

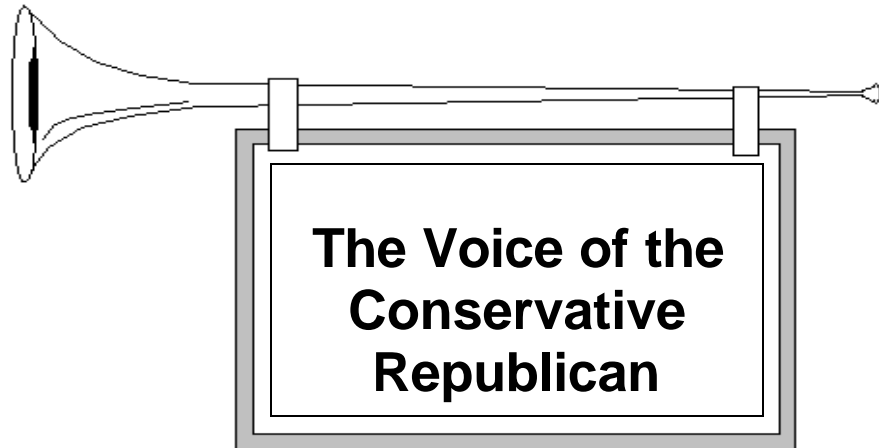
TAPROOT *Trumpet*

Vol. 42 No. 1

April 2008

**F or if the
TRUMPET
give an
uncertain
sound, who
shall prepare
himself to the
battle?**

1 Cor. 14:8



Dem Power Threatens DuPage

by **George Kocan,**
TAPROOT Communications Director

During the Watergate years, Democrats "slaughtered" the Republicans in Addison Township. They showed Addison Township Republicans what "the Democrat way" was. After winning Addison Township offices, they showed up on a Friday, fired everyone, and told them to clear out by Monday. "They can do that today," warned Pat Durante.

DuPage County Republican Central Committee (DCRCC) Chairman Dan Cronin recently appointed Durante to serve as DCRCC's Vice-Chairman. Durante spoke to conservative activists Saturday, March 15, at the monthly breakfast meeting of the TAPROOT Republicans at the Old Country Buffet, in Lombard.

Durante started out as a volunteer for Barry Goldwater and worked his way up, knocking on doors in Addison Township, working for the venerable Congressman Henry Hyde, until he earned a leadership position as Township Chairman. It took 10 years, but eventually Addison Republicans cleaned the last Democrat from Addison Township elected office.

Durante has earned recognition as the longest serving DCRCC member. His energy and charisma filled the room, as he related his efforts to build up the Republican Party not only in Addison Township, but throughout DuPage County. He worked to make even simple changes, like using computers instead of index cards to store information about members. He strongly advocates more public exposure for Republican candidates -- parades, Lincoln Day Dinners, and Republican Day events provide important opportunities for making contact with the public. Durante offered a warning.

The new Chairman of the Democrat Party in DuPage is Robert Peickert. He characterized him as a tough, rough opponent who does not play by the rules. Peickert has failed to file relevant forms, failed to report financial contributions, and reported fictitious contributions. Durante also warned the group about DAWN (DuPage Against War Now), a Democrat group which wants to cut and run out of Iraq. These Democrats seek to demoralize opposition to the war on terror by forcing township governments to issue public resolutions against military action in Iraq. Last year, they failed except in Downers Grove. This year, he expects them to try again on April 8.

Republicans need to embark on a program of training and education. Durante emphatically advised adherence to Ronald Reagan's Eleventh Commandment, "Thou shalt not criticize a fellow Republican in public." (See page 2)

**Candidate for U.S. Senate
Gives Talk—page 4**

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Trumpet belong to the writers
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the views of TAPROOT Republi-
cans or its Board.

