



Profiles of Technology
IN TENNESSEE

East Tennessee Political Blogger Gains National Recognition – at the Age of Seventeen

Name: Daniel Myers

Location:
Byrdstown/Anderson County

Products/Services:
Political blog

Leadership: Daniel Myers,
Founder

Founded:
2006

Reach:
Global

Innovative Insight: *“The Internet is really a phenomenal way of keeping people in touch with what’s going on.”*

Importance of Broadband:
“I used to have a dial-up connection, and there is no way whatsoever I could have accomplished what I have without broadband.”

Clinton, TN – An online radio show that captured nearly 2,000 listeners. A political blog that has caught the eye of Senators across the country. A petition to run for County Commissioner in 2010. While this sounds like the resume of a seasoned politician, the man behind all these accomplishments is Clinton’s own 17-year-old Daniel Myers.

While he is not even old enough to vote yet, Daniel has made quite a name for himself in local politics in Anderson County. He got his start in political blogging in 2006, after watching his dad, Oak Ridge Police Officer Randy Myers, campaign for the GOP nomination for sheriff in 2002 and 2006. Unfortunately, his dad was defeated both times, but the political torch was officially passed. “I’ve always loved writing, so I just put politics and writing together,” Daniel says.

Daniel started posting his comments about national events online in October 2006 at www.myerspolitics.blogspot.com. A few months later, he decided to fine tune his coverage to primarily the Anderson County and Clinton political scenes. He regularly communicates with local officials and sits in on County Commission meetings to gather material for his blog. And while he’s become something of a local celebrity and is even the subject of a petition, urging him to run for County Commissioner in 2010, he’s got his sights set on a less high-profile course of action...at least for the time being.

“I graduate in May 2009, and I am planning to go to college,” he explains. “I’m just not sure where or what I’ll be majoring in yet.”

For now, Daniel is home schooled through the Christian Fellowship Academy in Knoxville, and for the most part, is a pretty typical kid. A typical kid counting the days until the December 2009 Clinton municipal elections – the first election he’ll be old enough to vote in.

And with all eyes on November 4th and Election Day, as a new president gets ready to take the helm, Daniel credits his ability to update his blog quickly and constantly to broadband technology.

“The Internet is really a phenomenal way of keeping people in touch with what’s going on,” he says. “I used to have a dial-up connection, and there is no way whatsoever I could have accomplished what I have without broadband.”

About TN 95:

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