

August 9, 2023

I plan to include an update each week on the Board of Trustees' progress in bringing the community to a decision on the St. Paul's Main Building. To the many residents frustrated with the amount of time that has passed without a decision being made, we have heard you, and we are committed to bringing residents an opportunity to voice their opinion on this important issue in October. We are working hard to finalize the date and the details of how the poll will be held.

Sadly, some who do not want a poll this fall have already begun spreading false information. I would like to assure residents that **the options your Board of Trustees will be considering will keep the property as Village land and with the parkland designation.** While this limits the uses significantly, we are confident that this is supported by the community, more so now than ever with the increased traffic on our roadways and the environmental issues so often raised by our Environmental Advisory Board.

While in a perfect world we would have more detailed information on the costs of all the alternatives, we will be going out to hear from residents with the information we have from the last consultant, Westerman Construction. I believe, as does the majority of the Board, that we have enough information to present to the community and we are ready to ask for your opinion.

What we do know? We have a cost estimate on demolition which includes grass and trees. We have a cost estimate on a Phase 1 Adaptive Reuse project which would include "restoration of exterior elevations," "East and West wings to be cleared and fire protected" and construction of a limited number of rooms with sheet rock and wood floors that could be used by the community. The reason that the report has not yet been released is simply because it remains unclear as to what space would be finished, and it references reports and plans that the Village does not have and which should be attached if referenced. Summertime can be difficult with vacations, but we believe we are close to getting the clarity needed to release that report. We also hope to have an executive summary prepared so the conclusions are clearer to all residents.

I would like to thank the many residents who have reached out to share their knowledge and to offer help. I will continue to speak regularly to residents who have offered help and input. I recognize that hearing from many residents will help us as a Board to bring the Village to the best decision we can. In addition to our work to finalize the details for the October poll, we have been focusing on the task of arranging for the removal and safe storage of the stained glass windows to avoid any further damage, an effort begun by the prior Board of Trustees. Trustee Marciano, Trustee Harrington and I, along with Village Administrator Ralph Suozzi, have also removed books that had been left in the chapel and placed them in a secure location at Village Hall as part of our efforts to identify and preserve historical artifacts.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES IN THE VILLAGE

The Village of Garden City is currently accepting candidates for several positions, including Horticulturist, Water and Sewer Servicer, Buyer and Construction Inspector. You can read the full job descriptions on our website via the Career Opportunities button. All interested candidates should email resumes to humanresources@gardencityny.net.

RESTRICTIONS ON LAWN SPRINKLING

Residents are reminded that lawn sprinkling and garden irrigation of any outdoor lawn, field, garden, hedge, shrub or tree, whether by automatic system, manual sprinklers or hand watering, may be done only during the period from April 16 to November 30 each year. Watering hours are from 5:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Odd-numbered addresses on odd-numbered days and even-numbered addresses on even-numbered days. Thank you for your cooperation. Below are a few tips.

- Water lawns only when necessary
- Water in the early morning to reduce evaporation and maximize soil hydration
- Keep your grass taller, longer grass is healthier with strong roots and needs less water
- Utilize water from rain barrels, dehumidifiers or air conditioners to water plants
- Sweep to clean driveways and sidewalks, instead of using a hose

- Fix leaking pipes, hoses, and faucets
- Only use your dishwasher and washing machine with full loads

BLOOD DRIVE AT LIBRARY AUGUST 23

New York Blood Services will hold a blood drive at the Garden City Public Library on Wednesday, August 23, 2023 1:00-7:00 p.m. in the Large Meeting Room on the lower level of the Library. Area hospitals are in need of local residents' help. Each donation can help to save up to three lives. All donors will receive a voucher for a \$10 Gift Card of their choice (electronically fulfilled). Appointments are strongly preferred, walk-ins are welcomed only if capacity permits. To schedule an appointment, call 1-800-688-0900 to schedule an appointment or for any medical questions concerning blood donations or visit the Garden City Public Library website at www.gardencitypl.org.

SPOTTED LANTERNFLY

Although the NYS Department of Agriculture is no longer asking residents of New York City, Westchester, Rockland and Nassau Counties to report Spotted Lanternfly (SLF) sightings or to collect samples at this time, residents should remain aware of these pests, and if they see them, they should continue to kill them. The Department has received enough reports and samples to confirm that the Lanternfly is indeed in these areas, including right here in Garden City. These invasive insects are from Asia and primarily feed on a wide variety of plants such as grapevine, hops, maple, walnut, fruit trees and others. This insect could impact New York's forests as well as the agricultural and tourism industries.

HAPPENING THIS WEEK IN GARDEN CITY

- **SATURDAY, AUGUST 12** 7:00 p.m. “Great Sleep-Out” at the Garden City Bird Sanctuary
- **MONDAY, AUGUST 14** 7:30 p.m. Garden City Library Board of Trustees Meeting at the Library
- **TUESDAY, AUGUST 15** 6:00 p.m. “Jungle Jam” Puppet Show at Hemlock Park
- **TUESDAY, AUGUST 15** 6:30 p.m. Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting at Village Hall
- **TUESDAY, AUGUST 15** 8:15 p.m. Move at the Pool: *Super Mario Bros*
- **WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 16** 7:30 p.m. Environmental Advisory Board Meeting at Village Hall and via Zoom
- **THURSDAY, AUGUST 17** 7:15 p.m. Summertime Gazebo Concert: The Best of the Beatles on the Village Green
- **THURSDAY, AUGUST 17** 7:30 p.m. Garden City Board of Trustees Meeting at Village Hall and via Zoom
- **FRIDAY, AUGUST 18** 6:00 p.m. Friday Night Promenade: Nashville Night on Seventh Street