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per distributing 10,000 copies throughout a Tri-State area.

"I'd like to bring back the trust and integrity to the board," Rich said. "I'd like to get people more involved and coming to the meetings. First of all, we need to know when the meetings are. I never know when the meetings are until after the meeting."

Withholding the meeting times from the public means the current EMC board effectively holds closed meetings, meaning that their actions and resolutions are not transparent to their consumers.

"I'm a true believer in term limits," said Rich. "I believe that you should not stay on the board until you die. I think that you should get in, make a difference, and then get out and allow someone else to make a difference also."

Both Rich and Malone

are against the idea that members of the board of directors might enjoy privileges that other paying customers do not.

"If you're on the board too long, you think that you should get benefits," said Rich. "Maybe not have to pay your electric bill. Maybe get insurance that you're only paying 70 percent for. This is a public service job. This is something you volunteer for. You don't volunteer for the pay. You don't volunteer for the benefits that come out of it."

"I'd like to see people on the board that are willing to vote for what's good for the EMC and what is good for the members of the EMC," he concluded.

Malone is running on a similar platform. A businessman for 40 years, Malone has only recently moved to the South for work.

He went to high school in Cleveland, Ohio, and graduated in 1960 before attending John Carroll University. He graduated the college in 1964. Shortly after, Malone joined the Marine Corps reserves, where he saw six months of active duty and another five and a half years in the service.

In 1967, Malone went to work for the greeting card company American Greetings, based in Cleveland. He spent almost 20 years working there before leaving to work at Hyponex, a lawn business, as VP in sales.

In 1990, he sold Hyponex. He has been at work with his current company, the Par Group, since 1991.

A Union County resident, Malone is running for the director of the position because, "I thought they needed better leadership on the board, and that's what I think I can

provide."

He began by citing some of the problems with the existing board.

"Number one, the board failed in its fiscal responsibility to the members, and as a result of that, they lost trust," he said. "Number two, the most important thing that the board of directors is supposed to do is something called a duty of care to the people who elected them. They take care of them to ensure they do not get hurt."

He said that the current board has failed its duty of care to the public.

"You allow people not to pay their bills, the people who are paying their bills are getting hurt. I'm running with the idea of restoring trust and returning the EMC to a place of respect in this community, because it's not there right now," he said.

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here, and then you leave, and when you leave, you get to take all of your body, but 75 percent of your heart," he said. "The other 25 percent will stay in these mountains. When you leave, we - the parents, the faculty, the administrators - we want you to have success. We want you to go into the world and know great things are going to happen. And I would tell you that, but that would be a lie."

A few students laughed at the last part, thinking it was a joke. But Carville ignored them and went on.

"It's a hard, hard, gruesome, competitive, disappointing world that's full of defeat and get used to it," he

told them. "You're not going to be in this cocoon. You're going to be out there on your own. And people will try to knock you out of the way, try to compete with you, try to sabotage you; they're going to try everything. And you're going to lose."

He pointed out Zell Miller, who attends every graduation, and said, "You see the great Zell Miller, who's accomplished everything. But you don't see the two times he ran for Congress and lost. You don't see about the times he ran for the Senate and lost."

"Rejection is coming," he went on. "We can't help you. We can't stop it. It's inevitable. But your ability to suc-

ceed is proportionate to your ability to accept failure."

The one person who failed the most in American history, according to Carville, is also the most successful. That person is Abraham Lincoln. Rejected twice for nomination to Congress, defeated for a seat on the US Senate, defeated for Vice President, and having met a whole host of other failures, Lincoln managed to become one of the United States' most revered presidents.

"So when you get knocked down, just dust yourself off and get up," said Carville. "Don't worry about it. But if all we do is just lie and tell you that everything is

just success, everything is going to be like it is in the little pristine town of Young Harris where everybody loves you and everybody wants you to succeed - no."

Nicole Drake, an art student who graduated in three years instead of four, said that she thought Carville was "empowering."

"Not in an authoritative way, in a down to earth kind of empathetic way," she clarified. "He understood where he was when he was 21 or 22 and graduating college, and he could empathize with the failures that we're going to face, and he knew the difference between what makes a failure and a successful person."

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stood, and as Wesche prayed for them, members of the audience laid hands on these local officials in a show of support.

Evangelist Jeff Deaver, police chaplain, prayed for law enforcement, the fire department, EMTs and medical professionals, asking God for a hedge of protection for these individuals, including Sheriff Mason, who stood when called.

Pastor Roy Watkins of Coosa United Methodist Church prayed over the nation's armed forces, and Pastor Terry Stuart of Blairsville Church of Christ prayed for businesses.

"There is a satanic attack on the institution of marriage," warned Pastor Bill Shakat of Redeemer Baptist Church in his prayer for fami-

lies, calling for stronger men to lead the home and for more Godly women.

Minister Kevin Collins led a prayer for the youth, saying that "it's time we give our children to the Lord," and that "it's time we stand up and be the examples that we're supposed to be in front of them, to teach them responsibility, teach them love, teach them compassion, and pray for them."

Pastor John Davis of the Blairsville Church of God prayed over Israel's leadership, calling for believers to continue to stand with Israel, while Pastor Tim Mason of Shining Light Baptist Church said a prayer over world missions.

"I believe that, though we can point fingers at government, and though we can

point fingers in a lot of places for where we find the country today, I think the No. 1 place that we ought to point our finger for the problems of America is because the pulpits of America have been cold far too long," said Mason.

According to Mason, the pulpits of America are lacking "Holy Ghost fire," and are pandering a weaker message than in days past, such as calling "the murder of the unborn" the "right to choose."

Dr. Fred Lodge, pastor over the host congregation, First Baptist Church of Blairsville, led the closing prayer.

"May I say on behalf of all of the ministries who are present - to those of you who are prayer warriors, thank you," said Dr. Lodge. "Your prayers energize and enable



Pastor Fred Lodge gives testimony at the Day of Prayer event.

your ministers more than you will ever know. Thank you for your prayers."

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