



black, white & *red* all over

a River Edge community newsletter

VOTE NO on SCHOOL REFERENDUM

It is very important that all registered voters vote in this year's school board elections on April 27, 2011. Besides the normal voting for school board representatives and school budgets, this year there is a special public referendum regarding the apportionment of costs between River Edge and Oradell for the River Dell School District.

Currently the costs for the shared River Dell Middle and High Schools are split between the two towns using a formula based on real estate property values. This is the statewide standard method and has been used for decades. Oradell is seeking to change the funding formula to one based on number of students from each town, since more River Edge students currently use the joint school district. The effect of this change, by all estimates, would raise River Edge homeowner property taxes on average by over **\$1,000 PER HOUSEHOLD**.

We strongly urge everyone to turnout and **VOTE NO ON THE REFERENDUM**. If you will not be able to vote in person on April 27, please obtain an absentee ballot and vote by mail. Vote-by-mail application forms can be obtained at Borough Hall or the Library. The River Edge Senior Bus will provide transportation to the polls on April 27 for those who require assistance. (Call 201-599-6281.) Voting for school board elections is held in your normal polling place and the polls will be open from 2:00 PM to 9:00 PM.

While we recognize Oradell's argument on this issue, we believe that discarding the long established, statewide funding formula based on real estate values is not the solution and feel other options to manage and reduce property taxes must be examined. We need a huge turnout from River Edge voters so that the will of all the people is truly made known and our fiscal future is not simply decided by our neighboring town's electorate.

VOTE NO on REFERENDUM ISSUE – RIVER EDGE / ORADELL SCHOOL FUNDING FORMULA
April 27, 2011 – Regular Polling Location
Polls Open: 2:00 PM to 9:00 PM

The views expressed here do not necessarily reflect the opinions of any specific elected officials.

River Edge Council Meetings

Date: 1st and 3rd Monday of each month
Time: 7:00-8:00PM Work Session
(open to public)
8:00 PM Public Session
Place: Borough Hall – 2nd Floor

Council Meetings Need You!

We urge all our readers to try to attend Town Council meetings whenever possible. These meetings are open to the public and we encourage everyone to see for themselves how our Mayor and Councilmen are battling to put in place the fiscal improvements that River Edge desperately needs. Increasingly, the public presence at these meetings is becoming dominated by "special interest" groups opposed to the changes needed to get the town back on the right track. A greater public showing at Council meetings by the vast majority of residents who elected our Republican town leaders would provide balance and fairly reflect true public opinion. We appreciate your support!

Tax Day Blues? Join the River Edge Republicans for an informal **Happy Hour** get together on **April 15th, 5:30-7:00 PM at Jersey Boys Grill in New Milford**. Chat about town issues or just have fun. Cash bar; hors d'oeuvres courtesy of River Edge's own Bergen County Freeholder John Felice. (Photos from our last Happy Hour shown below, courtesy of Dorothy Walker.)

