

Republicans Ask Freeholders To Back Out of Tremley

UNION COUNTY — Republican candidates for Union County Freeholder are telling the county's all-Democratic Board of Chosen Freeholders to formally withdraw its approval for New York City to dump its trash in Union County.

Last year, the Democratic Freeholders approved plans for New York City's trash to be shipped by barge from Staten Island to a \$60 million transfer station to be built on Tremley Point in Linden by Browning-Ferris Industries (BFI). The site is owned by a partnership including the son-in-law of Linden Mayor John Gregorio.

After the trash is dumped in Union County, BFI plans to load it into rail cars and ship it to a Virginia landfill.

"Last year, I said New York City should be able to find a site within its city limits to handle its own garbage," said Joel Whitaker, Fanwood Council President and one of three Republicans seeking election to the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders.

"Now NJN News has reported that New York City has, indeed, found a suitable site within its own borders."

The NJN News report, which aired July 12, said the alternative site is at Howland Hook, Staten Island. A railroad bridge linking that site to New Jersey was renovated last year and the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey bought three acres earlier this month to link the renovated railroad bridge to existing railroad tracks that would carry the garbage to a Virginia landfill.

"NJN has established that there's no reason for New York's garbage to be dumped on Union County," said Mr. Whitaker.

The NJN News report also included an interview with Bradley Campbell, commissioner, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection,

who said, "As far as we're concerned, the Linden Project doesn't exist. They don't have a contract with New York and there's no proposal before the administration to consider it at this point."

Elyse Bochicchio Medved, a Rahway councilwoman who is also seeking election to the county Freeholder Board, called on the Freeholders to start putting Union County's interests first.

"Tremley Point should be the start of a major redevelopment of Union County's waterfront, as has been done in Newark and Jersey City. There's no reason the Democrat Freeholders should ever have approved it for a garbage transfer station," she said.

"It just goes to show the Democrat Freeholders' economic development efforts have lacked vision and foresight. We need a comprehensive study involving the county and Linden to determine the highest and best use for Tremley Point and all the Union County waterfront," the councilwoman continued.

"Once the study is completed, there should be a public discussion of how to achieve real economic development on the site."

It shows something else, too, according to Anira Clericuzio, a Cranford attorney who is the third Republican seeking election to the Freeholder board.

"Union County truly needs two-party government," she said. "The Democrat Freeholders voted for a garbage dump on Tremley Point because there was no one on the Freeholder Board to ask a question, to call for additional study."

"The Democrats may not stand up for Union County, but Joel Whitaker, Elyse Bochicchio Medved and I will," Ms. Clericuzio said. "We want to get Union County moving again."



Bill Sheppard for The Westfield Leader and The Times

CAMPAIGN BEGINS... Tim Carden, candidate for United States Congress, Seventh Congressional District, is interviewed Monday evening by Steve Krakauer of The Westfield Leader and The Times of Scotch Plains - Fanwood during the Grand Opening of Carden for Congress Campaign Headquarters located on Elmer Street in Westfield.

Congress Candidate Carden Opens Campaign Office

By BILL SHEPPARD and STEVEN KRAKAUER

Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

WESTFIELD — Tim Carden, Democratic candidate for United States Congress, Seventh Congressional District, held his official grand opening on Monday evening of the Carden for Congress Campaign Headquarters, located on Elmer Street in Westfield. The candidate and his staff, "Carden's Crew", held the affair to meet and greet the general public and supporters. They introduced their new headquarters and solicited volunteers for the campaign.

Mr. Carden said he chose Westfield as his campaign headquarters because, "It was good geographically, but also the Westfield community is reflective of the make-up of the Seventh Congressional District."

Supporters totaling more than 50 from most segments of the congressional district attended the affair. The district includes parts of Middlesex, Union, Warren, Somerset and Hunterdon counties in New Jersey.

In his opening remarks, candidate Carden quipped, "It must be a campaign, we have balloons!" On a serious note, Mr. Carden announced to the assembled crowd that his campaign would be filing its latest quarterly fundraising report to the Federal Election Commission (FEC)

later that evening.

"That report shows that we raised almost as much as the incumbent and we didn't have the President of the United States hold a fundraiser for us," Mr. Carden told the crowd.

The headline of the press release issued that day by Mr. Carden's Press Secretary, Vicki Streifeld, read "Carden raises \$420,502 to Ferguson's \$592,020 Despite Bush Fundraiser."

The period of the FEC filing covers April 1 through June 30. The general election will be held on Tuesday, November 5.

