

# Deerfield Township Report

Public Information Service of the Township Committee

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Winter / Spring 2004

## Township Seeks New Business To Help Boost Tax Revenue

Deerfield Township, working closely with the Cumberland Development Corporation (CDC) and the Cumberland County Improvement Authority (CCIA), worked for nearly three years to attract a multi-million dollar hydroponics greenhouse business to nearly 100 acres of land on Lebanon Road, near the County Solid Waste Complex.



***A multi-million dollar, high-tech, commercial greenhouse with packaging and distribution facility is still possible on this Lebanon Road site, owned by Cumberland County Improvement Authority.***

project would locate in Millville's new industrial park. Special incentives offered by the City, the Urban Enterprise Zone and the Federal Empowerment Zone, helped the developers to choose Millville despite talks with Deerfield for nearly three years.

Since 2000, Mayors Charlotte Brago and Carol Musso and the Township Committee have worked with CDC and CCIA and the developers to keep Deerfield Township in the running for this major development. "I thank them, the other members of the Township Committee, Cosmo Laurella and Laura Pizzo, the members of the Land Use Board, their secretary and solicitor," said Mayor Stanzione.

According to estimates produced by Tony Stanzione, Executive Director of CDC, the Township's economic development consultant, the project would have produced nearly \$1 million annually for the local government, schools and the county, once it was fully developed and once tax abatement periods were over.

It was announced in October that the

continued on page 5

### ***Mayor Stanzione:***

***"We appreciate the opportunity provided by the developer and his partners in making Deerfield Township one of their final two sites for this project. The jobs will be beneficial to the people of the region. A successful greenhouse project as planned by this developer will be the catalyst for other such projects in Deerfield Township and other parts of the County,"***

***"I want the residents of Deerfield Township to know that the Township will continue to seek appropriate commercial and industrial development. We will continue to work cooperatively with our neighbors in economic development efforts through CDC. We will keep our residents informed and involved as development opportunities arise."***



# Reorganization Meeting of Your Local Government



*John Stanzione (right) was sworn in to a new term on the Township Committee and a new term as Mayor by Judge John Casarow (left) at the reorganization meeting in January. Mayor Stanzione's brother Tony, who served as Deerfield's Mayor for two years in the 1970's, joined him during the ceremony.*



*Charlotte Brago (center) was sworn in to a new term as Deputy Mayor by Judge John Casarow (right). Her great grandsons, Tyler (not pictured) and Gregory, pictured on the right, participated in the ceremony.*



*Left-right: Township Committeewoman Charlotte Brago and Carol Musso, Administrator Carol Schaper, Judge John Casarow, Mayor John Stanzione, Attorney Michael Testa and Township Committeeman Cosmo Laurella.*

The Deerfield Township Committee held its annual reorganization meeting on January 7, Mayor John Stanzione, who was re-elected to a new three-year term on the Township Committee in November, was sworn in to his new term on the Township Committee and was selected by the Township Committee to serve his second year as Mayor.

Charlotte Brago was selected as Deputy Mayor. The other members of the Township Committee for 2004 include Carol Musso, Cosmo Laurella and Laura Pizzo.

The Township Committee made several appointments of local officials at the reorganization meeting, including:

Carol Schaper – Township Administrator  
Michael L. Testa - Solicitor and Attorney  
Ruth Moynihan – Chief Financial Officer and Tax Collector  
Lisa Donahue of Bowman and Co. – Registered Municipal Accountant  
Joseph Veight, III – Prosecutor  
Nathan VanEmbden - Public Defender  
Michael Fralinger – Engineer  
John Barbagello – Emergency Management Director  
Lorene Thompson - Senior Coordinator  
John Myers – Environmental & Recycling Coordinator  
Land Use Board Members: William Brock, Kenneth Money and John Barbagello  
Recreation Committee Members: Natalie Buono, John O'Brien, Roy Spoltore and Kristen Olszewski

The Township Committee members will chair or serve as vice chair of the following subcommittees:

## **John Stanzione, Mayor**

Chair of Public Information, Emergency Management  
Vice Chair of Finance and Recreation.

