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*The opinions expressed are those of the writers,  
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# Where Is the Outrage?

by Carmen A. Corbett

*"What's still missing, however, is a sense of passion and outrage—passion for the goal of ensuring that every American gets the healthcare he or she needs, outrage at the lies and fear-mongering that are being used to block that goal."*

— Paul Krugman, Op-ed columnist, *The New York Times*, August 14, 2009

Where is the "passion and outrage" from progressives that Paul Krugman talked about in his article? What Krugman said in mid-August still applies today. We seem to have a "deer-in-the-headlights" syndrome as we continue to watch the extreme right wing hijack the town hall meetings, the media, and our message. Their distortions, lies, distractions, and obstructionist tactics have been given the weight of fact by the faux "balanced" mainstream media and cable "news" outlets. The window is quickly closing on



our opportunity to enact truly transformational reform to the healthcare delivery system in this country. It's time to reclaim our argument and to let our congressmen know what we expect of them before it is too late.

The outrage that I hear is often directed at President Obama because we expect him to deliver healthcare reform—after all, we elected him to bring about change. But the truth is that

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# Tenth News

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NOVEMBER 2009 Illinois Tenth Congressional District Democrats Newsletter Volume 6, Edition 11

## Tenth Dems Annual Fundraiser to Feature Gov. Howard Dean *John Hmurovic, Karen McCormick, and Mark Walker to Be Honored*



*Governor Howard Dean*

speakers as Wisconsin Senator Russ Feingold, Indiana Senator Evan Bayh, former Democratic Presidential Nominee George McGovern, and Barack Obama. Those who want to be a part of this year's event with Gov. Dean are urged to act quickly, as the Tenth Dems events often sell out. Tickets can be purchased online at [www.tenthdems.org](http://www.tenthdems.org), or by calling Tenth Dems at 847-266-VOTE (8683). Donation levels are Benefactor \$5000, Platinum \$2500, Gold \$1000, Silver \$500, Bronze \$250, Individual \$75, Student \$25.

Howard Dean, former Governor of Vermont, 2004 presidential candidate, past chair of the Democratic National Committee, a physician, and a leading spokesperson for healthcare reform, will be keynote speaker at the 2009 Tenth Congressional District Democrats Fundraiser this Saturday, October 31, at the Deerfield Hyatt, 1750 Lake Cook Road in Deerfield, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

In the past, the Tenth Dems annual fundraiser has featured such top name

Also featured at the fundraiser will be three Tenth Dems leaders, Northfield Township Trustee Karen McCormick, Tenth Dems Vice-Chair John Hmurovic, and state Representative Mark Walker, who will be recognized for their outstanding contributions.

Howard Dean currently works as an independent consultant focusing on the areas of healthcare, early childhood development, alternative energy, and the expansion of grassroots politics around the world. He is well-known for his expertise on these and other key issues, as well as for his plainspokenness and affinity for grassroots politics. With healthcare reform at the top of the Obama administration's agenda and Congress likely to pass a bill within the next 30 to 60 days, Dean can be expected to offer unique insights into what is likely to emerge. He promises to be an engaging, informative, and lively speaker; and a large turnout is expected.

Dean began his career in public service in 1982 when he transitioned from a full-time practicing physician to an elected representative in Vermont. He served as Vermont's governor for 12 years—six terms that constituted the second longest tenure in the state's history. Widely respected by colleagues in both political parties, while he served as governor of Vermont, Dean was chairman of the National Governors' Association, the Democratic Governors' Association, and the New England Governors' Conference. He left office in Vermont in 2003 to run for U.S. President. During that run, Dean implemented innovative fundraising strategies such as use of the Internet, which became the

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# Meet the Candidates

*The Tenth News invited three candidates running for the Democratic nomination to represent the 10th District in the House of Representatives to use our pages to speak directly to the voters. The headlines and articles that follow are their submissions.*

## The Progressive Choice for Congress



*Julie Hamos*

As a young girl, Julie and her family fled Hungary in the dead of night during the 1956 revolution—an experience that instilled lifelong values of courage and independence.

That's why Julie Hamos has never been afraid to take on the challenges that matter most. Julie has crafted real solutions to real problems, with a demonstrated record of accomplishment as a state legislator and public interest attorney. In Congress, she'll work with President Obama, as she's done in the past, to bring true reform to Illinois.

*Julie Hamos*

Julie supports a public option in healthcare reform and has challenged Mark Kirk to do the same. In Congress, she'll make sure the bill follows through on its promise of delivering quality, affordable healthcare that is available to everyone.

