



2019 - 2020  
**Online Annual Report**



[www.gardencityny.net](http://www.gardencityny.net)

# Incorporated Village of GARDEN CITY

351 Stewart Avenue, Garden City, New York 11530

Village Hall Business Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. (Monday through Friday)

Telephone Number: (516) 465-4000 • Fax Number: (516) 742-5223

Village Web-Site: [www.gardencityny.net](http://www.gardencityny.net)

Visit our user-friendly "HOME" page on the Village's website and with one click you can access the Request For Service tab, Bill Payment Center, Department of Public Works (DPW), Recreation and Parks, Visitors Center and Applications and Forms. The Meetings and Events Calendar along with the Notifications and Alerts help residents stay informed on what's happening in Garden City. Keep up to date on non-emergency notifications sent directly to your inbox by subscribing to our email alerts. If you haven't already done so, please add yourself to our **Swift911 Emergency Notifications** so we can contact you with important information and announcements.



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## LOCATION

Central Nassau County  
20 miles east of midtown Manhattan  
5.3 square miles

## GOVERNMENT

Founded in 1869 and Incorporated in 1919  
Governed by a Mayor and seven Trustees  
Village Administrator and Executive Staff

## POPULATION

22,371 (2010 United States Census)

## SERVICES

Police, Fire, Business Office, Building, Engineering,  
Street/Highway, Water/Sewer, Sanitation/Recycling,  
Parks/Recreation and Justice Court

## RESIDENTIAL HOMES

Homes - 6,486  
Condominiums - 513  
Apartments/Co-ops - 636

## BUSINESS COMMUNITY

Commercial area includes banks, investment firms, office complexes, retail businesses, major department stores, variety of restaurants and food establishments and a four-star hotel

## SCHOOLS

Seven public school buildings, eight private/parochial schools and one university (Adelphi University)

## HOUSES OF WORSHIP

Eleven houses of worship

# Table of Contents

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This is the eighty-seventh published Annual Report, covering the 2019-2020 fiscal year (June 1, 2019 through May 31, 2020). It highlights the operations of the municipal government of Garden City. The purpose of the Annual Report is to keep the residents of Garden City informed on the activities of the past year. This is vital in the process of interactive government. It should be noted that references are made to State, County, Town and School District; these agencies operate separately and have their own power of taxation.

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## To Our Fellow Residents of Garden City,

Once again, it is an honor to present the Annual Report for Fiscal Year June 1, 2019 through May 31, 2020. The primary purpose of this document is to provide you with an account of the stewardship of Village affairs by your Board of Trustees during the past fiscal year. It is a statement of how your tax dollars were spent during the 2019-2020 budget.



From time to time, Moody's Investment Service will provide a credit analysis of our financial status. They speak of our monetary practices in glowing terms, awarding us the Aaa rating with a Stable outlook. Strong fiscal management, ample reserves and liquidity, and a minimal debt burden and pension liability are among the strong points they identify. We benefit, they add, from a large tax base with high wealth and income levels. They indicate that the stable rating is based on an expectation that the Village will continue to operate with conservation budgeting and strong financial management practices.

For the 2019-2020 Fiscal Year, the Village adopted a \$65.5 million General Fund operating budget following an April 8, 2019 public hearing. Careful review of proposed Department spending plans led to revisions following four budget work sessions held in March. The result was a spending plan that included a tax levy revenue increase successfully capped at 1.55%, which was well below the cap allowed under State Law. Despite mandated contractual increases, the Village has been efficient in managing expenses to keep at or below the inflationary factor. Village officials developed the spending plan with several operating principles in mind, including creating a tax cap compliant budget, enhancing technology, lowering maintenance costs and improving service delivery, and seeking grants to supplement, replace or reimburse existing funding sources.

In addition, the Village has made a concerted effort to invest in its aging infrastructure and continues to ensure that roads and equipment are replaced on a reasonable schedule, in addition to investing in improvements to buildings, parks and software. For the 2019-2020 Fiscal Year, the net cost of capital projects across all project categories is \$8.6 million, and \$32 million for the five-year total. Capital investment projected costs are trending higher as the Village continues rehabilitating or replacing assets well beyond their useful lives. Parking lots, roads and paving repairs comprise 53% of the total capital investment costs for 2019-20, while vehicles and equipment purchases account for 14%.

Unfortunately, when President Trump banned travel from China on January 31, 2020, we became aware of the presence of the pandemic and of the fact that the Chinese were at the source. Immediately, we began to receive new directives from the State. The Governor appeared on television daily for long periods of time, keeping us up-to-date on his regulations. All of our non-essential workers were sent home until further notice, and Village Hall was closed to the public. We were given strong directives as to what constituted acceptable safety precautions to ward off spreading the coronavirus as stated in the new acceptable guidelines. Our residents were told to remain at home. During that period of time, we were beginning to adjust to a very new and dangerous intruder, and I believe we all did an outstanding job in complying.

Naturally, as far as our Budget was concerned, we began to realize that we would lose revenues. Initially, many of the small businesses were directed to close by the Governor's orders; others were

forced to close for lack of finances. Revenues that we had come to expect for so many years began to diminish. Several of our Departments were able to function without interruption, but for several others this meant considerable losses. We went over the Budget carefully and made some changes to protect our assets, and we were successful.

We continue to monitor our water supply closely. Solving this problem remains a primary focus. The Board continues to pursue our aggressive approach in working to solve the problem and keeping the community well informed. We continue to put all relevant news and documents regarding expenses and progress out to the public on a regular basis. We have experienced successes and failures in the matter of trying to save our wells. We continue to persevere. Further, we received a generous \$9 million grant from the State. All of this information has been shared with you. We will continue to keep you apprised. We intend to remain focused on this problem until we feel that it is completely resolved.

St. Paul's School is close to completion of the phase of work we call stabilization. We will then receive a full report that will enable us to make reasonable decisions, which we will share with you. There are some interim reports that are on the website at this time. The process has been delayed due to the pandemic.

All of our Departments can boast of their accomplishments throughout the 2019-2020 Fiscal Year. I must say that all of our employees responded to the adjustments that had to be made as a result of COVID-19. Further, all employees tried to make things as close to normal as possible. Commissioner Paul Blake, who serves as head of our very special Recreation Department, along with his staff, developed their own "Virtual Recreation Center" where residents of all ages were able to take virtual tours of museums, national parks and enjoy other interesting experiences. Family activities were available—games, arts and crafts and language lessons. Although they could not provide their annual Egg Hunt in person, they had virtual Scavenger Hunts and prizes were awarded. They made sure that our parks were disinfected so that they were safe for our residents.

The Board of Trustees, the Executive Staff and all of our employees, along with a significant group of resident volunteers strive faithfully to serve our Incorporated Village. May our star continue to shine as brightly in our future annual financial reporting.

Very truly yours,

Theresa A. Trouvé  
Mayor, Incorporated Village of Garden City

# A History of Garden City

Alexander Turney Stewart had immigrated as a youth from Ireland in 1818 to eventually become a self-made merchant millionaire in New York City. In 1869 he purchased 7,170 acres of the Hempstead Plains, a treeless expanse in central Long Island, being offered at auction by the Town of Hempstead with a successful bid of \$55 per acre. This land extended from what is now Floral Park to Bethpage and from the Town border at Old Country Road to near Hempstead Turnpike.

Stewart's goal was to create a model Village of country living for those working in the City. He facilitated that by creating a railroad to provide easy transportation between the two locations. The initial development was concentrated just to the north of Hempstead Village in an area of about 750 acres. Under the guidance of John Kellum, his architect, streets were rapidly laid out, trees planted, a municipal water works started, and a hotel constructed opposite the railroad station. Some commercial buildings were erected and houses of various sizes constructed by James L'Hommiedieu, which were initially to be rented. By 1874, 40 families lived in the Village.

Upon Stewart's sudden death in 1876, his wife, Cornelia, continued development with the assistance of Judge Henry Hilton, his financial advisor. In memory of her husband she had the Cathedral of the Incarnation built, along with St. Paul's School for boys, St. Mary's School for girls, and a See house for the Bishop of the Episcopal Church, which moved its seat from Brooklyn to Long Island. The land west of the Village was devoted to a profitable farming operation.

When Cornelia Stewart died childless in 1886, the next seven years were spent settling the Stewart estate among cousins and pretenders. In 1893 the heirs formed the Garden City Company to continue orderly development of the Village. In 1906 a tract to the west was sold to become Garden City Estates and in 1910 the Garden City Company started development of the area to the east.

By 1918 Central Garden City and Garden City Estates each had about 160 homes with 50 more located in the east. Consolidation of government of these sections was finally achieved under our Community Agreement, leading to incorporation in 1919 using the boundaries of the existing school district. A fourth section west of the Estates was formed in 1925. Under the capable administration of George Hubbell, initially manager for the Garden City Company and then multi-term mayor, the Village prospered to become the vibrant Village of today with 7,500 homes and 22,000 residents.

## The Garden City Archives

The Village Historian is responsible for collecting and preserving material related to the history of the Village, and making this material available to interested residents and those doing research. Included are photographs, maps, correspondence, newspaper articles, scrapbooks, artifacts, and records of community activities.

William A. Bellmer, the Village Historian, is a volunteer appointed by the Mayor.

