

DEMAREST JOURNAL



Official Borough Newsletter
Volume 45 No. 2 June 2013

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

Memorial Day (May 27) – Please join us in honoring our service men and women who gave their lives so we may live our lives with the freedoms we enjoy every day. The annual Demarest Memorial Day parade will begin at 9:30am on Monday May 27 at the Demarest Library and proceed east on Hardenburgh, north on Piermont, east on Northwood, south on High and west on Hardenburgh to the war memorial in the park. The ceremony will immediately follow the parade.

2013 Budget – As I write this we do not have an adopted budget (slated for May 20th vote), however the introduced budget is within the state mandated 2% tax cap. The proposed municipal tax rate is greater than 2% due to items outside the cap, predominantly debt payments. The municipal increase on a home assessed at the average (\$730,000) is proposed at \$184 which includes an \$8 increase toward the library. This amount does not include school or county taxes.

In order to replenish our Open Space Fund and increase our chances for matching funds for future projects, we are reinstating the Open Space tax which was passed by referendum in Nov. 2012. We are opting to institute the Open Space tax at \$0.005/\$100 assessed value which adds an additional \$36.50 on a home assessed at the average value.

Consolidation – We continue to reach out to other nearby municipalities in seeking shared services that will result in greater efficiencies and less cost. As you have seen, the proposed merger with the Bergen County police was turned down by the Freeholders by a 4-3 vote. Even with proposed changes made by Demarest that would benefit County taxpayers further, it appears the current Freeholders will not revisit this proposal.

Present and Immediate Future Tasks

Frick Property – The governing body voted not to grant a zoning change for nine acres off Duane Lane that would have resulted in a townhouse development. Traffic concerns and setting a precedent for other Borough properties were the primary reasons not to grant the zone change.

Lightning Detection System for Wakelee Field – A decision on whether to install a system will be made next month. The schools and towns in the Northern Valley are discussing this as a joint project.

Police & DPW Contracts – Ongoing negotiations.

Road Paving Projects – A majority of residents on at least four unpaved roads are in favor of road paving. We will try to prepare cost estimates in the next two months to be presented to the property owners on these streets.

E-Waste – Electronic recyclables (TVs, computers, etc.) can still be dropped off at the North Borough parking lot by the ambulance corps and DPW building (Wakelee Drive). By law, the sanitation contractor cannot pick up electronics left at the curb.

Group Home – Work continues on the group home on Knickerbocker Road for eventual use by four adults with developmental disabilities. The Borough used \$250,000 of Housing Trust Funds to fund part of the purchase and renovation of this home.

Railroad Station – The governing body voted to rent out the station for single use events while still exploring the possibility of entering into an agreement for a long-term (one year) lease while still affording use of the station by the seniors and Historical Society.

110 Serpentine Road House - We are actively working on proposals for renting or selling this house.

On behalf of the governing body, I wish you a very Enjoyable and Safe summer!

Sincerely,
Ray Cywinski

DEMAREST POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Demarest Police Department would like to remind all residents that it is now mandated that operators of a motor vehicle must stop for pedestrians in the crosswalk. For additional information regarding this law, you can refer to NJ State Statue 39:4-117.

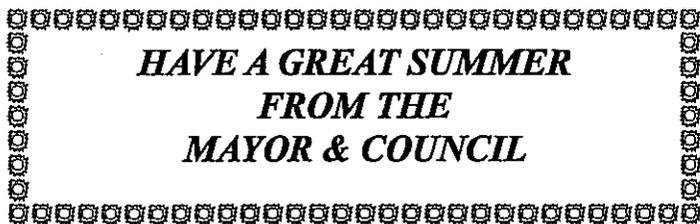
Below are some safety tips for walkers

- * Wear bright-colored, reflectorized clothing, especially at night.
- * Walk on sidewalks or paths and always cross at the corner, within marked crosswalks if provided. If there are no sidewalks, walk facing traffic and make eye contact with motorists.
- * Never cross mid-block (unless within a marked crosswalk), between parked cars or by climbing over median barriers. This is not only unsafe, but against the law.
- * Look left, then right and left again before crossing, and always be on the look-out for turning vehicles.
- * Continue to look for vehicles while crossing, even when in marked crosswalks.
- * Learn the proper use of "walk/don't walk" signals and obey them.
- * Walk and cross with others, when possible.
- * Do not attempt to cross while talking or texting on a cell phone. Pedestrian inattention is a common cause of pedestrian-motor vehicle conflicts.
- * Try not to walk at night or in bad weather such as rain, snow or ice.
- * If you drink alcohol, have someone escort you to your front door.

