

Magnolia's COMMUNITY CONNECTION



www.magnolia-nj.org

Fall 2010

From the Desk of the Proud Mayor of Magnolia . . .

Dear Neighbors,

I hope you enjoyed your summer! Now that school has begun, please be aware of the children. We have many holiday events coming up noted in this newsletter. I hope you find the time to come out and enjoy at least one of the events.

Thank you Wal-Mart for sponsoring the Fireworks & Ferko String Band on July 3, 2010 at Sterling High School.

I would like to congratulate Police Chief Rob Doyle who recently attended the Police Conference in Atlantic City and won a new unmarked police car for "free" to use for one year, courtesy of Winner Ford in Cherry Hill.

The State funded study of the police merger of the Sterling communities is almost complete. Upon its completion there will be public hearings for all residents to be informed of the ideas and to accept comments and questions. Please check our website for details as they become available.

Miss Magnolia is back...

Attention all 14 – 18 year student girls, we are planning The Miss Magnolia 2011 pageant for February 2011.

If at any time you have any thoughts or concerns you feel will make Magnolia a better place to live, feel free to leave me a message at Borough Hall (783-1520 ext.124), or email me at baccarson@magnolia-nj.org.

4th of July Presentations



Magnolia Medal 2010
Dennis Harkins



Volunteer of the Year
Anthony Comella

BettyAnn

BettyAnn Cowling-Carson
Proud Mayor of Magnolia



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TECHNOLOGY

Councilwoman
Paula Bonamassa

The following businesses have recently come to Magnolia. Please help and patronize them:

- Salon N Vision
- Furniture Planet
- Family Dollar #8390
- Cheesesteak Factory
- Ishkabibbles East Side Eatery
- Walmart #4456 - Nov. 2010
- Sanders Heating
 - Air Conditioning -
 - Electric - Plumbing
 - Remodeling (former Garden State Boats)

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

Nick Collazo -
Jackson Ave

Javier Rabell -
Atlantic Ave



Please let us know when they return, so we can welcome them home! If we missed anyone please call.

MAGNOLIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

President Mert Gardner

Our 2nd annual Magnolia Station Model Train Show will be held November 13, 2010 @ the Magnolia Community Center.

Fall Hoagie Sale - October 16th.

Houses for the Christmas Tour are needed. For information or to offer your house, Call Elaine @ (856) 783-2136.

Station Hours

- Tuesday 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm
- Saturday 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

RECREATION and PUBLIC EVENTS

Councilman Robert Brandt

LET THE HOLIDAY FUN BEGIN!



The recreation committee is hard at work preparing for a very busy season. First up is our annual Halloween festivity. Our annual parade will be held on October 30th. The parade will form at 6:30 pm at the Borough Hall and proceed to our Community Center at 7 pm. Judging will begin promptly at 7:30 pm and there will be prizes and goodies for everyone! **JUST A REMINDER:** Trick or Treating will start at 2 pm and end at the 7:00 pm curfew this year.

The Halloween House Decorating contest will take place the week of October 17th through the 23rd, with winners chosen in each district. Let your inner goblin and ghost take over and let the decorating begin!



Mark December 3rd, 7:00 pm on your calendar and join us for our traditional tree lighting ceremony at the Borough Hall. Holiday music provided by our school children will be followed by the arrival of Santa Claus on a brightly lit fire truck. Bring your children and grandchildren to meet and greet Santa, and don't forget to bring your wish list.

Breakfast with Santa will be December 11th at the Community Center and will begin at 9:00 am. There will be food and fun for all! Signups will be taken at the Borough Hall October 30th through December 5th.



A great time for food and friends will take place at our Senior Citizen Holiday Luncheon at the Community Center. The festivities are scheduled for 2:00 pm on December 11th. Please register at the Borough Hall or call Bob Brandt at 856-685-4445.



The Christmas House Decorating contest will take place the week of December 12th through the 18th, with winners chosen in each district. Let the decorating begin!

Finally, join us January 5, 2011 for our Reorganization meeting, which begins at 7:00 pm at the Borough Hall.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL!