Dem threat con'd from p.1

Answering a question about the bias of major newspapers like the Chicago Tribune, Sun-Times, and Daily Herald, he predicted their eventual demise. The public is switching to the internet. Sam Zell, who bought the Tribune and may buy the Sun-Times, will likely strip these newspapers down and sell them off. They will not be a factor, he said. Durante reported that Cronin had appointed TAPROOT Chairman Dave Diersen to serve as DCRCC's webmaster. Diersen moderated the meeting.

Meeting attendees included Kathy Gilroy, who is making her mark by challenging gambling in Villa Park; Rosanna Pulido, vociferous opponent of illegal immigration; Wally Brown, long-time member of the DuPage County Forest Preserve board; and Ron Menna, former judicial candidate. Carolyn Connell, Bob Graham, Joyce Hundhausen, George Kocan, Vern McCarthy, Larry Moretti, Gloria Sciqousky, Mark Stern, Tim Whelan, and others also contributed to the success of the meeting.) #

Ron Paul and Mick Huckabee Draw a Crowd

by George Kocan

The spirited advocacy for two presidential candidates brought out a strong showing of conservative activists to TAPROOT's monthly breakfast meeting, last Saturday, Jan. 19.

Scott Bludorn, a former candidate for State Rep in the Buffalo Grove area, kicked off the proceedings with a presentation for Dr. Ron Paul, a U.S. Congressman from Texas. Arkansas Governor Mike Huckabee was the topic during the second half of the morning. Joe Denner, Wheaton, set out the Huckabee case for President of the U.S. They spoke at the Old Country Buffet in Lombard.

A Field Coordinator for Ron Paul's campaign, Scott Bludorn exhorted the Republican Party to "stand for something." To Paul that means the "principles of the old right." According to Bludorn, Paul advocates eliminating the departments of the federal government like Education and Commerce. He wants a return to Constitutional government, to representatives who honor their oath of office, who vote only for those things authorized explicitly by the U.S. Constitution.

"Remember who we are," counseled Bludorn. The Democrats wanted a Department of Homeland Security; Republicans opposed it. They also opposed the federalization of airport screeners.

Paul wants to eliminate government benefits to illegal immigrants, end birth-right citizenship, abolish the IRS (Internal Revenue Service) and reduce spending. "We do not need an IRS," he said. The government receives enough revenue without the IRS to pay for the costs it accrued in 1997, he explained.

Furthermore, Paul advocates a "non-interventionist" foreign policy as opposed to an isolationist policy. Bludorn referred to pundit and former presidential candidate Pat Buchanan's book, "A Republican, not an Empire," as stating such a case.

He further reminded the crowd that Robert Taft, a president and supreme court justice ("Mr. Republican"), opposed NATO. The U.S. subsidized the defense of Europe and allowed France and other countries to dabble in welfare socialism. Paul opposes undeclared wars and wants to pull out of Iraq. He proposes fighting terrorist in the way Thomas Jefferson fought it, by granting Letters of Marque.

According to Joe Denner, Governor Mike Huckabee has proven experience to lead the U.S. He led Arkansas out of financial disaster, led the (See page 3)

John McCain Adjusts His Strategy

by George Kocan

Republican pundits, like radio personality Rush Limbaugh and writer Ann Coulter, have blasted candidate for president John McCain (www.JohnMcCain.com) in recent weeks for his many failures to uphold conservative principles. Their criticism has grown to such an extent, as to undermine his viability as a contender who can beat a Democrat candidate like Barak Hussein Obama.

This critical development has impelled Pat Brady to come to TAPROOT's monthly breakfast meeting Saturday (Feb. 16) to turn the political discussion to a more "fair and balanced" direction. An attorney, Brady has known and respected the Senator from Arizona for more than 20 years. He presently serves on the McCain 2008 National Finance Committee and as a delegate to the Republican National Convention.

