

Community Comment
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Congressional Race

This station has been very kind to me, to all of us that have had the privilege to share our ideas and experience with this community. The owners have never shaped my thoughts or comments in any way except to remind us that radio is a family affair. That is, we need to keep it clean and civil. The result of this freedom, for me, is to be somewhat of a self-censor. I don't want to abuse this soapbox. In election cycles, while I'm happy to share my opinion of what would be best according to my values and analysis, I hesitate to support specific candidates on the air. But I have ^{now} will share my thought process about how I come to support various candidates. I especially want to speak to the Congressional race for our district.

Congressman Thompson, for whom I have enormous respect, has been re-districted. Do to no fault of his or ours, he will no longer represent us. I will miss his work for all of us. But Mr. Thompson left on a sour note for me. For someone who seemed to get that the more we leave partisan politics out of the discussion, the more we are willing to work together, he had to endorse his pick for his replacement. I can't adequately express my disappointment with this patronizing act. Mr. Thompson, we democrats are quite willing and able to interview those that are willing to run and come to some conclusion about who might best represent us. I don't know who you owed what but I resent the anointment. This is not new to the local democratic party but I assumed you were more mature than this. As far as I'm concerned, your choice is off the table. His track record, by the way, doesn't help him either.

The rest of the pack is interesting. But don't conclude interesting with qualified. We have an activist running. We need someone with the ability to govern. That's what our reps do in Washington, they deal with the tedious and mundane work of trying to make government work for all of us. Once elected, they represent all of us, not just those who voted for them.

We have a wealthy business person running. No prior experience in government. Not even bothering to vote in many recent elections. She reminds me of Meg Whitman for governor; no government experience and start at the top. I have news for her. Government and business are not the same nor should they be. In government, you need to be responsive to a wide variety of constituents, not to just the bottom line or your share holders.

But the idea of a qualified women is important to me. My daughters are under-represented. They still make less than a man for the same work. They still repopulate the planet and raise most of our kids.

My recommendation is to do your home work. As far as I can tell, we've never sent a women to congress from this district. We have one running that is worth your research. I'm not going to anoint anyone because I, like Mike Thompson, do not have or deserve that power. But you do. Do your work. Maybe it's time to have a women in the house from our district.

This has been Sam Pennisi for community comment.