

Maria Cino is GOP party planner extraordinaire

By JOE KIMBALL

A framed front-page story from the Wall Street Journal hangs on the wall of Maria Cino's office in downtown St. Paul. The 1995 article analyzes how a team of women leaders in the Republican Party resuscitated the ailing Republic Party and helped fashion its historic 1994 congressional victories.

Prominently featured in the story — and pictured in the Journal's trademark line-drawing, right below the headline — is Maria Cino.

Thirteen years later, she's still taking on important Republican Party matters, and that's why she's now in St. Paul: She's the CEO of the Committee on Arrangements for the Republican National Convention, coming to the Xcel Energy Center Sept. 1-4.

She's running the show for GOP convention

That job puts her in charge of all phases of the party's once-every-four-years gathering which, it's all but certain, will select John McCain as the presidential nominee.

And even if some of the drama surrounding the nomination has passed, there certainly will be pomp and festivity to spare as party leaders gather to kick off the campaign and enjoy a heck of a four-day party. Plus, we'll meet the new vice presidential candidate, who just might be a local fellow.

Making all the arrangements is a big job, requiring a staff that has grown steadily from

a handful to 57 people. That number will hit 140 or so by summer.

Hotels, buses, the stage, the program, the parties, the press, the publicity and, eventually, the cleanup all come under her bailiwick. It's like throwing a party for 45,000 people.

Cino and her team have less than six months to complete preparations for an event she calls the "Super Bowl of Politics." They're reserving 16,000 hotel rooms in 101 area hotels and then have to allocate space to each of the state delegations.

They've got to set up the arena with a stage, as well as work areas for the delegates and media. They have to find buses to get the delegates from Minneapolis, the suburbs and far-flung hotels to downtown St. Paul for the daily events. Planning routes for all those buses to maneuver through downtown will be quite the logistical puzzle, she says.

In the end, she says, it will prove to be a positive experience for the Twin Cities, particularly because the national and international media who come to town will give their audiences a glimpse of Minnesota attractions.

Cino's been on the job here since last March, and she moved into a downtown St. Paul apartment last June.

Planning efforts and staff have been steadily growing

"We started out slow and steady; it's like being a Fortune 500 company, but starting from dust and, eventually, going back to dust," she says.



By JOE KIMBALL

Maria Cino, CEO of the Committee on Arrangements for the Republican National Convention.

One of the first things she did was hire Mel Gains, who'd been Vice President Dick Cheney's assistant for political affairs. Cino also brought on communications director Matt Burns early in the process, to set up contacts with local and national media, as the planning progressed.

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Olympic politics heating up quickly

Everyone expected China's human rights record and global policies to be in the spotlight and under the microscope as the Beijing Games approach. But few thought the protests and pressure would grab headlines so early. China's treatment of Tibet, however, already is reverberating around the world, touching off protests, and Minnesota's sizable Tibetan community is joining in, **page 5**.

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MINNPOST.WORLD

Limited choices keep conservatives in power in Iran

By DAVID BRAUER

To paraphrase Dorothy Parker, Iranians' parliamentary election choices this weekend ran the gamut from A to B. There were ultraconservatives loyal to President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, and so-called "pragmatic conservatives" treading a slightly softer line on Western-antagonizing nuclear ambitions. Only a few voters were allowed Option C, a vestigial bloc of reformers who managed to avoid being kicked off the ballot.

The reformists scored a moral victory – going from 40 to 50 seats in the 290-member body, according to Al Jazeera, although Reuters suggests those gains might not materialize. Still, conservatives won a commanding majority, with at least 163 seats, the news service reports.

Although ruling cleric Ayatollah Ali Khamenei told the state news agency Irna that "the Islamic Republic of Iran, by holding almost 30 democratic elections in less than 30 years, has shown that it is the most honest democratic governing system in the modern world," the European Union declared the election "neither fair nor free." That's because a cleric-dominated council disqualified 2,000 candidates, mostly reformers.

Former reformist president Mohammad Khatami called the disqualifications a "catastrophe," and reformers had considered a boycott, only to decide against it. Turnout was 60 percent, up from 54 percent in 2004.

According to Irna, 68 percent of the voters this weekend were women. "Western hackers tried to disrupt Iran's parliamentary elections which were for the first time conducted in a computerized way but to no avail," Irna added.

