



U.S. Congressman

Mark Steven Kirk

Proudly serving the people of the 10th District of Illinois



U.S. Congressman Mark Steven Kirk, 10th District of Illinois

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What do you think the federal government's policy on stem cell research should be?

The National Institutes of Health should provide full federal funding for stem cell research.

The Executive Order which limits federal funding to stem cell lines derived prior to August, 2001 should be maintained.

Congress should ban all federal funding for stem cell research.

Do not know.

*When you respond, we will also sign you up for legislative updates directly from Congress.

If you are having trouble, [click here](#).



TEN FOR THE TENTH

10 AMERICANS WHO MAKE A DIFFERENCE
IN THE
10TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF
ILLINOIS

Dear Friends:

We live in one of the best educated congressional districts in the nation. In my service to our community, I am continually struck by the patriotism, talent and commitment of the people that I represent.

Two years ago, we launched a program to recognize some of the people you should know, highlighting what they have done for our community, country and planet. Today, I would like you to meet our second "Ten for the Tenth" - ten individuals who make stunning contributions for fellow citizens of Illinois and people overseas we have never met.

E-MAIL UPDATES

Yes, please send me legislative updates

directly from Congress.*

[Click Here](#)

*By subscribing to my e-mail updates, you are authorizing me to send e-mail updates from my office to your e-mail account.

Please Feel Free to Tell a Friend

E-mail:

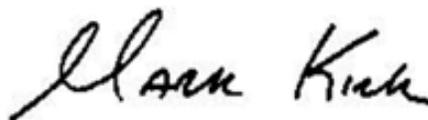
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E-mail:

The Ten for the Tenth saved our VA hospital, raised money for Tsunami relief and rescued children from gang violence. They range in age from 18 to 86. In many ways, they underscore the optimism and "can do" spirit of the American people.

Take a moment to read their stories and remember, these people are not just heroes – they are our neighbors.

Sincerely,



Mark Kirk
Member of Congress

YOUNG LEADER HELPING TSUNAMI VICTIMS

Dan Klein of St. Viator Raised \$1 Million for Tsunami Relief



Dan was a senior at St. Viator's High School in Arlington Heights. Moved by the tsunami disaster, he was inspired by the Lance Armstrong "Live Strong" bracelets to create his own in hopes of raising money for tsunami relief. Starting with just \$300 of his own money and with the help of Quest Applied Technologies, Klein created 1,000 red rubber bracelets and an organization, "Students for Relief," that would donate all its proceeds to tsunami relief. Through a website and his hard work, he sold over 500,000 bracelets, raising nearly one million dollars for CARE International.

SAVING A PRISONER OF CONSCIENCE FROM JAIL

Dr. Richard Benkin Won the Release of Bangladeshi Pro-Israel Writer Shoab Choudhury from Jail.



Mt. Prospect resident Dr. Benkin advocated for Shoab Choudhury's release from prison after being moved by his touching story. Choudhury, a Bangladeshi journalist, encouraged Jewish-Muslim dialogue in Bangladesh, wanting to establish ties between Israel and Bangladesh, even though travel to Israel was forbidden. Choudhury was charged with the capital crime of



[Read Congressman Kirk's Blog](#)

Mark Kirk In the News...

9/28/06: [GOP Says Legislation is Helping Party in Suburbs](#)

7/3/06: [GOP 'Suburban Agenda' Gains Traction on the Hill](#)

5/11/06: [Kirk Touts House GOP Plan for Suburbs](#)

5/11/06: [GOP Agenda Eyes Suburban Appeal](#)

Results from our last survey...

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Regarding the immigration laws of the United States, what is your topmost priority?

Answer	Total
Stronger enforcement of our borders.	40.34%
Granting of amnesty to undocumented aliens.	20.69%
Deportation of illegal aliens already in the United States.	13.34%
Punishment of employers who willingly hire illegal immigrants.	25.63%

sedition -- accused of spying for Israel -- and imprisoned for over a year. Dr. Benkin contacted Congressman Kirk's office and with his help, freed Choudhury after 17 months in jail. Choudhury's case is still pending but at least he knows he has friends he never met back in the American state of Illinois.

THE HERO WHO BROKE THE NAVY'S COLOR BARRIER

Frank Sublett Was Commissioned as one of the U.S. Navy's First African-American Officers



Photo # 80-G-300211. Ens. Frank E. Sublett

A pioneer for African-Americans everywhere, Frank Sublett bravely stood up in the face of racism in the Armed Forces and in 1944 became one of the first 13 African-American naval officers. Dubbed the "Golden 13" these men scored higher on standard tests than their white counterparts and went on to fight the Nazis in the Atlantic and Japanese in the Pacific. With the Congressman's help, Glencoe native Sublett has inspired the

construction of the first memorial to World War II African-American Navy veterans. The memorial will be completed near Great Lakes Naval Training Center in North Chicago.

