

# The Howey Political Report



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## “QUOTE” OF THE WEEK

“It’s becoming more and more clear that we’re facing a crisis in our community.”

- Indianapolis Mayor Bart Peterson, on wide-spread property tax increases facing six out of 10 homeowners, to the *Indianapolis Star*

## Waltz makes his case against Borst

### Suicide? Or another giant killer?

By **BRIAN A. HOWEY** in Indianapolis

Arguably the most powerful political figure in Indiana state government these days is Senate Finance Chairman Larry Borst, R-Greenwood.

It’s a position he’s held for more than 30 years, and any tax or economic development legislation, from Unigov, to the Bowen tax restructuring, to the banking reforms of 1986, to the belated tax restructuring oncore in June 2002 has had the stamp, imprimatur or acquiescence of Sen. Borst.

A case could even be made that Sen. Borst may be the most powerful Hoosier legislator in the 20th Century, or ever, for that matter. He conjures fear, respect, admiration, and contempt at the Statehouse - all attributes of a great and influential leader. And he’s had few challengers in 36 years.

While most of the focus in Indiana’s political circles have been on the 2004 governor’s race, Sen. Borst is now facing the reality of his first real election battle since 1968, or as his Republican primary opponent, Johnson County Councilman Brent Waltz puts it, “since LBJ was in office” and when “man hadn’t yet walked on the moon.”

At first glance, it would be easy to dismiss Waltz as a freshman county official who, as one long-time Republican strategist put it, is about to “commit political suicide.”

But an unprecedented political crisis is unfolding, and the talkative, energetic Waltz is positioning himself in what gubernatorial candidate Mitch Daniels might call the ultimate “china breaker.” That was a role Daniels, who like Borst is a son of Bulen, might have had reserved for himself. While Daniels has just emerged on the campaign trail this week to “listen” and “recruit a new crew” to run Indiana

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# TICKER

## T A P E

**ROEMER CALLS 911 REPORT 'EXPLOSIVE':** A long-awaited final report on the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks will be released in the next two weeks, containing new information about U.S. government mistakes and Saudi financing of terrorists (Knight-Ridder). One member of the investigative panel created by the joint House and Senate intelligence committee, former Indiana Rep. Tim Roemer, D-3rd, described the findings as "highly explosive." He said it was "compelling and galvanizing and will refocus the public's attention on Sept. 11." Roemer predicted that "certain mistakes, errors and gaps in the system will be made clear." Eleanor Hill, the staff director for the investigative panel, said Wednesday that several lengthy battles with the Bush administration over how much secret data to declassify have been resolved. She expects the declassified version of the 800-page report to go to the Government Printing Office late this week and then be made public about a week later.

**FLOOD BECOMES DEPUTY WHITE HOUSE POLITICAL DIRECTOR:** The White House has appointed Fort Wayne native Angela Flood its deputy political director, making her the No. 2 person in an office that has deep

government, it is Waltz who has produced a stunning political indictment on the status quo - the same status quo Daniels is preparing to confront, and one that includes his old friend, Borst.

### Who is Brent Waltz?

He is a 29-year-old small businessman who has made some decent money running an upstart, Midwestern medical courier company. On filing deadline day in February 2000, White River Township Assessor Pat Sego called Waltz and after three hours, talked him into running for the Johnson County Council. "When do I have to decide?" Waltz asked.

"Noon, today," Sego responded.

Waltz filed, was one of five seeking three council seats, the youngest, and the only one without holding prior elective office. Not only did he win, but Waltz says he led the Republican county ticket with 26,000 votes, including in every Johnson County precinct is Borst's Senate district. "We campaigned and worked very hard," he said. Not only is Waltz young, energetic and talkative, he has a connected political pedigree. His uncle is the mayor of Greenwood. Other relatives over three generations have held numerous elective offices in Johnson County.

### Why run against Borst?

It was a rare question we got in edgewise, for Waltz had rhetorically asked most of the others.

"Let me count the ways," he began.

Before he answered, a cynic might say that Waltz has about as much chance as Democrat Jessica Webb did in her 1996 race against Senate President Bob Garton.

When he finished, it seemed as plausible as the initial cases Sally Rideout Lambert made against Speaker Michael K. Phillips in 1994 and Marc Carmichael against Speaker J. Roberts Dailey in 1988. But, *you be the judge.*

Waltz said the unfolding property tax crisis will be the "tactical nuclear

weapon that is going to airburst over Sen. Borst's head." He said that Borst "created" the property tax system in 1972 that the Indiana Supreme Court ruled unconstitutional. "It's kept taxes on older homes in old Greenwood and Perry Township at artificially low tax rates, and newer homes at artificially higher rates. The Supreme Court gave four or five years to fix the problem and the legislature did nothing until the 11th hour. They had a special session last summer to fix the problem and it was poorly planned and even more poorly executed, causing these people to have staggering increases."

