Secaucus



Newsletter



Mayor's Corner

It was a great privilege to host Congressman Pascrell, who was in Town on Friday, February 17th. The Congressman was at the current Senior Center to make the formal announcement of the \$950,000 grant awarded toward the construction of the new Senior and Community Center, which will be located at the site of the prior building, 101 Centre Avenue. On behalf of myself and the Town Council, I would like to thank the Congressman for his constant support to our Town. Due to his efforts, we were able to receive other funds including Port Security and Assistance to Firefighters grants. All these funds allow us to make major improvements to our facilities and infrastructure and go a long way in decreasing the burden on our Town's fiscal budget.

Recent grants from County and State sources will also allow us to repave the full length of Centre Avenue and Paterson Plank Road from the intersection by Dunkin Donuts to the cul-de-sac. Work will begin this Spring, and even though it may cause temporary inconvenience, it will benefit us immensely in the long run.

Lastly, Spring is in the air and I look forward to

the line-up of events and activities as the weather gets warmer. As we see students accomplish great things in Spring sports, college acceptances, graduations and more, I would like to invite you to send us your information and photos so we can share it with our community. Sharing accomplishments and efforts brings our community closer and helps keeps the core small-town feel of Secaucus intact. Please email Alka at ajaideep@secaucus.net for consideration.

Be well and stay safe.

Alternate Side Parking in Effect

Please be advised that alternate side parking will be in effect starting Monday, March 13, 2023. Please move your car to alternate side on designated days to allow street sweeping to avoid parking tickets.



Spotted Lanternfly Eggs

The Town of Secaucus is actively taking steps to prevent hatching; however, most Spotted Lanternfly eggs are on private property that is inaccessible to the Town of Secaucus. Therefore it is important for residents to take the steps necessary to prevent their hatching this spring. Watch as Environmental Department Intern Damaris Acomata shows you how to properly destroy eggs and stop the lifecycle of the Spotted Lanterfly before it starts. Visit **SecaucusNJ.gov/Lanterfly** to watch the video



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

PRSRT STD ECRWSS U.S. POSTAGE PAID EDDM RETAIL Secaucus Municipal Government Center Paterson Plank Road Secaucus, NJ 07094

Margaret Cruz Honored as Senior of the Year

Each year, senior citizens of Secaucus are invited to a very special Valentine's Day breakfast

celebration. This year's event was held at the Clarendon School gymnasium with a sumptuous breakfast served by 5th grade students. It is also the event where everyone waits for the much-anticipated announcement—the Senior of the Year award. When Mayor Gonnelli announced that Margaret Cruz, a resident of the Elms, is the 2023 Senior of the Year, all attendees clapped and cheered. Speaking about the



pick, Lisa Snedeker, Senior and Social Services Director, applauded Margaret's compassion and helpful, welcoming and friendly attitude. Congratulations to Margaret on the well-deserved honor.

Thanks go out to the students, teachers and staff of Clarendon School and the staff of the Department of Social Services for organizing the enjoyable event.

Secaucus Rotarian Participates in Polar Bear Plunge

Congratulations to our newest Secaucus Rotary member, Bill DeIasi, and Team De-Icers, who participated in the New Jersey Special Olympics Polar Bear Plunge in Seaside Heights on March 24th. This is the 30th anniversary of the event, and Bill participated for the 14th year, braving the frigid waters to raise money for Special Olympics athletes in New Jersey. The Club and some members also made donations. The Secaucus Rotary wishes the organizers and participants of the Special Olympics much success.



Rotary Club Concludes Second Baby Bundle Event

The Rotary Club of Secaucus successfully raised approximately \$1,700 to purchase gifts for the second "Mom's and Babies Best Start Luncheon", in partnership with Hudson Regional Hospital. Members and friends of the Rotary made generous donations during the Rotary's Italian Heritage Dinner Fundraiser. Delectable dishes, sponsored by United Way, were prepared by Rotarian Chef Danny Altilio, President of the United Way of Hudson County.

