

Lake County Democrats Pleased Former Sheriff Curran Giving Up Fight to Overturn Election

On August 3, Republican former Sheriff Mark Curran announced that he gave up the fight to overturn the result of the 2018 general election. Lake County Sheriff John Idleburg ran a great campaign, won more votes in November, and took the oath of office in December. For the last eight months, he has been serving and protecting the people of Lake County with distinction.

Last fall, Curran asked for a discovery vote recount, which was held in late 2018. Many precincts were recounted, but the outcome did not change. The process was time-consuming. Nevertheless, Mark Curran went to court to try yet again. A partial recount at the Lake County Clerk's Office in Waukegan began on Thursday, August 1. Numerous attorneys and trained members of the Tenth Dems' Election Protection Team familiar with election procedure volunteered their time to participate alongside Republican observers to make sure the counting process was done fairly.

Idleburg attorney Ed Mullen said, "Election contests have become very rare and difficult to win with modern election technology, and the recount process here not only confirmed Sheriff Idleburg's election victory but also the accuracy and professionalism of the Lake County Clerk's Office."

Lauren Beth Gash, an Idleburg attorney and Lake County Democrats' Vice-Chair, said, "This news makes perfectly clear that John Idleburg was the preferred candidate in Lake County. We appreciate that County Clerk Robin O'Connor and her staff skillfully managed a complex process. Voting rights are fundamental to our democracy, so every person entitled to vote should be allowed to vote and have their properly-cast vote counted."

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Lake County Sheriff
John Idleburg

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Tenth Dems Turns Out to Hear Speaker Pelosi at the Annual IDCCA Brunch in Springfield

So many Tenth Dems friends were in Springfield for the Illinois Democratic County Chairs' Association (IDCCA) Brunch. On August 14th, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, the highest-ranking woman in U.S. government history, spoke to an enthusiastic crowd at the brunch in Springfield. Two years ago, our Tenth Dems Founding Chair Lauren Beth Gash, spoke at the brunch about the importance of organizing as Democrats when she was named a Party Builder of the Year by the IDCCA.

The IDCAA gathering rallies Democratic officials and activists, including many Tenth Dems, and was especially important this year as we all get ready for the 2020 elections. The group assists volunteers, county chairs and precinct committee-persons and also trains potential candidates. In fact, our very own State Representative Joyce Mason was featured in an IDCCA video played across the whole state. We're so proud of you, Joyce!





Congressman Schneider Demands Oversight of the NRA—Thank You, Brad!

On August 21, Congressman Brad Schneider, a member of the Democratic majority on the House Ways and Means Committee, requested that the National Rifle Association’s (NRA’s) long-time public-relations firm, Ackerman McQueen, turn over documents needed to determine if the organization’s tax-exempt status should be revoked.



In a letter to CEO Revan McQueen, Schneider requested that the firm make public documents on seven topics, including purchases of clothing and travel expenses, gifts, benefits, or other tangible items of value for NRA leadership, as well as information related to the contemplated purchase of a multi-million dollar home in the Dallas suburbs for NRA CEO Wayne LaPierre. The letter also seeks

information regarding Ackerman McQueen’s financial relationship with former NRA board member Lt. Col. Oliver North, as well as answers about the firm’s invoicing practices to the NRA.

As Schneider told CNN in an interview, “We’ve heard allusions to many of the things that are in this letter, but not the details. We’ve seen so much self-dealing and what I would call outside-the-lines activity. I believe we’ve just scratched the surface.”



For information or to volunteer, Email us: newsletter@tenthdems.org Visit us: www.TenthDems.org Call us: 847-266-VOTE (847-266-8683) Write us: Tenth Dems P.O. Box 523 Deerfield, IL 60015	Editor: Amy Shriberg Editorial Staff: Barbara Altman, Hon. Lauren Beth Gash, Eric Herman, Janie Seiden, Allan Sperling Contributor: Commissioner Debra Shaw Layout: Thomas Recht Distribution: Roger Baron, Joe Bongiovanni, Ron Schwartz	The opinions expressed are those of the writers, and not necessarily endorsed by Tenth Dems.
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Calling All Democrats in Lake County and Northern Cook County

Here is a great opportunity as we move toward electing a Democrat to the White House in 2020! Lake County and northern Cook County Democrats: attend an information session on September 25th to find out more about the delegate process, how to get involved, and how to help us build a pool of delegates in Illinois.