## **Charlotte Brago, Dputy Mayor**

Chair of Recreation. Vice Chair of Public Information  
Emergency Management, Dog Control.

## **Cosmo Laurella**

Chair of Finance, Public Safety, Fire & Rescue, and Dog Control. Vice Chair of Roads, Street Lights and Landfill.

## **Carol Musso**

Chair of Personnel & Administration. Vice Chair of Public Buildings & Grounds and Public Safety, Fire & Rescue.

## **Laura Pizzo**

Chair of Public Buildings and Grounds and Roads, and Landfill. Vice Chair of Personnel & Administration.



# Deerfield Township Senior Center Activities

Lorene C. Thompson is the new Senior Coordinator of the Deerfield Township Senior Center. Here is a summary of activities at the Center.

The Center, located directly behind the Deerfield Township Municipal Building on Landis Avenue in Rosenhayn, is open 10 AM to 3:45 PM, Monday through Thursday. It is closed on Fridays and on legal holidays.

Hot lunches are served at a nominal donation of \$1.50. The fare includes meat, fish or chicken, vegetables, fruit, bread and rolls, milk, coffee or tea. The well-balanced meals are planned by a nutritionist to provide 1/3 of the recommended daily allowances. We also offer bland or general diabetic meals if your doctor has prescribed them.

Representatives of other agencies often visit the luncheons to provide seniors with information about events, programs and services.

The seniors also enjoy many other activities at the Center and bus trips to the casinos in Atlantic City and to other places like Cape May, where they visited last fall.

There is a scale in the coatroom of the Center so you can keep track of your weight. There are magazines and books available as well as puzzles, an organ, sewing machine, TV and computer. There is also an exerciser and a card room where seniors play cards. Refreshments and coffee are available when the center is open.

For more information, please call Lorene at the Center, 856-455-6902.



*Rosenhayn Fire and Rescue. President John Barbagello in the fire hall's remodeled kitchen.*



*Carmel Fire Company Adds Ladder Truck to serve Deerfield Township and other communities.*

## Carmel Fire Company Obtains New Equipment

Chief Larry April of Carmel Fire Company announced that the fire company purchased a used, but in excellent condition, ladder truck this winter. It was purchased with fire company funds that have been raised through various fund raising efforts over the years.

Chief April said that the new truck will be available for all house fires in the Township and will also be available to other communities through mutual aid.

Training for members of both fire companies in Deerfield Township will take place on the new truck.

Carmel Fire Company received a \$225,000 Federal Emergency Management Administration grant toward the purchase of a new pumper unit. The cost of the new pumper is estimated at \$345,000. The balance will be paid for by the fire company and other sources of funding.

Larry April said the 1963 pumper will be taken out of service when the new truck arrives. The last time a new truck was purchased for use by Carmel Fire Company by the Township was in 1986.

