



Presenting the SHS Class of 2024

The Secaucus High School Class of 2024 concluded their school year with a beautiful outdoor graduation ceremony on June 20th. With plenty of achievements under their belts and a whole range of dreams and possibilities, the class embarks on their next journey. Mayor Gonnelli, Town Council, teachers, staff, student's families, friends and residents of Secaucus applauded them for their accomplishments and wish them Happy Graduation and the very best for a bright future! We can't wait to hear all your stories of success.

Mayor's Corner

You may have heard me say several times that I am extremely proud of our volunteer firefighters for the outstanding job they do to keep our community safe. As a firefighter myself, I know firsthand the dangers our emergency responders face, and the extreme dedication and commitment required of all firefighters who sign up for the job. The last few weeks were an extremely unusual and challenging time for the Fire Department with 3 major events—and our firefighters lived up to their commitment and managed to put out fires with no loss of human life.

On May 24th, a large fire broke out at a warehouse at 60 Enterprise Avenue. High flames and thick smoke quickly spread throughout the building. Firefighters from Jersey City, Lyndhurst, Rutherford, and Kearny pitched in and SFD declared the situation under control around 4pm. No one was hurt during this incident.

On June 20th, a major brush fire in the marsh close to NJ Turnpike South between 15X and 16E snarling vehicular traffic and halted train traffic. The fire, fueled by extreme dry conditions, raged for several hours, with thick smoke being visible for miles. The Secaucus Fire Department, assisted by the

New Jersey Forest Fire Service declared the fire extinguished at about 5:00 PM, two hours after it was first reported.

The very next day, on June 21st, the Secaucus Fire Department responded to a report of fire at 252 Maple Street. The fire severely damaged the contents of the two-family home, but the SFD's quick response avoided serious injury to any of the tenants occupying the home. The tenants, who lost almost everything they had, are now looking to start anew.

The outside temperature for the fires in June approached 100 degrees, which made for brutal firefighting conditions. In all three of these major fires, the Secaucus Fire Department came out in force, called upon their training, and risked their lives to ensure the safety of others. On behalf of the Town Council and residents, I thank each and every one of our volunteer firefighters who keep us safe. We are forever grateful for your service.



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Concerts & Movies

Upcoming Concerts

- July 11: Bangos
- July 18: Neil & the Diamonds
- July 25: Mushroom
- August : Xtreme Queen

Concerts begin at 7pm at Buchmuller Park

Upcoming Movies

- July 9: Elemental
- July 16: Wish
- July 23: Trolls Band Together
- July 30: Migration
- Aug 6: Wonka

Movies begin at 7:30pm at The Ice Rink

Clothes Drive Concludes

The Secaucus High School Class of 2025 would like to thank all donors for their bags of clothes that will benefit programs throughout their senior year. Activities include prom, project graduation and more.



LOCAL POSTAL CUSTOMER
SECAUCUS, NJ 07094



Secaucus Municipal Government Center
Paterson Plank Road
Secaucus, NJ 07094

Blessing of the Fleet at the Coast Guard Auxiliary

Do you know that Secaucus is home to the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 10-2? The pier located on the Hackensack River off Meadowlands Parkway hosted the annual Blessing of the Fleet of the Secaucus Auxiliary on June 15th, which was presided by Father Victor Kennedy, and attended by the members of the Auxiliary, Police and Fire Departments as well as Town Council members. Auxiliaries across the nation support the Coast Guard with classroom instruction at the ramp and pier, and operate 1,800 vessels, 160 aircraft and 1,400 radio facilities. Auxiliary members conduct safety patrols on local waterways, assist in Search and Rescue, teach boating safety classes, conduct free vessel safety checks for the public, provide boating safety literature to dealers, as well as many other activities related to recreational boating safety. The Town of Secaucus is happy to be home to such a worthy organization.



Program to Cut Costs and Improve Energy Efficiency Launches in Secaucus

Secaucus residents can now access a fantastic new opportunity to connect with PSEG's energy efficiency programs, discounts, and rebates. Whether you reside in an apartment, condo, townhome, or a single-family home, you can save money and reduce your energy consumption through available programs. By participating, homeowners will learn how energy efficiency upgrades can improve the comfort of their home and help them save money on energy bills.



