

## Bronxville High School Musicians to Unveil 'The Roaring Twenties'

The talented members of the Bronxville High School band have been preparing to debut a remarkable piece of music, which was crafted by a professional composer specifically for them, during their spring concert on April 17.

Entitled "The Roaring Twenties," the medley of popular jazz tunes from the 1920s pays homage to the school's rich history, founded in 1922. Crafted by composer Carl Strommen, the unique composition presented a challenge to adapt jazz styling to an ensemble of 40 students.

"Writing a jazz chart for a big band is easy, but to make that transfer to a concert band, is extremely difficult," band director Uma Karkala said. "Everything is different – tone, balance, phrasing, intonation. It's a lot of fun but a lot of listening and hard work goes into it making it sound correct. But being able to do this makes it unique and stand out."

Strommen's approach to the composition ensures that it showcased the talents of the students and provides an opportunity for concert bands worldwide to experience it by purchasing and playing the piece. Junior Lia Nacey, who has been playing the flute since fourth grade, expressed her pride in being a part of the collaboration. She said it's an honor to have a composer tailor a piece specifically for her and her classmates who have made a solid commitment to the band program.

"What makes Strommen's arrangement so special is that he arranged these songs specifically based on the Bronxville band program's strong points," Nacey said. "Our band has a solid flute section and a large brass section this year, so Strommen wrote the medley to highlight these instruments. It's like our very own musical signature."

She described her favorite part of the piece to be "My Melancholy Baby," which is the ballad in the middle of the medley that stands out as the singular slow, gentle piece, counterbalancing the rest of the piece.

"A lot of the songs in 'Roaring Twenties' have a very energetic punch to them, which is something our band can pull off exceptionally well," Nacey said. "My Melancholy Baby' really shows off our versatility. We can be excited and expressive, but we can also show more reservation and quiet."



## Flood Mitigation Dominant Topic at Bronxville Board Meeting

BY STEPHEN E. LIPKEN

Deputy Mayor Robert S. Underhill convened the March 11th Bronxville Board of Trustees meeting, saying that the Village Board, "has been spending a tremendous amount of time on stormwater improvements, an ongoing effort over the last decade, starting with the Midland Basin Drainage Project."

"We have been doing a lot of work with respect to flooding occurring at the Sussex and Hamilton intersection, setting out the facts as we have experienced them and will be posting those to our website shortly (villageofbronxville.com)"

Village Administrator Jim Palmer added that the Village is working on projects to address surface runoff in different locations, particularly the Hamilton-Sussex neighborhood, extending down Homesdale, across Locust to and through the Central Park Drainage System that the Village shares with the City of Mount Vernon.

"Background for the project really started with Tropical Storm Ida and reoccurring in subsequent events, most notably the April 30th and September 29th events of 2023, but especially

with Ida."

"The proposed drainage system follows the existing drainage in that area, coming off of 22, down Sherman, down Sussex, making its way to the low point of Hamilton and Sussex. From there

the drainage runs across Pondfield, down Homesdale, across Locust and down Central Parkway."

"On March 1st, the Village received a letter from Mount Vernon, requesting that Bronxville cease construction of the project and address the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS 4) issue. On March 7th, the Village agreed to suspend the project and meet with Homesdale residents.

"A March 1, 2022 sample was taken by Mount Vernon, indicating [alleged] elevated fecal matter from Bronxville." Palmer stressed that the Village vigilantly cleans lines and televises pipes.

Public Hearing regarding Local Law 1-2024, Sanitary Sewer Laterals, Inspection and Repairs was tabled for future conversation and input but nonetheless requires plumber's inspection of homeowner's connections leading to municipal stormwater sewer lines.

Finally, Local Law 2-2024, Tax Cap Override was passed.



Village Administrator Jim Palmer

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# The Picture House Film Club Bronxville continues with Sundays at the Cinema

The Picture House Regional Film Center will continue Sundays at the Cinema in Bronxville with a second season to kick off on April 14th at 1:00pm. Following the successful launch of the themed series in January, the new four-part film club series will showcase classic Hollywood political films, both comedies and dramas. After each screening, the audience will enjoy behind-the-scenes insight through lively Q&A discussion often with guest experts and insiders from the film industry. Veteran film critic Joe Neumaier returns to curate and host the series which promises to ignite thoughtful commentary and discussion. As Neumaier commented, "Sometime satirical, sometimes incisive, always intriguing and entertaining and starring some of Hollywood's biggest stars, these four politically-themed movies from years past are the perfect running mates for an election year."

"We are thrilled with the response to Sundays at the Cinema, which offers our members a new unique experience to study films centered around a similar theme," said Clayton Bushong, Executive Director of The Picture House. "Joe's experience and perspective is a major draw for the Series - he hosts great discussions with amazing guests. As one of our most popular programs, we excited to present this fresh approach, confident that political films will generate exciting conversation!"

To subscribe to Film Club, you must be a current member of The Picture House. Spring Film Club Bronxville dates: April 14, 21, 28 and May 5.

For more information about The Picture House, visit [www.thepicturehouse.org](http://www.thepicturehouse.org), call (914) 738-3161, or email [info@thepicturehouse.org](mailto:info@thepicturehouse.org).

The Picture House has two locations: The Picture House Pelham is located at 175 Wolfs Lane, Pelham, New York, 10803. The Picture House Bronxville is at 84 Kraft Avenue, Bronxville, NY, 10708.



Joe Neumaier

# Bronxville Police Department Recognized During Lutheran Schools Week at The Chapel School

On Wednesday, March 6, The Chapel School community was pleased to welcome and recognize Chief Satriale and several of his officers from the Bronxville Police Department at a special Lutheran Schools Week service. The week's theme was "CONNECTED", and a school-wide service project was the collection of treats for the Bronxville PD, as a small token of appreciation for their public service. Principal Michael Schultz shared a



message about how we are CONNECTED to God and each other as we are unified in joy and celebration, striving toward lives of service as a family bound and protected by God's Love.

"We felt strongly that the Bronxville PD should be recognized for their lives of service and their dedication to protecting the community, which includes our school 'home,'" commented Schultz. "Aside from their regular presence, BPD's guidance, cooperation, and review have enabled us to implement a series of state-of-the-art security measures that keep our faculty, staff, and students safe and set our families' minds at ease. We truly appreciate the Bronxville PD, their partnership and service."

For more information about The Chapel School, visit [www.thechapelschool.org](http://www.thechapelschool.org).



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Offered at \$2,495,000



7 Locust Lane, Bronxville  
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Offered at \$3,195,000



37 Sturgis Road  
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Offered at \$2,695,000



11 Burkewood Road, Mount Vernon  
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Offered at \$1,295,000



16 Argyle Place, Bronxville  
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# From the Office of the Mayor



BY MAYOR MARY MARVIN

MARCH 19, 2024

## The Bronxville Adult School

The spring 2024 session is underway with offerings across so many disciplines including many new classes, as well as returning favorites in the fields of arts, business, technology, food and drink, dance, fitness, sports, and so much more. There also are some historical day trips in the New York City environs that are offered nowhere else. I urge you to go visit their website at [www.bronxville-adultschool.org](http://www.bronxville-adultschool.org) and take a look at the plethora of offerings.

## Financials

The year 2023 was exceptional with an additional \$700,000 added to the unassigned fund balance bringing it to \$9,427,194. This was all the result of conservative budgeting for revenues and the assistance of some major building permits including renovations to our hospital and also strong sales tax revenues all while keeping expenses very close to budgeted.

We also just received our Moody's credit opinion reaffirming out Aaa status – the highest rating possible indicating the GO bonds are of the highest quality with minimal risk.

Sales tax revenue for the period of July – December was strong with our receipts equaling \$894,000 (we budgeted \$1,550,000 for whole year) and we still have two payments to go so we should easily exceed budget. County sales tax revenues for January came in at \$16,656 million vs. \$18,755 last January – an 11% decrease so as trending nationally, sales have pulled back in our area as well. We should still come in close to \$1.7 million for the fiscal year.