BICYCLE SAFETY

The Demarest Police Department would like to remind parents that under the New Jersey Statute 39:4-10.1 they are responsible to see that their children have and wear bicycle helmets for cycling, roller skating, in-line and skateboarding. Children under the age of 17 MUST wear helmets. Parents may be given a summons if their children do not use helmets as required

**HAVE A GREAT SUMMER
FROM THE
MAYOR & COUNCIL**



DEMAREST AMBULANCE CORPS

We are please to announce the following officers for 2013

Line Officers

Roberta Hoag, Chief, Joseph Fortunto, III, 1st Asst. Chief, Andrew Woods, 2nd Asst. Chief.

Administrative Officers

Joanne Pianghi, President, Diane Marello, Treasuer, Maria Selle, Secretary.

Membership & Donations

We need YOUR help so we can CONTINUE to help others in our small community. Please consider joining. We will cover the education costs. Become a first responder driver or EMT.

If you cannot donate your time please consider making a donation. No amount is too small. We exist because of your kind donations.

Please contact us at 201-767-8050 or our mailing address is P.O. Box 131 Demarest, NJ 07627.

"We make a living by what we do, but we make a life by what we give" Winston Churchill

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 weeks, so make sure you allow ample time. Any questions please call 201-768-0167 ext #12.

WELCOME IDA!!!!

You may have seen a new face at Borough Hall, well that would be our new Finance Clerk, Ida Mandich. Ida is a resident of Ridgefield with her husband Miro. She has two adult children, daughter Ines and son Pave. She was born & educated in Zagreb, Croatia, graduating from J.F. Kennedy Economic-Commercial School. She was previously employed by Onkyo, USA., First Internet Travel & Wenesco Restaurants, Inc as a Controller.

***The Finance team is now up and running
with Phil and Ida***

DEMAREST NATURE CENTER

Nature Photography Contest deadline date is **Friday, May 31st**. Bring your photo entries to the **Demarest Free Public Library**. All photos must be taken in the Demarest Nature Center. See our website www.demarestnaturecenter.org for contest details. Winners announced at...

Breakfast in the Woods, Saturday, June 8th next to the Imaginative Playground in Wakelee Field. Breakfast served al fresco, starting at 9 a.m. Made-to-order omelettes, bagels, danish, hot beverages, O.J., etc. All at no charge! After our photo contest **CASH PRIZE** winners are announced at 10:30, we'll all be entertained by **Outragehiss Pets**, a presentation of several live, exotic animals. Rain date **June 9th**.

September 21st: Trial of the Trails – 5K Trail Run and 1 Mile Fun Run on the trails of the nature center. Registration opens at 8 a.m. at Wakelee Field Playground parking lot. Rain or Shine. Download registration form and map from our website.

So, if you're new in town, and/or you're a runner or walker, the nature center has the coolest trails in town. Summertime is a great time to follow a DNC trail, to get to your tennis match, the playground, or the swim club.

New Branch Removal Schedule

Effective June 1, branches left at the curb will be collected on the following schedule:

East of the railroad tracks – Regular work days during the first 10 days of the month (For example, June 1 – 10)

West of the railroad tracks – Regular work days during the second 10 days of the month (For example, June 11 – 20)

This schedule will make this operation more efficient by devoting more time to actual chipping and less time driving.

As always, branch removal will be suspended during leaf pick-up season. Emergency situations may also dictate changes to the schedule either decreasing or increasing removal.

Please do not place any material in with the branches, no stones, lumber, metal, etc. Place large ends of branches facing in the direction of the traffic.

DEMAREST SHADE TREE COMMISSION

ARBOR DAY

Arbor Day was celebrated on Friday, April 26, 2013 sponsored by the Shade Tree Commission of Demarest.

The 7th and 8th grade students at the Demarest Middle School competed in a poetry contest highlighting a species of tree and or focusing their poetry on the status of our trees after Super Storm Sandy.

All the students did a wonderful job on their poetry. We thank the students' Language Arts teachers for their guidance; Mr. Sorge, Ms. Vitelli, Ms. Calegari, and Ms. Weingarden.

The 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners in both 7th and 8th grade received gift certificates to Barnes & Noble and books on trees.