One "Baby Bundle" with baby basics for twelve months was prepared and presented to a mother by Villon Enterprises. Additionally, all new mothers who attended received four large gift bags filled with baby supplies and clothing donated by Hudson Regional Hospital, Villon Enterprises, the Rotary Club of Secaucus, and a large donation from GoTo Technology, thanks to Keely Respass. Gift certificates for Carter's and Walmart were also handed to each mother.

The Rotary Club of Secaucus also thanked Mayor Michael Gonnelli who generously donated designer handbags for a raffle, future Rotary District 7490 Governor John Cosgrove for his presence, Mr. Yan Moshe, owner of Hudson Regional Hospital, and Dr. Nizar Kifaieh, CEO of Hudson Regional Hosital for their ongoing and generous support. Rotarian Sheryl Syby, Assistant Vice President of Nursing, was assisted by Krystal Melendez and Sabrina Matos in providing a delicious holiday luncheon and gifts.



Recycling Really Pays: Town Receives Grant

The Town of Secaucus received a Recycling Tonnage Grant in the amount of \$189,204 from the State. It is a grant that helps communities enhance waste reduction and recycling programs. The awards are based on 2020 recycling performance and Secaucus is one of only 31 towns to receive an award of over \$100,000. This is possible thanks to the diligence of our residents who consistently recycle items, thus taking them away from landfills. Many residents also help reduce waste by participate in the Community Composting program resulting in organics that are turned into usable compost. All of your recycling efforts paid off and we thank you!

Boys Soccer





The Boys Soccer Recreational U-10 and U12 teams won the Fall 2022 NCSA tournament and were honored by Mayor Gonnelli and the Town Council. Head Coach Alex Laloui presented the players with monogrammed jerseys and the members of the Town Council presented them with messenger bags at the February 14th Town Council meeting.

Congratulations players, coaches and parents on this awesome accomplishment!

Knights of Columbus Fish Fry



On Friday, March 3rd, the Knights of Columbus hosted their annual fish fry at Immaculate Conception Church. This has become a Lenten tradition. The event was very well attended, and all were well fed. Pictured above is Pastor Victor Kennedy with some of the members of the Knights who helped run the event. The Knights thank all who attended as funds raised help advance the many charitable causes the organization supports.

EPOS Valentine's Day



Yet another fun day at EPOS! Attendees celebrated Valentine's Day with music, dance, games, and food. If you or someone you know would like to know more about the EPOS program and the line-up of activities, please call 551-257-7202 or email kbuckel@secaucus.net.

Clean Energy Incentives Are Here!

Last summer, President Biden signed the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA). The IRA features over two dozen provisions in rebates, loans, and tax incentives that help save New Jersey families money while moving our state closer toward a clean energy future.

The landmark law sets the course to help homeowners and residents reduce energy bills and improve the efficiency of and electrify their homes with tax credits and upfront rebates on state-of-the-art heat pumps, water heaters, stoves, and ovens. Additionally, the IRA provides up to a 30% tax credit on the cost of installing solar panels and rebates that can save buyers up to \$7,500 on a new electric vehicle – just to name a few.

To navigate the wide variety of available benefits, the White House unveiled a new website that makes learning about the new federal incentive programs easy! Please visit www.cleanenergy. gov to learn more!

To maximize the savings afforded by the IRA, you can stack federal programs with state programs, like New Jersey's Charge-Up Program, (info at www.chargeup.njcleanenergy.com) a nation-leading rebate of up to \$4,000 toward a new electric vehicle - leading to even greater savings. We encourage you to take advantage of state and federal cost savings while they're available. The list of state programs for homeowners and businesses is available at www. njcleanenergy.com, where you can also find a directory to your electric and gas utility website to explore more cost-saving opportunities.





















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

Secaucus



Schools

Dear Secaucus Families,

I hope everyone is doing well!