Shopping local as you can see from our financial statement referencing sales tax is a huge portion of our revenue stream and without your local spending, tax increases would easily be in high double digits on the Village side of the budget.

The winter months with all the vacations and the less than optimal walkability some days has an adverse effect on the merchants so I ask you now more than ever, to please make a concerted effort to shop in the Village; meet some of our new merchants, support the ones who have supported us for so long and add to the Village coffers so that we can increase Village services and institute new projects to enhance the entire community. The relationship of shopping locally, home values and the Village financial health is inextricably intertwined.

## Infrastructure Maintenance

Our new sanitary discharge compliance

program's purpose is to reduce infiltration in the flow of clean waters into the public sanitary sewer system and to reduce sewage exfiltration into the natural waterways of the Village. The law requires a plumber to perform an inspection and provide an affidavit that the sewer lateral has been tested and/or illegal connections or defects have been eliminated, repaired, replaced, or rehabilitated.

The goal of this new local law is to assure that the private sewer line, extending from a building/house to a public sewer line is operating correctly and is free of conditions such as cracks or breaks that may allow infiltration of stormwater or ground water into the pipe and that the lateral does not have any unauthorized connections such as sump pump discharges, roof leaders or yard drains as property owners are, and have always been responsible for maintaining all private sewer laterals lines that extend from their property to the Villages sewer lines.

## Building Permits

There has been confusion of late as to what triggers a building permit when embarking on home improvement projects this spring and summer. Essentially a building permit is needed for any construction, alteration, moving, demolition or change in the nature or occupancy of any building.

It also includes any electrical installation or modification to a building's electrical system. Plans must be filed both with the village and inspected by an approved electrical inspection agency. In addition, any exterior lighting fixtures installed must now be incandescent unless approved by the Village Planning Board.

Building permits are also needed for the

installation of or alterations to elevators and all new or replacement fence installations. Repairs to existing fences do not trigger a building permit. All in-ground swimming pools are required to be completely enclosed by fencing in conformity with New York State requirements.

As to kitchen and bathroom renovations, any alteration or replacement of cabinetry, countertops, sinks, tile, fixtures, etc., need a permit.

Permits are also required for the installation or replacement of a shed, installation or replacement of a roof or siding, as well as the installation of any recreational playsets. Changes in plumbing also trigger permits when any installation affects drainage, vent, or water supply piping, including the extension, relocation, and/or removal of piping, as well as the installation/addition/alteration to gas piping.

Emergency generator equipment also triggers the need for a permit as does the installation or removal of oil-burning equipment including boilers, burners and fuel tanks.

When doing kitchen and bathroom renovations, any alteration and replacement of cabinetry, countertops, sinks, tile, fixtures, etc. triggers the permit process and depending on the type of work contemplated, you may need one or more permits to finish the project. Since every construction project is unique, please contact the Building Department at 914-337-7338 for detailed instructions on which permits you'll need before you begin work so as not to engender confusion or needlessly cause a work stoppage. The best way to reach the Building Department is often by email or visit <https://www.villageofbronxville.com/building-department/pages/permits>.



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## Etain Opens Its First Co-located Adult-use and Medical Dispensary in White Plains



On March 1, Etain hosted a historic grand opening celebration for its first co-located adult-use/medical dispensary. As New York's first women-founded medical cannabis brand Etain sells high-quality cannabis products from its premium Etain brand and other women-founded companies like House of Puff.

The grand opening was an opportunity to introduce Etain's gallery-inspired dispensary to the community and educate customers on the company's approach to education and product curation.

Thomas Roach, the mayor of White Plains; Chris Alexander, the executive director of the Office of Cannabis Management; and representatives from the White Plains Business Improvement District and the White Plains Common Council joined Etain's Founders and executives for the day-time ribbon-cutting ceremony.

Over 200 guests attended the evening celebration including Etain patients and customers and members of the White Plains and New York cannabis community. The event also supported other local White Plains businesses, which included lunch catering and party sweets by Iron Tomato and bites and mocktails by Little Drunken Chef.

"Westchester has been Etain's home for many years, and the significance of unveiling the first co-located dispensary in this community holds a profound meaning," said Hillary Peckham, Co-founder of Etain and VP of Marketing. "Since our founding in 2015, we have been ingrained in the cannabis community, consistently uplifting and empowering fellow women-led brands in the industry. We are ecstatic to introduce the Etain brand, featuring our exceptional cannabis products and fellow standout brands, to the White Plains community."

"Etain's commitment to New York and the creation of an inclusive, safe, and thriving market has never wavered. White Plains was selected as the first Adult-Use and Medical Dispensary for the Etain brand, and we are excited to

unveil a new, remodeled store layout to elevate the cannabis retail experience and embrace the unique needs of Etain's adult-use customers and medical patients alike," said Mike Totzke, COO and interim CEO of RIV Capital.

The White Plains dispensary's open floor plan welcomes visitors blending integrative wellness offerings, personal consultations, and premium products to create an inviting space for medical patients and adult-use consumers. The gallery-inspired space features a curated menu of Etain's branded adult-use and medical cannabis products, as well as a selection of cannabis brands showcasing women-founded and locally rooted New York brands.

Honoring Etain's female-founded roots, the centerpiece of the space is a bespoke mural by renowned street artist Claw Money. Inspired by her Etain Limited Edition Motif Vape Battery design and custom Balance Blend Pod, debuting exclusively at the dispensary's opening, the vibrant mural features Claw Money's distinctive claw insignia amidst sharp graphic lines, complemented by locally sourced plants and flowers.

Adjacent to the mural stands another notable feature - an innovative display featuring House of Puff. Customers are immersed in the captivating world of House of Puff, where they can explore their artist-inspired luxe accessories and a new Spritz cannabis product. This space will serve as a focal point to update with additional brands and showcase products and artists from New York.

For medical cannabis patients, a Very Important Patient (VIP) experience awaits, complete with priority access, a dedicated check-out line, and exclusive access to Etain's on-site pharmacist - ensuring continued access to premium medical cannabis products and maintaining the essence of a concierge medical experience. Etain's commitment to providing a unique and enriching environment sets the stage for a new era in cannabis retail.

For more information, visit [www.Etain.com](http://www.Etain.com).

## Saint Joseph's Medical Center Welcomes New Orthopedic Surgical Team and ARTHUR



From left, Orthopedic Surgeon David Lent, MD, Orthopedic Surgeon Eric Spencer, MD; Thomas Melillo, Director, Communications and Public Relations; Saint Joseph's Medical Center; Saint Joseph's Medical Center President & CEO Michael Spicer and Mayor Mike Spano

As part of its new orthopedic practice, Saint Joseph's Medical Center introduced its new state-of-the-art surgical robot. Called ARTHUR, the robot uses Stryker's Mako™ Robotic-Arm Assisted Technology to perform robotic assisted orthopedic surgery for partial and total knee replacement and total hip replacement procedures.

ARTHUR is part of the hospital's ongoing investment in enhancing its orthopedic services with Southern Westchester Orthopedics and Sports Medicine joining Saint Joseph's Medical Practice, PC. The new orthopedic practice is led by renowned orthopedic surgeons, David Lent, MD, FAAOS, and Eric Spencer, MD, FAAOS.

ARTHUR stands for Advanced Robotic Technology for Human Ultra-precise orthopedic Reconstruction. The robot was named through a contest held by Saint Joseph's Medical Center which attracted hundreds of entries from area residents. The winning entry was from Thomas Melillo, Director, Communications and Public Relations, Saint Joseph's Medical Center

Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano was on hand March 13 to welcome the hospital's new orthopedic team and to meet ARTHUR.

Mako Robotic-Arm Assisted Technology is an innovative solution that combines robotic precision with the skill and expertise of orthopedic surgeons. This state-of-the-art technology allows for personalized surgical plans based on the patient's unique anatomy, resulting in improved outcomes, faster recovery times, and enhanced patient satisfaction.

