



Easter Activities Around Town

This year's Easter activities included "Breakfast with Easter Bunny" at the Secaucus High School, the Secaucus Annual Egg Hunt at Schmidts Woods and another one at Harmon Cove, and first annual Easter Puppy Parade in support of Alzheimer's organized by Comfort Keepers. This year's eggs at Schmidts Woods had a surprise gift in 12 of the eggs, so make sure you open them and redeem the special prize. More pictures inside and on the Town's Gallery page www.secaucusnj.gov - I Want to -View Community Photos.

Mayor's Corner

As many of you know, I love to drive around Town to search for areas of town that may need improvement and check on the status of current projects. I also love to share the details on the improvements we are making around Town. On my recent rounds, I see good progress being made on the improvements to Mill Ridge Ball Field #2. This field, which was badly in need of upgrades, is getting major renovations, including elevation, artificial turf, a new backstop, new dugouts, and bleachers. The project is set to be complete in a few months and will be ready for the upcoming baseball season. We are thankful that a project this big is partially funded by a Hudson County Open Space Grants totaling approximately \$950,000.00. As with many major projects, I am happy that we were able to get grant funds, to help minimize the impact on our Town's budget.

I also want to share another exciting project that is in the planning stages and we hope will be completed by the end of this year. Plaza Center, from Paterson Plank Road to Route 3, will be get a major upgrades, including curbs,

sidewalks, decorative lighting, paving, new planters, bike racks, ADA-compliant sidewalk ramps, etc. When complete, I am sure the main entrance to our Town center will look more welcoming, modern, and beautiful. We have been applying for grants for this

project for a few years now, and I am happy to say our persistent efforts paid off and it will be covered by a \$850,000 grant from the NJDOT Local Transportation Projects Fund.

Other improvement projects in various stages of planning and design include reconstruction of the entire section of Seaview Drive, improvements to the Buchmuller Spray Park and construction of a rain garden at Trolley Park. We received grant funding for all of the aforementioned projects. I will share updates as these and other projects progress. Together, we will continue to make our Town better.

Wishing you all a Happy Spring!



Change in Online Tax Collection System

The Tax Collector's Office is pleased to announce that we will be using a new software. The implementation is now complete, and you may make online property tax payments. If you would like to use auto payments, you may visit our website (www.secaucusnj.gov/departments/tax) to set up your auto pay account. Be advised if you were using auto pay on the old system, you must go through the set-up process again as the prior system is no longer operational.

If you have any questions, please reach out to the Tax Collector's office at 201-330-2021. Thank you for your patience and consideration. We are confident the new system will help us to better serve your needs.

Inviting Contributions

Send in pictures and information showcasing your special celebrations, children's achievements, milestones, graduations, contributions to the community, event announcements and more. Submissions are welcome from residents, community organizations and businesses. Please send information to Alka Jaideep at ajaideep@secaucus.net or call 201-330-2000, Ext. 3042.

Mayor Michael Gonnelli- mayor@secaucus.net - O: 201-330-2005

Councilman William McKeever
wmckeever@secaucus.net
C: 551-665-7650

Councilman Robert Costantino
rcostantino@secaucus.net
C: 201-401-9315

Councilman Mark Dehnert
mdehnert@secaucus.net
O: 201-330-2000

Councilman John Gerbasio
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C: 551-226-0955

Councilman James Clancy
jclancy@secaucus.net
C: 201-906-9657

Councilwoman Orietta Tringali
otringali@secaucus.net
O: 201-330-2000

LOCAL POSTAL CUSTOMER
SECAUCUS, NJ 07094



Secaucus Municipal Government Center
Paterson Plank Road
Secaucus, NJ 07094

Town Attorney Appointed Superior Court Judge

Secaucus Town Attorney, Keri Eglentowicz, was recently appointed as Superior Court Judge and will be officiating civil matters in the Hudson County Superior Court in Jersey City.

After more than 10 years serving the Town of Secaucus, she got emotional while bidding farewell to her colleagues at Town Hall. "I received tremendous support from everyone here, and literally raised my children as you became my work family. While I am excited about my appointment as Judge, I am going to miss being here" she said. We wish Judge Eglentowicz the very best! Julia Peschetti will be taking over as Town Attorney.



