

Community Comment
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Sam Pennisi

2016 Presidential Race and local Coastal Issue

I don't normally blame the media on anything political. But this year seems very different from anything I've seen in politics. The obvious is the coverage of Donald Trump. Turn on any news program for the last 6 months and it's been nothing but free advertising for the Donald. He came out of the box saying offensive and inaccurate things and the media covered it. They didn't call him on it, they didn't correct it, they repeated it over and over again. Oh, plenty of pundits put their own spin on it but they came with agenda in hand. If this had been a poor man running on a third party line, the media would have listened, call him a kook, and not given him main stream coverage. People like Trump are always running for President. Ross Perot ran against Clinton and Bush, had a ton of personal money, and was covered. But look at your sample ballot and see how many people are running that you have never heard of.

Why is that? We have a two party system in America. Two outsiders chose to run this year and they are Trump and Sanders. Trump registered recently as a Republican but has also been a Democrat. Sanders has famously been an Independent from his home state all of his political career. You've heard me say many times over the years that for me, it's America first then the democratic party. I mean that. But when it comes to Presidential races, you have to pick one. The reason is simple. Almost all of our representatives run as one party or the other. At the convention, a party platform will be written. This allows all of us to have an idea of the direction the administration will take us and what kind of political backing he, or she, will have. It's not just the person but it's also the party.

You only have to look at the obstruction tactics the republicans have used against this president to see how little has gotten accomplished. Even mundane, neutral issues have not been addressed because the Republican Party would rather do nothing than have President Obama look successful. If you think I'm making this up, look at what the Senate Leadership of the Republican Party said on the day he was sworn in.

Given this, can you imagine what a President who is from neither party could accomplish? Even less than this Congress has done.

Donald Trump is a third party candidate running as a Republican. We don't know what he would do or who would back him. Beside that, he is ignorant of the office, the awful responsibility of the office, and the government he would serve. I find many of the same traits in Bernie Sanders. He has been a Democrat for a year and has no loyalty to the party. He is also a third party candidate running as a major party member. At least he is smart and has political experience. He has caucused with the democrats over the years so

we at least have a record to judge. To me, that makes him a legitimate candidate and can be taken seriously.

The person in this office has their finger on the nuclear button. Think about that.

Regarding the homeless situation at the Palco Marsh; Where is the coastal commission in this. I've never seen this addressed. Most of us can't mow our lawn without permission. Just wondering

This has been Sam Pennisi for community comment.