



Dear Friends & Neighbors,

I am reaching out today, Thursday 5/23 instead of Friday this week in hopes that tomorrow everyone will be busy getting ready to enjoy Memorial Day Weekend! I know I am looking forward to tomorrow especially as my wife and I are the proud parents of a bride this weekend! Our daughter Ali is marrying fellow Demarest resident Matt Hoberman tomorrow and we are absolutely thrilled for them!

Congratulations to all who participated this past weekend in the Demarest 5K. It was a beautiful day, please scroll down for pictures of the winners. Congratulations to our Councilmembers who participated in the run, Jonathan Reiss, Dan Marks, and Adam Collins who finished first in his age group! Thank you to the members of the Demarest Fire Department and Police Department who participated in the event. It was wonderful to see so many people out having fun and supporting the Demarest PTO.

By now you should have received a letter from Appraisal Systems, Inc (ASI), the company conducting our County mandated Borough wide assessment. Since I know that having someone come to inspect your home can be anxiety inducing, I wanted to share some additional information directly from our tax assessor here:

When a property is unable to have an interior inspection, the State requires that the property be assessed at its highest most reasonable potential. The logic here is that the vast majority of property owners will comply with the inspections. When someone does not comply the State wants to be sure that they aren't shifting a portion of their tax burden onto other property owners in town by having an assessment that under represents their property.

If entry is refused, typical estimates would include modern kitchens and baths, finished basements and attics when applicable, usually the bath count is over stated, and the overall interior would be considered updated.

I think most everyone would agree that having an inspector in your house is an annoyance. This is why ASI inspects the interiors as swiftly as possible and offers appointments at all different times. They try to make it as easy as possible for the homeowners. Please feel free to reach out with any specific questions, taxassessor@demarestnj.gov.

-Jason Laliker Tax Assessor

We have been advised by PSE&G that some residents will be receiving letters if they have failed to schedule a required gas meter upgrade. The first letter will advise of an upcoming gas service termination. If no response is received, a second and final notice will be sent. Please make sure if you receive the letter you contact PSE&G immediately to avoid a shut off.

Traffic Alert!

As previously advised, Bergen County is scheduled to **pave Knickerbocker Road from in front of NVD to the Dumont/Cresskill border on June 3, 4, & 5**. Please plan on avoiding the area

and heed signage and directions from the Police Department. If you have a student at the high school, please watch for separate communications from the school for drop off and pick up instructions. Also, follow the Demarest Police Department on Instagram @demarestpolice for any schedule updates.

Upcoming Events:

On Memorial Day, **Monday May 27, the Borough will host its Annual Memorial Day Parade** beginning at 11:30 am. The parade route starts at the Demarest Library on Hardenburgh Avenue and continues east on Hardenburgh Avenue to Piermont Road, north on Piermont Road to Northwood Avenue, east on Northwood Avenue to High Street, south on High Street to Hardenburgh Avenue, west on Hardenburgh Avenue to the monument at the Duck Pond. We will have a small ceremony and some refreshments courtesy of Dunkin Donuts at the conclusion of the ceremony. The Fire Department will conduct its annual presentation of wreaths at the Fire Department Memorial Monument located on the north side of the duck pond immediately following the Borough Ceremony. **I look forward to seeing you at the parade!**

Schedule Updates:

Borough offices will be closed this Monday in honor of Memorial Day.

Please note that online tax payments are currently unavailable while a software update is completed. Expected date of completion Tuesday, May 28, 2024. Taxes can still be paid in person in the finance office in Borough Hall. If the office is closed, please use the mailbox in front of Borough Hall.

Remember, beginning tomorrow, May 24 through the summer, Borough offices will begin a **modified summer schedule**. Staff will shorten lunch times, which will increase their availability Monday-Thursday and all offices will close at 12:30 pm on Fridays through Labor Day. Limited senior staff will be available select Friday afternoons, as needed by the Borough.

Demarest Swim Club:

Demarest Swim Club begins its tradition of weekend operation starting this Saturday! Weekend hours, including Memorial Day are 12 noon to 7pm. Full-time operation begins June 24.

On Thursday 5/30, the pool will be registering children ages 5-17 for swim and dive team from 5-7pm at the club. Information about membership and the competitive teams can be found at demarestswimclub.org.

This week at the library:

*Michiko Tomioka, registered dietitian, is returning to the library for a Demarest Nutrition Series Thursday nights June 6th, 13th, & 20th at 6:15pm. The first class will be offered **June 10th at 1pm**. Learn the basics of nutrition, the benefits of plant-based meals, mindful eating, along with small food samplings. Register for the Thursday night series [here](#).*

Visit demarestlibrary.org for a calendar of upcoming events.

The library is closed Sunday, May 26th and Monday, May 27th in honor of Memorial Day.

Have a great long weekend and enjoy the start of the summer!

Mayor Brian Bernstein

*My Friday emails to the residents are now reaching **909 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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