

# PRO-Active

News, Views & Events of note  
from  
The Piscataway  
Republican Organization

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

JANUARY & FEBRUARY 2011

## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- **A Word from the Chair**
- **Goals for 2011**
- **Fair Funding for Piscataway**
- **Opinion**
- **Tax appeals in Piscataway**
- **Book Review**

## A New Beginning

Recognizing the need to establish a more prominent position in Piscataway, the Piscataway Republican Organization is pleased to bring you a new newsletter.

The intent will be to publish this on an every other month basis. The goal will be to use this vehicle as a way of informing our base as to what is going on in the PRO as well as other area Republican organizations.

We will list events, fundraisers, community awareness initiatives as well as other pertinent happenings as they come up. We hope that readers of this publication will contribute with articles, news items and opinions.

We hope to develop consistent columns that will deal not only with Piscataway Township but the county as well. We also want to give exposure to suc-



**Have ideas, suggestions—let us know.**

cesses other Republican organizations and municipal governments are having so that we may benefit from their ideas and agenda's.

Commentary presented in a well thought out form is encouraged from PRO members and we will seek out other area Republicans to contribute their thoughts and opinions for this publication.

We will also need photographs, quotations and any kind of humorous pieces as well to help round out PRO News.

As with any new venture, we will rely on your feedback and ideas in making this a success. So, if there are items, articles, or productive suggestions you may have, please submit them.

## A Word from the Chair

June will complete the first year of my third, two year term as Chair of the Piscataway Republican Organization. Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

Since the November election the executive board has spent many hours meeting and planning for the following year. We are com-

mitted to strong and active leadership. Paramount to our goals is to "Grow the PRO"; to fill committee seats and to fully involve all committee members in working as a productive "TEAM".

Looking forward to the success of 2011 and beyond, I trust PRO members will be committed to

making us stronger through commitment and involvement as we continue to attract the best and brightest.

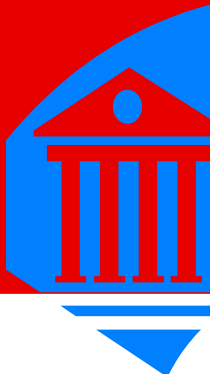
Thank you & Happy New Year!  
*Bobbi Goodman*



Join us in making the PRO a great success for Piscataway.

*"All great change in America begins at the dinner table."*

Ronald Reagan



## Goals for 2011

If you missed the January meeting, the PRO announced its goals and strategies for 2011.

Some of the highlights of that presentation were:

1. To grow the PRO. If we can have each member bring in at least one friend to a meeting, that would be a terrific start.
2. To make a contributing presence in the communi-

ty. The PRO has to be more than a body that runs candidates every 2 years for office. We have to start showing that we are more than that for Piscataway.

3. Fundraising. The PRO will be more proactive in organizing fundraisers both big and small. It is no secret that money is a big key in successfully mounting a strong campaign.

These are just some highlights of the January meeting. We are hoping that you will come out and join us to learn and share in the details of seeing our goals to fruition.

The more people and ideas we have, the better the chance of bringing Piscataway the leadership it deserves.

## Piscataway seeks its Fair Share

As cold descends upon the region another chill, one of discontent, has been rustling its way into the bones of Piscataway residents. It has become very apparent that Piscataway schools have been given the cold shoulder from the proper funds it believes it is due.

An action group, Fair Funding for Piscataway has taken its cause to the streets and has garnered some attention via concerned parents, protests, newspaper editorials and the use of social networking via Facebook. This group is claiming and has the statistics to show it, that Piscataway schools are due nearly 12 million dollars in funding. Using a funding formula

created by the Corzine administration that is too detailed to explain in such short space, Piscataway schools should be receiving about \$4,000 dollars per student from the state.

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## Piscataway Business - Tax Appeal

Piscataway is setting aside \$500,000 in order to deal with impending tax appeals in 2011. Property owners, mostly corporate, are expected to contest their tax assessments. Mayor Wahler acknowledged as much, stating that until vacancies pickup, owners of

these buildings will continue to ask for appeals.

The process is legal and many towns throughout the state are facing the same issues. Piscataway has already paid back over 19 thousand & 15 thousand dollars to different building owners. The Mayor said the township is working on filling

the buildings, noting that Piscataway offers many appealing opportunities, such as access to interstate highways, proximity to New York and its high capacity data lines. The issue is, as the mayor alluded, that banks are not lending money so companies can make moving possible.

