

DEMAREST JOURNAL



Official Borough Newsletter
Volume 41 No. 4 December 2009

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

I am pleased to wish everyone a very happy Thanksgiving and a festive holiday season and New Year.

I must first thank the voters of Demarest for returning Councilmen Tom Connolly and Brian Bernstein to the Borough Council for three more years. There is significant work to be done, and Tom and Brian have worked very hard with the rest of the Borough Council in a team effort to implement exciting new developments. The impending new Public Works facility, Downtown Streetscape, road improvements, drainage program and Phase III of the Railroad Depot renovations are several such examples. Also, with the passage of the Municipal Library referendum, I have already begun the process of establishing a Library Board and transitioning from a private association to a municipal agency. This will allow for better service, expanded hours and more outside funding opportunities for the library.

I would like to thank Chief Al Bolduc and the Demarest Fire Department and John Crosman, Bob Miller and their men at the Department of Public Works for their work in stringing the lights on the Borough's festive holiday tree. Congratulations are also in order as the Fire Department was honored as the outstanding department at the Northern Valley Chiefs' Parade with the award of the Dell Trophy at the October 11 ceremony. I salute our volunteer firefighters on their consistently excellent efforts.

Congratulations are also due the Demarest Volunteer Ambulance Corps on its resurgence as the success in recruiting has resulted in nearly 100% response rates for most of this year. This rebirth is a testament to the spirit of volunteerism that makes our community great.

I would like to extend best wishes for happy and healthy holidays, and a happy New Year to each and every one of you. Finally, I invite you to join me on New Year's Day at 12:00pm in the Borough Council chamber for the Annual Municipal Reorganization meeting. I look forward to seeing you there.

With warmest holiday greetings
from our family to yours,
I am,

MAYOR JIM CARROLL

CHRISTMAS TREE

The annual lighting of the Holiday Tree will be held on Tuesday, December 8th at 7:30pm at the Railroad Station. When Santa Claus sees the festive lights radiating from the Christmas tree, he will arrive on a beautiful Demarest Fire Truck. Come and enjoy the Christmas Tree, Santa, hot chocolate, candy and Christmas Carols

CHANNUKAH

The Menorah Lighting Celebration will be on December 13th at 5pm at the Gazebo. It is a tradition to have a different Demarest family light the menorah candle each night.

REORGANIZATION DAY

The residents of Demarest are invited to attend the annual reorganization of the Demarest Borough government on **January 1st**. The meeting will begin at **12pm** at Borough Hall. A delicious buffet will be served immediately after the business meeting. Please come and meet the members of the government and those who work and serve our community.

ANNUAL TOY DRIVE

Demarest PBA is conducting their annual toy drive for underprivileged children. Please bring a new unwrapped toy to Borough Hall.

**ATTENTION RESIDENTS:
LAST DAY FOR LEAF PICKUP IS
DECEMBER 7TH**

"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**

DEMAREST FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Safety Tips

- Preparation for the winter cold should include having your heating system checked by a professional. Old heating systems may need extra attention.
- Be sure to check all your smoke & carbon monoxide detectors.
- Fireplaces should be cleaned annually to help prevent chimney fires. Watch what you burn and don't overload your fireplace. Don't leave fires burning overnight while you sleep, keep screens or glass doors closed. Take extra care when the kids are near so they don't get burned on the hot glass or screens.
- Once again the Fire Department urges all residents to help us by keeping any fire hydrants near their homes FREE of SNOW! A serious delay can occur if responding fire trucks can't locate a hydrant. This delay in getting a water source could be fatal.
- Still want to use the barbeque? Make sure it is outdoors. Don't use them in the garage or other enclosed area as you risk fire or carbon monoxide poisoning.
- Please don't warm up the car in the garage. You run the risk of carbon monoxide poisoning.
- Going away? Please leave a key or 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 to cause damage trying to get in to check your home.

News

The Fire Department made it's annual visit to Luther Lee & CRS last month as part of our Annual Fire Prevention Program. The kids had a good time but also learned about Fire Safety. Our Poster Contest 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 all of our residents who have not yet sent in their donation to please help us. Thank you.

Membership: 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 a fully trained Fire Fighter or a member of our growing Auxiliary. Stop by the Fire House any Sunday morning for more details.

DEMAREST POLICE DEPARTMENT

Impaired Driving Enforcement Crackdown

From December 7, 2009 through January 3, 2010 law enforcement officers from the Demarest Police Department will be stepping up impaired driving enforcement as part of the ***Over the Limit/ Under Arrest 2009***. The end of the year and the beginning of the new is traditionally a time for social gatherings, which often include alcohol. The goal of the program is to raise awareness about the dangers of drinking and driving through high visibility enforcement, and to arrest motorists who choose to drive while impaired by drugs or alcohol. In New Jersey for 2005, 252 of the 748 motor vehicle fatalities, or 34%, were alcohol-related.