High School Senior Enjoys Being 'Chief for the Day'

Isabella Otero, a student at Secaucus High School, was chosen as the 2024 "Chief for the Day" by the Secaucus Police Department. Each year, students are invited to write an essay about the programs they would implement, changes they would make, and how they would run the Police Department. Essays are reviewed by the PD's School Resource Officers and Isabella's essay was chosen for its singular focus and for offering a practical solution to the issue of respect and recruitment. On March 26th, she was given an overview of the Police Department and a detailed synopsis of the inner workings of the units. Later in the Day, Mayor Gonnelli and the Town Council presented her with a proclamation. "The Chief for the Day program is one way to engage our youth, and excite them about their potential contributions, not just to the Police Department but also our community," said Chief Dennis Miller.



"Honorary Mayor" visits the Mayor and Town Council

Anyone who knows Frankie DeGennaro knows his infectious smile and that he can brighten up a room any day. Frankie, "unofficial Mayor and honorary firefighter," was invited to the Town Council meeting on March 12, 2024, when Mayor Gonnelli presented him with a "key to the city" and a plaque for his positive presence in our community. Presenting the honor, Councilman James Clancy recalled how Frankie was always there to cheer Secaucus High School athletes by biking up to the High School grounds every afternoon, no matter what the weather. We wish Frankie the very best!



Vietnam Veterans Honored at Ceremony

Despite heavy rain and wind gusts, on March 25th, veterans, residents, Mayor Gonnelli, members of the Town Council, and Police and Fire Departments gathered to observe the 51st Vietnam Veterans Day. Welcoming the gathering, Councilman and Vietnam War veteran, William McKeever invited attendees to observe a moment of silence to honor the memory of the veterans we lost. He also saluted the more than 250,000 American women who served in the US military during the Vietnam War, including 10,000-15,000 who served in country. Joann Northgrave, Hudson County Veterans Service Representative, said she gets emotional when she reflects on the service and sacrifice of Vietnam veterans. As the Secaucus Police Honor Guard lined up in the rain, Vietnam veterans Phil Papa and Paul Pinkman laid a wreath at the Vietnam War Memorial.



Spider-Man Actor Inspires Alcohol Awareness Campaign



Students of the KAI Coalition, a club at both Secaucus High School and High Tech High School, created an inspirational campaign for their schools and social media to mark April as Alcohol Awareness Month. The 4-part campaign features Tom Holland, the actor famous for portraying Spider-man in the Marvel Cinematic Universe, who gave up alcohol recently. He went in-depth with podcaster and author, Jay Shetty, about his decision to stop drinking.

"Working with the KAI students to create something that we hope is meaningful in their schools was extremely rewarding. We hope it gets the attention of their peers," said Dave Bratton, Co-Advisor of KAI Coalition and Coordinator for

the Secaucus Coalition.

As part of their efforts to prevent underage drinking, the Secaucus Coalition would like you to remember:

- It is illegal to provide alcohol to those under the age of 21. Your children are the only exception.
- Studies show when parents give alcohol to their children, they are more likely to drink when their parents aren't around.
- Talk to your teen: maintain open and understanding communication, let them know your expectations, and provide clear and consistent warnings about the risks of underage drinking.
- Don't encourage the use of alcohol by allowing underage drinking or activities that promote it.

Your efforts can make a difference!

The Secaucus Coalition is grateful for those who want to make a difference addressing youth substance use. If you wish to check out one of the group's meetings, please contact Dave Bratton at coalition@secaucus.net.

Easter in Secaucus



Donate to Expand Our Tree Canopy

As Arbor Day approaches, we are thrilled to share our new initiative to plant more trees in our community. Our town has held the Tree City USA designation for 31 years, and we planted 383 trees last year. We couldn't have done it without your support! This year, we need your help again. By contributing to our campaign, you can assist us in planting more trees and making our community a greener and healthier place to live. Every dollar makes a significant difference, and no amount is too small. Let's come together to make a positive impact on our environment and leave an enduring legacy for future generations. Please consider pledging your support now and help us achieve our goal of planting 300 trees. To donate, please mail check to the Town of Secaucus, 1203 Paterson Plank Rd. Attn: Shade Tree Committee. Thank you for your continued support!

Become a Poll Worker

Secaucus needs you! We welcome residents to apply to become a poll worker in upcoming elections in June and November 2024.

Why Should You Apply:

- Earn \$21.43 per hour on in-person early voting days and \$300 on General Election Day.
- See our great democracy in action firsthand and enjoy the satisfaction of contributing to our community, state and country.

You can apply to serve as a poll worker in New Jersey if you:

- Are a United States citizen and a resident of New Jersey.
- Are a registered voter in the county in which you reside.
- Are at least 16 years of age. College and high school students are encouraged to apply. (Those under 18 years of age will work limited hours per shift and do not have to be registered to vote. Contact the County Board of Elections for further information).
- Are not running as a candidate in this election.