Waltz said that more than Governors Robert Orr, Evan Bayh or Frank O'Bannon, Sen. Borst has had more to do with formulating Indiana's economy as chairman of Senate Finance. "All major policy formations have come through him. Unfortunately, Indiana is rapidly becoming a third world country and statistic after statistic bear that out," Waltz said.

The *Indianapolis Star* reported on Tuesday that Indiana is on pace to set records for bankruptcy in the Southern District of Indiana.

Waltz points to a Milken Institute economic study of the top 250 U.S. urban areas. "Indianapolis metro ranked 38th in 2000. We dropped to 74th in 2001 and we're 101 this year. Where will we be at the end of another Borst term in 2008?"

And Waltz maintains that doing away with the inventory tax will simply shift more of the burden on to homeowners. "What was his solution?" Waltz asked. "To do away with the inventory tax. But county and municipal governments are going to have to make up the shortfall and pass additional taxes by 2006. In Johnson County, we have to replace \$1.6 million and we'll either have to cut the budget by 8 percent or raise taxes."

As a county official, Waltz's comments will resonate not only with scores of county and city officials across the state who not only believe they are caught

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between the rock and a hard place, but who view Borst as the ultimate arrogant power player. Ask the leading mayors around the state.

But the key link to plausibility is the tax airburst, an unprecedented political crisis just unfolding. Borst had warned of big increases for those living in "cutsey Broad Ripple homes," but thousands of Hoosier taxpayers, already paying 1 percent more in sales taxes along with more for gasoline, cigarettes, and casinos, are witnessing skyrocketing property tax bills in places like old Greenwood and Perry Township.

"He's declaring tax cuts, but all he did is pass the burden on to local taxpayers," Waltz said. "By making it less feasible for people to own their own homes, you have a chilling effect on economic growth and you put these people at risk. That is a disgrace."

And, it appears, no one really knew what was going on in June 2002. There were no independent economists, analysts or journalists who really understood. Sen. Murray Clark said he was told his property taxes would go up "48 percent if we did nothing." They ended up increasing 110 percent. Then State Sen. Teresa Lubbers penned an stunning *Indianapolis Star* op-ed piece last Sunday stating that Indiana didn't even have to go to a fair market system.

Waltz digs deeper in history to further his case. He says that Borst was the chief "obstructionist" to attempts to reform Indiana banking laws in the 1970s and early 1980s. "Banks in this state couldn't do cross-county banking, let alone across statelines," Waltz said.

By the time banking laws were reformed in 1986, the Midwestern financial centers had moved to Chicago and Columbus, Ohio, and Indiana banks were snapped up. "We lost a good opportunity to be the lending capital of the Midwest," said Waltz. "We missed the boat because Larry Borst was against it. History has born out that he was wrong. Any time we

needed dramatic economic change, Larry has been behind the scenes obstructing that growth." Today, as Indiana tries to develop its life science corridor, the biggest hurdle has been capital attainment. Big money decisions aren't made here.

Waltz tacks on some other issues he believes will resonate with voters, like Borst voting himself lifetime health insurance this year when waves of homeowners in his district were defaulting on mortgages and losing jobs at United Airlines and Rolls-Royce.

### Can Waltz beat Borst?

Waltz calls himself the "perfect genetically created candidate" to take on Borst. He's an elected office holder. He said a Marion County Republican could never challenge Borst because chairs like Keith Bulen and John Sweezy for years regulated who would run, and Borst was untouchable, but a Johnson County Republican could. It's a 70 percent Republican dis-

trict, and Borst likes to remind people it's 65 percent Marion County, 35 percent Johnson County. But 20 percent of the Marion County population is in Democratic Center Township, which votes lightly Republican. Being under age 40 "will highlight the age difference while offering a new and invigorating perspective," Waltz said.

He said in the 2000 primary, Borst received 7,318 votes. "That's a relatively small number," Waltz said. "Let's assume there's a 50 percent increase in turnout, there will be 10,000 primary votes. That's a relatively small number. Can I get 5,000 votes? I don't know, but I think so."

