

Wilburn lost and should move on

Wilburn should accept defeat and end write-in campaign

I have a question for the current Bedford Township supervisor and those who are supporting this ill-conceived write-in campaign. What part of "NO" do they not understand?

The supervisor (Walt Wilburn) was legitimately defeated in the Republican primary by a capable opponent (Greg Stewart) who worked hard and ran a clean campaign. As is customary, the defeated incumbent congratulated his opponent and pledged to work with the "would be" new supervisor (since no Democrat will be on the ballot) for a "smooth transition."

Unbelievably, and just a few days later, the defeated supervisor an-

nounced his intention to run against the same opponent in the general election as a write-in candidate while stating "I don't believe my days as supervisor are over."

What? This seems both arrogant and dishonest to me.

Ironically, the incumbent was turned away by his own party (or perhaps now his former party) for exactly the same kind of behavior, i.e. promising one thing and then doing another! Aren't we all sick and tired of that nonsense at every level of government? Bedford voters sent a very clear and loud message in the primary. It's sad that some people refuse to hear it and just don't get it.

Furthermore, I fail to see the wisdom or the "win" for the community in an elected official's disgraceful betrayal of his own word! And in

the unlikely event that the write-in effort would somehow succeed, who on Earth will ever believe anything the supervisor says again? His effectiveness in office would be greatly diminished. How does that help Bedford?

No person is bigger than his party or the office he seeks. No elected position in Bedford is an entitlement for anyone. Yes, it's true that Walt has the right to run a write-in campaign, but having the right to do something doesn't make it right! This campaign is clearly wrong for many reasons. It is disloyal to the Republican party, it is disrespectful to Greg Stewart, and it is divisive for the entire community.

I call on Mr. Wilburn to stop this campaign immediately, keep his word and accept the results of the primary.

I also call on all the fair-minded citizens of

Bedford to support Greg Stewart, the winner of the primary, an honest and competent man, and the only supervisor candidate whose name will be on the ballot in November!

Steven Lennex
Lambertville

Campaign gives voters a choice

And I have a question for you, Mr. Lennex.

Are you fearful that if the majority of voters (not just the 15 percent that voted in the primary) have a choice to vote for more than one candidate in the general election, that your candidate might lose?

I thought both candidates ran a clean and above-board campaign, however your letter seems to throw "clean" and "above board" righ-

out the window with your choice of descriptive words such as "dishonest," "disrespectful," "disgraceful betrayal," etc. You have every right to your opinion, but it seems to me that you are the one trying to turn this campaign into a mud-slinging fight. I, for one, want no part of that type of race.

As to my decision to run a write-in campaign, I still think citizens or incumbents have every right to change their minds under the right circumstances. If I genuinely care about my community (and I do) and plans are in place to continue projects (9.5 miles of roads to be repaired in 2013, to name one), and there is a broad base of great people backing me (and I have that); then trying to rectify a skewed primary is a good idea.

Now, if as you state in your letter to the editor,

that Bedford voters sent a clear and loud message in the primary (only 231 votes separated the candidates) and if you truly believe in your candidate, he could easily prevail. Giving the citizens a choice in the general election, however, might send back a different message.

I simply do not know, Mr. Lennex, where you heard that the Republican party has turned me away. Or did you, as a member of the Republican Party, just decide to start rumors in an effort to help your candidate? Shame on you if that is true.

I certainly encourage all voters to vote your choice. The experience is there and the willingness to continue working hard for Bedford Township is there. The choice is there.

Walt Wilburn
Temperance