### FALL // 2022 // ISSUE NO. 8

# **ABSECON NEWS**







**Smart Energy Network Construction Is Now Underway** 

We are building a Smart Energy Network across South Jersey to better serve our customers and to help meet their evolving energy needs. Atlantic City Electric's Smart Energy Network will upgrade all existing traditional electric meters with smart meters that can securely communicate with our central operations facility, providing more detailed information about your energy service. We are also upgrading the local energy grid to create smart energy infrastructure that can automatically respond and alert us to potential issues. Together, these upgrades will enhance reliability of energy service for our customers, improve the overall customer experience, and support new tools and programs that customers can use to help save money and energy. Smart meters are a proven technology in use across the country and across the Exelon family of companies - more than 10 million have been installed by our sister companies. We will use our collective resources available to ensure our customers realize the full benefits of this initiative.

When fully installed and operational, our Smart Energy Network provides a number of benefits, including: • Enhanced reliability with faster and more efficient power restoration • Improved bill management tools and new online features • Better customer experience through upgraded technology improving energy usage reading and billing operations, and nearly eliminating the need for estimated billing. • Better integration of new clean energy technologies, including solar, battery storage, and transportation.



Absecon comes together for our fall Movie in the Park event!

### **Absecon is THANKFUL this Holiday Season!**

#### MAYOR KIMBERLY HORTON

As we move into this holiday season, I am reminded of those who keep our community moving forward. Please join me in offering thanks and appreciation for the amazing people that make Absecon great! Public safety professionals, I recognize your efforts. Our police officers, firefighters, EMT's, and Emergency Management Team are out and about in our community building relationships and fostering healthy connections with our residents, working diligently to keep up on the latest information and training to meet the needs of our community. Proven professionals, ready to serve our residents.

The City Hall employees who assist the public, disseminate information and make sure documents get to the appropriate location in a timely manner, they too are required to train on the latest changes in the laws. Our Public Works Department, Recycling Coordinator and our Code Enforcement Officers who are also out and about getting the work done, I congratulate your efforts in a sometimes-thankless job. I thank you and recognize that "It isn't easy" upholding the laws and getting those tasks done. Absecon is better because of your efforts.

Community Affairs. Our Community Affairs Committee is responsible for the Movies in the park, Community clean-ups, games, book swap, and many other events, including Creekfest. We are pleased that these events have been warmly received by our residents. The committees bring ideas and suggestions to fruition after numerous discussions with City professionals making sure that it's a good fit for our community.

Planning and Zoning Board Members and sports organization coaches are also Community volunteers. I'm reminded of a quote from Winston Churchill "We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give." Volunteers are a blessing to our community.

Finally, I want to acknowledge a resident who has passed in our community. Ed Vincent was a former councilman, Absecon Volunteer Fire Department Chief and member, Fire Official, 9/11 committee member and general contractor of the construction of the monument, father, and husband to Mary. Ed was an extraordinary individual who loved Absecon.

Construction of our Smart Energy Network is underway. Customers will begin to receive new smart meters in Spring 2022, and all will be completed by Fall 2024. We will work closely with our customers and communities regarding all aspects of construction and keep them informed about our efforts, including the opportunity for customers to decide if they prefer to not receive the upgrade to their meter. The Smart Energy Network is a critical step in advancing a clean energy future for South Jersey.



**Smart meters** closely resemble traditional meters but provide a host of new benefits for customers.

Thank you to all our committees, Parks and Recreation, Streets and Roads, Finance, Economic Development, Public Safety, and

May the holiday season fill your home with joy, your heart with love, and our lives with laughter!

Sincerely,

Mayor Kim Horton

FALL CURBSIDE LEAF PICKUP - Leaves Only No Brush November 7<sup>th</sup> – December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022

### Stay current on Absecon City News & Events, please visit: WWW.ABSECONNJ.GOV



### **ABSECON'S NEXT SHRED DAY**

APRIL 22, 2023 9AM – 12PM



## ABSECON NEWS

### **ABSECON POLICE DEPT.**

## **Community Events & Tips**

# DEPARTON OF THE

### POLICE CHIEF JAMES LAUGHLIN

The holidays are fast approaching and our busiest and most wonderful time of the year is upon us. Please remember to be aware of your surroundings and be mindful of those who seek opportunities to take advantage of others. While shopping, be sure to park in well-lit locations and in the company of others when possible. Remember to lock your vehicle and keep items of value hidden and out of sight.