How to Apply:

- Visit the Town Clerk's office at 1203 Paterson Plank Road (2nd Floor) on weekdays, anytime between 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM.
- Ask for a Poll Worker application packet. Fill out and return the form with required documentation.
- Based on the need, the Town Clerk's office will reach out to you a few weeks before the election.

If you need more information, please call 201-330-2020 or email clerk@secaucus.net.

Waiting for the Pollinators

Spring is just around the corner, and it's time to start thinking about tidying up our gardens. But wait! Before you begin tossing away leaves and plant stems, have you considered that you might also be throwing away the homes of bees, butterflies, moths, and other bugs that have been seeking shelter there during winter? These little pollinators, especially the native bees, hibernate in the hollow stems of plants like wild bergamot and swamp milkweed. Others lay their eggs in leaf litter, and we don't want to disrupt their home sweet home! At Imagine Garden, we strive to create a haven for wildlife all year round, so we prefer to leave stems and leaves over the winter and prune them back when temperatures consistently reach the 50s. This way, caterpillars, native bees, and other critters can emerge just in time to provide food for baby birds and help kickstart the pollination cycle once again. You could consider this tip in your own backyard garden!



Residents Mark Start of Ramadan

The Muslim Community of Secaucus, along with Mayor Gonnelli and the Town Council, hosted the town's first Ramadan crescent lighting ceremony at Plaza Center on Sunday, March 10th. Families gathered were welcomed by Mayor Gonnelli and Sam Elish, president of the organization. Participating families took pictures and enjoyed each other's company.



Event Raises Awareness of Youth Homelessness



On March 9th, over 50 young residents of Secaucus participated in the 2nd Annual Box City Sleep Out program designed to raise awareness of youth homelessness. During the program that ran from 5:00 PM until midnight, participants constructed and spent time in large cardboard box "homes" to simulate the conditions in which some youth homeless find shelter. Panelists from the Secaucus Department of Social Services, Secaucus Fire Department, Covenant House, and a wellness expert shared a range of information regarding the issues faced by homeless youth. The event was organized by Hygiene Project and was sponsored by the Secaucus Agent of State Farm Insurance with additional support from Hudson Regional Hospital. "It's our second year hosting the Box City event and we received amazing feedback from students who said it was a life-changing experience for them. Students left with a deeper understanding of homelessness and with greater empathy for people in difficult circumstances," said Cathy Wolf, Director of Hygiene Project.

Secaucus Resident Shows Off Talent on American Idol

At the March 12th Council Meeting, Mayor Gonnelli and the Town Council honored Sydney Millevoi on her participation as a contestant on the 22nd season of American Idol, the popular voice talent competition that is being aired on ABC. A resident of Secaucus, Sydney is currently attending NJCU pursuing a Bachelor of Arts in Music Business. "For me, it's a dream come true," said Sydney. She cannot disclose details about her standing in the show due to her contract with American Idol, but she knows that everyone in Secaucus is rooting for her!



Lisa Snedeker Honored as Woman of the Year

On March 26th, resident Lisa Snedeker was honored at the Hudson County Women's History Month celebrations at the historic Brennan Courthouse in Jersey City. Many in Town know Lisa as the Director of Senior and Social Services, efficiently and meticulously managing the range of services offered by the Department. At the ceremony, Lisa was honored not just for her contributions to the Department but also for the countless ways she gives back to the community as founder and president of the non-profit Secaucus Emergency Fund (SEF). Through SEF, Lisa helped more than 500 individuals who have faced a disadvantage or an unfortunate life circumstance and empowering them to change their situation. Lisa has also focused on connecting and bringing together everyone who shares the common goal of helping others. She is kind, dedicated, and is the go-to person to get things done, even if you don't share her passion for the Rangers. Congratulations Lisa on the well-deserved honor!



Mayor Gonnelli and the Town Council invite you to join us in safeguarding the Hackensack River at our annual

EARTH DAY CLEANUP

April 20th - 10 AM to 12 PM

County Road Extension
Meeting in front of Secaucus Public Library Annex
1007 Riverside Station Blvd



Equipment and refreshments provided!

Remember to wear sturdy shoes, clothes you can get dirty, and bring your reusable water bottle.

