



Secaucus Monthly

July

2019

A look at the Community, including upcoming events, important notices, meetings, and more.



2019 STREET FAIR

It has been a wet start to summer this year. But the weather couldn't have been more perfect on all three days of the Secaucus Street Fair. From June 7th through 9th, the center of Town was a happening place with music, food, rides, magic shows, petting zoo, pony rides, puppeteers, jugglers, clowns, face painters and more. Thanks to meticulous planning by Susan Flanagan and the Events Committee and support from Vincent Massaro Jr. and the OEM team, the DPW, Police and Traffic departments, the 2019 Street Fair was a resounding success. - View Photos at SecaucusNJ.gov/pictures

CONCERTS & MOVIES

Upcoming Concerts: 7:00 p.m.

- 7/3 - Alotta Colada - Secaucus Swim Club
- 7/11 - Van Martin All Star Band
- 7/18 - Beginnings
- 7/25 - 45 Rpm, the 70s
- 8/1 - The Infernos

Upcoming Movies (begin at sunset)

- 7/9 - Lego Movie 2
- 7/16 - Hotel Transylvania 3
- 7/23 - Captain Underpants
- 7/24 - Jurassic World - Laurel Hill Park
- 7/30 - Bumblebee

All movies and concerts will take place at Buchmuller Park unless otherwise noted.

The Mayor's Corner

Summer is a great time to catch up on your reading list. Take a book on a trip to the beach, on your vacation or enjoy reading while sitting outside in the warmer weather. Also, encourage children to continue reading when school is out. The Secaucus Public Library is a great place to get suggestions for summer reading and to pick up books for children's reading assignments. You can also get free books from one of the outdoor kiosks located around town (Huber Street School, Clarendon School, Xchange).

This summer we are also working on an exciting new addition: a library annex at Xchange. Several residents requested a facility at the Xchange that has more amenities for children. We worked with the management at Xchange to secure space and extend some of the services

of our main library. Located by the main parking area, it will replace the current workout and lounge areas. It will have a separate children's section along with a section for other residents. I'm happy we can make this happen. It is open to all Secaucus residents, whether you live at the Xchange or not. Look out for the announcement of its opening later this summer or early fall.

In the meantime, come out and enjoy all of the great summer events the Town has to offer. Check our website secaucusnj.gov for a list of all events. Have a safe, enjoyable summer.

- Mayor Michael J. Gonnelli



Summer Camps: Something for Everyone

With free concerts, movies and more, Secaucus is a great place for everyone in summer! And, it's even more fun for school-aged children with a myriad of choices to stay involved, active and busy. Many residents are familiar with the activities that The Town offers for children of all ages and interests: Summer Camp (which include out-of-town field trips), Arts and Crafts, Tennis Camp, Basketball, Game On, Yoga, Environmental Camp, Junior Police Academy, Showstoppers and more. But did you know that these summer activities are also a great place for High School and college-aged residents to stay involved? More than 140 young residents are employed as program coordinators and counsellors over the 7-week camp period. "It's a great way for our young adult residents to gain valuable experience, learn leadership qualities and earn money during the summer months," said Summer Camp Program Director Toni Salvatore. For more information on Secaucus Summer Activities, please visit secaucusrecreation.org.

New Officers for Unico 2019-2020

Secaucus Chapter of Unico installed its new slate of officers for the 2019-2020 term at their end of season meeting on June 12, 2019. President Melissa Vogel is eager to lead the Chapter into the new term promoting Unico's motto "Service Above Self." If anyone is interested in joining the Secaucus Chapter, please see any Chapter officer or member for details. Pictured: Melissa Vogel, Gerry Dowd, Jacqueline Tuzzio, Berdine Ponti, Nancy Van Es, Carol Marra, Fr. Victor Kennedy, Ed Rucki. Members also include camera shy: JoMarie Bennett and Sandra Lopez.



Additionally, The Secaucus Chapter of Unico was proud to present a total of \$6,850 in scholarships to the following 2019 Secaucus High School Seniors: Mary Capitol Scholarship to Sophia Vogel; Anthony P. Lopez Scholarship to Jordyn DeFalco; Secaucus Chapter Scholarships to Nicholas DiRienzo and Derek Jensen; Brigetta "Greta" Marra Scholarship to Alejandro Perez. The Chapter also awarded the Brian Piccolo Memorial awards to Amanda Ulrich and Aaron Kashian. The Secaucus Chapter of Unico has awarded close to \$100,000.00 in scholarships in the last eleven years.

Secaucus Police Department Seeks Qualified Candidates

- Must possess a high school diploma or equivalent and earned not less than sixty (60) credits from an accredited college or university or two (2) years of full time active service in the U.S. Military; service in the Reserve Component or National Guard equates to 2.5 college credits for each month of full time service or .25 college credits for each full day of "drill or annual training" status
- Must be 21-35 years old
- Must be a U.S. Citizen and New Jersey resident (Secaucus residents preferred)
- Must have a valid driver's license
- Must pass a written, physical fitness and oral examination

Apply online at www.PoliceApp.com/SecaucusNJ between July 1 and 4:00 pm on July 31st.
For details, visit SecaucusNJ.gov.

