



DEMAREST DIGEST



Official Borough Newsletter

Volume 46 No. 1 March 2014

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

Have you ever considered what truly gives a town its character? Certainly one can point to the size of the town (population and land area), geographical location, topography and other natural features, extent and type of development and a host of other features. However, the most important factor in distinguishing a town (community) is the town's people and their involvement in their town.

Even a town the size of Demarest (2.1 square miles and just under 5,000 residents) need a substantial number of volunteers for the various official boards, commissions and committees – Environmental Commission, Planning Board, Board of Adjustment (Zoning Board), Shade Tree Commission, Library Board, Board of Health and Recreation Commission.

Then there are the volunteers who serve on the Ambulance Corps, Fire Department, Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), Athletic Association, Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, Nature Center Association, Garden Club, Senior Citizens Club and in our schools and houses of worship.

There are also our local elected officials, Mayor, Council and Board of Education members.

There are nearly 50 volunteers appointed to serve on the first group mentioned above. Of these 50 volunteers, 10-17 people are appointed each year based on statutes and ordinances.

There are no set numbers for those serving in the second group of volunteers, but from what I have knowledge of, there are well over 100 people currently volunteering in various capacities.

The bottom line – it takes involvement by many people with various interests and skills to make a community what it is.

Although most appointments in the first group above are mainly made the first week of January, openings sometimes occur during the year due to resignations for various reasons. As for the second group above, additional volunteers are always needed and being sought.

Demographics also play a role in activities that are offered in a community. A Girl Scout troop no longer exists in Demarest as less girls were interested in joining. The number of Boy Scouts in Demarest has also significantly declined, as well as new adult volunteers to serve as troop leaders. Can we reverse this trend? Perhaps, but not without dedicated volunteers to organize and lead and encourage our youth to join such worthwhile organizations.

Demarest baseball players in grades 1 through 8 are this year joining with players from Closter and Haworth, mainly due to diminishing number of players, in all three towns. Coaches and assistant coaches are also needed for our youth sports teams. Where would our children be without these adult coaches?

We are all pulled in many directions these days – work, school, our children's activities, volunteering in organizations outside of Demarest. It is sometimes not easy to commit the required time to volunteer in another venue, but what would Demarest be without dedicated volunteers?

If you currently volunteer in Demarest, THANK YOU!

If you do not currently volunteer in **your** community and have the time and interest, I hope you will strongly consider volunteering in one of the myriad capacities available.

Please contact any of the above organizations if you have an interest in serving or contact me through Cywin-ski@demarestnj.org for applicable contact information.

Should you have any questions about volunteer opportunities or any other questions related to our community, I will be hosting another "Meet the Mayor" session at Borough Hall at 1:00 pm Saturday March 1. This is an informal 'meeting' affording you the opportunity to ask questions, express concerns or offer suggestions. I look forward to meeting with you.

Sincerely,
Ray Cywinski

SPRING CALENDAR EVENTS

- March 1** Meet with Mayor Cywinski; 1pm Borough Hall
- March 7** Demarest Garden Club meeting; 1:00pm @ the United Methodist Church; 2:00 pm
Program: "African Violets – Enjoy a Garden on your Windowsill" presented by Sharon Lynch
- March 10** Mayor & Council Meeting; 8pm
- March 22** Demarest Nature Center Bird House & Feeder Construction @ Railroad Depot,
11am & 1pm ; cost \$10, Children must be accompanied by an adult.
- March 24** Mayor & Council Meeting; 8pm
- April 4** Demarest Garden Club meeting; 1:00pm @ the United Methodist Church; 2:00 pm
Program: "Cottage Gardens" presented by Pat Tratebas
- April 5** Demarest Nature Center Annual Egg Hunt @ 2pm at the children's playground
(rain date: April 6)
- April 7** Mayor & Council Meeting; 8pm
- April 22** 42nd Anniversary of Earth Day
- April 25** Arbor Day
- April 26** Demarest Nature Center Spring Nature Walk & Volunteer Day @ 9:30am (Rain date: April 27)
- May 2-3** Demarest Garden Club Annual Plant Sale pick up @ United Methodist Church Fri 2-6pm,
Sat 9am-1pm
- May 12** Mayor & Council Meeting; 8pm
- May 13** Last Day to register to vote for the Primary Election
- May 26** Memorial Day Parade; 9:30am
- May 27** Mayor & Council Meeting; 8pm
- June 3** Primary Day; Polls open from 6am-8pm
- June 7** Demarest Nature Center Photo Contest Deadline



