



E-NEWSLETTER

March 3, 2016

From The City of Sea Isle City, New Jersey

MAYOR'S MESSAGE:

March has arrived, which means springtime will soon be upon us. I'm sure we can all agree that spring's arrival will be greatly welcomed, especially following the challenging weather we have experienced in recent months. Without a doubt, we must be due for some exceptionally pleasant weather conditions this spring and summer – so, plan on being in Sea Isle City as much as possible as the year unfolds.

If you're looking for ways to enjoy the month ahead, don't miss Sea Isle's annual Saint Patrick's Day Parade on March 12. The parade will take place along Landis Avenue, from 83rd to 63rd Street, and will once again feature many festive participants. Spectators will enjoy The Cape Atlantic Police & Fire Irish Pipe Brigade, the Ancient Order of Hibernians, local businesses and civic groups, Sea Isle's 2016 Irish Royal Family, and Deacon Joe Murphy and his wife, Linda, from Saint Joseph Church, who will serve as this year's Grand Marshalls.

If you were in town during Polar Bear Weekend, you may have done some shopping at the Acme's temporary market under a large tent on 63rd Street, which provided a wonderful convenience for many residents and visitors that weekend. Representatives from Acme have informed us that they will erect a similar market tent during the weekend of Sea Isle's Saint Patrick's Day Parade, which is also wonderful news! The Acme tent will be open from Thursday, March 10, through Sunday, March 13, during which time you can save yourself a trip to the mainland when you need to purchase staple items.

Two weeks ago, in my last newsletter message, I mentioned that Great Lakes Dredge and Dock Company was expected to commence beach fill operations in Sea Isle City within a week. Unfortunately, due to bad weather and other contributing factors, Great Lakes has not yet been able to complete their current project in Strathmere, and, in turn, they have not yet been able to begin work in Sea Isle. Nonetheless, work is progressing in Strathmere, and Great Lakes will soon begin pumping sand onto Sea Isle's beaches. As you may be aware, the City's Administration has been working closely with our State and Federal partners to replace the sand that was lost on our beaches in recent months. As a result, the Army Corps of Engineers (the overseers of all beach fill efforts) has agreed to re-build our shoreline to a design that exceeds last summer's beach replenishment project. Ultimately, we will receive an additional 750,000 cubic yards of sand on the beaches that front our Promenade. To stay informed about this important infrastructure project, please read the Project Updates section in this newsletter and also periodically check the "Beach Fill" tab on the home page of Sea Isle's municipal website, www.seaislecitynj.us.

In other news, Sea Isle City was recently highlighted in FEMA's National Flood Insurance Program Community Rating System's January/February Update. Three full pages of that newsletter focus solely on Sea Isle City, including our successes in the CRS program, the steps we took to achieve a 25% discount on flood insurance

premiums for qualifying properties, and how we are continuing to improve Sea Isle's flood prevention standards.

Don't forget to "Spring Forward" and adjust your clocks on March 13!

Smile...You're in Sea Isle!

Mayor Leonard C. Desiderio

CITY COUNCIL'S MESSAGE:

During the February 23 City Council meeting, Council introduced Sea Isle's proposed 2016 Municipal Budget (as presented by the Mayor), which reflects an increase of 7%. The principal items for the increase include Debt Services, Health Care Costs and Pension Costs. Public hearing and second reading on the 2016 Budget will take place during the March 29 City Council meeting.

Also on February 23, Council introduced and had first reading on two ordinances that are both related to bond issues. The first was Ordinance 1588, which provides for Capital Improvements. The second was Ordinance 1589, which provides for various improvements to the City's Water/Sewer utility. Public hearing and second reading for these ordinances will take place on March 15. The items in the aforementioned Bond Ordinances were previously approved as part of Sea Isle City's current 5-Year Capital Plan.

During our next City Council meeting on Tuesday, March 15, Council will discuss a future ordinance that would address additional parking requirements for new construction homes in residential zones (as previously recommended by The Planning Board) and the continued consideration of the recently adopted Floor Area Ratio (FAR).

Best regards from the members of City Council,

Council President Jack Gibson (jjgibson@seaislecitynj.us)

John Divney (jdivney@seaislecitynj.us)

Frank Edwardi (fedwardijr@seaislecitynj.us)

Bill Kehner (wkehner@seaislecitynj.us)

Mary Tighe (mtighe@seaislecitynj.us)

PROJECT UPDATES:

Beach Replenishment:

Initial replenishment of all beaches in Sea Isle has been completed, with approximately two million cubic yards of sand placed along Sea Isle's shoreline. Additional refilling of beaches eroded by recent storms has been authorized by the federal government. Recent rough ocean conditions coupled with mechanical problems have slowed the project down, however, the dredge is currently back on-line pumping sand onto Strathmere's beaches, with refilling of Sea Isle expected to begin this weekend in the area of 25th Street. From 25th Street to 57th Street, Sea Isle's beaches will be substantially widened, with beachfill expected to be completed by early April. In addition, dune fence and beach crossovers damaged by storms will also be repaired.

