

DEMAREST JOURNAL



Official Borough Newsletter
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MAYOR'S MESSAGE

9/11 Remembrance

Our 9/11 Remembrance will be held on Tuesday, September 11 at 7:00 pm at the 9/11 Memorial in the park southeast of the railroad depot. This is the 11th anniversary of this horrific attack on not just the United States, but humanity. Please join us in paying respect to all those who perished that day 11 years ago, especially Demarest native Chris Vialonga and others who spent part of their lives in Demarest.

Borough Finances

A second year with the unprecedented state imposed 2% tax levy cap in place has tested many a governing body throughout NJ. Without layoffs or service cuts, we could not get under the 2% cap this year thus the (soundly defeated) referendum in May. Fortunately, a new provision by the state allowed municipalities to make a last minute adjustment by way of anticipated tax collection. This helped us avert layoffs and service cuts this year, but has the **potential** of an adverse financial effect later this year and/or next. This year's referendum on taxes was a mandate to not raise taxes more than allowed by the state. How do you continue to offer the same level of services without a sufficient increase in revenue?

Your governing body is continually exploring ways to reduce expenditures and increase revenues in this year and succeeding years. A few of the areas under review are: sharing services (including a police merger), increased fees for street openings and placing unused Borough-owned land (not land designated as open space) on the tax rolls either through sale (110 Serpentine Road) or development (parking area near the DPW facility).

Police Consolidation

We have received a proposal from Bergen County to merge our police department with that of the County Police. Besides guaranteeing the same level of policing we currently have, and some enhanced areas of service, the annual savings to the Borough residents is anticipated to be about \$375,000.

The Borough would also receive annual revenue for rent along with one-time revenue for equipment purchase. On May 7, the Council voted to hold a non-binding referendum on this issue. At the August 13 Mayor and Council meeting, language for the public question and interpretive statement was finalized. Prior to this, I asked the Police Chief to work with the county on terms of an agreement regarding the policing aspects of a merger. Between now and the November election, we will be working to get the terms of an agreement drafted so residents will know as much as possible regarding a potential merger, the benefits as well as the risks, so you can make an informed decision. The Council must weigh **all** factors in deciding on a police merger as well as entering into other shared services

Affordable Housing Trust Funds

We recently compiled data and records and submitted justification to the state that Demarest should not have to relinquish \$317,000 in housing trust funds while still leaving us to meet (pay for) the same number of affordable housing units. We have had several discussions with officials in Trenton regarding the measures Demarest has taken, in particular in 2012. I am cautiously optimistic that the state will recognize that Demarest is expeditiously moving forward in providing different types of housing to meet the requirements set by the state and will not require us to remit those funds. We are also in discussions with the Housing Development Corporation (HDC) of Bergen County to try to modify an agreement made in 2010 which calls for 12 affordable housing units to be built on Borough owned land; land purchased by the Borough for approx. \$600,000 and promised to the HDC for \$1 with an additional \$32,000 of Borough funds dedicated to this housing project.

Within the last two weeks, we did receive state approval for a group home for four adults with certain developmental disabilities. The Borough will be contributing up to \$250,000 from our Housing Trust Funds toward this group home, with matching funds from the state

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

Continued

Capital Improvements

* We are completing a project (Safe Routes to Schools) left from 2010. This includes handicapped ramps at certain intersections (changed from proposed 6-foot wide sidewalks), safety cross walks (upgraded material at no additional cost) and flashing lights at certain pedestrian crossings.

* We stabilized over 400 feet of severely eroding Tenakill Brook stream bank by grading, placing large stones (used for access points to the stream) and planting native vegetation. Total cost of this project was \$40,000; \$35,000 of which was granted through the Rutgers Water Resources Program, \$2,500 from bartered services from Denny Wiggers Nursery and \$2,500 from Borough funds. I express our thanks to Rutgers for this project and to the Demarest Fire Department members who helped water the vegetation on a couple of scorching weekends. Our DPW employees also had a key hand in implementing this project. We also had several Rutgers students volunteer to start removing invasive vegetation from the plantings around the pond. We will continue this effort with our DPW personnel and hopefully some resident volunteers.

* We have obtained a grant to pave part of Columbus Road and install new sidewalks and curbs where needed along the same stretch of road. I expect we will make the decision whether to accept this grant within the next couple of months.

As with all grants, we must make sure that any grant applied for and accepted, is for a project that is needed and will not have excessive costs for our residents. It is a rare grant that does not require some funding from the recipient.

