

# Magnolia's COMMUNITY CONNECTION



[www.magnolia-nj.org](http://www.magnolia-nj.org)

Spring 2012

## From the Desk of the Proud Mayor of Magnolia

Dear Neighbors,

I would like to thank the Camden County Board of Freeholders for paving Warwick Road, but as you noticed it took a little longer than expected. Because of the delay, Evesham Ave will now be paved this Spring. Please keep an eye out for traffic delays and detours and give yourself a few extra minutes. If you are using the side streets, please drive a little slower because our children will be going back and forth to school.

Recently, there were a lot of questions concerning White Horse Pike and Evesham Ave. From what I've been told, the State DOT will be widening the intersection. It is set for the Spring of 2013. The Borough has not been notified of anything happening with St. Gregory's. There are a lot of rumors but we have not been notified of anything.

Congratulations to Chief Robert Doyle on his retirement from the Magnolia Police Department. Chief Doyle was dedicated to the Magnolia Police Department and also our Borough. He will be missed. I would also like to congratulate Chief John Evans as our new police chief. Chief Evans grew up in Magnolia and knows Magnolia very well. Also I would like to congratulate Lieutenant Robert Stetser and Sergeant Joseph Vadurro on their promotions in the Magnolia Police Department.

Did you ever hear a lot of people outside talking, laughing and just having a good time and you wonder what is going on? For the past month we have a new club in town called "**The Magnolia Walking Club**". We walk all around Magnolia on Sunday through Thursday nights at 8:30 pm to 9:30 pm. We have men, women and some of our children that walk and some people that don't live in Magnolia. We usually walk 3 miles each night. There are approximately 40 people that come out one night or another. You don't have to walk every night and you walk at your own pace. The route is different every night so you don't get bored. So think about giving it a try and meet us at the borough hall. We leave right at 8:30 so don't be late. Let's get Magnolia healthy!!

The Magnolia Recreation Committee will be hosting the first **Little Miss Magnolia Pageant**. The pageant will take place on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. Check out more details in this newsletter under Public Events.

The Borough of Magnolia is now accepting nominations for the **2012 Magnolia Medal and the 2012 Volunteer of the Year**. As you know the honors are given each year during the 4<sup>th</sup> of July festivities to residents that are most deserving. Please take a moment to nominate someone.

The **Miss Magnolia Pageant** is set for Friday, April 27<sup>th</sup> at Sterling High School. Please come out and see our beautiful young ladies stroll down the runway as they enjoy "A Night In Paris".



*BettyAnn*   
BettyAnn Cowling-Carson  
Proud Mayor of Magnolia

**Magnolia Girl Scout Troop 30827** invites residents & their furry friends to attend **Project Petland**, a pet fair to learn about pet products, care & adoption services at the community center; Sat. March 24<sup>th</sup> 9 am - 12 noon.

Please bring an item for donation to local shelters as cost of admission.



### Upcoming Borough Events:

March 31<sup>st</sup>-Clean Communities Day-9:00 am Albertson Park  
April 7<sup>th</sup>-Easter Egg Hunt-10:00 am Albertson Park  
April 14<sup>th</sup>-Magnolia Little League Parade and Opening Day  
-10:00 am  
April 27<sup>th</sup>-Miss Magnolia Pageant-7:00 pm-Sterling High School  
May 28<sup>th</sup>-Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony-Parade 10 am  
June 5<sup>th</sup>-Primary Election Day-Community Center  
July 4<sup>th</sup>-Parade and Fair in the Park-Parade 10:00 am  
July 4<sup>th</sup>-Little Miss Magnolia Pageant-Albertson Park-12 noon  
August 7<sup>th</sup>-National Night Out-Little League Complex

### FIRE

*Fire Chief Paul Wolf*

**Magnolia Fire Company awarded \$44,175 for FEMA AFG grant.**

About 90 percent of U.S. households have smoke alarms installed. However, a recent survey estimated that 20 percent of those households, about 16 million, did not have any working alarms. If you need assistance with your smoke detectors, don't hesitate to contact the fire company @ 783-5818 or by email, [chief@magnoliafirecompany.com](mailto:chief@magnoliafirecompany.com).



**We need to hear from you.** Please email the fire company, with information regarding anyone with special physical needs or using an oxygen tank. We want to make sure our records are up to date. This will help us to help you.

If you have an organization that wants to visit the fire station please do not hesitate to contact me at (856) 783-5818 or [firechief@magnolia-nj.org](mailto:firechief@magnolia-nj.org).