Sign up for the PSEG Sustainable Jersey initiative, Energy Efficiency Partnership Program at www.energyoutreachnj.com/secaucus. On the website, you will be able to "Find Your Program," and schedule a home energy assessment you qualify for. You will then receive a personalized report which you can use to choose the energy efficiency upgrades you want to move forward with for your home. Depending on your income, you will receive more information about discounts, incentives and in some cases, offers for no-cost upgrades to your home.

We will also have an information table on July 17th from 10AM to 2PM at Secaucus Public Library and Business Resource Center to highlight the benefits of PSE&G's programs and incentives, as well as provide information about how to sign up for the no-obligation home energy assessment.

"We are excited to announce our partnership with Sustainable Jersey and PSE&G for an incredible opportunity. This program aims to help residents enhance the comfort of their homes while simultaneously reducing heating and cooling costs. It also supports a more environmentally friendly Secaucus for generations to come," said Kimberly McCleary, Environmental Coordinator.

If you'd like to speak to someone about the program, please call PSEG at 1-855-846-2895 and ask about the Residential Energy Efficiency Program.

KAI Students Help with Vaping/Cannabis Presentation to 5th Graders

Students of the KAI club assisted Partners in Prevention (PIP) staff with 8 presentations to a total of 159 5th graders to end the school year. The presentation provided information about the consequences of vaping and cannabis use in middle and high school, and the KAI students answered questions after the presentation. The program also included a cannabis goggles activity which allows students to wear specialized eyewear that mimics the impairment certain substances can cause. KAI students hope that the presentation helps fifth graders as they learn ways to avoid substance use in school and beyond.



KAI Launches Campaign on Underage Drinking



As part of KAI's annual year end activities, club members placed stickers on beer cases at local liquor stores to remind residents that it is illegal to serve alcohol to minors. KAI, the student club and parent organization Secaucus Coalition, rolled out a larger campaign to raise awareness of the consequences of underage drinking earlier in the year. The

"Parents who host, lose the most" signs across Town and youth seminars are part of that campaign. KAI members ended the activity with a visit to Six Flags, paid for by Partners in Prevention. Later this summer, select students are invited to attend a week-long Lindsey Meyer Teen Institute's Leadership conference.



Best Western Ribbon Cutting

Best Western Plus is the latest hotel chain to open in Secaucus. Located at 250 Harmon Meadow Plaza, it boasts comfortable accommodations in a recently renovated facility, breakfast and convenient access to the Meadowlands Convention Center, MetLife Stadium, American Dream and New York. Mayor Gonnelli and Councilwoman Tringali attended the ribbon-cutting on May 29th, expressed their support and wished them success.



Martial Arts Students Receive Medals

Students of Master Jefferson Ventura's martial arts received medals and certificates at the June 25th Town Council meeting for their accomplishments. Congratulations to Fikir Nega, Nathan Nega, Sepehr Nejad, Sophia Nejad, Zyna Mohammad, Syayin Pradham, Alexio Gonzales, Dhilan Nersian, Michael Mastropietro, Harshika Gupta, Tashvi Dhir, Tvisha Dhir, Abhay Prajapati, Ayansh Rai, Greeshma Phadke and Tejas Phadke!



Girl Scouts Applauded at Town Hall Tradition Continues

Secaucus Girl Scouts who participated in Project Pride, an annual town beautification project of planting flowers in the center of Town, were honored at the June 25th Town Hall meeting. Councilman James Clancy presented Rylee Andre-Jones, Emily Arana, Natalie Beltran, Deyang Dorjee, Kayla Lee and Aashna Saha with certificates and gift bags. Troop leaders Judy Jaeger and Helen Allen also presented them with badges. Congratulations and thanks for keeping our Town looking great.



