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Tenth News

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Tenth Dems Holds Training in Lindenhurst About Getting Democrats to the Polls



It's never been more vital to the future of our country to elect Democrats. That's why Tenth Dems recently held training in Lindenhurst, and elsewhere in the district, so individuals could learn how to help get out the Democratic vote. The roundtable workshop focused on best practices in effective voter contact, door knocking and persuasion. Precinct Committeepersons, Democratic volunteers and potential volunteers

all attended the August 29th event to get ready for the Midterms. Lake Dems, Sixth Dems and Lake Villa Township Dems cosponsored this event with Tenth Dems. Every registrant received a list of Democrats in their precincts to use to get Democrats to the polls in November. This can really make a difference in a tight election because talking to voters face-to-face is the single most effective way to persuade voters to support a candidate.



Tips for New Precinct Committeepersons

By Joy Mix



Becoming a Democratic Precinct Committeeperson is one of the best ways to connect with other Dems and progressives in your community. And it's essential to getting more Democrats elected! For people new to the role or thinking about getting involved, here's some basic information about how this job works.

The Democratic Party of Illinois is organized at the state, congressional, county and township levels, with each level moving closer to the people. Each township is made up of smaller geographic areas called precincts. A Precinct Committeeperson (PC) is the grassroots canvassing base of the Democrats in the collar counties. Cook County has a different system.

As a PC, your job is to find Democratic and Democratic-leaning voters in your area, get them registered to vote and make sure they get to the polls. You also may try,

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depending on the makeup of your area, to persuade independent voters and even some Republicans to vote for Democrats. Here are 10 ways to get started:

1. Get a map of your precinct and a list of voters in your precinct from your Township Chair.
2. Walk or drive around to learn the characteristics of the neighborhoods, places to have meetings and distribute literature, etc.
3. Reach out to voters in your precinct. Introduce yourself by phone, mail or in person. Tenth Dems has great sample letters you can copy and modify.
4. Collect email addresses from voters who want to receive updates about candidates, events, etc. – and then provide updates on a regular basis!
5. Get candidate literature ... either from your Township Chair, your local Democratic organization, or by contacting the campaigns directly. Put together combined lit packs to share with your voters. Make it easy for your voters to find info about who is running and what they hope to do in office.
6. Canvass (knock on doors) in your precinct during each election cycle to pass out candidate literature and make sure voters are ready to vote and then DO vote.
7. Practice canvassing with experienced PCs or by volunteering with a specific campaign (if you aren't yet experienced or confident).
8. Provide information about how to register to vote or how to vote by mail, election dates and polling places, the candidates running in your area, and the candidates' positions on issues of interest in your area. Voting information can be found at <http://www.lakecountyil.gov/332/Voter-Services> (for Lake County) and <https://www.cookcountyclerk.com/agency/elections> (for Cook County).
9. Phone bank to find new volunteers or PCs (the more the merrier and more effective). You may want to partner with a neighboring person or group.
10. Set specific goals for your outreach (for example: # of voters contacted; % increase in the # of ballots cast in the election ... you can get past turnout information from the county clerk's website <http://www.lakecountyil.gov/317/Election-Results>)

Finally, do what you can and have some fun!

Joyce Mason: A Mom on a Mission

Joyce Mason is first and foremost a devoted mom to her two children – and this year, she is working even harder to make her community a better place for all of the kids and families in it. Joyce is running for State Representative in the 61st House District, which includes parts of Gurnee, Wadsworth, Lindenhurst, Lake Villa, Antioch, Zion, Winthrop Harbor, and Beach Park, along with small portions of other nearby towns.

Joyce has lived in our area for almost 20 years. During that time, she has volunteered on a number of Democratic campaigns, but always considered herself to be a behind-the-scenes supporter, and never imagined running for political office. But, after the 2016 presidential election, she recognized that we all need to do everything we can to protect our democratic values. She was elected to the Woodland District 50 Board of Education and named its vice president. Later, when she found herself continuously calling and writing to her own state representative to express concern over the incumbent Republican's voting record and positions on education, the state budget, property taxes, safety, healthcare, equality, women's rights, the environment, and organized labor, Joyce knew she needed to step up and fight for better representation for the people in her district.



Joyce also has had a long career in business as a Human Resources leader in the corporate, public, and non-profit sectors, specializing in employment, benefits, compensation, and training. While raising her children, she also worked as an independent Human Resources consultant and remained active in her field. Her business background makes her uniquely qualified to work on job creation plans, help small businesses, ensure equity in the workplace, protect pension plans, and create opportunities for affordable healthcare.

Joyce is also passionate about education. In addition to serving on the school board, she spent 15 years teaching graduate school courses in business, and spent three years guest teaching in an elementary school. As a mom, she has always volunteered in the classroom and advocated for education funding and educational equity in the community.

Joyce has been dedicated to community service throughout her life, volunteering in the schools, coaching in the park district, and working in the community for causes she believes in. As the daughter of an Army veteran, she was proud to volunteer as a guardian for Lake County Honor Flight and is committed to supporting veterans. She spent a number of years on the planning committee of the Gurnee/Wadsworth Relay for Life, a major community fundraiser for the American Cancer Society, and once elected, will work toward ensuring that funding for critical cancer screenings is not slashed. She serves on the Board of Directors of A Safe Place, an organization dedicated to helping victims of domestic violence while also providing education and advocacy. She was appalled when the Illinois budget crisis almost caused the organization to close its doors and will be committed to fighting for adequate funding of social services that improves the quality of life for suffering families. She also serves on the board of El Puente Latino, a Waukegan-based nonprofit that provides a food pantry and medical care to hundreds of families every month, and believes that hardworking people should be able to earn a living wage that allows them to feed their families and afford health insurance.

