

Anchorage Republican Women's Club

"Looking for women of all ages and backgrounds to share ideas and their dedication to help guide the Republican Party back to leadership!"



Thoughts and Comments

--- from your president, Judy Eledge

I have been out of town most of March so I asked Cathy Giessel to write the main message this month. I do want to comment on recent by law changes and the opposition to them. It is obvious the BOD did not provide enough education and reason for these requested changes. We will be sending out revisions and a better explanation in the coming days on the changes needed to help with the daily functions of the ARWC Board of Directors.

"Change"

As a noun, the word *change* has many meanings: make different, variance from routine, money given back, a fresh set of something, transition, and even a term for menopause. (I figure members would find that last one amusing!)

I'm all for *change*. I especially love the *change* in seasons. Getting *change* back from a monetary transaction is great! I love watching my granddaughters *change*.

And right now, Anchorage residents need a **BIG change** in our leadership.

School Board - Do you realize that we are going to elect a majority of our School Board in the April 7 Election? Four of the seven seats are up for election!! We could bring *change* to the Anchorage school board, taking it from a handmaiden of the labor unions to a fiscally responsible, outcome-based organization!

But this *change* will only happen if YOU VOTE and if you cast an educated (pardon the pun) vote.

I know there are many school board candidates; you have seen several of them at ARWC meetings or Republican events in the past. Still not sure? Ask an ARWC officer for more information on the candidates or go to the candidates' Web sites. Thankfully, our own Crystal Kennedy is running unopposed, so she will continue to be on the job. She will persist in her mission to maintain a responsible, responsive education system.

Mark Begich left our city with a \$17 million budget deficit. Municipal spending has increased 55% in the last five years. These two facts alone should influence the direction of our votes for mayor and for the ballot propositions.

Mayor - There is only one candidate who has consistently embraced and acted on conservative values. His leadership was demonstrated on the Anchorage Assembly.

Ballot Propositions - The ballot propositions 1-8 would add about \$39.20 per \$100,000 assessment to your taxes. So take a look at your latest home assessment and do the math.

Proposition 9 would reestablish the tax cap calculations. How much more, as property owners, do you want to pay for services in this city that everyone utilizes?

Change for the better only happens when informed voters take action. That means we all have to get out and VOTE. Election day is April 7.

Absentee voting begins March 23rd at the Loussac Library and Anchorage City Hall. Absentee voting will also be available at the Chugiak Senior Center on March 30th.

For complete information on absentee voting options, go to the following Web site: http://www.muni.org/assembly2/absentee_ballot.cfm

---guest columnist, Cathy Giessel



Carolyn Leman, Program Chair, helps us raise money during Lincoln Day auction

APRIL LUNCHEON

Thursday, April 9th

Millenium Hotel
2800 Spenard Road
11:30am - 1:00pm
\$25 (Checks are preferred when paying to simplify APOC process.)

Please RSVP by calling 696-1114 or responding to arwcyes@yahoo.com.

TOPICS

- Guest Speaker: Representative from Denali Gas Pipeline: "Progress and Forecast of the Gas Pipeline"

**BE SURE TO VOTE!
TUESDAY, APRIL 7**



SPOTLIGHT

ARWC Vice President, Ardy Pozzi

My name is Ardy Pozzi, and I am currently serving as Vice President for ARWC. Before this I was Committee Chair for ARWC Special Events in charge of Lincoln Day dinners and our yearly summer salad luncheon. This past fall I was Volunteer Coordinator for the McCain/Palin Anchorage campaign office.

I am a proud Alaskan who attended Turnagain Elementary School, Romig Jr. High School, West High School and the University of Alaska - all in Anchorage. I earned my master's degree in Mexico, which made me appreciate my country and my community even more. I have been teaching English and Spanish at West High for 14 years. I love my job! I love my students, and I look forward to waking up each morning.

My husband, Drew, and I coach a girls' hockey team; we are huge hockey fans. I am legislative aide to Assemblyman Chris Birch and enjoy the challenges of helping him keep up with his constituents. I also own my own wedding cake business. I realize that four jobs is a lot for one person, but I am blessed with boundless energy and enjoy utilizing all the gifts God has given me. I also dedicate my time to volunteering with organizations I really believe in. I serve on the board of directors for the West High Alumni Association and the Alaska Federation of Republican Women.

In my free time I enjoy running, hiking and snowshoeing with my border collie, Gwen. My handsome husband and I love snowmachining, fishing and traveling. I thank God every day for my wonderful life, and I am privileged to serve with such a fantastic group of hardworking Republican women. Thank you for caring enough about Alaska to commit your time and energy to keeping our state on the RIGHT path!

ARE YOU A WOMAN OWNED BUSINESS?

We are looking to identify all current ARWC members who own their own businesses. If you are a woman owned business and a member of ARWC we would like to advertise that business to other members. Our hope is to eventually put out a directory. You will need a business card. Please either bring the card to our April meeting or mail to our post office box.

Alaska Federation of Republican Women's Convention, May 2009

The AFRW Biennial Convention will be held in Anchorage, May 7-9 at the Sheraton Hotel.

Invited guests are Governor Sarah Palin, NFRWP President Shirley Sadler, 1st VP and elected Republican women legislators. If you wish to attend as a guest, please contact Judy at 349-8309 or jnorton-cledge@gci.net)

2009 ARWC Board of Directors

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Vice President: Ardy Pozzi	ardypozzi@hotmail.com
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