



# Massachusetts Liberty

The Newsletter of the Libertarian Party of Massachusetts

September 2002

## Michael Cloud in 2-Way U.S. Senate Race

Celeste Parent

Ballot expert Richard Winger is jazzed. "No Libertarian U.S. Senate candidate has ever been in a 2-way race," said Mr. Winger. "Never. This is a first."

The Republican candidate failed to make the Ballot. He was 3,000 signatures short. No Independent candidates filed for this race.

There are only two candidates for United States Senate in 2002 in Massachusetts: Democrat John Kerry and Libertarian Michael Cloud.

But John Kerry's not just a candidate for U.S. Senate. He's already mobilizing a campaign for President of the United States in 2004.

Senator John Kerry is high profile. *The Washington Post*, the *New York Times*, the *Boston Globe*, and *USA Today* are touting his presidential prospects.

This unique situation creates a huge opportunity for the Libertarian Party to compare and contrast our positions with those of the Democratic Party.

"We must end drug prohibition and end the War on Drugs," said Michael Cloud. "Senator John Kerry is a hawk in the War on Drugs. He is a zealous drug warrior. I will use my U.S. Senate campaign to showcase and spotlight John Kerry's War on Drugs."

During his 18 years in the United States Senate, John Kerry has advanced and advocated drug prohibition and the no-win, morally-wrong War on Drugs.

Mandatory minimums? John Kerry voted "yes".



**Michael Cloud**

Asset forfeiture? John Kerry voted "yes".

1,000,000 non-violent drug offenders in Federal prison? John Kerry voted "yes".

\$1.4 billion in military aid to Columbia to fight the War on Drugs? John Kerry voted "yes".

Forbid states to legalize medical marijuana? John Kerry voted "yes".

"Five hundred thousand

Americans die painful deaths each year from cancer and AIDS," said Michael Cloud. "Medical marijuana could ease their pain and even save lives. John Kerry's votes on medical marijuana condemn 500,000 patients each year to pain and suffering and torment."

Michael Cloud's U.S. Senate campaign will showcase the tragic consequences of drug prohibition and the War on Drugs. It will hold John Kerry accountable for his thoughtless and destructive votes.

On September 14<sup>th</sup>, Michael Cloud will be a featured speaker at the MassCann NORML Freedom Festival on Boston Common. Between 40,000 and 60,000 attendees are expected.

Michael Cloud is a professional speechwriter. In 2000, he won the National Thomas Paine Award for Excellence in Communication.

Michael Cloud was the CEO of Carla Howell's Libertarian campaign for U.S. Senate against Ted Kennedy. Mr. Cloud raised over \$823,000 for that campaign.

For more information on the Michael Cloud for U.S. Senate campaign, please visit: [www.MichaelCloud.org](http://www.MichaelCloud.org). To subscribe to his electronic campaign newsletter, send an email to [subscribe@Michael-Cloud.org](mailto:subscribe@Michael-Cloud.org).

## Spread Our Message to 1,659 People Every Week!

Kay Pirrello

Now is the time to decorate your lawn with your favorite Libertarian signs. Bumper stickers to festoon your car are also available.

On average, your yard signs will be seen by 54 people every week; your bumper stickers by 1,605 people per week. With a sign and a bumper sticker, you can spread our candidates Libertarian messages to 1,659 people every week from now until Election Day.

Bumper stickers and yard signs for Question #1 to End the Income Tax will be printed in late summer — get your name on their list now by sending an email to [volunteer@smallgovernmentact.org](mailto:volunteer@smallgovernmentact.org).

Contact the Carla Howell for Governor and Michael Cloud for U.S. Senate campaigns at [yardsigns@carlahowell.org](mailto:yardsigns@carlahowell.org) and let them know how many signs and stickers you can use. A representative from the campaign will

direct you to the nearest Yard Sign Depot where volunteers from across the state are holding quantities of yard signs and bumper stickers to distribute in their local area.