The Village has an extensive historical collection. Part of it constitutes the Village Archives files, located in the Garden City Public Library and administered by the Historian. Another part is located in the Stewart Room at the Library, administered jointly by the Historian and the Library. The Stewart Room collection contains Garden City-related books, yearbooks, local telephone directories, and many books on Long Island history in general. A third repository is located at the Garden City Historical Society house on Eleventh Street, administered by that organization.

Over 2,200 items in the Village Archives have been digitized and are available to view in the Garden City Public Library collection at [www.NYHeritage.org](http://www.NYHeritage.org). The Garden City News, our Village newspaper, started in 1923, is available in bound copies, microfilm, or DVD form depending on the year; also microfilms of building permits from 1922-1994. A project to digitize the newspapers is ongoing, with some viewable at [www.NYSHistoricNewspapers.org](http://www.NYSHistoricNewspapers.org).

The Village Historian can be contacted at [Historian@GardenCityNY.net](mailto:Historian@GardenCityNY.net) to answer questions related to our history, to access the Stewart Room for research or browsing, or to discuss the acquisition of any items residents may have (or copies of them) that will augment our collection.



*Alexander Turney Stewart*



*William A. Bellmer*

# Community Agreement

The Garden City Company, established in 1893 to oversee the interests of the A.T. Stewart estate, managed the developed portion of the Village Mr. Stewart started. In 1906 the Garden City Company sold land to its west to another company which started development of an area called Garden City Estates. In 1918 a dispute between the two areas occurred when the Estates wished to incorporate as a separate Village while the older section wished to maintain the status quo. At that time the unofficial boundaries of the area were considered to be the same as that of the school district, which had been established in the 1800s.

To break the impasse, resident and lawyer C. Walter Randall drafted a "gentlemen's agreement with no legal binding force" that provided equal representation for both groups and was accepted by the residents. This led to the Village's 1919 incorporation, generally aligned with the school district boundaries.

This Community Agreement created a unique form of government, with a volunteer Board of Trustees now representing the four sections of the Village, elected by a non-partisan vote of residents.

Every year each Property Owners' Association conducts a Resident Electors Meeting on the third Tuesday of January. Candidates are proposed by the POA and can be contested by others residing in that POA section. The successful candidates are then cross-endorsed by the other POAs and have always been presented unopposed as the Community Agreement Party in the official election held on the third Tuesday in March. Two trustees represent each section of the Village for two-year terms, each trustee position up for election in alternating years. The Mayor is elected in place of a trustee position every other year on a rotating basis among the sections of the Village: Central, West, Estates, East.

This policy has been scrupulously observed over the years and has been instrumental in creating and continuing a spirit of unselfish cooperation and a non-political attitude with respect to the administration of municipal affairs.

The Board of Trustees appoints the various Boards and Commissions to serve them in advisory capacities, those volunteer positions being filled by recommendations from the Property Owners' Associations.

Mr. Randall's description in 1946 of the controversy that led to the writing of The Community Agreement, along with its minor revisions over the years, is available to view online at [www.GardenCityNY.net](http://www.GardenCityNY.net), under the Village History tab. The original document is on display at Village Hall.



THE VOTING SECTIONS OF THE VILLAGE



C. WALTER RANDALL, ESQ.



# A Year to Remember

## A YEAR OF CELEBRATION FOR GARDEN CITY'S CENTENNIAL AND SESQUICENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARIES



*Mayor Theresa Trouvé and the Board of Trustees adopted a resolution recognizing the year 2019 as the "year of celebration for the Garden City Centennial and Sesquicentennial."*

Cathedral schools of St. Mary's and St. Paul's were dedicated in the name of our founder, A.T. Stewart, and his wife, Cornelia Stewart. The Garden City Hotel and the Garden City Chamber of Commerce Vanderbilt Parkway original Toll Lodge represent the business community by reminding us of our past. Our community represented the sporting life through aviation via the international air shows, automobiles through the Vanderbilt Parkway races, and thoroughbred racing as the birthplace of horse racing in the U.S.

Our residents and visitors have included past U.S. presidents, congressional dignitaries, and popular personalities in the arts.

Mayor Theresa Trouvé and the Board of Trustees adopted a resolution recognizing the year 2019 as the "year of celebration for the Garden City Centennial and Sesquicentennial." The Village celebrated two momentous occasions - the 150th anniversary of Alexander T. Stewart's land purchase and the 100th anniversary of the Community Agreement.

As the official kick-off to the 150th Anniversary of Alexander Stewart's land purchase and the 100th Anniversary of the Community Agreement, the Village hosted a Centennial Celebration on Saturday, May 25, 2019 on the St. Paul's Fields. The St. Paul's Fields were filled with music, dancing, children's activities and fantastic food fare courtesy of various food trucks. The event also showcased fascinating examples of Village history, including pictures, Village facts and a video created specifically for the event. A fireworks display topped off the night.

Other events took place throughout the Village in the months following the celebration, including a September Gala hosted by the Historical Society and an interfaith Mass at the Cathedral of the Incarnation. New York State recognized the Village with a Resolution, the Village's milestones have been put into the Congressional Record and Nassau County's Dome in Mineola was illuminated with the Village's colors.

The year 2019 marks an exciting time for Garden City. This year, the Incorporated Village celebrated its founding by Alexander Turney Stewart and the formation of the Incorporated Village of Garden City. Garden City holds a special place in national history as the first planned community in the United States.

The Village is known for its incredible architectural heritage through our Apostle and Disciple Victorian homes. The Cathedral of the Incarnation has been a part of our landscape since our inception, and the



*Former Supervisor Laura Gillen presented a citation to Mayor Theresa Trouvé in October 2019 recognizing the Village's Centennial and Sesquicentennial. Also pictured (from left) are Trustee John Delany, former Town Clerk Sylvia Cabana and Trustee Mark Hyer.*



# A Year to Remember

## Historical Dates to Remember:

- July 17, 1869: A.T. Stewart Land Purchase
- September 13, 1869: A.T. Stewart Deed Recorded
- May 15, 1919: Garden City Community Agreement Signed
- July 19, 1919: Garden City First Trustee Election
- September 30, 1919: Incorporation of the Village of Garden City



*Preparing to raise the flag in front of Hempstead Town Hall in October 2019*





# Board of Trustees

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This Annual Report contains information relating to the Village's various Departments as well as budget information for the period of June 1, 2019 through May 31, 2020. The Board of Trustees, who were in office at the close of this fiscal year, are shown.



**STEPHEN S. MAKRINOS**  
*Trustee*  
*Western Section*



**THERESA A. TROUVÉ**  
*Mayor*  
*Central Section*



**ROBERT A. BOLEBRUCH**  
*Deputy Mayor*  
*Western Section*



**JOHN M. DELANY**  
*Trustee*  
*Eastern Section*



**LOUIS M. MINUTO**  
*Trustee*  
*Central Section*



**MARK A. HYER**  
*Trustee*  
*Eastern Section*



**COLLEEN E. FOLEY**  
*Trustee*  
*Estates Section*



**BRIAN C. DAUGHNEY**  
*Trustee*  
*Estates Section*

# Administration, Organization and Village Counsel



**RALPH V. SUOZZI**  
Village Administrator

## Village Administrator

Garden City's Chief Administrative Officer fills the role of Village Administrator. Responsible to the Mayor and Board of Trustees, he coordinates the activities of the Village Departments to ensure the effective delivery of municipal services.

Duties of the Office include providing the Board with essential information and recommendations that are necessary in formulating policies designed to maintain and enhance Village operations. The Village Administrator also assists the Village Treasurer in coordinating and preparing the Village budget and its implementation after adoption by the Board.



**KAREN M. ALTMAN**  
Village Clerk

## Village Clerk

The Village Clerk serves as the Clerk to the Board of Trustees. Responsible for the recording of all of its proceedings and decisions, the Village Clerk is the Election Officer for Village Elections and the Collector of Taxes. In addition to maintaining all legal notices for the Village of Garden City, the Village Clerk is the custodian of all municipal records and facilitator of other duties as determined by the Board of Trustees and Village Administrator.

## Village Auditor

The Village Auditor provides an independent, objective assurance and consulting activity designed to add value and improve the Village's operations. The Village Auditor role has been expanded over the past year to align the goals of the office with those of the Village by bringing a systematic, disciplined approach to evaluate and improve the effectiveness of human resources, risk management, control and governance processes. The reporting structure of the Village Auditor has also been aligned to report to the Board of Trustees and Village Administrator.



**COURTNEY ROSENBLATT**  
Village Auditor

## Executive Staff

Members of the Executive Staff represent each Department of the Village and report directly to the Village Administrator.

