## **SECAUCUS**



## **NEWSLETTER**

May 2020 Secaucus Monthly Newsletter www.SecaucusNJ.gov



### **Mayor's Corner**

I am writing this message at an unusual time. The COVID-19 health crisis has unsettled our lives in many ways, and we have had to take unprecedented steps to stop the spread of coronavirus. On behalf of the Town Council and myself, I thank our medical community, first responders and essential workers for doing a tremendous job during these difficult times. And I thank each one of you for following the rules of social distancing and wearing masks to stem the spread of the virus.

Even though our lives have been affected in unimaginable ways, a new sense of purpose, positive spirit and resilience has touched and changed our Town. There has been an outpouring of messages of support and donations from residents and businesses. Masks, gloves, hand sanitizers, meals for first responders and essential workers, snack bags for medical personnel, food for the Secaucus Pantry, and more have poured in. Some residents work tirelessly to make cloth masks for other residents and essential workers. Donations have poured in for the Secaucus Emergency Fund, an independent charitable organization that does amazing things for our residents. We have been fortunate that we were able to donate to hospitals, firefighters, shelters, and organizations beyond our Town.

Secaucus played a vital role in the medical response to the COVID-19 crisis. Riverside Medical Group was one of the first in our area to start testing for the virus. Hudson Regional

Hospital was chosen to be the first Hudson

County drive-through testing site. New Jersey's first field hospital with 250 beds was set up at the Meadowlands Exposition Center. The care available to Secaucus and the rest of the County was remarkable. Unfortunately, we lost valuable members



of our community to the virus. I pray for their families and want you to know that the Town Council, I and our staff are here to help during these difficult times.

As of now, we have seen encouraging signs in the number of tests offered. Hospitalizations are outpaced by patient discharges, and there are fewer patients needing prolonged intensive care. State and County parks are now open. All this leads me to believe that we are seeing the light at the end of the tunnel. I cannot wait for the time when I can see you all, visit our seniors, and have residents visit me at Town Hall.

In the meantime, stay tuned to our website www. secaucusnj.gov/virus for the latest updates. Please continue practicing social distancing and wear masks in public settings.

Stay vigilant and be safe.

# Census 2020

and beautiful.

The Mayor and Town Council would like to remind all residents to complete the Census, if you have not done so already. Please refer to the letter that was sent out by Census inviting you to respond online or by phone. Just log on to www.2020census.gov or call 844-330-2020. Support is available in 59 languages including Spanish, Chinese and Gujarati.

Every resident living in Secaucus as of April 1, 2020 counts. Federal and State representatives use Census data to determine funding that support education, emergency services, roads, healthcare and more. In crisis situations like the current COVID-19 pandemic, Census data is used to determine the impact on businesses and highrisk populations including the elderly. This invaluable information is only possible because of the response of people and businesses.

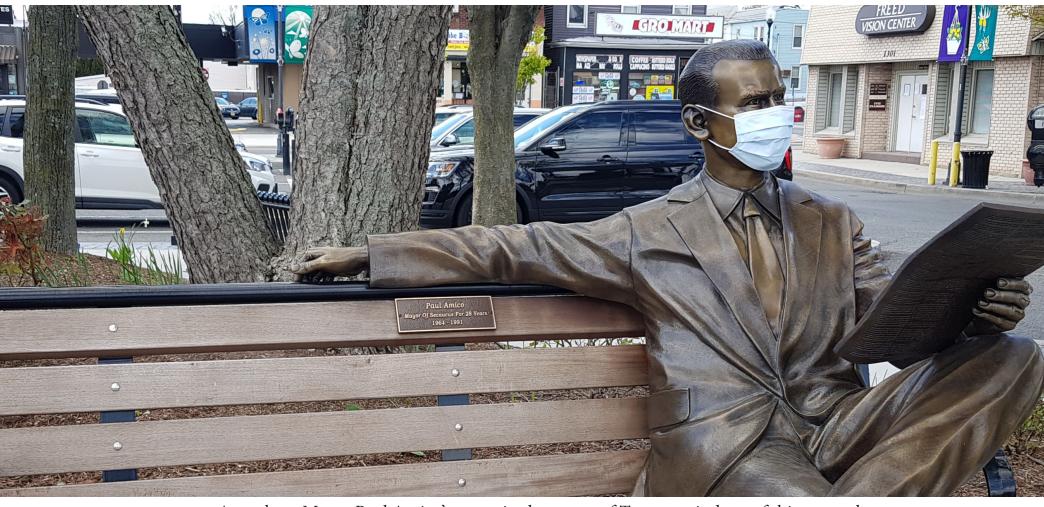
Remember, if you live in Secaucus, you count!

