

December 2, 2009



Team Lockwood with Governor Christie in Middle Township

[ABOUT THE EDITOR](#)

Cape May County Page

LOCKWOOD BLOWS THE LID OFF

For years there was an unwritten code that Republicans didn't mess around too seriously in Middle Township and the Democrats wouldn't mess around too seriously on Republican turf. Then along came Dan Lockwood. In 2008, in the midst of the Obama upheaval, Dan led the incumbent Mayor throughout election night and into the morning. But when all was said and done, Dan trailed by less than 100 votes. That was not the end. In the days that followed Lockwood made the statesman's decision and decided not to put the people of Middle Township through an election challenge.

In 2009, Dan continued his relentless abuse of shoe leather. He used lists of every voter in Middle Township. He knocked on everyone's door. There was no targeting Republicans who voted in the last four elections. It didn't matter if you were a Democrat, Republican, Libertarian, Independent, whatever. Dan knocked on your door. As he explained it, "If you can turn a Democrat to vote for you, that's a two-fer."

Dan got lots of two-fers. He won handily against a split Democratic field. And Dan Lockwood became the first Republican elected in Middle Township in over sixty years. How?

Dan put together Team Lockwood, a close-knit group of family and friends willing to do whatever needed to be done to get the job done during the campaign and on Election Day. Team Lockwood consisted of a group of diehard political neophytes who just kept plugging away and refused to quit. He was told not to run. He was told a Republican couldn't win in Middle Township. He was told that all sorts of forces would line up against him. And they did. But Lockwood prevailed.

Politics is about a lot of things. Timing. Money. Message. But at the end of the day it comes down to the personality of the campaign. Team Lockwood took on Dan's personality. Optimistic. Committed. Idealistic. And they carried that message to every corner of the Township.

Dan Lockwood's victory in Middle Township was cataclysmic. The dust has not yet settled from this unlikely victory. Dan's

win is nothing short of a complete reshuffling of the political landscape. The old rules don't apply anymore and the new rules have yet to be written. No doubt Team Lockwood will play a major role in their writing.

The New Jersey Page



I HEREBY PRONOUNCE YOU MAN AND DEAD SENATOR

Gay marriage and dead Senators aren't often part of the same discussion. Especially when the dead Senator is still alive. But they were the arm-in-arm talk of Trenton this week. The Lame Duck Legislature and Governor are trying to pass two pieces of major legislation before Jon Corzine rides his rail out of town. One would allow men to be married to men and women to be married to women. The other would prevent the people's choice for Governor from deciding who should be our United States Senator in the case of a vacancy.

As for the Senate issue, the Democrats want to change the

law so that if Frank Lautenberg dies during this term, Chris Christie won't be able to name a Republican to replace him.

Okay. Um, Senator Lautenberg, you may want to hire a food taster and have someone start your car for you. Remember, Jon Corzine is looking for a job. The Dems will probably cram this through as their last shameless act (hopefully for some time).

The second issue is tougher. 200 prominent Democrats sent a letter to legislators telling them to vote for gay marriage or else. Interestingly, news reports described many of the 200 as "major Democratic campaign contributors." Uh-oh!

The problem for Dems is that this is a huge base issue for them in New Jersey. But a conservative-leaning Republican just won the Governor's mansion by more than 100,000. And, he said during the election and since that he will not sign a gay marriage bill into law. Many Democrats in Republican-heavy districts are really in a box. Vote for gay marriage and risk angering an electorate that has surged to the right. Vote against gay marriage and risk angering your cash cows.

What's a Dem to do?

National Page



WELCOME TO THE WAR, MR. PRESIDENT

Afghanistan is now officially Barak Obama's war. With his announcement that he will send an additional 30,000 U.S. troops, he has become a War Time President. This is not something he wants to be. Obama is about domestic issues.

He wants to bring economic equality to America through a redistribution of wealth. He wants to move us very quickly to a government run system of health care distribution. These are the overriding goals of the Obama movement.

War is not part of the plan. Or, was not, until the President's speech at West Point. Barak Obama has mapped out an 18 month strategy to do what the British, the Russians, no one has been able to do over the course of centuries. Pacify the war lords and unify the Afghans into a stable democracy.

Afghanistan has been called "The Killer of Empires." I am sure

that is what Osama Bin Laden was counting on when he launched the 9-11 offensive from Afghanistan.

We should all pray very hard that President Obama can make this happen. In order to have any chance of success, he will have to become the War Time President he pretended he did not need to be. War consumes Presidents just as Afghanistan has consumed empires.