



EPOA NEWS

The official newsletter of the
Eastern Property Owners' Association
Garden City, New York 11530

www.gcepoa.org /  @GardenCityEPOA /  @GC_EPOA /  @GCEPOA

—100 Years Representing Residents of the East—
1918-2018

Resident Electors'
Meeting: January 15
Senior Center on Golf
Club Lane, 7:30 pm

EPOA Public Meeting
follows with updates
from EPOA President
Tom Hogan, Village
Trustees John Delany
and Mark Hyer, Library
Trustee Charlie Murphy,
School Trustee Michael
Cassaro and East
Representatives to
boards & commissions.

Mark Hyer nominated to
BOT by East Nominating
Committee

All Are Welcome

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Fall 2018

President's Message

by Tom Hogan

Happy Holidays, neighbors! Around this time of year, I always feel a sense of gratitude. I am grateful for my family, my work, the beautiful town we live in, and all of the residents that volunteer throughout the village, particularly in the EPOA. As a civic association, we know it is important to reflect on this during the holidays and our Corporate Secretary, Jonathan Debrich, was instrumental in organizing a successful charity sock drive at our last meeting, with donations delivered to The Interfaith Nutrition Network in Hempstead. Thank you to everyone who participated.

Social media can be a powerful tool and Director Joe Nadolny has done a remarkable job leading the EPOA in this area. The EPOA uses this tool in the right way, by distributing information to East neighbors quickly, efficiently, and at no cost to members. However, tools that can be used to help can also be used to harm. Just like paint can create a masterpiece, it can also vandalize a wall and I have unfortunately seen the latter on various Garden City Facebook Groups. I concede it is not all negative and there are occasionally productive insights, but recently misinformation and inflammatory posts on sensitive village topics have been posted by a small but vocal segment of the community without a clear understanding of the facts or context. These initial posts on critical village issues create a domino effect of collective misguided outrage by our community that is truly unfortunate.

Proposals, initiatives, and ultimate decisions by volunteers in the village are not made haphazardly or on a whim. Rather, they are the result of a deliberate public process conducted by dedicated volunteers who take time away from their loved ones and professions to make difficult decisions for Garden City. Critical and sensitive topics within the village, such as the budget, commercial development, public safety, infrastructure, and environmental issues are reviewed carefully by your *neighbors* (not employees or paid politicians) who care deeply about the current and future state of our village.

I realize we cannot agree on every village matter. At EPOA meetings, we aim to encourage an open dialogue with varying and diverse opinions. Yes, we have our debates but our differences are generally discussed amicably. To assist East residents and limit conjecture, the EPOA has distributed short, fact-sensitive information. When we do this, the polarizing comments seem to subside temporarily, until the next social media post. A few examples of public EPOA statements from the last year include summaries of the 555 Stewart Avenue Apartment Development, Paid Firefighters Letter and Fact Sheet, Comment Letter on the proposed Environmental Protection

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President's Message (continued)

Agency's Water Treatment Facility by Grove Park, and a Joint MTA/LIRR Statement regarding the St. James Streets Rail Line (all previously posted on the EPOA's social media platforms and available through "Public Statements" at www.gcepoa.org). In addition, during the last term, we hosted speakers covering commercial development, police safety, school bullying, water quality, and pesticide use, all topics which received discussion on social media. The point is there are multiple opportunities for East residents to learn about village happenings.

Before rushing to judgment and commenting on Facebook or elsewhere, I request that you review our materials or attend a meeting in order to better understand the positive and negative aspects of a village initiative and then provide your input in a constructive manner. It is easy to react on social media but to be present at a meeting and state your view point, or better yet volunteer, takes courage. I am continually inspired by volunteers in the East and throughout the village who have made the decision that it is worth their time.

With that in mind, I encourage you to attend the EPOA and Resident Electors Meeting, which will be held at the Senior Center on Golf Club Lane on January 15, 2019, beginning at 7:30pm. Come when you can, leave when you need to, as we know your time is valuable. At this meeting, we will discuss, among other items, the independent GC East Nominating Committee's nomination for Village Trustee. I would like to congratulate Village Trustee Mark Hyer on being re-nominated for a two-year term to the BOT, effective April 2019. Thank you to Judy Courtney, chairperson of the committee, for coordinating the meetings, setting up the interviews, and ensuring the process was completed according to our procedures.