Although Irna reports that "principalists" – another name for conservatives – won 71 percent of the vote, they are split into two blocs: the United Front, which consists of Ahmadinejad



REUTERS

Ayatollah Ali Khamenei casts his ballot in Iran's parliamentary election.

loyalists, and the Broad Front, the pragmatic conservatives. The Associated Press, quoting state television and Irna, says pro-Ahmadinejad politicians have won about 70 seats, conservative critics of Ahmadinejad about 43, and reformists 31. Approximately 70 elections were so close they will require a second runoff round later this spring.

Many Westerners cling to the hope that voters will oust Ahmadinejad in the 2009 presidential elections – if not for a reformer like Khatami, then a less hawkish conservative. While seasoned observers liken the president's foreign policy power to that of a hood ornament on an Iranian-made Saipa, the parliamentary returns indicate that even hopes for a new figurehead may be overblown.

However, conservative Ahmadinejad critics assert they will have a parliamentary majority.

The BBC observes that "the big winner is the supreme leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei. He has managed to help orchestrate a

parliament even more loyal to him than its predecessor. And the internal battle within the conservatives may rather suit him. He has always been a leader attached to the principle of 'divide and rule.'"

Tehran Mayor Mohamed Qalibaf, a 2005 presidential candidate and former head of the national police, has always been among the top pragmatic conservatives mentioned if Ahmadinejad is retired. While Ahmadinejad staged a high-profile trip to Iraq last month, Qalibaf visited Baghdad, which some took as a bit of pre-election maneuvering.

However, the weekend's elections returned another 2005 presidential also-ran to the spotlight: Ari Larjani, Iran's former top nuclear negotiator, who triumphed in the holy city of Qom. According to the United Kingdom's Independent, "Some Iran watchers see the vote in a clerical stronghold like Qom as a sign that the powerful clergy have lost confidence in Ahmadinejad and may rally behind Larjani."

As nuclear negotiator until last October, Larjani reported directly to Ayatollah Khamenei, rather than Ahmadinejad, who has "no role" in security policy, according to Britain's conservative Financial Times. The paper reported in 2006 that Larjani had upheld a suspension of uranium enrichment while "at the same time pursued a strategy of whittling away the suspension step by step." However, French analyst Bernard Hourcade notes that 20 percent inflation threatens Ahmadinejad's domestic support; he says of Larjani's bloc, "They know that Iran was wasting petrol money. [And] they didn't like the Americans, but they knew it was necessary to deal with them."

David Brauer covers media, Minneapolis City Hall and Hennepin County politics. He can be reached at dbrauer@minnpost.com.

It's time U.S. Hockey Hall of Fame inducts its first woman



PAT BORZI

The International Ice Hockey Federation, the world-wide governing body for the sport, will be inducting the first class of women into its Hall of Fame in May. Two of the three inductees are Canadians, but one is an American — two-time Olympian Cammi Granato, who starred on the 1998 U.S. team that won gold in the first Olympic women's tournament.

Granato's selection is intriguing because neither she nor any other American women are yet enshrined in the U.S. Hockey Hall of Fame in Eveleth, Minn. The larger and better-known Hockey Hall of Fame in Toronto remains all-male, too. Eighteen years after the first sanctioned women's world championship, what are they waiting for?

10th anniversary of Nagano gold appropriate time

On the 10th anniversary of Nagano gold, it's time for the U.S. Hall to welcome its first women. You can help. USA Hockey will accept nominations until March 31, according to spokesman Dave Fischer. And you don't have to be Lou Nanne or John Mayasich to nominate someone.

Here's how easy this is: Go to the Hall's website, download a nomination form, fill it out and send it in. The guidelines say you can nominate a player, coach or official who has been retired at least one year and made a "significant contribu-

tion" to hockey in the United States. (Sven or Ole from down the street buying 10 Derek Boogaard jerseys at the Wild team store doesn't count.)

A committee of about a dozen people, which has yet to be appointed, will select the inductees, Fischer said.

Going into this week, the nomination pool included only two women — forward Cindy Curley, a Providence grad and a U.S. international standout in the early 1990s, and Laura Stamm, the longtime power skating instructor for the New York Islanders and other NHL teams. (Full disclosure: My nephew, who just finished his senior season at Cortland State in New York, took lessons from Stamm.)

