

April 16, 2025

By now most of you have received the St. Paul's building survey in the mail. If you have not please let us know either by calling our Village Clerk, Kelly Galanek at 516-465-4051 or you can email Ms. Galanek at [kgalanek@gardencityny.net](mailto:kgalanek@gardencityny.net). We are anticipating a very significant response rate as the Board is looking for your input to formulate a plan for the future of St. Paul's. **The importance of widespread community participation cannot be overstated.** It will ensure we have the best and most comprehensive information to move forward. I want to thank you for your anticipated involvement.

Open Village Committee positions...below you'll see a blurb on how you can get involved as a volunteer on one of a handful of very important Village-wide Committees. The work is super important and will provide you with a terrific experience in one of several areas of importance to your neighbors. I would love to see you involved. It's a terrific way to learn more about Village affairs and serve your fellow residents.

Finally, from time to time I'm going to be "sharing this perch" with my outstanding Trustee partners. They'll cover a topic of interest and provide you with a "scoop" or two - it'll be fun and informative. Look for that in the coming weeks.

#### **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 28, and continue through the morning of Saturday, May 3, 2025. 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 10:00 p.m. and 6:00 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) 465-4003.

#### **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES IN THE VILLAGE**

There are many opportunities to volunteer for the Village on one of the Village Boards and Commissions. These positions are an important part of Village governance, and serving on these Boards or Commissions is an opportunity for residents to share their talents and contribute to the community in a meaningful way. Appointments are made based on resident interest, resident qualifications, Village needs, and the absence of any conflicts or appearances of a conflict.

Those who have submitted resumés in the past and were not appointed to a Board or Commission are encouraged to contact Village Clerk Kelly Galanek at [kgalanek@gardencityny.net](mailto:kgalanek@gardencityny.net) no later than May 2 to confirm your ongoing interest and to make sure she has a current resumé and letter of interest on file. If you are presently on a Board or Commission and your term is expiring, please contact Ms. Galanek by April 25 and advise whether you have an interest in continuing. If you do, please confirm that she has an updated resumé and a letter detailing your ongoing interest. Student volunteers for the Environmental Advisory Board should also send their resumé and letter of interest to the Village Clerk. Interviews will be held the weeks of May 5 and May 12. The following Boards and Commissions have openings:

**Architectural Design Review Board:** This Board examines the exterior design of buildings for the purpose of maintaining appropriate standards of appearance with respect to the specific buildings and their relationship to their surroundings. Seven members of the Board are appointed for three-year terms.

**Zoning Board of Appeals:** This Board interprets the Zoning Code and makes decisions on applications for variances and special permits. The Board consists of five members and one alternate member, who serve for five-year terms.

**Civic Beautification:** Working with the Village Arborist, this Committee assists in selecting the type and placement of flowers and trees on the Village's many public properties and pursuing the long-held goal of making the Village an official arboretum.

**Planning Commission:** This Commission is appointed for terms of three years. The group reviews plans for the development of vacant areas, streets, parks, and other public places, and subdivisions of private property to assure consistency with established community standards. With the exception of a one-family dwelling on a single plot, the Planning Commission also performs site plan reviews for all new buildings, additions to buildings, altered land use activities, and projects containing more than one home. The Commission also conducts studies and is advisory to the Board of Trustees on matters relating to zoning, parking, and other issues.

**Board of Ethics:** This Board recognizes that there are rules of ethical conduct for public officers and employees which must be observed if a high degree of moral conduct is to be obtained and if public confidence is to be maintained in our unit of local government. This Board ensures that all Village officials and employees are conducting themselves in such a manner. This Board is appointed by the Mayor.

**Recreation Commission:** This Board must have at least five members but can have up to eight members. The Commissioners oversee the development of the Village's Recreation Program.

**Water Authority:** The Water Authority of Western Nassau County provides water to some Village residents who live in the westernmost part of the Village. Members consist of two appointed by the Town of Hempstead, two appointed by the Town of North Hempstead, and one member each appointed by the Village boards of the Villages served by the Authority - Bellerose, Floral Park, New Hyde Park, South Floral Park, Stewart Manor and Garden City. The Board meets once a month, on the third Monday, at their headquarters in New Hyde Park. Occasionally, the Garden City Board

Member will serve as a liaison between residents and the Authority on matters of service, billing, etc.

**Environmental Advisory Board:** The Environmental Advisory Board is responsible to the Board of Trustees and reports on environmental matters affecting the Village. The Board can have at least six but not more than eight members appointed to four-year terms. The Board also consists of student volunteers. Chairpersons are members of the Board of Trustees. The Public Works superintendent serves as Recording Secretary.

**GCFD VOLUNTEER RECRUITMENT OPEN HOUSE APRIL 26**

Like most volunteer fire departments, the Garden City Fire Department looks to the community to bolster its ranks so it can continue to provide the optimum level of protection for its residents. As part of RecruitNY Weekend, the department will open its doors on Saturday, April 26th from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. The event will take place at Garden City Fire Headquarters on Stewart Avenue. The Department will join hundreds of other volunteer fire departments across New York to raise public awareness regarding the need for volunteers and to highlight the rewards of being a member of a volunteer fire department. The Department will showcase its apparatus. Volunteer firefighters will be on hand to discuss the requirements and rewards of joining. All are welcome and encouraged to attend. The Department has a program for high school students as well! Bring your high schooler. The high school level program introduces high school students to firefighting and fire safety. For more information, visit [www.gcfdnny.com/recruitment](http://www.gcfdnny.com/recruitment), email [membership@gcfdnny.com](mailto:membership@gcfdnny.com) or call the non-emergency membership phone number at 516-465-4142. Event will take place rain or shine.

**GC SPECIAL POLICE SEEK NEW MEMBERS**

Garden City Special Police often go unnoticed. They are volunteers, residents just like you, who give their free time and energy to help maintain the quality of life in Garden City. Special Police officers are responsible for crowd control at parades, traffic control at fairs, and assisting pedestrians at crossings which is instrumental in keeping full time Police Officers on patrol. Responsibilities include Christmas Tree Lighting events, the Little League Opening Day Parade, St. Joseph School 5K, the Easter Parade, the Turkey Trot, and the Memorial Day Parade, not to mention the various other special events and sporting activities that take place in the village throughout the year. If you are interested in joining or have any questions about the Special Police, please leave a detailed message at their Headquarters by calling 516-742-9603. Alternatively, you may contact Lieutenant John Koch at 516-761-8562.

**FIRST ANNUAL EASTER BONNET PARADE PRECEDES VINTAGE CAR PARADE**

The Garden City Chamber of Commerce, in partnership with the Property Owners' Associations, will host the first annual Easter Bonnet Parade on Sunday, April 20. Participants are invited to gather at 11:30 a.m. in front of Leo's, where the parade will commence at 11:45 a.m. The Easter Bonnet Parade will directly precede the 70th annual Easter Sunday Vintage Car Parade, which kicks off at 12:00 p.m. The Garden City Police Department advises everyone that cars will start assembling at 8:00 a.m. in Parking Field #9E, on the east side of Franklin Avenue, between 9th and 11th Streets. The parade will exit Parking Field #9E at 10th Street, travel south on Franklin Avenue, west on 7th Street, and terminate on Hilton Avenue.