According to Brady, McCain did well in Illinois on Super Tuesday. He picked up 70 delegates, even though the campaign spent little money here. This indicates that voters are taking him more seriously and that his campaign is gaining momentum. He has adjusted his strategy to calm conservative fears and inject more enthusiasm for his candidacy. He made a special appearance at the Republican Lincoln Day celebration in DuPage County. He is also scheduled to appear at a fund-raiser for Jim Oberweis, who won his primacy race to represent the 14th Congressional District and replace Dennis Hastert. Oberweis will likely have a tough time against the Democrat Bill Foster, who brings big bucks to the contest.

In some ways, the coming election for president resembles 1980, Brady explained. Ronald Reagan ("The Gipper") won then and "cleaned it all up," referring to Democrat Pres. Jimmy Carter's lackluster years in office. He expects McCain to play a similar role, probably mostly because of his personal qualities, his history in the Navy as a POW and because of his family's history of military service going back several generations. "The man is made of steel," Brady declared.

McCain has accumulated a conservative record in three important areas. Regarding economic policy, he favors low taxes and opposes laws that hurt business. He supports repeal of the "death tax." While Democrat candidate Hillary Clinton brought \$350 million worth of earmarks to New York, McCain had "zero." Regarding social issues, he has amassed a perfect pro-life record and will support conservative and constitutional candidates to the Supreme Court like Sam Alito and John Roberts. A strong possibility exists that four justices will retire from the bench in the next presidential term. Finally, McCain understands the geopolitical world. He will not cut and

run out of Iraq and send troops to Pakistan to fix the mess Benazir Buhutto's assassination provoked, as Democrat candidate Barak Hussein Obama announced he would do.

Chairman Dave Diersen gave the group a short synopsis of the Conservative Political Action Conference held in Washington every year. Dave was in the audience when President Bush, Vice President Cheney, Gingrich, Huckabee, McCain, Romney, and others spoke. He was the first to shake Gingrich's hand as he entered the hall to give his speech. Ann Coulter sat at nearby table during the Friday evening banquet. Newsweek magazine reported on CPAC in its February 18 edition. Dave is included in the upper left of a picture on page 3 of that magazine.

Peter Labarbera, Chairman of Americans For Truth, briefed everyone on the Protect Marriage Amendment. It received 100,000 signatures on the petitions, without the backing of a well-financed campaign. Contact: www.ProtectMarriageIllinois.org. #

Paul and Huckabee con'd from page 2

effort in the Hurricane Katrina crises (which devastated the neighboring state of Louisiana, where a Democrat governor presides). Huckabee is a man of fortitude who took on the mess that the Clinton/Tucker political machine left behind.

Denner described Huckabee as a man who unequivocally stands for his faith. The Arkansas governor wants a secure America, with no amnesty for illegal aliens. He supports a federal life amendment that provides protection to humans from the moment of conception to the natural end of life. Euthanasia has already arrived in Europe, while the pressure for it builds here.

Huckabee also favors a constitutional amendment to define marriage as between one man and one woman. He will select Supreme Court justices that adhere to the original intentions of the Founding Fathers. In foreign policy, he wants to maintain national sovereignty and opposes the Law of the Sea Treaty. He also wants to finish the job in Iraq before pulling troops out.

Chairman Dave Diersen reported some bad news regarding early voting. Democrats in DuPage Co. picked up 60% of the ballots. The trend suggests that more Republicans are crossing over to vote Democrat than the other way around.

Gwen Henry, DuPage Co. Treasurer, reminded the group of the state "Senior Deferral Program." Illinois allows for a deferral of real estate taxes (See page 4)

Physician Works to Excise Durbin

by George Kocan

A family physician's distain for Democrat Senator Dick Durbin motivated him to run as a Republican for the U.S. Senate seat from Illinois. Dr. Steve Sauerberg, a Willowbrook resident, made his pitch for election in the Republican primary to TAPROOT at its monthly breakfast meeting in Lombard. Also at the meeting, a county board candidate, John Curran made his pitch for TAPROOT support, last Saturday, September 15.

