



# DEMAREST DIGEST

Official Borough Newsletter  
Volume 47 No. 2 September 2015



## MAYOR'S MESSAGE

**9/11 Remembrance (Friday September 11, 2015)** – 14 years; so long ago, and yet, so fresh in the minds of many. We invite you to attend Demarest's annual "9/11 Remembrance" to be held at 7:00 PM at the 9/11 Memorial in the park south-east of the railroad depot.

**Budget and Taxes** – The delay in sending out tax bills was a result of the late adoption of the County budget. A municipal budget was adopted that will result in an increase in municipal taxes of just under \$.01/\$100 of assessed value or about \$66 for the average assessment of \$737,000. Taxes increased 2.9% for the regional high school for a \$118 average increase, 5.4% for the municipal library for a \$14.74 average increase, and 7.7% for the County portion or a \$147 average increase. The local school tax increased 0.5% or an average of \$37. Your municipal officials do not have control over the school, library or County taxes.

## Major Infrastructure Improvements

### Road Paving

- \* Columbus Road from the south end of the high school to the Closter border will be paved.
- \* A \$200,000 grant was awarded toward drainage improvements and paving of four unimproved roads; Chestnut St., Prospect St., Ruth La. & Woodland Rd. (north of the high school). Additional grants are to be applied for (including Margaret Ct. & Everett Rd.). A decision to proceed will need to be made, and if so, how the remainder of the costs will be funded. The earliest this work would start is 2016.
- \* A capital bond ordinance will be voted on in the next month anticipating repaving Bogert Rd., Central Ave., Drury La., Edward St. (east of Anderson) and Myrtle Ave. The plans are to have the work done in 2015.
- \* **Demarest Brook Dredging** – At long last, this project has been substantially completed with some plantings to be made late summer, early fall. Thus far, the work has resulted in a better flow, alleviating the drainage problems for area residents.

**Leaf Collection** – Hate to rush summer but...leaf collection will start on or about October 12. Branch pickup will be suspended during leaf collection. **PLEASE, for the safety of our employees**, only place leaves out for collection – no sticks, rocks, metal, construction material, etc. - just leaves!

## Thank You, Thank You, Thank You!

- \* To the Recreation Commission members for bringing back the summer concerts.
- \* To the Garden Club members for maintaining the plantings adjacent to the railroad station and at Davies Arboretum.
- \* To the Environmental Commission members who worked so diligently to be eligible to file for Sustainable Jersey certification.

## New Department of Public Works Superintendent

Welcome Donny Russell! Don started as our new Superintendent in June. No stranger to Public Works, he previously worked at the DPWs in the Boroughs of Hillsdale and Maywood for 25 years. Don has brought a new enthusiasm and fresh ideas to the department and is actively pursuing new initiatives and improved work flows in order to improve efficiency and accomplish additional tasks in-house.

I hope you have had a most enjoyable and safe summer and remind you that with school starting, one needs to be especially alert for school children as you are driving.

Sincerely,  
Ray Cywinski

### DEMAREST AMBULANCE CORPS

The Demarest Ambulance Corps is pleased to inform the community that we now have a LUCAS device to better serve you. What is a LUCAS device?

We all know that CPR saves lives especially when done properly. The problem is CPR is often done wrong due to improper training or due to being physically exhausted. There is a new device on the market that not only makes CPR more efficient but it also makes the lives of doctors and EMT's much easier. This device is called the LUCAS Device. The LUCAS device is an electric powered device that automates the chest compression which is part of CPR.

The great benefit of this device is it never tires. Even the most well trained EMT's can become tired administering CPR and that can unfortunately lead to death. The LUCAS device automatically delivers 100 chest compressions per minute or two 2 compressions per second consistently. The consistent compressions of the LUCAS device along with the use of an automated external defibrillator will help the heart start beating in a regular rhythm. By automating the compressions it will free up the caretakers hands to help the patient in other aspects such as giving the patient medication or getting the patient ready for transport. The other benefit of using the LUCAS device has to do with how the device is designed. The device is designed with a plunger that is shaped like a suction cup, which is placed on the chest. This suction cup design works better than traditional hand compressions because it lifts the chest, which causes the heart to fill with blood much easier. This machine not only can help in saving lives but also make the lives of our paramedics and physicians a great deal easier, while providing a more reliable means of CPR to people in life threatening medical emergencies

The Demarest Volunteer Ambulance Corps is always here to serve our community. We are available 24 hours a day 7 days a week and even on holidays. Our Corps is always looking to add new members so we can continue to serve our community effectively. Please consider volunteering your time to help us help you. You can reach us at 201-767-8050. If you cannot give your time consider a donation. Any amount is greatly appreciated. Donation can be mailed to DVAC, P.O. Box 131, Demarest, NJ 07627.

