

Clint Hylton for Congress

The Saint Joseph Telegraph has not officially endorsed any candidates for several years. I hesitate to say that we never will...heck, I might want to run for public office again and endorse myself.

Yet that hasn't stopped me from offering my opinion and/or endorsement of candidates.

I think Democrat Clint Hylton is the best choice for 6th District Congress.

I have always tried to be fair. To his credit, incumbent Republican Sam Graves has shown some fiscal restraint in his tenure. He has been a dependable voice for farmers and rural northwest Missouri. His constituent services does a fair job. In the last two years Congressman Graves has actually improved his voting record some with President Obama in the White House and Democrats in the majority.

On the negative side, Congressman Graves has been more partisan than loyal to any particular philosophy--such as strict adherence to the Constitution.

Whenever hundreds of thousands

of dollars are raised for an elected position that pays but a fraction of that amount, I question the strings and favors that come with those contributions.

Meet Clint Hylton

Clint Hylton was born in North Kansas City, MO and grew up in rural Liberty, with his two younger sisters. Most of his and his sisters childhood was spent travel-

ing around the country showing Appaloosa horses.

In 1997, Clint graduated from Park College with a bachelor's degree in Business Administration with an emphasis in Management. In 2005 Clint began his career with Shelter Insurance in Excelsior Springs.

He immediately got involved in the community and, in 2007, he led a team of talented individuals to resurrect the city's largest festival, Waterfest. It was highly successful and continues to be the largest fundraiser for the Excelsior Springs Chamber of Commerce. He served as Chamber President for two years. Clint serves on several committees that benefit the citizens and the city as a whole and, in 2008, Clint was awarded the honor of Citizen of the

Year by the Excelsior Springs Chamber of Commerce. He has worked many years with people with developmental disabilities at Shelter workshops and in group homes.

His motivation and passion for doing the right thing is what prompted him to fulfill his lifelong dream of running for Congress. He currently lives on a small farm near Polo, Missouri with his son, five horses and four dogs.

Hylton Supports Civil Liberties and Limited Government

Clint scored well on a recent Campaign for Liberty questionnaire. Among his positions:

- * would support Congressman Ron Paul's Audit the Fed bill,
- * would oppose legislation that allows the federal government to prohibit the sale, use or carrying of firearms,
- * would support a Balanced Budget Amendment to the Constitution,
- * opposes "Cap and Trade,"
- * would vote against any budget that would increase our debt,
- * would oppose tax increases,
- * would oppose federal power grabs like roving wiretaps and warrantless searches,
- * would oppose renewal of the so-

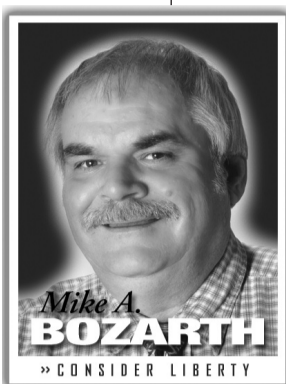
called "Patriot Act"
* would oppose legislation that would require states and citizens to participate in a National identification Card program.

I favor limited government with a social conscience. I believe he does too.

"After 10 years of watching our Congressman fight for Washington and big business, I know it is time," Mr. Hylton says. "A time for new leadership. A time for your voice to be heard. We need jobs, education and a satisfaction that our seniors will be protected! Support me and I will be the voice that represents the majority of voters."

In the several conversations I've had with Clint Hylton, I've noticed he listens. I like candidates with principles who will listen to the people that put him there.

I hope we hurry up and elect this man to Congress. This is the kind of Democrat I want in the White House.



Jurassic Tea Party Park

Ambling through the jungles of Isla Politico some days ago, what should appear before me but giant gates topped with an immense arch reading: "JURASSIC TEA-PARTY PARK!" Attached to one gate was a small sign explaining: "An Ed the Entrepreneur Presentation." Thus I resolved to enter. Ticket prices varied. "Perusal" admission cost a subscription to The Manchester Guardian and a pledge to watch MSNBC and Fox "News" and compare them to CNN. A "Full Tour" required careful attention to National Public Radio and the Daily Show. A Tea-Party membership, however, meant having rose-colored lenses implanted, signing a contract with Carl Rove to eschew reality, and bequeathing one's soul to a Rove associate called "Mr. Scratch." I took this as an appeal to children, told the ticket agent I was a friend of Ed's, and was passed through the massive portals forthwith.

