



Street Sweeping is in effect starting Wednesday, July 1, 2020. Please move your car to alternate side on designated sweeping days.

Mayor's Corner

It has been over three months since we saw our lives, and our lifestyles, deeply impacted by the COVID-19 health crisis. Like all of you, I am very happy that we are now in phases of recovery and reopening. As we move through Phase 2 and onto Phases 3 and 4, we must remember to continue following recommended guidelines for the health and safety of everyone in our community.

The Town Council and I believe that we should bring as much normalcy to our lives as possible. Despite questions about when community pools would be allowed to open, our staff worked diligently to have the Swim Club ready for our residents. As soon as the Governor announced we could open community pools, we knew we were ready. We opened the Swim Club on the first day possible with policies and procedures in place to make sure we operate the facility as safely as possible and keeping the health and safety of our residents as our priority.

I can say the same thing about our Summer Camps. We were not sure when or if we were going to be allowed to offer camps for our children this year. But that did not stop us from planning the season and preparing facilities. We were delighted when we received news that day camps can open. However, because of guidelines and restrictions, we must limit the number of campers and adjust the way our summer camps operate. Despite these necessary

changes, I am glad that many younger children will be engaged in fun activities and older students get the valuable experience of being a camp counselor.

In the last few days, stores and restaurants have been open to the public. Now, more than ever, local businesses need our support. Please shop local and eat or order take-out at restaurants in the community. When they survive, our community thrives.

Lastly, our Summer Concert Series in Buchmuller Park as well as our Movies at the Ice Rink will kick off after the 4th of July holiday weekend. Please remember to check out the schedule and mark your calendars so you do not miss these exciting events. While we inch back to normal, please follow social distancing guidelines and wear a mask as required. Remember the health of our community depends on each one of us.

Stay vigilant and be well.

-Michael Gonnelli, Mayor



Entertainment Around Town This Summer

Mark your calendars. Summer entertainment is back again this year! Due to COVID-19 rules and the need for social distancing, there may be some restrictions in place. Please wear a mask at all events and stay home if you have a fever above 100.4° or have any symptoms typically associated with COVID-19.

Summer Concerts scheduled for 7:00 PM at Buchmuller Park except where noted

- July 9—Beginnings—The Music of Chicago
- July 16—C'mon Get Happy—The Super 70's Show
- July 23—Dancing Dream—The Music of Abba
- July 30—Beatlemania Again—Beatles Tribute Band
- August 6—Bobby & The Jets—The Music of Elton John**
- August 13—The Original Mix Company—Oldies & Doo-Wop Band
- August 20—Neil & The Diamonds—Neil Diamond Tribute
- August 27—The Cameos—NJ's Favorite Oldies Group

Movies—7:30 PM at the Ice Rink

- July 7 - Sonic the Hedgehog
- July 14 - Lion King
- July 21 - Secret Life of Pets 2
- July 28 - Toy Story 4
- Aug. 4 - Avengers: Endgame
- Aug. 11 - Spiderman: Far From Home
- Aug. 18 - Batman vs. Ninja Turtles
- Aug. 25 - How to Train Your Dragon: Hidden World

** Concert at Mill Creek Point

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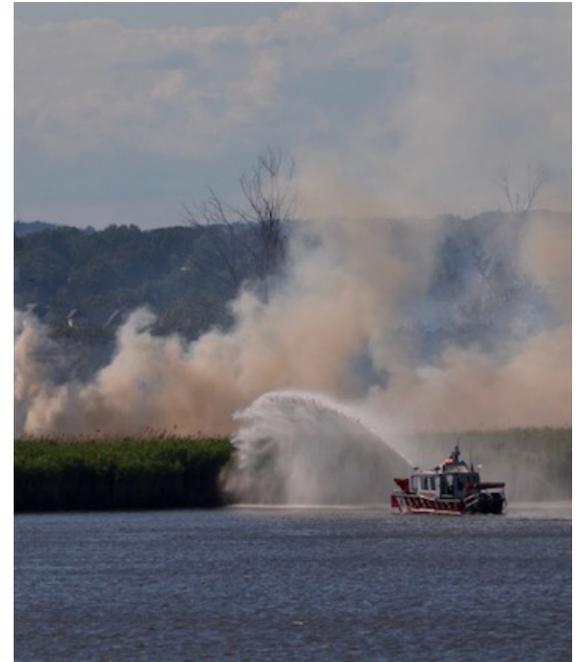
Peaceful March Organized by Middle School Students



