

DEMAREST JESUIT



Official Borough Newsletter
Volume 41 No. 3 September 2009

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

I am pleased to report that there are many exciting developments taking place in Demarest this summer. The Council awarded contracts to demolish and re-build the Borough's Public Works facilities. This long awaited improvement will enhance the department's ability to perform its functions, and will bring us into compliance with several state environmental regulations that have been nagging issues. The Council is also considering final drafts of a much anticipated Streetscape Improvement Plan to spruce up downtown with an antique style clock and streetlamps to compliment the historic railroad station, and new sidewalks to give the downtown an historic, traditional atmosphere. I would like to thank the committee of Steve Conti, Tom Connolly and Bill Connelly for their hard work in moving this improvement forward.

We have already begun moving our historic artifacts and relics to the recently acquired home behind borough hall, in anticipation of a full time Historic Preservation Society office at that location. Upon completion of an architectural assessment, we will continue the process of re-configuring the municipal complex for more efficient and effective use of space.

The Council also approved this summer a referendum to convert the current private library association to a municipal library. This referendum will give us the most democratic view possible of the feelings of our constituents who are affected by the library issues. My personal feeling is that Demarest should maintain a municipal public library to take advantage of the opportunities and benefits available to a municipal library, and that funding will be equal to the private association in the end. Councilman Brian Bernstein was instrumental in moving this initiative forward, and I thank him for that.

We have been very fortunate in Demarest. Although municipal property taxes have risen an average of 6-10% a year in surrounding communities, the municipal tax rate in Demarest is practically the same as it was in 2004. This fiscal success has been fueled by innovative thinking, exhaustive efforts to improve the non-property tax revenue stream and good old fashioned belt-tightening by all the borough department heads. We have included in this year's budget a full funding mechanism for our pension obligation, saving taxpayers from a protracted, high interest deferment that many communities were forced to accept due to their tenuous fiscal positions.

Finally, I would like remind you all that schools will be re-convening and leaves will begin falling shortly, so please exercise caution while traveling on our Borough streets, being careful of children at play and others sharing the road with motorists.

Mayor James Carroll

DEMAREST DAY 2009

"DEMAREST DAY" WILL BE HELD ON SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 26 at the downtown Wakelee Field Area from 2pm to sundown. There will be balloon rides, children's rides and activities. Come listen to music and eat hot dogs, ice cream, coffee and soda for **free**. The Demarest Day will culminate with **fireworks** at Wakelee Field. Keep the date open and come join your neighbors for an afternoon and evening of fun and entertainment. **Rain date is October 3.**

If you would like to be a sponsor or volunteer, please call Police Chief Powderley @ 201-768-1540.

ANNUAL HALLOWEEN PARADE

The parade will be held on **Saturday, October 31st**, at **11am** at the Railroad Station. There will be prizes and refreshments. No rain date scheduled.

GENERAL ELECTION

The last day to register for the general election is **October 13th** and the Borough Hall will be open from 8:30am to 9pm for anyone who wishes to register to vote. If you need an absentee ballot application or have any questions call the Acting Borough Clerk, Susan Crosman at 201-768-0167 ext#39. **Election day is November 3rd**, the polls are open from 6am to 8pm. Forms are available online @ www.co.bergen.nj.us, click on: All Departments & Agencies: Superintendent of Elections, then go to voter registration forms.

Effective January 1, 2010

The Borough Tax Office will no longer accept cash payments for property taxes. All property tax payments must be made in the form of personal check, bank check or money order.

DEMAREST FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Safety Tips

- Paints & flammables. Please keep them stored in a metal cabinet or container. Do not leave any material, rags or liquids near a heat source such as a water heater, furnace or boiler as the pilot light may ignite the fumes!
- Mowers, blowers and other gas operated tools. Please do not operate indoors such as in the garage. You risk the danger of carbon monoxide poisoning or, if the tool catches fire, it may spread the fire to your home.
- Smoke/Carbon monoxide detectors. PLEASE check them at least monthly for proper operation. They are proven life savers!
- Before heating season have your boilers, furnaces, chimneys/flues and fire places checked by a professional. Have your chimney cleaned.
- Going away? Please leave a key or a code and phone number for a contact. If your fire alarms go off we are often delayed in making entry into your home. We do not want cause damage trying to get into your home.