Police Department Holds Annual Awards Ceremony

The annual Police Awards ceremony was held at the Performing Arts Center on May 22nd to recognize all Secaucus Police Department award recipients for the 2023 year. Thank You to the Mayor and Council for attending while we recognize these officers! Union City Chief of Police Anthony Facchini represented the Hudson County Chiefs of Police Association, and Mayor Gonnelli and members of the Town Council were also present. Chief Miller presented awards to the recipients. Among the awards were Life Saving Awards for Lieutenant Christopher Rinaldi, Sergeant Nicholas Spangenberg, Police Officers Dwight Wise

Kasey Kelly, Mikhail Kowlessar, Jonathan Padron, Justin Pardo and Christopher Boyko; Hudson County Chiefs of Police Association Life Saving Award for Sergeant Joseph Fuardo and Police Officer Eric Munive; Chief of Police Community Service Award for Dispatcher Evan Barnes and Top Gun Award for Police Officer Michael Bronowich. Congratulations to all recipients!

Hartz Mountain Donates to Secaucus Fire Department



At the June 25th Town Council meeting, Sal Gentile, Senior VP at Hartz Mountain Industries, thanked the Secaucus Fire Department for excellent service

and for ensuring the safety of personnel and property at their Secaucus holdings. He presented a check of \$10,000 to Secaucus Fire Chief Fred Schneider to show Hartz Mountain's continued support to the Town's volunteer Fire Department.

Foula Ballas Retires

Mayor Michael Gonnelli, Town Council members and all Town Hall employees wish Zografo "Foula" Ballas a Happy Retirement and thank her for her service. Fellow employees threw her a retirement party on June 26th where Mayor Gonnelli and Council members Bill McKeever and Orietta Tringali presented her with a plaque and gift. Foula retired as Technical Supervisor and Inspector at the Construction Department, after 27+ years of service at Town Hall. She will certainly be missed.



Check out the Guide to Renters Insurance

This is an important message about Renters Insurance for all residents renting in Secaucus: Do you know that Personal Property Coverage under a renters insurance policy can financially protect yourself and your belongings in case a disaster strikes, including fire, theft, vandalism, windstorm, hail, snow, sleet and more? Loss of Use pays additional living expenses if you temporarily move under covered loss instances. And Medical Payments Coverage pays medical bills for people hurt on your property. Depending on your individual needs, coverage costs less than \$15 a month and may be crucial if disaster strikes. Unfortunately, renters across the state realize the benefit of renters insurance after a disaster has upended their lives. It is important to know that your landlord's insurance will cover the damage to the building and will not help with loss to your personal property or individual liability.

For more information on Renters Insurance, visit the New Jersey Department of Banking and Insurance's website at www.dobi.nj.gov, or call 609-292-7272 / 800-446-7467.

Debbie Zapoluch Retires

Debbie Zapoluch retired as Transportation Coordinator for the Secaucus Board of Education. Debbie orchestrating the timely movement, driver assignment and safety enforcement on all public-school buses. She always went above and beyond what was required of her to make sure the job got done and the students arrived home safely. Mayor Gonnelli and Town Council members congratulated Debbie for her 30+ years of service and a job well done for which they presented her with a plaque at the June 25th Town Council meeting. Congratulations and wish you a Happy Retirement, Debbie!



2024 Fishing Derby

Residents of all ages gathered for the Annual Fishing Derby at the Secaucus Duck Pond on May 5th. With the pond well-stocked, the weather cool and clear, and fishing enthusiasts ready for a day well-spent, it was also a perfect opportunity for a photo with Councilman John Gerbasio!



Shake Shack Opens in Secaucus

Another iconic business recently opens in Secaucus! Shake Shack, the popular fast food restaurant chain, opened a location at 700 Plaza Drive with a ribbon cutting ceremony on June 10th by Mayor Gonnelli. Known for its commitment to be a partner of the community and to "Stand for Something Good," Shake Shack Secaucus announced that it will donate \$1 for every burger sold on their inaugural day to Spectrum Works, a non-profit organization that trains and supports autistic adults to find and keep jobs at inclusive workplaces. We welcome Shake Shack's team and wish them success.

As a note of confidence in the Secaucus business scene, another popular food franchise, CAVA, opened its doors on June 28th, next door to Shake Shack. Two more restaurants are scheduled to open on that block, bringing more options to residents, workers, and visitors alike.