On June 15th, over 300 people gathered at the Secaucus Public Library parking lot and marched to Buchmuller Park in support of Black Lives Matter marches happening across the country. The march, which was initiated by three Secaucus Middle School students, was attended by a diverse group of people, including families, and was peaceful. The Secaucus Police

Department blocked off local streets to allow the marchers to walk safely through the center of Town. Several marchers, including the organizers, spoke about equality, respect and a call to end discrimination. The march started shortly before 6:30 PM, and the gathering at Buchmuller Park, lasted about an hour.

Marine 1 Responds to Brush Fire



On June 24th, the Marine 1 Rescue Fireboat was on scene to put out a large brushfire on the far end of the Hackensack River across from Harmon Cove.

Picture taken by Charlene Hallam

Fourth of July Celebrations Postponed

Due to current restrictions on the number of people allowed to gather outdoors, Mayor Michael Gonnelli and the Town Council had to postpone the Fourth of July Celebrations, including the Pool gathering and fireworks. We will inform you about the new date as soon as a decision is made.

SHS Awards Celebrations Go Virtual; Graduation Will Be In-person

In March, the Secaucus School District had to transition to distance learning due to the COVID-19 pandemic. All in-person instruction, activities and events had to be repurposed. In a sign of the times, the 2020 Academic and Athletic Awards also had to be online only. On June 8th, the Board of Education conducted a virtual SHS Academic Awards Night. The Athletic Awards Night, was held on June 17th. Videos of both events can be viewed at the SBOE Stream on Youtube.com.

The High School Graduation Ceremony, originally scheduled for June 24th, has now been rescheduled to Tuesday July 14th and the Middle School Ceremony has been rescheduled for July 15th. In a break from the past few years, the ceremony will be outdoors and not in the Performing Arts Center. Based on Governor Phil Murphy's guidance, outdoor gatherings are limited to 500 people, which has made planning of the graduation ceremonies unique.

All other school graduations were virtual. High Tech High School, a County school located in Secaucus, also conducted a virtual graduation on Wednesday, June 25th.

Safe on Bikes, Treats at Mike's!

Attention Secaucus Children, Officer Eccles and Officer Keegan will be randomly patrolling parts of Secaucus looking for those of you on bicycles. Should you be in compliance with bicycle safety guidelines, you will be issued a "citation" for one free small ice cream sundae or one free small milkshake at Mike's Ice Cream!



“Porchside Pick-up” Service starts at the Secaucus Public Library

The Secaucus Public Library has begun grab-and-go pick up service for books, music and other library materials, as part of its phased reopening plan. The Library is also working on opening the building for in-person services as soon as possible.

According to Library Director Jenifer May, patrons are not yet allowed to enter the library building, as the state is allowing only pick/drop-off services at this time via contactless delivery and pick-up. Library users will be asked to wear face coverings and employ social distancing when interacting with library staff, either through porchside services, homebound deliveries or other services as they are announced.

Secaucus residents with active library cards are able to place holds on books and other items held by the Secaucus Public Library using the catalog at www.bccls.org or by using the library’s new myLibro app. Instructions to use the app, which is scheduled to go live by the end of June, will be available on the library’s website: secaucuslibrary.org. Secaucus Public Library cardholders can also call the library’s circulation desk at 201-330-2083 to arrange for porchside pick-up or homebound delivery service. Phone-based library service is available Monday through Saturday, 9am-2pm, and weeknights from 4pm-9pm. Porchside pick-ups are scheduled within those times, as well.

