

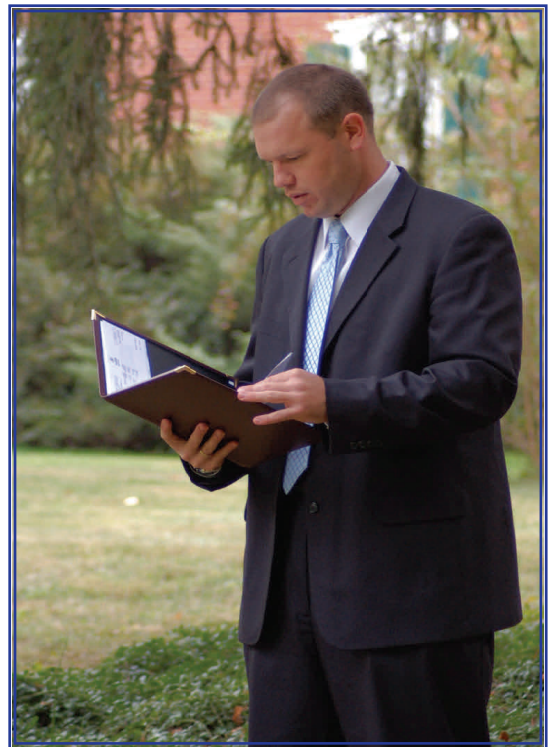
# The Update

Provided by **Jesse W. Topper**, PA State Committeeman

September 2011

## Fellow Republicans

The fall meeting of the Republican Party of Pennsylvania was held on September 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> in Harrisburg under the shadow cast by the recent and disastrous flooding in many parts of our great commonwealth. Many speakers, including Governor Corbett, urged us to keep all of the victims in our thoughts and prayers and to support the restoration efforts as best we can. I would encourage all of us to do the same. From a donation to the Red Cross to a clothing drive by your local church, any assistance that you can offer our neighbors to the east and north would be greatly appreciated. It was reassuring to hear that our state and federal elected officials are doing their very best to ensure resources are being distributed efficiently and quickly to those in need. This is an example of government working for the good of the people who elected them and we should be proud of the job that Governor Corbett and Lt. Governor Cawley are doing in this time.



While the recent natural disasters have caused a shift in the priorities of our leaders, know that the current policy agendas in Harrisburg and D.C. are still full of items that our party desires to see accomplished. Congressman Tom Marino pointed out that the debate in Washington has shifted from “how much should we spend” to “how much should we cut.” While the process might not be moving as fast as some of us would wish, it’s important to remember how big of a step we have taken. Changing the premise of the debate in Washington is no small achievement and we need to recognize the hard work and success of new members in the House of Representatives and continue to support them. We also heard from State House Majority Leader Mike Turzai concerning the agenda in Harrisburg. This agenda includes passage of a Voter ID bill that would require a photo id to vote in Pennsylvania, a long standing priority for the state party.

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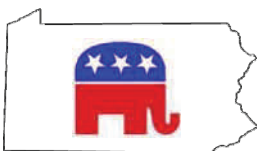
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All of the speakers reminded us that while the “big” election looms on the horizon for 2012, it is vital that we not overlook the important local and judicial elections for this fall. Our statewide judicial candidates Anne Covey and Vic Stabile need your support. Please encourage your friends, neighbors and colleagues to vote for these two individuals as the Republican Party continues in our efforts to put more conservative legal thinkers on the bench.

As for our local elections, the stakes are high. As I have stated before, these local offices have more of an impact on our day to day lives than state and federal level positions. I know the spring primary was difficult and there were hurt feelings and painful losses, but now we must unite and come together as a party. Please do what you can to help our 2011 Republican ticket which includes; Travis Livengood for Common Pleas Judge, Brian Baker for Magisterial District Judge, Bill Higgins for District Attorney, Charwin Reichelderfer for Sheriff, Kirt Morris and Steve Howsare for Commissioner, Cathy Fetter for Prothonotary, Paula Sheirer for Treasurer, Tonya Clark and Shirley Harbaugh for County Auditor, and Sam Gordon for Coroner. These individuals need poll workers, donations, and people willing to put up signs, hand out materials, and make phone calls so that their campaigns will be successful. If you are interested in helping our local candidates, statewide judicial candidates, or if you would like to be put on a list to help with next year’s presidential campaign, please contact me. Together, we will achieve success, but without the help of grassroots supporters such as yourself, we will never be as great as our potential. Which brings me to my final point; the Republican Party of Bedford County needs your help! We need ideas and volunteers who are looking to make a difference through public service. A few people will not be able to continue carrying this burden. If you wish to volunteer your time to the party, please contact me and we can discuss your role with our team. Make no mistake, it needs to be a “team effort” if we are to move forward! In my time as your State Committeeman, many persons have asked me, “Is it worth it? Can I really make a difference in this political climate?” The answer is yes and yes! You can make a difference and we, as a community, state, and nation need you to make a difference. Sitting on the sidelines is no longer an option because the stakes are too high at every level of government. Please become involved so that we will leave our children and our grand-children a government of which they will be proud!



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## The Keystone Dinner



Reince Priebus

The Republican Party of Pennsylvania’s Keystone Dinner was held on Friday, September 16<sup>th</sup>. The party conducted a presidential straw poll which was won by Rick Santorum. Mitt Romney came in second with Rick Perry third. We heard speeches from Karen Santorum, Chairman Rob Gleason, Lt. Governor Jim Cawley, and the keynote address was delivered by RNC Chairman Reince Priebus.

## The Bedford County Fall Republican Dinner

The Bedford County Republican Party's Fall Dinner will be held on  
Thursday, October 20<sup>th</sup> at Crossroads Church (formerly Heartland Hall).  
Dinner tickets will be available shortly, so please mark the date on your calendar.

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### Coffee with the Candidates

The Bedford County Republican Party encourages you to come see our new headquarters and meet with our 2011 Republican Team on **Saturday, September 24<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 am until noon**. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet and discuss issues with candidates, elected officials, and party leaders. The event is free and open to the public, so invite your friends! The new headquarters is located at 36 E. Main Street in Everett, PA.



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### Thoughts from Tonya PA State Committeewoman

Like many of you, I paused on September 11<sup>th</sup> to remember and reflect and to honor those whose lives were taken on that tragic day ten years ago. As I watched the memorial services at Shanksville, I couldn't help but think about the bravery of the men and women on Flight 93. I am so proud of the action that they took that day, but even more proud that they chose to vote to take that action.

November 8<sup>th</sup> is Election Day and as we heard repeatedly at State Committee this past weekend, there is no such thing as an off year election! We need to realize that nothing is more important than the foundation of any structure. Therefore, as we look ahead to the Presidential election, it is imperative that we begin by making sure that our local Republican candidates are elected to office.



Yes, it is a privilege to vote, but most importantly it is our responsibility to vote!

"Those who stay away from the election think that one vote will do no good: 'Tis but one step more to think one vote will do no harm." ~ Ralph Waldo Emerson

*Tonya Clark*

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