



## Mayor's Report to City Council

December 22, 2020

This is the last council meeting of 2020, and I know that all of us look forward to a better year in 2021.

With all that we've dealt with, I want to mention a few things that truly represent the best in us...

This past Saturday, Sea Isle was honored to be the end destination of an epic trip by Matt DiNott – also known as Matt the Hat – following his cross country bike ride. Matt started his journey by dipping the rear wheel of his bike in the Pacific; and ended it Saturday by dipping the front wheel into the Atlantic Ocean right here in Sea Isle. Matt embarked on his cross country bike ride to raise money for children with special needs, and I was so happy to greet him this weekend and give him a key to Sea Isle City. Matt's family has a home on 65<sup>th</sup> Street, and all of us could not be prouder of Matt and his efforts to support special needs children.

Also on Saturday, our fire department escorted Santa Claus throughout the City, to bring good cheer to all of our residents, and to make several visits to children all along his trip - of course observing social distancing the whole time. I want to thank the fire department, along with Santa Claus, for making this such a memorable event – as witnessed by so many happy faces we saw on Saturday.

And yesterday, we visited several families throughout the City with toys and food, as part of the 28<sup>th</sup> annual Mayor's Toy and Food Drive. Once again, Sea Isle showed its spirit of giving and generosity, as we were able to help those in need.

While we still aren't out of the woods with the pandemic, we're getting closer to a return to normalcy; and this community's actions are showing our goodwill and good spirit despite the challenge.

In the words of Charles Dickens, let us all strive to honor Christmas in our hearts, and keep it all the year; and remember we are one Sea Isle City and together we'll be stronger than ever.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to everyone!

Sincerely,

Mayor Leonard C. Desiderio

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