The 90-minute information session is on September 25th at 6:00 PM at Greenbelt Cultural Center, 1215 Green Bay Road, North Chicago.

Sign up at tenthdems.com/delegateinfo.

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Interested in being a delegate to the Democratic National Convention?
Attend the Democratic Party of Illinois Delegate Information Session
 Delegates play a significant role in selecting the Democratic presidential nominee and shaping the Democratic Party's platform and policies.

September 25th
6:00pm - 7:30pm
Greenbelt Cultural Center
1215 Green Bay Road, North Chicago

Sessions will be wheelchair accessible. ASL services for the hearing impaired are available upon request.
 MORE INFORMATION : WWW.DEMOCRATICPARTYOFILLINOIS.COM/INFOSESSIONS/
 PAID FOR BY THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF ILLINOIS



Senator Durbin Brings His Message of Democratic Leadership to 10th District

Local Dems heard from U.S. Senator Dick Durbin at a gathering hosted by Highland Park Mayor Nancy Rotering. Sen. Durbin's leadership stands in stark contrast to the unreasonable, immoral, incompetent presidency of Donald Trump and Mitch McConnell's toxic game-playing. We're lucky to be represented by Senator Durbin, who fights for

our values rather than enabling this out of control President. Dick Durbin is a leader on the issues that matter to us such as a woman's right to choose, gun violence prevention, and protecting our environment.

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Get Your Buttons and Signs from Tenth Dems

Get your “Hate Has No Home Here” sign for \$5 (the money goes to help elect Democrats) and stand up to the negativity! \$5 per sign if you arrange to pick them up. In some cases, delivery may be available for an extra charge. Contact us if you need that. Sign holders available free of charge.

Order buttons and signs at tenthdems.org/store.



In Memoriam: Dottie Palombo

Some sad news—one of our earliest Tenth Dems activists and friend, Dottie Palombo, passed away in August.

Dottie helped form Tenth Dems. Several of our Tenth Dems meetings were held in her home. Dottie helped us on many fronts. She was a volunteer manager. She was the originator of our button sales program and managed it for years (ordering/inventory managing/getting buttons to street fairs and events, etc.). She was our database manager for years as well, later becoming candidate Dan Seals’ database manager, and then Congressman Brad Schneider’s database manager.

Dottie Palombo was a treasured member of our Democratic family, and we will miss her very much. We send condolences and love to her husband, Joe Palombo. A memorial service was held on August 21st. Among those invited to share their memories of Dottie were Tenth Dems Founding Chair Lauren Beth Gash and 10th District Congressman Brad Schneider.

Tenth Dems has lost a foremother who helped build what we are today. Her life touched so many. In her honor, especially at this time in our history, we will redouble our efforts to fight on to honor our shared Democratic values.



How to Make Northern Illinois More Like a Sponge to Offset Climate Change

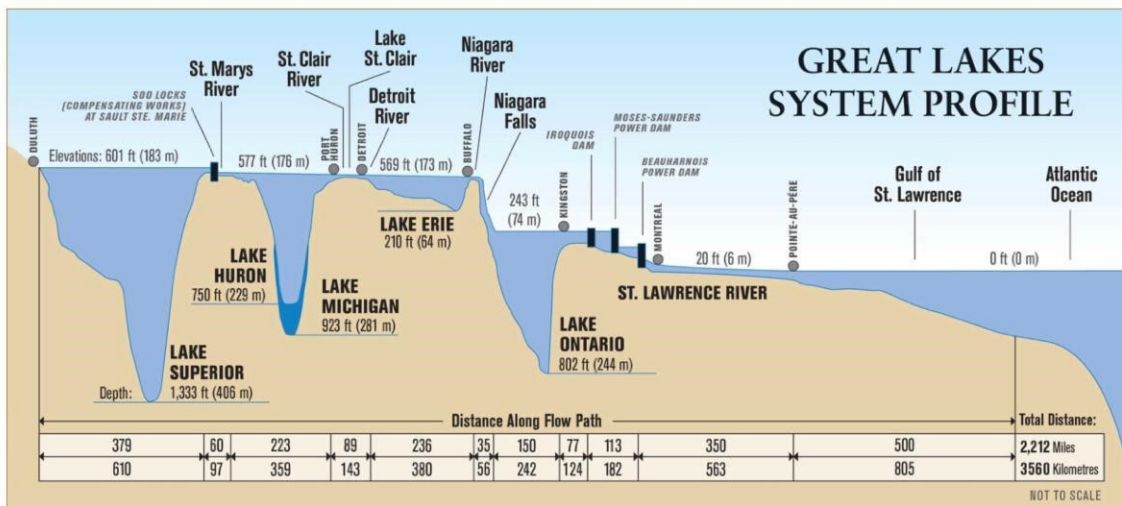
By Debra Shore, Metropolitan Water Reclamation District Commissioner