DEMAREST GARDEN CLUB

Annual Plant Sale

The Demarest Garden Club is a 501.(c)3 not-for-profit organization. Our annual plant sale is the club's only public fundraiser and is organized around pre-orders placed by Friday, April 4. Plant pickup will be at the United Methodist Church on Friday, May 2 and Saturday, May 3 or delivered locally for a small fee. For your convenience, preorder forms are included in this newsletter, available at borough hall, local libraries, and on our Club website at www.DemarestGardenClub.org. Please mail your pre-order form with payment before April 4 to get the annuals, perennials, geraniums, hanging baskets, herbs and other offerings in the colors, varieties, and quantities you prefer. In addition, the sale features a members' table with offerings of favorite and unusual plants propagated from members' gardens and the club-run Davies Arboretum. This year at the plant sale, there will be a White Elephant Sale of garden and home goods. Also offered, will be a selection of home-made preserves, pickles and other member made goodies. Proceeds from the plant sale allow us to offer educational programs at our public meetings, workshops for school children, fund planting projects around town including the Davies Arboretum, and finance Meals on Wheels floral tray favors.

Alert: Downy mildew disease on standard garden impatiens (*Impatiens Walleriana*) has become widespread in the Northeast. Therefore, the Demarest Garden Club is not offering the common disease prone garden impatiens in our plant sale. However, for the first time we are offering flats of the disease resistant, sun tolerant New Guinea Impatiens. Also consider begonias, blooming vinca, coleus, petunias, or salvia as alternative disease free plants.

Club Meetings Open to the Public

Meetings of the club are held at 1:00 P.M. in the United Methodist Church, 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.

* March 7, Friday, 2:00 P.M. Program: Rescheduled ... "African Violets – Enjoy a Garden on your Window sill" presented by Sharon Lynch, former President of the African Violet Society of Bergen County. Learn how to avoid some common pitfalls when growing African Violets at home.

* April 4, Friday, 2:00 P.M. Program: "Cottage Gardens" presented by Pat Tratebas, noted author, garden historian and landscape designer. Explore cottage gardens in England and America.

* APRIL 4 IS THE DEADLINE FOR PLACING PLANT SALE PRE-ORDERS. May 2, Friday 2:00 – 6:00 P.M. Plant Sale: Pick-up pre-ordered plants and purchase from the members' table of homegrown items.

* May 3, Saturday 9:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M. Plant Sale: Pick-up pre-ordered plants and purchase from the members' table of homegrown items.

* Summer Meetings: Are based around 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.

Social Activities and Fieldtrips

Members and invited guests are welcome. Dates to be determined.

March: Philadelphia Flower Show. Theme is "ARTiculture" , April: African Violet Show and Sale. May: Duke Farms in Hillsborough, to see the Orchid Conservatory. • June: Pot Luck Picnic Luncheon and Installation of Club Officers. June: Laurelwood Arboretum in Wayne.

Davies Arboretum Civic Project

The garden club oversees Davies Arboretum at 49 Anderson Avenue. Club members meet Tuesday mornings 9 to 11 A.M. from March 18 to October 15, weather permitting. Perspective members are welcome to join us and participate in garden-related activities.

Membership

Membership in the Demarest Garden Club is open to all gardening enthusiasts, male and female, from any town. Annual dues are \$25. To join, attend any monthly public meeting, contact us at our website www.DemarestGardenClub.org or call Membership Chair Luisa Pittaluga at 201-966-9816.

DEMAREST NATURE CENTER

March 22nd: Birdhouse and Birdfeeder Building, @ the Demarest Railroad Station. Two sessions: the first starting at 11 a.m. & the second at 1 p.m. Kits (\$10 for one and \$18 for two) contain everything needed to build your choice of style - just bring your hammer. Experienced help will be available, however, an adult (hands on) is required.