With the Mako system, patients requiring orthopedic surgery undergo a pre-surgical CT scan to create a precise 3D model of their joint. This serves as the foundation for the development of a customized surgical plan tailored to the individual patient. During the operation, the surgeon guides the robotic arm, following the pre-operative plan and making real-time adjustments as necessary. The system ensures precision within predetermined boundaries, minimizing the risk of complications commonly associated with traditional joint replacements.

Southern Westchester Orthopedics and Sports Medicine's office is located at 970 North Broadway in Yonkers. For more information or to book an appointment, call (914) 476-4343 or visit [westchesterorthopedic.com](http://westchesterorthopedic.com).

To learn more visit [saintjosephs.org](http://saintjosephs.org).

# Be Brilliant! Tutoring Announces Grand Opening of New Center in Bronxville

Be Brilliant! Tutoring has announced the opening of their first location in Bronxville, at 51 Pondfield Road. Be Brilliant! Tutoring (BB!T) offers unparalleled educational support to students ages 4 through 14 seeking to enhance their academic performance and discover their innate brilliance. With a rich history of fostering exceptional educational outcomes, including the instrumental role in establishing two charter schools in the Bronx that have consistently surpassed New York State averages on tests, Be Brilliant! Tutoring is set to make a significant impact on the community.

Established in 2003 by several of the same founders of Be Brilliant! Tutoring, LLC, the Bronx Charter Schools for Better Learning's (BBL) core pedagogy is the basis for the tutoring to take place at the new Bronxville center.

"We know how to tap children's inherent drive to know more. We clarify, with them, the way to excel in school, whether they're already doing well, or struggling to keep up, or anywhere in between. Our tutors are not just educators; they trust in the natural brilliance of every child. They work closely with families to maintain a nurturing and positive environment, helping to unveil and develop the multitude of gifts each student possesses. Their approach has proven successful for thousands of students, from those labeled with learning disabilities to high achievers aiming for even greater excellence," states Theodore Swartz, Ph.D., Co-Founder and Co-Manager of Be Brilliant! Tutoring.

Students enrolled at BB!T will benefit from a tailored program that not only aims for better grades and higher test scores, but also focuses on three critical areas for future success: Fulfillment, Confidence, and Brilliance. The unique methodology used by the Master Teachers fosters satisfaction and joy in learning, cultivates self-assurance and independence, and helps students realize their intellectual potential.

The center serves children pre-kindergarten through 8th grade and has flexible days and hours to accommodate student and parent schedules. All tutoring is done in person and video streaming of the sessions is available. Slots are limited and parents are encouraged to call (914) 392-1655 for more information. The website with additional details is [www.bebrillianttutoring.com](http://www.bebrillianttutoring.com).



# Iona University Receives \$10,000 Grant for Local Mental Health Workshops and Trainings in Bronxville

The Community Fund of Bronxville, Eastchester and Tuckahoe has awarded Iona University a \$10,000 grant to conduct local workshops this spring that focus on managing stress, depression and anxiety.

"We are thrilled to partner with The Community Fund to provide these important workshops for local residents," said Kavita Dhanwada, Ph.D., founding dean of the NewYork-Presbyterian Iona School of Health Sciences. "This opportunity both aligns with Iona's mission of service to our local communities and gives our students the chance to gain real-world experience applying the lessons of the classroom into the world beyond."

Three one-hour workshops will take place this spring at Iona's Kelly Center for Health Sciences in Bronxville. Workshops include: Stress Management for Teenagers; Mental, Emotional and Relational Well-Being & Health; and Racism and Multicultural Awareness.

The grant will be implemented by graduate students from Iona University's Marriage & Family Therapy and Mental Health Counseling programs.

The goal is to help improve health outcomes based on the Community Fund's recent Community Needs Assessment, which identified a large gap surrounding mental health and well-being.

Amy Korb, executive director of The Community Fund, said the needs assessment, conducted in partnership with Pace University's Wilson Center for Social Entrepreneurship, provided important data to understand what services were most needed.

"Our staff, in partnership with our board, worked together to develop the mental health discretionary fund and find robust programs that provide tangible help to our community members," Korb said. "This isn't just about mental health awareness; it is about providing our community members with the services and tools to help them thrive."

To learn more, contact The Community Fund at [info@thecommunityfund.org](mailto:info@thecommunityfund.org) or 914-337-8808.



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# Science Olympiad Students Earn Medals at Regional Competition

A group of 17 Bronxville Middle School students participated in the Science Olympiad Lower Hudson Regional Tournament at Scarsdale Middle School on March 2. They competed against students from across the region and earned medals in several events. A total of 32 teams competed in 20 different building and study events.



Jean Windels, a science teacher, and the team's adviser, said her students have been preparing for the competition since October, building elastic-powered cars, balsa wood towers, ping pong ball launchers and a balsa wood plane.

In the category of the car, which was powered by rubber bands released with a trigger and required to travel a specific distance as fast as possible, Lucas Gonzalez-Asturias earned third place; Ariel Agrawal earned sixth place; and Caroline Rooney and Ines Hanjis earned 10th place.

Max Gilmer and Anders Widen earned third place in air trajectory for their ping pong ball launcher. They built a device which launched a ping pong ball using air power from a soda bottle.

Zoe Hamerling and Adele Zichello earned seventh place in ecology, which was a study event consisting of concepts related to the interaction of living and nonliving things.

Zeke and Hunter Malpass earned sixth place in fast facts, during which they were tasked with naming concepts within specific categories that began with certain letters of the alphabet.

Windels said the Science Olympiad allows students to participate in STEM activities without much pressure. They have the freedom to choose the events they'd like to compete in and throughout the process, they learn to solve problems, persevere, work with new tools and learn new concepts.

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS



Thursday Matinee: The Holdovers  
April 4 from 1:30 to 3:45pm

This movie follows a curmudgeonly instructor at a New England prep school who is forced to remain on campus during Christmas break to babysit the handful of students with nowhere to go. Eventually, he forms an unlikely bond with one of them a damaged, brainy troublemaker, and with the school's head cook, who has just lost a son in Vietnam.



Meditation Group

Thursday, April 4 from 3 to 4:30pm

This event takes place in person in the Board Room located on the lower level of the Library. First come, first served, with a maximum capacity of eight people. Recharge and refresh with 90 minutes of meditation and light yoga. Reconnect with your body, recharge your vitality, develop inner peace, and leave feeling relaxed, empowered and revitalized. Group leader Norma Nathan has over thirty years experience facilitating meditation and personal growth events.



Grades 3-6: Eclipse Program

Thursday, April 4 from 4 to 5pm

Program Details TBA. Each participant will get their very own pair of Solar eclipse glasses to wear on the big day! Call to register: 914-337-7680 ext 834.

Aging in Place: A Guide to Growing Older at Home  
Monday, April 8 from 3 to 4pm

This event will take place in person in the Yeager Community Room located on the lower level of the library. Registration requested: Stop by or call the

Reference Desk, (914 337-7680 ext. 824. Nearly 90 percent of seniors wish to stay in their own home as they age (source: AARP). Join elder law attorney Lauren C. Enea, Esq. as she explains how to prepare a home to safely age in place through senior-proofing, necessary legal documents, strategies for bill paying and financial management, as well as an overview of the Medicaid home care program. Ms. Enea practices exclusively in the fields of elder law and trusts & estates, protecting the rights of seniors, the disabled and their families. She is a senior associate at Enea, Scanlan and Sirignano, LLP in White Plains and Somers, NY. For more information, visit [www.esslawfirm.com](http://www.esslawfirm.com).



