

# DEMAREST JEST



Official Borough Newsletter  
Volume 42 No. 4 December 2010

## MAYOR'S MESSAGE

This will be my 32nd and final Mayor's message, and I must say, the eight years I have spent as your Mayor have truly raced by me. I am pleased to wish everyone a very happy Thanksgiving and a festive holiday season and New Year.

I must first congratulate Ray Cywinski, Joe Gray, Mary Montagne and Steve Verp on their successful campaigns for Mayor and Council. There is significant work to be done, and the coming year will present unprecedented challenges to them and the rest of the Borough Council. I thank wholeheartedly Bill Connelly and Melinda Iannuzzi for their service on the Council and congratulate them for a hard fought campaign, as well. And, of course, I thank and congratulate with a father's pride, my daughter, Melissa, for her campaign to follow in my footsteps on the Council.

I would like to thank all those who supported me through my 14 years as Councilman and Mayor of Demarest. I am proud of the many accomplishments we have achieved over that time. I have truly enjoyed working with the residents to address their problems and concerns when I could. And it has been a true pleasure and privilege to serve this wonderful community that we all call home.

I will deeply miss working with the office staff, professionals and other borough employees who serve our residents. They are among the finest anywhere, and I wish them luck and success in the future.

As any elected official will tell you, there is no way to please everyone, and like any other, I have my share of critics and detractors. I believe that I have always worked to the benefit of the entire town, and hope that time will prove me right.

I look forward to continuing to serve the community in a volunteer capacity, and stand ready to offer my advice and assistance to anyone who might seek it in the future.

For the final time, 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 7 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 canes and Christmas Carols.

## CHANUKAH

The Menorah Lighting Celebration will be on December 5th at 5pm at the Gazebo. It is a tradition to have a different Demarest family light the menorah candle each night. If you would like to volunteer to light the menorah call Ellen Sokoloff @ 201-784-8641

## REORGANIZATION DAY

The residents of Demarest are invited to attend the swearing in of Mayor-elect Raymond Cywinski, Councilwoman-elect Mary Montagne and Councilman Joe Gray on Sunday, January 2, 2011 at 12pm with refreshment immediately proceeding. Sine-Die Meeting will be held on January 3rd at 5:30pm. The reorganization will be on January 3rd at 8pm. 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 17th, 2010**

### **BOARD OF HEALTH**

It is that time of the year again to renew your dog and cat license for 2011. 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 MUNICIPAL COURT**

Did you know that fines can be paid on line at [www.njmcdirect.com](http://www.njmcdirect.com)? The municipal court accepts payments 10am to 2pm Monday through Friday. Court is held the first Tuesday of every month.

### **DEMAREST NATURE CENTER**

January and February: Ice-skating parties on the skating pond next to the Imaginative Playground, as weather permits. Hot chocolate will be served. To be put on an email notification list for skating parties, write to [info@DemarestNatureCenter.org](mailto:info@DemarestNatureCenter.org). Or watch the electronic bulletin board at the corner of Hardenburgh and Piermont for announcements.



March 19: 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.

April 16: 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 April 17.

### **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.

### **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.

### **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.

### **UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

United Methodist Church Annual Craft Fair will held on Friday, December 3rd from 3pm-8 pm; Saturday, December 4th 10am-4 pm. Community dinner will be served on Friday from 4:30pm to 6:30pm. The cost is \$15. for adults, \$12. for seniors & \$6. for children under 6.

*Christmas Eve Services*

*Friday, 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 POLICE DEPARTMENT

### **Impaired Driving Enforcement Crackdown**

From December 6, 2010 through January 2, 2011 law enforcement officers from the Demarest Police Department will be stepping up impaired driving enforcement as part of the ***Over the Limit! Under Arrest 2010***. 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***

## *A Message from Mayor-Elect Ray Cywinski*

It takes a lot of dedicated people to make a community great. We are fortunate in Demarest with many residents who volunteer to serve on boards, commissions and committees. The positions are varied and many. Being a relatively small community and with the responsibilities each of us have, the number of individuals willing and able to serve is sometimes limited in certain areas.

If you have the desire to serve your fellow residents on a municipal level, I ask that you send a note (it can be short) or call the Borough Hall (201-768-0167 ext. 39) or, call me at home at 201-767-7441, as to what you may be interested in, your profession or hobby and, the relative time you have available. For instance, the Board of Health meets quarterly, the Shade Tree Commission meets every other month while the Environmental Commission, Planning Board and Board of Adjustment (Zoning) generally meet monthly (sometimes taking off for the summer).