Shown in the photo: **7th Grade winners:** 1st place, Sarah Geller, 2nd place, Nick Liew, 3rd place, Alex Martinez; **8th Grade winners:** 1st place, Katherine Wang, 2nd place, Brenda Cho, 3rd place, Jimin Park, Mayor Cywinski, Barbara Johnson and Marianne Simpson; ST Commissioners.

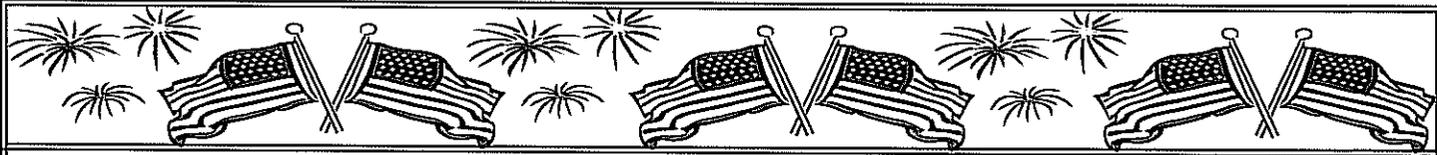
Congratulations to ALL!!

All students in CRS, DMS and LLE received tube seedlings of either Norway Spruce or Northern Red Oak which is the New Jersey State tree. Instructions for the seedling tree care were given to all. The students were encouraged to nurture the seedlings as these 700 trees will add to beautiful Demarest's tree canopy in time.

Please note that the winners of the poetry contest and their poetry are highlighted at the Demarest Public Library. Please visit and read.

DEMAREST MUNICIPAL COURT

The court dates for the next three months are June 11, July 9 and August 13. 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. Please note: tickets can be paid online at www.njmcdirect.com.



SUMMER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- May 27* *Memorial Day Parade; 9:00am*
- May 31* *Demarest Nature Center Photo Contest Deadline*
- June 6* *Primary Day; Polls open from 6am-8pm*
- June 7* *Demarest Swim Club Swim & Dive teams registration; 5pm-7pm
@ Wakelee Field House*
- June 8* *Demarest Nature Center "Annual Breakfast in the Woods", 9-11am*
- June 10* *Mayor & Council meeting; 7:30 pm; Council Chambers*
- June 11* *Municipal Court; 5pm; Council Chambers*
- June 14* *Flag Day*
- June 17* *Mayor & Council meeting; 7:30 pm; Council Chambers*
- July 1* *Mayor & Council meeting; 7:30 pm; Council Chambers*
- July 4* *Independence Day (237th Birthday of the United States of America)*
- July 9* *Municipal Court; 5pm; Council Chambers*
- July 15* *Mayor & Council meeting; 7:30 pm; Council Chambers*
- August 5* *Mayor & Council meeting; 7:30 pm; Council Chambers*
- August 13* *Municipal Court; 5pm; Council Chambers*
- August 19* *Mayor & Council meeting; 7:30 pm; Council Chambers*
- September 21* *DNC Demarest Nature Center 1 mile Trail Fun Run & 3.1 Mile Trail Run,
8am Registration*
- October 12* *Oktoberfest sponsored by Demarest Nature Center; 10am @ the
Duck Pond*



DEMAREST GARDEN CLUB

Thank You!

The Demarest Garden Club wishes to thank the many supporters of our recent successful plant sale. These funds make possible the club's sponsorship of many special programs in the community such as the recent Demarest Middle School 5th Grade Environmental Day and the Northern Valley Regional High School Senior Service work in the Davies Arboretum.

Congratulations!

NVRHS Organic Gardening Club received \$1,000
The Demarest Garden Club presented a \$1,000 Grant check to the Northern Valley Regional High School Organic Gardening Club. The funding for this grant comes from a \$40,000 USDA Specialty Crop Block Grant awarded to the Garden Club of New Jersey for distribution. The Demarest Garden Club sponsored the NVRHS Organic Gardening Club grant application for the renovation of their existing garden located on school grounds.

Summer Meetings, Social Activities and Fieldtrips Members and invited guests are welcome.

June: Pot-Luck Picnic Luncheon and Installation of Club Officers.

June: High Line Walking Tour, New York City. Date to be determined.

Summer Activities

Field trips to public and private gardens and participation in the Garden Conservancy's Open Days program of garden tours throughout the tri-state area.

