

DEMAREST JOURNAL



Official Borough Newsletter
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MAYOR'S MESSAGE

As I begin my fourteenth year as a member of the Demarest Governing Body and my eighth year as Mayor, I cannot help feeling a bit of nostalgia. Although it has been a long time, it has passed very quickly. In the words of Yogi Berra, speaking of right field at the old Yankee Stadium, 'It gets late early out there.'

With just the slightest shame, I feel compelled to highlight some of the accomplishments I am most proud of during my years representing our municipality. In no particular order:

I am proud to have saved the Borough over \$100,000 by changing the health plan that covers our employees several years ago.

After years of neglect, we have been able to make significant improvements to culverts and drainage systems, in many cases at little or no cost to local taxpayers. The road paving program has been a good example of long term planning that will stand the Borough in good stead for years to come.

Over the din of naysayer's, we were able to successfully accomplish the dredging of the Duck Pond, saving significant costs in the \$100,000s through intergovernmental cooperation and contractual agreements.

I am particularly proud of the accomplishments that were achieved through non-partisan cooperation in the best interest of the community, such as the South Street bridge and paving projects and the Shoreline Restoration at the Duck Pond. Mayor Ben Romeo from Cresskill and former Councilwoman Carole Cardinale, respectively, put partisan interests aside and worked with me to implement these improvements for the good of our communities.

Long awaited improvements to the downtown area and replacement of a dilapidated public works facility are coming to fruition. We received a substantial funding grant of approximately \$450,000 to revitalize our downtown, for the benefit of our merchants and residents.

My critics are quick to point out my shortcomings. I never shied away from a fight for what I believe in, and I have no regrets for what I have helped accomplish for our community these past fourteen years. I look forward to continuing to serve you.

**WITH WARMEST REGARDS, I AM,
MAYOR JIM CARROLL**

DEMAREST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Does anyone living in Demarest, now or in the past, have any kind of connection with the Declaration of Independence? Come find out on Wednesday evening, March 24, 2010 at the Railroad Depot. Thornton Lockwood, will give a talk, "The Legacy of The Declaration of Independence." Mr. Lockwood will speak about the Declaration from four different interesting perspectives.

How have others used the ideas set forth in OUR Declaration to help shape other governments and promote freedom? Wednesday, March 24 at 7:30 will give us some insight into our country's unique doctrine.

Recently Mary Anne Clarke, the borough historian, received a phone call from Scotland inquiring about why the man's grandfather named his home "Demarest". After searching about a possible connection, one was found. Even in Scotland, the borough of Demarest has made its mark.

Many of you have asked about the Demarest Historical Society calendar. Unfortunately apologies are extended for this year. A move across town this past fall caused a lack of quality time to complete one for printing. There will be one for next year 2011!

Remember, if you have any photos of interest or trivia these are always welcomed.

GLADYS GROSSMAN RETIREMENT

Gladys Grossman, Principal of the County Road School and the Luther Lee Emerson School officially retired from the Demarest Public Schools, effective January 31, 2010. Before being named Principal, Mrs. Grossman was for many years a Language Arts teacher and then the district's Technology/Gifted & Coordinator.

Mrs. Grossman dedicated her time and talent to the children of Demarest and the Demarest Board of Education over 40 years. We wish her a happy retirement.

DEMAREST GARDEN CLUB

Annual Plant Sale coming May 7 and 8

The club's annual plant sale and only public fundraiser is organized around pre-ordered sale and pickup of nursery stock and sale of common and unusual plants propagated from club-run Davies Arboretum and members' gardens. Pre-order forms are included in this newsletter and are also available in Demarest and other local libraries and on the Demarest web site. Place a pre-order before April 1 to be sure to get the annuals, geraniums, hanging baskets, and other offerings in the colors and varieties you want. Pre-orders can be delivered for a fee or picked up in the United Methodist Church at 109 Hardenburgh Ave during sale hours May 7, 2-7 pm and May 8, 9 am - 2 pm.

Monthly Meetings

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

March. 5th "Show & Tell Spring Fling" of horticultural and floral design specimens

Fri. April 9 (upstairs in Lounge) "Influence of gardens, villas, and palaces of Rome on writings of Edith Wharton", powerpoint presentation by Constance Haydock, landscape architect. All interested gardeners are invited. Meetings begin with club committee reports and concerns. Programs begin around 1:30 pm.

