



## Earth Day Cleanup

Each year, April 22nd is celebrated as Earth Day to raise awareness of the need to protect the Earth's resources for future generations. The Secaucus Environmental Department runs several initiatives towards this end, including tree planting through the Shade Tree Committee, community composting, plastic bag recycling, advancing solar projects, encouraging growing of native plants, community gardening, community supported agriculture (CSA) programs, and volunteer clean-ups such as this one at Mill Creek Point.

## Mayor's Corner

I am excited to share the news that Secaucus has received two new grants that will help us continue our infrastructure improvement projects in Town. I am especially happy with a \$2.9 million grant from the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) that will fund much needed refurbishment of the entire stretch of Seaview Drive. The roadway is impacted by heavy freight traffic and has needed repair for some time. Our proposed improvements will include milling and repaving the roadway, new curbs and sidewalks, cutouts for buses to accommodate safe boarding, and a bike lane. Thanks to the grant, this massive project can be completed without impact on the Town budget.

Although much smaller than our NJDOT grant for Seaview drive, I am happy that we received a Local Recreation Infrastructure Grant (LRIG) to refurbish the water and spray feature at Buchmuller Park. In the warmer months, children love cooling down in the water sprays. We would like to replace the spray feature with new, reliable equipment, and more importantly, upgrading it for more fun.

Both these grants have just been awarded and we will have to go through several steps including planning, designing, bid selection, construction, and final approval. I will bring you updates as the projects progress.



We are also planning on a ribbon-cutting ceremony to officially open the extended Park at Farm Road (adjacent to Acorn Park). We will continue to beautify the area with native plants as the weather gets warmer. We are also progressing on an agreement with the NJSEA to utilize the adjoining land to the east to extend the park even further. Again, I will share details as we make progress.

Before I sign off, I would like to remind our residents to come out and support the Memorial Day Parade on May 20th. See you there!

## Children Visit Town Hall

Town employees were invited to bring their children to mark "Take Your Child to Work Day" on April 27th. Attendees had a great time learning about the functions of various departments, and especially sharing their parent's workspace for the day. Mayor Gonnelli welcomed them to the special program as Town Administrator, Gary Jeffas, and Town Attorney, Keri Eglentowicz, explained the functions of various departments and led them on a scavenger hunt and tour of Town Hall. A stop at the Police Headquarters, a tour of the inside of a Secaucus fire truck, tips by the Environmental Department on how to go green, a visit to all departmental offices at Town Hall, a pizza lunch, and of course a generous bag of toys, arts and crafts from Mayor Gonnelli—all made a perfect way to spend time at their parent's workspace.



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LOCAL POSTAL CUSTOMER  
SECAUCUS, NJ 07094



Secaucus Municipal Government Center  
Paterson Plank Road  
Secaucus, NJ 07094



## Community Comes Together for Autism Awareness

April is Autism Awareness and Acceptance month and was marked by several initiative across the Town of Secaucus which culminated with the Town Council passing a resolution at the April 25th meeting. The Secaucus Police Department and PBA held a themed t-shirt fundraiser with all proceeds benefitting EPOS, a program geared towards enriching the experiences of individuals with autism. Town employees participated in a “wear-blue-to-work-day” and also made monetary donations to benefit EPOS. Blue lights brightened gazebo lights around Town and a large sign marking April as Autism Awareness Month was installed. The goal of these efforts was to raise awareness about the developmental and communication disabilities that affect those with autism, to accept and celebrate the immense contributions of individuals with autism, and to support their families.

## Canine Brix Joins Police Department

In September, 2022, the Secaucus Police Department re-established the Canine Unit, which was on pause after K9 Strobe retired two years earlier. The nineteen-month old German Shepherd, named Brix was purchased from Connecticut Canine Services with money from forfeited funds and officially received his badge from Chief Dennis Miller at the Town Council Meeting on April 25th. Canine Handler, Tyler Pein, and Brix have undergone twenty-nine weeks of vigorous training at the Bergen County Sheriff’s Canine Academy, which culminated on April 14, 2023. This Secaucus Police Canine Patrol Team have been trained in agility, obedience, article/evidence searches, scent work, tracking, criminal apprehension and handler protection. Brix has also been trained to detect various controlled dangerous substances, except for marijuana.



The Canine Unit is assigned to the Operations Section and will assist the Secaucus Police Department in furthering proactive policing. Brix will also be utilized for community demonstrations in hopes of enhancing our community policing efforts.

