

DEMAREST DIGEST

Official Borough Newsletter
Volume 47 No. 4 December 2015



IMPORTANT NOTE: THIS IS THE LAST NEWSLETTER YOU WILL RECEIVE BY MAIL. Demarest is "going green" and will publish future newsletters on the Borough website:

www.demarestnj.net

For those who do not have internet access, paper copies will be available at Borough Hall and in the Demarest Public Library and Senior Center or you may request that a newsletter be mailed to you by calling Elise Wrede at Borough Hall: (201) 768-0167 ext. 130

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

I wish you all the best for the holidays this time of year, especially those major holidays many of us celebrate; Thanksgiving, Hanukkah, Christmas and New Year's. May you enjoy family and friends as you gather together and remember and help those less fortunate than yourselves, especially during these times.

Quality of Life and Safety

Sometimes it is the myriad little things that add so much to our quality of life in Demarest; things that preserve the character of our town and continue to make us safe. In that vein, I would like to remind you and ask you to be cognizant of several issues, some mandatory, some voluntary.

I have decided to focus on the bulleted issues below as I have been questioned by residents at one time or another on each.

- * **Overnight Parking on Streets** – Parking on streets is prohibited from 2:00 am – 6:00 am. If you have the need to temporarily park overnight on the street (no room in your driveway for guests, driveway repairs, etc.), you can call the police department and request permission for overnight parking.
- * **Unregistered Vehicles** – Unregistered vehicles shall not be parked, stored or garaged in a residential district unless approval is obtained from the governing body.
- * **Parking on Streets During Snow Events** – Parking is prohibited on streets when snow has fallen and the accumulation is such that it covers the street. This prohibition remains in effect after the snow has ceased until the streets have been plowed sufficiently and to the extent that parking will not interfere with the normal flow of traffic.
- * **Snow Removal from Sidewalks** – Owners or occupants of premises abutting or bordering upon any street shall remove for a width of at least two feet all newly fallen snow and ice from, on and along the abutting sidewalks of such streets within 24 hours of daylight after the snow or ice shall have fallen or formed thereon. Foremost, this ordinance serves to protect pedestrians; secondly, adhering to the ordinance can save you from being issued a summons.
- * **Snow Removal from Fire Hydrants** – For your safety and to assist our volunteer firefighters, we ask you to clear accumulated snow from around fire hydrants that are along your property.
- * **Road Opening Permits** – No person, partnership, association, corporation or public utility shall cause the opening of or otherwise disturb any public street or other public improvement or facility located therein without first having obtained a permit from the Borough Clerk in accordance with the rules, specifications and procedures in effect. (This includes installation of curbs).
- * **Litter** – Regulated by ordinance to wit "no person shall put, deposit or leave any rubbish, ashes, refuse or other material in or upon any of the sidewalks or gutters or public streets, roads or places within the borough". Please help keep our town litter-free, including removing in a timely manner the newspapers that are delivered in the ubiquitous plastic bags.
- * **Litter at Construction Sites** – It shall be unlawful for any owner, agent or contractor in charge of a construction or demolition site to permit the accumulation of litter before, during or after completion of any construction or demolition project.

I thank the residents who have brought these issues forward and I ask all residents to comply with all the town ordinances, not just those above. Most of the Borough ordinances are not overbearing and were passed to improve the Borough as a whole and keep residents safe.

Sincerely,
Ray Cywinski

DEMAREST FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Adult Book Club

This lively group of avid readers enjoys in-depth discussions of popular and classic literary works. New members are always welcome, including non-residents.

The book club meets the second Thursday of the month at 7:30pm at the library.

Book List

December 10, 2015 – *H Is for Hawk* by Helen Macdonald

January 14, 2016 – *The Bone People* by Keri Hulme

February 11, 2016 – *Lady Bird Johnson: An Oral History* by Michael L Gilette

March 10, 2016 – *Dreams of My Russian Summers* by Andrei Makine

Knitting Club

Come join this hip group of talented knitters to talk patterns and projects, share tips and tricks, and socialize while you slip stitches. New members & out-of-towners always welcome! (And yes, the knitting club is crochet friendly!) The knitting club meets the first and third Wednesday of the month at 7:30pm, except the first Wednesday in July, the third Wednesday in November, and the third Wednesday in December

ESL Conversation Group

The Demarest Library hosts a weekly conversation group for English language learners. The group meets upstairs in the conference room from 10:30am to 12:00pm on Tuesdays. Registration is not required. For more information, contact Orla at 201-768-8714 or orla.cassidy@demarest.bccls.org, or stop by the upstairs desk

Museum Passes

Check out a pass for free admission to the **MoMA, Guggenheim & Intrepid Museum.**

Although passes cannot be reserved or renewed, you can check availability by calling the library at 201-768-8714

The Library purchases materials all year long. Want to keep up with the latest books and movies to hit our shelves? Keep current with our Book Newsletter sent to all library patrons email.