Bumper stickers and yard signs for the Ilana Freedman for U.S Representative campaign are also available. One business owner took a load of bumper stickers and buttons for all of his company cars and crew. Contact the campaign at [ilana@ilana.org](mailto:ilana@ilana.org) for yours.



# Massachusetts Liberty

September 2002

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### Next Deadline

September 7, 2002

*Massachusetts Liberty* is the official newsletter of the Libertarian Party of Massachusetts, a state affiliate of the Libertarian Party of the United States.

*Massachusetts Liberty* is published twelve times a year. Subscriptions are \$15 per year.

Send changes of address, subscription requests, and materials for publication to *Massachusetts Liberty's* e-mail address or mailing address. All submissions are subject to editing.

## Letter from the chair

### Quiet Time

*"Keep away from people who try to belittle your ambitions. Small people always do that, but the really great make you feel that you, too, can become great."*

- **Mark Twain**

This is the quiet period.

This is the time just before the party primaries when political awareness in Massachusetts hovers hummingbird fast over the Democrats and floats lazily at best over anyone else.

If a voter didn't know better, it might almost be possible to forget that Libertarians exist. (On some days, even the tired trumpeting of the GOP elephant can scarcely be heard in Massachusetts.)

The press, ever eager to ignore your accomplishments as a Libertarian activist and voter, has excuses in abundance. "How could we possibly give you coverage," the Boston Brahmins sneer, "when absolutely nobody talks about you?"

This is the quiet period. This is the calm before the storm.

Remember: Just because the press doesn't know what we're capable of, that's no reason for us to forget.

Because of your efforts, your contributions, and your volunteerism, the Massachusetts Libertarian Party has consistently smashed every expectation, and every dour prediction.

Every election cycle, the bar gets a little higher, but your determination has exceeded the need every time.

And we will do it again this time.

We can have higher vote totals for our candidates than ever before. We can shock the establishment and further build our momentum with the voters. We can take the next step towards ending big government.



**Elias Israel**

But we can only do it with your help.

This fall, as the primary approaches, please make a donation of time, money, expertise, and dedication to a Libertarian candidate, or a Libertarian committee.

Only if we all work together can we realize the benefits of a growing, vibrant Libertarian Party.

Only if you put forth your efforts alongside those of your fellow Libertarians can we have the kind of future

we are meant to have — bright, prosperous, and free.

Only with your help can we have the kind of government that will encourage and protect that future — a government that is small, focused, and honest.

The task is great. But in great tasks are great men and women made.

### Victory!

#### Staffing Change: Eryk Boston becomes LPMA Executive Director

Eryk Boston, known to Massachusetts Libertarians for his outstanding activism on several campaigns this year, including his work securing a ballot spot for Kamal Jain in his race for Auditor, became Executive Director for the Libertarian Party of Massachusetts this month. He succeeds Kamal Jain, who remains Vice-Chair. Eryk is also a candidate for State Representative this year.

Eryk will be responsible for ensuring that the ongoing operations of the party take place regularly and reliably. He needs your help; send him a note at [eboston@lpma.org](mailto:eboston@lpma.org) and let him know what you'd like to do to help move the LPMA forward.

### Submissions Welcomed!

Do you have news to share about a Libertarian event in Massachusetts? Photographs of a freedom rally? Are you looking for volunteers for an outreach booth or a campaign? Why not write a quick article for *Massachusetts Liberty* and submit it by sending e-mail to [ma-liberty@lpma.org](mailto:ma-liberty@lpma.org), or by USPS to Mass. Liberty Editor, Post Office Box 2610, Boston, Massachusetts 02208.

**Submission deadline for articles and information is the seventh of each month.**

All submissions are subject to editing.