Borst is vowing to raise \$250,000 (this is not news to lobbyists). Waltz said, "Elections are not bought by the highest bidder, but elected by the voters. We will have a well-financed campaign. We'll focus on problems of voters." ❖

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involvement in President Bush's political activities (Sylvia Smith, Fort Wayne Journal Gazette). Flood has been chief of staff for Rep. Mark Souder, R-3rd, since 2001 and has worked for Souder since he entered Congress in 1995. Before that she worked for Sen. Dan Coats, R-Ind. In the White House job, which she will assume July 21, Flood will be a liaison between the political and policy operations of the White House and assist with Bush's involvement in select congressional and gubernatorial races. It was that office that approved Souder's request to have Bush's formal endorsement during his 2002 primary against former Mayor Paul Helmke and Bush's appearance in a campaign commercial. The Souder-Helmke race was the only GOP House primary Bush got involved in that year. "If Bush says, as he has said, 'I don't want that member of Congress darkening my door,' their job is to make sure he doesn't darken the door," Souder said.

**BLANCHARD RESIGNS AT VINCENNES; GREGG MAY BE INTERIM:** Vincennes University President Bryan Blanchard resigned Monday from the two-year residential college to become president of Berkshire Community College in

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Pittsfield, Mass (Indianapolis Star). A month ago, Berkshire announced Blanchard's appointment at the 2,400-student two-year college. Dale Dowden, interim provost and vice president of instructional services, will be acting president until the board selects an interim president. Four board members will report to the board July 23 about the role and priorities for an interim president and how the position will be filled. Informed sources tell HPR that former Indiana House Speaker John Gregg may have enough board votes to succeed Blanchard. Trustees see in Gregg someone who could bring the university clout in the legislature. Currently, IU, Purdue and Ivy Tech, which employs several key legislators and more than 30 of their spouses and relatives, have greater clout in the legislature.

**INDIANA TEACHERS ABOVE THE NATIONAL AVERAGE:** Public school teachers in Indiana are making slightly more on average than their peers nationwide. The state ranked 16th in a national teacher salary survey conducted by the American Federation of Teachers, the nation's second largest teachers union (Niki Kelly, Fort Wayne Journal Gazette). In 2001-2002, teachers in Indiana made \$44,609 on average plus benefits while nation-

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## Quiet on taxes; Lake County power shifting

By **BRIAN A. HOWEY**

*The Howey Political Report*

INDIANAPOLIS -- With the makings of a historic voter rebellion over property taxes in the works, there was a silent minority -- Indiana's six declared gubernatorial candidates -- simply going about their business over the past couple of weeks.

Republican Mitch Daniels came closest -- literally -- to touch on this unprecedented situation when he launched his mobile campaign headquarters in front of Hinkle Fieldhouse, smack in the middle of one of the state's hardest hit neighborhoods, Butler-Tarkington.

When HPR asked for his take on the situation in our first public policy question to the candidate, Daniels responded, "I'll tell you later. I have thousands of Hoosiers to meet and hundreds of questions to ask before I have the answers."

Mum was the word for Republicans David McIntosh, Eric Miller and Randy Harris. Of the lot, McIntosh may be the best positioned, actively working against the June 2002 efforts. When we asked the Democratic campaign of State Sen. Vi Simpson about it, her son, Jason Kinney, responded, "You'd better ask her about that."

Part of the reason for the lack of any candidate seizing upon the issue is that none of them, or the rest of us for that matter, really knows how widespread the skyrocketing tax bills will be. Fewer than 10 counties have sent out tax bills to homeowners and in Marion, Vanderburgh and Monroe, the widespread nature of the huge increases have surprised mayors and council members, the first people to face the voters this fall.

The Legislative Services Bureau predicted that only Lake and Elkhart counties are expected to see overall increases, but neither of those counties have sent out their bills. The extent of the crisis could come if significant pockets of

homeowners at points unknown will also be hard hit.

State Sen. Murray Clark, a former gubernatorial candidate, acknowledged that no one really knew what was going on or what the impact would be. His Indianapolis colleague, State Sen. Teresa Lubbers, wrote a surprising *Indianapolis Star* op-ed article in which she said Indiana wasn't even mandated to go to a fair market system. Reading between the lines, that was a barb for both Gov. Frank O'Bannon and Senate Finance Chairman Larry Borst.

Various polling has begun to pick up anti-incumbent stirrings across the state. That came after a dozen or so incumbent mayors lost primaries, for local reasons. It will be fascinating to see how the gubernatorial contenders deal with what could be a full-fledged crisis.

### Daniels hits the road

Daniels' long-anticipated roll-out was steeped in Hoosier basketball lore. Had someone just walked upon the scene, they might have taken it for a basketball coach embarking on a recruiting mission to small towns such as Scottsburg and Milan.