News:

Fall is here and the Fire Department will be visiting the schools as part of our Annual Fire Prevention Program. The kids have fun learning about Fire Prevention and tips on Fire Safety. Our Poster is always a big hit and we hope you'll continue your support of this important program by encouraging your children to participate.

Fund Drive: The Fire Department wishes to thank all our residents who have answered our Fund Drive letter. We ask of our residents who have not yet sent in their donation too please help us. Thank you.

Membership: New Members are always needed. We are a small volunteer group who prides itself on providing fast, efficient, professional service when the alarm goes off. Day or Night...we are here to answer the call. Please consider joining our ranks as fully trained Fire Fighter or a member of our growing Auxiliary. Stop by the Fire House any Sunday morning for more details.

**Come join us at the
Northern Valley Fire Chiefs' Parade
October 11th at 1pm in Cresskill**

DEMAREST POLICE DEPARTMENT

School is opening on **Wednesday, September 2.** We need the help of every citizen to protect our school children and school crossing guards. Tragically, the pedestrian accident rate has significantly increased statewide:

- New Jersey is the most densely populated state in the nation, a situation made worse by the number of vehicles on the State's roads. For example, 30 years ago 50% of students walked to school. Today, 85% are driven to school, resulting in congestion in the school zones far beyond what the streets were designed to handle.
- Too many drivers are distracted by eating or drinking behind the wheel, using cell phones or simply not paying attention. There also are increasing incidents of aggressive driving. Unfortunately, most unsafe driving in school zones are by drivers who use the streets most often - the parents and grandparents dropping off or picking up children.

See children ahead? Don't assume they know you are coming, even if they are looking right at you. Children and senior citizens lack auditory localization-the ability to locate a moving object by hearing it. That's why children and older people are far more likely to be involved in pedestrian accidents.

Accidents involving children are especially common where there are parked cars that block driver's vision of children darting into the street. Accidents involving senior citizens are more common at intersections because older people take longer to cross. Many people aren't even aware how fast they are going. If a car going 20 MPH hits a pedestrian, there is a 95% chance of survival. However, the survival declines to 45% at 30MPH and less than 10% at 40 MPH.

Any person seeing an incident of unsafe driving, especially any action that interferes with a crossing guard, is urged to notify the **Demarest Police Department @ 201-768-1540.** Your cooperation & assistance will be greatly appreciated in keeping our children safe.

Chief James F. Powderley

DEMAREST NATURE CENTER

The DNC "THE TRIAL OF THE TRAILS" 1 Mile Trail Fun Run and 5K Trail Run (rain or shine) will be held on **Saturday, September 19th**. The 1 mile Run begins at 9am and the 3.1 mile Cross Country Race will begin at 9:15am on the trails of the Demarest Nature Center. Participants must register by 8:45am at the Wakelee Fieldhouse. See our website for the race route, age categories and other details. Rain or Shine.

October: Raptor Project, live birds of prey, at the State Line Lookout, Palisades Parkway (njpalisades.org/calendar.htm) Also, **Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory Open House**, Route 9W (Ideo.columbia.edu). Check respective websites for dates.

28TH ANNUAL OKTOBERFEST

"CRAFT SHOW AT OKTOBERFEST" will be held on **October 10**. (rain date: October 17) The craft fair will host up to 75 crafters displaying a wide variety of homemade crafts including jewelry, woodcrafts, pottery, photography, doll clothes, painted furniture, holiday items and much more. There will also be German music, German and Korean foods, canoe rides on the duck pond and inflatable rides nearby.

