



## Class of 2021 Graduation

The open-air Graduation Ceremony was held on June 25th at the Secaucus High School Grounds. Congratulations Graduates!

## Mayor's Corner

I am happy to see us returning to normal and a summer with events, concerts and gatherings. Our popular summer concert series in June delighted a large number of residents who came out to enjoy the amazing bands and weather. We also had a very successful Year-end Carnival on June 25th for our school children. This event was a great way to mark the end of a challenging school year.

While we are working towards bringing back residents together at community events, we are also moving forward with many important upgrades to facilities and roadways around Town. The former Senior Center building on located at 101 Center Avenue was demolished. Many senior residents were sad to see the building come down. I feel that sentiment too and have many happy memories of the place. However, we have great plans for the site and will be building a new, state-of-the-art facility to house our senior services, meals-on-wheels and community center. Rest assured, this new Senior Services Building and Community Center, when ready, will be the same welcoming, happy place our seniors are used to, however, the setting

will be much nicer. I will share more details about the new building as they become available. In the meantime, please continue to visit our current Senior Services building at 145 Front Street. We continue to open more and more programs so there is much for you to enjoy.



We also completed a major roadway improvement project on Secaucus Road. Funded by a \$500,000.00 grant from the Department of Transportation, the length of Secaucus Road from Meadowlands Parkway to County Avenue was milled and paved. I thank all residents and businesses for their patience and understanding when the much-needed project was underway.

Stay tuned to more news about improvements and upgrades throughout Town.

Have an enjoyable summer.

## Upcoming Concerts and Movies

- July 6: Big Hero 6 Movie at Ice Rink
  - July 7: Ashley Petet Duo, Children's Concert at Buchmuller Park
  - July 8: Johnny Maestro Tribute Band, Concert at Buchmuller Park
  - July 13: Wall-E, Movie at Ice Rink
  - July 15: Infernos, Concert at Buchmuller Park
  - July 17: Tim Cubart and the Space Cadets, Children's concert at Buchmuller Park – 11:00 AM
  - July 20: Onward, Movie at Ice Rink
  - July 22: Beatlemania at Buchmuller Park
  - July 27: Wonder Park, Movie at Ice Rink
  - July 29: The Elegents at Buchmuller Park
  - August 3: Raya and the Last Dragon, Movie at Ice Rink
  - August 5: Showstoppers Concert- Children's Summer Program
- Concerts start at 7:00 PM, movies at 7:30 PM unless otherwise noted*

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LOCAL POSTAL CUSTOMER  
SECAUCUS, NJ 07094



Secaucus Municipal Government Center  
Paterson Plank Road  
Secaucus, NJ 07094

## MEL-JIF Certificate of Achievement

The Town of Secaucus received a Certificate of Achievement for successful completion of MEL-JIF trainings and protocols in order to create a community-wide focus on safety for the public that local employees serve. Pictured here left row front to back: HR Director Sandra Lopez, Town Administrator Gary Jeffas, Recreation Facilities Director John Schwartz, Councilman John Gerbasio and Recreation Superintendent Mike Pero. In right row front to back are Town Attorney Keri Eglentowicz, Assistant to Attorney Allison Petrone, Insurance Coordinator Roxanne Paciga, Fire Official Vincent Massaro, Construction Official Carl Leppin and Fire Inspector Frank Walters.



## Around Secaucus



### Donors of Hand Sanitizers Honored

Over the last few months, Secaucus was a recipient of generous donations of high-quality hand sanitizers that were distributed to residents and local businesses, free of cost. The Mayor and Town Council expressed thanks and honored the donors with a plaque at the Council Meeting on June 21st. Pictured are Mayor Michael Gonnelli, Councilwoman Orietta Tringali, donor Moshe Scaba, Councilman William McKeever, donors Lynda and David Sarfati, and Councilman James Clancy.

## Community Composting Program is Here!

On average, 1,160 lbs. of food are lost to the garbage pail each year by an American family of four. To help reduce the amount of food waste our community sends to the landfill, the Secaucus Environmental Department, with the support of Mayor Gonnelli and the Town Council, are excited to announce the launch of a pilot residential food scraps drop-off program. Separating food scraps from regular garbage is an easy way to divert waste from the landfill and help our environment. We invite you to participate in the program to ensure it can continue after the six-month pilot period is over.



### How it works:

We have five drop-off locations for easy access to residents in different parts of Town. Each of the drop-off sites have a locked enclosure shed where registered residents can deposit food scraps such as eggshells, fruit and vegetable peels, coffee grinds, tea leaves, flowers, and more into collection bins. These bins are picked up weekly by a compost company. We request everyone who is interested in the program to please visit our website [secaucusnj.gov/compost](http://secaucusnj.gov/compost) or call 201-864-7336. There, you will find a link to a short registration survey. The Environmental Department will then email you an access code to unlock the enclosure shed at your selected location. Food scraps can be dropped off any-time from Saturday through Tuesday.