## Libertarian Events

### **M**arlborough Libertarian Association Sunday, September 8, 7 P.M.

Marlborough-area Libertarians gather the second Sunday of each month at the Joy Asia buffet on Route 20 in Marlborough. For more information, contact Jess Bowen at [jbowen@lpma.org](mailto:jbowen@lpma.org) or Stephanie Farrell at [sfarrell@lpma.org](mailto:sfarrell@lpma.org) or (508) 485-3341.

### **P**ioneer Valley Libertarians Meeting Wednesday, September 11, 7:00 P.M.

Pioneer Valley Libertarians meet the second Wednesday of each month at Bickford's on Boston Road in Springfield. For more information, contact Alvin See at (413) 568-7597 or [asee@lpma.org](mailto:asee@lpma.org).

### **W**orcester County Libertarian Association Sunday, September 15, 6:00 P.M.

The Worcester County Libertarian Association meets on the third Sunday of each month at Tweed's Pub Restaurant at 231 Grove Street in Worcester. For more information, contact Dean Cook at (508) 765-5011, or [dcook@lpma.org](mailto:dcook@lpma.org), or visit [wcla.tripod.com](http://wcla.tripod.com).

## Volunteer Opportunities

### Campaign Volunteers Needed

Every Libertarian candidate running will need some help. There are many ways to volunteer for a campaign: writing, making phone calls, driving the candidate to events, being part of the campaign staff, and so many other ways.

If you are interested in assisting with a campaign, contact Dennis Corrigan at (978) 352-4435 or [dcorrigan@lpma.org](mailto:dcorrigan@lpma.org) or Muni Savoyon at (781) 642-6864 or [muni@lpma.org](mailto:muni@lpma.org).

### Operation Politically Homeless

Operation Politically Homeless is a booth set up at events that draw crowds. Volunteers ask event attendees to take the World's Smallest Political Quiz, hand out Libertarian literature, answer questions, and encourage people to register to vote as Libertarians and join the party.

Many fairs and festivals are candidates for OPH booths. Find out if there's one in your area. Running an OPH booth is easy and fun. We

### **M**assCann Freedom Rally Saturday, September 14, 12:00 P.M.

This year's MassCann Freedom Rally is Saturday, September 14<sup>th</sup>, starting at noon, although volunteers will be needed from 10A.M. on. Contact Kay Pirrello at [kpirrello@lpma.org](mailto:kpirrello@lpma.org) for more information.

### **I**PSC Pistol Match Saturday, September 28

An IPSC pistol match will be held on Saturday, September 28<sup>th</sup> at the Hopkinton Sportsmens Club to benefit the political candidacy of Greg Doherty, Libertarian Candidate for State Representative, 7th Middlesex District. Greg is an active shooter and member of the Hopkinton Club. The match is for fun and to raise needed campaign funds for Greg Doherty; however, it will be managed and scored per United States Practical Pistol Association (USPSA) requirements. As a USPSA-approved match, there will be at least one Classifier Stage. Being a political fundraiser, the match will cost \$25 per shooter.

Further information about the match, or pre-registration requests for preferential squading, is available by calling Erich Thalheimer at (508) 651-9772.

can help you plan the event, recruit help, and supply you with an OPH kit. For more information about OPH booths, see [www.discoverliberty.org](http://www.discoverliberty.org).

### Be an Ambassador

The LPMA is seeking volunteers to attend campaign events as representatives of the party. The "LPMA ambassador" at each event will be available to answer questions about the party, register people to vote, and sign up new members, while allowing the candidates and their staff and volunteers to focus on campaigning. Want to help but still new to all of this? The LPMA will help train you. Contact Kamal Jain at (978) 952-2472 or [kjain@lpma.org](mailto:kjain@lpma.org).

### Massachusetts Liberty Needs Writers

Do you enjoy writing? Want to help make this newsletter even better? *Massachusetts Liberty* is looking for a few good people to write some of our regular articles and cover interesting Libertarian events. We'd be happy to suggest topics! For more information, contact us at [ma-liberty@lpma.org](mailto:ma-liberty@lpma.org).