For more information on **"THE TRIAL OF THE TRAILS"** or **"CRAFT SHOW AT OKTOBERFEST"**, please go to: demarestnaturecenter.org



St. Joseph Annual Bazaar

"St. Joseph's Church will hold its annual bazaar on Sunday, Oct. 4, 2009 from 11AM to 5PM at St. Joseph Church. The event will feature inflatable rides, games and raffle drawings for prizes from local merchants. Come and enjoy great foods, crafts and other items from vendors.

All are welcome! Bring your family and friends! For more information, please call (201) 767-3115.

Environmental Commission

The Environmental Commission will be hosting a presentation on Monday October 26 at 7pm in the Mayor & Council Chamber from the Hackensack Riverkeeper regarding Category 1 Waterways. The program will talk about C1 rules affect municipal flood control efforts, which includes slide show that will show areas in Demarest, how the C1 ruling applies to, how the permitting process works, and other important information.

Compost Bin Sale

The BCUA will hold a one-day compost bin sale on Saturday, November 7, 2009 at the Bergen County Campgaw Mountain Reservation, 200 Campgaw Road in Mahwah, NJ between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m., rain or shine.

At the sale, individuals may purchase homecomposting bin for only \$52.00; the bin retails for over \$100. Payment is accepted in the form of check or money order. **NO CASH!** Participants will also be provided information on composting and recycling.

ATTENTION RESIDENTS

Please call Miele Sanitation at 201-768-3818 to schedule an appointment to pick up large appliances, like household equipment. Refrigerators, air conditioners and ice makers must have the freon removed before pick-up by a certified service person. (If you are buying a new appliance, check with the merchant whether they would remove and dispose of your old appliance.) After completing the mowing of your lawn, please put grass clippings in a garbage can and not in a plastic bags.

DEMAREST PUBLIC LIBRARY

Library Hours:

Monday & Thursday 10am-8pm
Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday 10am-5pm
Sunday 1pm-5pm

Book Discussion Group meets the first Monday of each month at 7:30pm.

Knitting Group-Bottles & Cans meets the first and third Wednesday of the month at 7:30pm

ART SCHOOL AT OLD CHURCH

35th Annual Pottery Show & Sale
Annual benefit curated by Karen Karnes

Featuring countless exceptional pieces by master potters including Karnes, Bayless, Joerling, Galloway, and more.

Friday, December 4th: 6:00-10:00 PM, Champagne Reception, \$20 suggested donation. Saturday, December 5th: 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM, \$10 suggested donation, Sunday, December 6th: 12:00 PM to 5:00 PM \$10 suggested donation.

FALL CLASSES

Registration is open for fall classes for adults, teens and children at the Art School at Old Church. Classes begin on September 14, 2009. For a course catalog call 201-767-7160.

MIKHAIL ZAKIN GALLERY EXHIBITIONS

Fresh From The Street Exhibition runs through September 10.

Annual faculty show from September 25 through October 23, 2009. The exhibition celebrates the school's 35th year and the dynamic history of artwork by the esteemed faculty. A public reception for the artists will be held on Saturday, September 26th, 2-4 PM.

The exhibition showcases works that are diverse in both medium and style. Oil and watercolor paintings, hand-pulled prints, drawings, ceramics, lampworked glass, jewelry and fiber are a few of the disciplines that will be on display.

The Art School at Old Church is located at 561 Piermont Road in Demarest. Call 201-767-7160 for more information or visit www.tasoc.org. Gallery hours: 9:30 AM – 5:00 PM & 7:00 – 9:00 PM, Monday – Friday and 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM, Saturday. Closed: September 28

PROPERTY MAINTANCE

All residents please feel free to contact the Building Department @ 201-768-3398 if you should see a property that is un-kept. We need your help in keeping Demarest beautiful.

DEMAREST AMBULANCE CORP

WE NEED MORE HELP

The ambulance corps is being run by a small group of people, who give more than double the amount of time that is needed for this corps to function,

We are looking for:

STUDENTS 16 YEARS AND OLDER (GREAT FOR COLLEGE RESUMES), AT HOME MOMS AND DADS, RETIREES or anyone who can donate a few hours during the day.