Help reduce food waste that ends up in landfills. Please sign up to participate and make our new composting program a resounding success.



### Councilman James Clancy Honored by Fire Department

Councilman James Clancy, who is also the Fire Department Liaison, was honored by Fire Chief Joseph Schoendorf and Deputy Chief Fred Schneider at the June 21st Town Council Meeting. Thanking Mr. Clancy for his support, Chief Schoendorf presented him with a fireman's badge and helmet. As SFD Liaison, Mr. Clancy is the point person between the Department and the Council and keeps the governing body informed of the Fire Department's policies and procedures, recruitment, training and more.



### Lahore Grand Opening

Secaucus has a new taste in Town! Lahore, located at 1277 Paterson Plank Road, offers the cuisine of its namesake Pakistani city. Mayor Gonnelli and Town Council members Jim Clancy and Orietta Tringali were present at the ribbon-cutting ceremony on June 7th to mark the grand opening. It seems the food is delicious as our newest restaurant is very busy. Take some time to drop in and welcome our new neighbors and enjoy a nice meal.

## Inviting Resident Submissions

Calling all residents and organizations to contribute your pictures and information to this Newsletter. Have events, milestone birthdays, weddings, engagements, club events, or a family member's achievements? How about your child's talents? Send a picture and a brief description for consideration. Let's make the Secaucus Newsletter a community platform. Email your information to [ajaideep@secaucus.net](mailto:ajaideep@secaucus.net) or call 201-330-2000 x 3042.

## Property Tax Information

The Secaucus Tax 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 [www.secaucusnj.gov/departments/tax](http://www.secaucusnj.gov/departments/tax) for more information or to pay online.

You can also drop off a check at the drop box located at 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.

# Students End School Year with Carnival

Mayor Michael Gonnelli and the Town Council organized a year-end School Carnival at the Secaucus High School grounds on Friday, July 25th, the last day of school. “The students had a difficult year with COVID-19 restrictions. A carnival seemed to be a great way to create fun memories to end this school year. I thank everyone from the Secaucus School District and from Town Hall who volunteered their time in a week that was already extremely busy,” said Mayor Gonnelli. The weather was beautiful and the turnout even better. Students and their families enjoyed rides, games, train rides, pony rides, petting zoo, ice cream and food. The Watermelon-eating contest organized by the Pinto Foundation and the Dunk Tank with an opportunity to dunk teachers proved to be very popular. The event was sponsored by the Secaucus Youth Alliance.



## Secaucus High School Class of 2021 Graduates



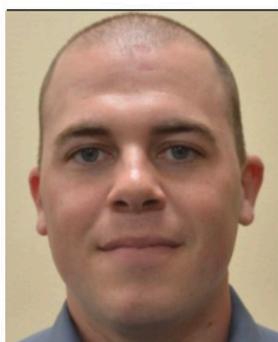
The 140 students and their families could not have asked for a more perfect evening to mark the graduation of the Class of 2021. The weather cooperated as well with a cool evening breeze and a pre-full moon night. The addresses by Valedictorian Almutwakel Hassan, Salutatorian William De Iasi and Class President Madeline Gasser, reflected the resilience of the class as they spent a good portion of their senior year away from the school campus and their friends. The fond memories, as well as not-so-welcome circumstances they faced, was unique to this class. The mood of the ceremony was upbeat and was a great celebration of the class of 2021! Students danced to the music as the High School Chorus sang Katie Perry’s “Firework”, a fitting piece that matched the fireworks at the end of the ceremony.

Valedictorian Almutwakel Hassan (pictured left) will be attending Carnegie Mellon and will be majoring in Statistics and Machine Learning. Salutatorian William De Iasi (pictured right) will pursue Engineering at Rutgers University.

We wish the SHS Class of 2021 the very best!



## Secaucus Police Officers Resuscitate 59-Year-Old Man



Police Officer Philip Caruso



Police Officer Kristen Bronowich



Police Officer Matthew Kirvin

On June 12, 2020 at 8:33 A.M., the Secaucus Police Department received a medical alarm at Long Shot Gun Range (375 County Avenue).

Upon his arrival, Police Officer Philip Caruso found the victim not breathing and no pulse could be found. Police Officer Caruso began Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR). At this time, Police Officers Matthew Kirvin and Kristen Bronowich arrived and assisted with CPR. While performing CPR, the officers utilized their Automated External Defibrillator (AED) and administered two “shocks” to the victim and a pulse was found shortly thereafter by Hudson Regional Hospital EMT’s who also arrived on the scene.

