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ELECTION 2008 | STATE HOUSE DISTRICT 64

Stargel Leads in Campaign Contributions in District 64

From left) Jack English, Kelli Stargel and Phillip Walker

By <u>Robin Williams Adams</u> THE LEDGER

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LAKELAND | Kelli Stargel leads the race for contributions in the three-candidate Republican primary campaign for State House District 64 and had spent the least of the three through July.

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Phillip Walker, who spent the most, is second in fundraising. Jack English, second in spending, is lowest on donations.

Stargel's campaign reported \$21,854 in new contributions from April 1 into early August, making a total \$82,547 since the campaign began. That total includes \$10,000 she put in early in the campaign.

She reported spending \$18,806, of which the largest single expenditure was \$4,580 for signs to Campaign Graphics in Ocala on Jan. 24. Second-largest was \$3,200 on July 2 to Millennium Consulting in Orlando.

Phillip Walker added \$17,120 in new contributions, bringing his total to \$73,935. That includes \$250 he contributed early in his campaign.

He reported spending a total \$51,607. His largest single expenditure, \$5,778 on July 29, was to Direct Mail Systems in Clearwater for printing. His second largest, \$5,250 on July 9, was to OSI Research and Consulting in Tallahassee Two other expenditures the same day also went to the consulting firm.

Jack English boosted his campaign coffers by \$17,154, making his total \$33,954. New donations include \$5,000 he gave to his campaign on July 11. He previously made \$5,000 loans to his campaign in November and March and gave \$1,000 in July 2007.

He reported spending \$27,057. His largest reported expenditure, \$7,899 on June 4, was to Pure Postcards of Clearwater for campaign materials. He paid the Clearwater company another \$4,381 on July 16.

Well over half of Stargel's large contributions since April 1, those of \$500 or more, came from outside Polk County. They include groups such as the Florida Outdoor Advertising Association and Florida Physical Therapy Association in Tallahassee and Southern Gardens Citrus Holding Corp. and United States Sugar Corp. in Clewiston.

Most of Walker's \$500 contributions since April 1 were local, although he also has support from political action committees outside Polk. They include TreePAC of Tallahassee, political action committee for the Florida Forestry Association, and ABC of Florida in Tallahassee.

English's large donors mostly were local, including in-kind contributions such as lumber from companies including Rodda Construction, Nujack Development and Gulf Construction. The Florida Transportation Builders Association in Tallahassee gave \$500.

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