Please contact us at 201-767-8050

DEMAREST HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

On Wednesday, October 21, 2009, the Demarest Historical Society, Inc. will sponsor its fall program about historic Tappan. Janet Halloway will present the program. She will discuss Andre's trail, Benedict Arnold's conspiracy to turn West Point over the British and the times when George Washington camped in nearby Tappan. ***Does Demarest have a connection with Tappan? Yes.*** It will be an interesting and informative evening.

Next business meeting of the Demarest Historical Society will be held on September 10, 2009 at the Railroad Depot.

Historical Trivia

The following are recollections of Lorraine Thompson Brosnahan, a former resident of Demarest, about the Van Davies and what is now the Davies Arboretum.

- As kids we would be very daring to go to Davies house for Halloween. We would go up on the porch and get up the nerve to ring the doorbell. If Van answered maybe we would get a nickel.
- We would catch pollywogs in the brook next to the icehouse.
- Van Davies wore an army jacket during any season.

HISTORY OF VETERAN'S DAY **NOVEMBER 11TH**

Formerly Armistice Day, Veterans Day is a holiday observed annually in the United States in honor of all those, living and dead, who served with the U.S. armed forces in wartime.

Armistice Day, the forerunner of Veterans Day, was proclaimed in 1919 to commemorate the termination (at 11 am on Nov. 11, 1918) of World War I. On the first anniversary of the truce, U.S. President Woodrow Wilson issued a proclamation eulogizing fallen Allied soldiers and referring to November 11 as Armistice Day. It became a holiday in the U.S., France, Great Britain and Canada.

THANK YOU TO OUR VETERANS

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

In order to rent or sell your home a Certificate of Continued Occupancy is required. You must complete the application, pay the required fees and have the home inspected prior to any change in Occupancy or Ownership. This process takes approximately 4 to 6 weeks, so make sure you allow ample time. Any Questions please call 201-768-0167 ext# 12.

DEMAREST SENIOR CENTER

All activities are held at the Railroad Depot. We welcome all residents and neighbors ages 55 and above. Monthly meetings are held on the 3rd Friday of the month.

On September 15th is a trip to Renault Winery for lunch, tour of the winery and to Trump Plaza Casino. The cost is \$40 which includes transportation, lunch, taxes and gratuity. The bus will be leaving the United Methodist Church at 8:15am. Call Grace Walsh @ 201-768-1783 for your reservation

A monthly trip to Atlantic City is held on the third Tuesday of each month at a cost of \$25.00. The trip departs from the United Methodist Church.

STAINED GLASS CLASS

All Senior Citizens are welcome to join our Stained Glass Class on Fridays to discover the talent you did not know you had. All classes are directed by a super instructor, Mr. Luhrsen, and the materials are free. The class is held at the Railroad Depot. Surprise yourself!! Many thanks to Mr. Luhrsen, who does our monthly bulletin, for his wonderful News and Art Work.

BINGO

All Senior Citizens are welcome to play bingo every Wednesday @ 1pm at Railroad Depot

ATTENTION RESIDENTS

Branch pick-up STOPS OCTOBER 2, 2009
Leaf pick-up STARTS OCTOBER 15, 2009
and STOPS DECEMBER 7, 2009

BOARD OF HEALTH

The Board of Health will be hosting a program "What Not To Take With Your Medication" on October 20th at 7pm at the Railroad Depot.

Guest speaker is Justin DiPisa, Pharmacist. Mr. DiPisa has been a pharmacist for over thirty years. He had his own pharmacy in Hasbrouck Heights and currently works for well known pharmacy. Attendances will be able to ask questions during the program.

RABIES CLINIC

The Demarest Board of Health will be having a free rabies clinic on Saturday, **November 7**, from 10am-11am at the Demarest Fire Department. Every cat and dog must be on a leash or in a carrier and accompanied by an adult. The vaccine will be given to dogs six months or older and cats three months or older. Please examine your pets rabies expiration date to make sure it's valid through November 2010 so a license can be obtained.

