MAYOR'S MESSAGE *April 22, 2021*

Sea Isle City was bustling with activity last weekend, thanks to several events that brought many people to town. The fun began on Friday, with the start of the Chamber of Commerce's "Girls Weekend," which offered ladies a variety of discounts and special offers at businesses throughout our community. Then, on Saturday, the Environmental Commission's Spring Beach Clean-up resulted in more than 150 volunteers removing hundreds of pounds of trash and debris from Sea Isle's beaches, dunes and public parks. Also on Saturday, over 200 surfers competed in the annual ESA Surfing Tournament on the 40th Street beach – and many of them walked home with prizes after displaying their impressive surfing talents.

My thanks go to all of the event organizers who made last weekend's activities a success, including the restaurants, retailers and other businesses that participated in Girls Weekend; the members of Sea Isle City's Environmental Commission and the employees from the City's Community Services Department, who worked together to ensure that the Beach Clean-Up ran smoothly; and the members of the Eastern Surfing Association, who are always welcome in Sea Isle City. Thank you all!

Looking ahead, there are other events on our immediate horizon that are certainly worth mentioning, including an Arbor Day Celebration on April 30, which will be hosted by volunteers from Sea Isle City's Environmental Commission, Garden Club and Historical Society; a Prescription Drug Take-Back Event at City Hall on April 24, hosted by the Sea Isle City Police Department; and a Selfie Scavenger Hunt fundraiser on May 1, which will be run by Girl Scout Troop 41012. To learn more about these and other events taking place in Sea Isle City, please go to our visitors website, www.VISITSICNJ.com, and click the "calendar" link on the home page.

In addition to the events I just mentioned, there are two other happenings that I am very much looking forward to. The first will take place on Saturday, April 24, when we release a detailed video that outlines our current concept plans for Sea Isle's future Community Center on Park Road. Obviously, we would prefer to host a large, in-person public meeting to show everyone our latest blueprints and designs; however, due to the pandemic, it was much safer to create a video that we will share with the public on Saturday morning through our E-News mailing system and on our municipal website, www.seaislecitynj.us. Another benefit of creating a pre-recorded video is that people can watch the presentation at their leisure – and even view it more than once, if they wish. Afterwards, residents and property owners can email us comments and questions, which we will compile and share with the public on our website. So, please be on the look-out for our video presentation on Saturday, and take a few moments to examine the current plans for our future Community Center.

Another event that I am very much looking forward to will take place at 12 noon on Saturday, May 1, at Dealy Field, where we will officially open Sea Isle City's new Fishing Pier and Kayak Launch and dedicate it to the memory of Commissioner James Iannone. For those who did not personally know Jim, he spent many years tirelessly serving the people of Sea Isle City with integrity and distinction – and that's why we are naming the new pier in his honor. I hope you can be with us as we join together to remember Commissioner Iannone and open Sea Isle's newest recreation facility, which will offer people a beautiful location to fish, launch kayaks and stand-up paddle boards, and enjoy unobstructed views of our bay and wetlands.

Smile…You're in Sea Isle!

Len

Mayor Leonard C. Desiderio