Davies Arboretum Civic Project

The garden club oversees Davies Arboretum at 49 Anderson Avenue. Club Members meet on Tuesday mornings 9 - 11 A.M., from March to October, weather permitting. Ed's Garden Railroad is scheduled to run G-gauge model trains each month on the first Tuesday 9 - 11 A.M through the summer. Prospective members are welcome to join us and participate in garden related activities to maintain flowering trees, shrubs, annuals, perennials and bulbs. The arboretum project was begun in 1977 and is funded by the garden club and community donations of money, ideas, and service. Your tax-deductible donations to the Demarest Garden Club earmarked for the arboretum are appreciated.

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, attend any monthly public meeting, call Membership Chairman Luisa Pittaluga at 201-966-9816 or contact us at our website www.DemarestGardenClub.org

BOARD OF HEALTH

Pet Safety Tips

On an average summer day, the temperature of a car in the sun can reach an unbearable 160 degrees. Nine out of ten dogs die of heat prostration within 20 minutes, even with the windows partly open. If your dog is fortunate enough to survive, his heart and lungs can be permanently damaged—damage you cannot see, but which he must live with for the rest of his life. Your pet cannot perspire through his skin as people do; his lungs are his only cooling system. With nothing but overheated air to breathe, he cannot live very long. Please, if you love your dog, leave your pet at home in the shade.

LYME DISEASE

TIPS FOR PERSONAL PROTECTION

1. Avoid tick-infected areas, especially in May, June, July.
2. Wear light-colored clothing so that ticks can be spotted more easily.
3. Tuck pant legs into socks or boots & shirt into pants.
4. Tape the area where pants & socks meet so that ticks cannot crawl under clothing.
5. Use insect repellent containing DEET or picaridin.
6. Spray insect repellents containing permethrin on clothing only.
7. Wear a hat & long sleeved shirt for added protection.
8. Walk in the center of trails to avoid overhanging grass & brush.
9. After being outdoors, remove, wash & dry clothing at a high temperature, inspect body carefully & properly remove any attached ticks.
10. Clear brush & tall grass around house & at the edges of gardens.

PASCACK VALLEY MEALS ON WHEELS

We are a non-profit organization available to all individuals who live alone, cannot drive, shop or cook for themselves. The program provides two nutritious meals; a hot one (consisting of a protein, starch & vegetable) a sandwich, two milks, a dessert & fruit. Special dietary needs are accommodated such as lactose intolerant, low sodium or low sugar. There is a fee of \$7.35 a day. The mission of our organization is to improve health, reduce isolation & promote a better quality of life. If anyone would like this service or would like to volunteer, please call 201-358-0050 or visit www.pvmealsonwheels.com for more information.

DEMAREST SWIM CLUB

The Demarest Swim Club is now accepting new applications for its upcoming 2013 season. As the club prepares for the long summer days that lie ahead, you too can plan to bask in the sun or shade and enjoy the expansive grounds and three pools. Other amenities for your enjoyment include a variety of games and activities such as ping pong, volleyball and of course the snack shack for summer fare. Children are also welcome to register for the DSC Swim and Dive teams on June 7th from 5-7pm at the Wakelee Field House. Whether it's exercise, competition, socializing or just rest and relaxation, it all adds up to a summer of fun and memories at the Demarest Swim Club. Check out our website www.demarestswimclub.com or call Jennifer Anavim at 803-2740 or Rich Gordon 750-3350.

2nd Annual Triathlon

The 2nd Annual event will be held on Saturday, June 8th starting time at 7:30am at the Demarest Swim Club. Each participant will receive a race shirt and goodie bag. The participant will be doing a 300 meter swim, 12 mile bike and 5k run. The event will benefit the Demarest Swim Club and the Special Operations Warrior Foundation— a top-rated nonprofit organization benefiting service members and their families.

For more information and to register please go to www.demarestswimclub.com or raceforum.com. Please contact Energizeric185@aol.com with questions.

5th GRADE ENVIRONMENTAL FIELD TRIP

The annual Environmental Field trip for our 5th grade students, co-sponsored by the Demarest Environmental Commission & the Demarest Garden Club was held on May 10th at the Duck Pond. There was a discussion by Mayor Cywinski about water quality, conservation & the Tenakill Brook, which is one of the sources of our reservoir's water.