The victim was transported to the hospital and at the time of this press release he is in stable condition in the Intensive Care Unit. “I am extremely proud of these officers and commend their determination in performing these lifesaving measures. I am especially proud that these officers utilized their training and the equipment provided to them, worked as a team and were able to bring this victim back to life,” Chief Dennis Miller said.

## Paddling in the Hackensack

Looking for outdoorsy things to do in Secaucus? Make the most of the Hackensack River watershed through independent or guided paddleboat tours. Canoes and kayaks can be rented at Laurel Hill Park boat launch on Saturdays and Sundays from 9:00 AM to 7:00 PM, weather permitting. Last rental is at 3:00 PM. Suggested donation is \$25 per paddler and \$15 per passenger for a canoe, and \$25 per paddler for kayak rentals (four hours).

Moonlight Paddles are also available and are a great way to explore the Meadowlands with experienced guides under the light of the moon. Solo paddlers are welcome on guided tours. On Sundays at high tide, experienced guides take up to ten paddlers on a two-hour exploration of Sawmill Creek Marsh with spectacular views of both Newark and the entire Manhattan skyline. For more information on rentals guided tours and available dates, contact the Hackensack Riverkeeper at 201-968-0808, the Laurel Hill Paddling Center at 201-920-4746, or visit their website [www.hackensackriverkeeper.org](http://www.hackensackriverkeeper.org)

If you own a kayak and canoe, you can use the launch at either Laurel Hill Park or Mill Creek Marsh. This will allow you to see Secaucus and all of its beauty from a new vantage point!

The Secaucus Environmental Department,  
Mayor Gonnelli & Town Council  
invite you to hear from experts at the

## GREEN SUMMER SPEAKER SERIES

**7/12: TREES** - do's & don'ts to maximize tree health

*Liz Stewart, Licensed Tree Expert & President of the New Jersey Shade Tree Federation*

**7/19: NATIVE PLANTS** - designing & planting a

*native habitat Elaine Silverstein, Horticulturist & Co-Leader of the Bergen-Passaic Chapter of the Native Plant Society of NJ*

**7/26: COMPOSTING 101** Andrea Rodriguez,

*Community Compost Co. (our Town's compost program vendor!)*

**Questions encouraged! Q&A @ every session**



**7:00PM — 8:00PM**  
Meditation Garden  
(to the left of the Rec Center)  
1200 Koelle Blvd.



## SCHOOL UNIFORMS

**DONATE YOUR SLIGHTLY USED,  
CLEANED SCHOOL UNIFORMS**

**SENIOR CENTER**

**145 FRONT ST**

**MON – FRI 8 AM - - 3 PM**

**ANY QUESTIONS**

**201-330-2014**

**Mayor Gonnelli & the Town Council**  
are proud to announce a  
**Kid-friendly concert starring**

## TIM KUBART and the SPACE CADETS



**Saturday, July 17<sup>th</sup> 11 am**

**Buchmuller Park**

**A CALL TO ACTION:  
THE BLOOD SUPPLY IS  
DANGEROUSLY LOW.  
YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!**



**You're the right type**

Thank you for being a blood donor!

## COMMUNITY BLOOD & PLATELET DRIVE

Sponsored By The Secaucus Police Department



**Secaucus Recreation Center**

1200 Koelle Blvd. Secaucus NJ 07094

**Saturday July 24, 2021**

**8:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.**



All presenting donors will receive a \$5.00 Starbucks card, a tee shirt and be entered into a raffle to win a \$ 50.00 VISA gift card.

Your health and safety is our top priority. Physical distancing and additional disinfecting guidelines are in place at all blood drives. All donors are required to wear a mask and will be asked COVID-19 screening questions prior to registration.

Appointments are **STRONGLY ENCOURAGED** and available at [rwjhdonorclub.org](http://rwjhdonorclub.org) or by calling 732-235-8100 ext. 221

**RWJBarnabas  
HEALTH**

Bring a photo ID & be sure to eat and drink prior to donating

Let's be healthy together.

**Do You  
Believe  
in  
Magic?**



**Tuesday, July 6th  
6:30 pm  
Secaucus Ice Rink  
150 Plaza Center**

Join us as Zoom Balloons makes you a believer!

(The movie will follow directly after)

SPONSORED BY:



**JOIN YOUR LOCAL POLICE OFFICERS FOR  
ICE CREAM AND A CONVERSATION!**

**WHERE:** Mike's Ice Cream  
1540 Paterson Plank Road

**WHEN:** Thursday, July 15th  
6:00 – 8:00 pm



No agenda or speeches, just a chance to ask questions, voice concerns, and get to know the officers in your community!



**Secaucus  
Police Department**

