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The Truth Shall Set You Free

by Sharon Narrod

As I write this, my last diary entry, so much is going through my mind (or what's left of it). When I started it was somewhat of a blank canvas (the race, not my mind). I knew that I didn't think that our current clerk cared about voter integrity as much as I did, and it was on that basis that I decided to run for public office. As the months have passed, it has become a race which involves that issue and so much more. So, what I've given you in this last pre-election entry, is the opening statement from my League of Women Voters Debate with my opponent. It pretty much sums up the campaign I have waged. Thank you to everyone, for your votes, your encouragement, and your support. The truth shall set you free. Here's my opening:

This is an election about character and trust. Our current clerk has abused her position. She says she cannot be above the law, yet her response to multiple traffic offenses is to say that it's no big deal, everyone does it, it's all political. Her response to the two-and-a-half month late notice of a voter's invalidated absentee

Continued on page 7

A Candidate's Diary

Lake County Clerk candidate Sharon Narrod is making her first run for public office. Between now and election day she will give us a regular account of what it's like to be a candidate. This is Part 7 in that series of articles.



Senator Barack Obama with Sharon Narrod



Tenth News

NOVEMBER 2006 Illinois Tenth Congressional District Democrats Newsletter Volume 3, Edition 11

www.tenthdems.org

Dan Seals Is Just About There

by John Hmurovic

It has been over a year since I first met Dan Seals. He was only considering a run for Congress at the time. The latest poll says he is just 2 percentage points behind Mark Kirk, with a 3-point margin of error in the poll. He has come an amazingly long way in a short period of time.

When he made the decision to run for Congress, he knew the odds were against him. Almost everyone told him that Republican Congressman Mark Kirk was unbeatable. Kirk had won with 64 percent of the vote in 2004 and 69 percent in 2002. Kirk had over a million dollars in the bank. Kirk was fairly well known in the area. As an incumbent Congressman, Kirk could hold news conferences that would actually be attended by members of the local media, and by the next day thousands of 10th District residents would read or hear Mark Kirk's name. Kirk could take credit for Congressional funding for local projects that he may, or may not, have done much of anything to bring about...and be front and center when the cameras took photos of the check being presented.

By contrast, one year ago who knew anything about Dan Seals? When you think about that, you have to be impressed by what Dan Seals has accomplished, and how much it says about him as a candidate, a leader and very possibly, our next congressman.

Sure, you have to give some credit to the Republican President, George Bush. His administration has fumbled its way through Iraq, Katrina, and...well, you know the list. You have to give some credit to the Republican Congress, which gave us "leaders" such as Tom DeLay, Duke Cunningham, Bob Ney and Mark Foley, while doing

almost nothing but rubber-stamp the President's policies on the war in Iraq, the economy, and...well, you know the list.

And, you have to give major credit to Republican Mark Kirk. He has spent the past few years proving that his number one priority in Congress is to promote his political career. All his talk about being a

"thoughtful, independent leader" turned out to be nothing more than just another Republican phrase designed to hide the truth. In order to climb the Congressional ladder, Kirk had to please his masters, and to do it he gave up any independence he may have once had. When they needed votes to interfere in the Terry Schaivo case, Kirk fell into line. When they needed votes to give oil companies a break, even at the expense of environmental causes that Kirk claimed to support, Kirk fell into line. He even voted to weaken House ethics laws when the Republicans were trying to protect Tom DeLay. Did Mark Kirk really believe that 10th District residents wanted House



Dan Seals Speaks at North Suburban Synagogue Beth El.

Continued on page 7

Kirk Proves to be Pro-/Anti- –Seals Is the Only Choice

by Harriet Meyer

Mark Kirk says he is pro-choice and has the Planned Parenthood endorsement to prove it. Just don't examine his record.

During the past six months or so, Planned Parenthood supporters have received action alerts urging us to write our Congressman to support these bills:

- Responsible Education About Life Act
- Equity in Prescription Insurance Contraceptive Coverage Act
- Prevention First Act
- Stop Deceptive Advertising for Women's Services Act
- Freedom of Choice Act
- Guarantee of Medical Accuracy in Sex Education Act
- The PATHWAY Act (AIDS prevention).