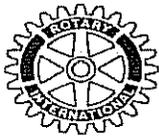
Or perhaps you have expertise in a specific area that would be well suited for an ad-hoc committee should a particular project arise. Expertise may include architectural, landscaping or horticulture, sustainability (this being constantly defined), health care, electrical, mechanical, financial and a host of other areas.

One of my goals is to reach out to the residents so that we can offer the best services to keep our community running smoothly and efficiently while improving the general quality of life. No one can do it alone and paying for every service is not feasible if we want our community to be affordable.

I believe you will find volunteer service in your own community fulfilling, enriching and enjoyable. And you don't have to drive far!

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
***Ray Cywinski***



### **CRESSKILL-DEMAREST ROTARY CLUB**

Your local Rotary club meets weekly on Tuesday at 12:15pm for lunch at Griffin's 44 East Madison Ave. Cresskill. We would like you to join us for lunch and fellowship. Find out what the Rotary is all about and what we do in Demarest. Please call Joe Rodriguez at 201-568-7790 for more information.

### **DEMAREST BAPTIST CHURCH**

The Demarest Baptist Church is pleased to announce the hiring of two new ministers: Reverend Dr. Donald Shaner and Reverend Dorcas Diaz-Shaner.

The church is celebrating 135 years of continuous services in Demarest.

### **DEMAREST SENIOR CENTER**

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

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. George Luhrsen, and the materials are free. The class is held at the Boro Hall Depot. Surprise yourself!! Many thanks to Mr. Luhrsen, who does our monthly bulletin, for his wonderful News and Art Work.

### **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 GARDEN CLUB**

Demarest Garden Club will follow December's private party to start 2011 with these three programs of interest to serious gardeners. The programs, scheduled for approximately 2 - 2:45 pm, are part of regular club meetings held on the first Friday of each month in the United Methodist Church at 109 Hardenburgh Avenue 1-3 pm. All interested gardeners, visitors, and prospective new members are welcome.

#### **Public Programs**

Friday, Jan. 7 Program: "Edible Landscaping" by radio host David Daehnke, also known as the "Garden Guru."

Friday, Feb. 4 Program: "New Plant Introductions for 2011 from Monrovia" by Monrovia plant expert and executive Chris Rubino.

Friday, Mar. 4 Program: "Flower Arranging Demonstration" by Garden Club of New Jersey Officer and Flower Show Judge Barbara Mullin.

#### **Winter trips**

Three trips, open only for members and guests, are also offered:

New York Botanical Garden Holiday Train Show, a not-to-be missed experience held this year from Nov. 20 to Jan. 9. Non-members can find info at [www.nybg.org](http://www.nybg.org) or 718-817-8700.

NJ Flower & Garden Show, including the Garden Club of New Jersey State Flower Show "Regards to Broadway," opens at NJ Expo Convention Center in Edison Feb. 17 - 20.

Philadelphia Flower Show opens at the Pennsylvania Convention Center Mar. 6 - 13 with the theme "Spring Time in Paris."

#### **Annual Plant Sale**

The club's annual fundraising Plant Sale will be held May 6 - 7 in the United Methodist Church. The sale is primarily based on pickup of pre-orders placed in April along with limited offerings of additional nursery-raised stock and member-grown plants on the day of the sale. Pre-order forms will be sent to all of last year's participants in February and also available in participating local libraries and on our website [www.DemarestGardenClub.org](http://www.DemarestGardenClub.org).

#### **Davies Arboretum**

Workshop sessions and model train runs on Ed's Garden Railroad will resume on Tuesdays 9-11 am on March 15 at this borough-owned, club-run, civic project at 49 Anderson Avenue. Non-members are welcome to participate in care and development of one or more of the arboretum's 35 projects. Suggestions on how to run the new Community Garden built by Eagle Scout candidate Zachary Stewart are especially welcome.

## DEMAREST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The 2011 Demarest Historical Society Calendar are available for the holidays. Calendars can be purchased at the Borough Hall, Demarest Library, The Demarest Deli, historical society members or by calling Mary Anne Clarke, Borough Historian @ 201-768-3649. The supply of the 2011 calendars is limited. These calendars make great gifts for the holidays and for friends who may have moved from town. All photos come from our archives. This year the calendar features people of Demarest.

Several recent acquisitions for the town archives give an interesting look into what living in Demarest was like in the mid to late 1800's.

