

# “Walkability,” “Pedestrian-Friendly Streets” Discussed at Bronxville Board Meeting

BY STEPHEN E. LIPKEN

Bronxville Mayor Mary C. Marvin called to order the Monday, December 12th Board of Trustees meeting, noting that due to injuries, the Village is currently down three policemen “and three gentlemen in the DPW, which has affected some of our Special Patrols and speed with which we pick up leaves. Tonight, we are announcing the hiring of two Police Officers and we still have to canvass for a third. We are waiting for medical reports on our DPW personnel.

“We continue our program of lining sanitary sewers, spending a lot of money on our water infrastructure. We have been reviewing the concept of a Tree Ordinance and looking at other municipalities’ Ordinances and trying to take good ideas. We will have a Public Work Session in the near future to discuss issues like that. We also contracted with a Dining Consultant to review standards for outdoor dining, whether it should be year-round or summer dining, now that COVID is waning.

“Our theme this year is ‘walkability.’ Tonight, we will have a Resolution to part-



ner with our Tuckahoe neighbors. They are going to fix their sidewalks from Tuckahoe to the Village border on Midland and we are going to fix the sidewalk from Avon Road to Tuckahoe for easier passage between the two communities.

“We are also working on the West Side Circle, hiring a traffic engineer to help us make it more ‘pedestrian friendly’ and need

the input of people who travel it as well as cars to navigate the proper signage. We bumped out the sidewalks on Pondfield and Midland and are waiting for some more equipment to make that intersection pedestrian friendly and are contemplating the Route 22 crosswalk, again seeking citizens’ input. Anything we do will come before this Board in form of a Resolution,” Marvin stated.

Next, Mayor Marvin announced that Victoria McEnroe won the State Singles Tennis Title for the first time and Boys’ Cross-Country Team, who won the State Title.

In New Business, the Board authorized Street Plans to evaluate the On-Street Dining Program, plus appointments of Police Officer Nicole Longo from the Bronx and rookie Kevin Iglesias, who will be attending the Police Academy.

Trustee Mary T. Behrens attended a Rotary Luncheon on Monday, December 12th with keynote speaker Iona University President Seamus Carey, Ph.D., who said that their Bronxville campus will welcome students in January in Health Sciences graduate programs, with no students living on the Concordia campus. Their turf field has been completed. Students will be taking a van from the New Rochelle campus to Concordia.

Behrens mentioned plans to add a playground, benches and picnic tables to Maltby Park. Marvin concluded that Bronxville fields will be used as practice fields, minimizing the number of cars.

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# The 16th Annual Katie Welling Run Shows Enduring Bronxville Bonds

In its sixteenth year, the Katie Welling Memorial Run/Walk was held in-person on Saturday, November 26. Given Covid restrictions, Katie's Run had pivoted to a fully virtual event for maximum safety and flexibility in both 2020 and 2021. This beloved Thanksgiving tradition, which honors the memory of Katie Welling from Bronxville High School's Class of 2002, returned this year as an in-person event with a virtual component for out-of-towners. More than 300 people registered to participate in the event which benefits the Bronxville School Foundation.

This year's event also honored Tom Welling, Katie's wonderful dad who passed away in March. Tom led the planning for Katie's Run/Walk every year since its inception and was a true friend and asset to the Bronxville community.

Many friends of the Welling family arrived early Saturday morning to help set up for the event and register participants. It appeared as if no time at all had passed as they settled into their posts from previous years and helped guide new volunteers. "The enduring love and support from so many friends of the Welling family was evident," said the Bronxville School Foundation's Chairperson Brian Bodell. "We are so happy that we were able to gather together again this year to honor both Katie and Tom."

Mayor Mary Marvin was in attendance, and Guidance Counselor Jim Agnello from the Bronxville School kicked off the race on a bullhorn at the front entrance of the Bronxville School. Twenty-six community volunteers, many with their children as helpers, closed the course to traffic



with the Bronxville Police Department ensuring the safety of runners and walkers along the route. Members of the Welling family and friends welcomed runners and walkers at the finish line, and Thomas Welling, Jr. handed out medals to the winners.

"Many of the same smiling faces we saw in photos submitted from the last two year's virtual events were here in person and expressed happiness to be running and walking together as a community once again," said the Foundation's Executive Director, Helena McSherry. "It was nice to see so many of the traditions of the event back with runners and walkers crossing the finish line

at the Bronxville School track and friends catching up after the race."

The way that Bronxville's school staff, alumni, community members, and town merchants supported the event was very special. "As they have in the past, many generous merchants contributed to the event," said the Foundation's Alumni Chair Katie Shah. "We are grateful to Lange's Deli, Park Place Bagels, Mrs. Morgan's Flower Shop, and Tryforos & Pernice for donating refreshments and beautiful flowers for the event and to the Bronxville Running Company as well for lending their space to us for registration and bib pick-ups ahead of the in-person event."

The virtual option continued to allow friends from far and wide to participate even though they were not in Bronxville on Thanksgiving weekend. "People come up with really creative ways to participate virtually," said Deirdre Doheny, the Foundation's Public Relations Chair. "The Williams family sent in a run photo from Cape Cod and a second photo of their post-run polar plunge!" Beyond the Bronxville area, people showed their support from California, Colorado, Florida, Illinois, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Washington, D.C., and Nicaragua.

Registrations and donations totaled \$15,750, with 262 runners and walkers participating in person, 59 people participating virtually, and 66 other donations.

The event was established by Katie Welling's many friends and her family to commemorate her wonderful sense of humor, infectious laugh, and love of life. Katie died in an off-campus fire at Miami University in Ohio in 2005. She had just turned 21.

Thanks to the support of the Bronxville community, Katie's Run/Walk has generated more than \$280,000 since its inception. Contributions to Katie's Run allow the Foundation to fund grants for facilities improvements and equipment, faculty training, curriculum development and specialized programs at the Bronxville School.

For more information on Katie's Run/Walk and to view this year's photo album, please visit <https://www.bronxvilleschoolfoundation.org/katie-welling-memorial-run-walk-2/>.

*Photo courtesy of Romy Coquillette.*

A photograph of a two-story white house with dark shutters, decorated with warm white string lights along the roofline and around a tree in the foreground. The house has "HOULIHAN LAWRENCE SINCE 1888" written on the side. In the center of the image, there is a white silhouette of a horse and the text "HOULIHAN LAWRENCE".

