

Opinion

Would a third political party makes things any better?

Would a third political party be any better? I don't have much confidence that another political party in the United States would result in any better choices than what we have now. We are dealing with extremism in both parties and political opportunist.

I do take issue with the ill spoken words of a long-time elected official when he said we would get over cuts to Medicaid. The lack of health care isn't something the elderly and the poor get over. Healthcare providers have, in the past, lobbied for increased healthcare because getting preventive care keeps patients out of emergency rooms where healthcare is much more expensive.

If the budget bill currently under consid-



Northwest Passage
By Loyd Ford

eration in the U.S. Senate gets approved, according to Kentucky

Governor Andy Beshear and several healthcare advocates in the state, as many as 35 hospitals in Kentucky could close. So, we may not have emergency rooms for the elderly and the poor to go to.

We do need better choices from both political parties, individuals

who will put the people in this country first, follow the law and always choose the ethical path over the partisan road that is wrecking this country now.

No, I do not think another political party would be of any real benefit for any of us. Particularly since it would take decades for a third party to gain traction and become viable. The third parties we have had in the recent past have only been effective as spoilers; they couldn't win but they could make someone else lose. How can that sort of political organization, if it were able to secure elected positions, result in good effective government? You must be something more than a spoiler.

What would I like to see? First, I would like to

see more political candidates who are much more like the people they want to represent. That isn't something that rests on political candidates, no it is our responsibilities as voters to look deeper into the actions of people running for office. We must become more mindful of what people actually do, not what they tell us when they are running for office.

Some of the people we have in positions of authority today say what ever they think their audience wants to hear. They have no fear of being held accountable for the falsehoods they tell. Medicaid funding is on the chopping block, and despite what some may tell you, Medicaid services, especially in our state will be dramat-

ically cut if this bill is approved.

The other major lie is the deficit will be reduced by this bill. That just isn't so, the number keeps changing but right now they are on target to increase the deficit to roughly \$3.8 trillion. At the last count I had, our current deficit was right about \$1 trillion. There is no way to cut current spending to significantly reduce the deficit without extremely deep spending cuts or revisions in the tax code to generate more income. This is something the current Republican majority will never do.

The charge that is made over and over again is "tax and spend". I expect that we need and should always maintain fiscal responsibility, but it is even more

irresponsible to spend money you don't have. This is especially true if you plan on spending \$3.8 trillion you don't have in the bank.

Rest assured that I do not have \$3.8 trillion dollars and if I tried to spend that much money with out having a revenue source to cover it, people in three-piece suits with badges and guns would come and get me. This bill will probably get approved and I will not be surprised to see financial problems stemming from it very soon afterward.

We don't really need a third party, we just need the ones we already have to makes choices for us instead of against us.



Our View

Dr. Bill Colburn leaves a long legacy

Dr. William J. "Bill" Colburn came along at the right time for so many things in Calvert City it is hard to put your finger on which of the many community improvements that came during his time as mayor is the one that ought to stand out. There are many. Calvert City's population was exploding and the dynamics of the community were rapidly changing.

Dr. Colburn was tasked with getting things done and he did. Our current parks system, Calvert City Convalescent Center, and Calvert City Country Club still resonate as does Calvert City Hall. These were ground breaking achievements for a city the size of Calvert City.

Perhaps his greatest achievement was that he was able to navigate the social and physiological changes that came with a tiny town growing from 400 people to 2,000 people from all over the United States in such a short period of time. Dr. Colburn had a way with people, he was able to smooth over differences of opinion and get things accomplished. Not everyone can do that.

Another thing he did for Calvert City was to step away from so much that he had worked for and let others come in and set new goals and new directions. Not everyone can do that either.

Calvert City was blessed with good leadership after Dr. Colburn decided it was time for him to step away, but they were left with solid accomplishments to build on.

The Calvert City we have today took shape during Dr. Colburn's 24 years as mayor. The advancements that came during his time as mayor will continue to produce good things for this community for years to come and that might truly be his legacy for us.

Stretch, take a deep breath, and live abundantly

Sometimes life sends us an awful lot. It's easy to get so bogged down in the weight of it all that you forget to take account of the simple things. The meaningful things that make the most of any situation.

I took a much needed walk along the greenway near my house this morning. From the boardwalk I spied a full grown adult senior person, pant legs rolled up, brimmed hat on head, net and five-gallon bucket at the ready. I could feel the cool water



By Emily Morrison

lap my calves and squish of algae covered rocks and mud between my toes just watching this individual. It reminded me of the importance of

filling your lungs with air. Feeling the whoosh through your nose.

