

# DEMAREST JOURNAL



Official Borough Newsletter  
Volume 45 No. 3 September 2013

## MAYOR'S MESSAGE

**9/11 Remembrance (Wednesday September 11, 2013)** – Please join us in our annual “9/11 Remembrance” to be held at 7:00 PM at the 9/11 Memorial in the park southeast of the railroad depot. Please join us in paying respect to all those who perished that day 12 years ago, especially Demarest native Chris Vialonga and others who resided in Demarest for part of their lives.

### Affordable Housing Trust Funds

As required by the state’s Council on Affordable Housing (COAH), we submitted a letter and documents on August 2 detailing Demarest’s collections (from development projects) and expenditures for affordable housing. Although we submitted documentation last year, the most recent court decision required another submittal. Demarest officials will continue to work with officials in other towns and the League of Municipalities to prevent the state from seizing the unspent funds collected between July 2008 and March 2013. For Demarest, that amounts to approximately \$66,000 having spent \$250,000 on the group home for the developmentally disabled on Knickerbocker Rd. I, as well as most municipal officials, feel it is patently unfair for the state to seize the unspent funds. This is especially true while the issue of how COAH is organized is unresolved, regulations are being contested in court and the number of units required in each town is undecided.

### Capital Improvements

- The council has approved accepting a grant to pave Columbus Rd. and install new sidewalks from Luther Lee Emerson School north to Madison Ave. We anticipate completing the project this year.

**Consolidation** – We continue to reach out to other nearby municipalities in seeking shared services that will result in greater efficiencies and reduced costs.

### Current Tasks

- \* **Road Paving Projects** – As a result of polling residents on unpaved roads, the Borough engineer has prepared cost estimates for residents on seven roads. We will be inviting those residents on Chestnut St., Drury La., Margaret Ct., Orchard Rd. (off Anderson Ave.), Prescott St., Prospect St., and Ruth La. to a M&C meeting to discuss the possible paving of these roads.
- \* **Flooding on Wells Ct.** – Investigations have started regarding the serious flooding issue along this street.
- \* **Dredging of Demarest Brook** – The Demarest Brook approx. 200 feet south of Central Ave. to Northwood Ave. and approx. 125 feet north of Northwood Ave. will be dredged in the next couple of months. This project is to address flooding in this area.
- \* **Railroad Depot** – The governing body is still open to renting out the Depot on a basis that will still allow senior citizen groups and other Borough organizations to utilize the facility. Starting in July, senior citizens once again started using the Depot for their activities. **WELCOME BACK Seniors!**

### Retirements

Congratulations and Best Wishes to the following retired Demarest employees:

- \* DPW Ass't. Sup't. **Robert Miller** (May 31) having served Demarest residents for **40 yrs.**
- \* Police Sgt. **Michael Smith** (June 30) having served Demarest residents for 26 yrs.
- \* DPW worker **Marty Marquez** (March 22) having served Demarest residents for 23+ yrs.

Summer is almost over. Please drive **extra carefully** as schools commence in September!

*Sincerely,*  
**Ray Cywinski**

## DEMAREST FIRE DEPARTMENT

This Fall, the Fire Department will again be conducting their Annual Fire Prevention programs at LLE & CRS. These educational programs typically coincide with National Fire Prevention Week. The kids have some fun while learning valuable fire safety lessons. The students will also be encouraged to participate in the Fire Safety Poster contest which is sponsored by the Fire Department. We encourage parents to discuss the program and the poster contest with their children, as it helps to reinforce the lessons learned.

### ***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.
- \* With summer ending and schools opening, increased traffic makes travel for parents and responding emergency vehicles more difficult. Please be alert for sirens and responding vehicles. Be aware that volunteers travel with blue lights while in their personal vehicles. You can help get them to the Fire House or Ambulance building quicker by pulling to the right to allow them to pass!
- \* Remind your children as well to be alert for emergency vehicles. Stay on the sidewalks if possible.
- \* 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***

Thank you to all who have contributed we appreciate your generosity. 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 would 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. If you don't have the time to be a full member you can help by becoming an Auxiliary member. Stop by the Fire House any Sunday morning or Tuesday night to learn more.