## Village Counsel

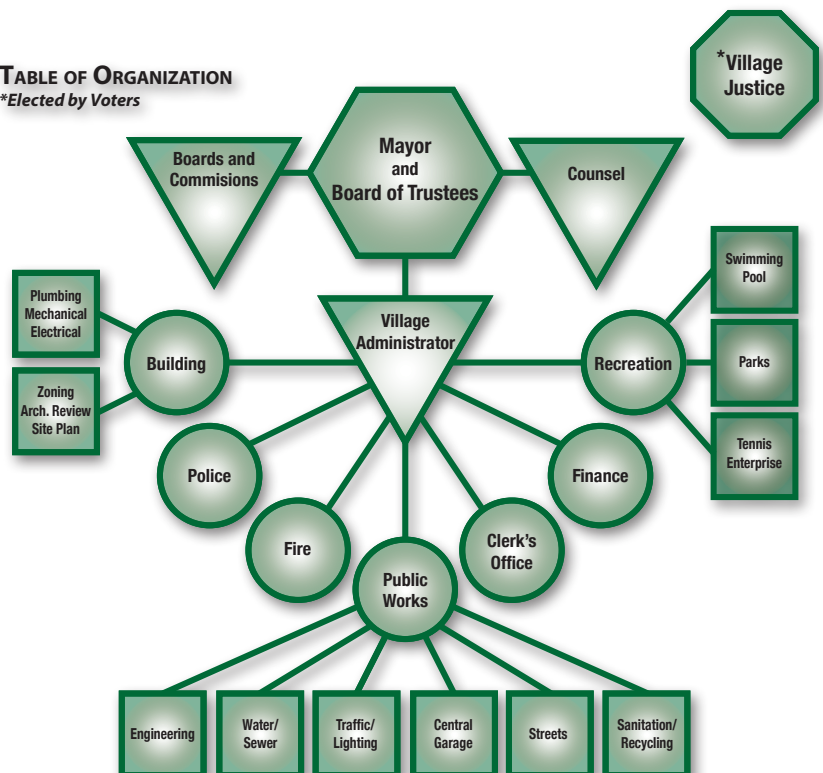
The Village retains two law firms as counsel to the Mayor, Board of Trustees, Village Administrator and their advisory Boards and Commissions. Both firms maintain their own offices and staff independent of Village offices.

Bee Ready Fishbein Hatter & Donovan, LLP, acts as the general Village Attorney and advises on all municipal legal matters, including legislation (local laws), zoning and other ordinances, real estate assessments, public hearings and elections.

Bond, Schoeneck & King, PLLC, provides legal services in connection with collective bargaining agreements and labor matters.

In addition, Hawkins Delafield & Wood, LLP, is engaged as municipal bond counsel for special bond and note issues.

**TABLE OF ORGANIZATION**  
\*Elected by Voters





# Justice Court

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**ALLEN S. MATHERS**  
*Village Justice*  
*Elected by the Residents to a 4 year term*



**BRIAN T. DEVENEY**  
*Associate Justice*  
*Appointed by the Mayor to a 1 year term*



**MERRIL S. BISCONI**  
*Associate Justice*  
*Appointed by the Mayor to a 1 year term*

Garden City has one of the busiest village courts in the State. The Court has jurisdiction over the enforcement of our Village Code, including parking tickets and zoning code violations, as well as New York State Vehicle and Traffic Violations and Misdemeanors, Alcoholic Beverage Control Law Matters and Federal Motor Carrier Act Violations.

The Court may impose fines, sentence convicted defendants to imprisonment or enter into agreements with defendants to perform community service in lieu of traditional sentencing, where warranted.

The Village Justice and Associate Justices receive no compensation for their service.

# Boards, Commissions and Committees

Residents are appointed by the Mayor and Board of Trustees to serve on various Boards and Commissions and do so without compensation. Those listed below held the noted position during this past fiscal year.

## 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. All plans for new buildings, additions, alterations and signs are required to be submitted, with the exception of additions or alterations to one-family homes. Seven members of the Board are appointed for three-year terms. Amended July 19, 2012 in order to allow alternate members.

Donald Hickey, Jr. (2006), *Chairman*  
Celia M. Petersen (2010)  
Cosmo Veneziale (2012)

Phil Santantonio (2015)  
Sean O'Brien (2019)

Rosario Parlanti (2019)  
William Alisse (2014), *Alternate Member*

## Board of Commissioners of Cultural and Recreational Affairs

This Board consists of eight members; one representative from each section of the Village and four at-large members. The Commissioners oversee development of the Village's Recreation Program. Amended November 21, 2013 to allow for two additional members.

Paul Blake (2019), *Chairman*  
Michael Ryder (1997)  
Timothy E. Stapleford (2008)

Kristina Russo (2013)  
Judy Courtney (2013)

Christian Siragusa (2017)  
William P. Garry (2019)

## Board of Library Trustees

Five qualified residents of the Village are appointed to five-year terms on the Board of Library Trustees and are responsible for Library operations.

J. Randolph Colahan (2002), *Chairman*  
Peter L. D'Antonio (2013)

Lola Nouryan (2013)  
Charles J. Murphy (2014)

Germaine Greco (2019)

## Board of Police Commissioners

Members of this Board supervise, control and direct the operations of the Police Department. Each year, members of the Board are appointed by the Mayor and ratified by the Board of Trustees. The Chairman is responsible for the day-to-day operation of the Police Department, its own Police Officers and the civilian staff.

Kenneth O. Jackson (2005), *Chairman*

Mark A. Hyer (2017)

Ralph V. Suozzi (2015)

## Environmental Advisory Board

This eight-member Board is appointed for four-year terms. The Chairperson is a Member of the Board of Trustees. This Board is responsible to the Board of Trustees and reports on environmental matters affecting the Village. Additionally, the Superintendent of Public Works acts as Recording Secretary and Garden City High School is represented by up to three students.

Stephen S. Makrinos (2015), *Chairman*  
Leo Stimmler (2006)  
Elizabeth M. Bailey (2010)

Laurence J. Quinn (2013)  
Carole Neidich-Ryder (2014)  
Evelyn Fasano (2016)

John Manning (2019)  
John F. Reilly (2019)

## 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 review 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.

H. Bradford Gustavson (1999), *Chairman*  
Keith Galanti (2014)  
Craig G. Biscone (2014)

Scott Brandewiede (2016)  
Gregory E. Senken (2016)  
Patrick J. Ward (2018)

Allyson Murray (2018)  
Lauren Fonesca (2019)

# Boards, Commissions and Committees

## Traffic Commission

The Traffic Commission is appointed annually by the Mayor and ratified by the Board of Trustees. The Commission is comprised of one Trustee from each of the four sections of the Village, who are voting members. The Superintendent of Public Works and the Chairman of the Board of Police Commissioners act in a supporting role. This Commission is responsible for traffic control operations and devices. Requests for signs by residents related to quality of life issues and review of parking regulations are discussed at monthly meetings and determinations are made as required.

**Brian C. Daughney (2010), *Chairman***  
**Robert A. Bolebruch (2013)**

**Louis M. Minuto (2017)**  
**Mark A. Hyer (2017)**

**Kenneth O. Jackson (1985)**  
**Joseph DiFrancisco (2016)**

## Zoning Board of Appeals

The Board of Appeals 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.

**John G. Villanella (1989)**  
**Michael T. Schroder (1992)**

**Brian Paradine (2004)**  
**John A. Ardito (2008)**

**James Van Schoick (2019)**  
**Peter E. Gall (2009), *Alternate Member***

## Civic Beautification Committee

Working with the Village Arborist, the 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.

**Patricia Siler (2016), *Chairperson***  
**Maureen Lyons (2019)**

**Althea Robinson (1988)**

**Kathleen Auro (2005)**

## Board of Ethics

The Board of Ethics 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. The Mayor appoints this Board.

**Richard V. Silver (2017), *Chairman***

**Allen S. Mathers (1988)**

**Valerie Rothschild (2017)**

## Water Authority of Western Nassau County

The Water Authority is governed by a Board of Directors consisting of nine members, two appointed by the Town of Hempstead, one appointed by the Town of North Hempstead and one member each appointed by the village boards of the Villages of Bellerose, Floral Park, Garden City, New Hyde Park, South Floral Park and Stewart Manor. Each member's term is two years. The principal responsibilities of the board are to oversee the operational and financial needs of the Authority including but not limited to the approval of management recommendations as to capital and operational expenditures, acquisitions, monthly invoices, Capital Plans and budgets, bond issuance and water rates, outside vendors and overseeing all personal matters including employee benefits and matters of compensation. These and others matters are the subject of each meeting and corresponding resolutions requiring approval are voted on by the Board.

**David Osborn (2018)**

## Citizens Budget Review Committee

Representatives from each Property Owners' Association assist the Board of Trustees in the budget process.

**Roger Canales (2019)**  
**Shane Pomeroy (2020)**  
**Rosario Parlanti (2019)**

**Robert Wolf (2020)**  
**Yvonne Varano (2019)**

**William McAndrews (2020)**  
**Jeffrey Rathgeber (2020)**

## Historian

The Historian is appointed by the Mayor and is responsible for collecting and preserving material relating to the Village's history. In addition to historic preservation, the Village Historian also provides information to interested residents and those doing research.

**William A. Bellmer (2015)**



# Building Department



**GIUSEPPE GIOVANNIELLO**  
*Superintendent of Building*

The Building Department is responsible for monitoring all construction that takes place on private property within the Village; the purpose of which is to ensure that the work is done in a safe, reliable and energy-efficient manner so as to protect and serve the occupants in both commercial buildings and private homes.

This is accomplished by adhering to various codes and standards including, but not limited to, the Village Zoning Code, the New York State Building, Fire, Plumbing, Mechanical, Electrical and Energy Codes, as well as other regulations and reference standards. To achieve that objective, the Department reviews plans, conduct inspections and guides applicants through pre-approval procedures that may be required. These include the Architectural Design Review Board, the Planning Commission and the Zoning Board of Appeals. The Department also prepares the agendas, publishes notices, attends meetings, and serves in an advisory capacity for these agencies.

