

DECEMBER 2023

ONE SQUARE MILE

Official Newsletter of The Village of Bronxville

Welcome to One Square Mile

THE LATEST NEWS FROM VILLAGE HALL

To My Fellow Residents,

We had a very eventful month in Village government. Bronxville had the honor of hosting our municipal colleagues in the Westchester Municipal Officials Association in November. The association represents all 45 cities, towns and villages within the county and plays an important role in shaping policy that impacts our local communities.

The association is also a great venue for an exchange of ideas with colleagues, and as a result, the Village maintains a long-standing and collaborative relationship with all our neighboring fellow mayors and supervisors in the City of Yonkers, City of Mount Vernon, the Town of Eastchester and the Village of Tuckahoe. Recognizing the value of this cooperation, I continue to serve on the Executive Board of the Mayors' Association, having previously served as its president.

On the heels of a very successful food drive, the Junior League hosted its first annual Stocking Stroll, which was a huge success. Guests purchased a stocking with all proceeds going directly to charity, including the ECAP, Book Nook, Mobile Food Pantry and Bundles of Joy.

The Junior League took to heart the need to shop locally and these wonderful stockings were filled with exclusive discounts from 40+ Chamber of Commerce vendors.

We thank the Chamber for its incredible partnership as we continue to promote the "think local shop local" mindset.

Following the Junior League's lead, the Chamber of Commerce hosted a joyous tree lighting ceremony, which was preceded by a packed movie theater for our youngsters who got to watch a holiday show while wearing their pajamas with a special visit from Santa.

The afternoon was pure joy and the community spirit was palpable. Being ever mindful of those not as fortunate, the Chamber of Commerce requested our pajama wearing moviegoers bring a pair for those in need and the generosity was overwhelming.

As we enjoy our family and friends, I ask you to populate our streets and enjoy all that the Village has to offer at this time of year.

Warmest wishes for a special holiday season,

Mary Marvin



This issue:

MAYOR'S COLUMNS CLICK <u>HERE</u> TO READ

AROUND TOWN PAGE 02

NEWS FROM THE TRUSTEES

PAGE 03

INSIDE VILLAGE HALL PAGE 04

FROM CHIEF SATRIALE'S DESK PAGE 05





ONE SQUARE MILE: NEWS FROM VILLAGE HALL



AROUND TOWN

EVENTS IN AND AROUND BRONXVILLE

BRONXVILLE'S HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS

December 7th-14th - Holiday Window Decorating Contest. Merchants are open late Dec 14th for Holiday Sip and Shop, Holiday Window Contest Winner Announced



CHANUKAH DEC 7 - DEC 15

December 7th - Menorah lighting at 6pm Leonard Morange Square (Parkway Rd & Palmer Ave) Hot Latkes, Donuts, Dreidels, Chocolate Gelt will be served

TOWN OF EASTCHESTER TREE LIGHTING DEC 8TH

On Friday, December 8th the Town of Eastchester will hold their annual tree lighting in honor of slain Police Officer Michael Frey who was killed in 1996. The blue lights are a symbol for all our police officers who lost their lives in the line of duty. The Bronxville Police Department and Eastchester Fire Department are running toy drives. Please flyer for more details





EASTCHESTER FIREFIGHTERS LOCAL 916 ARE RUNNING THEIR ANNUAL TOYS FOR TOTS DRIVE AT THE BRONXVILLE FIREHOUSE LOCATED ON MIDLAND AVE. TOYS CAN BE DROPPED OFF DAY AND NIGHT IN THE DROP BOX OUTSIDE THE FIREHOUSE UNTIL CHRISTMAS DAY. MOST DEPRIVED CHILDREN ARE BETWEEN THE AGES OF 5 TO 8 YEARS AND YOUNG TEENS. PLEASE HELP SUPPORT THIS GREAT CAUSE.





The Village's Norway Spruce located in front of M&T Bank at Depot Square was lit Sunday, Dec 3rd.