## DEMAREST POLICE DEPARTMENT

School is opening on **Wednesday, September 4**. 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 SUMMER RECREATION  
SUMMER FUN!!**

The kids had a blast at recreation camp this summer! They enjoyed the town pool every Tuesday, a field trip every Thursday, and exciting events and activities planned daily on our camp calendar. Field trips this summer included arcades such as Dave and Busters, gymnastics at Paragon, trampoline sports at Bounce, Keansburg Water Rapids and Amusement Park, bowling, and the movies!! Our camp calendar included events such as a laser show, wet and wild water slides, ice cream mania, a reptile show, and a perfection on wheels stunt show!! Campers experienced sports, games, and art on a daily basis. Our new basketball system, ping-pong tables, and other outdoor games were a big hit and were in constant use by the children. Our new enrichment program and our daily lunch program were also a success. And our weekly counselor knock-out competition certainly got the kids excited, they loved it! The camp directors and counselors were exceptional this summer - a special thank you to Jackie Sicheri, our camp director, Adam Sidrow and Doug Stokes, our sports directors, Malisa DeSantis, our art director, and Sheila Verna, our lunch program coordinator. And of course, thank you to all our campers - we will miss you!! Our team of directors meets in January to start planning our calendar for Summer 2014 - see you all next summer!!

**LEAF NOTICE 2013**

Leaf pick-up begins on October 15th and ends the week of December 2nd. All leaves must be spread close to the curb, but not within 10 feet of any storm drain. **LEAF PILES MUST BE KEPT FREE OF TWIGS AND BRANCHES, STONES AND GRASS OR THEY WILL NOT BE PICKED UP !!** After December 19th all leaves are to be bagged for pick-up

Pease remind your lawn service company, so that we may pick-up your leaves in a timely manner.

**DO NOT PUT OUT BRANCHES UNTIL  
LEAF SEASON IS OVER**

**BRANCH PICK-UP WILL CONTINUE  
ON DECEMBER 10TH**

**DEMAREST GARDEN CLUB**

**New Officers for 2013-2014**

Elected officers of the garden club installed for the coming year are: Helene Golden of Cliffside Park, President; Ruth Haynes, Closter, First Vice President, Ginny Bargisen, Demarest, Second Vice President, Elaine Welch of Demarest, Treasurer, Elisabeth Evans of Demarest, returning a second year as Recording Secretary, and Barbara DiNovi of Demarest, Corresponding Secretary.

**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 start at 2:00 P.M. All interested gardeners, visitors and prospective new members are welcome.

Friday, Sept 6, 2013 Program: "Roses, the Royalty in Gardens" Speaker: Joseph Barbiero, former President of the NJ Rose Society

Friday, Oct 4, 2013 Program: "Keeping Varmints out of your Garden" Speaker: Ray Edel, writer for the Record, author & Master Gardener

Friday, Nov 1, 2013 Program: "It's Holiday Time" Speaker: Cathy Miller, award-winning author, featured in 49 magazines & florist to the White House

**Club Activities**

Members and their invited guests are welcome to join us. Holiday Luncheon, The Demarest Garden Club will celebrate the Holidays at Madeleine's Petit Paris.

New Jersey Botanical Garden Holiday Open House, the Demarest Garden Club has been selected once again to participate in the Holiday Open House at Skylands Manor in Ringwood, NJ. This year's theme is the 25th Anniversary of Skylands. Seventeen rooms/areas will be beautifully decorated. The manor house will be open to the public on December 5,6,7 and 8 from 10 - 4 P.M.

**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 - 10 A.M., through October. The arboretum 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. Prospective members are welcome to join us on Tuesdays and participate in garden related activities as we begin to prepare the plants for winter.

