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FALL 2025 - Issue No. 3

The Absecon Gazette



ABSECON IS HOME!

Updates from Mayor Tommy Marrone

Happy Holidays to all!

As the holiday season approaches, I want to take a moment to share my gratitude for our hometown spirit. This time of year, brings out the best in our community. Whether it's catching up with old friends at a local restaurant or shopping small on New Jersey Ave.

Our local businesses are the heart and soul of Absecon. Not only do they conduct businesses in our small town but many of the owners are our neighbors, friends, or family. The warm hospitality of these businesses brings a small community pride that you will not find anywhere else.

When we shop local, we are supporting the livelihoods of those who keep Absecon vibrant and strong. After a long day of shopping and maybe your too tired to cook, go to or get take out from one of our wonderful local restaurants. As we all well know New Jersey is the pizza capital of the USA and in my opinion, Absecon is the PIZZA CAPITAL OF NEW JERSEY! Not only do we have great pizza, but we have a variety of wonderful dining choice, whether you're in the mood for sushi, subs, quesadilla, or something as simple as a burger or spaghetti and meatballs, look no further than your own hometown of Absecon!

Since the holiday season is all about giving, I'd like to share an update with our community. Our Absecon Mayoral Homeless Task Force hosted a canned good and sock drive that ran the entire month of November. I would like to take a moment to thank our residents, and our local businesses for the overwhelming generosity with donations of canned goods and sock. To date we have collected about 500 cans of food and over 2500 new pairs of socks. Many people went out of their way to even bring baby food! It's times like this that make it an honor to call Absecon home.

Thank you for your continued support and for the pride you show in our hometown. On behalf of the city of Absecon, I wish you a joyful holiday season. May the coming year bring good health and happiness to you and your families.

Warm Regards,

Tommy Marrone, Mayor

Welcome to our new Construction & Zoning Officials



We would like to introduce Pat Malia who began as the new Construction Official on October 1st and John Fairweather as the new Zoning Official who began later that month. Both of these part-time positions replace our long-time employee Mike O'Hagan after his retirement on September 30th.

Pat has been an Absecon resident for over 25 years and has served the community on various boards and organizations. He has a long history in construction, regulation, code

enforcement, and code development. Pat and his wife Cathi raised their three children in Absecon and remain involved with the community.

Our new Zoning Official John shared, "I'm incredibly proud to have joined the City of Absecon as the Zoning Officer. This role holds special meaning for me - not only because I believe in contributing to the growth and integrity of our city, but also because Absecon is family. My nephew Danny was recently promoted to Captain in the Absecon Fire Depart-

ment, and I'm honored to now serve this community alongside him. Together, we're committed to keeping Absecon strong, safe, and thriving."

Feel free to contact the Construction Department if you have any questions regarding a proposed or ongoing construction or renovation project. You can reach out to Kim at (609) 641-0663 ext. 113 and she will be happy to assist you or pass your requests along to them.

Greeting from City Council >>>

As the leaves and temperatures drop, we prepare for the holiday seasons and the end of 2025.

Curbside leaf pickup has begun and will continue until the end of 2025.

Congrats to our Blue Devils Cheerleading and Football teams on a successful 2025 season! We were happy to unveil John T Gorman Way at the beginning of the season. This was a great memorial to a selfless Absecon volunteer. Blue Devils were also fortunate to get a new club house roof this season thanks to Veterans Roofing. A winning season all around! We look forward to seeing our Absecon Athletes in winter sports next!

Our final Shredding and City wide cleanup will be on November 22 from 9-12. You can also drop off your electrics that morning and we will take them to 4-H for disposal.

Our annual tree lighting will be Tuesday Dec 2nd at 6pm on New Jersey Ave. There will be caroling, hot cocoa and Santa!

Santa is coming to town again the night of Friday December 5th for the Absecon Fire Departments Santa in the Park (rain date is 12/6). And Santa's touring Absecon on the fire truck on December 12 & 13th!

Remember to visit Absecon businesses when shopping for the holidays this year or celebrating with family and friends. There are great shops for gifts and gift cards and great venues for holiday cheer! Many will have Black Friday and Small Business Saturday deals available! Shop, eat and drink local this season!

Thank you for a great 2025 and entrusting us with this great town. We hope you have happy and safe holidays!

Absecon Fire Dept. Holiday Events



*** Santa in the Park
December 5th @ 6:30 PM
Raindate December 6th**

*** Santa will be riding
around on the Fire Truck
on December 12th & 13th**



Community Events & Tips

POLICE CHIEF JAMES LAUGHLIN



Dear Residents,

As we enter the holiday season, I want to extend warm wishes from the entire Absecon Police Department. The holidays are a truly exciting and joyous time of year—a time for celebration, reflection, and gathering with those who matter most. As our community prepares for the festivities ahead, we remain committed to ensuring a safe and peaceful season for everyone.