Dr. Steve Sauerberg

"Dick Durbin is the most liberal person in the Senate. He panders to all of the liberal interest groups. He is a disaster, the national Rod Blagojevich," Sauerberg explained to the conservative activists in the conference room of the Old Country Buffet restaurant.

No one wanted Durbin's 800 page immigration plan. On the other hand, Sauerberg insists that the government control the border above everything else. Durbin will tax the hell out of everyone and he wants socialized medicine. "How can a government that cannot control its own borders run medical care?" the good doctor asked.

In response to questions, Sauerberg, a member of Christ Church in OakBrook, affirmed his support for the right to life, saying that he and his wife have long supported crisis pregnancy services, especially Carenet. He will ask the National Rifle Association and Eagle Forum for their endorsements. He supports free trade with China, although he recognizes that trading partners have to be "reasonable." He noted that China's Gross National Product is less at the present time than the U.S.'s increase.

He does not advocate pulling out of Iraq, because, among other things, that will not appease the Democrats. After pulling out of Iraq, they will demand pulling out of Afganistan and other places where Al Qaida set up shop.

Regarding a federal constitutional amendment to protect marriage, Sauerberg said his endorsement would depend on how the amendment was worded. Nevertheless,

he does believe that marriage is between a man and a woman. He disapproves of gambling, because it hurts families. But, he considers it a local issue. He is not anti-death penalty, favoring its use under certain circumstances.

Sauerberg relies on an excellent polling organization, which indicates that Durbin's political strength is wide but thin.

Contact: Sauerberg for U.S. Senate, 4700 Gilbert, Suite 47, PMB 249, Western Springs, IL 60558; tel, 708-246-4349; web, www.SauerbergforUSSenate.com.

John Curran

John Curran serves Cook County as an Assistant State's Attorney and a Trustee for the Village of Woodridge. He wants to take a seat on the DuPage County Board (District 3) in order to effectively address the current fiscal crisis.

According to Curran, the Board's main failing is a lack of proper priorities. The priorities have been set by law. They include 1. law enforcement, 2. infrastructure, and 3. optional services. Much of the Board's spending has been on 3. He proposes setting the priorities and overseeing many years of strict budgets to avoid home rule or other drastic measures to raise taxes.

Contact: 630-541-7588; www.CurranforDuPage.com. #

Paul and Huckabee con'd from p. 3

to those home-owners over 65 years of age. They should fill out the applications by March 1.

Judge Rick Stock kindly led the Pledge of Allegiance to start off the meeting. Later he reiterated his announcement of his candidacy for 18th District Circuit Court Judge, to fill the Duncan vacancy. #

NOTICE!

Please send us your e-mail address, so that we can more efficiently and more economically communicate.

Thanks.

George Kocan, geokcn@juno.com.



Bringing the Conservative
Message to the Internet

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How Democrats Defeat Republicans

By **Dave Diersen**
Chairman

www.gopillinois.com

The Republican Party platform is conservative and the Republican Party exists to help elect candidates who can and will advance that platform. The Democrat Party platform is liberal and the Democrat Party exists to help elect candidates who can and will advance that platform. Sadly, if not tragically, some of the things that some Democrats are doing to defeat Republicans include the following:

