

DEMAREST DIGEST

Official Borough Newsletter
Volume 50 No. 3 September 2018



FALL CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| September 3 | Labor Day—Borough Hall closed |
| September 4 | First Day of school |
| September 6 | Demarest Garden Club meeting @ United Methodist Church 2pm
"The Nature of the Meadowlands" By Jim Wright. |
| September 11 | September 11th Memorial Ceremony 6:15pm @ the Duck Pond |
| September 12 | Bergen County Senior Citizen Picnic 10am-3pm @ Van Saun Park |
| September 22 | Demarest Day 1pm-5pm at the Duck Pond; Rain Date Sept. 29th
Fireworks at Wakelee Field 7:30pm |
| September 24 | Mayor & Council Meeting 7:30 pm |
| October 5 | Demarest Garden Club meeting United Methodist Church 2 pm
"Garden Safari" by Mary Jo Sichak. |
| October 8 | Columbus Day—Borough Hall closed |
| October 9 | Flu Clinic 10-11:30am & 6-7:30pm @ Borough Hall |
| October 13 | Oktoberfest sponsored by The Demarest Nature Center
10am @ the Duck Pond; Rain Date October 20th |
| October 27 | Halloween Parade 4:30pm @ Train Depot; Rain Date October 28th 12pm |
| October 29 | Mayor & Council Meeting 7:30pm |
| November 6 | Election Day; polls open 6am-8pm |
| November 11 | Veterans Day |
| November 17 | Free Rabies Clinic 10am-11am @ Railroad Depot |
| November 22-23 | Thanksgiving—Borough Hall closed |
| November 26 | Mayor & Council Meeting 7:30pm |



PROPERTY TAX PAYMENTS ARE NOW PAYABLE THROUGH OUR WEBSITE

You now have the capability to pay your taxes online via the Borough website www.demarestnj.org. Several property owners have already used this service. Please note, residents/property owners who wish to pay their taxes online will be charged a flat \$1.50 for electronic check payments and 2.65% for credit card transactions.

Keep in mind that you can look up or search your tax amount by Block/Lot or last name. If you use Block/Lot, please exclude the 0's preceding your Block & Lot on your tax bill. For example, you would key in 25-8 or 120-3.01 or 120-11.31-C00E1 (please note the caps with the Bellaire Condominium units). If you are having trouble with the Block/Lot, try searching by your last name.

Please supply all the information requested and also make sure you check the box showing that you agree with the charges.

If you have any questions, please call the tax office at (201) 768-3611, M-F 8am-5pm, and we will assist you.

HYDRO-RAKING THE DUCK POND

Immediately after the Memorial Day holiday, the Borough had the Duck Pond cleaned to remove excess sediment and debris from the bottom. This was accomplished using an innovative new technology called *hydro-raking*. The results were outstanding, as the project took less than 3 weeks and the removed material did not have to be stockpiled for months or transported to a landfill far from town. The total cost was far less than prior similar projects, and the severe storms this summer resulted in less flooding and quicker return to normal water levels than we had been seeing. The Council would like to thank Borough Engineer Sunny Mullen of Maser Consulting for her work in recommending and helping to effectuate this important project to our community.



DEMAREST GARDEN CLUB

The Demarest Garden Club is a 501.c3 not for profit organization. Its mission is to promote and encourage the exchange of horticultural knowledge to foster an interest and love of gardening, floral design, and educational pursuits of the preservation of conservation, while promoting horticultural projects throughout the community. Local garden clubs are the grassroots organizations that help in educating our communities about the importance of preserving our environment.

Our civic projects are the maintenance and preservation of The Davies Arboretum on Anderson Avenue and the RR Station garden and planters throughout the year.

The DGC (Demarest Garden Club) does outreach programs with garden therapy sessions at local senior care facilities and Middle and Elementary school planting projects.

MEETINGS

Business meetings are held at 1pm, first Friday monthly, September thru June, at the United Methodist Church on Hardenburgh Ave. Guest speakers present their programs at 2pm; they are open to the public. Refreshments by the hospitality committee follow.

PROGRAMS

September 6

Speaker: Jim Wright. Jim writes for the Record in his column "The Bird Watcher."
Program: The Nature of the Meadowlands. We will experience a Power Point presentation that shows us a real look at a local NJ treasure close to home.

October 5

Speaker: Mary Jo Sichak. Mary Jo has experience with many nature and wildlife locales.
Program: Garden Safari. A fun-filled photographic look at life in a garden and the many creatures that live in or pass through it.