Demarest Police Department offers the following advice:

- * Be responsible and don't risk it...you will be caught.
- * If you plan to drink, choose a designated driver before going out.
- * Realize before going out that every drink you have makes it more difficult to know you've had too much to drive.
- * Take mass transit, a taxicab or ask a sober friend to drive you home.
- * Spend the night where the activity is held.
- * Report impaired drivers to law enforcement.
- * Always buckle up, its your best defense against an impaired driver.

"The end of the year and New Year celebrations are a time for fun with friends and family, not tragedy," said Chief Powderley. "The law enforcement community and safety organizations of the State are committed to eliminating impaired drivers from our roads."

***Please
Drive Smart During
the Holiday Season***

BOARD OF HEALTH

It is that time of the year again to renew your dog and cat license for 2010. Applications for current licensed animals will be mailed at the end of December. All dogs and cats over the age of 6 months must be registered with the Board of Health. In order to be licensed, all dogs and cats must have a current rabies vaccination, expiring not earlier than November 30, 2010. To obtain an application, contact the Board of Health @ 201-768-0167 ext# 30.

Please note: The late fee is \$25.00 after March 1.

ATTENTION: Demarest Residents: blood pressure screening every second Friday from 10am-1pm at the United Methodist Church.

DEMAREST PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Demarest Public Library's Book Discussion Group meets on the second Monday of every month at 7:30PM. The Library's knitting club, "Bottles & Cans", meets on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month at 7:30PM. The Library will be closed for the holidays on December 24th and 25th. The Library will also be closed on December 31st. Regular library hours are 10AM to 8PM Monday and Thursday; 10AM to 5PM Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday; and Sunday's from 1PM until 5PM. The Library is closed on Saturday until further notice. To check what's new on the Library's shelves or to sign up for your free Demarest Library Card, please visit us on the web at www.bccls.org/demarest

PROPERTY MAINTANCE

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

DEMAREST TAX OFFICE

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 NATURE CENTER

The Demarest Nature Center Association is planning the following athletic and social events for the winter/spring/summer season:

January through February—**Ice-skating parties** on the skating pond next to the playground in Wakelee Field or the hockey ponds adjacent to the mulch area off County Road as weather permits. Hot chocolate will be served. Watch the train station bulletin board for information.

March through May--Winter/Spring photo opportunities in the Demarest Nature Center for entry in the Demarest Nature Center photo contest. Many great photo contest entries were taken in the winter months.

For additional details check our website: www.demarestnaturecenter.org

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 plastic bags.

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.

ART SCHOOL AT OLD CHURCH

The Art School at Old Church is currently accepting registration for Winter classes. Registration is accepted by mail, fax, phone, and in person. Starting on December 8, registrations will be accepted online through the website:

www.tasoc.org. To register online, click on Classes & Workshops and follow the on-screen instructions.

The Art School offers classes in the visual arts for adults, teens and children. The school is offering a special session of BLAST OF ART! for kids, from December 28 – 31. The four-day classes are designed to maximize fun and learning in sculpture, wearable art, mask-making and clay. For more information, call 201-767-7160.

Exhibitions in the Mikhail Zakin Gallery

December 21 – January 29

HOME

Group exhibition focused on the concept of 'home'

Film screening of THE CATS OF MIRIKITANI:
January 9, 1:00 PM; Artists' reception: January 9,
2:30 – 4:30 PM

February 5 – March 5

CONTEMPORARY STILL LIFE

Group exhibition of painting and sculpture

Artists' reception: February 6, 2:00 – 4:00 PM

March 20 – April 16

FROM THE STUDIO CLASSES

Salon-style exhibition of students of the Art School at Old Church.

*ALL EXHIBITIONS, FILM SCREENINGS
AND RECEPTIONS ARE FREE AND OPEN
TO THE PUBLIC.*

RECYCLING

Curbside collection of co-mingled glass, plastic and cans is on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month. We ask that you make every effort to separate them. Paper and cardboard are collected curbside on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday. Batteries (no car or motorcycle batteries) can be recycled. The container is located in the fenced in area by the tent on Wakelee Drive. With Winter fast approaching we ask that you please leave your recycling and garbage cans on your property and out of the roadway so as to facilitate our plowing operations. If left in the roadway they will be plowed back.

PLEASE NOTE:

NO HOLIDAY GARBAGE PICKUP

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

The new 2010 Demarest Historical Society Calendar is coming out soon. The calendars will be available for purchase at the Borough Hall, Demarest Library, and the Demarest Deli, and from historical society members. There is limited supply of the 2010 calendars. These calendars make great gifts for the holidays and for friends who may have moved from town. All photos come from our archives.

