

DEMAREST DIGEST

Official Borough Newsletter
Volume 50 No. 1 March 2018



SPRING CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- March 30** **Good Friday– Borough offices closed**

- March 31** **Demarest Nature Center Annual Easter Egg Hunt @ 2pm in the Imaginative Playground next to Wakelee Field**

- April 1** **Garden Club Plant Sale order forms due**

- April 6** **Demarest Garden Club meeting @ United Methodist Church; 2pm "Day Lillies" by Jane Guillard**

- April 14** **Demarest Nature Center Photo Contest Deadline**

- April 19** **Garden Club Field Trip—Laurelwood Arboretum– Wayne NJ**

- April 21** **Demarest Paper Shredding Day: 9am-1pm @ NV Demarest High School**

- April 21** **NV Earth Fair @ NV Demarest High School 11am-4pm**

- April 21** **Demarest Nature Center Annual Nature Walk and Volunteer Day @ 9:30am.**

- April 23** **2018 Budget Public Hearing; Council Chambers 7:30 PM**

- April 27** **Arbor Day**

- May 4-5** **Garden Club Annual Plant Sale pick up**

- May 14** **Mayor & Council Meeting; 7:30PM**

- May 20** **Demarest PTO 36th Annual Demarest 5K**

- May 28** **Memorial Day Parade; Time to be announced**



Demarest Environmental Commission

Northern Valley Earth Fair

Demarest will be the host community for the 2018 Northern Valley Earth Fair.

Saturday, April 21, 2018

11 AM-4 PM Rain or Shine

Northern Valley Regional Demarest High School

Activities include Food & Drink, Live Music, Sustainable Vendors, Environmental Exhibits, Animal Shows, Children's Activities, & Fun for All!

Remember to bring your soil samples for lead testing!

For more information please go to their website www.nv-earth-fair.org



The BCUA Paper Shredding Event

Saturday, April 21, 2018

9 AM-1 PM

Northern Valley Regional Demarest High School

2018 Bergen County Utilities Authority

Take your hazardous waste to a safer place!

PARAMUS
Bergen Community College
400 Paramus Rd.
(Entry via Paramus Rd. only)

SUNDAY
April, 15, 2018
June 24, 2018
October 14, 2018

MAHWAH
Bergen County Campgaw
Mountain Reservation
200 Campgaw Road

SATURDAY
May 12th
July 21st
September 8th

MOONACHIE
Bergen County
Utilities Authority
Foot of Empire Blvd.

SATURDAY
March 10th
November 17th

All collection sites open (rain or shine) at 9:00.m. and close promptly at 3:00 p.m.

FREE OF CHARGE FOR BERGEN COUNTY RESIDENTS ONLY– ID REQUIRED

For a complete list of acceptable materials for waste collections go to www.bcu.org

Demarest Police Department

Demarest Residents

An auto theft ring is operating in the Northern Valley area. During the early morning hours of March 10th, 2018, four vehicles were stolen in the Borough of Demarest.

One of the various methods criminals are utilizing is an advanced technology to detect a key fob (car key) left in the vehicle. Modern, high-end vehicles' side view mirrors will fold in when the vehicles are locked and stay out when unlocked. Thieves are looking for this simple indicator.

Remember to remove all key fobs and to lock all vehicles.

Demarest Police is requesting residents be on the lookout and report any suspicious activity.

Chief James Powderely



CRUCIAL

Crossing Guards Needed

Inquire at the Police Department

Demarest Borough Hall

Demarest Municipal Court

The court dates for the next three months are April 3rd, May 1st and June 5th. 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

Demarest Public School District

Demarest Schools' new Twitter account is up and running! Go to the Twitter App and search for "demarestschools" (one word). You might recognize the wildcat logo! Once you follow us, "like" us!



The Academy of the Holy Angels

Fasten your seat belts and make sure your seat backs are the upright position as the award-winning Academy of the Holy Angels Theater Department presents "Catch Me if You Can." This musical, which traces the notorious deeds of Frank Abagnale Jr., will be presented March 16, 17, and 18. This young master of deception worked as a doctor, lawyer, and co-pilot for an international airline -- without being qualified for any of those posts -- and ultimately became the country's most successful bank robber.

Tickets are \$15 each and are available online at AHA.Booktix.com.

All shows will be presented at AHA, 315 Hillside Avenue in Demarest

The Art School at Old Church

Art as Sanctuary, an exhibit created by The New York Society of Women Artists, is on display at the Mikhail Zakin Gallery at The Art School at Old Church (TASOC) through Thursday, March 15.

The New York Society of Women Artists is a group of professional painters and sculptors. NYSWA artists, whose work ranges from the representational to abstract, join together to create exciting theme exhibitions. The organization, founded in 1925, provides support, comradery, and exhibition opportunities for women professionals in a field long dominated by men.