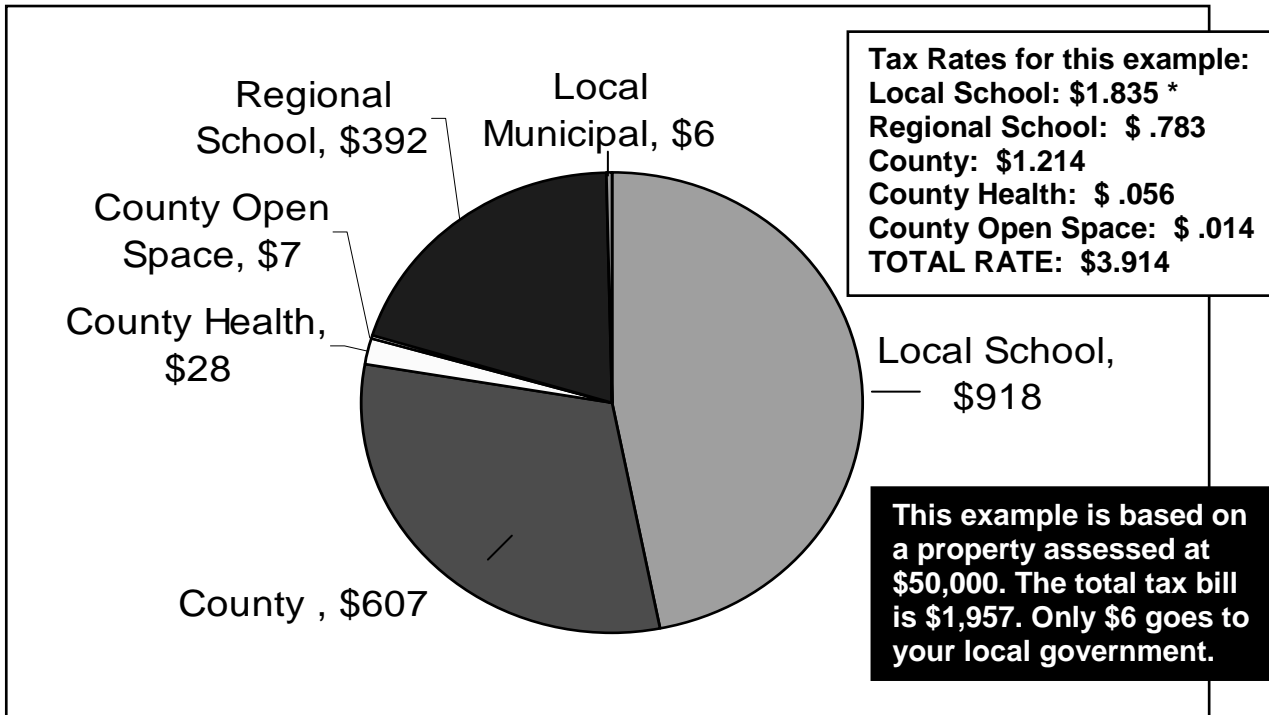
Congressman Frank LoBiondo announced the grant for the Carmel Fire Company last fall.

## Rosenhayn Fire Company Remodels Kitchen

Rosenhayn Fire & Rescue President John Barbagello thanks all who participated in the kitchen remodeling project. The \$15,000 project was funded from

continued on page 5





## 2004 MUNICIPAL BUDGET TOTALS \$1.75 MILLION

LOCAL PURPOSE TAX DROPS TO 1.2 CENTS PER HUNDRED

The Township Committee has unanimously adopted the budget for 2004. Total expenses increased by \$9,981 over 2003 or 2.9% overall. The budget allowed the Township to lower the local purpose tax rate to just 1.2 cents per hundred dollars of assessed valuation. It was 2 cents per hundred dollars last year. This means that the owner of real estate assessed at \$50,000 will pay \$6.00 in local purpose taxes in 2004.

The pie chart on this page provides an estimate of what your taxes could be based on this **past year's rates for schools, county and others** since the 2004 rates for all sections of the total rate have not yet been established.

The local purpose tax is the only part of the total tax bill controlled by the Township. The Township is responsible for billing and collecting taxes for the local school, regional school and county but those budgets and tax rates are set by those organizations, not the Township of Deerfield. Contact the municipal hall for a copy of the budget or for more information, 856-455-3200.

*\* Note that Deerfield Township School recently announced a 68 cent decrease in its proposed 2004-2005 tax rate, which is not reflected in the chart above.*

### PUBLIC WELCOME AT MEETINGS

Deerfield Township Committee meetings are normally the first and third Wednesdays of the month, 7:30 pm in the Municipal Building on Landis Avenue in Rosenhayn. For more information call 455-3200.

### Emergency Management

This report was provided by John Barbagello, Deerfield Township Emergency Management Director. John O'Brien is the Deputy Director.

When Hurricane Isabel threatened the east coast including our area this past fall, there was excellent response and cooperation among public safety personnel. Deerfield Emergency Management worked closely with County Emergency officials. The Local Emergency office opened during the approach and passing of the storm in order to be ready for whatever the storm brought. Volunteers from Rosenhayn and Carmel Fire Companies stood by at their stations throughout the night.

Volunteers, including Mayor John Stanzione, helped provide dry ice provided by Conectiv to people who lost power. Fire and emergency management volunteers were called out at 1 a.m. to respond to a downed tree that crashed into a home on Landis Avenue in Rosenhayn. No one was injured. John Barbagello extends his thanks to everyone who helped during the storm and at other times during the year. His thanks were echoed by the Township Committee.