Daniels said, "More than anything else, the new crew we will recruit to lead state government will be dedicated to reviving that promise. To reversing the exodus of our brightest young people. To renewing the compact that says to a young person, study hard, keep your nose clean, show up ready to work and there's a great life available to you here in Indiana. That promise has been steadily slipping away, taking good jobs and income with it, and that is unacceptable."

Those remarks could inspire aggressive young Hoosiers to show up to Daniels' RVs with resumes.

### Lake County Power Shift

One thing is becoming increasing-

ly clear after East Chicago Mayor Robert Pastrick narrowly avoided defeat in the May primary. With that escape, the Lake County clout scenario is also changing.

There had been five power centers in Lake County: Pastrick, Democratic Chairman Stephen Stiglich, Gary Mayor Scott King, Prosecutor Bernie Carter, and Sheriff Roy Dominguez.

Stiglich came out early for Joe Andrew, but no one else has to date. That's a distinct power shift. One local observer likened the old Pastrick-Stig rivalry to one that has taken on a truce, two old warriors with health problems propping each other up.

Stiglich can't really fathom a female governor. A top Pastrick ally, Jimmy Weisser, has hitched his wagon to Andrew, but the four big powers have been reluctant to follow. Carter and Pastrick are on a collision course over the recount and the prosecutor's investigation into absentee ballot irregularities.

The biggest power shift recipient may be Mayor King, who won an impressive primary, has opened up a new baseball park, has seen the crime rate recede, and is flirting with Boeing to bring corporate jets to the local airport and a potential new Boeing plant to nearby Indiana Harbor.

Why haven't the remaining four big powers latched on to Andrew?

Some, such as King, are impressed by Simpson as a "genuine" person who has historically helped Lake County. Others are fearful that Andrew being a former DNC chairman will be unable to attract the Republican and independent voters that helped Govs. Evan Bayh and Frank O'Bannon win four terms.

Last week, Simpson was endorsed by the Lake County Democratic legislative delegation, suggesting strength.

The other fascinating aspect of this is that a lot of Bayh proteges in Lake County, such as former DA Jon DeGuilio, are lining up behind Simpson.

Why?

There have been rumors of bad blood between Bayh and Andrew, evidenced by the numbers of his allies who are working for Simpson. One Lake County source believes that while there might be other reasons, a big one might have come in the final hours of the 2000 Democratic National Convention at the Staples Center in Los Angeles. It was Andrew's convention, and after the Gore-Lieberman ticket raised their arms, dozens of calls went out to key Democrats to come to the stage. Except Sen. Evan Bayh, who had stuck around, and was, incredibly, forgotten. *Ouch.*

As for the ultimate power shift, ponder a Republican ticket with former Rep. Dan Dumezich as the LG, a man perfectly positioned to help the GOP reap the bitter harvest of devastating property tax increases to come in Lake, cutting into those 100,000-vote Democratic pluralities.

### Simpson and straw poll

With Simpson refusing to participate in the French Lick straw poll, and Andrew already declaring victory, it would be easy to make the case that Simpson ducked the first big test to show her organization's strengths.

Jason Kinney said the senator passed on the straw poll for a number of reasons, but the most important seemed to be, "That's what this would have been, a professional field operation. We would have spent the next two months mobilizing and talking to the voters who already support us."

Kinney agreed that the event, which he maintains Simpson could have won, would have energized her base, "but those benefits would have been far outweighed by the cost. Whoever would have won wouldn't have really won anything."

Kinney said that Simpson has been concentrating on putting her complete campaign together as well as her platform for office, under the working title, "The New Direction for Indiana.," to be announced in August. ❖

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wide the average was \$44,367.

**JENNINGS ANNOUNCES WEBSITE:** The Jon Jennings for Congress campaign launched an interactive website to inform and involve voters in Indiana's 8th Congressional District. The site can be accessed at [www.jenningsforcongress.com](http://www.jenningsforcongress.com). The website aims to provide voters with in-depth coverage about Jennings and his campaign for the United States Congress. The site chronicles Jennings' life story, from growing up in Indiana as the son of a steelworker through his basketball career and including having served his country by working at the White House and the Department of Justice.

**LAFAYETTE NOSES INTO TOP TEN CITIES:** Lafayette can count itself among Indiana's 10 largest cities. No. 9, in fact (Lafayette Journal & Courier). That's according to 2002 population estimates by the Census Bureau to be released today. Lafayette gained because the 2000 Census figures were adjusted to reflect that the city annexed 1,440 acres of land southwest of the city that was home to about 3,500 residents. That was enough to boost Lafayette over Anderson and Terre Haute, which both lost population in the past two years. The

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Census Bureau estimates Lafayette's population last year was 60,594. If West Lafayette's population were added to Lafayette's, the combined 89,675 residents would rank sixth in the state.