### **"ADOPT A HYDRANT" PROGRAM**

Please assist the Demarest Fire Department by adopting the fire hydrant closest to your home or business and keep it free of snow during the winter months and any overgrown bushes, plants, etc.

Please keep it clear after each snowfall and clear a path approximately 3 feet around the hydrant. Shovel a path from the street to the hydrant. This will allow the Demarest Fire Department personnel to quickly locate the hydrants and obtain water for firefighting activities.

Please consider helping a neighbor with medical conditions or who are elderly, by adopting their hydrant as well. This simple act of kindness will benefit the entire neighborhood. Demarest Fire Department members spend days clearing hydrants after storms to ensure everyone in the community is safe.

During a fire, the Demarest Fire Department must quickly locate and gain a water supply from the closest hydrant. If a hydrant is buried by snow, it is difficult to find and valuable time is spent locating and digging the hydrant out. This delay in gaining water from a hydrant may disrupt the timely manner in which firefighters are able to fight the fire, allowing it to grow. A fire doubles in size every 20 seconds.

This "Adopt a Hydrant" program is an information program used around the country to assist in the efforts of the local Fire Departments. It is not necessary to inform anyone of which hydrants are cleared.

On behalf of the Demarest Fire Department, thank you for keeping the fire hydrants clear of snow.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Demarest Fire Department at 201-768-0338.

The Environmental Commission meets the third Tuesday of the month @ 7:30pm @ Boro Hall. Anyone interested in attending any meeting or voicing any environmental concerns is most welcome.

**SCHOOLS ARE OPEN**

**PLEASE DRIVE CAREFULLY**

### " WELCOME DONNY"

The Borough of Demarest would like to introduce you to the new Superintendent of Public Works, Donald Russell. Mr. Russell comes to Demarest with over 24 years of experience in the public works field. He was the DPW Superintendent in the Borough of Maywood for 5 years and the Borough of Hillsdale for 1 year. Prior to being the superintendent he worked as a foreman and laborer for close to 20 years. Mr. Russell obtained his CPWM License in 2005 from Rutgers University and recently obtained his Recycling Coordinator License through the State of New Jersey. Additionally, Mr. Russell lives with his wife and two young boys in Bergen County. He enjoys spending time with his young children and going to the gym. Both the Borough of Demarest and Mr. Russell look forward to working together to provide the residents of Demarest with the best services possible.

### ARTICLE BY BORO HISTORIAN

#### MARY ANNE CLARKE

Recently a former resident, Joyce Thomson Pouliot, who grew up in Demarest, donated copies of some of her poems about memories of living here to the borough archives. The poems include nature and her childhood activities. Joyce received Honorable Mention from International Academy of American Poets for her poem "Davies Pond". Davies Pond is on Anderson Avenue adjoining the Davies Arboretum. Joyce's poem is below.

#### *Davies Pond*

Off the main road surrounded by woods  
A pond is still.  
One tree bends over the water.  
There is an old stone icehouse  
Reflecting tranquility and charm.  
Sometimes the pond shows a ripple  
A snapping turtle takes a breath.  
The pond comes alive in springtime at night.  
Sit very still and frogs will serenade you.  
A dam trickles water ever so slightly  
Down some moss-covered rocks.  
Listen  
To the rhythm of the trickling water.  
Feel  
The warm rays of the sun  
Filtering through the trees.  
Look around  
See the white birches  
Silhouetted against the woods.  
Yellow leaves are dancing in a light breeze.

### BOARD OF HEALTH

#### RABIES CLINIC

The Demarest Board of Health will be having a free rabies clinic on Saturday, **November 14th**, from 10am-11am at the Railroad Depot. 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 2016 so a license can be obtained.

#### SEASONAL FLU & HINI

#### & PNEUMONIA SHOTS CLINIC

The seasonal flu & pneumonia vaccine clinic will be held on **October 1st, 10am-11:30am & October 6th, 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 the Demarest Board of Health @ 201-768-0167 ext #30.

Stop by Board of Health information table at the Oktoberfest. The Bergen County Animal Shelter will have their mobile adoption van at the Oktoberfest.