Patrons who have library items out since before the library closure are asked to return them via the book drops starting on June 15, but fines will be waived through August 31st in order to allow patrons to return items at their own

convenience. The library will allow a return of materials to book drops only and move returned items to a designated area for a quarantine of at least 72 hours.

Throughout the pandemic, the Secaucus Public Library has launched a wide variety of online and virtual programming in order to continue to provide library services to our community while the library building and its meeting rooms are closed. These include weekly Trivia Nights, live health and wellness classes, Google Classroom forums, and even a new website highlighting the library’s fine and creative arts initiatives: secaucuslibraryarts.org. Upcoming programs include social-distance friendly Summer Reading Programs for children and teens, as well as an online workshop series sponsored by a recent grant from Google focused on using new computer and Internet tools for job searching, resume writing and improving online interviews. New subscription services include ValueLine Research Library, which provides comprehensive investment information and CreativeBug, which hosts hundreds of video tutorials for Do It Yourself projects and crafts for all ages.

Patrons are encouraged to visit the library’s websites, as well as their Facebook and Instagram pages for access to these services, as well as updates and information on virtual programming, upcoming online events, and online learning opportunities. Library patrons and library supporters are also asked to sign up for the library’s e-newsletter by clicking on the “Join Our Mailing List” button at secaucuslibrary.org

SPD Creates Celebratory Moments for Children



The COVID-19 pandemic has halted many celebrations, but our residents have found many ways to continue the festivities and make memorable moments. Our streets sometimes have a parade of cars with balloons, banners, decorations and a symphony of honks--“Drive-by Celebrations” –to honor birthdays, anniversaries, graduations, arrivals of babies and more. One such celebration involves the Secaucus Police Department.

Several young children who are celebrating birthdays have been getting a very special surprise. Parents just schedule a drive-by celebration with

the Police Department’s Liaison Unit, and a small parade of marked police cars drives by the child’s residence, honking to create a memorable moment for the entire family. Several parents have called in to request this special treat for their young children. Check out the Secaucus Police Department’s Facebook page for pictures, videos and those glimpses of priceless moments as SPD supports families celebrating birthdays and more.

Meadowlands Parkway Paving Underway

An extensive repaving project is now underway on the Meadowlands Parkway. The project is funded, in part, by a \$2,030,000.00 grant from the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) which was awarded in 2018. During the upcoming months, nearly the entire length of Meadowlands Parkway will be repaired and resurfaced. Please expect delays and partial road closures as this project progresses. Residents are requested to drive carefully and to slow down in work areas. The Mayor and Council are excited that this long awaited project is underway.

Get Together Outdoors

Due to the current restrictions because of health crisis, many families are not able to gather at indoor locations or their favorite restaurants. Outdoor gazebos and other spaces are available for gatherings. If you are interested in reserving a spot or location at any of the Town’s parks, please contact the Recreation Department at 201-330-2078. Please follow all social distancing guidelines and wear masks when it is not possible to stay at least 6 feet apart. We want all residents to enjoy outdoor facilities in a responsible manner.

Summer Camp Is On!

The Mayor and Town Council are committed to providing services that help ease the situation for parents returning to work as the pandemic-related restrictions are lifted. They would also like to provide children with a safe environment to socialize and stay engaged this summer. To this end, they worked with the Recreation Department, the Department of Health, The Board of Education and other entities to make sure Summer Camp is available for our Town's children. Numerous special procedures have been put in place to help ensure the safe operation of the camp and to maximize the health and safety of campers and staff alike.

Starting July 6th, registered campers will be able to attend two 3-week sessions in the Pee Wee, Junior and Senior categories. Summer Camp is limited to a maximum of 150 children so that we can adhere to the State guidelines mandated for this camp season and enhance social distancing. Campers registered for the first session will be given first preference for enrolment in the second session.

