

#3: Realign

Forget the Republicans (founded in 1854) and Democrats (world's oldest surviving party, from 1828)! They have devolved into pawns of big-money donors, whose sole mission is to broker power. As such, they no longer point the way forward; instead, they block progress and hold us all back. Solutions are closer to home.

We share biospheres (watersheds, aquifers, air, flora and fauna species) with our most immediate Midwest neighbors. As global weather and climate patterns shift in coming years, the need to coordinate environmental actions and safeguards will increase: We can't solve such problems alone.

For our own physical health and sustainable material wealth, we are best served by importing more of our foodstuffs from regional sources and exporting the same to regional markets—for example, Chicago, the Twin Cities, Denver, Kansas City, St. Louis, etc.

And, we must strengthen our international ties through (for ex.) teacher-student exchanges; we must welcome all individuals who come to live peacefully and productively among us.

We must shift our focus from Federal to regional power levels, while remaining part of both the Federal and global communities.

How can I get involved?

To donate or volunteer:

Online at: <http://bit.ly/MLT4usSenate>

Or send a check made out to

Friends of Michael Luick-Thrams to:

Heartland Parties US

PO Box 1127

Mason City, IA 50401

641.420.9118 HeartlandPartiesUS@gmail.com

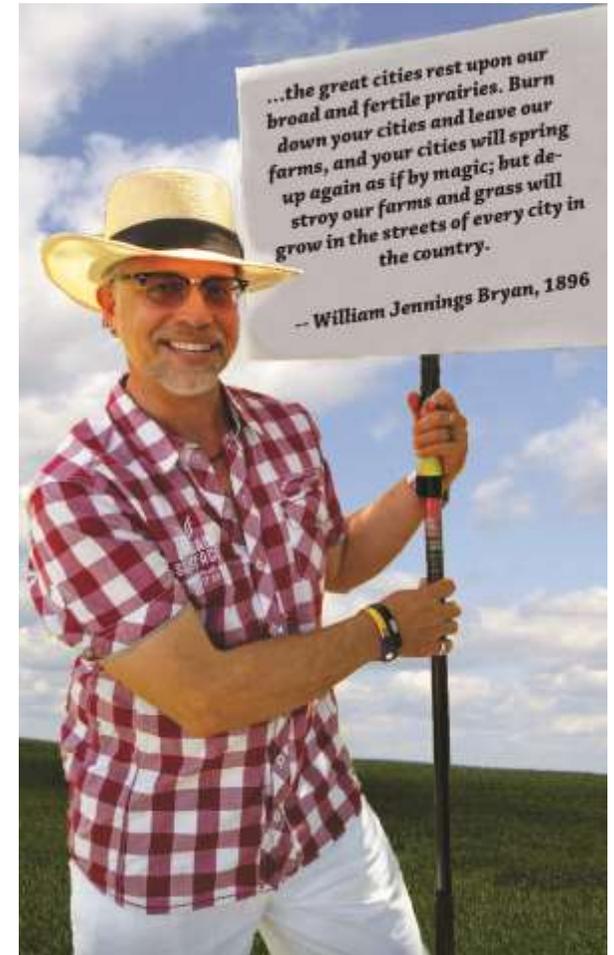
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A Vision for Iowa's 3rd Century

Transforming the Heartland's Social, Economic,
Cultural, Political and Natural Landscapes

Friends, we have ten years to reform our
world — *period*.

Despite calls for real solutions to wars,
poverty, weather disasters of biblical
proportions, and the poisoning of our
precious world, politicians of both parties
play us against one another while offering
meaningless platitudes and gestures. But
“they” are not the fundamental problem:
We are; we are the sole solution, as well.

We must stop looking for a great leader to
govern us from the top, and restore Iowa's
future from the bottom, up. We must take
responsibility and act — *together*.

Heartland Parties' project committee
suggests three ways to reverse Iowa's
current decline by 2046, our bicentennial:

#1: Reconnect

To turn things around, we must reconnect to
true health and **true wealth**.

True health is more than “I feel fine”, more
than turning to medicine and technology when
disease or illness strikes. It arises from fresh,
pure air, water and food; it stems from
sustaining family and community relationships;
and, it comes from meaningful work and social
lives. Mental health depends on a grounded
sense of well-being and hope, free from fear of
“the other”. All forms of health require
sustainable wealth to make them last.

True wealth is more than the size of your
wallet, car, home or bank account. Our early
pioneers came to America's Heartland looking
not for jobs but for ways to transform the
region's resources (e.g., rich topsoil) into
useable products (crops, livestock, lumber).
Others came to transform their knowledge and
time to serve those working the land, as
shopkeepers, teachers, pastors and others.
Wealth arises from adding value to what one
has. It reflects inner, not only outer resources.

***We must reconnect to deeper, true
health, sustained by expanded wealth
generation for ALL, not just those few
at the top.***

#2: Revitalize

In the Hawkeye State, abundant agriculture
spawned towns, not vice-versa. What made
Iowa spiritually, culturally and monetarily
rich was its family farms and small towns.

Urban Iowa cannot flourish if rural Iowa
continues to decline. In the last census, 71 of
Iowa's 99 counties continued to lose
population. If we wish to turn Iowa around,
we have to revive its rural areas. Above all:

We need more people — *now*.

How? Each of Iowa's 100 county seats must
serve as anchors, a dynamic means to hold
their area's inhabitants as long-term
residents. By 2046, each county should have:

- A stable, well-funded school system
- A comprehensive medical/fitness center
- A state-of-the-art community center
- Year-round farmers' and hand-crafted-
goods' markets; centrally-located cafés
- A forestry program, and a recycling and
clean-energy coordination center
- An ample, trail-connected park system
- A conference or convention center