

In This Issue:

Meet the Candidates	1	Profiling Padilla	2
Take Back Congress	1	Seals & Smith	4-5
Face Facts	2	Calendar	7

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Taking Back Congress, One House at a Time



by Ben Struhl

We're taking back Congress in 2006! Well ... we might, but to be honest our chances are slim — the Democratic Party just isn't well enough situated to do that.

I'm not talking about the massive failure in party leadership we've been having, or the complete inability to capitalize on the scandals of the Republicans in power (although those are certainly relevant factors) — it's political geography that's a large part of our problem.

In the Senate, the Democrats start out with three more seats to defend than the GOP (including Independent Jim Jeffords' seat in Vermont). In order for Democrats to possibly win the Senate, they would first have to retain all of their open seats — in Maryland, Minnesota, and New Jersey — and Republicans may have strong candidates in each of these states. Democrats would also have to hold on to all incumbent seats. However, assuming all goes well with currently held seats, the Democrats would still be six seats shy of Senate control.

Two Republican Senators are ripe targets, Rick Santorum of Pennsylvania and Lincoln Chafee of Rhode Island. Some say Santorum is so far behind in the polls he has already lost to popular challenger Bob Casey Chafee has to overcome both a tough Republican primary, then a tough

Continued on page 6



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Tenth News

FEBRUARY 2006 Illinois Tenth Congressional District Democrats Newsletter Volume 3, Edition 2

Your Chance to Meet This Year's Democratic Candidates

by John Hmurovic

Voters often complain about not knowing much about the candidates. With limited news coverage of the races and limited budgets by candidates to get out their messages, it's a valid complaint. But in the coming weeks, Democrats throughout the 10th Congressional District will have no excuse for being uninformed as they head to their polling places on election day.

A series of township-wide meetings will be held in every part of the district to give voters a chance to see and hear the Democratic candidates in the March 21st primary. In some cases, voters who attend these meetings will also be asked to indicate who they support in one or more of the races.

Most of the township-wide meetings are being organized by the local Democratic township organizations. The New Trier Township Democratic Organization, for example, has had an endorsement meeting for many years. At that meeting, active members of their organization can not only meet the Democratic candidates, but also vote on who the Democratic township organization will endorse.

Northfield Township Democrats had a similar endorsement meeting on January 29, but the Northfield meeting had a slightly different twist. Postcards were mailed to every Democratic voter, inviting them to the meeting. After the active party members voted on their endorsements, a straw poll was taken of all the attendees to see which way they were leaning in the Democratic race for Congress. Dan Seals took the majority of votes over Zane Smith, although many in the crowd agreed that both would be strong candidates..

Straw polls will be a part of the township meetings in the weeks ahead for Moraine, Shields and



U.S. Congressional candidate Zane Smith smiles at a comment during the Northfield Township Democrats endorsement meeting.

This is a tentative list of when some of the Democratic township meetings are scheduled:

- February 12 – New Trier**
- February 13 – Moraine**
- February 21 – Elk Grove**
- February 25 – Palatine**
- February 26 – West Deerfield**
- February 27 - Warren**
- March 2 – Shields**
- March 5 – Vernon**
- March 8 – Libertyville**
- March 9 - Waukegan**

Details about where and when each meeting will be held are in the events listing on page 7 of this newsletter. Check with www.tenthdems.org for updates on dates, times, and locations.

Continued on page 8

MARK KIRK – FACE THE FACTS

by John Hmurovic

What He Is Saying:

With much fanfare, Mark Kirk has introduced the “Congressional Integrity Act.” If it becomes law, he says it will deny a congressional pension to any Member of Congress convicted of a felony.

Why He Is Saying It:

Republicans are in deep trouble for ethical, and in some cases, criminal behavior. Republican House

colleagues Randy Cunningham (R-California), Tom DeLay (R-Texas), Bob Ney (R-Ohio), and John Doolittle (R-California) have either been indicted or are under investigation, and in the Senate both Bill Frist (R-Tennessee) and Conrad Burns (R-Montana) are being investigated for alleged improprieties. This has created a crisis for the GOP. It’s making them look bad. If other Republicans (Kirk, for example) want to get re-elected, they have to start looking like they are tough on the issue of ethics.



