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Gop campaign begins early

By Stephanie Mangold; Editor

Republican candidates Theresa Lappé and Joe Bowe started their campaigning a little early with a visit to the Senior Center last week. Lappé is running for mayor, while Bowe is pursuing one of the open seats on council. They are running under the campaign "Clean, Lean and Green Government," pushing for reforms in spending and environmental issues.

"I'm very happy to be here this morning with the greatest generation in American history," said Lappé.

At 58 years-old, Lappé has a Master's Degree in Administrative Science from Fairleigh Dickinson University, School of Public Administration. She currently works at the Business Administrator and Municipal Clerk for the Borough of Tavistock.

She pushed outlined the crux of the Republican campaign by saying that candidates intended to stick to the issues, cut campaign spending and the spending cycle in general. Why, she asked, should candidates raise thousands of dollars for a job that only pays \$25,000.

Lappé also discussed a desire to involve the township in the Recycle-Bank, which would give residents one and a half points for every pound of recycled garbage. They could then use these points for coupons and discounts to be applied at local businesses.

"If we want to be environmentally friendly we have to start with ourselves and we have to start with the campaign," she said.

Bowe, a retired police officer and US Army Reservist, told the crowd that Washington Township should do more for its senior citizens. He too called to stabilize both taxes and spending.

"I believe in good government, with the people working together. If you don't work together what've you got - not a whole lot," said Bowe. "I believe in working with the average person and not benefiting myself."

Resident Vincent Grosso stood with the candidates to express his support.

"I think it's very important that we make a change in the political climate of this township," he said.

Lappé echoed his sentiments. "You need a change in Washington Township and we can provide that change," she said.

The candidates also appeared in a float in the township's Fourth of July parade honoring "Washington Township Citizen of the Year", Dave Maxwell.

Additional information about the candidates can be found online at www.wtgop.org.

The general election for mayor and council will take place on Nov. 4.