To register, please complete a volunteer waiver at Green.SecaucusNJ.gov/njcc



GUMAF FOUNDATION
107 Huber Street
Secaucus, NJ 07094

WWW.GUMAFFOUNDATIONINC.ORG
T: 201-864-2618

THE GUMA FOUNDATION CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO ATTEND THE 19TH ANNUAL CASINO NIGHT

SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 2024 AT 7:00 PM
LA REGGIA RESTAURANT
LOCATED IN THE MEADOWLANDS PLAZA HOTEL
40 WOOD AVENUE, SECAUCUS, NJ 07094

\$150 PER PERSON INCLUDES:

AN EVENING OF CASINO-STYLE GAMING, \$100 IN CASINO CHIPS
OPEN BAR AND BUFFET, PRIZES AND LIVE MUSIC
BUSINESS CASUAL (JACKET OPTIONAL)

RSVP WITH PAYMENT BY APRIL 1, 2024 to
ABOVE ADDRESS OR PAY AND REGISTER ONLINE at:
WWW.GUMAFFOUNDATIONINC.ORG

THE GUMA FOUNDATION IS A REGISTERED NOT FOR PROFIT ORGANIZATION WITH THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY AND IS REGISTERED AS A 501 (C) (3) CHARITY WITH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.



Thomas Edison Film Festival Screening

HERSTORY

APRIL 2ND
12:00 PM
PANASONIC RM.

In honor of Woman's History Month, please join us for a FREE screening of selected films curated by the Thomas Edison Film Festival honoring women. A program of films featuring stories about women or films made by women filmmakers.



"All Secaucus Public Library programs are ADA accessible. Special accommodations are available upon request."

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* The Mayor & Town Council
* Invite all residents to participate in a
*
* **Town Wide**
* **Garage Sale**
*
* Saturday, April 27, 2024
* Rain date Sunday, April 28, 2024
* 8 am-----????
* Register online
* <https://secaucusnj.gov/garage>
* before April 22nd
* to put your address on the list
* that will be posted
*
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Mayor Gonnelli & the Secaucus Town Council invite all to the free & environmentally friendly

SECAUCUS Green Festival

13th Annual

Saturday, May 4th, 2024
11:00am - 3:00pm
4000 Riverside Station Blvd.
Rain Date: Sunday, May 5th

Presentations	Food & Drink	Eco. Activities
Live Entertainment	Green Businesses	Family Friendly

Water provided by **VEOLIA**
Bring your reusable bottle!

Sponsored by **XCHANGE** AT SECAUCUS JUNCTION
RVR AT XCHANGE

FANTASTIC FUN!

Hosted By: Secaucus School District Fundraiser For: St. Jude's Children's Hospital & Breast Cancer Research Foundation

vs. Secaucus Faculty and Staff

Date: Tuesday, April 9th Game Time: 7:00pm Doors Open: 5:30pm

Advance Tickets: \$10	Tickets at the Door: \$15	Reserved: \$20	Courtside Plus: \$50	Courtside Player: \$125
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Tickets On Sale At: <https://harlemwizards.com/tickets/>

www.facebook.com/TheHarlemWizards @HarlemWizards @WorldFamousHarlemWizards

Hiring Event - Tues. 04/16/24

Location: 145 Front St.
Time: 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

All types of positions/shifts available!

For further information:
Call: Tara Acquaviva
201-863-2532
tacquaviva@secaucus.net

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH PRESENTS:

SPRING TRICKY TRAY

AMAZING PRIZES

SATURDAY, APRIL 20, 2024
1219 Paterson Plank Rd
Church Gymnasium

DOORS OPEN AT 6:00PM

- 50/50 Raffle
- Coffee & Cake
- Lottery Apron

\$10 Admission
Tickets Available at the Gift Shop, Church Office or at the Door
Space is Limited

partners in prevention **spring sprint 5K**

SATURDAY, APRIL 20 - 9:00 AM
Secaucus High School, 11 Millridge Road, Secaucus, NJ 07094

IN-PERSON & VIRTUAL RACE
The Virtual Race begins April 13

MEDALS FOR TOP FINISHERS
Multiple Age Categories

REGISTER AT PIP.NJ.ORG/SPRINGSPRINT

Partners in Prevention's Spring Sprint 5K is a fundraiser to help support our mission to improve wellness and prevent substance use disorders and related health challenges in Hudson County and New Jersey.

We work toward this mission through the use of our Education Programs, the Hudson County Coalition, and the Lindsey Meyer Teen Institute.

@PIPofHudson (201) 552-2264 www.pipnj.org 1108 Meadowlands Parkway, Suite 302 Secaucus, NJ 07094

SHAKESPEARE IN THE PAC

JULIUS CAESAR
April 12, 2024
7:00 pm