

ONE SQUARE MILE

Official Newsletter of The Village of Bronxville

Welcome to One Square Mile

THE LATEST NEWS FROM VILLAGE HALL

Spring is just around the corner and, after our very cold and icy winter, I think it will be appreciated more than ever.

I have been reading about other communities across the nation welcoming this spring by planting a tree with their family on their property both in recognition of the sickness and sadness of the past two years and equally as a sign of hope and growth for the future. I thought this was an absolutely terrific idea and I think it would be a wonderful commemoration for villagers to think about as we close out two years in our lives like no others.

Also in the very near future, on Tuesday, March 15, you will have an opportunity to vote for Village Trustees and one of our Village Justices. This year, in a spirit of unity and stewardship, the parties have coalesced around the three very capable individuals currently holding the offices: Trustee Helen Knapp, Trustee Mary Taylor Behrens and Justice William Pimps. As colleagues of mine, I know of the countless hours they have devoted to the betterment of the village and it would be a very appreciated gesture to come out and support their continued efforts on the Village's behalf.

Also very much on the horizon is the annual Eastchester Irish American Parade taking place this year at 3 PM on Sunday, March 13, starting at Immaculate Conception Church on Route 22 and ending at Lake Isle Country Club. Our own native son, Tim McGrath, a lifelong Bronxville resident, third-generation business owner and consummate volunteer, will be the Grand Marshal this year. Tim defines the volunteer spirit of this Village as he has taken leading roles at the Community Fund, Saint Joseph's Church, the Chamber of Commerce, the Bereavement Center and in a myriad of sports leagues. Please come out and show your support for Tim!

Spring also signals the start of the Trustees' work on the annual operating budget which must be adopted by May 1st. It will be under discussion at our work sessions and public meetings this spring and we welcome your comments. We operate by the guiding principle to keep Village services at the highest possible level while being ever mindful of the large tax burden all of you bear to make Bronxville home. In tandem, we are also working on our capital budget as we continue to try to repair and upgrade what is now approaching a 125-year-old infrastructure.

Again in the spirit of the season, I invite you to look at the section of our newsletter entitled "Inside Village Hall", the spring recreational offerings. Not only will we have a myriad of tennis opportunities for lessons and play, but by popular demand we will also be starting organize pickleball in the Village.

In closing, I would like to thank NewYork-Presbyterian Lawrence Hospital President Michael Fosina, who recently retired after his incredible seven years of service and partnership to the Village. The relationship between Village government, the hospital and the police department was seamless thanks to the incredible outreach and efforts of Michael. The Village lost a real treasure upon Michael's departure.

With admiration and gratitude,
Mary Marvin

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MAYOR'S COLUMNS

[CLICK HERE TO READ](#)

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AROUND TOWN

EVENTS IN AND AROUND BRONXVILLE

BRONXVILLE PICTURE HOUSE OPENS

On Friday, February 11th the Mayor and Board of Trustees were proud to attend the grand opening of the Picture House of Bronxville! Announced back in December, the former Bow Tie Cinema is now being operated by the Picture House Regional Film Center of Pelham, NY and will include film and educational programs in our historic movie theater! Several Trustees were on hand to watch the first movies under the new operation of the Picture House.

To learn more about the great work of this independent, non-profit film center please [click here](#).



From left to right - Ginger Austi, resident; Joanne Jones, resident, Mary Taylor Behrens, Village Trustee, Laura DeBuys, Picture House Executive Director; Jennifer Thomas, resident and Picture House Board Member, Leslie Meyers, resident



Mayor Marvin pictured above with Picture House Executive Director, Laura DeBuys, Trustee Knapp, Trustee Fredericks, Assemblymember Amy Paulin, Chamber of Commerce President, Leah Caro, and other dignitaries at the ribbon cutting ceremony at the Bronxville Picture House

EASTCHESTER IRISH-AMERICAN SOCIAL CLUB - ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE

The 2022 Eastchester St. Patrick's Day Parade is on Sunday, March 13, 2022 at 3pm.

The parade starts at 3pm from the Immaculate Conception School and proceeds north on Main Street, Eastchester.

At the White Plains Road intersection, it continues north on White Plains Road to Lake Isle Country Club.