Volunteers Prevent Environmental Pollution

When like-minded individuals come together, they can impact the world! That's what groups from the Secaucus High School Environmental Club, residents under the HCIA umbrella, and corporate residents



of Secaucus did by coming together to clean up areas around Mill Creek Park, Secaucus Greenway and Imagine Garden/Meadowlands Parkway. Together they cleaned up the area, preventing trash from polluting our walkways, and more importantly from landing in the Hackensack River. Thank you, volunteers, for keeping our town clean and caring about our environment.



This Month in Secaucus

SEEKING TALENT
SECAUCUS' GOT TALENT

We are seeking performers to present their singing, dancing, comedy, spoken word, and novelty acts on the Buchmuller Stage for our 4th Annual "Secaucus' Got Talent". All acts must be pre-registered by July 14th to be considered. Performance will take place on August 14th at 6:00 pm. Please contact Lee Penna at lee.penna@secaucus.bccls.org to register your act or for more information.

Crafts with Lisa
Craft Clique
On Friday
July 19th
At 11:00am

@ Senior Center, 145 front St.

Join us for
Dancing with
Renee
On Friday July 26
At 11:00am

For info and reservations call Mary or Karen at
201-865-4422

Mayor Gonnelli and Town Council
Invite All Residents to

SECAUCUS SWIM CLUB

Amenities Include

- General Pool
- Diving Pool
- Fenced-in Kiddie Pool
- Lap Pool
- Gazebos
- Landscaped Lawns
- Games
- Changing Rooms
- Refreshments for Purchase

FREE entrance for Secaucus residents with valid ID.
(Limited number of guests for nominal fee)

HOURS: June 17 - Labor Day
Monday - Friday: 12 Noon - 8PM
Saturday and Sunday: 10 AM - 8 PM

CALL FOR MORE INFO
201-330-3299

SECAUCUS FOOD PANTRY IS IN NEED OF
REUSABLE BAG DONATIONS

WHERE & WHEN
145 FRONT STREET
M-F 8AM - 3PM

WHAT
ANY/ALL
REUSABLE BAGS

WHY
TO HELP THOSE IN NEED
& THE ENVIRONMENT

SecaucusNJ.gov | Social Services 201-330-2014

GOT DRUGS?
Secaucus Police Department
Chief Dennis Miller
Mayor Gonnelli & Town Council

DRUG TAKE-BACK

Turn in your unused or expired medication for safe disposal

NO NEEDLES OR SYRINGES

Saturday, July 13th, 2024
8 A.M. - 2 P.M.

Secaucus Public Library
1379 Paterson Plank Road
Secaucus, NJ 07094

Senior Social Fridays

WHY YOU'LL LOVE IT

- ✓ Enjoy games & activities
- ✓ Enjoy puzzles
- ✓ Enjoy stretching
- ✓ Meet new friends!

Every Friday 10 am - 2 pm
\$1.00 Lunch

FOR BUS RESERVATIONS 201-865-4422
FOR LUNCH 201-330-2094

MAYOR GONNELLI AND THE TOWN COUNCIL INVITE BUSINESSES AND RESIDENTS TO THE:

SECAUCUS SMALL BUSINESS FAIR

SECAUCUS SMALL BUSINESS OWNERS, DON'T MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY TO SHOWCASE AND PROMOTE YOUR BUSINESS!

11:00AM - 5:00PM
SATURDAY, SEPT. 14, 2024
SECAUCUS PLAZA CENTER
MUNICIPAL PARKING LOT

REGISTER NOW

For more information
201-330-2000, EXT. 3168

EMAIL:
SFLANAGAN@SECAUCUS.NET

Please note: this is not a vendor event. Selling of items will not be permitted. If you are interested in future vendor events, please call or email above for more information.

BODY & BRAIN
YOGA • TAI CHI

YOGA TAI CHI CLASS
AT MILL CREEK POINT PARK SECAUCUS, NJ
CALL. 201-864-2095

FREE

Starting June 14th
Every Friday All Summer
at 10 AM

Supported by
Mayor Gonnelli and the Town Council

Young Entrepreneurs Expo 2024

July 21, 2024
1.00pm - 3.30pm

Secaucus Recreation Center
1200 Koelle Blvd, Secaucus, NJ

Free Admission to all
Don't miss it!!!

Kids will be showcasing their unique products and services, from handmade crafts to tasty baked goods.

Come shop, explore, and show your support for these incredible kids.

Sponsors: