



AUTOMOTIVE

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The News

KALONA, WELLMAN, RIVERSIDE, LONE TREE & HILLS

Volume 131 • No. 43

KALONA, WASHINGTON COUNTY, IOWA 52247 • THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2024

\$1.75

MEET THE CHALLENGERS

Will Iowa Senate District 46, Iowa House District 92, and U.S. House Iowa District 1 stay in Republican hands after the Nov. 5 election? Challengers Ed Chabel, Anna Banowsky, and Nicholas Gluba aim to disrupt the status quo.



Ed Chabel, Washington resident, Democrat, Iowa Senate District 46 candidate.



Anna Banowsky, Washington resident Democrat, Iowa House District 92 candidate.



Nicholas Gluba, Lone Tree resident, Libertarian, U.S. Congressional District 1 write-in candidate.

ED CHABEL, IOWA SENATE CANDIDATE

BY CHERYL ALLEN
The News

KALONA
When Washington resident Ed Chabel announced he was challenging Dawn Driscoll for the Iowa Senate District 46 seat about a year ago, those who knew him were surprised.

"I'm not a political person," he admits.

The Mid-Prairie graduate grew up expecting to be a farmer. When the farm crisis hit, he pivoted; now, after 27 years serving the Mount Pleasant school district as finance director, he is on the cusp of retirement. As a woodworker with traditional skills, and a lover of history, he is perfectly positioned to assist his wife with her antique shop and enjoy a bit more down time.

However, when he saw "what is happening to our public schools, that was concerning to me," he said. "I really saw legislative decisions being not what I think are in the best interest of schools, and that led me into this."

Working in school finance, Chabel has a detailed understanding

of where funds for education come from, where they are needed, and how they are spent. He also takes his responsibility to the students seriously and spends time leading 4-H and other youth activities to stay in touch with them.

"Even though I didn't get in the classroom every day, I got out as my schedule allowed because I didn't want to get too removed from it," he says. "Basically, all decisions I made affected [students] somehow, because we [only] get so much money and [have to make] sure that money gets used to the best potential that it could."

State Supplemental Aid (SSA)

From his position, he could see that recent state financing decisions were negatively affecting education. SSA (Supplemental State Aid), for example, had been set around 4% "like forever," but in the last decade it has been falling. It's currently set at 2.5%, "and that's only if your enrollment for your district stays steady," he explains. Should a dis-

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ANNA BANOWSKY, IOWA HOUSE CANDIDATE

BY CHERYL ALLEN
The News

KALONA
As an undergraduate studying political science, Anna Banowsky thought running for office might be an interesting thing to do in the future. Now a graduate student at the University of Iowa, it occurred to her earlier this year that the future may be now.

"I was talking to people during the caucus and realizing we don't have anyone who's running for the House on the Democratic side, and thinking about all of the policies that I saw that didn't represent me and didn't represent the people that I knew in my community," she says.

Once she figured out how she could campaign and hold office around her teaching and class schedules, she decided challenging Heather Hora for the Iowa House District 92 seat was "something that's worth doing now."

Banowsky grew up in Redmond, Washington, 15 miles east of Seattle. She came to Iowa for graduate school, which wasn't too much of a stretch; "My mom is from Bettendorf, so I do have Iowa connections,"

she says.

When she arrived, she wanted a place to live that wasn't tied to the UI campus but would provide her with a sense of community. The city of Washington turned out to be that place.

Her realtor showed her a few houses in Washington. When Banowsky visited downtown, she knew she was where she wanted to be.

"It was like, oh my gosh, there's this downtown square. There's all these shops, there's people going about their business, kids playing," she says. "It really just had this great community vibe that I have found has continued since I've been there."

"I really wanted some place that had that small-town feel, where everyone knows everyone and everyone's excited to talk to you, something I just didn't have growing up," she says.