Fischer expects somebody to nominate the entire '98 Olympic team. There is precedent; the U.S. Hall enshrined the 1960 and 1980 men's Olympic gold medal-winners en masse.

Conversations with several smart women's hockey observers offered a few more candidates:

- The late Patty Kazmaier of Princeton, for whom the award for the best player in women's college hockey is named. (Hobey Baker, the namesake of the men's award, went in with the U.S. Hall's inaugural class in 1973.)

- Sue Ring-Jarvi, known as the grandmother of girls' and women's hockey in Minnesota. Through the efforts of Ring-Jarvi and others, Minnesota became the first state to recognize

girls' hockey as a varsity sport, in 1994.

- Lauren Apollo, a University of New Hampshire product and a gritty national team defenseman in the late 1980s and early 1990s.

- Karyn Bye, who led the '98 Olympic team in Nagano with five goals in six games, and tied Granato and two others for the scoring lead with eight points.

Who should go in first?

Opinions vary on who should be first.

Former University of Minnesota coach Laura Halldorson offers a unique perspective. She played at Princeton with Kazmaier, and with Curley and Apollo on the earliest U.S. National teams. She coached against many of the '98 Olympians, and five of her players later became Olympians themselves, including 2006 U.S. captain Krissy Wendell.

"I think you need the people who were in on the ground floor and did a lot back in the day," Halldorson said. "Curley was the star at Providence before Cammi Granato was the star at Providence. Apollo was a big, strong defenseman in the mold of Patty Kazmaier, but better."

Apollo suggested inducting the 1987 national team that took bronze in the first women's world championship tournament, an event the IIHF did not sanction until three years later. (Canada entered two teams, which won gold and silver.)

But three-time Olympian Angela Ruggiero, the 2004

Kazmaier Award winner who plays locally for the Minnesota Whitecaps, prefers a more contemporary, well-known first choice, for an intriguing reason — it might help more pioneers get in faster.

Ruggiero felt uncomfortable talking about this, fearing some might think she was disrespecting older players to pump the candidacy of the '98 team, which she played on. But here's her reasoning: She fears the selection committee might scatter so many votes among lesser-known pioneers that no single woman would be chosen.

Picking one big name or prominent team everybody knows, Ruggiero said, might ensure election this year. Once in, that woman or women could lobby more effectively for players from the earlier time.

"If it's the first time a woman is going to get in, everyone knows about Cammi's mark on the game," Ruggiero said. "She's got a lot of support."

"Nothing against Patty Kazmaier or Cindy Curley or Karyn Bye and all the hockey greats — of course they deserve it. But if it's the first time, the choice is going to have to be overwhelming. If they chose Cammi or the '98 team, I think it would just help make it a lot easier to show why more women should be in."

MinnPost in Print

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Joel Kramer, CEO and editor

Maria Cino is GOP party planner extraordinaire

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“Right away, we talked to the directors of the past three national conventions, to see what worked and what didn’t,” Cino says. “Based on that, we shrunk the hierarchy of the organization, looking for people who could make decisions on their own.

“And we learned in the past that they’d brought on communications people late in the process, but we wanted to get going earlier in getting the word out, which is why Matt was one of our first employees. It’s been 110 years since the Republican convention was here in the Twin Cities, so we want to let people know not only about the economic value to the area, but also about how the media from around the world will be highlighting these cities with stories throughout the convention.”

Local officials impressed with Cino, organizational skills

Those in St. Paul who work closely with Cino say that she brings an energetic bearing to the job, and they’ve seen her immerse herself in the Twin Cities.

“The first time the mayor [Chris Coleman] and I met with her, she opened up a big binder, with all these tabs, and we realized she runs a very organized operation. The level of her professionalism just about knocked our socks off,” says Erin Dady, St. Paul’s director of marketing. “Maria brings a positive energy

and attitude to every meeting.”

Cyndi Leshner agrees. She’s an Xcel Energy executive on loan to the convention’s Host Committee, a local organization set up to raise money and recruit volunteers for the convention.

“Maria has all the political savvy in the world,” Leshner says. “And you can tell that she loves it; it’s in her blood, and she’s passionate about what she does.

“She and I clicked instantly. She’s all about working hard but having fun and enjoying the experience.”

