



FEBRUARY 2024

# ONE SQUARE MILE

Official Newsletter of The Village of Bronxville

**Welcome to One Square Mile**  
**THE LATEST NEWS FROM VILLAGE HALL**

Last Thursday, I attended a sold out benefit at our movie theater that featured the award-winning documentary “Zen Brownie”, telling the story behind Yonker’s Greyston Bakery attended, by none other than Ben & Jerry’s of ice cream fame as Greyston brownies are the main ingredient in their fudge brownie ice cream.

As I left, I realized what a gem we have in our theater and how, perhaps, including myself, we take it for granted.

We all came together to support its rescue by the Pelham Picture House but without our continued support, it cannot be self-sustaining.

We have had a theater in the Village since 1926 and we continue to embrace the very endangered, independent art house with program offerings for every age group, with shared community diversity in conversation through film, educational programs, movies and unique cultural offerings.

We have the perfect partnership in the Pelham Picture House as a fellow small town preservation organization. We must emulate our neighbors in Pelham and continue supporting and re-joining the theater or through donations, as we do all other treasured charities in the Village.

Theater membership offers two locations at five screens and first run movies 364 days a year all while perpetuating a thriving cultural opportunity as your membership also enables free programming to underserved audiences.

Not only are the cultural benefits so strong, having a movie theater in our community is an incredibly attractive synergistic business as folks who come to the theater often walk around pre or post show; do a little shopping, peer in windows, only to return to purchase; buy coffee and ice cream or meet for meals and drinks.

The theater truly serves as an anchor and a beacon and is fast approaching its one hundredth birthday, but with that joyous celebration comes constantly needed updating, including the HVAC system, refurbishment of carpet and painting and just making the venue more attractive and more accessible.

Added to the equation, the movie business is a tough one controlled by movie studios. As example for Barbie - one of the most successful movies of all time - the theater had to give back 65% of the gross directly to the studio and this is a typical percentage for most movies and not a one off for a hit show.

To help out and continue to have our theater a mainstay, an icon, a unique institution that helps to define our very special Village, please consider joining the theater programs again at any level or just making a donation to say you value having a theater in Bronxville.

To do so, you can access [www.thepicturehouse.org](http://www.thepicturehouse.org) to look up all membership opportunities or donate at [info@thepicturehouse.org](mailto:info@thepicturehouse.org), call 914-738-7337 or send a check directly to the theater at 84 Kraft Avenue.

Our goal is to be able to have the next generation of residents, new visitors and our children able to say, “See you at the movies!”

Respectfully,  
 Mary Marvin

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# AROUND TOWN

## FEBRUARY EVENTS IN AND AROUND BRONXVILLE

### The Picture House Bronxville Film Club

2024 Season has begun.  
Movie time is 1:00PM  
"Sundays at The Cinema"

Winter Film Club Dates:  
February 11th , February 18th, February 25th and March 3rd. Click below to reserve a space. Located 84 Kraft Ave., Bronxville, NY. Please consider becoming a member of TPH for fantastic savings on movie tickets, refreshments & more....

### Bronxville Adult School Winter Registration Now Open

[Click Here](#) for details

### Concerts At The Church of St. Joseph

Sunday, Feb. 11th @ 2:30PM  
Free And Open To All  
15 Cedar St. Bronxville, NY  
Come and enjoy some beautiful music.

### Gramatan Village

"February Open House"  
Stop by their office for tea, coffee and cookies and learn about their services, activities and social groups.

Thurs. Feb 22nd. 11:00-12:00PM  
85 Pondfield Road. Bronxville

Call 914-337-1338 for more info or email:  
[info@gramatanvillage.org](mailto:info@gramatanvillage.org)

[Click Here For Website](#)

**FILM CLUB**  
AT THE PICTURE HOUSE

NEW SEASON OF TPH FILM CLUB BRONXVILLE  
**SUNDAYS AT THE CINEMA**  
STARTS JAN. 28TH

The Picture House is thrilled to announce the return of Bronxville Film Club for a Winter 2024 Season!

Get ready for an exhilarating new program on Sundays in Bronxville with some cool surprises along the way. Our new season of film club, called **Sundays at the Cinema** will begin on January 28th, 2024 at 1:00PM. The six-film remake series is inspired by the January release of the new musical version of MEAN GIRLS, which will be playing at The Picture House Bronxville.

We're excited to return and welcome **Joe Neumaier**, an air film critic for New York's 710AM-WOR, who has been an entertainment journalist, movie critic, onstage moderator and radio/TV commentator for over 30 years.

**Winter Film Club Bronxville dates:**  
January 28th , February 4th February 11th , February 18th, February 25th and March 3rd.

