

November 25, 2020

THE MAYOR'S UPDATE

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Village Hall and the administrative offices are open for in-person inquiries and business, and all full-time staff has returned to the on-site workplace. Office hours are between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Visitors are required to wear a face covering, maintain social distancing of six feet and sign in to a Visitor's Log outside of the office they are visiting. Furthermore, while multiple people can enter Village Hall, only one person will be admitted into each office space at a time and are asked to abide by employee instructions. Please don't forget to wear a mask and to practice social distancing. We hope you have a very happy and safe Thanksgiving.

SPECIAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

There will be a Special Board Meeting on Tuesday, December 1st beginning at 7:30 p.m. at Cluett Hall for some items that the Board needs to address. One of them is a resolution authorizing the Mayor to engage a law firm to pursue litigation against such parties as are recommended by Counsel for the purpose of removing certain utility poles placed alongside the LIRR right-of-way within Garden City and any other items that may come before the Board.

At 8:00 p.m. the Edgemere Firehouse Committee will be making a presentation to the Board of Trustees. The Fire Chiefs, PKAD and Cameron Engineering will also be in attendance.

GREAT POLICE WORK

As a result of a joint investigation regarding numerous thefts from vehicles parked at golf courses in Garden City and Old Westbury since July 2020, Detectives from both jurisdictions arrested two subjects, a 23-year-old male and a 19-year-old male, for 10 counts of larceny, four counts of possession of stolen property, and four counts of identity theft. In some of these cases, the subjects, both from New York City, used victims' credit cards to make several unauthorized purchases. Upon further investigation, both subjects appear to be suspects in numerous similar thefts at golf courses in other states along the East Coast.

LEAF COLLECTION

The Street Department finished picking up leaves in the Mott Section on Tuesday and immediately began leaf collection in the East Section. The Parks Department is responsible for leaf removal in the Central Section, and supplemented by Recreation Maintenance help, typically has four crews doing leaf pick up each day. One crew works First Street to Third Street, the second works Fourth to Sixth, and the third works back from Old Country Road down to Ninth Street. Crew number four does the short streets, dead ends, commercial areas and Franklin Court. When a crew finishes their section, they revert back to the starting point and repeat the process over again.

TRAFFIC LIGHT INSTALLATION

A traffic light was installed at the corner of Eleventh Street and Golf Club Lane on Thursday, November 19. The Traffic Commission voted to refer to Nassau County a request to study the installation of a light at that intersection back in December 2016. On December 20, 2019, the Commission received a letter from Nassau County Commissioner of Public Works, Kenneth G. Arnold, P.E., advising on their approval for the installation of the traffic light.

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 children who are 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 any unused, unwrapped gifts into collection boxes in the lobbies of the Garden City Police Department and Village Hall. Your generous gifts, no matter how small, could make a difference to a child. Thank you in advance for your support of this most worthwhile program. Last year, the Department collected several boxes of toys that were distributed by the Marines to many children.

THANKSGIVING SANITATION SCHEDULE

Residents are reminded that there will be no garbage pickup or recycling collection on Thursday, November 26, 2020. The holiday week collection schedule is as follows:

Garbage Collection:

Western half: Monday and Friday

Eastern half: Tuesday and Saturday

Rubbish Collection:

Entire Village: Wednesday, November 25, 2020

Recycling Collection:

Thursday collection rescheduled to Thursday, December 3, 2020

HOLIDAY SAFETY TIPS

The holiday season is always a special time of year. It is also a time when busy people become preoccupied and vulnerable to theft and other holiday crime. We can never be too careful, too prepared or too aware. The Garden City Police Department wishes you a safe, happy and peaceful holiday season and offers the following tips:

DRIVING

- If you must shop at night, park in a well-lit area. Lock your vehicle and close all windows.
- Avoid parking next to vans, trucks with camper shells, or cars with tinted windows.
- Park as close as you can to your destination and take notice of where you parked.
- Never leave your car unoccupied with the motor running or with children inside.
- Avoid leaving packages or valuables inside your vehicle where they can be seen by potential thieves.
- When approaching or leaving your vehicle, be aware of your surroundings.
- Do not approach your car alone if there are suspicious people in the area.
- Do not roll down your window if approached by a stranger; talk through the glass or drive away.

HOME

- Ensure all doors and windows are locked when you leave the house, even for a few minutes.
- When leaving home for extended periods, ask a neighbor or family member to watch your house.
- Have someone pick up your newspapers, mail, and deliveries.
- Indoor and outdoor lights should be on automatic timers.
- Leave a radio or television on so the house looks and sounds occupied.
- Gifts should not be visible through the windows and doors of your home.
- Be aware that criminals sometimes pose as couriers delivering gifts.

LEAVING HOME

- Plan your trip carefully and avoid getting lost by knowing the routes you will be taking.
- Tell someone when and where you are going, as well as what time you expect to return home.
- When leaving home, leave interior and exterior lights on and if equipped, activate your alarm system. Be aware of anyone watching or following you when you leave.
- Ensure your car has a full tank of gas and keep your doors locked and windows closed.
- Do not post that you are going on vacation on social media sites.
- Ensure your surveillance systems are on and notification alerts, if equipped, are activated.

AUTOMATED TELLER MACHINE (ATM)

- When using an ATM at night, choose locations that are well-lit and secure.
- Protect your PIN by shielding the ATM keypad from anyone who is standing near you.
- Do not throw your ATM receipt away at the ATM location.

SHOPPING

- Shop during daylight hours whenever possible. At night, shop with a friend or family member.
- Dress casually and comfortably; avoid wearing expensive jewelry.
- Do not carry a purse or wallet, if possible. They are easy targets for thieves in crowded areas.
- Avoid carrying large amounts of cash; pay for purchases with a check or credit card when possible.
- Keep cash in your front pocket.
- Notify the credit card issuer immediately if your credit card is lost, stolen or misused.
- Keep a record of all of your credit card numbers in a safe place at home.
- Avoid overloading yourself with packages and stay alert at all times.
- Be sure to locate your keys prior to going to your car.
- Beware of strangers approaching you for any reason.
- Beware of persons attempting to distract you with the intention of taking your money or belongings.
- If you have a key chain or fob with a panic button, be prepared to use it if you feel threatened.
- When leaving the shopping center, ensure that no one is following you.
- Call 911 when being followed and drive directly to a Police Station or area where people are present.
- If possible, leave small children at home with a trusted babysitter or family member.
- Teach children to stay close to you at all times while shopping.
- Teach your children to go to a store clerk or security officer if they become separated from you.
- Ensure your children know their full name, address and telephone number.
- Never allow children to make unaccompanied trips to the restroom.
- Children should never be allowed to go to the car alone and should never be left alone in the car.