HOULIHAN LAWRENCE

HOULIHAN LAWRENCE  
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# From the Office of the Mayor



BY MAYOR MARY MARVIN

DECEMBER 19, 2022

President John F Kennedy said, “We must find time to stop and thank the people who make a difference in our lives.” As we enjoy the holiday season and the tradition of counting our blessings, I thought there was no better time to stop and share my gratitude.

Covid certainly changed all our lives, but I also think it has brought words like gratitude, blessed, loved, and appreciated more to the fore. My personal thanks starts with you, all of the Village residents, who have given me the opportunity to be part of the exceptional leadership team governing our special home. It has been the job and the honor of a lifetime. I thank everyone in Village government starting with my extraordinarily talented. Trustee colleagues, who give countless hours in stewardship, to our Police Department and our DPW staff, the administrative staff, judicial team and our entire library staff who handle

everything with uncommon grace and unflappability.

I think our Village proves what David Brooks once said in an editorial that there is a lot of surplus kindness in daily life that could not be explained by logic. It could be explained by gratitude, which is the form of social glue that binds us all together with connections that are nurtured, not by self-interest, but by loyalty and service.

There is also no better moment to also thank the dozens of Village residents who stepped up in 2022 to volunteer on behalf of their government. Without these dedicated citizens mentioned below, the Trustees and I could not operate the government with efficiency - have plans reviewed and approved, new initiatives put forward and projects imagined. Their efforts resulted in literally thousands of donated hours of time, expertise, professionalism, all guided by their love of the Village. This list is not only a big thank you on behalf of the entire Village Hall team, but also alerts you to the names of your neighbors on committees that might be of help with various questions, or needed advice in their areas of expertise.

They truly exemplify the words of Gandhi, who said, “The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.”

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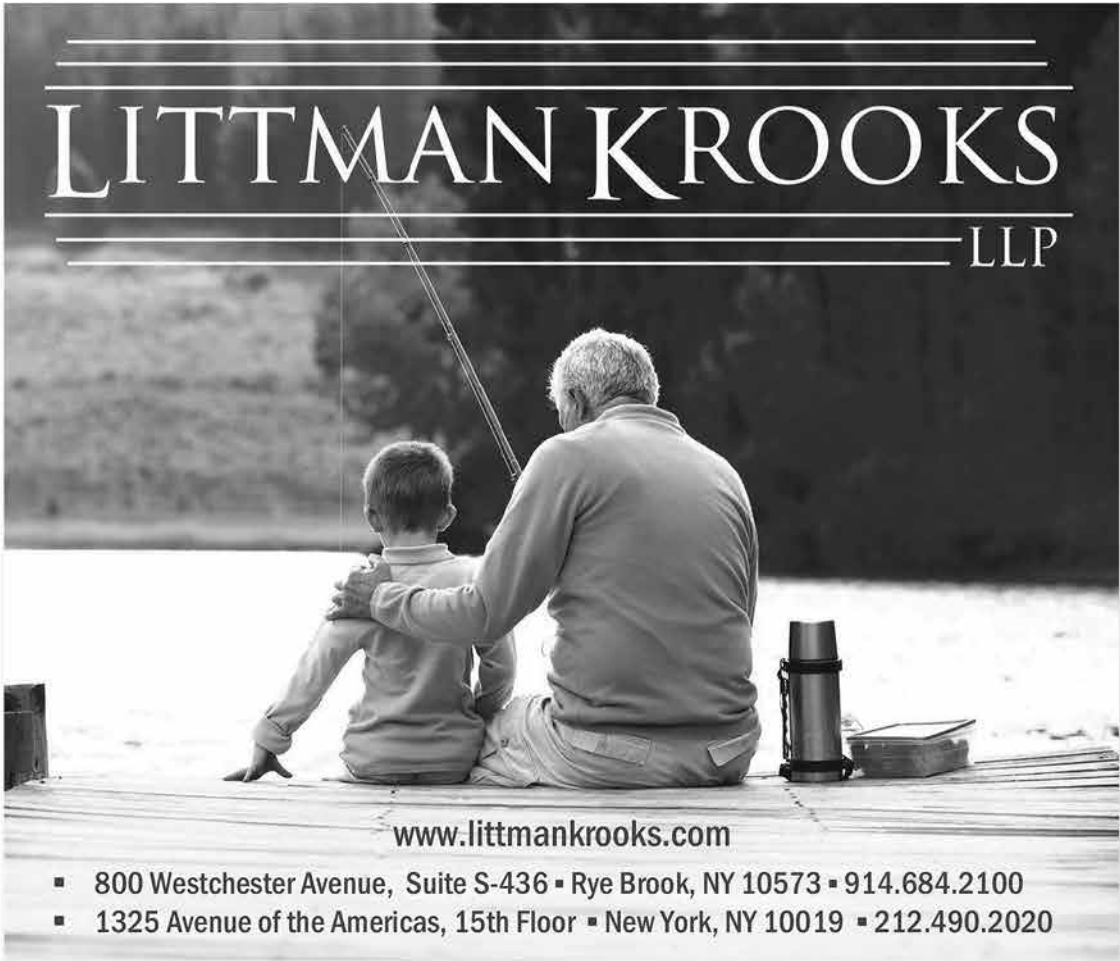
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## Hearts & Homes Awarded \$45,000 Grant by the Westchester Community Foundation

Hearts & Homes for Refugees (HHR) has announced it has received a \$45,000 grant from the Westchester Community Foundation (WCF). This grant will support Hearts & Homes in their two-part mission to resettle and support refugees, and to work towards building a longer welcoming table in the Lower Hudson Valley.

This grant is a crucial part of WCF's mission to connect generous people to the causes they care about, to invest in transformative ideas, and for organizations to improve lives and strengthen our communities. WCF is a division of The New York Community Trust, one of the largest community foundations in the country, with assets of approximately \$3 billion.

"The Westchester Community Foundation is pleased to support Hearts & Homes for Refugees. The community sponsorship model eases refugee resettlement while strengthening existing community networks. Most important,



Laura Rossi

it promotes the community foundation's own values of a more welcoming, kind community for all," noted WCF Executive Director Laura Rossi.

This grant will assist Hearts & Homes to build a more robust network of support for refugees. This coming year, Hearts & Homes will focus on the development of new community sponsors within their growing network of over 50 faith and civic groups in Westchester, Rockland and

Orange County.

Sponsors are groups of passionate volunteers that work directly with refugees, providing up to one year of holistic wrap-around services. This includes assistance with housing, employment, personal finances, navigating schools and medical systems, community and cultural orientation, and English language learning.