## This Month in Libertarian History

Melanie Mork

### September 11<sup>th</sup>

Although perhaps too recent to be considered history, September 11<sup>th</sup> of 2001 will be one of the most defining historical events in the years to come. For the rest of our lives, we will remember where we were that day, who we were with, and how we felt. We will be the ones who tell future generations about the terrible events that unfolded on September 11<sup>th</sup>, and what life was like before hijacked planes brought down our tallest buildings and crashed into the capital of our nation.

When President Bush addressed the country for the first time after the attacks, he said, "Today, our nation saw evil, the very worst of human nature, and we responded with the best of America." He was referring not to the government response, but to the response

of the people in New York cheering on rescue workers going in and out of Ground Zero, the thousands of people across the nation who lined up for hours to give blood, and the amazing flood of financial and emotional support that defined the days following September 11<sup>th</sup>.

More than anything, Libertarians believe in freedom and September 11<sup>th</sup> will go down in history as the day freedom was attacked, but not defeated. The "best of America" is our individual freedoms that give us the strength, courage, and ability to face down those who would try to threaten our way of life. As September 11<sup>th</sup> 2001 slowly turns from a recent tragedy to a historical event, it will always be a reminder of the importance to defend our individual liberties and to protect the universal right to freedom.

## news

# Volunteers Send Out Bumper Stickers

Kay Pirrello

Twenty-three incredible volunteers sent out over 10,966 Carla Howell for Governor and Michael Cloud for U.S. Senate bumper stickers.

On Monday, July 22<sup>nd</sup>, the crew of Libertarians gathered at the Freedom Store — campaign headquarters for the Carla Howell and Michael Cloud campaigns, as well as Rich Aucoin for Lt. Governor and The Small Government Act to End the Income Tax.

Braving the heat wave and an elbow-to-elbow crowd, this excellent team stuffed, sealed, and stamped envelopes for over four and a half hours, with a pizza break in the middle.



**Volunteers gather to stuff envelopes**

Supporters across Massachusetts are now sporting festive green Carla Howell for Governor and red Michael Cloud for U.S. Senate stickers.

A huge thank-you goes out to the team:

Rich Aucoin	Rob Kilburn
Bill Berry	Ann LaRoche
Jess Bowen	Denise LaRoche
Gerry Cardillo	Tom LaRoche
Bill Corley	Jim LeClair
Scott Cousland	Mike Lints
Dale Farmer	Mike Maloney
Sam Farrington	Brett Tomlinson
Pat Flynn	Arthur Torrey
Jason Goldstein	Ian Underwood
David Hudson	Rich Yampell

With the help of these great volunteers, each bumper sticker will be seen by 1,605 drivers every week until the election.

Don't have your Carla Howell for Governor and Michael Cloud for U.S. Senate bumper stickers yet? Drop the campaigns an email at **bumperstickers@carlahowell.org** or **bumperstickers@michaelcloud.org** and tell them how many you want!

# Join Us As We Take Over Boston Common!

Kay Pirrello

On Saturday, September 14<sup>th</sup>, the Libertarian Party of Massachusetts will sponsor five tables at the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual MassCann Freedom Rally on Boston Common.

Join us at this huge event, and help us spread our Libertarian message. Over 40,000 people attend this marijuana legalization event every year.

Our Libertarian volunteers will give attendees the World's Smallest Political Quiz, register voters and pass out fliers. Carla Howell, Libertarian for Governor, and Michael Cloud, Libertarian for U.S. Senate, are featured speakers at this year's Freedom Rally. The day will also be filled with other speakers and live bands.