Now into her second year as a Washington resident, Banowsky has political leadership in her sights. The areas where she wants to make an impact are education, reproductive freedom, and mental healthcare

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NICHOLAS GLUBA, U.S. CONGRESSIONAL CANDIDATE

BY CHERYL ALLEN
The News

KALONA
Iowa's 1st Congressional District, which encompasses the cities of Davenport, Iowa City, Burlington, and Indianapolis, is considered one of the least Republican districts in the state.

That may be good news for Nicholas Gluba; not only is he the Libertarian candidate, challenging Mariannette Miller-Meeke for the seat, but due to a last-minute snafu, his name will not appear on the ballot.

That's right: voters will have to write him in, so remember that exact spelling -- Nicholas Gluba -- and office -- U.S. Congressional District 1. The Libertarian party is a major party in Iowa; Gluba would have been on the ballot, but for the party holding its county conventions the same day as their precinct caucuses. Had they waited just 181 minutes, after the strike of midnight, they would have been in the clear.

The Libertarians didn't know they had violated state law until Republican voters challenged them on it.

"Unfortunately, the law had changed, which we weren't aware of, because we don't have people that just sit there and read Iowa code all the time. We have other jobs, you know," Gluba says.

He does, indeed, have other jobs. "Depending on how you classify it, I have anywhere between two and six," he says.

In terms of paid employment, he works as a second shift production lead at Whirlpool in North Liberty, and on the side, he works for friends as a chef at Price Creek Event Center in Amana (and yes, he did attend culinary school and has entertained the idea of opening a restaurant). He does not receive payment for the work he does as Johnson County Chair and District 1 Representative for the Libertarian Party.

Born in Iowa City, Gluba grew up in Lone Tree, Williamsburg, and Parnell. He and his family currently reside in Lone Tree, where he is serving his first year on the City Council.

Exactly Average

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Halloween Around Town

Pumpkins for Parkinson's Fundraiser

Rock Steady Boxing, a program benefiting those with Parkinson's Disease offered by the Washington County YMCA, will hold a fundraiser so that the program can continue to be offered at no cost. Visit the Rock Steady booth at the Washington Trunk or Treat on Oct. 25-26 to purchase a pumpkin, mum, or homemade baked goods.

Mid-Prairie Elementary Trunk or Treat

Mid-Prairie Elementary will

hold Trunk or Treat on Friday, Oct. 25 from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at East Elementary in Kalona. Free to all elementary students and their families.

Monster Mash Skating Party

A Monster Mash Skating Party, sponsored by the Wellman Community Club, will be held on Friday, Oct. 25 from 6:30 to 9 p.m. at the Wellman Skating Rink. Free to the public; games with prizes and costume contest for adults and kids.

Lone Tree Trunk or Treat and Fright Night

The Lone Tree Wellness Center will hold their annual Trunk or Treat and Fright Night on Saturday, Oct. 26 from 5-7 p.m.

West Chester Costume Party

The West Chester Heritage Association will hold a Costume Party on Saturday, Oct. 26 at 5 p.m. at the Heritage Center. Enjoy food, games, dancing, and prizes for best costumes.

City-wide Trick or Treating

Thursday, Oct. 31 is door-to-door trick or treat night for area towns. In Kalona, trick or treating begins at 5:30 p.m. In Lone Tree, hours are 5:30 to 8 p.m. In Riverside, hours are 5:30 to 7 p.m. In Wellman, hours are 5-8 p.m.

Wellman Trunk or Treat

Wellman's Trunk or Treat will be held on Thursday, Oct. 31 from 6-8 p.m. downtown. Enjoy free hot dogs, chips, and water. To reserve a space for your vehicle, contact City Hall at 319-646-2154.



Jack O'Lantern Jaunt

The Kalona Optimist and Kalona Historical Village Jack O'Lantern Jaunt will be held on Friday, Nov. 1 from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the Historical Village. Trick or treat at the historical buildings, games, movie, crafts, and more will be a part of this fun family evening.

Kidsymphony Spooky Musical Adventure

The Southeast Iowa Symphony will perform Kidsymphony: A Spooky Musical Adventure on Nov. 3 at 5 p.m. at Washington High School, Washington. The 45-minute, Halloween-themed concert, suitable for kids and families, includes Beethoven's 5th Symphony, Danse Macabre, and Night on Bald Mountain. Tickets are \$5 for adults, free for all kids and students; costumes encouraged.

