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Tazewell County Board

Continuing a Family Tradition of Community Service

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July Adventure Sports Outdoors Column **R.I.P. Conservatives? Not So Quick.**

Quick message to all Conservatives out there. The world is not coming to an end. An election lost does not equal the end of life as we know it. Do we have an uphill battle with both the Congress and White House in Liberal hands? You better believe it. But we can and will rise up and correct the balance of things again. This type of setback has happened before and will happen again.

What we should not be doing is over analyzing the situation we are in. We do not need a facelift (look at Joan Rivers and some other Hollywood stars if you do not believe me). We do not need to change the values we uphold. We do not need to try and attract this group or that group of individuals with statements of false support. We just need to relax and let the Liberals show their vision of America.

Here in Illinois, we have been in this situation for the past six years. Liberal control of both houses of the legislature and the governor's seat has taken the state farther and farther down a spiral of disaster. Now towards the bottom, the answer they are presenting is massive tax increases across the board, because to them more wasteful spending is the only way to solve the issues we face. Instead of working for the betterment of the state, we have seen example after example of political power struggles in Springfield that have benefited no one in the end while sacrificing more time to discuss the real issues we are facing.

If we as Conservatives need to work on anything, it is at finding more real people to continue to run and win elections. People are not looking for fake, plastic individuals. They want real people they can relate to. They want to find individuals that are not interested in power and glory, but individuals that are willing to do the right things to get the job done. All of this talk about needing to focus more to the left or more to the right, it really will not matter if the message is not genuine and the results are not tangible. Many of our recent lost elections are because we have tried too hard to find the good-looking, politically correct candidate that lives here or lives there rather than look to the members that are simply doing the hard, every day work of government and because of that have earned the respect and support of the people. These are our candidates of the future; these are the individuals that need our support.

Locally, of course, as many of you know, I see this when I look at Illinois State Senator and Gubernatorial Candidate Bill Brady. Senator Brady has always stayed true to his consistent message of less government and fiscally conservative values. In Springfield, he has never been afraid to make his voice heard and to stand up for the people he represents. He has earned the respect and support of his constituents and as the election for the next Governor of the State of Illinois get closer, I believe more and more people will become energized and empowered by his leadership, values and the positive message he will project about how to re-take our State House. I am proud to throw my support to him in this upcoming election and ask each and every one of you to take a closer look at him.

It is said that a third of the nation is to the right and a third to the left, and the remaining minority third is usually talked of as the group to win over. I view it differently. That group in the middle, they are the ones that are the true majority. They are the average, hard working individuals that whenever the

conversation turns to politics, they walk away. Not because they do not care about their government or the direction it is heading, but because they are tired of the same old game. They are tired of being lied to and manipulated over and over again. They are frustrated because they could care less about being politically right or left; they are looking for what is right and wrong. They are waiting for an individual that cares less about party affiliation and power brokering and more about getting to work and fixing the problems we face.

These are the individuals the conservatives have managed to find in the past at moments like this and these are the individuals we need to be watching, for they hold the future.

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