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## GOP introduces new council candidate

By Stephanie Mangold; Editor

A new face has joined the Republican team of Theresa Lappé and Joe Bowe in the coming election. Giancarlo D'Orazio, 57, was confirmed as the final team member by the Republican Executive Committee last week. Best known in the township for his business, La Gelato Café, he will be pursuing a seat on council. Bowe is pursuing the other seat on council while Lappé is running for mayor. Current council members Frank Scarpato and Anita LaPierre are not running for reelection.

"I want to be part of a group of people, I want to be a link in a chain so to speak, that will work toward helping the people," said D'Orazio.

Born in Orsogna, Italy, D'Orazio moved to South Philadelphia as a teen, settling in Washington Township 20 years ago. He received a degree in Computer Science from Pierce College. He has worked as a senior program analyst, an IT Director and an Independent consultant. In 2005, D'Orazio opened his business La Gelato Café and currently provides gelato for weddings and events. He currently lives in township with his wife, Renee, and their two daughters.

D'Orazio explains that the committee initially approached him about running and he was immediately interested. Upon meeting his fellow running mates it was obvious that the team would work well together.

"When I met Theresa and Joe it was love at first sight, we get along great," he said.

Jeff Morris, Chairman of the Washington Township Republican Executive Committee was excited with the committee's choice.

"Giancarlo has been a resident for twenty years, knows the issues important to Washington Township residents, and will make an excellent member of Council when elected in November," he said.

Though this is his first time running for office, D'Orazio feels he is familiar with the politics of the township and has a strong handle on what changes he would institute.

"If you can run efficiently with what you have and stop asking for money from the residents that would be fantastic," he said

Together, the candidates are running under the platform of "Clean, Lean and Green," stressing good government, lean spending and more green efforts. Lappé and Bowe have been urging for a reduction in taxes, especially for the township's senior citizens, and for more environmental efforts such as involving the township in the Recycle Bank.

D'Orazio stresses that council must run the township like residents run their homes, and learn to do more with less as opposed to simply raising taxes.

"My personal ultimate goal is to make a contribution to the council members and the town," he said.

While he acknowledges that residents are ready for a change, D'Orazio is aiming much higher than just the township. He says he wants to create a blueprint for good government that can be used all the way up to the state level.

"I would like to work for an administration that works for each and every citizen," said D'Orazio. "I want to bring to the township and to the office the same values that I share with my family that are integrity, pride, honesty and loyalty."

He credits the current administration for their work and says he is ready to "finish the job."

"There's no lip service, this is the true me, this is what you get. Everything I did in my life I did with pride and integrity and I did it with 100 percent," he said. "I want to be the next council person."