

Magnolia's COMMUNITY CONNECTION

www.magnolia-nj.org



Spring 2006

FROM THE DESK OF THE PROUD MAYOR OF MAGNOLIA



Dear Neighbors,

I'm sure you're happy to see the cold snowy winter gone, as we await the flowering Spring weather coming ahead.

The borough council has been working hard on many worthwhile projects which are outlined in this issue. We want you to be as informed as much as possible. We still have 2006 calendars left at borough hall if you have not yet received one, or need an extra one.

Good news for Magnolia! The State has given Magnolia three different grants. One in the amount of \$100,000 for Domestic Preparedness, which will help expand the present employee identification system at the Magnolia Public School and to increase the number of cameras in the school to 16; to buy a new diesel generator for the Fire House since this building is a shelter in the case of an emergency; and to buy additional equipment for the Police, Emergency Management and EMS. The second grant is for \$50,000 to help offset the cost of road work on Gloucester Avenue, and the last grant is for \$50,000 to help pay for furnishings, like tables and chairs, at the new Community Center.

Another idea we are working on is to begin again the Miss Magnolia Pageant. Years ago it was a fun night enjoyed by many. If you are interested in helping or being a contestant please contact the Borough Hall. More information will be in the next newsletter.

Please remember we are looking for nominations for the 2006 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.

Please remember Magnolia Memorial Day festivities at the American Legion and please proudly display the nations colors.

BettyAnn

BettyAnn Cowling-Carson
Proud Mayor of Magnolia

DID YOU KNOW...

NOTARY SERVICE

For your convenience, there is a notary at the Borough Hall. This is a free service. Please do not sign the document prior to coming to the hall and be sure that you have identification with your signature so that a comparison can be done.



If you have a torn or old flag, please place in the red, white & blue mail box at the American Legion.

The state of NJ offers a program called Comfort Partners which is funded by the utility companies to help you and your family to save energy and money by making your home more energy efficient. It is income based. If you are already on certain programs already such as Pharmaceutical Assistance to the Aged and Disabled (PAAD), Federal Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Universal Service Fund (USF), Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP), Lifeline, or Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF), you qualify. For questions or a personal appointment call 888-773-8326, or www.njcleanenergy.com and click on "Residential Programs" and then on "New Jersey Comfort Partners". The program offers items such as insulation, caulking, showerheads, light bulbs and other items at no cost to you.

Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
201 N Warwick Rd. • 856-784-1382

Pastor Kim Kemmerling invites you to worship on Sunday mornings @ 9:30am, we offer one service with Communion each week. Our Music is a blend of traditional and contemporary. Sunday school simultaneous with service. *Come as you are! All are invited!*

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC EVENTS & FACILITIES

Councilwoman Paula Bonamassa

Can't wait for spring! Neither can the Public Events and Facilities Departments! We are looking forward to welcoming spring with many community activities.

First up is Clean Communities Day, which will take place on Saturday, April 8th. Please gather your family and friends and meet us in Albertson Park at 9:00 a.m. Bring your rake and gardening gloves and join us while we spruce up the recreation areas in our community. Light refreshments will be provided. It's a great way to spend two hours on a spring morning!

Also on April 8th, help us celebrate the kickoff of another great season for Little League baseball and softball! The parade will be forming at the Borough Hall and will begin at 1:00 p.m. Join the marchers on the parade route or at the Little League complex for opening day ceremonies!

Next is the Easter Egg Hunt, to be held in Albertson Park on Saturday, April 15th. Infants through 8th grade children are invited to scour the park for hundreds of candy filled eggs, along with special prize ceramic eggs! This event will start promptly at 10:00 a.m. so bring your Easter basket and don't be late! Special raffle prizes will be available thanks to our DARE organization!

The beginning of the Summer Recreation program is right around the corner! Sign up your child at the Borough Hall, during the enrollment times noted below:

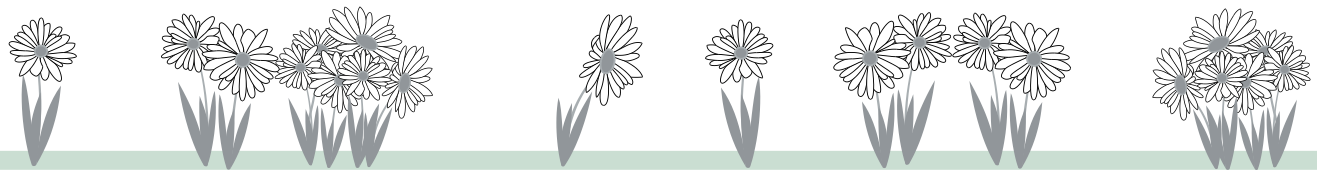
- Friday, May 5th - 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- Saturday, May 6th - 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon
- Friday, May 12th - 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- Saturday, May 13th - 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon

Spots are limited, so please mark your calendar for the sign up dates. Detailed flyers and enrollment forms will be distributed soon!

