

# Magnolia's COMMUNITY CONNECTION



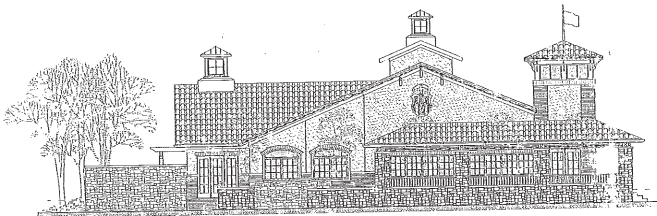
[www.magnolia-nj.org](http://www.magnolia-nj.org)

Spring 2011

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

Dear Neighbors,

Everyone is asking "what is going on at the old Magnolia Diner?" It is being turned into a new European restaurant called CROCOVIA (a small town in Poland). They will be serving a little bit of everything from pierogies to steaks. When you walk in, there is going to be a bakery where everything is homemade. It will have a fireplace, seating for up to 250 people with a banquet room on the side and an outside terrace. It will also have a downstairs where they will be serving brick oven pizza. It will not look anything like the diner, and as of right now, there will be no breakfast served. Look for the new restaurant opening in June or July. This is going to be a great addition to the White Horse Pike.



WHITE HORSE PIKE ELEVATION

The Borough of Magnolia will see the following projects for 2011. The first project will be the repaving of Albertson Ave. from Evesham Ave. to Washington Ave. This funding will be coming from NJ DOT. The second project will be improvements and handicap ramps at the following intersections, Lakewood and Nelson Ave, and Lakewood Ave. and Evesham Ave. These funds were awarded to us from a Community Development Block Grant. We were also informed that the Camden County Board of Freeholders will be repaving Evesham Ave. from Charles Road to White Horse Pike and also parts of Warwick Road.

To stay informed about emergencies and activities in Magnolia, the Borough encourages you to sign up for Nixle which utilizes email and text messaging. Nixle is a free service that you can sign up for on our website at [www.magnolia-nj.org](http://www.magnolia-nj.org)



The Miss Magnolia Pageant registration has begun. The registration deadline is April 8<sup>th</sup>. Applications are available at the Borough Hall, Sterling High School or on our web at [www.magnolia-nj.org](http://www.magnolia-nj.org). The pageant will be held on Friday, May 20<sup>th</sup> at Sterling High School. Please come out and enjoy a night where our young ladies will realize that "Dreams Do Come True". I guarantee you will be wondering who will be wearing the glass slipper when Miss Magnolia is crowned.



*BettyAnn*



BettyAnn Cowling-Carson  
Proud Mayor of Magnolia

### MAGNOLIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

President Mert Gardner

#### Upcoming Activities

- April 2nd Annual Spring Hoagie Sale 11:00 am - 1:00 pm
  - May 21st Annual Spring Flea Mart 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
- Contact Elaine Furniss @856-783-2136

#### Meetings

We meet the 1st Monday of the month at Borough Hall at 7:30 pm  
(No meetings in July or August)



## DID YOU KNOW . . .

- Magnolia Senior Citizen's Club meets at 1pm at Magnolia School on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month.
- 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.
- You can pay your taxes on a weekly or monthly basis. To help lessen the burden of paying once a quarter, you can make payments toward your taxes. Please contact the Tax Collector to help you create a schedule that will work for you as well as keep your taxes current. This is not a payment plan for delinquent taxes; it is to assist you in how to make payments more frequently so the quarterly payment does not feel as large.

## MAGNOLIA MEDAL AND VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR



The Borough of Magnolia is now accepting nominations for the 2011 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.

## DIRECTOR of PUBLIC WORKS & TECHNOLOGY

Councilwoman Paula Bonamassa

Please join the Borough in congratulating Superintendent Steve Pacella on his retirement from the Department of Public Works. Steve served the residents of Magnolia for almost 40 years. We wish him well in his retirement!

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 not be placed at your curb before 7:00 p.m. on the night before your trash collection. Empty cans should be removed from your curb no later than 7:00 p.m. on trash 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 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. Street sweeping will begin again in the first week of April. Look for the sweeper in your area soon!

Please refer to the [www.magnolia-nj.org](http://www.magnolia-nj.org) for more information!

## FIRE

Fire Chief Paul Wolf

**Change smoke alarm batteries as you spring forward.** It's Daylight Saving Time. We all hate to lose an hour, but we'd hate to lose our homes or lives in a fire because we forgot to check the batteries in the smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. While you're climbing on the step stool to change the clocks, reach over to check those alarm batteries, too. 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 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 April 16<sup>th</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 23<sup>rd</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 2<sup>nd</sup> (rain date April 9<sup>th</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 am 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.

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](mailto:rbrandt@magnolia-nj.org), your presence is welcome and appreciated.

