

# PRO **vote** NEWS

## Progressives Win Big on Election Day

In a direct rejection of the failed Blunt policies, Missouri voters elected progressive candidates up and down the ticket. Here are Pro-Vote's highlights:



Jay Nixon

**Jay Nixon's** resounding victory in the Governor's race with 58.4% of the vote. **Jay** campaigned to restore Medicaid funding and turn the page on the disastrous Blunt years. Progressives can be assured that with **Governor-Elect Jay Nixon** will do everything in his power to make restoration of the Medicaid funding a priority.

**Clint Zweifel's** election as our next State Treasurer with 50.5% of the vote. **Clint** is a former Pro-Vote Board Member and our 2008 Outstanding Legislator. With his strong labor background and proven progressive voting record, Missouri again has a State Treasurer who will work for all of us.



Clint Zweifel



Margo McNeil

**Margo McNeil** sweetened Clint's Victory because she held the seat in the State House that Clint vacated. When Clint first won this seat from a Republican incumbent in 2002, it was by only 67 votes. By contrast, **Margo McNeil**, a teacher, won the district with almost 59% of the vote!

**Jill Schupp** won the seat that Sam Page has represented since 2002. Jill's victory is a vital progressive hold in St. Louis County. Like her predecessor, **Jill** has the right mix of intelligence and compassion to make a great Representative in Jefferson City.



Jill Schupp



Kenny Biermann

**Kenny Biermann** defeated a right-wing incumbent by 74 votes! This exemplary progressive win stands out as **Kenny** is the only Democrat of 9 State Representatives in St Charles. **Biermann's** victory by 74 votes shows the importance of every single door knock and phone call you made!

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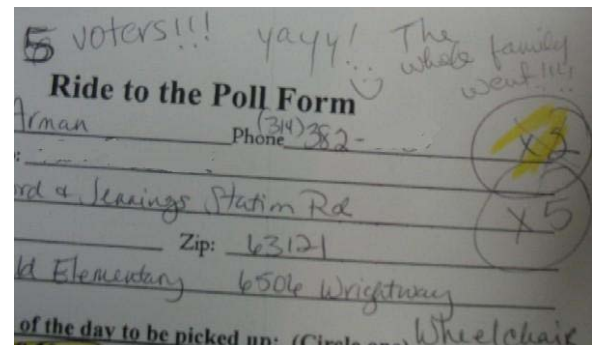
## Giving Rides: Every Voter to Their Poll!

The Pro-Vote Office in St. Louis bustled with activity on Election Day. While providing support for candidates and ballot propositions, Pro-Vote staff and volunteers organized & gave rides to the polls for any voter in need.

With leaders & members from the Communication Workers of America and volunteers, the Pro-Vote team provided more than 67 people rides to the polls in St Louis & St. Charles. Bradley Harmon, the newly elected President of CWA 6355 said, "Our members were so excited to be a part of this effort. Many of the people we talked to were elderly or disabled. If we hadn't helped them find rides, they simply would not have been able to vote."

Every person that Pro-Vote reached out to through Get Out the Vote Weekend (Nov 1st—3rd) and Election Day (Nov 4) was asked if they needed help finding their polling place or getting there. Pro-Vote has always worked to ensure any voter we registered can Get Out and Vote; we will even take you to your poll!

Maude Bauschard, Program Director for US Action, organized and dispatched the rides. As Ben Murray, Pro-Vote's Political Director explains, "Pro-Vote is the Missouri affiliate for US Action, a Washington, DC based, national progressive organization. When I got the call that Maude, a Saint Louis native, would be available to fly in for the last week of the Election, I jumped at the opportunity. Missouri is a battleground state every election, and we are always looking for ways to bring national resources and talent here."



This request for a ride to the polls for a person bound to a wheelchair grew to five people—the whole family voted!

## DIRECTOR'S CORNER by Joan Suarez



We have victories to celebrate! Two key victories demonstrate a core belief at Pro-Vote: **progressive candidates win when they run as progressives.** Throughout Missouri, only two

candidates, Pro-Vote targeted progressives Chris Kelly (Boone County) and Kenny Biermann (St Charles County), unseated right-wing Republican incumbents!

Statewide, both Pro-Vote targeted candidates won — Rep Clint Zweifel for State Treasurer, and Jay Nixon for Governor. We are thrilled that Clint, Pro-Vote's Legislator of the Year in 2008 & a Pro-Vote targeted candidate since 2002, pulled ahead of his opponent to win the State Treasurer's race with 50.5% of the vote! Also, Proposition B, creating the Quality Home Health Care council, handily passed with 75.3% of the vote.

Pro Vote staff, interns and volunteers made all this (and more) possible. And you did too with your generous donations to fund the work we do in recruiting and electing progressive candidates statewide and district, by district.

While we are celebrating these victories, however, we recognize we lost some races, too. Missouri did not become as progressive as we had hoped; we did not turn Missouri from "red" to "blue." We only made it to "purple." We must accomplish vital work in 2009 to be ready to win the State House of Representatives 2010!

