

# DEMAREST DIGEST

Official Borough Newsletter  
Volume 48 No. 3 September 2016



## Mayor's Message

**9/11 Remembrance (Sunday September 11, 2016 at 6:30 PM)** – We invite you to attend Demarest's annual "9/11 Remembrance" to be held at the 9/11 Memorial in the park southeast of the railroad depot. It is by your presence that we show "We Will Never Forget" and pay our respects to those who perished that day and subsequently as a result of the attacks. (In the event of inclement weather, the Remembrance will be held in the Borough Hall).

**2016 Budget** – The library portion of your tax bill had a slight decrease this year. All other components, except for one, of your tax bill increased less than 1.7% this year compared to last year. The exception was the county portion which increased 2.14%, on top of a 7.7 % increase last year. The relatively stabilize tax rate is primarily due to increased assessments resulting in additional taxes collected.

## Major Infrastructure Improvements

### **Road Paving**

- \* A capital bond ordinance was passed for the paving within the next two months of Belmar St., Demarest Ave. (between Lincoln & John Streets), Lincoln St., Heritage Court, Wellwood Rd. and about 50' of Pine Terrace adjacent to Piermont Rd.
- \* Discussions and investigations continue on the possible paving of Chestnut St., Margaret Ct., Prospect St., Ruth La. & Woodland Rd. (north of the high school).

**Leaf Collection** – Leaf collection will start on or about October 10. Branch pickup will be suspended during leaf collection. **PLEASE, for the safety of our employees**, only place leaves out in narrow rows along the curb – no sticks, rocks, metal, construction material, etc. - just leaves! Please keep leaves at least 10' away from storm drains allowing stormwater to drain from roadways.

### Past & Upcoming Events

- \* Because the weather forecasts called for heavy rain, this year's Memorial Day parade and ceremony were cancelled. (Turned out, the weather forecasts were wrong). **Lesson learned – we will plan alternate indoor venues for Memorial Day and September 11 ceremonies.**
- \* Another successful concert series was held at the gazebo this summer. All were well attended, especially those featuring local talent. An added event this year was 'Shakespeare in the Park' attended by about 50 people.
- \* From all accounts, the summer recreation program was enjoyed by all. The program attracted the maximum number planned for. Judging from the smiling faces of the counselors on the last day, they too had a good time. (Or was it the Ben & Jerry's ice cream or that it was the last day so they could enjoy the rest of their summer)?
- \* Demarest Day is planned for Saturday Sept. 24 (12:00 – 4:00 pm) with a rain date of Sat. Oct 1. Activities will be held at the Duck Pond area. Interested in volunteering? Please contact Susan Crosman during business hours at 201-768-2569.
- \* The Diwali Festival is to be held Sunday September 25th at the Demarest Duck Pond.
- \* The annual Oktoberfest, at the Duck Pond, organized by the Demarest Nature Center Association is scheduled for Saturday October 8 with a rain date of Saturday Oct. 15.

**Nature Center Lease** – A new 20-year lease, commencing in Feb. 2017, was sent to the NJ Department of Environmental Protection of which we are optimistic they will approve.

**Shade Tree Ordinance** – I have requested the council ordinance committee to present options regarding an amended ordinance that will further protect the tree resources in town. We are losing enough trees due to age, insects and disease with redevelopment added to the increased loss of trees in town.

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 SWIM CLUB

How did you beat the heat? Members of the Demarest Swim Club cooled off and relaxed in and out all three pools while also catching up on reading, relaxation or taking advantage of wi-fi. All while the swim and dive teams practiced many hours and their hard work paid off as the Swim and Dive teams finished 4-0 and 3-1 respectively. A shout out and thank you to the coaches and lifeguards who helped provide a safe and fun season for all.

### DEMAREST PUBLIC LIBRARY

#### **More Resources**

Learn a language with Rosetta Stone, free with your card. This new resource is provided by the State Library to all New Jerseyans. Thirty available, including English.

#### **Your Library Card**

You can get your library card for free, but it's valuable! It grants you access to all the services the Demarest Free Public Library and Bergen County Cooperative Library System (BCCLS – or “buckles” – for short) have to offer.