GOP Leader
Tom DeLay

The Facts About Mark Kirk:

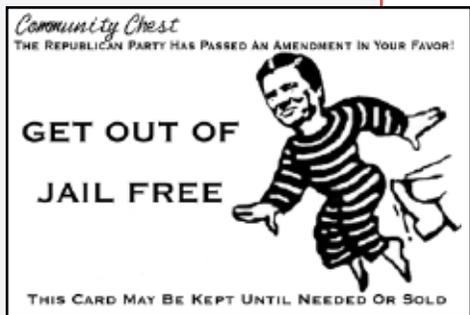
In January 2005, Republican House leader Tom DeLay was being accused of ethics violations. DeLay wanted to make sure that the House would not investigate, so he introduced a measure to weaken House ethics rules. Mark Kirk voted with DeLay to weaken the House rules. When Mark Kirk cast his vote on that measure, did he think

that 10th District voters wanted weaker ethics rules to protect DeLay? That’s one of only two possible explanations for his vote. The other possible explanation is that Kirk was simply following the orders of his boss, Tom DeLay, and thought it was more important to do as DeLay wanted rather than what his 10th District constituents wanted. (He has a history of doing that.) Now, Kirk is trying to hide his January 2005 vote by introducing a bill that is designed to make him look tough on ethics. Where was Mark Kirk’s concern for ethics reform before the current GOP ethics crisis?

Can Congressman Kirk Wriggle Out of This?

by Jane Goldenberg

From all available evidence, Congressman Mark Kirk still stands firmly behind his comment that discriminating against young Arab men from terrorist-producing countries is just fine with him. The question: How fine will it be with everybody else in the 10th Congressional District? And will it help stir up opposition to Kirk’s increasingly knee-jerk support of President Bush’s agenda emphasizing security over civil rights?



The Chicago Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR) reports Kirk’s support of this type of discrimination has already helped it to register voters, according to Ahmed Rehab, communications director of CAIR-Chicago. “People are seething,” he said. “It’s not why people immigrated to this country to be discriminated against. It’s the absolute opposite. It’s because they wanted a fair chance at life.”

“I think when reelection comes around,” Rehab said, “we’re going to remind the voting blocs of his stance and his comments, and, more importantly, the unprofessional way in which he dealt with calls for an apology, calls for a meeting. He didn’t acknowledge them. And it’s very disturbing ... for an elected official to not acknowledge the concerns of his constituents.”

Twenty-seven prominent groups (such as the Illinois Coalition for Immigrant & Refugee Rights and the Jewish Council on Urban Affairs) and individuals (including U.S. Rep. Jan Schakowsky and U.S. Sen. Barack Obama) stood up last November to protest Kirk’s remark. CAIR delivered some 800 petition cards to Kirks’ office, but Kirk did not meet with any of his constituents on the matter, nor respond to a single card, Rehab said.

The point is, as Schakowsky told a crowd at the Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights, “No one should be OK with discrimination.”

According to published reports, Kirk made the following comment to a technology conference at Northwestern University: “I’m OK with discrimination against young Arab males from terrorist-producing states. I think that when we look at the threat that’s out there, young men between, say, the ages of 18 and 25 from a couple of countries, I believe a certain amount of intense security should be placed on them.”

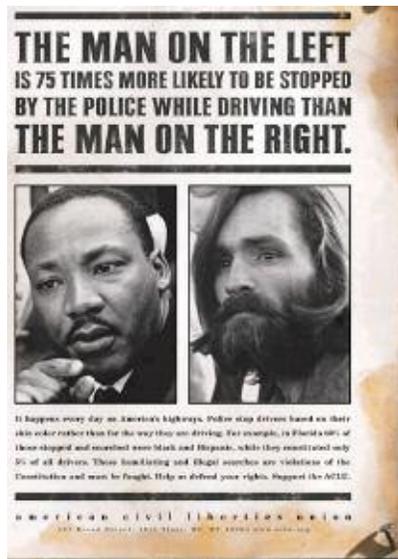
Kirk later told a reporter from the Chicago Tribune that he would be willing to discuss his comments with any constituents from the 10th. So what gives?

Rehab noted that CAIR only requested a meeting for the Congressman to discuss his position.

“To shun earnest requests for clarification from a group that was offended by your quotes really is complete disrespect, and that’s what disappointed us the most,” he said of Kirk.