BANOWSKY
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access.

Education

When it comes to education, Banowsky sees things from a slightly different vantage point than most: that of a university teaching assistant.

"I see students when they've graduated mostly Iowa schools," she says, estimating 80% of her students attended high school in Iowa. Through interacting with them in the classroom and evaluating their coursework, she discovered "many of them just don't really know how to evaluate a source, or they don't know how to tell if something's biased."

She says that as instructors, they are told to expect undergraduate students to know how to write research papers, having learned that skill in high school. "And I'm going, well, wait a minute. They didn't, you know."

And it isn't just a few students who may have neglected their past studies. "It's like half the class, and they're paying attention in my class," she says.

Banowsky believes there is a clear link between declining state funding and her students' lack of knowledge. The diverting of public funds to private schools through Education Savings Accounts and the recent restructuring of AEAs don't seem likely to improve the situation.

"I don't think it's that teachers didn't want to teach them. I think it's we have fewer and fewer resources being allocated to the schools, and people are making do with what they

have available to them," she says. "I think we could do a lot better and give people more resources and give them a better chance."

Reproductive Freedom

Reproductive freedom is also a concern for Banowsky; as a young woman herself, she is one of 600,000 Iowa women of childbearing age who could be directly affected by the Iowa Supreme Court ruling in June that upheld a law banning abortion when a "fetal heart-beat" or cardiac activity is detected.

"Six weeks isn't long enough for people to know that they're pregnant in many cases," she notes. "It's before a lot of testing gets done to see if the fetus is even viable."

Iowa law does make exceptions in the case of medical emergency or if the pregnancy resulted from rape or incest, but Banowsky finds this inadequate.

Sexual assault survivors must report the incident to law enforcement or a public or private health agency, which may include a family physician, within 45 days of the incident (140 days for cases of incest) before receiving care, which may place an undue burden on women.

"Some people might not report things," Banowsky says. "We know that sexual assault tends to be underreported."

Studies bear that out; about 30% of sexual assaults are reported on average. Reasons for this vary, but silence and avoidance are typical first responses to most types of trauma; guilt and fear are also common. If a survivor can't overcome these responses quickly, she may

find herself carrying a pregnancy to term under Iowa law.

Banowsky is also concerned about the unforeseen implications of limiting abortion. "What impact will this have on IVF?" she asks. "What kind of impact will this have on foster care? What kind of impact will it have on adoption?"

Men's roles also are in question. "If the woman has to keep the child... does that have implications for things like paternity? Does it have an impact on things like child support?" Banowsky wonders.

Generally, too, she worries about bodily autonomy, the ability to plan a family, and the state dictating those decisions. "For me, especially as a young woman, seeing that passed into law and then kept at the Supreme Court level is a really scary thing, because why is it anybody's business if, when, and how someone else becomes a parent?" she says.

Mental Healthcare Access

Access to mental healthcare is the third issue that Banowsky is passionate about.

"Everybody should have the ability to take care of their mental health, but I think it's something that's seldom talked about," she says, noting that in the past there has been a stigma surrounding this, but that has improved in recent years. "I think the problem now is that, where do you go?"

Every person has different needs, from monthly check-ins to weekly therapy sessions. In smaller communities, like those in Washington county, mental health services may not always be easy to find – and in many cases, those that exist

don't have the capacity to take on new patients. That leaves those in need of care looking to telehealth, or outside the county.

Banowsky understands that telehealth may not be accessible to all. "Cell service might be a little iffy in places, or internet costs a lot. So is that really a viable option?" she asks. The GuideLink Center in Iowa City, which offers immediate care for adults facing emotional, mental health, or substance use challenges, is a valuable resource; however, "this is meant to be a county-run, no state support institution," Banowsky points out, and yet "they're having people drive from two or three hours away, because this is one of the only places like that."

If elected, she would push for a state grant program that would allow each county to determine their own plan for mental health services, which the state would contribute funds toward.

