

May 1, 2024

The Village is embarking on a master planning process for our Recreation and Parks Department. The most important component of that process is you. We are very focused on learning what you and your neighbors' opinions are on the Village's needs and desires for recreation and cultural facilities, services, and programs. This project includes both existing and potentially new amenities, which is a critical step on the path to a successful project for St. Paul's.

On Tuesday, May 14, along with our consultants, Brandstetter Carroll, the Village will be sponsoring a Kickoff event for the project at the Garden City Casino. I am excited for you to share your ideas about the current services and programs the Recreation and Parks Department provides along with new and additional programs you'd like to see. You can come to this drop-in event at any time between 5:30 and 8:30 p.m. You will be invited to participate in a series of interactive activities to share your vision and to guide the Village over the next 10 years. Your input is essential to the success of the Recreation and Parks Master Plan and St. Paul's Use Plan. I look forward to seeing you there!

OPPOSITION TO GAMBLING CASINO AT NASSAU HUB

The Village Board of Trustees with three new members is once again voicing its opposition to the proposal of a 24/7 gambling Casino at the Nassau Hub. This is the third year in a row that the 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. The resolution, adopted unanimously on April 18, 2024, reads as follows:

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of the Village of Garden City ("the Board") notes that the presence of a Casino at the Nassau Coliseum/Nassau Hub Site ("Nassau Hub Site") would have a significantly negative impact on the quality of life within the Village which would be dramatic, and the placing of a "round the clock," 24/7 Casino in the heart of Nassau County would permanently impact the character of the surrounding communities; and

WHEREAS, the Board has received considerable input from residents across the Village in opposition to the development of a Casino at the Nassau Hub Site; and

WHEREAS, the serious security issues that surround Casinos are well known, including DWIs, prostitution, drugs, human sex trafficking, compulsive gambling, and moreover, a severely negative impact on our Village roadways which are already overburdened with traffic; and WHEREAS, the Board urges the Nassau County Legislature and the Nassau County IDA to actively seek out development ideas which will enhance our communities; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board, on behalf of the residents of Garden City, is adamantly opposed to a Casino at the Nassau Hub Site; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board 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 impact our collective quality of life.

CONGRATULATIONS FIRE CHIEFS

I had the honor of administering the oaths of office to newly elected Chief of Department James Taunton, 1st Assistant Chief Jonathan Parrella, 2nd Assistant Chief Daniel Roeper and 3rd Assistant Chief Devyn Moody for the 2024-25 term. Deputy Mayor Bruce Chester administered the oaths of office to the newly elected line and corporate officers, as well as 1st Battalion delegates.

EXERCISE EQUIPMENT FOR SENIORS

I am happy to announce new exercise equipment has been installed behind the senior center on Golf Club Lane to assist seniors with balance and mobility. Recreation Supervisor Felicia Lovaglio will be integrating the equipment into the weekly senior exercise programs she runs at the center. It's a positive program for the residents of the Village.

DRUG TAKE BACK DAY RESULTS

The Garden City Police Department participated in the Drug Enforcement Agency's (DEA) National Prescription Drug Take Back Day on Saturday, April 27, 2024. Officers collected 136 pounds of unwanted, unused and expired medications during their DEA Drug Take Back event held at GCPD Headquarters. Adelphi University Public Safety reported that they collected 39 pounds of medications. Police Commissioner Kenneth Jackson states, "The Garden City Police Department and Drug Take Back Program helps reduce drug abuse and overdoses. It allows for the safe disposal of drugs instead of flushing, burying, or throwing them out in the garbage, which poses significant environmental and health risks."

OFFICER RECEIVES DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

On April 10, 2024, Commissioner Kenneth Jackson presented Police Officer Nicholas Pumilia with the Nassau County Municipal Police Chiefs Association Distinguished Service Award for his contributions to the Department in his many functions, including patrol, community policing, and assistance to the detective unit. Since January 2003, Officer Pumilia has been involved in 26 arrests for various offenses such as Burglary, DWI and Drug Possession. We congratulate Officer Pumilia and thank him for his dedicated service to this community.

HAPPENING IN GARDEN CITY

FRIDAY, MAY 3 7:30 p.m. Adelphi Jazz Ensemble Concert at Adelphi's Westermann Stage Concert Hall. Must purchase ticket.

SATURDAY, MAY 4 8:30 a.m. (1-Mile Fun Run/Walk) and 9:00 a.m. (5K Run/Walk) GC Race For A Cure at Garden City High School

SATURDAY, MAY 4 9:30 - 4:00 p.m. Friends Book Sale and Silent Auction at the Library

SUNDAY, MAY 5 9:30 - 4:00 p.m. Friends Book Sale and Silent Auction at the Library

MONDAY, MAY 6 1:30 p.m. Movie Matinée: *Seven Days in May* at the Library

MONDAY, MAY 6 7:30 p.m. Library Board of Trustees Special Meeting in the Library's small meeting room

TUESDAY, MAY 7 11:15 a.m. Chair Yoga with Maggie at the Senior Center

THURSDAY, MAY 9 7:30 p.m. Board of Trustees Meeting at Village Hall and via Zoom

TUESDAY, MAY 14 5:30 - 8:30 p.m. Brandstetter Carroll Open House at the Casino