Kirk won't sponsor those bills. How he can still have the Planned Parenthood endorsement is hard to fathom. I applaud the NARAL Pro-Choice America for seeing the light and dropping its endorsement of Mr. Kirk.

These pages have previously documented Mark Kirk's uniformly failed pro-choice votes, his behind-the-scenes anti-choice procedural votes, his vote to protect perpetrators of clinic violence from paying damages by declaring bankruptcy and his donations to right-wing candidates with zero percent scores from Planned Parenthood.

Meanwhile, clinic violence continues; our tax dollars are spent on inaccurate, unhealthy sex education; the 30th anniversary of the Hyde Amendment denying poor women abortions comes and goes; abortion hotlines struggle to keep funded; Chicago hosts the "Contraception is Not the Answer" conference; and Congress votes for nearly the 150th time in the last decade to restrict abortion and contraception. Reality check: 2 percent of women of reproductive age in the U.S. have abortions annually, an estimated one-third or more U.S. women have abortions at some point and 98 percent of U.S. women use contraception during their lifetimes.

After what's happened during his terms in Congress, Mr. Kirk does not deserve to call himself pro-choice.

What do we need? We need a Democratic Congress that will roll back the vast erosion of women's – especially young women's – reproductive health safeguards. We need healing – abortion has been a divisive wedge issue for too long – and we need prevention. The will is there: anti-choice and pro-choice legislators (but not Mark Kirk) have together put forth the Reducing the Need for Abortion and Supporting Parents Act (the Ryan-DeLauro Act).

Dan Seals is committed to progressive values – including safe, legal abortion – as part of the accessible, quality health care that all Americans deserve. Like so many of you, I have seen him speak sense – and listen to all viewpoints. He is committed to bringing us all together, hearing all voices and working constructively until we get back on track, for reproductive health rights and all that our country needs.



Confessions of a Past Non Voter

By Zena Kaufman

I admit, in the past there were times (several in fact) where I did not exercise my right to vote. There were times in the past, too, where I did not exercise at all. I had wonderful excuses: I was too busy with work, the kids, commuting. How could I possibly do this before work when I needed to be at work by 7 a.m.? Wasn't it better to spend quality time with my family, making dinner, checking homework than to run out, wait in line and vote without any knowledge of the candidates or the issues?

But things changed. The days after the 2000 election where we did not know who our president was taught me that, yes, even my insignificant vote is important. The months after that election, when we were attacked on our own soil, taught me the importance of the commander-in-chief not as a figurehead but as a leader. The years since then have confirmed my belief that a fundamental change is needed. I don't think that all Republicans are bad, I do know that I cannot support the Republican's party platform or their deeds over the past six years.

I support a women's right to choose. The Republican platform supports a human life amendment to the Constitution and endorses legislation to make it clear that the Fourteenth Amendment's protections apply to unborn children. Where is the Equal Rights Amendment? I agree with the Democratic Platform, which says "Abortion should be safe, legal, and rare." Democratic leadership in the Congress is working to make birth control available and affordable and with the goal of obviating the discussion on abortion

I am embarrassed about the war in Iraq and the failure of leadership shown by those elected and appointed. I hang my head in shame over the prison and detention centers outside our borders but under our control. I cringe at the power exerted over this administration by the Religious Right and wonder what role someone else's religious beliefs will continue to have in determining my future.

I am voting for Dan Seals because, first and foremost, he is a Democrat. He has aligned himself with a party that I can support. I may not agree with all the positions taken by the Democratic Party (just get me started on why I think importing drugs from Canada is a terrible idea!). I know that Dan does not have a long history of government experience, but I see that as a good thing. I see him as bright and motivated. I see him as a change and as a move to a more grounded position. I see him as our next Congressman.



A Few Words of Praise for Tenth Dems

by John Hmurovic

In this campaign we have run three half-page ads in the Chicago Tribune getting the name of Dan Seals before the public.