The students helped the Garden Club members plant flowers at the monuments and were taken on a nature walk through the area around the gazebo, to see the time capsule, the sun dial and to understand the importance of the efforts being made to stabilize the banks of the brook.

DEMAREST HISTORIAN

MARY ANNE CLARKE

The National Historic Preservation theme for May 2013 is "See! Save! Celebrate!". Here in Demarest we can celebrate the work of many people from town who sought to preserve Demarest's history. Three people who died this year who were involved in our town's history are Margaret (Peg) Gartland, Dorothy (Dottie) Jahn and Harold Collins. Peg Gartland was the coordinator of the people who were involved with the creation of The Demarest Peace Site, our Gazebo at the pond. Dottie Jahn was one of the many individuals who envisioned and created our Demarest Public Library. Harold Collins served Demarest in many rolls, but was solidly behind the work in the preservation of the Hardenburgh Avenue Bridge and the Demarest Railroad Depot. Harold was honored in past years for his preservation efforts by Bergen County Freeholders and recognized most recently at the 2013 Bergen County Preservation Awards night, May 9. We can appreciate the effort and dedication of these two women and gentleman for "Seeing, Saving and Celebrating" Demarest history. Their visions are preserved and are embedded in Demarest history.

Trivia: The weather vane on the Peace Gazebo is a replica of the weathervane on George Washington's home, Mount Vernon in Virginia. It is a dove carrying an olive branch. Take a good look

DEMAREST SUMMER RECREATION CAMP

For: Children entering grades K -6 in September

Dates: July 1st to August 9th

Time: 9am to 1pm daily, rain or shine

Cost: \$450 for residents/ \$550 for non-residents.

* Outdoor and indoor activities, sports, arts-and-crafts, games, and free play on the playground

* Tuesdays at the Demarest Swim Club

* Tentative special events include Outrageous Pets, inflatable water slides, a magic show, Mad Science, field day, and a DJ dance party

* Six fun-filled field trips

* Daily lunch program

Enrichment 1:00 -2:00 pm, 3 days per week

For additional information, go to the Borough website www.demarestnj.org. You can download the registration packet from the website. If you have any questions e-mail Jackie Sicheri, the Camp Director, at dreccamp@yahoo.com.

DEMAREST FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Safety: Spring/Summer Tips.

- * Doing some spring cleaning? Please don't leave rags, clothing, paper or flammable liquids near any heating systems or water heaters. Fumes could be ignited by pilot lights or flame from these units. Also, keep area WELL VENTILATED.
- * Check the grill before using for damaged hoses, valves and leaks. Keep grills at LEAST 4 FEET from the home when in use! Watch the kids. Hot grills can cause severe burns.
- * Use caution when cleaning/repairing yard equipment. Flammable cleaning solutions can ignite causing severe injury.
- * Don't run any lawn or yard equipment in the garage or basement. You risk serious injury from carbon monoxide poisoning or fire.
- * Keep candles out of reach of children and away from any drapes, curtains or papers. Be sure they are extinguished before leaving the house or going to bed.
- * Adopt a hydrant! Please keep any fire hydrants or a near your property clear of branches and debris. Firefighters waste valuable time if they have to remove debris!
- * 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.
- * CHECK YOUR SMOKE and CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTORS at least once a month!
- * Need advice on where/how to install detectors? Call us or stop by the Fire House.

HAVE A SAFE SUMMER!

FUND DRIVE

Our annual FUND DRIVE is in progress. If you haven't responded we encourage you to do so. Any contribution, big or small is appreciated. Without your financial assistance, many of our programs, such as the annual fire safety contests at the schools may have to be eliminated.

MEMBERSHIP

Note: The Demarest Fire Department is a volunteer organization that has been providing service to the community since 1894. We respond to over 300 calls a year. In addition, our members devote countless hours on training equipment maintenance and other duties. We work hard and take a lot of pride in what we do. New members are always needed. If you don't have the time or desire to become a regular Fire-Fighter, you can still help us by joining as an Auxiliary Member. Auxiliary members are a valuable asset to the department. Auxiliary Members receive basic training at the Fire House under the tutelage of senior members. Although not involved in actual fire-fighting, Auxiliaries provide help at the fire house and also provide assistance at fire scenes and other emergencies. Stop by the Fire House any Sunday morning or a Tuesday night to learn more about how you can become a volunteer!

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

**PRSR STD
US POSTAGE PAID
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Paramus, NJ**

**ECRWS
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