Adult Craft Program: Still Life Painting

April 11 from 1:30 to 3pm

This program will take place in person in the Yeager Room located on the lower level of the Library. Registration required. Stop by or call the Adult Reference Desk: (914) 337-7680 ext. 824. Join us for a still life workshop taught by Kören Beck of Edgemont Art Barn. Learn about color, composition, shading and more in a relaxed and supportive environment. We will use colored pencil, pastel and watercolor. Come try something new or pick up some helpful tips. All levels welcome. Kören teaches art and design at schools and libraries throughout Westchester County. She has her MFA from Parsons School of Design and loves to work with students of all ages.

Adult Book Discussion Group

Tuesday, April 16 from 7 to 8:30pm

This event will take place in person at the Library in the Yeager Room. This month we will discuss The Bookman's Tale, a novel by Charlie Lovett. New members who would like to join the discussion should contact the group leader: [maryhogan-camp@gmail.com](mailto:maryhogan-camp@gmail.com)



British Romantic Landscape and the Search for the Sublime

Thursday, April 18 from 1:30 to 2:30pm

This event will take place in person in the Yeager Community Room located on the lower level of the Library. John Constable's lyric naturalism conjures up the pre-industrial, rural society of his boyhood

while J. M. W. Turner's dramatic depictions of the fury of nature and of modern life in an industrial society are the two poles around which British Romantic landscape painting revolved during the early 19th century. Their attitudes towards nature and their bravura brushwork anticipated the work of the later French Impressionists. Join us for this lecture given by retired art history professor, Dennis Raverly.



TEENS: Paws-a-while with Griffon

Thursday, April 18 from 6:30 to 8pm

Middle / High school Aged Teens

Take a study break with Griffon in the Teen Room.

FOBPL Annual Benefit Party

Friday, April 19 from 7 to 10pm

Tickets are on sale now! Visit [https://secure.lglforms.com/form\\_engine/s/lnq5bwyPWWqg-PzA3SStNnw?t=1708968063](https://secure.lglforms.com/form_engine/s/lnq5bwyPWWqg-PzA3SStNnw?t=1708968063) to purchase or visit [fobpl.org](http://fobpl.org) for more information.

Medicare 101 (Zoom)

Saturday, April 20 from 10am to noon

This is a Zoom event. To receive the link for the webinar, visit [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_xyULapYJTua3Hwyl-OEBYQ#/registration](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_xyULapYJTua3Hwyl-OEBYQ#/registration). Are you currently enrolled in Medicare? Will you be turning 65 over the next year or two? Learn about eligibility, how and when to enroll, when you can make changes, and the insurance options available to you. Review and compare what services are covered/not covered under Medicare Parts A, B, C and D. Detail the costs associated with medical and drug insurance. Explore and evaluate Original Medicare, Medicare Supplement Insurance, Prescription Drug Plans and Medicare Advantage Plans. This program will simplify the choices you need to make, help you make more well-informed decisions and explain what Medicare means for you! This is an educational event presented by James W. Farnham, MS, MBA.

Music Trivia

Thursday, April 25 from 1:30 to 2:30pm

This program will take place in person in the Yeager Community Room located on the lower level of the Library. Registration requested. Stop by or call the Adult Reference Desk: (914) 337-7680 ext. 824. Come join us for some music trivia! Fun, all-original music trivia questions that span many generations and music genres. We'll throw in a little "Name that Tune" of sorts to keep you on your toes. We know Elvis is the King, but let's see who the real music champs are. If you like music, you're going to have to be here for this one! Presented by Denise and David of Sticker Book Publishing.

Artificial Intelligence and You  
Tuesday, April 30 from 4 to 5pm

This event will take place in person in the Yeager Community Room located on the lower level of the Library. Registration required. Stop by or call the Adult Reference Desk: (914) 337-7680 ext. 824. In this informative lecture, we will discuss what Artificial Intelligence (AI) is, the different forms of it, how it is currently used in business and everyday life and the pros and cons of AI and how it might affect you. Presented by Frank Calderone, Branch Manager and Financial Advisor with Raymond James Financial Services, Inc.



38th Annual Golf Outing

Monday, May 13

Siwanoy Country Club

The Community Fund

Enjoy the beauty of the new clubhouse and an amazing round of golf supporting a great cause. This year, the event will be a shotgun format with lunch, followed by an evening dinner event featuring a live and silent auction. Golfer Registration Opens April 1st! Now more than ever, your support is crucial to the success of The Community Fund's mission. Visit <https://thecomunityfund.org/annual-golf-outing/> for complete details.

Bronxville High School Spring Concert

April 17 at 7pm

The students will premiere "The Roaring Twenties" in the auditorium. The experience was made possible thanks to a generous grant from the Bronxville School Foundation. The talented members of the Bronxville High School band have been preparing to debut a remarkable piece of music, which was crafted by a professional composer specifically for them.



Hidden Faces: Covered Portraits of the Renaissance at The Met

The Met Fifth Avenue, Robert Lehman Wing, Gallery 964

Hidden Faces: Covered Portraits of the Renaissance is the first exhibition to examine an intriguing but largely unknown tradition of Renaissance painting: multisided portraits in which the sitter's

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## Calendar of Events

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likeness was concealed by a hinged or sliding cover, within a box, or by a dual-faced format. The covers and reverses of these small, private portraits were adorned with puzzle-like emblems, epigrams, allegories, and mythologies that celebrated the sitter's character, and they represent some of the most inventive and unique secular imagery of the Renaissance. The viewer decoded the meaning of the symbolic portrait before lifting, sliding, or turning the image over to unmask the face below. For details, visit <https://www.metmuseum.org/exhibitions/hidden-faces-covered-portraits-of-the-renaissance>



Annual Lyndhurst in Bloom Flower Show  
Saturday, April 20 – Sunday, April 21  
Lyndhurst in Bloom includes major floral art installations and an expanded slate of activities on Saturday, April 20th and Sunday, April 21st (with a members-only preview event on Friday, April 19th). Lyndhurst in Bloom offers a fresh twist on a traditional flower show, transforming the fabled Lyndhurst mansion and grounds into a contemporary celebration of all things floral. Visitors will experience a wonderland of color and texture as they walk through the mansion's three floors without a guided tour- perfect for all ages. For full details, see <https://lyndhurst.org/events/lyndhurst-flower-show/>.

Prom 914's Formal Wear Giveaway  
April 26 - April 28  
The Westchester County Center  
198 Central Avenue, White Plains  
Sponsored by Westchester Gov. \*Free Bee-Line Bus Fare with HS ID to and from the Westchester County Center\*  
Friday, April 26th, 1pm-5pm – Free dresses and tuxedos for all HS Seniors with valid HS ID or transcript. Reservations required. Scan or visit: <https://forms.gle/XapMtfDed4WXDJaZ8>  
JUST SHOW UP! Saturday, April 27th, 10am-3pm – Free dresses and tuxedos for all HS Seniors with valid HS ID or transcript. Sunday, April 28th, 10am-2pm – Open to all students and the general public. \*Dresses Only\* \$10 donation per dress. \*Tuxedos/suits NOT available.

St. Paul's Church National Historic Site  
897 South Columbus Avenue, Mt. Vernon  
914-667-4116 and visit [www.nps.gov/sapa](http://www.nps.gov/sapa)  
19th Annual Aronson Memorial Lecture  
April 13 at 1pm  
At 1 PM, distinguished author and Lincoln scholar Harold Holzer chronicles themes from his new

book, *Brought Forth on This Continent: Abraham Lincoln and American Immigration*. At 4 PM, Dr. Ilyon Woo explores themes from her New York Times best-selling book, *Master Slave, Husband Wife: An Epic Journey from Slavery to Freedom*.  
Bronx Opera Company  
April 17 at 3pm  
Featuring arias and duets from the classics, with accompanying music on the 1830 Erben pipe organ.

Captor in Question  
May 11 at 1pm  
A performance of "Captor in Question," about a debate in Congress, in 1818, featuring John Paulding and Rep. Benjamin Tallmadge, over payment of a pension to one of the militia soldiers who captured Major John Andre' in 1780, part of the infamous Benedict Arnold treason episode.

