

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

"Margate City News" Summer 2014

A message from the Mayor & Commissioner of Public Safety...

Working day by day. That's how so many programs and improvements happen in our community. Whether it is applying for grants to improve infrastructure or the appearance of our municipality, the commissioners and city employees are busy behind the scenes. We strive daily to maintain the originality and appeal as a seaside resort, while making decisions to keep us safe and secure now and in the future. Although it may seem that focus is on the summer and the events that keep us entertained for the next few months, rest assured that the concerns and interests of our residents remain a priority.

Have a safe and wonderful summer.

~Mayor Mike Becker

"NOTABLE MARGATIANS" Mindy Shemtov Co-founder of The Alcove Center for Grieving Children and Families

Each quarter we highlight a Margate resident who has contributed significantly to the betterment of our community. Margate is honored to have so many caring, compassionate and generous residents. This quarter it's our pleasure to recognize Margate's Mindy Shemtov.

MINDY SHEMTOV, MSW, LCSW holds a master's degree in Social Work from Rutgers University with a Certification in Human Service Management. She has 20+ years' experience in providing mental health and substance abuse therapy to both adults and children. Mindy began her career as the supervisor of the sexual assault program at the Atlantic County Women's Center and served as the Mental Health Administrator for Atlantic County. Mindy has worked as a consultant and therapist for the United States Department of Veteran's Affairs and The Institute for Human Development, now known as the John Brooks Recovery Center. Mindy previously served as chairperson of the HIV consortium of Atlantic and Cape May Counties. In private practice Mindy worked with clients to address issues of grief, substance abuse and mental health.

In 2001 Mindy co- founded The Alcove Center for Grieving Children and Families. The Alcove program teaches children coping skills to help them deal with the overwhelming grief that accompanies the loss of a loved one. The coping skills learned today promote healthy adults free of depression, anxiety and substance abuse. Starting in donated church space with 6 children, the Alcove has grown into a 6000 square foot center which houses both the bereavement center and a thrift shop that helps to financially support the centers programs. Each year The Alcove works with approximately 600 children and family members in the community. The Alcove also has an extensive school outreach program for children attending schools in

high risk-distressed areas of Atlantic, Cape May and Cumberland Counties. Since its inception The Alcove has worked with over 6,000 people.

Mindy has been happily married for 39 years to Moshe. She is the mother of Corey, Scott and Julie. She has two wonderful daughters in law, Rachel and Ali and is the grandmother to Ariella and Abigail. Mindy is also called mom by Alicia Hechter who is the daughter of Mindy's dear friend, the late Vicki Hechter who died when Alicia was 15 months old. Mindy resides in Margate. She loves spending time with family and friends and taking as many yoga classes as her schedule will allow.

In March of this year, Mindy was inducted into the Atlantic County Women's Hall of Fame in recognition of her healing work, which has benefited so many in the community. We thank Mindy for this work and for contributing so positively to our community. The City of Margate is honored to name Mindy Shemtov as a Notable Margatian.



A Message from Commissioner of Revenue & Finance, Maury Blumberg...

I thought I would take this opportunity to thank Andy Bednarek, our Tax Assessor, for his 24 years of dedicated service to the Margate Community, on the occasion of his retirement from that job in July. Andy has worked diligently on behalf of the citizens of Margate to provide a professional and accessible Assessor's Office,

leaving behind extremely efficient practices and especially personnel, in the persons of Mary Becker, Johanna Casey, and Jim Manghan.

Andy, who also has been City Administrator in Avalon for over 30 years, was hired as the Margate Assessor in July, 1990, and has overseen and directed a fair and equitable tax base for the community for all those years, based on uniform rules, sound assessment practices and the law.

Andy has provided a steady hand for these 24 years, during some challenging times, despite recessions and the devastating effects on property values from Hurricane Sandy. Throughout Andy's tenure, the City of Margate has NEVER experienced a loss in ratables from one year to another, a claim that few towns can make.

In addition, under Andy's guidance, our Assessor's Office has administered property tax deduction and exemption programs related to senior citizens, veterans, and surviving spouses of veterans. I hope residents will contact Jim, Mary and Johanna at 822-1950 to learn more about eligibility for these programs, or go on line at the State Division of Taxation at <u>www.state.nj.us/treasury/taxation</u>.

The backbone of municipal government is a solid tax assessment infrastructure. The late Mayor William Ross, who oversaw revenue and finance for 30 years, understood this more than anybody. It was Bill who brought Andy to town in 1990.