Check us out on our facebook page Demarest Board of Health for updated health issues and health programs.

### DEMAREST RECREATION COMMITTEE

The Demarest Recreation is pleased to announce the First Annual Family Movie Night under the stars on Saturday, September 12th at Dusk at the Wakelee Field.

More details on the movie will be coming out soon so keep your eyes open.

Bring a blanket or chairs and enjoy a good movie with your family and friends!!



## DEMAREST GARDEN CLUB

### New Officers for 2015-2016

President: Ruth Haynes-Closter, First VP: Barbara DiNovi-Demarest, Second VP: Ginny Bargisen-Demarest, Treasurer: Karen Koehler-Park Ridge Secretary: Eileen Corrado-Demarest

### Club Meetings

Meetings are held from 1:00-2:00 P.M. in the United Methodist Church Hall at 109 Hardenburgh Avenue. Announced programs follow at 2:00 P.M. All interested gardeners, visitors and prospective new members are welcome to attend the programs.

### FALL PROGRAMS

\* September 4<sup>th</sup> JANE GUILLARD-FALCON Turn Daylily Garden. Presentation of the many vibrant and eclectic varieties of daylilies.

\* October 2<sup>nd</sup> ANGELA BONANNO-LYNCH-BCUA-presentation on the importance of Composting.

\* November 6<sup>th</sup> LEONARD & DEBORAH VECCHIO—Vecchio Greenhouses. Presentation on the growing and care of Poinsettias.

### Club Activities

Members and their invited guests are welcome to join us.

• Fall Field Trips – Dates and Locations to be announced.

• 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. The theme is *The Roaring Twenties*. The house is open December 3<sup>rd</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> from 10am to 4pm. There is a delightful dining/food area at the Carriage House.

• Holiday Luncheon-Dec 4<sup>th</sup> – join in the celebration of the Holiday Season with a luncheon at Madeleine's Petit Paris, Northvale NJ

### Davies Arboretum Civic Project

The Garden Club oversees the Davies Arboretum at 49 Anderson Avenue. Club members meet on Tuesday mornings 9 - 11 A.M., from March to October, weather permitting. The arboretum project was started 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. Prospective members are welcome to join us on Tuesdays and participate in garden related activities as we begin to prepare the plants for winter.

### Garden Club Membership

Membership is open to anyone with a love of flowers, trees and/or gardens. Whether you're dreaming of a beautiful garden or you're an active gardener – we welcome all. Dues is \$25.00 and our membership is comprised of people, both men and women, who come from many neighboring towns. We have all levels of gardeners– from the dreamers' of gardens to certified Master Gardeners. To join, stop by at one of our programs or contact Membership Chairman Elisabeth Evans [elians2@verizon.net](mailto:elians2@verizon.net). You can also contact us at our website [www.DemarestGardenClub.org](http://www.DemarestGardenClub.org)

### LEAF NOTICE 2015

Leaf pick-up begins on October 13th and ends on December 4th. 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 18th all leaves are to be bagged for pick-up

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

### 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 weeks, so make sure you allow ample time. Any questions please call Kate Williams at 201-768-3398

### DEMAREST MUNICIPAL COURT

The court dates for the next three months are September 8th, October 13th, and November 10th at 6pm. 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](http://www.njmcdirect.com).

## DEMAREST FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Fire Department will be visiting LLEE & CRS this Fall as part of their Annual Fire Prevention Program. The program will be conducted during October in conjunction with National Fire Prevention Week. The students have some fun while learning valuable fire safety lessons. Students will also be encouraged to participate in the Fire Safety Poster contest.

### **FIRE SAFETY**

\* Residents should have their heating systems checked prior to the winter season. Flues & chimneys and fireplaces 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 vehicles, mowers, generators or other fuel powered devices running in the garage. Carbon monoxide poisoning is deadly.

\* With school openings, increased traffic makes travel for parents and responding emergency vehicles more difficult. Please be alert for sirens and responding vehicles. Note 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 programs at the schools may have to be eliminated.

### **MEMBERSHIP**

We are a volunteer organization that has been providing service to the community since 1894. We typically respond to over 300 calls a year, day or night, rain or snow! New members are always welcome and 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 about our organization.