2010 can be a "turning" year for Missouri — a jump start down a more progressive road. Because 2010 is a census year, the State House will then re-district Missouri. Ensuring progressives control creating the re-districted map that Missouri will use for the next 10 years is pivotal. Due to term limits, 2010 will create more than 50 open seats, offering progressives vital opportunities to capture the State House.

Pro-Vote is dedicated to building progressive capacity to win across Missouri. Pro-Vote's Board of Directors is ready to support the staff and the program. Volunteers are looking to work on Pro-Vote projects. And we have you---all of you who have so amazingly supported Pro-Vote over the years with your gifts of time and money.

## 25,526 New Voters Registered and Got Out to Vote!

Between November 17<sup>th</sup> 2007 and October 8<sup>th</sup> 2008, Pro-Vote successfully registered 25,526 new voters! Pro-Vote's voter registration drive took place all over St. Louis City and County. Metro transit and bus stops, health clinics, social service offices, schools, barbershops, beauty salons, laundry mats, and low-income apartments are just a few places we went. From ice storms in January to the dog days in August, you could always find a Pro-Vote Voter Registrar just around the corner!

To have success like this requires full time dedicated staff and Pro-Vote wants to honor their service to the progressive community. Both returning from previous years' of voter registration service, Mr. Brasil Weekly registered 5,732 voters and Gwenett Gregory registered 4,145. More voter registrars include Barbara Pippens (2,883), Allen Simmons (2,846), LaDeric McDonald (1,736), Jasmine Gregory (1,344), Antoinette "Toni" Rice (977), Lizabeth Smith (956), Tom Simmons (813), and many others. Over 1,000 cards were gathered by volunteers!



Jasmine Cooper Getting Out the Vote on Election Day. She, staff, and volunteers contacted 5,889 voter's households.

Getting out the Vote for these new registrants started the day after the deadline to register. The voter registration staff were joined by Jasmine Cooper, Regina Turner, Marita "Tyi" Echols, Jason Parker, Bonnie Viley, Justin Whiggam, Alycia Netles, & Claudia Netter and began hand billing at metro stops & health clinics. We called 93,294 voters registered by Pro-Vote and other progressive groups since 2000. On Election Day alone, we reached 5,889 voter's households to remind them to vote. 97.6% said "YES! I Voted!"

## Webster University Students Create "Get-Out-The-Vote" Posters Using Pro-Vote Logo

Art design students taught by Jon Cournoyer, St. Louis Art Museum Creative Art Director, took on the design of "Get-Out-The-Vote" posters just in time for the November 4 Election. With the permission of Pro-Vote, students used the Pro-Vote logo as a part of their poster design.

At the invitation of the class, Pro-Vote Interim Executive Director Joan Suarez and US Action CEO Jeff Blum — visiting Pro-Vote just days before the Election — reviewed the posters. Later, they were posted throughout the University to remind students to vote. The students then offered to make copies of the posters for Pro-Vote to use in recognizing the efforts of Pro-Vote volunteers in registering voters and GOTV efforts!

## Pro-Vote Staff

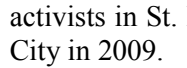
Joan Suarez — *Interim Executive Director*  
Marshall Rowland — *Internal Director*  
Ben Murray — *Political Director*  
Kay Mills — *SPR Regional Organizer*  
Jane Whitesides — *MidMO Regional Organizer*  
Mindy Brisse — *KC Regional Organizer*  
Ashli Bolden — *Civic Engagement Cord.*  
Douglas Hancock — *STL Field Organizer*  
Claudia Netter — *Clerical*  
Adam Seehaver — *STL Practicum Student*  
Lindsay Hicks — *STL Practicum Student*  
Kristen Francis — *MidMO Practicum Student*  
Michael Malone — *STL Intern*  
Greg Shufeldt — *Practicum Instructor*

# Progressives Win Big on Election Day (continued from Page 1)



Chris Kelly

**Chris Kelly** defeated a right-wing incumbent to capture a seat in Boone County. **Chris'** win demonstrates one of Pro-Vote's fundamental beliefs: **progressives win in all parts of the state, when they run progressive.** **Chris** will take office ready to legislate — he is returning to the State House again after serving from 1983 to 1994.



Jeanne Kirkton

**Jeanne Kirkton** picked up a State House seat that has been held by Republicans since it was created in 1966. No stranger to the progressives and healthcare activists in St. Louis, **Jeanne** will hit the ground running in Jefferson City in 2009.



Vickie Englund

**Vickie Englund** won back a seat that Democrats have been closing in on for the last few years in south St. Louis County. Pro-Vote has been targeting candidates in this State House seat for 3 election cycles—kudos to **Vickie** for bringing this seat back into the progressive fold!



Robin Wright-Jones

**Robin Wright-Jones** defeated a well-funded rightwing Democratic candidate by only 96 votes to win the primary in August in Senate District 5. **Robin** cruised to victory on November 4. Ensuring that our legislators

are progressive no matter what side of the aisle they sit is what Pro-Vote is all about!