Essay Written by Dario Innocenzi

Below is an essay Dario was supposed to read at the Secaucus Memorial Day Ceremony. He was upset he was not able to attend the ceremony.

Memorial Day, or the day that used to be called "Decoration Day," is a federal holiday in the United States of America. It is the day that we remember soldiers who gave their lives for our country. It is always celebrated on the last Monday of May. It is also the unofficial start of the summer vacation season.

The tradition of decorating fallen soldiers' graves is one that goes back to ancient times. During the American Civil War, people honored soldiers who had died in that war with flowers and flags on their graves. Today, people give their free time to place American Flags on the graves of our soldiers on Memorial Day and on other holidays as a way of honoring their sacrifice.

For me, Memorial Day is a very important day of respect. It's a day that we should use to say "thank you" to our soldiers who gave their lives so that we continue to have our country and all of the good and wonderful things that go with it. My dad's cousin died serving our country and I know that my father will never forget him or what he gave for all of us. I think that the best way to remember the soldiers who died and the best way to thank them is to do our best to take care of this country, to do our best to stand up for what this country is all about. If we can do that, then the soldiers will not have given up everything for nothing.

Recycled Batteries Get a New Life

The Secaucus Environmental Department is proud to announce that more than 1000 lbs. of batteries and small electronics were collected since the Big Green Box program started in 2015. Big Green Boxes are set up at several locations around Town where residents can drop off used batteries and unwanted small electronics including cell phones, calculators, handheld games and small tablets. Collected materials are sent for recycling where metals such as zinc, cadmium, manganese, aluminum and lithium are retrieved for re-use. This prevents pollution of soil, underground water and waterways. Batteries thrown in trash can leach metals and other chemicals into the soil when the outer casing disintegrates.

Do your part to prevent pollution and other harmful effects caused by discarding batteries in the trash. Drop off used batteries and small electronics in the Big Green Box at any of these locations: Town Hall Lobby, 20 Center Ave (2nd floor), Recreation Center, Secaucus Public Library, DPW Office at 370 Secaucus Rd., Harmon Cove 1 Club House, Harmon Cove Towers (Management Office), Teen Center (Front Street), High School (Mr. Ron Mroz or Denise Edmunds) Clarendon School, Xchange (5000 Building) and The Harper.

For more information on how batteries are recycled, visit BigGreenBox.com or email anesheiwat@secaucus.net.



Secaucus Graduations

June is Graduation month! Pictured here is the Secaucus High School Class of 2019. The High School Graduation Ceremony was held on June 25, 2019. The two elementary schools, Clarendon and Huber Street, celebrated 5th grade graduation on June 21st. Middle School graduation was held on June 25th. Congratulations to all graduates and their supportive families!



75th Anniversary of D-day Commemorated

June 6, 1944, or D-day as it is commonly known, marks the invasion of Normandy by the Allies that set into motion WWII. 2019 was the 75th anniversary of that historic event. To commemorate the day, a special D-Day and World War II Remembrance Program was organized at the Panasonic Room in the Secaucus Public Library. Councilman and veteran, William McKeever, spoke about the interesting intersections of local history and the events happening around the world during the War. Therese Long presented her documentary "Everyday is a Holiday!" and Cassandra Elyse took participants on a musical journey into the 1940s. Veterans, Council members and residents attended the event.



Secaucus Raises Funds to Support Special Olympics

The Secaucus Police Department, volunteer firefighters, teachers and students from Secaucus School District, along with other residents participated in a Torch Run on June 7, 2019 to raise funds for the Special Olympics.

Athletes participated in the largest competition of the year at the 2019 Summer Games on June 7th through the 9th at The College of New Jersey in Ewing Township.



"We are proud to be part of the Torch Run, which we've been doing for several years now. This year we raised about \$7,000.00 as a result of the Torch Run and other events, which will help children participate in the Special Olympics and to raise awareness about this impressive event," said Secaucus Police Captain Carlos Goyenechea, who organized the fundraiser.

The Torch Run route touched both elementary schools, Clendon and Huber Street, and made its way to the Middle School-High School campus. All participants were later invited to a community get-together and barbeque at the Secaucus Swim Club.

Other fundraising efforts for the Special Olympics included a charity basketball game on Wednesday, May 15th between the Secaucus PBA and the staff of Hudson Regional Hospital at the Secaucus Recreation Center. The game was both competitive and friendly at the same time. Secaucus PBA won the game.

The New Jersey Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics is one of the top fundraising events for the Special Olympics. Secaucus law enforcement, firefighters and school district have actively participated in the Torch Run fundraiser for the last four years.

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