Ed greeted me with ebullience. "You'll be astounded," he proclaimed, "at the primitive creatures we have recreated from DNA trapped in fossilized leeches and similar prehistoric blood-suckers. For example, there is the Boehneropteryx, a flying orange creature known to hover over golf courses while emitting a mumbling sound... almost as if it were chewing a cud. Then there is the oddly myopic hamster-like burrowing reptile called the MitchMcConnellotops that digs itself into holes it can't get out of, or the absurd Yammericus Bachmannodopus that relies on shrill, nasal whines to confuse its prey."

"Are they dangerous?" I queried. "Some are," he replied cavalierly, "particularly if they fall on you. Others are merely silly, but there are those with big teeth and big appetites." "Give me some examples," I responded eagerly. "Well," said Ed pointing to a colorful beast nearby, "here we have the Frilly Sarahtops. Unlike her well-known three-horned cousin Triceratops, this one has no points; she's all frills." "Are there indications of intelligence?" I asked curiously. "Not really," replied Ed. "Mostly she just spreads her frill to anything that will watch while waving her foreleg like a windshield wiper. She also makes a nasal yammering noise calculated to irritate enemies and gain more attention, but the sounds are meaningless."

"Remarkable!" I cried. "Do other creatures have similar rituals?" "Yes," said Ed, walking me to a meadow full of Kentucky bluegrass. "Here is the Rand Pauloddicus; an ungainly beast; not bulky, but prone to assume all kinds of ridiculous positions from which it can't untangle itself. It gets tied up in knots then rolls into the bushes and we have to look to see if it's still there." "Amazing," I responded. "But what is that small, rotund, feathery creature running around in circles, clucking softly, and striking poses?"

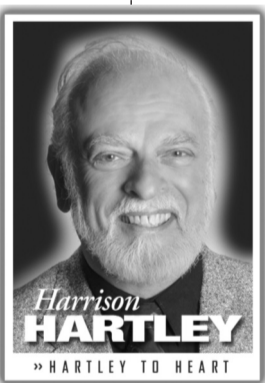
"Ah, yes," said Ed, "a new addition related to the Frilly Sarahtops. We call it the Christineodonnellotops. She'll do that - run madly around in full view for a while, then, like Rand Pauloddicus, she hides. We've tried to

figure out what she's running for, but she runs so much nobody can tell. Apparently other creatures don't take her seriously, which is odd because she feeds out of their troughs. The Sharanglomimus of Nevada has similarly goofy behavior but is an even more secretive and opportunistic thief." "What pests!" I exclaimed. "But are other Tea-Party creatures more overtly vicious?"

"Well," Ed responded lowering his voice, "step up on this platform and we'll be looking down on the Ging-Gritchroraptor on one side; a particularly unsavory brute that preys on anything weak and sequentially devours its own mates. It seems harmless, even slow and thoughtful, but it never misses a chance to pounce. A similar creature even more brutal is on the other side. This is Paladinosaurus: a craven ambush predator that scavenges mostly but also threatens anything it thinks it can intimidate." "What an unpleasant beast," I cried. "It looks like it hasn't slept in weeks, and it certainly has a great bellow!" "Yes," Ed returned, shouting over the din, "but the biggest roar is from our signature anachronism, the pride of the park: Tea Rex himself! Come and see!"

With some trepidation I followed Ed into a colorful jeep and we drove to a paddy surrounded by electrified fence. Inside was an animal that seemed bigger than it really was -

probably because of its deafening honk. "This is the epitome," said Ed proudly. "Tea Rex, with the loudest roar and poorest vision in the park!" "Poor vision?" said I. "Yes," said Ed, "it can't see well. It looks fierce, but is prone to attack anything that moves - especially social progress - and is as likely to bite itself in the tail as not. I've often thought that if it ever gets what it's after, it won't be happy because it will have eaten itself alive." "Hmhmhm," I mused. "Sounds like a certain political group to me." "I've thought so myself," said Ed. "Let's go to the clubhouse and have ice cream." We proceeded there, and though I enjoyed the ice cream, I had to remark that Ed, like many who dabble in politics, had spared no expense. "True," he said, "true... but isn't that a line from a movie?" "I think so," I replied, "but the political scene is getting to look more and more like fiction anyway, and I guess people don't mind as long as the dessert is good and they think they'll get some." "Just so," said Ed. "As for the park, well, everybody likes a monster, as long as it's THEIR monster. Of course, heaven help them if the things ever really do get loose." ("Just so," I thought to myself, echoing Ed's earlier sentiment, "just so.")



Correction
The Telegraph and Staff writer, Charlotte Grider, wish to apologize for an error in last week's article, "Local Visionary Offers Exciting Opportunity." Mr. Filardo's e-mail address was incorrectly reported. You can reach the local visionary, Greg Filardo, at gkfilardo@yahoo.com.

VERSE of the WEEK

Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit lives in you?

- 1 CORINTHIANS 2:16