## DEMAREST POLICE DEPARTMENT

School is opening on **Wednesday, September 2nd**. 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*



## FALL CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- September 2**                    *First Day of School*
- September 4**                    *Demarest Garden Club meeting; 1:00pm @ the United Methodist Church; 2pm Program: Jane Guillard-Falcon Presentation of the many vibrant and eclectic varieties of daylilies.*
- September 9**                    *Bergen County Senior Citizen Picnic; 10am-3pm; Van Saun Park, Paramus*
- September 11**                    *September 11th Memorial Ceremony; 7PM @Duck Pond*
- September 12**                    *Demarest Recreation Movie Night ; Dusk @Wakelee Field; Movie TBD*
- September 21**                    *Mayor & Council Meeting, 8pm*
- October 1**                         *Flu & Pneumonia Shots Clinic; 10am –11:30am @ Boro Hall*
- October 2**                         *Demarest Garden Club meeting; 1:00pm @ the United Methodist Church; 2 pm Program: Angela Bonanno-Lynch-BCUA presentation on the importance of Composting.*
- October 5**                         *Mayor & Council Meeting; 8pm*
- October 6**                         *Flu & Pneumonia Shots Clinic; 6pm-7:30pm @ Boro Hall*
- October 10**                        *Oktoberfest sponsored by Demarest Nature Center; 10am @ the Duck Pond: rain date October 17th*
- October 13**                        *Last Day to Register to Vote for General Election*
- October 26**                        *Mayor & Council Meeting; 8pm*
- October 25**                        *Halloween Parade; 11am at the Railroad Station, No Rain date*
- November 3**                        *Election Day; Polls open 6am-8pm*
- November 6**                        *Demarest Garden Club meeting; 1:00pm @ the United Methodist Church; 2:00 pm Program: Vecchio Greenhouses-Presentation on the growing and care of Poinsettias*
- November 9**                        *Mayor & Council Meeting; 8pm*
- November 11**                       *Veteran's Day*
- November 14**                       *Free Rabies Clinic @ Railroad Depot, 10am-11am*
- November 23**                       *Mayor & Council Meeting; 8pm*
- December 4-5**                      *Methodist Church Annual Community Craft Fair; Friday 3-8pm, Saturday 10am-3pm.*

## DEMAREST NATURE CENTER

Welcome to the end of Summer. We are all getting ready for Fall. Ah Fall, the colors, the change of temperature and of course the next events for the Demarest Nature Center.

### HIKE IN THE WOODS

On September 19, 2015, the Nature Center will be having our "Hike in the Woods" with Peter Coy. Peter has been a member of the Demarest Nature Center, Trustee and our totally amazing Treasurer. He has had a love for nature and protecting the Demarest Nature Center for years. Please check the Demarest Nature Center website at [www.demarestnaturecenter.org](http://www.demarestnaturecenter.org) for more information on the time of the hike.

### **34th OKTOBERFEST**

**Saturday, October 10th 10am-5pm Demarest Duck Pond**

50 local crafters bring their handmade goods - toys, jewelry, pottery, paintings, holiday crafts, gift items and more. Serving Bratwurst, Funnel Cakes, Korean Food, Canoe Rides, German Music, Moon Walk; Rain Date: October 17<sup>th</sup>; [www.demarestnaturecenter.org](http://www.demarestnaturecenter.org)

### **Demarest Nature Center 2015 Photo Contest Winners**

**Grand Prize/Best of Show: David Husdpeth**

**Adult Color: 1st David Husdpeth; 2nd Dalia Sherman; 3rd Irene Lourbas**

**Adult Black & White: 1st Paul R. Sullivan; 2nd Dalia Sherman; honorable mention Dalia Sherman**

**Youth Color: 1st Isaac Oliff Leiberman; 2nd Rachel Sherman; 3rd Ben Nelson; honorable mention**

**Max Sherman**

**Youth Black & White: 1st Brightna Hu; 2nd Rejoice Hu; 3rd Ben Nelson**



**Grand Prize**  
**David Husdeth**



**1st Place**  
**David Hudspeth**



**2nd Place**  
**Dalia Sherman**



**3rd Place**  
**Irene Loubos**

Don't forget all year round to take a hike through the Demarest Nature Center. We look forward to seeing you at our next events. We are always looking for new members and new trustees. Contact us at [info@demarestnaturecenter.org](mailto:info@demarestnaturecenter.org)

Borough of Demarest  
118 SERPENTINE ROAD  
DEMAREST, NEW JERSEY 07627

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

ECRWS  
POSTAL PATRON  
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