By most accounts, racial profiling doesn’t even work. According to a front-page article in The New York Times on January 23, our government’s racial profiling has not led to a single prosecution. A group of the hundreds of noncitizens rounded up by the federal government and held in a federal detention center in Brooklyn in the weeks after 9/11 are now suing the government, claiming they were abused and deprived of their due process rights because of their religion or national origin.

Continued on page 8



JOSE PADILLA

by Kevan D. Morgan

Surely, conservatives, moderates, and liberals of the 10th Congressional District share a common belief that as American citizens, none of us may be held indefinitely in criminal custody without charges and a trial. Recent politics and court cases prove us all wrong.

The September 11, 2005 cover of The New York Times Magazine carried a picture of Osama Bin Laden and the sub-title, "... the Forever War." How appropriate, now that the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit has upheld in Padilla v. Hanft the President's right, by a stroke of his pen alone, to order the incarceration of a United States Citizen "forever" without the right to a trial, or even charges.

While in Afghanistan, the Padilla opinion says, U.S. citizen Padilla joined forces "hostile" to the United States "in our war against al Qaeda," and shortly afterward was recruited by al Qaeda to blow up apartment buildings in the U.S. Although apparently excised from the Opinion for alleged reasons of national security, as reported by the Miami Herald on November 22, it is well known that the Bush administration has said Padilla planned an attack with a "dirty bomb" radiological device.

When Padilla flew to Chicago in 2002 to begin his assignment, he was arrested at O'Hare by "civilian authorities." President Bush "personally designated" Padilla an "enemy combatant" after finding



that Padilla had engaged in hostilities that included preparing for acts of "international terrorism," that he represented a "continuing, present, and grave danger to the national security," and that Padilla's detention was necessary to prevent him from aiding al Qaeda to attack this country. Mr. Bush then ordered that Padilla be transferred from civilian custody into military custody, where he has sat for about three and one-half years.

Padilla challenged the constitutionality of his detention by bringing to federal court a "habeas corpus" petition, a plea to tell the President that he is wrongfully holding a person. The trial court agreed that Padilla had to be charged or released. The Fourth Circuit acknowledged that Padilla had raised an "exceedingly important question," but concluded that the President could indefinitely detain him under Congress's post-9/11 grant of authority. It is not obvious that the Congressional Resolution was even a declaration of war, but the Circuit Court assumes it. Rule #1 in law is, "never assume."

The question is whether that grant of authority is legitimate. At first blush, the decision is simple and attractive. Padilla is being held by the military because, if he were not, he might harm us. No one would have questioned the military's right to hold Padilla if he had been captured on the battlefield with the "assault" rifle described in the opinion. Nevertheless, Padilla would be no more able to escape from the FBI than the military. The Fourth Circuit cited a second non-existent danger to buttress its decision, holding that under civilian incarceration Padilla might still be able to communicate and plot with his confederates. However, the civilian attorney general already has the power to find that an inmate is part of a violent or terrorist organization and institute "Special Administrative Measures," barring the prisoner's outside communication virtually entirely.

The Fourth Circuit further rejected Padilla's argument based upon Ex parte Milligan, which held "that a United States citizen associated with an anti-Union secret society but unaffiliated with the Confederate army could not be tried by a military tribunal while access to civilian courts was open and unobstructed." In order to avoid Milligan's clear ruling, the Fourth Circuit created a dangerous trick bag. It reasoned that Milligan does not extend to "enemy combatants" because Mr. Milligan was not "a part of or associated with the armed forces of the enemy." Yet, this contradicts President Bush's determinations in a May 7, 2003, White House press release, which stated, "Under Article 4 of the Geneva Convention, however, Taliban detainees are not entitled to POW status," and, "Al Qaeda is an international terrorist group and cannot be considered a state party to the Geneva Convention. Its members, according to Bush, are not covered by the Geneva Convention, and are not entitled to POW status under the treaty."

Thus, the Padilla decision rests on a sleight *Continued on page 8*

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Meet the Candidates in the 10th Congressional District

Democrats in Illinois' 10th Congressional District are lucky to have two fine candidates—Dan Seals and Zane Smith—running in the primary. Mark Paul caught up with the candidates and gave them a chance to talk about some of the issues.

Dan Seals

Tell us something about your personal history.

