“All politics are local.”  How many times have you heard that?”

Maryland has been a dependable “Blue State”.   Normally both major parties spend the bare minimum here because the outcome is assumed.

I do not attempt to predict how Maryland will go in the general election; but I feel compelled to comment on Carroll County.

Carroll County’s fire departments are “volunteer”, thus they must raise money on their own to keep operating.  Wherever you live in Carroll, your local

fire department has a week-long carnival.   IF you ever attended one of these events, you have seen that the Republican Central Committee

places a trailer at these carnivals where they take voter registration applications from carnival goers, then deliver them to the board of elections.

Note -    They take applications for all parties, not just Republicans.

As a member of the Republican Central Committee I have worked these carnivals since 2002.    The point of this letter is to share with you something

I have never seen before.    In “even” years we have elections.   During carnivals in even years, in addition to just taking voter applications, we do what we can to promote people running for office.  We do this by handing out candidate iterature, bumper stickers and lawn signs.   At least we try.   At carnivals in previous years, we see people trying to avoid the trailer as if we had an infectious disease, and we go home at night with most of the paraphernalia -   Until this year.

From the time we open up the trailer until when we close the doors for the night, there is a steady flow of Carroll  Countians asking us, “Do you have any Trump signs?   How much are they?”  When we answer that they are free, people ask if they can have two, or three.  If you read the national polls, this should be a surprise.

Let me say something about the national polls.  As I write this, the results of BREXIT, where Britain just voted themselves out of the EU, was the total

opposite of what the polls and Britain’s “bookies” had predicted.

1. Polls have always been taken by calling people on land lines, but a large percentage of people no longer use land lines.
2. There are three categories of polls, which you will see scrolled across the bottom of the poll on TV
3. “Adults” These are worthless, since you only have to have answered the phone and say that you are over 21
4. “Adults” These are worthless, since you only have to have answered the phone and say that you are over 21
   1. “Registered Voters”.   These are more valuable; but include people who may have never even voted; but are just registered
   2. “Likely voters” These are the only ones that matter.  The pollsters buy lists of people who voted in recent elections and call only them.

My point in this letter is to tell you not to be surprised if the election turns out differently than the polls predict.