



Liberty News

September 2000

a publication of the Libertarian Party of Boulder County

Medical Marijuana Controversy Continues

© by Ron Bain

Coloradans will have a second opportunity to vote on medical marijuana in November, and this time their votes will be counted by court order.

During a 1998 ballot access court battle that lasted almost until election day, the group sponsoring the medical marijuana initiative in this state, Coloradans for Medical Rights, tangled with then-Secretary of State Victoria Buckley over the exact number of signatures on their petitions. The ballots got printed with the initiative on them while the court battle raged on. Ultimately, the Colorado Supreme Court ruled that, although it was too late to reprint the ballots, votes cast in 1998 for medical marijuana would not be counted. Instead, the initiative would reappear on the 2000 ballot for official consideration.

After Vikki Buckley died, it was discovered that petitions containing several hundred signatures had been mysteriously misplaced within the Secretary of State's office.

If the initiative passes, Colorado would be the ninth state to challenge the federal government's "zero tolerance" policies by legalizing cannabis in one form or another. California was the first in 1996, passing a citizen-sponsored medical marijuana initiative by a comfortable margin. Earlier this month, Hawaii's governor signed into law a combined medical marijuana/agricultural hemp bill sent to him by the state legislature. Since 1996, Oregon, Nevada, Arizona, Alaska, Maine, the state of Washington and Washington, D.C. have also approved initiatives to liberalize laws regarding the growth, possession and/or medical use of cannabis.

Coloradans for Medical Rights, the original sponsoring organization, views the initiative as a referendum on the doctor/patient relationship.

"This gives patients and doctors, not the government, one more treatment option for glaucoma, cancer, AIDS and other serious illnesses," said Luther Symons, the current president of Coloradans for Medical Rights. Marty Chilcutt, the original president, resigned from that post after winning the "long process to get here," Symons said, but remains actively working in support of the initiative.

Reorganized for the upcoming election fight, CMR plans to use grass roots politicking as well as mass media advertising to ensure a victory, according to Symons.

"In 1998, we were able to do some sophisticated exit polling that showed it would have passed with 60% of the vote," he said, citing recent polls showing that support has grown to 70%.

Some of that support is soft, but not for the reasons that opponents hope. Many supporters of the initiative believe it's only a step in the right direction.

"I'm gonna hold my nose and vote yes purely for the symbolic value in favor of medical marijuana," said Tom Barrus, an ex-pharmacist and legalization advocate who held the curious position of being the only qualified objector to the initiative during the original ballot title setting process. Barrus cites "bad language" in the initiative for his reservations.

(continued on page 3...)

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Boulder, CO k (303) 665-2150 k www.lpboulder.com

Thoughts from the Chairman

by Lorene Van Buren

Since I have recently been working on By-Laws revisions (see Notice in the voting member insert of *Liberty News*), I became aware that one of the duties of the chairperson is to "Prepare and submit to the Newsletter Editor a feature article for each issue reporting on recent and/or future activities of the LPBC;" so I guess I can't just assume that this information will be provided in this publication by other writers. Before I get to the "report" section, though, I have something else on my mind communication!

Communication seems to be a timely issue right now: there was an article about communication in the August *Colorado Liberty*, it has been touched upon in some of the online chat topics and comes up from time to time in activist discussions. Why, you ask, do we need to think about communication -- don't we just do it? That is one of the problems yes, we do just do it and sometimes not with the intended result. Accurate communication is important if we wish to increase our membership, increase Libertarian voter registration, make a better showing at the polls, and spread the libertarian message in general.

What is communication? It is much more than the spoken or written word. The short definition I like best is: "the transfer of information by speech and by acts, signs, and appearances."¹ It does not matter how articulate a person is in describing his beliefs orally or in writing if the "acts, signs, and appearances" of that person are conveying a different message. An example many of us have observed and become perturbed by is the image of the Second Amendment activist who is trying to communicate a message that we have a right to bear arms and can be trusted to responsibly do so while acting in a threatening or obnoxious manner. The image of that speaker will most likely be remembered longer than the words spoken.

Remember also that when transferring information to another, you must use words or images the receiver of the information understands. Cultural and background differences as well as the life experiences of the people communicating sometimes get in the way of the message so we must be alert to the signals the person we are talking to is sending back to us. If that person appears uncomfortable, don't keep talking - stop and analyze the reason why. "Do you have a question or is there something you would like to say to me?" Then listen to the response and act accordingly. If you have trodden on some cultural taboo, it may be a waste of

time to attempt to continue; just thank the other person for his/her time and move along.