Additional holiday activities sponsored by the Bronxville Chamber of Commerce can be found by <u>clicking here:</u>



Above: A large crowd gathered outside the Picture House on Kraft Avenue for a short parade to the tree lighting following a sellout attendance for the showing of How The Grinch Stole Christmas. The parade was led by the Bronxville PD and Eastchester Fire Department.

> Right: The Junior League's 1st annual Stocking Stroll was a huge success! It began November 30th and continued through December 1st. Guests bought stockings filled with exclusive discounts to over 40+ Chamber of Commerce merchants. All proceeds will benefit charities including Book Nook, Mobile Food Pantry, Joyful Closet and Bundles of Joy.





ONE SQUARE MILE: NEWS FROM VILLAGE HALL



NEWS FROM THE TRUSTEES

The Village Board's November 13th work session included a discussion on sidewalk maintenance and the code changes that were made a few years ago to clarify the responsibility of abutting homeowners. The Board also briefly discussed the Town of Greenburgh tree ordinance which was circulated by the County as a possible model tree preservation law. The Village Attorney agreed to review the ordinance in conjunction with other local ordinances that the Village was considering when drafting a local law. The Board also discussed some follow-up issues to their November work session on the outdoor dining program. The Board agreed to authorize the continuation of the existing on-street dining establishments through April 15th while new design standards are being finalized provided that establishments pay the appropriate fee and comply with the other Building Department requirements. The Village Board agreed to finalize the 2024 program in the coming weeks and meet with merchants.

The regular meeting included the public hearing and adoption of modifications to the Wood End Sanitary Sewer connection requirements. The modifications will eliminate the need for a holding tank when an appropriate permanent generator is on site.

The Board approved the following resolutions:

- Adoption of the Climate Action Plan (CAP). You can view the entire Plan here.
- The submittal and acceptance of \$125,000 in State funding toward the Library's outdoor reading garden. The Board also awarded the construction of the project to the low bidder Tony Casale Inc. in the amount of \$646,0000.
- Use of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) monies to close out the Midland/Pondfield traffic signal upgrades.
- Designation of Village Election polling sites for March 19, 2024. Click here to find your polling place.
- Small Claim Assessment Review petitions for nine residential properties for the 2023 assessment year.

The Village Board also approved funding for the following projects:

- HVAC modifications to the Police Department's IT Room.
- Installation of LED lighting in the Police Department.
- Funding for a new police car and also coin sorter for meter collections.

The December 11th agenda will include a summary of the Village's 2022-23 financial statements by our Auditor at PKF O'Connor Davies. Financial highlights include an increase in the Village's general fund unassigned fund balance by \$702,626.

The agenda will also include the following resolutions:

- Board of Trustees Meeting Calendar for 2024
- Authorization for the issuance of debt service to fund drainage improvements for the Hamilton-Sussex and Elm Rock-Masterton neighborhoods.
- Authorization for the purchase of a portable enclosed flood pump and the use of remaining ARPA monies and unassigned fund balance to fund the purchase.
- Authorization for an expanded survey area and funding for the Crawford Drainage Basin improvements currently being designed with the Town of Eastchester.
- Authorization of the purchase of a pick-up truck for the DPW as highlighted in the 2023-24 capital plan.



2024 Board of Trustees meeting calendar will be as follows:

Monday, January 8, 2024 Monday, February 12, 2024 Monday, March 11, 2024 Monday, April 8, 2024 Monday, May 13, 2024 Monday, June 10, 2024 Monday July 8, 2024 Monday, September 9, 2024 Tuesday, October 15, 2024 Tuesday, November 12, 2024 Monday, December 9, 2024







INSIDE VILLAGE HALL

GREEN COMMITTEE

ADOPTED! Climate Action Plan for Municipal Operations

At its November public meeting, the Trustees adopted a Climate Action Plan (CAP) for Municipal Operations. The plan outlines action steps for the Trustees to consider that will reduce greenhouse gas emissions that come from government operations and contribute to climate change. It addresses four sectors: transportation, buildings, natural resources, and waste.