Civic Projects

Club beautification and planting efforts at the Demarest Railroad Station (as needed) and the Davies Arboretum (every Tuesday morning) resume on March 15th, weather permitting. Model trains will run on the Arboretum's Ed's Garden Railroad on second and fourth Tuesdays from 9 to 11 am and at weekends yet to be determined. Volunteers for both projects always welcome. Call 201-768-9019 to learn more about the station project and 201-768-3814 to participate in the arboretum project.

Membership

Membership in the Demarest Garden Club is open to all local gardeners, male and female, 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 Acting Membership Chairman Pat at 201-768-3814.

MEMORIAL DAY

Memorial Day was originally known as Decoration Day because it was a time set aside to honor the nation's Civil War dead by decorating their graves. It was first widely observed on May 30, 1868, to commemorate the sacrifices of Civil War soldiers, by proclamation of General John A. Logan of the Grand Army of the Republic, an organization of former sailors and soldiers. On May 5, 1868, Logan declared in General Order No. 11 that:

The 30th of May, 1868, is designated for the purpose of strewing with flowers, or otherwise decorating the graves of comrades who died in defense of their country during the late rebellion, and whose bodies now lie in almost every city, village, and hamlet churchyard in the land. In this observance no form of ceremony is prescribed, but posts and comrades will in their own way arrange such fitting services and testimonials of respect as circumstances may permit. During the first celebration of Decoration Day, General James Garfield made a speech at Arlington National Cemetery, after which 5,000 participants helped to decorate the graves of the more than 20,000 Union and Confederate soldiers buried in the cemetery.

This 1868 celebration was inspired by local observances of the day in several towns throughout America that had taken place in the three years since the Civil War. In fact, several Northern and Southern cities claim to be the birthplace of Memorial Day, including Columbus, Miss.; Macon, Ga.; Richmond, Va.; Boalsburg, Pa.; and Carbondale, Ill.

In 1966, the federal government, under the direction of President Lyndon Johnson, declared Waterloo, N.Y., the official birthplace of Memorial Day. They chose Waterloo—which had first celebrated the day on May 5, 1866—because the town had made Memorial Day an annual, community-wide event during which businesses closed and residents decorated the graves of soldiers with flowers and flags.

By the late 1800s, many communities across the country had begun to celebrate Memorial Day and, after World War I, observances also began to honor those who had died in all of America's wars. In 1971, Congress declared Memorial Day a national holiday to be celebrated the last Monday in May. Today, Memorial Day is celebrated at Arlington National Cemetery with a ceremony in which a small American flag is placed on each grave. Also, it is customary for the president or vice-president to give a speech honoring the contributions of the dead and lay a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. About 5,000 people attend the ceremony annually.

Several Southern states continue to set aside a special day for honoring the Confederate dead, which is usually called Confederate Memorial Day.

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

DEMAREST SWIM CLUB

HURRAY! We plan on having an action packed season this year with Ping-Pong tournaments, Volleyball teams, Water Aerobic classes and of course our Swim and Dive teams. If you enjoy tanning in the sun or relaxing under a tree, this is the place to be! Any questions? Please feel free to contact us. We welcome your calls, Richard Gordon 750-3350, Jackie Fulin 784-8212, Jennifer Anavim 767-4502.

ART SCHOOL AT OLD CHURCH

The Art School at Old Church is pleased to present *From The Studio Classes*, a salon-style exhibition of artworks in various styles and mediums by active student members. The show opens on March 20 and closes on April 17. This extensive exhibition covers both of the school's Mikhail Zakin and Cafe Galleries from top to bottom in a striking installation of two-dimensional and three-dimensional works.

A free public reception for the artists will be held on Saturday, March 27, 2:00 - 4:00 PM. All are welcome to attend.

From The Studio Classes exemplifies the diversity of classes offered at this 36-year-old institution. Each year, students of all levels from the adult classes are invited to show their best work in this eclectic exhibit. Last year's show featured nearly 200 works from approximately 100 artists.

Some of the disciplines to be shown include: watercolor, Chinese brush and ink, oil and acrylic paintings; drawings in pastels, charcoal, graphite and colored pencils; sculpture; ceramic pottery; stained glass collage and assemblage; hand-pulled prints; jewelry made from fine metal and semi-precious stones; objects featuring flameworked glass beads, such as bottle stoppers and jewelry; even crocheted and knitted garments and accessories, like hats, handbags and scarves. Many of the works are available for purchase during the show.

The school and galleries are located at 561 Piermont Road in Demarest, New Jersey. This exhibition is wheel-chair accessible. For more information, please call 201-767-7160 or visit www.tasoc.org.

ABOUT THE ART SCHOOL

The Art School at Old Church is a non-profit cultural resource center providing community access to enriching experiences in the arts by offering art classes for adults, teens and children, free gallery art exhibitions, cultural events, and outreach programs for special populations.