OK, enough serious stuff! The Second Annual Bowl-A-Thon was a success and the bowlers are now in the process of contacting their sponsors and collecting the pledges. We have heard some folks ask if this must be just an annual event can't we do it more often? Stay tuned.

Gun shows are ongoing and Chuck Wright continues seeking volunteers. If you have some time available on the weekend, or on Friday evenings to help set up, please get in touch with him and do what you can to help.

The Lafayette City Fair will be held on Saturday, September 9, and Joe Johnson is asking people to come out to spend a little time at a "Vote Libertarian" booth.

Mark Sunday, September 17, on your calendars to be at the Odd Fellows Hall, 1543 Pearl St., Boulder, for the Boulder Dialogues. Ari Armstrong, Publications Director of Colorado LP and candidate for State Representative from District 35, will be the speaker.

Following the closing of the Boulder location of Healthy Habits, the lunch activist group has been doing a tour of Boulder restaurants looking for a suitable new place to meet. Check the LPBC web site for current information.

¹People v. Daghita, 299 N.Y. 194, 86 NE2d 172, 10 ALR2d 1385.

The SAFE Initiative: "Will Background Checks on Private Gun Sales Make us Safer?"

On September 17th, Ari Armstrong will deliver the Libertarian perspective on the SAFE Initiative. We expect a number of vocal anti-gunners to be there, so we will need a good turnout from Libertarian Party members and sympathizers.

This event will be at the usual "Boulder Dialogues" location: The Odd Fellows Hall on 1543 Pearl Street in Boulder, at 7:00 pm on September 17th.

Medical Marijuana Controversy *(continued from page 1)*

Laura Kriho, leader of the Colorado Hemp Initiative Project, said "We support the initiative because it might help some patients. And we see it as a referendum on the relegalization of cannabis for all uses."

The initiative would create a state registry of authorized users of medical marijuana and actually lower the felony threshold for possession by non-registry users to eight ounces from today's pre-election 16 ounces. Barrus said another constitutional amendment would probably be required in two years to correct these problems.

Opponents have recruited medical professionals who say marijuana does not provide any relief that is not readily available through other, legal medicines; there are many other medical professionals who attribute remarkable medicinal qualities to cannabis. A federal judge in California, after reconsidering that issue, has come to agree that marijuana has potential medicinal value. U.S. District Court Judge Charles Breyer, under appellate court orders to reconsider marijuana for seriously ill patients who have no effective legal alternative, in mid-July modified an earlier injunction against an Oakland, California cannabis club, allowing distribution to resume.

Peter McWilliams, a California AIDS victim who could only stomach his highly toxic medicines with a few tokes, died earlier this year by drowning in his own vomit. Denied the medical necessity defense in federal court, where the judge refused to even acknowledge the existence of California's medical marijuana law, McWilliams reluctantly accepted a plea bargain on federal charges of growing marijuana for personal use. Serving a probation sentence and subjected to drug testing, he gave up marijuana, but without it, had extreme difficulty keeping his AIDS medicine down.

As the McWilliams case shows, even if Colorado voters do decide to legalize medical cannabis, the voters cannot prevent the federal government from enforcing its drug laws within Colorado, nor can the voters require that federal prosecutors and judges show an iota of compassion toward people suffering from severe, life-threatening illnesses. There's no medicine for hearts empty of compassion.

*(This article originally appeared in the **Denver Post** on Sunday, 7/30/00. Ron Bain is the Publicity Director of the Libertarian Party of Boulder County.)*

Keep Your Laws Off My Beer

Although not all of us share the, um, enthusiasm of our paper's editor when it comes to the **Second Amendment**, we do think his laissez-faire logic applies to a new law passed in Ohio, which will require a five-day waiting period for anyone who wants to buy five or more kegs of **beer**. Don't you see folks? When you outlaw beer, only outlaws will have beer. Or something...

This news comes to us courtesy of the **Libertarian Party**. According to our private sector-lovin' L.P. friends, any Ohioan who wants to buy five kegs or more will have to share the kegger with the **Ohio Department of Public Safety**. The law will also give police the right to search keg parties without a warrant.