Utilizing their years of experience working with refugees and resettlement agencies,

continued on page 10

## Excelsior Scholarship Applications Open for New Applicants for Spring 2023

Governor Hochul announced that the application for the Excelsior Scholarship for new applicants for the Spring 2023 term is now open at <https://www.hesc.ny.gov/payfor-college/financial-aid/types-of-financial-aid/nys-grants-scholarships-awards/the-excelsior-scholarship.html>.

The Excelsior Scholarship, in combination with other student financial aid, allows eligible full-time students to attend a SUNY or CUNY two-year or four-year college tuition-free.

"Since its inception, the Excelsior Scholarship has enabled tens of thousands of students from low and middle-income families the chance to pursue a quality education tuition-free," Governor Hochul said. "By easing the financial burden associated with the cost of attending college, students and their families can focus on their education, providing New York's students every possible opportunity to climb the ladder of success."

Students from households with federal adjusted gross incomes up to \$125,000 are eligible for a Spring Excelsior Scholarship award. Students must also:

- Plan to attend a SUNY or CUNY two or four-year college
- Complete 30 credits per year towards their program of study (including Summer and Winter terms); and
- Be on track to graduate with an Associate's Degree in two years or a Bachelor's Degree in four years

Dr. Guillermo Linares, President of the New York State Higher Education Services Corporation said, "The cost to attend college is often a barrier for students from low and middle-income families who wish to experience the benefits that come from earning a postsecondary degree or credential. The Excelsior Scholarship offers the opportunity for students who, without financial support, could not readily afford to pursue a college degree."

SUNY Interim Chancellor Deborah F. Stanley said, "The data clearly shows that a college degree is the most effective tool for upward mobility - boosting earning power, expanding career opportunities, and even lengthening your life. Yet that experience remains out of reach for far too many. The Excelsior Scholarship helps address the college affordability problem, reinforcing SUNY's longstanding commitment to delivering a world-class education by eliminating financial barriers for hardworking students from across the state. I applaud Governor Hochul's ongoing efforts to help more New Yorkers earn and benefit from a SUNY education."

CUNY Chancellor Félix V. Matos Rodríguez said, "The Excelsior Scholarship program has aided CUNY's efforts to expand educational opportunity and access for New Yorkers of all backgrounds. Excelsior has given thousands of CUNY students the opportunity to attend college tuition-free, opening the door to educational achievement, career success and, ultimately, economic and social advancement. We thank Governor Hochul for her continued recognition of the unmatched value and importance of higher education for all New Yorkers."

The Excelsior Scholarship is just one of the many ways New York State makes college affordable and accessible. Check out the New York State Higher Education Services Corporation website to explore other options available to help pay for college.

The Spring 2023 Excelsior Scholarship application is open to first-time students entering college in the Spring 2023 term and current college students who have never received the Excelsior Scholarship. Students currently receiving an Excelsior Scholarship do not need to complete this application to receive continued award payments. Students eligible for the Excelsior Scholarship under the Senator José Peralta New York State DREAM Act can apply here.

Applications will be accepted through February 9, 2023.

## Latimer Signs 2023 County Budget

On December 13, Westchester County Executive George Latimer signed his 2023 Westchester County Budget, cutting the County Property Tax Levy by \$6 million dollars, flanked by members of the Westchester County Departments of Emergency Services, Corrections, Probation and Public Safety. The Budget was passed by the County Board of Legislators earlier in the day, bipartisan 17-0.

Latimer said, "I am signing this budget today and thinking of all the families who are preparing for the holidays - this budget is for them. We have cut taxes again and have done so while also expanding the programs and services they have come to depend on. I am proud of this budget, and our collaboration with the Board of Legislators; this is what honest and fair governing is, that is who we are as an administration and as a County."

The total budget is \$2.365 billion and includes Latimer's fourth County property tax cut in a row.

### Closing 2022 with projected \$65.9 million operating surplus

- No borrowing for tax certs
- No borrowing for pension
- No use of fund balance

### 2023 Budget contains no borrowing or one-shots

- No borrowing for tax certs
- No use of fund balance
- No borrowing for cash flow

County Board of Legislators Chairwoman Catherine Borgia: "Westchester County is stronger and in a better state financially, and we are paying it forward to our residents. We've prioritized meaningful investments in areas that affect our constituents every day. Parents receiving subsidies can now pay less out of pocket to afford better quality childcare. We're closing the digital divide by expanding internet access throughout the County. We've increased funding for community-based organizations providing services directly to those who need them. I am excited for all that we will accomplish in 2023 through mutual commitment and collaboration with the County Executive's Office."

Westchester County Legislator Terry Clements said: "As Chair of the Committee on Public Safety, we've identified the need to efficiently fund our public safety and law enforcement departments. Through this budget, we've added millions of dollars to



County Executive George Latimer

the departments that will keep Westchester residents safe and secure."

Finance Commissioner Karin Hallow said: "The County Executive has once again passed a balanced budget that includes a cut to the property tax levy. We, as a County, have greatly improved our financial position while continuing to offer the services needed and sought out by its residents. I want to thank County Executive Latimer and the Board of Legislators for passing a fiscally responsible budget that once again will position Westchester County as a financially

stable entity for years to come."

The 2023 Budget funds the Departments of Corrections, Public Safety, Probation and Emergency Services at the highest levels in Westchester County history:

- Correction \$156.6 million
- Public Safety \$59.1 million
- Probation \$50.2 million
- Department of Emergency Services \$13 million

Economic Development Director Bridget Gibbons said: "The County Executive's consistent investment in economic development to support our existing businesses and inspire the launch of new businesses in Westchester creates a business-friendly environment in the County. Life sciences companies, advanced manufacturing companies, tech startups and others are thriving here, and we are proud to provide training, education and other resources to support them."

The Budget allots \$218.7 million for the County Health Department, that includes \$1 million for maternal mortality. Additionally, the budget is expanding funding to Federally Qualified Health Centers/Neighborhood Health Centers by \$1 million bringing the total to \$3 million.

Health Commissioner Sherlita Amler, MD, said: "Thank you to County Executive Latimer and the County Board of Legislators for allowing the Health Department in the 2023 Budget to refocus our attention on our core public health priorities and essential services aimed at improving the health of our communities."

The 2023 Budget has \$17.2 million for the Department of Community Mental Health (DCMH), specifically the Project Alliance Mobile Crisis Response Team, \$6.1 million for Crisis Network and 988 Suicide Crisis Lifeline, \$565,000 for Opioid Response and Overdose Prevention Initiative and \$737,892 Early Childhood Mental Health Services.