With the increase in travel, shopping, and events, this time of year also brings unique safety considerations. Please remember to secure your homes and vehicles, be mindful of package deliveries, and avoid leaving valuables in plain sight. When driving, allow extra travel time, stay alert for pedestrians, and never drive impaired. For those decorating, take precautions with ladders, electrical cords, and open flames. A few simple steps can go a long way in preventing avoidable accidents during this busy season.

We are excited for all the wonderful activities happening throughout our city, including the annual Tree Lighting Ceremony, which always brings our community together in a special way. I am also proud to announce the Absecon Police Department Holiday Toy Drive, an initiative close to our hearts. Each year, the generosity of our residents helps brighten the holidays for families in need, and we are grateful for your continued support. Donation information and drop-off locations will be available on our official platforms.

As 2026 approaches, we look forward with optimism and enthusiasm. The Absecon Police Department remains dedicated to strengthening our partnership with the community and continuing our shared mission of safety, service, and trust. Thank you for your ongoing support, and may the season bring peace, happiness, and good health to you and your families.

Warmest regards,

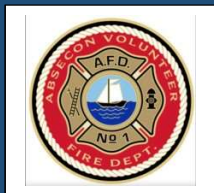


Chief J.R. Laughlin

The City of Absecon is very excited to announce that in 2026 we will see a shared project with Atlantic County for the:

Shore Road Flood Mitigation Roadway Improvements

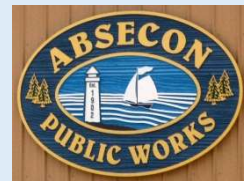
Thank you in advance for understanding while this important project is underway!



THANK YOU & CONGRATULATIONS to our very own Recycling Coordinator Stan Kolbe, Sr. for over 50 Years of service in the Absecon Fire Department!

**Absecon's Fall
Curbside Leaf
Collection runs from:**

November 3rd – Year End



**Place loose leaves only
NO branches or other
debris please!**



**Fall Shred Day &
Community
Clean - up
November 22nd
9:00AM - Noon**



**08201 Hat Sales
@ City Hall
\$30.00**

Please **be aware...**

*The entrance to **City Hall** will be under construction during the month of December to help make Absecon more ADA accessible to residents and guests. The Tax Office drive-up may be temporarily unavailable during construction. Thank you for your patience!*

Your Digital Spare Key: Holiday Tech Tips for Residents

By: Director Jenn Harvey, City of Absecon – Information Technology

I have had the pleasure of serving as the City of Absecon's Director of Information Technology for several years now, and I'm thrilled to have the opportunity to share a few helpful technology tips with our residents. Technology continues to change quickly, and my goal is to make it a little less overwhelming, and maybe even a bit easier, for everyone.

While families are gathering this holiday season, sharing food, stories, and possibly arguing about who makes the best stuffing, it's also a great time to talk tech. Years ago, if a family member needed access to your house, you'd hand them a spare key or hide one under the mat (not that we're admitting to that, of course). Today, the "keys" we rely on most aren't made of metal at all, they're codes, passwords, logins, and online accounts.

Planning ahead for secure access is simply a smart part of modern life. Bills, banking, utilities, email, medical portals...so much of what we rely on is online now. Making sure someone you trust can access what they need helps keep things running smoothly and stress-free.

Here are two simple ways to plan ahead:

✓ Option 1 – Keep it old-school:

Write down a list of important accounts or instructions and store it in a fire-proof safe or other secure location. Just make sure at least one trusted person knows how to access it and where to find it.

✓ Option 2 – Go modern with a password manager:

Password manager apps securely store logins, and many allow you to set an *emergency contact* who can access information if needed. It keeps your data protected while giving loved ones a way in if something unexpected comes up.

Jenn's Cyber Snack: A Password Trick You'll Actually Use

Skip the easy passwords and make a strong one using this trick (my personal favorite):

Take a favorite song lyric, quote, or phrase and use the first letter of each word.

Holiday example:

"Have yourself a merry little Christmas, let your heart be light"
becomes → **Hyamlc,lyhbl!**

It's long, hard to guess, and still easy to remember. Plus, it's a lot more fun than **Password123**—which, please, I beg of you, do not use.

As we move forward in a digital world, a little preparation goes a long way. Thank you for letting me share these tips with our community. Wishing everyone a safe, happy, and cyber-smart holiday season!

The City Hall
Lobby is a
Donation
Location for
Toys for Tots
until Dec. 10th



The City of Absecon's
Mayoral Homeless Task Force

NEW Socks and Canned Food Drive

ITEMS WE'RE COLLECTING:

- NEW Socks (any size)
- Canned vegetables & fruit
- Canned soups & protein
- Bottled water & Peanut butter

Please ensure that all food items are sealed and within the expiration date.

COLLECTION PERIOD:

Oct. 27th - Nov. 30th, 2025

DROP-OFF LOCATION:

Absecon City Hall Lobby
500 Mill Road
Absecon, NJ 08201



Special Thank You for Donations from our ABSECON Businesses:



- 413 E. Absecon Blvd.



- 209 S. New Road



- 616 White Horse Pike