NYSWA states, "In thinking about the concept of the show's theme, 'Sanctuary,' we might consider, first of all, that art is a sanctuary for the artist herself. In her paintings, drawings, sculpture, performances and/or happenings, she can inscribe her real self and preserve her true feelings and perceptions. Her ambivalent or conflicted thoughts can find a dynamic expression. In her art, she can express herself without restrictions."

The concept of political sanctuary for refugees is also brought into the exhibit, as the artist journeys across borders to figurative worlds where her imaginings come to life. NYSWA hopes the exhibit is a sign of the possibility of art as a unifying and inspiring force at a time when civilization itself often seems threatened by war and corrupt leadership.

"The thought of art as sanctuary exhibited in a sanctuary is reassuring indeed."

Monday through Friday 9:15 am–5:30 pm and 7:00 pm–10:00 pm and 10:00 am–3:00 pm on Saturdays. In the event of inclement weather, please call (201) 767-7160 to confirm hours.

Demarest Volunteer Ambulance Corp

Congratulations to the 2018 Demarest Volunteer Ambulance Corps officers installed recently!



President Joanne Pianghi
Secretary Roberta Hoag
Treasurer Diane Marello
Chief Joseph P Fortunato III
1st Assistant Chief Frank Sanges
2nd Assistant Chief Andrew Woods



As our 2018 fund drive continues we want to thank all who have donated to date. Your support allows us to deliver the highest level of professional emergency medical care to those in need. Demarest Volunteer Ambulance Corps is a 100% VOLUNTEER department that answers emergency calls for Demarest borough.

Currently we have 25 active members covering duty shifts 24/7/365. We need YOUR help to continue providing free emergency care and transport to our residents and visitors. We are seeking anyone age 16+ that may be interested in becoming an EMT or EMR to contact us today, so you can be the one to help save a friend or neighbor tomorrow. Training, uniforms and equipment will be provided. Call 201-767-8050. Please leave your name, number and we will contact you! We are proud to have served our community continually since 1961.

DEMAREST NATURE CENTER

What's New in the Woods?

Kevin Riley completed his term as president in January and was presented with a plaque for his years of devoted service. Kevin will continue to be chairman of the Trails and Grounds Committee. The new president is Peter Coy. The other trustees are Dr. Tom Birch, vice president and editor of the print newsletter; Scott Lasky, treasurer; Teddy Lourbas, recording secretary; Kumiko Ishikura, corresponding secretary; Mark and Kim Nagelhout; Anita Gonzalez; Peter Simpson; Richard Jaretsky; Dr. Rita Rivero; Joe Connolly; Sadi Tuysuzoglu; and Sig Sorenson.

Our birdhouse- and bird feeder-building event on Feb. 10 at the train station was a noisy success. Children built 31 houses and feeders. Next up is the Easter egg hunt in the Imaginative Playground next to Wakelee Field at 2 p.m. on Mar. 31. Foil-wrapped chocolate eggs will be strewn around the playground, and the Easter bunny is scheduled to make an appearance!

April 14 is the deadline for submitting photos for the John C. Goodwin Nature Photo Contest. It's open to all ages. Pictures can be either color or black and white. The only requirement is that they be taken inside the nature center. You can drop off pictures at the Demarest Free Public Library or the Art School at Old Church. Cash prizes will be awarded to winners.

Mark your calendars for the annual Nature Walk with naturalist Marc Gussen, leaving from the parking lot by the Imaginative Playground at 9:30 a.m. on April 21. It will be immediately followed by Volunteer Day, which involves picking up litter along the trails. You don't have to be a professional litter-collector to take part; all are welcome.

Board of Health

Are you aware there is a Borough Board of Health? Is there anything you would like to see us promote or a service you would like provided? Please provide your feedback to Dot at dem-health@yahoo.com.

Bergen County Department of Health Services – Office of Environmental Health

Inspired by Radon Action Month, the Bergen County Health Department will now begin providing free radon testing to residents, in cooperation with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Radon Program.

Radon is a radioactive gas that occurs naturally when uranium and radium break down in the soil and in rock formations. Radon gas moves up through the soil and finds its way into homes through cracks in the foundation and openings around pumps, pipes, and drains.

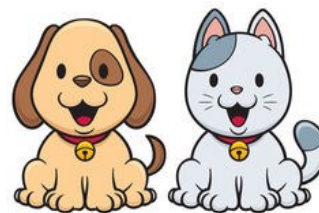
Radon is a serious health concern – it is the second leading cause of lung cancer, and the leading cause of lung cancer among non-smokers. Radon is also odorless and colorless, making it difficult to detect in the home.

Fortunately, testing for radon is simple. The Bergen County Health Department has radon testing kits available to residents free of charge for testing of unsafe levels in the home. If the test results indicate a radon problem, a radon mitigation system can be installed to correct the issue.