# What's Happening at the Bronxville Public Library



## Thursday Matinee: The Good House January 5 from 1:30 to 3:15pm

A successful real-estate broker, mother, and raging alcoholic embarks on a life of denial and loneliness while resenting the intervention of her loved ones and becoming embroiled in a scandal in her New England town. RUNTIME: 104 MINUTES | RATED: R



## The Five Basic Principles for Getting (and Staying!) Organized (Zoom) January 9 from 3 to 4pm

As professional organizers and co-authors of the self-help book *Beyond Tidy*, Marie Limpert & Annmarie Brogan of Organize Me! of NY, LLC will teach their Five Basic Organizing Principles, answer questions and provide solutions to common challenges that get people stuck. A short Q & A Session will follow the presentation. To learn more about the presenters, visit their website at [www.organizemeNY.com](http://www.organizemeNY.com). To register for the zoom event, visit <https://us02web.zoom.us/join/register/tZ0sf-yhqDopE9SM25QqlSPQ4lygvmg4Zliw>



## Ayurveda's Approach to Common Disorders: Inflammation (Zoom) January 10 from 7 to 8pm

To register, email Christine at [cutchel@wlsmail.org](mailto:cutchel@wlsmail.org)

Inflammation is the buzz-word of late – as the underlying cause of many, if not all, disorders. It does appear to be true that all disorders do have inflammation as a component. The question is which came first – the inflammation or

the disorder? Inflammation can be due to any number of reasons from stress or trauma, to diet, lifestyle, or emotional issues. Ayurveda's goal is to determine the underlying source of a symptom, and treat that source, not just the symptom. But how do you know if inflammation exists if there are no symptoms? Presented By: Dr. Somesh N. Kaushik is the owner and chief medical practitioner of Dr. Kaushick's Ayurvedic and Naturopathic Clinic in Cross River. To learn more about Dr. Kaushick, visit: [www.drkaushik.com](http://www.drkaushik.com)



## Intermediate Chess Instruction for Children Tuesdays, January 10 through February 14 from 5:30 to 6:30pm

Open to children in grades 1 through 5. Must be able to attend all 6 sessions. Pre-Requisite: Previous beginner session or equivalent. Children will expand their knowledge of tactics and strategies in the game of chess. Starting with opening goals, tactical motifs and strategies to employ through a chess game, as well as ideas to use when evaluating a board position. Registration Required / Space Limited. Call 914-337-7680 ext.834

## How to Make Sense of Today's Financial Markets (Zoom) January 11 from 1 to 2pm

Join the virtual Women & Money Roundtable where Advisors from Merrill Lynch will discuss the current financial markets and trends. Register at [https://darienlibrary.zoom.us/join/register/WN\\_W8G7vjFVSBqmgIHYEgphYw](https://darienlibrary.zoom.us/join/register/WN_W8G7vjFVSBqmgIHYEgphYw)



## Adult Craft Program

January 12 from 1:30 to 2:45pm

This event will take place in person at the library in the Yeager Community Room located on the lower level. Registration is required: stop by or call the Adult Reference Desk: (914) 337-7680 ext. 824. This month's craft will be making scented tea light candle tins and sachets.

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## Adult Book Discussion Group

**Beneath a Scarlet Sky by Mark Sullivan**  
January 17 from 7 to 8:30pm

This month the library will discuss "Beneath a Scarlet Sky" by Mark Sullivan, a novel based on the true story of forgotten war hero Pino Lella. When his family home in Milan is destroyed by Allied bombs, Pino joins an underground railroad helping Jews escape over the Alps. In an attempt to protect him, Pino's parents force him to enlist as a German soldier. This discussion will take place in person in the Board Room located on the lower level of the Library and will be led by Mary Hogan Camp.

## Clay Time at the Library

January 18 from 4 to 5pm

A creative hour of making art with air-dry clay. Meets 3rd Wednesday of the Month. Designed for Grades 2-5. Reservations Required / Space & Materials Limited. (914) 337-7680 ext. 834

## From Uptown Girls to Downton Abbey: How American Gilded Age Heiresses Invaded the British Aristocracy (Zoom)

January 19 from 1:30 to 2:30pm

Long before the British Invasion, the cash-strapped lords, viscounts, and dukes of Great Britain shifted their focus from hunting foxes and pheasants to more lucrative targets: cash-flush Gilded Age American socialites who were willing to trade their family's money for an ancient title and often a chilly reception in the British aristocracy. Fans of "Downton Abbey" and "The Gilded Age" on television and film will delight as Anglophile and former U.K.



resident Claire Evans recounts the tales of some of the famously loaded young Americans who infused bank accounts of many stately homes, including close relatives of Winston Churchill and Princess Diana. She'll also give travel tips if you'd like to create a Gilded Age tour for yourself. Presented by: Claire Evans. Learn more about Claire Evans by visiting her website: [teawithclaire.com](http://teawithclaire.com). To register for the zoom event, visit <https://us02web.zoom.us/join/register/tZEtf-6trjwoG9Yu-D9G-PeaUGU8aAfUiFCWk>

## Wednesday Matinee: Ticket to Paradise January 15 from 1:30 to 3:15pm

A divorced couple teams up and travels to Bali to stop their daughter from making the same mistake they think they made 25 years ago. RUNTIME: 103 MINUTES | RATED: PG-13



# A Collection of Works by Arnold Arbeit

A collection of oil on canvas abstract and landscape paintings mostly created in the 1960s by New Yorker Arnold Alvin Arbeit will be on display in the Oresman Gallery on behalf of his granddaughter Rachel Arbeit.

His media primarily consists of oil on canvas landscape and abstract paintings, but he has also created watercolor paintings, charcoal drawings, sculptures, pins and cufflinks.

Notes from the artist reflect his thoughts on art, in general.



"Someone said that Art is the only means upon which man transcends himself beyond his limitations. It is in this area that man can create a non-existing, non-materialistic entity. Their true creativity is an artistic effort. There is none else." And he also mentions thoughts on his specific style. He writes, "To achieve a cloudburst, to find the answer to a superior force, to indicate the energy bursting within matter. This inundating form I should like to achieve - nothing more, to show

the potential explosive force of common forms."

More information is available at Arnold Arbeit.com. The exhibit will run from Wednesday, January 4th to Monday, January 30th at the Larchmont Public Library Oresman Gallery, 121 Larchmont Ave. A reception will be held on Friday, January 6th from 2-4pm.

