



MAGNOLIA FOREST HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

www.magnoliaforest.net

Newsletter

• MAGNOLIA FOREST IS A RESTRICTIVE COVENANTS COMMUNITY •

MFHA

P.O. Box 1624
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 www.magnoliaforest.net

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 And Neighborhood Watch
 vacant**

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EASTER THOUGHTS

On March 16, Governor Edwards issued a stay at home order that shut down restaurants, bars, and social gatherings throughout our state. Social distancing has meant that gatherings of friends and families been curtailed or cancelled. Many of us are working from home, and with the schools closed our children are learning from home. Still the spirit of Magnolia Forest can be seen in our neighbors being neighbors while following the new rules. Conversations that once took place on front porches or in dining rooms are held across driveways or across the street. Many residents have been spending extra time on their yards and gardens, which may make future Garden of the Month decisions a little more challenging. To help encourage the kids to get out and exercise, homeowners have been placing teddy bears and other stuffed animals in their windows for the “bear hunt” game.

As Easter approaches, families are decorating their windows, driveways, and fences with “stained glass” art. Also, there is a Social Distancing Egg Hunt from now through Easter Sunday. Decorate and hang eggs, plastic or paper, in your front windows or from your trees or make a giant Easter Egg and hang it on your front door. Then take a car ride, walk or bike around the neighborhood to see how many Easter Eggs you can find!

This virus and quarantine have been a huge disruption to our daily lives and to the community of which we are all a part. Technology can help keep us connected but cannot replace the feeling of being in the same room or church with our friends and family. For many this will be especially true at Easter. Easter is a time to celebrate resurrection. A time in Louisiana when life comes bounding back in our gardens and our parks. And on the other side of this quarantine there will be a different type of resurrection. Our lives will return, we will be able to once again to see our loved ones and send our children back to school. We will return to our normal lives and hopefully carry a greater appreciation for those normal social interactions that seem so far away right now.



“Stained Glass Fence” at 909 Morgan Bluff

Due to the coronavirus, the newsletter will only be available online this month.

COVENANTS CORNER:

Are you getting ready to add on to your home, build a new fence, or cut down a tree? Most of these activities will need a permit from the Parish and any property improvement/modification will need prior approval from the Architectural Control Committee (ACC). The ACC is made up of a panel of your neighbors and work with the MFHA to help keep up our neighborhood's property values.

The ACC was established to approve plans and specifications of all construction within the Magnolia Forest Sub-division. Part of this team's duties are to ensure that the planned modifications are in-line with the covenants and meet or exceed the current standards set by the Southern building code. Did you know that different phases of the neighborhood have slightly different covenants? However, all phases do not permit on-street parking and all neighbors should protect the wooded appearance of their lots, cutting only those trees necessary for construction or improvements as well as those trees which die and create a hazard.

If you would like more information about the ACC, get involved with the ACC or help with neighborhood properties and covenants, please contact Pete Giuffria via email or his phone number on the front of this newsletter.

JACOB FATIC'S PATHWAY TO NASA

Jacob Fatic was recently selected to participate in NASA's Pathways Program, an internship with permanent federal employment opportunities. Jacob is currently a sophomore at Mississippi State, majoring in Aerospace Engineering and specializing in Astronautics. He will be working with NASA this summer in Huntsville, AL and hopes to participate in this dynamic career development program for multiple semesters. This program offers hands-on experience in a team environment that will contribute to NASA's mission success as well paid opportunities for Jacob to explore NASA careers while completing his education.

Jacob is the son of Dana Fatic and grandson of Louis (L.J.) and Beryl Deris. All three generations are current residents of Magnolia Forest. Congratulations Jacob!



No Member Appreciation Wine Tasting Event this Year

Plans were being made to have a 2nd Annual Membership Appreciation Winetasting Event, but unfortunately, due to the coronavirus, this event has been cancelled.

Lets hope we can bring back this popular event in 2021!



HOW MAGNOLIA FOREST BEGAN

The Magnolia Forest Garden Club's February meeting hosted a presentation on Magnolia Forest Subdivision's early history. The speaker, Lynda Donaldson, is the daughter-in-law of E.L. Edward (Dude) Donaldson, who purchased acreage along the Pearl River with two of his fishing buddies in the 40's.

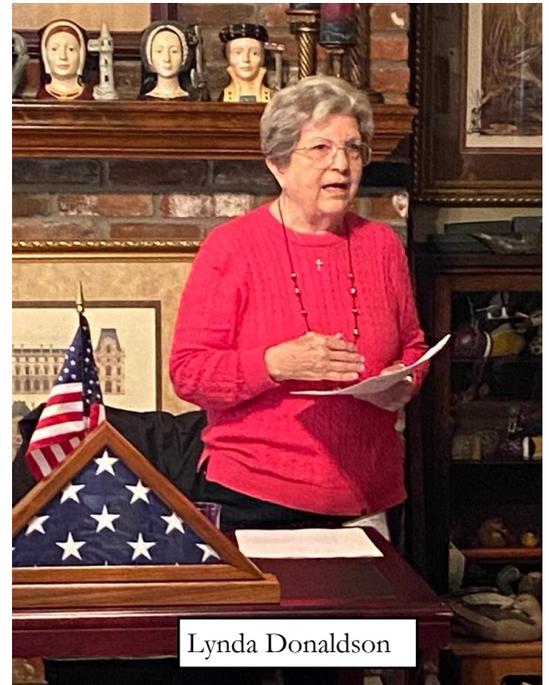
In the beginning, access to the property was either on foot or by boat. Donaldson, along with his friends, Deweese Kostmayer and L.T. Gomilia, enjoyed fishing trips on the Pearl River for breaks from their insurance and loan mortgage business in New Orleans. They enjoyed camping on the bluffs near the Morgans River, so much that they searched out the owner and purchased the land around 1944. Donaldson purchased 30 acres, Kostmayer purchased 40 acres, and Gomilia purchased about 26 acres.