The law won't actually do any good, naturally, when it comes to preventing excessively boisterous soirees -- anyone with a modicum of intelligence will buy four kegs at one establishment, and the last one (or two, or four) at another, thereby skirting the law. And why shouldn't they skirt it?

Let's face it: Getting soused should be a basic human right. Sure, this right is sometimes associated with damaged property (not to mention paternity suits). But this law will address none of those issues. Instead, it will just make life for your average hard-working, taxpaying party-goer more of a pain in the ass. And it will be a cold dark day in Hell when anyone at *Boulder Weekly* supports anything that makes partying more difficult than it already is.

*(This editorial originally appeared in the **Boulder Weekly** newspaper and is reprinted with permission. Thanks to **Sarah Wright** for submitting it to Liberty News!)*

Quotable...

"Government is the great fiction,
through which everybody endeavors to
live at the expense of everybody else."

-- Frédéric Bastiat

LPBC Roasts Mark Udall

The Libertarian Party of Boulder County will host a multi-partisan Roast of Congressman Mark Udall on Sunday, Aug. 27th at 7 p.m. at the Odd Fellows Hall, 16th and Pearl in Boulder.

Already confirmed to use humor to illustrate that Udall's support is not universal are District Two opponents Dave Baker (LP) and Carolyn Cox (GOP). Other roasters will include Kathleen Chippi of the Boulder Hemp Company, Laura Kriho of the Fully Informed Jury Association, and Ralph Shnelvar of the LPBC.

Invited but unconfirmed are Udall himself and Udall's 1998 opponent, Bob Greenlee, the former mayor of Boulder.

Patterned after the celebrity roasts that Dean Martin used to host, the Mark Udall Roast will consist of 10-minute humorous presentations from each of the roasters. If the congressman is brave enough to face his opponents, he will be given a half-hour to respond.

A large crowd and media representation is expected at the Mark Udall Roast. According to organizer Ron Bain, Publicity Director of the LPBC, Libertarians from all over the state are invited to attend and get a laugh at the expense of one of the state's top-ranking Democrats.

"This is big, big, big," Bain enthused. "If you've ever really wanted to be involved in politics instead of just talking about it, now is your chance!"

Quotable...

"A society that robs an individual of the product of his effort...is not strictly speaking a society, but a mob held together by institutionalized gang violence."
-- Ayn Rand

Join Libertarian Presidential Candidate Harry Browne for Constitution Monday

It's time again to take a stand for civil liberties and the ENTIRE Bill of Rights. Don't let Janet Reno have the last word! Reno called for October 2nd to be a day to rally against civil rights, but we're not going to let her get away with that! JOIN US for a PRO-civil rights rally on Monday, October 2, the day we're calling "Constitution Monday," from 4:30 to 7:30 pm on the West steps of the Denver Capitol building.

Confirmed speakers:

- k **Harry Browne**, LP Candidate for President
- k **Bob Glass**, Publisher, *The Partisan* magazine
- k **Dudley Brown**, Rocky Mountain Gun Owners
- k **Dr. Shawn Elke Glazer**, Candidate for State Representative
- k **Ari Armstrong**, Colorado Freedom Report
- k ... and more soon to be added!

Mark your calendars and be there to help us celebrate Constitutionally limited government and ALL TEN of the Bill of Rights!

Browne Video Airs on Boulder's CATV

Boulder's CATV channel 54 broadcast the Harry Browne presidential campaign video, **THE GREAT LIBERTARIAN OFFER**, three times on August 18 and 19. More showings may follow depending on the programming slots available.

This 30-minute, professionally produced program aired on Friday, August 18 at 9:30 pm and Saturday, August 19 at 5:30 am and 1:30 pm. Community Access Television is seen by over 70,000 AT&T Cable subscribers in the city and county of Boulder.

This is a wonderful opportunity to get Harry Browne and the Libertarian message on television at absolutely no cost. To help ensure future broadcasts of the video, please call CATV at (303) 440-1000 with positive comments and feedback.

Thanks to Steve Funk and David Baker for making this broadcast happen.

LPBC Bowl-A-Thon a Complete Success!

The second annual Bowl-A-Thon for Liberty -- the Libertarian Party of Boulder County's yearly fundraiser -- was an unqualified success! The event was held Saturday, August 5th at the Coal Creek Sports Center in Lafayette.