Contact Auriyanna Melendez at 914-834-2281 x116 or email at [amelendez@larchmontlibrary.org](mailto:amelendez@larchmontlibrary.org) if you are interested in becoming an exhibitor.

## Habitat Club Creates Gingerbread Houses with Younger Students to Help The Fuller Center



Last month Bronxville High School's Habitat Club met with younger students to build their own Home for the Holidays...specifically Gingerbread Houses. The events was a fundraiser for The Fuller Center, a nonprofit organization that coordinates club builds in Westchester. For more information, visit [www.fullercenterny.org](http://www.fullercenterny.org)



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# Celebrating Rudolph's Connection to New Rochelle

The holiday season kicked off in high gear on Sunday, December 4, in Ruby Dee Park, New Rochelle as children and their friends and families joined together for a Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer celebration honoring the author of the famous story, New Rochellian Robert L. Mays.

Children of all ages turned out in Rudolph regalia – antlers, red noses, and sparkle rings included – as Mr. Mays' name and commemorative plaque were added to Ruby Dee Park's Walk of Fame.

The happy crowd was entertained by more than a dozen Rudolph-costumed dancers from New Beginnings Dance Studio at 2 Division St. Joining them in such merry attire was Parks and Recreation Assistant Commissioner Lauren O'Connor.

The event was honored to have Mr. Mays' daughter, Martha, attend for this special remembrance of her father. She delighted the crowd with personal anecdotes about him and spoke about his lasting legacy through this famous story.



# Universal Symbol Used to Designate Every Legally Sold Cannabis Product as Regulated



On December 15, Governor Kathy Hochul unveiled a "New York State Licensed Cannabis Dispensary" verification tool that will be posted in the windows of legally licensed retail dispensaries, which are set to begin opening by the end of 2022. The designation will ensure consumers know they are buying from a dispensary regulated by New York State. A universal symbol on each product sold will also show that it is up to standards set by the state. The combination provides consumers certainty that they have acquired a tested, regulated product.

"It's critical for New York's cannabis consumers to understand the risks of buying untested, illicit products and to have the tools to guide them to the safer, legal market that's poised to open," Governor Hochul said. "These tools will help to protect public health and strengthen our ability to deliver the equitable cannabis market our law envisions. We will continue to work with our partners in municipalities across the state to enforce the law and shutdown illicit operators who are selling products that put New Yorkers at risk."

As stores continue to open in the first quarter of 2023, the state will also be releasing a public education campaign called "Why Buy Legal New York," which will explain the benefits of purchasing legal adult-use cannabis for cannabis consumers in New York State. The campaign will discuss the risks of buying untested illicit products, and how those products undermine the goals of New York's cannabis law to build the most equitable and inclusive cannabis market in the nation.

Tremaine Wright, Chair of the Cannabis Control Board, said, "The dispensary verification tool unveiled by Governor Hochul today combined with requirements for the universal symbol on regulated products sets us off on the right foot. It is critical that consumers know and trust that the new, legal cannabis market offers tested products and follows protocols designed to protect public health. These efforts combined with rigorous enforcement, will help build a stable, legal marketplace."

Chris Alexander, Executive Director of the Office of Cannabis Management, said, "We will use every tool available to strengthen the equitable, legal adult-use cannabis market we're building and the dispensary verification tool Governor Hochul unveiled today is one step in that process. Our enforcement team has been growing its partnerships and ramping up activity from Buffalo to New York City and will continue to do so until these illicit stores and trucks are shutdown."

The dispensary verification tool unveiled will be posted in the front windows of each legally licensed dispensary. It will include a QR code that can be scanned by consumers and local community members. Additionally, a similar version will be available for licensees who are looking to jump start sales through delivery.

Every product sold will also include a "universal symbol" designating it as a tested, regulated product. Consumers should check both the storefront for the dispensary verification tool and the product label to ensure they're purchasing a safer product.

# LEAF BLOWERS

Please remember to advise your landscapers that the use of gas powered leaf blowers is now prohibited until March 15th. Their licenses to operate in the Village may be revoked if gas powered blowers are in use during this period.

## New Rochelle's Best-Kept Secret



## Finally, a retirement community designed to echo the people of Southern Westchester County.

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*Monarch Coopers Corner caters to discerning seniors.*

Application materials for the establishment of an Assisted Living Residence are currently under review by the New York State Department of Health.





# Cardinal Dolan Celebrates Maria Regina High School's 65th Anniversary



Timothy Cardinal Dolan, Archbishop of New York, recently celebrated the 65th anniversary of Maria Regina, the renowned all-girls Catholic High School. His visit began in the gymnasium where he led a Mass as principal celebrant for the entire student body of about 500 young women, as well as members of the administration, faculty, staff, alumnae, board of trustees and invited guests, among others.

Cardinal Dolan also toured the Hartsdale-based campus established by the Sisters of the Resurrection in 1957. He blessed the school's latest advanced learning space, an ADA-compliant, state of the art Eco-Conscious Environmental and Life Sciences Laboratory. The new lab, completed in time for the 65th Anniversary Gala in late October, now allows for equitable physical access to the latest science resources and represents the transformation of a traditional classroom space, offering direct access from the courtyard which houses a new community garden.

"His Eminence's visit to Maria Regina to mark our school's founding 65 years ago was truly an inspiration for all who had the good fortune to hear his homily, his expressions of support for the school's mission in preparing students for post-secondary success and engaging in genuine, one-on-one conversations with him," said Anna Parra, President.

During his homily, Cardinal Dolan spoke about the inherent spiritual power of the school's name, Maria Regina, which translates as Mary, our Queen. He movingly recounted the events of 1983 when Poland's Lech Walesa, founder of the then outlawed Solidarity union and pro-democracy leader won the Nobel Peace prize which was frowned upon by the ruling Communist regime.

Cardinal Dolan noted how remarkable it was—and an inspiration to all of us now--

that Walesa, who was constantly assailed by the Communists, dedicated the prestigious accolade to the Virgin Mother Mary by enshrining it with the Black Madonna of Czestochowa, the nation's most revered icon.

Before the Mass ended, His Eminence and celebrants heard from Allison Morelo (Class of '23) who related the impressive contributions to help those in need, especially during the holidays, that the students have recently undertaken.