Continuation of the photo collection is ongoing. Even yesterday or last year is history. It may not seem to be of interest to people in town now, but 25 or 50 years from now it will be a real find. Any contribution is always welcomed. Your photos can be scanned and pictures returned to you.

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. All activities except Arts & Crafts will be held daily except Tuesday, from 1-4:30pm.

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 and Thursday @ 1pm at Railroad Depot.

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

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Christmas Eve Services

Thursday, December 24

All are welcome

4pm Children's Service (Adults are invited too)

We hear a Christmas story, welcome the Christ Child, sing Carols, light candles and celebrate.

7pm & 11pm Traditional Carols and Candle Service

Featuring Carol Singing, as well as the songs of our Choir, guest musicians and traditional singing of "Silent Night" in candlelight.

DEMAREST GARDEN CLUB

Next Public Meetings

Demarest Garden Club's next meetings and programs open to the public will be at the United Methodist Church from 12:30 - 3:00 pm on:

Fri. Jan. 8 (upstairs room) "Plants for a Healthy Home"

Fri. Feb. 5 (Fellowship Hall) "Aromatherapy"

Fri. Mar. 5 (Fellowship Hall) "Familiar Faces among the Alpine Meadows - perennials grown at high altitudes in the Italian Alps"

All interested gardeners are invited. Meetings begin with club committee reports and concerns. Programs begin around 1:30 pm.

Membership

Membership in the Demarest Garden Club is open to all local gardeners from any town. Dues and obligations are minimal, opportunities to learn and meet other gardeners unlimited through club membership in Garden Club of New Jersey and National Garden Clubs, Inc. To join, just attend any public meeting or call Membership Acting Membership Chairman Pat R. at 201-768-3814.

Davies Arboretum Project

Garden club members and visitors cheered the first runs of two club-owned model trains along the tracks of "Ed's Garden Railroad" in October. A video titled Arboretum Train Run - Oct. 2009 has been posted by the Garden Railroaders of Northern New Jersey (GRRNNJ) on www.youtube.com or can be reached directly at www.youtube.com/watch?v=uOXktCqx1mM. A June 2008 video of the site titled Arboretum Stone Delivery is also available on Youtube. The video will also be posted on the Demarest Borough website (www.Demarestnj.org).

"Ed's Garden Railroad" was donated to the club in memory of club member Edward Lamp of Norwood by the Lamp Family and Friends and has been under construction since January 2008 as the newest addition to borough-owned, club-run Davies Arboretum at 49 Anderson Avenue. Garden club members and GRRNNJ volunteers collaborated in its design, construction, and landscaping. Basic layout, walls, tunnels, and two levels were completed by the end of 2008, a landscape of miniature plants installed by June 2009, an ingenious solar power system (the arboretum has no other electricity) was functioning by August, and tracks for the upper and lower levels laid by September. Public runs will resume when Tuesday work sessions resume at the arboretum around March 15, weather and personnel permitting.





WINTER CALENDAR OF EVENTS



December 5 & 6

*United Methodist Church Annual Craft Fair; Friday
1 pm-8 pm; Saturday 9 am-4 pm*



December 4-6

*35th Annual Pottery Show & Sale @ Art School at Old Church;
Friday 6-10 pm, Saturday 10am-6pm & Sunday 12-5pm*



December 8

Holiday Tree Lighting, 7:30pm @ Railroad Station



December 18

Academy of the Holy Angels Christmas Concert; 7:30pm



December 13

Menorah Lighting Celebration, 5pm @ Gazebo



December 21-
January 29

*“Home” Group exhibition focused on the concept of “Home” at
the Zakin Galley @ Art School @ Old Church*



January 1

Demarest Reorganization Meeting 12pm @ Borough Hall



January 8

*Demarest Garden Club meeting; 12:30pm @ the United
Methodist Church; 1:30 pm program “Plant for a Healthy
Home”*



February 5

*Demarest Garden Club meeting; 12:30 pm @ the United
Methodist Church w/1:30 pm program “Aromatherapy”*



February 5
March 5

*Contemporary Still Life: Group exhibition of painting &
sculpture at the Zakin Galley @ Art School @ Old Church*



March 5

*Demarest Garden Club meeting; 12:30 pm @ the United
Methodist Church with 1:30 pm program “Familiar Faces
among the Alpine Meadows-perennials grown at high altitudes
in the Italian Alps”*



March 20

*From the Studio Classes: Salon-style exhibition of students the
Zakin Galley @ Art School @ Old Church*



HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM MAYOR & COUNCIL AND BOROUGH STAFF