**BUSH AFRICAN TOUR WILL BE BENEFICIAL:** President Bush's five-day tour of Africa is an encouraging sign that the United States will be more engaged with the continent, according to Africa experts and advocates in Bloomington (Bloomington Herald-Times). They just hope the president and Congress follow through on the promise of the trip. "I'm very hopeful, and also delighted that the president is according Africa its proper place in American thinking," said A.B. Assensoh, a professor in Indiana University's department of American and African diaspora studies. Assensoh, a native of Ghana in West Africa, said that, if nothing else, the trip signals an about-face from Bush's 2000 campaign stance, in which he downplayed being involved in Africa. In a speech Tuesday at the slave-trading outpost of Goree Island, the president showed sensitivity to the long and complex history of U.S.-Africa relations. "It seems he has been well tutored on African issues," said Assensoh, who is spending the next year as a

# 2003 Racing Form

## 2003 Indiana Mayoral Races

**Evansville Mayoral:** Republican: Mayor Russell Lloyd Jr. Democrat: State Rep.

Jonathon Weinzapfel. **1995 Results:** McDonald (D) 19,162, Frary (R) 9,565. **1999 Results:** Lloyd (R) 15,980, Borries (D) 15,461. **2003 Forecast:** Lloyd told a black audience Tuesday night that he has followed through on promises to have a diverse administration and push for economic development opportunities for minorities (John Martin, *Evansville Courier & Press*). Lloyd said he has appointed blacks to numerous local boards, gotten women- and minority-owned businesses involved in city projects and initiated a housing trust fund and receivership program aimed at rehabilitating depressed Downtown housing. He cited new mandatory diversity training for the city's 1,250 employees and initiatives aimed at hiring more minority police officers and firefighters. The audience gasped when Lloyd told them the city hasn't hired a black firefighter since 1989. Lloyd said there are now some on the Fire Department's hiring list as well as the Police Department's list. "I wish I could report to you racism is dead in Evansville," Lloyd said, "but my commitment to diversity is strong." Questioners asked about this year's increase in the property tax after the statewide reassessment, giving Lloyd an opportunity to take a dig at his election opponent. "That's something you'll have to ask Rep. Weinzapfel about," said Lloyd, drawing laughter. **General Status:** TOSSUP.

# HORSE RACE

**Indianapolis Mayoral:** Republican: Treasurer Greg Jordan. Democrat: Mayor

Bart Peterson. **1995 Results:** Goldsmith (R) 64,209, Jimison (D) 39,539, Dillon (L) 7,175. **1999 Results:** Peterson (D) 102,870, Gilroy (R) 83,044, Horning (L) 7,772, Gibson (OP) 2,145. **2003 Forecast:** Jordan's county treasurer's office says that six out of 10 homeowners in Marion County are seeing property tax increases. (Matthew Tully, *Indianapolis Star*). The average annual property tax bill in Marion County has gone up \$186, or 17.4 percent, according to the treasurer's office. "It's becoming more and more clear that we're facing a crisis in our community," said Mayor Bart Peterson, adding that new bills are "much more burdensome than many people expected." Peterson has asked the Washington Township assessor to take a closer look at his house -- a closer look that could cost the mayor hundreds of additional dollars in property taxes (*Indianapolis Star*). Peterson sent Joline Ohmart, the township assessor, a letter pointing out his home is grossly undervalued for tax purposes. The current assessment is \$228,000 and the mayor's property tax bill dropped by about \$430 this year, to \$2,910. "We simply want to pay our fair share of taxes and do not believe we would be doing so under this notice of assessment," he wrote. But the real time bomb here is the \$140 million that various Marion County taxing entities tried to sneak into budgets under the dark of reassessment. Until then, Peterson could say that the problems facing Indianapolis taxpayers were the product of the legislature and Sen. Borst, who crafted the plan. But the money grab has the potential of changing everything. Fortunately for Peterson, Jordan is a weak candidate who hasn't done his opposition research, hasn't raised much money and whose name is on all those devastating tax bills. The political equivalent of the public policy scandal/crisis under way here must fall into the laps of Republican Chairs Jim Kittle and John Keeler. They seemed to have ceded the Indianapolis mayoral race to Peterson, figuring he was a sure winner. Had Republicans had a top tier candidate -- Sens. Clark, Lubbers, Brose McVey, Toby McClamroch, Scott Newman -- this could have become a contested race. There is increasing anxiety in GOP circles about Keeler's chairmanship, which by agreement between Peterson and Baker & Daniels, cannot weigh in on Indianapolis politics. That is looking to be an increasingly untenable position. **General Status:** *Likely Peterson.*