Gallery hours: 9:30 AM - 5:00 PM, Monday – Friday, 9:30 AM - 12:00 PM, Saturday. Call for weekday evening hours.

ELECTION NEWS

School Board Election – April 20th
Polls are open from 2pm-9pm
Primary Day—June 8th

District 1 votes at Borough Hall and District 2 & 3 at the County Road School for both elections.

The last day to register to vote for the School Election is March 30th and for the Primary Election is May 18th. The Borough Clerk's office will be open from 9am to 9pm on these days for the convenience of the residents.

DEMAREST POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Demarest PD is currently recruiting neighborhood youths for its Law Enforcement Explorer program. This program is for career-oriented young adults ages 14-21. Members are referred to as "Explorers" and, while the program is part of the BSA, the Explorer program is distinctively different from scouting. Explorer is a co-educational program for young adults developed and supervised by the Demarest Police Department providing an opportunity for young adults to explore a career in law enforcement.

This successful program is designed to educate and involve young men and women in police operations and to interest them in law enforcement functions whether they enter the law enforcement field or not.

As an explorer, young adults have the opportunity to assist the Demarest Police Department while broadening their understanding and firsthand knowledge of the challenges and job skills that make up their community's police department. In addition to gaining a working knowledge of police work, the participants have the opportunity to give themselves to their community. Although Post 101 is law enforcement oriented, Explorers are volunteers and do not serve as police employees, sworn or civilian.

Qualifications

- * Be between the ages of 14-21
- * Have a good moral character
- * Remain in school while in the program or until graduation.
- * Not have a serious police record
- * Be able to attend monthly explorer meetings
- * Be willing to volunteer your time to attend Explorer functions

Please contact Police Department, if you meet these qualifications and are interested in participating.

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 FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Safety Tips

Going away? Please leave a key or a code and a 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.

Another reminder to PLEASE keep debris and snow away from the hydrants. If we can't see them, it can delay our Fire-crews getting water on a fire. Adopt a Hydrant! If you are cleaning mowers and other tools in preparation for Spring, please don't run them in the garage or workroom. Also be careful with cleaning fluids or sprays which could catch fire.

Check all smoke & carbon monoxide detectors at least monthly.

Call 911 for an activated smoke or carbon monoxide detector or for any unusual odors or noise in the home.

News

Winners of our recent Fire Prevention Poster contest are:

K-1st Place Lauryn Ha
Runner's up; Daisy Kaplan, Stevan Aviato
1st Grade

1st place-Alexa Burdin
Runner's Up: Jeremy Shandel, Jordon Falco,
Daniel Reshamwala & Alexsandra Celay

Luther Lee School:

2nd Grade: 1st Place, Kayla Crowley
Runner's up: Noelle Miu, Adrianna Dipple & Eunice Chong
3rd Grade

1st Place; Jeremiah Abramson
Runner's up: Kri Lepree, Daniel Eisenberg
4th Grade

1st Place; Jennifer Kang
Runner's up: Hugo Triplett, Andrea Kang & Devy Stephens

This contest is run annually by the Fire Department as part of our Fire Prevention program. Program's like this help educate the students on Fire Safety tips as well as what to do in case of a fire in the home. The Fire Department also offers similar programs to other groups upon request.

The Fire Department is also pleased to announce that THREE of our former Auxiliary members have graduated from the Fire Academy. The three fire Fighters received their Fire Fighter I Certificates at a recent ceremony held by the Bergen County Fire Academy. Receiving Certificates were: Stephanie Cecon, Matt Fortunato and James McFadden, Jr. They will now join the ranks as full-fledged Fire-Fighters.

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

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 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.

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 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 April 2 (Good Friday) and April 4 (Easter). 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

TENNIS PERMITS

Demarest Borough Tennis permits can be purchased at the Borough Hall Monday through Friday 9am to 4pm. The cost is \$5.00 per individuals and \$10.00 per family. The permit is good for one year starting in April. If you have any questions, call 201-7681-768-0167 ext# 30.

BOARD OF HEALTH

DOG AND CAT LICENSE

Remember if you have not registered your furry friend before March 1 there will be a \$25 late fee per pet. Please have your animal's rabies shots up to date.

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

DEMAREST MUNICIPAL COURT

The Demarest Municipal Court has new hours. The office is open 10am to 2pm Monday thru Friday. The Court dates are the first Tuesday of every month except for November which will held on November 9 due to Election Day.

Fines can be paid on line at www.njmcdirect.com.