#### **How to Sign Up**

To sign up for a library card, we need to know your name, address, and phone number. We'll also ask for an email address so we can let you know when you have items to pick up and remind you when your items are due. (Don't worry, you can turn off these reminders at any time and your email address won't be used for anything but library communication.) Signing up is free!

#### **Once you have your library card, you can...**

\* **Borrow!** Here at the Demarest Library we have books, magazines, audiobooks on CD and playaway, music CDs, movies and TV series on DVD & Blu-Ray, video games for Nintendo DS, XBOX, and Nintendo Wii. We also have a Korean-language collection of fiction and non-fiction books, movies, dramas, and magazines. Demarest cardholders can borrow up to fifty items.

\* **Borrow from other libraries!** There are seventy-seven libraries in BCCLS with more than 5,800,000 items – with a library card, you can borrow from any of them! Demarest Library only has books and magazines in English and Korean, but you can visit other libraries to borrow books in Russian, Japanese, Chinese, Spanish, Polish, and more. Don't want to make the trip? You can request items be sent to the library of your choice for you to pick up. Call or visit us to make a request, or use the online catalog –

\* **Borrow digital items!** eBooks, eAudiobooks, digital magazines, music, movies, TV shows – borrow them all from the library any place, any time.

\* **Borrow museum passes!** Demarest residents ages eighteen and older can borrow a pass to the MoMA, Guggenheim, or Intrepid Air & Space Museum. Passes admit four to six people.

\* **Learn a language!** In addition to the print, audio-book, and video language-learning materials you can borrow, Demarest Library cardholders have access to Mango Languages, an online learning platform offering courses in more than seventy languages, including English as a Second Language.

\* **Get homework help!** Demarest Library cardholders have access to World Book Online, the popular encyclopedia, which includes research tools, games, science project ideas, a citation builder, and more!

\* **Get information you can't find anywhere else!** BCCLS subscribes to dozens of databases. There are great tools for students (like Gale Biography and the Literary Reference Center), academic resources, newspapers, and NoveList for finding your next read!

• **Manage your account online!** You can manage your library card online – change your notification preferences, update your account information, see what items you have checked out, place requests, and renew items. You can also keep track of items you want to borrow and turn on your reading history.

#### **LIBRARY HOURS**

Monday, Wednesday & Thursday 9am-8pm; Tuesday & Friday 9am-5pm; Saturday 9am-1pm

### 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 DAY!!!!**

**September 24th 11am-4pm.**

**WE need your HELP!**

If you would like to volunteer your time in helping organize Demarest Day. Please contact Rebecca LaPira at [rebeccalapira@yahoo.com](mailto:rebeccalapira@yahoo.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 6th**. 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 GARDEN CLUB

### New Officers for 2016-2017

President: Barbara DiNovi-Demarest, First VP: Ginny Bargisen-Demarest, Second VP: Eileen Corrado Demarest, Treasurer: Karen Koehler-Park Ridge Recording Secretary: Joanne Holmberg, River Vale; Corresponding Secretary: Pat Vellas; New Milford

### Club Meetings

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

### FALL PROGRAMS

September 9th Tom Bender will discuss the hows, whys & whats of planting in the Fall.

October 7th Anna Haines will discuss plant options for when we have moved inside from our gardens.

### Club Activities

- New Jersey Botanical Garden Holiday Open House - The club will be helping to decorate the Skylands Manor House in Ringwood. The theme this year is "A Gardener's Holiday". The house is open December 1st- through 4th from 10am to 4pm. There is good food and dining at the carriage house.
- Holiday Luncheon-Dec 9<sup>th</sup> at 12pm, Come 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.

### UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

United Methodist Church will be having Garage/Tag Sale on Saturday, October 10 from 9AM-5PM.

Come find those hidden treasures.

### 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 [elefans2@verizon.net](mailto:elefans2@verizon.net). You can also contact us at our website [www.DemarestGardenClub.org](http://www.DemarestGardenClub.org)

### BOARD OF HEALTH

#### RABIES CLINIC

The Demarest Board of Health will be having a free rabies clinic on Saturday, **November 12th**, 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 SHOT CLINIC

The seasonal flu & pneumonia vaccine clinic will be held on **October 3rd, 10am-11:30am & October 4th, 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 #130.

