



Dear Friends & Neighbors,

My Friday email is being sent today because of the Fourth of July holiday. **Happy Independence Day to all! I hope you enjoy a fun and safe 4th!**

A tradition since 1976, the **Macy's July 4th multi-sensory pyrotechnic fireworks salute to the nation** will be launched from the Hudson River side of Manhattan on Thursday, July 4th, beginning approximately at 9:25 PM. Since it launches from the Hudson River this year, there will be BIGGER shells and never-before-seen effects. Hopefully, you have the opportunity to find a location to view the spectacular show!

**Borough offices will be closed Thursday 7/4 and Friday 7/5.**

**There will be garbage pick-up on 7/4**, but it will likely be early due to the holiday, so please put your garbage out the night before or very early in the morning to ensure pickup.

**Neal Richards**, a longtime Demarest resident and lifetime member of the Demarest Volunteer Ambulance Corps passed away last week. Our gratitude to Neal for his volunteer service to our residents and I offer my condolences to his family and friends.

At our last Mayor and Council meeting, we approved a new **School Resource Officer ("SRO") Agreement** with NVD to keep a Demarest Police Officer at NVD through the 2026-2027 school year. This has been a successful program and partnership between the Demarest Police and NVD for years and we are pleased to continue working with the school to keep our kids safe. **SRO Don Cho will be returning to NVD!**

I had the **Borough reconnect the sprinkler system at the Gazebo and Memorial Park at the Duck Pond**, which had been abandoned after 2016, so that needed water can be provided to the grass, new trees and plantings to keep our park beautiful.

**Congratulations to Hezly Rivera**, a two-time 2023 Junior World silver medalist and 2024 Winter Cup balance beam champion, who is only 16 years old and is currently **the youngest member of all sports in the Team USA delegation headed to the 2024 Olympic Games in Paris**. Hezly was raised right next door in Oradell before moving to Plano Texas to chase her Olympic dream. I am confident she will represent New Jersey well and join me in rooting for our hometown athlete and the entire Team USA delegation. **GO USA!!!**

**Upcoming Events:**

The **next concert** in the Demarest Recreation Summer Concert series, sponsored by the Demarest Library is scheduled for **July 10 at 7:30 pm featuring Florian Schantz Jazz Combo**.

Join the Demarest Nature Center for their monthly **Community Trail Walk, Saturday, July 6 at 10:00 AM**. Meet at the Nature Center entrance adjacent to the Imagination Playground on Wakelee Drive. Don't know the difference between an oak and a maple? Join them to learn how

to identify a variety of common trees found in the Nature Center. This educational hike is geared towards adults and kids of all ages.

**This week at the library:**

**The library will be closed on Thursday, July 4th for Independence Day , but will be open on Friday and Saturday.** The Library will be closed on **Sundays** (summer schedule) until the first Sunday after Labor Day. Enjoy the holiday!

Have a great holiday weekend!

Mayor Brian Bernstein

*My Friday emails to the residents are now reaching **925 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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