Finally, I also would like to welcome our two new directors to the EPOA board, Bruno Cerrone and Colleen Ciullo, and our two new High School Junior Ambassadors, Delaney McKenna and Jaimie Murray. They join the 17 returning officers and directors along with EPOA liaisons for what I hope and expect will be a new year of progress and cooperation among East residents for the betterment of the village. We appreciate all your support and efforts on behalf of the EPOA. To learn more about the EPOA, how to become a member, upcoming events, and matters concerning the East, you may visit us at our website (www.gcepoa.org), on Facebook (@GardenCityEPOA), on Twitter (@GC_EPOA), and on Venmo (@GCEPOA).

Following is a condensed version of a Joint Statement by the EPOA and MTA/LIRR re the Garden City Saint James Streets Rail Line—October 30, 2018

This is also covered in the Trustees' report on page 3 and in "Public Statements" at www.gcepoa.org

As of follow-up to the EPOA's Oct 9, 2018 public meeting with MTA/LIRR representatives, the EPOA, Village Trustee Mark Hyer, Senator Kemp Hannon (kempannon.com), and Assemblyman Ed Ra (nyassembly.gov/mem/Edward-P-Ra) met with a MTA/LIRR representative at the Saint James Streets Rail Line between Washington Ave and Clinton Rd in GC for a site visit on Oct 25. The purpose of the site visit was to discuss late night trains, train idling, and overall usage of this line.

Background regarding MTA/LIRR Usage of the St. James Streets Rail Line:

□ MTA/LIRR uses this rail line for system-wide railroad maintenance, operations and construction support activities. Work on this track is not specifically related to the Third Track Expansion Project. □ In response to resident concerns specific to the Saint James Streets Rail Line, MTA/LIRR has put in place the following long-term strategies, effective immediately: (1) Contractor Control—MTA/LIRR personnel at the highest levels, including the President, are aware of resident concerns specific to the Saint James Streets Train Rail Line. In response, the MTA/LIRR implemented oversight and control measures with respect to third party contractors that work on this line. (2) Idling Trains—Trains will no longer idle for extended periods of time during warmer weather due to MTA/LIRR Smart Start Technology which turns idling trains off automatically generally within one hour. This feature is not available at temperatures below 30° F. However, the MTA/LIRR will make efforts to not park idling locomotives on this stretch of the rail line for extended periods of time, unless necessary. (3) Late Evening Track Usage—The MTA/LIRR is sensitive to off hours track work on the Saint James Streets Rail Line with the goal to limit any late-night train usage to the extent feasible. In the event the MTA/LIRR, in advance, plans to use this rail line during the late evenings, the MTA/LIRR will notify the Village of Garden City in advance so nearby residents can be made aware. In case of emergency or sudden need to use the rail line in short order, the MTA/LIRR will need to use it without notice.

Future Relations with the MTA/LIRR: The MTA/LIRR wants to be a good neighbor and has indicated that it will keep an open dialogue with the Village and the EPOA for the benefit of all the parties involved. For further information, please contact the EPOA.

epoa officers and directors

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 Corp Secty Jonathan Debrich
 Corres Secty Paul Dircks
 Treasurer Sal Norberto

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 Joe Moody
 Barbara Moore
 Joe Nadolny
 Michael Nagler
 Robert Rymers
 Robert Schoelle, Jr.
 Theodore Ucinski

representatives from the east

Village Trustees
 John Delany
 Mark Hyer
 Acting Village Justice
 Brian Deveney
 Library Board Trustee
 Charlie Murphy
 Peter D'Antonio (a-l)
 School Board Trustee
 Michael Cassaro
 Architectural Design Review
 Barbara Ruggiero
 Cultural & Recreational Affairs
 Walter McKenna
 Judy Courtney (a-l)
 Environmental Advisory Board
 Leo Stimmler
 Elizabeth Bailey (a-l)
 Carol Neidich-Ryder (a-l)
 Planning Commission
 H. Bradford Gustavson, chair
 Keith Galanti
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 Zoning Board of Appeals
 Brian Paradine
 CBRC
 Danielle Kilkenny, chair
 Rochelle Dincesen
 Village Historian
 Bill Bellmer
 Editor
 Christine Mullaney