I have come to realize that we often get in our own way when it comes to really living. We ache with loss. We yearn with want. The human mind will fixate on sparsity. There are hard things that pull us inward. We all need a little nudge from time to time to keep us from missing the chance to live fully.

We were put here to live. Not just to have a series of heartbeats, but with fullness and verve.

Years ago a friend of mine drew my attention to Christ's words in John 10:10. Jesus tells us he came to give us life. He goes on to describe that his gift of life is one of abundance. We are meant to live lives of joy and love and peace.

Sometimes all it takes is a short walk to shift your perspective. There are many good things around us just waiting to be enjoyed. A deep breath and simple stretch are often all you need to get started on your way to abundant living.

Clothing ourselves with the character of God

"Put on your new nature, and be renewed as you learn to know your Creator and become like him. Since God chose you to be the holy people he loves, you must clothe yourselves with tenderhearted mercy, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds us all together in perfect harmony." (Colossians 3:10, 12, 14, NLT)

Tenderhearted mercy, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. Paul, the apostle who spread the teachings of Jesus in the first-century world and the author of the book of Colossians, writes that disciples of



Tales of Grace
By Leigh Ann Northcutt

Jesus should wear these characteristics. I'm pretty sure he expects us to do it every day. More than likely, he means all day, every day.

And love. He wants us to put on love. He isn't talking about the regular kind of love. Paul wants us to clothe ourselves

with agape love, the unconditional, self-sacrificing, highest form of love that originates in God.

Well, good grief! On the day I got married, I wore my mother's wedding dress. It was big, bulky, and too heavy for me to pick up and slip over my head. I couldn't zip up the dress without throwing my shoulders out of place. And if I had been forced to fasten all the tiny buttons by myself, I would have missed the wedding, the honeymoon, and our first year of marriage. I had to have help from my mother, my sister, and the lady who altered it to get the thing on.

When I read those

verses about clothing myself with the character of God, I feel like I'm in the same predicament. I can't wrap mercy and kindness around my heart in any way that will keep them from falling off. The buttons that are supposed to hold humility and gentleness in place keep popping off. Patience gets caught in the zipper every single time.

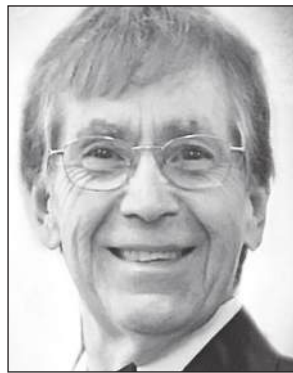
And agape love! It is massive! I can't begin to pick it up.

I can't put on the character of God. But I can stand still, raise my arms, and let the Holy Spirit pull it over my head and settle it into place.

The signature on Declaration of Independence

Happy Independence Day! Let Freedom Ring! Not thunder and lightning or even rain. I love the events Calvert City puts on. This is the best of all the towns around. I especially enjoy the parade. I absolutely love sitting in a lawn chair in shorts and t-shirt. Can't do that at all the parades. I also enjoy taking time to cool off and visit the Calvert Museum set up in the Civic Center after visiting all the booths in the park. I always wonder what would happen if there was an emergency since all the emergency people are in the parade.

When you have to sign a paper, has someone ever said, "Put your John Hancock here"? Do you know the history behind that? If you look at the Declaration of Independence you will see that



My Side of the Fence
By Mike Harrell

name standing out from all the others by its size. If things had not turned out as they did all those who signed this document would have been executed for treason. He said he wanted the King of England to see his rebellious signature without having to wear his spectacles!

From the beginning of our celebrations, fireworks have been center stage. It was also com-

mon to have someone to read the Declaration of Independence. I don't remember if I have ever heard someone actually read it (and in costume now days). I feel as though it should be read. I may not read it at the parade but I am going to share an excerpt from this Charter of Freedom and some of which the nation's founding principles were established.

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that Among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted Among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed. That whenever any Form of

Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness."

Birthday wishes are extended to 101 year old Thomas (Sprout) Davis, Lillian Dees, Dale Roberts and our Fourth of July baby, Tony Egbert. Celebrate your day and eat the cake. Of course it has to be red, white and blue.

Happy Anniversary to Mr. & Mrs. Tony Dalton. Great week to celebrate your special day.

Stay safe, stay well and as always, stay in touch.

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