This year, new residential homes and all additions and alterations are ongoing despite the current environment. Also, construction of commercial properties has increased with large projects, which include the 18,295 sq. ft. addition to the Ruth S. Harley University Center at Adelphi University, redevelopment of the existing Sears Building, the new 5,378 sq. ft. Ministry & Faith Formation Facility at the Church of St. Anne, as well as the proposed construction of two four-story new apartment buildings at 555 Stewart Avenue, which are currently under Plan Review.

The increased demand is collaborated by statistical data shown below, along with large volumes of F.O.I.L. requests and title searches processed by this Department. The Department collected permit fees totaling \$1,885,838. In addition, a total of \$111,125 was collected in fees for review board applications. The review boards consist of the Zoning Board of Appeals, Planning Commission, Architectural Design Review Board and Zoning Change Review Committee.

Also, the Building Department is still in the process of digitalizing all files and records maintained by this Department. Phase III of the Digitalization Project is near completion. Homeowners were notified to submit an Original Property Folder Request to obtain the original property folders for their home. This Department is in the process of notifying residents to pick up their folders once they are located. The Original Property Folder pick-up Project will expire on December 31, 2020.

Departmental personnel consist of a Superintendent, three Inspectors, two Administrative Assistants and two Consultants. The technical staff is required to attain 24 hours/credits of continuing education training annually in order to maintain their required New York State Code Enforcement certification. We strive to make the interaction with our Department as pleasant and professional as possible. To that end, we are available to assist people through the process and offer advice when needed.



*The 18,295 sq. ft. addition to the Ruth S. Harley University Center at Adelphi University*

## SUMMARY OF ACTIVITY

Building Permits .....	409
Plumbing Permits .....	274
Electrical Permits .....	394
Mechanical Permits .....	314
Approx. No. of Inspections .....	3,165
Certificates of Occupancy .....	51
Certificates of Compliance .....	1,577
Letters in Lieu .....	58
Architectural Design Review Board .....	77
Planning Commission .....	0
Zoning Board of Appeals .....	93
Zoning Change Review Committee .....	0

# Recreation and Parks Department

The Recreation and Parks Department, like all of the Village Departments, faced many challenges during the year. What got off to a fast start in June with the opening of the Garden City Pool, evolved into a year-long effort to provide both traditional and alternative activities due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

As noted, the Pool season got off to a flying start, thanks in part to new, lower membership fees, and a very hot June and July. Daily attendance was strong, and members enjoyed a wide range of special events, including concerts, children's shows, and other activities. Our July 4 celebration was particularly well attended, and members both young and not so young got a real kick from our first Cardboard Boat Regatta. Prior year improvements in the mechanical rooms provided more reliable operation and better overall water quality.

In our neighborhood parks, Recreation Maintenance crews continued renovating restrooms, as both Tullamore and Nassau Haven Parks had their bathrooms renovated, with all new ceramic tile and new plumbing fixtures installed.



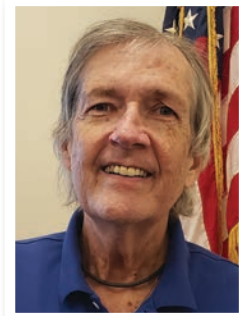
*Summer concert at the Gazebo.*

Our Parks Division had another busy year, between managing our 12,000+ Village trees, caring for our many greenspaces, planting our beautiful beds throughout the Village, and decorating for the holidays. Over 43,000 bulbs were planted in various beds, and in early spring, they burst into a beautiful display of red, white, and yellow gardens. Despite the COVID-19 restrictions, the work of our Parks Department ensured that our Village was once again, a true "garden city". Our annual tree planting program saw approximately 100 trees planted throughout the Village, as we continue to replace trees lost in storms, as well as those which are damaged or diseased.

On the programming side of the Department, new offerings combined with old favorites to give residents a wide choice of leisure time activities. Our Senior Recreation Center continued to be a popular destination, offering a wide range of programs, lectures, and trips, including a program of "Meet the Manager" sessions with Village Department Heads. In the fall, a Senior Health fair was held at the St. Paul's Field House, which included no cost flu immunizations for our Senior Residents.

With the Covid restrictions put in place by New York State, our Department came up with some creative ways to keep our residents active and engaged. Early in the lockdown, we developed our "Virtual Recreation Center" which afforded residents the opportunity to take virtual tours of popular museums, national parks and other attractions. The Virtual Center also provided residents with links to resources which could be downloaded and used as in home activities, from family games, to arts and crafts ideas, and even language lessons.

One of our most popular events, the Annual Easter Egg Hunt looked to be a victim of the COVID-19 restrictions, but staff came up with a "Virtual Scavenger Hunt" to be held in place of the Egg Hunt. Participants were asked to submit photos of themselves with various items located throughout the Village, such as mailboxes, stop signs, tennis nets, etc. Those who "found" each of the items had a gift basket filled with tasty treats delivered to their homes. The



**PAUL BLAKE**  
*Chairman,  
Board of Commissioners of  
Cultural and Recreational  
Affairs*



*Afternoon program at the Fieldhouse.*



# Recreation and Parks Department



*Resident Ed Palkot's 106th birthday celebration at the Senior Center!*



*Garden City School children visiting the senior center.*

response to both the Virtual Recreation Center and the Virtual Scavenger Hunt was very strong, and so we have kept the Virtual Center available online through the Recreation Department website.

Our five neighborhood parks were again busy, particularly during our Summer Program, which featured arts and crafts, sports and games, trips and other activities on a daily basis. Conveniently located in residential sections of the Village, these 'small jewels' provide year round fun for folks of all ages.

When the COVID-19 restrictions were announced, Recreation Maintenance employees came up with a plan to step up the cleaning and sanitizing of our facilities, including a weekly disinfection program for our playground equipment.

These parks have all been identified in the Recreation Capital Budget for upgrades to their facilities and equipment.

At the St. Paul's Campus, our outdoor sports program continued to grow, until COVID-19 restrictions severely limited the amount and type of offerings we could provide. Inside, at the Field House, basketball, volleyball, and children's after school programs continue to be popular, while at Cluett

Hall, cultural programs such as art lessons and the Recreation Dance program contribute to a well rounded slate of programs. Unfortunately, many of these programs had to be put on hold, again due to COVID-19 restrictions.

With the Board of Commissioners of Cultural and Recreational Affairs providing input from all four of our Property Owner Associations, the Department keeps up with the requests and desires of our residents, and adjusts program offerings appropriately. The Department strives to be responsive to the needs and wishes of our residents, and to provide quality facilities and programs.



*The Senior Center lounge.*



*Summer at the Garden City Pool.*



# Police Department



**KENNETH O. JACKSON**  
*Police Commissioner*

The Garden City Police Department is proud to be a modern, innovative, proactive police agency, attentive to the needs of the community. We maintain a policy of omnipresence and preventative patrols resulting in Garden City being recognized as one of the safest communities in New York State and the United States.

The enforcement of vehicle and traffic laws has proven to have a direct impact on providing a safer environment for motorists and pedestrians. Therefore, the Department continues its policy of constant and consistent traffic enforcement, and strict enforcement of the Village Code. In 2019 this resulted in the issuance of 11,133 traffic citations, which helped reduce accidents by 8%.

In addition to daily traffic law enforcement, the Department regularly conducts commercial vehicle safety inspections, aggressive driving operations and seat belt checkpoints throughout the Village. In 2019, 178 commercial vehicles were inspected, 1,029 tickets were issued, 90 trucks were placed out of service, 214 citations were issued for overweight violations and 50 citations were issued for hazardous material violations.

A principal area of importance is the removal of motorists from roadways who pose a danger to residents by operating their vehicles under the influence of drugs or alcohol. In 2019, 60 drivers were arrested for D.W.I. related offenses; no doubt resulting in many lives saved as a result of this effort.



*Police Department Front Desk*

In terms of general police service, the Department documented 18,624 calls for service and assignments. These calls included 1,465 medical assistance calls, 1,319 auto accidents and 252 arrests.

## SCHOOL SAFETY

The Police Department, and School District, as well as the private schools within the Incorporated Village of Garden City, worked together in the development and implementation of plans that enhance the safety of students and staff. This includes lockdown/lockout drills, camera accessibility, RAVE Notification Systems, and Security reviews.



*Speed Trailer*

Our diligent Parking Enforcement Program contributes to an ubiquitous image and provides a safer environment for motorists, bicyclists, and pedestrians, particularly the young, elderly, and disabled. In addition to police officers on patrol issuing parking tickets, uniformed civilian police aides, in conspicuously marked vehicles, patrol the numerous parking fields within the Village; in 2019, 23,684 parking tickets were issued.



*School Safety Officer*

# Police Department

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To improve the ability to provide exemplary service, the Department continues to incorporate technical advances, training, and equipment. To offset the costs of these necessary items the Department continually seeks grant opportunities and in 2019 those efforts were rewarded with receipt of more than \$25,000 in federal, state and local grants. These grants, along with asset forfeiture funds, were used to obtain, tasers, bullet-proof vests, investigative equipment/software, and Knox Box emergency key entrance equipment. The grants also supported Vehicle and Traffic Law enforcement initiatives including Aggressive Driving, Pedestrian Safety, Seatbelt and D.W.I. Campaigns.