[Please click here for details.](#)

EASTCHESTER'S 16TH ANNUAL ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE

GRAND MARSHAL

TIM MCGRATH

PRESENTED BY

 EASTCHESTER Irish-American Social Club

1 EASTCHESTER ST. PATRICK'S PARADE
 2 STPATRICK10709
 3 EASTCHESTERIRISH.ORG
 4 EASTCHESTERIRISH

SUNDAY, MARCH 13 AT 3PM
 UP RTE 22 - ICS to Main St. to Lake Isle
 2022 GREEN LINE SPONSOR: FITNESS & RECOVERY
 MACK LEE SULLIVAN, MD
 BAGPIPERS - IRISH DANCERS - MARCHING BANDS - SCOUTS - SPORTS TEAMS & MORE

VILLAGE ELECTION DAY

Village Election Day is Tuesday, March 15, 2022. Positions to be filled include Village Trustees (2) for two year terms and Village Justice (1) for four year term.

Polling places will be open from 6:00am to 9:00pm.

Polling places are as follows:

- Village Hall - Districts 16 & 17 - 200 Pondfield Rd
- Fire House - Districts 18, 19 & 21 - Corner of Midland Ave and Palumbo Place (parking available in new lot along Palumbo Place)
- Christ Church - District 20 & 22 - 18 Kensington Road

Click [here](#) for more details about voting in the Village Election.

Click [here](#) to obtain an ABSENTEE BALLOT from the Westchester County Board of Elections.

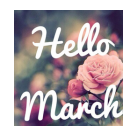
Click [here](#) to view a sample BALLOT.

Please note the last day to request an Absentee Ballot by mail is March 8, and to request one in person is March 14.

Village Elections

VOTE

Tuesday March 15





NEWS FROM THE TRUSTEES

The Village Board convened its February 7th meeting via Zoom. The meeting included a discussion of, and the scheduling of a public hearing on, proposed changes to the Village’s Solar Energy Systems Law. The new law would replace the 2010 provisions within the Village’s Zoning Code and among other things allow for the following:

- Relaxation of certain restrictions of the current Code on roof-mounted solar panels;
- Provide for a streamlined Design Review oriented Site Plan Review process for solar installations in residential zoning districts;
- Provide for updated definitions to conform to current State-recommended model law definitions; and
- Provide that the Planning Board adopt a list of application submission requirements for solar installations which would be akin to the requirements for a land development Site Plan approval.

The draft local law follows the review of solar installations for other comparable communities in the region and discussions with Sustainable Westchester. It recognizes that there is no “one size fits all” set of fixed regulations that will work for the unique configurations and topography of all the various different residential properties in the Village. The Design Review Committee, by following a set of specific design guidelines in their review of the applicant’s submission materials, would be able to provide a report to the Planning Board which the Planning Board could then use to either affirm or modify the recommendations of the Design Review Committee. These changes would replace the current outdated provisions (such as 900 s.f. or 33% coverage limits for roof mounted systems).

The in-person public hearing for the draft law is scheduled for Monday, March 14th in the Trustees Room at Village Hall. The draft law can be viewed [here](#) and comments may also be submitted [via email](#) to the Village Administrator.

The Village Board also authorized upgrades and the funding for improvements to the traffic lights at Kraft and Midland Avenues. Funding received from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) monies in conjunction with unassigned fund balance will be used to complete \$57,000 worth of improvements, which includes replacing the outdated and frayed underground conduits at the intersection allowing for new cabling to the pedestrian signals, so that the pedestrian "walk" lights would only be activated when a button pushed. New LED signals will replace incandescent fixtures and improve signal visibility, use less energy and reduce long-term maintenance costs . These changes will dramatically improve traffic flow at the intersection.

The Village Board also authorized the purchase of three police cars (also with the use of ARPA funds) consistent with our fleet replacement and maintenance schedule. The schedule also now takes into account the longer than usual lead times for purchases due to the ongoing global supply issues. As is customary, vehicles no longer in use will be sold on our vendor’s online auction house so that proceeds can help offset new purchase costs. The Board also discussed an electric vehicle fleet policy to ensure that the Village evaluates energy efficient and “green” alternatives when considering future vehicle purchases.