She cited the Mission Outreach initiative for Rise Against Hunger in which juniors packaged 10,000 meals into 47 large boxes of rice, soy and other supplies that will provide 47 children in impoverished countries enough nutrition for one school year and the ongoing work of the school's Catholic Relief Services (CRS) chapter.

In 2021, Maria Regina was the first high school in the Archdiocese to establish a CRS club. Cardinal Dolan lauded the students' notable efforts, adding he has long been a champion and supporter of Catholic Relief Services.

During his blessing of the Sciences Lab, His Eminence recognized a plaque on the wall dedicated to the two foundations whose generous grants totaling \$100,000 that made the transformation possible: The Thomas & Agnes Carvel Foundation and The Charles A. Mastronardi Foundation

Maria Carozza-McCaffrey (Class of '99), Principal, noted: "With His Eminence's blessing today of our remarkably strong and devoted school family, Maria Regina proudly begins a new chapter in empowering young women in all areas of life. The solid Catholic education provided at Maria Regina prepares them for success in college and future careers while instilling in them the importance of lifelong service to their community."

To learn more, visit [www.mariaregina.org](http://www.mariaregina.org).

# Monarch Coopers Corner Appoints Ataide as Executive Director

Paul Ataide has been named executive director for Monarch Coopers Corner. In this position, he is responsible for day-to-day community operations. Monarch's Coopers Corner is nearing completion and is scheduled to open early 2023.

Ataide previously was executive director at a senior living community in Westchester County. He also served as associate executive director in senior living in MA. He brings over 15 years of healthcare experience to this position.

Monarch Coopers Corner is the first senior living community in Westchester County to seek WELL certification from the International WELL Building Institute, or IWBI. WELL is grounded in research into the health effects of physical spaces on people.

The community, located at 11 Mill Road, New Rochelle, is developed and managed by Monarch Communities.



Paul Ataide

## An Elevator Speech Delivering a Message

BY BERNARD A. KROOKS,  
CERTIFIED ELDER LAW ATTORNEY

According to Wikipedia, an elevator speech is a short description of an idea, product, or company that explains the concept in a way such that any listener can understand it in a short period of time. Experts say that you should keep your elevator speech short and sweet, with the goal being to deliver your message in under a minute. Basically, the concept is to be able to tell someone what you do in the time it takes to go on a brief elevator ride.

So, here is my elevator speech: our law practice is focused on legal problems faced by individuals as they age and individuals with special needs. However, in many instances our actual clients are family members (and loved ones) of seniors and individuals with special needs who seek our representation on behalf of their loved one.

Many of our clients come to us for help in preparing their estate plans, including a last will and testament, living trust, health care proxy, living will, and durable power of attorney. In any event, estate planning is not about forms and documents; it is about making sure that your wishes are carried out upon incapacity or death.

People who are trustee of a trust have ongoing responsibilities to the trust beneficiaries. Our firm can help you manage these duties and ensure that you are in compliance with all legal and tax requirements. A trust can serve many purposes and it is important that the administration of the trust is conducted in a manner consistent with the trust creator's intent.

Our special needs planning practice focuses on assisting individuals with special needs and their families achieve the highest quality of life possible. We advocate to ensure that our clients have access to all appropriate government benefits to which they are entitled. We also assist clients with special needs trusts to help protect their assets for their loved ones and with guardianship for people who cannot manage their own affairs due to illness or incapacity.

While New York's probate process is not par-

ticularly complex, it can still be overwhelming for many. Our firm helps executors of estates perform their legal duties to ensure that the decedent's final affairs are settled properly.

About 70% of all Americans will need long-term care at home, in an assisted living facility or in a nursing home. The cost of long-term care in the New York metropolitan area can be more than \$200,000 a year. Failure to plan in advance can result in the loss of significant personal assets. By planning in advance, you can take the necessary steps to ensure that your choices regarding who will manage your finances and health care are followed in the event you become incapacitated. Moreover, with proper planning, you can minimize your out-of-pocket costs for long-term care. Our firm can help explain the available options to you and help you make the right choices for you and your family.

Every child with a disability is entitled to a free and appropriate public education. We represent individuals and their families to ensure that school districts are held accountable and provide the type of education that the law requires, regardless of disability. Our firm takes a collaborative approach and works with school district representatives to make sure the child's Individualized Education Program (IEP) meets the child's individual needs; however, we are prepared to go to court, if necessary, to protect our client's interests.

There you have it. My elevator speech, and then some. I hope to see you in the elevator!

Bernard A. Krooks, Esq., is a founding partner of Littman Krooks LLP. He was named 2021 "Lawyer of the Year" by Best Lawyers in America® for excellence in Elder Law and has been honored as one of the "Best Lawyers" in America since 2008. He was elected to the Estate Planning Hall of Fame by the National Association of Estate Planners & Councils (NAEPC). Krooks is past Chair of the Elder Law Committee of the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel (ACTEC). Mr. Krooks may be reached at (914-684-2100) or by visiting the firm's website at [www.littmankrooks.com](http://www.littmankrooks.com).



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## AUDITION CALL

The Manor Club Theatre, 1023 Esplanade in Pelham, is auditioning for "Lovers and Other Strangers." 5 Men, 5 Women, ages 20 to 70. Auditions at the theatre on January 22, 2023 from 3:00pm to 5:00pm and January 23 from 7:00pm to 9:00pm. Show dates: March 12-14. For full information go to [tmcofelham.org](http://tmcofelham.org)

## GRAVE PLOT FOR SALE IN SHARON GARDENS

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Seeking a live in caretaker for elderly woman to assist with companionship, appointments and more. Contact me at 914-298-8872.

# The Bronxville Bulletin



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## Hearts & Homes Awarded \$45,000 Grant

continued from page 4

Hearts & Homes recruits, trains, mentors, and provides financial assistance to volunteer groups that are interested in being a part of the local solution to the global refugee crisis. This includes volunteers interested in full Community Sponsorship or smaller commitments, such as community sponsorship “lite,” private resettlement support, and welcome circles.

Part of this work involves orienting families in their communities to help them feel safe and confident in their new home. Hearts & Homes will use this grant to develop and share webinars for newly arrived families on topics about life in their new community. Hearts & Homes will also ensure that families have access to the necessary technology to view these webinars.

Throughout the coming year, Hearts & Homes will continue to host outings and networking events for resettled families. Gatherings and networking events allow refugees to connect with people of their culture and other families that have experienced similar hardships resettling in a foreign land, while also reinforcing bonds with volunteers.

Hearts & Homes will also use part of the

funds to manage a mini-grant program to help local groups meet refugee family needs not covered by other sources.