Field Trips are also a part of our agenda; we visit public and private gardens and arboretums, horticultural and environmental events such as the NJ and Philadelphia Flower shows, and the NJ Botanical Gardens' Skylands Holiday Open House.

Our annual fundraiser is a pre-order plant sale that includes annual and perennial plants and flowers. These proceeds help to fund the club's civic projects and activities and support the Garden Club of NJ environment projects throughout the state.

Membership is open to every and anyone who is interested in learning about and preserving your own and the community gardens. You don't have to be an expert. Contact us at our website at www.demarestgardenclub.org or call membership chairwoman Elisabeth Evans at (201) 768-0263.





Did You Know?

You can pay your library fines with a credit card online! Find the option under the "Fines & Fees" section of your account. A \$0.50 surcharge will be added for online payments.

Coming Soon

- **New Children's Room bathroom!** The boys' and girls' bathrooms will be combined into a single, updated family bathroom with changing table.
- **A visit from Tracey Baptiste!** Look out for a visit in September from Tracey Baptiste, author of *The Jumbies* series and *Minecraft: The Crash*, an Amazon #1 best-selling summer 2018 book!
- **Kanopy film streaming service!** Kanopy offers an array of classics, foreign-language films, documentaries, Great Courses, PBS programs for kids, and more. Watch on your phone, tablet, computer, or smart TV and borrow at any time -- no wait lists! Kanopy will be available to Demarest Library patrons this fall.
- **Sunday hours!** Our first Sunday back will be **September 9** from 1pm to 5pm. See you there!

LIBRARY HOURS

Demarest Free Public Library
90 Hardenburgh Avenue
Demarest, NJ 07646
(201) 768 8714

Demarestlibrary.org

Monday	9am-8pm
Tuesday	9am-5pm
Wednesday	9am-8pm
Thursday	9am-8pm
Friday	9am-5pm
Saturday	9am-1pm
Sunday	1pm-5pm



Demarest Swim Club Swim and Dive Teams place in the top 3 in the Upper Bergen League

Congratulation to the DSC Dive team and their coaches, Brandon Barquin and Samantha Rizzo, on placing 2nd in the Upper Bergen League.

The DSC Swim team also enjoyed a great season, placing 3rd in the Upper Bergen League, led by coaches Leah Woods-Bannan, Sean Byman, Sean Griff, and Michael Silva.

DEMAREST BOARD OF HEALTH

Rabies Clinic

The Demarest Board of Health will be hosting a free rabies clinic on Saturday, **November 17th**, from 10am-11am at the Railroad Depot. Pets must be brought to the clinic site on a leash or in an appropriate carrier by someone capable of maintaining control of the animal. 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 determine if needed.

Seasonal Flu Clinic

The seasonal flu vaccine clinic will be held on **October 9th** from 10am-11:30am & 6pm-7:30pm at the Borough Hall. This program is for Demarest residents 65 years or older or persons having serious chronic conditions such as heart disease, pulmonary disease and diabetes. 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.

Do you have concerns about falling?



Many older adults experience concerns about falling and restrict their activities. A MATTER OF BALANCE is an award-winning program designed to manage falls and increase activity levels.

The Demarest Board of Health will be offering a workshop this fall facilitated by two Health Educators from the Bergen County Department of Health Services. Classes will be held twice a week for 4 weeks for 2 hours each.

This program emphasizes practical strategies to manage falls.

YOU WILL LEARN TO:

- view falls as controllable
- set goals for increasing activity
- make changes to reduce fall risks at home
- exercise to increase strength and balance

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

- anyone concerned about falls
- anyone interested in improving balance, flexibility and strength
- anyone who has fallen in the past
- anyone who has restricted activities because of falling concerns

Date and times still to be determined. For more information please contact Dot Haight at Demhealth@yahoo.com or (201) 768-0167 Ext. 130.





The Art School at Old Church



The Art School at Old Church recently received \$56,315 in grant funding and a prestigious Citation of Excellence from The New Jersey State Council on the Arts. The Council awards Citations of Excellence to organizations, programs, and projects that receive the highest possible assessment of their Council grant applications by esteemed, independent panels of their peers. The Art School at Old Church is one of 34 organizations and projects that were recognized with Citations of Excellence this year.

The funding will help the organization sustain and expand its work presenting a variety of educational and cultural offerings, including art classes for all ages and levels in a wide variety of mediums; gallery exhibits that are free and open to the public, featuring work by professional artists and select student work; and its Art in Reach outreach program, which serves such populations as students with special needs and patients at Englewood Hospital and Medical Center.