So on behalf of the citizens of Margate, I want to wish Andy, who lives in Sea Isle City, and his wife Theresa, best of luck and good health in the future, and thanks for a job very well done indeed.

~Commissioner Maury Blumberg

Criticism is something you can easily avoid by saying nothing, doing nothing, and being nothing." ~Aristotle



A Message from Commissioner of Public Works, Brenda Taube...

Greetings Residents,

I hope everyone is enjoying the beginning of the season in beautiful Margate! It's exciting to see everyone out of hibernation, our retail stores and restaurants all active and busy and our seasonal businesses open again for what will hopefully be, a very fruitful summer for all. If Memorial Day weekend is any indication, I think it's going

to be a strong and busy summer but don't fret, your Public Works Team is ready!

The City property is beautifully landscaped and we have recreational activities galore for residents and visitors of every age. Relax on our beautiful beach or if activity is what you're looking for, check our recreational activities at http://www.margate-nj.com/docs/recreation_brochure.pdf and/or stop by our Bloom Pavilion Senior Center for a daily activity schedule. From activities to events such as "Beachstock", "ThrillingThursdays", "Team Will" and "Funfest", there's plenty of fun to be had this summer in Margate!

Speaking on fun, it's been my pleasure to be part of "Sustainable Margate", the City's green team. The work we are doing is rewarding as it benefits everyone. Our enthusiastic team is led by Margate resident, Monica Coffey who is doing a truly magnificent job leading our group (please see her update below). Our next project is a Storm Water Management Forum to be held on July 17th at the Dominick A. Potena Performing Arts Center. This is a joint effort between Brigantine, AC, Ventnor, Margate and Longport. We are targeting anyone involved in planning but interested members of the general public are also encouraged to attend. Your "Sustainable Margate" team has been working together less than a year and expects to receive its bronze level certification this fall as a result of the work accomplished thus far. A big "thank you" goes out to everyone on our team and especially to Monica Coffey for her amazing leadership! New volunteers are always welcome, please feel free to attend our next meeting at the Tighe School on July 23rd at 9:30 am.

Wishing you all a fun-filled, enjoyable summer!

As always, if you have any questions, concerns or suggestions, I'm happy to speak and meet with residents personally. I may be reached at (609) 822-0424.

~Commissioner Brenda Taube



Margate joins Sustainable Jersey

by Monica Coffey

It's been a busy spring for the members of Sustainable Margate. On Saturday, April 5, green team members, in conjunction with the city public works department, participated in a New Jersey Tree Recovery Campaign and distributed more than 500 trees to Margate residents. In May, the green team and Stockton, under the direction of Stockton Professor Patrick Hossay, initiated a carbon footprint study for Margate. The goal of the carbon footprint study is to examine energy use by the city, as well as residents, and establish a baseline against which future efforts to reduce greenhouse gases can be measured. The study will be ongoing throughout the summer.

At its June 18 green team meeting, members heard a presentation by Sean Schweitzer of Cross County Connection (<u>www.driveless.com</u>). Cross County Connection helps municipalities implement Safe Routes to School programs which encourage more children to bike and walk to school. The green team is hoping to work with school officials over the summer and plan events to coincide with National Walk to School Day on October 8.

Also at its June meeting, the green team welcomed new members Joe Doyle, Bill Brooks and Andrew Pockl. The next Sustainable Margate meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 23 and is being hosted by Dr. Michelle Carney-Ray at Tighe School.

Margate Mother's Fireworks Display July 4th at 9 pm Thank you Portia Parto for organizing the event and we appreciate all the support from the Sponsors!



Margate Community Education and Recreation Department

Our summer 2014 programs have so much to offer! Our six-week Recreation Camps begin June 30th and so many fun events have been planned. Lots of one-day themed classes for children are also scheduled throughout the summer: "Perfect Pasta," "Magical Mosaics," "Tie-Dye" and tons more! Friday nights are fun with our Lego Program and children can enjoy golf, karate, yoga, dance and creative writing courses-just to name a few. Many specialty one-week camps are an option for kids who like robotics & engineering, marine science, cooking, film & television, field hockey, basketball, gymnastics, soccer, lacrosse and baseball.

Our tennis courts are open on the weekends and will open seven days a week beginning June 20th. We also offer summer tennis clinics, camps and lessons plus our Annual Twilight Tennis Tournament, which begins in July. Pickleball can be played down at the Margate City Hall Parking Lot and over at the Martin Bloom Community Pavilion, folks can play shuffle board and sign up for one of the bocce ball leagues. The Pavilion has lots of other activities to sample Monday-Friday including: canasta, mah-jongg and pinochle, bridge club, fitness classes and seminars just to name a few. Friday nights offer Soul Line Dancing Adults can participate in free financial seminars & aerobic classes; learn to play the guitar or dance the Hustle & the East Coast Swing.