FLU SHOT CLINIC

The flu vaccine clinic will be held on **Wednesday, September 30th**, 9-11am in the Borough Hall for residents 65 years or older or persons having serious chronic conditions such as heart disease, pulmonary disease and diabetes. Any person under 65 must present a note of approval from their physician before receiving the vaccine.

Please bring your medicare card when registering for the clinic. For any further questions, please call Demarest Board of Health @ 201-768-0167 ext# 30.

DEMAREST SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB

The Demarest Senior Citizens Club meets the second and fourth Fridays of the month at 1 p.m. at the United Methodist Church. Refreshments are served at the meetings. All citizens of Demarest who are 60 years young and older are invited to join the club



DRIVE SAFELY
SCHOOLS
ARE OPEN

FOLLOW THE PROGRESS

KEEPING THE RESIDENTS CURRENT ON EVENTS IN DEMAREST

- *RECEIVED \$320,000 GRANT FOR PHASE THREE OF THE RAILROAD STATION WHICH INCLUDES THE INTERIOR.*
- *DOWNTOWN IMPROVEMENT / STREETScape GROUND BREAKING CEREMONY SCHEDULED FOR FALL 2009.*
- *GRANTS RECEIVED FOR THE INSTALLATION OF ADA COMPLIANT BATHROOM AND ADA COMPLIANT SLIDING FRONT DOOR TO BOROUGH HALL.*
- *IMPROVED DOWNTOWN AREA LIGHTING WHICH IS PARTIALLY COMPLETED.*
- *GRANT RECEIVED FOR SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL, WHICH WILL PROVIDE SCHOOL SIGNAGE AND SIDEWALKS FOR SAFETY.*
- *GRANT RECEIVED AND INSTALLATION COMPLETE OF ADA COMPLIANT WATER FOUNTAINS.*
- *COUNCIL HAS APPROVED A RESOLUTION FOR A VOTER REFERENDUM TO MUNICIPALIZE THE LIBRARY.*
- *COUNCIL APPROVED RESOLUTION TO IMPROVE DRAINAGE IN SEVERAL SECTIONS OF THE BOROUGH.*
- *NEW DPW FACILITY GROUND BREAKING IN SEPTEMBER 2009. (DATE FORTHCOMING)*
- *THROUGH THE RIVERSIDE COOPERATIVE WE WILL AGAIN BE ABLE TO DO REPAVING AT A SUBSTANTIAL REDUCTION IN COST IN THE BOROUGH THIS FALL.*

"IS YOUR NUMBER UP"

The members of the **Demarest Emergency Services** waste no time answering an alarm for assistance. Everything they do is calculated and rehearsed to save every possible second. The trouble is **they can't always find your house in a hurry**. Why? Because the **house numbers can't be seen** or **cannot be read** instantly from the street. Failing to provide clear marking of your address may be inviting disaster in the event of an emergency where precious seconds may mean the difference.

HOUSE NUMBERS CANNOT BE READ

- * They are too small
- * They are painted over
- * Some digits are missing
- * Covered or partially covered by planting
- * Written out of fancy script
- * Attached to garage door (therefore, only visible if the door is closed)
- * Not adequately lit at night
- * There are no numbers at all

SUGGESTED METHODS OF ADDRESSING

- * Put numbers that are least four inches tall at the front entrance (or a location easily visible from the street) that contrasts with the background— for example, light numbers on dark or dark numbers on light.
- * For driveway off main roads, place your address numbers on a post at entrance of the driveway.

The members of the Demarest Emergency Services are ready to help you 24 hours a day, 365 days a year-but you have take a little time yourself to display your house number clearly, so that they can find where you are.



**Borough of Demarest
118 SERPENTINE ROAD
DEMAREST, NEW JERSEY 07627**

**U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 230
Paramus, NJ**

**ECRWS
POSTAL PATRON
DEMAREST, NEW JERSEY 07627**