"We raised **\$540.53** without spending a penny of the LPBC's funds," stated organizer Ron Bain, past chair of the LPBC and current Publicity Director. "Everybody had a blast, including the two seven-year-old girls sponsored by Ralph Shnelvar."

Twelve bowlers participated by knocking down thousands of pins in the name of Liberty. Twenty-three people pledged, including several non-Libertarians and Libertarian sympathizers. Most LPBC members participated in some way, either by bowling, pledging or spectating.

"Thanks to everyone who participated," Bain said. "And get ready for the Mark Udall Roast on Aug. 27th!"



Your next congressman takes aim...



The LPBC Bowl-A-Thon Gang!

Calendar of Upcoming Events

Every Monday, Noon:

LPBC Weekly Lunch

NOTE: Healthy Habits went out of business as of 7/23. Until further notice, Monday lunches are temporarily suspended.

See www.lpboulder.com for updates

Sunday, August 27, 7:00 pm:

Mark Udall "Roast"

Odd Fellows Hall

1543 Pearl St., Boulder, CO

Ž *Featuring: Dave Baker (LP), Carolyn Cox (GOP), Laura Kriho (FIJA), Ralph Shnelvar (LPBC), Ari Armstrong (LPCO) and more!*

Saturday & Sunday, September 2 & 3:

Wasatch Gun Show

Larimer County Fairground

Loveland, CO

Call Chuck Wright: (303) 666-0509

Saturday, September 9, 9:00 am-5:00 pm:

Lafayette City Fair, Lafayette, CO

Libertarian Party Booth

Call Joe Johnson: (303) 604-9153

Saturday & Sunday, September 9 & 10:

"Crossroads of the West" Gun Show

Holiday Inn

I-70 & Chambers, Aurora, CO

Ž *Guest Appearance: LP Vice-Pres. candidate Art Olivier, Sept. 10, 9:30-10:30*

Call Chuck Wright: (303) 666-0509

Thursday, September 14, 6:30 pm:

LPBC Board Meeting

Cheng's Garden Restaurant

480 W. Dahlia, Louisville, CO

Sunday, September 17, 7:00 pm:

Boulder Dialogue

Odd Fellows Hall

1543 Pearl St., Boulder, CO

Ž *Speaker: Ari Armstrong: "Will SAFE Make Us Safer?"*

Saturday & Sunday, September 23 & 24:

Tanner Gun Show

Denver Merchandise Mart

I-25 & 58th, Denver CO

Call Chuck Wright: (303) 666-0509

Monday, October 2, 4:30-7:30 pm

"Constitution Monday"

Denver Capitol, West Steps

Denver, CO

Ž *Featuring: Harry Browne (LP Pres. candidate), Bob Glass (publisher, The Partisan), Dr. Shawn Elke Glazer (LP CO State Representative candidate), and more!*

Thursday, October 12, 6:30 pm

LPBC Board Meeting

La Estrellita Mexican Restaurant

1718 Broadway, Boulder, CO

Saturday & Sunday, October 14 & 15:

Tanner Gun Show

Denver Merchandise Mart

I-25 & 58th, Denver CO

Call Chuck Wright: (303) 666-0509

For more info about all LPBC events, contact Lori Van Buren: (303) 442-9695 or visit our website: www.lpboulder.com

Five good reasons to join the Libertarian Party

1. We're the only party that wants to empower you -- not politicians. We want to return your money to you; we want to put your family's future back in your hands; we want to put your life back in your control.

2. We're the only party that defends your personal and economic liberty on every issue. The Republicans are trying to legislate your morality; the Democrats trying to spend your money. Only the Libertarian Party is trying to stop them both.

3. We're the tolerance party. Even though we may not approve of the choices other people make, we defend their right to make them as long as they alone bear responsibility for the consequences of their actions.

4. We're the responsibility party. Libertarians know that only through complete personal responsibility can individuals grow as human beings, and society be made more prosperous and secure.

5. We're the honesty party. We are the only party that always holds to its basic principles. We don't attempt to curry favor by lying or by hiding our beliefs. Unlike all other politicians and political parties, we refuse to lie about what we really believe. We stand firm for our values at all times.