Volunteers are needed all day — from set-up to clean-up. We will be scheduling volunteers in shifts from 9:30AM until 6:30PM. Sign up now for one of these shifts:

9:30am-12:30pm  
11:30am-2:30pm  
1:30pm-4:30pm  
3:30pm-6:30pm

# McMahon for State Senate Campaign Update

Carol McMahon, candidate for State Senate, has been busy. Her campaign has swung into high gear with her attending Don Gorman's campaign school, running an Operation Politically Homeless booth, and ordering yard signs and having volunteers calling to find yards for them. If you live in the Worcester, Hampden, Hampshire, or Franklin district and need a distinctive lawn ornament, give her cam-

If you've never volunteered at a Freedom Rally before (or never volunteered at all), join us! This is a great chance to get your feet wet, and learn from real pros. If you're a veteran of previous Freedom Rallies, please join us again! Help us train new volunteers and share our message with tens of thousands of potential Libertarians!

A brief training/orientation session for all volunteers will be held the week prior to the Freedom Rally. We'll give everyone who volunteers for the event details on the specific date and location of the training session as soon as it is scheduled.

Volunteers with trucks or large vehicles are also needed to transport tables, signs, and materials for the Freedom Rally. These will need to be picked up in Wayland and/or Salem the Friday before the event, delivered to Boston Common at 9:30AM on Saturday, September 14<sup>th</sup>. After the event, the materials will need to be picked up from Boston Common at 6:00PM, and returned to Wayland and/or Salem the next day.

Let us know which shift you'll volunteer for, and whether you can help us transport materials, by contacting Kay Pirrello at **kpirrel-lo@lpma.org**.

aign a call.

"Don Gorman's school was excellent and if there is even a remote chance that you'll be directly involved with a campaign at some point I highly recommend it," said Ms. McMahon. "The public speaking

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### McMahon Update

*continued from page 4*

tips alone made the four-hour round trip worth it!"

Carol McMahon spent July 4<sup>th</sup> running an OPH booth at Summerfest in Monson for the second year in a row. Al Wilcox joined her and the two spent the day talking to voters and registering a few new voters. They set up the World's Smallest Political Quiz but, due to the heat, didn't ask many people if they wanted to take it.

Ms. McMahon is currently in the "behind the scenes" portion of her campaign. Her time is being spent filling out candidate questionnaires, writing position papers, designing the website (which should be up by the end of August), researching her opponent, and recruiting even more volunteers. She is also continuing to work on her campaign's secondary goal of establishing a minimum of three more Libertarian groups (future town committees) in her district.

To volunteer for the McMahon for State Senate campaign, call **(413) 250-6608** or email **cjmcMahon@mindspring.com**. If you can't volunteer but would like to help, contributions may be sent to:

#### **The McMahon Committee**

c/o George Phillies  
87-6 Park Ave  
Worcester, MA 01605



Candidates Greg Doherty and Jim Pillsbury marched in the Framingham Flag Day Parade. They were the only candidates with a "NO" sign to show their opposition to the proposed increase in the property tax in Framingham.

### Freedman Campaign Picks Up Momentum

If you haven't been following Ilana Freedman's activities in her campaign for U.S. Representative, check her calendar at [www.ilana.org/calendar](http://www.ilana.org/calendar) and see where she has been. She is taking her campaign camper out on her Whistle Stop Campaign, shaking hands, and winning votes wherever she goes. Here are some highlights:

On July 4<sup>th</sup>, Ilana walked in Independence Day parades in Chelmsford and Sudbury.

That night, she flew to the LP national convention where she addressed the members and spontaneously raised \$600 in three minutes from the enthusiastic audience — without asking for money!



**Ilana Freedman**

Ilana has been attending Rotary Club meetings throughout the district, introducing herself to fellow Rotarians in all the clubs. An expert on civilian anti-terror preparedness, she has been speaking at several clubs on freedom and security, telling them that they do not have to choose.

Ilana has begun a round of home coffees and fund-raisers. So far, most of the hosts have been outside the Libertarian party.

All of her campaigning is paying off — the first straw poll shows Ilana Freedman in the lead in Billerica!