## 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

Christina Savage Robles - S. Warwick Road

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



## DIRECTOR of FACILITIES, RECREATION & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Councilman Donald Wilson

The recreation center has been a great addition to our community. At this time, we have just completed waxing the floors and painting. We have also opened the bathrooms and concession stand for use by the outdoor fields. We continue to have our open nights for the youth and adults in our community. 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 is \$250.00 and non-residents are \$500.00. You can obtain the applications on the Magnolia website, [www.magnolia-nj.org](http://www.magnolia-nj.org) or pick them up at the borough hall.

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

Councilwoman Mary Martz

Please welcome Mr. Dan Wassenar as Magnolia's new Construction Official, Zoning Official, Building Inspector and Housing Inspector.

Mr. Wassenar has been involved in the construction and building industry since joining the family business in 1968. Since that time, he has developed numerous residential subdivisions, custom homes, commercial and light industrial projects and historic structure restoration. Having received extensive field training in civil, structural and architectural engineering, he has been admitted as an expert in construction defect claims, building envelope forensics and building code interpretation litigation in NJ, Penn, and Delaware.

His current professional activities include active membership in the American Institute of Architects, The Construction Specifications Institute, and The International Code Council. Further, he is a contributing professional member of ASTM International for the development of testing criteria and protocols for reinforced concrete and building sustainability.

Locally, he is a member of the Executive Board of the Tri County Code Officials organization for Camden, Gloucester and Burlington Counties and The Building Officials Association of New Jersey which works directly with State government in the development of Building Codes and professional peer review at the State level.



## PUBLIC SAFETY

Councilman Anthony DePrince

## CHIEF OF POLICE OFFICE

Chief Robert Doyle

Spring and Summer is just around the corner. Please take a few minutes to speak with your children about the rules of the road, while riding their bike around town and ensure that they are wearing a bike helmet. Also, a reminder that the Borough curfew for children during the school recess and weekends is 10:00PM to 6:00AM.

**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.

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".**

## DIRECTOR of FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

Councilman Steve Whalen



### 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, Laurel Springs and Stratford** – Trash and Recycling Interlocal Services Agreement
- **Borough of Laurel Springs** – Court Administrator Interlocal Services Agreement
- **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, Animal Control and Shelter
- **SJTP/Sterling High School** – Technology Purchasing Cooperative and Maintenance Agreement, snow removal assistance
- **Magnolia Board of Education** – Gasoline and snowplowing assistance
- **Borough of Somerdale** – Ambulance Services Agreement, share sewer equipment, mutual aid, and fire assistance
- **Borough of Runnemede** – Share equipment with Public Works Department
- **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.
- **Borough of Audubon** – Municipal Clerk
- **Boroughs of Stratford, Somerdale, Laurel Springs, and Hi-Nella** – DWI Taskforce
- **Boroughs of Somerdale and Stratford** – Sterling Special Response Team, critical incident response agreement
- **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.



## MEMORIAL DAY

Please remember  
Memorial Day festivities  
at the American Legion on  
Monday, May 30<sup>th</sup>.



## MAGNOLIA SCHOOL

Superintendent's Office

### Budget Update

I am happy to announce that the Camden County Executive Business Administrator has advised me that our proposed school district budget for 2011/2012 has been reviewed and approved for advertising.

An overview of the proposed budget will be presented at a public budget hearing scheduled for Tuesday, March 29, 2011 at 7:00pm. The meeting will take place at the Magnolia Public School, 420 N. Warwick Road.

In developing the budget, the educational priorities for our students, including curriculum/instruction, academic enrichment/remediation, student support/management, clubs/athletics, and security/equity were thoroughly considered.

In addition, budget goals were developed including providing a thorough and efficient educational program for all students and mindfulness of the district's fiscal responsibility and accountability to all of our taxpayers.

Finally, as you may recall, last year's budget reflected the elimination of student extra curricular programs including clubs and league sponsored athletics. Many students and families felt the impact of these eliminations.

The Board and I are very grateful that this budget reflects a sound educational program, a secure school and restoration of extra curricular activities and league sponsored athletics.

We are also grateful that this budget as proposed will offer our taxpayers a decrease in the school taxes of approximately 2 cents. Specifically, a home assessed at the borough average of \$91,411 would have a school tax decrease of approximately \$20.40 per year, while a home assessed at \$125,000 will have a yearly tax decrease of approximately \$27.89.

Please come out and cast your vote for the budget on Wednesday, April 27<sup>th</sup> at the Magnolia Community Center, between the hours of 2:00pm to 9:00pm.

Should you have further questions, please contact the Superintendent's office at 783-4763 ext 825.



### MAGNOLIA HONORS . . .

Kylie O'Donnell (Jackson Ave) as she scored 1000 points for Sterling's Girls Basketball. Great Job!

Ms. Doris Pew's granddaughter (Lincoln Ave) or Mrs. Diane Venables's daughter (Magnolia Public School). Megan Venables was highlighted in Sports Illustrated and finished 5<sup>th</sup> in the Nation at the Foot Locker Nationals in San Diego in Cross County. Megan is considered one of the fastest high school runners in the State of New Jersey.

Magnolia, NJ 08049

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