



Dear Friends and Neighbors:

Wishing you a **Good Passover!** Today is Day 4 of Passover, but it is also Day 203 for the innocent Israeli hostages held captive in Gaza. This year's Passover "celebration" of freedom is diminished because of the 129 Israelis still being held hostage in Gaza by Hamas. It feels like a direct parallel to ancient Egypt and the Passover Exodus. My continued hope and prayers for their safe release and for peace in the Middle East. Bring them home!

On Sunday, April 21, I attended the Congressional Art Challenge held by Congressman Josh Gottheimer and hosted by Ramapo College. Bravo to all of the artists! Their works were creative, beautiful, powerful and thought provoking. I met with Caitlin Yoon, a freshman at NVD, who submitted her painting entitled, "Pyromancy." Scroll to the end of this message to see her art! **Good luck Caitlin** in the competition.

A lockdown was triggered at NVD on Wednesday. Our Police Department, along with several neighboring agencies responded immediately and were able to determine quickly that there was no threat. My thanks to our Police Department for their immediate response and to the Police Departments of neighboring towns for their prompt response. Your preparedness and execution at a time of a perceived threat is a testament to your work ethic and professionalism. Thank you!

This past Wednesday was also Administrative Professionals Day, which gives me the opportunity to give a big thank you to the entire staff at Borough Hall who keep things running smoothly and serve our residents.

As the spring lawn care season comes into full swing, a reminder that the Borough Noise Ordinance prohibits the use of power tools before 9 am or after 4 pm on Saturday and Sunday and before 8 am or after 5 pm during the week. Let's work together to respect our neighbors' peace and quiet. The full noise ordinance can be viewed [here](#).

Support **Project Graduation** and see the Harlem Wizards @ Northern Valley Demarest on **Sunday, April 28 at 2:00 pm**. Tickets available [here](#).

This **Saturday from 10 am- 3 pm** the Demarest Nature Center is hosting Canoe Day at the duck pond. Visit their [website](#) for all the details!

From the Library:

The library is closed for construction. Check for updates [here](#).

Join "Wildman" Steve Brill on May 4th at 1pm for a foraging hike through the Demarest Nature Center. This walk will meet at the Demarest Nature Center Entrance at Wakelee Drive. More information [here](#).

Have a great weekend!

Mayor Brian Bernstein



*My Friday emails to the residents are now reaching **885 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.*

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