



MAYOR'S MESSAGE

SEPTEMBER 17, 2026

I want to start off by thanking everyone who attended our Patriot Day ceremony on September 11th. Once again, we had an outstanding turnout. As we gathered and reflected that day on the events that took place 25 years ago, we were reminded not only of the tremendous losses suffered, and the acts of courage and heroism; but of the manner in which we united as people – in the United States and across the world. We will certainly never forget, and we must always strive to act together to uphold the ideals of our country – liberty, equality, justice, and self-governance.

Tomorrow, another important event will be held honoring courage and sacrifice. Friday, September 18 is National POW/MIA Recognition Day, and the VFW Post 1963 Auxiliary is hosting the POW/MIA Recognition ceremony at 6:00 p.m. on the lawn of the VFW at 301 JFK Boulevard. POW/MIA Recognition Day is held to make sure that we remember to stand behind those who serve and to make sure we do everything we can to account for those who have never returned.

This Saturday, September 19, is Fall Family Festival, and we're looking forward to another great event. The festival runs from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., and as usual we'll have our vendor's craft market along the Promenade and the food court on JFK, along with a number of other attractions including inflatables for the kids, face painting, a photo booth, balloon art, and live music. On Sunday, we'll have our Antique Auto Show and parade from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The Auto Show awards will take place at 1:00 p.m. on the Promenade, and the parade will start at 1:30. The parade runs south along Pleasure Avenue from 44th Street to 93rd Street, then runs north on Landis Avenue from 93rd Street to JFK Boulevard – and ends at JFK Blvd.

As part of the city's ongoing efforts to ensure accessibility at all of our facilities, we recently met with one of our residents, Steve Matyszcak, to review options for handicapped access at our marina. Steve presented us with an idea for designation of a handicapped accessible slip at the marina, which we are going to implement. The work will involve installation of an appropriate ramp from the marina walkway down to the dock slips, along with installation of a hoist on the designated slip. We take pride in making our city facilities as accessible as possible, and appreciate Mr. Matyszcak's collaboration with us in putting together this plan. Our objective is to have the work completed in advance of the next summer season.

The Sea Isle City Fire Department's 135th anniversary is this year, and the department will hold a celebration of this occasion, along with a housing ceremony for two new fire trucks, on September 26. The housing ceremony is a long-standing tradition in the fire service that signifies that a new fire truck is ready for duty and officially "housed" in the station. The event will take place at 1:00 p.m. at fire headquarters on JFK Boulevard, right next to City Hall, and the public is invited and encouraged to attend. I want to congratulate all the members of the fire department, past and present, for their long and dedicated service to our community. We are truly grateful for what you do for Sea Isle.

This week's shout out goes to Kellyann Iannone, who is the daughter of Rose Milano and Joe Iannone. Kellyann is attending the Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine in St. Kitts, and on September 14th, she received her "White Coat," awarded at The Ross Med White Coat Ceremony, which is a special event that welcomes incoming medical students into the study of medicine and emphasizes the importance of compassionate care, scientific aptitude and ethical behavior. Congratulations to Kellyann Iannone - Doctor of Veterinary Medicine class of 2030.

Smile...You're in Sea Isle!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Len". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "L" and a stylized "en" following it.

Mayor Leonard C. Desiderio
