



## Welcome Fall!

The Town Center is all set for Fall! Please make sure you join us for a range of fun October events including Spooky Friday in the Woods, Annual Halloween Parade and Trick-or-Treat at Schmidts Woods. Check out Upcoming Events inside for more events lined up for you.

### Mayor's Corner

As you know, the national Census takes place every 10 years. Census data impacts several things including how federal funds are distributed for schools, hospitals, infrastructure and more. It also impacts how election districts are drawn. Within Secaucus, the 2020 Census has led to redistricting of our wards, specifically the First and Third wards. There is no change in the Second Ward. We will be sending a letter to those areas impacted by the district changes, which will include polling locations, before the November 8th election day. No matter who you choose as your representatives for the Town Council, Congressional, County Sheriff, County Clerk, and Board of Education, please make sure you cast your vote. Your voice matters.

As for October, it's time for cooler weather and a set of fall events that bring joy to residents of all ages. We started the Fall line-up of events with Restaurant Night, a popular event for meeting and greeting fellow residents, sampling an array of food, and enjoying live music. It's a great way to acknowledge the amazing restaurants we have in Town. Another popular and packed event is the

Annual Street Fair! Even though the weather intervened, it is a great kick-off to many October events.

As the air turns cooler and crisper, our Town center transforms with warm hues of chrysanthemums, Fall banners, pumpkins, and Halloween décor. Be sure to join us for our Halloween events—Spooky Friday at the Woods, Halloween Parade and community Trick-or-Treat event. I love to see the children in costumes and the excitement that they have whether they are dressed up for the Town or school parade or for trick-or-treating. Also, make sure you check out other events including Diwali Mela, Pawrade, Library programs and Walk with a Cop at both elementary schools.

See you around Town. Stay safe and be well.



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

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

Councilman John Gerbasio  
gerbasio@secaucus.net  
C: 551-226-0955

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

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

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

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

## New Award Honoring Omelly Dominguez

Each summer, the Town of Secaucus employs more than a hundred students in part-time jobs as camp counselors, one-on-one aides, lifeguards, assistants, and custodial staff. It gives our youth a great opportunity to learn important values, such as, responsibility, professionalism, and leadership. Youth workers do a great job and make our summer programs a success.

At Summer Camp, some counsellors go above and beyond, showing exceptional service, maturity and compassion that impresses peers and supervisors alike. Starting this year, the



Recreation Department will choose one youth employee for the Omelly Dominguez Award, in honor of an ex-counsellor who lost her life under tragic circumstances. Omelly was an outstanding camp counsellor and Secaucus resident. The \$500.00 Award is sponsored by the Secaucus Youth Alliance. On August 12, 2022, the last day of summer camp, long-time camp counsellor Jasmine Vega received the 2022 award for her exceptional dedication and leadership. Pictured here are Pee Wee Camp Coordinator

Denise Imperato, Omelly Dominguez awardee Jasmine Vega, and All-Abilities Camp Coordinator Abigail Gonzalez.

## Fourth Quarter Taxes Due Soon

Fourth quarter taxes are due on November 1, 2022. The Department is making it easier for residents to pay their property taxes. Online payments, with an option to enroll for Auto-pay is now available. Please visit [secaucusnj.gov](http://secaucusnj.gov) to look up and/or pay property taxes online.

You can also drop off a check at the drop box located in the Town Hall lobby. If you prefer, mail your payment to Tax Collector, 1203 Paterson Plank, Secaucus NJ 07094. For answers to property tax-related questions, please call 201-330-2021 Ext. 1.

## Coffee With a Cop



On the morning of September 29th, the Secaucus Police Department hosted a "Coffee with a Cop" event as part of their ongoing efforts to create stronger police-community relationship. Chief Dennis Miller and police officers of all ranks were present at the Secaucus Dunkin on Paterson Plank Road to interact with residents and answer any questions they may have. Mayor Michael Gonnelli, Councilmembers Rob Costantino and Orietta Tringali, and several employees of Amazon, the sponsor of the event, stopped by to take part in the event.

## Bird Boxes Installed



The Secaucus Environmental Department, Bergen County Audubon Society and NJSEA joined hands to install 30 bird boxes at Schmidt's Woods, along the Greenway, Monarch Park, and our new park on Meadowlands Parkway (Meadowlands Garden). They included boxes for wrens and ones for bluebirds that work well for several species. Along the Greenway, the boxes will likely be occupied by swallows. If you come across our feathered friends occupying the new homes in the Spring, please be mindful not to disturb them as they will have baby birds in them. The purchase of boxes was made possible by a generous donation by the Bergen County Audubon Society.

## KAI Students Honored for Bagging Award



Secaucus High School students of the prevention group KAI were recently selected for the Action Award by the Lindsey Meyer Teen Institute (LMTI), a leading youth leadership program on a mission to "Make Change." The award recognized the Secaucus group for its robust activities highlighting the dangers of, and promotion strategies for prevention of, substance abuse. Activities included Red Ribbon Week at the High School, Great American Smokeout, Partners in Prevention 5K Run, Alcohol Awareness Month, Sticker Shock and the LMTI Annual Leadership Conference. KAI also attended events that highlighted that groups can have fun without addictive substances involved. LMTI also honored KAI Advisors Dave Bratton and Jill Pries with Advisor of the Year awards for their guidance and leadership in preventative efforts in Secaucus schools.