### Merrimack Valley Libertarian Association

Matt Dailey

The Merrimack Valley has become a hotbed of libertarian activity. It only made sense to create a Merrimack Valley Libertarian Association (MVLA), to help organize Libertarians in the area.

The association was first proposed by Billerica resident, Jim C. Perry, to other Libertarians in neighboring towns and received a great response. Tewksbury Libertarian, Matt Dailey, commented he had an idea of a Merrimack Valley Libertarian Association that he was kicking around in his head for the past few years and saw this as a great opportunity. "It was a little satisfying to know there were other local Libertarians out there who were thinking along the same lines as me," said Matt. He has closed down his Tewksbury Libertarian Town Committee in order to provide support to the newly created MVLA. Jim and Matt have been the main organizers and will be looking to have their first meeting soon.

The association will have a local focus, working on issues such as Chapter 40B, the affordable housing law that has heavily impacted Merrimack Valley communities. One facet of the group's strategy will

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consist of providing support to candidates in the Merrimack Valley. "In addition to helping out our flagship candidate, Ilana Freedman, we will, in the future, lend our support to local candidates running for town-level offices," said Matt Dailey. The MVLA has also considered holding Operation Politically Homeless booths at local events, especially in communities where there is no Libertarian presence such as Lowell, Wilmington, and Andover.

The MVLA believes that despite the growth of the Libertarian Party in Massachusetts, it is still not large enough to have viable town committees in every community. The MVLA sees regional associations as a good strategy to fill the void in areas where it is difficult to start a town committee. The MVLA will allow activists to share ideas, coordinate on area issues and provide each other support. "We'll have strength in numbers," said Jim Perry. A MVLA email list has already been set up. To join the list, send an email to [jperry@lpma.org](mailto:jperry@lpma.org).

# Get Involved!

Melanie Mork

## Be Heard, Be Represented

After the recent wave of corporate scandals, politicians in Washington are jumping on the corporate responsibility bandwagon, preaching on how government intervention is needed to avoid corporate accounting frauds. Bureaucrats seem to think they can successfully control private sector accountability, which is hard to believe when federal accountability leaves much to desire.

Corporations who do bad business and cheat on their accounting practices go bankrupt, are exposed on CNN, and eventually seem to have their CEOs taken away in handcuffs. Be warned, there is another organization out there that mismanages billions of dollars every year, then forcefully takes money from the American public to compensate for their mistakes, and are not bankrupted, exposed, or punished. This organization is... you guessed it: the U.S. Government.

Luckily, the focus on corporate responsibility has shined a light on federal accounting, especially in the area of taxes. Bill Thomas, Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, has urged Lindy Paull, the Chief of Staff of the Joint Committee on Taxation, to develop a new tax-estimating model that better measures the economic impact of tax cuts. The current modeling system has a strong bias against tax cuts, assuming they have little economic impact. It was this model that kept the death tax in US legislation, which costs US taxpayers about \$28 billion a year.

Senators Tom Daschle and Kent Conrad are trying to stop the devel-

## Federalizing the M&M Trail

The Mattabesett-Metacomet-Monadnock-Sunapee Trail, commonly known as the M&M, is a network of trails spanning from Long Island Sound to the Canadian border, shooting through Connecticut, western Massachusetts, Vermont, and western New Hampshire. The trail was created in the 1950s, and ever since landowners have encouraged free and open access to the public. In fact, 75% of the land is privately owned. The Appalachian Mountain Club and other private non-profit organizations have kept the trails in top shape, and millions of people have enjoyed hiking, biking, jogging, and horseback riding over this beautiful stretch of land for decades, absolutely free of charge.

So what's the problem? Apparently, US Representative John Olver of Amherst, Massachusetts thinks there's something very wrong with the way the trail is run. He has gone as far as to propose that Congress spend up to \$2 million on a study to find out if the M&M trail should be federalized. If the study concludes that the land would be better off in federal hands, the M&M Trail would be declared a National Scenic Trail, and be subject to the National Trails System Public Law. This law states that "The appropriate Secretary (of Agriculture or Interior) may utilize condemnation proceedings without the consent of the owner to acquire private lands or interests therein pursuant to this section only in cases where, in his judgment, all reasonable efforts to acquire such lands or interests therein by negotiation have failed." In other words, private land owners along the M&M who refuse to sell their land to the government can have their land forcibly taken.