Demarest Day

Early in 2012, the volunteers on the Municipal Alliance Committee were tasked with organizing and seeking funds for Demarest Day activities. Demarest Day was scheduled for October 6, the same day Demarest is hosting the Northern Valley Fireman's Parade. What was true last year, is the same this year; Borough funds are not available to pay for Demarest Day activities. **Based on information received August 13, there are insufficient funds and volunteers this year to have a Demarest Day.** Perhaps next year on the Borough's 110-year anniversary?

Retirements

Congratulations and Best Wishes to Demarest employees, Patrolman Michael Beliveau and Certified Municipal Finance Officer/Tax Collector Maureen Neville. Patrolman Beliveau retired on July 31 after serving the Borough for over 31 years. Ms. Neville is retiring September 7 after serving the Borough for 23 years. Thank you and we wish you all the best!

Sincerely,
Ray Cywinski

DEMAREST POLICE DEPARTMENT

School is opening on **Wednesday, September 5**. 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. Most unsafe driving in school zones are by drivers who use the streets most often - the parents and caregivers 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 30 MPH 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 GARDEN CLUB

Club Meetings Open to the Public

Meetings of the club are held from **1:00–3:00 P.M.** in the United Methodist Church at 109 Hardenburgh Avenue. Club Business Meeting is conducted at **1:00 P.M.** with Program to follow at 2:00 P.M. All interested gardeners, visitors and prospective new members are welcome.

Friday, Sept. 7, 2:00 P.M. Program: "How to Grow and Care for Peonies" by speaker Kathleen Gagan, Owner of the largest peony garden in the Northeast. Ms. Gagan has been featured on the Martha Stewart Show.

Friday, Oct. 5, 2:00 P.M. Program: "Birds in The Garden" by speaker Pat Shire, NJ Audubon Society, Director of Lor-rimer Sanctuary. Learn to attract birds to your yard by providing plants, shelter, food and proper winter care.

Friday, Nov. 2, 2:00 P.M. Program: "Holiday Flower Arranging" by speaker Cathy Miller, Award Winning Author, Featured in 49 Magazines, Floral Arranger to the White House. Learn new techniques for the holidays. Demonstrations with fresh and dried flowers, fruits and vegetables.

State Awards

The Demarest Garden Club is proud to announce that our club has won several State Awards from the Garden Club of New Jersey (GCNJ).

- 1) The GCNJ State Membership Award for the "Highest Increase in Membership of New Members" by a Medium Size Club.
 - 2) The GCNJ Certificate of Merit for "An Excellent Yearbook"
 - 3) The GCNJ Certificate of Merit for "An Excellent Press Book"
- Congratulations to our Committee Chairs Luisa Pittaluga, Debbie Anderson and Helene Golden for jobs well done!

Social Activities

The club has many social activities that are planned around a gardening theme. This fall, we will host the following activities:

Croquet Garden Party, Saturday, Sept 15, 3:00-6:00 P.M. An afternoon garden party centered around learning to play croquet. Light Refreshments. \$5 per Family. Reservations Required, Luisa Pittaluga at 201-966-9816.

Harvest Party, Friday, Oct. 19, 12 noon-2:00 P.M. Luncheon featuring a cooking contest where homemade recipes are sampled and judged. For more information, call Debbie Anderson at 201-983-9493.

Garden Tours, Field Trips and Workshops. Dates to be determined and will be announced at club meetings.

Davies Arboretum Civic Project

The club continues to develop Davies Arboretum, on the front 6 (of 18) borough-owned Green Acres at what was the Davies property at 49 Anderson Avenue. The project began with borough permission in 1977 with initial goals to protect existing "heritage" trees, restore for public use the old house demolition site, and create a passive retreat of low maintenance flowering trees, shrubs, bulbs, perennials, and annuals in a family-friendly setting of interactive gardening activities. Except for grass cutting, bench installation, and water bills, the project is funded entirely by the club and community donations of funds, ideas, energy, and skills. To participate or learn more, just show up on Tuesday mornings 9:00-11:00 A.M. from March 13th to Oct. 16th.

Ed's Garden Railroad

Our award winning two-level, solar-powered, G-track and two club-owned trains will run until Oct. 16th on the first Tuesdays of the month from 9:00-11:00 A.M. and on the first Saturdays (with invited trains) 10:00-12 noon at Davies Arboretum. All knowledgeable railroaders invited to contact the club through our mailbox at Borough Hall to run their own trains.

