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VILLAGE OF GARDEN CITY

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FROM THE MAYOR'S OFFICE

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By: Nicholas P. Episcopia

### **LIRR MAIN LINE THIRD TRACK DEIS**

As we have stated in the past, the Draft Environmental Impact Study "DEIS" on the LIRR Main Line third track has been issued. It is well over 1,000 pages and full of technical data. It is on the Village website. The public comment sessions will be held on January 17 and 19. All comments will have to be submitted by January 31, 2017.

In the 12 years I have been on the Board of Trustees, and the seven years with the Eastern Property Owners' Association, I have never seen any governmental body treat Villages and the taxpayers so unfairly. It is virtually impossible for laymen to go through this massive document and conclude whether or not this project will adversely affect Garden City.

I completely understand the anxiety of our neighbors in the West and Estates who will be most affected. All our elected representatives have written letters to the Governor and the MTA complaining bitterly about this ridiculously short time frame to review the DEIS and prepare relevant questions and comments.

The Board of Trustees is presently considering several options which most likely will include retaining experts in the engineering and legal fields to review and critique this document. This will be a costly endeavor and sadly our neighbors in New Hyde Park, Mineola and Westbury do not wish to participate and share the expense. In my opinion their motives are completely selfish and short-sided. We know the time frame is short and the Board of Trustees is working hard to conclude a plan of action as soon as possible.

### **SENIOR CENTER ON GOLF CLUB LANE - RENTALS**

We are happy to announce that the Garden City Department of Recreation and Parks will now have its new Senior Center on Golf Club Lane available for rental to residents. The south room of The Senior Center can be rented on a week night or on the weekends when not in use for a senior event.

Our new facility offers comfortable, climate controlled community rooms year-round at an affordable price from intimate meeting rooms that are perfect for smaller groups or business meetings to parties, christenings, family celebrations and more. Our facility also has a full commercial kitchen used for your choice of caterer and alcohol is permitted. Please click the links below for additional information and an application:

- Senior Center on Golf Club Lane rental prices
- Senior Center permit

### **MENORAH LIGHTING**

Please join me as I light the Menorah on Saturday, December 24, 2016, the first day of Hanukkah. The lighting will take place at 4:30 p.m. on the Village Green. I hope to see you there.

## **BLOOD DRIVE**

The Garden City Fire Department will hold its winter blood drive Tuesday, December 20, 2016 between 2:00 and 8:00 p.m. at Fire Headquarters on Stewart Avenue. Thousands of men, women and children need donated blood products each day, and this need could not be met without the dedication of volunteer blood donors. Current processing techniques allow a single blood donation, when separated into components, to help save at least three lives.

## **TOYS FOR TOTS PROGRAM**

With the holiday season upon us, it is the time to reflect upon how fortunate we are to have the opportunity to share these times with family and friends. As you may be aware, there are many displaced children and adults not so fortunate.

In an effort to bring some happiness to families who will not have the resources to provide a gift for their child this year, the Garden City Police Department has a gift depository for the United States Marine Corps (USMC) Toys for Tots Program.

In the spirit of giving, I ask that if you are able to do so, please drop off an unused, unwrapped gift into the collection box in the lobby of the Garden City Police Department. Your generous gift, no matter how small, could make a difference in the life of another. Thank you in advance for your support of this most worthwhile program.

## **LETTERS TO SANTA**

A special "Santa's Mailbox" has been set up in the waiting area of the Recreation Department's Administrative Offices at 108 Rockaway Avenue. Children can drop their letters in the mailbox and Santa will send them a personalized reply. Santa's mailbox will be available through December 20th.

## **BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING SCHEDULE**

There is only one regularly scheduled Board of Trustees meeting in January and it will be held on Thursday, January 12, 2017. I encourage all residents to attend Board of Trustees meetings so as to be thoroughly informed of Village issues from a first-hand perspective.