A Great Story Waits to be Told

*Libertarian Party is more newsworthy than the Reform Party
in virtually every category*

ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA -- What is the third largest political party in the United States? "Most people would think it's the Reform Party, but political insiders know better. The third largest political party is the Libertarian Party -- 'A Great Story Waiting To Be Told,'" said Harry Browne for President campaign manager Perry Willis.

According to Willis, most people are unaware of the facts, but the Libertarians lead the fractured Reform Party in every major objective category:

- k The Reform Party has 7 elected officials, the Libertarian Party has 169 -- more than all other third parties combined.
- k Only the Libertarian Party has had its candidate on the ballot in all 50 states for two consecutive elections. "Based on our progress over the last few months it seems a safe bet that this year we'll be the first third party to be on the ballot in all 50 states," said Willis.
- k The Libertarian Party is running 236 candidates for the US House of Representatives -- 18 more than needed for a majority. The last time a minor party ran candidates in a majority of US House districts was 1920, and the most the Reform Party has ever run is 36.

The Reform Party has 124,000 registered voters (another 122,000 belong to the older Independence Party of New York), while the Libertarian Party has 182,000 registered voters nationwide. The Libertarians lead in every state but California, and trail there by only 3%.

Where does the Reform Party lead? In only one category: it will receive a \$12.5 million subsidy from the taxpayers. Although Libertarian presidential candidate Harry Browne qualified for federal handouts in 1996 and 2000, he has refused to take the money -- calling it political welfare.

"Libertarians operate on principle, not pork barrel," said Browne. "The Libertarian Party is a great story waiting to be told -- a story of a party based on the principle that you, not the politicians, are best qualified to run your life -- a party that doesn't compromise or pander, and yet continues year after year to get bigger, more influential, and better financed."

Browne's campaign manager agrees. "The only question remaining is: Are any journalists out there looking to break a story? Because the Libertarians are a great story waiting to be told," concluded Willis.

*(Reprinted from the **LibertyWire** e-mail subscription, available online from www.HarryBrowne.org)*

LPBC Helps 90 Candidates Run for Office

There will be around **90** Libertarian candidates on ballots across the state this November for offices in Colorado and the U.S. Congress! The Libertarian Party of Colorado will field candidates in all 6 U.S. Congressional races, 18 of the 19 Colorado State Senate races, and 58 of the 65 Colorado State Representative races.

The LPBC was instrumental in this amazing accomplishment. Member Joe Johnson was a driving force in recruiting many of these candidates, and board member Tom Parker helped put up most of the candidate web pages.

Voting for candidates will be easier than ever this November -- just check for your local Libertarian and mark the ballot!

A complete list of candidates along with their web pages is available on the Colorado LP web site at:

www.lpcolorado.org/party/candidates.html

A Bolder Proposal for Eliminating the Housing Shortage in Boulder

by The Committee to Make Housing Affordable in Boulder (TCMHAB)

Chaired by Ralph Shnelvar

We, being of sound mind and being a definite political majority in Boulder have wracked our collective brains to come up with a way to have truly affordable housing in Boulder.

Proposal #1:

The current initiative needs to be passed. If it isn't passed then we will have to modify the previous paragraph and we don't want to do that.

Proposal #2:

Boulder intends on collecting \$3.1 million dollars from a sales tax and excise tax that exclusively falls on fat-cats living in Boulder. It is the intent of Council that only 5% of this 3.1 million dollars be spent on administration. This represents \$150,000 that could otherwise be spent on fixing up bike lanes on Highway 36. Since \$150,000 is not nearly enough to do that, we suggest that administrative costs be raised to 40%.

Proposal #3:

We can double the number of houses in Boulder if we count each house twice. This should ease the housing problem considerably.

Proposal #4:

If we could eliminate all automobile traffic in Boulder -- thus drastically reducing pollution -- then we would not need public streets. Thus we propose that all public streets in Boulder be given to those people who vote for the initiative so that they can build elegant housing where cars used to drive.

We can also raise vast sums of money by taxing new car sales in Boulder once ALL the public streets have been eliminated. These taxes can easily fund the EcoPass system that will allow people to leave Boulder.

Quotable...

"I never hurt nobody but myself and that's nobody's business but my own."

-- Billie Holiday

Proposal #5:

Since fire engines would no longer be able to navigate streets, firehouses will no longer be needed. We suggest that the firehouses be converted into major shopping centers to compete with FlatIron Crossing.

