



Secaucus Vaccination POD Continues

The Secaucus Vaccination POD continues to be open and provide COVID-19 vaccinations at the Recreation Center located at 1200 Koelle Boulevard. The site provides first, second and booster doses of the Pfizer vaccine and third shots of the Moderna vaccine. Please remember that third and booster doses are administered by appointment only. Please call the Health Department at 201-330-2031 to book a slot. Visit SecaucusNJ.gov/Vaccine for additional information & eligibility details.

Mayor's Corner

On September 1st, Tropical Storm Ida brought more than 7 inches of rain in a short period of time, flooding many areas including some sections of our Town. While we don't have direct control over these types of weather events, I am immensely moved by the way the community came together in the aftermath of the storm. I heard countless stories of neighbors checking on and helping neighbors. I saw first-hand how members of the Department of Public Works, Police Department, Fire Department and the Office of Emergency Management worked incessantly as reports of street and basement flooding came in. Some of them helped others even as their own homes were being affected. I thank each one of you for your dedication, hard work and selflessness.

As you work through the recovery process, please know that we are here to make rebuilding easy for you. Our Construction Office has been working tirelessly to issue permits for home repairs and replacements of major appliances. We have also waived permit fees for storm related repairs to make it easier for you

While this storm was devastating, we should be aware that this may not be an isolated event. Weather patterns are changing, and severe weather has become more

frequent than in the recent past. The Town's elevation and location on the banks of the Hackensack River close to the Newark Bay affects all of us. Flood mitigation has been and remains a top priority for me, the Town Council, and my administration. We continue to engage with professionals, engineers and State and County officials to find ways to mitigate flooding. Over the last few years, we have made considerable progress with improved pumping stations, higher berms, cleaner catchment basins, storm drain replacement and more. We will not stop there. We are committed to finding even more solutions that are effective and long term. We also continue to apply for state and county grants to help offset the costs. I will keep you updated with the progress we make.

If you need any assistance, please feel free to reach out to my office.



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

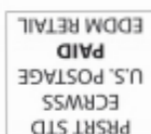
Councilwoman Orietta Tringali
otringali@secaucus.net
O: 201-330-2000

Extended Office Hours Register to Vote Now

The Town Clerk's Office will be open for extended hours on Tuesday, October 12th. Residents can visit the office from 9:00 AM to 9:00 PM to complete voter registrations or change in address. It is the last day when residents can register to be eligible to vote in the November 2021 elections.



LOCAL POSTAL CUSTOMER
SECAUCUS, NJ 07094



Secaucus Municipal Government Center
Paterson Plank Road
Secaucus, NJ 07094

Rotary Club of Secaucus Hosts Charity Poker Tournament

The Rotary Club of Secaucus has been involved in the community for several decades. Their presence and kind acts can be seen throughout town. Their involvement has included: contributing Rosetta language CDs and helping build a gazebo at the Secaucus Public Library, purchasing body armor and donating bicycles for the Secaucus Police Department, collecting for the Secaucus Food Pantry, providing scholarships to graduating students and offering baby care information for new mothers.

Most recently, the Rotary Club held a Poker Tournament on Saturday September 25th at the VFW Hall to continue their community work. The buy-in was \$100 per player. The event was licensed by the State of New Jersey with licensed dealers provided by Mike's Poker Tables LLC. Top players received a share of \$4,000 in gift cards.

Part of the proceeds of the Poker Tournament will be sent to the Secaucus Food Pantry and Secaucus Emergency Fund. Funds will also be allocated to other community projects in the months ahead.

The charity game was supported by over two dozen companies: Allstate, Axiom, Allegro, Barelli's, Century 21 Gold Advantage, Chasan Lamparello Mallon & Capuzzo, Chelsea Financial, Comprehensive Spine, Donna Mirabelli, Educational Consulting Services, Flemings Steakhouse, Gonnelli Group Remax/Infinity, G&S Elevator, Haven Bank, Hudson Regional Hospital, Keller Williams's Agnes Bowman, Marra's Drugstore, Moving Forward, Natoli's Catering, Peterson Century 21, Papa's Travel Store, Premier Security, RAC Landscaping, Resource Warehousing, S&S Auto, Silvercrest and Secaucus Spectator.