I'm 34. I grew up in Hyde Park and went to Kenwood High School. Dad played defensive tackle for the Bears and was the first African-American at the Board of Trade. Mom is a social worker. They divorced when I was young; my stepdad is a pediatrician and medical director of ambulatory services at Cook County Hospital.

I studied journalism at Boston University, then taught English for two years at a public high school in Japan while learning their language. I came back to the U.S. and earned an M.A. in International Economics and Japan Studies at the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies. At SAIS I won a one-year Presidential Management Fellowship and spent six months working as an aide to the Assistant Secretary of Export in the Department of Commerce, focusing on tracking exports of U.S. technology to foreign markets. For the other six months, I worked on economic policy in Sen. Joe Lieberman's office.

I came back home to get an M.B.A. at the University of Chicago, then worked in marketing for two years at Sprint. Since 2003 I've worked at GE Commercial Finance, where I'm Director of Marketing for the real estate lending business. Right now, though, I'm on leave so I can devote myself full-time to the congressional campaign.

We moved to Wilmette several years ago.

Any thoughts about Democrats as the mommy party?

Democrats have a history of focusing on issues that impact those who have less. It's a nurturing and motherly quality. Republicans are ready to fight, being tough on crime. It's somehow more masculine. Neither one is accurate. It's an easy way to describe differences. Clinton signed the welfare reform legislation and you certainly couldn't call that super nurturing.

We need a new paradigm: What will it take to make American industries the most competitive and most successful? More people need a shot at the American dream. Access to a good education shouldn't be limited to those in certain zip codes. There has to be a way for workers in industries that are suffering to get trained in skills for a healthy industry.

Our educational system as a whole isn't producing workers as skilled as we need if we're going to maintain our long-term growth and position in the world.

What did you learn about Congress when you worked for Lieberman?

I was impressed with his confidence and control. Before Joe was about to make an unpopular vote, a group of constituents came in and made the case for voting the other way. He heard them out and then very clearly said, I can't vote with you and then explained why. And he did it without upsetting them,



Zane Smith

Tell us something about your personal history.

I'm 48. I grew up in St. Charles when it was rural. Dad was a truck mechanic and a refrigeration engineer, a union guy all his life. Mom was a homemaker.

I graduated from Southern Illinois in three years, then law school at John Marshall. I always wanted to be a lawyer.

After a year defending medical malpractice suits, I joined Synergism, a real estate development company operating primarily in Lakeview, as a partner and corporate counsel. I opened a solo law office in 1989, primarily for personal injury plaintiffs. Zane D. Smith and Associates now employs three attorneys and five staffers.

We moved to Winnetka in 1995

When did you first run for office?

In 2000, for Winnetka Park Board Commissioner. I filled out the last two years of a four-year term, then was re-elected in 2002 to a four-year term. The issues are mainly about capital improvement. While I've served on the board, we've replaced all the playground equipment and rebuilt the beach house. Now we're looking at revamping the warming house next to the skating rink.

Why are you running?

I think we can come together and do better. I'm tired of throwing newspapers at the TV. Government hasn't been there to help people. It exists to help those who can't help themselves. I can make a difference.

I have been trying to improve my community and make the world a better place as best I can. My law practice is about representing people who can't represent themselves.

What most concerns me is the shift in policy away from poor people and toward the rich. I know what it is to live a privileged life and what it is to not be able to pay the mortgage.

The Bush administration's social agenda is about making a profit and making the rich richer. I'm all for a nice business environment, but not at the expense of people who can't help themselves.

They're passing tax cuts that benefit the top 5 percent, but result in deficits in the billions. At the same time, they're cutting Pell grants, child lunch programs, food stamps, and child support enforcement. The House has cut all these programs.

The second issue that really motivated me, and I saw it last summer is the corruption. It started with Tom DeLay and the K Street Project.

Why do you think the 10th is ready to elect a Democrat?

Not only is this community one of the most prosperous, but it's also among the best educated and it gives back a lot. The



Continued on page 5

so the meeting ended amicably. He was respectful of their opinion and could continue to have a conversation going forward. That's something I aspire to.

I worked with him on economic policy, not foreign policy. I've never shied from saying I think he's wrong about the war, but I have a lot of respect for him. I don't expect any Democrat to endorse me before the primary, but afterwards, I expect to have his full support.