Please visit us at our new web site at  
[www.magnoliafirecompany.com](http://www.magnoliafirecompany.com).

## DIRECTOR of PUBLIC WORKS & TECHNOLOGY

Councilwoman Paula Bonamassa

With a change of season right around the corner, many residents will be doing some spring cleaning. With that in mind, here are some important reminders about borough trash collection:

- Any trash, recycling or newspapers should be placed at your curb before 6:00 a.m. on the day of your collection. Empty cans should be removed from your curb no later than 7:00 p.m. on collection day.
- Any large items like carpet, discarded wood, etc. should be cut and bundled. Those bundles should weigh no more than 50 lbs. and be no more than 4 to 6 feet in length.
- All household trash should be in plastic or metal containers, weighing no more than 50 lbs. each.
- Private contractors are responsible for disposing of their own waste, and can not put their items curbside.
- Recycling is done through single stream, and allows for glass, plastic and paper to be put in the same receptacle.
- Electronics (including TVs and computers) can be put out with the regular trash, and will be picked up by DPW separately.

It is important that you **DO NOT** leave items on your curb on days that are not specified for collection of that item. Not only does a pile of trash look unsightly in your neighborhood, it also creates a safety hazard for which you are responsible.

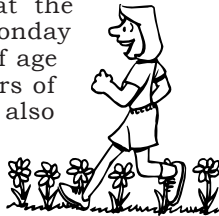
Please call DPW 856-784-6162 for spring leaf pickup.

**\*\*PLEASE DO NOT GO DIRECTLY TO DPW YARD FOR DROP OFF-DUE TO INSURANCE LIABILITIES.\*\***

## DIRECTOR of FACILITIES, RECREATION & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Councilman Donald Wilson

**Walkers**, Albertson Park has a great walking path, if you walk this path four times around, it equals one mile. Please contact borough hall for further information. We are continuing to have our open nights for the youth and adults in our community at the recreation center. The open nights are Monday and Thursday; Monday is for 17 years of age and up and on Thursday it is for 16 years of age and under. The recreation center is also available for rentals. Cost for residents: \$250.00 and non-residents: \$500.00. You can obtain the applications on the Magnolia website or pick up at borough hall.



## DIRECTOR of PUBLIC EVENTS & COMPLIANCE

Councilman Robert Brandt

The Rec Committee is "Spring-ing" into Action. Spring is almost here and the Recreation Committee is busy preparing for our upcoming April events. First up is our **Clean Communities Day** which will be held on **March 31<sup>st</sup>. At 9:00 am.** Everyone is invited to meet at Albertson Park for coffee, donuts and water before we begin to make our park ready for upcoming Spring and Summer events. Hope to see you there!



One of our favorite events **The Easter Egg Hunt** will be held **April 7<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m.**

The Easter Bunny will be on hand for photo opportunities and to greet all who attend. There will be eggs aplenty, including special prize eggs and golden eggs. Come join us for a morning filled with laughter and fun.

**April 14<sup>th</sup> (rain date April 21<sup>st</sup>)** will find us singing "Take Me Out to the Ball Game" as we celebrate our **Little League Opening Day**. The parade will begin at Borough Hall at **10:00 a.m.** and proceed down Evesham Ave. to the ballfields. We look forward to a season of great baseball, softball, and of course all those delicious hotdogs. So come cheer for your favorite ballplayer and enjoy a few hours with friends and neighbors.

### Magnolia Summer REC is back!

- program is open to magnolia children 5 to 11 years of age
- \$100.00 1<sup>st</sup> child, \$50.00 each additional child.
- Program runs 06/25/12 - 08/03/12 (no rec on 07/04/12)
- Register @ Borough Hall or Magnolia School
- Payment plan available

Any questions please call Mrs Brosious @ 856-435-7330.

**LITTLE MISS MAGNOLIA PAGEANT** - At our 4th of July celebration we will enjoy our first annual "Little Magnolia Pageant for girls 5-8 years old. Contestants must ride in a float or vehicle (decorated in a patriotic theme) in the parade. Judging will be held in the park after opening ceremonies, Judging will be based on float and patriotic dress.

**FLOAT CONTEST** - New to our 4th of July contest is our Parade Float Contest. We encourage all organizations and businesses to create a patriotic themed float and be a part of our parade. Prizes will be awarded and bragging rights will be yours for the year!

If you are interested in being a part of the recreation committee or if you have any questions, please contact Bob Brandt: (856)-685-4445 or by email to rbrandt@magnolia-nj.org, your presence is welcome and appreciated.



