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Letters to the Editor

Independent Candidate

To the Editor:

A few weeks ago, this newspaper printed an article about candidates running for Bruce Westerman's seat in Congress. The author left out the Independent candidate, Ms. Lee McQueen, an Independent from Texarkana. Ms. McQueen is my favorite of those who have put themselves forward for this seat. Like me, her academic background is in public administration so she is informed on public policy and issues. She is an excellent speaker. I have heard her in question and answer sessions and she is not thrown by any question because of her knowledge. And she impresses me because she is both straightforward and diplomatic. I would love to see her speak for AR Congressional District 4 in Washington, DC.

Mr. Westerman's speeches seem to me to be scripted and rehearsed. His website and newsletter appear to me to be candidate marketing rather than substantive. As a former political science professor, I find his letters full of errors and I want to mark them up in red ink and return them for corrections.

I do not know why the author of the article about candidates left out Ms. McQueen. I do believe that we deserve to hear from all the candidates. It is my observation that political discourse in Arkansas is dominated by people and organizations whose funding can be traced back to the Koch brothers. It

seems that because they are very wealthy, they can buy influence in the media, our government and even influence our churches. They can buy influence, but they really are not experts in policy or morals. I know I want to hear other voices besides the ones that they sponsor. Ms. Lee McQueen is a voice that I want to hear. She has a campaign website at www.mcqueen4congress.wordpress.com. Arkansans deserve actual policy discussions rather than the rhetoric with buzzwords that we are fed by many of our current elected officials. Ms. McQueen has also studied Spanish. We could get bilingual discussions.

Kathryn Morse El Dorado

Writing us a letter?

Letters to the editor from News-Times readers are encouraged. The editor reserves the right to condense letters as required by space limitations and to edit them before publication. Any letters deemed objectionable will not be printed. Letters must be signed by authors before being considered for publication.

• An address and phone number must be included for verification purposes.

- Letters must be addressed to the editor; open letters to other individuals or groups are not used.
- Letters must be 350 words or less.
- Poetry and form letters are not accepted.
- Anonymous letters or letters signed by a pseudonym are not accepted.
- No letters from nonresidents or copyrighted material will be accepted.
- Letters are limited to one letter per person, per month.

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