**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 are 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](http://www.DemarestGardenClub.org).

## DEMAREST PUBLIC LIBRARY

The library will resume Sunday Hours On September 8th.

In times past, there were buildings in local communities that contained a collection of books that people could borrow for free. You may not realize it, but that tradition continues today, only with a lot more than books.

### **HAVE YOU VISITED DEMAREST PUBLIC LIBRARY LATELY?**

In addition to Books we offer a large selection of Recorded Books, Music CD's and of course DVD, Blu-Ray and a Foreign DVD Collection.

Museum Passes are available for Demarest Library Card Holders for The Metropolitan Museum of Art, The Guggenheim Museum and the Intrepid Sea & Space Museum

Our Online Collection includes Mango Language, World Book Online and eBCCLS

Our New Children's Room will soon be opening. Come and visit our new Programming Room.

The wonderful thing about libraries is that there is something there for all of us.

We hope to see you this Fall.

#### Library Hours

Monday, Thursday 10 am – 8 pm  
Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday 10 am – 5 pm  
Sunday 1- 5 pm

## UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

We will be celebrating our 100th Anniversary at our 10:00am on Sunday, September 15th. A luncheon and program will follow immediately after the service in our Social Hall. Everyone is invited to celebrate this special occasion with us.

The Methodist Church *Annual Community Craft Fair* will be held on Friday, December 6th from 3pm-8pm and Saturday, December 7th from 10am-3pm.

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

## DEMAREST SHADE TREE COMMISSION

With several recent tragic news stories about falling trees and branches the STC continues to monitor, provide maintenance and remove of dead trees/branches on our byways. We do this with a limited budget and are hopeful in the next year to seek grant support from the NJ State Forestry Services to enhance our care of town shade trees.

**As a reminder** please be mindful with placing wood chips and mulch around tree bases as too much of these materials can smother the bark at the base and kill the tree. Recently 12 trees had to be removed from a local property because of tree death due to wood chips being placed in pyramid form around the trees.

"Trees Make A World Of Difference"

## DEMAREST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

### Demarest History

The following are excerpts from the 1862 diary of 15 year old Matthew J. Bogert. Please note, the wording, spelling and language is as it is found in the diary written by him. The following entries refer to the local enlistment of volunteers for the Union Army during the Civil War. Harrington refers to the township of which Demarest was a part before becoming a borough.

Bogert was born and raised at the Bogert family home on County Road. As an adult he built a house on Piermont Road on what was part of the family farm property. Matthew J. Bogert became Demarest's third mayor. His photo can be seen in the Borough Council Chambers.

August 21, 1862

"Great Excitement about drafting Quota of Harrington 52 men"

August 28, 1862

"went to church this A.M. farewell meeting to volunteers under Capt. A.G. Demarest. Church was crowded. Mat Powles belong to this company."

September 1, 1862

"Cloudy this A.M. I was to the station this A.M. to see the Volunteers off. There was about 150 in all Pascack company included. They left in the cars about 8:30."

September 3, 1862

"Quite cold last night frost this morning. Volunteers all came back this P.M. on furlough till next Monday."

September 8, 1862

"Cloudy this morning cleared off before noon. Volunteers went off again for Trenton this morning. I was to the station."

### DEMAREST AMBULANCE CORPS

We are Demarest Volunteer Ambulance Corps. We are your neighbors...men and women who are New Jersey State Certified Emergency Medical Technicians. We are trained in the latest CPR and first aid techniques, and our Ambulance is equipped with the latest lifesaving gear.

We work as part of a team with the Demarest Police Department, Paramedics from nearby hospitals and others to provide you with the best care possible.

Here are a few things you can do to help:

- \* In an emergency, call 911 and tell the operator the nature of your emergency and your location.
- \* Make sure your street number is prominently displayed. It will assist us in getting to the right location quickly.
- \* Keep your hallways and doorways clear from clutter. When time is short, we want to get in and out quickly.
- \* When driving, please yield to vehicles with flashing blue lights.
- \* Donate generously during our fund raising drive. We depend upon your generosity to maintain and replace our equipment, supplies and building.
- \* Consider joining us! We need members and can offer you skills, excitement and the satisfaction of helping those in need. People as young as 16 can join and the training is free!
- \* To volunteer you can contact us at 201-767-8050.