- Thursday, June 29th - 7:00 p.m. @ Albertson Park, Country Western Music

Stay tuned for additional information about our annual 4th of July parade and community celebration. If you are interested in participating in the parade or fair in the park, please contact Bob Brandt (627-3326) for parade information, or Cathy Dobbins (784-1731) for booth information. It's not too early to think about the 4th of July.

If you are interested in being a part of the Recreation Committee, please contact Paula Bonamassa (783-5153). The committee meets the 3rd Sunday of every month at the Borough Hall. Help of any kind is welcomed and appreciated!



CODES AND LICENSING

Councilwoman Mary Martz

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE

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 a bill for \$75.00 per hour, per man will be sent to the homeowner. The Borough also has an Ordinance requiring all vehicles to have current license plates and registration. They must also be parked in your driveway, not on the lawn or in the backyard.

SWIMMING POOLS

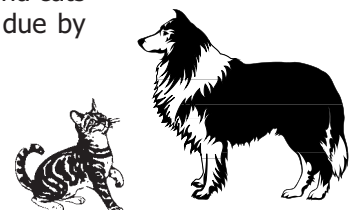
With the warm weather approaching, swimming pools will be in use soon. We would like to remind you that BOCA National Building Code, Chapter 421.10.1, states that the top barrier fence shall be at least 48" above the finished ground level measured on the side of the barrier that faces away from the swimming pool. Recreation pools deeper than 2 feet, need to have a barrier around them. Last year there were quite a few of the smaller, inflatable pools placed in yards. These pools usually require a filter and a barrier which also requires a permit. Please do not run an extension cord to operate the filter. Should you have any questions prior to investing in a pool, contact the Construction office.

CONSTRUCTION DEPARTMENT

Christopher Mecca, Construction Official, would like to remind everyone that the Construction Office is open Monday eve. from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Inspections can be arranged by calling the office at 783-1520, ext 117. Permits are required for most home improvements, so please call the office before you start work. Certificate of Occupancies (fee \$46.00) need to be obtained once you list your home for sale or change a tenant in a rental property. Should you sell to someone with school age children and do not obtain a certificate of occupancy the children will be unable to attend either Magnolia Public or Sterling High School until one is obtained.

DOG AND CAT LICENSING

Remember there is an Ordinance prohibiting more than 2 dogs and/or 2 cats per household. Should you have more than the allowed number, please do not replace a pet should it leave you. If you are a new resident, please be aware of this. Licensing is required for dogs and cats alike. Renewal for licensing is due by the end of January each year.



DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

Councilman Donald Wilson

Trash and recyclable materials should be placed at the curb between **7:00 p.m.** the night before collections and **7:00 a.m.** on the collection day. Please respect your neighbors by removing empty containers by **7:00 p.m.** that day. (Tip: If you are on vacation, ask a neighbor to place and remove containers at the appropriate times so your house looks occupied).

TRASH AND RECYCLING

All debris, trash, brush, furniture, etc., should NOT be placed curbside until the evening before your regularly scheduled trash day. You may be asked to remove it until your regular pick-up day. Please remember that all containers, containing grass or trash, will not be picked up if they weigh more than 50 pounds. Call Public Works (856) 784-6162, should you need a new bucket. Used motor oil must be put in a sturdy container. It will be picked up on your regular recycling day. Furniture will be picked up on your regular trash day. Appliances and scrap metal will be picked up on the first Monday of the month. If this happens to be a holiday then pick-up will be on the first Friday.

NO DEBRIS OF ANY KIND left by a contractor will be removed by Public Works. The contractor is responsible for this.

**REMEMBER: IT IS IMPORTANT TO RECYCLE,
IT SAVES OUR ENVIRONMENT.**

GRASS CLIPPINGS/WOOD AND BRUSH

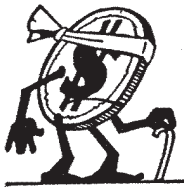
Grass clippings will be picked up on **MONDAYS**. Place them in open trash containers or you may use your recycling buckets for this. Bags will not be picked up. Pick up dates for grass is **MONDAYS** from April 3rd through October 23rd. Should MONDAY be a holiday, pick-up will be on FRIDAY. After this date (or before), just place grass in with your regular trash. Wood and brush will be picked up on non-recycling weeks.

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

Councilman Steven Whalen

SENIOR PROPERTY TAX RELIEF

Please note that if you or your spouse are age 65 or older, permanently reside in Magnolia, and meet certain income restrictions, you may be eligible for a Senior Citizen tax deduction of \$250. Additionally, Magnolia residents that are Veterans, Spouses of deceased Veterans, or are 100% permanently disabled may also qualify for a property tax deduction of \$250. To inquire about these and other property tax reimbursement programs contact the Assessor's Office at (856) 783-1520 Ext. 112.



