



Dear Friends and Neighbors,

Residents Need to Know

The Borough is aware of an uptick in burglaries and car thefts throughout the County, including Demarest. **We are actively working with our Police Department to initiate expanded patrols to increase visual presence and deterrence.** In addition, we have already approved, as a part of our 2024 Capital Budget, the **acquisition of two Automated License Plate Readers (ALPRs)**, which are high speed computer-controlled camera systems that automatically capture all license plates that come into view of the ALPR along with location, date and time and photographs and videos of the vehicle and sometimes its driver and passenger. These ALPRs will assist law enforcement in both detecting vehicles that may have been involved in a crime, as well as searching for missing individuals. **Our Police Department, from the highest rank to the newest officers, are working tirelessly and professionally to protect all of our residents and proactively create solutions to the Countywide situation.** I have a meeting scheduled with **County Executive James Tedesco** next week to discuss shared services and will take the opportunity to discuss whether there are ways we can partner with County resources to assist our Police Department regarding enhanced security.

I want to commend our Police Department for their professional and timely response to a recent burglary and for working with me to take proactive steps to enhance our security. In response to the 911 call, **Officers Anavim and Nolasco** were on scene within 3 minutes of being dispatched. Additionally, I want to extend my thanks, on behalf of the governing body and residents of the Borough, **to Detectives Del Greco and Hampton**, for their extraordinary detective work from inception of the investigation through their recovery of the stolen vehicle within 36 hours of the theft. While locating this vehicle, our detectives discovered additional stolen property having a value in excess of \$350K, which in turn assisted the New York City and State police in closing other open cases. Additionally, **I also want to thank Chief Visaggio and Captain Talty for working with the Governing Body and PBA in spearheading a proposal that will increase patrols, with the goal of reducing future incidents.**

Now, what you can do to help. We all must actively assist in protecting ourselves and our homes and reduce the opportunities for criminals. We can do that by **making certain that all vehicles are locked, keeping vehicles garaged when possible, keeping key fobs secure, activating burglar alarms and securing and locking all doors, especially sliding glass doors, which can be more vulnerable to forced entry.**

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My thanks to members of the **Demarest Nature Center** for their removal of a large, downed tree limb that was blocking water flow in the duck pond.

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Mobile DMV APPOINTMENTS NOW AVAILABLE!

On November 18th, the NJ DMV, at the Borough's request, is scheduled to have the Mobile DMV truck at the train station. **The link is now live to make appointments! Don't miss the chance to skip the trip to the DMV, [click here to make an appointment!](#)** (The link will show which services are available)

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October is **Breast Cancer Awareness Month**; you can show your support by donning pink ribbons and making sure you and your loved ones schedule cancers screenings. Early detection saves lives!

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The Middle East-

News broke yesterday that Yahya Sinwar, the architect of the October 7, 2023 terrorist attack and kidnappings, was killed by Israeli forces. My hope is that this creates an opportunity to secure the release of the hostages, end the war in Gaza, reach a peaceful resolution that ensures peace, security and a better future for Israelis, Palestinians and the region.

Halloween

Recreation's annual **Halloween event will be on 10/26 at 3pm at the gazebo** The parade is set to begin at 4 pm sharp!

The Recreation Commission is also collecting candy donations to supplement supplies for the residents that get the bulk of the trick or treaters on the East Side of town. If you would like to donate, all bags of **candy are appreciated and there is a drop box in the lobby of Borough Hall.**

Demarest Library

The Friends of the Demarest Library will be having a **Book Donation Drop off one day only this Saturday, October 19 from 9 am - 1 pm.** Drop off will be upstairs in the Community Room of the library. Books in gently used condition will be accepted, but no textbooks please!

ESL Conversation Group has returned to the library on Wednesdays from 1 - 2:30 pm. Improve your English-speaking skills through conversation practice. All levels are welcome!

Have a great weekend,

Mayor Brian Bernstein

*My Friday emails to the residents are now reaching **1,048 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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