*NYU/Langone Ambulance*

Since January 2018, NYU Langone Ambulance has been the Police Department's primary ambulance service and has provided professional quality medical service to the residents and visitors of the Village.

Training is always a vital component in providing a safer environment for residents of, and visitors to the Village. In addition to ongoing training related to police duties, officers also receive specialized training from Federal and local departments to prepare them in responding to serious incidents.

Today's law enforcement environment, as well as national security concerns requires a Police Department to be prepared to respond to numerous types of incidents that may threaten the health and safety of the community. To obtain this goal, the Department maintains close working relationships and intelligence sharing with the Department of Homeland Security as well as federal and local police agencies. The Department appreciates the support, cooperation and encouragement of the Mayor, Board of Trustees, Village Administrator, and various Village agencies. This enables the Police Department to provide the high level of service and dedication to duty the residents of Garden City have come to expect and deserve.

The year proved to be a challenging time for the Police Department due to COVID-19. The Police Department made many adjustments to protect our officers and staff from the virus while assuring the public safety needs of this community. Despite the pandemic, time lost due to illness was kept to a minimum allowing the Officers of this Department to respond to many related cases, providing a safer environment for residents and businesses of this Village. In addition, the Department was able to equip our Officers with proper Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) obtained through Nassau County Office of Emergency Management and generous donations.

## SPECIAL POLICE

The Garden City Special Police, under the Police Commissioner's direction, is comprised of volunteers of the community who provide invaluable assistance to the Garden City Police Department during community events, parades, concerts, street fairs, traffic details, election details, and emergency situations such as severe weather events.



*Special Police*



# Fire Department

The Garden City Fire Department is a unique, all volunteer Department within our Village government. Its rich heritage is rooted with the independent volunteer fire companies that began to form and serve the Village in 1899 after a devastating fire at the Garden City Hotel. Then, in 1920, in order to be more organized and bring these independent companies together, 31 village residents became “charter” members of the Garden City Fire Department, Inc., formally organizing the Volunteer Fire Department. Soon after, the Department was integrated into Village government. Since 1920, more than 500 resident men and women have proudly served in the ranks of the Volunteer Fire Service in Garden City. In 2020, the Department celebrated its 100th year of service to the Village.



*Members operating at a motor vehicle accident with entrapment.*

various courses and live fire burn training at the Nassau County Fire Service Academy.

In support of response, the Department has a fleet of apparatus that include three certified pumpers, one certified ladder truck, a heavy rescue truck and quint ladder truck that serves dual purposes as both an aerial ladder and a pumper combined.

The Department also incorporates state-of-the-art technology including thermal imaging cameras, hazardous gas monitoring equipment, mobile computers and hydraulic rescue equipment. We utilize full size training props that allow us to prepare for numerous emergencies including car fires, forcible entry, ventilation and high rise hose line operations.

Under the direction of Volunteer Fire Chief Thomas Stryko and three Volunteer Assistant Chiefs, the Department utilizes a three-tier approach to providing its vital services: quality training, cutting edge equipment, quick response and a comprehensive fire inspection and prevention program. All firefighters in the Department train weekly to ensure their readiness for the various emergencies that may present themselves including fires, motor vehicle accidents, carbon monoxide incidents, hazardous materials incidents, electrical emergencies, severe weather response and more. In addition, throughout the year Firefighters attend



*Firefighters after rendering aid to a neighboring department at a structure fire.*



# Fire Department

The Department conducts a continuous comprehensive fire inspection and prevention program for the Village. Program enhancements include computer database pre-plans of area occupancies, rigorous fire inspections of schools, businesses and multifamily dwellings and a devotion to public fire safety education through the Department's Fire Prevention and Education Program. Each year, the Department educates thousands of students and residents through in-house safety classes, its annual Fire Prevention Week Program and fire safety lectures throughout the community including Adelphi University, area apartment buildings and local businesses.



*Ex-Chief Lenny Rivera and his twin brother  
FF Tom Rivera.*



*Firefighters at the scene of a working fire.*

The Department is always looking for new members and has a year-round open enrollment. Some regard being a volunteer firefighter as being one of the highest forms of community service. It is a great opportunity for residents to give back to their fellow neighbors in their time of need. Some of the benefits that come with being a volunteer firefighter include real estate property tax reductions, great camaraderie, lasting friendships and more. If a resident is interested in joining the Department, they may visit [www.gcfdny.com](http://www.gcfdny.com) or email us: [membership@gcfdny.com](mailto:membership@gcfdny.com).



*Firefighters discuss fire safety with a local Scout troop.*



*Assistant Chief Taunton and Ex-Chief Chiarello  
at the Nassau County Fire Service Academy  
training facility.*

# Department of Public Works



## INTRODUCTION

The Public Works Department manages the infrastructure system of Garden City. This includes maintenance of all roads, curbs and sidewalks including leaf removal and clearing of snow and ice; it maintains the storm drains and the sanitary sewer system. It also operates Garden City Water Works, providing clean, safe water to all residents and businesses within the Village. It collects all garbage and rubbish (residential and commercial) and recycling; designs and installs traffic-control systems and maintains the street lighting system. It also assumes responsibility for the maintenance of all Village facilities. The Superintendent of Public Works heads six divisions that provide these services.

## CENTRAL GARAGE

The Central Garage plays a vital role in the delivery of essential municipal services. This includes managing the Village's fleet of over 175 vehicles, including pay loaders, dump trucks, garbage/recycling trucks and the entire fleet of Garden City Police vehicles, plus all the equipment ranging from lawn mowers and chain saws to conducting annual maintenance of the generators that support our facilities.

The Central Garage has an extensive preventative maintenance program for all equipment that is essential in operating a dependable, trouble-free fleet. Last year all vehicles were serviced according to regular manufacturer recommended schedules, taking into account the vehicle type and operating conditions.

Central Garage Mechanics are also highly skilled at building and fabricating many structures in-house, enabling them to support all Departments in need throughout the Village. These skills help reduce the overall costs of projects as the Village can rely on our skilled mechanics rather than paying an outside service. Some examples of their expertise this past year include:

- Fabricating personal dividers throughout the Village in response to the Global pandemic
- Fabricating new leaf "boxes" for the collection of leaves throughout the Village
- Installing new fluid injector hoses in the Garage to replace the aging ones

In addition, the Central Garage provides critical services during extreme weather events such as snowstorms and nor'easters as they work throughout the duration of these events to keep the fleet of vehicles running and on the road.

## ENGINEERING DIVISION

The Engineering Department contains Licensed Civil Engineers who oversee almost all the Capital Projects in the Village. The Road Paving, Curb and Sidewalk Repair Program, the largest reoccurring project in the Village, is wholly managed by this Department. Engineers perform surveys, provide the plans and specifications and perform daily inspection of the work.

In addition, the Engineering Department provides plans and specifications for all water main and sewer main projects and oversees all street lighting and traffic sign installation and maintenance.



*After years of sitting untouched on its pedestal, which came from the original Penn Station, the Village has the A.T. Stewart bust and the pedestal professionally cleaned and restored.*



# Department of Public Works

Lastly the Engineering Department coordinates all utility and road/sidewalk permits within the Village right-of-way ensuring that Village interests are protected and that anyone working in the Village performs work to our standards. Their work ensures contractors working in the Village are meeting the needs of the Village and abiding by our standards of conduct.

## SANITATION AND RECYCLING

The Sanitation Division is very familiar to most residents as the service they provide brings them into your yards on a weekly basis. This extra benefit allows them to provide a higher and more personal level of service unlike any other Village.

Last year we collected over 14,000 tons of household garbage, rubbish and bulk waste.

The Recycling Program collected 1,380 tons of bottles, cans, plastics and newspapers from commercial and residential locations. It also recycled 93 tons of metal bulk and collected 22 tons of e-waste. The total weight of all items recycled was 2,160 tons.

We also collected over 325 dumpsters of rubbish and 33 dumpsters of yard waste.



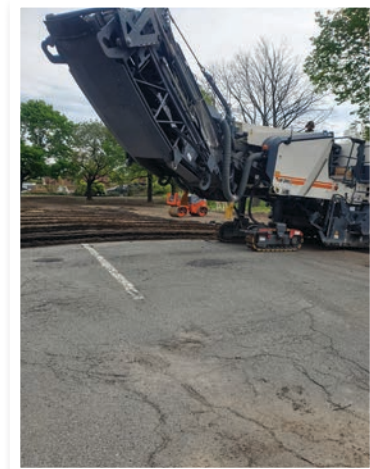
*Restoration work on the Fire Department memorial began in the fall 2019.*

## STREET DIVISION

The Street Division is responsible for maintaining the Village's 74 miles of streets and 17 miles of parking lots (260 lane miles), including street sweeping, manholes and road repairs, snow removal and leaf collection.

They also perform ongoing maintenance including cleaning, repairing and rebuilding over 1,000 catch basins throughout the Village. This also includes the construction, repair and maintenance of storm drainage lines.

During the fall, the Street Division joins forces with the Parks Division to remove over 20,000 cubic yards of leaves. The leaves collected are stored at the Village Yard and are turned into mulch which is available free of charge for use by residents.