Candidate for Westfield Mayor Tom Fucillo and candidate for Westfield Councilman David Owens were in attendance. Mr. Fucillo said, "Tim's race and mine represent two ends of the spectrum. Still, any excitement that benefits the other's race would be excellent."

Also attending were Ken Rotter and Ken Lipstein, Municipal Chairman in Westfield and Scotch Plains, respectively. Judy Platt, candidate for Union County Freeholder, was in attendance as well.

The Seventh Congressional District includes 650,000 people and stretches from Woodbridge, Edison and South Plainfield to Hunterdon County and the Delaware River in the western part of the state.



Budget Does Not Add Up For All N.J. Residents

By ASSEMBLYMAN THOMAS H. KEAN (R-21)

The New Jersey state budget is more than a thick book that outlines the state's revenue estimates and expenditures for the next fiscal year. In fact, it is a plan of action that reflects New Jersey's core beliefs and priorities and represents the best interests of all New Jersey citizens from Cape May County to Sussex County.

Sadly, the spending plan signed into law by Governor James E. McGreevey on July 1 falls woefully short on these responsibilities. It is for that reason that I — and 36 of my colleagues on a bipartisan basis — made the painful decision to vote against this year's appropriations act.

As a member of the Assembly Budget Committee, I had been optimistic that a state budget could be developed that would balance both sound fiscal planning with sensible, responsive public policy. Unfortunately, this state budget misplaces the priorities of the state and in doing so, fails the people of this state both today and in the future.

Specifically, the new state budget reneges on the state's commitment to improving education in all school districts. This budget will appropriate an additional \$220 million to our state's Abbott School Districts, but does not provide the financial resources that many suburban and rural school districts need to address increasing student enrollment.

As a result, this budget will back communities into a corner. School districts throughout New Jersey will be forced to choose between increasing taxes and eliminating programs. Taxpayers and students will both come out on the short end of the stick.

This budget also takes the same divisive approach when it comes to our municipalities, by holding flat the aid to municipalities throughout the state, but funneling millions of dollars into cities and urban areas without demanding accountability or results.

Tens of millions of dollars have also been cut in this budget from constitu-

tionally-dedicated funds to protect the environment and preserve our historical treasures. The budget ignores the state's moral and legal obligation to preserve and protect New Jersey's legacies — the arts, history and open spaces.

Instead, this budget diverts \$40 million in resources to newly-created accounts from which pork barrel projects can be funded at the discretion of the administration and without the oversight of the legislature.

Finally, this budget misplaces the most immediate priority of all — getting our economy moving again. Instead of a much-needed plan for stimulating growth, encouraging investment and creating jobs, this budget accommodates more government spending by saddling New Jersey businesses — both big and small — with a billion-dollar tax increase.

Instead of reducing the state's reliance on bonding, as the Governor pledged, this budget relies on revenues generated through a risky bond deal involving the state's tobacco settlement. For this short-term infusion of cash, New Jersey will have to pay five billion dollars in future payments.

The Fiscal Year 2003 state budget increases spending by more than two billion dollars — more than 9 percent above last year's spending levels — at a time when the state can least afford it. It increases taxes and relies on one-shot revenues at a time when our economy is still vulnerable and unsteady. It divides the state at a time when we need to come together.

The newly-enacted state budget is not a sound fiscal blueprint for the future. In fact, it is not even a sound fiscal blueprint for tomorrow.

Assemblyman Thomas H. Kean, Jr. was appointed in April 2001 to fill the term of the late Alan M. Augustine. Mr. Kean was elected to a full two-year term in November 2001. He is a member of the Assembly Budget Committee and the Assembly State Government Committee. He also chairs the Assembly Republican Policy Committee.

Summer Park Programs Underway In Fanwood

The Fanwood Recreation Department Parks Programs at LaGrande and Forest Road Parks are now available for all Fanwood and Scotch Plains residents through Friday, August 9, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The programs include arts and crafts, games and tournaments that are available for all youngsters 6 to 17 years old. There are experienced counselors and supervisors working at each park.

The counselors at Forest Road Park are Lauren Bianco, Megan Reddington, and Mike Koblika. The supervisor at Forest Road is Corey Jones, who is a teacher at Park Middle School.

The counselors at LaGrande Park are Amanda Wells, Pat Meredith, and Ned Kipping. The supervisor at LaGrande is Jack O'Neill, who is a teacher in a nearby school district.

All children are invited for a fun, productive and inexpensive summer at the Fanwood Summer Parks Program. Registration is \$5 with the Recreation Department.

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