

Mayor's Message

September 2021



September! It feels like I just wrote the article for May discussing Memorial Day and the unofficial start of summer and now here I am about to address Labor Day and the unofficial end of summer (which I don't really mind, I like the fall)!



First things first, **Labor Day!** Let's all take the time to recognize the labor movements and appreciate the achievements of workers. Labor Day tributes the height of the Industrial Revolution in the late 1800's and the change and fairness created in the work environments. America has come a long way since then, such as with child labor laws, equal opportunities, fairer wages. These problems weren't totally solved, per se, as such issues are still prevalent today. But with our nation's history and ongoing efforts to solve such problems, when problems are found, their solutions are meant to apply to the smallest employer to large corporations.

Labor Day weekend is typically a celebration time... gather for the long weekend or a BBQ before school starts... so however you celebrate, have fun and please do it safely!



Back to School is Tuesday September 7! (At the time I write this), school will be in session full time! Please be sure to watch out for kids walking or riding bikes to and from school and at bus stops. Observe crosswalk rules and adhere to them. Observe rights of way rules. Remember to always stop for a stopped school bus even if it is on the opposite side of the street!



Kudos to our teachers and the entire school staff who are returning to school to navigate another, potentially, strange year. (Again, at the time I write this) schools must be open all day, every day. This can be a very emotional time for families, and more so than any 'first day jitters.' There's excitement to GO to school, see friends, maybe even for the very first time, and see teachers in 'real life'... but there can also be apprehension and worry in kids and parents alike. The shutdown and isolation affected all of us in different ways this past year, making everyone wonder what school will 'look' like and what new rules will be.



But please know that since the summer of 2020, a "**Restart Team**" of our school administrators, teachers, and town stakeholders devised a thorough plan to make sure the school is safe and

clean, kids are distanced, and protocols will be met, and that it will be a sensitive time for everyone to adjust. Over time, as situations changed, the plan was revised to include hybrid school options and is now further revised to keep the same proper and required protocols to accommodate the "all kids in school" scenario. Magowan School's slogan is "*Together We Can*" and no truer statement can be said about the school system... especially since March 16, 2020!



As we grow up, we learn about history. We learn about things but don't really grasp the impact or importance of events, perhaps because we didn't 'live' it. But you know the severity of some historical events when you ask someone about them and you just see in their eyes the pain of living through it. The "you know where you were" moments during the assassinations of President John F Kennedy, his brother Robert Kennedy, and Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., the bombing of Pearl Harbor... and as of late, the insurrection of the Capitol, and the past 18 months of Covid-19.



As we age, we experience more and more "moments in history" for ourselves. Although we learn and appreciate what the day has to offer, unfortunately there are random and horrible things that happen, too. Times when your day went from contentment to confusion, pain, and terror. And events are just so traumatic you can remember the finest details -



the temperature - like it was a sunny and warm fall day, and where you were going - like to the vet office to get your cat checked, and even your mood that day - like happiness because it's your 23rd birthday and you go about your business and BAM! A seemingly normal day is no more. Because you are at the vet and the doctor comes in crying and while wondering what is wrong with the cat, something worse happened... someone, somehow, for some reason flew into the Twin Towers. THE.

TWIN. TOWERS. On a beautiful fall day that was no more as those skyscrapers fell. FELL. September 11 will be a moment ingrained in my brain... in all our brains for those of us alive on that day. This happened 20 years ago but feels as fresh as yesterday. Please take a moment between 8:46am and 10:28am on **Patriot Day** to think of those who made it to work on time, who decided to take a morning walk for coffee, who were taking a flight home or to visit loved ones or for whatever innocent reason, the first responders and the families and beyond who lost their loved ones. A tragic day in our nation's history, one you would have had to live through and see happen to really feel it, to know it. To believe it.



PATRIOT DAY
9/11
WE WILL NEVER FORGET



Our annual **Town Wide Yard Sale** is Saturday, September 25. Something new this year.... **Weimann Field will be open for residents who might not be able to sell at their own property.** Such as if you live off 'the beaten path' or are maybe the only one on your street selling items. Also, anyone living in the apartment complexes that would like to participate and need a spot to set up. All information will be posted on the website and in an article of this Beverly Bee issue; but there are 2 important things I want to highlight:

- ****PLEASE REGISTER YOUR ADDRESS BY EMAILING ---- SO YOU CAN BE ADDED TO THE LIST & MAP FOR INTERESTED RESIDENTS****
- *****PLEASE EMAIL & REGISTER YOUR ADDRESS IF YOU ARE PLANNING TO SET UP AT WEIMANN FIELD, SO THAT RESIDENTS KNOW WHERE TO GO FOR YOUR ITEMS*****

For the Town Wide Yard Sale, email: ljohnson@edgewaterpark-nj.com to register your location – **no later than September 20, 2021.**



SEPTEMBER IS
CHILDHOOD
CANCER
AWARENESS
MONTH

September is Childhood Cancer Awareness Month. There is nothing sours in life than a child having cancer, but nothing sweeter than your care and support. If you see an Alex's Lemonade Stand, please consider stopping and getting a cup of lemonade.

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