DEMAREST BAPTIST CHURCH

Join us on Easter, April 4th to celebrate our 135th anniversary Easter Morning Breakfast at 9am. Donations are \$3.00 per person. For reservations and additional information please call 201-768-1073.

United Methodist Church

14th Annual Spring Dinner & Auction
Sunday, March 14th

5pm-9pm at the Elk's Hall Closter

\$30 per person

Cash bar, silent & live auction

For reservation call Liz at 201-768-4355

Academy of the Holy Angels

Academy of the Holy Angels Theatre presents "Beauty and the Beast" on Friday March 5th & Saturday March 6th at 7:30 pm and on Sunday March 7th at 2pm.

For tickets please call Cris Hall at 201-384-0613 or email cph1222@optonline.net. Tickets are \$15.

DEMAREST NATURE CENTER

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

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.

March 6: Birdhouse and bird feeder building, train station. Two sessions: 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Kits are \$8 for one and \$15 for two. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Bring a hammer to bang nails and a camera to capture the memories.

March 27: Easter egg hunt, 2 p.m., Imaginative Playground in Wakelee Field. Toddlers through fourth-graders. Bring your own baskets to scoop up chocolate eggs. Rain date March 28.

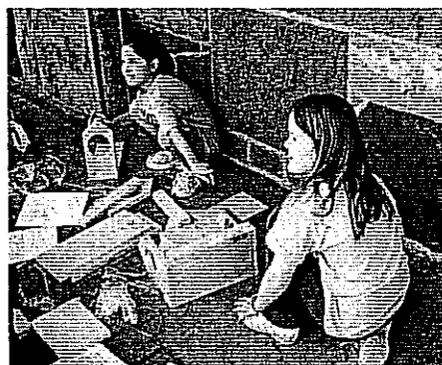
April 24: Spring Nature Walk, guided by our local Naturalist Marc Gussen at 9:30 a.m. **Volunteer Day**, 10:30 a.m., both departing from Wakelee Field Playground parking lot. Bring gloves and we'll supply trash bags so you can clean litter, maintain trails, or do a special project. Rain date April 25.

May 31: Deadline for submission of **Photo Contest** entries at Bank of America branch in downtown Demarest. All photos must be taken in the nature center. See newsletter or website for details.

June 12: Breakfast in the Woods, 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., next to the Imaginative Playground. Made-to-order omelets, bagels, O.J., etc—all free. Also: Live music and announcement of Photo Contest winners plus a live animal show. Rain date June 13.



*ANNUAL
EASTER EGG HUNT*



*BIRDHOUSE
AND
BIRDFEEDER*

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SPRING CALENDAR EVENTS

- March 5 Demarest Garden Club meeting; 12:30pm @ the United Methodist Church; 1:30 pm program "Show & Tell Spring" of horticultural and floral design specimens
- March 6 Demarest Nature Center Bird House & Feeder Construction @ Railroad Station, 11am & 1pm ; cost \$8, Children must be accompanied by an adult.
- March 6 & 7 Academy of the Holy Angels presents "Beauty and the Beast"; tickets \$15
- March 14 United Methodist Church 14th Annual Spring Dinner & Auction 5pm-9pm @ Elk's Hall Closter
- March 19 Academy of the Holy Angels Annual Angelic Evening Fundraiser @ Rockleigh Country Club
- March 20 From the Studio Classes: Salon-style exhibition of students the Zakin Galley @ Art School Old Church
- March 24 Demarest Historical Society program "The Legacy of The Declaration of Independence." speaker -Thornton Lockwood
- March 27 Demarest Nature Center Annual Egg Hunt @ 2pm at the children's playground (rain date March 28th)
- April 4 Demarest Baptist Church Easter Morning Breakfast at 9am. Donations are \$3.00 per person.
- April 9 Demarest Garden Club meeting; 12:30pm @ the United Methodist Church; 1:30 pm program "Influence of gardens, villas, and palaces of Rome on writings of Edith Wharton"
- April 20 Board of Education Election; Polls open 2pm-9pm
- April 22 40th Anniversary of Earth Day
- April 24 Demarest Nature Center Spring Nature Walk & Volunteer Day @ 9:30am
- May 1 DAA Opening Day Parade starts @ 10:30am from DMS & march to Wakelee Field: Ceremonies @ 11:00 am.
- May 18 Last Day to register to vote for the Primary Election
- May 31 Memorial Day Parade; 9:30am
- May 31 Demarest Nature Center Photo Contest Deadline
- June 8 Primary Day; Polls open from 6am-8pm