## DIRECTOR of CODES, LICENSING, STREET LIGHTING & PLANNING and ZONING

Councilwoman Mary Martz

Over the past 18 months, we have conducted a large number of resale, single family rental and multi-family rental inspections.

In the past 2 months alone, 171 rental and 12 resale inspections have been performed.

All buildings are inspected to the standards as set forth in The International Property Maintenance Code 2006 Edition.

Please feel free to contact our office or stop in on Monday evenings between 4:30 and 6:30 pm if we can be of any assistance.

Daniel A. Wassenaar, CSI, Assoc. AIA  
Construction & Zoning Official

## SOME OF OUR MAGNOLIA RESIDENTS PROUDLY SERVING THEIR COUNTRY:

Lt. Col. Thomas Euler - Evesham Ave  
Kirsten Knapp-Storie - Charles Road  
Karen Rabell-Porter - Atlantic Ave  
Christopher Concannon - Warwick Road  
Christopher O'Brien - Otterbranch Drive  
Nick Collazo - Jackson Ave  
Jonathan Sullivan - N. Warwick Road  
Tylara Romero - Williams Ave  
Alex Arno - Evesham Ave.



*Please let us know when they return, so we can welcome them home! If we missed anyone not on list, please call.*

## PUBLIC SAFETY

Councilman Anthony DePrince

### CHIEF OF POLICE OFFICE

Chief John Evans

Spring and summer is just around the corner. The Magnolia Police Department urge parents to take a few minutes to speak with your children about safety and the rules of the road while riding their bikes around town and that they are wearing a bike helmet. All parents are reminded that the curfew hours are 9:00PM to 6:00AM during (School Nights), 10:00PM to 6:00AM during the weekends, and all Parks are closed at Dusk. This ordinance will be strictly enforced.



The Magnolia Police Department would like to remind residents that they should always lock their homes and vehicles at all times. Due to these tough economic times Law Enforcement has seen an increase in home and vehicle burglaries throughout Camden County. If any resident is going away or on vacation, please stop into the Magnolia Police Department and submit a house check for your property.

All residents are urged to please continue to assist your Police Department if you see suspicious or criminal activity. Please remember to call **911** for emergencies and (856) 783-4900 (Dispatch Center) for non emergency calls.

There is a property maintenance ordinance in the Borough. This ordinance states that all properties should be clear of trash, high grass, untrimmed bushes, animal feces, etc. Should this be reported, a violation letter will be sent. If the situation should persist, Public Works will be sent to clean the area, and the homeowner will be billed for the work. The Borough also has an Ordinance requiring all vehicles to have current license plates and registration. They are not to be parked on the lawn, sidewalk or in the backyard.

Patrolman Jim Swan has been assigned as the Code Enforcement Officer for the Borough of Magnolia. If any resident has a Code Enforcement complaint, please lodge your complaint through the Borough Website or the Code Enforcement voicemail at 1-856-783-1520 ext. 206. Please continue to take pride in your property and keep it maintained.



The Magnolia Police Department has partnered with Bellmawr Borough Police, Gloucester Township Police, Haddon Heights Borough Police, Oaklyn Borough Police, Pine Hill Borough Police and Runnemede Borough Police Departments to deploy an automated electronic ticketing system called E-Ticketing. The goal of this multi-jurisdictional effort is to save costs and improve efficiency when issuing motor vehicle summonses.

The Magnolia Police are confident the switch to inputting ticket information electronically will save municipal tax dollars by cutting overhead costs and reduce a burdensome paperwork load, giving officers more time to spend on patrol in neighborhoods and interacting with the public. Officer safety will be improved by reducing the amount of time an officer spends stopped along a busy road.

With manual ticketing systems, it takes about 10 to 15 minutes for officers to issue a citation. In contrast, the E-Ticketing system allows officers to issue a ticket within just two to three minutes.

Lastly, the members of the Magnolia Police Department would like to congratulate Chief Robert Doyle who retired after 25 years of dedicated service to the Borough of Magnolia on January 31, 2012. We wish him and his family all the best in their future endeavors.

## DIRECTOR of FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

Councilman Steve Whalen

### PROPERTY TAX RELIEF FOR SENIOR CITIZENS, DISABLED PERSONS AND VETERANS

Are you aware that there are several property tax programs that may help Seniors, Disabled Persons and Veterans. The Property Tax Reimbursement Program, commonly known as the "Senior Freeze", is available to residents age 65 or older. It is also available for residents receiving Federal Social Security Disability benefits.