But the fight for better healthcare doesn't end with a bill. Julie is a policy expert who knows the true test of reform comes after legislation has passed when we can see its impact on our daily lives. The insurance industry, once again, will look for every loophole to keep profits up. We must hold them accountable through a public option and continuous oversight to ensure healthcare reform means just that.

Julie has championed healthcare reform throughout her legislative

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## A Vision We Can All Share



*Elliot Richardson*

I have a vision of what I think a United States Representative should be. In my vision, our representatives are focused squarely on solving the problems of those they represent. They are elected, not just because they can talk about problems but also because they have lived them and are committed to making real change. They are elected because they are determined to fight for their communities.

I am not a career politician. I am not an opportunist looking for my next promotion in politics. I am a father, a civil rights attorney, and a former group home counselor; I have committed my life to public service. I am also a proud resident of the 10th District. I grew up on the North Shore,

*Elliot Richardson*

I've worked here in the district, and I'm raising my children here. There are serious issues facing our community, and as a part of the 10th District, I am committed to addressing these issues head on.

I am determined to fix the broken healthcare system. It is unacceptable to me that there are 47.5 million uninsured Americans, but what troubles me more than anything is that there are 30 million Americans who cannot get coverage. Healthcare is the leading cause of bankruptcies in the U.S. But healthcare is not just about numbers. For each one of those uninsured, for each one of those bankruptcies, there's a person, a family who's had to make a choice between buying prescriptions or putting food on the table, or had to choose between having a potentially life-saving surgery and sending kids to college.

As your representative, I will fight everyday to make sure everyone has good and accessible healthcare. I will make it more affordable for employers to provide quality health coverage for their employees with tax incentives. We spend one-and-a-half times more per person on healthcare than any other country, but we aren't any healthier for it.

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## Facing Challenges with Leadership and Conviction



*Dan Seals*

As both a country and a community, we are beginning to emerge from one of the worst economic storms of the last century. To be sure, the economic pain in our community has been widespread. Profitable businesses in Arlington Heights couldn't get credit; the unemployment rate in communities like Northbrook nearly doubled; and towns like North Chicago—which already have their share of economic challenges—were pushed to the edge.

But the worst appears to be over.

*Dan Seals*

Through the policies of the Obama administration and the efforts of regular people in our community and across the country, our economic ship seems to have stopped sinking. But once that process is complete, we need to put policies in place to turn this ship around. The fact is that even in good times our economy needs to be more rewarding for more Americans. Here are some of the policies that I support:

**Economic Growth**—We can create jobs by enacting policies that encourage more Research and Development and small business growth. We can improve the lives of middle class families by reforming the costs of healthcare, energy, and education. In the long run, we must pay down the national debt and build a competitive educational system if our kids are going to have a future brighter than our own.

**Healthcare**—Our healthcare system costs too much, covers too few, and puts our entire economy at a competitive disadvantage. We should focus on lowering costs, improving outcomes, and expanding coverage—including a public option.

**Energy & Environment**—The actions we take today will have a profound effect on the quality of life for generations to come. We should focus more on conservation to protect our environment (and to save money). We should invest more in green technologies to

*continued on page 7*

# Amid Deep Recession, Kirk Opposes Extension in Unemployment Benefits

It is the middle of the deepest U.S. recession since the Great Depression. The unemployment rate in Illinois is an estimated 10.5 percent, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Joblessness in some states, such as Michigan, Nevada, and Rhode Island, is estimated to have reached a staggering 13-15 percent in September. And there is no end in sight. The consensus among economists is that unemployment will not even begin to decline until 2011. "There are now more than six jobless workers for every job opening in our country," Senator Richard Durbin (D-IL) recently said.

Nonetheless, 10th District Congressman Mark Kirk—who now wants to represent the entire state of Illinois in the U.S. Senate—did not see fit to make it a priority to be present on September 22 for the House roll call vote—No. 722—on The Unemployment Compensation Extension Act of 2009, which proposes to extend unemployment insurance benefits for an additional 13 weeks.

Kirk's notable absence from voting on this vital legislation speaks volumes about his priorities and his character. Any member of Congress who truly sympathized with the plight of the approximately seven million Americans who have lost their livelihoods in this recession would have made it a point to be present on September 22 for roll call vote 722. But Kirk, who is always eager to go out on a limb to protect corporate interests (to wit: he has spent the better part of the past year helping the insurance industry attempt to block healthcare reform), never shows the same zeal for protecting the basic rights of the American people—even when their suffering is the direct outcome of failed policies that he supported. Let us not forget that Kirk supported—every step of the way—the failed economic and deregulation policies of the Bush administration, the very policies that led to the current economic crisis.