We've done one mailing to 10,000 targeted households in the 10th District, and another to an additional 15,000 targeted households. The mailings have had two aims. They let voters know about Dan Seals. They also let them know about the real Mark Kirk...the one who pretends to be a "thoughtful, independent leader," but who is actually a "rubber stamp" for almost all of the Bush administration policies that got us into the mess in Iraq, created new enemies for America around the world, and plunged our government into a debt that our children and grandchildren will have to dig out of.

In all, Tenth Dems has printed 110,000 pieces of literature to help elect Dan Seals, and we're pretty close to having distributed every one of them.

But this is just the tip of the iceberg of what Tenth Dems has done to help Dan Seals. By law, we can donate no more than \$5000 to the Seals campaign. We have done that, but fortunately there is no limit to the number of volunteers we can contribute. Over these past three years, the first years of our existence, Tenth Dems has brought hundreds of 10th District voters into the political process. We put them to work long before the current campaign for Congress began.

On November 7th
PLEASE VOTE

Vote For a **Change of Course** in Iraq
Vote For a **Real Energy Policy**
Vote For **Health Care** For All Americans

Vote For
Dan Seals
for Congress
Vote for a **CHANGE!**

Paid for by the Illinois Tenth Congressional District Democrats, P.O. Box 523, Deerfield, Illinois 60015, and not authorized by any candidate or candidate's committee.

www.tenthdems.org
P.O. Box 523, Deerfield, Illinois 60015

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10th District Democrats Lead Efforts to Protect the Great Lakes

by Lee Goodmann

State Representative Karen May was concerned when she learned that the U.S. Coast Guard planned to conduct live fire machine gun practice on Lake Michigan just five miles offshore from Highland Park. She hosted a public meeting to discuss their plan and invited the Coast Guard, but they wouldn't attend. Upon learning of Rep. May's efforts and of the Coast Guard's plan, a group of local activists have now organized Citizens For Lake Safety (CLS), a multi-state coalition which they hope will halt the Coast Guard's efforts to turn the Great Lakes into the world's largest freshwater firing range.



David Borris, an active member of Tenth Dems, and one of the organizers of CLS, said that among the many reasons people have for opposing the plan, three concerns predominate. "The boaters don't want to lose their ability to enjoy the lakes. Almost everyone agrees it's not a good idea to put six thousand pounds of lead bullets into the lakes each year. And a lot of people don't think we need to militarize our border with Canada, with whom we have had peaceful relations since the end of the War of 1812."

The Coast Guard has not prepared an environmental impact statement for their proposal. The limited assessment that they did commission admits that the lead bullets will dissolve in lake water over time and will be consumed by animals in the lakes. The report acknowledges that lead is toxic to animals and humans, and says that people who eat fish from the lake are at greatest risk. Despite the risks identified in the report, the Coast Guard insists that there is no significant environmental risk.

Environmentalists aren't convinced. They point out that recreational fishers aren't allowed to put lead sinkers into lake waters, hunters aren't allowed to shoot lead shot, and industry is no longer allowed to dump lead into the lakes.

Although the Coast Guard claims they need to practice shooting on the lakes, other people believe that the Coast Guard could use simulators and other alternatives that would not interfere with anyone's use of the lakes and would not degrade

the quality of lake water. The Great Lakes contain 20 percent of the world's fresh surface water.

Under pressure, the Coast Guard agreed to hold a series of public hearings to discuss its proposal. The only one anywhere near Chicago will be on Wednesday, November 1 at 5:30 p.m. at the Genesee Theatre at 203 N. Genesee Street in downtown Waukegan. CLS hopes many people will attend and voice their opposition. The group also encourages people to sign an online petition at their website, www.CitizensForLakeSafety.org and to write their elected representatives.

Although the Coast Guard gave almost no notice of their plans, CLS was able to react swiftly. "We know how to organize this kind of effort," said Kevin Roos, who at age 25 is already working on his second congressional campaign in the 10th District. "We've had several years' experience opposing the war in Iraq and other Bush administration policies. We've developed our networks. We can do this."

2006 Democratic Candidate Profiles

For the past several months we have been taking a look at some of the Democrats on the ballot in 2006. This is the final set of profiles. For information on these and other Democrats running this year, go to www.tenthdem.org.