**Kokomo Mayoral:** Republican: Matthew McKillip. Democrat: Councilman

Andrew Castner. **Independent:** Cindy Dunlap. **1999 Results:** Trobaugh (R) 5,606, Kennedy

(D) 3,581. **2003 Forecast:** Howard County Clerk Mona Myers certified former Kokomo Common Councilwoman Cindy Dunlap as the third name on the ballot for November's Kokomo mayoral election (Katerine Lewis, *Kokomo Tribune*). McKillip said Dunlap's entry into the race wouldn't affect his campaign. "I guess I look at it as if I have two Democrats to run against." **General Status:** *TOSSUP*.

**Lafayette Mayoral:** **Republican:** Clerk Lisa Decker. **Democrat:** Councilman Tony Roswarski. **1999 Results:** Heath (R) 6,237, Weiss (D) 5,496. **2003 Forecast:** Mayor Dave Heath proposed to cut \$5 million from the city's bottom line (Joe Thomas, *Lafayette Journal & Courier*). Indiana Republican Vice Chairwoman Jean Ann Harcourt brought the state GOP's listening tour to Lafayette with Decker participating Wednesday along with House Minority Leader Brian Bosma and State Rep. Sue Scholer **General Status:** *TOSSUP*.

**Michigan City Mayoral:** **Republican:** Open. **Democrat:** City Controller Chuck Oberlie. **1999 Results:** Brillson (D) 3,749, Kniola (R) 3,217. **2003 Forecast:** Amid a packed City Hall, Chuck Oberlie was sworn in July 1 as Michigan City's 39th mayor by Superior Court Judge Walter Chapala (*Michigan City News-Dispatch*). But the title of "Mr. Mayor," has not yet sunk in for Oberlie. "I did not expect anything like this," he said of the show of support Tuesday morning. "I am grateful for this honor and opportunity to serve a community that I truly love." Oberlie was elected unanimously by a caucus of Democratic Precinct Committeemen to serve the remainder of Mayor Sheila Brillson's term, which expires Dec. 31. **General status:** *Safe Oberlie*.

## Indiana 2004 Gubernatorial

**Governor 2004:** **Republican:** Mitch Daniels, David McIntosh, Eric Miller, Petersburg Mayor Randy Harris. **Democrat:** Joe Andrew, State Sen. Vi Simpson. **1996 Results:** O'Bannon (D) 1,075,342, Goldsmith (R) 997,505, Dillon (L) 35,261. **2000 Results:** O'Bannon (D) 1,230,345, McIntosh (R) 906,492, Horning (L) 38,686. **2004 Forecast:** Democratic Chairman Joe Hogsett said this about running for governor: "I can assure you that while Sen. Bayh and I talk with some frequency and the governor's race does enter into it, it remains focused on the two candidates already involved," Hogsett told HPR. Hogsett added, "We're both neutral and the key question remains how do we raise the money." And now commentary from the ol' Horse: That was hardly a categorical statement. **General Status:** *Tossup*.

**U.S. Senate:** **Republican:** Marvin Scott. **Democrat:** U.S. Sen. Evan Bayh. **1992 Results:** Coats (R) 1,267,972, Hogsett (D) 900,148. **1998 Results:** Bayh (D) 1,012,244, Helmke (R) 552,732. **2004 Forecast:** While Republicans say they are preparing to challenge Bayh's re-election next year, they are putting most of their resources into an effort to break the Democrats' 16-year hold on the governor's office, that party's longest streak in Indiana since before the Civil War (Adam Satariano, *Congressional Quarterly*). "There's no question picking up the governor's seat is [the Republicans'] top priority," said Indiana political expert Brian Howey, publisher of *Indiana Eye Magazine* and the *Howey Political Report*. "Having said that, they would like to keep Bayh occupied with his own campaign." They have good reason to try. Bayh had about \$5.5 million cash in his campaign account as of June 30, according to an aide to the senator. Bayh indicated in an interview that he plans to bring his popularity and financial resources to bear to help other Democratic candidates. Among those who could be helped by having Bayh on the ticket is 9th District Democratic Rep. Baron P. Hill. He faces a possible rematch against Republican businessman Mike Sodrel in a replay of a close 2002 race. Democratic strategists also hope that Bayh could help them achieve one of their longer-standing goals: to win the politically competitive 8th District, held by conservative five-term GOP Rep. John Hostettler. "Democrats always look to Bayh for help," Howey said. "He may help in two or three races." **Status:** *Solid D*.

