MAYOR'S MESSAGE *October 7, 2021*

The City's Administration recently reviewed its policies regarding privately-sponsored events held on public property, and it was decided that some changes were needed. Due to the burden large events have on City resources and our municipal work force, we will no longer be closing streets or parking lots to accommodate privately-run events – unless they are specifically sanctioned by the City. That being said, many of the familiar events that you have enjoyed in the past will continue to take place in the future on City facilities, including Sea Isle's Skimmer and Fall Family Festivals, 10-Mile Island Run, Saturday Night Concerts, Open Mic Night for teens, Movie Nights, Famers Market, and other approved events. Moving forward, privately-run events that are not-for-profit, raise funds for charity, do not involve alcohol, and least impact City facilities and services will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

A great deal of thought and consideration was given to our new event policy, and we feel it will allow many events to continue and offer our residents and visitors a wide variety of ways to enjoy themselves – all the while spotlighting Sea Isle City as an enjoyable, family-friendly destination.

Case in point, Sea Isle's annual Halloween Parade will take place as usual at 7:00 PM on Friday evening, October 22 – and we are all very happy to see the parade return following its COVID-related cancellation in 2020. In fact, all of our Halloween attractions will return this year, including Trunk-or-Treat on Halloween night, which will allow people who live in neighborhoods that don't attract many trick-or-treaters the opportunity to give-out Halloween candy to children. For more information about these and the other "frightfully fun" events taking place this month, check-out the "Halloween Happenings" section of this E-Newsletter – and have a wonderful October!

No matter what time of year it is, flood insurance is always an important topic – even though it's not a very exciting one. As you may have read in the newspapers, the National Flood Insurance Program's new "Risk Rating 2.0" flood insurance rating procedures will be on-line very soon. The procedures will include a new methodology that will deliver rates that are actuarially sound, easier to understand, and better reflective of a property's flood risk.

I strongly encourage all homeowners to speak with their insurance providers about having the proper flood insurance coverage for their buildings and contents. This is something that should be done on a yearly basis so you can take into account any changes to your personal circumstances. FEMA is obviously taking steps to more effectively assess flood risks that homeowners face – and I can't emphasize enough how important it is to continually update your flood insurance coverage.

Speaking of which, please remember that we have a great deal of useful information related to flooding issues that can be found via the "Flood Information" link on our municipal website, www.seaislecitynj.us, where you can locate elevation certificates, FEMA brochures, links to the FEMA / NFIP website (Flood Smart), and current FIRM maps of Sea Isle City. Further information can be obtained from Sea Isle City's Construction Official / Flood Plain Manager Neil Byrne, who can be reached by phone at 609-263-1166 or at his office on the second floor of City Hall.

This week's "Shout-Out" once again goes to the members of VFW Post 1963 and all of the veterans who call Sea Isle City "home." As we have said many times in the past, we don't just honor our veterans on Veterans Day, here in Sea Isle City we appreciate them every day of the year. So, the next time you see a veteran, please take a moment to say "hello" and "thank you for your service" – and always remember that liberty comes with a price tag, and our veterans are the ones who have paid that cost for all of us!

Smile…You're in Sea Isle,

Len

Mayor Leonard C. Desiderio