Your Demarest Volunteer Ambulance Service is all about helping people. With your support we'll be there for you and your family for many, many years to come.

### WELCOME KATE !!!!

You may have seen a new face at Borough Hall, well that would be our new Technical Assistant in the Building Department.. Kate Williams. Kate is a resident of Demarest and has two teenage sons. She moved here seven years ago from Stony Brook, Long Island. In her spare time she enjoys riding trains. You may not know her name but Kate worked as the crossing guard on Hardenburgh Ave.

### 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.

### BOARD OF HEALTH

#### RABIES CLINIC

The Demarest Board of Health will be having a free rabies clinic on Saturday, **November 16**, 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 & HINI & PNEUMONIA SHOTS CLINIC

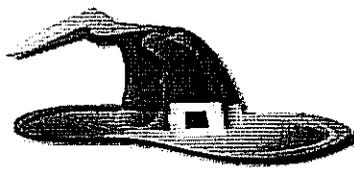
The seasonal flu & pneumonia vaccine clinic will be held on October 4th, 9:30-11am & October 10th, 6pm-7:30pm in the Borough Hall for residents 65 years or older or persons having serious chronic conditions such as heart disease, pulmonary disease and diabetes. Any person under 65 must present a note 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.

### MUNICIPAL PARKING

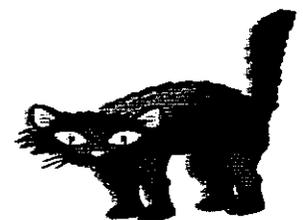
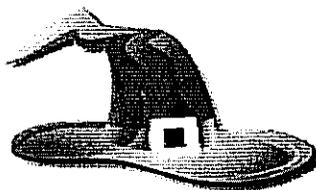
If you are in need of additional parking or have a vehicle that should not be parked in your driveway and need someplace to park - there are available spots downtown for a nominal permit parking fee. To inquire, please call the Borough Clerk, Susan Crosman at 201-768-0167 ext. 39 for further details

### **DRIVE CAREFULLY SCHOOL BACK**



## FALL CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- September 3**      **Mayor & Council Meeting, 7:30pm**
- September 4**      **First Day of School**
- September 11**     **September 11th Memorial Ceremony; 7pm**
- September 16**     **Mayor & Council Meeting; 7:30pm**
- September 17**     **Bergen County Senior Citizen Picnic; 10am-3pm; Overpeck Park Ridgefield Park**
- September 21**     **DNC Demarest Nature Center One Mile Trail Fun Run & 5K Trail Run, 8:00-8:45am Registration**
- October 4**         **Flu & Pneumonia Shots Clinic; 9:30am-11am @ Boro Hall**
- October 7**         **Mayor & Council Meeting; 7:30pm**
- October 10**        **Flu & Pneumonia Shots Clinic; 6pm-7:30pm @ Boro Hall**
- October 12**        **Oktoberfest sponsored by Demarest Nature Center; 10am @ the Duck Pond**
- October 15**        **US Senate Election Day; Polls open 6am-8pm**
- October 15**        **Last Day to Register to Vote for General Election**
- October 21**        **Mayor & Council Meeting; 7:30pm**
- October 27**        **Halloween Parade; 11am at the Railroad Station, No Rain date**
- November 5**        **Election Day; Polls open 6am-8pm**
- November 11**      **Veteran's Day**
- November 12**      **Mayor & Council Meeting; 7:30pm**
- November 16**      **Free Rabies Clinic @ Demarest Fire Department, 10am-11am**
- November 18**      **Mayor & Council Meeting; 7:30pm**
- December 6-7**     **Methodist Church Annual Community Craft Fair; Friday 3-8pm, Saturday 10am-3pm.**