April 5th: Egg Hunt, 2 p.m., @ Imaginative Playground near Wakelee Field. Toddlers through fourth-graders. Bunny will be there cheering them on. So bring your basket & don't be late for this very important date. Rain date April 6th.

April 26th 9:30 a.m.: Spring Nature Walk, join our group guided by, Marc Gussen, our local naturalist. And then @ 10:30 - It's DNC's **Volunteer Day!!** After old man winter made a mess - we'll clean up the trails. Be sure to bring gardening or work gloves and we'll supply the rest. Both events start from the DNC Bulletin Board near the Imaginative Playground. Rain date April 27th (only if extreme weather Saturday).

June 7th: DNC Photo Contest deadline date for **cash prizes**. Deposit your photo entries in the DNC basket @ the **Demarest Public Library**. All photos must be taken in the nature center. Go to our website www.demarestnaturecenter.org for contest details.

June 14th: Breakfast in the Woods, 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., next to the Imaginative Playground. Enjoy breakfast al fresco - all gratis. Photo Contest awards, followed by a live, wild animal show. Rain date June 15th.

Throughout the school year, your DNC member dollars pay for environmental programs and educational field trips for our kindergarten & elementary school students; and for DNC's annual essay scholarship, available to graduating seniors.

For details and updates see our website at www.demarestnaturecenter.org

DEMAREST PUBLIC LIBRARY

The library now has Zinto online magazines free to members. You can read your choice of 100 magazines. Hobby & Craft, Finance, Business, House and Home and Health! Come in, or go online.

Library Hours

Monday: 10am-8pm	Tuesday: 10am-5pm
Wednesday: 10am-5pm	Thursday: 10am-8pm
Friday: 10am-5pm	Saturday: Closed
Sunday: 1pm-5pm	

ELECTION NEWS

Primary Day—June 3rd

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

The last day to register to vote in the Primary Election is May 13th.

THE ART SCHOOL AT OLD CHURCH AT

ENGLEWOOD HOSPITAL & MEDICAL CENTER

The Art School at Old Church (TASOC) in partnership with Englewood Hospital and Medical Center (EHMC) is proud to launch *The Art of Healing Program*. The new program is designed to showcase the power of healing through the arts.

Warren Geller, President and CEO of EHMC stated that "Our collaboration with TASOC will contribute to the comfort and well being of all patients and visitors, who will be exposed to various art works in designated areas of The Medical Center throughout the year.

TASOC and EHMC are now seeking artists in Bergen County and surrounding counties who are interested in having their works displayed at The Medical Center for its second exhibition set to debut on June 12, 2014. The deadline to submit is March 12, 2014. For more information and submittal requirements, contact TASOC Exhibitions Director Mary Gagler at exhibitions@tasoc.org or 201-767-7160. Best in Show will receive a \$500.00 award and two notable mentions will each receive \$100.00

DEMAREST AMBULANCE CORPS

We are please to announce the following officers for 2014.

Line Officers

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

Administrative Officers

Joanne Pianghi, President, Diane Marello, Treasurer, 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

DEMAREST 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 201-768-3398

DEMAREST MUNICIPAL COURT

The court dates for the next three months are March 11th, April 8th, and May 13th. 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.

TENNIS PERMITS

Demarest Borough Tennis permits can be purchased at the Borough Hall Monday through Friday 9am to 1pm. The cost is \$5.00 per individuals and \$10.00 per family. The permit is good for one year starting in April. If you have any questions, call 201-768-0167 ext #30.

BOARD OF HEALTH

DOG AND CAT LICENSE

Remember if you have not registered your furry friend before March 1 there will be a \$25 late fee per pet. Please have your animal's rabies shots up to date. All dogs and cats must be registered by April 1st; summons will be issued for not renewing your animal license. You will be in violation of Borough Ordinance #89-6. A summons will be served, for the first offense (\$50 fine), \$100 for a second offense and for a third, a fine not to exceed \$1,000 or imprisonment in the county jail for not more than 90 days or to a period of community service not exceeding 90 days.

ATTENTION: Demarest Residents: blood pressure screening every second Friday from 10am-1pm at the Railroad Depot.