As a regional leader of refugee resettlement, Hearts & Homes is focused on expanding the network of refugee resettlement groups. Hearts & Homes was a founding member of the national Hello Neighbor Network (HNN), composed of 25 sister organizations across the country. The HNN is an invaluable resource partner for sharing ideas and best practices in community sponsored refugee resettlement.

In the coming year, Hearts & Homes will continue to grow their network and partnerships into a sustainable and robust grassroots community-support model that will improve long term outcomes for our aspiring new American neighbors.

If you are interested in becoming a community sponsor for refugees in and around Westchester, and the Lower Hudson Valley please visit: <https://www.heartsandhomesfor-refugees.org/community-sponsorship> to learn more, or use this form to sign up.

## Money Now Available to Help Eligible New Yorkers Cover Home Heating Costs

Governor Kathy Hochul recently announced that New York State has received an additional \$63 million in federal funding that will be used to increase the base home heating assistance eligible households will receive. With the additional funding, eligible homeowners and renters could receive up to \$1,126 from the Home Energy Assistance Program to help keep their homes warm this winter in the face of higher energy costs. New York has received more than \$412 million in federal funding for HEAP this winter, up from \$387 million last year.

“As temperatures dip this winter, my administration is committed to making sure all New Yorkers are able to heat their homes,” Governor Hochul said. “Through this federal funding, we can help more families cover their energy bills and still have the money to pay for other household needs, like food and medicine. As New Yorkers face higher energy costs, this is a critical resource for families to ensure their homes are safe and warm this winter.”

HEAP, overseen by the Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance, is federally funded. The higher benefit levels took effect on December 11, 2022. Eligible households can receive one Regular HEAP benefit per season with a maximum of \$1,126, depending on their income, household size, how they heat their home and if the household includes a vulnerable family member. Previously, the maximum benefit had been \$976.

The value of the Regular HEAP benefits had already increased over last winter by anywhere from 14 to 33 percent, depending how the home is heated. This additional funding boosts those increases to between 30 and 56 percent over last year.

Households that heat with oil, kerosene, or propane will now receive a base payment of \$1,050, up from \$675 last year; those that heat

with wood, wood pellets, coal, or corn, will receive \$685, up from \$525 last year; and those that heat with electricity or natural gas will receive \$500, up from \$350 last year.

Households that received a Regular HEAP benefit before the higher amounts took effect will receive a supplemental benefit to make up the difference. Those supplemental payments are expected to be issued beginning in early 2023. As with all HEAP payments, benefits are issued directly to the household’s heating vendor.

Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance Commissioner Daniel W. Tietz said, “The Home Energy Assistance Program is especially important to help some of our most vulnerable New Yorkers keep their homes warm in the wintertime. Anyone who thinks they may be eligible should be apply as soon as possible so they can continue to heat their homes as the colder temperatures set in.”

The U.S. Energy Information Administration anticipates significantly higher heating fuel prices this winter, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration forecasts slightly colder temperatures for New York State, underscoring the importance of this additional funding for HEAP.

Applications for assistance are accepted at local departments of social services in person or by phone, with funding provided on a first-come, first-served basis. Residents outside of New York City may also apply online for Regular HEAP benefits.

New Yorkers that have already received a Regular HEAP benefit and continue to fall behind on their utility bills or are running short of heating fuel may also qualify for a one-time Emergency HEAP benefit. Applications for Emergency benefits will be accepted starting on January 3, 2023.

## Nominations for 2023 Westchester County Public Health Awards Sought

The Westchester County Board of Health is now seeking nominations for the 2023 Public Health Service Awards. The Board wants to recognize adults, young people and not-for-profit programs whose volunteer efforts have demonstrated creativity and compassion, and who helped improve public health.

The Board encourages community leaders, healthcare professionals, educators and residents to nominate worthy people or programs by January 9, using the nomination forms at <https://health.westchestergov.com/news/public-health-awards>.

“Busy teenagers, adults and organizations have extended a hand to our community in innovative ways these past few years,” said Robert Baker, MD, President of the Westchester County Board of Health. “The Board would like to acknowledge the extraordinary people and programs who have given so much to Westchester this past year. We hope their example of selfless volunteerism inspires others to help us promote and protect public health in our County.”

The Dr. Harold Keltz Distinguished Public Health Service Award is presented annually to a

person or community-based organization, whose efforts have made an extraordinary contribution to the public health of Westchester residents, but who is not professionally engaged in public health work.

The J.R. Tesone Youth Public Health Service Award is an annual award to a student up to age 21 for his or her creative contribution to public health in Westchester. The award was created in 2014 in memory of J.R. Tesone, a Board of Health member with a lifelong commitment to Westchester County children.

The awards will be announced and presented in April to spotlight National Public Health Week, and the honorees and their achievements will be featured on the Health Department’s web pages.

Previous awards were given for promoting awareness of mental health and addiction among young people, promoting the construction and preservation of affordable housing, and advocating for comprehensive mental health care for low-income residents. Non-profit programs also have been selected for their work to reduce health disparities, improve health literacy, and improve access to care.

## Tobacco Free Program Launched

Science has made it perfectly clear over the last 60 years that smoking is a dangerous and potentially fatal habit. With that at the forefront, Westchester County Executive George Latimer has launched the Westchester Tobacco Free Program, a two-prong approach to lowering the smoking rate in the County.

“Addiction to nicotine products has cut short numerous lives to lung disease, heart disease and related illnesses; has robbed otherwise healthy individuals of their good health; has robbed families of fathers, mothers, siblings and other loved ones prematurely. That is why we are tackling the issue head on with Westchester Tobacco Free, a robust education and enforcement Program,” Latimer said.

The County will fund and implement a robust \$3 million dollar public education campaign to all residents, highlighting the dangers of tobacco usage, offering efforts to help smokers quit smoking, and to support local community efforts to reduce smoking. This will include a new direct grant Program to community-based non-profits directly involved in tobacco-cessation as part of their anti-addiction efforts, and particularly those groups like local NAACP branches who have advocated for efforts to reduce smoking in communities of color.

The Program will be crafted with the assistance and oversight of members of the Board of Legislators to ensure the County is reaching all smokers, regardless of their geographic or demographic status. This effort will involve our Health Department, Community Mental Health Department, Youth Board and other related departments and offices of Westchester County

Government to ensure its success.