Library Hours: Monday, Wednesday & Thursday 9 am – 8 pm; Tuesday & Friday 9 am - 5 pm; Saturday 9 am – 1 pm; Sunday 1 pm – 5 pm

DEMAREST NATURE CENTER

Oktoberfest 2015

The Demarest Nature Center Association would like to put out a very big thank-you to everyone who contributed their time and energy in making The Craft Show at Oktoberfest 2015 a great success. We had a great turnout of both crafters and shoppers at this year's event. The money raised will be used to fund the Demarest school programs we sponsor, our yearly scholarship to a deserving high school senior, various free programs for the community and the maintenance of the miles of trails throughout the nature center. We apologize if we've left anyone off this list.

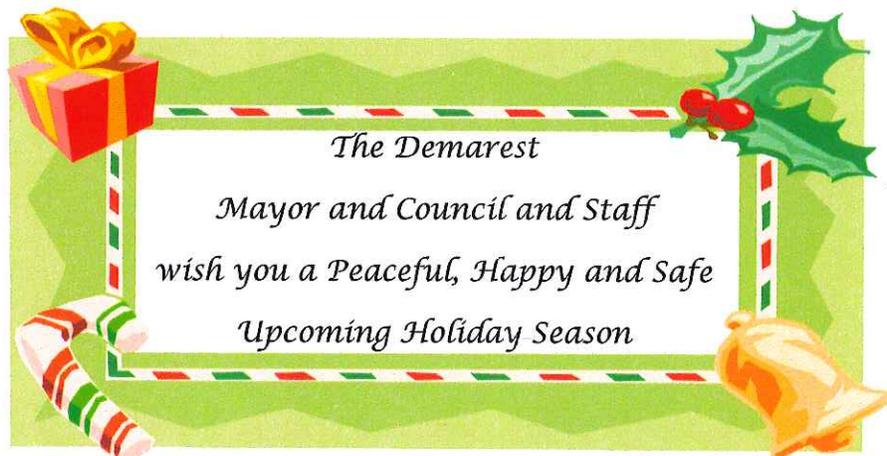
Our Thanks To: Mayor Ray Cywinski, Borough Clerk Susan Crosman, Deputy Clerk Elise Wrede, Police Chief Jim Powderley and the Demarest Police Department, Donny Russell & the Demarest Department of Public Works, Stu and Liz Dangler of the United Methodist Church of Demarest, The Korean-Parent Teacher Organization, Christina Kim, Eduardo Ramalho, Myra Wrubel, Chloe and Mara Stein, Richard Jaretsky, Irene Lourbas, Shaheena and Akhtar Hilal, Alan Epstein, Suzanne Ornstein, Ron Schwartzman, Laura DeFlora, Ariela Keysar-Coy, Hilary Stern, Ben Nelson, Laura Nelson, Amita Desai, Nell Riley, Aaron Schechter, Steve Chen, Patricia Chen, Zsuzsa Hamos, Laura Gross, Kumiko Ishikura, Toni Dolan, Naomi Epstein, Mike Hubschman, Angela Caserta, Jerry Koch, Bill Stegmayer, Bob Gioia, Lisa Caruso, Ginny Bargisen, Jane Fried, Libby Andreopoulos, Ed Hirning, Odil Tuysuzoglu, Kevin Dunn, Dave Emerson, Peter Coy, and The DNCA Board of Trustees: Joe Connolly, Cynthia Soroka-Dunn, John Goodwin, Scott Lasky, Teddy Lourbas, Lewis Nelson, Gregg Paster, Joan Stein, Sadi Tuysuzoglu and our biggest thanks to Kevin Riley. Demarest Nature Center's OKTOBERFEST, our one and only annual fund raiser, could not happen without Kevin's very able planning and administration throughout the year.