INFORMATION FOR

Household Hazardous Waste Collection

Household Hazardous Waste Collection
dates - event hours 9-3 rain or shine

BCUA, Foot of Empire Blvd., Moonachie

Saturday, March 8, 2014

Saturday, July 19, 2014

Bergen County Campgaw Reservation

200 Campgaw Road, Mahwah

Saturday, May 17, 2014

Saturday, September 6, 2014

Saturday, November 1, 2014

Bergen Community College

400 Paramus Road, Paramus

Sunday, April 6, 2014

Sunday, June 22, 2014

Sunday, October 19, 2014

Disposal Hotline 201-807-5825

OUR ELDERLY MIGHT NEED OUR HELP!

We have heard of the phrase "graying of America" - the growing "senior citizen" population. Demarest's senior citizens live among us in our neighborhoods. Especially during the winter months, your neighbors might be in need of a little assistance. Heavy snows or ice or just plain cold weather could very well keep a senior citizen housebound. With heavy snows, treacherous ice and low temperatures, it is appreciated when neighbors check up on our senior neighbors.

Errands might need to be taken care of and it is easy to run low on food and essentials. A sudden storm might find one out of vital medication. During a really severe storm an electric outage could put an elderly person, without heat, perhaps without a telephone, in real danger. A phone call, a knock on the door, and some real help might make all the difference for someone, especially some living alone.

If you have elderly friends or neighbors, be sure to check in on them. Have you noticed whether the mail is being taken in regularly or if their newspapers are piling up on their driveway? Are the lights on in the evening or are the shades being drawn at the usual time. You know your neighbors' routines. If you see something suspicious or unusual, make a phone call and check on them. It's the right thing to do.

Please, if you see or feel someone needs help call the Police Station for a wellness check at 201-768-1540.

Message from Demarest Board of Health

DEMAREST SWIM CLUB

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

DEMAREST POLICE DEPARTMENT

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

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

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

Qualifications

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

Please contact the Police Department @ 201-768-1540, if you meet these qualifications and are interested in participating.

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 blading and in-line skating 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.

DEMAREST FIRE DEPARTMENT

The department is pleased to welcome our newest member, Anthony Barbieri, MD. Anthony will soon be attending Fire Fighter Training at the Academy.

On January 28th, the department presented awards to the winners of their annual Fire Prevention Poster contest. The award assemblies were held at CRS and L.L.E. schools with school staff and many parents in attendance. The contest is part of the department's annual Fire Prevention program which is held each October in conjunction with National Fire Safety Week. The winning entrants received ribbons and gift certificates.

The department is pleased to announce the following winners:

County Road School

Kindergarten: 1st Place-Charlotte Rubin, Runners-up: Mohammed Saleh, Remi Silver and Benjamin Fachrik

1st Grade: 1st Place-Erin Lee, Runners-up: Uszair Lughmani, Jordyn Semegran and Curtis Kim

Luther Lee School

2nd Grade: 1st Place-Celine Hong; Runners-up: Michelle Engleman, Sam Aboudi and Julia Bluestein

3rd Grade: 1st Place-Jessica Lee, Runners-up: Demir Clakap, Netta Maresky and Elman Yip

4th Grade: 1st Place-Charlie Lee, Runners-up: Stefan Avianto, Giada Dell'Aquila and Niki Woods

Congratulations too all the students for an excellent effort and thank you to the school staff for their co-operation in helping to make this program a success!

SAFETY REMINDERS

- ** Winter is still with us, so please use caution when using fireplaces. Don't overload a fireplace, keep paper and other combustibles at a safe distance and dispose of ashes in a safe manner. Keep screens and fireplace doors closed and ensure that the fire is out before going to bed.*
- *Keep combustibles away from heating systems and space heaters.*
- *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.*
- *PLEASE keep any fire hydrants near your home clear of snow. In an emergency, the fire department can lose valuable minutes clearing snow away from a hydrant!*

FUND DRIVE

The department again urges all residents who have not responded to our annual fund drive to please help. Any contribution, big or small is appreciated. Without your assistance 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 provided continuous service to the community since 1894. New members are always needed. If you don't have the time to devote to be trained as a regular Firefighter then join us as an Auxiliary member which requires less training. Stop by the Fire House any Sunday morning or Tuesday night to learn more.

Borough of Demarest
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