About The Art School at Old Church and Our Thrift Shop

Founded in 1974, 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 as well as free gallery exhibitions, cultural events, and outreach programs for special populations. It houses two art galleries: the Mikhail Zakin Gallery and the Café Gallery. The Annual Pottery Show & Sale is an opportunity to view and purchase one-of-a-kind works of art from nationally recognized potters. Proceeds from The Annual Pottery Show & Sale and from Our Thrift Shop, located in Westwood, NJ, benefit The Art School at Old Church. 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. The Art School at Old Church was voted Best of Bergen: Best Art Gallery and Best Teacher (Denise Kadar) and was runner-up for Best Non-Profit in 2017.

DEMAREST RECREATION

DEMAREST DAY

Demarest Day is back! Join the fun on September 22, 2018, from 1pm-5pm at the Demarest Duck Pond (rain date September 29th). There will be kids' rides, inflatables, dance and martial art demonstrations, live DJ music, food and more!

"New this year - there will be fireworks, starting at 7:30pm sponsored by the Borough of Demarest, Bergen County Charity Classic, Robert Wilkens Insurance Agency and Maser Consulting. For up to date information, visit the Demarest Day and Fireworks event page on Facebook."

For sponsorship information, email: DemarestDay@gmail.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 fumes from a flammable liquid or spray can be ignited by an open flame from an appliance or a spark during ignition.
- * DO NOT leave vehicles, mowers, generators or other fuel-powered devices running in the garage. They will produce carbon monoxide, which is deadly.
- * With school opening, increased traffic makes travel and emergency response 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 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 more quickly 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

LEAF NOTICE 2018

Leaf pick-up begins on October 15th and ends on December 14th. All leaves must be close to the curb, but not within 10 feet of any storm drain. After December 20th, 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.

LEAF PILES MUST BE KEPT FREE OF TWIGS, BRANCHES, STONES AND GRASS OR THEY WILL NOT BE PICKED UP !!

**DO NOT PUT OUT BRANCHES UNTIL LEAF SEASON IS OVER
BRANCH PICK UP WILL CONTINUE AT THE BEGINNING OF THE YEAR,
WEATHER PERMITTING**

REMINDER: NO HOLIDAY GARBAGE PICKUP ON SEPTEMBER 3, NOVEMBER 12 AND NOVEMBER 22ND. THANKSGIVING GARBAGE PICK UP WILL BE ON FRIDAY NOVEMBER 23RD

DEMAREST NATURE CENTER

ANNUAL DOG WALK

Sept. 8th.—The Demarest Nature Center will have its second annual dog walk through the nature center. Meet at the Duck Pond flag pole at 10 am (Return before 11:30 am) No unleashed dogs will be allowed.

NATURE WALK

Sept. 22nd—Join us for a nature walk with naturalist Marc Gussen at 9:30 am; leaving from the Imaginative Playground adjacent to Wakelee Field.

OKTOBERFEST

Oct. 13th is the event of the year, the Craft Show at Oktoberfest, from 10 am to 5 pm. Treats for all your senses—German music, inflatable rides for kids, Korean and German foods, homemade cookies and muffins. Plus a wide variety of handmade crafts. Plus, now that the Duck Pond has been dredged, we hope to bring back canoe rides this year! The rain date is Oct. 21. The Demarest Nature Center is open 365 days a year and is entirely volunteer-operated. For more information visit www.demarestnaturecenter.org.

DEMAREST HISTORICAL TRIVIA

By Borough Historian, Mary Anne Clarke

In 1950 the Demarest Public School students published a newsletter that included kindergarten to eighth grade news by the grade level class reporters. Also included were some drawings and fun reads. The name of the newsletter was THE INKWELL. The editor-in-chief was eighth grader, Peter Secchia, who became a prominent businessman and a U.S. Ambassador to Italy.

The first newsletter of THE INKWELL, "Vol.1 NO.1" was published in October 1950 and had 6 stapled pages. One article was about the new students in school in grades 1 to 8. The kindergarten numbers were not included. The following is from the article:

"As Demarest grows, so grows our school. The following are the names of newcomers and town from which they came."

Then the names of the students by grade levels were listed. A total of 32 new students in first to eighth grade enrolled in the Demarest School system by September 1950.

Another article, without the author noted, was, "CLOCKS."

"We were happily surprised one Monday morning recently to discover that attractive electric clocks had been installed in all classrooms. Our thanks to our Board of Education who made them possible." This was followed with:

"Always be on time!"