Not only will the rights of land owners on the M&M trail be threatened if the land is federalized, but the recreationalists who have enjoyed free and public access to these lands will lose their trails. If threatened by government land-takings, the private land owners who have generously allowed public use of the trails will most likely insist that the trails are re-routed around their property lines. Also, in the long run private land owners will be more reluctant to allow this free and public access to their lands to protect their property rights from the government. As a result, many tens of thousands of acres of recreational trails could be closed off to the public.

development of a new tax-estimating model, ordering Ms. Paull to "suspend" her research into a more accurate tax model. They are obviously aware that a more accurate model would expose the mismanagement of tax revenue and the burden high taxes place on American citizens. Please support the efforts of Ms. Paull and Mr. Thomas by writing letters supporting the development of a new tax-estimating model to [bill.thomas@mail.house.gov](mailto:bill.thomas@mail.house.gov).

## Other Events of Libertarian Interest

Show your opposition to the war on drugs and attend the Boston Freedom Rally! Great bands, including national acts, a hemp fashion show, nationally known speakers, and vendors. To be held on the Boston Common on September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2002. For more information, call **(781) 944-2266** or go to [www.masscann.com](http://www.masscann.com).

September 11<sup>th</sup> was not only an attack on America, but an attack on the freedoms of people worldwide. Over 3,000 people from 85 nations lost their lives on that tragic day. Unfortunately, politicians have used the events of September 11<sup>th</sup> as a reason to curb immigration, failing to realize that immigration is the cornerstone of America's strength. Our nation was founded and developed by people seeking freedom and opportunity in a new land. This month, visit the "Dreams of Freedom" immigration museum at the International Institute of Boston to learn more about how millions of immigrants have shaped the history and spirit of Boston. The exhibit is open daily from 10AM to 6PM, located at One Milk Street in Boston. For more information, call **(617) 338-6022**.

Melanie Mork

By conducting this study, Congressman Olver wants to spend \$2 million tax dollars to find out if federalizing the M&M Trail is a good idea. If the study concludes the trail should be federalized, many more millions of tax dollars will be spent on funding the trail. Remember that currently, the trail costs no money to Massachusetts taxpayers or recreational users. There is no need for a study. Private land owners, recreationalists, and Massachusetts tax payers already know federalizing the M&M trail is a bad idea.

The people of Massachusetts are not the first to have to defend the rights of land owners along the M&M trail from bureaucrats. A similar federalization plan was attempted in New Hampshire, where the M&M trail runs along the western portion of the state. Grassroots natural resource conservation organizations and concerned citizens fought against federalization, and told their Congressman the proposed Scenic Trails Bill was unnecessary and unwanted. As a result, New Hampshire's Congressman Bass declined to co-sponsor the bill.

New Hampshire opted out of the federalization of the M&M Trail and here in Massachusetts we can do the same. The Taxpayer Recreation Alliance was created to fight against Congressman Olver's proposal. For more information from the Alliance on the M&M trail, call **(413) 575-2900** or send your name, address, and email to [taxpayers-recreationalliance@hotmail.com](mailto:taxpayers-recreationalliance@hotmail.com) to be put on a list of people opposed to the federalization of the M&M Trail. Also, call, email, or write Congressman Olver and let him know you support the rights of private property owners along the M&M Trail, and want him to respect the longstanding generosity they have shown recreationalists in western Massachusetts:

Congressman John Olver  
1027 Longworth HOB  
Washington, D.C. 20515  
**(202) 225-5335**

Email: go to <http://www.house.gov/olver/contacts.htm>

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