Michael Bond

State Senate Dist. 31
Residence: Grayslake
District: Includes several communities, including portions of Waukegan, Grayslake, Gurnee and Beach Park
Website:



www.michaelbondforsenate.com

Joining Allstate Insurance Company in 1995 as an Associate Financial Analyst, Michael Bond earned eight promotions in his first eight years with the company. Michael was promoted to Director of Corporate Finance in 2003 at the age of 33. Michael is a member of the Board of Education for Woodland District 50 Consolidated Schools, the largest elementary school district in Lake County and the fifth largest school district in the State of Illinois. He has solid experience crafting budgets and policy issues that directly impact the welfare of children. As a State Senator, he will advocate for a substantial increase in state school funding.

Mark Curran

Lake County Sheriff
Residence: Libertyville
District: All of Lake County
Website:



www.markcurranforsheriff.com

Mark Curran has spent much of his professional career upholding the law and keeping our communities safe. He has convicted some of Illinois' most violent criminals as an Assistant Illinois Attorney General dealing with gang crimes. He has also been a Special Assistant United States Attorney and an Assistant Lake County State's Attorney. As Lake County's next Sheriff, he will end the conditions that have led to indictments and investigations in the current Sheriff's Department; pursue gang leaders and drug dealers; combat domestic violence and child abuse; and lead a special unit to fight identity theft and consumer fraud.

Sharyn Elman

State Representative
Dist. 62
Residence: Gurnee
District: Includes Gurnee and Grayslake, and other communities beyond the northwest boundaries of the 10th District
Website: www.voteelman.com



Sharyn Elman is a fiscally conservative and socially moderate Democrat. The deciding factor that propelled her to run for office was her triumph over breast cancer. Her job provided no health insurance. She saw firsthand a health-care industry in need of better ideas. Sharyn knows that we can do better, making sure that education is funded appropriately, that people who work can qualify for health insurance and that roads are built and fixed so we don't sit in traffic gridlock. She knows that government should be more responsive to the needs of its citizens and that she can be a forceful advocate for legislation to bring these goals and ideals to fruition.

Peter Gutzmer

State Senate District 27
Residence: Hoffman Estates
District: Includes all or parts of Arlington Heights, Buffalo Grove, Palatine and Prospect Heights, as well as several other communities
Website: www.voteutzmer.org



A native of the northwest suburbs, Peter Gutzmer has been a firefighter/paramedic for the past 15 years. He is currently with the Elk Grove Village Fire Department. Education is one of his priorities. He supports more funding for schools by lowering property taxes and shifting the burden for school funding to the income tax. He is a strong supporter of stem cell research. He opposes raids on the state pension funds and pledges to lead the fight to end "pay to play" politics in Illinois. He supports a ban on assault weapons, and he opposes any move to allow the carrying of concealed weapons in Illinois.

Dan Kotowski

State Senate Dist. 33
Residence: Park Ridge
District: Includes Mount Prospect, all of the Elk Grove Township portion of the 10th District, parts of Wheeling and Palatine Townships and other communities to the south
Website: www.kotowski4senate.com



Dan Kotowski is focused on solving the practical problems families face today, such as: providing quality education; securing affordable health care; guaranteeing that the dream of home ownership stays within reach and promoting a vibrant business environment. Dan served as executive director of the Illinois Council Against Handgun Violence. There he worked tirelessly to pass legislation protecting women, children and families from violence by organizing a coalition of 1,000 community-based health and religious organizations behind a singular cause. Currently, he serves as a vice president of Uhlich Children's Advantage Network (UCAN), a multifaceted human service agency that works to build a better environment for children and families in Illinois.

Sharon Narrod

Lake County Clerk
Residence: Highland Park
District: All of Lake County
Website:



www.sharonnarrodforclerk.com

With 30 years of professional experience in education and business, Sharon Narrod has developed the management skills to turn around the culture of poor management that is the trademark of the current Lake County Clerk. A resident of Lake County since 1975, Sharon has an MBA from the Lake Forest Graduate School of Management. As county clerk, she pledges to end the partisanship and patronage of the current clerk's office, work to increase voter turnout and participation in all levels of government throughout the county and make the clerk's office as accessible as possible to all citizens.