"Maybe that's building a crisis center. Maybe that's incentivizing mental health care professionals to move there and work at an existing place. Maybe it's training existing staff at a county hospital to manage things like crises," she says. "[It might be] different in every case, but we want all the counties to have access to something that fits their community, but with that state support."

An Accessible Representative

During her campaign for the Iowa House, Banowsky has committed herself to being a good listener, both when she goes door to door and when

holding open meetings during her "10 towns listening tour." She aims to keep that line of communication open should the people of District 92 send her to Des Moines. Her plan is to hold open forums twice a month, each one in a different town, so that she can hear from people when and where it is convenient for them.

"Especially during the legislative session, when you're making those decisions," she says. "That's when that communication needs to happen the most, when you're actually on the job advocating for policies or advocating against others."

She's also aware that not everyone likes to voice their questions or concerns before a crowd, so she hopes to hold "office hours" of sorts at local coffee shops so that folks can drop in and chat with her more informally. Virtual office hours, also, are something she would like to be able to offer while she is in Des Moines.

When you see her name on the ballot, Banowsky hopes you will keep in mind not only her approach to education, reproductive freedom, and mental healthcare, but also her accessibility.

"I might not agree with what someone says, and they may not agree with what I say or do as a representative, but at the end of the day, I think that I'm someone that they can have a dialog with," she says. "Just having that open communication is really important."

"The title is Representative. You're supposed to represent the people," she concludes. "If you're not willing to listen to them, I don't think you can represent them well."

GLUBA
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What is most spectacularly unique about Gluba is that he is as spectacularly average as one can be, something he learned once he began thinking about running for Congress.

The seed of that idea first sprouted when Gluba purchased a house in Lone Tree a few years ago, in close proximity to his great grandparents (now deceased) and grandparents.

"I saw some things around town that I thought, you know, we could really do this better and more efficiently. So I ran for City Council," he says. "Then I noticed the same thing with the U.S. Representatives. There were a lot of people who explained the fact that they didn't really feel like they were being represented by the Representatives."

That made him think, "Okay, well, I enjoy talking to people and I enjoy listening to people, and I would probably be a bit better of a Representative for the people of this district than a doctor from California or an environmental protection lawyer from Florida."

He realized there was a disjunct between the people and those who represent them.

"It's difficult for the people

of this area, who have a median family income of \$66,000, to be properly represented by somebody who wasn't from here and is also a millionaire," he says.

When he discussed running for Congress with others in his party, they pointed out his perfect averageness: "I am the median age of this district. I have a median-sized house in this district. I have the median income of this district. I have the median vehicles of this district. So they were like, yeah, you're exactly average."

Anti-War

Like many young men of his generation – at 37, he is the youngest Congressional candidate in the State of Iowa – Gluba joined the military in response to the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, 2001.

Serving in the Marine Corps during Operation Iraqi Freedom, spending time in places including Fallujah and Ramadi, "I realized that the Iraqi people didn't really need us over there. We didn't really need to be over there as a country. We weren't benefiting anybody from either side, except for these multi-billion-dollar war profiteering companies. And I developed a very, very heavy anti-war stance off of that," he says.

Not only did Gluba see the

high cost of war in terms of dollars, but also in terms of mental health.

"We were kids when we were over there, we were 18 to early 20's," he says. "You have to carry that for the rest of your life, and I do have friends, personally, that the rest of their life was much shorter than it should have been because of the mental tolls that were placed."

He laments that younger people are typically sent to war because "they're the only ones that are physically capable of doing everything," however, "they're not mentally capable of processing everything at that point. It took years for myself or any of my friends to be able to combat what we had seen mentally. Not all of them made it through it."

He also laments that "our current representation is still voting to send billions of dollars over to other countries for their war efforts," and that means a budget shortfall when it comes to helping Americans in need. "Maybe if you stopped sending billions of dollars outside of the country, you would have a little bit of money to help the people here," he says, thinking particularly of the need to fund hurricane recovery efforts.