Anticipating World Water Week (which was Aug. 25-30), I was reading a deeply sobering book by Jeff Goodell titled “The Water Will Come: Rising Seas, Sinking Cities, and the Remaking of the Civilized World.” Most of the climate scientists Goodell spoke with in researching his book—geologists, hydrologists, glaciologists—acknowledged that the estimate by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change of sea levels rising by 3 feet 2 inches by 2100 is far too low. Some of them think an estimate of a 6-foot rise is still too low.

Professor Jason Box is studying whether soot from massive wildfires—in California last year, in Brazil now—is being lofted into the jet stream and drifting onto ice in Greenland, darkening the snow and ice, accelerating melting, and contributing to sea-level rise.

Closer to home, the period from May 2018 to April 2019 was the wettest 12-month period on record for the continental United States. May 2019 was the wettest May ever in Cook County (with 8.25 inches of rain). We witnessed widespread flooding of farm fields throughout the Midwest with significantly diminished yields projected, barge traffic halted on the Mississippi due to high flows, and water levels in the Great Lakes reaching monthly highs in June and July. The water level in Lake Michigan has risen nearly six feet since January 2013—a full 15 inches since a year ago at this time—and is a mere eight inches below its all-time high. (By the way, that six foot increase in the water level of Lake Michigan and Lake Huron—they’re connected—equals 55.9 trillion gallons of water. Oooooof.)

People have asked me whether the projected increase in sea-level rise in the Atlantic Ocean will mean higher levels in the Great Lakes. The answer is “No,” and the illustration here shows why.



A product of Michigan Sea Grant. Notice how Lake Michigan and Lake Huron share the same surface, and how high they sit above the Atlantic Ocean.

Lake Erie sits at about 568' above sea level. Erie drains through the Niagara River into Lake Ontario, which is at 243' above sea level. Any rise in sea level in the Atlantic would have to climb up Niagara Falls (167' at Horseshoe Falls). A rise in the level of the Atlantic, while

deeply problematic for cities, naval bases, people and wildlife along the East Coast, will not cause a rise in the Great Lakes.

What we can expect to see—indeed are already experiencing—are warmer air temperatures for the Great Lakes region. These higher temps mean bigger storms dumping a lot of rain, as well as higher rates of evaporation from the lakes. Thus, we may expect to see large fluctuations in lake levels happening more frequently.

How can we become more like a sponge, less like a parking lot? That's the question before us. According to a study by the U.S. Geological Survey, 7.5 percent of the land area in Cook County is covered by parking lots. That comes to 71 square miles of impervious surface (and doesn't include the additional surface area covered by roads, driveways, sidewalks, and buildings.)

How do we peel back some of the concrete skin we've laid over the landscape and make our cities more spongy, more able to absorb rain and refill our groundwater aquifers? I have some ideas, but what are yours? Send them to me at ShoreD@mwr.org. No idea is too large, too small, or too wild. I'll compile them and share them in a future newsletter. (Your creative ideas shouldn't be stored in the cloud—let them rain down like a mighty river!)



Democratic Legislators Score High Marks on the Environment

It's great to see so many Democrats in our area with a 100% score from the Illinois Environmental Council. Nice job, State Senator Terry Link, State Senator Melinda Bush, State Representative Jonathan Carroll, State Representative Daniel Didech, State Representative Mary Edly-Allen, State Representative Robyn Gabel, State Representative Jennifer Gong-Gershowitz, State Representative Joyce Mason, State Representative Bob Morgan, State Representative Mark Walker, and State Representative Sam Yingling!





Paid for by the Illinois Tenth Congressional District Democrats (www.tenthdems.org)