2006 MUNICIPAL SEWER BILLS

Your sewer bill has a new look. In the past you received one sewer bill for the year with two stubs attached and had to remember to make the second payment with no reminder. We have changed to a postcard format that will be sent bi-annually. This change will make it easier for residents to make the second payment, and it is a more cost-effective method. Borough offices are open from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm Monday through Friday.

PAPERS AND CARDBOARD

Newspaper, white paper, magazines, and corrugated cardboard (3x3 or smaller) should be tied and bundled or placed in paper bags weighing less than **50 lbs.** Acceptable paper and cardboard materials include old newspaper (including Sunday inserts), Kraft paper bags, corrugated containers, soda/beer wrappers, six-pack containers, cereal, pizza boxes and magazines). Pick up day is every TUESDAY.

SEWER

There is a Borough Ordinance requiring homes to have Backwater Valves installed on below ground level items, such as washtubs and basement lavatories. The valves prevent back ups from the sewer system into the home. Most insurance companies **DO NOT** cover back up damage. It would be to your advantage to have a valve installed if your home doesn't have one.

STREET SWEEPER SCHEDULE

West of the railroad tracks - Week of April 10th.

East of the railroad tracks - Week of April 24th.

STORM WATER MANAGEMENT

Do not discard any of the following into the storm sewers: grass clippings, leaves, motor oil, trash, bottles and cans, etc.

SEWER

Reminding everyone that some products should not be flushed down toilets; these items include paper towels, feminine products, cleaning towels, disposable wipes etc.

Thank You for your cooperation.



MAGNOLIA FIRE COMPANY

Chief Gary J. Riebel

SPRING TIME GRILLING

Every year dozens of people are injured and hundreds of fires are reported because of grilling accidents. With the growing popularity of outdoor cooking, the problem promises to get worse before it gets better.

The leading cause of injuries and fire from gas grilling is leaking fuel lines. Improperly connected hoses, cracked or broken hoses, misaligned venturi tubes can release unlit propane that can quickly build up and cause an explosion. Frequently check gas lines for leaks. Brushing soapy water over the hoses and connectors will show you any potential leaks.

Charcoal presents its own risk due to carbon monoxide poisoning. Burning charcoal produces a lot of this gas. There were over 20 deaths in the United States last year alone from carbon monoxide poisoning associated with charcoal grilling.

When lighting a gas grill use the 10 to 5 rule. If the grill does not start within 10 seconds, turn off the gas, leave the lid open and give it 5 minutes before you try again. Propane gas can develop into a large cloud quickly.

As always, remember that the greatest safety feature we humans have is common sense. Pay attention to what you are doing and if you have a bad feeling, run with it.

DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, PLANNING, ZONING & TECHNOLOGY

Councilman P. "Nick" D'Amico

Keep an eye on www.magnolia-nj.org; an updated website will be deployed over the next few weeks. The Borough has been working over the past few months to develop a new website. The site will feature updated content and additional resources. Meeting agendas and minutes will be available for online viewing; most Borough forms will be available for printing. Residents will be able to submit service requests for issues such as streetlight outages and potholes. There will be an online version of the Borough calendar which will include meeting dates, special events and community functions. The new website was developed using in-house resources and resulted in no cost to the Borough.

The Planning Board meets the Fourth Wednesday of every month at 7:30 p.m. in the Borough Hall. Public participation is encouraged.



MAGNOLIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES:

April 22	Annual Spring Hoagie Sale	11:00 am – 1:00 pm
May 20	Annual Spring Flea Mart	9:00 am – 1:00 pm
June 10	Strawberry Festival	4:00 pm – 7:00 pm



Borough of Magnolia

438 West Evesham Avenue
Magnolia, New Jersey 08049

PUBLIC SAFETY CHIEF OF POLICE OFFICE

Councilman Anthony DePrince II

Chief Robert Doyle

The Magnolia Police Department along with the Magnolia Public School will be hosting the fourth annual Public Safety day at the Magnolia Public school in May. A letter with the date and time of the event will be sent home by the school.

The Magnolia Borough Code enforcement office and the Magnolia Police Department would like to remind all residents of the Borough Junk and Abandon vehicle ordinance. If any residents are in violation they will receive a warning letter stating they have 10 days to comply with the ordinance. If there are any questions please contact the Code Enforcement office or the Police Department.

Spring is just around the corner, and our children will be outside playing soon. Take a few minutes and speak with them about the rules of the road while riding their bike and walking around town. If anyone needs information on bike safety, the seatbelt law, Child Safety seats, Pedestrian safety and other topics, stop into the police department for our free pamphlets.

The Magnolia Police Department would like to revitalize our Town Watch program. If anyone is interested please contact Ptlm. Parker or Ptlm. Pappalardo. In August the Police Department will be hosting National Night Out.

Lastly, the Police Department is still in need of substitute crossing guards. If you are interested please stop in or call the Police Department for an employment application. Continue to be our eyes and ears. For suspicious or criminal activity, call our dispatch center at (856) 783-4900.

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