# Reflections on the Campaign



by Brien Szabo

My 2010 run for Town Council was an exciting time. It held many highs and a few lows. Still, it was an exhilarating experience I wouldn't

exchange for anything. It helped shape me as a person and helped me see myself as someone who can be a positive force in the community.

We all take steps in our lives and I believe the experience from this campaign will help in contributing to the future growth and influence of the PRO in Piscataway.

I take away from this campaign a better sense of shaping a message and how to deliver it. I see where the growth of the PRO and a positive consistency within it will go a

long way in helping future candidates in eventually winning seats on council and the position of mayor.

Some may scoff at this but I believe in it fervently. As I became more aware of the political history of this town, I see that the hill is steep but far from insurmountable. What we currently lack can be addressed through hard work, passion and commitment.

The campaign trail is a consuming place. Yet I can see how some folks get addicted to it. There's an allure that is unexplainable. It helped fuel my desire to improve this organization.

I feel the PRO can play a vital role in making Piscataway a better place to live.

I look forward to contributing in moving the PRO in a positive direction in the upcoming years.

## Opinion - The Tragedy in Arizona by Julie LaSaracina

In times of great divides, it's the common bonds that tie us together. Politics tends to deal with the far ends of the spectrum and highlight vast differences; Liberal/Conservative, Left/Right, Big government/Small government. At times, life presents us with wake-up calls that enable us to see what the salient issues in life really are.

In the wake of the Arizona shootings, which left several wounded and deceased, it's the commonalities between us that will be remembered. Years from now, the story won't be that a Democratic Congresswoman who supported the healthcare bill was scheduled to meet constituents. The stories that will live on are the stories

of courage, bravery, and heroism. The emotions felt on that day and the characteristics that are common to all people, regardless of political party, are the common bonds that tie.

*See back page..Arizona*

**“All growth depends upon activity. There is no development physically or intellectually without effort and effort means work.”**  
**Calvin Coolidge**

## Book Review: Deadly Spin by Wendell Potter

The mantra of the Tea Party has been to get government out of our lives and to leave health care alone. I wish I could totally agree. However Deadly Spin illuminates too many flaws in the current health care system for the government to just turn its back.

This is an easy book to read. What I surmised is: The “for” profit Health Care companies are more concerned about the shareholder than those that suffer. Top executives have no use for real reform and have paid and will pay millions to protect their personal stock options.

Health Care Companies have no desire to open up state borders and stir up competition. Republican politicians do not really favor open competition. The Health Care lobby will do everything in its power to preserve ERISA – legislation that shields it from nearly any kind of wrong doing on its part.

I encourage conservatives to read this. It will lift the veil off an industry that touts the protection of the free market system and its superior health care but

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To submit an article or ideas contact:  
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Visit us on the Web:

[www.piscatawayrepublicans.com](http://www.piscatawayrepublicans.com)

Visit us on Facebook: type in Piscataway Republicans and friend us.

Piscataway Township site:

[www.piscatawaynj.org](http://www.piscatawaynj.org)

## PRO Leadership for 2011

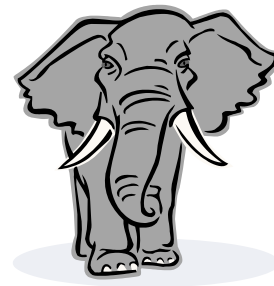
**Chair: Bobbi Goodman**

**1st Chair: Don Pierce**

**2nd Chair: Bob Bostick**

**Treasurer: Julie LaSaracina**

**Secretary: Brien Szabo**



*"If once the people become inattentive to the public affairs, you and I, and Congress and Assemblies, Judges and Governors, shall all become wolves. It seems to be the law of our general nature, in spite of individual exceptions." Thomas Jefferson*

## Fair Funding

Currently Piscataway receives \$2,357.

What this means is, if Piscataway received its fair share of funding, the schools could continue to run all their programs. What it also means is that our taxes could be reduced while providing a better education for our children. Now that sounds like something we could wrap up in a warm blanket to.

## Book Review

does everything to cut costs, care and services so that a very few will continue to grow richer on the backs of those they claim to protect. Having read this, I feel the everyday Republican will have much better insight into what is really going on so that real and viable solutions can be created in the future. We can only come up with solutions if we know all sides of the story. This book tells a story many of us don't hear.

## Arizona

Citizens hope and expect that members of Congress "reach across the aisle" to respect and collaborate with others regardless of differences of opinion. We should not forget the commonalities we share and we should "reach across the aisle" in our own lives.