Throughout his four terms in Congress, Kirk has voted against the public's interest at every turn. To cite just a few examples, in July 2008 he voted against legislation aimed at stemming the tide of foreclosures



(see "Kirk Unmasked: Mark Kirk Votes Against Victims of Sub-Prime Mortgage Crisis," [http://www.tenthdems.org/newsletters/0806\\_nl.pdf](http://www.tenthdems.org/newsletters/0806_nl.pdf)); and in February, he voted against the economic stimulus package.

That Kirk chose to abstain from voting on H.R. 3548 (extension of unemployment benefits) also brings to light his preference for deceptiveness over honesty. Rather than take a firm stand and face the consequences, Kirk seems to delight in using cagey techniques in an attempt to play both sides of the issue. By failing to vote, Kirk effectively supported his Republican colleagues. At the same time, he was able to sidestep casting a "no" vote that might come back to haunt him as the Senate race heats up.

Fortunately, Kirk's vote was not needed for the House passage of H.R. 3548. The number of votes cast in support of the measure (331 members of Congress, including 104 Republicans and 227 Democrats), ensured that. The bill has now moved to the Senate where Illinoisans can depend on their representatives to support it. "Unemployment insurance provides desperate families a helping hand during that gut-wrenching period between the day a breadwinner loses his or her job and the day a new job is found," Senator Dick Durbin said. "It doesn't replace all of the [lost] wages...but it helps keep families from going hungry as they hunt for work."

As 10th District residents, we know all too well that we can never expect to hear such compassionate words or see such commitment to helping ordinary Americans in crisis from Mark Kirk. This is precisely why we need to make sure he is not elected to represent our state in the Senate.

## Outrage *continued from page 1*

we do not have a dictatorship in this country; we do have a democracy. Legislation must emanate from Congress, the House and the Senate. Our elected representatives in both houses have been given the charge to implement the policies that we want. Despite the unruly August town hall meetings, it remains clear that the majority of Americans want real healthcare reform that will reduce the price tag for those with healthcare coverage and provide access to those without at an affordable cost. It's time that we hold President Obama and the Congress accountable for getting healthcare reform legislation passed and breaking the death grip of the insurance industry on all of us. Many of us are already convinced that real reform is necessary. We rant and rave and share our healthcare horror stories. We constantly preach to the choir, *i.e.*, to the converted. It's time to redirect that anxiety and rage to those who can actually effect the change—our legislators.

Recently, one shining example of courage has emerged who should serve as an inspiration to us all. Congressman Alan Grayson, representative from central Florida's 8th Congressional District, spoke out on the floor of the House of Representatives against the do-nothing Republicans. He exposed the GOP as the party without a plan to overhaul the country's healthcare system, existing only to obstruct the Obama administration at every turn. He has been fearless in the face of relentless criticism and slander from the radical right.

Congressman Grayson is now the hero of progressives and the poster boy for Democrats with the backbone to stand up for what is best for our country. It's now time for us to stand with him.

It is our collective responsibility to help make healthcare reform a reality. Call, write, tweet, contact on Facebook, email, fax, visit their local offices, but do let your elected representatives hear from you. These are all modes of effective protest in the 21st Century. Our representatives in Congress must do whatever it takes to seize this historic moment, bend the healthcare cost curve with a strong public option, and do what is best for the people they serve. This is the best road to reelection for both Democrats and Republicans. It's time for us to demonstrate our passion and outrage.

## Let's Talk Politics

Healthcare, foreign policy, the economy, pay-to-play, the upcoming elections, industrial greed, human rights, publicly funded elections. The list goes on and on. There's so much to talk about and so much to get done. All of the above are fodder for discussion. That's why we're having another *Let's Talk Politics* discussion/Tenth Dems University get-together on November 5 at 7:00 p.m. at the Northbrook Public Library. Everyone is invited, and everyone's point of view is solicited. Even when we disagree, you'll find that we are a very agreeable group of folks. So bring your friends and join in on the discussion. It's very therapeutic!

# Hydroelectric Power

by George Rosenblit

This is the sixth article in a series seeking to investigate and report on sources of energy, and their relationship to public health and global warming.

Are you aware that renewable and clean electrical energy has been in use for over a century?

Nikola Tesla, a physicist and electrical engineer, designed the first super-hydroelectric power plant in Niagara Falls. He conceived and designed the first alternating current generators and motors and had 700 inventions in this field. The Niagara Falls project was the final victory of Tesla's alternating current over Edison's direct current. Electricity could, henceforth, be sent long distances over transmission lines. Industrialist George Westinghouse bought and successfully developed Tesla's patents, with Tesla serving as a consultant.