In September, 2020, the Secaucus Police Department established the first Canine Unit in its history, with a very generous financial donation from the Steven Strobert Foundation. The nine-month-old German Shepherd, named Strobe in memory of Steven Strobert, was purchased from Connecticut Canine Services. In 2021, K-9 Strobe was retired after his handler, Police Officer Vince DeFazio, was promoted to Sergeant.

## NEW—Pay for Parking on the ParkMobile App

Residents and visitors now have a convenient new option for paying for parking in Secaucus. As of May 1, 2023, parking fees may be made via the ParkMobile app. Coin payments are still available at all freestanding parking meters. The Northend Municipal Lot and Centre Avenue Municipal Lot will accept parking payments solely through the ParkMobile app.

Things to Know:

- The ParkMobile app is free to download on the App Store and Google Play Store.
- When parking, open the ParkMobile app, enter the zone number listed on the parking meter signs onto the app to quickly pay for parking. Use the app to pay for parking and extend your parking session remotely.
- Remember, all posted restrictions will still be in effect. For example, residential parking, street cleaning, and time restrictions for certain parking spots will still apply as posted.
- Parking Enforcement Officers will use your license plate number and zone number to view your ParkMobile payment on a handheld device. Please check your license plate number before confirming your parking session.

If you have any questions, please call the Secaucus Police Traffic Division at 201-809-4603.

## Want to join the Bocce League?



The Bocce League of Secaucus officially kicked off their season on April 25th at Buchmuller Park. Mayor Michael Gonnelli and the Town Council members James Clancy, Robert Costantino and Orietta Tringali greeted the teams on this special occasion. If you would like to do something fun during summer evenings and would like to consider joining the Bocce League, please email [secsparks@aol.com](mailto:secsparks@aol.com).

## Spring Fling Senior Prom



Each Spring the Mayor and Town Council, in association with the SAIL Club of Secaucus High School, organize a very special event for the town’s seniors. This year’s Senior Prom “Spring Fling”, held at the High School, on April 25th was yet another success. With music, dance, raffles, and food served by S.A.I.L. Club members, the seniors had a special time. Congratulations to Paul and Betty Ann Pinkman on being selected Prom King and Prom Queen.

## Rotary Club’s Fun and Fundraising



The Secaucus Rotary Club was one of the Sponsors for the 2nd Annual Cornhole Tournament Fundraiser for the Hudson County Schools of Technology to benefit the HCST Foundation. The tournament was held at the school, located on the Frank J. Gargiulo Campus in Secaucus.

The tournament featured 32 two-person teams competing until it got down to the final two teams. The winners won a beautiful Cornhole Game set. All the players had fun, made new friends, and said they are looking forward to next year’s event. Food was served at the event, and there was plenty of it. It was All You Can Eat, and no one left there hungry.

Presenting a check to HCST Foundation Director of Development Silverio “Sal” Vega and Natalia Novas is Secaucus Rotarian and HCST Trustee Diane Rich, Secaucus Rotary Club President Robert Merlo, and Secaucus Rotary Club members Sherri Merlo, Robin Anselmo, Phil Papa, Gina Gonzalez, Mike Milano, Dianne Vasquez, Rick Saltarelli, Lydia Staab, and Rajesh Nagpal.

The Secaucus Rotary Club supports many charitable organizations in town and the community, providing scholarships for Secaucus students, supporting the Veterans Pantry and the Town Food pantry, the Secaucus Emergency Fund, the Secaucus VFW, Toys for Tots, and much more to benefit the town of Secaucus. For upcoming events being held by the Secaucus Rotary Club, visit their Facebook page, Secaucus Rotary Club, or log onto their website at <https://secaucusrotary.org/>



## Rain Couldn't Dampen the Spirit of Sprinters



It was a cool spring morning, with heavy rain sporadically interspersed with a steady drizzle. Not a great morning to be outdoors but, as you may know, nothing can stop runners from participating in a race. More than 70 runners were ready for the 5K Spring Sprint organized by Partners in Prevention, a substance abuse

prevention organization based in Secaucus, in association with the Secaucus Coalition. Many more residents, organizers and sponsors set up tents and booths to cheer the runners. The course started at the High School Parking Lot, proceeded through Schmidts Woods, on to the Greenway towards Acorn Park and back. When the Spring Sprint was over, there were cheers for all those who crossed the finish line-some beating their best times, some running for a cause, some running for the first time (including children who ran with their parents). Winners in several age categories were announced. One topic that dominated the conversation at the end of the run was the serene beauty of the course. We agree that the natural beauty and open spaces that our Town has is truly a blessing. Check out the Secaucus Greenway and experience it for yourself!