Cino and Leshner both are counting down the days until the convention starts, and they work the number easily into conversations. It was 173 days when I interviewed Cino on Wednesday, and Leshner knew the number when we talked Friday.

Cino also shows she’s assimilated herself into Twin Cities culture, with off-hand references to Ordway events, restaurants and neighborhoods and, in particular, the Museum of Russian Art in south Minneapolis.

“I’m a big fan of Russian art, and I’ve been to the museum several times,” she says.

She and others on the staff who are living here through the convention have been on field trips to Stillwater and Red Wing. There’s a group of theater fans that goes together to dinner and then to the Ordway. Others, not Cino, have steak-and-scotch nights and then go see the Wild. Some went ice fishing, sans Cino.

She took a group to the State Fair last summer. Twice.

Cino’s cold roots prepared her for Minnesota winter

Cino is a native of Buffalo, N.Y., so Minnesota’s winter hasn’t fazed her too much.

“It’s not so much the snow — I’m used to way more — it’s the cold. Someone explained that it sometimes gets too cold here to snow,” she says.

Her political career goes way back, to sixth grade. “My teacher was a precinct committee woman, so I worked on campaigns, calling on the old dial phones, writing down names and keeping them in a shoebox; there weren’t computer databases back then,” she says.

Her Catholic parents were Democrats. “I’ve converted them,” she says. From the Democratic Party, not Catholicism.

In college, she studied political science and got an internship in Washington, D.C., with the Republican National Committee. Fifteen years later, she was running the RNC.

Her resume also includes appointment by President Bush as deputy secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation, where she served from 2005 to 2007, and a short stint as acting secretary of transportation during a transition period.

Earlier, Bush had appointed her assistant secretary and director general of the U.S. Foreign Commercial Service, where she supervised 1,700 employees and had a budget of \$200 million.

She has had a succession of key Republican Party posts and was executive director of the National Republican Congressional Committee in the mid-1990s, when the party executed a stunning congressional rebound. Cino also was national political director for President Bush’s first campaign in 1999-2000, deputy chairman for political and congressional relations with the RNC in 2000 and deputy chair of the RNC in 2003-2004.

She has a residence in Alexandria, Va., and returns there regularly to pay bills and visit her goddaughters who live across the street.

One of those girls, a 9-year-old, is coming to visit in a few weeks. “We’re going to see the sights and go to the Ordway, and, of course, the Mall of America,” she says.

The future

And when it’s all over, on Sept. 5?

“I’m going to take the staff to dinner, and when we get it all cleaned up, I hope to spend some time in Italy,” she says.

And after that time for decompression?

“I’m going into the private sector,” she says. She confides that she’s been saying that for years, yet keeps answering the call to take government or political jobs. But this time, she says, maybe it will happen.

Joe Kimball, a former columnist and reporter for the Star Tribune, reports on St. Paul City Hall, Ramsey County politics and other topics. He can be reached at jkimball@minnpost.com.

“**Maria has all the political savvy in the world. And you can tell that she loves it; it’s in her blood, and she’s passionate about what she does.**”

— Cyndi Leshner, an Xcel Energy executive on the convention’s Host Committee

Olympic politics heating up even faster than expected

By JAY WEINER

There are 145 days to go until the first athletic event of the 2008 Beijing Olympics. But the political activity that was expected to swirl around the global extravaganza has ripened sooner than anyone could have imagined.

Tonight, as many as 200 members of Minnesota's Tibetan community are expected to board buses for Chicago to attend a protest Tuesday against what they view as the brutal treatment of Buddhist monks and of Chinese control of their native land. (Minnesota's Tibetan community now numbers about 1,300.)

"If China is willing to use the Olympics as a tool for international recognition, we are going to be more than happy to showcase to the world the violations of human rights in Tibet," Kalsang Phuntsok, the president of the Minnesota Tibetan Youth Congress, told MinnPost. The demonstration in Chicago comes a week after the 49th anniversary of the Dalai Lama's exile from Tibet and amid allegations in the Chinese media that the spiritual leader and his followers are personally fomenting riots in the capital of Lhasa timed to the Olympics. But there is, according to most reports, a crackdown by Chinese troops in Tibet and a neighboring province, with some Tibetans dead, perhaps as many as 80, as ethnic violence has spread.

Meanwhile, last week, Human Rights Watch issued a report about the working conditions of the more than 1 million migrant workers on Olympic facilities in Beijing. The report spoke of squalid housing, poor or no pay and no health care.

