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November 2, 2012: Election Update

IMPORTANT -- PLEASE NOTE:
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Dear Neighbor,

Although most of us are still without power and have concerns about property damage, there are also many residents wondering if they will be able to vote on Election Day on Tuesday. Here is an update on the power situation and on voting – or as you might say, electrical power and electoral power (a little levity on another hard day).

Electrical Update

Small sections of Morris Township are having their electricity restored each day, but the progress has been slow. Unfortunately, and as we experienced last year with Hurricane Irene, JCP&L has been less than forthcoming with their internal assessments of the on-the-ground situation. Communication from JCP&L to each and every municipality they serve has once again been inadequate. As of Thursday night the latest estimate from JCP&L is that most residents will have power restored by Wednesday Nov. 7th -- but with no guarantees that the entire Township will be back online by then. JCP&L has promised us another update by the end of the day Friday. Check the Township website for the latest updates: www.morristwp.com

The Township municipal building at 50 Woodland Avenue continues to be open as a warming and charging center, and also has internet access via wi-fi. Hours of operation are 8am-8pm on Friday and Saturday.

Election Update

As for the elections, which are to take place this coming Tuesday, all elections are ON as scheduled. Many polling stations have their power back already. We are hopeful that the others will have power restored by Monday. However, if they are still without power you should know that the voting machines themselves also have battery power and can operate for up to 24 hours. So the contingency plan, only if necessary, would be to utilize the battery back-up on the voting machines on Election Day.

Please go to your regular polling station on Tuesday. If you are unsure of where to go, please let me know and I will direct you on where to go based on your home address.

See below for information on early voting at the County Building.

Jeff supports Ron Goldberg and Judy Stein

Even though we are in the midst of a crisis, I feel it is important for everyone to know my recommendations for the local elections since many of you will try to vote in advance of Election Day this Tuesday. I am supporting Ron Goldberg and Judy Stein in the local election for Township Committee, and I urge you to do so as well.

I have known Ron for many years. He is a bright and thoughtful person who was my running mate back in 2006 when I won my first election. He won the next year and served from 2008 – 2010 on the Township Committee, so he already has great experience in the position. Says Ron: *"Morris Township faces unprecedented challenges from severe weather, budget shortfalls, and worsening traffic that affects our daily quality of life."* In Ron's political literature distributed in September (before the storm), he stated that with regard to the performance of elected officials in the aftermath of last year's storms and needs for improvement, *"Continued poor communication by local government leaves us uninformed and unable to plan... Ron and Judy pledge to establish better communication between JCP&L and you during and after a power outage."*



I have recently gotten to know Judy because our sons played little league baseball together. She too is very bright and has many good ideas for improving communications with residents. Says Judy: *"Government serves us best when it is open, fair, balanced, and free from ANY conflicts of interest. Local governance should be about what is best for Morris Township."*

Both Ron Goldberg and Judy Stein would make excellent additions to the Township Committee. More information on these candidates can be found on their website – and please make sure to read their bios.

<http://www.GoldbergandStein.com/>

Please VOTE this Tuesday!,

Early voting is OPEN at the County Building

Although the Morris County Administrative building has suspended non-essential operations, VOTING IS ESSENTIAL so the Board of Elections is OPEN for early voting. They have scheduled extended hours for in-person voting are as follows:

- Friday 11/2 until 8:00pm
- Saturday 11/3 from 8:30am until 4:30pm
- Sunday 11/4 from 8:30am until 4:30pm
- Monday 11/5 from 8:30am until 3:00pm



Please visit the County Clerk's office on the first floor (Court Street in Morristown, phone 973-285-6066) to pick up your ballot and then proceed to the Board of Elections on the second floor.

Note that they have added SUNDAY for early voting. So if you need something to do while the power is out then go vote.

Lastly.....

REMEMBER: Safety First!! There are many wires down and you should assume that they are

"live" – because they may be at any time as power is restored. Stay away from downed wires and do not drive underneath low-hanging wires.

Please pass this information along to your friends and neighbors so that they too are informed.

As always, please feel free to write me with any questions or comments about Morris Township at Jeff@JeffGrayzel.com

Respectfully,
Jeff Grayzel
Committeeman, Morris Township Committee

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