Power was delivered to the first customer, a predecessor of Aluminum Corporation of America, in 1895. Then in 1896, transmission commenced to Buffalo, NY, 22 miles away. (See <http://www.teslasociety.com/adams.htm>.)



How does it work? It's simple! Hydropower is generated when falling water spins turbines, which turn spin generators. The amount of power generated depends basically on the height of the falling water, the volume of water flow, and the density of the water.

Today, the hydroelectric process provides 10 percent of electrical power used in the U.S. Of the 80,000 U.S. dams, only 2,400 have hydro plants. Rather than building new dams—which are expensive and time-consuming—developers are adding generators to dams that have none and expanding hydroelectric plants with more efficient turbines at others.

Niagara Falls, on the U.S. side, has a capacity to produce about 2.7 million kilowatts, enough to serve about 2 million houses. However, small hydro units in the 1-30 megawatt range are available from multiple manufacturers using standardized “water to wire” packages; a single contractor can provide all the major mechanical and electrical equipment (turbine, generator, controls, switchgear), selecting from several standard designs to fit the site conditions. (<http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Hydroelectricity>)

The major advantages of hydroelectricity are elimination of the cost of fuel and the environmentally clean operation. With coal prices doubling since 2007, big hydropower additions are now economically viable.

Mark Gerken, CEO of wholesaler AMP Ohio, says hydro generation is more reliable than wind, which stops when the air is calm. And, he says, hydro equipment can generate for 75 years or longer. (See

“Competitive costs give hydropower new spark,” Paul Davidson, *USA Today*, 10/28/2008 -[http://www.usatoday.com/money/industries/energy/environment/2008-10-27-alternative-energy-hydropower\\_N.htm?csp=Daily%20Briefing](http://www.usatoday.com/money/industries/energy/environment/2008-10-27-alternative-energy-hydropower_N.htm?csp=Daily%20Briefing).)

## In Pursuit of Work

by Mary E. La Plante



This week, the not-for-profit organization I work for made the decision to lay off approximately 40 percent of its staff. It was a particularly tough blow, for we seemed to have weathered the worst bits of the economic downturn, and our particular unit seemed to be in recovery mode: funding and donations were up; our work was successful on both a national and international scale. But, effective November 1, upper and middle management, as well as support staff, will find themselves without work, and the company-funded insurance and benefits plan has a very short expiration date.

And just how bad is unemployment for the rest of the country? Recent figures released by the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics report that “the unemployment rate (9.8 percent) continued to trend up; the largest job losses were in construction, manufacturing, retail trade and government.” The report cites even more alarming statistics: “Since the start of the recession in December 2007, the number of unemployed persons has increased by 7.6 million to 15.1 million.”

Is there anything that can be done to stop this growing trend and help speak for those who are unemployed? Herewith, a few suggestions:

- Continue to advocate for healthcare reform. Many of the newly unemployed have major health problems and are too young for Medicare. If healthcare reform doesn't take place soon, they will be in an untenable position once their COBRA runs out. That is, if they can afford COBRA. Do you know how many uninsured people there are in this country? About 46 million.
- Speak up about outsourcing. A friend's sister-in-law just lost her job after 25 years with the same telecommunications company when her office was outsourced to Asia. If U.S. companies receive government tax breaks, there should be a stipulation on hiring locally.
- Support education reform. Our country is lagging behind the rest of the developed world in terms of the quality of our national education, particularly in math and science. Our economy and the future jobs that will be created depend on a solid educational system.
- Continue to push for extended unemployment benefits. These days, it takes longer to find a job, so expanded benefits are a necessity and, quite possibly, a lifeline.
- Reach out however you can to those who are unemployed: volunteer at your community or faith-based job assistance center; offer to help friends, family and neighbors with their networking; when someone calls you for an informational interview, accept. Be like Parsifal, when he asks in the well-known medieval tale: “Friend, what ails thee?”
- If you are in a position to do so, hire someone new, or delay company layoffs and consider reduced employee hours and/or pay instead.

Become involved in the lives of others by helping out with any or all of these suggestions, and you may very well help change the course of a person's life.

# World Toilet Day: A Modest Proposal



by Debra Shore

No, I am not suggesting that the world is in the toilet, nor that it belongs there.

I have been reading a fascinating and informative book by Rose George called *The Big Necessity: The Unmentionable World of Human Waste and Why It Matters*. (See: <http://rosegeorge.com/site/books/the-big-necessity/>.)

