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a River Edge community newsletter

Bartelloni and Mignone Join Council

January 2nd ushered in the New Year for the River Edge Town Council as Al Bartelloni and Ed Mignone took the oath of office and their seats on the dais of the town's governing body. Both Ed and Al were surrounded by their families and friends as they were individually sworn in by Mayor Peg Watkins.

The new Council Members soundly defeated their Democrat opponents, Tom Smith and Wendy Walker, last November to win the 3-year Council positions. Al gained the most votes (1,927) and Ed was a close second (1,897) in the election. Ed holds both a Bachelor's and a Master's degree in Civil Engineering and is a professional engineer, licensed professional planner, certified public works manager and certified municipal engineer in the State of New Jersey. Al is an attorney-at-law and holds a juris doctorate from Rutgers Law School. He also received his Bachelor's in Political Science and a certificate in Criminology from Rutgers University.

In their statements to the Mayor, Council and gathered public both men stated they would always keep the best interests of the town and its citizens in mind and noted the contributions their families had made to their success. In very touching and emotional words, Ed said, "I would like to thank my wife Cheryl who did not ask to be a councilman's spouse but has always been a source of faith and appreciation for me." Al said, "I would also like to thank my parents and sister, especially my parents who through their hard years of work made it possible for me to go to college and law school, which ultimately led me here today. Sometimes my father worked three or four jobs to do what was needed to put my sister and me through college. It's a debt I can never repay."

With Al Bartelloni and Ed Mignone joining Paul Cordts and Johnny Porco, who were elected in 2009, control of the Council swings from many years of Democrat control to the Republican team. The town Council is the local legislative governing body and as such determines the town's budget and approves or disapproves expenditures by municipal departments.



Al Bartelloni, above left, and Ed Mignone, below left, take the oath of office to join the River Edge Town Council.



River Edge's Felice New Freeholder

In a New Year's Day ceremony at Bergen Community College, River Edge's own John Felice was sworn in as a Bergen County Freeholder. The Board of Chosen Freeholder is the legislative branch of Bergen County's government. Before a packed auditorium, John, a former River Edge Council Member, took the oath of office administered by U.S. Congressman Scott Garrett. John was part of the huge Republican victory this past November at the County level, which also brought into office fellow Freeholders Maura DeNicola, John Mitchell, County Executive Kathe Donovan and Sheriff Mike Saudino. The newly elected officials have pledged to rid the county of corruption and restore fiscal responsibility and transparency to government.



Among John's family and friends in attendance were his wife Janet (far right), his children, and his father Nick Felice (far left), a former longtime New Jersey Assembly Member and Mayor of Fair Lawn.

Republicans Welcome Moscaritolo

The River Edge Republicans welcome Mr. Sandy G. Moscaritolo to Town Council. Mr. Moscaritolo was personally hand picked by the town Democrat Party Committee and its chairperson Tom Smith to replace publicly elected Council Member Mary Ann Rush. Rush resigned in December citing unspecified family reasons.

We extend our best wishes to Mr. Moscaritolo and encourage him for the good of the people to join with the new River Edge Council and the Mayor in exercising prudence with taxpayer money, cutting government spending, lowering property taxes and restoring fiscal responsibility to the Town Council.

The views expressed in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the opinions of any specific elected officials.