Village Update **Trustees John Delany and Mark Hyer**

St Paul's Facility

The Board of Trustees has hired Sport Facilities Advisory to advise the Village on the future use of the St Paul's facility. SFA will provide both a market and financial analysis for the creation of a cultural and recreational facility. They will be meeting with various Village groups such as POAs, sports groups and cultural groups to name a few. SFA conducts sport and recreational feasibility studies and has been involved with some 1800 projects throughout the country. SFA also manages some 180 facilities worldwide. With the work of SFA and BBB and Thornton Tomasetti, the architects and engineers, the potential cost and revenue will be determined and announced and shared with the residents. Concurrent with the hiring of SFA, the engineers and architects are formulating plans to prevent additional deterioration to the building, to be available in the near future.

Ambulance Service

The Village contracted with NYU Langone/Winthrop to provide ambulance service for the residents of Garden City. NYU Langone/Winthrop will provide two (2) dedicated ambulances to the Village 24/7 staffed with an EMT and a paramedic. Our current ambulance provider is Nassau County. Nassau County staffs their ambulances with one (1) EMT. That means almost every aided case that goes to the hospital must be driven by a Garden City police officer while the EMT tends to the patient in the back. This usually takes two (2) GC police officers out of service, one PO to drive the ambulance to the hospital and the other to pick him up and drive him back to the Village. With NYU/Langone/Winthrop, the residents will also get more advanced care by having a paramedic available at every call. This service is scheduled to start in January 2019.

MTA/LIRR St James Rail Extension

Tom Hogan (EPOA President), Village Trustee Mark Hyer, Senator Kemp Hannon and Assemblyman Ed Ra met with a MTA/LIRR representative at the St. James Streets Rail Line between Washington Avenue and Clinton Road. The purpose of the site visit was to discuss noise, train idling and late-night trains. In response, the MTA/LIRR has put in place long-term strategies effective immediately, which are summarized below:

- 1) Contractor Control: MTA/LIRR personnel at the highest levels, including the president, are aware of resident concerns specific to the St. James Streets Train Rail Line. In response, the MTA/LIRR implemented oversight and control measures with respect to third party contractors that work on this line.
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Village Hall will close at noon on both Monday, Dec 24, and on Monday, Dec 31. Offices will reopen on Wednesday of both weeks.

Village Trustees' Update continued

However, the MTA/LIRR will make efforts to not park idling locomotives near residences on this stretch of the rail line for extended periods of time, unless absolutely necessary.

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4) Future Relations with the MTA/LIRR: The MTA/LIRR wants to be a good neighbor and has indicated that it will keep an open dialogue with the Village and the EPOA for the benefit of all of the parties involved. For further information, please contact the EPOA.

Garden City Wins Platinum Award in AAA's Annual Traffic Safety Program

Platinum Awards are given to communities that have documented new, perhaps innovative, traffic safety programs, projects or initiatives for the previous year. These communities have also demonstrated outstanding success with high scores in all scoring categories. Garden City Police has engaged in diligent, forceful efforts to reduce driving while intoxicated, which have had profound results. In 2001, 336 drivers were arrested for drunk driving. By 2017, that number had been reduced to 38. The Village also continues to update signage and road markings, as well as having a very active child car seat fitting station. The Police Department was also cited for their successful participation in New York State Traffic initiatives such as the No Empty Chair Campaign, as well as their partnership with AAA Northeast in promoting their traffic safety programs, such as hanging a large AAA Back to School Banner at a highly visible location on Stewart Avenue.

Board of Trustees Future Meeting Dates

The following dates are all Thursdays: December 6, January 17, February 13, March 14, March 28. Also Tuesday, February 26, which is Tax Grievance Day, and Monday, April 8, the annual Organizational Meeting. In addition to these regularly scheduled meetings, there will also be Budget Meetings in February and March, which dates will be announced.