**THE PICTURE HOUSE REGIONAL FILM CENTER**  
914.738.3161

@the\_picturehouse @ThePictureHouseNY @TPHRFC

THE PICTURE HOUSE PELHAM  
175 Worth Lane, Pelham, NY 10522

THE PICTURE HOUSE BRONXVILLE  
84 Kraft Ave, Bronxville, NY 10708

THE PICTURE HOUSE OFFICES  
175 Worth Lane, Pelham, NY 10522

**GRAMATAN VILLAGE**  
VIBRANT LIVING AT HOME, YOUR OWN WAY

**February Open House**

**Thursday, February 22**  
**11:00am – 12:00pm**

**Gramatan Village**  
85 Pondfield Road – 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Bronxville

Stop by our office for tea, coffee, and cookies. Learn about our services, activities, and social groups.

**Come and Meet New Friends!**

For information call Gramatan Village at 914-337-1338 or email: [info@gramatanvillage.org](mailto:info@gramatanvillage.org)

Gramatan Village is a 5010 (c) non-profit organization that supports adults 55+ who want to live confidently and independently at home.

COMMUNITY FUND







## NEWS FROM THE TRUSTEES

The Board's January 8th meeting began with Village Justices, William Primps and Natasha Nordahl presenting their annual State of the Judiciary report. In addition to handling disputed parking violations, moving violations and all criminal misdemeanors the Justices are seeing an increase in the number of landlord-tenant matters involving past due rents in part, due to the expiration of the moratorium over restricted rents. In this past year the Justices have also presided over several felony and extradition matters as well as issued temporary restraining orders, often in off-hour settings in the early morning or evening. Justice Nordahl also presided over the Village's first jury trial in over 30 years!

The Justices also summarized two important policy issues that are currently being discussed in Albany which if implemented, will have significant impacts on local courts:

- A proposal to abolish Village and Town Courts throughout the State and substitute them with more centralized district courts.
- The creation a Centralized Arraignment Part (CAP) to address the issue of after-hours arraignments when no prosecutor is available.

These policy issues and the full report and recommendations of the New York State Bar Association – Task Force on Modernization of Criminal Practice – which was issued in June 2024 can be viewed here: [nysba.org](https://nysba.org).

The Village Board appointed the Village Administrator as the Budget Officer for the 2024-2025 fiscal year which indicates the start of the budget preparation process. The Budget timetable is highlighted below:

- February 01, 2024: Assessor files tentative Assessment Roll
- March 20, 2024: Administrator files tentative budget and circulates to the Village Board
- April 01, 2024: Assessor files final Assessment Roll
- April 08, 2024: Public Hearing is held on the budget
- May 01, 2024: Last date by which budget must be adopted
- June 01, 2024: Taxes levied on the 2024-25 tax roll

The Village Board will also hold at least one work session on the budget during this period.

The County of Westchester, Town of Eastchester and the Eastchester Fire Department all have fiscal years that commence January 1. Their respective budgets for the 2023 fiscal/calendar year can be accessed here:

- [Town of Eastchester](#)
- [County of Westchester](#)
- [Eastchester Fire Department](#)

The Board further authorized the Village Treasurer and Village Administrator to assign \$1 million of unassigned fund balance for future capital projects. The action follows the December review of the 2022-2023 financial statements and discussions with the Village's Auditors regarding the Village's healthy fund balance. The Board will consider the assignment of additional fund balance as financial projections on the current budget become clearer this year.

The Village Board also authorized two 2023 Small Claim settlements and approved a resolution authorizing the Village Administrator to execute both an amendment to the existing parking easement agreement with Villa BXV to simplify the reimbursement for the use of parking spaces as well as a stormwater maintenance agreement.

The Board's February 12th meeting will begin with a work session at 5:30pm with our Assessor Mark Heinbockel. The regular meeting will begin at 7pm and include a presentation by Sustainable Westchester on Westchester Power (Community Choice Aggregation, CCA), a community-based bulk energy purchasing program designed to control costs and increase the use of renewable energy in Westchester County. The Board will also consider scheduling a future public hearing for sanitary sewer legislation aimed at requiring the certification of the condition of private sanitary sewer laterals prior to property transfer. The legislation will complement the Village's ongoing efforts to reduce inflow and infiltration (I&I) into our sanitary sewer system.





# INSIDE VILLAGE HALL

## VILLAGE ELECTION NEWS

2024 Village Elections will be held on Tuesday, March 19. The seats to be filled are two Trustees (each for a two year term) and one Justice (for a four year term). Additional information about the Village election can be found by visiting our [website](#). [Click here for an Absentee Ballot](#) [Click here to Apply for an Early Mail Ballot](#)

## GREEN COMMITTEE

Looking forward to a GREEN 2024!

As we look ahead to 2024, we are also taking a moment to reflect on our busy 2023 and the important accomplishments that will help lead us to an even greener new year!

The Bronxville Green Committee advises the Village Trustees on issues of environmental health and sustainability and helps to propose and implement sustainable programs in our community. Highlights from 2023 include acquiring our first NYS grant, developing a climate action plan for municipal operations, maintaining NYS Climate Smart Communities Bronze status, expanding a community native plant garden, overseeing a successful Giving Garden season as well as the residential food scrap recycling program and two community TAKE BACK DAYS. See our [website](#) for more information and join us in our efforts this new year!