Winning Candidate	Race	Type of Win	Win %	< 1000 votes?
Jay Nixon	Governor	Progressive Pick Up	58.4%	
Clint Zweifel	State Treasurer	Progressive Pick Up	50.5%	
Robin Wright-Jones	Senate 5 Primary	Democratic Hold	50.4%	96 Votes!
Kenny Biermann	House 17	Progressive Pick Up	50.2%	74 Votes!
Chris Kelly	House 24	Progressive Pick Up	50.8%	411 Votes!
Margo McNeil	House 78	Democratic Hold	58.7%	
Jill Schupp	House 82	Democratic Hold	59.7%	
Vicki Englund	House 85	Progressive Pick Up	54.4%	
Jeanne Kirkton	House 91	Progressive Pick Up	51.4%	576 Votes!

## Fund Pro-Vote in Monthly Giving Program

Please donate today by joining our monthly givers in the Sustainer's program. The reply envelope is enclosed, email [moprovote@mindspring.com](mailto:moprovote@mindspring.com), or call your local Pro-Vote office. Your financial support of Pro-Vote is essential to turn Missouri into the progressive state we know she wants to be!

## Leave a Legacy!

Each of us have supported progressive causes throughout our lives, but know the struggle will not be over in our lifetime. By creating a legacy through a bequest in your will to the charity of your choice, you can ensure others will be able to continue the fight.

Contact Pro-Vote at 314-531-2288 for information to simplify creating your legacy. Please consult your financial advisor and attorney before finalizing any arrangement.

**Missouri Progressive Vote Coalition (Pro-Vote)** is a grassroots political non-profit working to fight the extremist right-wing agenda through issue advocacy, voter mobilization, and progressive electoral strategies in coalition with unions and community groups.

[www.MissouriProVote.Org](http://www.MissouriProVote.Org)

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Americans for Dem. Action  
CWA District 6—CWA 6355  
Democracy for Missouri  
Freedom Inc. —KC Fed. of  
Teachers Local 691  
Laborers Local 663—Loretto  
Women's Network—MFT  
Missouri Women's Leadership  
Coalition— Missouri NEA  
Missouri Votes Conservation  
NARAL Pro-choice MO—NOW  
Advocates, the Political Arm  
of Planned Parenthood of the  
St. Louis Region—Planned  
Parenthood Advocates of  
Kansas and Mid MO—Planned  
Parenthood of the Rocky  
Mountains Action Fund  
PROMO—SEIU MO/KS State  
Council—SEIU Local 2000  
Teamsters J.C. 13 DRIVE &  
Local 245— UAW Region 5—  
UFCW Dist Local 2—UNITE-  
HERE! —United Steelworkers  
District 11—United Working  
People of Mid Missouri—West  
County Democrats—Women's  
Political Caucuses in  
St. Louis & Kansas City

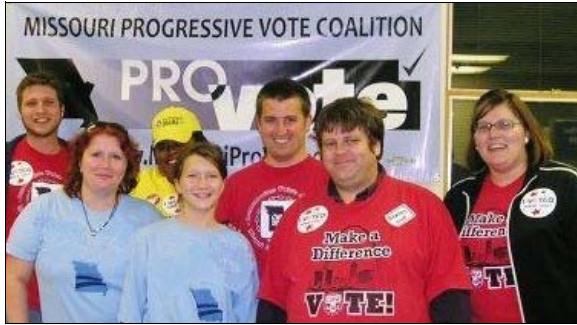


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Address Service Requested



Election Day, November 4, 2008, at Pro-Vote

*CWA volunteers Get Out the Vote at Pro-Vote on Election Day. (L to R) Tony Fetonte, Cathy Sherwin, Catrina Hill, Elizabeth Schwegmann, Richard von Glahn, Local CWA 3655 President Bradley Harmon, and Rachel Zaron.*

## Prop B Ensures Choice to Live at Home for Seniors, Disabled

On Election Day voters across the state of Missouri overwhelmingly approved Proposition B, The Quality Homecare Act. This statute creates a consumer led, quality homecare council. The measure will improve care and expand options for consumers and improve work conditions for the professionals who serve them.

Prop. B passed with over 75% of the vote and Pro-Vote was proud to be on the front lines of the fight. Civic Engagement coordinator, Ashli Bolden said, "We had great response talking to people about Prop. B. There were a lot of ques-

tions and misinformation out about Prop B, but after taking time to have a conversation with voters, almost everyone agreed that this is an important step forward for Missouri."



### To pass Proposition B, Pro-Vote staff and volunteers:

- ☑ Made 241,667 phone calls to 93,294 voters & contacted 19,164. More than 98% said "YES!" they would vote for Proposition B!
- ☑ Knocked on more than 12,500 doors in Clay County, helping Prop B pass there with 72%!
- ☑ Signed up 850 health care voters at metro stops, health clinics and public events.
- ☑ Worked 32 polling places on Election Day encouraging voters to back Prop B.

Pro-Vote staffer Claudia Netter said that one of the most rewarding parts of the project was sharing personal stories, "A lot of people I talked to would say that they had a family member who had received homecare, or that they had a hard time finding someone qualified to do the job. When we explained to them that Prop B would help, they were very appreciative. It was a great experience."