Pitch in for Parks  
April 18-22  
Started in the late 90's, Pitch in for Parks is the largest multi-day volunteer event that helps get parks ready for peak season culminating on Earth Day April 22. Park stewards will help with trash clean up, clearing trails and shorelines, restoring wildlife habitats, removing invasive vines from trees, painting, raking, and preparing and planting flower beds. To register as a group, school, or company team, visit <http://tinyurl.com/wpfvolunteers>

Free Screening of the Documentary 'LIKE' – Understanding and Creating Balance in Social Media  
Present by The Youth Community Fund of Bronxville, Eastchester, and Tuckahoe  
Wednesday, April 3 at 7pm  
The Bronxville Picture House  
84 Kraft Avenue, Bronxville  
LIKE breaks down why we find social media so irresistible, examines who is controlling who, and gives you the tools to pivot to a more balanced and contented relationship. It features Silicon Valley entrepreneurs, including the co-creator of the 'LIKE' button, experts in brain science and regular teenagers. Reserve your free spot by visiting [https://www.eventbrite.com/e/screening-of-the-documentary-like-social-media-balance-tickets-861023894647?aff=oddtcreator&utm\\_source=email&utm\\_medium=sparkpost&utm\\_campaign=postpublish](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/screening-of-the-documentary-like-social-media-balance-tickets-861023894647?aff=oddtcreator&utm_source=email&utm_medium=sparkpost&utm_campaign=postpublish)

99 Years Celebration  
Bronxville Women's Club  
Wednesday, April 24 from 6 to 8:30pm  
135 Midland Avenue, Bronxville  
Featuring live music, chef stations, passed hors d'oeuvres, a selection of beverages, formal picture taking opportunity. Catering by Ciao Restaurant. Visit [https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted\\_button\\_id=KCSATA4Q3NP6C&source=qr](https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=KCSATA4Q3NP6C&source=qr) for more information.

Email events to:  
[shorelineproduction@gmail.com](mailto:shorelineproduction@gmail.com)

# State Senate Majority Leader Stewart-Cousins, Senator Mayer, and ArtsWestchester Host Women's History Month Celebration



(L to R) Rachel M. Simon, Flor Bromley, Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, Senator Shelley B. Mayer, ShanelleTheArtist, Estelle Messina Bikibili, Janet Langsam, Jessy Mendez

State Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, Senator Shelley B. Mayer, and ArtsWestchester hosted a Celebration of Women's Art and Cultural Expressions on March 23, in honor of Women's History Month.

Community members from throughout Westchester came to watch performances by four remarkable female artists and to listen to a panel discussion on women's art, inspiration, and challenges.

Leader Stewart-Cousins, Senator Mayer, and ArtsWestchester welcomed four artists: Estelle Messina Bikibili (Stella the Artiste), a Motown/Soul singer and pianist; Flor Bromley, a Latin singer/songwriter; Rachel M. Simon, a poet; and Shanelle Watts (ShanelleTheArtist), a spoken word artist.

Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins said, "It was wonderful to host a Celebration of Women's Art and Cultural Expressions in honor of Women's History Month. In celebrating Women's History Month, we honor the resilience, creativity, and indomitable spirit of women throughout history. In Westchester and throughout New York State, we have a rich tapestry of artistic expression surrounding us, and events like these serve as reminders of the impact that art has on our lives. I extend my thanks to our four phenom-

enal artists for their captivating performances, and to my co-hosts, Senator Shelley Mayer and ArtsWestchester."

Senator Shelley Mayer said, "I was happy to host this special celebration of art and culture in honor of Women's History Month. In Westchester, we are so fortunate to have beautiful forms of art all around us, much of it thanks to ArtsWestchester. It is important that we uplift female voices in our community and share experiences with one another through art. I thank Senate Majority Leader Stewart-Cousins and ArtsWestchester for co-hosting this event and I thank the four incredible performers for sharing their work with the community."

Janet Langsam, Chief Executive Officer of ArtsWestchester, said, "I was honored to co-host this event to elevate women artist's creative work with Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins and Senator Shelley Mayer. It is important to ArtsWestchester to make safe spaces for artist's voices to be shared and to be heard. Art is honest and true because artists, so often, get to the heart of the matter through their expressions. Whether through music, poetry, dance or painting, art connects us and brings people together."

Watch the performances at [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Tusaf\\_C7LLY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Tusaf_C7LLY)

visit  
[thebronxvillebulletin.com](http://thebronxvillebulletin.com)

# Social Justice Advocate Mary Mackintosh to be Honored at The Counseling Center's Spring Gala

BY ELLEN EDWARDS, BOARD MEMBER,  
THE COUNSELING CENTER

The Counseling Center, a nonprofit group of mental health care professionals based in Bronxville and serving lower Westchester and the Bronx, has the great privilege of honoring social justice advocate Mary Mackintosh at its Spring Gala, to be held on May 3rd at the Siwanoy Country Club at 6 p.m. Cocktails and a sit-down dinner will be followed by a live auction and paddle raise.

A longtime resident of Bronxville, Mary has advocated for youth and the underserved in a variety of positions over many decades. Mary and her husband Stuart live in the Bronxville home they bought in 1987 where they raised three sons who are now in their late 20s. Currently, Mary is Director of Missional Engagement at the Reformed Church of Bronxville (RCB), where she designs and manages service programs with local and international mission partners and rolls up her sleeves to serve along-side people working in their own neighborhoods.

Mary seeks to engage Bronxville residents in recognizing the challenges faced by our surrounding communities in lower Westchester and working with nonprofit organizations to improve the lives of our close neighbors. Mission volunteers at RCB, led by Mary, currently work with over 20 mission partners in southern Westchester and several organizations overseas. She especially enjoys the chance to engage with people of all backgrounds in our wider community and find ways to link the needs of mission partners with the gifts of church members and others in the Bronxville area. "Working as Director of Missional Engagement at The Reformed Church pulls together my legal and social work background, as well as my nonprofit connections, and adds a spiritual element to serving others in our own southern Westchester communities," says Mary.

Throughout her working life, Mary has been an active volunteer. She has served as a Trustee of World Learning, the Near East Foundation, and the Bronxville Library. For the past twenty years, Mary has advocated for students and their families in her position as Trustee and volunteer for the East Harlem Tutorial Program, a K-12 after-school program that now includes five charter schools, including the first state-of-the-art high school in Harlem. Mary also worked with Judge George McKinnis to develop Bronxville's Community Restorative Justice program, which sought to provide support services rather than jailtime for convicted youth.

You might say that Mary's involvement with Crossing Thresholds, a long-time RCB mission partner, which builds schools and supports children in the poorest neighborhoods of Kenya, began when she was a child and fell in love with the African Continent while reading her grandparents' National Geographic magazines. Mary studied at the University of Ghana and worked in Tanzania



Mary Mackintosh

and Botswana when she was in her 20s, nurturing her commitment to support education and child development in Africa. As a trustee of Crossing Thresholds, she makes about two trips to Nairobi each year, engaging in work that includes encouraging teachers to promote the social and emotional wellbeing of students by replacing outmoded methods of discipline with supportive approaches that address trauma and other causes of misbehavior.

Mary loves her work at the Reformed Church, which she says, "brings together elements of everything I have learned and experienced in my eclectic career." She shares laughter and tears with those she serves and experiences the pangs of separation when they move on to fuller lives. The connections she makes, the partnerships she forms, reflect a living out of our call to love our neighbor—whether that neighbor lives across the street, in the next community, or on the other side of the world.

"The Counseling Center's commitment to serving all people seeking emotional wellness aligns with my strong belief that mental health services should not be a luxury only for those who can afford it," says Mary. "My own work to support young people, advocate for those in need, and build bridges in our community dovetails with the mental health care services provided by The Counseling Center. I especially endorse the Center's fee subsidy program, which offers therapy to scores of clients who could not otherwise afford it. This vital resource changes lives, providing relief to people in pain and hope to those who have lost it."