Dan Seals

U.S. Congress

Residence: Wilmette

Website: www.dansealsforcongress.com

Dan Seals taught high school English in Japan before earning a Master's in Public Policy at the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies. A Presidential Management Fellow during the Clinton Administration, Dan worked on trade issues to increase overseas markets for U.S. goods. He also worked on Capitol Hill, focusing on economic development and policy. He earned his M.B.A. from the University of Chicago, and he is currently on leave from his position as Director of Marketing at GE Commercial Finance. While his opponent, Mark Kirk, has supported the Bush Administration over 90 percent of the time, Dan Seals believes the nation needs to move in a new direction in Iraq, the environment, the national debt, and on and on.



Marc Tepper

Lake County Board District 20

Residence: Buffalo Grove

District: Includes portions of Buffalo Grove and Long Grove



Marc Tepper has been elected twice to the Kildeer-Countryside CCSD District 96 School Board, and he has served three years as its president. He is also the past president of Congregation B'nai Torah. As a county board member he intends to develop new open spaces, make Lake County a business-friendly environment and work for comprehensive traffic planning. Marc also will strike a balance between environmental concerns and growth and development.

DEBATE TEAM



Above: State Representative, Karen May vs William Griffin



Left: State Senator, Terry Link vs Charles Fitzgerald



Right: Lake County Board Candidate, Carrie Travers vs Susan Gravenhorst



Left: Lake County Sheriff Candidate, Mark Curran vs Gary Del Re



Right: Lake County Clerk Candidate, Sharon Narrod vs Willard Helander

Rancorous Partisanship

by Ron Weiner

For one as intensely vested in our periodic elections as I am (and so many of us are), it has become a kind of compulsion to subconsciously (and consciously a lot of the time, too) count the yard signs that sprout along the arterial roads and byways of the 10th District.

And while here in our local neighborhoods our Democratic candidates seem to be out-proliferating the opposition, a certain incipient sense of reality based on recent political history warns us – well, me, anyway – away from any feelings of complacency. I suppose it is this cautionary dread – in spite of “our guys” so decisively winning the Front yard Mushroom Derby here – that I find so disquieting.

Since I realize how vitally important this election will be for our future as a nation and how, even in the absence of a presidential race to energize the turnout at the polls, the infrastructure of our government for years to come will be affected by its result, I can't for the life of me understand why any voter could even for a moment consider voting for any incumbent Republican. Two years ago many of us tried to warn our less-aware friends of the dangers of returning them to power, citing the yet-to-come changes

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Rancorous *Continued from page 5*

in the Supreme Court as only one of those dangers.

So it was no wonder, I suppose, that my frustration with any homeowner who would have the cold, uncaring audacity to

plant the "wrong" sign amid the greenery of his or her otherwise attractive landscaping would produce within me a stirring of what I could only describe as, well, hatred. That's what I felt: Hatred! (and deserving of both capitalization and the exclamation point.)

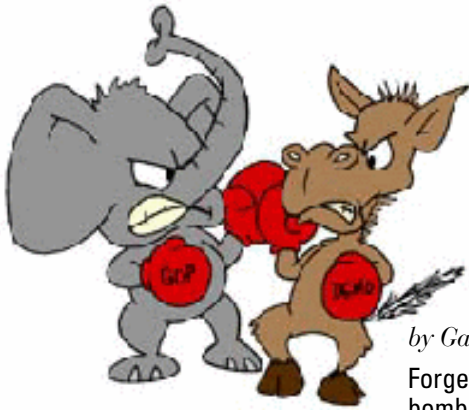
Sure, I know that it's still a free country, that we still have our civil rights (diminishing though they may be), that there is still freedom of speech (even if dissent is in some minds considered treasonous) and of the press (at least for those that own one), and that everyone, thank whatever gods may be, has an inalienable right to his opinion, and that, yes, all of the above, regardless of one's point of view, is what has made this country (up to recently, anyway) the shining hope of our civilization. But were those heartless, selfish, megalomaniacal – be my guest, add your own adjective – souls who seem to be trying to change all of that deserving of my Hatred!?

