

April 5, 2024

This week's Board of Trustees meeting included a warm welcome to incoming Village Trustees Vinny Muldoon, Judy Courtney and Jessica Tai. I look forward to working with these new Village Trustees and the entire Board as we focus on the many issues of interest to residents. Judy Courtney, as liaison to the Building Department, is leading the project of updating our outdoor dining rules with help from other Village Trustees, and Ed Finneran is leading the effort to come up with a plan to continue the tradition of promenades on 7<sup>th</sup> Street that adequately addresses the significant challenges that arose in recent years. Vinny Muldoon will act as liaison to the business district, and in addition to assisting Trustees Courtney and Finneran, he will also assist in the ongoing efforts to address the beauty and cleanliness of our business districts.

I have delayed resident appointments to Boards and Commissions to allow residents another week to submit their resumes or letters of interest to our Village Clerk, Kelly Galanek. It's a great time to volunteer in your village government! Are you interested in volunteering to promote beautification efforts in the Village? Do you want to be a part of the outreach and educational programs developed by the Environmental Advisory Board? Is sharing our Village history something you are passionate about? Are you interested in serving our Village on any of the other Boards and Commissions where there are openings (Planning Commission, Architectural Design Review Board, Zoning Board of Appeals, Board of Commissioners of Cultural & Recreation Affairs)? Please email [kgalanek@gardencityny.net](mailto:kgalanek@gardencityny.net) and share your areas of interest and why you think you would be a great fit for any of these positions. You can also contact the Village to recommend another resident who you believe would be a great addition to our volunteer team.

### **BUDGET ADOPTION**

Following a budget hearing on Monday April 1, 2024, the Garden City Board of Trustees adopted a \$70.2 million General Fund Operating Budget and \$15.2 million in General Fund capital projects for 2024-25, which will result in an increase of 2 percent in residents' Village tax, the first increase in three years. Village Treasurer Irene Woo and her team worked closely with Department Heads and Village Administrator Ralph Suozzi to formulate the annual budget. Their work culminates with budget work sessions held in March and the annual budget hearing held each year during the annual Organizational Meeting. After making adjustments, the Board, which now includes three newcomers who were sworn in that same evening, unanimously adopted the spending plan. This spending plan results in a tax levy increase of two percent year over year. (The Village had a zero percent tax levy increase in the prior two years.) The increase allowed per the Tax Levy Limit Law is 4.74 percent for the Village this year. According to Village Treasurer Irene Woo, in the last decade, the actual property tax levy increase has been less than the amount allowed per the Tax Levy Limit Law.

### **LIMITED ECLIPSE GLASSES, AND DROP IN VIEWING**

The Garden City Public Library will have a limited number of Solar Eclipse glasses available for pick up beginning Thursday, April 4, for Garden City Library cardholders only! Patrons will be issued only one per Library card on a first come first served basis while supplies last, and must have a valid Garden City Public Library card. No reservations or holds will be taken. A disclaimer must be signed before glasses are given out, so for children 18 and under a parent or guardian must sign. We will also host a Drop in Eclipse viewing program on Monday, April 8 between 2:00-4:30 p.m. A limited number of glasses will be available for viewing at this program, but you must sign the disclaimer form (or have the Library's disclaimer signed by parent or guardian for children under the age of 18. The disclaimer is available at the Circulation Desk, on Eventkeeper, or online. [<https://www.gardencitypl.org/2024/04/03/solar-eclipse-at-the-garden-city-public-library/>] No registration is required. Viewing the eclipse without safe solar viewing glasses is not recommended. For more information contact Adult Services at 742-8405 ext. 5236 or visit [www.gardencitypl.org](http://www.gardencitypl.org).

### **SPRING HYDRANT FLUSHING**

Each spring the Garden City Water Department opens and flows (flushes) hydrants. This annual maintenance program is essential to the operation. Annual flushing will begin Monday evening, April 8, and continue through the month of April. Flushing water mains is a way to clean out a build-up of dissolved minerals inside our mains. This build-up is caused by reduced water demand during the winter months. These deposits settle to the bottom of the mains and must be cleaned out so that they don't cause discolored water in the future. Flushing is done between the hours of 11:30 p.m. and 7:30 a.m., to keep the disturbance to your water service to a minimum during normal water usage time. While flushing is occurring in your area, you may have some slight fluctuations in water pressure and temporary water discoloration. If you experience discolored water, run your cold water for several minutes. If it does not clear, wait 30 minutes and try again. Here are some recommendations you can follow during flushing dates in your neighborhood:

- Draw water for cooking ahead of time
- Store bottles of water for drinking
- Be sure to check the water quality before using your washing machine or dishwasher

If you have any questions, please contact the Water Department at (516) 465-4020.