**DEMARES NATURE CENTER**

**5K Trail Run & Trail Fun Run  
Saturday Sept. 21st Rain or Shine!**

Two races through a course of scenic trails in the Demarest Nature Center. **One Mile Fun Run** for ages 6 and up @ 9 a.m. ; **5K Trail Run** (3.1-mile) for ages 9 and up @ 9:20. Trophies awarded for Best in each age group. Registration from 8 - 8:45 a.m. @ Wakelee Field Playground Parking Lot. Download an application at [www.demarestnaturecenter.org](http://www.demarestnaturecenter.org)

**Hawks Over the Hudson Sunday, October 6<sup>th</sup>**

Birds of prey by the Delaware Raptor Center 12-4 PM at the State Line Lookout.

**32<sup>nd</sup> OKTOBERFEST  
Saturday, October 12<sup>th</sup>, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Demarest Duck Pond**

50 local crafters bring their handmade goods - toys, jewelry, pottery, paintings, holiday crafts, gift items and more. Serving Bratwurst, Funnell Cakes, Korean Food, Canoe Rides, German Music, Moon Walk; Rain Date: October 19<sup>th</sup>; [www.demarestnaturecenter.org](http://www.demarestnaturecenter.org)

**VANDALISM!**

Over July 4<sup>th</sup>, ATV motorized quads and motorcycles seriously damaged grasslands of the East Meadow and destroyed infrastructure on the Nine Bridges Trail. Signs are posted at every entrance that forbid motorized vehicles under Ordinances 698 to 700. Please respect our nature center so wildlife can thrive and we can all enjoy.

**Demarest Nature Center Photo Contest Winners, 2013**

**Grand Prize/Best of Show:** Jamie Brancoccio (Ridgefield)

**Adult Color**

1<sup>st</sup>: Maureen Bennett O'Conner (Demarest), 2<sup>nd</sup>: Sarah Hu (Demarest), 3<sup>rd</sup>: Jamie Brancoccio (Ridgefield),

**Adult Black and White**

1<sup>st</sup>: Jamie Brancoccio (Ridgefield), 2<sup>nd</sup>: Caitlin Cywinski (Demarest), 3<sup>rd</sup>: Karen Bye (Teaneck),

**Youth Color**

1<sup>st</sup>: Brightna Hu, age 11, (Demarest), 2<sup>nd</sup> Rejoice Hu, age 12, (Demarest), 3<sup>rd</sup> Irene Lourbas, age 14, (Demarest).

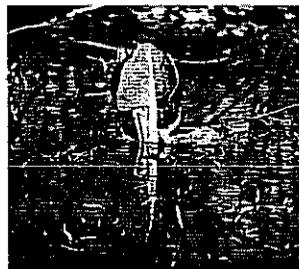
**Youth Black and White** (Only One Entry) 1<sup>st</sup> Rejoice Hu, age 12, (Demarest),

**Honorable Mentions**

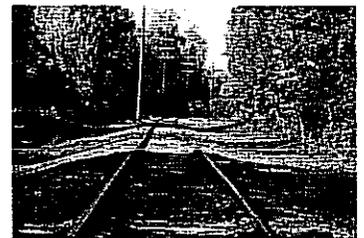
Paul R. Sullivan (Emerson), Jennifer Romanoff (Hillsdale), Caitlin Cywinski (Demarest), Michele Sunberg (Demarest)



**Grand Prize  
Jamie Brancoccio**



**First Place (color, adult)  
Maureen Bennett O'Connor**



**First Place (color, youth)  
Brightna Hu**

Borough of Demarest  
118 SERPENTINE ROAD  
DEMAREST, NEW JERSEY 07627

PRSR STD  
US POSTAGE PAID  
Permit No. 230  
Paramus, NJ

ECRWS  
POSTAL PATRON  
DEMAREST, NEW JERSEY 07627