Membership

Membership in the Demarest Garden Club is open to all local gardeners, male and female, from any town. Annual dues are \$25 and obligations minimal. To join, just attend any Friday afternoon public meeting, find us on a Tuesday at Davies Arboretum 9:00-11:00 A.M., or call Membership Chairman Luisa Pittaluga at 201-966-9816.

DEMAREST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The fall program of the Demarest Historical Society will be held on Wednesday, October 17. Bill Gent, Civil War lecturer, will present his program focused on **Civil War Medicine**. This will take place at 7:30 PM at the Demarest Railroad Depot if enough chairs are available. If not, the program will be held at the Demarest Borough Hall. Notification of the confirmed location will be made closer to October 17.

Sharing the histories of the towns of the Northern Valley Historical Society will featured during the afternoon of October 21 at the newly renovated Demarest Railroad Depot. Come see Demarest's archival display along with those of the other Northern Valley member communities. Representatives of the towns will be there. As of this date Pascack Valley Historical Society will also feature a display.

The Northern Valley Historical Society Newsletter is available at the Demarest Library and at the website www.northernvalleyhistoricalsociety.com

We have recently received some items for the archives. Things of interest including photos are always welcomed. Today is tomorrow's history.

ART SCHOOL AT OLD CHURCH

The Art School was founded by ceramic artist Mikhail Zakin in 1974 and continues to provide state of the instruction in a variety of media.

Digital photography has taken the spotlight as a newly accessible and nuanced art form. The curriculum at the Art School embraces this trend in fall courses for beginners as well as a class for intermediate and advanced photography students. The school offers mixed media classes that combine acrylics with collage, pastels and drawing to create works of art that blend techniques. Life drawing classes continue to be a steady attraction in the drawing department that now offers a class on *Art Journals*, which have become increasingly popular in museum exhibitions over the years. In this class students learn expand their creative process while documenting their progress in an art book.

For more information regarding digital photography classes and other classes call 201-767-7160 or check out our website www.tasoc.org

DEMAREST SHADE TREE COMMISSION

If you have new tree plantings on your property or know of new shade tree plantings near your home planted by the Commission please **water** as this summer's heat has been most severe. Concerns about the health of any of the town shade trees should be registered with Jeanine at Town Hall 201-768-0167 ext. 10.

Did you know that the Borough has planted an average of 20-30 public trees per year and has removed approximately 17-22 trees per year due to an aging shade tree population and extraordinarily damaging storms. This planting versus removal ratio has resulted in a slight net increase of public trees over the past five years.

ENJOY YOUR TREES

DEMAREST ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

The Environmental Commission is please to report that the work restoring the Northside Duck Pond Shoreline has been completed approximately 90% of the cost absorbed by the a combination of bartered services from local contractors, resident volunteer labor and a Rutgers University Grant researched and brought to fruition by our Mayor Ray Cywinski. On July 31st, Rutgers students volunteered to weed the area. We also want to thank the fifth grade students who, with the help of their teachers and the members of the Garden Club, planting the beautiful flowers around the monument during their annual field trip. This was done just in time for the park to look lovely for the Memorial Say parade and spite of the downpour that dampened the planting day.

When school begins in September, residents will notice signs announcing the Anti-Idling campaign to lessen air pollution, especially around the schools and the pond areas. It is hoped that everyone will participate by not idling engines while waiting.

DEMAREST MUNICIPAL COURT

The court dates for the remainder of the year are September 4th, October 9th, November 13th and December 11th. If you are pleading **NOT GUILTY** you must notify the court and a court date will be assigned to your case. For more information call 201-768-1160.

DEMAREST FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Fire Department will be again make visits to LLEE & CRS as part of our annual Fire Prevention Program. The kids have some fun while learning valuable fire safety lessons. They will also be encouraged to participate in the Fire Department's Fire Safety Poster contest. We encourage the parents to discuss the program and the poster contest with their children, as it helps to reinforce the lessons learned.

The annual Northern Valley Fire Chief's Parade will be hosted by Demarest this year. All the Northern Valley towns will participate along with many groups from out of the area. There will be fire trucks and bands along the way and food and beverages at the conclusion. The parade starts at 1PM. Support your Fire Department, bring the family and have some fun!

We are pleased to report that we have two new members, Erika Mareello and Travis Morrison. Both have just completed Fire Fighter training at the Fire Academy. Congratulations!

FIRE SAFETY

Residents should have their heating systems checked prior to the winter season. Flues & chimneys and fire places should also be checked.

