



SOMERS POINT
BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

Somers Point Business Association Newsletter

Third Quarter - 2015

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WELCOME

New SPBA Members

[Comfort Now](#)

by [Bob McAllister](#)

505 New Road, Suite 1
Somers Point

[Creative Design & Production](#)

701 W. Delilah Rd, Ste 213
Pleasantville

[Golf Specific Fitness](#)

450 Bay Avenue
Somers Point

[Jersey Mike's Subs](#)

17 Bethel Road
Somers Point

[Kitchen Encounters Design](#)

715 Pennsylvania Ave
Somers Point

[Law Office of Richard M. King, Jr.,
LLC](#)

5 MacArthur Blvd., Suite B
Somers Point

[MFG Financial](#)

222 New Road, Suite 505
Linwood

[Quality Electric Service](#)

President's Message

Dear Member or Friend of SPBA:

It is with great pleasure that I welcome our newest members and hope you will consider joining our growing list! If you can attend our July 15th presentation and/or our August 17th mixer, both held at Greate Bay Country Club, you can see first hand what this great organization offers local business. With your added support, we can be on track to hit 100 members in 2015!

I am thrilled to announce the construction of our new website. Our goal is straight forward: **add more value to our members and their businesses!** With a launch date set for Fall 2015, we look forward to communicating the added value that this site could offer to you and your business. In the meantime the existing website is still operational so be sure to check it frequently for updates and information.

Lastly, do you have a garden at your business or your home? The Green Thumb Garden Club of Somers Point has extended their garden contest. Please call 927-1062 or email rosemaryevans@verizon.net if you want to compete and show-off your green thumb! Deadline to enter is this week with judging to occur the week of July 13.

Wishing you and your family a wonderful and Happy 4th of July weekend!

Onward,

Michael Bray, SPBA President

Free City Meetings Working for a Better City

What does it mean to be "business friendly"? Well, in Somers Point, one of the ways we are just that is by giving new and existing business the opportunity to sit with the city leadership and professionals, at no charge, to review their ideas and designs.

The Planning and Zoning Boards of Somers Point have created a way for a person to go through the planning and zoning process without attending unnecessary planning or zoning board meetings. The cost savings and time savings for these meetings can then be invested into the new project.

The first meeting is called a CRC and is with the Concept Review Committee.

601-603 DeHirsch Avenue
Woodbine

Warfield Consulting, LLC

22 Clover Hill Circle
Egg Harbor Township

William McLees Architecture

5 MacArthur Blvd.
Somers Point

World Cup Karate

210 New Road, Suite 10
Linwood

Dates to Remember

Upcoming SPBA Meetings

July 15 - 8:00am, Greate Bay Country Club - Program by *iPayment*

August 19 - 5:30pm, Evening Mixer, Greate Bay Country Club

Sept 16 - 8:00am, Greate Bay Country Club

Oct. 21 - 8:00am, Greate Bay Country Club

Nov. 18 - 8:00am, Greate Bay Country Club

Dec. 3 - Evening Holiday Party at Greate Bay Country Club - We've got some surprises in store. Details coming!

Other Events of Note

Somers Pt. Beach Concerts Every Friday, 7pm - 9:30, through Sept. 11 - [The Line-Up](#)

Family Fun at the Somers Pt Beach - Every Monday, 6:30pm, July 6 through Aug. 24 - [List of Events](#)
For Additional Family Fun Events and info visit www.somerspointfun.com

Great Bay Gallery - Artist Receptions - July 3 & August 7 - 5pm-7pm - [Info](#)

Latin Jazz Series - July 22 and Aug. 19, 7:30pm - [Info](#)
For Additional Jazz Events & Info visit southjerseyjazz.org

A person or company is given a free, one-time opportunity to talk to Planning Board and Zoning Board members and professionals as well as code enforcement and the building inspector. These meetings are held once a month by appointment through the construction office. The idea is to establish a dialogue early on in the process, before money has been invested, as to the direction of the proposed project and the city's direction as it relates to the master plan. No decisions are made at this point and anything can be on the table for discussion.

The second is a TAC or Technical Advisory Committee meeting. This is designed to have the professionals meet before coming to a Planning or Zoning Board meeting to review the areas in the review process that are technical in nature and can be worked out before the meetings. This keeps the actual meeting more on point to the issues rather than waiting while the engineers go back and forth about things related to design standards.

The third is called an Administrative Review which gives the construction department and the board engineer the ability to work out smaller issues that can be agreed upon with the applicant, and keeps them from having to appear before the Board of Adjustment. If there are any variance requests in an application then this process is not an option.

These three meetings are coordinated in the construction department and must be scheduled there - 609-927-9088 X-142.

The City has had great success with these meetings in terms of giving clarity and direction, which ultimately makes our town "business friendly." As you can see when you drive around town, we have been able to attract many new businesses to our city by just working with them openly and fairly with a concern for their time and budgets. Since these prospective projects provide vitality and growth to Somers Point, and are more than just taxpaying businesses, the SPBA fully supports this option for new business development.