Joyce is running because she is dedicated to making sure that all people in the district have a voice. She wants to ensure that every child receives a good education – no matter what ZIP Code they live in. She will work for tax relief for middle class families and ensure that the most vulnerable in our community get the support that they need. She is determined to create jobs and expand career opportunities, expand vocational training and provide more opportunities for debt-free higher education. Joyce hopes to bring more clean energy to our district and will work to protect our lakes, drinking water, and the air we breathe.

If elected, Joyce will be the first Democrat to represent this legislative district. This “Mom on a Mission” believes she has the background, education, and dedication to make it happen and to be a voice for all residents of this diverse area.

Catching Up with Bob Morgan’s Campaign

By Allie McRaith



Bob Morgan, Democratic candidate for state representative, is a father, attorney, and healthcare advocate from Deerfield. Previously, he worked to implement the Affordable Care Act. Bob is committed to a balanced state budget that supports quality public schools and healthcare access for everyone. He will stand up for commonsense gun laws that can keep our communities safe and will always protect a woman’s right to choose. Bob is a fresh, independent voice for the North Shore, who will always put what’s best for our community first. Born and raised in Illinois by public school teachers, Bob and his wife Sonya live in Deerfield with their two children. Bob

is running to represent the 58th District, which includes Deerfield, Highland Park, Highwood, Lake Forest, Lake Bluff, Bannockburn and parts of Riverwoods, Northbrook, Glencoe and North Chicago.



November Election Congressional Outlook

By Laurence D. Schiller

We are now fewer than 60 days out from the midterm elections, and the signs are still very good, and getting better, for a Blue Wave in November. This is, of course, provided that Democrats remain energized and get themselves and their fellow Democrats out to vote. Complacency is the enemy of Democrats, as Republicans always seem to vote, but this election cycle has seen a higher level of energy amongst Democrats and higher turnout for special elections than has been seen in decades. This is a good sign, but will it be enough to flip both houses of Congress?

Let me address this in three ways. First, the general outlook; second, the outlook for the House, and third, the outlook for the Senate. In general, things are looking very good for Democrats. More House districts that have traditionally been deemed safe or likely Republican have been moved to the toss-up, or even lean Democratic

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category. The generic ballot poll, meaning how people would likely vote were the election held today, has been between 7-8% in the Democrats' favor.

The gender gap is growing as more and more women jettison Republicans who support an anti-woman agenda. According to recent polls, the gender gap has been averaging a whopping 24% in favor of Democrats. Women have been showing in special elections that they are not only voting but running for office in unprecedented numbers. And speaking of special elections, Democrats have flipped over 44 seats, ranging from the Senate seat in Alabama to legislative and court seats in areas where Trump won handily. This is certainly a good sign and signals that the middle of the electorate is rejecting Trump's racist and misogynist message.

Finally, perhaps the biggest thing favoring Democrats is Trump himself. Just this summer, he outraged the nation when it was learned that he had directed ICE to rip children, including infants, away from their asylum-seeking parents and when he acted as Putin's lap dog by calling our intelligence services liars in Helsinki. Then he went on to call the Russia probe a witch-hunt, even as Bob Mueller handed down indictment after indictment and began Paul Manafort's trial. Trump was proven a liar when he denied knowledge of the Trump Tower meetings, then Michael Cohen admitted that Trump did OK the meeting.. It seems as if the more Trump caters to his out-of-the-mainstream base, the more the middle falls away and Democrats vote.

But, all positive news aside, the reality is that local issues tend to win elections for members of Congress and senators. For the House, that reality still looks very good. As a general rule, the party in power nearly always loses seats in the first midterm after their president gets elected. This has been true in 41 of 44 midterms since the 1840s. The average loss has been 25 seats. The Democrats only need to flip 23 to take control of the House in 2018. In addition, there are 23 House districts that Hillary Clinton carried in 2016 that have sitting GOP members of Congress, nearly all of them in suburban districts, which have proven tough for Republicans to win in special elections in the past 18 months. Now, on the negative side, there has been a great deal of gerrymandering and voter suppression by the GOP. Nonetheless, there are still more than 40 districts in play that are in states where either gerrymandering won't be a factor or where extremely gerrymandered maps have been overturned by the courts, as in Pennsylvania. Many of these gerrymandered districts are well within the flippable margins of error, as we saw with Conor Lamb's election in Pennsylvania. In my honest assessment, it is extremely likely that the House will pass to Democratic control come November, a fact already acknowledged by Republican leadership, exemplified by Speaker Paul Ryan's cowardly exit. Some are predicting a Democratic surge of 60 seats or more. That may be overly optimistic, but it is likely that the necessary 23 seats will change hands.