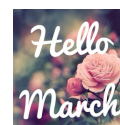
The Board authorized the Village Treasurer to conduct the annual tax lien sale for all unpaid 2021-22 property taxes on Thursday, March 10th at Village Hall. Property owners with any outstanding taxes have been notified and are encouraged to contact the Treasurer at 337-6500 or by [email](#). As a reminder, tax payment and penalty schedules are provided on the [Village website](#), on the back of tax bills and through email notices sent throughout the year.

The next Village Board meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 14th. In addition to the public hearing for the proposed revisions to the solar law, the Village Board will consider scheduling a public hearing for the Property Tax Cap override legislation as well as scheduling the public hearing on the 2022-23 Village Budget. The scheduling and consideration of the Property Tax Cap override is an important part of the budget process timing, because by law any override must be done 10 days prior to the adoption of the budget – which must be done by no later than May 1st. A brief summary of this important State legislation is highlighted below:

Property Tax Cap:

- Limits local governments ability to increase tax levy (total amount of funds needed to be collected to provide municipal services) by 2% or the rate of inflation – whichever is lower;
- Local government boards must pass override legislation with a 60% vote to over-ride cap (school districts can override with 60% vote from voters);
- This year’s allowable growth factor is 2% despite the inflation factor being 4.23% (as calculated by the NYS Department of Labor for local governments with a fiscal year commencing June 1);
- For a history of allowable growth factors [click here](#).

As a continuation of our review of how your tax dollars are spent, next month we will provide a breakdown of the services you receive by the County of Westchester. You can view the 2022 County Operating Budget [here](#).





INSIDE VILLAGE HALL

DEPT. OF PUBLIC WORKS

The winter has brought several ice and snow events. The DPW has worked tirelessly to keep our roads clear and that includes even removing all the snow from the downtown following a storm. This work is done during the overnight hours to minimize any impact to our merchants.



Residents and merchants are reminded that they are responsible for clearing the snow and ice along the sidewalk in front of their residence or place of business.

Use of Gas Powered Leaf Blowers: The use of gas powered leaf blowers can resume on March 15th and continue through May 15th. Residents are reminded to advise their landscapers that the Village requires that all landscapers have a permit before performing any work. Permits need to also be fully visible and can be purchased by contacting sshallo@vobny.com. Permit applications can be found online by [clicking here](#).

Yard Waste: Yard waste collection has resumed and requirements are listed below. Please visit the [Village website](#) for the full sanitation calendar or pick up a hard copy in Village Hall.

Healthy Yard Tips for Spring from the Green Committee

As we all strive to make our yards look beautiful this Spring, it's important that we also restore their important ecological functions – maintaining and restoring plant, bird, and insect diversity; and building and sustaining microorganisms and nutrients in the soil. By making a few changes to our landscaping practices, we can help restore ecological health to our beautiful, shared environment. This Spring consider landscaping with native plants and eliminating pesticides. Village Hall is proud to lead the way by not applying pesticides on lawns and planting natives at the new DPW.

We don't have to be perfect, just do better by making small changes whenever possible. If you use a landscaper, talk to them about these changes before they start your Spring applications. Many landscapers offer organic solutions and can source native plants – we just need to request it!

Visit the [Green Committee website](#) to learn why it's important and how to get started!



Food Waste: Reminder that the Village implemented the food waste recycling program over the winter. Kits continue to be available for purchase from Village Hall. [Click here](#)

SPRING RECREATION PROGRAMS

Our tennis courts will open early this year starting Monday, March 14th. Any residents who held a valid permit for our 2021 season are invited to play on Courts 4 & 5. The courts will be open from 9:00am until dusk, weather permitting. Guests are invited to join but are required to pay the guest-fee. Our full tennis season will begin April 15th and permits can be purchased at Village Hall.

The Village is excited to announce that our Director of Racquets, Matt Evans, will be offering tennis clinics again this year to youth and adults commencing this month. Also new this year, Matt will offer pickleball clinics this season for anyone interested in learning! Applications will be made available soon and can be found on our website at <https://www.villageofbronxville.com/recreation>. You may also reach out to Matt directly with any questions regarding these clinics at MEvans@vobny.com.

Given the considerable interest in pickleball, the Village is examining the best ways to incorporate pickleball courts within our existing facilities and we look forward to sharing news of this soon.

Finally, our Paddle Hut will reopen on Monday, March 7th for all paddle permit holders to use on colder days!