- Brian A. Howey, in Indianapolis ❖

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faculty member at the University of Maryland. "He's learning very fast and willing to make amends for past mistakes."

**ELKHART SOLDIER HAD FLOWERS SENT TO HIS WIFE EACH MONTH:** Before he left for Kuwait, Sgt. 1st Class Craig Boling paid a florist to send his wife, Tania, a bouquet of flowers every month (Steph Price, Elkhart Truth). He'd always been that way, said Tania, never forgetting a Mother's Day, birthday or the anniversary of their first date more than 20 years ago. But this week, the only flowers Tania will get will be funeral flowers. Craig, 38, died in Iraq about 6:30 a.m. Elkhart time Tuesday of an apparent heart attack. He slumped over in his seat in the mess tent and never regained consciousness despite more than 30 minutes of CPR, according to a spokesman for the Indiana National Guard.

**DELANEY COMMENTS ON REDICK CASE:** One of the most influential women in Indiana, Ann DeLaney relishes speaking her mind (Eileen Waldron, Indianapolis Eye). She dives right into the current and very public scandal of Noblesville Mayor Dennis Redick, who allegedly abused his girlfriend after a Jimmy Buffett concert two weeks ago. Noblesville seemed ready to kick Redick

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out of office until his girlfriend issued a statement saying she hit him first and in effect it was her fault. DeLaney said she doesn't think Redick should resign, that he is innocent until proven guilty. But she doesn't buy the girlfriend's recent recantation either. "This is an unusual domestic violence incident; you actually have witnesses who saw what transpired, and her version (now) does not fit with what the witnesses are saying. I discount it," said DeLaney. According to court documents the two witnesses confirmed what the girlfriend originally told police, that (Redick) "grabbed her ...with his hands on her throat and pushed her against a limousine ... the accused then pushed her with her backside down and up on the hood of the vehicle and held her down...." The affidavit goes on to say the limo driver had to pull Redick off his girlfriend. "Even if she hit him first, there is a size and a strength issue," said DeLaney. "They obviously have a strong enough case to prosecute, and they don't need her testimony."

**CHOCOLA SECURES HUMMER FUNDING:** The Department of Defense Appropriations Act for 2004 appropriates \$369 billion for the Defense Department. Included in the Defense Appropriations Act is funding for High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled

# COLUMNISTS ON INDIANA

**Brian Howey, *Indianapolis Eye*** - But from a political standpoint, Mayor Redick has broken one of the cardinal rules of public service: Never let 'em see you drunk. And drunk in a parrot-head shirt. I've been covering Indiana politics since 1985. I've had drinks with public officials; I've attended campaign and party events where mayors, legislators and others were drinking. But I've never, ever seen a politician noticeably drunk in a public place. While all the talk in Noblesville and beyond has been about the domestic violence charge against Redick, the other aspect of this case gone largely unreported is the fact that a chief executive of a city was trashed at a Jimmy Buffett concert. There are several public offices in Indiana – governor, mayor, sheriff, and coroner – where they could be called to deal with a public emergency at any time. You could make the case that perhaps a mayor or sheriff should never get drunk, unless they are on vacation at a far away place. Perhaps the real issue the council and voters ought to be pondering is who's minding the shop while the mayor is searching for his lost shaker of salt. The other lesson to be learned here is that when a city or county is monolithically Republican or Democrat, they are for the most part stuck with just one choice. There are many places that vote presidentially or congressionally for Republicans, but will readily elect Democrats as mayor or to the city council. Noblesville isn't one of them. Living in a place like that, citizens will find that a crucial check and balance is missing. ❖

**Mike Leonard, *Bloomington Herald-Times*** - If you believe that President Bush "misspoke" when he said Saddam Hussein tried to buy uranium in Africa, then I wish I had some swampland I could sell you, marketed as prime real estate. The president didn't misspeak. He lied. Statements

such as that don't just mistakenly appear in the State of the Union address. Furthermore, the allegation was repudiated many times in the world press before members of Congress started asking questions. Pointed questions. At least this lie is finally getting the attention it deserves. That makes one.