Secaucus Municipal Government Center Paterson Plank Road Secaucus, NJ 07094

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### **Around Secaucus**



A mask on Mayor Paul Amico's statue in the center of Town reminds us of this new rule.



The Annual Arbor Day Celebrations were cancelled but that did not stop this young resident from sharing the message.



Most Easter celebrations throughout Town were cancelled. Easter Bunny brought some cheer with a ride on a fire truck.



Governor Phil Murphy ordered flags to be flown at half-mast indefintely as the state deals with the COVID-19 pandemic.



Schools are closed but School Lunch Program is still on. Thank you, lunch aides and school cafeteria workers.



Recreational facilities including parks and playgrounds were ordered closed by Governor Phil Murphy to accommodate social distancing rules.



Local residents have been bringing cheer by painting rocks like these and leaving them around town for others to "discover."

### **COVID-19 Donations**



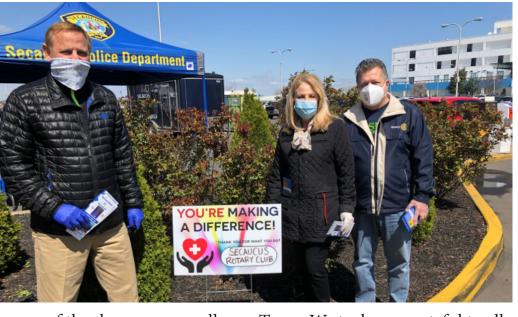
The Town of Secaucus, Walmart, and Century 21 Stores donated boxes of Easter candy to the Knights of Columbus.



The generosity of Secaucus donors extended beyond our Town. Several hospitals including Clara Maass and St. Joseph's Hospital received protective gear, hand sanitizers and messages of thanks.



Donations poured in from many residents and included much-needed surgical masks, protective gowns, face shields, gloves.



Messages of thanks sprung up all over Town. We truly are grateful to all health care workers, first responders, essential workers, volunteers and donors.



Fast moving developments were promptly communicated on the Town website, the primary source of detailed updates for Town residents.



Residents help other residents, as masks become mandatory in public settings. Thank you all for your kind gesture.



Secaucus shares the donations of Easter candy and other items with The New Jersey Firefighters Home.



Monetary donations from residents and a range of businesses helps the Town and charitable organizations do more for families affected by COVID-19.



Shortage of PPE made improvisation a necessity. Donated ponchos came in handy for these healthcare workers.



To thank the medical staff, the Secaucus Police Department donated certificates from local restaurants to Hudson Regional Hospital.



#### **Community Unites, Thanks Our Heroes**



The Secaucus Fire Department organized a clap out to thank all Hudson Regional Hospital medical staff and those working the Hudson County COVID-19 testing site.



While social distancing kept residents apart, the sense of community and gratitude drew us closer together.



The U.S. Navy Blue Angels and Air Force Thunderbirds flew over the region, and right above Secaucus, to honor frontiline COVID-19 responders.

Photo courtesy: Michael Addis.



This Thank You sign reflects the sentiment of the community towards all medical workers, first responders and essential workers.

