MAYOR'S MESSAGE *September 4, 2025*

Even though most of us are sad to see the summer end, it is very clear that the past few months have truly been outstanding here in Sea Isle City, with no shortage of happy people and plenty of beautiful weather along the way. In addition to the many days that were ideal for beachgoing, our summer activities were also crowd pleasers – including the numerous camps and programs that were offered at Dealy Field, the special events that were hosted by the Sea Isle City Beach Patrol, and of course, the endless stream of happenings that took place at Excursion Park, including Sea Isle's "2025 Concerts Under the Stars," which concluded on Saturday of Labor Day Weekend with a Taylor Swift tribute concert that was very well attended.

Also during the long holiday weekend, the Philadelphia Eagles organization brought their "World Champions" bus to Excursion Park, where they displayed the Lombardi Trophy and threw giveaways to the very large crowd that welcomed Brandon Graham, the Eagles Cheerleaders and "Swoop" to town. I want to thank the Eagles for including Sea Isle City in their one-day tour of Cape May County – and, like many of you, I look forward to cheering the Eagles onto victory once again during the 2025-2026 NFL Season!

Another summer event worth mentioning is our 2025 Beach Tag Art Contest for children, which resulted in nearly 200 creative entries being submitted to the Beach Tag Office. As you can imagine, there were some amazing designs entered in this year's competition – and the judging process will not be an easy one. Nonetheless, we plan to announce the names of the winners in the near future, and soon after we will start printing our 2026 Beach Tags with the winning designs. In the meantime, I want to thank the youngsters who took the time to draw the many wonderful images that we received – and I hope that each one of them has a wonderful school year ahead!

I hope you will join us on September 11 at Excursion Park, where we will honor and remember the many victims of the 9-11 terrorist attacks during Sea Isle's annual Patriot Day Ceremony – and, speaking of patriotic events, please also mark your calendar for VFW Post 1963's annual POW-MIA Recognition Ceremony on September 19, when we will gather in honor of our military heroes who served as prisoners of war and the many members of our armed forces who are still missing in action.

As we all know, our largest event of the autumn season is Fall Family Festival, which takes place on Saturday and Sunday, September 13 and 14. Hosted by the city's Division of Tourism, this year's festival will once again feature a huge vendors market, a food court and free family entertainment on Saturday, and our Antique Auto Show and Parade on Sunday. Also, at 12 noon on Sunday of Fall Family Festival, the members of Sea Isle City's Environmental Commission will host a brief ceremony on the Promenade at JFK, where they will distribute 2025 Beautification Awards to eight local property owners who have continually maintained the beauty of – or have recently made notable improvements to – their homes.

Since there is no better place to welcome the arrival of fall than Sea Isle City, I hope you will celebrate this beautiful season by enjoying the many autumn events and activities we have planned for you! Whether you feel that autumn began on September 1 with the "Meteorological" start of fall, or if you are anxiously awaiting the Autumnal Equinox on September 22 and the "Astronomical" start of autumn, you will want to spend as much of your time as possible in Sea Isle – because we really are a "City for all Seasons."

Thank you for spending the summer with us!

Smile…You're in Sea Isle!

Mayor Leonard C. Desiderio

###