How are you positioning yourself against Kirk and for the primary vs. Smith?

I've talked with Zane at a number of events and I think our values are similar. I am genuinely and honestly interested in making things better. Right now, I'm trying to meet as many voters as I can so they can look me in the eye and get a feel for what I am, how I would do in a race against Kirk, and how I would function in Congress.

I have a strong background in both business and policy, while Kirk has never worked in the private sector. There are three policy areas I'm particularly interested in:

A responsible withdrawal from Iraq. We shouldn't have gone in there, and it was mismanaged and misguided from the beginning. We've dug ourselves into a hole there, and the best thing is to get out without further destabilizing the area.

Deficit reduction. It's an issue of responsibility. We shouldn't pass on problems to the next generation, and the deficit affects our economic well being now. It's driving up interest rates for car and home loans. We're borrowing \$60 billion every month from China, Japan, South Korea, and Saudi Arabia, and that makes it difficult to take a hard line against those countries. We have to roll back the Bush tax cuts, and take a hard look at spending, including the war in Iraq that costs \$60 billion a year.

Affordable health care. 45 million Americans aren't covered, including millions of children. Health care isn't just a moral issue. The costs for business have doubled over the last five years according to the Tribune. That's a huge drag on business. I haven't seen Kirk talk about health care in all his years in office. It's not something he's done anything about, but it's hard to find anything he's done. He has one of worst records in the House for bills dying in committee. His first resolution was passed only last month.

I don't have to attack Kirk's record; I just have to put it out there. He voted to intervene in the Terry Schiavo case. He voted for a \$14.5 billion tax cut for big oil. He voted to cut college loan programs as part of the last deficit reduction bill that will destroy the social safety net. At the end of the day, it's about choices: do you want to solve problems and help the weak, or wait until they fall into the prison system or some other anti-social way of life? I'm not talking about a handout, but a hand up. Kirk has a sink or swim mentality, even when we know more people are sinking now than four years ago. There are four million more households below the poverty line than there were in 2001, which was the bottom of a recession.

Why do you think the 10th is ready to elect a Democrat? How can you succeed when so many have failed before?

I'm willing to do a lot of fundraising, which we'll need to have a chance here. I can relate to the district, and more important, the district can relate to me, whether it's Waukegan and North Chicago or Highwood, Highland Park or Glencoe. We can talk about the environment, Israel, the daily commute, education, and jobs in Wheeling.

A Democrat can win. Look at the locally elected people, like Eddie Washington, Susan Garrett, and Kathy Ryg, just to name a few. There are so many great Democrats elected in the district. If we give voters a candidate they can support, we can mobilize people to come out and vote. And we need to educate people as to who Mark Kirk is. Kirk's voting record ties him to DeLay about 90-percent of the time, and the growing corruption scandal between DeLay and Abramoff.

majority of voters here will support a congressman who says we have to help these people before we help ourselves. I'm counting on the common sense and knowledge base of these voters. There are 500,000 people in this district, and it includes a lot of people in Waukegan and the northwest part of the district who are already stretched.

Kirk said, elect me and I'll be a moderate like Porter. He's been anything but moderate, voting consistently with DeLay and Bush on taxes and spending. He votes with DeLay 91 percent of the time.

This district is socially progressive but financially conservative. Democrat principles can attract something like 51 percent or 53 percent.

What's your thinking on Iraq and terrorism?

The first thing is to separate Iraq from terrorism, especially 9/11. Saddam and bin Laden came from opposite ideological poles. Afghanistan, not Iraq, was a breeding ground for terror.

Invading Iraq was a mistake. We're there and we have to support the people who are living and dying there, but we need a plan to get out. At the forum in January, Gen. Gard explained that the fact that we're there creates more terror and anti-American sentiment.

We have yet to hear from this administration what the endgame is. Staying the course is not a foreign policy.

What voters need to remember is that Kirk was one of six congressmen who helped plan the invasion. He doesn't communicate with the community. You never see him hold a town meeting, because he doesn't have the stomach to go before his constituency.

How are you positioning yourself in the primary vs. Dan Seals?