It was hard to admit that I could feel that way about any fellow human being, and I spent too many sleepless nights (well, perhaps not that many) wrestling with it, and even being more than a little ashamed of it (well, maybe not even that ashamed). But at last, a couple of weeks ago I was able to find redemption in a spread-across-two-pages ad in *The Nation*, advertising a website called www.AvengingAngels.org. I quote it partially: "Go to our website ... there you will find ten solid, vigorous, popular proposals for change. Then go out and fight for them. With rancor."

With Rancor! At last, an emotion to replace my Hatred! "Rancorous Partisanship," the ad goes on to point out, "is just another word for conviction... Conviction is what Democrats need today..."

Bless you, [AvengingAngels.org](http://www.AvengingAngels.org). Now I slept better and went around stepping more lightly, free at last of the burden of that self-punishing word, hatred (See? I can even de-capitalise it now).

(But wait a minute – better check out the dictionary on "rancor." Ah, there it is: "deep-seated enmity, or malice. ..." Damn!)



by Gary Lukens

Forget about bullets and bombs, the single greatest threat to the American dream is the acceleration of outsourced jobs sent overseas.

In today's worsening economic climate, George W. Bush and his Republican Party have allowed millions of jobs to be shipped overseas. Already under siege from cost-cutting and downsizing, the American worker is being phased out without even a scuffle.

In the communications field alone, an estimated 400,000 jobs have been lost overseas since the year 2000. On average, America loses 12,000 to 15,000 jobs per month to overseas firms. Moreover, steelworkers and autoworkers have been forced into accepting lower pay and fewer benefits because the threat of outsourcing hangs over their heads like an anvil waiting to drop.

And most important to our children's future, for every job sent overseas, that is one less job paying into a social security fund now woefully in need of capital. If our president wants to fix Social Security, he should start by making sure jobs are available for Americans.

Still, it's no secret Republicans relish the cheap labor available overseas. For years now, Bush has advocated outsourcing as a means to lower prices. In addition, corporations often say outsourcing is necessary to contain costs, which are then passed along to the consumer. Knowing that additional profit is the sole intent here, it's safe to say the next time a corporation passes along labor savings to the consumer, will be the first time.

And while I agree it is the right of any corporation to make a profit, I also feel if American corporations continue to send our jobs overseas, our government should protect its workers by leveling an export tariff on those jobs. At the very least, this would make a corporation think twice about overseas operations.

In essence, as we move into this new century, outsourcing will become more and more a part of our lives. Industries we never dreamed would participate in this practice are now forcing us to accept the inevitable: Our job could be next.



<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/TechsUnite/>

"We the People" Can Start by Outsourcing the Republicans Nov. 7

Since George Bush took office six years ago, America has lost millions of good-paying jobs for no other reason than corporate greed. If Republicans won't stop this occupational plague, "We the People" must band together to fight for the American way of life. Otherwise, in the end all that will be left of our once-vaunted labor force will be the minimum-wage earners and the oligarchic masters who rule them.

SEALS *continued from page 1*

ethics laws to be weakened? Of course not, but because his ambitions matter more to him than our opinions, Mark Kirk gave the Republican leaders what they wanted, and they thanked him by making him Assistant House Majority Whip.

Yes, Dan Seals has had help from the Republicans. But anyone who believes that he could have gone from being an unknown guy from Wilmette just a year ago, to being on the verge of pulling off an amazing political victory, is badly simplifying the facts.

From the start, people involved in Democratic politics in the 10th District saw something in Dan Seals that they liked. He faced an excellent Democratic opponent in the primary, but Dan easily won that race for one reason...he was able to attract grassroots volunteers who would work amazingly hard to help him win. They saw in Dan Seals an obviously intelligent and personable man, who actually seemed to care about people. "When you talk to him," someone told me during the primary campaign, "you really feel like he's listening."