There is also a \$250.00 property tax deduction for Senior Citizens and Disabled Persons or for Veterans that you can apply for at the Borough Hall through the Tax Assessor's Office. Please stop in and pick up an application which will explain all of the qualifications or call the Tax Office at (856) 783-1520 Ext. 112.

### **Cutting Costs, Not Services**

You may have read or heard about the need to share services in order to cut property taxes. Magnolia has been in the forefront of sharing services, and continues to investigate means of sharing additional services in order to reduce operating costs. The following is a list of services Magnolia currently shares with surrounding municipalities:

- **Boroughs of Hi-Nella and Stratford** – Trash and Recycling
- **Borough of Laurel Springs** – Court Administrator
- **County of Camden** – Road Maintenance Program, Salt/Snow Removal Agreement, Emergency Management Network, Purchasing Cooperative for general supplies and bulk electricity, Domestic Violence Response Team, Crash Response Incident Team, 911 Emergency Communications Services, and Shelter
- **SJTP/Sterling High School** – Technology Purchasing Cooperative and Maintenance Agreement
- **Magnolia Board of Education** – Gasoline
- **Borough of Somerdale** – Ambulance Services Agreement, share sewer equipment, mutual aid, and fire assistance
- **Borough of Runnemede** – Share equipment
- **White Horse Pike Economic Development Coalition** – Boroughs Barrington, Lawnside, Hi-Nella, Tavistock, Laurel Springs, Somerdale, Stratford, Lindenwold, and Clementon for the development of the White Horse Pike economic development
- **Comcast Corporation Agreement for Channel 19** – services for municipal and school news. Agreement is with Sterling High School and the Boroughs of Hi-Nella, Somerdale, Stratford, and Laurel Springs.
- **Boroughs of Stratford, Somerdale, Laurel Springs, and Hi-Nella** – DWI Taskforce
- **Borough of Bellmawr** – Share Mobile Data Terminal agreement
- **Boroughs of Berlin, Pine Hill, Waterford and Berlin Township** – Zone Four Tactical Response Team
- **Borough of Lawnside** – a partnership between Magnolia and Lawnside fire departments to train together and share manpower and equipment when fighting fires.
- **Borough of Woodbury Heights** – Public Works Vehicle Maintenance Agreement.
- **Gloucester Twp.** – E-Ticketing.

## MAGNOLIA AMBULANCE CORPS.

Spring is in the AIR

- Keep clear of poison ivy
- Watch out for bees
- Check the expiration dates on your "EPI-PENS"



If you have any questions, please call the squad @ 856-784-8089; leave a message, we will get back to you.

## MAGNOLIA SCHOOL

Superintendent's Office

### **School Board/Budget Update**

On February 14, 2012, the Magnolia Board of Election approved a resolution that moves the local school election from April to the General Election in November.

This move places school board candidates on the November ballot, but will eliminate the annual vote on proposed school budgets that are at or below the state's 2% tax levy cap.

By making this move from April to November, the Board of Education believes that more citizens will participate in voting during a General Election in November than in an April election.

The Board also believes that the financial interest of the community will be safe guarded on multiple levels. Specifically, proposed school budgets will undergo a thorough review by the State Department of Education to ensure efficiency, and school budgets will be controlled by the 2% tax levy cap. Any spending above the 2% cap must be presented by the voters for approval.

Members of the Magnolia School Board whose terms would have expired after the April 2012 election will continue to serve until the reorganization meeting which will be held the first week in January 2012.

With the election being held in November, candidates will be required to submit a nominating petition **to the County Clerk, not the local school board office.**

The deadline to submit nominating petitions will be **June 5, 2012.** More information will be available on the New Jersey School Boards website @ [www.njsba.org](http://www.njsba.org).

For additional information, please contact the Superintendent's office at 783-4763 ext 825.

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### **MAGNOLIA MEDAL AND VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR**

The Borough of Magnolia is now accepting nominations for the 2012 Magnolia Medal and the Volunteer of the Year recipients. As you know these are awarded each year at the 4th of July festivities to residents who are most deserving.



### **MEMORIAL DAY**

Please remember  
Memorial Day festivities  
at the American Legion on  
Monday, May 28<sup>th</sup>.

Magnolia, NJ 08049

**LOCAL POSTAL CUSTOMER**

Borough of Magnolia  
438 West Evesham Avenue  
Magnolia, New Jersey 08049