## Report Sale of Flavored Vapes

In 2020, New Jersey became the first state in the nation to ban flavored e-cigarettes and flavored vaping devices. Research showed that flavored electronic smoking devices and products such as candy, fruit and chocolate are extremely appealing to children and young adults. Evidence of the detrimental health effects and the addictive nature of these devices is irrefutable. Despite New Jersey's ban, flavored vapes are sold throughout the State, sometimes even to underage children. To prevent access to these devices, the Secaucus Health Department and Secaucus Coalition call on all residents to report sale of flavored vaping devices and products in New Jersey to the Health Department by calling 201-330-2031. Repeat offenders are subject to fines and possible cancelation of licenses.

### ARBOR DAY

THANK YOU  
2023 SPONSORS

- HARTZ MOUNTAIN
- YUSEN LOGISTICS
- BHASIN PROPERTIES
- EDEN NAILS
- LA CASA DE LOS TACOS
- ALLEGRO SANITATION CORP.
- CUPS FROZEN YOGURT
- BOWMAN & COMPANY LLP
- ACCREDITED LOCK SUPPLY

Mayor Michael Gonnelli and Town Council  
join residents of Secaucus in gratitude for your generosity

### Flower Arrangement Class

MAY 12, 2023  
6:30 PM  
Panasonic Rm.

Spring has sprung at the Secaucus Public Library! Join us for a floral arranging class with Susan May. Learn the basics: Balance, Scale, Proportion, Harmony and more. Leave with a beautiful arrangement to keep or share. Space is limited, register on the calendar at [secaucuslibrary.org](http://secaucuslibrary.org)

**Free Class**  
Limited Seats  
Registration Required

### SEEKING TALENT!

We are seeking performers to present their singing, dancing, comedy, spoken word, and novelty acts on the Buchmuller Stage for our 3rd Annual "Secaucus Got Talent". All acts must be pre-registered by July 16th to be considered. Performance will take place on August 16th at 6:30 pm. Please contact Lee Penna at [lee.penna@secaucus.bccls.org](mailto:lee.penna@secaucus.bccls.org) to register your act or for more information.

### IMAGINE GARDEN

"ribbon cutting" 44 Meadowlands Parkway  
WEDNESDAY, MAY 24TH  
6 PM

Welcome by Mayor Gonnelli  
Mayor Gonnelli will officially welcome sponsors, volunteers, gardeners, & visitors to the new garden & officially "open" it for the inaugural '23 season

Thanking Sponsors & Volunteers  
Recognition of all sponsors, including: the Sadhu Vaswani Center, ZT Systems, Union Beer Distributors, The Jerry Perricone Foundation, Home Depot, & Life Art Kitchen Cabinetry; additionally, the hundreds of volunteers that have helped establish the garden

Garden Tour by NPSNJ  
Alongside the Secaucus Environmental Department, the co-leaders of the NPSNJ Hudson Chapter introduce the specialized native plant habitat gardens they helped create and their importance

PLEASE RSVP TO:  
[ENVIRONMENTAL@SECAUCUS.NET](mailto:ENVIRONMENTAL@SECAUCUS.NET)

The Mayor & Town Council present the  
9th Annual  
**JAZZ NIGHT**  
in the Meditation Garden  
MAY 18, 2023  
6:30 PM

Featuring The Cait Jones Trio

Located at  
Secaucus Recreation Center  
1200 Koelle Blvd.

Sponsored by:

PLEASE JOIN MAYOR MICHAEL GONNELLI AND THE TOWN COUNCIL

### MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

SATURDAY, MAY 20, 2023  
12:00 NOON

Refreshments and Entertainment to follow at Buchmuller Park

**New Parade Route**  
Begin at Enterprise Ave. @ 5th St.  
5th St. to Flanagan Way, turn right on Flanagan Way to Plaza Ctr., turn left on Plaza Ctr. to Buchmuller Park  
followed by refreshments and entertainment at Buchmuller Park

[www.secaucusnj.gov](http://www.secaucusnj.gov) for details

Alzheimer's New Jersey

### WALK TO FIGHT ALZHEIMER'S

SATURDAY, MAY 13, 2023  
LIBERTY STATE PARK  
NORTH COVE FIELD  
JERSEY CITY  
Registration 8:30AM,  
Kick Off Rally 9:30AM, Walk 10:00AM

REGISTER & DONATE TODAY!  
at [www.alznj.org/walk-](http://www.alznj.org/walk-)

Join or Donate to Team Columbus

SECAUCUS

### Hiring Event - Tues. 5/16/23

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](mailto:tacquaviva@secaucus.net)

SECAUCUS FOOD PANTRY IS IN NEED OF  
**REUSABLE BAG DONATIONS**

WHERE & WHEN  
145 FRONT STREET  
M-F 8AM - 3PM

WHAT  
ANY/ALL REUSABLE BAGS

WHY  
TO HELP THOSE IN NEED & THE ENVIRONMENT

[SecaucusNJ.gov](http://SecaucusNJ.gov) | Social Services 201-330-2014



# Secaucus



# Schools

Dear Secaucus Families,

I hope everyone is doing well!