*Municipal Service Yard parking lot reconstruction.*

This was a relatively mild winter which only included four salting events. This gave the Street Department an opportunity to flush, repair, clean and install more catch basins than normal and to address other items that normally would be deferred due to inclement weather such as replacing and/or repairing fencing in all Village parking lots.

## TRAFFIC AND STREET LIGHTING

The Traffic and Street Lighting Division, in conjunction with the Engineering Division, is responsible for the maintenance of more than 7,400 traffic signs and 2,286 streetlights in the Village. Each year during spring, summer and fall, Village personnel repaint all the crosswalks, stop lines, arrows and lane markings. In addition, this Division, in conjunction with private contractors, maintains the Village's 2,286 streetlights and its underground wiring. They work in conjunction with our street lighting contractor and directional



# Department of Public Works

drilling contractor to ensure that our street lighting system is fully functional. Eighty five percent of the Village's street lighting has been converted to energy-saving LED fixtures; the remaining fixtures will be converted by 2021.

## WATER AND SEWER

The Water Department maintains 104 miles of mains and 10 wells. There are five above ground storage tanks, including the water tower with 5.5 million gallons of water storage; 21 buildings housing the motors, auxiliary engines, pumps, treatment equipment and system controls, plus over 1,000 fire hydrants.

The year saw a dramatic change predicated by new regulations enacted by New York State. An emerging contaminant, 1,4-Dioxane, drove the New State Department of Health to create new water contaminant limits which resulted in all water purveyors, who have this contaminant in their water supply, needing to develop and install a new form of treatment that didn't currently exist. Garden City was disproportionately affected by this contaminant and thus will be investing over \$40 million to ensure our water maintains its high standards. To date, many of these projects are nearing completion while others are in progress.

## DPW CAPITAL PROJECTS

The Capital Improvement Program is a well-structured Plan integral to the upkeep of the Village's infrastructure and a means to enable the continuous improvement of services. The Village has made significant investments in the Capital Program this past year with over \$50 million invested in over 40 improvement projects in the Public Works and Water Department. Significant projects included:

- \$40 million in new water treatment systems
- \$1.5 million in water main replacement
- \$1 million in equipment replacement including a new forklift and catch basin cleaner
- \$1.1 million to renovate a historic parking lot (the Village was promised reimbursement from the MTA for this expense)
- \$390,000 to add additional parking for Stewart Field
- \$700,000 for Village facility repair and improvements including installation of a new roof, eight new garage doors and the installation of energy efficient LED lighting

The Village will continue to make investments in its infrastructure and will continue to always look for ways to perform more efficiently and to reduce costs while still providing the services that residents have come to expect from its Department of Public Works.

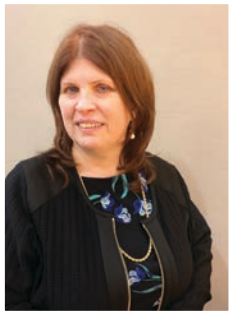


*Sewer vision van training.*



*Granular Activated Carbon (GAC) filters being installed at the Clinton Road well site.*

# The Garden City Public Library



**MARIANNE MALAGON**  
Library Director

The Garden City Public Library Trustees, Administration and Staff are committed to fostering the Library's mission to connect people with information. Programs and services are aimed at instilling a love of reading and satisfying the thirst for knowledge.

The Library offers adults, teens and children expertly curated collections of print, audio-visual and digital information for reading, research and entertainment. There are a vast array of books and magazines to read, music or audiobooks to listen to, movies and television programs to watch, online courses to study, and research databases, reference books and museum passes to bring worlds of knowledge into the palms of their hands.

The Library Director and the Library Board of Trustees are dedicated to providing the residents of Garden City with a library with outstanding materials, programs and services. Members of the Library Board are: J. Randolph Colahan, Chair (Audit Committee) from the Estates Section; Peter D'Antonio, Vice Chair (Audit and Budget Committees), At-large; Germaine Greco, Trustee (Community Relations and Policy Committees) from the Western Section; Charles J. Murphy (Building Committee) from the Eastern Section; and Lola Nouryan (Personnel Committee) from the Central Section.



*Emily and Vincent entertained residents with a virtual Quarantine Concert at the start of the pandemic.*

The Library Director and Trustees continue to focus on building projects. The first floor restrooms were renovated in fall of 2019 including one fully ADA-compliant restroom. After consulting with multiple architecture firms, H2M Architects + Engineers was selected to create a design concept for renovation of the Children's Department and front circulation desk. The project, funded in part by Legislative Aid and SAM Grants to the Library, was approved in the Village Budget Capital Plan for the upcoming year. The Library also worked with the Village to select and plan a Voice over IP telephone system which is compatible

with Village phones. The Director and the Library Board have worked closely with the Village to advance these projects.

With the onset of the COVID-19 Pandemic, the Library closed its doors in accordance with NYS and Village of Garden City government guidelines. Library users found digital materials and services as well as virtual programs through the Virtual Library on the website. Digital collections and virtual programs were expanded rapidly to meet the increased need. Many of the virtual programs were sponsored by the Friends of the Garden City Public Library.

In conjunction with Nassau Library System, the Library offered new users a digital library card, and due dates on all borrowed materials were extended and most fines were waived. Staff answered reference questions via chat and email and arranged virtual programs to be posted on the website. The Library Board and Administration developed a phased reopening plan following government guidelines to reintroduce library services gradually, taking proper safety precautions and establishing procedures to mitigate the risks to staff and the public. Protective plexiglass shields were set up and space reconfigured. During the COVID-19 pandemic the Library's most important priority has been to prevent the spread of the virus and protect the health and safety of Library users and Library employees.



*The Library Director and Board of Trustees held virtual Board meetings during the Pandemic.*

*Pictured are: (left to right) top row: Peter D'Antonio, Vice Chair, Marianne Malagon, Library Director; middle row, Charles Murphy, Trustee; Lola Nouryan, Trustee; bottom row, J. Randolph Colahan, Chair, and Germaine Greco, Trustee.*



*Adults enjoyed a series of Fitness Fusion classes incorporating yoga, meditation and Qigong.*



# The Garden City Public Library



*Chef Robert Dell'Amore showed participants how to make Shrimp Dell'Amore for Valentine's Day.*

The Adult Reference Department offers expert research assistance from experienced Librarians. Hands-on cooking and craft workshops offered learners the opportunity to bake apple pies and design fall topiaries. Armchair travelers and art enthusiasts toured historic Matera, Italy, learned to speak basic Italian, and visited the American wing of the Metropolitan Museum. There were concerts for music lovers, lectures on genealogy and film, and health and wellness workshops. Booklovers shared their reading experiences with Adult Reference Librarians through the ever-popular Coffee and Tea by the Book discussions on newly published and popular books. During the Pandemic, virtual programming, including zoom and prerecorded lectures and workshops, was offered for adults. In addition, the Librarians provided weekly reading recommendations in their column, "Speaking of Books" in the *Garden City News*.



*Families had a great time at the Fun Stuff Express program to make a stuffed creation to enjoy at home.*

The Young Adult Department encourages tweens and teens to learn, volunteer, and have fun. Library materials, programs and services aid middle and high school students with school assignments, college preparation, recreational reading, personal enrichment, and social activities. Babysitting workshops, science activities, baking, and arts and crafts programs make learning fun. Movie, game and trivia nights are popular. The Young Adult and Children's Departments jointly hosted tween book discussions, game and craft programs, Quidditch tournaments, and sponsored a First Lego League team. During the Pandemic, virtual meet ups to play Dungeons and Dragons, Trivia games, and share craft projects and book discussions were held to keep tweens and teens connected.

Children's Librarians created and hosted many interactive programs and storytimes from infants through children in fifth grade. These included movement and music, arts and crafts, science programs and book discussions. Families enjoyed fun-filled workshops making their own Gingerbread Houses and stuffed creations. During the Pandemic, the Librarians hosted virtual storytimes on zoom as well as recorded interactive programs for young children. Librarians contributed to the concept of the new Children's Department, keeping kids of all ages in mind.

Through the generous support of the Friends of the Garden City Public Library, free passes to 15 museums are available to library card holders. They include: The Brooklyn Botanic Garden, Cold Spring Harbor Whaling Museum, Cradle of Aviation Museum, The Frick Collection, Intrepid Sea, Air & Space Museum, the Guggenheim Museum,

Long Island Children's Museum, MOMA (the Museum of Modern Art), Nassau County Museum of Art, Nassau County Firefighters Museum, New York Hall of Science, New York Historical Society, New York State Empire Pass, New York Transit Museum, Old Bethpage Restoration Village, and Old Westbury Gardens. The Friends also sponsor many library programs for adults, tweens and teens and children.

The Garden City Public Library looks forward to continuing to serve all members of the community in the upcoming year, in the library or at home.