Rotary extends a gracious thank you for the continued support in the community.

Tropical Storm Ida: Volunteers Lend Helping Hand

The strength of a community is reflected in the selfless acts of its residents in times of adversity. On September 1st when Tropical Storm Ida wreaked havoc on our community, flooding many homes that are not typically affected by heavy rains, volunteers were there to help. Just a few minutes after a Swiftreach phone message was sent to residents requesting volunteers, Town Hall received many calls from eager residents who were ready to help. Two clean-up days were organized where residents helped those affected by removing wet and soiled items, such as small furniture and appliances, from inside homes to the curb for pick up by DPW. The task was not easy as items tend to get heavy when wet. A big "thank you" goes out to all residents who offered to help. Your assistance made a huge difference to every neighbor you helped!



Enhanced Incentives on Energy Efficient from PSE&G

The PSE&G Clean Energy Future Energy Efficiency Program has developed enhanced program incentives to help residential, commercial & industrial customers impacted by Tropical Storm Ida. Customers located in Secaucus, and in other disaster areas as designated by FEMA, who receive electric or gas service from PSE&G are eligible.

Customer must participate in PSE&G's Energy Efficiency Program and follow all applicable Program rules. The enhanced incentives are to assist customers in purchasing new qualifying energy-efficient equipment and appliances between September 1 and November 15, 2021. Customers will be required to complete and submit a certification form to receive enhanced PSE&G will offer the enhanced incentives only to customers that directly apply to PSE&G.

Residential Incentives:

- An additional \$200 for qualifying HVAC and water heating equipment
- An additional \$50 for qualifying refrigerators and clothes washers

Commercial & Industrial Incentives:

- An increase of up to 50% to existing incentives for qualifying equipment

For more information on qualifying equipment, eligibility and how to apply, please visit www.pseg.com/residential-idaincentives for residential customers and www.pseg.com/biz-idaincentives for commercial and industrial customers.

Third Quarter Property Taxes Due

The Secaucus Tax Department reminds residents that third quarter taxes are due on November 1st. 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 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.



New Pooch Paper Coming to Dog Waste Dispensers

The Secaucus Environmental Department and the Department of Public Works are bringing an environmentally friendly solution to doggie waste dispensers in Town. Instead of plastic bags, dispensers around Town will soon carry specially coated Pooch Paper. Pooch Paper is a recycled, biodegradable, compostable, non-chlorine paper alternative with grease-resistant coating. The product is manufactured using renewable energy, so it's environmentally friendly in more ways than one. It is widely acknowledged that each year about 500 million plastic dog waste bags clog our landfills. These bags don't biodegrade but break up into micro plastic particles that end up in the air or in our waterways. Also, when plastic and dog waste are compressed in landfills, methane gas (which is more toxic than carbon dioxide) is released. Because Pooch Paper is biodegradable, it reduces both those adverse effects of traditional plastic bags.

"Sustainability starts with each and every one of us," said Pooch Paper Founder Tracy Rosensteel. "If we contribute one small effort such as switching a daily consumable from plastic to recycled paper, we can all help save our planet one pup at a time!"

Pooch Paper received national attention after Founder Tracy Rosensteel closed a deal on Shark Tank during the pandemic and raised \$250,000 from Kevin O'Leary for the product. Tracy is also known for her TV Series In Pursuit of Passion which was aired on PBS.

Resident Submissions



Picture Courtesy Charlene Hallam

Local Youth Group Pitches for National Service Award

Congratulations to Hygiene Project's Public Service Student in Action (SIA) group, SECAUCUS CARES, for earning Multiplying Good's 2021 NJ Regional Winner—Most Outstanding Service Team! They were selected to represent New Jersey in the National Public Service Pitch Day. Students Alyssa delos Santos, Saniya Tasnim, Sophia Benavente, Liz Garcia, Samyan Mangat, Carlihanny Sanchez and Srimti Chopra presented at the national event and are waiting for the results announcement.