I like Dan, he's a nice guy. But I see three distinctions between us:

- 1) I have a lot more community involvement. I volunteer legal services; I was an Eagle Scout and serve as an assistant Scoutmaster for my son's Boy Scout troop. And there's the Park District.
- 2) I'm an elected official. I know what it takes to formulate a budget, when it's time to build a consensus among officials, and when to hold my ground. We work with a number of other agencies and governments, including the state park district and legislature.
- 3) I think if you're going to represent the Tenth, you should live in it. Dan doesn't.

What are the three most important things you want voters to know about Kirk and about you?

Mainly that he's not who he says is. Based on his voting record, he's not a moderate, but as far right as you can go.

• I'm not sure you can trust him. Kirk gave a speech on the House floor about Iraq and said he works for CIA, so he knows things. When Lee Goodman challenged him working for the executive and legislative branches at the same time, Kirk had the speech revised in the Congressional Record.

• Kirk says a congressman should be a problem solver on the local level. And that's right, but he should be working with local officials. I've talked with a lot of them, and nearly all of them can't stand working with him. He won't return their phone calls, so they call Durbin or Obama. At a meeting about the Ft. Sheridan schools issue he waved a letter, didn't take any questions, and left. He said the letter was a federal commitment to cover education expenses for the next several years, but the letter actually only acknowledged the problem and didn't commit to anything. Kirk recanted to the Tribune a day later.

• Kirk voted for drilling in ANWR on the second go-around, despite saying he was against it. He cast the tie-breaking vote on social services cuts.

Taking Back Congress, continued from page 1

general election battle. Both these seats have to be taken for the Democrats to have a chance in the Senate.

That would still leave the Democrats four seats shy of Senate control, with only five other seats that they have a serious shot at: an open seat in Tennessee, and seats held by incumbents in Montana, Ohio, Arizona, or Missouri. None of these races are likely Democratic victories, although a lot could happen in the next nine months. Even taking three of these long shot races still leaves Democrats shy of control due to Dick Cheney's tie-breaking vote.

There's more hope for change in the House of Representatives, although years of gerrymandering, adding to the already substantial incumbent's advantage, has left very few districts in contention. Most political experts agree that there are only 30 very competitive races in the House next year. For the Democrats to take the House they would have to win 25 of the contests — a tall order, given that many already lean Republican demographically. Although the climate is right to make this possible, even a good Democratic performance in 2006 could leave us short of a Democratic majority.

To increase our chances in the House we have to start expanding the number of races in contention, instead of confining ourselves to merely 30. Although efforts to do this have been unsuccessful in the past, the political climate may be perfect for Democratic change this year, even if the dynamics of the situation fail us. Therefore, we have to change the logistics as best we can to let that change occur, and that means putting as many House races into contention.

We can start right here in the 10th District — this district went for Kerry in 2004, and polling indicates Mark Kirk can be beaten. Will it be difficult? Yes, but we have little other choice if we want a good chance of taking at least one branch of Congress back. Some say to write off this seat, but I remember the famous truism, "If you don't try, you can't succeed." With this political situation, trying hard is all we've got going for us.

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THE SEVEN MOST UNPOPULAR SENATORS WITH TERMS ENDING IN 2006—ARE REPUBLICANS

(Percentage is their net popularity – percentage of their state's residents with a positive opinion of them, minus those with a negative opinion. The national average for Senators is +20.)



Conrad Burns (R)

Montana
 - 9%



Bill Frist (R)

Tennessee
 + 5%



Mike DeWine (R)

Ohio
 + 6%



John Ensign (R)

Nevada
 + 13%



Rick Santorum (R)

Pennsylvania
 - 2%



Jon Kyl (R)

Arizona
 + 5%



Jim Talent (R)

Missouri
 + 12%

SOURCE: Survey USA, January 2006

There wasn't enough room in the Northbrook Library Auditorium for all the people who wanted to talk about where America's Iraq policy should go from here. Tenth Dems co-sponsored the forum. Congressman Mark Kirk was invited, but did not attend. Since the war in Iraq began, Kirk (a solid backer of the Bush Iraq policy) has not held any public forums on the issue.



Things To Do, Places To Be!

Go to the "Events" link at www.tenthdems.org for more details on these events (possible cost, RSVP, etc.) and information on other events.

The political calendar is filling up as the March 21 primary nears. Be certain to check www.tenthdems.org for any additions or changes to this list of events.