This is where I learned about World Toilet Day, an actual day of note established on November 19, 2001, by the World Toilet Organization to increase awareness of the importance of toilet sanitation and each person's right to a safe and hygienic sanitary environment. (See: <http://www.worldtoilet.org/getinvolved.asp?no=19>.)

Stay with me now (the main point comes in paragraph 4).

Today, some 2.6 billion people live without access to any kind of improved sanitation. "Four in ten people in the world have no toilet," says George. "They must do their business instead on roadsides, in the bushes, wherever they can. Yet human feces in water supplies contribute to one in ten of the world's communicable diseases. A child dies from diarrhea—usually brought on by fecal-contaminated food or water—every 15 seconds."

Now consider this: in our system of sanitation, we essentially use fresh, potable water as a wheelbarrow to transport waste. In Cook and eastern Lake County, we take water out of Lake Michigan, filter it through sand to remove particles, and treat it with chemicals to make it safe to drink; we pump it out through miles of pipe to our homes and businesses, and then we use that fresh, drinkable water in catch basins called toilets to convey our human waste to a sewage treatment plant. I ask you, how smart is that?

Here's another key point: unlike oil and other fossil fuels, *there are no substitutes for freshwater*. Yet today, in Cook County at least, we use water once for residential and industrial purposes, and then we essentially throw it away. That's because we reversed the Chicago River more than 100 years ago so now, though we treat our sewage before discharging the effluent into Chicago area waterways, our effluent flows down to the Gulf of Mexico. It is not returned to the lake. (Is it any wonder we call effluent "waste water"? Our current system assumes that water used once is garbage.)

My point is this: using freshwater in toilets is not smart, and it is not sustainable. I believe the homes of the future will be designed to use "grey" water—the water from our washing machines and dishwashers, the water from our showers and from rain captured in barrels and cisterns—to flush our toilets. This kind of redesign of water use, both residential and industrial, will be one of the growth industries of coming decades. (In the meantime, one of the simplest and best things you can do at home to conserve water is to replace

old toilets with a new dual-flush model.) Blue is the new green and we in the Chicago region can be leaders in this transformation if we apply ourselves to the challenge.

Here are a few additional tools and resources for you to, ahem, dig into:

The Alliance for Water Efficiency moved its headquarters to Chicago several years ago and is a great source of information: <http://www.allianceforwaterefficiency.org/>

Calculate your water footprint: <http://www.h2oconserve.org/home.php?pd=index>

Play around with the Green Values Calculator developed by the Center for Neighborhood Technology to determine savings from the installation of green infrastructure (permeable pavement, green roofs, rain gardens, etc.): <http://logan.cnt.org/calculator/calculator.php>

Sustainable Sanitation Alliance: <http://www.susana.org/>

Stool Box (provided by the World Toilet Organization): <http://www.worldtoilet.org/resources.asp?no=2>

## Fundraiser *continued from page 1*

hallmark of President Obama's winning campaign in 2008.

As chair of the Democratic National Committee, Dean created and implemented the "50 State Strategy" and the development of 21st century campaign tools. Dean is credited with helping Democrats make historic gains in Congress in 2006 and 2008. Under his leadership, significant resources were dedicated to revitalizing the Democratic Party by building and strengthening the organizational tools, technological capabilities, and infrastructure required to win while laying the foundation for a long-term Democratic majority.

Before entering politics, Dean graduated from Yale University with a B.A. in political science in 1971, and received his medical degree from the Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York City in 1978. Upon completing his residency at the Medical Center Hospital of Vermont, he went on to practice internal medicine in Shelburne, Vermont. He is married to Dr. Judy Steinberg and they have two children, Anne and Paul.

The Tenth Dems is also honoring three leaders with our annual awards. The Mikva Leadership Award is going to state Rep. Mark Walker. Named after former Congressman Abner Mikva, this award goes to a local elected official who has shown outstanding leadership skills in office. Walker has been at the forefront of working for tax fairness, passing new state incentives for businesses to expand and relocate to our area, promoting alternative energy solutions, and seeing to it that our veterans receive state-of-the-art care from state facilities.

The Rosenblit Volunteer of the Year Award, named after Tenth Dems volunteer George Rosenblit (the award's first recipient), will go to the Hon. Karen McCormick of Northfield. A member of the Tenth Dems Administrative Committee, McCormick has chaired the organization's outstanding fundraising efforts for several years. She is a dedicated and hard-working volunteer who recently was elected as Northfield Trustee.

The Tenth Dems Founders Award will go to John Hmurovic of Libertyville. One of the founding members of Tenth Dems in 2003, he is the vice-chair and is a leader in almost every aspect of the work that the organization does. He is a model of a grassroots organizer.