The Senate is a much tougher nut to crack. For one thing, the numbers are very bad for Democrats. They have to defend 26 seats, 10 of which are in red states. There are only eight GOP seats up for grabs, four of which are certainly out of reach to begin with. Democrats currently control 49 seats, including independents who caucus with them, and they would have to retain all their seats up for election plus turn two GOP-held seats to gain a majority. A year ago, most pundits predicted that the Democrats were likely to lose three to six seats. That has changed some as Trump and the GOP have become less popular. Wisconsin, Michigan, Pennsylvania, and Ohio all voted for Trump in 2016, but these generally swing states now look to reelect their Democratic senators fairly safely. Tammy Baldwin of Wisconsin, for example, was a top target of the GOP but she is now generally leading in many polls by double digits. The other six red states are likely toss-ups. However, Joe Manchin in West Virginia has been gaining ground against his opponent. Sen. Heidi Heitkamp in North Dakota is also popular and is not hurt at all by the Koch brothers' (yes, those Koch brothers) refusal to support her GOP opponent

and decision to run ads in her favor. Missouri, Florida, Montana, and Indiana will all be tough races and are rated toss-ups, although Tester in Montana and Donnelly in Indiana are pretty popular, while Nelson in Florida is benefiting from a backlash against Governor Rick Scott's strong NRA stance in a state still reeling from the shootings in Parkland. Even very endangered Claire McCaskill (Missouri) is benefiting from a bruising GOP primary and a sex scandal in the governor's office.

In addition, the races in Nevada, Arizona (open seat), Tennessee (open seat), and Texas are more interesting for the Democrats than expected. The first two are considered toss-ups and the Democrats have been gaining ground. Nevada voted for Clinton and Arizona has had two GOP Senators who have been attacked by Trump (McCain and Flake) plus some fairly sketchy potential GOP candidates. Former Sen. Jon Kyl is filling the seat left vacant by Sen. John McCain's death, and two members of the U.S. House are competing for Flake's seat. If the Democrats have a chance to take back the Senate, U.S. Rep. Kyrsten Sinema must win. Polls in Tennessee are inconsistent, one half showing the Democrat, a very popular former governor, holding a lead and the rest indicating that the Republican is in the lead. It would be quite a coup for the Democrats to win that seat, but I wouldn't bank on it. Nor would I get overly excited about polls showing Ted Cruz in trouble in Texas. It's pretty unlikely that he will lose, but, of course, we can always hope. Nate Silver recently commented that the Senate is most likely going to remain in Republican hands, and I tend to agree. But he also feels that Democrats are surging and has given them a 40% chance of taking control. Much of this has to do with a state-by-state evaluation and with everything falling just the right way in November. Much of that will depend on Bob Mueller and Trump's actions in the next few months. In sum, there is a Blue Wave coming, certainly in the House. Unfortunately, the odds are still against it in the Senate. But, if Democrats work hard and get out the vote, there is a reasonable chance of winning both chambers.

Tenth Dems at the Illinois Democratic County Chairs' Association Brunch in Springfield



On August 16, 2018, dozens of Tenth Dems friends attended the Illinois Democratic County Chairs' Association Brunch in Springfield. The largest crowd in the history of the annual event packed the Crowne Plaza ballroom and overflow room to hear from Democratic candidates, officeholders, and activists. Tenth Dems Founding Chair Lauren Beth Gash, 2017 Party Builder Award recipient at last year's brunch, and Pat Davis managed the volunteer team that kept the inside of the ballroom organized amidst the excitement.

Illinois Democrats, including Senators Dick Durbin and Tammy Duckworth, Treasurer Mike Frerichs, and Comptroller Susana Mendoza, fired up the crowd, which is eager to make electoral gains in November to turn the state around. The top of the Democratic ticket, JB Pritzker and Juliana Stratton, pointed out the failures of Republican Bruce Rauner's time as Governor, the need to stand up for Democratic values in the Trump era, and the opportunity to win support throughout Illinois. State Representative Barbara Flynn Currie received the 2018

Party Builder Award. South Bend, Indiana, Mayor Pete Buttigieg gave the Keynote Address. “Mayor Pete,” as he’s often called, explained Rauner’s poor performance by saying, “When the governor was handed lemons, he miraculously took those lemons and turned them into a dumpster fire.”



At Activate IL-10, Brad Schneider Motivates Voters

Tenth Dems had a wonderful time at Activate IL-10, organized by our wonderful Congressman Brad Schneider. So many are fired up about our great Democratic candidates!



Meet Lake County Board Candidates Ready to Improve Lake County



Democrats gathered to support **Jessica Vealitzek** for Lake County Board. Jessica is a fighter who will be a terrific new voice in Lake County government.



Maria Peterson is running for Lake County Board to make government more accountable and responsive to the people.



Local activists gathered to support **Ed Gallagher** for Lake County Board. So many are fired up to help Ed win because he's going to be a terrific member of the board!



Let's make sure we elect **Julie Simpson for Lake County Board!**

Civic Engagement: It's a Family Affair!

By Holly Kim

I've spent the last seven years of my life either campaigning or in elected office. When I first ran for village trustee of Mundelein, the number one question I was asked was, "Why do you want to run for office?"

It was a great question, and one you'll get often if you ever decide to run for anything. I told them about my civic past with parents who were active in the Jaycees and the Chamber of Commerce. In fact, my father was president of both organizations for years. As a result of their dedication to improving their community, I spent my childhood being taken to dinners, meetings, award nights, fundraisers, and festivals. Not surprisingly, I continued to volunteer for many causes as an adult so I am moving from community service to public service.

