601 (352) 373-4841 • Hours: M ~ F • 9 am ~ 6 pm

FROM OUR READERS:**VOTE FRAUD:**

Can Americans claim true liberty while the chain of custody regarding our individual vote is compromised at every stage of the process? Let's read a quote from a man who knows the answer:

"It is enough that the people know there was an election. The people who cast the votes decide nothing. The people who count the votes decide everything," —Joseph Stalin.

So, our first order of business will be to acknowledge that fixing an election is as old, at least, as the mass murderer Stalin himself.

What man in his right mind would trust anyone with such an important process as vote tabulation? As I see it, a right minded man would never be so naïve or gullible, unless his thought process had been pre-programmed to accept such folly.

It's very important to vote, but casting a vote is not the end of our responsibilities in the process...it's only the first step. Counting that vote in an honorable manner is the next step, and then reporting the accurate final tabulation is the final step.

There is no vote when any part of the three steps are violated. Yet, that is what is happening.

So who is counting the votes in this great nation? I discovered this secret completely by accident. I was investigating exit polling and the reason why elections are called on the national news before precincts close on vote day. Did any of you ever wonder how? Let's take a look at the organization in charge of this: Voter News Service.

Since the 2000 Palm Beach County fiasco they changed their name to the National Election Pool. Associated Press, NBC, ABC, CBS, CNN and FOX News make up this privileged cabal.

First they do "exit polling," and then they use sophisticated formulas to calculate who the winners are before the "official" votes are counted. But now there are more players involved in this fraud.

They are Edison Media Research and Mitofsky International. By the way, you can Google any of these names and read for yourself exactly how they claim to run the whole show. They even admit on their sites that they do the final tabulation of all votes from all precincts in America. Can you imagine that? A private media cabal calls every election?

The exit polling here in Florida was supposed to be conducted by the League of Women Voters. They never showed up at certain precincts, which I confirmed, yet they say they did.

Jim and Ken Collier wrote a book back in 1992 titled "Votescam: The Stealing Of America." This book was one of the first to actually reveal just how deep the vote fraud goes. The Colliers discovered that Voters News Service had control of the final tabulation of all votes in addition to the exit polls.

The book is hard to find these days, as it was eliminated from all major book stores once the contents were revealed.

I strongly recommend that you scour the web and find this book. Florida is notoriously a hotbed of fixed elections and corrupt politicians. Voters News Service has nurtured this fraud for many years and since the merging of Edison Media

Research and Mitofsky International, they have a stranglehold on all aspects of the voting process.

In 2000, here in Florida, a State Congressman by the name of Tom Feeney (also incoming speaker of the house) asked a fellow employee of Yang Enterprises, Inc., computer software programmer Clint Curtis, to design software that would flop the vote so that the candidate of their choice could win the election. Clint Curtis swore and testified before congress about this fraud. You can watch the video at this address: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JEzY2tnwExs>

Curtis was also involved in an investigation conducted by FDOT Inspector General, Raymond Lemme, concerning Mr. Feeney's involvement with Yang Enterprises, Inc. Feeney was a lobbyist for the Florida company. while also a Florida Congressman. Talk about ethics violations!

Inspector General Raymond Lemme

instructed Curtis to keep his ears open for the upcoming report of his investigation. Lemme had discovered and stated "this goes all the way to the top." Curtis would be pleased about this, since he was one of the two whistle-blowers. Two weeks later, Raymond Lemme was found dead in a Valdosta, Georgia hotel room. The official police report stated it was a suicide.

In concluding this letter, which could easily be another 300 page book, we must realize that the voting process in our counties is open to fraud. The only way to ensure electronic voting accuracy is to gain access to the source code and monitor it at every stage of the process.

We have met with our Palm Beach County Supervisor of Elections, Dr. Anderson and his team, twice. We have been through the entire voting process with them. We know that unless we hand cast and hand count the votes, along with citizen monitored, chain of custody integrity, our votes are like deserted

coconuts in the open ocean.

Please do your own research and educate yourselves on these very important issues. The internet is a very powerful research tool. You won't be seeing any of this information on the propaganda news channels, as they are involved in this. Remember, knowledge is power and no one can steal it from you unless you allow them to. Let's prove Joseph Stalin wrong!

Dan Gonzales

State Coordinator

We The People of Florida

Email Dan at freeflorida@bellsouth.net

www.wtpifl.com

[Editor's note: Some information about vote fraud has made it into the 'mainstream.' An HBO documentary titled "Hacking Democracy" and a New York Times Magazine article have discussed these issues. Many suspicious reports, particularly from the NH primary, have already surfaced this election. The Sentinel will be doing an exposé next issue.]

BEST JEWELRY & LOAN PAWNBROKERS



FAST CASH FOR FAST TIMES!