Meetings of the GC Board of Trustees begin at 8pm in the Village Hall board room. Check the Village website for updates: www.gardencityny.net.

As this newsletter went to press, the independent GC East Nominating Committee announced that committee members had nominated current Village Trustee Mark Hyer to a second term on the Board of Trustees, commencing in April, 2019. Committee members are Liz Bailey, Colleen Ciullo, Judy Courtney (chair), Erin Debrich, Barbara Garry, Steve Ilardi, Linda Ryan, June Michalak, Marisa Moody, Patrick Moore, Joe Nadolny, Mike Nagler, Whipple Newell, Althea Robinson and Karl Schmidt.

Upcoming Recreation Department Trips

- Wednesday, December 5: Trip to see Dyker Heights Christmas Lights
The Recreation Department will take a trip to see the Dyker Heights Christmas Lights and have dinner at Colandrea New Corner Restaurant. The Dyker Heights area is known for their wonderfully elaborate Christmas displays, with each home trying to top the next! We will travel by coach bus, have dinner first, and then enjoy the spectacle Dyker Heights has to offer. When we are done, we will take a quick ride to see the Rockefeller Centre Christmas tree. Walking is involved on this trip. The price per person will be \$90, checks only made payable to Rendezvous Travel. To register, please visit the Recreation Office at 108 Rockaway Ave.
- Wednesday, March 6: Trip to the Metropolitan Opera to see Rigoletto
We will travel by coach bus to the Opera House where we will see the 7:30 pm performance. You will have time to eat on your own before the show. We will return to Garden City after the performance. Tickets will be \$75, checks only made payable to the Village of Garden City.

Cultural and Recreation News—Walter McKenna and Judy Courtney

St Paul's Update

There were several meetings over the past months to get resident input into a draft proposal regarding the St. Paul's buildings. The proposal includes developing the internal structure into a Community Center, including sports facilities, meeting space, arts and theatre space, etc. The meetings had a strong turnout and gave residents the opportunity to share their opinions.

Following the meetings, the BOT engaged Sports Facilities Advisory Company (SFA), a consulting firm from Clearwater, Florida. SFA specializes in working with communities across the country who are considering various recreation and community facilities. During their recent presentation to the Board, they explained the various services they provide, ranging from feasibility studies and project development to site management. For the Village, they will review the recent St. Paul's proposal in terms of market feasibility (Are these the right facilities? Is there sufficient interest for these ideas?), as well as conducting resident focus groups to gather additional perspectives. They will present their findings to the BOT and public, sharing their sense on the draft recommendations, sharing any new ideas they have developed and providing financial insight into the feasibility of any project.

Community Park News and Program Notes

- On Thursday Sept 20 the Village BOT approved a contract for new scoreboard installation (a budgeted capital project) at Community Park, specifically a double-sided scoreboard facing Field 3, the smaller baseball field, as well as the 105-yard synthetic turf Multipurpose Field that opened for play in 2017.
- Tennis Contract Court Time Available: Prime tennis contract court times are still available for this indoor season at the Community Park Tennis Center! For more information and pricing or if you are interested in joining a contract group, please call Steve Espey at 465-4075.
- Women's Tennis Leagues: The 2018-2019 Community Park Tennis Center weekday women's tennis leagues are underway but we are still looking for some players to join certain leagues. The league is a great way to meet new people and get some exercise during the winter months. For more information please call Tom McGerty at the Community Park Clubhouse, 483-2525.
- Senior Citizen Tennis Time: The Department of Recreation is happy to announce that "Senior Citizen Time" is expanding at the Garden City Tennis Center. Senior residents can now take advantage of the \$24 per hour per court rate in the newly expanded time period of Monday through Friday, 7am-6pm. To make a court reservation please call the Tennis Clubhouse at 483-2525.

Senior Center Programs

- Learn to Play Canasta: The Recreation Department will be holding a beginners' Canasta class for seniors in January. This class will be held on Fridays from 10am to noon in GC's Senior Center beginning Friday, January 4. Canasta, a card game in the rummy family, is typically played in groups of four with two decks of cards. The course will run for eight weeks at a cost of \$65. To register for this class, please visit the Rec and Parks Office at 10 Rockaway Avenue.
- Exercise for Seniors: The Recreation Department is offering exercise classes for seniors at The Senior Center on Golf Club Lane. Classes are provided on weekday mornings and are open to all seniors ages 60 and older who are residents of GC. Classes might be cancelled due to a special event or trip so please check the bulletin board at The Senior Center for schedules.
- The Senior Center on Golf Club Lane is available for rental to residents. The south room of the Senior Center can be rented on a week night or on the weekends when not in use for a senior event. The facility offers comfortable, climate-controlled community rooms year-round at affordable prices. There are intimate meeting rooms that are perfect for smaller groups or business meetings, as well as rooms that are just right for christenings, anniversaries, family celebrations and so much more. The facility also has a full commercial kitchen that can be used by your caterer and alcohol is allowed.

Upcoming Recreation Department Trips—see page 4

Library News—Charlie Murphy

New York State Capital Project Grant

Recently, State Senator Kemp Hannon secured a \$100,000 capital project grant for the Garden City community. At this point, the library plans to use these funds for the *Children's Room* renovation. We cannot thank Senator Hannon enough for his effort on behalf of the GC Public Library.

Great American Read

Similar to the rest of the country, "To Kill a Mockingbird" was selected as Garden City's favorite novel from among the 100 finalists on the *PBS Great American Read* list. These titles are available for your use right now at the GC Public Library.

Student Volunteers Needed

If you're in high school and have sound technology skills, please consider joining the *GCPL Student IT Volunteers Program*. Assist Library patrons with email, scanning, word processing, and other computer applications. An interview is required, and training will be provided. Volunteers must be in grades 9-12. If interested, please contact Library IT Supervisor Joe Agolia.

Get the App

The Nassau public libraries have launched a new mobile application, which is compatible with Apple and *Android* devices. Library users are now able to get access to many library services in the palm of their hands. The Nassau Public Libraries Mobile app is available for download free of charge. GC library users are invited to explore this dynamic application and connect to the services, programs, and activities at their library. Visit the App Store or Google Play and search for "Nassau Public Libraries Mobile."

Renew Library Books Through Text

If you are signed up for SMS Alerts, you will receive simple-text messages to your cell phone to remind you that you have items that are due soon, overdue, or on hold. If you reply with the word renew, the system will respond with one of two messages:

"Your items could not be renewed" (if no items are eligible for renewal), or "(x) of (y) items were renewed" (if some or all items are eligible for renewal).

Items that are not eligible for renewal include overdue items, items with holds waiting, or items already renewed. Patrons who owe fines for previously returned materials may not be able to renew materials using this feature. Should you wish to pay fines online by credit card, visit ALISweb.org, log in to your account, and click on "unpaid fines and bills."

To sign up for SMS Alerts, log into your library account, click on "Modify Personal Info," enter a mobile-phone number, and click on the "opt in" link. Charges from your cell-phone service provider, if any, will apply.

Eddie Costello's Antique Road - Very Popular!!!!—Sunday, January 27, 2:00 - 4:00 pm

Do you have something that is old, unusual, or perhaps even bizarre? Learn how to identify today's hottest collectibles. Eddie Costello will be Garden City's guest appraiser and host. The first 40 people will be given the opportunity to bring an item that they would like to have appraised, and Eddie will provide an appraisal and rationale for the valuation.

Registration begins for GC library cardholders on January 15 at 9:30 am. You may register in person calling Reference Librarian Laura Flanagan at 516-742-8405 ext. 239. To be guaranteed an appraisal, you must sign-up for this program ahead of time. On the day of the program, walk-ins are welcome; however, walk-ins will receive an appraisal after those signed up, if time permits. Non-GC library cardholders may call on Wednesday, January 23 to register if space is available.

CONTACT: Laura Flanagan at 516-742-8405 ext 239 or lbflanagan@gardencitypl.org
LOCATION: Meeting Room B (large)

School Board Report—Michael Cassaro

Garden City Schools excitedly began the 2018-2019 school year under the direction of our new Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Kusum Sinha. When school doors opened on Sept 4, the entire district stood eager to welcome approximately 3900 new and returning faces in kindergarten through twelfth grade. The school board report in this issue will focus on several areas, including student achievement in academics, music and the arts, leadership and sports, school safety, and construction and capital projects.

