



Editorial – How to pick the right candidate in November

By- John Albers

Many people have asked me about the candidates in the local city elections. I know most running and some very well. These are good people who deserve our prayers and respect. As a candidate in the 2010 election for State Senate, I choose to remain publically neutral. However, I am willing to share my method of review and benchmarking candidates. I may be considered old fashioned, but my main criteria are: conservative values, hard work and serving others.

Let's begin with hard work. As I learn about those running for office or re-election, I look at their work ethic. We face serious challenges in all levels of government; and apathy and complacency must be expressions of the past. Show me the candidate or incumbent who is working tirelessly and going far beyond the call of duty. My father taught me work ethic unmatched by anyone while growing up. This work ethic has served me well throughout my life. Who do you think is working hardest for you and vote accordingly...

A servant leader and heart is the key to my vote. I want to see a candidate who serves others and sheds the notion of ego and self interest. I evaluate these actions by their involvement in the community. The candidate or incumbent that has my vote is helping charitable organizations, schools, public safety, neighbors and the faith based community. There is no greater way to glorify God than to serve other people. My mother taught me the value of my strong faith and serving others which guides every decision in my life. Who do you think will serve our community the most and vote accordingly...

Last, but certainly not least is conservative values. I want the candidate or incumbent that has demonstrated these principals in their personal and professional lives. My favorite president and hero is Ronald Reagan. President Reagan without hesitation shared his conservative vision for America and made us the lighthouse for democracy, prosperity, strength and compassion around the globe. I want the candidate who shows fiscal responsibility, lower taxes, smaller government, family values, and pride. Who do you think best represents your values and vote accordingly...

November 3rd is the ultimate expression of our democracy during 2009. Remember all those who scarified so much to allow us the opportunity to choose our leaders. It is our duty to vote and get involved. Encourage your friends, neighbors, co-workers, Sunday school class, and anyone else to learn about those running for office and cast your ballot.