



Dear Friends and Neighbors,

I am saddened to announce that our friend and neighbor Barbara E. Johnson passed away peacefully last week, surrounded by her family and loved ones. Barbara cared for and supported friends, her family, patients, children with special needs and veterans. She was a compassionate advocate and friend to many. I came to know Barbara over the years and was impressed by her intellect, involvement in Demarest, compassion and advocacy. On behalf of the Mayor and Council, I express our condolences and sympathies to Barbara's husband, children, grandchildren and family.

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I wish someone would remind Mother Nature that **Spring** is officially here! She teased us last weekend, but as I write this email it is only 33 degrees with a feels like temperature of 27 degrees! Hopefully, after what looks to be another rainy weekend, Mother Nature will send the sun and warmth back our way next week! On the serious side, the National Weather Service has issued a flood watch for 19 counties in New Jersey, including Bergen County, that will go into effect today through Sunday morning. Please be careful, drive cautiously and anticipate some street flooding, as well as flooding along streams and creeks and other low-lying and flood-prone locations.

The Demarest Garden Club's **Annual Plant Sale** is on now! Please click [here](#) for details and an order form to support the garden club.

Orange and Rockland Utilities will be working in Demarest next month to ensure that our electric distribution lines are properly maintained. Since interference from tree limbs is the single most frequent cause of power outages, periodic tree maintenance along overhead electric distribution wires is critically important in reducing potential power outages. O & R will cut back trees that are touching lines or which have the potential to interfere with the wires. At the same time, they may remove dead trees and underbrush. This work is done in four-year cycles. **Beginning on or about April 8, 2024, and continuing for approximately four (4) weeks, O & R will begin tree trimming and removal work along Madison Avenue, Columbus Road, Woodland Road, Knickerbocker Road, Donnybrook Drive, Chestnut Street, Prospect Street, and associated side streets.** Nelson Tree Service has been contracted for this purpose. Residents should be contacted by O & R or Nelson Tree Service via letter to be apprised of the program trimming.

The Community Chest of Bergen County is holding its Spring Gala fundraiser on April 11, 2024 at the Edgewood Country Club, click [here](#) for more information and to purchase tickets.

The Recreation Commission is sponsoring Men's basketball this spring. Click [here](#) for more information or to join the fun!

Upcoming Events:

In celebration of Arbor Day on **Saturday, April 20, 2024**, the Shade Tree Commission will be

giving out saplings from 10:00-4:00 in front of the railroad station. Stop by and get ready for spring planting!

Reminder, on **Saturday April 27, 2024** from 10am-2pm, the Demarest Police Department will be taking part in the Drug Enforcement Agency's National Take Back Initiative.

The police department will serve as a collection site for citizens to rid their homes of unused, unwanted, or expired medications by disposing of them in a safe and anonymous manner. They will also accept Vape pens or other e-cigarette devices.

Keeping medications away from children and those that may abuse will only serve to keep our community safer.

News from the Demarest Public Library:

*Stop by the library to vote in our 2nd annual family peep contest! Vote for Peep-les Choice Award from Monday **March 25 to Wednesday March 27.***

The library has two donation drive collection bins. Help those in need by dropping off non-perishable food items for Mega Food Drive and dental hygiene products for CC4U.

Have a great weekend and be safe!

Mayor Brian Bernstein

*My Friday emails to the residents are now reaching **871 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 on the Demarest homepage [demarestnj.gov] under "Quick Links."*

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