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When President Bush arrives in Peoria on Friday, July 25, to support the Republican 18<sup>th</sup> Congressional District candidate, one of his opponents, Sheldon Schafer of the Green Party, will be on the Peoria Riverfront handing out campaign literature and encouraging contributions to local emergency shelters and food banks.

“We need to create a new kind of politics in America that is less about money for advertising and more about people-to-people communication”, said the Green Party candidate who shares the November ballot with a Democrat and Republican to replace retiring Ray LaHood. Schafer stated that food banks are a creative American solution to the problem of poverty and waste.

“We can provide everyone with decent housing, good health care, inspiring education and sustainable living wage jobs if we all come together and work together. Our country has great human needs that need leadership and national commitment, national unity. I believe there are solutions that are not just Republican Red, Democrat Blue and alternative Green. Americans are creative problem solvers if we can get inspired. Instead of treating people as votes to be manipulated by marketing schemes and expensive advertising, I hope we can connect with the folks enjoying a Friday night on the Peoria Riverfront and across Central Illinois to take personal action to help the homeless, and the hungry, and to spend a few minutes thinking about how to make a positive difference in America.”

Schafer managed the Green Party’s campaign for Governor in Central and Western Illinois. The Green Party received over 15% of the vote in Central Illinois in 2006 when their candidate, Rich Whitney, ran for Governor. Whitney received over 360,000 votes statewide, spending 12 cents per vote, while Blagojevich spent over \$12 per vote that he received.

For more information contact the Schafer for Congress campaign at 309-868-4028.