



Dear Friends & Neighbors,

Thank you to everyone who joined us for our 2026 Reorganization meeting last week. I also want to thank everyone who accepted appointments to our boards and commissions, whether you were being reappointed to continue working with us or if you accepted a new appointment. The community relies on the time and dedication of all of our volunteers that help make Demarest the town we all love. A special congratulations to **Frank Visaggio** who was sworn in as our new Police Chief. Frank has served as Deputy Chief of Police since 2024 and most recently has been heading the department as Acting Chief. He earned this position with years of dedication and service to our residents. Congratulations also to **Brian Talty** who was sworn in to begin his tenure as our Deputy Police Chief. Brian is a pillar of strength and leadership for our Department. Together, Frank and Brian are a great team, and I am confident the Police Department is in great hands under their strong leadership!

The Art School at Old Church

The public is cordially invited to celebrate the opening of three exciting art shows on **January 15 from 6 - 8 pm**. The *Blue Dove* exhibit will highlight 26 contemporary women artists working in a variety of media. Jewelry artists will exhibit their work in *Glass, Metal, and More*. Children will share seasonal pictures in *Winter Whispers*. Join us for refreshments and lively conversations!

Board of Health

The Demarest Board of Health will again host a free **Wellness for Adults Program** in **2026**. Please click [here](#) or reach out to Lee Campbell lcampbell@demarestnj.gov for dates and program information! **The first class is 1/14 and there is still time to register!**

Please remember to update your pet license for 2026. All dogs and cats must be licensed by March 1, 2026. All applications received after 3/1/26 must include a late fee! Applications are available [here](#) and at Borough Hall and were included with the Annual Newsletter. The Borough will also have a **free Rabies Clinic on February 7, 2026, from 10am-11:30am** if your dog or cat needs an updated vaccine, don't miss out!

Traffic Light Installation Complete!

The traffic light installation at Hardenburgh and County/Piermont has been completed by the County. There is now a left turn arrow from Hardenburgh heading North onto County Road and a left turn signal from County Road heading west onto Hardenburgh. The County also adjusted the timing of the lights, which will vastly improve traffic flow. My thanks to **County Executive Jim Tedesco, Nancy Dargis, Randy Seitz and Tom Connolly**. Your assistance in making this much needed improvement a reality, for safety and traffic reasons, is greatly appreciated by me and all residents of Demarest – **THANK YOU!**

Demarest Library

Join our first ever Chess Challenge at the Demarest Library on **Saturday, January 17th!** For beginner to intermediate level players! This challenge is all about learning, practicing, and having fun in a friendly, competitive environment! Ages: 6-14 years old Spots Limited: 20 players max Time: 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM latest Format: 2 games per player Unrated: No official ratings—just fun and practice! Registration required. [Register here!](#) Run by our TAB volunteers from Chess Club.

Have a great weekend!

Mayor Brian K. Bernstein

*My Friday emails to the residents are now reaching **1,204 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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