Funds raised at the gala will support The Center's fee subsidy program, which allows the staff to provide essential services, including psychotherapy, marriage counseling, and family and child therapy, to those who are unable to afford full-fee treatment. The Counseling Center offers assistance to members of the community who are struggling with consuming anxiety and difficult life issues; it seeks to help clients transform their greatest challenges into opportunities for growth, empowerment, and fulfillment.

Not all of this year's live auction items have been finalized, but so far, they include tickets to this spring's hot Broadway show "Cabaret," a multi-course tasting menu with wine for six people at Underhill's Crossing, lunch with our own Mayor Mary Marvin, and two suite tickets plus parking to a regular season game for either the New York Giants or New York Jets at MetLife Stadium. Once again, professional auctioneer Erin Ward will also lead a spirited paddle raise.

The Counseling Center wishes to express its enormous gratitude to the generous benefactors, underwriters, and sponsors of this year's Spring Gala. Please see the names of donors at the end of this article.

There are several ways to purchase tickets to the gala or make a donation: Go to <https://TCCGala24.givesmart.com>, call The Counseling Center at 914-793-3388.

# County Executive George Latimer Delivers 7th Annual State of the County Address

Westchester County Executive George Latimer delivered his 7th State of the County Address, highlighting the County's achievements, ongoing initiatives, and vision for the future. The address, delivered in the Board of Legislators Chamber – "the People's Chamber" – was attended by lawmakers and community members, and underscored the County's commitment to progress, innovation, and inclusivity. In the speech Latimer declared the state of Westchester County to be, "firmly rooted in strength while growing and changing for the better."

Latimer said: "Let us see the value in electing leaders who have no scandals, no hate, no conspiracy theories, leaders who aren't breaking campaign pledges or becoming a national punchline. Together, we can build on the foundation laid by those who have dedicated their lives to Westchester."

In his address, Latimer expressed gratitude to Chairman Vedat Gashi and members of the Board of Legislators for their leadership and collaboration. Latimer also acknowledged the contributions of County officials, recognizing their dedication to serving the community.

Latimer said: "We proudly embody the essence of new faces, individuals who bring fresh perspectives and innovative ideas to the forefront. Yet, intertwined with this newness is the richness of experience and a tapestry of accomplishments that defines the very fabric of our community."

**Financial Stability** – Reflecting on the County's financial stability, Latimer highlighted the passage of the 2024 Westchester County Budget, which maintains the same County property tax levy as 2023, marking the fifth consecutive year without a levy increase.

He emphasized the County's prestigious "AAA" credit rating from Fitch Ratings, as well as its improved credit ratings from S&P Global Ratings and Moody's Investors Service. Additionally, he highlighted the New York State Comptroller lowering the fiscal stress score for the County to zero, indicating outstanding financial stability.

**Social Services** – Latimer showcased initiatives to support residents, including seasonal suspension of the Bee-Line Bus fares, the expansion of the Child Care Scholarship Program to 500% of the Federal Poverty Level and efforts to address food insecurity.

In honor of Women's History Month, Latimer announced his support of proposed legislation to provide free home lock changes for survivors of domestic violence within the county while also providing shelter for survivors while the locks are changed.

**Environment** – The new Recycle Coach app was highlighted in the speech, as well as the work of the Department of Environmental Facilities in expanding the County's existing textile recycling program by offering curbside collection and reaching record numbers in waste recovery and recycling.

Latimer also applauded the Board of Legislators for passing the single-use foodware law as well as the Lead Free Parks Act, the Addressing Asthma in Communities of Color Amendment, the Renewable Energy Database Act and the Equity in Environmental Legislation Act.

Latimer pointed out that the County has made a substantial investment of \$20 million to expand electric vehicle charging infrastructure at County parking facilities, adding that "These efforts underscore our commitment to sustainability and com-

munity well-being."

**Affordable Housing** – Latimer said: "Since our administration first took office in 2018, affordable housing – and the availability of affordable housing throughout the County – has remained a top priority."

Since 2018, nearly six thousand units of affordable housing have been built, were under construction, or are in the pipeline for the future. Additionally, Latimer highlighted the Affordable Housing Investment Flex Fund, a new, affordable housing production tool which was created to help increase the number of units across Westchester.

**Mental Health** – Latimer announced the launch of Lives Forward, new in 2024. A collaboration between the departments of Community Mental Health and Correction, the program trains much-needed peers to help those with addiction and mental health needs. He also highlighted the County's Opioid Response and Overdose Prevention Initiative, Project Alliance, "Reimagining Policing" efforts, supporting the "988" Crisis and Suicide Prevention Hotline, and the County's Mobile Crisis Response Teams.

**Capital Projects** – For the first time in Latimer's tenure, he used the State of the County Address to sign the \$52.8-million-dollar Glen Island Bridge construction Bond Act. The Act is among the most significant construction projects in Westchester County in the past decade.

Latimer said: "Here in Westchester we support infrastructure, always, and we vote and enact legislation to support it. We just don't talk about it"

**Emergency Services** – Latimer highlighted the leadership role taken by the Departments of Emergency Services, Environmental Facilities and Consumer Protection, in developing a lithium ion battery safety program focusing on: legislation, safe disposal, firefighter training and public education. He also spotlighted The HERRO Program and legislation he recently signed aimed at supporting the essential role of volunteer firefighters and ambulance service members by creating a law that establishes guidelines for a property tax break for those who serve, have served and their spouse.

**Public Safety** – Also highlighted in the speech was the Westchester County Threat Assessment Center (WESTAC) aimed at preventing targeted violence and providing the public a direct way to report persons or groups they fear may be planning acts of mass violence or domestic terrorism.

**Health** – Latimer affirmed his commitment to support the uninsured and underinsured residents of Westchester, bolstering our Federally Qualified Health Centers with \$3 million in funding while also setting aside more than \$1 million for the County's Black Maternal Child Health Initiative, and \$1.5-million-dollars to promote tobacco prevention and cessation programs.

**Economic Development** – Latimer applauded the work of the County's Economic Development Department which established the DIG Program, a competitive program in which five municipalities were selected to undergo a market analysis on improvements to their downtowns and the Clean Energy Careers Working Group with Sustainable Westchester.

Read the entire article online at [www.thebronxvillebulletin.com](http://www.thebronxvillebulletin.com)



# Estate Planning for the Family Home

BY BERNARD A. KROOKS,  
CERTIFIED ELDER LAW ATTORNEY

Retirement accounts and the family home are typically two of the largest (in terms of value) assets our clients hold. Last month, we wrote about estate planning for retirement accounts. This month, we will tackle the family home.

There are a number of ways to own your home, or other real property, including tenants by the entirety, joint tenants with right of survivorship, tenants in common, individual ownership, or in some other entity such as a trust, corporation, or partnership. Community property is another way to hold real estate but that does not apply in New York.

**Tenancy by the Entirety:** Tenancy by the entirety is unique to married couples. In fact, in New York when a married couple purchases a property, it is presumed that the property is held as tenants by the entirety, unless otherwise noted. Each spouse has an equal, undivided interest in the whole property and the right to use and occupy it. From an asset protection standpoint, this is generally good news since a creditor cannot force a partition (separation) of the tenancy by the entirety unless the debt is owed by both spouses. Upon the death of one spouse, the other surviving spouse

automatically becomes the sole owner of the entire property, avoiding probate, even if the deceased spouse's will says otherwise.

**Joint Tenants with Right of Survivorship:** Joint tenants with right of survivorship (JT-WROS) is when two or more people hold title to real estate jointly, with equal rights to enjoy the property during their lives. The parties do not have to be married, or even related in order to hold property JT-WROS. Similar to a tenancy by the entirety, upon the death of one of the joint tenants, the property passes to the survivor, avoiding probate. However, unlike a tenancy by the entirety, a creditor of one of the joint tenants may be able to force a sale of the property to collect monies owed.