Utility Reconstruction, 36th & 37th Streets (fall 2015 construction):

On March 26, 2015 the council awarded a bid to Garden State General Construction in the amount of \$431,353.40 for the utility reconstruction of 36th Street & 37th Street from Cini Street to Landis Avenue. As of this date work on 37th Street, Central to Landis Avenue has been completed and the excavated area has been

patched. They have switched over to Central to Cini Avenue; the dewatering system is set up and installation of the sewer has begun. Please be aware of detours in this area.

Utility Reconstruction, various streets:

On October 27, 2015 the council awarded a bid to RTW Construction of Southamptton, New Jersey in the amount of \$744,713 for utility reconstruction at the following locations:

47th Street from Landis Avenue to Promenade
49th Street from Landis Avenue to Promenade
65th Street from Landis Avenue to Central Avenue
65th Street from Landis Avenue to Pleasure Avenue
69th Street from Landis Avenue to Central Avenue
76th Street from Landis Avenue to Pleasure Avenue

Initial work to install new sanitary main and new water main on 47th is completed.

Initial work to install new water main & sanitary main on 49th is completed.

Sanitary main with new laterals completed on 65th from Pleasure Ave to Landis Ave.

Initial work to install new water main on 69th is completed.

Once the new water mains pass various testing, work will begin to reconstruct water services and sewer laterals to the individual homes on these streets.

Water testing of new mains is in progress.

Bulkhead Construction, 80th Street and 93rd Street:

On August 25, 2015 City Council awarded a contract to Colonnelli Brothers, Inc. of Hackensack, New Jersey in the amount of \$199,880 for the construction of bulkheads at the above locations.

This project is currently on hold due to availability of materials.

Sea Isle Boulevard (no change from last update):

The Cape May County Board of Chosen Freeholders, at their May 13, 2014 meeting, awarded a \$12.7 million contract to South State, Inc. for the Sea Isle Boulevard Improvement project that will raise the roadway by approximately 4.5 feet and otherwise reconstruct Sea Isle Boulevard.

Traffic has been diverted to the south side of the boulevard; and the contractor has placed fill on the north side of the causeway to an average height of about 6.5 feet, which is 2 feet higher than the eventual height of the completed roadway. The additional 2 feet, which will be removed prior to the next construction phase, is surcharge to compress the underlying layers of soil. The goal is to obtain as much settlement as possible prior to paving on top of the new fill. Now that this initial phase of fill placement is completed, the project will be dormant except for some maintenance activities such as cleaning accumulating sand in the diversionary roadway, and taking measurements to determine the amount of settlement that is occurring.

Motorists are advised to be aware of the revised traffic patterns in the construction zone and the reduced speed limit. There are no activities planned for Sea Isle Boulevard until next spring with the exception of the County Road Department mowing the south side.

Streetscape Improvement on Landis Avenue:

On September 8, 2015 council awarded a bid to Think Pavers Hardscaping of Swedesboro, NJ in the amount of \$796,648.33 for streetscape improvements on Landis Avenue from 43rd Street to 39th Street. This project will include various aspects of beautification which includes new sidewalks, paver crosswalks, traffic striping, lighting, sod, stone mulching, various tree plantings & tree grates, benches and bike racks. The block from JFK to 40th was previously completed as part of the JFK Gateway Project.

Work to install new lighting, new concrete sidewalks, pavers, and tree grates on the east side of Landis Avenue between 39th and 40th Streets is complete. Sidewalk improvements at the corners of 39th & Landis are completed. Sidewalk improvements and new lighting on the west side of Landis Ave between 39th and 40th are

substantially completed. Contractor will now begin construction of new crosswalks at 39th and Landis, which will involve a detour to traffic for approximately 10 days.

Townsend Inlet Bridge:

The TI Bridge was opened to traffic prior to Polar Bear Plunge Weekend, and remains open.

TEMPORARY DETOUR AT 39th & LANDIS:

The intersection of 39th Street and Landis Avenue is temporarily closed to through-traffic while four new crosswalks are constructed (on both sides of Landis Avenue & 39th Street). The intersection closure and traffic control plan has been coordinated with the Sea Isle City Police Department, and local school bus services have been notified. The road closure began at 7:00 a.m. on March 3 and will extend until March 15. Please be aware of the warning and detour signs that are currently in place in that area. Local businesses are open in the construction zone. Thank you for your cooperation.

