

## MIDDLETOWN

## Democrat fills supervisor post

*Chuck Thompson will replace Commissioner-elect Diane Marseglia on the township board of supervisors.*

By CHRIS ENGLISH COURIER TIMES

As expected, Democrat Chuck Thompson was appointed to the Middletown Board of Supervisors Tuesday night to replace Bucks County Commissioner-elect Diane Marseglia, who resigned last month to get ready for her new job.

Thompson, 61, was selected by a 3-2 vote of the vacancy board just before the regular supervisors meeting. The vacancy board consisted of the four remaining supervisors, Democrat Robert McMonagle and Republicans Lisa Pflaumer, John J. Kelly III and Jasper Caro, plus vacancy board chairman, Democrat Bill Cosen, who had previously indicated he would probably vote for Thompson.

McMonagle, Pflaumer and Cosen voted to appoint Thompson while Kelly and Caro voted no. They nominated former supervisor Ray Mongillo and former Bucks County Commissioner Andy Warren, both Democrats, but those motions were voted down.

Thompson finished a close third behind the winners McMonagle and Republican George Leonhauser in the November election for supervisor, and both McMonagle and Pflaumer felt Thompson was a logical appointee because of that result.

Tuesday night, Kelly raised questions about Thompson's nominating petition for the May Democratic Primary, claiming it might have contained some irregularities.

McMonagle, Thompson's running mate in the November election, said Kelly or anyone else had the chance to challenge the petition before the primary.

"The Board of Elections accepted it, the court accepted it, so I don't know why you can't accept it," McMonagle told Kelly. "I can't help but think it's sour grapes."

This will be Thompson's first elected office. A former newspaper reporter, editor and political speechwriter, he runs a marketing business with his wife Christine from their house in the Deep Dale West section of the township.

Thompson will serve until the next municipal election in 2009, when he would have to run and win to remain a supervisor.

After Thompson's appointment, Marseglia accepted a proclamation from the supervisors lauding her years of service to the township. She was a supervisor from 1998 through 2003 and then won another six-year term in 2005.

"You have touched the lives of thousands of residents throughout the years," Pflaumer told Marseglia.