Campaign Kick-Off for Larry Oliver for Lake County Sheriff

Thursday February 2, 5:30 pm
Byron Colby Barn - Prairie Crossing
1561 Jones Point Road
Grayslake

Diane Hewitt for County Board Pizza Party Campaign Kickoff

Thursday February 2, 5:30 pm
Corky's Pub
11456 W. Wadsworth Road
Beach Park

Alexi Giannoulis for State Treasurer Fund Raiser

Friday February 3, 7:00 pm
Cubby Bear
1059 W. Addison Street
Chicago

Invisible Ballots - Exposé of Computerized Voting

Friday February 3, 7:30 pm
Pick a Cup Coffee
1813 Dempster Street
Evanston

Tenth Dems Training: How to Grow the Grass from the Roots!

Saturday February 4, 2:00 pm
Vernon Area Public Library
300 Olde Half Day Road
Lincolnshire

Open House for Dan Seals

Sunday February 5, 2:00 pm
Home of Steve & Carol Jones
740 Melody Road
Lake Forest

Spielman and Spaghetti!

Monday February 6, 6:00 pm
Italian Kitchen
6448 Deerfield Road
Deerfield

Town Hall Forum on the Patriot Act

Thursday February 9, 7:00 pm
494 Laurel Avenue
Highland Park Public Library
Highland Park

Dan Seals Open House

Thursday February 9, 7:00 pm
Hosted by Marvin Miller
1926 Lake Street
Wilmette

Coffee for Zane Smith

Friday February 10
Home of Mary and Tim Nelson
993 Ash Street
Winnetka

New Trier Democratic Organization Endorsement Meeting

Sunday, February 12, 2:00 pm
Winnetka Community House
620 Lincoln Avenue
Winnetka

Get A Manicure & Meet Dan Seals

Monday February 13, 9:00 am
Girlfriends
1041 Tower Road
Winnetka

Wine & Cheese with Dan Seals in Wilmette

Sunday February 12, 5:00 pm
Home of Libby Bankoff
2106 Elmwood
Wilmette

Moraine Township Democrats Candidate Forum

Monday February 13, 7:00 pm
Highland Park Community House
1991 Sheridan Road
Highland Park

Open House in North Chicago for Dan Seals

Thursday February 16, 5:00 pm
Toby's Tavern & Grill
1930 Green Bay Road
North Chicago

Meet Dan Seals in Palatine

Saturday February 18, 4:00 pm
Home of Alan and Georgann Prochaska
490 W. Wilshire Drive
Hoffman Estates

Cindy Sheehan and Juan Torres - Gold Star Families for Peace

Saturday February 18, 7:00 pm
Lake Street Church
607 Lake Street
Evanston

Cocktail Party for Dan Seals

Monday February 20, 7:00 pm
Hosted by Howard & Miriam Lipski
1550 Berkley Road
Highland Park

Meet Congressional Candidate Zane Smith

Tuesday February 21, 7:00 pm
Home of Ruth & Chuck Provow
956 Bob-O-link Road
Highland Park

Elk Grove Township 10th District Democrats Meet the Candidates

Tuesday February 21, 7:00 pm
Holiday Inn Express
2120 S. Arlington Heights Road
Arlington Heights

An Evening With Dan Seals

Thursday February 23, 7:00 pm
Hosted by the Schwartz Family & Roberta Schaffer
4016 Picardy Drive
Northbrook

Dan Seals for Congress Coffee

Friday February 24, 9:30 am
Hosted by Jennifer Lind Ryan & Debi Chess Mabie
2015 Central Avenue
Wilmette

Palatine Township Democrats Candidate Forum

Saturday February 25, 9:00 am
Twin Lakes Golf Club
1200 E. Twin Lakes Drive
Palatine

West Deerfield Township Democrats Meet the Candidates

Sunday February 26, 2:00 pm
Deerfield Public Library
920 Waukegan Road
Deerfield

Meet the Candidates in Warren Township

Monday February 27, 7:00 pm
Warren-Newport Public Library
224 N. O'Plaine Road
Gurnee

Racial Profiling, *continued from page 2*

Rachel Meeropol, a lawyer for the Center for Constitutional Rights, which represents two brothers who were held, told The New York Times, "The kind of torture, interrogation and arbitrary detention that we now associate with Guantanamo and secret C.I.A. facilities really started right here, in Brooklyn."