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 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 ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION**

**PROPER DISPOSAL OF**

**EXPIRED OR UNWANTED MEDICINES**

**Unwanted medicines should be disposed of safely and properly like all other household hazardous wastes.** Medications are chemically active and pose a threat to the environment when flushed down the toilet, washed down the sink drain or thrown in the trash. What were once considered acceptable ways to dispose of medicines are proven pollutants and should be avoided.

Research shows that landfills leach residue including pharmaceuticals into soil and ground water. Likewise, wastewater treatment plants do not remove medicines allowing medications to be released into lakes, rivers and oceans. Traces of human medicines have been found in our drinking water, fish and aquatic animals. Polluting these waters leads to contamination of our food and water supplies. The safest and most environmentally responsible way to properly dispose of unused medicines is to turn them in to a take-back program.

The Demarest Environmental Commission would like to inform residents that the closest drop-off box for unwanted medications is at the Dumont Police Department. **The Drop Box is located inside the door of the Dumont Police Department which is being temporarily housed in a trailer at 50 Washington Avenue, Dumont, NJ.**

The Commission has spearheaded an anti-idling campaign aimed at the Demarest area schools. Everyone is asked to respect this effort to reduce air pollution around the schools as children are dropped off or picked up, by not idling your engine while you are waiting.

***The Environmental Commission meetings are the fourth Tuesday at 7:30pm in the Borough Hall.***

***SMOKE-FREE ZONE***

Outdoor secondhand smoke (SHS) can pose a health hazard to people, animals and our environment. There is no safe level of exposure to SHS, a known "Class A" human carcinogen.

Studies show bystanders near outdoor smoking have elevated salivary cotinine levels. Cotinine is a nicotine metabolite, occurring only when the body is exposed to biologically active levels of nicotine.

Outdoor smoke-free policies meet worker, resident and customer expectations of a clean and healthy outdoor environment.

Outdoor smoke-free policies compliment "green" initiatives like Sustainable NJ, by reducing air pollution and tobacco waste.

100% smoke-free parks and recreation areas are safer for children and the elderly, who can be especially susceptible to immediate illness from SHS exposure.

Toddlers and animals may ingest smoking litter, like discarded cigarette butts and experience serious illness as a result.

Smoke-free policies lower park cleanup costs by reducing littering. Tobacco waste is often the most common form of park litter.

**DEMAREST MUNICIPAL COURT**

The court dates for the next three months are September 13th, October 11th and November 9th. 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)

***GOOD LUCK BOBBY DE TEMPLE***

The Mayor, Council & Borough and Borough staff would like to wish Bobby a happy retirement. He worked for many years for the DPW in many positions over his years of service..



***SCHOOLS ARE OPEN***

***PLEASE DRIVE CAREFULLY***



## FALL CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- September 5 Labor Day—Borough Hall Closed*
- September 6 First Day of School*
- September 9 Demarest Garden Club meeting; 1:00pm @ the United Methodist Church; 2pm Program: Tom Bender; hows, whys & whats of Fall planting*
- September 11 September 11th Memorial Ceremony; 6:30PM @Duck Pond*
- September 12 Mayor & Council Meeting, 8pm*
- September 14 Bergen County Senior Citizen Picnic; 10am-3pm; Van Saun Park, Paramus*
- September 24 Demarest Day 12pm-4pm*
- September 26 Mayor & Council Meeting, 8pm*
- October 3 Flu & Pneumonia Shots Clinic; 10am –11:30am @ Boro Hall*
- October 4 Flu & Pneumonia Shots Clinic; 6pm-7:30pm @ Boro Hall*
- October 7 Demarest Garden Club meeting; 1:00pm @ the United Methodist Church; 2pm Program: Anna Haines; plant options for moving our gardens inside.*
- October 8 Oktoberfest sponsored by Demarest Nature Center; 10am @ the Duck Pond; rain date October 15th*
- October 10 Columbus Day—Borough Hall Closed*
- October 13 Mayor & Council Meeting; 8pm*
- October 18 Last Day to Register to Vote for General Election*
- October 24 Mayor & Council Meeting; 8pm*
- October 30 Halloween Parade; 11am at the Railroad Station, No Rain date*
- November 8 Election Day; Polls open 6am-8pm*
- November 11 Veteran's Day –Borough Hall Closed*
- November 12 Free Rabies Clinic @ Railroad Depot, 10am-11am*
- November 14 Mayor & Council Meeting; 8pm*
- November 24-25 Thanksgiving—Borough Hall Closed*
- November 28 Mayor & Council Meeting; 8pm*