## Charlie Krajewski Receives Plaque



Mayor Michael Gonnelli and the Town Council presented Charlie Krajewski with a plaque recognizing his contributions to the community as the owner/manager of Charlie's Corner, the oldest restaurant/bar in Secaucus. Members of the Krajewski family and residents attending the August 13th Town Council presentation applauded as Mr. Krajewski accepted the plaque.

## Secaucus Firefighters Win Awards

The Secaucus Volunteer Fire Department added several feathers to its cap at the New Jersey State Fire Chiefs' Annual Convention in mid-September. Lieutenant Victor Paone, III and Firefighter Eric Kosky, both from Tower 2, and Firefighter Donald Ciecich of Washington Hook and Ladder, received Valor Awards for their rescue efforts during a fire at The Elms. Firefighter Bailey Fearon of Engine 1 received a scholarship towards her college education. Chief Joseph Schoendorf accepted the awards on behalf of Lt. Paone and Firefighter Fearon, as they could not be present at the Convention. Ex-chief Frank Walters (Tower 2) was elected Vice President of the New Jersey State's Fire Chiefs' Association.

Congratulations on a job well done!



## Chiropractor Celebrates 3rd Anniversary



ChiroLove Spine & Wellness Center celebrated three years of service to the Secaucus community and beyond. Mayor Michael Gonnelli, Councilwoman Orietta Tringali and Councilman James Clancy visited the site and congratulated the ChiroLove team for being a Secaucus business and for offering free consultation to clients and for offering to provide programs that elevate the health and wellbeing of our community.

## Every Dog Has Its Pool Day

Each year, pet parents and their furry friends wrapped up their summer with a special event held just for them at the Secaucus Swim Club. Dogs were allowed to use the children's pool with the initial session reserved for small dogs and the later session open to dogs of all sizes. For many years this event marked the last day of the pool season.

This year, "Dog Day at the Swimming Pool" was held on September 18th. More than 90 pets of all sizes and 170 pet parents enjoyed the gorgeous pool grounds on the sunny day. Dogs enjoyed wading and swimming in the pool or just chasing each other in the lawns. Each pet also got to choose toys, compliments of the Mayor and Town Council. All proceeds from the ticket sales benefit the Secaucus Animal Shelter. More pictures are posted on the Secaucus Animal Shelter's Facebook page.



## New Program for Children with Disabilities Launched

Empower U, a new service available free of cost to families of children with disabilities and mental health needs, was recently launched in Secaucus. The program offers respite care—programs intended to provide temporary relief for the primary caregiver from the demands of caring for an individual with disabilities. Once a child is approved for the services, transportation and activity costs are included. This program is funded by the New Jersey Children's System of Care (CSOC) and services are limited to youth under 18 years that are impacted by intellectual and developmental disabilities.

The Empower U program in Secaucus started on August 28, 2022 and has an enrollment of seven (7) youth with seven (7) more applications pending. Enrollment is offered year-round. Respite care under the program is offered at the EPOS Center on Plaza Drive every Sunday from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Social skills, sensory play, physical activities, snacks and music are offered under the supervision of 1:1 aide. The goal of the program is to promote self-independence, socialization, and fun in a therapeutic way.

If you or someone you know would like to know more about the program, please email Abigail Gonzalez at [agonzalez@secaucus.net](mailto:agonzalez@secaucus.net). You may also call 201-330-2008 and leave your contact information for Ms. Gonzalez who will reach out you with additional information.

## Upcoming Events

Tuesday, October 4, 8:00 AM: Walk to School with a Cop-Huber Bears (starts at Trolley Park)

Saturday, October 8, 6:30 PM: Octoberfest at the ICC Gymnasium

Sunday, October 9, 9:30 AM: Feast of St. Francis and Blessing of Animals, Episcopal Church of Our Savior

Sunday, October 9, 12:00 Noon: Diwali Mela-Festival of Lights at Buchmuller Park

Tuesday, October 11, 8:00 AM: Walk to School with a Cop-Clarendon Bees ( starts Pandolfi and Golden Aves)

Friday, October 14, 10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon: Flu Shot Clinic at Marra Drug Store

Saturday, October 15, 7:00 PM to 10:00 PM: Dandiya Dhamaka at Secaucus Recreation Center

Sunday, October 16, 4:00 PM to 9:00 PM: Recreation Cheerleading Fundraiser at Mike's Icecream

Friday, October 21, 5:30 PM: Spooky Friday "Not So Haunted House" at Schmidts Woods

Friday, October 21, 7:00 PM: Spooky Friday in the Woods "Haunted Trail" at Schmidts Woods

Sunday, October 23, 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM: Fall Festival at Hudson Regional Hospital Parking Lot