### **GCFD RECRUITMENT OPEN HOUSE**

Residents are invited to attend the Garden City Fire Department's Recruitment Open House Saturday, April 13, 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. to learn more at GCFD Headquarters. This program is open to both adults and high school age students (for the Junior Firefighter Program). Event highlights include:

- Apparatus Showcase: Get up close with the tools and vehicles that our firefighters use to save lives and protect properties.
- Forcible Entry Demonstrations: Watch our skilled firefighters demonstrate how they breach doors and barriers during emergencies.
- Try a Real Fire Hose: Experience the power of a real fire hose under the guidance of our seasoned firefighters.
- Turnout Gear Try-On: Feel what it's like to wear the gear that protects our firefighters in the heat of action.
- Station Tours: Take a guided tour of our fire station and see where our heroes spend their time training.

Enjoy complimentary bagels, coffee, and donuts while you learn more about volunteer firefighting. For more information, please contact [membership@gcfny.com](mailto:membership@gcfny.com), call 516-465-4142 or visit: [www.gcfny.com/recruitment](http://www.gcfny.com/recruitment).

### **EASTER CAR PARADE**

On behalf of the Board, I'd like to thank the Garden City Chamber of Commerce for all its work putting together the 69th Easter Sunday Vintage Car Parade, which showcased more than 350 antique vehicles to the delight of many residents who enjoyed this holiday tradition with family and friends.

### **LITTLE LEAGUE PARADE**

The Garden City Police Department wishes to advise everyone that the Garden City Little League Parade will be held on Saturday, April 6, beginning at 9:00 a.m. Parking Field 9E will be closed for parade participants and assembly beginning at 8:00 a.m. There will be street closures during this event. Motorists and residents are advised to make arrangements to avoid the affected areas. There will be No Parking as follows:

- 7th Street: both sides of 7th Street, between Franklin Avenue and Hilton Avenue
- Franklin Avenue: Between Stewart Avenue and 11th Street
- Hilton Avenue: Between Stewart Avenue and 7th Street

- Stewart Avenue: South side of Stewart Avenue, east of Hilton Avenue

At 9:00 a.m. the parade will start at 10th Street and Franklin Avenue, proceed south on Franklin Avenue to 7th Street, west on 7th Street to Hilton Avenue, north on Hilton Avenue to Stewart Avenue, east on Stewart Avenue to the Garden City Gazebo where Opening Day ceremonies will be held.

### **MARCH FIRE DEPARTMENT ACTIVITY**

Chief James Taunton reported that during the month of March the Department responded to 97 calls:

- 84 Signal 8s
- 5 general alarms
- 1 extrication alarm
- 7 mutual aid requests

### **LEFT TURN ARROWS - STEWART AVE. AT NASSAU BLVD.**

During a November 2022 meeting of the Traffic Commission, members requested Nassau County to consider the addition of two “Left Turn” signals on Nassau Boulevard, southbound and westbound at Stewart Avenue, to be consistent with eastbound and northbound “left turn” signals at that intersection. Additionally, a request was made to Nassau County for the installation of a grid box at this intersection. Installation of the left turn arrows has been approved by Nassau County for both approaches and the required design work by Nassau County is anticipated to begin shortly. No timeframe has been given on when these improvements will be made. The request for the installation of a grid box was denied.

### **HAPPENING IN GARDEN CITY**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 6** 9:00 a.m. Garden City Little League Parade steps off at 10th St. and Franklin Ave.

**MONDAY, APRIL 8** 1:30 p.m. Movie Matinée: *Apollo 13* at the Library.

**MONDAY, APRIL 8** drop in solar eclipse viewing program at the Library. Contact Adult Services at 742-8405 ext. 5236.

**MONDAY, APRIL 8** 7:00 p.m. Library Board of Trustees Meeting. Please note time change.

**TUESDAY, APRIL 9** 12:15 P.M. Mineola-Garden City Rotary welcomes guest speaker Monica Kiely, a founder of “Say Not To The Casino” group at Mineola’s Davenport Press Restaurant.

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10** 7:00 p.m. Yoga Night at the Library. Must register.

**THURSDAY, APRIL 11** 1:00 p.m. Historian John Ellis Kordes presents the 60th anniversary of the Beatles’ *A Hard Day’s Night*.

**SATURDAY, APRIL 13** 10:00 a.m. Defensive Driving Course at the Library. Must register.