

It's up to the Radnor voters

To the Editor:

No insulation shields Radnor Township from the national economy. Our only protection is our brains. If we vote intelligently, we may emerge intact.

To start, let's stop ignoring the resemblance between the Terminators of our nation's economy and a township manager who awards himself six-digit bonuses. We should be crying out "Who let him do it?" The answer is not that tough. When a single political party rules a township for 150 years, they can reward their fair-haired boys in whatever manner they please. The problem is not the manager; it is the political party that fronted him. The GOP is Radnor's Tammany Hall.

The Republicans have always controlled Radnor Township's other governing body, too. Through the school board, they have fed off your property taxes. It has been a hearty feast. Not satisfied with your largesse, the Republican-controlled school board has borrowed more than \$100 million for you to pay off.

This is a democracy. Do not leave the school board in the control of the party that created the debt. There was a time when the Republicans could run anyone for the school board and get that person elected. Finally in 2005 the voters of this township put two Democrats on the board. But Eric Zajac (re-elected in 2007) and Brucie Rapoport have had a lonely battle to limit the board's expenditures to educational needs.

Now in 2009, Brucie Rapoport is running for re-election with a slate of three other qualified Democrats. Lydia Solomon, as a school psychologist, brings insight into our students as growing humans. Rob Armstrong brings a background in financial analysis that Republican candidates have often claimed to possess but never demonstrated.

Then there are my friends. Doug Blazey, an attorney, is stubborn. He refuses to compromise in the face of ineptitude. He never puts up with dishonesty. That kind of stubbornness would have saved this township tens of millions of dollars in the past. Brucie Rapoport is a humanist. For 20 years she has volunteered for the Radnor schools, specializing in working with students newly arrived from other countries — helping them to overcome language barriers. Brucie warms me with pride. Radnor Pride.

Remember rural Dover, Pa.? Voters had the sense to oust a school board who embarrassed them nationally. Surely we Radnorites can give a gentle boot to those who have failed us for so long.

Jan Armon, Radnor

What happened to fairness?

To the Editor:

The news seems to be filled with stories of people who are profiting themselves at the expense of the American taxpayer. At the national level even the president, along with most of the rest of us, is appalled at the greed of financiers who take millions of dollars in bonuses while at the same time begging for billions of dollars in federal aid. At the state level a state senator is prosecuted and found guilty of defrauding taxpayers and diverting money for his personal use from a nonprofit he ran. Even in Radnor Township the township manager was found to have awarded half a million dollars in unauthorized bonuses for himself and others. This bonus money was taken from the taxpayers.

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Main Line Suburban Life
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Will the shaky economy affect your summer travel plans?

Yes

No

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