Olympic officials quickly work to quash boycott threat

The Tibet events forced the president of the International Olympic Committee to declare once more that a boycott of the Games was folly.

"We believe that the boycott doesn't solve anything," Jacques Rogge, the Belgian surgeon who heads the IOC, told reporters last week. "On the contrary, it is pe-

nalizing innocent athletes . . ."

Rogge better get used to answering the boycott question.

Later this month, the group "Dream for Darfur," which has been pressuring the Chinese government for its support of the Sudan government, will release a report card on the progress it's made pushing Olympic corporate sponsors to denounce China's Africa policy. This strategy is making official Olympic sponsors nervous and even Advertising Age, the industry weekly, has urged Olympic sponsors to make noise about China's human rights policies.

On April 9, when the Beijing Olympic Torch Relay lands in San Francisco, a coalition of activists plan to greet it and demonstrate against – you name it – human rights violations, Darfur, the Dalai Lama.

The pace is astonishing, fueled by an active Internet, a roiling YouTube and a deep fascination for how Chinese authorities will respond to criticism and violent protest.

Chinese leaders have responded, and head on. They understand the need for damage control.

Darfur issue also sore spot for Chinese leaders

On the Darfur issue – in which China relies on Sudanese oil and reportedly has supplied weapons to Sudan in its war against rebels – China's special envoy on the matter held a March 7 news conference in Beijing. The first question from a journalist was about an Olympic boycott.

Ambassador Liu Guijin said, according to an official translation from the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs: "More and more political leaders as well as people in the sport and other communities around the world have realized it goes against the Olympic spirit to politicize the Beijing Olympic Games and it is fiddle-faddle to link the Beijing Olympic Games with the Darfur issue. China has made active and constructive efforts on the Darfur issue, which has been widely recognized by the international community. A tiny number of people who want to bring shame on China with the

Darfur issue are doomed to fail."

On the migrant worker matter, a Foreign Affairs Ministry spokesman was quoted by international news services as saying: "I believe that everybody is well aware that Human Rights Watch has some problem with its sight. It is biased. It has some problems with its eyes. It has weakness in seeing things properly."

Xinhua, the official China news service, said Sunday of the Tibet riots: "In an effort to fan up the international community to link the 'Tibet issue' with the Beijing Olympics, [the Dalai Lama] repeatedly preached during his frequent international trips that the year 2008 is of key importance and the Olympic Games would be the 'last chance' for the Tibetans. . . ."

"After the riot broke out in Lhasa, the Dalai clique maintained real-time contacts through varied channels with the rioters and dictated instructions to his hard-core devotees and synchronized their moves, police sources say. Evidence again mounted against the Dalai coterie's trumpet for 'nonviolence,' exposing them as a deceitful bunch."

Chinese news service tries to separate sports, politics

For Xinhua, sports and politics are somewhat separate. There isn't any mention of Tibet or calls for boycotts on the news agency's official Olympics page, which, otherwise, is a marvelous prism into how the Chinese view the Games.

This turbulence, of course, is exactly what the Chinese government does not want as the world turns its eyes to the booming economy, the thick pollution and the incalculable investment in infrastructure driven by the Olympic project.

Boilerplate paragraphs in international dispatches linking the Olympics with political unrest or human rights controversy are now commonplace, with the New York Times, for instance, almost word-for-word, repeating this phrase in its Saturday and Sunday stories: The Tibet riots have "created a major political and public

relations challenge for the ruling Communist Party as Beijing prepares to play host to the Olympic Games in August."

Prof says China intent on turning Games into 'public diplomacy'

For many Chinese, the Games are an effort of "public diplomacy," that is, a chance to show in a person-to-person way that China can be "a perfect host" and allow visitors to "have a better understanding" of China and its people. The Olympics are, according to surveys of Beijing residents conducted by Chinese research organizations, a sincere effort on China's part to show how far the nation has come.

So says Zhong Xin, an associate professor of journalism and communication at Renmin University in Beijing and currently a research fellow at the University of Maryland. Zhong spoke earlier this month to a conference of Olympic journalists (including me) and a group of University of Iowa students.