Anti-Eminent Domain

Gluba realizes that campaigning and winning office might be easier if he aligned himself with the Republican or Democratic parties; however, he would rather maintain his personal integrity than join the bandwagon of whichever side might be favored in a given year. The fact is, his values align most closely with those of the Libertarian party, the fastest growing party in the state; one of those values pertains to private property.

A proposed CO2 pipeline that would span five states, including Iowa, has caused division in recent years; it would require states to exercise eminent domain – the power of government to take private property for public use. Gluba is against this.

"In District 4, they're using eminent domain for a carbon sequestration pipeline. That doesn't really benefit anybody, to take land for a carbon capture facility, because the best carbon capture facilities that have ever existed, and the best that ever will exist, are trees," he says. "Destroying land to put in a carbon capture facility by removing trees is a little counterproductive."

While being "very big into green energy," Gluba is firmly against destroying agricultural land, which many green energy projects, from the pipeline

to windmills, seem to do.

"We're an agrarian state," he says. "If you destroy the ability for farmers to produce agricultural products, you reduce the ability of our state to function."

Even if pipelines are underground and the land can still grow crops, "You have to destroy the productivity of that soil," he says. "In the State of Iowa, we have an incredibly thick layer of topsoil that took thousands of years of continual prairie growth and decay that built that incredibly dark, rich, very thick topsoil. Once we dig that out, we don't have thousands of years to rebuild that." Having grown up on a Century Farm and valuing that experience, he does not want to see land made unproductive for his own generation and those down the line.

"The federal government can't just openly ban eminent domain," he admits, "but they could remove all the financial incentives that the corporations have to use eminent domain."

Checks and Balances

Should he be elected, Gluba would work toward achieving a balance of power between the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of government, "the way it was originally intended." The granting of emergency powers to the executive branch in the 1970s has made it so that "they could supersede both the legislative and judicial branches of government and create their own laws."

This has created a situation where people feel, "We need to vote for this person, because if this [other] person takes the executive branch, we're going to be absolutely destroyed as a nation, and vice versa," he says. If the executive branch was limited back, any particular president would hold less power, as Congress would provide a check.

The judicial branch, too, needs to be reformed; "There should be no such thing as a lifetime appointment on any government position. It just too heavily weights that position," he says.

Rooted in Iowa


Should he be elected, Gluba intends to spend as much time in Iowa, and at home in Lone Tree, as possible; he doesn't relish the idea of dwelling in Washington D.C.

"There's a whole lot more benefits to living in a small town," he says. "No, I can't DoorDash anything, but I also don't fear any of my neighbors, and I can just go out in my yard whenever I want."

With his interview with The News ended, he headed back home to mow his lawn.

He is, after all, exactly average.

PAID FOR BY ANNA BANOWSKY FOR IOWA




We need a Representative who will remember her job is to speak for us in the State Capitol.

We need Anna. Now.

ANNA BANOWSKY
For Iowa House

ANNA BANOWSKY is a teacher who continues to listen and learn.




The daughter of a school teacher, Anna is now a teacher at the University of Iowa. She is an advocate for education, especially including two-year colleges.

As State Representative, Anna will champion policies ensuring all Iowa students receive a quality education and are prepared for a good-paying job.

Anna chose to move to Washington, Iowa, and to buy a house here. She wants our state to have the educational and economic stability to keep and draw young families to our area.

www.AnnaBanowskyforIowa.com



"Let's make small towns the priority again."

-Ed Chabal

RURAL IOWA STRONG

ED CHABAL grew up here in southeast Iowa. Working for 27 years as a school finance director and as a small business owner, he knows to listen to people.

Agriculture is our Cornerstone: Iowa's farms provide employment and support businesses. Ed will support our farmers.

Community is our Strength: Our towns foster a deep sense of belonging. Ed supports Main Street over Wall Street.

Pride in Public Education: Our public schools built Iowa. Ed Chabal will fight to fully fund our public schools.

ED CHABAL FOR STATE SENATE

Fighting for a *Stronger Rural Iowa*

 www.EdforIowa.com

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