Please keep all flammable liquids stored safely. Keep them away from water heaters and heating systems. A liquid spill, open can or just fumes from a flammable liquid or spray, can be ignited by an open flame from any appliance with an open flame or even a spark during ignition.

DO NOT leave any vehicles running in the garage. Carbon monoxide poisoning is deadly.

An easy to read, well lit house number helps us to find your home quicker in case of an emergency.

A key or code left with the Police Department or a trusted neighbor will avoid possible damage to your home if there is a fire alarm while you are away and we have to make entry.

FUND DRIVE

If you haven't responded to our annual fund drive we encourage you to do so. Any contribution, big or small, helps. Without your help, many of our programs, such as the annual fire safety contests at the schools may have to be eliminated.

MEMBERSHIP

We are a volunteer organization that has been providing service to the community since 1894. New members are always needed. Don't have the time to be a full member then join us as an Auxiliary member. Stop by the Fire House any Sunday morning or Tuesday night to learn more.

BOARD OF HEALTH

RABIES CLINIC

The Demarest Board of Health will be having a free rabies clinic on Saturday, **November 17**, 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 2013 so a license can be obtained.

SEASONAL FLU & H1N1 & PNEUMONIA SHOTS CLINIC

The seasonal flu & H1N1 & pneumonia vaccine clinic will be held on **Tuesday, October 30th**, 9:30-11am 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.

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.

MUNICIPAL PARKING

If you are in need of additional parking or have a vehicle that should not be parked in your driveway and need someplace to park - there are available spots downtown for a nominal permit parking fee. To inquire, please call the Borough Clerk, Susan Crosman at 201-768-0167 ext. 39 for further details

ATTENTION RESIDENTS

**Leaf pick-up STARTS OCTOBER 15, 2012
and ENDS DECEMBER 7, 2012**

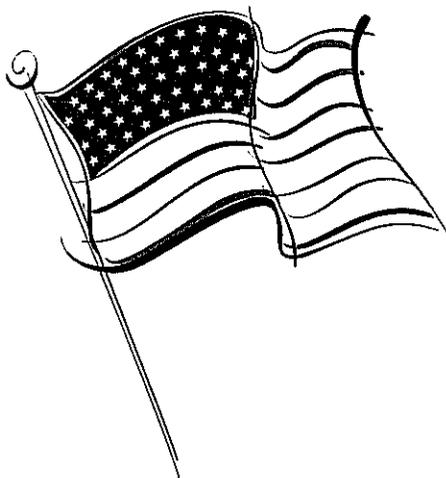
MAYOR RAYMOND CYWINSKI

and the

Members of the Borough Council

Ask you to join them at the 11th

MEMORIAL CEREMONY



**In remembrance of Christopher Vialonga
and all who lost their lives on that tragic day**

SEPTEMBER 11th

**Tuesday. September 11, 2012
7:00 p.m. at the Duck Pond
World Trade Center Memorial**

DEMAREST PUBLIC LIBRARY

Children's Fall Story Hour

Terrific Tykes- Tuesday @ 10:30am-Children
Ages 3 & 4

Top Tots Wednesday @ 10:30am Birth to Age 2

Story Hour Session begins on September 18 to
week of November 5th.

Adult Events & Clubs

Book Discussion Group meets the 2nd Monday
@ 7:30PM. This lively group of avid readers en-
joys in-depth discussions on popular & classic lit-
erary works. New members are always welcome,
including non-residents.

Knitting Club meets the 1st & 3rd Wednesday @
7:30pm. Come join group of talented knitters af-
fectionately known as "Bottles & Cans." Whether
you are experienced or starting out, you are wel-
come to come for advice. New knitters are always
welcome, including non-residents.

Museum Passes

The Museum Pass Program is open to Demarest
residents with a valid Demarest Public Library
card in good standing. You must present your
card with your driver's license at the Circulation
desk at the library to check out a museum pass.

SAVE THE DATE

Sunday, November 4th 2-4pm Join us for a dis-
cussion of the "The Charmer" The True Story of
Robert Reldan by Richard Muti & Charles Buck-
ley. Synopsis: Serial rapist/murderer Robert
Reldan. The book deals with the rape and murder
of Susan Heynes of Haworth and Susan Reeve of
Demarest.

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The Methodist Church Annual Community Craft
Fair will be held on Friday, November 30th from
3pm-8pm and Saturday, December 1st from
10am-3pm.