I tell you that bit of history because, in walking door-to-door when I campaign, I sometimes bring one or more of my four kids. There are periods of time when we get to have heart-to-heart talks while walking in-between houses when they tell me about their crushes at school or funny stories about their teachers. Occasionally, I'll talk to people at the door who are pleasantly surprised to see my child with me who then remark that they



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too used to walk door-to-door for candidates with their parents.

I'm sure we've all met those people who say, "I've always voted Republican because my parents voted Republican." Are we doing the same to set the example for our kids? Democrats stand for equality. Democrats stand for loving your neighbor. Democrats fight for the American worker.

As civic groups are closing one by one due to lack of enrollment, I'm sure it's parallel to the drop-off in precinct committeepersons we've had for a while. If you don't drag a kid sometimes to do volunteer work, they won't learn by example or feel the nostalgia and pride for good works from civic engagement. I loosely say drag, because even as a kid I recall a few times I'd say, "Mom, can we go hooooooooome now?" However, by doing that type of service as a child, I talked to so many new people, learned patience, perseverance, and a love for serving the community. I don't think I would ever have considered running for office had it not been for the love for civic service planted in my heart during my childhood.

I even have a sign volunteer in his fifties who goes out in the freezing winter to pound rebar into the ground and hang my signs. I asked if he would like some help, but he refused. He said that it reminds him of spending time with his dad who used to be a village trustee but has since passed away. I make sure to involve my family in as many activities as possible. When the kids were younger, we would stuff mailers together or make candy bags for parades. Now, my older children call their friends to walk parades with us. I take my friends' daughters with mine to marches. It's gone from being just me – one person – to being five people (my family) – and our friends and their kids (now 20 to 50+ people). You can see how one Democrat can quickly become a legacy of many Democrats who are engaged civic participants, but who, most importantly, want to vote for equality, justice, and building bridges rather than walls.

The Blue Wave of the 2018 midterms lies on our shoulders. If we do not take to the streets, it will not happen! So remember to vote blue in every race down the ballot, and try to help candidates in any way you can by making calls, stuffing envelopes, talking to neighbors ... and bringing kids or grandkids with you. Leave a legacy that votes and fights for Democratic values!



Momentum Keeps Building to Elect John Idleburg Lake County Sheriff



John Idleburg for Lake County Sheriff, a terrific candidate with the character we need from our Lake County Sheriff. Idleburg has received endorsements from MoveOn, VoteVets.org, and the Illinois Fraternal Order of Police. “I am thankful to the Illinois FOP for recognizing that my experience and background makes me the right choice to be the next Lake County Sheriff. As a former federal law enforcement officer, the support and endorsement of my fellow men and women in blue is the ultimate honor.”

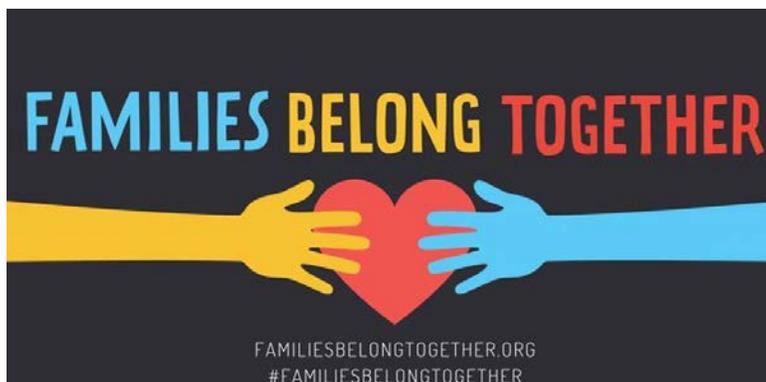
Tenth Dems Activists Plan on Reelecting Julie Morrison!

We need to keep Julie Morrison in the State Senate so we can continue to have a tireless advocate who reflects 10th District values.



March to Keep Families Together

By Emma Johnson



With more than 2,000 children still separated from their families as a result of Attorney General Jeff Sessions’ “zero-tolerance” immigration policy, an estimated 50,000 to 60,000 people took to the streets of Chicago on June 30 in protest. Beginning with a rally in Daley Plaza featuring over a dozen speakers, the marchers took a 1.3 mile route in the scorching heat. The Chicago march occurred alongside the approximately 700 planned sister protests nationwide.

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The march demonstrated the changing American attitude toward immigration, with people demanding a coherent immigration policy with clear pathways toward citizenship and humane treatment of asylum seekers. As Tenth Dems intern Arad Boxenbaum explained, “There was a really powerful energy at the rally, it was great seeing all the various groups converging for this.”



Spotlight on Libertyville Township

By Joyce Herres



Donald Trump’s election in 2016 galvanized Democrats around the country, including in Libertyville. Committeepersons are now at work in 20 of Libertyville’s 36 precincts. Many have come to meetings, activities and events, including helping to get petitions signed, participating in Libertyville Days and hosting a recent pancake breakfast. So far, the group has knocked on roughly 6,000 doors, speaking with about 1,800 people. The organization has filled its leadership spots with Joyce Herres in charge as chair, Sarah Grover as 1st vice chair, Matt Hickey as 2nd vice chair, Wayne Glickstern as treasurer, and Margaret Clark as secretary. For the first time in many years, Democrats

are on the ballot for all local positions. The group meets once a month at the Libertyville Civic Center, and is a great way to get involved for those interested in joining the Blue Wave.

