

CITY OF MARGATE CITY MUNICIPAL BUILDING 9001 WINCHESTER AVENUE MARGATE CITY, NEW JERSEY 08402 (609) 822-0424

"Margate City News" Fall 2013 Newsletter

A Message from Mayor Mike Becker...

It's hard to believe that it's September already. Time passes so quickly. It seems like yesterday we were getting ready for summer. Now that summer is over take a minute and reflect on where Margate is and where we want Margate to be in the future.

September may be the nicest month of the year. As the seasons change so do our lives. Our children return to school and we settle in to life at a much slower pace. The lights on Atlantic Ave. are flashing and the Funfest is scheduled for September 28th and 29th. Don't miss this wonderful event.

Fall is also the time to plan for the future. 2014 is soon upon us and as elected officials we have started planning for another successful year. I'm very proud to be Mayor of Margate. We have had no municipal tax increase and I believe we're in a position to sustain the financial successes we've worked so hard for.

On November 5th voters of Margate will determine the dune issue. It's very important that you get as much information as you feel you need before voting. Let's not make this an issue that divides the community. We are family and it is OK for families to have differing opinions. I do ask that you be respectful of others as you do what you think is best for Margate.

Mike

"NOTABLE MARGATIANS" LAURA DULAC

By Roger Rubin

Laura Dulac, a Baltimore native and a Margate resident since 2001 with her husband Paul and her three daughters, is the founder and president of Our Children Making Change (OCMC), a non-profit organization in the Margate area, that instills in young children the importance of and joy in giving back to their communities.

Our Children Making Change was developed by conversations a few years ago between Laura and her daughters, presently a third grader at Ross, a seventh grader at Tighe, and a freshman at Atlantic City High School. They felt it was a shame that school children had such limited opportunities to contribute to those in need, since they were technically too young for most volunteer activities in existing local organizations. So they brainstormed and came up with OCMC, where children could devote some of their limited free time to making a real difference in the lives those less fortunate than themselves.

The way it works is the children get together in June of each year to speak about and choose local charities to be recipients. This process allows the participant children to research non-profits in their area and encourages them to speak to the other children and educate them. Then the children vote on the charities, so it is completely child centered. The children care much more about the particular charities they are helping because they were participants in the selection process. The children receive t-shirts and charity boxes at this kick-off event, and each pledges to raise at least \$100 over the course of the summer, through age-appropriate chores and fundraising events. They do lemonade stands, bake sales, sports camps, craft sales, talent shows, car washes, and much more. They get to be creative and have fun while doing good deeds.

In August, the OCMC children meet again and present the chosen charities with checks, and celebrate their hard work. (Locally, Gillians Wonderland Pier has been generous enough to donate a night of free rides for the kids.)

Locally, in its fifth year, OCMC had 200 children this past summer, and raised over \$20,000, for 6 charities. Juliette Loftus of Margate spoke about the Cape May Zoo; Grace Gaskill of Margate spoke about the Alcove; Andrew Affanato of Longport spoke about the Claudia Fund; Claire and Drew Brooks of Margate spoke about the Special Olympics of South Jersey; and the two other charities were the Tug McGraw Foundation and Stand for the Silent, an anti-bullying program.

OCMC is now in Cleveland, Baltimore, Chester County, PA, Harrison Township, NJ, and our local group. OCMC has in its five years of existence nationwide raised over \$205,000 for numerous charities.

Laura says: "We would love to get more children involved each summer. For more information, check out our Facebook page and our website, <u>www.OurChildrenMakingChange.org</u>. You can also email me directly at <u>OurCMC@aol.com</u>."

For her wonderful contribution to our community, we thank Laura Dulac. She is a Notable Margatian in the finest sense of the word.

A Message from Commissioner Maury Blumberg...



Dear Friends,

As we SIGNAL the close of another successful summer season, I am pleased to report that Margate finds herself on a sound fiscal footing. Our tax ratable base remains stable and in fact, new construction starts continue at record levels. Although stressed by the aftermath of the storm and a very hectic summer season, all department budgets are in line with estimated cost projections. As we

move into the 4th quarter, we will be goaling ourselves for another year of no Tax increase. We remain committed to providing you with great services at the very lowest possible cost and we will continue to invest in our infrastructure in a sound fiscally responsible way. Special thanks goes out to all our city employees for your dedication and hard work! Have a great fall season.

Begin doing what you want to do now. We are not living in eternity. We have only this moment, sparkling like a star in our hand-and melting like a snow flake. -M.B. Ray



A Message from Commissioner Brenda Taube...

Greetings everyone! The summer went by so fast; didn't it? I hope you enjoyed it and continue to enjoy the delightful September weather we're enjoying now.

Here are some updates from the Public Works Department:

- 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 Sept. 28th and 29th, "Margate Fall Funfest by the Bay" takes place on Amherst Avenue.
- Public Works is hosting a shredding event for all our Margate residents on Oct 12 at the Public Works Yard on Benson Avenue from 8am until 12noon.
- On Saturday, October 19th a Community Beach Clean Up sponsored by Clean Ocean Action will take place from 8:30 am until 11:30am. Come on out; we can use your help!
- As of September 29th, the city yard will be closed for the season on Sundays but will continue to be open year-round on Wednesday afternoons from 1 pm to 3 pm.
- The new Margate City Community Education & Recreation Guide for fall is available. If you'd like one, we have them available at City Hall, the Library and the Margate City Post Office, or go to <u>www.margatecityschools.org</u> and click the "community" tab at the top.
- Also, if you haven't stopped by the Martin Bloom Pavilion lately, please do because you could be missing out on all the fun! The center is full of lively activity all day long from early morning exercise classes to card games, knitting, beading, travel opportunities such as day trips to Longwood Gardens, etc. A calendar of their events may be picked up at the Bloom Pavilion.

Have an enjoyable fall and as always, please don't hesitate to contact me if I may be of any help or assistance at (609) 822-0424.

Employee Happenings...

- Firefighter Brad Eissler and wife Jessica welcomed baby boy, Owen Henry Eissler born 8/27/13
- Police Lt. Earl Kenney will retire on November 1st after serving the City for 27 years.

MCFD Welcomes New Firefighter, "Ted Gogal"...

Ted Gogol is the newest addition to the professional firefighter/EMT staff of the Margate City Fire Department. Ted grew up in nearby Somers Point, NJ and is known by friends as a diligent worker and excellent athlete.

Ted was a star football player in high school for the Mainland Mustangs where he quarterbacked his team to numerous championships. He continued his football career at Wagner College (Long Island, NY) where he majored in Business Administration earning a Bachelor of Science Degree.

Being mentored by his Grandfather, Ted Gogol, a US Marine in World War 2, Ted has a strong work ethic that is evident in his passion to pursue being a career firefighter. He is the son of proud parents Ted and Felicia.

Ted is 33 years old and also a union carpenter, a NJ State licensed building inspector, and a NJ State licensed barber.

Welcome Ted, we wish you a long a prosperous career!



Like Us on Facebook Margate City now has an official Facebook Page

"Margate City, NJ"

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.



Special Notice for Parents

The Margate Education Foundation (MEF) will host Donna L. Haye, Superintendent for Atlantic City Schools on Thursday, September 26 at 6:30 pm in the William H. Ross Elementary School Cafeteria. She has been invited to discuss Atlantic City High School and the programs they offer for our students. She'll also be available to answer parent questions. Everyone is welcome to attend.