STEM CELL RESEARCH ADVOCATE

Gary Eizenga Helped Make the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation the Most Effective Advocate for Stem Cell Research



As President of Health Systems & Administration for Cardinal Health and a lifelong supporter of the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, Gary Eizenga tirelessly worked to promote stem cell research. With his help and the support of Congressman Kirk, the Congress passed the Stem Cell Research Enhancement Act (H.R. 810), to lift the current restrictions on stem cell research to accelerate a cure for Parkinson's, diabetes and

cancer.

TAKING DOWN SUBURBAN DRUG GANGS

Bill Biang is the leader of Lake County's most effective

Anti-Gang Police Force



Chief Bill Biang leads Waukegan's Police Department and its effort to stop the spread of suburban gangs. There are over 2,000 documented gang members operating north of Lake-Cook road. Chief Biang's Neighborhood Enforcement Team (NET) has become the most effective law enforcement organization fighting suburban gangs in northern Illinois. With the help of Congressman Kirk, the

Waukegan Police Department's gang intelligence unit received \$100,000 in new federal money. Waukegan's murder rate has dropped from 25 per year to three because of Chief Biang's proactive leadership to fight crime and gangs.

TEACHING LATINA MOTHERS ENGLISH SO THEY CAN HELP WITH HOMEWORK

Rosa Reyes Prosen Leads Latino Efforts to Keep Kids in School and Reunite Grandmothers with their Kids



Rosa Reyes Prosen co-founded the Latino Coalition, served as chairwoman of the College of Lake County Board of Trustees, and chairs Congressman Kirk's Latino Advisory Board. With too many Latino kids dropping out of school, Rosa led the effort to create the Families Involved in Reading Stories Together (FIRST) program in conjunction with the College of Lake County. With the help of Congressman Kirk and a \$248,000 federal grant, FIRST helps young mothers to learn English so that they can help with their son or daughter's homework. Rosa also developed "Projecta Abuelita" to help grandmothers in Mexico with three week visits to see their children and grandchildren in America.

A WORLD WITHOUT MERCURY POISONING

Cheryl Levi Inspired Children, Parents and Elected Officials to Fight Mercury Poisoning



Cheryl Levi inspires her seventh grade social studies students at Elm Place Middle School so that they can make a difference in our community. As part of Project Citizen, she



helped students focus on the issue of mercury pollution plaguing the Great Lakes. Her students spent months researching, analyzing, and eventually creating a forum to discuss how private, state and federal efforts could remove this threat to human health.

Congressman Kirk worked with 50 of her students at a widely-covered forum, inspiring a number of local officials to pledge action against mercury.

RESCUING AT-RISK CHILDREN

Evelyn Chenier Runs the "Family First" Support Center and Has Rescued Dozens of At-Risk Kids



As Executive Director of the Family First Support Center (FFSC), Evelyn teamed up with Congressman Kirk to receive a \$200,000 Department of Health and Human Services grant to help with the center's Educational Assessment Program. The Center mentors at-risk kids in northern Lake County. Evelyn has helped dozens of kids stay out of gangs and away from drugs. Her counseling and mentoring is making our community safe,

while preserving a bright future for many young men and women.

RAISING ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE TO UNPRECEDENTED LEVELS

Dr. Marsha Hestad is Pioneering New Levels of Academic Performance for Gifted Students



Dr. Hestad is an education leader with 28 years experience as Principal of Libertyville's Rockland Elementary School in Libertyville and Executive Director of Child Learning for Lake Forest District 67. As a long time advocate of gifted education, Dr. Hestad spearheaded the Tenth District Laureates program. This year, she worked with Congressman Kirk to guide 20 seventh grade Laureates through "mini-medical school" where students witnessed open heart surgery,

learned about trauma care and cutting edge medical research.

SAVING A VETERANS' HOSPITAL

Phil Mazur Leads the Stakeholders of North Chicago VA and was the Linchpin in the Effort to Save the Hospital



In 1999, the Department of Veterans Affairs decided to close the North Chicago VA. Phil Mazur organized veterans to win the support of elected officials to save our hospital. Phil Mazur was Congressman Kirk's relentless partner building the campaign to save the VA. Earlier this summer, the VA opened a \$13 million new suite of emergency and operating rooms for the VA. Next January, the Navy and VA will break ground on a new \$100 million state of the art Navy/VA hospital. Thanks to Phil, our VA hospital's future is secure.

Contact Information

Washington, DC Office:

1717 Longworth HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515
Phone: 202-225-4835
Fax: 202-225-0837

Waukegan Office:

20 South Martin Luther King Dr.
Waukegan, IL 60085
Phone: 847-662-0101
Fax: 847-662-7519

Northbrook Office:

707 Skokie Blvd, Suite 350
Northbrook, IL 60062
Phone: 847-940-0202
Fax: 847-940-7143

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