- Arguing that conservative candidates cannot win
- Blaming conservatives and blaming conservative principles for all past, present, and future negatives
- Crediting liberals and crediting liberal principles for all past, present, and future positives
- Downplaying if not covering up positives brought about by conservatives and by conservative principles
- Downplaying if not covering up negatives brought about by liberals and by liberal principles
- Demonizing candidates, elected officials, and party leaders who want to discourage socialism, abortion, homosexual activity, promiscuity, race and gender based preference giving, bilingualism, illegal immigration, etc.
- Glorifying candidates, elected officials, and party leaders who do not discourage socialism, abortion, homosexual activity, promiscuity, race and gender based preference giving, bilingualism, illegal immigration, etc.
- Ascribing to Democrats good motives, good judgment, and wisdom
- Ascribing to Republicans evil motives, bad judgment, and incompetence
- Downplaying if not covering up illegal, unethical, and other bad actions taken by Democrats
- Trumpeting illegal, unethical, and other bad actions taken by people who claim to be Republicans
- Planting anti-conservatives in the staffs of Republican candidates, Republican elected officials, and Republican party leaders
- Helping elect anti-conservative Republican officials and anti-conservative Republican party leaders
- Encouraging as many conservatives as possible to run against each other in primary elections
- Encouraging conservative primary candidates to go negative against other conservative primary candidates
- Discouraging conservative candidates from withdrawing from primary races when that assures that an anti-conservative candidate will win
- Discouraging the winning candidate in Republican pri-

maries from seeking the endorsement of the losing Republican candidates

- Discouraging the losing candidates in Republican primaries from endorsing or otherwise helping elect the winning candidate
- Encouraging Republican elected officials to resign and encouraging Republican candidates to withdraw after they win primary races
- Discouraging conservatives from becoming Republican precinct committeemen, discouraging conservative Republican precinct committeemen from becoming party leaders, discouraging conservatives from running for elected offices
- Encouraging anti-conservatives to become Republican precinct committeemen, encouraging anti-conservative Republican precinct committeemen to become party leaders, encouraging anti-conservatives to run for elected offices
- Discouraging Republican precinct committeemen and party leaders from carrying out their duties
- Orchestrating Republican meetings and conventions to stop any kind of reform
- Arguing that Republican Party should go back to the days of "smoke filled rooms" and abandon any move toward transparency
- Arguing that things will only get worse if the Illinois Republican Party returns to direct election of its State Central Committee members
- Arguing that the Republican Party needs to abandon its conservative base, abandon conservative principles, and move to the left of the Democrat Party
- Fomenting class warfare by demonizing Republicans as being filthy rich hypocrites who refuse to pay their fair share to help the poor and by promising to make Republicans pay much higher taxes
- Demonizing conservative men as being sexists who have benefited substantially from past discrimination against women and who continue to discriminate against women today
- Demonizing conservative whites as being racists who have benefited substantially from past discrimination against minorities and who continue to discriminate against minorities today
- Promising females and promising minorities that if they vote for Democrats, they will be given preference
- Promising males and whites that if they vote for Democrats, they will be protected from reverse discrimination, that is, that only Republican white males will have to pay the price to give preference to minorities and to females.#

Christmas Party con'd from p. 8

Joan Solms (Aurora) seeks to challenge pro-abortion, Democrat Linda Chapa-La Via for State Representative. According to Solms, the Republican candidates did poorly against the popular Democrat in recent elections. This time they did not bother to put up a candidate, so Solms stepped forward. She has been a leader in the pro-life movement for many years, putting her money where her mouth is by adopting children and providing foster care.

The government spends millions of dollars to cure AIDS but does nothing for prevention, she said. Government programs, for example, do not promote cures for lung cancer just so that smokers can keep on smoking. It has policies to deter people from consuming drugs and alcohol. Yet, it turns a blind eye to the activities of sodomites.

Solms has also expressed disagreement with Pres. George Bush's policy in Iraq. She is a delegate for the presidential candidacy of Ron Paul. Contact: 630-631-5072; cell 630-877-6934; joansolms@att.net.

The charismatic spokeswoman for the Illinois Minuteman Project made came to the Christmas Party, too. **Rosanna Pulido** said, "The tide has turned; we are winning!" referring to some legislative advances. For instance, the Illinois House defeated a bill, which would grant driver's licenses to illegal aliens.

However, she warned of a "Tsunami of senior citizens coming." As the population of the U.S. ages, older persons will create great pressure on health, transportation and related services. Yet, the illegal aliens are getting these for free. "We are abandoning the senior citizens," she complained.