Gomilia sold his land to Frank and Kathelyn Fischer in 1952. Fischer also purchased the land between Morgan's Bluff and Military Rd. Soon after, Fischer planted a magnolia tree and ardisia farm. He sold many magnolia trees to Walt Disney World. Back then, Military Road was just a dirt road, used primarily by troops transporting supplies to and from New Orleans. Since the farm was set back from Military Road, "Magnolia Forest" signs were put up to help direct tree delivery trucks.

In the early 60s, Fischer sold land to John Buttrey, who developed the Magnolia Forest Subdivision. Buttrey started development with Unit 1 along Fischer Drive. He's development also grew along the right side of Morgans Bluff Road, headed away from Military Road, which had grown into a gravel road. Oak Alley was the last artery off Military Road to be added to the neighborhood. Buttrey would eventually build his home off Ashland, the large brick home on the pond at the elbow of Morgans Bluff Road. With the increased traffic, Military Road was paved in the late 60s.

The Donaldson and Kostmayer families built log cabins out of the local pine trees. Although the original Donaldson cabin was torn down to build a larger home, all the other structures are still standing, including the "Boys House" and the barns. Their descendants still live in homes on Log Cabin Road.

Many of the magnolia trees and ardisia, a lovely ground cover with red berries, that beautify our neighborhood are from Frank Fischer's farm. And Fischer's signs to help direct traffic to his farm has given our beautiful neighborhood its name, Magnolia Forest.



Lynda Donaldson



One of the remaining barns

The Association has 142 members

Anderson P & J	Coote B & D	Girod J	Knowles C & L	Nelson R & C	Schutte R & A
Arthur M & N	Courseault P & J	Giuffria P & C	Koen R & J	Onstad F	Sims M
Barbaro J and Kaehrle W	Dawson C & M	Goodson F & M	Konda D & T	Ostericher T	Smith C & L
Barrelle B & J	Deris B & L	Griffith S	Lambert L & K	Pecot J & L	Solar R & S
Benson A & L	DeRouen M	Griswold J	Lambert L & K	Pham P	Standiford J & S
Bentson M & E	Dier J & J	Gunderson S & S	Landry P & L	Piazza K	Stanton B & M
Berdine B	Dorshorst T	Gust L	Leake J & K	Piekarski D	Stubbs, M
Birmingham M & A	Dugas C & C	Hague S & S	LeBlanc R & H	Pousson D & J	Sullivan D & D
Bernard J & L	Dupuy G & A	Harper C & C	Lorusso F	Pousson M & M	Tester L & S
Bonnett G & L	Farley M & S	Harrison J	Loupe C	Prattini C & C	Trascher D & Foy M
Boos M & B	Fickle C	Hasperue P & C	Maehler K & D	Prendergast B & B	Trippe M & M
Bradburn M	Finnin A & M	Hebert A & D	Marquand A & S	Ramirez G & L	Vernon B & K
Brandt R & L	Fisher N	Hedrick B	Martin B & K	Rao P & C	Vogt F
Braun J & L	Fisher W & K	Herman M	Mayeux L	Riedie LJ & D	Voiselle R
Brooks J	Foster B	Hodge C	McDowell K & D	Rispoli T & B	Wallace B & R
Burgueno E & B	Foster B	Holley T & A	McGee L & S	Robinson S	White R & Hicks K
Cahill G & J	Fouert J	Houser M	McInerney J & O	Rose J & B	Wilbourn J & C
Cain M & J	Frichter G & G	Howell M & P	Melancon F	Round C & J	Wilcox R & B
Campbell J & C	Frischhertz R & G	Johnson E & L	Meltz B	Rullman E	Williams W & S
Cannon M & L	Gallacher P & D	Johnston W & F	Mesman D & A	Rushon W & D	Wingrave D & D
Carrigan G & C	Garner J & S	Kelly M & R	Morgan C & S	Ryan P & D	Winkler A & D
Champagne L & W	Gerace J & J	Kemp B & J	Morton F & G	Ryan T & M	Wood J & L
Clatterbuck N & K	Gernon E	Kemp J	Nash A & G	Saladino M & G	
Cooney M & T	Gille J & J	Key L & L	Necaise G & M	Sanders G	

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Mon-Fri; 8:00am - 6:30pm

Sat: 8:00am - 2:30pm

Sun: Closed

MAGNOLIA FOREST HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

2020 Family Membership \$50 \$ _____

Beautification Donation \$ _____

Donation for Extra Sheriff patrols \$ _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Make check payable to MFHA

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Pearl River, LA 70452

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Street Address _____

Email address – For Neighborhood Watch

Do you want email address included in 2020 directory?

Yes _____ **No** _____

Phone number to be included in 2020 directory