Great Day Gazette

The crown jewel of the Jersey Shore

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

POSITIVE MOOD AS ATLANTIC CITY IS UPGRADED

ALWAYS SAFETY FIRST FOR ACPD

AC SENIORS ADD ALL SORTS OF SKILLS

CITY DEPARTMENTS TEAM UP TO BEAUTIFY THE COMMUNITY

POSITIVE THINKING

FROM THE MAYOR

Dear Atlantic City Residents and Guests,

To whoever needs to hear this, my commitment to the Great City of Atlantic City is as strong as it ever has been, and what is going on in my personal life does not change that. This is the message I've been conveying at all of my public appearances throughout the last month, including guest speaker roles at the East Coast Gaming Congress at Hard Rock and at the PR Council of Greater Atlantic City Luncheon Meeting at Cardinal Restaurant.

At the ECGC, I let attendees know we are well aware of what is developing with gaming in New York, but the city, CRDA and Atlantic City casino industry will continue to build our relationships and work hand-in-hand to put Atlantic City in a prime gaming position, regardless of casinos elsewhere. At the PR Council Luncheon, I spoke for nearly an hour on all the positives happening in Atlantic City lately, from tax decreases to a Moody's upgrade to development all throughout the city, and I could have easily spoken longer, that's how much is happening for the good. I also got to break news on Bart Blatstein's plan to build 1,000 residential housing units in Atlantic City and announce we are closer than ever before to a Bader Field redevelopment agreement!

Applications will be posted Monday, May 6th on the city's website for the second year of the 'Mayor Marty Small, Sr. Scholarship' for Atlantic City residents. This is a $3-million commitment over three years to give our students opportunities they may not otherwise have, and to change their lives forever. We've expanded our eligibility requirements this year and the scholarship selection committee (which I am not a part of) will be more aggressive when reviewing applications to ensure the strongest candidates are chosen. More details on this year's eligibility requirements can be found in our newsletter.

Thanks for reading and remember, It's a Great Day Here in the City of Atlantic City!

- Mayor Marty Small, Sr.

Mayor Small at the PR Council Luncheon

Moody's Investors Service has upgraded the City of Atlantic City's issuer rating to Ba1 from Ba2, while maintaining a positive outlook in the city.

(Mayor Small and the city's finance team meeting with representatives from Moody's in the Mayor's Conference Room at City Hall)

" While I will always shoot for the stars, and was seeking a multi-tier upgrade from Moody's this year, I am grateful Moody's recognized all the great things happening in Atlantic City under my watch. I also appreciate Moody's once again acknowledging strong government as a reason for the city's success. The next upgrade will put us in the investment grade, and I will stop at nothing to make sure we achieve that."

- Mayor Small

According to Moody's: *The upgrade to Ba1 reflects the substantial strengthening of the city's fiscal position, including sharp increases in fund balance and declines in debt. The Ba1 rating recognizes that Atlantic City has proven its ability to achieve good fiscal outcomes under the current fiscal framework created by the state.*

CRITERIA FOR THE 'MAYOR MARTY SMALL, SR. SCHOLARSHIP'

Each scholarship is for $10,000
($5,000 for Fall 2024/$5,000 for Fall 2025)

40 Scholarships – Atlantic City residents who are current seniors graduating from Atlantic City High School this Spring who plan to attend college in the Fall

40 Scholarships – Atlantic City residents who graduated from Atlantic City High School who are incoming college sophomores, juniors and seniors this Fall

10 Scholarships – Atlantic City residents who graduated from Atlantic City High School who are currently pursuing a Masters or Doctorate Degree

9 Scholarships – Atlantic City residents graduating from Atlantic City High School this Spring who plan to attend Trade School this Fall

1 Scholarship (broken into 10 parts) – Partnership with nonprofit Battle by the Bay for them to distribute $1,000 each to Atlantic City High School students

Applications are due by May 28th

Under the Small administration, the city's issuer rating was upgraded from B2 positive to Ba3 in 2020, and was upgraded to Ba2 in 2022. The outlook was changed from 'stable' to 'positive' in 2020, where it remains today. AtlanticCity's issuer rating was Caa3 positive back in 2018.