Greg Sykora, Government Awareness Chair

Participation, Productivity & Progress

It is exciting to report on the progress and energy that we currently have within the Somers Point Business Association. Your officers and board members are a highly motivated, voluntary group of individuals who care about and love Somers Point. And our general membership is comprised of highly motivated and hard working business owners, operators, and managers eager to learn and grow within our community.

It is on that premise that I am happy to report on the progress of new members, new businesses opening in Somers Point, and the Somers Point Business Association (SPBA) upcoming breakfast meetings and mixers for you to network and learn.

Membership: Since our last newsletter we have reached 84 members in the SPBA. We welcome our returning members as well as give a warm welcome to our newest members (see column left side). We look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events as we provide support for you to network, grow your business, and connect with other successful business leaders.

New Businesses: Although not yet opened, you will soon even more new business in town. STS Tire is being constructed on the north side of our Shoprite Plaza. STS (Somerset Tire Service) was founded in 1958 in

National Night Out in Somers Point - August 4, 6-8pm, Somers Point Beach

9-11 Remembrance Ceremony - Sept. 11, 8:30am, Patriot Park

GOOD OLD DAYS FESTIVAL & Run for Bud 5K - Sept. 12, JFK Park - [Info](#)

POW MIA Remembrance- Sept. 18 , 7pm, Patriot Park

Richard Somers Day - Sept. 20, 2pm, Richard Somers Memorial Park
For Additional History Events and info, visit

www.somerspointhistory.org/events.html

Quick Links

[SPBA Website](#)

[Community-Education-Recreation](#)

[City of Somers Point](#)

[Email the SPBA](#)

Somers Point, NJ. They are the largest independent tire and automotive service company in the Northeast. Interestingly, they are an employee owned company and boast a number of benefits to the customer for being employee owned. Check out their website at www.ststire.com/sts-company-history.php

Keeping with the automobile theme, in the place of the old Kobe Steak House on Route 9 an Auto Zone retailer is being constructed (for those old enough to remember, this location was formerly ChiChi's then Schooners). There are many mixed emotions and memories connected to this spot, but the SPBA is happy for the progress and a new vibrant business in its place. AutoZone is the leading retailer and a leading distributor of automotive replacement parts and accessories in the U.S.

The old Burger King Location, also on Route 9, is going to be divided into two businesses. An AT&T store going into the south side and Fusion Church is going to go into the north side.

On the corner of our gateway entrance into Somers Point at Route 9 and Route 52, ACE Plumbing will open soon. Another New Jersey based business, Ace is comprised of four South Jersey locations and nearly fifty dedicated employees who strive to position Ace as one of the leaders in the industry, according to their website. Ace is happy to report that they service eight South Jersey counties with an outside sales force, a fleet of vehicles that make daily deliveries and an inside sales staff that boasts an average of over 20 years experience.

The SPBA can also report that there has been some activity and interest at the old WAWA location on Route 9. We will keep you posted on any progress concerning this site.

Meetings: Our **July 15 Breakfast Meeting** will be held at the Greate Bay Country Club, 8:00 a.m., with a program by *iPayment*, discussing changes within credit card processing and how small business can prepare. It is our hope that you can join us for this, our other monthly meetings, and many of Somers Point's other great events (see column left side).

In closing, if you are a member, Thank You. And if you're not, **what are you waiting for?** Dues are just \$150 for the year and we look forward to adding your name and business to our growing membership list throughout Somers Point and neighboring communities.

[Click Here](#) for the application so you can find out for yourself just how beneficial the Somers Point Business Association can be.

Donna Albano. SPBA Membership Chair

The Shore...and the Fun...Starts Here!

Somers Point is a hot bed of activity, especially in the summer! Be sure to take a look at the various events listed on the left side of the newsletter. There's fun for the family, lots of music, art and history and patriotism going on now through September!

The Richard Somers mural, by muralist, Maryann Cannon, is starting to take shape on the walls of the Somers Point Library. Stop by to take a look and plan now to attend "**Richard Somers Day**" on September 20, 2pm, when the mural will be dedicated. This event takes place on the grounds of the Richard Somers Memorial Park at Shore Road and NJ Avenue.

If you wish to donate to the mural [Click Here](#)



And looking beyond September, be sure to save these dates for more fun times in Somers Point.

October 17, 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM - Car & Boat Show, "Horsepower on the Bay"

November 6 - 15 - Somers Point Restaurant Week

Be Our Guest

ARE YOU NOT A MEMBER YET? We would like to invite you to an SPBA breakfast or mixer to see first hand what we're all about.

Coupon Entitles you to one free admission to the SPBA breakfast meeting in July or September OR to the August evening mixer.

Offer Good for One meeting July 15, August 19 or September 16.