Saturday, October 29, 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM: DEA National Take Back Day (drop off unused medications) at Secaucus Public Library

Sunday, October 30, 12:00 Noon: Halloween Parade starts at Clarendon School @ 5th Street

Monday, October 31, 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM: Trick or Treat at Schmidts Woods

## Basketball Game of the Year! Secaucus Teachers Versus



When: Wednesday October 12, 2022

Where: High School Gym

Time: Doors open 6:00 PM and  
Game begins 7:00 PM

Adults Ticket \$12 Student Ticket \$10

Proceeds to St. Jude's

Playing For Secaucus

A. Bonin, P. Cocucci, A. Falco, M. Fitzsimmons, K. Goldsack, M. Marin, M. Martinez, W. Millevoi, J. Mimmo, J. Moore, D. Ortiz, B. O'Shea, S. Petruzelli, R. Valente



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2022

12:00 NOON

CLARENDON SCHOOL @ 5<sup>th</sup> STREET AND  
PANDOLFI AVENUE

TO END AT BUCHMULLER PARK

WITH

PUMPKIN PATCH, PUMPKIN PAINTING,  
BOUNCER, PONY RIDES, PETTING ZOO

Secaucus  
Health  
Department

THE TOWN OF  
**SECAUCUS** & Marra's Drug Store

## FLU SHOT CLINIC

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14  
10AM TO 12PM  
MARRA'S DRUG STORE

Please bring  
insurance card.  
May be required  
to pay out of  
pocket.



\*\*Limited supply available\*\*

For more information, please contact the Health Department at 201-330-2031





Dear Secaucus Families,

As we progress through this Autumn season, we look forward to all of our fall activities and events that our schools are hosting for students and parents. To keep up-to-date on what is happening in your child's school and in the district, please visit [www.sboe.org](http://www.sboe.org) and scroll down to the "Upcoming Events" section of the page. Clicking "Show All Events" will connect you to the various Google Calendars for each school and the school district.

I would like all parents to know that our "Parent Communication Form" is still open and available to all who would like to voice their concerns or ask the administration questions regarding any district issue. The form is readily available as a button on the right side of our website at [www.sboe.org](http://www.sboe.org). We welcome all correspondence and will answer any questions that you may have regarding our district in our bi-weekly FAQs that will be sent home to all parents via email.

Finally, I want to wish all of our students continued success for a great school year. As always, I will continue to ensure that we are providing our Secaucus residents with the quality education they deserve while keeping the lines of communication open with all stakeholders.

Be well,  
Dr. Daniela Riser  
Acting Superintendent of Schools



## DONATE SHOES FOR HIGH SCHOOL PTSA & ATHLETIC CLUB FUNDRAISER

Drop off @ Secaucus high school thru Oct 31st  
email [Cdavano216@gmail.com](mailto:Cdavano216@gmail.com) or  
call 201-469-7665 for pick up

NEW/GENTLY USED SNEAKERS,  
SHOES, BOOTS & CLEATS ACCEPTED!



## School Lunch Information

The Federal Government's universal free lunch program expired this summer and our schools will be returning to offering free and reduced school lunch to only students who qualify based on family income. Families are encouraged to complete the Free and Reduced Lunch application if they believe they qualify.

As in previous years, if you would like to purchase lunch, please replenish your child's lunch account by logging into the [Payforit.net](https://www.payforit.net) (<https://www.payforit.net/login.aspx>) website.

Clarendon School and Huber Street School will be serving a more traditional and expanded lunch menu. Please be reminded that students will need to input their Student ID number when purchasing items from the cafeteria, as no cash will be accepted.

## New Teachers at Clarendon

Clarendon School is happy to welcome four new teachers to our faculty. (Pictured from left-to-right: Mrs. Amanda Orellana (Kindergarten - Grade 2), Ms. Katherine Dailey (LTR 2nd Grade), Ms. Abigail Fallon (Grade 4 - 5), Mrs. Tiel LaFargue (LTR Art).

Please join us in welcoming our newest Bees.



## Kickoff to Senior Year!



Wednesday, September 7th marked the "LAST First Day" of school for our SHS Seniors. To help make this day extra special, students met with their advisor Ms. Palmisano, on the football field to watch the sunrise. Although it was a cloudy morning and no sun peeked through, it was great to have everyone involved in this bonding experience as a way to kick off the 2022-2023 school year! Select senior students then stood at the entrance of the school & greeted their fellow classmates while giving out personalized 2023 stickers. Special thanks to Senior students Natasha Medina & Daniela Vasconcellos for creating such beautiful suns and a customized banner to complement the event.



## Huber Street School Welcomes New Teachers

Huber Street School and the Millridge School are happy to welcome five new teachers to our faculty. (Pictured from left-to-right: Ms. Hannah Relovsky (2nd Grade), Ms. Victoria Newcombe (2nd Grade), Mrs. Lauren Franks (Pre-Kindergarten), Ms. Michelle Mandaglio (Art), and Ms. Emileigh Esposito (Pre-Kindergarten). Please join us in welcoming our newest Bears.