

CITY OF MARGATE CITY

MUNICIPAL BUILDING

ONE SOUTH WASHINGTON AVENUE MARGATE CITY, NEW JERSEY 08402 (609) 822-0424

"Margate City News"

Fall 2012 Newsletter

A Message from Mayor Mike Becker

I bid you all a warm autumn greeting.

As the seasons change so too does Margate...

The firehouse is progressing and coming along nicely. Our fire and rescue team should be back in the station by February 1, 2013. Our lease for the building department on January 31, 2013 and alternatives are being explored to save money and not continue to throw money out the window in rent. Beach badge revenue is up \$26,969 over last year and expenses have been reduced by \$10,251 resulting in a net increase of \$37,220 for 2012. Personnel changes have occurred too. We've had employees who have retired who we will not replace and there will continue to be more. As we struggle to recover from a not-so-great economy, we in government must do more with less.

Speaking of savings, earlier this month our Commission discussed a goal of saving 5% in our 2013 budget. This 5% equates to 1,050,000 dollars. Our hope is to translate this savings to you. All three of us have agreed to work toward this goal. I am and always will be fiscally conscious with your hard earned tax dollars. As I have said before, I treat your money in the City budget like my own, where each expenditure is thought out carefully prior to spending.

So as the seasons change in Margate, know that the only changes going on aren't just the flashing lights on Atlantic Avenue but inside your City Hall as well.

Mike

"NOTABLE MARGATIANS" – FALL 2012 Jennifer Hansen

In spite of her young age, Jennifer Hansen's accomplishments for the benefit of recovering addicts in the Atlantic County community are notable, and as such we are proud and honored to present her as this edition's Notable Margatian.

Jennifer Hansen, daughter of Roger and great-granddaughter of Ole Hansen, followed in her father's footsteps when she began working for the company at a young age as a shop driver running errands for the staff. She also assisted the labor crew in the ditches installing gas pipelines and operating a backhoe.

While growing up in Northfield, New Jersey, Jennifer attended the Williston Northampton Boarding School in Easthampton, Massachusetts before beginning her college years at Champlain College in Burlington, Vermont. She furthered her studies at Colorado State University in Fort Collins, Colorado and ultimately graduated from the Richard Stockton College of New Jersey in 1994 with a Bachelor of Arts

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degree in anthropology/sociology. Jennifer also completed Harvard University's Owner President Manager (OPM) Key Executive Program and the Families in Business Program.

In 1996, Jennifer relocated to Newport Beach, California to accept a position as a program coordinator and document controller for Vendor Surveillance Corporation. She also acted as internal auditor for the company's ISO 9000 Certification Program. In 1998, she returned to New Jersey to join the family business. Jennifer started her adult career with Ole Hansen & Sons as an IT support technician and then moved on to work in the real estate development department. When Ole Hansen & Sons began development of a new upscale private golf club, Jennifer took responsibility for the project. Until September of 2005 she served as President and General Manager of the exquisite Hidden Creek Golf Club located in Egg Harbor Township, New Jersey.

Jennifer has dedicated much time in the field of drug addiction and recovery with unyielding devotion. As a recovering addict of several years, she supports many individuals and groups by sharing her own story—offering them strength and hope to face the future. Jennifer is a board member of the Hendricks House, a substance abuse treatment halfway house in Vineland, New Jersey, and is President of the Hansen Foundation.

Jennifer's dream to develop a much-needed addiction rehabilitation facility in Atlantic County came to fruition with the opening of the Hansen House, a thirty bed halfway house for men in the fall of 2004. The thirty bed Hansen House for women opened in November of 2005. Jennifer is Founder and President of the Hansen House which is operated by the Hendricks House. In 2007, Jennifer opened the Serenity House in Absecon to assist with the next phase of treatment, sober supportive living. In 2010, another Serenity House with another 9 beds was added in Pleasantville. Most recently, in 2011, the Randy Scarborough House for Men opened it door to serve 12 men. Jennifer oversees management of all Serenity Houses. She currently hosts two fundraisers annually to raise money for these organizations: the Hendricks/Hansen Partnership for Recovery Annual Charity Golf Tournament and the Street Life Concert.

Jennifer's newest endeavor includes supporting her daughter, Mia Bergmann, as she embarks on a singing/songwriting career. This takes the two of them to Nashville quite frequently. Mia has been the opening act for country superstars including John Michael Montgomery, Colt Ford, Bo Bice, Josh Gracin & The Bacon Brothers. Mia's music can be found at www.miabergmannmusic.com and on iTunes.

Jennifer's leisure interests include sailing, fishing, scuba diving, water skiing, snow skiing, golf, tennis and travel. Jennifer resides in Margate, New Jersey with her loving husband, Jonathan Greenberg, daughter Mia and two sons, Jaden and Jackson.

Just FYI...Work Sessions are held the first and third Thursday of each month at 4:00 pm, followed by Commission Meetings at 5:00 pm. On the second Thursday of each month there is an evening special Work Session at 7:00 pm provided there are agenda items (call 822-2605 to find out). These meetings are open to the public and attendance is strongly encouraged.

Funfest by the Bay...The annual Funfest by the Bay organized by our Margate Business Association will take place 11am to 6pm September 29th & 11am to 5pm September 30th on Amherst Avenue between Decatur and Coolidge Avenues. Fun for all ages including crafters, fabulous food, children's stage, live musical entertainment games and more!

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Update from Commissioner Maury Blumberg...

For those of you that follow my column, you have noticed that I use the space to introduce you to outstanding Margate employees and tell you a little bit about what they do to help keep Margate running smoothly. This quarter, I am proud to recognize the tremendous efforts of our Deputy Tax Collector.

Deputy Tax Collector Linda Morgan is now entering her 21st year serving the

citizens of Margate City.

Linda began her career with the City in 1992 working as a clerk typist in the Revenue & Finance Department. Within 2.5 years, Linda completed all of the necessary courses through the Rutgers University Local Government certification program. She then passed the NJ State examination wherein she earned the designation of "Certified Tax Collector" (CTC). The CTC designation is a requirement for any individual who wishes to serve as a Tax Collector in New Jersey.

By the mid 1990's, Linda was running the day to day operations of the City's Tax Collection department. The primary duties of the office include but are not limited to the mailing, collection and receipting of all tax collection monies. There are approximately 8,000 taxable properties in Margate. This means that each year Linda is responsible for maintaining the various records associated with the tax payments of all these properties. Just the task alone of mailing the annual tax bills is tremendous. In addition to the 8,000 tax bills, there are thousands of duplicate copies as well as bank copies (Mortgage Companies) that require sorting, mailing and maintaining.

"I've had the pleasure of working with Linda for five (5) years now. She is an extremely dedicated, loyal and hard-working public servant who serves Margate City with pride".



Upate from Commissioner Brenda Taube...

Greetings and a Happy, Healthy New Year to our Jewish residents!

The summer went by so fast; it seems like a "blur" to me. It was fun though, filled with family visits and too many trips to "Juniors Dogs and Doughnuts" for Cinnamon Sugar Twisters. Yum, yum! I hope you enjoyed yours as well!

Here are some updates from my department of Public Works for the fall:

- Recycling is back to its every other Thursday pick-up schedule. Weekly recycling will again be offered next year from July 4th to Labor Day.
- On September 29th and 30th, "Margate Fall Funfest by the Bay" takes place on Amherst Avenue.
- As of October 1st, the City yard will be closed for the season on Sundays but will continue to be open year-round on Wednesday afternoons from 1pm to 3pm.
- On Saturday, October 13th, a "shredding event" will take place at the City yard from 8am to 12noon. All Margate residents are invited to take part.
- On Saturday, October 20th from 8:30am to 12noon, "Clean Ocean Action" is sponsoring a Beach Clean Up at the Granville Avenue Beach.
- From October 1 through December, Amherst Avenue will be intermittedly closed from Vendome Avenue to Quincy Avenue for reconstruction.

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- The Fall Margate Community Education & Recreation Guide is full of activities for everyone. Check it out and sign up for one of the activities; it's not too late!
- And, don't miss the many scheduled activities at the Bloom Pavilion! The "Bloom" is alive and full of swing all day long from early morning exercise classes to card games, knitting, beading, holiday parties, dining trips and travel opportunities. An events calendar and schedule is available at the Bloom Pavilion. Hours are 9am to 3pm Monday through Friday.

So there's plenty to do and enjoy in the fall in Margate! And, don't forget our Margate merchants who rely on our business; please patronize them by shopping and dining locally!

Happy fall!

ZONING TIDBITS By ROGER RUBIN, ZONING OFFICER

YOU AND THE ZONING PROCESS (What's Happening in My Neighborhood?)

Very often, residents are disturbed when changes occur next door to them, and want to know: "How did this happen without my knowing it?" Here are a few tips:

- 1. If a house is being built near you, or renovated, or a shed or deck is being constructed, and you never received an official notice, that means the activity is in conformance with the zoning and building codes, and notice is not required. However, you always have the right to see the plans, and can do so, without need of an appointment, simply by visiting the Construction Office, at 101 N. Washington Avenue, second floor (822-1974). The courteous staff will show you the plans and answer questions. If you have questions about how the plans conform to zoning, contact me at 822-5438, and we will set up an appointment for me to explain the plans to you. I am at City Hall, across from Wawa, second floor.
- 2. If there is an action before the Planning Board, such as a variance, major site plan or major subdivision (more than 3 lots being created), you will be notified by certified mail if your house is within 200 feet of the subject house. The notice will tell you the nature of the action, and the date, time and location of the hearing. You can come to my office any time before the meeting to review the plan and application, and if you are concerned, you should come to the Planning Board meeting to ask questions or state your objections. The Planning Board seriously considers all neighbor comments. But you must appear; a letter will not legally be introduced.
- 3. The Planning Board Secretary keeps a compendium of all Planning Board decisions, which you may review by contacting me at any time to make arrangements.
- 4. Demolitions require notice to neighbors a couple of days in advance, so you can adequately prepare. The demolisher is required to appropriately exterminate to protect surrounding neighbors, and to take steps to minimize dust and dirt and noise impacts. Questions or problems on demolitions may be directed to Construction Official Jim Galantino at 822-1974.

I hope the above has been helpful. Never hesitate to call if you have concerns or questions. We are here to serve.

Employee Happenings...

- Andrew Miles, Recreation Supervisor, married Courtney Murphy on August 4th
- Noelle Falvo, Beach Inspector Supervisor, married Cole Cisbani on June 16th
- George Baldwin retired from Public Works on September 1st after 26 plus years of service
- Fire Lieutenant Mike Palmer and wife Ashley welcomed a baby girl Emma on August 7th
- The Margate Hurricanes once again won the ACBL championship

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• Margate Beach Patrol won the South Jersey Lifeguard Championship for the 3rd time in the last 5 years

Congratulations!

FLOOD SAFETY Provided by Lisa McClaughlin, CFO

The safety of your family is of the utmost importance! To be well informed about an approaching storm, keep a battery powered radio tuned to a local station and follow all emergency instructions. If evacuation is ordered, Margate City has a prepared emergency evacuation plan coordinated with the City of Northfield to assure the smooth flow of traffic over the Jerome Avenue bridge and through Northfield. In the event of a storm advisory or warning, immediately bring outdoor furniture and other possessions inside or tie them down securely, be sure you have a full tank of gasoline and stock the car with nonperishable canned goods (with a can opener), a container of water, first aid kit and any special medication needed by the family. Do not walk through flowing water. Do not drive through flooded areas. Stay away from downed wires of any kind. If time permits, pull off the main power switch and shut off the main gas valve.

New for 2013: All Margate residents will receive a 20% discount on their flood insurance for new policies and renewals after May 1, 2013.

Enjoying this newsletter? Please tell your friends and neighbors so we can increase our database and serve more residents. Email newsletter@margate-nj.com with a subject of NEWSLETTER to have email addresses added to our newsletter distribution.



Why Should Businesses Recycle? ...It's the law and there are other benefits too!

- The most obvious reason to recycle is the law.
- ➤ Your business is doing its part to help New Jersey reach its 60 percentage recycling reduction goal.
- Recycling may actually reduce cost of doing business reducing the monthly cost to have trash hauled for disposal.
- For every ton of material recycled within municipal borders, communities can receive money from the state through the Municipal Tonnage Grant Program.
- Atlantic County is the only county in the entire state which collects most businesses' recycling at no cost!
- Recycling conserves natural resources and saves energy.
- Not only does recycling save an abundance of natural resources, it also reduces air pollution!

For more information and/or a commercial waste audit, contact the ACUA at (609) 272-6950