

# The Polk County Democrat

## ELECTION SPECIAL

### Top Ten Reasons to Register and Vote (Against McCain)

**1** The hypocrisy of McCain's "support the troops" rhetoric was revealed when he **voted** in May **against** a bill to expand **education benefits** for Iraq and Afghanistan war veterans.

**2** A McCain presidency would be a continuation of the Bush-Cheney administration. **McCain voted** in the Senate exactly the **way Bush wanted** him to vote **95** percent of the time in 2007, and **100** percent of the time in 2008.

**3** McCain has done nothing to control the rising cost of living. Instead, he supported the Bush scheme to **rob six million** workers of overtime **pay** when they're forced to work overtime, and he's **opposed** increases in the minimum wage.

**4** McCain **opposes** the **Employee Free Choice Act**, which would restore the right to join unions, and voted to take away bargaining rights from federal workers.

**5** He supported legislation to legalize company unions, and to make it **legal to fire** workers who try to organize unions. He calls unions "monopolies" and **brags** about Arizona's **anti-union** "right-to-work" law. In 1996 he supported a national "right-to-work" bill, to cripple unions.

**6** He **supports** the **export** of more U.S. **jobs** through "free trade" agreements. He voted for NAFTA, CAFTA, GATT, free trade with China, and every other job-destroying trade deal.

**7** McCain is a danger to your **retirement**. He favors privatizing Social Security and he voted for the mislabeled "Pension Protection Act" which is actually destroying pensions. He voted to raise the Medicare eligibility age to 67.

**8** He **led the charge** in the Senate to authorize the illegal Bush-Cheney-Rumsfeld **invasion of Iraq**, opposed every attempt to bring the troops home, and said keeping U.S. troops in Iraq for 100 years "would be fine with me."

**9** McCain would continue the Bush policy of **cutting taxes** on the **rich**, but his "healthcare policy" is to tax your health insurance by treating employer-paid medical premiums as taxable income! He plans to drive insurance costs up further by promoting **high-deductible** health savings accounts.

**10** McCain offers **no solution** to the **housing** crisis, which he blames on homeowners acting "**irresponsibly**." He's opposed efforts to rein in predatory lenders, and instead voted to make things more difficult for workers trapped in high debt.

**If John McCain is elected President on November 4, we'll have hundreds of reasons to regret it - and four more years of disastrous Bush-Cheney policies. None of us can afford that.**

- An e-mail from the United Electrical Workers



Sen. John Kerry visits with Iowa Veterans

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Polk County Democratic Party  
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Des Moines, Iowa 50305

**Sign Up Now!**  
**Send an E-mail to:**  
**polkdems@gmail.com**

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### NAME OUR NEWSLETTER

The Polk County Democratic Communications Committee is seeking a name for our e-newsletter that goes out to all Polk County Democrats monthly.

Currently we are calling it the Polk County Democrat until we hear from you.

Get those "creative juices flowing" and share your ideas for a unique name.

**Submissions for the name are due by the end of November.**

You can either email them to [drstone@mchsi.com](mailto:drstone@mchsi.com) or give us a call at 515-285-1800 with the title and your name, address, telephone and email. The winner will be recognized in the next E-newsletter.

The Committee reserves the right to make the final title decision.

# The Polk County Democrat

## Meet Tamyra Harrison Executive Director Polk County Democrats

Tamyra Harrison, Polk County's Executive Director, is an organizer on the move. Right now she is working tirelessly with the State Party, the Obama Campaign and the Coordinated Campaign to map out a detailed plan for Polk County's *Get Out the Vote* effort. It is no small task since Polk County is the largest in the state with 183 precincts!

This is her third election cycle, second presidential campaign and fourth year as executive director. She had never been in politics before this job but enjoys putting on the events and getting to know and work with the many dependable volunteers.

Multi-tasking is a must in her position because her general responsibilities are many. Some of the major tasks include raising money, organizing and running events, county conventions, central committee meetings, facilitating the work of the six internal committees, updating the website, working with the executive committee, elected officials, and assisting with the financial records!

She indeed has a "full plate". No matter what the request is (and she receives many phone calls and emails every day), Tamyra graciously and efficiently follows through to provide the needed information. Her biggest challenge is negative communication about issues and candidates over which she has no control. "Patience in this position is a real plus," says Tamyra.

Harrison, a native of Illinois, moved here to manage Osco Drug. Once they closed, she decided to stay in Des Moines because she says, "it's a really great community." After working for Iowa Workforce Development she decided to apply for her current position. Her many skills and positive "can do" attitude have been of great value to the Polk County Democrats and our Party. The next time you communicate with her, please let her know how much you appreciate her leadership.



### McCain v. Veterans

During the first presidential debate Sen. McCain made an emotional statement that veterans knew him and knew that he would always be ready to defend and support them. He seemed passionate about the statement and on the verge of choking up.

But the Disabled American Veterans looked at his voting record in 2006 and said he voted with veterans only 20 percent of the time. Another, similarly named group, the Disabled Veterans of America gave him a "D" rating that same year. More recently the Army Times said, "Sen. John McCain appeared Tuesday to suggest 'rationing of veterans' care may be needed so combat veterans can receive the care they deserve (Army Times 7/23/08). Lt. Gen. Robert Gard (USA retired) was quoted "All veterans respect John McCain's service, if he too respects ours, he should not be suggesting that we shortchange our soldiers with non-combat injuries who have served with such honor and dignity (Huffington Post, 7/24/08). The same article questioned the affect of such rationing on the 15 percent of females leaving the services who screened positive for sexual trauma.

Sen. McCain voted against millions for mental health and brain injury services to veterans [vote 343 in 2006 and vote 222 in 2006]. While chastising Sen. Obama for a vote against funding the troops by voting against a funding bill with no time limits, but has voted against a similar bill that did have time limits. Sen. McCain also voted against funding for troops' safety equipment and vehicles [vote 248 in 2005, and vote 376 in 2003].

Senator McCain initially opposed the most recent G.I. Bill on the grounds that it would apply to persons who did only one tour of duty and the senator wanted full benefits of \$2,000 a month to come only after 12 years of service. As the Las Vegas Sun stated "For Bush and McCain to try to claim credit now for a bipartisan effort they both opposed is a plain attempt to hoodwink the American voter. (Las Vegas Sun, 7/3/08).

So his appearance on the stage must have come from his passionate wish that the electorate believe the lie he was choking on.

The Polk County Democrats  
want to recognize all of  
Tamyra Harrison's  
hard work  
**THANK YOU!**

### DEMOCRATIC DIMES WORTH

Our newsletter will include a section entitled "Democratic Dimes Worth" similar to the Des Moines Register's *Your Two Cents Worth* which many people enjoy reading.

Send us your thoughts via email to: [drstone@mchsi.com](mailto:drstone@mchsi.com) or by mail to:

Polk County Democratic Party  
P.O. Box 5102  
Des Moines, Iowa 50305

Or by phone at **515-285-1800**  
Due date is the last Friday of every month. Let us know your thoughts and perspectives surrounding our political environment. Thoughts could include humor, wisdom, frustrations, praise, etc.

The Committee reserves the right to make final content decisions.