## DEMAREST DAY

Demarest Day is back! Join the fun on September 24, 2016 from 12PM-4PM at the Demarest Duck Pond (rain date October 1). There will be kids' rides, inflatables, dance and martial art demonstrations, live DJ music, food and more! For sponsorship information, email:

[DemarestDay@gmail.com](mailto:DemarestDay@gmail.com)

### MESSAGE FROM THE TAX OFFICE

We just wanted to remind everyone that per Borough Ordinance 964, we do not accept cash for tax payments. Please note money orders are accepted as well as a personal check or bank check. Also note per State Statute, residents are responsible for their tax bills even if they did not receive the bill. The law states "every taxpayer is put on notice to ascertain from the proper official of the taxing district the amount which may be due for taxes". We're here to help so please call 201 768-3611 if you have questions about your taxes. We can not accept post dated checks. Your cooperation is always appreciated.

### DEMAREST AMBULANCE CORPS

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.

## ART SCHOOL AT OLD CHURCH

Embrace your artistic side this fall in a variety of art classes for adults and kids at the Art School at Old Church in Demarest. Offerings for adults include 80 classes and workshops in studio arts to enhance visual art making at every level. Those who have made art for years or those recently inspired are invited into the studios for classes that start September 6. Classes for kids in paintings, drawing, sculpture, ceramics and more meet weekly for 10 weeks, with a class to fit any schedule. Call the Art School at (201) 767-7160 or visit the website [www.tasoc.org](http://www.tasoc.org) to find out more about registering for fall art classes.

### ABOUT THE ART SCHOOL AT OLD CHURCH

The Art School at Old Church is a non-profit cultural center providing community access to enriching experiences in the arts. The school offers art classes and workshops for adults, teens, and children each semester, as well as free gallery exhibitions, cultural events, and outreach programs for special populations. The Art School's programs are made possible in part by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State, a Partner Agency of the National Endowment for the Arts, as well as contributions from foundations, corporations, businesses, and individuals.

### LEAF NOTICE 2016

Leaf pick-up begins on October 11th and ends on December 5th. 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.

**DO NOT PUT OUT BRANCHES UNTIL  
LEAF SEASON IS OVER  
BRANCH PICK-UP WILL CONTINUE  
ON DECEMBER 10TH**

**DEMAREST NATURE CENTER**

**FIRST ANNUAL DOG WALK**

On September 17, The First Annual DNCA Dog Walk through the Demarest Nature Center. All area dogs and their "leashed" masters are welcome for an easy hike leaving from The Duck Pond flag pole at 10am (return before 11:30am). No unleashed dogs will be allowed.

***35th OKTOBERFEST***

***Saturday, October 8th 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 15<sup>th</sup>; [www.demarestnaturecenter.org](http://www.demarestnaturecenter.org)

***Demarest Nature Center 2016 Photo Contest Winners***

DNCA Grand Prize Winner – David Huspeth for "Red Dragonfly"

Adult Black and White 1st place **David Huspeth**, Adult Black and White 2nd place **Jun Hu**  
Adult Color 1st place **David Huspeth**, Adult Color 2nd place **David Huspeth**, Adult Color 3rd place **David Huspeth**.

Children's Color 1st place **Brightna Hu**, Children's Color 2nd place **Rejoice Hu**.

Children's Black and White 1st place winner **Rejoice Hu**, Children's Black and White 2nd place winner

**Brightna Hu.**



**Grand Prize Winner  
David Huspeth**



**1st Place (B&W)  
David Huspeth**



**1st Place (Color)  
David Huspeth**



**1st Place Children  
(Color)  
Brightna Hu**



**1st Place Children  
(B&W) Rejoice Hu**

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)