Secaucus Cares SIA Group also received a \$500 grant to continue with service projects, an Advisor of the Year award, a Gold Award Banner, and a Best Blog Award. Hygiene Project's SIA group has been participating in the annual Multiplying Good for five years, earning 4 Gold Banners and 1 Silver Banner. This program provides training for young leaders, helping them discover their purpose and multiply the good they achieve.

Multiplying Good (formerly known as the Jefferson Awards Foundation) was founded in 1972 by Sam Beard, Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, and U.S. Senator Robert Taft, Jr. Our Jefferson Award is America's most prestigious award celebrating extraordinary service to others. Right now, thousands of past Jefferson Award recipients are inspiring people all over the country to take actions that make a difference through service.



Community Comes Together After Tropical Storm Ida

On September 1, 2021, Tropical Storm Ida brought more than 7 inches of rain in a few hours. The storm had already wreaked havoc from Louisiana all the way up the eastern seaboard. New Jersey was one of the worst hit states in the Northeast, which led to the announcement of FEMA Major Disaster Declaration in 12 counties, including Hudson. In Secaucus, several roadways were flooded, and sewer and storm drain systems were overwhelmed despite all pumping stations working at full capacity. More than 200 homes and businesses were flooded, and many cars were submerged, including some that were deemed a total loss. Many residents living here for decades reported that this was the first time their basements were flooded. The unprecedented rain caused damage to property, but thankfully there were no casualties in Town.

Even before the rainfall totals started stacking up, several Secaucus departments mobilized to respond to potential flooding. The Office of Emergency Management monitored the weather and issued ongoing communications. The Secaucus Police Department cordoned off and set up warning devices to alert drivers to flooded roadways. Officers from the Patrol Division and Anti-crime Unit used High Water Rescue vehicles to rescue 40 individuals from waters that were as high as chest deep. Waters were so treacherous that a specialized vehicle had to be used to transport fire department personnel so they could respond to emergency calls. This was truly an unprecedented event.

Prior to the start of the storm, our Department of Public Works (DPW) was at the ready. They worked tirelessly throughout the night responding to calls and helping residents. On the night of the storm, the DPW pumped water out of more than 90 homes. Crews also checked and cleared accumulated debris on roadways and near storm drain systems. The DPW continued to work for many days after the storm to help with the cleanup efforts.

Mayor Michael Gonnelli and members of the Town Council toured the affected areas of Town, talked with residents, assessed the damage, and immediately announced several initiatives to help residents. The Administration disseminated several rounds of communications to guide residents with needed information for clean-up and recovery. The Secaucus Public Library was designated as a temporary secure shelter for residents who needed it. The Police Department removed over 120 vehicles that were abandoned and were blocking the roadways. DPW made continuous rounds of bulk trash pickup as residents started piling their damaged items curbside. Over 280 tons of extra rubbish were picked up in just one week after the storm.



Flood related construction permit fees were waived, and the Construction Department worked diligently to approve permits. Two volunteer sessions comprised of residents were organized for those who needed help bringing storm-impacted items from their homes to the curb. The Social Services Department welcomed all affected residents to the Community Store to pick-up needed items such as clothes, shoes, linens, and accessories. The SMUA conducted checks of all drains to make sure there were no obstructions.

Mayor Gonnelli and the Town Council worked closely with Congressman Pascrell's Office to ensure Hudson County was included on the Major Disaster Declaration list. On September 10th, Hudson County was included in the Declaration, which means residents, businesses and the Town can apply for FEMA grants and loans to help recover from losses suffered during Tropical Storm Ida. Initially, FEMA related information was available on our website www.secaucusnj.gov or the FEMA website www.disasterassistance.gov and help was available at the Department of Social Services. On September 18th, Secaucus became the only Town in Hudson County with a FEMA Disaster Recovery Center (DRC)

that offers in-person assistance. The center, located at the Secaucus Public Library, is open 7 days a week and welcomes residents and businesses to receive help regarding the application process, questions, types of funding available and more.

