



Dear Friends & Neighbors:

Reminder: First Quarter 2025 taxes are due February 1, 2025, with an adopted 10 Day Grace period. The last day to pay property taxes without accruing interest is Monday February 10, 2025. Please note, late payment will accrue interest from February 1st!

On behalf of the governing body I want to congratulate **Andrea Johe**, our Deputy Tax Collector on passing the state exam for certification as a Municipal Chief Financial Officer. The two part exam is notoriously difficult and it is difficult to pass one section on the first attempt, but it is rare to pass both sections on the first attempt. Andrea passed both sections on her first attempt. Andrea has been a great asset to our finance office and this additional training will only help support the functioning of the office. **Congratulations Andrea, we are very proud of you and Bravo!**

The 2025 Assessment letters were mailed on Monday January 13, so you should have received them by now. If you would like to schedule a meeting with ASI to discuss the assessment, please reach out to them directly at 201-493-8530.

Park Street Salon

A cherished business has moved on to their next chapter. The **Park Street Salon** closed its doors in Demarest after 35 years. **Marlene** and most of her crew moved to **Jan's Barber Shop at 6 Union Avenue in Cresskill**, while she builds her new salon. Marlene thanks her customers for their loyalty and friendship. Thanks Marlene for providing a warm and comfortable setting where everyone knows your name for all of those years. We wish you luck in your new endeavor. Good Luck and see you at Jan's!

In Memoriam

It is with deep sadness the I inform you of the death of **Steve Rogers**, husband of Robin Rogers and father of Jason, Alec (Shani) and Jamie. Steve is a former resident of Demarest, was a past president of Temple Emanu-el and Chief Executive of the Kaplan JCC on the Palisades, a beloved husband and father, a volunteer, lawyer, executive and salt of the earth. Rest in Peace, Steve. My condolences to Robin and her family.

Demarest and Haworth Fire Departments

On January 10 th, the Demarest and Haworth Fire Departments held their **First Annual Joint Dinner**. The dinner was a resounding success and celebrated the extraordinary dedication and bravery of the two Departments. **Demarest and Haworth have created a successful dual dispatch system – a success story of teamwork and collaboration**. Both Departments respond to calls to maximize our resources, expertise and the speed with which lives and property can be saved. It is a model of coordination and a testament to the professionalism and cooperation that defines both the Demarest and Haworth First Departments. On behalf of the Governing Body, thanks to **Chiefs John McLoughlin (Demarest) and Troy Hilcken (Haworth)** and the firefighters of both Departments.

I want to take this opportunity to extend our prayers and thoughts to the victims of the California wildfires and acknowledge the bravery and courage of the firefighters battling

these historic fires.

Muslim Heritage Month

January is Muslim Heritage month. It's a time to honor and recognize the rich cultural and societal contributions Muslims have made to our community and society. We are a diverse community and the Muslim celebration should be made a part of the American cultural fabric as other cultures that are honored throughout the year.

Happy Lunar New Year

We greatly acknowledge the invaluable contributions our Asian community has made to our culture, life and society with innovations, hard work, excellence and creativity. To our Asian community and their families celebrating **the Lunar New Year (the Year of the Snake), January 29, 2025** this year, we say, thank you and wish you a Happy Lunar New Year!

Borough offices will be closed Monday January 20 in recognition of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

News from the Demarest Library

The Muslim Heritage Month Celebration is tomorrow, Saturday January 18 from 10 am - 12 pm at the library. Please stop by for Middle Eastern food from Al-Basha restaurant, Oud music performance, mosaic craft, BINGO game, and more! All are welcome for this family friendly event. Come learn more about the culture. Registration encouraged: [here](#), but you are welcome to drop in and join!

The Demarest Library will be closed on Monday, January 20 in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Returns can be placed in the book drop on the Stelfox St. side of the library.

The Friends of the Demarest Library will be having a Book Donation Drop off on Saturday, January 25 from 9 am - 1 pm at the Demarest Library. Drop off will be upstairs in the Community Room of the library. Accepted items include: gently used books, textbooks, old/antique books, DVDs, CDs, video games, & costume jewelry.

To celebrate Black History Month, the library is having an African Drum Circle at the United Methodist Church on Saturday, February 1 from 12 - 1 pm. All are welcome to come and participate, or to just come and watch & listen! Please register [here](#).

Have a great weekend!

Mayor Brian K. Bernstein

*My Friday emails to the residents are now reaching **1,092 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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