After her talk, Pulido handed out her Christmas present to everyone there, a booklet entitled, "**The Cost of Illegal Immigration in Illinois.**" In short, illegal immigrants cost Illinois \$3.5 billion per year. Contact: 773-250-3399; www.illinoisminuteman.com.

This was State Senator **Bill Brady's** (Boomington) second appearance at a TAPROOT function. Although he is considering a run for Governor of Illinois, Brady's main focus was on Presidential politics.

As Chairman of Fred Thompson's Illinois Campaign Committee, he argued that his candidate reflects TAPROOT values and that he is the best one to beat Democrat candidate Hillary Clinton. Brady described him as, "a consistent, common sense conservative, who can bring the entire party behind him." Thompson has attained a full slot of delegates to the Republican national convention, he added. Contact: www.citizensforbillbrady.com; http://blogsforfredthompson.com.

Another long-time friend of TAPROOT is State Representative **Bob Biggins**, whose district includes Elmhurst and goes all the way to Brookfield. His remarks centered on the funding problems of the Chicago transit system. Because of animosity and wrangling among the Democrat leadership, the legislature was unable to come up with a budget. Gov. Rod Blagojevich (whom The Trumpet has dubbed "the Boy Wonder", for obvious reasons) spent his time at a hockey game rather than participate in the debate in Springfield.

Contact: phone 630-941-1278; fax 630-941-1285.

TAPROOT was honored to entertain two judges and candidates for circuit court at the Party, John Kinsella and Rock Stock. Vying for different vacancies, they are not in competition with each other.

Judge **John Kinsella** (Bartlett) presented himself as a tough on crime judge, having the endorsements of various police organizations. His campaign chairman is State Sen. John Millner, a former police officer. He gave testimony in favor of the death penalty before a U.S. Senat sub-committee.

Contact: 630-542-9555; john@johnforcircuit.com.

Judge **Rick Stock** has 25 years experience as a prosecutor. The head judge of the Illinois Supreme Court, ex-Bear Bob Thomas, appointed him to the circuit court to fill a vacancy just last October. Answering a question about activist judges, he explained that the "four corners of the constitution" restrain the judges. Contact: Rstock183@aol.com.

Wally Brown wants to be re-elected DuPage Forest Preserve Commissioner. He will work to help the Forest Preserve acquire more land in his District 3. Although the F.P. has few sources of revenue, it has maintained a balanced budget over the years, he explained. Brown enjoys the work and likes solving people's problems. He is an active member of TAPROOT for many years. Contact: 630-852-8265; www.welovewally.org.

Jon Zahm, political consultant, made a pitch for Mike Huckabee for President. Huckabee, Governor of Arkansas, says on the campaign trail, "I'm a conservative but I'm not mad at anybody." Zahm said that he is the most electable candidate, a man who took on the Clinton political machine in Arkansas and beat it.

Huckabee opposes amnesty for illegals, driver's licenses and tuition discounts. He does support the Fair Tax (a national sales tax) to replace the federal income tax. Contact: 501-324-2008; www.MikeHuckabee.com; jon@goliathslayers.com. #

TAPROOT'S NEXT BREAKFAST MEETING APRIL 19

Bruno Behrend and Dan Proft will debate on the Illinois Constitutional Convention

Bruno Behrend is a conservative activist and field director of Freedom Works. Dan Proft is a political consultant and also active in conservative causes.

TAPROOT holds its next breakfast meeting Saturday, April 19, at the Old Country Buffet on 551 E. Roosevelt Road in Lombard (630-916-8808), in the High Point Shopping Center, south side of Roosevelt Rd., about 5 stop-lights west of Route 83. It is about a mile and a half east of Rt. 355. Restaurant opens at 8 am, meeting starts at 8:30 am. Cost: purchase of meal ticket. Next meeting is March 15, speaker to be announced.