It's hard to believe that we have already reached the month of May and that there is only one more month until the summer break! This month, students will be participating in the NJSLA and AP testing, and will also be wrapping up the school year toward the end of the month with summative assessments in many of their academic subjects. Please remember that testing dates and all district year-end events for all of our schools could be accessed on the Google Calendar available on the [www.sboe.org](http://www.sboe.org) webpage.

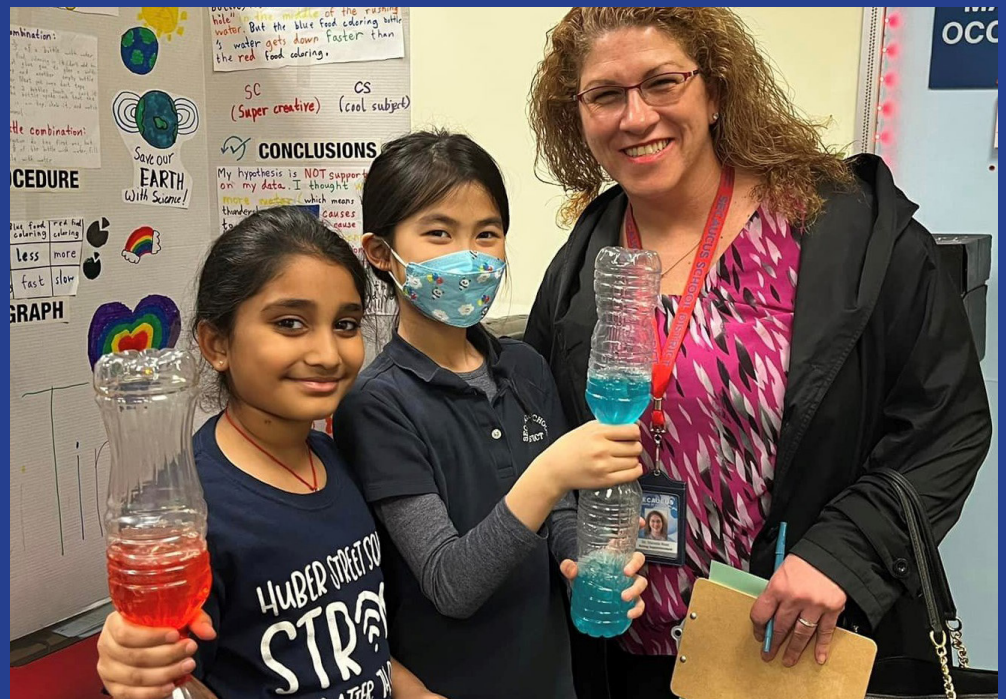
Again, I would like to quickly remind parents/guardians and Secaucus residents about our "Parent Communication Form" that is also available on the [www.sboe.org](http://www.sboe.org) website (as a button on the right side of the page labeled 'Parent Questions/Comments'). We welcome all feedback and will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

Thank you for supporting our school district!

Best Regards,

Dr. Daniela Riser

Acting Superintendent of Schools



## Bookfair



The Secaucus School District thanks their elementary PTAs for hosting our Annual Book Fairs!

## Autism Awareness



"It's OK to be different!" On Thursday, April 6th, our Bees wore blue for Clarendon School's Autism Awareness Day. #SecaucusPride

## SGO Hosts Spring Kickoff



On Wednesday, April 5th, the Middle School SGO hosted a social gathering event for all 7th and 8th graders called "Spring Kickoff." Students were encouraged to come in spring casual attire as they enjoyed a pizza dinner and took part in exciting games and activities while dancing to the latest tunes! Gift cards to the Carnegie Diner and Jersey Mikes were also given out to winners of a three-round Jeopardy tournament as well as a Nintendo Switch tournament.

## Stem Hackathon



## Science Fair



Congrats to our Clarendon and Huber Street School Science Fair participants! Acting Superintendent, Dr. Riser, thinks they did a great job!

## Huber Street School



At the end of their non-fiction unit in Huber Street School, Mrs. Curry's 4th grade ELA students were ready to scrub in for "Text Feature Surgery."