He did listen. He went around the district meeting with Democratic political leaders, listening to what they had to say about what this district needed in a congressman. He also visited more houses than a top real estate agent, attending any small gathering that someone in the district would hold to introduce Dan to the neighbors. I saw him at a few of those gatherings, but I never got a chance to say much more than hello to him, because he was always busy listening to what person after person had to say about the issues facing the country.

And when it was his turn to talk, people liked what Dan Seals had to say, and they liked how he said it. Small donations came in, and began to add up to a decent sum of money for his campaign. The political experts began to notice that. They still scoffed at his chances of beating Kirk. One local political reporter basically told me not to waste his time by talking about Dan Seals, because without a big-name elected official running against him, Kirk was unbeatable.

Dan Seals probably heard that kind of talk much more than I did, but it didn't stop him from working toward his goal. Mark Kirk may still have a money edge over Dan Seals, but Kirk's candidacy does not generate anywhere near the kind of passion that exists among Seals



Dan, campaigning with Shields Democrats in North Chicago.

backers. I have yet to meet a Democrat who has met Dan Seals, or just heard him speak, who is not impressed. And, I've even met a few Republicans who have come away from meeting him with grudgingly given compliments.

In one year, Dan Seals has accomplished a lot. He has inspired trust and earned admiration from many. He has battled against long odds to come just steps away from an election night outcome which many considered impossible just a year ago. He has done it with intelligence, an engaging personality, and with ideas that resonate with voters in a district that didn't back George Bush, even before Bush's popularity really began to sink.

Anyone who has come so far in so short a period of time obviously has skills that we want in a leader. A good leader inspires those who want to follow. Go to any Dan Seals event. Listen to what anyone who has met him has to say. It's obvious that Dan Seals has inspired many to work very hard to get him elected. With half the money that Mark Kirk has, with much less press attention, with little financial backing from the national Democratic Party, with nothing more than hard work, intelligence and a concern for people, Dan Seals has come a long way in one year.

It makes you want to smile in anticipation of what he will accomplish as our congressman if he can just get a little further in this final week.

Sharon Narrod, *Continued from page 1*

ballot is to force the voter to court. She lost this case, costing us, the taxpayers, tens of thousands of dollars. Furthermore, she sat in a room with me and two newspaper reporters and claimed that the case was not worth discussing because it had been declared moot. She lied. In fact, the appeal was not decided until a week later, and the Judge once again ruled against the Clerk. We should be very, very concerned that the person entrusted with our vote sees nothing wrong with not telling the truth.

She claims that her expenses are legitimate, yet she uses limousines (which we pay for), in clear violation of county policy, on her way to multiple out-of-state trips, with stays at hotels like the Beverly Hills Hilton (which we, the taxpayers, are paying for).

I've saved the most grievous abuse of power for last. She claims she is non-partisan, yet is currently running

commercials on cable stations, knowing full well that the same action as a state elected official would be a clear violation of the State's Ethic Laws. The taxpayers of this county are too smart to be tricked into believing this political commercial is a public service announcement. And just this past week, citizens of Lake County have started receiving calls, with the Clerk identifying herself by name and position, talking about Early Voting (a law which she vehemently opposed) and moving on to endorse her own party Candidates. It is unbelievable that a County Clerk would do something so blatantly partisan. Her major claims of state-of-the-art reforms pale in comparison to these abuses of power. We have had enough of politicians masquerading as public servants and as Lake County Clerk; I will put an end to it once and for all.

Whew!



I Thought Mark Kirk was a Moderate



And once Dan Seals won the nomination, many of our volunteers not only had experience that came in handy to help the Seals campaign, but they were also fully invested in electing a Democrat to Congress and were willing to work even harder as a result.

Tenth Dems has also played a role in helping to strengthen the Democratic Party in the 10th District. Seven of the 12 townships that make up the 10th District have chairs who have been active Tenth Dems volunteers, and some of them were never active in local politics until Tenth Dems gave them a chance to get involved. Many of the most active precinct committeemen in the 10th District have also been...and continue to be...a part of our group.

