

April 24, 2024

At last week's Board of Trustees meeting, a resolution was passed unanimously opposing a mega casino at the Nassau Hub. This is the third year in a row that the Village Board of Trustees has come together after a contested election to speak in unison against a project that would have a severely negative impact on our community. I will share this resolution with the elected officials who will have an opportunity to oppose the lease transfer and the necessary zoning changes.

As we came together on the resolution for the casino, the Board of Trustees is also working together with the Advisory Committee and me to identify a process of information gathering that will get us to the right answer for St. Paul's, one that represents the interests of the whole Village and not the preferences of any individual group or organization. The process will be data driven and allow residents to voice their preferences through surveys.

The next step will be the announcement of a kick off meeting with Brandstetter Carroll, the company hired to help us gather feedback from residents through focus groups and surveys as they perform a comprehensive recreation and cultural programming needs assessment. I encourage all residents to come to that meeting with open minds as we approach the challenge of finding a solution for St. Paul's together. We need to hear from you!

RESOLUTION OPPOSING CASINO AT NASSAU HUB

Trustees unanimously adopted a resolution on behalf of the residents of Garden City adamantly opposing a Casino at the Nassau Hub site. This is the third adopted resolution regarding the matter; the first was in 2022 and the second was in 2023. The resolution also urges the Nassau County Legislature, on the expected re-introduction of the issue, to reject the Las Vegas Sands Corp.'s request to secure the transfer and control of the lease agreements for the Nassau Hub and Marriott Hotel sites so as to facilitate a Casino at that site and urges the Nassau County IDA to look towards developing appropriate uses of these properties which will enhance Garden City and our surrounding communities rather than negatively impacting our collective quality of life.

NO EMPTY CHAIR CAMPAIGN RESULTS

From Monday, April 15 through Friday, April 19, 2024, the Garden City Police Department participated in the "No Empty Chair" campaign in collaboration with the NYS Governor's Traffic Safety Committee. This enforcement and education initiative aimed to promote safe driving habits of young drivers, particularly in the vicinity of area schools, student walking zones and bus stops. The campaign's primary goal was to ensure that students develop safe driving habits that will allow them to attend their proms and graduation ceremonies. By raising awareness about the dangers of reckless driving, the Department hopes to significantly reduce the number of motor vehicle crashes, which are currently the leading cause of unintentional deaths for 16- and 17-year-old teens. During this campaign, the Garden City Police Department focused on enforcing excessive speeds, unsafe driving, seatbelt/child use, cell phone and texting violations, passing stopped school bus violations and underage drinking. As a result of this initiative, the Department issued 105 tickets for various traffic and safety violations, including:

- 31 Excessive Speed in a School Zone
- 03 Excessive Speed
- 03 Cellphone/Texting Violations
- 02 Passed School Bus
- 07 Seatbelt/Occupant Restraint Violations

- 06 Suspended License/Registration Incidents
- 09 Unlicensed Operator Violations
- 30 Additional Traffic Violations
- 14 Traffic Control Violations

CREST GRANTS

The Village has applied for CREST (Community Resiliency, Economic Sustainability, and Technology Program) grant monies through Senator Kevin Thomas' office for the purchase of three police vehicles (\$180,000); completion of the sidewalk that marries Cherry Valley Avenue to Cathedral and 6th Street (\$180,000); and a new 44-passenger Recreation bus (\$153,000). These grants are all in different stages of processing, according to Village Administrator Ralph Suozzi.

LIRR BRIDGE REPAIR WORK – EDMERE ROAD

This weekend the Long Island Rail Road will continue replacing old timbers underneath the Edgemere Road train trestle in both directions. Edgemere Road, from Stewart Avenue to Yale Street, will be closed to vehicular traffic beginning Friday at approximately 9:00 p.m. until 5:00 a.m. Monday morning (April 26-29). On the north side of the bridge, the road closure will begin at Stewart Avenue/Clinch Avenue and Edgemere Road. The road will be open to local traffic on the north side. On the south side of the bridge, the road closure will begin at Yale Street and Edgemere Road. Scaffolding will be erected to maintain safe pedestrian flow on either sidewalk beneath the bridge. The LIRR has made provisions for first responders to use Edgemere Road in the event of an emergency. MTA PD will be on site for this closure. There will be no train service on the Hempstead branch between Floral Park and Hempstead as the Long Island Rail Road perform bridge repair work on the trestle over Edgemere Road. Due to the suspension of train service, the LIRR will provide bus service between Floral Park and Hempstead station in both directions. There will be no bus service at Country Life Press Station due to the height of the Chestnut Road bridge. This work is weather dependent, dates are subject to change to take advantage of favorable conditions.

COMMUNITY GARDEN IS BACK!

We are thrilled to have the Community Garden back this spring! Do you have any interest in gardening but don't have enough green space at home? We have you covered! Plots are available at the Rec Office at 108 Rockaway Ave. There is no charge for the plots but space is extremely limited. Call the Recreation Office at 516-465-4075 to register. Planting began Monday, April 22.

MARCH POLICE ACTIVITY

Police Commissioner Kenneth Jackson reports on the Department's March activity:

- 2,115 service calls
- 62 cases investigations
- 25 arrests
- 8 vehicle impounds
- 144 medical aided calls
- 67 traffic accidents
- 1,976 parking tickets issued
- 990 traffic tickets issued
- 3 appearance tickets issued

HAPPENING IN GARDEN CITY

MONDAY, APRIL 29 1:30 p.m. Movie Matinée: *The Intern* at the Library

MONDAY, APRIL 29 Beginner Yoga with Kim at the Senior Center. Must register.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 1 6:00 p.m. Planning Commission Meeting at Village Hall

THURSDAY, MAY 2 4:00 p.m. Tweens and Teens Yarn Group at the Library. Must register.

SATURDAY, MAY 4 9:30 a.m. Friends Book Sale and Silent Auction at the Library

SUNDAY, MAY 5 9:30 a.m. Friends Book Sale and Silent Auction at the Library

TUESDAY, MAY 7 4:00 p.m. Teen Advisory Board Meeting at the Library. Must register.

SATURDAY, MAY 11 9:00 a.m. Andy Foundation Yard Sale at the St. Paul's Field House