MASTER PLAN RE-EXAMINATION:

As stated in the last E-Newsletter, Sea Isle City's Planning Board will hold a special meeting on Monday, March 21, at 7:00 p.m. in City Hall to continue the process of formulating the Master Plan. During the March 21 meeting, the Planning Board will work on specific recommendations for the parking, bicycle traffic and traffic circulation categories. In addition to the aforementioned categories, the board will also begin discussing the Recreation category, which will include a discussion on the future use of the former school facility on Park Road. A more specific agenda for the March 21 Planning Board meeting will be included in the March 17 E-Newsletter.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

SAINT PATRICK'S DAY PARADE & CELEBRATION: Saturday, March 12, 3:30 p.m. The Parade runs along Landis Avenue from 83rd to 63rd Street. Irish Celebration immediately after the parade at KIX on 63rd Street (<http://www.kixmcnutleys.com> or 609-263-6341).

OCEAN DRIVE MARATHON / 5K RUN / 1.5 MILE FUN RUN: Sunday, March 20, 10:00 a.m., JFK & The Promenade. The Marathon and 10-Mile run begin at 9:00 a.m. in Cape May; the 5K and Fun Run take place in Sea Isle City at 10:00 a.m. (609-523-0880 or www.odmarathon.org).

EASTER PROGRAM: Wednesday, March 23, 4:30 p.m., Dealy Field. Rain Date: March 24. Hosted by Sea Isle City's Division of Recreation (263-0050 or www.VisitSICNJ.com).

GIRLS WEEKEND: April 22-24. This event is hosted by Sea Isle City Chamber of Commerce and Revitalization and features special offers at businesses throughout Sea Isle City.

ARTS & CRAFTS SHOW: April 23-24, Municipal Gymnasium, 4501 Park Road. Hosted by the Sea Isle Volunteer Ambulance Corps (609-780-4400 or <http://seaislecitynj.us/ambulance-corps.aspx>).

DOG LICENSES DUE – RABIES CLINIC PLANNED:

Dog Licenses are now due for all dogs living in Sea Isle City. Dog Licenses cost \$5.20 each for dogs that are spayed/neutered and \$8.20 each for all other dogs. Dog Licenses can be purchased at the City Clerk's Office, located on the second floor of City Hall, 233 JFK Boulevard, Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The City Clerk's Office will host a Free Rabies Vaccination Clinic for dogs and cats on Saturday, March 5, 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m., inside the former Sea Isle City Public School Building at 4501 Park Road. Sea Isle City Dog Licenses will be on sale at the Rabies Clinic as well.

For more info about Dog Licenses or the Rabies Clinic on March 5, please phone 263-4461, extension 1216.

CLOTHING DRIVE WILL BENEFIT O.C.H.S. BAND & DRAMA BOOSTERS:

Ocean City High School Band & Drama Guild is hosting a Clothing Drive Fundraiser on March 12 that will benefit their scholarship fund. Working in harmony with The Boys and Girls Club of America, the O.C.H.C. Band & Drama Boosters will collect clothing (and a wide variety of other items, ranging from house ware items to jewelry) at Ocean City High School (6th Street entrance) on March 12, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. If you can't be in Ocean City on March 12, you can drop-off items in Sea Isle City ahead of time (please email Colleen at groovygirlz4209@gmail.com to arrange a local drop-off). For more info, visit the O.C.H.S. Drama Guild Facebook page. Please support our creative Sea Isle City students who participate in the O.C.H.S. Band and Drama curriculum!

SPRING AHEAD:

Daylight Saving Time in the United States begins at 2:00 a.m. on Sunday, March 13, 2016. –Please remember to “Spring Ahead” and adjust your clocks accordingly.

FAMILY BINGO NIGHT:

Sea Isle City's Division of Recreation will host Family Bingo Night on Friday, March 18, 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. in the municipal gymnasium, 4501 Park Road. Admission fee is one Large Candy Bar per person.

AARP TRIP TO LANCASTER:

On Tuesday & Wednesday, May 24 & 25, AARP Chapter 710 will host a bus trip to Lancaster, PA. The overnight trip will feature stops at Kettle Kitchen Village, tickets to “Crooners” at The American Music Theater, dinner at Miller's Smorgasbord, a Sight-and-Sound showing of “Samson,” a family-style meal at Plain and Fancy, a visit to an Amish house and overnight accommodations and breakfast at The Hotel Lancaster. Tickets cost \$262 per person (double) and \$306 per person (single). For more information, contact Joy Sumski at 609-624-2080.

EXERCISE CLASSES & REC PROGRAMS:

AEROBICS:

Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 9:00 a.m., Welcome Center Community Lodge, \$5 per class or \$40 for ten classes (263-0050).

SIT-AND-BE-FIT FOR SENIORS:

Wednesdays and Fridays at 2:15 p.m., Welcome Center Community Lodge. No fee required; please bring photo i.d. (263-0050).

