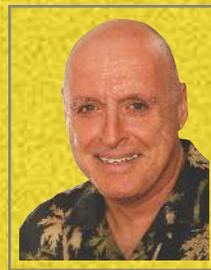


THE EXTRA POINT

BY JERRY ROBERTS



691 In the Eye of the Election Typhoon

Today is like being in the eye of a typhoon. We've just been through the first part of the storm, and now we have the lull, while being fully aware that the second half will pick up at full force very soon. I'm Jerry Roberts and today, some random thoughts about all of what's going on. That's coming next, on The Extra Point.

One election down, and another to go. How did you do with our local results? Happy? Not so happy? If not, are you hopeful?

This is a bit of a unique Extra Point, in that I didn't have time to write it as I normally do. I had to upgrade my operating system yesterday, and lost half of the working day in the process, plus much of the evening. All is well now, but before I knew it, it was time to hit the sack and I had nothing but a few ideas sketched out.

So, this is mostly random thoughts of things I've seen and heard in the past few days, some dealing with real live human beings, and some on social media.

1. My wife and I voted on Friday, sitting in our car at the Guam Election Commission. Their team did a terrific job is getting us put together and out, in maybe 20 minutes. If this is offered next time, I think we'll do it again. Maria Pangelinan, you've got a talented, energetic, highly organized team, and I thank all of you for making it easy.

2. Did I miss going to the normal polling place? Well, I guess so. It's always fun to be honking your horn at friends and shaking a few hands on the way in and out.

3. Advice to the 36th Guam Legislature. Never forget that people put you there for a reason. Never forget that reason is to represent their interests, not the interests of your political party.

4. More for the legislature. First impressions count. Get together and have a plan to deliver big results, day one of your term. Let everybody know that you're all about business, and you won't replicate the 35th.

5. Be grateful that you live in a place where we can conduct a heated political race, and not go crazy when the results don't go our way. I know you won't believe this, but the Guam Police report no roads blocked by angry mobs of protesters, nobody pulled out of their car and beaten, no stores looted, no businesses burned. Wait a second, it's an election, isn't that the way it's supposed to go?

6. Have you seen what has been going on across the country, in anticipation of the verdict in the presidential election? Stores and other buildings have been boarded up. Security teams will be armed and ready, if violent protesters hit the streets in anger, should Donald Trump win his bid for reelection.

Understand, they're not securing everything because they think Joe Biden will win and conservatives will try to attack businesses and people. They're preparing for the same crowd that rioted in June and the months to follow.

7. Nobody likes to lose. We used to be a country where there was a dignity attached to it. You picked up the pieces and got back to planning, then tried to do better the next time.

Expressing to the world that if we don't get our way, we'll destroy everything we can, paints a picture that you find in third world countries, not in America.

(Con't.)

8. People have been barking at each other for months now. However it turns out, whoever will be the next president, and whatever the makeup of Congress, we can't let ourselves be like THEM...THEM, who have turned into haters. THEM, who have no tolerance.

9. We can't let a criminally biased and agenda-based media, plus social media, to turn us against each other.

10. Hold onto hope. It's there. It's real. I think it was Halloween night, Dr. Tom Shieh and his team hung their neon sign on the wall of their brand new clinic in Tamuning. It's a beautiful sign, with the image of Tom holding up a brand new baby.

When I was thinking of hope, I flashed back to a few nights ago when I saw that sign. What could be more hopeful than a baby, entering the world as its newest citizen? There certainly is hope.

You want to make America great again? It's not about a candidate, or a party, or a party platform. It's about taking the time to understand others, even those who disagree with our positions.

It's about treating them decently, even if they've gone overboard and been a jerk. When such a person shows that they're lacking in character, loan them some of yours, instead of returning the abuse.

11. Say a prayer for America. The world is watching.

That's The Extra Point. Be responsible and make something good happen today. For 93.3 and the Ray Gibson Show, I'm Jerry Roberts.

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