Construction is happening now on the Lt. Governor Sheila Y. Oliver Plaza outside City Hall, and is expected to last until early Fall. This courtyard enhancement project has prompted temporary changes at City Hall. During construction, visitors must enter the building through the Tennessee Avenue entrance, and may exit the building on the Tennessee Avenue or South Carolina Avenue side. Both main parking lot entrances along South Carolina Avenue are temporarily closed. City Hall visitors must enter and exit the parking lot along Arctic Avenue. Upon arrival, visitors are asked to see the parking attendant stationed outside the building on the South Carolina Avenue side for further parking instructions.

In an effort to have an enjoyable spring and summer season, police are reminding all residents and visitors of City Ordinance 203-11. The ordinance is related to the hours and months of the year that specific locations are available to the public. This ordinance is specific to the "Seawall" area of Atlantic City which runs along Rhode Island, New Hampshire and Maine Avenues. The below hours will be strictly enforced.

6 AM to 10 PM

You can submit anonymous tips to the Atlantic City Police Department. If you see something suspicious in our community or have specific information about a crime that has occurred in the area, please submit any info, photos, or videos by texting the keyword 'ACPD' and your tip to 847411, downloading the Atlantic City Police Department mobile app, or by filling out the form available at acnj.gov.

Tips will be reviewed by agency personnel, who may respond to ask for more details and continue the anonymous conversation with you. Tips are entirely anonymous, and your contact information is not transmitted to our agency. Please do not use this form to report emergencies or requests that require immediate law enforcement response. In an emergency, always call 911. If you have a non-emergency request for agency assistance, contact at (609) 347-5780.

A special ceremony was held outside The Clayton G. Graham Public Safety Building honoring the building's namesake. Atlantic City Patrolman Graham was killed in the line of duty 62 years ago to the day of this ceremony, which was led by ACPD Police Chief James Sarkos and attended by various officers past and present.

CONGRATULATIONS

to ACPD officers Thomas Gilardi and Matthew Juniewicz on their successful completion of Highway Patrol Motorcycle Training conducted by the Philadelphia Police Department. The 80-hour training course consists of a variety of classroom and operator training. Officer Gilardi and Juniewicz were joined fellow motorcycle Officer William Moore on their final day of training.

SAVE THE DATE

Atlantic City Beach Patrol Tryouts are Saturday, June 8th at 9:00 AM at South Carolina Avenue Beach, applications are available online.

Local and state agencies gathered at the U.S. Coast Guard Air Station Atlantic City for an informative session educating attendees on what the Coast Guard does during search and rescue missions, and how each agency can reach them. Among the topics of discussion were joint operations for larger scale events in Atlantic City and throughout the area.

More than 400 kids showed up to Atlantic City's Dew Park for Field Day during their Spring Break, organized by the various divisions of the city's Health and Human Services department. Attendees got to enjoy a full day of music, entertainment and fun, with ice cream, plus hot dogs and hamburgers grilled by the Atlantic City Fire Department. Hundreds of kids also attended Atlantic City Youth Services (ACYS) for Autism Family Fun Day, which featured entertainment for all, including autism-friendly sensory activities, plus resources and information during Autism Acceptance Month.

ACYS brought Atlantic City students on two recent college tours, one to Coppin State University, which included a stop at Baltimore's National Aquarium, and one tour to Morgan State University, with a visit to iFLY Indoor Skydiving.

Sign up now for the following ACYS Spring programs at acnj.gov: **Young Basquiat's Art Program * Lego Club * Sewing * Young Anglers Fishing**