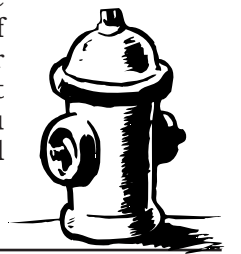
FINANCE

Council President Steve Whalen



Let me begin with some good news. Despite another round of cuts in state aid this year, mayor and council members were able to maintain a zero increase in your municipal property taxes. A lot of strategic preparation had gone into the 2010 budget; and with the support of full council we were able to maintain all of the services and support that has made our town a special place to live and raise a family without any increase. There were increases to the county and local school property tax bill, mostly due to state funding cuts. While we are never pleased with any increases in your property taxes, we did work to minimize the overall impact; and we are hopeful that the Governor's "tool kit" for property tax relief will bring the relief that he says will come to tax payers.

Serious new challenges have created a more complex reality for our town. First, we are long overdue for a property revaluation (assessment), and we are preparing for this statutory obligation. The last revaluation performed in Magnolia was in 1992. We are planning to work with neighboring communities to prepare a joint request for proposal (RFP) to help defray the expensive cost associated with this task. We will keep you updated through our website as to our progress. Second, while we embrace any effort to curb increases in property taxes, the Governor's proposal has several exemptions, so a true 2% cap is not likely. Additionally, the proposal does not consider how municipalities are to maintain street lighting and fire hydrant services with rate hikes above 10%. As it stands, increases beyond 2% will force cuts in other parts of the operating budget. Please be reassured that the mayor and council members will continue to aggressively work to minimize the affects of any change that threatens the goodness of our community. We welcome your suggestions to the challenges that our town faces, and we invite you to share your ideas at a council meeting.



TECHNOLOGY

P. Nick D'Amico (Webmaster)



We have launched a new Community Information Service designed to deliver important and timely information to residents in our area using the latest technology. This service, Nixle, delivers trustworthy and important neighborhood-level public safety and community event notifications instantly sent to you by cell phone text message, email, and web. There is NO Spam or Advertising.

Nixle is completely free (standard text message rates apply for cell phone subscribers who do not have text plans with their cell phone providers). The service is simple to use, reliable and trusted. Register now and learn more at www.nixle.com. Tell your neighbors or friends in the community and recommend that they register to receive neighborhood information.

Stay connected to your world, from the public safety alerts that are relevant to you, to the important neighborhood advisories you want to know about, and other valuable community information. You decide what information you want and whether you want it sent to your cell phone, email, or just simply over the web.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Councilman Anthony DePrince

CHIEF OF POLICE OFFICE

Chief Robert Doyle

The Magnolia Police Department would like to remind all residents, now that school is back the curfew hours are 9:00 pm to 6:00 am during (School Nights), and there is no parking in the yellow painted curbs on Camden and Lincoln Ave. All Borough Parks are closed at Dusk and this will be strictly enforced.

The Holidays are fast approaching, please make sure while you are out shopping that you are always aware of your surroundings when walking in parking lots and opening your car door. Parents ensure that an adult accompanies your child while they are out Trick or Treating and they have reflective material on their costume.

A reminder to all residents that during a Winter Storm Emergency all vehicles must be parked off of the Borough streets to ensure that Public Works vehicles can plow the streets, so emergency vehicles can respond to calls.

Officer Eric Weist has been assigned as the Code Enforcement Officer for the Borough of Magnolia. If any residents have 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.



Lastly, please continue to assist your Police Department if you see suspicious or criminal activity. Please remember to call (856) 783-4900 (Dispatch Center) to report an incident that is occurring, or contact (856) 784-1884 ext.200 for the "Tip Hotline".

FIRE

Fire Chief Gary Riebel

Fire Prevention Night will be held again this year at Sterling High School. Fire companies from Magnolia, Somerdale, HiNella, Stratford and Laurel Springs have joined in this effort. Come out on Thursday evening, October 14th from 7:00-9:00pm.



Just a reminder to test your smoke alarms at least once a month by pushing the test button. If an alarm "chirps," warning the battery is low, replace the battery right away. All smoke alarms should be replaced every ten years. A survey showed that only 12% of people knew that smoke alarms should be replaced when they are ten years old.