Is this kind of policy – judging people guilty based on what they look like, what country they were born in rather than facts that might justify a warrant in a court of law – what we really want? Apparently, according to Kirk, no longer should the United States offer refuge to the world's "huddled masses yearning to be free" – if they don't fit the profile.

Meet the Candidates *continued from page 1*

Vernon Township Democrats, as well as a few others. Unlike endorsements, in which a candidate is formally backed by a political group, a straw poll is just an informal gauge of how people feel about the candidates. Some township Democratic organizations, such as Palatine Township, will have neither an endorsement nor a straw poll, but will still have a meeting to give voters a chance to meet the candidates.

Tenth Dems is playing a role in helping some of the Democratic township organizations by sending out a mailing to Democratic voters informing them of their township meeting. At these township-wide gatherings, voters will hear from the candidates for Congress, as well as candidates for legislative offices, county offices, and in some cases, candidates on the ballot this year for statewide office.



U.S. Congressional Candidate Dan Seals at the Northfield Township Caucus, Sunday, January 29.

Padilla, *continued from page 3*

of hand, because the very underpinning of the President's asserted power to detain is that Padilla was associated with the armed forces of the enemy. At the same time, the Fourth Circuit knew that the same President, in order to avoid the Geneva Convention, does not legally recognize the Taliban or al Qaeda as armed forces at all, but instead categorizes them as secret societies, the same as Mr. Milligan's group.

Thus, also, Padilla rests right where the President wants him. Citizen Padilla has neither recourse as a criminal to civilian courts nor protections as a combatant in either a military tribunal or under international treaty. But don't the facts recited by the Court justify Padilla's detention? Maybe, but facts are relevant only to an evidence-based inquiry --- a trial. If, as the Fourth Circuit has, the judiciary is going to abdicate its duty to determine the facts and merely rubber-stamp the President's determinations, then the facts are irrelevant; the President's signature is sufficient to incarcerate. If Padilla is a traitor, he should be tried as one in a trial in which our Constitution mandates evidence against him from at least two witnesses or Padilla's confession "in open court."

President Bush's authority to order Padilla detained indefinitely as an "enemy combatant" was granted to him by Congress in response to the 9/11 attacks and, therefore, deserved great deference. Nevertheless, quietly, chillingly, and illegally, the Padilla case makes the President a Caesar. Padilla was arrested by the FBI, not the military, "in conjunction with a grand jury investigation of the September 11 attacks." Thus, when Bush ordered the civilian Justice Department to turn Padilla over to the military, he hijacked a supposedly independent judiciary and the FBI into assisting in a military operation, the capture of an "enemy combatant." This was a declaration of martial law, originally absent the declaration but now ensconced by the Fourth Circuit.

Our only hope is that the new, John Roberts-led Supreme Court will truly be strict constructionist and reverse the President's act of taking Padilla's liberty and property, and his life may be next, without due process of law. In early January, Roberts allowed Padilla to be moved from the military brig to a jail in Miami, without much comment.. Now that a President's mere accusation against a citizen can justify indefinite detention, the Bush Administration has seized power in the criminal justice system unchecked by the other two branches of government. If the President's accusatory "facts" are no longer to be subjected to courtroom cross-examination, then nothing blocks the President from declaring you, me, or even John Roberts an "enemy combatant" and disappearing any of us . . . forever.

Postscript: Padilla was indicted in late November. However, as reported in the latimes.com. "In a telling omission, that sensational "dirty bomb" plot is not mentioned. The Justice Department's 31-page indictment charges Padilla with conspiracy to murder, kidnap and harm people overseas and with supporting terrorists. Yet it is a far cry from the government's original accusations." Apparently, Bush's scary "radiological" bomb was a myth. Well, fool us once [about scary bombs]. Evidently, Mark Kirk, can be fooled twice. On December 14, he voted to extend the life of the Patriot Act, and as Kirk's last Democratic opponent for Congress noted: "He has supported the Bush administration's policy of detaining people without charges or access to attorneys." In the hope Kirk would prove he was a fighter for the Constitution by saying he disagreed with the Padilla decision, the writer called Mr. Kirk's office to check his "official" position, but despite a promise from his staff to email a response, it has not arrived. When you vote in 2006, remember which candidates want the Executive Branch to have the power to put you in a Federal Penitentiary, without charges, and without the right to a trial until the end of time.

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