A skeptic can easily question the validity of a survey conducted under the auspices of the Chinese government and the Beijing Olympic Organizing Committee, and a survey that showed overwhelming support for the Games. But Zhong is a scholar of Chinese news dissemination and she believes that, in the end, the Olympics will "open a wider space for the domestic coverage" of news.

She is working with the group called OGGI, or "Olympic Games Global Impact," which will measure the Games' effects on China.

Sunday, in an email to MinnPost.com, Zhong said she wasn't surprised by the current riots in Tibet. Besides the anniversary of the Dalai Lama's exile, the riots also have occurred as the National People's Congress has been under way in Beijing.

Read the complete story at www.minnpost.com.

Jay Weiner, who has covered every Winter and Summer Olympics since 1984, will report for Minn Post.

COMMUNITY VOICES

Pawlenty's budget solution would exacerbate Minnesota's problems

By JOHN VAN HECKE

Gov. Tim Pawlenty's proposed budget-shortfall solution pits education investments against affordable health care, pushes real budget choices into the next biennium, and, unremarkably, lacks imagination.

Facing a \$935 million budget deficit, Pawlenty promptly toed the conservative policy line: cut taxes, cut government. It's the stock conservative response to any situation. Times are good? Cut taxes. Times are bad? Cut taxes.

How unimaginative. Honestly, after five years in executive office, you'd think that Gov. Pawlenty would recognize a changing policy landscape and postulate a new response. Rather, he embraces a failing policy and, in doing so, exacerbates rather than solves Minnesota's problems. It's an unfortunate routine.

Normally, routine is a wonderful thing, the snuggy bear of human experience. We find extraordinary comfort in sameness. Ritual elevates routine, attaching meaning, usually spiritual, that in turn connects us to our past and too each other. When I married, our marriage service order

was straight from the book. The same will hold for my funeral: flip to the "f" section and proceed accordingly.

Slow change yields to the dramatic

I value ritual's community creation and connection, yet a funny thing happens over time: It evolves. Ritual's power remains constant while circumstances imperceptibly change. That's normal. Sometimes, though, imperceptible change yields to the dramatic and obvious.

We witnessed this phenomenon on Aug. 1, 2007. The I-35W Mississippi River bridge's collapse caused a significant perceptual shift.

Minnesotans were confronted with a hard truth: Transportation infrastructure is nonpermanent. Bridges, roads, rail lines, etc., are not one-time investments.

Gov. Pawlenty briefly recognized this, immediately signaling support for a modest gas-tax increase to fund backlogged transportation-infrastructure projects. But, within days, he snapped back to the conservative public policy hard line: no gas tax increase.

Despite Pawlenty's determined resistance, Minnesota

changed and moved forward. A substantial transportation-investment package passed the Minnesota Legislature and, through a veto override vote, became law.

A bridge collapse can have that effect.

A yearning for the return of routine

People wanted their routine back. We want to live our lives, raise our families and do our jobs. We want to volunteer, engage our communities, and leave this world no worse than we found it - and, maybe, improve it a little. We don't want to worry about collapsing bridges. We want our routine to affirm the human condition rather than undermine it.

Elected officials mess with that desire at their own risk. Now that Gov. Pawlenty pits education against health care, he chances additional irrelevance. Minnesotans can and will move past Pawlenty if he continues to oppose collective change.

Schools or health care? That's his solution?

Perhaps the governor missed the public's imperceptibly changing attitude: Minnesota is not a half-assed state content

with half-assed solutions. If long winters teach us anything, it's to carefully consider our lives and our needs, and then act accordingly. Warm seasons, like life, are entirely too short. We routinely focus on what really matters.

A \$935 million budget deficit merits both our close attention and our leaders' best efforts but, don't forget, this is no moment for failing imaginations. The real question isn't "how do we close the budget deficit?" Instead, we must ask ourselves, "What's our progressive budget?"

The answer moves Minnesota forward.

John Van Hecke is a fellow and director of operations and planning at Minnesota 2020, a progressive, nonpartisan think tank based in St. Paul.

This article originally appeared on 2020's website.

Times are good? Cut taxes. Times are bad? Cut taxes. How unimaginative. Honestly, after five years in executive office, you'd think that Gov. Pawlenty would recognize a changing policy landscape and postulate a new response.

Want to add your voice?

If you're interested in joining the discussion by writing a Community Voices article, email Susan Albright at salbright@minnpost.com.