There will be Community dinner on Friday night
from 5-7pm. Come join fellowship of food pre-
pared by local restaurants and church chefs.

Start your holiday shopping and check out all
many crafters and vendors.

DEMAREST AMBULANCE CORPS

On behalf of the Officers and Members of the Dema-
rest Volunteer Ambulance Corps, we wish to extend
our thanks for your support in not only our Fund
Drive, but our recent Boot Drive which took place
this summer. Your generous contributions are greatly
appreciated, and utilized in many different ways that
enable us to keep our Organization operational.
DVAC is a volunteer group, proud to offer 24 Hour
Emergency Medical Services to the residents of
Demarest. As always, we are in dire need of Volun-
teers, and welcome anyone interested in becoming an
EMT to join our DVAC family. Please contact us for
additional information on how you can make a dif-
ference in your Community! We look forward to see-
ing our residents at our Town Sponsored Events, so
please look for our Ambulance and stop in to say
hello! With the approach of the Autumn Season,
comes the onset of fallen leaves from the trees. Rak-
ing those leaves can be a strenuous workout even for
those who exercise on a regular basis! The dynamics
of raking can lead to strain and injury to the back,
shoulders, and wrists, according to the American
Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons (AAOS). Here are
some useful tips to help avoid any potential injury
while performing this task -

1. Avoid twisting your body while raking. Use your legs to shift your weight rather than twisting your back. Throwing leaves over the shoulder or to the side while raking involves twisting movements that can overly strain the muscles in the back.
2. Use a properly-sized rake for your height and strength.
3. Wear gloves to help prevent blisters on the hands.
4. Bend at the knees, rather than the waist, to pick up items.
5. Do some form of light exercise for ten minutes to warm up the muscles prior to raking.
6. Try to vary your movements as much as you can to avoid overuse of muscle groups.
7. Wear shoes with skid-resistant soles to minimize the risk of falling. Sturdy shoes can also reduce the risk of injuries to your feet.
8. Don't overdo. Raking is an aerobic activity - you may need to take frequent breaks or slow your pace if you are an infrequent exerciser. (It's better to live with the leaves tomorrow than with a sore back!)
9. As with any form of exercise, be sure to drink plenty of fluids to prevent dehydration.
10. When you're done, gentle muscle stretching can help relieve tension in the muscles. A hot bath can relax muscles.

DEMAREST NATURE CENTER

TRIAL OF THE TRAILS 2012

5K Trail Run & Trail Fun Run

Saturday, Sept. 15th "**TRIAL OF THE TRAILS**" **1-mile Trail Fun Run**, 9 a.m., and **5K Trail Run**, 9:20 a.m., on the trails of the nature center. Registration opens at 8 a.m. at Wakelee Field Playground parking lot. Rain or shine. Download applications and maps of the route from our website, www.DemarestNatureCenter.org

OKTOBERFEST

Saturday, October 13, 31st **Craft Show at Oktoberfest**, Duck Pond The Fest features German & Korean Ger Food, Canoe Rides, Giant Slide, Obstacle Course, Moon Walk and a variety of crafts including: pottery, paintings, jewelry, holiday items and much more. Rain Date: October 20th Crafters can get more information from our website: www.DemarestNatureCenter.org

2012 PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS

Grand Prize: Brightna Hu (Age 9)

Adult (Color): 1st Michele Sunberg, 2nd Caitlin Cywinski, 3rd Jeong Heo & honorable mention Jeong Heo

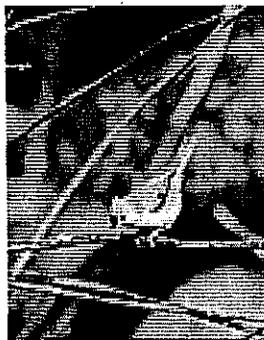
Adult (Black & White): 1st Cailin Cywinski, 2nd Maureen Bennett O'Connor and 3rd Eola Bakhru

Youth (Color): 1st Benjamin Nelson (Age 11), 2nd Anjali Bakhru (Age 8), 3rd Rejoice Hu (Age 11) & honorable mention Benjamin Nelson (Age 11)

Kids (Black & White): 1st Benjamin Nelson (age 11)



***Grand Prize
Brighna Hu***



***First Place (color, adult)
Michele Sunberg***



***First Place (color, youth)
Benjamin Nelson***

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

**PRSRST STD
US POSTAGE PAID
Permit No. 230
Paramus, NJ**

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