

black, white & red all over

a River Edge community newsletter

Outgoing County Democrats Have “Field Day” With Appointments and Raises

Following defeat in the November 7, 2010 election and prior to leaving office on New Year’s Day, the Democrat controlled Bergen County government shamelessly proceeded to fill over 100 County positions and approve retroactive pay raises for political appointees. As documented in The Record and other major media sources, the “lame duck” administration actions, while technically legal, were far from ethical and defied the will of Bergen County voters. In the November 2010 election, Bergen County had voted out the incumbent Democrat County Executive, 3 Democrat Freeholders, and the Democrat Sheriff, in favor of Republicans.

The appointment positions ranged from symbolic to extremely important, with some overseeing the activities of hundreds of employees and tens or hundreds of millions of dollars of government operations, such as positions with the Bergen County Improvement Authority, Bergen County Technical School, Bergen County Utilities Authority, and the Bergen County Police Chief. Paid for with taxpayer money and rewarding Democrat Party support, the appointees will improve their vested positions in the state pension systems. Most of the appointments have prescribed terms and as such also act to stymie the efforts of the new Republican county government majority to cut costs and enact other critically important measures.

“The large number of appointments made all in the last few weeks of the term of the Democrat County Executive and Democrat-controlled Freeholder Board indicates to me they had little to do with keeping Bergen County running as some claim,” said River Edge Mayor Peg Watkins. “Doing this at a time when the County and taxpayers can least afford it makes it all the worse.”

While efforts are ongoing by the new Republican administration to undo the appointments, most of the shameless, arrogant and disgraceful Democrat appointments and raises are expected to stand. This is something to remember as you go to polls this November.

River Dell School Funding Referendum Vote – April 27, 2011

A significant referendum regarding funding of the River Dell school district will be put to a public vote by the residents of both River Edge and Oradell on April 27, 2011. The referendum will seek to change the allocated share of funding between the two towns for the joint school district from one based on property values to a formula based on the number of students from each town.

River Edge currently sends more students than Oradell does to the River Dell Middle and High Schools. **A change to the funding formula would have a major impact on River Edge property taxes.** We urge all registered voters to mark their calendars now to turn out for the referendum vote on Tuesday, April 27, 2011. Watch for future articles on this important topic in this newsletter.

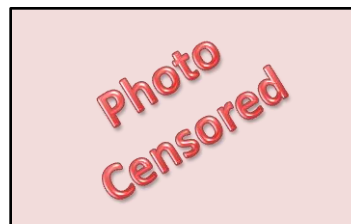
Jim Arakelian Elected Town Republican Chairperson

Congratulations to longtime River Edge resident Jim Arakelian who was recently elected as the River Edge Republican Chairperson. He was elected as the Municipal Chairperson by a vote of the town’s Republican Party County Committee representatives after the previous chairman stepped down to meet the demands of his new startup business.

Presidents’ Week Celebration

The River Edge Republicans held their kick-off social event in celebration of Presidents’ Week on February 25th at Jersey Boys. Open to all, a group of almost 30 gathered for the informal fun Friday evening Happy Hour. “It was great to see people ranging in age from mid-20s to early 80s, and not only Republicans but Independents and possible even a few disenchanted Democrats,” said Bob Nyman, a member of the Republican group and event organizer. “It was a real cross-section of River Edge with common interests in fiscally responsible government – and having a good time.” Watch for notices of future social events, in this publication and the Town Crier section of the Town News newspaper.

Republicans at a Recent Social Event



Note: Republicans smiling, laughing, socializing and enjoying themselves does not fit the stereotype created by the media and therefore any such photos are deemed inappropriate Just Kidding! Watch for photos in future editions.

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