*Members of the Library's First Lego League team worked on robotics together.*



*Harry Potter books came to life as tweens played Quidditch outside the Library.*



# Finance Department



**IRENE WOO, CPA**  
Village Treasurer

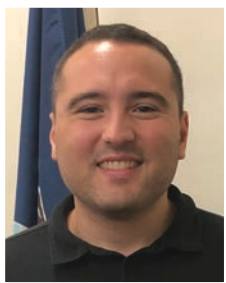
Garden City's Chief Fiscal Officer is the Village Treasurer Irene Woo, CPA who leads the Finance Department. The Finance Department is responsible for the day-to-day financial operations of the Village, which includes some of the following functions:

- **Annual Budget Process** - The Village Treasurer and the Deputy Treasurer, Darcia Palmer manage the annual Budget Process. With collaboration from the Board of Trustees and the Village's Executive Staff, develop the annual operating budgets and 5-year Capital Plans and ensure that the Village is compliant with the limits set by the tax levy laws. The Finance Department provides detailed analysis on current and future budgetary impacts to the Village, including debt analysis, bonding vs. cash payment for projects, cash flow analysis for Enterprise Funds, and creates high level executive presentations for the Board of Trustees, which are presented at the public work sessions.



**DARCIA PALMER, CIA**  
Deputy Village Treasurer

*This past fiscal year, the Village underwent eight budget work sessions (four more than usual), mostly via ZOOM due to COVID-19. The Board of Trustees adopted a General Fund Operating Budget in the amount of \$66.2 million, and a 2020-21 Capital Plan of \$16.2 million. The Tax Levy of 1.78% is once again well below the legal tax cap. The Board adopted the budget with the intention to closely monitor the financial impacts due to COVID-19 and make necessary adjustments throughout the year as needed.*



**KEVIN MITCHELL**  
Village Accountant

- **Village Financing** - The Department works closely with Bond Counsel to develop bond resolutions on capital projects and with Fiscal Advisor on analyzing bond terms that are favorable and in the best interest of the Village. The Treasurer prepares the POS (preliminary offering statement) that is provided to the market, and also meets with Moody's investor services to discuss Village finances and operations to help inform the committee in developing a rating for the Village's bond offering.

*This past fiscal year, Moody's assigned the Village of Garden City a Aaa rating with a Stable outlook, citing in their credit opinion, "the Village benefits from strong fiscal management, ample reserves and liquidity, minimal debt burden and manageable pension and retiree healthcare liabilities. Strong financial management continues to contribute to annual surplus operations."*

*The Village successfully sold Bond Anticipation Notes (BANs) and Bonds at very favorable rates. The Village issued \$35.7 million in BANs for Water Well Treatment projects on five well sites. The winning bid offered a 5.00 percent coupon rate with a \$1,443,227.50 premium. The Village will pay back interest of \$1,782,534.72 next year, however, netting out the premium offered, the net interest rate is actually 0.9518 percent. The Village issued bonds in the amount of \$5.1 million at 0.8652 percent True Interest Cost (TIC), which takes into account the time value of money. In addition, the Village received \$1,075,212.53 in Premium (which can only be used to pay down the debt).*

- **Tax Billings and Assessments** - The department is responsible for the maintenance of all real property account information in the tax system. The annual tax bills are issued and receivables are posted in the tax system and General Ledger. We schedule and manage the annual tax lien sale and process small claims settlements. The Village Assessor values new construction or physical changes to properties based on building permits, assists the Board of Trustees with decisions regarding grievance requests and prepares the Tentative and Final Assessment Rolls.

*This past year, the Village has initiated the Tax Billings and Assessments System replacement project. The legacy system will be replaced by Tyler Technologies World system.*

- **Purchasing Department** - ensures the efficient, economical, and legal (per General Municipal Law) Village-wide purchases of supplies, equipment and services by working closely with the various departments on their requests and requirements. They ensure the Village's procurement policy is followed and coordinate the entire bid process from advertising to the final Board of Trustees award for purchases requiring bids.

- **Accounts Receivable** - processes all cash, credit card, check payments to the Village from various Departments and from other sources into the General Ledger System.

- **Accounts Payable** - reviews and processes all Village invoices for payment; ensures compliance with all payment procedures; prepare IRS 1099 forms.

- **Reporting and Analysis** - The Finance Department supports the Board of Trustees and Department Heads in providing them with ongoing financial analysis and reporting critical for decision making. In addition, the department is responsible for all required NYS reporting: AUD – Annual Update Document, and discuss with the Office of the State

# Finance Department

Comptroller financial results for the Village; annual budget information that is used to monitor compliance with the Tax Cap Laws; and NYS Constitutional Tax Limit and Constitutional Debt Limit Reporting. Provide annual Continuing Disclosure information to the SEC and monitor any activity of outstanding bonds that might require additional SEC disclosures.

- **Auditing and Compliance** - The Finance Department works closely with the Village's Independent Auditors in the completion of the year-end audit and in the preparation of the annual financial statements; manages the yearly Deferred Compensation Plan audit; works with the NYS Comptroller's Office on Village audits; successfully manages and leads Audit and Compliance related projects, implements process improvements and documents a system of internal controls for all critical functions to ensure compliance with all financial NYS, Federal, and Village laws, regulations, and policies.
- **Accounting** - Manage the monthly closing process, which includes preparing, reviewing and approving numerous journal entries. Prepare reconciliations of subsidiary ledger accounts to the General Ledger, prepare monthly bank reconciliations, develop and document procedures to ensure accurate books and records are maintained and appropriate accounting policies are being followed.

*This past fiscal year the Finance Department welcomed the addition of a new Accountant Kevin Mitchell. Kevin obtained a Master's Degree in Accounting from St. John's University and previous to joining the Village he was a Staff Accountant at Barnes and Noble. In addition to his responsibilities in performing various accounting functions, Kevin has been instrumental in assisting with the Water Billing Module upgrade project that is underway, and will also be assisting with the system implementation of the new Tax Billings and Assessments system that will take place over the next year.*

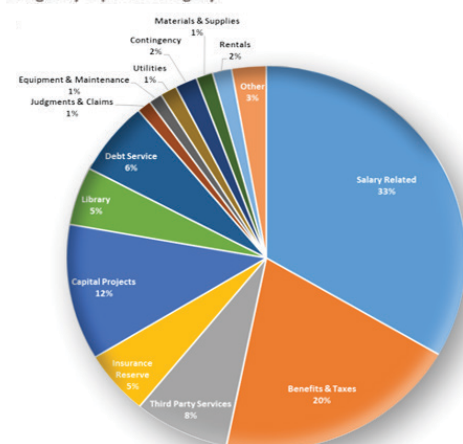
## Financial Overview:

The State of New York requires municipalities to prepare and adopt balanced budgets where applied surplus, anticipated revenue and taxes raised cover all expenditures. The Adopted Village Budget is the culmination of a coordinated effort by the Board of Trustees and the Executive Staff to maintain the highest level of affordable municipal services while striving to keep property tax increases under the level imposed by the State Tax Cap.

### Manner In Which Budgets Were Balanced:

General Fund	2019-2020	2020-2021	Increase (Decrease)	
Current Surplus Appropriated	\$ 1,598,888	\$ 1,059,346	\$ (539,542)	The 2020-21 Budget was successfully adopted with a tax levy increase of 1.78%, which is below the tax limit imposed by the tax cap law.
Estimated Revenues	\$ 12,570,131	\$ 12,112,477	\$ (457,654)	
Tax Levy	\$ 51,339,772	\$ 52,254,510	\$ 914,738	
Appropriated Reserve	\$ 750,000	\$ 750,000	\$	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 66,258,791</b>	<b>\$ 66,176,333</b>	<b>\$ (82,458)</b>	

General Fund  
Budget by Expense Category



### Additional Self-Sustaining Budgets:

The Village has three Enterprise Funds that operate like a business in that the revenues generated from services provided are meant to cover all operating expenditures. Residents who benefit from the services provided by the Water Fund, Swimming Pool Fund, and the Tennis Fund pay for the operations via memberships, program services or other fees.

Enterprise Fund	2020-2021 Expense Budget	2020-2021 Revenue Budget
Swimming Pool	\$1,546,547	\$1,625,435
Indoor Tennis	\$496,832	\$488,550
Water Department	\$8,502,996	\$6,996,402