Measures put in place based on the guidance during the COVID-19 pandemic include:

- Mandatory training including information about COVID-19 related health measures for all staff and camp counsellors
- Daily screening protocol for all campers and staff with temperature check and symptoms questionnaire.
- Anyone with a fever of 100.4° or certain symptoms will not be permitted to participate.
- Mandatory face coverings when social distancing is not possible.
- Increased handwashing throughout the day and hand sanitizing stations provided.
- Three separate drop-off and pick-up locations.
- Campers will stay together in groups throughout the entirety of the camp to promote consistency and enhance social distancing as much as possible.
- No off-site activities or field trips
- Enhanced cleaning and sanitizing protocols in place

“The State has strict guidelines for summer camps due to the COVID-19 situation. Many towns decided not to offer camps this year. But we decided to put in the extra work and plan in the best way possible to make it happen. Recreation Department worked closely with other departments to make this a reality. I am thrilled we can offer our summer camp program to our families,” said Mayor Michael Gonnelli.

If you have any questions regarding Summer Camp, please call Karyn Taylor at 201-330-2000, Ext. 3203.

Nautical Clap-out for Hudson Regional Hospital



As the hues of the sky blazed with colors of the setting sun, residents in kayaks joined the Fire Department's Marine 1 fireboat in the Hackensack River to applaud healthcare workers and staff of Hudson Regional Hospital. They termed it "Nautical Clap Out", a novel way to continue the daily 7:00 pm clap out to appreciate healthcare workers for their vital role in fighting COVID-19. Numerous residents on foot joined in, standing on the banks of



the river where the hospital's staff also gathered. Hudson Regional Hospital has been pivotal in the fight against COVID-19 and was selected as Hudson County's official testing site in March. The June 1, 2020 event was unique and was appreciated by all at Hudson Regional Hospital.

Picture by Charlene Hallam

Swim Club Open, Free Access to Residents

The Secaucus Swim Club opened on June 22nd, the earliest date allowed under New Jersey's COVID-19 guidelines. Due to the limited number of residents that will be allowed admission and to ease the situation for residents during these difficult times, Mayor Michael Gonnelli and the Town Council announced that admission to the Pool will be free to all residents this season.

To ensure safe operation of the facility, the Swim Club requires these additional rules:

- Entry will be limited to a maximum of 180 residents to ensure social distancing and safety of our residents and staff.
- Pool premises will only be open to residents of Secaucus. No out-of-town guests permitted, even if they are related to a town resident.
- Pool hours will be Monday-Friday 12:00 PM to 7:00 PM. There will be two sessions on Saturday and Sunday: Session 1 from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM and Session 2 from 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM
- Every person, including staff, entering the Swim Club must have their temperature taken each day. If an individual's temperature is in excess of 100.4F they will not be permitted access into the facility.
- Due to limited capacity, a reservation is required to enter the complex. Reservations must be made on Community Pass one day in advance. Reservations will open at 9:00 AM until capacity is met. To make a reservation, you will need a Community Pass account and submit proper proof of residency documents for all members of your household. You will not be able to register for the Swim Club until the documents are submitted. If you do not have a Community Pass account, please go to the Community Pass tab at www.secaucusrecreation.org/home to create one.
- For help with Community Pass, please contact Shannon Waters at swaters@secaucus.net or call 201-330-2078, weekdays from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM.
- You will not be able to enter the Swim Club without a reservation. There will be no standby line.
- Residents 55 and over may call our Social Services Department at 201-865-4422, from 8:30 AM to 2:30 PM to reserve a spot for the following day.
- No chairs will be available for rent, you must bring your own chairs. Cabanas can be rented for \$25 per weekday and weekend session on a firstcome, first-served basis.
- Toys, buckets, rafts, floats, fins, snorkels, noodles, etc. are not allowed in the pool and at the Swim Club.