This is a very exciting time of year for our district! Spring is quickly approaching and plans for the next school year are already coming to fruition. Our administrators are working diligently to ensure that we are providing our students with the best education possible and keeping our school district in the top 100 in the state, which contributes to the high property values in this amazing community!

At the High School level, student registrations for the 2023-2024 school year have begun. Please take a moment to scan the QR code on this page to view our newest High School Program of Studies. This document provides students and families with information on the plethora of course offerings that the high school has available! Also remember that all district events for all of our schools could be accessed on the Google Calendar available on the www.sboe.org webpage.

I would like to remind parents/guardians and Secaucus residents about our "Parent Communication Form" that is also available on the www.sboe.org website (as a button on the right side of the page labeled 'Parent Questions/Comments'. We welcome all feedback and will use the questions submitted to populate our bi-weekly FAQ that is available under the "News" section of our www.sboe.org website.

Finally, I want to wish everyone a "Happy St. Patrick's Day" and a wonderful, mild end to our Winter season! I would also like to thank all of the Secaucus residents for their support of our school system. We could not do what we do without your help!

Best Regards,

Dr. Daniela Riser

Acting Superintendent of Schools

Mrs. De La Cruz's Kindergarten Class



The students in Mrs. De La Cruz's kindergarten class at Clarendon School have been enjoying science lessons about matter and the way it changes. During "Ii" Week, they used very cold ice to turn liquid milk into solid ice cream, and during "Pp" Week, they used a very hot griddle to turn liquid pancake batter into solid pancakes!

Internet Safety

For "Safer Internet Day" in Clarendon School, 5th grade students in Ms. Melendez's computer class watched videos on how to be safe on the internet and discussed ways to use the internet responsibly. After, students created their own Internet Safety posters on Google Slides to share with the younger grades.



Atomic Emissions

Students in Ms. McFadden's chemistry lab were observing atomic emission spectra, which are the wavelengths of light produced by different elements as they are energized. Students have been learning about electron locations within atoms, and they're seeing firsthand what happens as we excite different gases with electricity. Students then observed these bulbs through spectroscopes, instruments that take in light and separate it into different wavelengths. The goal of the lab was to show that no two elements have the same emission spectra, and we often compare this concept to fingerprints with humans.



In Huber Street School, Mrs. Viera's 3rd grade class enjoys extra S.T.E.A.M time for meeting their academic goals!

Cheerleading & Dance



Secaucus High School students
Sarah Bowers (right) & Carlina
Carbone (left) were named to the
New Jersey Cheerleading & Dance
Coaches Association's 2022-2023 All
State Team. This is the 1st time that
cheerleaders from Secaucus High
School were bestowed this honor.

Anthony Franks Award

Congratulations to Secaucus
High School student Anthony
Franks, who won the NJIC
Meadowlands Division Joe
Feigel Sportsmanship Award.
This award goes to any senior
in the league who demonstrates
leadership and responsibility
along with the generous
treatment of others.



Valentine's Day





Both Clarendon and Huber Street school PTAs treated our amazing teachers with Valentine's goodies! On behalf of our schools, thank you so much for your generosity!

Therapy Dog

Students in our therapy dog group are all smiles working with our therapy dog Lucienne and Ms. Zahava Pianko, school psychologist and coordinator of our district therapy dog program! The district currently employs three therapy dogs who visit students around the school district.



School Clubs Host Breakfast Fifth Graders Participate in Project Linus



The High School S.A.I.L., Key Club and Middle School S.G.O. students held a "Meet and G Mrs. Stamm's fifth grade class is working on Project Linus, a drive to collect and

donate fleece blankets to seriously ill and/or traumatized or other children in need. The class received many donations, including from Chirolove Spine and Wellness Clinic (pictured here). Thank you Mrs. Stamm and her class for contributing to a great cause! reet" breakfast as part of their Big Friends/Little Friends program.