



REPUBLICANS

A New Beginning for Boyle County



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Michelle Monroe, Editor

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THE RECORD IS BROKEN, BUT KEEPS ON PLAYING

By MIKE HARMON

2002 Candidate for State Representative

Christmas will soon be here and it seems that each year this wondrous and joy filled date comes faster and faster. What is surprising is that at this moment, we are once again less than a year away from Election Day. As we plan for the holidays, we must also begin to (if we haven't already) plan for the other important date which, as Christmas, will be here sooner than you think.

Once again, people have started to ask me, what will Mike run for and for what will he stand. As indicated in the last newsletter, I will be running for State Representative for the third time. (What I have lacked in previous popularity, I've made up with persistence.) As for what I stand, my opinions and beliefs are much like a "Broken Record" in that they haven't changed much from the first time I began this trip into the campaign world.

When this trip first started out in 1998, I told my wife that I was passionate about running, but uncertain if I could win. I held this belief not because of the lack of my notoriety, but because I was determined not to be the "Politician" who just told people what they wanted to hear in order to get elected. I hold a set of core values, which I would base my current and future decision making. There are areas that I have some flexibility and areas to which I do not.

Fortunately, this has become an asset, not a hindrance. In 1998 I received 43% of the vote and in 2000 I received 49.3%. For 2002, we expect a victory.

So what issues have been and will be important to me?

I have always placed a strong focus on the importance of life. Based on September 11, I believe we, as the U.S., can see what can happen when innocent life holds no value in a different society. All parents in this great Nation of ours must stress the importance of innocent life to their children. Statesman can have some effect in his area, but unless this belief is instilled in our future generations, no law will be effective enough to prevent the destruction of this state and country.

Policemen and Fireman, those who place their lives on the line everyday for our protection, must be cherished and justly compensated for their efforts. Even before the terrorist attacks, I believed this to be an important issue. It greatly saddened me to see so many of these fine men and women killed during the recent attacks on our nation. Continual efforts must be made to improve the salaries and benefits of this sector of public servants.

Education also takes a position on my area of high interest. I believe as a state we must continue to improve both public and private areas of education. We must compensate our teachers in such a way as to slow the flow to the private non-teaching sector. We must reduce the paper work burden on our teachers, which seems to increase each year. We must give our teachers the time to do their job and teach (not be clerks and paper pushers.)

Health Insurance concerns share another plank in my list of issues. Several years back our state lawmakers decided they "wanted to help you," and in so doing ran off almost every health insurance provider in the state. Without competition, rates have gone through the roof and in some cases, coverage is not available at all. Kentucky is going to have to make some tough decisions. We need to pull together doctors, patients, health insurance providers, lawyers, and actuaries, and come up with plans, which will provide an acceptable level of coverage options without busting everyone's budget.

Finally, it would be hard to believe I was a Republican, if I didn't talk about lowering taxes. Currently, the state is suffering from budget shortfalls, so we may have to wait and watch for the proper timing for tax cuts. However, at a current minimum, the state should not pursue any tax increases. So how would the state accomplish some of my earlier goals without increasing taxes? Well, it is much like we as individuals are doing for Christmas. You make a list and you check it twice (On the state level, they don't check for naughty or nice) You have to set goals and prioritize. When the money is gone, the items on the bottom of the list you will just have to do without. We cannot get every material thing we would like for Christmas, nor can the state be all things to all people.

I have very much appreciated the support in the past two campaigns and look forward to a victory in 2002. God Bless, Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year to All.



Candidate Recruitment

The filing deadline for twenty partisan races in Boyle County is January 29, 2002. If you are interested and have not been contacted, or know of some fellow Republicans who may want to run for an office, please contact Tom McClain at 859-236-1930 (home) or 859-583-5825 (cell). Our goal is to have at least two candidates for the partisan races so their names will appear on the ballot in May. This will help eliminate the reason so many Republicans stay registered as democrats – in order to vote in a primary.

Voter Registration

December 31, 2001 is the deadline to switch party registration and be eligible to vote in the May 2002 primary. If you, your spouse, children, parents, neighbors or friends would like to join the Republican party in Boyle County, urge them to fill out the enclosed voter registration card and return it to the Boyle County Clerk's Office before the end of December. For information or assistance, or to request a voter registration card, call Alberta Wood at 236-5829 (leave a message).

Looking Back

Basil Turbyfill goes to Washington – On November 6, 2001 Basil Turbyfill embarked on a very important, albeit very secretive, journey to Washington D.C. at the request of Mike Duncan, Treasurer of the National Republican Committee. Upon his arrival, Mr. Turbyfill discovered that he would be attending a top-level briefing by President Bush and his top staff. Other Bush supporters from Kentucky, West Virginia, Tennessee, Indiana, Virginia, Ohio and North Carolina also attended the briefing.

We requested an article detailing this very important endeavor and Mr. Turbyfill was kind enough to oblige. Unfortunately, so many exciting things happened on his trip that we couldn't fit it all in one newsletter. Still, I think his account of the events would be of interest to each of you. For that reason, I will leave a typed copy of his article at Republican Headquarters if you would like to stop by and read it. I will also be sending it out to those who receive the newsletter via e-mail. If you would like for me to mail you a copy, please call me, Michelle Monroe, at 936-7444. I'm sure you will enjoy reading it as much as my family did.

Looking Ahead

Christmas Party – Join us on Monday, December 17, 2001, at 7:00 PM at the Western Sizzlin in Danville. Guests may go through the line and order from the menu or dine from the buffet. The buffet costs are \$7.19 for adults, \$2.99 for children ages 6-12, and \$1.99 for children under 6, plus tax and gratuity. For reservations, please phone Alberta Wood at 236-5829 and leave a message. Please join us as we reflect on the accomplishments and happenings of the past year, on what the future holds for Americans and the Republican Party and rejoice in the spirit of the Christmas season.

Lincoln Day Dinner – Alan Keyes will be the featured speaker at 2002 Kentucky 6th District Lincoln Day Dinner. Mark your calendars for Friday, February 15, 2002. The event will be held at the Lexington Civic Center at Rupp Arena.

Financial

The Boyle County Republican Party is alive and well. In fact, we are gearing up for our work in 2002, re-electing US Senator Mitch McConnell, US Congressman Ernie Fletcher and State Senator Tom Buford. But just as important is electing Republicans to offices in Danville, Junction City, Perryville and Boyle County. We are working hard to spread the word of Republicans gaining momentum here in Boyle County. We are identifying candidates, registering voters, holding candidate workshops and helping our candidates. All of this requires your help. Please make a donation to the "Boyle County Republican Party" and mail it to P.O. Box 411, Danville, KY 40423. Your contribution will help us elect Republicans in Boyle County in 2002. Thank you.

Newsletter Distribution

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