If you are a crafter, thinking about being a crafter, or know a crafter, our 2016 application is up on our website, www.DemarestNatureCenter.org/crafters, ready to print out. You can also call Kevin Riley at 201-403-3183 if you have any questions about our yearly event.



WINTER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- December 4* *Luther Lee Emerson School Holiday Concert; 1:30pm*
- December 4-5* *Methodist Church Annual Community Craft Fair; Friday 3-8pm,
Saturday 10am-3pm.*
- December 4-6* *Demarest Garden Club Winter floral display @ Skylands
Manor, Ringwood; 10am-4pm*
- December 6* *Menorah Lighting; 7pm @ the Gazebo*
- December 8* *Municipal Court; 6pm*
- December 8* *Christmas Tree Lighting, 7:00pm @ Railroad Station*
- December 14* *Mayor & Council Meeting; 8pm*
- December 11* *County Road School Holiday Concert; 1:30pm*
- December 16* *Middle School Holiday Concert; 7pm*
- December 28* *Mayor & Council Meeting; 8pm*
- January* *Reorganization time to be announced*
- January 8* *Demarest Garden Club meeting @ United Methodist Church; 2pm; "Broadleaf
Evergreens and Groundcovers"-Paul Kabyrich*
- January 12* *Municipal Court; 6pm*
- January 29-30* *Middle School play; 7pm "The Wizard of Oz"*
- February 5* *Demarest Garden Club meeting @ United Methodist Church; 2pm; "A Peek
inside the Artist's Garden"-Bob Crane*
- February 9* *Municipal Court; 6pm*
- March 4* *Demarest Garden Club meeting @ United Methodist Church; 2pm; " Butterflies
and Native Plants"-Don Turino*



**PLEASE NOTE: THE EXTENSIONS AT
BOROUGH HALL HAVE CHANGED**

BOROUGH OF DEMAREST DIRECTORY

201-768-0167 (FAX) 201-768-2581

Mayor Raymond Cywinski.....201-768-0161 ext. 140

COUNCIL

Councilman Joe Gray.....201-768-0167 ext. 110

Councilman Ted Davis.....201-768-0167 ext. 110

Councilwoman Daryl Fox.....201-768-0167 ext. 110

Councilwoman Melinda Iannuzzi.....201-768-0167 ext. 110

Councilman Gregg Paster.....201-768-0167 ext. 110

Councilman Steven Schliem.....201-768-0167 ext. 110

OFFICE HOURS

Borough Hall..... 8:00am- 5:00pm

DPW..... 7:00am-3:30pm

Tax Assessor..... Mon. 9:30am-12:30pm

Zoning Department..... Wed. 11am-1pm & 6-7:30pm

FREQUENTLY CALLED NUMBERS

- Ambulance 201-767-8050
- Board of Health 201-768-0167 ext. 130
- Borough Clerk..... 201-768-0167 ext. 139
- Building Department..... 201-768-3398
- Department of Public Works..... 201-768-5439
- Fire Department (non-emergency).... 201-768-0338
- Garbage Collector-Miele Sanitation...201-768-3818
- Demarest Swim Club..... 201-768-8182
- Municipal Court..... 201-768-1160
- Office of Emergency Management...201-768-1540
- Police (non-emergency)..... 201-768-1540
- Public Library..... 201-768-8714
- Recreation Commission..... 201-768-0167 ext. 110
- Recycling..... 201-768-5439
- Shade Tree Commission..... 201-768-0167 ext. 130
- Tax Assessor..... 201-768-0167 ext. 141
- Tax/Finance Office..... 201-768-0167 ext. 117
- Zoning Officer..... 201-768-3398

DEMAREST PUBLIC SCHOOL

The Demarest K-8 are off to a wonderful start to the school year. We have implemented a 1:1 laptop learning platform at Demarest Middle School. Every student was provided a MacBook Air laptop in the first week of school.

We created a beautiful outdoor learning center in the courtyard of Luther Lee Emerson School, with cooperation of the PTO. Please feel free to visit our website @ <http://demarestsd.schoolwires.net> to hear the terrific happenings at all three of our schools.

DPW LEAF NOTICE

Leaf pick ends the week of December 3rd. Additionally, **the piles must be free of twigs, branches, corn stalks/hay bales & stones or they will NOT be picked up.** After December 19th, all leaves are to be bagged for pick-up.

