Lower’s new deputy mayor looking to give back

*By Jack Fichter*

CAPE MAY — Lower Township’s new deputy mayor has a wealth of experience to draw on for his new role. Frank Sippel, who was appointed to the position Dec. 13, said his desire to serve the community was what led him to answer the call.

“I’m a retired military officer,” Sippel said. “This is what I do. Whatever the community needs, I would help, because that is what I do.”

Sippel has lived in Lower Township for more than 30 years based at the National Guard’s Atlantic County Training Site and the Desert Storm and Desert Shield deployments. He served as a command sergeant major from the New Jersey National Guard, Sippel said.

He served two tours of duty in the military. Sippel was deployed to Operation Desert Shield and Desert Storm and spent 15 years at the National Guard Armory in Cape May, which was his headquarters.

As state command sergeant major for the New Jersey National Guard, Sippel said he had responsibility for 8,800 enlisted soldiers and airmen. He said during Desert Storm, he and a small named Shane Long, of Lower Township, were credited with saving the lives of four airmen.

When Sippel was awarded a Soldier’s Medal for Valor by Xerox, Sippel said he also received eight other medals.

Born and raised in Philadelphia, Sippel moved to Lower Township in 1977 and joined the National Guard in 1979 at the age of 19. He received a college degree in the military.

“I have been asked why I would be interested in serving in a local business,” Sippel said. “I want to help the kids of the township so they have a chance of not hanging on the corners and not getting hurt.”

As lower township’s new deputy mayor, Sippel said he wants to give back to the community. He said he was a great career, a married man, and people who treated me well, and it’s time for me to give back to the community,” Sippel said.

When campaigning door to door for his mayor’s election, Sippel said he heard residents’ concerns about drug addiction in the community.

He said he also intends to support education by helping veterans navigate the Veteran Affairs health care system.

“Being able to help our veterans and give them a help hand, I can do that,” Sippel said. “I can do that every day.”

After six years of service in the military, Sippel said he received a college degree in 1984 at the age of 19. He joined the National Guard in 1987.

Born and raised in Philadelphia, Sippel said he had a smile. “I’ve been living in this part of the country for more than 30 years, and I have come to realize that you have to be independent, you have to be proactive, and you have to be community-oriented,” Sippel said.

After six years of service in the military, Sippel said he received a college degree in 1984 at the age of 19. He joined the National Guard in 1987.

Lower Township

Continued from Page A1

and children. His wife, Betty, also worked in the town for 16 years. “We look forward to serving in this community,” he said.

Sippel’s father held the position of LTMUA president for 32 years. His son, Eric Simonsen, was elected the official gavel bearer.

“I was there ‘to serve the community and to help the community, to help the school district, where I didn’t know them, but I wanted to help them,” Sippel said.

Sippel said he worked in the Offi ce of Emergency Management for attaining the position of LTMUA president. “It means a lot,” Sippel said. “I’ve been working with people, and they have come to support me even when you’re in need. It’s a lot of good things to do for others.”

As the meeting included appointments, Sippel said he had eight members of the township council.

They were told their jobs would be saved, that they would be helpful, and that they would be given a chance to succeed.

During council comment, Sippel said he had a smile. “I’ve been living in this part of the country for more than 30 years, and I have come to realize that you have to be independent, you have to be proactive, and you have to be community-oriented,” Sippel said.

After six years of service in the military, Sippel said he received a college degree in 1984 at the age of 19. He joined the National Guard in 1987.

Born and raised in Philadelphia, Sippel said he had a smile. “I’ve been living in this part of the country for more than 30 years, and I have come to realize that you have to be independent, you have to be proactive, and you have to be community-oriented,” Sippel said.

After six years of service in the military, Sippel said he received a college degree in 1984 at the age of 19. He joined the National Guard in 1987.

Born and raised in Philadelphia, Sippel said he had a smile. “I’ve been living in this part of the country for more than 30 years, and I have come to realize that you have to be independent, you have to be proactive, and you have to be community-oriented,” Sippel said.

After six years of service in the military, Sippel said he received a college degree in 1984 at the age of 19. He joined the National Guard in 1987.

Born and raised in Philadelphia, Sippel said he had a smile. “I’ve been living in this part of the country for more than 30 years, and I have come to realize that you have to be independent, you have to be proactive, and you have to be community-oriented,” Sippel said.

After six years of service in the military, Sippel said he received a college degree in 1984 at the age of 19. He joined the National Guard in 1987.

Born and raised in Philadelphia, Sippel said he had a smile. “I’ve been living in this part of the country for more than 30 years, and I have come to realize that you have to be independent, you have to be proactive, and you have to be community-oriented,” Sippel said.

After six years of service in the military, Sippel said he received a college degree in 1984 at the age of 19. He joined the National Guard in 1987.

Born and raised in Philadelphia, Sippel said he had a smile. “I’ve been living in this part of the country for more than 30 years, and I have come to realize that you have to be independent, you have to be proactive, and you have to be community-oriented,” Sippel said.

After six years of service in the military, Sippel said he received a college degree in 1984 at the age of 19. He joined the National Guard in 1987.

Born and raised in Philadelphia, Sippel said he had a smile. “I’ve been living in this part of the country for more than 30 years, and I have come to realize that you have to be independent, you have to be proactive, and you have to be community-oriented,” Sippel said.

After six years of service in the military, Sippel said he received a college degree in 1984 at the age of 19. He joined the National Guard in 1987.

Born and raised in Philadelphia, Sippel said he had a smile. “I’ve been living in this part of the country for more than 30 years, and I have come to realize that you have to be independent, you have to be proactive, and you have to be community-oriented,” Sippel said.

After six years of service in the military, Sippel said he received a college degree in 1984 at the age of 19. He joined the National Guard in 1987.

Born and raised in Philadelphia, Sippel said he had a smile. “I’ve been living in this part of the country for more than 30 years, and I have come to realize that you have to be independent, you have to be proactive, and you have to be community-oriented,” Sippel said.

After six years of service in the military, Sippel said he received a college degree in 1984 at the age of 19. He joined the National Guard in 1987.

Born and raised in Philadelphia, Sippel said he had a smile. “I’ve been living in this part of the country for more than 30 years, and I have come to realize that you have to be independent, you have to be proactive, and you have to be community-oriented,” Sippel said.

After six years of service in the military, Sippel said he received a college degree in 1984 at the age of 19. He joined the National Guard in 1987.