The entire family with neighbors and friends can attend one of the upcoming special events planned for this summer in Margate including: Beachstock (6/28/14), Team Will's Arrival at Lucy the Elephant (7/01) and Fireworks on July Fourth!

For More Information Please Contact: 609-823-6658 and remember to "like" us on Facebook at "Margate Community Education and Recreation Department."

The way you get meaning into your life is to devote yourself to loving others, devote yourself to your community around you, and devote yourself to creating something that gives your purpose and meanings. ~Morrie Schwartz

Team Will Charity Event

By Joy Kanter

This year marks the Fifth Annual "Go the Distance Cross Country Journey," beginning in San Francisco, California on June 21st, 2014 and concluding in Margate City, New Jersey on July 1st, 2014 at Lucy The Elephant around 11:00 am. Team Will is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization that provides hope for children with cancer! In 2005, Team Will was named after William Keifer who had been diagnosed with a rare form of Childhood Cancer, Rhabdoid Tumor of the Kidney. Sadly, William lost his battle with cancer and in response members of his family and those in his community, wanted to do something positive and so from there, this organization was born! Team Will's Mission focuses on providing family support and resources to families battling childhood cancer to bring hope and allow them to focus on the care and healing of their child. Team Will believes that the message of hope can be a powerful medicine. Team Will also hopes to provide a coherent, credible voice to educate society about childhood cancer, achieved by working with cycling communities and interested individuals, through a mixture of cycling activities and events.

This year's Team includes eight cyclists and four crew members. Along their ride, Team Will intends to travel over 3,300 miles, pass through eight state capitols and thirteen major cities. During their eleven day journey, Team Will intends to deliver "Hero Cards" many made by local Margate City, New Jersey school children, to children hospitalized with cancer.

The Event will also honor, a local five year old boy named Danny who was first diagnosed with Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma in 2010 at the age of 27 months. After 30 months of chemotherapy and a17 month inpatient hospital stay, Danny successfully completed treatment and is now considered to be in full remission!

The Margate City Public Library will showcase the movie "Go The Distance" a documentary detailing Team Will's Journey (2008) on Sunday: 6/22/14 @ 1:00 pm. More information about Team Will can be found at <u>www.teamwillcharity.org</u>.

For More Information: Please Contact Joy Kanter at Margate City Recreation: 609-823-6658.



Beachstock – Saturday, June 28th

Beachstock 2014 on the Huntington Ave. beach Saturday June 28 includes an expanded lineup of family-friendly events and activities, from the 7:30am registration for SUP board races to the end credits of *Mr. Peabody and Sherman* at 10pm.

The Planet's Biggest Beach Party includes non-stop music on the 100.7 WZXL main stage, "Kids Are the Stars" on the 95.1 WAYV kid's stage, beer and lots of food including fresh-shucked oysters. There are water sports competitions, Battle of the Beach Bands, crafters, volleyball, a WPA-sanctioned stand-up paddle boarding and lifeguard competitions, and at dusk, a bonfire and a movie. No beach tags are required.

There's free Jitney service from the Tighe School at Amherst & Essex Ave. Pick up and drop off all along Atlantic Ave. The fun continues all summer. Every Thursday is thrilling with sidewalk sales throughout the city, a free beach day, the Farmer's Market at Steve and Cookies, and at dusk on the Decatur Ave. beach behind Lucy, a family friendly movie.

Visit <u>www.Margatehasmore.com</u>.



July 3 - Star Trek Into Darkness PG-13 July 10 – School of Rock PG 13 July 17 – Top Gun PG July 24 – The Secret Life of Walter Mitty PG July 31 – The Croods PG August 7 – Ferris Bueller's Day Off - Back by popular demand PG-13 August 14 – Percy Jackson Sea of Monsters PG August 21 – Rio 2 G August 28 – Young Frankenstein PG

All films shown at dusk on the Decatur Avenue Beach behind Lucy the Elephant.



