

A NEW DIRECTION FOR AMERICA

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Published in the East County Progressive
February, 2008

Our nation and our community need strong, experienced leadership to restore peace, prosperity, and opportunities for all Americans. I have the qualifications and integrity to represent the people in our district—not the special interests.

I am a lifelong Democrat. As a teen, I fought for civil rights and voting rights, successfully challenging segregation. I've stood up for what's right ever since. That's why I'm endorsed by Congresswoman Stephanie Tubbs Jones, Chair of the House ethics committee.

I've lived in East County for 27 years, along with my husband, Dr. Richard Butcher, a retired Naval officer. We raised our five children here. I taught deaf students, civics and political science in East County high schools and community colleges. I support strong public education.

After obtaining my law degree, I worked in our court system and served as Chair of the El Cajon Planning Commission. I've served on area water quality and hospital boards and Granite Hills Athletic Council, and was President of Rotary and World Affairs Council.

I will be a strong voice for affordable, universal healthcare for all Americans. I've served on FDA medical panels and as President of National Medical Association Auxiliary, bringing healthcare to people in need.

As Founder/Executive Director of Water for Children Africa, I've met with world leaders and led efforts to bring clean water and medicines to people in 15 nations. I organized international trade conferences and helped American small businesses develop win-win, fair trade arrangements with Kenyan farmers.

I grew up in my family's grocery business and support rights of working people. We need strong labor and environmental agreements in trade pacts to stop outsourcing jobs. A former delegate to national sustainability conferences, I also support training in green collar jobs in sustainable energy.

People are struggling as costs of gas, housing, college and healthcare skyrocket. Forty percent of working people in East County have no healthcare insurance, while poverty and home foreclosures are rising. Our economy verges on recession, inflation is rising and our national deficit is the worst in U.S. history.

We must stop spending nearly \$10 billion a month on the Iraq War. Our soldiers are coming home with brain injuries, missing limbs and shattered lives. Even top generals agree it's time to bring our troops home and turn control of Iraq over to the Iraqi people. There are better ways to protect our national security and strengthen our defenses here in America.

The worst wildfires in California history started in East County. I will provide strong federal leadership to improve fire prevention and rapid, early response to stop future fires from devastating our communities.

I am running to win. I have a national campaign manager who worked on the Kerry-Edwards campaign. We have a large volunteer base and a campaign office in La Mesa. I'm endorsed by leaders in education, labor, business, and healthcare reform. Our district is more diverse than in the past. Minorities are now 39% of El Cajon's population and 36% of the unincorporated rural areas. My campaign is outreaching to Latinos, African-Americans, Muslims, Asians, Native Americans, and we have many white supporters, too.

Barack Obama's message of hope and inspiration is fueling record Democratic turnout and attracting legions of new voters, even in conservative, mostly white rural areas. By offering hope to those whose voices have not been represented, like Obama, I offer the strongest opportunity for Democrats to win in East County.

Obama's pollster found that what voters in the 52nd Congressional district want most is a candidate with honor and integrity, who also understands struggles of the middle class. The majority of primary and general election voters polled said they will choose Vickie Butcher.

We have an open seat for the first time in 25 years, coupled with a likely Democratic landslide. I ask for your endorsement and support. Together, we can take back our seat in Congress—and create a bold new direction for America.