**Jack Colwell, *South Bend Tribune*** - Merchants often are accused of rushing the seasons. You know, things like Christmas decorations and promotions before Thanksgiving. Christmas comes this year on -- guess when? -- Dec. 25. That's nearly six months away. Still too soon for Christmas decorations in the store windows. Now, let's get to some real rushing of the season. The next presidential election is on Nov. 2, 2004. That's nearly 16 months away. But the 2004 presidential race long has been under way. The main reason for such an early start is money. Huge amounts are needed to run for president. And at this stage, candidates are evaluated to a large extent on their ability to raise money. Unfortunate as this may be, a candidate who may have great ideas and credentials will be relegated to the second tier of contenders for a presidential nomination if campaign finance reports show a lack of money for the all-important TV spots needed to sustain a campaign through the presidential primaries. News stories last week told of former Vermont Gov. Howard Dean's success raising money on the Internet. Sure, Dean has captured interest in what is left of the liberal wing of the Democratic Party. That has helped in raising funds. But if he hadn't found a way of appealing successfully through his Web site, this former governor from a small state wouldn't be regarded as being in that top tier. Top tier? Bottom tier? A big difference.

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## Life sciences push turns to Washington

By MARK SCHOEFF Jr.

WASHINGTON - A coalition of Indiana businesses and universities is beginning to target federal dollars to broaden and deepen the state's biotechnology and life sciences activity.

The group used a major biotechnology industry meeting in Washington in late June to raise awareness in the Indiana congressional delegation about Hoosier strengths in the pharmaceutical and medical device sectors, which employ about 37,000 people around the state. Areas targeted for increased research include biosensors, evidence-based medicine, protein analysis, sports-centered life sciences, agricultural biotechnology, and cancer, cardiovascular and neuroscience research.

Becoming a national presence in those fields requires big money, specifically funding from the National Institutes of Health. "The state alone can't do that. Industry alone can't do that. It's really going to take contributions from the federal government," said Wade Lange, president and CEO of the Indiana Health Industry Forum.

**The first step in garnering** federal support is to put life sciences on the radar of Hoosier members of Congress. "Tell people inside of Indiana that we're the fifth largest medical device and pharmaceutical state in the country and they're shocked," said Lange. "Just as the general public doesn't understand it, our congressional delegation historically hasn't understood it either."

But that situation is beginning to change. Earlier this month, U.S. Sen. Evan Bayh was named co-chairman of a new Senate Medical Technology Caucus. U.S. Rep. Steve Buyer, whose district includes Purdue University, is enthusiastic about the life sciences coalition because it coalesces disparate companies and universities into a focused effort.

"You're taking all these different

industries in life sciences and identifying them as one," Buyer said. "When they do that, all the boats rise. I think that's pretty exciting." State life sciences companies include Eli Lilly and Co., Dow Agrosciences, Cook Group Inc. and Roche Diagnostics. Universities involved in the coalition include Purdue, Indiana, Notre Dame, and the Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology.

**In a demonstration** of the teamwork that's going into the life sciences effort, 15 Hoosier companies, universities and economic development organizations cosponsored a June 23 reception at a hotel in downtown Washington that featured Lt. Gov. Joseph Kernan. Kernan came to town to sell Indiana as the place to do life sciences business. "In these difficult times, we have to view it as an opportunity to set ourselves apart from the competition...to look ahead and make the kind of investment that can cause us to come out of this recession much more quickly and at a higher plateau than we otherwise would," he said.

Kernan touted recent economic reforms for stimulating the development of the life sciences industry. He cited elimination of the inventory and gross receipts taxes, property tax reform and an increase in the research and development tax credit. "While other states are standing still, Indiana is moving forward in these difficult times," he said.

**But highlighting life** sciences as a catalyst for economic growth, even though the average wage in the industry is \$79,000, can be a difficult pitch. The funding the Indiana coalition is targeting is for research that is hardly a household word. "Even with eight focus areas, it's still a tremendously complex area, and you've got to work it on a different level," said David Zook of Baker & Daniels in Washington and an adviser to the Central Indiana Corporate Partnership. ❖

## TICKER T A P E

Vehicles (HMMWV), a military combat support vehicle built by AM General in Mishawaka, Indiana. The legislation provides \$198.5 million for the Department of the Army and \$139.5 million for the Marine Corps for purchasing of such vehicles - a \$45 million increase over the requested level for the Army and \$15 million increase over the requested level for the Marines. "I made a commitment to the employees of AM General that I would fight to ensure they received a much needed increase in funding for the HUMVEE program. Today's vote is a significant victory in that fight," said Chocola. "It is not only a victory for the hard working employees of AM General, but it is a victory for the nation. This bipartisan legislation gives our men and women in uniform the tools they need to fight and win the war on terror," said Chocola. "Americans can be assured that Congress is doing everything in its power to keep our nation safe." Chocola toured AM General in Mishawaka in April.

**NO BUSH VISIT IN AUGUST, BUT ...** The Indianapolis Star reported that President Bush might visit Indiana in August. Indiana Republican Party officials said they know of no visit for that month, but another could come early this fall.