Testing kits can be obtained at the Bergen County Annex Building, located at 220 E. Ridgewood Ave, Ste. 201, Paramus, NJ on Wednesdays and Fridays from 8am-10am. For more information on the Bergen County Radon Program, please contact Aria Negahban at 201-634-2797.

Dog and Cat Licensing

The deadline to license your dog or cat has been extended to March 16th. If you have not already licensed your pet, please do so immediately in order to avoid a \$25 late fee. Rabies vaccinations **MUST** run through November 30th. If your pet's vaccination is due before that date then you are required to get an updated rabies vaccination prior to issuance of a dog license per state law. Animals unlicensed by April 1st are subject to fines per Borough Ordinance #89-6. A \$50 fine will be levied for the first offense. Please call the Board of Health at 201-768-0167 ext. 130 with any questions.



PLEASE LEASH YOUR DOGS

The Board of Health has received complaints regarding dog owners allowing their dogs to run-at-large. Children, adults and other dogs can become fearful when an unleashed dog comes running up to them.

Borough ordinance#89-1:A states : No person owning, harboring, keeping, walking or protecting any dog, whether licensed or unlicensed, shall permit said dog to run at large or unleashed off the premises owned, leased, rented or occupied by such person within the territorial limits of the borough.

Thank you for your cooperation.

DEMAREST GARDEN CLUB

Annual Plant Sale: The Demarest Garden Club is a 501c3 not for profit organization. Our annual plant sale is the club's only public fundraiser and is organized around pre-orders placed by Sunday, April 1.

Plant pickup will be at the United Methodist Church on Friday, May 4 2pm-6pm and Saturday, May 5 9am-1pm. Please visit our website for details on the pre-order form www.DemarestGardenClub.org. Or pick up form at Demarest borough hall or Demarest public library. Please mail your form with payment before April 1st. Proceeds from the plant sale allow us to offer educational programs at our public meetings, workshops for school children and garden therapy at local nursing homes. The Demarest Garden club also maintains the Davies Arboretum and Railroad Station garden, and helps to fund many conservation projects across New Jersey through the Garden Club of New Jersey.

Please support the Demarest Garden Club in our only fundraiser of the year!

■ **Club Meetings Open to the Public**

Scheduled programs are held @2PM in the Social Hall of the Demarest United Methodist Church-109 Hardenburgh Ave. All interested Gardeners, visitors and prospective new members are welcome.

■ **Club Activities**

Members and their invited guests are welcome to join us. Trips may be cancelled due to weather or other conditions.

- **Spring Field Trips** – April 19-Laurelwood Arboretum-Wayne NJ.

SPRING PROGRAMS

- **March 2-Chili Peppers-Misunderstood** by Bill Devine CFO of Rosetta Farm Spices-presentation on the history of the chili pepper
- **April 6-Day Lilies**-program by Jane Guillard and discussion about incorporating daylilies in the garden
- **May 4-5 Annual Plant Sale pick up**

Civic Projects - Davies Arboretum and Railroad Station garden

The Garden club oversees Davies Arboretum at 49 Anderson Avenue. The arboretum project was begun in 1977 and is funded by the Demarest Garden club and community donations of money, ideas, and service. Your tax-deductible donations to the Demarest Garden Club earmarked for the arboretum and/or Railroad Station are appreciated.

■ **Membership**

Membership in the Demarest Garden Club is open to all local Gardeners, male and female, from any town. Annual dues are collected and includes membership in the Garden Club of New Jersey. To join, attend any monthly public meeting or contact Membership Chairman Elisabeth Evans elevans2@verizon.net. You can also contact us at our website www.DemarestGardenClub.org

Building Department

“Ordinary Maintenance”

by Bob Rusch, Code Enforcement Official

Ordinary Maintenance is, simply put, maintaining the investment in your home by replacing or repairing deficiencies.

The purpose of Code Enforcement Officials is to protect our townspeople and their investment in their homes.

There are many stories reported in the news that tell of ‘scams’ that take advantage of unknowing residents in and around Bergen County. From contractors who are given deposits and then don’t show up to do the work-- to shoddy workmanship when they do show up. Our job in the Building Department is to protect our citizens and make sure the work being performed is in accordance to the rules and regulations set forth by the State of New Jersey.

Ordinary Maintenance: While there have been some changes in the Code for Ordinary Maintenance, homeowners should be aware and be wise in who they hire. A registered contractor who is fully insured and has references is the safest bet.

Some work performed does not require a Building Permit by the new regulations, but to protect yourself, you can call your Building Department and speak with the staff to ensure what you have recently read is correct. Even if a permit is not required, you may wish to make the investment in a permit, which assures you that our team of inspectors is watching out for your best interests during the time of your project.

Tennis Permits

Demarest Borough Tennis permits can be purchased at the Borough Hall Monday through Friday 8am to 4pm. 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. #130.