Why do we take pride in our role in helping to build the local Democratic Party organization? Because what the Democratic township organizations in the 10th District are doing this year is unprecedented in the recent political history of our area. Every weekend, and on many weekdays, for months now, Democrats in places like Deerfield, Buffalo Grove, Highland Park, North Chicago and even Lake Forest have been actively organizing and working to help elect Dan Seals. More than any other year, Democrats are working very hard, whether it is in Winnetka, Waukegan, Palatine, Northbrook or Arlington Heights. The district is alive with Democrats knocking on doors, passing out literature at farmers' markets, train stations and anywhere we can find voters.

There are more people working to elect Democrats in the 10th District than at any time in recent years. We feel we can claim part of the credit for making it happen. Tenth Dems started as an organization that was determined to activate the grassroots of the Democratic Party, and this year more than ever the grassroots are a major strength of the Democratic Party in the 10th District.

Don't just take our word for it . . .

How National Watchdog Groups Grade Republican Congressman Mark Kirk

SUBJECT	RATING*	GRADE	Voter Comments:
FOREIGN POLICY Peace Action Latin America Working Group	15% 4%	F	Mark supported the rush to war, the bungled occupation and every move the Bush team has made in Iraq. Still does. That shows a lack of independence and poor judgment.
VETERANS Disabled American Veterans	25%	F	Mark strongly backs the Iraq war, but votes against money to help soldiers wounded there. Doesn't seem fair.
CIVIL LIBERTIES American Civil Liberties Union	41%	F	Supports strip searches in schools? Expanding the death penalty? Limiting protests? Giving government power to pry into our lives?
ENVIRONMENT League of Conservation Voters	59%	F	Inconsistent! Mark votes to drill in Alaska, then votes against drilling. Which is it? No wonder the Sierra Club no longer endorses Mark.
WORKING PEOPLE AFL-CIO AFSCME	18% 7%	F	Mark cuts money for worker safety & training the jobless; opposes minimum wage hike; but votes himself a pay raise.
EDUCATION National Parent Teacher Association National Education Association	41% 46%	F	Mark votes to make it more expensive to get student loans & to underfund schools. He also supports vouchers.
CHILDREN Children's Defense Fund	10%	F	Mark votes to cut health care, foster care & child support enforcement funds. This does not help children . . .
WOMEN National Organization for Women Business & Professional Women	43% 45%	F	Says women should have choice, then casts procedural votes to take it away. Inconsistent again!
CIVIL RIGHTS Leadership Council on Civil Rights NAACP	32% 34%	F	Mark says sometimes it's ok to discriminate. In America, it should never be ok to discriminate against any group of people.
ELDERLY Alliance for Retired Americans	9%	F	Won't say if he backs Bush plan to dismantle Social Security. But he backed changes that weaken Medicare.
HEALTH ISSUES American Public Health Association	36%	F	The health care gap is growing. Mark's support for Medicaid cuts doesn't help. Plus, he has done nothing to address high health care costs.

*The percentage grades are for Mark Kirk's entire career in Congress, based on averages of all the grades he has received from each group from 2001 through 2005.

But it's not just Dan Seals who we are helping. We've also given tens of thousands of dollars to numerous Democrats in every part of the district. We've written checks for Peter Gutzmer and Dan Kotowski in Cook County, as well as for Michael Bond and Mark Curran in Lake County. We've also provided volunteers for campaigns, and some of our members are managing campaigns and even running for office this year. Again, many of these actively working Democrats would not be involved today if Tenth Dems had not been there to activate them and encourage them to stay involved.

The list of what Tenth Dems has done can go on and on, but space permits the mention of just one more. A project that we undertook two years ago was to train volunteers to become effective political workers. We also conducted candidate training, hoping to bring in people who were toying with the idea of running for office and giving them some guidance on what it would take.

Several months after we conducted the first of those candidate training sessions, Tenth Dems began to recruit candidates for Congress. We talked with over 35 prospective candidates, including several who attended our first training. One of those who attended that training did decide to enter the race, and now we're all hoping that the Tenth Dems candidate training and recruitment efforts will have been the first steps in the election of Dan Seals to Congress.

What has your support for Tenth Dems accomplished? Quite a bit in just three short years. Thank you for helping to make it happen.

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