Proposal #6:

We need to convince the merchants at FlatIron Crossing that they have a moral obligation to pay taxes in Boulder since it is they who destroyed Crossroads Mall.

Proposal #7:

Since Flatirons Crossing destroyed Crossroads Mall and thus reduced vehicular traffic in this area, we need to reward the merchants of Flatirons Crossing. We recommend that a large sales tax increase be imposed on all those people shopping at Crossroads Mall with the proceeds going to the merchants at Flatirons crossing.

Since many, many people are now shopping at FlatIron Crossing, we recommend that the sign for Crossroads Mall be replaced with a sign that reads "FlatIron Crossing" so that we can get some people to shop in Boulder. Those people stupid enough to fall for this trick should also fall for the idea that sales taxes levied in Boulder really fall on people who live outside of Boulder.

Proposal #8:

It is the stated position of the Boulder City Council to "To enact and pursue city policies that cause the Boulder community to become a nationwide environmental leader among communities. The city will be a role model of exemplary environmental practices."

This is a great goal that we at TCMHAB support and we want all City Council Members and all City Staff who agree with this goal to make sure that they and those who will be living and dying in City-funded affordable housing units immediately cease to emit greenhouse gases.

It is this last proposal, #8, that we at TCMHAB feel will be the most effective.

LETTERS for LIBERTY

Who Will Run Your Life?

Reform Party candidate Pat Buchanan: "I'm Pat Buchanan and you can trust me to run your life."

Republican Party candidate George W. Bush: "I'm George Bush and you can trust me to run your life."

Green Party candidate Ralph Nader: "I'm Ralph Nader and you can trust me to run your life."

Democratic Party candidate Al Gore: "I'm Al Gore and you can trust me to run your life."

Libertarian Party candidate Harry Browne: *"I'm Harry Browne and I trust you to run your own life."*

That's why I'm a Libertarian. I prefer to run my own life rather than having some politician run it for me. If you prefer to run your own life rather than having politicians run your life for you, vote Libertarian.

Currently, 169 Libertarians hold elective office nationwide, more than twice as many as all other third parties combined. This year the Libertarian Party will contest a majority of seats in the U.S House as well as a majority of the Senate seats up for election this year -- the first time in eighty years that any third party has accomplished this. And this year the Libertarian Party will field candidates for all six of Colorado's US House seats and nearly every Colorado State House and State Senate seat. All other third parties combined don't even come close to running as many candidates in Colorado.

For more information on the Libertarian Party, see our web site at www.lpcolorado.org

CHUCK WRIGHT

Libertarian candidate for State Senate District 17

(Recently submitted to the Editor of the Denver Post, the Boulder Weekly, the Longmont Times-Call, and the Louisville Times)

Quotable...

"Why doesn't everybody just leave everybody else the hell alone?"

-- Jimmy Durante

Media Missed Real Convention

Now that the Republican and Democratic Conventions have ended, we hear much rightful criticism from the media that the conventions are scripted, overproduced, lacking drama, shamelessly pandering, and practically irrelevant. The majority voices discontent by simply not watching.

What's interesting is that the same media, except C-SPAN, totally ignored the Libertarian National Convention in July. I was a delegate there, and this was a real political event with all the ingredients the media longs for.

Over 1,200 attended from all 50 states. Four high-quality presidential candidates all lobbied for support. The roll call was actually dramatic since we had more than one candidate to choose from. There was even a close race for VP, requiring a second ballot.

We had platform debates (remember those?) regarding gun laws, abortion, the Drug War, and the death penalty. None of these un-smiley issues would be allowed on prime-time at the Republocrat conventions.

There were no riot police, metal detectors, or 15-foot fences restricting access to the convention. I personally met and spoke with our presidential nominee, Harry Browne, five times. I wonder how many delegates can say the same about Bush or Gore.

The convention also featured top-quality speakers from all walks of life: men, women, white, black, Hispanic, American Indian -- not to put on a feel-good show about how "diverse" we are, but because of a shared passion for individual and economic freedom.

And incidentally, our convention was not paid for with taxpayer dollars -- the Libertarians pay our own way.

It's unfortunate the media missed the best convention of this election year. Perhaps more people would have paid attention instead of watching "Survivor" and "Monday Night Football" during the Republocrat conventions like I did.

