

June 11, 2025

Despite an overwhelming turnout of very passionate and articulate Garden City resident opponents, the Town of Hempstead Council unanimously approved, in a 7-0 vote, to re-zone the NC Veterans Coliseum site to allow gambling and casino like activities this past Tuesday. This action was taken despite the fact that the County was unable to resurrect any interest in a casino sponsor after LV Sands unceremoniously dropped their bid for one of three downstate NYS gaming licenses. The deadline for candidates to submit applications for the licenses is June 27. It has been widely reported by the County that it will not be sponsoring a casino operator in the licensing competition. Nonetheless, we will continue to closely monitor and react to all developments on the matter. Continued kudos to the “Say No” leadership for its untiring work for over two-and-a-half years.

A hearty congratulations to John Wilton and the Chamber of Commerce for hosting an outstanding Belmont Festival last week. Our 7th Street was a beehive of activity filled with games, music and tables and poster boards from a dozen or more GC organizations. Additionally, our restaurants, eateries and clothing and sundry businesses were busy tending to our residents and visitors. The crowd was enthusiastic, kids were everywhere...it was a terrific kickoff to the summer season.

FIRE HEADQUARTERS RENOVATIONS

The Board has awarded a bid for Fire Department Headquarters improvements to Dynamic GC Corp. According to Building Superintendent Giuseppe Giovanniello, this project aims to enhance the fire department’s bathrooms, electrical closet, equipment areas, including a decontamination area, making the fire department in full code compliance.

COMMISSIONER JACKSON’S 40 YEARS OF SERVICE

During last week’s Board meeting, it was a great pleasure to acknowledge Commissioner Ken Jackson’s 40th anniversary here in the Village. He first became a Garden City police officer in 1985 after serving as a New York City Transit officer for four years. He was assigned to the Department’s Detective Unit in 1990 and was promoted to Sergeant in 1991, Lieutenant in 1995, Inspector in 2005 and Commissioner in 2012. Commissioner

Jackson said joining our Department was the greatest move he ever made, aside from getting married. “It’s a great place to work and it’s really a tribute to everyone that works for me,” he said.

ST. PAUL’S SURVEY

The St. Paul’s Survey closed on May 30, with a 33 percent response rate, which BCI and ETC consider “quite high,” noting a typical response rate is in the 20 percent range. This translates to nearly 2,500 households. ETC is now compiling the raw data. We anticipate that BCI’s final report will be completed sometime this summer.

POOL APPLICATIONS

Opening Day at the Pool is this Saturday, June 14! It takes three simple steps to get your Pool Membership for the season:

1. Create an account through this link: <https://register.capturepoint.com/GCRecandParks>
2. Verify your residency with two proofs of residency (ID and utility bill) by email (gcrec@gardencityny.net) or at the Pool (52 Cherry Valley Avenue) or Cottages (108 Rockaway Avenue)
3. Login to your new account and hit the “Click Here To Register” button to find the type of Membership you want to purchase

As of June 5, approximately 280 Garden City Pool accounts still needed address verification. If your account

says “not eligible” it means your address has not been verified. Stop by the Rec Office or email scans of your driver’s license and utility bill to grec@gardencityny.net.