Tenth Dems’ mission is to help develop Democratic infrastructure throughout the district. To that end, Tenth Dems held one of its Let’s Talk Politics discussions, a series of several local political conversations throughout the 10th District, at Cook Memorial Library in Libertyville to a standing room only crowd. This helped foster growing enthusiasm for Democrats in Libertyville, which is traditionally a Republican stronghold (though it went for Hillary.)

Moraine Township Democrats Annual Summer Party with Our Party

Juliana Stratton, JB Pritzker’s running mate, joined Moraine Township Democrats at their annual summer “Party with our Party.” She joined local activists and many local candidates at the event to galvanize the crowd to work hard to elect Democrats in November. Stratton was joined by State Senator Julie Morrison, Candidate for State Representative Bob Morgan, Lake County Board Commissioner Paul Frank, Candidate for Lake County Sheriff John Idleburg and Candidate for Lake County Treasurer Holly Kim.



How to Register and Vote in the November Election

By Nancy Krent

With the November 6, 2018, election fewer than 60 days away, it is important to make sure that we have as many voters registered as possible. We'll be electing a Governor and other statewide executive officers like Attorney General, Treasurer and Comptroller, members of Congress, County Board members, County Treasurer, Sheriff, and other offices. Illinois allows voters to register in person, by mail, or online. Regular voter registration ends 28 days prior to the election – which means that October 9th will be the last day for regular registration this year. After that date, grace period registration is still available through Election Day, but grace period registration must be done in person and at specified locations.

- If you're unsure whether you're registered, go to the State of Illinois voter registration look-up website, <https://ova.elections.il.gov/RegistrationLookup.aspx> and search by filling in your name, date of birth, and ZiP Code. You may also be prompted for your street address.

To register at any time up to and including October 9, 2018:

Online registration is available at www.elections.il.gov. To register online, you'll need: (1) your full Illinois driver's license or State identification card number, (2) the last four digits of your Social Security number, and (3) the date the Illinois driver's license or State identification card was issued.

You also can register by mail, but the registration must be postmarked no later than October 9th. The application can be downloaded at www.elections.il.gov.

To register in person, you can go to your County Clerk's or Township office. You may also be able to register at community events where a deputy voter registrar is present. To register to vote, bring two forms of identification – at least one must have your name and current address.

Grace Period Registration (also known as “same day” registration):

After October 9th, applicants must use “grace period” registration. Grace period registration must be done in person, and can be done at any early voting site in your county, or at your County Clerk's office. Voters who register during the grace period must present two forms of identification, just as they do during the regular registration period. Grace period registrants must vote at the time of registration. Voters who opt for grace period registration may find they have to wait in line at the polling place, so if you do not register by October 9, be sure to leave plenty of time when you go to a polling place to register and vote.

Voting by Mail, Early Voting, and Election Day Voting:

You may apply for a vote by mail application now. Mailed applications must be received by the election authority on or before November 1. A vote by mail application can be filed in person until November 5, the day before Election Day. To be counted, mail-in ballots must be postmarked no later than November 6.

Early voting at County Clerks' offices will be available starting September 27. Early voting at polling places throughout the county will open October 22. Tenth Dems will publish early voting locations and hours when they become available. Early voting will continue through November 5th.

You may vote in person at your assigned polling place on Election Day, November 6. Grace period (same day) registration will be available at all polling places.



Northside Democracy in Action Campaign Training

Lauren Beth Gash spoke at the Northside Democracy in Action annual 2018 campaign training, leading the workshop on creating and delivering a stump speech and participating in the closing panel.



Candidate for State Rep. **Trisha Zubert** is running to bring a new voice to state government.

We Gotta Fix This Broken System! There Are Good Candidates Who Could Do That

By Sheila Markin

Ask anyone what they think about Washington, D.C., and you will hear them say: “Congress is broken.” Hyper-partisanship and special interests are the two big reasons people say that Congress is so ineffective. Voters in this country understand these underlying reasons for the sorry state of our government. Many Americans voted for Trump, hoping that he would be a positive disrupter. Many thought he knew how to run a business. Maybe he could really fix our broken system. That was the hope. Now we know the truth.

Trump and his administration have been running our government for a year and a half, and most people can see clearly that putting Republicans in charge has not solved the problem and in fact, it has made the problem far worse. Trump plays only to his far-right base, which is a consolidated, smaller base, shrinking over time. Trump’s behavior both exhausts many people and enrages many others even if his shrinking base perpetually likes him. His chaotic policies and rhetoric are unsettling for most Americans as well as for the world. The policies are mainly designed to please the one percent, appease evangelicals and the right wing. In short, this administration is not listening to the mainstream American voter.

Recent Marist polls show Trump support is fading in the key midwestern states that put him over the top in 2016. Michigan, Minnesota and Wisconsin are showing an 8 to 12 point lead for Democrats in generic polling and very low approval ratings for Trump – between 36% and 38% with disapprovals in the range of 51% to 54% in these key states. Suburban women are particularly angry with this administration. But with Trump’s tariffs creating a

trade war, many farmers and business owners are getting fed up as well. Many of the so-called “Trump triers” are saying, “I tried it. I didn’t like it.”

We need to elect a group of new leaders who have a different mind-set and will work for policies that help all Americans, not just the one percent. We need people who are listening to Americans in their districts and will work for them. Fortunately, there are many exciting Democratic candidates who have both a collaborative and a more proactive mind-set. They could make a difference in Washington, D.C., but they have to get elected first. Some of the best of these new candidates are veterans. Some of these vets have seen combat; most have been entrusted with leadership roles and done well in those roles. They approach running for office as their way to give back to their country. One of these candidates is Josh Welle.