YOGA:

Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. and Fridays at 7:30 a.m., Welcome Center Community Lodge. Fee: \$10 per class (www.njbeachyoga.com or 602-3398).

The City's Division of Recreation offers a variety of programs each month – ranging from children's art and cooking classes to Walk-Away-the-Pounds, Basketball and Volleyball nights, and Open Gym sessions in the gymnasium of the former public school building on Park Road. Open Gym hours have been extended into the evening on weeknights. Please phone the Recreation Office at 263-0050 for more information about Open Gym and all other recreation activities.

ORGANIZATIONS & MEETING SCHEDULES:

A.A.R.P. CHAPTER 710: Second Thursday of the month, 1:00 p.m., Community Lodge (263-1453)

BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE: Third Thursday of the month (September to November and March to May), 2:00 p.m., Welcome Center Meeting Room (263-7758 or 263-3914)

BOY SCOUT TROOP 76: Fridays, 5:30 p.m., former Public School Gymnasium, 4501 Park Road (263-5370).

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & REVITALIZATION: First Tuesday of the Month, 9:00 a.m., City Council Chambers, City Hall (263-9090).

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION: Second Wednesday of the month (March to November), 7:00 p.m., Public Works Building, 3905 Central Avenue (263-2081)

GARDEN CLUB: First Thursday of the month (March to June and September to December), 7:00 p.m., Community Lodge (263-3331).

PLANNING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENTS: Second Monday of the month (except holidays), 7:00 p.m., City Hall (263-1166)

S.I.C. HISTORICAL SOCIETY & MUSEUM: Meetings are held inside the Sea Isle City Historical Museum, 4800 Landis Avenue (www.seaislemuseum.com or 263-2992).

SEA ISLE CATS INC.: Visit the Crooked Tail Thrift Shop, 4208 Landis Avenue, for meeting times and dates (609-972-5887)

S.I.C.T.A.: Second Saturday of the month, 10:00 a.m., Community Lodge (263-6817).

S.I.C. SCHOOL BOARD: School Board Meetings take place on various dates at 7:00 p.m. in the former Public School Building, 4501 Park Road. The next School Board Meeting will be held on Monday, February 8, 6:30 p.m. at Ocean City High School, 501 Atlantic Avenue, Ocean City, NJ (263-6142).

T.I. GARDEN CLUB: (263-3002)

WOMEN'S CIVIC CLUB: Every Tuesday, 11:30 a.m., Community Lodge (263-8149).

ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENTS: First Monday of the month (except holidays), 7:00 p.m., City Hall (263-1166).

PLEASE DON'T DRIVE THROUGH FLOOD WATER

During the recent nor'easters that hit our community, city officials received numerous complaints regarding vehicles driving through flood waters at a high rate of speed, which caused severe wakes, damaged fencing and other property, and pushed water into homes and businesses. The City broadcasted a reverse 911 message, sent e-alerts and posted messages on social media prior to each storm asking motorists not to drive through flood waters for this very reason. Living and working on an island comes with certain responsibilities, and being respectful and courteous of others during storm-related events is certainly one of them. Accordingly, the Police Department and the Office of Emergency Management ask that everyone please be mindful of the adverse effects you can have when driving a vehicle through floodwaters and refrain from doing so.

TRASH & RECYCLING INFO:

Curbside trash and recycling collections currently take place once each week on the following streets:

1st to 44th Street = Wednesdays

45th to 70th Street = Mondays

71st to 94th Street = Tuesdays

Don't Forget: The City will not collect carpeting or other construction materials, propane tanks, tires or batteries. Sea Isle City is a Single Stream Recycling Community, which means residents can combine all of their recyclable materials (paper, cans, glass and plastics) in one curbside collection bin. Recycling is not just a good idea...it's the law in Sea Isle City.

Sea Isle City's Trash and Recycling Depot, located next to the Bridge on JFK Boulevard, is open seven days a week (7:15 a.m. - 2:45 p.m.). The Depot will be closed on holidays (except New Year's Day, Presidents Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day and Labor Day). The Depot will accept drop-offs of trash and recycling, however Bulk Trash is not accepted at that location. **Free Refrigerator Magnets** with a complete list of Sea Isle City's year-round trash and recycling information are now available at the Public Works Building, 3905 Central Avenue, and at the Welcome Center, 300 JFK Boulevard. For additional information about Sea Isle's trash and recycling regulations, please phone 263-6000, ext.14.

DO YOU HAVE A QUESTION?

If you have questions or concerns, there is no need to wait for an upcoming City Council meeting to express your thoughts. You can contact the head of any City Department to obtain the answers you need. For a complete list of contact information, visit our Municipal Website, www.seaislecitynj.us, or phone City Hall at 263-4461.