PARKING NEWS

Reminder: 24/7 Reserved parking permits expired on February 28 and permit holders should have received an email from the Village with directions on how to utilize the new parking permit portal to renew online including uploading the necessary documents. If you did not receive an email or are having difficulty with the new portal please reach out to Margaret Parr at mparr@vobny.com or by calling her at 914-623-5379.

Residents: The Village continues to offer the new Flexible Commuter Buyout Permit for those commuters that no longer need to utilize the lot every day. Applications for flexible permits and/or full commuter buyouts can be found online by [clicking here](#).

Merchants: The Village offers a variety of permit options in designated locations for our shopkeepers, including a heavily discounted permit for “east side merchants” who are willing to walk from the Village’s west side. Please reach out to Margaret for additional details on your parking options. We don’t want our merchants getting parking tickets!

PUBLIC LIBRARY

Free Covid Test Kits
The Library has a limited supply of free at home covid test kits for the public. Stop by the Circulation Desk to pick one up, while supplies last.

[Life Sketches Writing Workshop \(Zoom\)](#)
Join us for this six week writing workshop March 8th-April 12th at 1:30pm on Zoom with Instructor Kim Kovach. Registration deadline is March 6th.

[Sweet & Savory Sides of Chocolate \(Zoom\)](#)
March 7th at 3:00 PM: Learn about both sides of this cherished ingredient as we explore techniques, flavor combinations, and recipes for dinner, dessert and more.

Alzheimer's Association Free Educational Webinars on Zoom
March 22nd at 10:00 AM: [Know the 10 Signs of Alzheimer's](#)
March 29th at 10:00 AM: [Understanding Alzheimer's and Dementia](#)





FROM CHIEF SATRIALE'S DESK

Residential alarm permits expired on 12/31/2021. If you have not renewed your alarm permit for 2022 the quickest method of renewing is [on-line](#). Follow the link below to renew your alarm permit – you will need your alarm permit number in order to renew your permit.

If you do not recall your permit number call the police desk at 914-337-0500 to inquire. If you moved into your home within the past year or if your emergency contacts information has changed, please complete a new alarm permit application (link below).



[Alarm permit renewal](#)

[Alarm permit general information](#)

[Alarm permit application](#)

COVID UPDATE

COVID cases and rates of transmission are down. The overall positivity rate for the month of February was 0.8%, down from 6.1% in January.

Effective Wednesday, March 2nd. New York State no longer requires students to wear masks in schools. Masks are still required at:

- o State-regulated healthcare settings
- o State-regulated adult care facilities and nursing homes
- o Correctional facilities
- o Homeless shelters
- o Domestic violence shelters
- o Buses & bus stations, trains & train stations, subways & subway stations, planes & airports (these all fall under a federal order)

Village Hall still encourages the use of masks. Masks continue to be required for access to our Court Room and related facilities since the NYS Office of Court Administration is still requiring the use of masks in all local and state courts.

- On Friday February 25th, the CDC introduced new metrics concerning COVID to help communities make decisions based on local context. These metrics give a “Community Level” rating by County of Low, Medium, or High. Westchester County is currently rated LOW. The COVID-19 Community Level is determined by the higher of the new admissions and inpatient beds metrics, based on the current level of new cases per 100,000 population in the past 7 days.
 - o [Currently for Westchester:](#)
 - o 89.72 Cases per 100,000
 - o 5.8 Hospital Admissions per 100,000
 - o 4.1% Inpatient Bed Utilization
 - o More information on these new metrics is available by [clicking here](#).
- Free COVID-19 testing is available at the Westchester County Center in White Plains for symptomatic persons. Appointments are encouraged, but walk ins are welcome. The hours of operation are:
 - o Monday & Tuesday: 8am - 4pm
 - o Wednesday: 8am - 12pm
 - o Thursday: 8am - 2pm
 - o Friday: 8am - 12pm
 - o [Sign up for a test here](#)
- Free COVID-19 vaccines are available at the Westchester County Center in White Plains for ages 5 and up.

Residents can sign up for a vaccine by [clicking here](#).

- Westchester County held a COVID Commemoration Ceremony to remember those who lost their lives to COVID-19 and honor those who led the public health response to the pandemic. The ceremony can be viewed on the [County's Facebook page](#).

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

SIGN UP [HERE](#)

