



Dear Friends & Neighbors:

Demarest Day is here! I hope to see you all at Duck Pond tomorrow 9/20 for our annual community celebration with food, rides for the kids, a beer garden for the grown-ups, Music with Marly, a TaeKwonDo Demonstration by Tiger Kim's Dojo, Simon Says Competition and more! The event is from 1-6 pm followed by the 4 Flight Rock Concert at the gazebo from 6-8 pm. The weather forecast for tomorrow is great so come with the kids and enjoy the Day!!

The Sautjes Tave's Begraven Cemetery

The Demarest Shade Tree Commission has started the needed landscape refresh of the Old Burial Ground to honor those laid to rest there and to improve the look and health of the site. The previous trees were severely damaged and barren for various reasons including damage from deer. The Commission selected Skip Laurels – a broadleaf evergreen known for its classic, formal appearance and year-round coverage – as a more elegant hedge. Skip Laurels are currently considered deer resistant. I met with neighbors on the block and have recommended to Shade Tree that a second row of Skip Laurels be planted between, but three feet behind, each skip laurel in the first row. Of course, consideration will need to be given to headstone locations. This second row should create a fuller hedge. If this is done, more than 100 trees will have been planted. The plantings should establish a sturdy root system, maintain safe sight lines, promote healthy phased growth, ensure longevity (as best as we can) and allow the hedge to fill in naturally over the next seasons. I have also asked the Borough to contact Veolia to discuss creating a water source to water the trees to promote the growth of the plantings and improve sustainability.

Welcome to Demarest Dr. Cirillo!

I want to welcome **Dr. Joseph Cirillo** to our town and wish him luck as he begins his tenure as the **Superintendent of Demarest Schools**. I met with Dr. Cirillo this week to tour the new gymnasium and was impressed by his professionalism, vision and warm and friendly manner. Dr. Cirillo brings more than 23 years of experience in education, including 12 years as Superintendent of the Palisades Park School District. He has also served for over 15 years as an Adjunct Professor at Saint Peter's University. His areas of expertise span educational leadership, curriculum development, communication, finance, personnel management and training, and educational technology. In addition, he currently serves as President of the Bergen County Association of School Administrators (BCASA), where he advocates for and supports district-level leaders throughout the county.

Reflecting on his new role, Dr. Cirillo shared :

"It is a privilege to join the Demarest community - a district known for its commitment to academic excellence, innovation, and nurturing the whole child. I look forward to building strong relationships with students, staff, families and community members as we work together to ensure every child thrives academically, socially, and emotionally. Together, we will honor Demarest's proud traditions while inspiring new opportunities for growth and success."

I look forward to collaborating with Dr. Cirillo to ensure our community and our schools are working together to serve our community.

Support our Students!

NVD Girls Basketball will be hosting a car wash fundraiser this Sunday, 9/21, from 11am to 1pm in the front driveway of NVD High School on Knickerbocker Rd. Please stop by to have your vehicle washed by the Norsewomen for only \$10! The team will be accepting cash or Venmo @NVDGB

The Art School at Old Church

Pease join us at the **opening of Salon 561, from 6-8 PM on September 25th!** The exhibition in Mikhail Zakin Gallery will feature artworks by 47 faculty members who work in a wide range of mediums and styles. Pottery crafted by adult students will also be on display in **Crafting for Soda Firing** . Refreshments and light snacks will be served.

The Community Chest of Bergen County to Collect Donations at Demarest Day 2025!!

Volunteers from the **Community Chest of Bergen County** will be on hand tomorrow at Demarest Day. As part of this beloved community tradition, The Community Chest will be hosting a donation tent to collect essential food and household supplies for neighbors in need throughout Bergen County. See list below. The Community Chest has served, and continues to serve, their longstanding mission to support local nonprofits, strengthen the community and offer residents a meaningful way to give back. **Thank you Community Chest!**

Chest!

Requested donation items include:

Cleaning supplies: multipurpose spray, disinfectant wipes, toilet cleaner, laundry detergent and small tool kits

Paper goods: toilet paper, paper towels

Personal care items: diapers, adult diapers

Please stop by the Community Chest table tomorrow and learn more about how they serve our community.

To learn more about The Community Chest of Bergen County or to find additional ways to get involved, please visit:

<http://thecommunitychestbc.org>

A note from the Clerk's office:

Please be advised that **Tuesday, October 14, 2025** is the deadline for all **new voter registrations** for the **General Election, November 4, 2025** . Applications are available at Borough Hall, at the County Clerk's office or you can register online at [this link](#) . The Borough Clerk's office will be open 10/14 until 9 pm. Not sure if you are already registered? Click [here](#) to check or call the Borough Clerk's office.

The Autumnal Equinox is approaching!

Hope everyone enjoyed their summer, as Fall begins this Monday, September 22, 2025 at 2:19 PM. Please check my Fall emails and the Borough website regarding this season's leaf collection.

Have a great weekend!

Mayor Brian K. Bernstein

*My Friday emails to the residents are now reaching **1,161 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.*

Borough of Demarest | 118 Serpentine Rd. | Demarest, NJ 07627 US

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