The County will develop a multi-level Program, working with state and local government resources to ensure improved enforcement of the existing Tobacco 21 age limit. Under the leadership of Deputy County Executive Ken Jenkins, the County will convene a conference with representatives from law enforcement agencies, prosecutorial and judicial offices, business

leaders and youth organization leaders to develop a thorough plan to make sure no person under the age of 21 is able to obtain any type of tobacco product, which is clearly illegal by means of County, State and Federal law.

Jenkins said, “There is a path forward, and that path includes fighting addiction with all parties at the table. We need to identify what is necessary to ensure that Tobacco 21, the current law prohibiting sales of tobacco to those under 21, is being enforced.”

History of anti-smoking initiatives in Westchester County: Ended smoking in public settings, including bars and restaurants (1996); Funded a tobacco-cessation education effort utilizing tobacco settlement funds (1999); Ended all sales of tobacco products to minors under the age of 21 (2018). Subsequently, both the State of New York, and the United States, has made tobacco sales illegal for all who have not yet reached their 21st birthday.

Latimer said, “In the report of the New York State Department of Health [August 2021], Westchester County had the lowest percent of adult current smokers among the 62 counties, 7.0%. However, we are not yet satisfied; we can do more.”



County Executive George Latimer



# Calendar of Events

**NYS Independent Redistricting Commission Hearing**  
**Haub School of Law at Pace University**  
**Gerber Glass Moot Courtroom**  
**78 North Broadway, White Plains**  
**January 20 at 4pm**

One of 12 public hearings across the state to receive feedback on its draft redistricting plans for court ordered NYS Assembly districts. Further information regarding the hearings will be available at [www.NYIRC.org](http://www.NYIRC.org)

**Blood Drive**  
**Stepinac High School Gymnasium**  
**January 10 from 8:30am to 2:30pm**

Stepinac High School's community including students, members of the administration, faculty, staff, parents and other supporters are asked to answer the call to address the region's blood supply shortage by donating life-saving blood during a drive to benefit the New York Blood Center (NYBC). To learn more about the NYBC, a nonprofit organization that is one of the largest independent, community-based blood centers in the world, and how blood donations critically impact the lives of patients in our communities, visit [www.nybc.org](http://www.nybc.org). For additional details, visit [Stepinac.org](http://Stepinac.org)

**Italian Language Classes**  
**Westchester Italian Cultural Center**  
**One Generoso Pope Place, Tuckahoe**

Spring 2023 – Learn to speak Italian, or improve your speaking skills, in one of the center's many Italian language classes. They offer multiple levels of classes to ensure interested students can find a class that is suitable for them. Visit [wiccnyc.org](http://wiccnyc.org) for a full class schedule and details on how to register.

**St. Paul's Church National Historic Site**  
**897 South Columbus Avenue, Mt. Vernon**  
**[www.nps.gov/sapa](http://www.nps.gov/sapa)**  
**January 14 at 1pm**

Matthew Costello, a fellow at the White House Historical Association, who also teaches American history at American University, explores themes from his recent, well-regarded book, "The Property of the Nation: George Washington's Tomb, Mount Vernon, and the Memory of the First President."

**January 16 at 1pm**

Professor Kristopher Burrell of Hostos Community College/CUNY explores the civil rights activities and triumphs of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., in recognition of the national holiday.

**The Orchid Show Returns to The New York Botanical Garden for Its 20th Year**  
**Showcasing the Immersive and Dynamic Designs of Landscape Artist Lily Kwong**  
**Tickets On Sale Now**

**On View February 18 through April 23**

The New York Botanical Garden (NYBG) has announced renowned landscape artist Lily Kwong as the guest designer for its 20th annual Orchid Show. Featuring immersive installations of thousands of orchids, Lily Kwong's design of the exhibition will transport guests to ethereal, reverent landscapes inspired by ancient Chinese garden design and artistic principles. The Orchid Show: Natural Heritage will be on view from February 18 through April 23, 2023, in NYBG's historic Enid A. Haupt Conservatory. Tickets for the exhibition, which has been called "the most Instagrammable event," are on sale now at [nybg.org/orchidtickets](http://nybg.org/orchidtickets).



Be sure to email your upcoming virtual or live events to:  
[shorelineproduction@gmail.com](mailto:shorelineproduction@gmail.com)

**Faculty Exhibition 2023**  
**January 7 - February 4**  
**The Pelham Art Center**

**Opening reception: Saturday, January 7th from 2pm-4pm**

Enjoy our annual exhibition of new work by Pelham Art Center instructors. See works in a variety of mediums ranging from drawings and oil paintings to ceramics and collage. This exhibition provides a great opportunity to collect original art from established artists, and to view the diverse expertise that instructors impart in the classes at Pelham Art Center. For more information visit [pelhamartcenter.org](http://pelhamartcenter.org)



**Monet's Garden The Immersive Experience**  
**30 Wall Street, New York, NY**  
**Through February 26**

Awaken your senses and experience the world of Claude Monet at the brand-new immersive exhibition, MONET'S GARDEN. Go on a 360-degree journey through the history and work of one of the greatest and most influential painters of all time. Using state-of-the-art multimedia and multi-sensory technology, you can dive into the Father of Impressionism's paintings and get a glimpse into the inner workings of his mind. Explore his studio and learn about his life, struggles, and inspirations before stepping into the scenery of Monet's Garden where you'll be invited to walk across the bridge and enter the paintings through interactive projections, and finally float among the waterlilies in a completely immersive installation of Monet's most famous work. For tickets, visit <https://www.monets-garden.venuetix.com/show/details/LCcp0OyZiQ8R0YEWke0h>

**Richard Avedon: MURALS**  
**January 19 – October 1**

**The MET Fifth Avenue, 1000 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY**

In 1969, Richard Avedon was at a crossroads. After a five-year hiatus, the photographer started making portraits again, this time with a new camera and a new sense of scale. Trading his handheld Rolleiflex for a larger, tripod-mounted device, he reinvented his studio dynamic. Instead of dancing around his subjects from behind a viewfinder, as he had in his lively fashion pictures, he could now stand beside a stationary camera and meet them head-on. Facing down groups of the era's preeminent artists, activists, and politicians, he made huge photo-mural portraits, befitting their outsized cultural influence. On the centennial of the photographer's birth, Richard Avedon: MURALS will bring together three of these monumental works, some as wide as 35 feet. For Avedon, the murals expanded the artistic possibilities of photography, radically reorienting viewers and subjects in a subsuming, larger-than-life view. For details, visit <https://www.metmuseum.org/exhibitions/listings/2023/richard-avedon-murals>





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