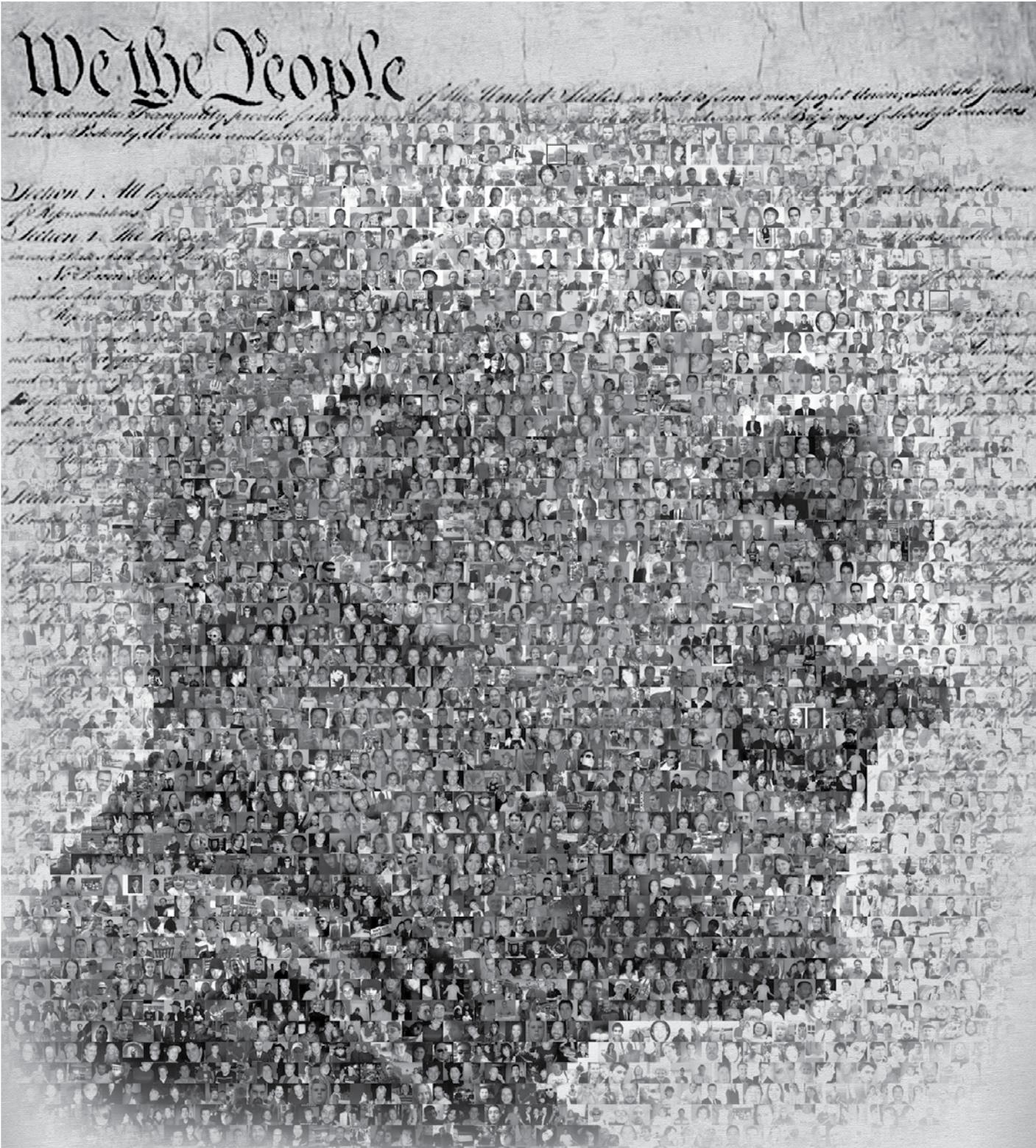
523 NW 3rd Avenue Gainesville, FL 32601

(352) 371-4367 or (352) 371-GEMS



Top Cash for Gold, Silver, Diamonds, Rolex Watches, or anything of value!

www.bestpawnbroker.com



We the People

of the United States, in order to form a more perfect Union, establish justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, hereby support

...of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, hereby support

RON PAUL

FOR PRESIDENT OF THESE UNITED STATES

SAY YES TO CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT, SECURE BORDERS, SOUND MONEY, LIFE, LIBERTY, AND THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS

**Vote Proudly For Ron Paul On January 29
To Reclaim The Dream That Is America**

RONPAUL2008.COM 1-877-RON-PAUL

This image is composed of ordinary Americans who support Ron Paul.
Paid for by a patriotic private individual, unaffiliated with any candidate or campaign.
www.ronpaulgainesville.com

“RON PAUL IS ONE OF THE OUTSTANDING LEADERS FIGHTING FOR A STRONGER NATIONAL DEFENSE. AS A FORMER AIR FORCE OFFICER, HE KNOWS WELL THE NEEDS OF OUR ARMED FORCES, AND HE ALWAYS PUTS THEM FIRST. WE NEED TO KEEP HIM FIGHTING FOR OUR COUNTRY”

~ RONALD REAGAN

RON PAUL SUPPORTS OUR TROOPS, AND THEY SUPPORT HIM!

RON PAUL RECEIVES MORE CAMPAIGN DONATIONS FROM OUR ACTIVE AND RETIRED MILITARY PERSONNEL THAN ANY OTHER CANDIDATE OF EITHER PARTY.

RON PAUL IS A REAL CONSERVATIVE.

IN 20 YEARS IN CONGRESS, HE NEVER ONCE VOTED TO RAISE TAXES, NEVER VOTED FOR AN UNBALANCED BUDGET, NEVER VOTED TO LIMIT THE SECOND AMENDMENT, NEVER VOTED FOR TAXPAYER FUNDED ABORTIONS, NEVER VOTED FOR AMNESTY FOR ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS, AND HAS STOOD AGAINST THE SUBVERSION OF OUR SOVEREIGNTY BY THE UNITED NATIONS, THE NORTH AMERICAN UNION, AND THE WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION.

THERE IS HOPE FOR AMERICA!
VOTE RON PAUL FOR PRESIDENT.

WWW.RONPAUL2008.COM