# The Truth About Kirk

by Steve Sheffey

Mark Kirk was the master at saying—and not saying—what he thought would win him votes. Now that he's running for statewide office, voters are seeing who Kirk really is, and I think many in our district would take their votes back if they knew then what is so obvious now.

Kirk ran as a pro-choice candidate, and my guess is that many people thought that by "pro-choice," Kirk meant that all women—not just wealthy women—should have a choice. But Kirk stated in a letter to a constituent on September 30, 2009, that "I strongly support the current U.S. law, sometimes called the 'Hyde Amendment,' which prohibits taxpayer funds from being used to subsidize abortions." Opposition to federal funding of abortions is NOT considered a "pro-choice" position by pro-choice organizations. Kirk's position is an anti-choice position.

On July 7, 2009, Kirk voted in favor of an amendment that would extend the prohibition on the use of federal funds for abortion so that it would apply to the District of Columbia. Fortunately, the amendment was rejected in committee. The right to choose is meaningless without the means to choose.

Kirk's voting record consistently reflects his socially conservative proclivities. He is opposed to using federal money to help poor women who choose to have abortions; he voted against equal pay for women (the Lilly Ledbetter Act); he voted in favor of the federal government purchasing a cross to display on public land; he voted for the Terri Schiavo Restoration Act (requiring the federal government to forcibly insert a feeding tube into a woman who had been in a vegetative state for 15 years, against the wishes of her husband). He also opposes gay marriage, supports the military's "don't ask don't tell" policy, supports the Defense of Marriage Act, and by his own accounting, he supported the Republican position on EVERY major issue that has come before Congress since he was reelected in 2008. Yet, he still thinks he can get away with calling himself a "social moderate."

On September 22, 2009, Kirk missed a vote that would extend unemployment benefits. He has previously voted at least eight times against extending unemployment benefits that were about to run out.

To add insult to injury, at around the time the vote was taking place, Kirk tweeted that his Senate campaign "was currently working on a site redesign." At least he didn't tweet, "Let them eat cake."

Alexi Giannoulias said the next day that "Congressman Mark Kirk can't decide whether tens of thousands looking for work here in Illinois should be able to keep their benefits. Wherever you were tweeting from in Washington, Congressman, you should know there is a recession back here in Illinois, and people are hurting. After all, it was your votes that helped put thousands of Illinoisans out of work to begin with."

The Kirk campaign desperately continues trying to deflect attention from how beholden Kirk is to corporate PACs by using misleading statistics to attack Alexi Giannoulias. Kirk is entitled to his own opinions, but not to his own facts.

The fact is that Alexi Giannoulias is the first U.S. Senate candidate in Illinois history to reject all corporate PAC contributions. He did accept corporate PAC contributions when he ran for Illinois Treasurer, so when you hear that he accepted \$500,000 in corporate PAC contributions, it's important to remember that none of that has anything to do with his Senate campaign. That money can't be used for a federal race.

Many other candidates take PAC contributions and have taken them in the past. It's not illegal. The point is that Giannoulias has declared that he isn't taking corporate PAC contributions in this race and Kirk—the poster boy for campaign finance reform—is using misleading statistics to avoid confronting this issue.

Kirk also criticized Giannoulias because he was endorsed by the Service Employees International Union (SEIU). Who would have thunk it—a Democrat being endorsed by a union. Kirk thinks the SEIU is too close to ACORN. But Kirk himself voted in favor of federal earmarks (appropriations) to ACORN.

This is going to be a hard-fought race, and it's important to separate facts from fiction. Until we have real campaign finance reform, money matters. Right now, Giannoulias has \$2.4 million on hand, compared to Kirk's \$2.3 million. Of Kirk's money, \$500,000 came from one fundraiser with John McCain. Sometime soon, we'll know exactly how much of Kirk's money came from corporate PACs. We already know how much of Giannoulias's Senate money came from corporate PACs: ZERO.

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## One Teacher's Perfect Lesson

by Ron Levitsky

Like a surfer searching for the perfect wave, a teacher continually seeks the perfect lesson, hopefully on the day that s/he is being evaluated by the principal. As a former teacher, I know that such lessons are rare and sometimes occur almost magically—when the material and students and learning environment come together like the sweet swing of Billy Williams' bat lifting a home run deep over Wrigley Field's right field wall. But once in a great while, a perfect lesson occurs even when there are no students present. That was what happened to history teacher Ted Repsholdt.

