

# LETTERS

## Board of Elections crosses partisan line

In an Aug. 6 letter sent to all Democratic and Republican committee members, the Bucks County Board of Elections seriously undermined its mission to conduct elections with "accuracy, integrity and dignity."

The letter instructs recipients that for polls with more than one voting machine, a machine inspector is to be appointed. Then, incredibly, the letter states, "These positions can be full or half time and are to be appointed by the Republican committee people, if at all possible."

The Election Code of Pennsylvania, which the Board of Elections is entrusted to uphold, specifically strives for a balanced and bipartisan board for each and every polling location. This attempt to stack the polling locations with partisans favorable to the Republican Party prior to our national election is an affront to every fair-minded citizen of Bucks County and must be corrected immediately.

The Election Code creates a process that elects three officials at every one of Bucks County's 303 polling locations – a judge of elections and majority and minority inspectors. It then reserves the right to appoint a clerk to the minority inspector. The assumption is that the party with the majority registration in a given precinct will win the judge and majority inspector positions and the party with the minority registration will win the minority inspector posi-

tion. By giving the minority inspector the authority to appoint a clerk, an evenly balanced and bipartisan board is created, providing confidence to the voters in the election day process.

The action by the Bucks County Board of Elections seriously undermines this essential balance and attempt at fairness. The Election Code specifically empowers the Board of Elections to appoint machine inspectors who work in addition to the other election officials. The Election Code does not empower political parties to make partisan appointments.

The Board of Elections should either make the appointments or provide a fair method for the elected poll officials within each voting district decide whom they wish to appoint, regardless of party affiliation.

*John F. Cordsico, Chair  
Bucks County Democratic  
Committee*

## Numbers don't add up

Recently, there was article written by Curt Yeske regarding Lambertville's city taxes. I cannot agree with the calculations. I believe he used an average assessment of \$367,000 and said the increase would be approximately \$114 annually with the total tax bill being approximately \$738 quarterly.

Well, my house is assessed at \$287,000 (not your average) and I paid in 2007 approximately \$1,100 quarterly.

Please share the correct information with me. I would be more than happy to pay \$ 738 for this quarter's taxes. But come on, let's be honest with the already "overtaxed" taxpayers of Lambertville.

Waiting for good news

*Sue Testa  
Lambertville  
catmansue007@msn.com*

Editor's Note: Curt Yeske went over the numbers carefully with Lambertville Mayor DelVecchio before the story on Lambertville taxes was published.

## Our wars rage on with no end in sight

Our wars in Iraq and Afghanistan rage on with no end in sight – so much blood spilled; so much money squandered; so much suffering endured.

With a presidential election looming, our leaders in Washington are impotent, and refuse to cut the funding for these misbegotten adventures.

Grassroot protests are marginalized and ignored. How does an individual not give way to apathy and despair?

I turn to Gandhi, "Nonviolence is the finest quality of the soul, but it is developed by practice. Almost anything you do will seem insignificant but it is important that you do it."

Each of us in our own communities must work nonviolently to reshape and remake our world.

*Barbara B.J. Zimmerman  
Upper Makefield*