**Tenancy in Common:** Under a tenancy in common, each owner of the property has a certain interest in the property. While the shares may be equal, it is not uncommon for tenants in common to hold title to unequal shares. For example, you may own real estate as tenants in common with someone else where you own 60% and the other person owns 40%. Even in this scenario where the ownership interests differ, each tenant in common has the right to use and enjoy the entire property, not just their percentage of the property. However, unlike JT-WROS, there is no right of survivorship. If an owner dies, they have the right to transfer

their interest in the property to their family or friends under their last will and testament. If the tenant in common dies without a will, then their interest will pass in accordance with the laws of intestacy.

**Individual Ownership:** Plain and simple, you may own real property in your name alone and no one else's. The good news is that during your lifetime, you won't have to share it with anyone else. This can make things easier in the event you decide to sell or rent the property. You won't need anybody else's consent or input. On your death, your will controls who gets the property. In addition, your will may create trusts for beneficiaries who cannot manage real property or beneficiaries with other special needs. Setting up a trust in your will allows a third party to manage the home for the benefit of your beneficiaries without the home being titled in their name. If you wish, you can choose to transfer ownership of the residence to the beneficiary when they reach a particular age or meet some other condition.

**Trust:** If a trust owns real property, then the terms of the trust control who has the right to use and occupy the trust during your lifetime and who gets the property on your death.

As with individual ownership, you may decide to transfer the property outright or continue to hold it in trust for your beneficiaries, upon your death. Thus, you may give them the right to live in the property without actually owning it. Of course, you will need to decide who pays the ongoing expenses of the property, the trust, or your beneficiaries.

**Conclusion:** We hope this was helpful and not too much legal mumbo jumbo. The best way to own real property depends upon your individual circumstances and your own estate planning goals. One size does not fit all.

*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 a 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).*

## Westchester County Launches Gun Violence Prevention Taskforce

Westchester County Executive George Latimer and Westchester County Legislator Shanae Williams are joining together to announce the Westchester County Gun Violence Prevention Taskforce (WCGVPT). The taskforce, which will fall under the Office of the County Executive, will be aimed at unifying efforts across Westchester County to combat gun violence.

Latimer said: "Gun violence is not a major problem in Westchester County, but one death or injury due to gun violence is one too many and we are focused on getting to the root of the problem. The WCGVPT will serve as a critical platform to address the root causes of gun violence while advocating for effective prevention strategies."

Williams said: "Yonkers is a relatively safe city for its size, but gun violence is still an issue. A few years ago, there was a shooting in front of my building at Getty Square. This incident made me consider ways to address the problem holistically in my community. I am thrilled to partner with County Executive George Latimer and his team in this effort and look forward to working with stakeholders to identify solutions that will eliminate gun violence."

County Legislator James Nolan said: "As someone who lost their brother to illegal gun violence, I know what its impact on a family and a community looks like. I appreciate how proactive the County Executive is being by creating this task force. In 2021, the United States experienced record gun violence. It is high time for all of us to come together and find a solution to this issue. I look forward to doing anything I can to help make the task force successful."

The WCGVPT will work with organizations that are currently making strides in rooting out gun

violence and foster collaboration across these agencies leveraging each other's resources. The task force aims to identify and implement best practices to prevent and ultimately eliminate gun violence from Westchester County.

Latimer said: "The safety and well-being of every resident in Westchester is our top priority. Through the establishment of the Gun Violence Prevention Taskforce, we are taking proactive steps to address this critical issue head-on. By bringing together diverse voices and expertise, we will develop comprehensive strategies to create safer communities for all."

The goals of the WCGVPT:

- Change the social conditions and address the influences that lead young people to resort to gun violence.
- Foster collaboration across all agencies and levels of government, including county, town, village, city and law enforcement agencies.
- Facilitate collaboration between nonprofit and for-profit businesses already engaged in this work.
- Engage the community in meaningful dialogue, including victims and perpetrators of gun violence.
- Develop prevention and intervention strategies tailored to eliminate gun violence.
- Advocate for the necessary resources to support these efforts.

The task force will consist of volunteers representing various backgrounds. For more information on the Westchester County Gun Violence Prevention Taskforce, contact Deputy Director of Operations Emily Saltzman [ESaltzman@WestchesterCountyNY.gov](mailto:ESaltzman@WestchesterCountyNY.gov) or (914) 995-2912.

## ArtsWestchester Announces CEO Janet Langsam to Move on After 33 Years of Stalwart Leadership

After 33 years leading ArtsWestchester, nurturing artists and bolstering the county's cultural infrastructure, Janet Langsam will transition from CEO to CEO Emeritus effective June 30.

An American cultural advocate, artist and journalist with more than 50 years' experience as an arts administrator, Langsam is a former Deputy Commissioner of Cultural Affairs for New York City. A seasoned arts executive with an exceptional track record, Langsam's leadership has been transformative for ArtsWestchester since taking the helm in 1991. She guided the organization to unprecedented accomplishments, including the acquisition and adaptive reuse of the organization's neo-classical landmark headquarters, the launch of the ArtsMobile, the commissioning of more than 30 works of Public Art throughout Westchester County and the successful management of the organization's grants program and overall operations throughout the pandemic.

"Janet leaves an indelible mark on New York State. Over her career to date, she has raised hundreds of millions of dollars for the arts as a tireless advocate for arts in our communities," said John Peckham, Chair of ArtsWestchester's Board of Directors. He continued, "We are grateful to Janet for her leadership and more than three decades of contributions that have kept the arts alive and vibrant in the Hudson Valley. But more importantly, Janet has fought tirelessly to support the key goals of diversity, equality and inclusion for decades - and that is her proudest legacy."

Throughout her tenure at ArtsWestches-

ter, Langsam spearheaded fundraising efforts that secured more than \$75 million for the arts, highlighting her unparalleled dedication to the cultural vibrancy of the region. The arts council flourished under Langsam's leadership, seeing its annual budget grow from \$1 million to nearly \$7 million. During the pandemic, she rallied for the broader arts community by securing \$10 million annually for upstate arts councils and \$1 million in state funds for ArtsWestchester's Restart the Arts Program.

A pivotal moment in Langsam's tenure came in 1998 when under her visionary leadership, ArtsWestchester acquired the historic 12-story bank building in White Plains, transforming it into an arts incubator with new offices, galleries, artist studios and spaces for creative businesses. The investment created a signature home for the organization as well as an income stream. Significantly, this bold vote of confidence in the city's future played a crucial role in fostering the revitalization of the city's downtown.

Westchester County Executive George Latimer said, "Janet Langsam leaves an extraordinary legacy of cultural enrichment in Westchester County. Her visionary leadership at ArtsWestchester built the leading cultural organization from the ground up and made it the beacon that it is today. She helped shape the cultural landscape of our region, and for decades has shown her tireless dedication to the arts."

A nationwide search for Langsam's successor is underway with a selection expected to be announced this spring.

## Table Hopping with Morris Gut Where to Dine After the Spring Orchid Show

A beautiful technicolor harbinger of spring, the annual Orchid Show at the New York Botanical Garden in the Bronx runs through April 21st. I look forward to visiting NYBG, walking through the beautifully restored Enid Haupt Conservatory and beholding the seductive floral arrangements and dramatic plantings. This year's theme: 'Florals in Fashion'. (For additional info: [www.nybg.org](http://www.nybg.org)) After taking in all that beauty, we do get hungry. Here are a few suggestions...

**Dining At NYBG:** There are themed Dining Pavilions throughout the park and near the Enid Haupt Pavilion: the casual Pine Tree Café and farm-to-table Hudson Garden Grill. Open daily. For info: 646-627-7711, or 718-817-8700. [www.nybg.org/visit/dining/](http://www.nybg.org/visit/dining/)

This year visitors can also enjoy cocktails as well as walk the runway during 'Orchid Evenings' filled with entertainment and snacks. These special evening events will take place: April 5,6,12,13,19,20. Evening hours: 7-10 p.m. Reservations are suggested.