Just a reminder to all residents. Do not park on leaf piles. Watch for the leaf crews in the roadway. Please have patience with the DPW, weather, breakdowns & other conditions will slow the process of leaf pick up. Thanks

Donny Russell, Superintendent

DEMAREST RECREATION COMMISSION

The Recreation Commission is planning more summer concerts, an outdoor movie night, a visit to a ball park and much more. If you would like to volunteer or have questions, please contact Rebecca La Pira @ rebeccalapira@yahoo.com

CHRISTMAS TREE

The annual lighting of the Christmas Tree will be held on Tuesday, December 8th at 7:00pm at the Railroad Station. When Santa Claus sees the festive lights radiating from the Christmas tree, he will arrive on a beautiful Demarest Fire Truck. Come and enjoy the Christmas Tree, Santa, hot chocolate, candy canes and Christmas Carols.

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT VOLUNTEERS

Several high school students have volunteered to help residents who may not be able to physically rake their leaves or shovel their snow and cannot afford a service to perform these tasks. If you meet the aforesaid criteria, please Borough Hall @ 201-768-0167 #110.



Message from the Demarest Green Team

- * **Don't** let your car engine idle for more than 45 seconds, even at school pick up - It's the law.
- * **Don't** smoke cigarettes, pipes or cigars in any public places in Town
- * **Do** recycle bottles, plastic, cans and metal separately for collection every two weeks
- * **Do** recycle paper for collection every alternate two weeks.
- * **Do** deposit all old TV's, computers and phones at the box by the DPW on Wakelee Drive
- * **Do** deliver old florescent light bulbs to Bergen County Utilities Authority & Lowe's.
- * **Do** deliver old prescriptions to the Dumont Police Dept. Drop Box.

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.

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. 139 for further details

CHANUKAH

The Menorah Lighting Celebration will be on December 6th at 7pm at the Gazebo. It is a tradition to have a different Demarest family light the menorah candle each night. If you would like to volunteer to light the menorah contact Ellen Sokoloff @ 201-784-8641.

DEMAREST SWIM CLUB

Congratulations goes out to the Demarest Swim Club swim and dive teams for their competitive 2015 season placing 2nd and 3rd respectively in the New Jersey State Counties. For those members who preferred to relax, swim and soak in the many sunny days at the Demarest Swim Club - Kudos to you too! Best wishes for the coming holiday season and see you next summer

BOARD OF HEALTH

It is that time of the year again to renew your dog and cat licenses for 2016. Applications for current licensed animals will be mailed at the end of December. All dogs and cats over the age of 6 months must be registered with the Board of Health. Every year in order to be licensed, all dogs and cats must have a current rabies vaccination, expiring no earlier than November 30, 2016. To obtain an application, contact the Board of Health @ 201-768-0167 ext# 130.

Please note: The late fee is \$25.00 after March 1, 2016

Check out our facebook page for updated information on our programs, clinic and information on health issues at Demarest Board of Health.

Attention Residents: If you have any ideas of health programs that the Board of Health can provide please email Elise @ demhealth@yahoo.com.

ATTENTION RESIDENTS

Please call Miele Sanitation at 201-768-3818 to schedule an appointment to pick up large appliances, like household equipment. Refrigerators, air conditioners and ice makers must have the freon removed before pick-up by a certified service person. (If you are buying a new appliance, check with the merchant whether they would remove and dispose of your old appliance.) Thanksgiving pick up will be the Friday after, no pick up on Christmas, New Year Day & Presidents' Day.

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

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

United Methodist Church Annual Craft Fair will held on Friday, December 4th from 3pm-8 pm; Saturday, December 5th 10am-4 pm. Community dinner will be served on Friday from 5pm to 7pm. The cost is \$17. for adults, \$13. for seniors & \$5. for children 7-10 yrs.

DEMAREST FIRE DEPARTMENT

In October, the department conducted Fire Prevention programs at L.Lee and CRS schools. These visits, in conjunction with National Fire Prevention Week help to instill valuable Fire Safety lessons. During the visits, the students interacted with the Demarest Fire Fighters, practicing some of the lessons discussed, such as crawling low in smoke and having two ways out! They also had a chance to view the department trucks and tools.

As part of its annual program, the department is sponsoring a Fire Prevention Poster contest. This program has proven to be a great success and we look forward to reviewing the many excellent entries. Winners will be presented with awards at a general assembly at both schools. Parents will be notified.

