

Troy withdraws from race for state representative

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LAKE COUNTY - Citing an outpouring of sentiment over the past few weeks from public officials, business leaders and local citizens urging him to continue to serve in his present position, Lake County Commissioner Daniel P. Troy has officially withdrawn his candidacy today as the Democratic Party nominee for the office of State Representative for the 60th Ohio House District in this November's General Election. In doing so at this time, he has allowed the Lake County Democratic Party sufficient time to select a replacement nominee to contest for this office at the Nov. 6 election.

Troy issued the following statement:

"This change of heart and mind on my part will generate some criticism from some segments, and I understand and am prepared to accept that. In filing for the state representative's position last year, I indicated a strong desire to return to the Ohio House because of a love I had developed for the institution and the legislative pro-

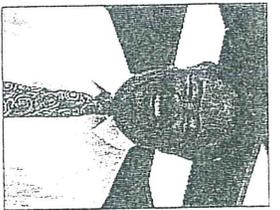
See TROY on page 3A

cess. I felt that I could contribute much in terms of institutional knowledge, and also work to diminish the partisan atmosphere that is all too prevalent of late, reach common ground in bipartisan fashion on important issues, and improve the quality of civilization in Lake County and Ohio. While I would still pursue that approach, many folks in Columbus have privately told me while those goals were noble, the likelihood of attaining them in the current adversarial climate would be much more challenging than what I had experienced in my previous tenure there. Still, I felt I would do my best to overcome and possibly avert that poisoned climate.

"In Lake County government, we have been most fortunate in avoiding that pervasive partisanship, and I am honored and humbled by the pleas from the overwhelming majority of county elected officials, Republicans and Democrats, in asking me to remain here as commissioner to not only maintain and enhance that bipartisanship, but also to continue in a leadership role on the Board of Commissioners in the management of the county's operations. I believe that I have served well as a Commissioner.

"As a result, I found myself in a bit of a dilemma. I would love to go back to the Legislature, and try my best to improve its climate while striving for a better Ohio. But, I also want to continue working to keep our county well-run and stable in providing its required statutory services to our citizens. I guess I'd like to do both, but, of course, that's not legally or logistically possible. So it came down to not so much as to whom I'd like to do, but really more so as to where I would be able to do the most good."

"Based on this thought process and the gracious communications and comments that I have received from both the private and public sectors recently, it is apparent to me that the best choice in terms of public service is to stay and complete my present term as Lake County Commissioner, and that is what I have chosen to do by virtue of this action today. I am fully confident that I would be victorious in November if I stayed in the race for state representative. I am certainly not leaving this contest based on fear of defeat in November. But I also know that while not legally, I would be morally bound to serve in that office of state representative, and could not responsibly thwart



PHOTOS BY MARIAN MCMANHON
Lake County Commissioner Dan Troy



Mentor-on-the-Lake Mayor John Rogers

parties and interests have suggested that I actually go that farther route, secure the seat electorally for my party, then walk away and allow the party to pick a replacement officeholder to serve the term. I have unequivocally rejected that advice. The voters will make the choice for their next state representative on Nov. 6.

I am encouraging my party to select Mentor-on-the-Lake Mayor John Rogers as my replacement as the Democratic candidate for state representative at that Nov. 6 General Election. Mayor Rogers has served with distinction and honor for many years as the chief executive of his city, spent many years as a conscientious assistant prosecutor under County Prosecutor (Charles) Coulson, currently serves as a chief deputy to County Treasurer (John) Crocker, and was the driving force in creating Lake County's Land Bank to address the growing issue of foreclosed and abandoned homes that threaten our neighborhoods and our property values. In my opinion, there is no one better prepared and knowledgeable as John Rogers to serve as our next state representative. He would be an outstanding ambassador for Lake County in Columbus as our representative, and I strongly urge the citizens of Lake County to join with me in making that a reality."