**Good Brews at Bronx Beer Hall:** Located inside the historic Arthur Ave. Retail Market, not far from Fordham University and NYBG, the Bronx Beer Hall is a good place to hang for locally-sourced craft beers and wines. Mike's Deli just down the aisle coordinates some the food service with the bar, and it is good, hearty Italian. Good spot for mingling and networking.

Entertainment schedule. Closed Monday. Bronx Beer Hall, 2344 Arthur Ave., Bronx. 1-347-396-0555 [www.bronxbeerhall.com](http://www.bronxbeerhall.com)

**Bureks at Tony & Tina's Pizzeria:** It is a pizzeria, for sure, but this Albanian/Mediterranean-themed eatery on the corner of 189th St. is all about their popular Bureks, flaky Balkan phyllo pies with your choice of fillings: pumpkin, spinach, ground meat, or cheese. Their homemade yogurt goes well as a dipping sauce. There is homemade Baklava for dessert. Open daily. Street parking. Tony & Tina's Pizzeria, 2483 Arthur Ave., Bronx. 718-733-8094 [www.tonytinaspizzeria.com](http://www.tonytinaspizzeria.com)

**Dining With a View at the Sea Shore:** Just a short drive from NYBG. Jeffrey Weiner and his veteran crew on City Island serve abundant platters of seafood at this sprawling 94-year-old institution: Oysters Rockefeller, daily Raw Bar, Lobsters galore, Surf & Turf, Italian specialties, too. Check out all the dining areas. Daily happy hours. Multiple seating areas. Sea Shore Restaurant, 591 City Island Ave., City Island, Bronx. 718-885-0300 [www.seashorerestaurant.com](http://www.seashorerestaurant.com)

*(Morris Gut is a restaurant marketing consultant and former restaurant trade magazine editor. He has been tracking and writing about the food and dining scene in greater Westchester for 30 years. He may be reached at: 914-235-6591. E-mail: [gutreactions@optonline.net](mailto:gutreactions@optonline.net))*

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# The Bronxville Bulletin



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## The Picture House Regional Film Center's Marquee Night 2024 Shines



Front left to right: NY State Assemblywoman Amy Paulin, Amy Kerrigan Cole, Natasha Caputo, Westchester County Executive George Latimer. Back left to right: Clayton Bushong, Executive Director, The Picture House and Joseph Marty, Chairman, Village of Pelham Planning Board.

Despite the rain, the Bronxville Field Club was shining on the evening of March 9 with a standing-room-only crowd for The Picture House regional Film Center's Marquee Night 2024. The sold-out event, chaired by Lisa Rao of Bronxville, was a resounding success and brought together guests from Westchester and beyond with a strong representation from local supporters in Pelham and Bronxville. It was an unforgettable night, uniting the TPH community in a shared mission to celebrate and preserve two historic theaters at the heart and soul of the organization.

"We are grateful to all of our supporters who made Marquee Night 2024 our most successful event ever," said Clayton Bushong, Executive Director, The Picture House Regional Film Center. "At a time when theaters are closing across Westchester and the Tri-State area, the amazing support shown by the community is paramount to ensuring the continued longevity and success of TPH." Bushong also thanked the Marquee Sponsor: The Berkowitz Marrone Team at Christies' International Real Estate for their generosity and continued support of The Picture House.

Among highlights of the evening was the presentation of TPH's Lifetime Achievement Award to Amy Kerrigan Cole, President, AOK Communications, recognizing her dedication and tremendous contributions to the organization for more than a decade. "Through my years working with The Picture House, I learned how important creativity and collaboration are not just in the process of making a movie but also for building a healthy and thriving community," commented Cole in accepting her award. "We need places like The Picture House to bring

us together to share culture and to remind us of the importance of in-person connection. It has been my honor to be a part of The Picture House's growth and I look forward to watching its continued success."

Natasha Caputo, Director of Tourism and Film in Westchester, received the Second Century Award for her impact and influence on the film industry in Westchester County. Special thanks to Will McCormack, Academy Award Winning director, producer and actor, for his touching video tribute to the honorees.

Local officials joined in the festivities, including NY State Assemblywoman Amy Paulin, Westchester County Executive George Latimer and Westchester County Legislator James Nolan.

After-parties at both Bronxville and Pelham theaters featured special screenings of the 2024 Oscar Nominated Shorts with sparkling Prosecco flowing, and a decadent candy and dessert bar which featured brownies from Greyston Bakery and cake pops by Patty Pops of Pelham.

Marquee Night 2024 was made possible by the generosity of sponsors. Special thanks to the Marquee Sponsor: The Berkowitz Marrone Team at Christies' International Real Estate; After Party Dessert Sponsors: Greyston Bakery, Patty Pops and The Stoltz Team; After Party Movie Sponsors: The Gallo Family and Meridian Risk Management; After Party Candy Bar Sponsors: Bronxville Motors, The Gallo Family and Wild Vine & Liquors; and Honoree Sponsors: Caffe Ammi, Dr. Henry A. Blom, Pencil Projects and Westchester County.

For more information, visit [www.thepicturehouse.org](http://www.thepicturehouse.org)

## Winner of Hoff-Barthelson Music School Flute Composition Competition Announced

Hoff-Barthelson Music School announced that Joseph Fong as the winner of the Hoff-Barthelson Music School Flute Composition Competition. Fong's composition "Suite Miniature" was unanimously chosen by the judges from among 38 submissions received from across the globe, including entries from the United States, United Arab Emirates, Portugal, Brazil, Italy, and Mexico. The competition entries were judged anonymously before the winner was selected.

Despite not being a professional musician, Fong, a Bronxville resident and the proud parent of two HBMS students, has ardently pursued music composition as a lifelong passion. His musical prowess has garnered recognition in various North American and international competitions. Fong's musical journey traces back to his piano studies with Gabriel Kwok in his hometown of Hong Kong, further solidified by a Licentiate diploma in piano performance from Trinity College London. He graduated summa cum laude from Yale University, obtaining master's degrees in architecture and business administration. At Yale, he honed his skills in music composition under the tutelage of Jonathan Berger.

The winning composition, "Suite Miniature," a captivating ensemble piece comprising three distinct movements, is set to make its world premiere at Hoff-Barthelson Music School's highly anticipated Music of Our Time Festival on May 19, 2024. The performance, featuring the School's Flute Clubs, will showcase Fong's unparalleled creativity and mastery of composition.

In recognition of his exceptional achievement, Fong has been awarded a prize of \$750.



Joseph Fong

## Westchester County Parks' Conservation Division to Host Solar Eclipse Events

Westchester County Parks' Conservation Division will host solar eclipse events county-wide, Monday, April 8, where participants can safely view the solar eclipse and learn more about this astronomical marvel.

A total solar eclipse is where the moon will briefly cover the sun, leaving the sun's outer corona visible. This eclipse will also fall over more places in the United States than usual.

Westchester County Parks was able to obtain viewing glasses for all events as it is not safe to look directly at the solar eclipse.

Westchester County Executive George Latimer said, "It is rare for a total solar eclipse to be viewable to so many people and it's exciting that it will be partially visible in our area. Experiencing it safely at our parks is a great way to mark this special phenomenon."

Westchester County Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation Commissioner, Kathy O'Connor said, "Our Conservation Division does an incredible job of hosting educational events that inform the public of seasonal environmental happenings, and this event is sure to be both fun and informative."

The following locations will host solar eclipse events:

- Cranberry Lake Preserve in North White Plains, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
  - Edith G. Read Wildlife Sanctuary in Rye, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
  - Lasdon Park, Arboretum, and Veterans Memorial in Katonah, 2:30 p.m. to 4 p.m.
  - Lenoir Preserve in Yonkers, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
  - Trailside Nature Museum at Ward Pound Ridge Reservation in Cross River, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
- Events and parking are free.





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