

12/4/79

Dear Harold,

I finally found five minutes to sit down & let you know what's been happening lately. Time has gone by so fast, it's hard to believe that it has been 3 months since I was down there, but as soon as I got home classes started & we started campaigning & things just haven't stopped since. As you can see by the clipping I enclosed, all the work finally paid off. I've never worked so hard for something I really didn't think was possible in my entire life. Not to brag, but we made history here in the Steel Valley. Never before has an endorsed Democrat running on the Republican ticket even made a showing let alone actually won. The machine politicians are still in shock, & I guess I am too. It was probably the best run campaign I've ever been involved in - everything just fell into place this time. Alex & I put together our best flyer yet & then, to counteract the traditional straight ticket voting, we had sample ballots printed explaining how to split your ticket. Between the two of us, we hit every door in the 3 Boroughs at least once with the flyer, then went back & passed out the ballot in strategic districts. By Election day we had passed out 23,000 pieces of literature. I must admit I really thought it was a wasted effort - I didn't know anyone who thought I had the slightest chance - except Alex (and we all know he's a bit crazy!). But he turned into a

slave driver & got very good at making me feel guilty if I hadn't covered my quota of houses for the day. Actually, the last few days before the election turned into a contest to see who could outdo the other. If I spent 9 hrs going door to door one day, he'd sneak out after supper and work another hour or so just to get one up on me. Towards the end, about the only thing that kept us going was our fear of letting the other person down if we didn't hold up our end. If nothing else had come out of this election, it brought Alex & I alot closer together. In one year we got 8 of our people elected, defeating the organization in Homestead & now in the School Board. Once the election was over I breathed a sigh of relief, thinking it would be quite a while before I'd have to worry about another election. Alex ended that thought pretty quick by announcing that he was going to run for State legislator & that he wanted me to run for committeewoman. He wants to take advantage of our winning streak! So, come February we'll begin working on still another campaign. I think we're both addicted! (or very much insane).

Somewhere in between all that I've been going to school full time. I've got a few good courses this term, but my favourite is Administrative Law. I'm doing very well in it & that's providing alot of incentive for me to go on to Law school when I finish my Masters. My <sup>MPP</sup> program just arranged a joint degree with the law school which would

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allow a student from either program to enter the other and receive 15 credits advanced standing. That's very tempting.

Well, I hate to cut this short, but the end of the term is nearing & I have papers to write & tests to study for. I was sworn in last night & already the meetings I have to attend are starting to pile up, so I have to budget my time pretty closely.

A belated thanks for your hospitality in August & my best to you & Lil.

Karen

Dear Karen,

12/8/79

When I returned from the second of two days of deposing an FBI agent in Washington yesterday a bit more tired than I would otherwise have been because of the strains of the nasty Government lawyer trying to be rougher than usual with mine the first thing I told me is "You want to read Karen's letter."

We are proud of you and your real accomplishment. For a Democrat young woman to run as a Republican to defeat an entrenched and very corrupt Democratic machine is quite something. Your margin also was pretty good. Great!

This is probably the only way people can really do something about getting the crooks out and seeking decent and honest government.

Doing this while back in college is even more of an accomplishment.

You (and Alex) are due more than just congratulations.

We're glad you found time to let us know.

Please excuse the haste. I've not yet looked at most of the mail but I don't want this to get lost in one of the ever-increasing stacks.

Our very best wishes,

This is the young woman who prepared the consolidated index to the King ass. books.

# Sable, Dems capture SV school board slots

The closest race for Steel Valley School Board was for the four-year unexpired term, with Karen Sable, on the Republican side, and Democrat Rita C. Hobart at times running neck and neck. But Sable captured the slot with 3,321 votes to Hobart's 2,944, a 377-vote edge. "Honestly, I didn't expect to win," Sable said of the Nov. 6 election. Referring to her membership in the Steel Valley Concerned Democrats, an independent group, she added, "No matter what group you're connected with, it's hard to win (in the Steel Valley) on a Republican ticket. I think the fever (she passed out to area residents) and the ballot card helped a lot."

About 46 percent of the registered voters in Munnhall, Homestead and West Homestead went to the polls for the school board races.

Winning three regular four-year terms on the board in unofficial results were Democrats Robert J. Kosko, Stephen A. Rojtas and Richard J. Puzio with 4,126, 3,664 and 3,460 votes, respectively. Republican contender Donald R. Kline came closest to capturing a slot with 2,208 total votes, trailed by Republican Annabelle C. Johnson with 1,978 voters giving her their support.

Rojtas, who cross-titled and thus was a shoe-in for one of the school board seats, received 1,408 Republican votes.

Vote tallies from Homestead residents in the Steel Valley School Board races include: Kosko, 1,007 votes; Rojtas, 940 Democratic votes and 133 Republican votes; Puzio, 942; Hobart, 823; Sable, 547; Kline, 305; and Johnson, 160.

The percentage of Munnhall residents who went to the polls for the races was slightly larger (about 46.4 percent) than the overall Steel Valley turnout. Munnhall's vote included: Kosko, 2,519; Sable, 2,104; Rojtas, 2,136 Democratic votes and 1,108 Republican; Puzio, 1,939; Hobart, 1,671; Johnson, 1,632; and Kline, 1,607.

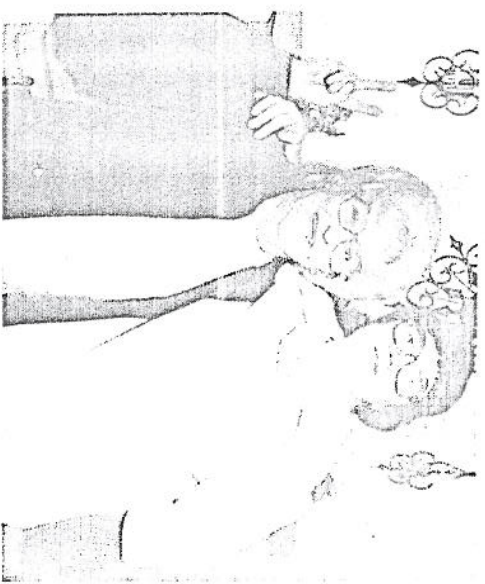
Voter turnout was poor in West Homestead, with about 45.4 percent of the voters casting ballots in the school board races. The borough's vote went as follows: Kosko, 600; Puzio, 579; Rojtas, 578 Democratic votes and 167 Republican; Sable, 490; Hobart, 445; Kline, 296; and Johnson, 186.

Early returns in the Hobart-Sable race showed Hobart slightly ahead. At Munnhall Democratic headquarters in the Park Arena Tuesday night, Hobart said although she hoped to win, Sable "definitely campaigned harder than I did."

Munnhall Democratic Chairman Ray Bohner said, "I have to give Karen Sable a lot of credit for the work she's done. Quite frankly, I think she did a lot more work and she deserved the victory."

Sable said she knew, before the race, that "it was going to be a very hard thing to win against the straight (Democratic) ticket. But I felt that anybody on the slate had a chance."

A Munnhall resident, she captured the largest percentage of the votes in her own district (11) with 369 votes compared to Hobart's 142. Hobart took her home borough of Homestead with 828 votes to Sable's 647. Sable is originally from Homestead, but moved to Munnhall in November 1978.



KAREN SABLE, right, who ran as a Republican for a Steel Valley school board seat and won by 377 votes over Democrat Rita Hobart, gets support from Homestead Councilwoman Marcella Schultz. Schultz's son, Alex, was Sable's campaign manager in the race.