Contact: Dave at 630-653-0462 or George at 630-393-6401

TAPROOT Trumpet

Volume 42 Number 1, April 2008

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

NAME _____ PHONES: HOME _____ WORK _____

ADDRESS _____ FAX _____ E-MAIL _____

CITY _____ ILLINOIS ZIP _____ COUNTY _____

OCCUPATION _____ TOWNSHIP _____ PRECINCT _____ U.S. CONG. DIST. _____

Yearly membership in TAPROOT is \$25. Enclosed is my application for membership with \$25 ____.

Enclosed is a donation of \$500__ \$100__ \$50__ \$25__ \$15__ \$10__ for the expenses incurred by TAPROOT's many activities. The donation entitles you to an annual subscription to the *Trumpet*. Make your check out to TAPROOT REPUBLICANS OF ILLINOIS and send it to PO Box 643, Downers Grove, IL 60515.

Star Power Brightens X-Mass Party

by **George Kocan**

Participants at TAPROOT's "Ultimate Christmas Party" received one treat after another last Sunday, Dec. 2, at the Orchard Brook Club House in Downers Grove.

Under the able leadership of Chairman Dave Diersen, some of the brightest stars in the Republican firmament came by, made speeches and in various ways energized the conservative activists. TAPROOT members also renewed their memberships and gave a vote of confidence to the Board of Directors to continue at their posts for another year.

The event could not have happened without the team-work of everyone present who brought food and drink to share along with enthusiasm and a positive outlook on the future. Special thanks for securing the clubhouse and setting up go to Judy Ross and Carolyn Connell, Secretary. Dave Diersen, Byrd Parmellee, George Kocan and others also helped.

Two Republican candidates vying for the 14th Congressional district, to replace the retiring Dennis Hastert, book-ended the afternoon festivities. State Senator **Chris Lauzen** spoke first and milk magnate and financial wizard **Jim Oberweis** spoke last.

Lauzen, a long-time friend of TAPROOT, spoke about his conflict with the former Governor and convicted felon, George Ryan. The Governor wanted to raise taxes. The State Senator, along with 17 others, voted, 'No.' When pressed on this, Lauzen repeated Ryan's own words to him, "It would be unconscionable to raise taxes especially in these good times."

This resulted in a telephone call from Ryan, who reminded him that he gave him \$10,000 for his re-election campaign. Lauzen answered, "I didn't know that was the deal. I'll give your money back." And, he did. "It's (the election) about the values we share...about grass roots representation," he declared. Contact: 888-LAUZEN1; www.Lauzen2008.com.

Jim Oberweis came late to the Party and spoke last. Previously a candidate for the U.S. Senate, he has visited with TAPROOT, along with his famous ice cream, several times. If elected, he hopes to simplify the tax-code, eliminating most deductions. He also wants to end the Alternative Minimum Tax. Although he does not oppose the Fair Tax entirely, he prefers his own plan, especially, since the Fair Tax has little likelihood of passing.

Regarding illegal immigration, he favors secure borders, an Identification Card for foreigners only, no benefits and the use of English as the official language of the U.S. Contact: 630-879-9100; www.JimOberweis.com.

Sean O'Kane, a pro-life candidate, has come forward to challenge Judy Biggert for the U.S. Congress in the 13th District. "People are upset with the status quo...the first job of government is to defend life," he explained.

O'Kane also stated his case against ENDA (Employment Non Discrimination Act). He opposes granting special groups, like homosexuals, special rights. This law, for which Biggert voted, will create needless lawsuits against employers, he said. He wants small government and low taxes. "Judy Biggert is a nice lady, but she has accomplished nothing," he added.

Regarding the war in Iraq, O'Kane parts company both with the President, George Bush, and Biggert. "It is not good for us. We're tied down and the army's over extended," he declared. However, he does not favor a "cut-and-run" strategy like the Democrats do.

O'Kane is convinced that he can beat the veteran Congresswoman, who has served for nine years. "I only need 25,000 votes," he said. Contact: 630-455-6086; www.seanokane.org.

(See page 6)

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