Republican Candidates' Work Ethic Stays Positive

No words can completely capture the disappointment of another election year in Lucas County. However, the hard work and fund raising against the blue stream in the county proves the grit and determination of those who still believe in the good ol' American way – honest, hard work that doesn't cut corners or drag others through a muddy puddle of disinformation. Despite that, the Republican Party continues to put up good candidates – no, make that GREAT candidates. But it's hard to battle against an electorate that takes the more simple approach to vote for a party instead of the person.

Three particular candidates come to mind who worked so very hard to get elected and, in the end, ran into the same wall of results that occurs election, after election, after election. And that's nothing to say about Derek Merrin's loss. Ahead of Marcy Kaptur by more than a dozen points at times during election night, the faithful waited with anxious yet excited anticipation at an election watch party in Holland, Ohio as the results on the national television screens reported pretty much all of the counties reporting in the 9th Congressional District EXCEPT Lucas County. Then the shoe dropped and Kaptur wins by five percentage points.

Glenn Beck said it best on his post-election radio show when he said voters across the country are tired of all the politicians promising, and promising. The Democrats had as much of a negative rating as Republicans. But the voters, according to Beck, were ready to fire the party in power. It's unfortunate among all the negative advertising that Republicans weren't able to drive home the many accomplishments of the last two years, including higher employment, higher wages, and booming investment of manufacturing back in America. It was the cost of things, apparently, that sank the GOP.

I've been a good budget hawk, both personally and when I was in office. I know that if I don't spend hundreds of dollars on streaming TV, tattoos, and cell phones, I can afford food and gas and have extra money to put in my church's collection basket. That's what really matters, isn't it?

But now on to the three local candidates on whose campaign I supported. Ian Chamberlin made his first attempt at public office running for State Representative from the 41st district. He's the party's Rookie of the Year. He raised $30,000 from individual donors in small amounts. He never got the big endorsement checks that labor hands out. He had more ideas and solutions than his democrat opponent will ever have even if she outlives him. He lost by 13,000 votes; almost two-to-one.

David Karmol, a familiar name to local voters who exposed the corruption of spending taxpayer dollars to run "educational" ads that benefited the incumbent's son in the probate court race, also lost to the incumbent democrat for State Representative from the 43rd District by 12,000 votes; more than two-to-one. The local Chamber of Commerce endorsed his opponent who is as anti-business as they come!

And finally, Jaime Agnew's race for probate court is a race on which voters lost their minds by not electing her. She was highly recommended by the Toledo Bar Association – lawyers who know the qualifications of judges. She lost by 42,000 votes in another two-for-one shellacking. Odd for a democratic party that preaches, "No Kings" to have crowned her opponent. Lucas County missed an opportunity to put the most-qualified, first-woman in probate court in its 174-year history.

So, as we lick our wounds and regroup, the fire for public service among many that carry the conservative, common-sense moniker will remain burning, but maybe not as brightly (read Ian Chamberlin's short, purpose prose below).

Despite the losses, we'll leave you with some images of the campaign and continue to put our trust in God for all his people.