One of the groceries in Demarest was located on the corner of Park Street and Hardenburgh Ave. During the late 1800's it was Palmer & Son Dealers in Dry Goods, Groceries, Flour, Feed Etc.. In one of the items received, a grocery account list from the store, it was noted that yeast was 2 cents, 3 quarts of molasses was 48 cents, 1 quart of java coffee was 28 cents, a new broom was 35 cents. Buckwheat and salt were important grocery items each month.

According to a diary written by Matthew J. Bogert in 1862 it took his parents a FULL day to go to New York City and return home. To quote the diary entry written by 16 year old Matthew "Pop, Mother and Cornelia were to NY today with the wagon. They started this morning at 4:30 and got home about 7 o'clock. This occurred on November 28, the cloudy Friday after Thanksgiving.

Earlier in the same November week Matthew wrote that he caught a couple of rabbits in his trap. Jacob Bogert killed his beef with the help of Henry. This occurred after "Uncle Sammy" took care of his beef with the help of Jacob.

Matthew J. Bogert's diary relates that the railroad station was where people went to get the latest news. The station had a telegraph so the national news became available. He wrote excitedly about several Civil War events he learned during evening visits.

Matthew J. Bogert became one of Demarest's early postmasters, served on the first Board of Education in town and later Mayor.

Work continues to be done to enhance Demarest's archives with photos, memories and items that residents and non-residents provide. If you have any information or photos of Demarest you would like to share with the present and certainly the future people of town, please let us know. Please feel free to contact Borough Historian, Mary Anne Clarke.

## 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 PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Demarest Free Public Library's Board of Trustees meets on the second Monday of each month at 7:30pm. The Library's Book discussion Group also meets on the second Monday of each 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 regular operating hours are 10am-8pm Monday & Thursday; 10am-5pm, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday; 1pm-5pm; Sundays. The Library is closed Saturday & holidays. When you're in the neighborhood, please feel free to sign your child up for one of the Library's exciting new Children's Programs! Also be sure to check out what's new on the Library's shelves or pick up a free DVD from the Library's extensive video collection. You can also sign up for your free Demarest Library Card by visiting us on the web at [www.bccls.org/demarest](http://www.bccls.org/demarest).

### **Children's Library Program**

TNT (Totally Nonstop Toddlers) Storytime for 18-36 months on Tuesdays, from 10:30-11am from Jan. 4th - March 29<sup>th</sup>. Registration Required.

Winter Storytime for 3-4 years, Wednesdays, 3:45-4:30 pm from Jan. 5th - March 30<sup>th</sup>. Registration Required.

Family Bedtime Stories for All Ages, every other Thursday, 7-7:45pm from Jan. 6th, 20th, Feb. 3rd, 17th, March 3rd, 17th, 31<sup>st</sup>.

Movie Madness for All Ages, every other Thursday, 3:45-4:45pm from Jan. 13th, 27th, Feb. 10th, 24th, March 10th, 24<sup>th</sup>.

## DEMAREST FIRE DEPARTMENT

### Fire Safety Tips

- \* Be sure to check all your smoke & carbon monoxide detectors. Change the batteries at least 2X a year!
- \* Have a professional check your heating system.
- \* Fireplaces need to be checked and chimney's cleaned annually. Watch what you burn! Do not use newly cut wood, pressure treated, or press board. Don't leave fires burning overnight while you sleep and keep screens or glass doors closed.
- \* 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. A delay in getting a water source could be fatal. Adopt a hydrant!
- \* 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.
- \* Don't warm up the car in the garage. You run the risk of carbon monoxide poisoning.
- \* 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.
- \* PLEASE-Residents are asked to place HOUSE NUMBERS on their homes. Responding Fire/Police/Ambulance can be delayed due to non-existent, illegible, small or poorly placed house numbers!

### News

The Fire Department completed our annual visit to Luther Lee & CRS last month as part of our Fire Prevention Program. Teaching the students about Fire Safety is our goal, but the students also have some fun. Our volunteers spend time showing the trucks and equipment. We also have the kids practice some safety techniques. The students are now preparing their Fire Prevention Posters. The posters will be judged by the department and prizes and ribbons are awarded to all the winning entries.

**Fund Drive:** The Fire Department wishes to thank all our residents who have answered our Fund Drive letter. We also urge those residents who have not sent in a donation, to please respond. No matter the amount, your help is needed and appreciated. Your donations help fund our school programs and awards.

**Membership:** Members are always needed. The Demarest Fire Department is 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. Interested residents should stop by the Fire House any Sunday morning for details.



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