Those seeking political substance should explore the Libertarian Party at www.LP.org and Harry Browne's campaign at www.HarryBrowne.org.

STEPHEN V. FUNK

(Submitted 8/21/00 to the Daily Camera, Boulder Weekly, Louisville Times [publ. 8/24], and Longmont Times-Call)

LETTERS

Imagination Instead of Taxes

Your editor deserves to be scolded for opposing a multi-million dollar refund to the taxpayers paid by commercial sponsors for the new Bronco stadium. Community symbols warm some hearts far more than others. Let the beneficiaries pay in contributions, or higher ticket prices, or advertising, or lower salaries and profits. Let those that offer or attend "public" enterprises work out the prices, wages and profits among themselves.

This libertarian answer would allow those who are close to open space to pay for their windfall and the views they protect. Offices, restaurants, stores, apartments and homes might repay the cost, plus trails, and needed roads, and maintenance.

Pushcart vendors, bicycle shops, and restaurants might pay for many more walking and bicycle paths in Boulder. View easements might pay landowners to build closer to the ground or hide their buildings with landscaping.

The value of the location and building for the proposed homeless shelter could pay to enlarge the present shelter, or buy much less expensive land and construction, plus transportation, plus upkeep, staff, and volunteers.

Libertarians encourage imagination instead of taxes and solutions imposed on some to help others -- "win-win" solutions instead of "public works" which divide rather than foster community.

JERRY VAN SICKLE

(Recently submitted to the Daily Camera newspaper)

Libertarian Online Guide

- f National Libertarian Party
f www.lp.org
- f Colorado Libertarian Party
f www.lpcolorado.org
- f Boulder County Libertarian Party
f www.lpboulder.com
- f Harry Browne for President 2000
f www.HarryBrowne.org
- f David Baker for Congress 2000
f www.baker2k.com
- f Advocates for Self Government
f www.self-gov.org
- f Cato Institute
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f www.laissezfaire.org

Letters to the Editor Made Easy!

Now you can quickly and easily e-mail letters to the editors of the *Daily Camera*, *Times-Call*, *Denver Post*, *Rocky Mountain News*, *Boulder Weekly*, and *Louisville Times* via our website at [www.lpboulder.com!](http://www.lpboulder.com)

Liberty News

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Lorene Van Buren, Jerry Van Sickle, M. Bruce Waters, Chuck Wright

OPEN SPACE: *One Libertarian Perspective*

by Jerry Van Sickle

Even libertarians may wonder if open space and parks would exist without government. Or whether both would be too expensive for most of us.

Our local "doughnut" suggestion a few months ago was to resell the prime land near open space to repay the original purchase, maybe more. As things are now, lucky or influential people get to live next to open space and reap the highest benefits without paying anything -- or developers or politicians with inside knowledge ahead of time, which is probably also true for highways and DIA, etc.

In other words governmental power discourages imagination and economies in solving problems. So we might have all these "public" amenities paid for by the residential and commercial neighbors who gain by being next to parks and/or highways. Not unlike the windfall that some commercial enterprise is willing to pay to put their name on the new Bronco stadium and reduce the burden on taxpayers. Sellers of beer and T-shirts could probably pay the rest.

Our public lands, even before the recent "controlled" burn, have been heavily criticized for their mismanagement of nature, unfair treatment of neighbors and competing users, subsidizing ranchers and lumber companies, etc. -- all the failures that we associate with politics and monopoly. A downhill slide instead of constant improvement among multiple suppliers must apply here, just as it does in education, public housing, policing, courts, military strategy and technology . . .

Aren't we talking about the "free rider" problem with a vengeance?

Join the Libertarian Party of Boulder County!

Choose one of these options:

Combo Package: Join the LPBC, LP-CO, and LP-US for only \$40

Join the LPBC for THREE FULL YEARS for only \$36

Join the LPBC for the small annual fee of \$15

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Day Phone: _____ Eve Phone: _____

Email address: _____

If you wish to be a voting member, please sign and date the following pledge:

"I hereby certify that I do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving political or social goals."

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Choose a membership plan above and enclose a check or money order payable to the LPBC for the amount listed. Send to: LPBC, PMB #427, 2525 Arapahoe Ave., E4, Boulder, CO 80302. *Thank you for your support!*

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