It occurred 50 years ago this month in Deerfield. At that time, a bit like *Leave It to Beaver's* imaginary hometown of Mayfield, Deerfield was a white-collar community of 10,000 people, almost entirely Protestant and Catholic and, like the Beaver's hometown, entirely white. A subsidiary of a company owned by Morris Milgram, a real estate developer from Delaware, quietly bought a piece of property in west Deerfield with the intent of building 51 homes, ten to twelve of which would be sold to "Negro" families. Homes in this development would sell for \$30,000-\$35,000, at a time when an

average split-level in the community was worth about \$23,000. Milgram, an idealist as well as a practical businessman, had, during the previous five years, built four successful integrated communities in Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

However, the reaction of Deerfield was akin to poking a stick into a beehive. On November 18, 1959, 150 residents heard the village board state that it would study the issue. On November 23, after the builders explained their intentions, residents left the special village board meeting, congregated at the American Legion Hall, and formed the North Shore Residents Association, led by Riverwoods resident and ardent anti-Communist, Harold Lewis. This organization stated its opposition to forced integration as opposed to what it termed the "natural" development of integration.

On November 24, a meeting was held at what was then the Deerfield Grammar School. Over 600 residents attended. *Time* Magazine was there as well. After all, this was only two years since federal troops had to force school integration in Little Rock, Arkansas. One after another, people expressed, often angrily, their opposition to the proposed development. The main reason stated was the perceived loss in property values that would result from integrating the community. In *But Not Next Door*, their book chronicling this event,

*continued on page 7*

## Candidates *continued from page 2*

### Hamos *continued*

career. She pioneered electronic health records as state policy, improved transparency with the new Consumer Guide for Health Care, demanded expanded coverage from insurance companies, secured hearing screenings for newborns, improved long-term care for our elderly, and many other changes that directly improve quality of care. She'll do the same in Congress.

Julie Hamos is a leader on progressive issues across the board. From women's rights to the environment, reforming mass transit to LGBT rights, she fights to create positive change. She wrote the state's first laws protecting battered women, has been a staunch advocate for reproductive rights, helped lead Illinois in outlawing discrimination due to sexual orientation, and recently was named "Green Legislator of the Year" by the Illinois Environmental Council.

As a legislator, Julie fought for state investments in education, job training, and job creation. In Congress, Julie will develop an economic agenda that will create jobs and assure access to educational opportunities.

Julie authored and led the successful battle to improve, reform, and fund the regional transit system that is the lifeblood of Chicagoland. In Congress, she'll work to ensure Illinois receives the transportation investments needed to ease congestion and support a growing regional economy.

Finally, as the daughter of Holocaust survivors, Julie not only understands, but also innately knows, the importance of a safe and secure Israel and will be among its staunchest advocates in Congress, standing proud in its defense and in its defense of itself.

The 10th District has an opportunity for new leadership in Congress. Julie Hamos shares our common values of fairness, equality, and reform and has the courage to stand up for what is right.

### Richardson *continued*

Real healthcare reform must change, not only the way we treat people who are already sick but also the way we keep people healthy.

Unemployment in this country has reached nearly 10 percent. As shocking as this number is, it does not even begin to represent the number of people who can only find part-time employment. We need to rebuild this economy by creating jobs. We can start this job creation by resurrecting small businesses, which create nearly 60 percent of all jobs in this country. These businesses have suffered the brunt of this economic recession because of the lack of available capital.

One of the largest industries in the 10th District is construction. With the decline of the housing market, this industry has been hurt. We must provide and sustain increased levels of federal funds for winter weatherization of homes. We must provide increased tax credits for homes that install solar panels. This will reduce home energy consumption and create some of the jobs we need here in the 10th District.

These policies will not only help to stimulate the economy, but they will also help address the urgent environmental issues facing our country. I am committed to passing on a healthy and safe planet Earth to our children and grandchildren.

This is the time to make a difference. Together, we can get Congress working for the people once again. Together, we can make my vision a reality.

The 10th Congressional District has not had a Democratic congressman for 30 years. We need change, and we need it now.

I am the person to make that change. I will lead the Democratic Party past the primary and into Washington.

Join me in this campaign. Together, we can turn this district blue and get to work on fixing problems.

### Seals *continued*

develop sustainable practices and jobs for the future. And we should take a leadership position at the 2009 Climate Conference in Copenhagen and beyond to bring other countries with us into the fight against climate change.

It is important to note that policies like these must be achieved within the confines of our federal budget. Just as we are trying to reset our economy, we must also reset our government. Our solutions can't just be about more spending; they must be about smarter spending.