Please continue to visit our website www.secaucusnj.gov/ida for more information and updates.



Rotary Pitches in to Feed Secaucus Residents

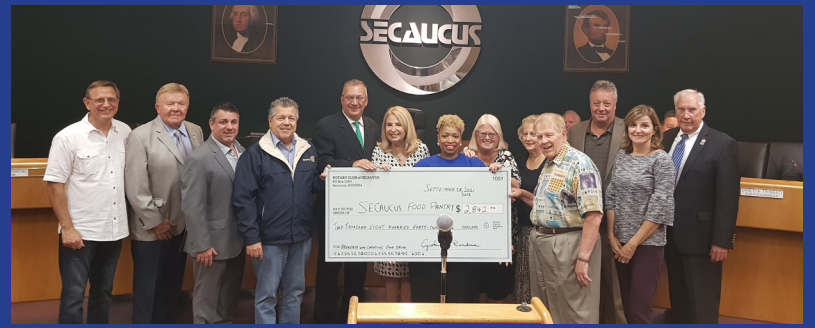
The Rotary Club of Secaucus participated in a global effort to reduce hunger. They contacted concerned organizations in the area for donations of money and food items to benefit the Secaucus Food Pantry under the leadership of Lisa Snedeker and her team.

Currently, the Food Pantry is helping over 200 families and seniors on a weekly basis. It takes about \$3,500 each week to provide basic food items to these residents. The Rotary Club was able to collect 206 bags/boxes of non-perishable food items and \$2,842 in cash donations.

Some of the companies that donated funds were: Logmein, U.S. Tech Solutions, Hudson Regional Hospital, John from Yalie Cleaners, and Keller Williams's Agnes Bowman. Bags/boxes of food were collected from Cathy Wolf's Secaucus Cares students, Stacey Lee and the students in S.A.I.L., and the Clarendon and

Huber Street school students. Community minded individuals in town also dropped off bags of food at Rotarian Phil Papa's Travel Store.

The effort raised enough food and money to feed Secaucus residents in need for two weeks. A check for \$2,842 was presented to Lisa Snedeker at the September 28, 2021 Town Council meeting with members of Rotary in attendance.



**ALL ARE INVITED TO ATTEND
A COMMUNITY MEETING WITH
MAYOR MICHAEL GONNELLI, TOWN COUNCIL
&
THE SECAUCUS POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**WHERE: Clarendon School
PARKING: School Parking Lot
WHEN: THURSDAY, October 14, 2021
6:00 PM TO 7:00 PM**

Agenda:
Discussion of Town Issues and Events
Overview of New 2021 Policies
Crime Trends/Patterns
Crime Statistics
Concerns, Questions & Answers

*Please note we will have masks available for anyone who does not have one and will be practicing social distancing.

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

**DEA NATIONAL TAKE
BACK INITIATIVE**

Turn in your unused or expired medication for safe disposal along with your E-Cigarette & Vaping devices

NO NEEDLES OR SYRINGES

Saturday October 23, 2021
8 A.M. - 2 P.M.

Secaucus Public Library
1379 Paterson Plank Road
Secaucus, NJ 07094



HCIA FALL SHREDDING 2021
9AM - 2PM (RAIN OR SHINE) FREE!

Due to COVID-19, ALL RESIDENTS MUST REMAIN IN THEIR VEHICLE AND PLACE THEIR MATERIALS IN THEIR TRUNK.