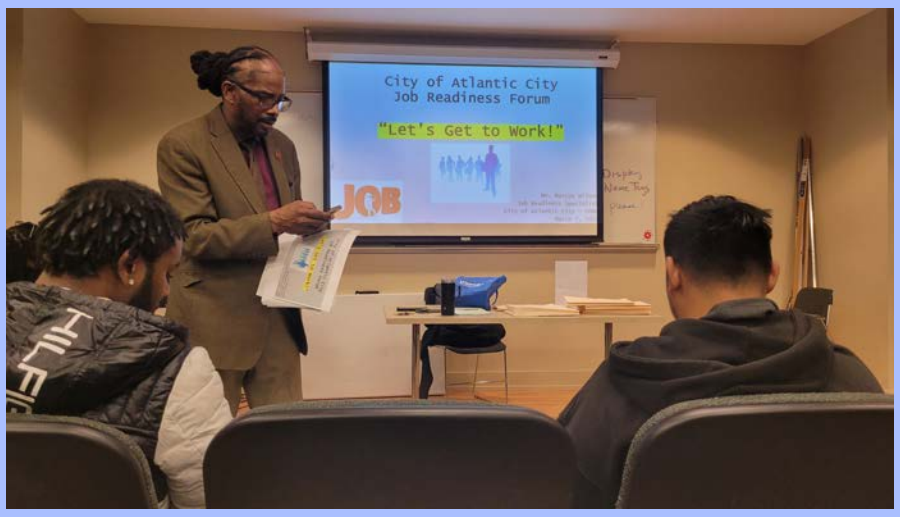
Follow @atlanticcityyouthservices on social media for all the latest.

Atlantic City Recreation hosted the Lincoln University Cheer Camp, powered by Atlantic City Vikings Cheer, for young cheerleading enthusiasts in the city! All our participants worked extremely hard during this two-day event and will get to enjoy more events like this in the Fall!

Signups for AC Rec's 2nd annual Adult Softball League filled up in just hours, but you can still register for Men's and Women's Flag Football, and T-Ball. Registration is also open for the return of Abdullah Anderson's Free Training Camp for youth.

The Atlantic City Senior Services division introduced our seniors to plenty of new activities lately, like cooking, sewing and gardening. Seniors who participated in Senior Services sponsored events were given the chance to win an invitation to a Cooking Class at the Claridge Hotel, followed by an upscale dinner. The seniors were introduced to sewing in what will become a regular program for the next several months. And through a partnership with C.R.O.P.S. Nonprofit, seniors enjoyed a multi-day Garden Program, where they decorated pots, made sun catchers, planted seeds and much more! Call Senior Services at 609-347-5458 or go to acnj.gov to see all free May events.

The city's Multicultural Services Division supported Bangladesh, Columbian and Peruvian Consulate Days in Atlantic City, where hundreds of individuals showed up to obtain Visas. The Multicultural Office and City of Atlantic City would also like recognize our Asian American and Pacific Islander community during AAPI Heritage Month!



On the fourth Thursday of each month at Carnegie Library, the city's CDBG Office hosts a free Job Readiness Forum to help Atlantic City residents seek, secure and sustain jobs. Under the guidance of Job Readiness and Employment Resources coordinator Marcus Wilson, attendees are connected with any needed assistance and resources to help them navigate the job market. The next forum is May 23rd at 10:00 AM.

On Arbor Day, the city and the Chelsea Economic Development Corporation planted six trees (three donated by each) outside the Public Safety Building. This was a collaboration between the city, the Atlantic City Development Corporation and the Atlantic City Shade Tree Committee. The city's Planning and Development Department, under the leadership of Rejoana Yesmin, the Department of Public Works and Division of Multicultural Services were part of this effort. Students at Atlantic City's Sovereign Avenue School helped plant the trees.

The Atlantic City Re-Entry Services division held a Resource Fair during April's National Second Chance Awareness Month, to connect formerly incarcerated individuals with vital community resources and information to prepare for successful reintegration into society.

Registration is open now (call 609-343-2136 ext. 1073) for AC Re-Entry's next event on May 22nd - an Informational Session at Carnegie Library on the Lifelong Learning Accounts Program offering support for unemployed or underemployed residents. This is a partnership with Atlantic Cape Community College.

The youth took over City Hall twice in April! Atlantic City High School students were given a guided tour and met with Mayor Small and other city leaders as part of The African American Chamber of Commerce of New Jersey's Youth Leadership Program 'Government Day.' The little ones next spent the morning at City Hall and afternoon at Bader Field enjoying K9 demonstrations and other activities on Bring Your Child to Work Day.

Dr. Juanita J. High Lane

The city held a special street dedication ceremony for lifelong Atlantic City resident and educator, Dr. Juanita J. High. Her legacy will now forever be remembered along the 700 block of Grant Avenue.

Can We Say Great Day?!

FOLLOW US

Website: acnj.gov

X (formerly Twitter): AtlanticCityGov

Facebook: AtlanticCityGov

Instagram: AtlanticCityNJGov