



Dear Friends & Neighbors:

Joint Planning Board Update:

In late 2024, the council considered the **consolidation of our Planning Board and Zoning Board into one consolidated Land Use Board**. The consideration of an Ordinance to create a Joint Board was **referred to the Ordinance Committee for its review and recommendation**. The Ordinance Committee reviewed, among other things, the Demarest Code, all agendas and minutes of both Boards over the past 48 months, and obtained input from the Borough Attorney, Borough Engineer, Borough Planner, some of the members [past and current] of both Boards and land use personnel from other Bergen County municipalities that have a Joint Planning Board.

The Ordinance Committee completed its thorough review and has recommended consolidation of the Boards into a Joint Planning Board. I want to thank the Committee for its review and recommendation. I believe the Joint Planning Board will better serve our residents and ensure that the Borough is encouraging only responsible development. Now, that the investigation is completed and the recommendation for consolidation has been received, **the proposed ordinance to accomplish the consolidation and the report received from the Committee will be discussed at the Mayor & Council meeting, on Monday, February 24 at 7:30 pm.** The ordinance will then be placed on the Monday, March 10 meeting agenda for introduction.

I also want to thank all of our professionals and our current and former board members that provided input to assist the Committee in making their recommendation.

Ramadan Celebration Event:

The Ramadan Crescent Lighting Event will be held on **02-26-2025 at 6:00 PM, at United Methodist Church at Demarest**. This annual event marks the beginning of Ramadan, bringing together the neighboring community to celebrate the month with unity and joy. For details **click here**.

Mark your calendars!

The **Mobile DMV Unit** is visiting Demarest once again! They are scheduled to be parked in the train station parking lot from **9 am – 3 pm on Friday, May 9**. Appointments are not available until 30 days before the event and I will share the link for appointments in my Friday email, and it will be available at our website.

NVD Project Graduation 2025 Fundraisers:

Thursday February 27 Comedy Night. Lite bites and lots of laughter. Bring yourself plus 1 or create a table of 10 for a night to remember! Purchase [tickets here](#).

Purchase bed sheets and **support both LA families impacted by the fires and Project Graduation**. For \$45 per set, Project Graduation will drop ship new sheets to be distributed to families in need. Send \$45 via Zelle to nvdprojgrad@gmail.com or drop off a check at the high school made payable to Project Graduation and put sheets in the memo line.

On **Sunday, March 16, 2025 at 2:00 pm** the Harlem Wizards will be playing in the South Gym at NVD.

Support your NVD Seniors, Class of 2025 by purchasing [tickets here](#).

Any questions, please email nvdprojgrad@gmail.com

Demarest High School Musical:

Please support our NVD students in their production of ***Anastasia The Musical!***

Anastasia. Shows are **Friday, 2/28 at 7:00 pm, Saturday, 3/1 at 2:00 pm** (*an abridged children's version*) and **7:00 pm, and Sunday, 3/2 at 2:00 pm**.

Tickets can be purchased at nvdbooktix.com A Final Dress Rehearsal, **open to senior citizens only**, on **Thursday 2/27 at 6:00 pm**. For information contact marconid@nvnet.org

Demarest Swim Club:

Demarest Swim Club wants to remind you that **early bird registration for summer 2025 runs through April 1, after which rates will increase**. This year the swim club is offering weekend-only full-season memberships in addition to its regular line up of full or partial memberships. As always, there is a discounted rate for senior citizens aged 65+. A discount is also being offered to members of local ambulance corps, fire and police departments, military, current teachers and borough employees with proof of service or employment. Go to DemarestSwimClub.org for more information and the application or email DemarestSwimClub@gmail.com. Our phone service is on pause until April, but you can request a return phone call via email. **The swim club is scheduled to open on Saturday, May 24 of Memorial Day Weekend!** Sign up now for the early bird discount rates!

Town's Annual Shredding Event:

Please mark your calendar for this year's **free shredding event**, to be held near our DPW Building on **Saturday, 4/19 from 9 am-1 pm (rain or shine)**. Please check my emails and the Town website for more details as we get closer to the event.

Demarest Library:

The library is holding a Journaling **for Self-Care Workshop on Thursday, March 6, from 6 - 7:30 pm**. This workshop will be led by Anjali Mani, a LSW with 20 years of experience, a former Demarest resident, and the founder of The Journal Seeker. This class is open to adults and teens! Reserve your spot [here](#).

Join us for our movie matinee screening of *The Fall Guy* (2024) on Monday, February 24 at 12:30 pm in the newly renovated Community Room at the library. Free popcorn!

There are still a few spots open for our **Japanese Tea Ceremony happening next week on Thursday, February 27 from 6 - 7 pm**. Register [here](#).

Have a great weekend!

Mayor Brian K. Bernstein

*My Friday emails to the residents are now reaching **1,104 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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