Marianne Christian began working for Margate Recreation at the Martin Bloom Pavilion in 2007, during the past seven years she has brought a breath of fresh air, activities and positive energy to our Pavilion. Marianne wears many hats at the pavilion, ranging from canasta instructor to coordinating Margate's senior bus shuttle service, volunteer program, or hosting many luncheons. Marianne is also a volunteer for numerous organizations, most dear to her heart are the Hoops for All and The Field of Dreams program for kids with developmental challenges. On any given week end you can find Marianne on the baseball field or basketball court with her special athletes. There is a new joy in her life, her grandson Lucas, who you can find following her on the weekends while she is volunteering with her special athletes.



A new addition to the Margate Library's Summer Programs is *Seven Sundays: A Summer Documentary Film Festival*! On Sunday afternoons, there will be screenings of acclaimed films covering subjects from sustainability, to the Holocaust, to living based on the courage of one's convictions. Underlying all films is the theme of the effect of a transformative experience. Screenings begin at 1pm in the Library's Meeting Room and are FREE.

Margate Library Film Series Schedule

- June 29 *Bag It: Is Your Life Too Plastic* Beginning with the ever-present plastic bag, this exposé reveals our over-reliance on plastic and its pervasively detrimental effects on the environment.
- **July 6** *So Many Miracles* From the National Center for Jewish Film, viewers will follow Israel and Frania Rubinek on their emotional return to Poland to reunite with the woman who, with her husband and son, saved their lives 40 years earlier.
- **July 13** *Plastic Planet* Plastic is everywhere, literally everywhere. Bad for human health and bad for the planet, this film declares that after watching it, "You will never dare to drink from a plastic bottle again."
- July 20 *Sisters* Five women reveal their personal histories and how they made commitments to serve God and humanity as Sisters in various Roman Catholic communities. This project was spearheaded by Carol Rittner, of the Religious Sisters of Mercy and Distinguished Professor of Holocaust & Genocide Studies at The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey.
- **July 27** *Holocaust Witness* Margate resident and filmmaker, Fred Singer, presents his film about a the life of a Holocaust survivor, Halina Laster. The film includes historical photographs as well as theatrical film footage. The program starts with a 6-minute short entitled, "The Last Journey," a first-hand account of how Jews were transported to the death camps. Mr. Singer will lead a post-screening discussion.
- Aug 3Making Trouble: Three Generations of Funny Jewish WomenWhat it means to be Jewish,
female and funny as modeled by Fanny Brice, Joan Rivers, Wendy Wasserstein, Gilda Radner
and MORE!
- Aug 10Searching For Sugar Man (Academy Award Winner!)Searching for their musical hero,
two South African fans uncover an astonishing story about an obscure Detroit musician and
reveal the enormous impact his songs made on a young generation of white South Africans.

The Library is hosting a bus trip to the "US Holocaust Memorial Museum" on Tuesday, July 8th. Cost is \$40 per person. Bus departs at 8:00 am and returns at 8:00 pm. Space is limited so sign up now!

For more information about this or other programs, contact the Margate Library at 609-822-4700 or go to <u>www.margatelibrary.org</u>.



Use your smile to change the world but don't let the world change your smile. ~Unknown

Congratulations!

Employee Happenings ...

- Firefighter Mike Sher and wife Bernadette welcomed their third child Colin on May 12, 2014.
- Firefighter John Sher and wife Kayle welcomed their first child McKenzie on June 4, 2014. McKenzie is also grandchild number twenty for the Sher family!



A Safety Message from your Margate City Police Department... As Margate gets more populated as the season begins, drive carefully and be mindful of pedestrians and bicyclists on our roads and in our cross-walks.

ATTENTION CHILDREN!

Meet your Margate City Firemen



July 9th at 6:30 pm Climb onto the Fire Engine, practice your skills and squirt that fire hose! Have fun and enjoy music, food and friends! Margate City Library Parking Lot

Meet your Margate Police Officers



July 16th at 6:30 pm Motorcycles, 4-wheelers, cruisers, k-9's and plenty more to see and try! Fun, food, and music for the whole family! Margate City Parking Lot



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.

Enjoying this newsletter? Please tell your friends and neighbors so we can increase our database and serve more residents. Email <u>Verna_Fred@margate-nj.com</u> to have email addresses added to our newsletter distribution.

If you have any suggestions on how to improve this newsletter or if you have recommendations for a "Notable Margatian", please call 822-0424.

If you have suggestions or input on how we can improve this newsletter, we want to know! Please email Brenda at <u>commissionertaube@margate-nj.com</u>.

ENJOY OUR BEACHES BUT HELP US KEEP THEM CLEAN

Leave nothing behind but your footprints

Ïÿ

Have a safe and enjoyable summer!