We have many community events during the holiday season. The police department will be assisting everyone to ensure your safety. We will be participating with the neighboring police departments with Holidays with Hero's as well as Toys for Kids. If anyone wants to donate a toy for any of these program's there is a drop box in the lobby located at city hall. Please remember the gift of giving through the holiday season.

Please remember we cannot assist or help you if you do not call. It is extremely important that when a suspected incident is occurring that it be reported immediately. We are a quick call away by dialing 9-1-1. We cannot act unless we are aware of these various incidents as they are happening. No call is too minor and no one is ever bothering us as we are here to serve you so remember to help us help you.

Daylight savings time was Sunday, November 6, 2022. Daylight savings time is a great reminder to change your smoke detector batteries and ensure they are in working order. Everyone should also

The Absecon Community Affairs Committee would like to express our sincere gratitude to all of our sponsors, volunteers and everyone who participated in "Creekfest" 2022. The event was a huge success and over 4,000 neighbors and friends experienced a fun-filled day, enjoying amazing music, delicious food and beverages, and beautiful weather on the Absecon Creek. We were able to showcase many of the top bands in the area accompanied by a variety of food trucks in one of the most scenic spots in the City of Absecon. Our community was able to bring everyone together for this incredible event and we have already begun planning for next year's Creekfest!

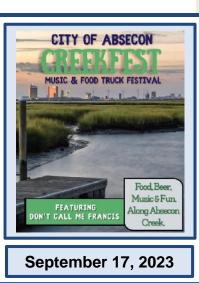
So, make sure to mark your 2023 calendars for September 17<sup>th</sup> for our second annual Creekfest! We hope to see you there!

#### keep in mind that smoke detectors have an expiration date and should be replaced every ten years. Please refer to the manufacturer's warranty and if in doubt contact the Absecon Fire Department. With shorter days, everyone will be operating vehicles and navigating in darkness. Pedestrian safety is crucial for both the driver and pedestrian. Not all pedestrians are clearly visible, both walking on the shoulders and crossing the roadway. Please be extra cautious while sharing the roadway. Please enjoy your holiday festivities; remember don't drink and drive! There are many rideshare options available.

I would like to thank everyone for your support. The men and women of the Absecon Police Department would like to thank you for all the great memories had by everyone during this past year events. We truly love our town and that is why Absecon is Home. Please enjoy the holiday season and I hope everyone is safe and healthy. Happy Holidays to everyone from the Absecon Police Department.

Sincerely,

Chief J.R. Laughlin FOLLOW US ON facebook



## COMMUNITY EVENTS



New Jersey Avenue Tree Lighting

### December 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM



### SANTA IN THE PARK

### Friday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30 PM



**Toys for Tots Drop-off Locations:** 

City Hall M-F 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM

### American Legion Wednesday Nights after 6 PM



ACUA FOOD DRIVE DEC 12<sup>TH</sup> - 16<sup>TH</sup> PLACE DONATIONS NEXT TO YOUR RECYCLING

### **ABSECON TAX COLLECTOR'S OFFICE**

For the last seven years, the City has offered our residents the ability to make payments for Tax and Sewer charges online through our website. Convenience fees are associated with paying your bill online. These fees are assessed directly by the company processing your electronic payment(s) and the City does not collect any fees for this service. There is a \$1.95 convenience fee for e-Check, while Debit or Credit cards will be charged 2.95% of your total payment.

Please make sure that when you are making online payments that you are only utilizing our "official" City of Absecon website at <u>www.abseconnj.gov</u> to do so. It has come to our attention that over 70 users have been making payments utilizing another processing site. While, we are still receiving the payments they are being charged a higher convenience fee and payment is being sent by check on their behalf. We have no access to this third party site, nor can we assist you if any issues arise. It is **not** affiliated with the City of Absecon.

You can also utilize your own bank's online bill pay option, although please be mindful that the payments may not be to us in a timely fashion, and thus potentially subject to interest and penalties.

Please reach out to Jessica Snyder at 609-641-0663 ext. 116 should you have any questions or concerns with regards to this issue.

**ABSECON RECYCLES!** Please visit the ACUA's website at <u>www.ACUA.com</u> for more information on recyclable materials. Help to keep our COMMUNITY clean!



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