Josh is running in New Jersey’s 4th District, which is in the center of the state. Born in Trenton, and the son of a service-oriented family, Josh learned to put community first early in life. In high school, he joined ROTC and then went to the U.S. Naval Academy, where he was voted class president. He served for 12 years on active duty doing four deployments. He also held leadership roles as a strategic advisor and educator. He is a commander in the U.S. Navy Reserve. Josh was also an entrepreneur, founding and becoming the CEO of a software company in the government–tech sector. As if that wasn’t enough, Josh is also a published author. The book he co-authored, *Shadow of Greatness*, was a best seller and hailed by Tom Brokaw as a must-read. Josh has master’s degrees in international relations and business administration from the University of Maryland and a master’s in public administration from Harvard’s Kennedy School of Government.

Welle is a centrist in terms of his political beliefs. His district needs him to be a centrist if he is going to win with these voters. He has been running what he says is a “Conor Lamb” sort of campaign. Like Conor Lamb, Josh is listening to the voters in the district he wants to represent. He supports policies and ideas that directly help these voters.

New Jersey’s 4th district has been a conservative Republican stronghold, but anti-Trump sentiment has risen in this state and with enthusiasm on the side of the Democrats, there are enhanced opportunities for candidates in five NJ districts. Josh is in one of those districts, along with four other Democratic candidates running in New Jersey districts that are in play for the Democrats in November. These are the districts: NJ-2 (Jeff Van Drew is a strong contender for the seat of a former Republican who retired); NJ-11 (Mikie Sherrill, a former Navy pilot and Assistant U.S. Attorney); NJ-7 (Tom Malinowski who served in the Obama administration); NJ-3 (Andy Kim, another former Obama staff member.)

Josh’s race is one of the most competitive and important for the Dems if they are going to take the House in 2018. The Dems need to pick up 23 seats to gain a majority in the House. There are many key races in California, Pennsylvania and New Jersey, given the analytics and demographics reported by the Cook Political Report. When I asked Josh why he had gotten involved in this race, he spoke convincingly about how much service to his country means to him. As a veteran, he views running for Congress as another call to service. Josh won his primary on June 5th and will face off in November against the Republican incumbent, Chris Smith, who has held his seat for 38 years but has not held a town hall meeting in 24 years!

I asked Josh if he won this election, how he would be able to break through the partisan divide that exists today in Congress. “I will start with relationships. I would build relationships. That’s my leadership style. I’d be authentic to my training and life’s work.” When I asked Josh what he would say to the voters in his district about why he would be the right person for this job, he gave me this answer: “Millions of people have sacrificed for our country. They gave their lives. The sacrifice was never for a political party. They gave their lives for the ideals of our democracy. For me service is first. If elected, I will be a servant-leader. I will always put public service first. We need a new generation of leaders who have that resolve.” He is right.

To read more by this author, check out her blog at <https://markinreport.com/>

Tenth Dems 2018 Summer Interns

By Kelsey Carido and Adam Elkins, 2018 Tenth Dems interns

This summer, more than 20 interns have had the opportunity to grow in their political experience and grassroots organizing by joining Tenth Dems Interns of 2018. Tenth Dems has given these students the chance to work closely with various candidates and other key Democratic allies within the closely watched 10th District and beyond. They organize events, conduct research, facilitate meetings, analyze data, and become comfortable with the ever-changing political process. By being immersed with like-minded peers, interns are able to learn from each other and form a base network of local leaders, elected officials, activists and peers that will benefit them in whatever field they decide to pursue in their future. Many of our former interns move on to politics-related fields and positions with elected officials across the country. Our interns have had the opportunity to participate in countless projects and events and will surely do great things! Our interns are high school, college and graduate students.

Meet some of our 2018 interns!

Arad Boxenbaum is a rising senior at Stevenson High School, where he participates in his high school band, choir, and theatre programs, and he has interned with Tenth Dems for two summers. He supports the Democratic Party because it fought hard for his family to enter the United States and supports unions, LGBTQ rights, healthcare, and many other policies. He plans to major in political science in college with a minor in international relations, communications, or public policy, and he plans to work for campaigns while studying as well. At some point, he would like to run for office and hopefully represent the 10th Congressional District.

Kelsey Carido is a rising freshman at Stanford University. In high school, she was involved in Future Business Leaders of America, Junior State of America, and many other clubs. She plans to major in international relations with a minor in human rights and has her eyes set on the possibility of law school in the future. She supports the Democratic Party on the basis of its values of equality and support for everyone.

Katie Chyna is a rising sophomore at the University of Minnesota in the Twin Cities. Though she is interning for her first summer with Tenth Dems, she has been a volunteer for years. She's a member of Alpha Omicron Pi and the Student Democrats Club, and was a member of the Junior State of America debate club in high school. She is double majoring in global studies and political science, with a minor in French. She supports the Democratic Party because it advocates for refugees, minorities, workers, and progressive values in general. She aspires to go to law school to study human rights, and her dream job is to work in a French embassy or for the United Nations.