In Westchester County, idling motor vehicles within the County is prohibited for more than three consecutive minutes when the vehicle is not in motion. This applies to drivers who own, operate, lease, supervise, or who otherwise have charge, supervision, or control of a non-emergency motor vehicle. Below is helpful information from the [Department of Environmental Conservation](#) for why you should not idle:

**Health Effects of Idling** - Keeping the engine of a parked car running increases the exhaust levels around the vehicle and increases people's exposure to harmful pollutants if they are nearby. Vehicle exhaust contains pollutants that mainly affect the heart and lungs but can also affect other organs. Health problems that may result from exposure to pollutants in exhaust range from small changes in health that are hard to detect to fatal heart attacks, as well as a range of respiratory effects and lung cancer. Everyone near an idling vehicle is at risk, but young children and people with existing heart or lung disease are more vulnerable to the effects of exhaust.

**Environmental Effects of Idling** - Exhaust from idling vehicles also damages the environment around us. Carbon dioxide exhaust is a greenhouse gas that contributes to [climate change](#). Nitrogen and sulfur oxides from exhaust contribute to [acid rain](#) and [ozone formation](#). To avoid negative impacts on our environment, Shut it off!

## RECREATION NEWS

The winter has been busy at our paddle courts. The Village has hosted several paddle league matches over the past few months along with regular play by our residents and guests. The paddle courts will remain open through the spring and we remind everyone to please purchase a permit in order to play.

In a few short months, Spring will be upon us and we look forward to the start of our Spring Tennis and Pickleball seasons! Matt Evans, Director of Racquets, is excited to introduce new youth offerings this year. Along with a whole host of adult and junior tennis programs - Coach Matt will be offering a USA Pickleball Youth Program for ages 8-18 that will focus on a “learn through playing“ approach to pickleball.

Pickleball is one of the fastest growing sports in the country and is finding its way onto more and more high school and college campuses. High schools are beginning to play competitive pickleball and close to 100 college campuses have official USA pickleball clubs. There’s a reason so many people are playing this sport. It’s just so much fun! Coach Matt is a certified PTR and PPR coach who has coached tennis at the collegiate level and has taught tennis and pickleball at clubs including Yonkers Tennis Center, Birchwood Swim & Tennis, Grand Central Tennis and Cross Court Pickleball.

For more information regarding tennis and pickleball programs at the Bronxville Village Courts - please contact Matt Evans at [mevans@vobny.com](mailto:mevans@vobny.com) or visit Village Hall.







## FROM CHIEF SATRIALE'S DESK

The Bronxville Police Department continues to investigate motor vehicle thefts from residential driveways within the Village. The increase in stolen vehicles is a county-wide issue with many of the vehicle being recovered in New Jersey and Connecticut. Many of these thefts are being committed by young adults. Also, many of these young adults are leading police departments on dangerous high-speed chases in the stolen cars jeopardizing passengers within the vehicle, the officers pursuing them and the general public. A recent method of stealing vehicles involves key fob cloning. We recommend the following to reduce the risk of having your vehicle stolen with a cloned key fob:

- Residents should always store their key fob in a metal container, or a metal wire bag often called a Faraday cage that prevents the key fob from communicating with a cloning device. A key fob sitting on a table or hanging in a mud room, near a door or window can easily be hacked.
- Don't leave the key fob next to the door at home if your car is nearby. Put the key fob as far away from your vehicle as often as you can. There's always communication between the key and the car itself. Distance between the car and key fob helps prevent cloning.
- Lock and alarm your vehicle at all times – do not warm up your vehicle with the key fob inside and do not leave any valuable items within plain sight.
- DO NOT LEAVE KEYS, KEY FOBS, or VALUABLES in your car. KEEP YOUR CAR LOCKED AT ALL TIMES.

As always please call the Police Department immediately if you observe persons or activity that seems suspicious.

STAY UP TO DATE WITH THE LATEST VILLAGE NEWS, EMERGENCY ALERTS, AND INFO FROM SPECIFIC VILLAGE HALL DEPARTMENTS.

SIGN UP [HERE](#)

The Library Board of Trustees is excited to announce that construction is underway on the new outdoor reading patio. The \$700,000 project will include new patios with seating for small and large group gatherings and library programming, beautiful landscaping to create an outdoor haven, improved entrance and pathway access and enhanced lighting and drainage. The project is being funded through a fundraising campaign spearheaded by the Friends of the Bronxville Public Library (FOBPL), generous donations from the community, the Village and a grant from Assemblyperson Amy Paulin.

For patron safety during construction, the rear entrance along Library Lane will be closed. Patrons should use the Pondfield Road entrance and front book drops. Parking remains available on Library Lane. Construction is expected to be completed by mid- May 2024. For additional information go to: [Library Reading Garden](#)



Pictured to the right: Bronxville Rotary Club President Louis Maggiotto with Mayor Marvin and Denise Chin, Director of ECAP at ECAP's 36th annual Martin Luther King Breakfast which was held at the Reformed Church on January 15th.

The Rotary donated \$3,000 toward the event. All proceeds went toward Westchester Community Opportunity Program (Westcorp).

