

Raritan Borough Re-Organization Meeting - January 6, 2013

I would like to welcome and thank our distinguished guests and residents for joining us today for our annual reorganization meeting. I would like to sincerely thank my family, friends and supporters in my re-election. My husband Mark, my son Jake and my daughter Madison I love you all so very much, thank you for always being there to support me. Thank you and congratulations to my running mate and good friend Greg Lobell.

I look forward to working with Mayor Liptak, Council President Tozzi, Councilwoman Carra, Councilman Giraldi and Councilman Soriano, Jr. in this upcoming year.

2012 was a very busy year for our borough. We created a relationship with the Rutgers Bloustien School of Planning & Public Policy to develop a Redevelopment Plan for the Orlando Drive/Riverfront Corridor, we enacted a multi-year plan for maintenance and repair of our roadways, sidewalks and sewers, increased recycling programs. We also created a relationship with the Steeplechase Cancer Center at Somerset Medical Center thanks to Council President Tozzi. This relationship will benefit our Fire Department and community for years to come. We faced and overcame Hurricane Sandy which brought power outages and long gas lines. I am proud how we came together as a community neighbor helping neighbor.

We are anticipating 2013 to be a year of continued productivity as we move forward with our redevelopment plans, enhancement of Canal Park and reconstruction of Orlando Drive to name a few. Construction will begin on the Veterans building in Stone Bridge at Raritan this year as well as the first market units will be ready for occupancy next month.

This past year serving our Borough I had the privilege of working closely with our Senior Citizens, Administration and Personnel, the Municipal Land Use Board, the Environmental Commission, The Green Team and the Riverfest Committee.

My duties in 2013 will include Police and Courts, Engineering and Public Works. I will be liaison to the Economic Development Committee and the Green Team. I am very excited to be Co-Chairing to the 2nd Annual Raritan Riverfest and Rubber Duck Race with Council President Tozzi and I am looking forward to working with our Fire Department on the upcoming Relief Hose #2 Tricky Tray.

With so many community events on the horizon their successes rely on the many wonderful volunteers who step up to help make these events a reality. I urge all residents to get involved in any way possible. I am readily available to all of you and of course I welcome communication from you.

Your Council will continue to work to improve our quality of life, the efficiency of our many Borough departments, and of course to provide continued services while focusing on maintaining our taxes at the lowest possible rate. We are working very hard to help meet both the present and future needs of Raritan. I hope everyone had a very Merry Christmas and I wish you all a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year. Thank you.