Adam Elkins is a rising senior at Stevenson High School. There, he's involved with Model UN, Debate, Marching Band, and is a founding member of the SHS Knitting Club. He also interns with Daniel Didech's state representative campaign, canvassing and phone banking. He supports the Democratic Party because he believes that it's up to us Democrats to protect our rights and values, and to ensure a better, progressive future for all. He plans on going to college to major in political science, to work in government and potentially to run for office.

Olivia Fish is a rising senior at Deerfield High School and is thrilled to be interning for Tenth Dems this summer. She is the President of Model UN and Student Congress and is involved in various other extra curriculars. She supports the Democratic Party because she shares its values to support equal rights and promote tolerance and acceptance for everyone. She plans to attend college next fall and hopefully to pursue law school and a career in foreign affairs.

Alex Gordon will be a sophomore at New Trier High School next year. He has previous political experience phone banking for Hillary Clinton in the 2016 election, and supports the Democratic Party because he agrees

with its policies, especially on guns, LGBTQ rights, international relations, and the environment. He is on the New Trier Math Team and the Model UN team, and also plays guitar. He doesn't yet know what he wants to major in, but he wants to go into either finance or politics.

Luc Gudmundson is a rising senior at Vernon Hills High School. He has also volunteered with the JB Pritzker campaign. Luc believes that the Democratic Party is the more empathetic of the two parties, that Democrats truly seem concerned about the welfare of everyone, even if they do not have the same nationality, citizenship, race, or religion. In the future, Luc hopes to major in international relations or political science with the possibility of attending law school.

Alec Heilizer interned in the spring as well as summer and attends Rochester University. He is majoring in history and is an aspiring author and playwright. He supports the Democratic Party because it embodies the ideals of hope, freedom, and acceptance that this country was founded on and thrives on, and he would like to become a lawyer and continue to work for Democratic candidates.

Drew Hopkins is excited to be an intern at Tenth Dems. He is a rising junior at Libertyville High School and is involved in Debate, Mock Trial, Model UN, and Student Council. Drew believes in helping people to achieve their basic needs, which is why he supports the Democratic Party. He hopes to attend a four-year university with a major in history and political science and to work for the federal government in D.C.

Danny Ivanov is a second-year law student at George Washington University and graduated from the University of Miami with a degree in Economics, Political Science, and History. In law school, he's involved with basketball, fishing, Best Buddies, and the College Democrats. This is his second summer interning with Tenth Dems, and he has worked as a field organizer on several campaigns in Florida and Illinois. He supports the Democratic Party because he believes that we need to end the insanity of the last 18 months, and he plans to run for public office.

Prajnaa Jain is a returning intern this summer at Tenth Dems and is a rising senior at Glenbrook North High School. She is the president of GBN's Feminism Club, a member of its Student Board and World Language Honor Society board, and a peer mentor. She led a walkout against gun violence and takes part in the Northbrook Youth Commission. Prajnaa supports the Democratic Party because of its support of immigrants, refugees, disabled people, women, and minorities. She plans to major in international relations, and to travel abroad to India or Africa to use her education and skills to improve the local standard of living.

Melanie Ji is a rising senior at Glenbrook North High School, where she participates in Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America, DECA, Open Forum, Debate, Speech, Cross Country, and Badminton. She supports the Democratic Party because of its stance on women's rights. She believes equal pay and reproductive rights are especially pressing issues amidst the Me Too Movement and the expectation that *Roe v. Wade* will be in jeopardy once Brett Kavanaugh joins the Supreme Court.

Emma Johnson is a rising senior at Lake Forest High School and a returning Tenth Dems intern for her second summer. She is the Secretary General of the LFHS Model UN, the president of environmental club, the founder of the LFHS environmental commission, a teen court attorney/juror, an orchestra executive board member, National Honor Society/cum laude, and a voting member of the Lake Bluff Sustainability Council. She supports the Democratic Party for its progressive policies and to ensure a sustainable future for all. She plans to double major in environmental studies and political science and then to go to law school to become an environmental lawyer.

Spencer Johnson has interned at Tenth Dems since December, 2017. He graduated from Glenbrook North High School and will be attending the University of Wisconsin-Madison in the fall, where he plans on majoring in political science. He is involved with his school's policy debate team and would like to work in public policy

in the future, potentially including running for office one day. He supports the Democratic Party because he believes it is the current champion of modern liberalism in America.

Jessica Li is a rising junior at Libertyville High School, where she is involved in debate, Model UN, ballet, and the Libertyville Environmental Action Force (LEAF). She supports the Democratic Party because progressive and liberal values are important to her. She hopes to major in political science because she is interested in law and government.

Stephanie Potts graduated from Glenbrook North High School and is now a rising junior at Syracuse University, where she is majoring in Public Affairs and Communication Studies. She was a communications intern for a New York state senator and works with other students at SU to register voters. Stephanie is involved with Habitat for Humanity, Democracy Matters, and a community center. She supports the Democratic Party because she supports acting to prevent climate change, preserve women's rights, and improve the public school system. After graduation, she hopes to work as a political consultant.

Orli Sheffey was a previous intern for Tenth Dems and has now stepped into the role of Intern Coordinator. She is a rising junior at Deerfield High School who plans on double majoring in English and political science in college and then on attending law school. She is the president of Deerfield's Hebrew Honors Society and of GEM (Gender Equality Movement), runs cross-country and Model UN, and tutors at Deerfield's Academic Resource Center. She supports the Democratic Party because she believes that by promoting equality and fighting apathy, the party works to create a better world for everyone.

