

December 18, 2024

I would like to share with you this week the joy of serving our wonderful village. For the many residents who are passionate like I am about preserving this amazing community, below I share a list of the accomplishments I feel great about, and they illustrate why the time I have dedicated to the village has been time well spent. I hope this inspires others to think about running for one of these important Board of Trustee positions!

Since joining the Board of Trustees in April 2021, these are the accomplishments I am most proud of. They are all the result of working collaboratively with an amazing team of volunteer trustees. More is planned, and as you all know there is always more work to be done to keep our community such a desirable places to live!

- Passed local law limiting certain uses including vape shops and tattoo parlors and prohibiting them from areas of the village where young people gather, walk and bicycle.
- Designated over a dozen green spaces across the village as parkland adding another layer of protection for the precious green space that is so important for our quality of life.
- Passed local law prohibiting short term rentals after hearing from residents impacted by a very active short term rental on their block and researching the negative impacts on communities.
- Hired an arborist, purchased new tree plotter software, and passed tree policy in an effort to increase our local tree canopy and stay true to the vision of our founder who knew the importance of tree lined streets in a planned community.
- Led the Village Board opposition to the LV Sands Casino project at the hub, including bringing an Article 78, hiring a lobbyist, and hiring top environmental counsel to challenge the DEIS.
- Studied traffic calming village wide and added tools for the village to use to minimize speeding and cut through traffic. Implemented measures to improve pedestrian safety across the village.
- Brought in a world renowned expert in stained glass to remove and safely store the windows that were deteriorating in the St Paul's Chapel.
- Gave residents an opportunity to be heard in a village wide public opinion poll on St Paul's.
- Identified a process in which the village could use data to drive creation of a St Paul's project with community support, if such a project exists.
- Reenergized and increased the profile of the Environmental Advisory Board (EAB) with educational programing on a variety of issues impacting the village.
- Advocated for and saw completion of the Toll House renovation after the building had fallen into disrepair, with plans for this building to become a historical building enjoyed by the whole community.
- Led search for and hired talented senior staff to help run the village - including Village Clerk, Superintendent of DPW, and Assistant Treasurer.
- Passed summertime ban on gas powered leaf blowers after extensive community engagement and research.
- Worked with community youth to improve engagement with local government, a part of this job that brought me a great amount of joy seeing the incredibly talented young people in our village. Worked with young residents who brought the Village a multigenerational chess program and tournament, a Gold Award recipient who created a veterans flag program for 7th Street, and worked with young residents on the Environmental Advisory Board bringing a new roundtable on sustainability to the village that has become an annual event in early January.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve the Village in this impactful role, and I hope these accomplishments inspire others to consider serving on the Board of Trustees. Wishing you a Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah and Happy New Year!

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Merry Christmas and Happy Hanukkah to all those who serve our great Village, including our Village Administration and Village Employees, including Sanitation, Public Works, Library, Recreation, Police and our Fire Department volunteers. The Trustees and I share our gratitude. Above all, we wish everyone a safe and healthy holiday season, as well as best wishes for the New Year.

Mary Carter Flanagan, Mayor

Bruce J. Chester, Deputy Mayor

Judy Courtney, Trustee

Edward T. Finneran, Trustee

Michele Beach Harrington, Trustee

Vincent Muldoon, Trustee

Jessica Tai, Trustee

Bruce A. Torino, Trustee

GENERAL REMINDER FROM THE BUILDING DEPARTMENT

The Garden City Building Department would like to remind residents who file for Building Permits to finalize their permits by scheduling a final inspection. Please call the Building Department at (516) 465-4046. Please note that building permits expire within one year from the date of issuance. If additional time is needed to finalize construction, you can apply for a six-month extension. The reinstatement fee is 15 percent of the original filing fee. As a reminder, in the event any permit covered by the provision of L 4-2017 expires without evidence of completion of the permitted work, all deposits and other fees shall be deemed forfeited and the permit holder may be declared in violation of § 68-3E of this Code. The permit will be deemed expired and would require re-filing and payment of new filing fees.

GROVE STREET TENNIS COURT RECONSTRUCTION

The Grove Street Tennis Court Reconstruction Project is the last of the five neighborhood parks to be resurfaced. The tennis surface is cracked and there are also issues with drainage. There will be a brand-new asphalt tennis surface, properly graded to aid drainage. There will also be new nets and fencing, and the collapsed drainage pipe under the court will also be replaced. Stasi General Contracting, of Westbury, the low bidder, will perform the work.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES IN THE VILLAGE

The Village of Garden City is currently accepting candidates for several positions, including Chair of the Recreation and Parks Department, Assistant Superintendent of the Building Department, School Crossing Guard, Public Works Project Manager and Geographic Information Specialist. You can read the full job descriptions on our website via the Career Opportunities button [<https://www.gardencityny.net/441/Career-Opportunities>]. All interested candidates should email resumes to humanresources@gardencityny.net.

NOVEMBER POLICE ACTIVITY

During the month of November, the Garden City Police Department responded to 2,106 service calls, including:

- 72 case investigations
- 16 arrests

- 142 medical calls
- 82 auto accidents
- 1,227 traffic tickets
- 1746 parking tickets
- 4 appearance tickets
- 10 vehicle impounds

HAPPENING IN GARDEN CITY

- **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22** 1:00 p.m. *Twas the Night Before Christmas* live performance by the Sunrise Theatre Company in Cluett Hall. Make reservations by calling 516 465-4075.
- **TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31** 11:00 a.m. Noon Year's Eve Party at the Library for Tweens and Teens. Must register.
- **TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31** 12:00 p.m. New Year's Eve celebration at Cluett Hall featuring entertainment by Jester Jim. Must register: 516-465-4075.
- **SUNDAY, JANUARY 5** 2:45 p.m. Family Fun time for Garden City families at the St. Paul's Field House
- **TUESDAY, JANUARY 7** 7:00 p.m. Reiki with Kathleen Gunning at the Library. Must register.
- **WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8** 12:00 p.m. Happy New Year catered luncheon at the Senior Center. Register at the front desk of the Senior Center. \$15 a person; cash only please.
- **FRIDAY, JANUARY 10** 11:00 a.m. Learn to speak Italian with retired GCHS teacher Lea Brunetti. Eight-week program. Must register.
- **SUNDAY, JANUARY 12** 2:00 p.m. Operatalks with Tanisha Mitchell. Lecture on La bohème at the Library.