SAFETY

Other Safety Tips:

- * Please ensure that all heating systems are safely maintained.
- * Please maintain your fireplaces. Flues/Chimney should be checked annually. Keep screens and glass doors closed during operation.
- * Discard fireplace ashes carefully. Place them in a metal container, outside of the home. Do not place hot ashes on decks, plantings or other combustible areas!
- * Be sure candles are kept out of reach of children and are away from any drapes, curtains or papers.
- * DO NOT leave vehicles, snow-blowers or other combustible engines running in the garage. Carbon monoxide poisoning is silent and deadly.
- * Adopt a hydrant! **Please keep any fire hydrants on a near your property clear of snow and debris.** Valuable time is lost when firefighters have to remove snow from a hydrant.
- * Easy to read, well lit house number helps us to find your home quicker in case of an emergency.
- * A key or code left with the Police Department or a trusted neighbor will avoid possible damage to your home if there is a fire alarm while you are away and we have to make entry.

FUND DRIVE

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

MEMBERSHIP

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

DEMAREST POLICE DEPARTMENT

Impaired Driving Enforcement Crackdown

From December 17, 2015 through January 2, 2016 law enforcement officers from the Demarest Police Department will be stepping up impaired driving enforcement as part of the "**Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over**". The end of the year and the beginning of the new is traditionally a time for social gatherings, which often include alcohol. The goal of the program is to raise awareness about the dangers of drinking and driving through high visibility enforcement, and to arrest motorists who choose to drive while impaired by drugs or alcohol. In New Jersey for 2005, 252 of the 748 motor vehicle fatalities, or 34%, were alcohol-related.

Demarest Police Department offers the following advice:

- * Be responsible and don't risk it...you will be caught.
- * If you plan to drink, choose a designated driver before going out.
- * Realize before going out that every drink you have makes it more difficult to know you've had too much to drive.
- * Take mass transit, a taxicab or ask a sober friend to drive you home.
- * Spend the night where the activity is held.
- * Report impaired drivers to law enforcement.
- * Always buckle up, its your best defense against an impaired driver.

"The end of the year and New Year celebrations are a time for fun with friends and family, not tragedy," said Chief Powderley. "The law enforcement community and safety organizations of the State are committed to eliminating impaired drivers from our roads." Please assist us in our efforts to keep our community safe by immediately reporting suspected drunk drivers and deterring those who have consumed alcohol from driving.

Follow us on Twitter (Demarest Police,NJ) or friend us on Facebook (Demarest Office of Emergency Management) to be informed on town wide safety bulletins during emergencies.

Chief James F. Powderley

PBA TOY DRIVE

The Demarest PBA are doing their annual toy drive. Please drop of unwrapped toys at Borough Hall by December 21th. Thank for your support.

DEMAREST GARDEN CLUB

Club Meetings Open to the Public

Meetings of the club are held in the United Methodist Church Hall at 109 Hardenburgh Avenue. Scheduled programs begin at 2:00 P.M. All interested Gardeners, visitors and prospective new members are welcome.

Programs

- ✦ January 8th: Broadleaf Evergreens and Groundcovers-Paul Kabyrich, Informative presentation will include deer resistant evergreens.
- ✦ February 5th: A Peek inside the Artist's Garden-Bob Crane, A presentation of beautiful gardens along with peaceful background music
- ✦ March 4th: Butterflies and Native Plants-Don Turino, Don is from the Bergen County Audubon Society. He will help us learn what you can do to help support those beautiful pollinators in your home garden

Club Activities

Members and their invited guests are welcome to join us.

Winter Activities and Field Trips

Dates and Locations to be announced

December: *Holiday Open House "Roaring 20's"* Skylands New Jersey State Botanical Garden

January: Meals on Wheels Workshop to help make floral arrangements

February: Garden Club of New Jersey Flower Show at NJ Convention Center

March: Philadelphia Flower Show at Pennsylvania Convention Center

March: Meals on Wheels Workshop to help make floral arrangements

All Programs, Activities, and trips are subject to cancellation due to weather conditions

Here is a fabulous website that we suggest to anyone interested in creating and/or maintaining a garden on their property..<http://www.plantsomethingnj.org>. It would be useful to refer to it during the winter doldrums raising hope for a wonderful Spring in the garden.

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. Our dues are \$25.00 and our membership is comprised of people, both men and women, who come from Demarest as well as 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 elevans2@verizon.net. You can also contact us at our website www.DemarestGardenClub.org.

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