Sophie Smulevitz is a rising junior at Lake Forest High School. She interned this spring and returned to intern at Tenth Dems. At LFHS, she plays on the soccer team and is a member of Model UN. Sophie supports the Democratic Party because she strongly agrees with democratic values. After high school, she would like to go to college and major in political science before attending law school.

Lex Verb She graduated from Deerfield High School and will be attending Kenyon College, where she plans to double major in political science and English. In high school, she was involved with Model UN, Debate, Student Council, DECA (a career development competition), and field hockey. She supports the Democratic Party because its platform, candidates, and mission represent the policies she values. Lex plans to attend law school, and one day, live and work in D.C.

Joshua Yang has become an intern with Tenth Dems after volunteering last summer. He is a rising senior at Glenbrook North High School and has experience starting a club, called Open Forum, centered around fostering rational and civil political discussion. He supports the Democratic Party because he believes that its platform can positively impact our nation and the world as a whole. Josh has multiple future goals, including being an economist, business executive, philanthropist, elected representative or a diplomat – all with the aim of making the world a better place!

Rebecca Yang is a rising sophomore at Carnegie Mellon University and graduated from Deerfield High School. She plans to major in mathematics. At CMU, she's a teaching assistant and is involved with lighting design. While in college, Rebecca also canvassed for Democrat Conor Lamb, who recently won a tough special election in Pennsylvania. She supports the Democratic Party because she thinks it has a better platform, better policies, and better candidates who actually care about those whom they represent. She plans on eventually working for FiveThirtyEight or as a strategist, and on working with Tammy Duckworth.

While Trump Sleeps Like a Baby, His Zero-Tolerance Policy Is a Humanitarian Disaster

By Steven Gan

I'd like to tell you a story about a former employee I had back in the early 80's. Her name was Maria, and I hired her as a 17-year-old intern. She was a senior in a Chicago public high school, was originally from Guatemala, and showed a real frontier-spirit-like enthusiasm. After graduating high school, she continued working for us for the next seven years until one day she ran out the back door. Not knowing immediately what happened, one of the office staff told me that when two gentlemen from immigration showed up, Maria overheard the reason for their arrival and bing bang bong, flew out of the place like Ricochet Rabbit.



About six months later, Maria showed up at the office. She was newly married. At that time her status, as the spouse of an American, gave her and her mother and brother some legal cover. I asked why she was undocumented in the first place, and she told me her frightening story.

When she was 10 years old, Maria's father was killed in front of her by a gang that had descended on her small village because villagers had refused to help the gang in their cocaine enterprise. The next morning, her mother took her and her brother out of the village with only the clothes on their backs, running away to escape the endless violence and terror. From Guatemala, they entered southern Mexico and eventually rode on the top of the train, El Norte, for two weeks until they arrived in Tijuana, just opposite California on the border. Maria's mother was determined to get into the United States no matter how dangerous and difficult it would be. After all, who wouldn't be running next door, down the street, across town, or over to another country if it was absolutely necessary to keep yourself and your family safe?



After a few months in Tijuana, Maria's mother earned money to pay a "coyote" to take them across the border. Their journey started out in a very large abandoned sewer pipe that traversed the U.S.-Mexico border. The "coyote" told them that they would have to go through this pipe for a distance of about two miles, and he would meet them on the other side. He gave them a flashlight, some water, and wished them luck.

Very quickly, the pipe narrowed, and they went from walking to crawling on



all fours, and then on their bellies, moving very slowly together only by inches at a time. About halfway into the pipe, they were confronted by a pack of rats and Maria and her brother were bitten all over their bodies and faces. After a couple of hours, they made it to the other side and the “coyote” was there. It was miraculous that he had not abandoned them, as many certainly do.

The “coyote” brought them to a migrant camp, and the following day they were trucked out to tomato fields where they worked the next few months, 14 to 16 hours per day, harvesting tomatoes. Even though it was backbreaking work, they felt a sense of freedom. However, due to the rat bites, Maria and her younger brother became very sick with rat bite fever. Fortunately, they recovered.

Eventually, they reached Chicago, where they had a relative with whom they could live. Maria and her brother entered school, and her mother went to work cleaning homes. They remained undocumented, living in the shadows, for the next 10 years or so until Maria’s status finally changed. Without question, her mother’s hard work, a place to live, and a safe country is why they survived. One day, through Facebook, I was contacted by Maria, and I was so pleased to learn how she had flourished. She was the head of the accounting department at her company, still married and now with grown children and grandchildren. Her brother served in the U.S. military and became a military doctor. Her mother retired from cleaning homes.

I think you can see where this story is going. Maria and her family came to our country because they had no other place to go. They also believed the United States was a safe haven, and for them and so many others, it has been.

When our president unilaterally decided to separate children from their parents at the beginning of June, he launched a cruel policy that tramples on the weakest. “This will teach those illegal aliens not to ‘infest’ our nation!” “I’ll show America and the world how to be tough!” So many very young children were placed in holding cages, crying, lonely, scared, and traumatized by the ordeal. The authorities separated thousands of children without taking the time to write down their names, their parents’ names, and all other identifying information. It was a careless and destructive policy.

Did Trump care? Not on your life! And although he probably stuffed his mouth with his favorite food, went to bed, and slept like a baby, I pray each night before I wake, the House and Senate, we (Dems) must retake!