On a personal note, I would like to thank everyone who has helped me to develop the district-wide support that my campaign enjoys. I have taken the time to get to know the district, and the district certainly knows me. Indeed, there's not a better-known candidate running—from either party—and that will be a big help as we move into the new year. But there's still a lot of work to do. So if you haven't come out to volunteer yet, I hope you will stop by our offices soon. This has always been a grassroots campaign, and it just wouldn't be the same without you.

Please visit [www.dansealsforcongress.com](http://www.dansealsforcongress.com) for more information. Or stop by our Deerfield office at 405 Lake Cook Road.

## Perfect Lesson *continued from page 6*

Harry and David Rosen relate how some residents made anti-Semitic comments as well as comments critical of Quakers and Unitarians. One woman said, "We just can't afford to be democratic."

One of those who stood to speak was Ted Repsholdt who had begun work as a history teacher at Highland Park High School in 1954. With the construction of Deerfield High School completed in 1960, he was set to be the Chairman of the History and English Department in the new building. He was a resident of Deerfield and attended Zion Lutheran Church. Repsholdt hadn't planned to attend the meeting. His pastor asked him to go.

As a teacher, I always felt nervous speaking before a school board. I can hardly imagine what it must have been like to stand before a significant segment of the community, many of whom were also neighbors, fellow parishioners, and friends and, like a prophet of old, be a lone voice of righteousness.

What Repsholdt said simply was this: "I am a resident of Deerfield and teach your children American history. I'm Lutheran, and I'm in favor of an integrated community."

People in the crowd shouted, "Resign!" "Fire him!"

Repsholdt replied, as loudly, that there was a shortage of teachers, and "I'm not afraid of losing my job!"

Several people who agreed with Repsholdt's position later joined him to form the Citizens for Human Rights and tried to convince their neighbors to support integrated housing.

About two weeks after this meeting, the North Shore Residents Association conducted a village-wide poll. Its results showed that 87 percent of residents opposed the integrated development. By that time, the village had stopped construction of the first two houses due to alleged building code violations.

However, it seemed as if there were no legal means of stopping the

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## Perfect Lesson *continued from page 7*

development. That was when the Deerfield Park District decided to seek a referendum to use the land in question to build a park with a pool. It was to be part of an ambitious plan to acquire several properties throughout the district. Even though two recent referenda, which had asked for much less in taxes, failed and the community only had two weeks to consider the proposal, on December 21, the referendum passed by a 2-1 majority with an 80 percent turnout. Of course, the word integration was not on the ballot, yet residents knew what they were voting for or against. Using the power of eminent domain, the park district acquired the property (after a lawsuit) and created Mitchell Park at the northeast corner of Deerfield and Wilmot Roads. James Mitchell was head of the park district board and spearheaded the referendum and acquisition.

The houses where the village had placed stop-work orders eventually were built and became the homes of the new village manager and the superintendent of the park district.

Ted Repsholdt went on to be a teacher at Deerfield High School and later its principal. He resided in Deerfield for 51 years and currently lives nearby in a retirement community. When I asked why he stood up as a lone voice for human rights, he said that he didn't look at it that way. When he listened to others opposing integration, his response was sudden. He used the terms, "pure anger," "fed up," and "wasn't thought out." It was simply the instincts of a decent man.

He said he hadn't grown up in a particularly liberal environment but rather, during the Depression, as a poor kid from the "mill town" of Oshkosh, Wisconsin, where there was an "in-group," an "out-group," and one black family. Politically, he became pro-union and credits the

army for giving him the opportunity to associate with "liberal people."

When I asked him if his neighbors' concern that integration would lower property values was valid, he replied, "Racism governs your behavior. Property values is your defense." He argues, and his arguments are supported by research, that integration only hurts property values if people panic and sell.

He went on to explain that, for him, there were two main issues. The first was the Constitution. "People gave lip service to the Constitution, but when it came down to a core element [equal treatment], they backed off." The second dealt with what America's economic life is supposed to be about—free enterprise. Morris Milgram's desire to make money by building homes was rejected by the community. "That's hypocrisy."

Recently, Tina Kayne, a resident of Deerfield since 1992 and mother of two boys in the elementary and high school districts, has been working to commemorate this historical event. She's interested in historical preservation and "place making"—what makes a community unique. She loves Deerfield and wants to demonstrate how much has changed in 50 years. Although some of her friends and neighbors have been supportive, others feel that it's better to leave the past alone. One person even told her that the people of Deerfield "got it right" back in 1959.

The one who really got it right was Ted Repsholdt when he grew angry enough to stand up for what was right. As a social studies teacher, he couldn't have given his students a more valuable lesson in what it means to be an American and, even more importantly, what it means to be a human being.