Saturday, September 18
Red Bull Arena - Harrison
North Parking Lot
Jose Marti School - Union City
1812 Summit Ave - Field Parking Lot

Saturday, September 25
Gregg Park - Bayonne
Parking Lot #1 - Parkview Drive & Kennedy Blvd Entrance

Saturday, October 2
DPW - West New York
6200 Dewey Avenue
West Hudson Park - Kearny
Parking Lot, near Duck Pond

Saturday, October 9
Lincoln Park - Jersey City
Duncan Avenue Parking Lot

Saturday, October 23
TBA - North Bergen
Location is TBA

Saturday, October 30
DPW - Hoboken
Wilcox Avenue & Observer Highway
DPW - Guttenberg
277 7th Street

Saturday, November 6
Secaucus High School - Secaucus
11 Mirdidge Road, Parking Lot

WHAT TO BRING:
• Personal or Confidential Documents
• Newspapers
• Magazines
• Binder Clips

WHAT NOT TO BRING:
• Cardboard
• Books
• Binders

IMPORTANT!
In an effort to accommodate all those wishing to participate please limit your documents to no more than 40 lbs. For further information, contact the HCIA's Environmental Hotline: (201) 324-6272 ext. 3257 or visit www.hcia.org. Documents will be commercially shredded safely, privately and properly by trained, licensed and bonded document destruction specialists. Residents may bring documents in whatever type of container they wish. These events are open to Hudson County residents. Businesses are not eligible to participate.

County Executive • Thomas A. DeGise Chief Executive Officer • Norman M. Guerra Chairman • Frank Pestana

**Storm Ida - Assistance
New Clothing Available**
September 17, 2021

**Mayor Michael Gonnelli and Town Council
Announce Help for Impacted Residents**

If you were impacted by Storm Ida and need help with getting new items at no cost from the Secaucus Store, please call
Social Services Department at 201-330-2014
(Monday - Friday 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM)

Items available include:
✓ Clothing
✓ Shoes
✓ Accessories
✓ Linen

• Pre-registration with Social Services Department is required.
• Please limit pick-ups to immediate essential needs so everyone impacted by the storm can benefit from available items. Thank you for your understanding.

FEMA OPENS SITE IN SECAUCUS

If you have been impacted by Tropical Storm Ida and need help regarding FEMA and U.S. SBA assistance, in-person help is available at the FEMA Disaster Recovery Center:

**Secaucus Public Library
1203 Paterson Plank Rd
Monday - Friday 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM
Saturday: 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM
Sunday 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM**

- Information about disaster assistance programs
- Eligibility questions
- Application help
- Follow-up on a previously submitted application
- SBA Loan (for homeowners, renters, businesses, and certain non-profits)

Mask are required

Mayor Michael Gonnelli and Town Council

Hiring Event - Tues. 10/19/21

**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**

**HELP INCREASE THE
SECAUCUS TREE CANOPY**

**REQUEST
STREET TREES**

The Shade Tree Committee is starting a list of future planting locations in the Town's right-of-way (strip between sidewalk & street)

**FOR MORE INFORMATION &
TO APPLY VISIT
SECAUCUSNJ.GOV/TREES**

scan QR code

TREE BENEFITS: increased property values, cooler streets, cleaner air.

SKIP THE STRAW!

To reduce litter, NJ Law mandates that plastic straws can only be provided upon request starting **November 4, 2021.**

**So, SKIP THE STRAW
or bring a reusable one.**

#njcleancommunities | njclean.org

**The Rotary Club of Secaucus Invites You To
Enjoy a Thrilling Evening with James Bond**

Saturday October 16, 2021

**007™
NO TIME TO DIE**

The Event Begins With a Private Showing of
"No Time To Die"

Kerasotes Theater # 14 at 3:45 to 6:43 PM
Follows by Martini Cocktails & Buffet Dinner at Harmon Cove Townhouse Clubhouse 7 to 10 PM.
James Bond Trivia Contest with Cash Prizes.
Secret Agent Identity Contest

Ticket Price \$75 Limited to First 50 Registered Guests.
Dinner Ticket \$50, for those Not Attending the Film.
Call Don Evanson 201-902-9742 or email donevanson@aol.com
To Secure Your Reservation no later than Friday October 8th.
Make Check to Rotary Club of Secaucus
Mail to Don Evanson 1407 Harmon Cove Towers Secaucus, NJ 07094
This will be a "Dress Up" event with business attire and evening dress.
Funds Shared with Secaucus Emergency Fund and Secaucus Food Pantry