# Budget Comparison

		<b>2019-2020 B U D G E T</b>	<b>2020-2021 B U D G E T</b>
<b>ADMINISTRATION</b>	Board of Trustees	\$3,625	\$3,875
	Village Justice	321,632	338,846
	Administration	483,132	447,157
	Personnel	456,766	499,378
	Elections	3,520	4,175
	Publicity	44,000	50,000
	Historian	5,500	5,500
	Central Data Processing	244,061	320,031
	<b>SUB TOTAL - ADMINISTRATION</b>	<b>\$ 1,562,236</b>	<b>\$ 1,668,962</b>
<b>FINANCE</b>	Finance	831,147	889,538
	Purchasing	197,817	205,718
	Assessment	49,500	46,000
	<b>SUB TOTAL - FINANCE</b>	<b>\$ 1,078,464</b>	<b>\$ 1,141,256</b>
<b>PUBLIC SAFETY</b>	Police	10,255,312	10,110,737
	Fire	2,016,575	2,003,967
	Safety Inspection	876,498	916,901
	<b>SUB TOTAL - PUBLIC SAFETY</b>	<b>\$ 13,148,385</b>	<b>\$ 13,031,614</b>
<b>PUBLIC WORKS</b>	Engineering	433,410	462,065
	Building	506,568	636,340
	Central Garage	988,051	969,862
	Streets	2,053,142	2,274,464
	Snow Removal	357,865	342,365
	Street Light & Traffic Control	633,326	616,937
	Sanitary Sewers	334,176	432,846
	Storm Sewers	154,942	164,580
	Refuse and Garbage	3,604,100	3,756,482
	Sanitation Recycling	374,943	453,542
	<b>SUB TOTAL - PUBLIC WORKS</b>	<b>\$ 9,440,523</b>	<b>\$ 10,109,483</b>
<b>RECREATION</b>	Parks	1,930,044	2,017,069
	Recreation	2,952,715	2,835,988
	St. Paul's Building	5,000	0
	<b>SUB TOTAL - RECREATION</b>	<b>\$ 4,887,759</b>	<b>\$ 4,853,057</b>
<b>LIBRARY</b>	Contribution to Library	<b>\$ 3,186,717</b>	<b>\$ 3,203,534</b>
<b>GENERAL GOVERNMENT</b>	NYS Employees Retirement System	1,564,570	1,600,000
	NYS Police & Fire Retirement System	2,082,550	2,079,134
	Social Security	1,750,000	1,759,500
	MTA Payroll Tax	79,042	78,200
	Health & Dental Insurance	7,718,000	7,444,000
	Capital Projects	7,353,867	7,479,132
	Unallocated Insurance	3,547,000	3,547,000
	Judgements and Claims	2,105,810	750,000
	Law	1,098,500	981,000
	Contingent Account	1,002,620	1,170,000
	Debt Service	3,415,748	4,079,462
	Miscellaneous	487,000	451,000
	<b>SUB TOTAL - GENERAL</b>	<b>\$ 32,204,707</b>	<b>\$ 31,418,427</b>
<b>APPROPRIATION TO RESERVE</b>		<b>750,000</b>	<b>750,000</b>
	<b>TOTAL GENERAL FUND BUDGET</b>	<b>\$ 66,258,791</b>	<b>\$ 66,176,333</b>



# Directory

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## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

**Theresa A. Trouvé** (2014)  
*Mayor*

**Robert A. Bolebruch** (2013)  
*Deputy Mayor*  
*Commissioner of Finance*

**Stephen S. Makrinos** (2015)  
*Chairman, Environmental Advisory Board*

**John M. Delany** (2015)  
*Fire Commissioner*

**Louis M. Minuto** (2017)  
*Chairman, Zoning Change Review Committee*

**Mark A. Hyer** (2017)  
*Police Commissioner*

**Colleen E. Foley** (2018)  
*Library Liaison*

**Brian C. Daughney** (2010)  
*Chairman, Traffic Commission*

## JUSTICE COURT

**Allen S. Mathers** (1988)  
*Village Justice*

**Brian T. Deveney** (1989)  
*Associate Village Justice*

**Merril S. Biscone** (2000)  
*Associate Village Justice*

## VILLAGE COUNSEL

**Peter A. Bee** (2014)  
*Bee Ready Fishbein Hatter & Donovan, LLP*

**Chris Kurtz** (2014)  
*Bond Schoenek & King, PLLC*

## SPECIAL POLICE

**David B. Carpentier**, *Captain* (1994)

**John Koch**, *Lieutenant* (2004)

**Trevor Aquino**, *Sergeant* (2015)

**David Bliss**, *Ex-Captain* (1982)

**John Morelli**, *Special Police Officer* (2016)

## VILLAGE HISTORIAN

**William A. Bellmer** (2015)

## ADMINISTRATION

**Ralph V. Suozzi** (2014)  
*Village Administrator*

**Kenneth O. Jackson** (1985)  
*Police Commissioner*

**Karen M. Altman** (1995)  
*Village Clerk*

**Marianne Malagon** (2018)  
*Library Director*

**Irene Woo** (2015)  
*Village Treasurer*

**Darcia Palmer** (2016)  
*Deputy Village Treasurer*

**Joseph DiFrancisco** (2016)  
*Superintendent of Public Works*

**Giuseppe Giovanniello** (2018)  
*Superintendent of Building*

**Courtney Rosenblatt** (2016)  
*Village Auditor*

**Paul Blake** (2019)  
*Chairman, Board of Commissioners of Cultural and Recreational Affairs*

## FIRE DEPARTMENT CHIEFS:

**Thomas Strysko**, *Chief* (2005)

**Devyn F. Moody**, *1st Assistant Chief* (2010)

**Matthew F. Pearn**, *2nd Assistant Chief* (2012)

**James R. Taunton**, *3rd Assistant Chief* (2012)

## LINE OFFICERS:

**Thomas C. Fasano**, *Captain, Engine Co.* (2013)

**Thomas J. Rivera**, *1st Lieutenant, Engine Co.* (2012)

**Matthew C. Carroll**, *2nd Lieutenant, Engine Co.* (2017)

**Matthew DeMarco**, *Captain, Truck Co.* (2014)

**Thomas W. Van Wallendael**, *1st Lieutenant, Truck Co.* (2016)

**Conor T. Sproat**, *2nd Lieutenant, Truck Co.* (2016)

**Michael Reale**, *Secretary* (2009)

**Gregory J. Barton**, *Assistant Secretary* (2013)

**Robert F. Kalb**, *Treasurer* (1987)

**Gerard F. Whalen**, *Assistant Treasurer* (2002)

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\*Note ( ) Date entered into Village Service

# Garden City Property Owners' Associations

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**GARDEN CITY ESTATES  
PROPERTY OWNERS'  
ASSOCIATION**  
[www.gcestates.org](http://www.gcestates.org)

**Tina DiMino**  
*President*

**Jeff Minett**  
*Vice President*

**Peter Agnetti**  
*Secretary*

**Debbie Sweeney**  
*Treasurer*

**DIRECTORS:**

Matthew Abrusci  
Colby Allsbrook  
Kathy Auro  
Robert Bommarito  
Daniel Cendan  
George Hohenberger  
John Lisica  
Matt Luttinger  
Michael Maguire  
Kristina Russo  
Thomas Stenson

**GARDEN CITY CENTRAL  
PROPERTY OWNERS'  
ASSOCIATION**  
[www.gccpoa.org](http://www.gccpoa.org)

**Donald T. Brudie**  
*President*

**Steve Gaffney**  
*Vice President*

**Heather Nielsen**  
*Secretary*

**Mary Beth Tully**  
*Treasurer*

**DIRECTORS:**

Joe Caroselli  
Katy Cole  
Pat Cunningham  
Pat DiMattia  
Glenn Egor  
Evelyn Fasano  
Mike Ferrucci  
Eric Foster  
Kelley Hochheiser  
Keith Hochheiser  
Gary Kahn  
Jane Simpson  
Steve Super  
Dick Silver  
Brian Yorke

**GARDEN CITY WESTERN  
PROPERTY OWNERS'  
ASSOCIATION**  
[www.gcwpoa.com](http://www.gcwpoa.com)

**RoseAnn Vernice**  
*President*

**TJ Michon**  
*Vice President*

**Joe Ra**  
*Secretary*

**Arnold Finamore**  
*Treasurer*

**DIRECTORS:**

Lauren Fonseca  
Mike Fonseca  
Austin Murphy  
Tom Nastasi  
Maureen Traxler Dellacona  
Nick Vernice  
Gloria Weinrich

**GARDEN CITY EASTERN  
PROPERTY OWNERS'  
ASSOCIATION**  
[www.gcepoa.org](http://www.gcepoa.org)

**Steve Ilardi**  
*President*

**Jonathan Debrich**  
*Vice President*

**Colleen Ciullo**  
*Corporate Secretary*

**Paul Dircks**  
*Corresponding Secretary*

**Joe Courtade**  
*Treasurer*

**DIRECTORS:**

Eric Breusch  
Bruno Cerrone  
Andrew de Lannoy  
Spiro Dorizas  
Barbara Garry  
Tom Hogan  
Jose Iudica  
Danielle Kilkenny  
June Michalak  
Joe Nadolny  
Michael Nagler  
Shane Pomeroy  
Lauren Scarantino  
Robert Schoelle Jr.



*Save and Print for future reference*

## Incorporated Village of Garden City

### ★ KEY PHONE NUMBERS ★

#### IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

- POLICE      Emergency .....911      Non-Emergency ..... 465-4100
- FIRE          Emergency .....746-2800      Non-Emergency ..... 746-1301
- POISON CONTROL ..... 1-800-222-1222

#### VILLAGE HALL

- Business Office:
  - Main Office ..... 465-4000
  - Village-Related Tax Questions..... 465-4156
  - Town and School Tax Questions* ..... 489-5000
  - Water Billing Questions ..... 465-4160
- Departments:
  - Administrator/Mayor /Clerk ..... 465-4051
  - Building ..... 465-4040
  - Justice Court ..... 465-4080
  - Public Works..... 465-4003
  - Recreation and Parks (Monday-Friday)..... 465-4075
  - Water and Sewer ..... 465-4020
- Library ..... 742-8405
- Municipal Service Yard ..... 465-4031
- Pool (Seasonal)..... 483-1714

#### OTHER PHONE NUMBERS OF INTEREST

- Garden City Chamber of Commerce ..... 746-7724
- Garden City School District..... 478-1000
- Nassau County:
  - Department of Health ..... 227-9697
  - Government Offices..... 571-3000
- Town of Hempstead..... 489-5000