Never remove or disable a smoke alarm. In more than half of reported home fires where smoke detectors were present but didn't sound, the batteries were missing or the alarm had been disconnected. As the National Fire Prevention Association's theme states, "Smoke alarms are a sound you can live with."

Did you know there are now smoke alarms with strobes for the deaf or hearing impaired? The strobes, or visible notification appliances, are activated by the sound of the smoke alarm.

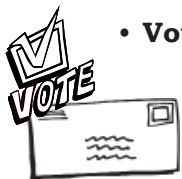
If you are in need of a smoke detector or battery, please do not hesitate to contact the fire company @ 856-783-5818. If you are looking for a way to help your community, the Magnolia Fire Company is always looking for new members. Visit our website, www.magnoliafirecompany.com.

The Fire Co. Craft Fair will be Saturday, Nov. 6 at the Community Center 10 am-4 pm. Contact Gary at 783-5818, or email firechief@magnolia-nj.org

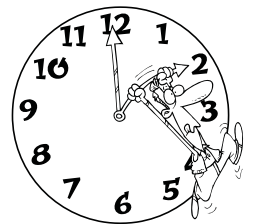


DID YOU KNOW . . .

- **New Office Hours:** The tax office will be open to 8 pm on the first Wednesday of the following months; November, February, March, May, August & September.
- 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.
- Don't forget to set your clocks back during the night of Saturday, November 7th. We'll all welcome the extra hour of sleep!
- **General Election** - Tuesday November 2nd, 6 am-8 pm, Magnolia Community Center.



- **Vote by Mail has replaced Absentee Voting in the State of New Jersey.** It allows a voter to vote without going to the polls on Election Day. You can apply by completing an application and sending it to the County Clerk. Your application must be received seven (7) days prior to the election. You can also apply in person to the County Clerk's Office up until 3:00 pm the day before the election. Stop by Borough Hall for an application now.



- **FLU SHOTS!**

November 8th, 2-4 pm at the Community Center.



UPCOMING BOROUGH EVENTS

Thurs., Oct. 14 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm	Fire Prevention Night Sterling High School
Sat., Oct. 16	Hist. Soc. Hoagie Sale Train Station
Sat., Oct. 30 6:30 pm	Halloween Parade Borough Hall
Sun., Oct. 31 2:00 pm to 7:00 pm	Halloween Trick or Treating
Tues., Nov. 2 6:00 am to 8:00 pm	Election Day Community Center
Sat., Nov. 6 10 am - 12 noon	Rabies Clinic Ambulance Squad
Sat., Nov. 6 10 am - 4 pm	Fire Co. Craft Fair Community Center
Mon., Nov. 8 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm	Flu shots Community Center
Sat., Nov. 13	Hist. Soc. Model Train Show Community Center
Fri., Dec. 3 7:00 pm	Holiday Tree Lighting Borough Hall
Sat., Dec. 11 9:00 am	Breakfast with Santa Community Center
Sat., Dec. 11 2:00 pm	Senior Holiday Luncheon Community Center
Every Thursday night - Open Gym 6 yrs to 18 yrs 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm Community Center <i>(must be a borough resident)</i>	

PUBLIC WORKS

Councilman Donald Wilson

TRASH AND RECYCLING

NO CONTAINERS FOR TRASH SHOULD BE OVER 50 POUNDS!!

If they are, they will not be picked up. Also, trash should not be placed at the curb any earlier than 6:00 p.m. the night before pick-up.

Leaf Schedule

Mondays – beginning October 18th; pile curbside- you may mix grass with leaves. If you have a storm drain, please keep clear at all times.

Sewer

There is 24 hour Emergency Service, please call (609) 868-2552. Just a reminder: the Borough is not responsible for damages caused by sewer backup resulting from fixtures below ground level. Installation of backwater valves is the responsibility of the property owner, (ordinance # 15.205-1).

CONSTRUCTION, LICENSING & STREET LIGHTING, PLANNING, and ZONING

Councilwoman Mary Martz

Construction Department

Reminder: the Construction Office is open Monday eve. from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Dog and Cat Licensing

Remember there is an Ordinance prohibiting more than 2 dogs and 2 cats per household. Our free rabies clinic is Nov 6th at the Ambulance Squad; 10am-12pm, it is open to all residents of Camden County.

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