



Dear Friends and Neighbors,

Holiday Schedule Changes:

Borough Offices will be closed at 1 pm this coming Wednesday 11/27/24 and on Thursday 11/28 and Friday 11/29 for Thanksgiving.

Mark your calendars for the following recycling pickup changes:

There will be **no Wednesday Recycling Pickup on Christmas Day 12/25/24**, that recycling pickup is **rescheduled for Friday 12/27/24**.

There will be **no Wednesday Recycling Pickup on New Years Day 1/1/25**, that pickup is **rescheduled for Friday 1/3/25**.

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Red Flag Warning Lifted:

With continued rainfall overnight and today the New Jersey Forest Fire Service has lifted fire restrictions statewide and approved fire pits are now permitted. Thank you for your cooperation during the drought conditions.

The Forest Fire Service asks that although the ban has been lifted that New Jerseyans be careful and not become complacent when using fire.

New Jersey League of Municipalities

This past Tuesday and Wednesday, I attended the New Jersey League of Municipalities meetings along with your Council members and other Borough Officials. We **met with potential vendors and service providers to explore ways to save the Borough money. I met with other Mayors and the County Executive to discuss additional Shared Services to alleviate expenses and streamline services.** This continues to be a goal of the governing body.

Demarest Municipal Court

I am pleased to announce that **we have finalized a Shared Service Agreement with**

the Borough of Tenafly to provide court services to Demarest. I want to thank Mayor Zinna for his cooperation in reaching this agreement. I also want to thank our court professionals, Judge Calabrese, CMCA Deborah Zafonte, former violations clerk Kara, Prosecutor Schwager and Public Defender Louis DeAngelis for their service to our Court and for their patience and cooperation in assisting the Borough with respect to our transition. I especially want to commend Court Administrator Deborah Zafonte and Violations Clerk Kara for their professionalism throughout this process. We anticipate that the Shared Court to be up and running in January 2025.

Volunteers Are Reaching Out

I want to thank all of you who responded to my request for volunteers. I received all of your messages and will be reaching out to you over the coming days and weeks to see how we can work together. If you are interested in learning about volunteer opportunities, please send me an email at mayor@demarestnj.gov.

Downtown Traffic Signal

Our work with Bergen County to **upgrade the traffic signal at the Corner of Hardenburgh and County Roads has advanced to the next phase.** The project is currently out to bid, with bids due to the County December 18. This is crucial progress for this important project. I want to thank the **County Executive Jim Tedesco, the County Road Department and County Engineers for their continued assistance with this upgrade.**

Deputy Mayor for the Day

At next week's Council meeting, Monday 11/25 at 7:30 pm, we will welcome Assaf Osher as Deputy Mayor for the day. I am excited to share the dais with 9-year-old Assaf as he assists me while our newest Police Officer Luke Cataldo is sworn in, and we recognize various Borough employees and volunteers for outstanding service throughout 2024. I hope you can join us.

Happy Thanksgiving to All

I want to wish a very **Happy Thanksgiving to all of our residents, employees, professionals, volunteers and their families!**

Demarest Library

The Demarest Library will be **closed from Monday, November 25 to Wednesday, November 27 for a main level carpet installation, and Thursday, November 28 and Friday, November 29 for the Thanksgiving holiday. We will reopen on Saturday, November 30 with our usual hours of 9 am - 1 pm.**

The book drop on the Stelfox St. side will be open, but we encourage you to return any books to the surrounding BCCLS libraries. We're sorry for any inconvenience. We hope everyone has a safe and fun Thanksgiving holiday!

Have a great weekend and I hope you have the opportunity to enjoy the Thanksgiving holiday with family and friends!

Mayor Brian Bernstein

*My Friday emails to the residents are now reaching **1,069 people!** My goal is for every Demarest resident to be up to date on what is going on around town, please help with that goal by forwarding this email to your friends so they can visit **demarestnj.gov** and sign up for my weekly emails! The link can be found about halfway down the homepage.*

Borough of Demarest | 118 Serpentine Rd. | Demarest, NJ 07627 US

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