This is an important and exciting step in the Village's ongoing work to reduce emissions and promote sustainability. A full copy of the plan can be found <u>HERE</u>.

Reduce Holiday Food Waste

Remind yourself to practice better food purchasing and storage habits and, if you haven't already, join Bronxville's Food Scrap Recycling Program. It's a turnkey residential program that makes it easy to recycle ALL food waste. It's not backyard composting, but instead just another recycling stream in your home. See our <u>website</u> for more tips and to sign up for food scrap recycling.



PARKING

Free holiday parking days:

Free Parking in the Kraft, Garden and Parkway Road Lots and Kensington Garage on Saturday, December 16th and on Saturday, December 23rd after 12 Noon.

LIBRARY

December Calendar of Events

VILLAGE HALL HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Monday, December 25th – Village Offices Closed Monday, January 1st – Village Offices Closed

PUBLIC WORKS

Use of gas powered leaf blowers prohibited from December 15th to March 15th.

The <u>2024 Refuse & Recycling Calendar</u> is in and on our website! A limited number of hardcopies are available in Village Hall.

The Village has also partnered with Sustainable Westchester and other communities to offer the <u>Recollect App</u> which you can download and use to view collection schedules, add collection schedules to your calendar or create appointments. Use the <u>Recyclopedia</u> to determine what is and is not recyclable.

WITH WINTER UPON US PLEASE REMEMBER TO MAINTAIN YOUR SIDEWALKS

Central Business District

• Every property owner, tenant or occupant is required to keep the sidewalk adjoining the property clear of snow and ice between 9:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M. of each day

Residential Areas

- All snow shall be cleared within 12 hours of the cessation of the snow falling
- Ice, if not easily removable, shall be covered with sand or salt, so as to be safe for pedestrians

ALSO REMIND YOUR CONTRACTORS TO NOT PLOW SNOW INTO THE STREET

STORMWATER UPDATE

Learn about upcoming stormwater projects by visiting the <u>Trustees Page</u> on the Village website. Several important stormwater initiatives are planned for construction beginning in early 2024 and these include improvements to stormwater conveyance systems in the Hamilton-Sussex and Elm Rock-Masterton neighborhoods.

TREASURER

Second half payments for the 2023-24 Village/School Property Tax bill are due by January 2, 2024 without penalty.

ONLINE TAX PAYMENTS: <u>Click the online tax button</u> on the Treasurer's Page.





FROM CHIEF SATRIALE'S DESK

It's "porch pirate" season. Here are some tips to protect your holiday deliveries:

- Nondescript Packaging: When possible, request that the item be sent in nondescript packaging. Ask senders to not announce where the package is coming from, especially if it's from a high-end store.
- Customize Delivery Times: Customize delivery times, so you receive them when you're home. Amazon has an option to set a delivery day.
- Ask A Neighbor: Have a neighbor watch for and collect your package.
- Deliver At a Friend's Home: Have your package delivered to a friend or relative.
- Deliver At Work: Have your package delivered to your workplace.
- Ship to Store: If the retailer has the option, ship the package to the store.
- Pick Up From Delivery Service: Pick up the package in-person from the delivery service. UPS, FedEx, and USPS have a number of storefronts where packages can be picked up from.
- Request Signature Confirmation: Request that your package has signature confirmation upon delivery.
- Security Cameras: Install a security camera near your front door so that you can catch potential thieves red-handed.
- VISIT A MERCHANT AND SHOP LOCAL



SIGN UP HERE



Left: Members of the community came out in force this fall for the annual fall cleanup up day at the Nature Preserve. This wonderful piece of open space is home to many trees, shrubs and flowering plants and is maintained largely by volunteers. To learn more about the Nature Preserve please <u>click here:</u>

Right: The 4th annual Thanksgiving Sides Food Drive sponsored by the Junior league was a huge success. Thank you Bronxville for once again making the holiday special for those unable to provide a Thanksgiving meal on their own!





Above: A limited number of these signed prints created by Bill Dowling are available for sale at Village Hall. Please see Dulce in the main office for further details.