Student Achievement

- This year has again seen tremendous accolades in scholarship and academic achievement including but certainly not limited to: 4 National Merit Scholarship Semifinalists, 10 National Merit Scholarship commended students, 4 National Hispanic Recognition Program Scholars, a National Broadcom MAS-TERS semifinalist.
- Additionally, Garden City High School was named one of the WISE“100 Best” for Financial Literacy, and several students were recognized as NYSMMA All-State Musicians, LIAA Scholar Artists, and recipients of the Adelphi University Prize for Leadership. Please see the most recent District Newsletter for more detailed descriptions of our District’s student achievement in academics, music and the arts, and leadership.
- The Varsity Girls Swim Team won the Nassau County Championships for the 20th consecutive year. The Varsity Field Hockey Team is Long Island Class B Champions and has yet again qualified for the State Championships. The Varsity Football Team played in the Conference II Nassau County Championship Game on November 15.

Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Kusum Sinha

Since Dr. Sinha has joined the District on July 1, she has been learning about our district and community, building relationships with stakeholders such as teachers, staff, students, families and the broader community, and engaging with the community around strengths, priorities, needs and opportunities for growth. In the coming months Dr. Sinha expects to continue to establish priorities in the areas of teaching and learning, finance and operations, governance, community and public relations. We expect to hear later this school year about the results of and recommendations from the initial phases of her entry. Dr. Sinha’s systematic entry plan focuses on learning, from a relatively objective perspective, about our community and district, and to move us forward in ways that enhance all aspects of the school district.

School Safety

The Board of Education and the entire School District continue to prioritize school safety. The district has made significant updates to security infrastructure and procedures in the past year: additional security cameras, strobe lighting in large-group spaces, streamlined dismissal procedures at our primary and elementary schools, one-button lockdown systems in every school, program Stop the Bleed training, and a cybersecurity audit in the technology department. The District is currently working towards establishing secure vestibules in the elementary, middle and high schools, along with a comprehensive visitor management system. As always, the School District continues to work closely and productively with the Village and our Police Department.

Capital and Construction Update

This year has seen a variety of capital improvements and construction projects that provide our students the physical space to learn, grow and excel in academics, music and the arts, leadership and sports. A newly installed emergency generator at the administration building allows critical services to remain intact in the case of an outage. The high school auditorium projects (abatement and HVAC) are complete. During this project the need arose to reconstruct portions of the auditorium ceiling that had failed, though the District’s insurer covered this cost entirely save a deductible. Also in the high school, ADA Accessible bathrooms are nearly complete, the art lab was completely renovated, and the auxiliary gym received new flooring and wall mats. Across the district, many classrooms and common spaces received new flooring, carpeting and paint.

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2018 EPOA College Scholarship Winner

The 2018 college scholarship in the amount of \$1000, sponsored by the EPOA, was awarded to Alexa Nallan at the Garden City High School Awards night in June 2018. As in prior years, the EPOA focused its scholarship search on college bound high school seniors residing in the East who had outstanding records of community service.

Alexa is currently attending the University of Richmond. She had an exemplary record of service to others throughout her high school career. For the past three years, she had volunteered in both the summer and winter Camp ANCHOR programs. She assisted with the Empire Games and volunteered in the Challenger Lacrosse program. In addition, she helped people with disabilities participate in an exercise program at a local gym. Another volunteer activity was teaching one-to-one in a children’s religious education program. Alexa’s focus on helping those with special needs demonstrates her empathy and compassion for others.

We congratulate Alexa and all of our other outstanding applicants. The EPOA feels fortunate to have these committed students contribute to our community.

EPOA 2019 College Scholarship-Early Announcement

The Eastern Property Owners’ Association announces that it will once again award a \$1000 scholarship to a high school senior who resides in the eastern section of Garden City. This award is based on the applicant’s community and volunteer service. The candidates, or their families, must be dues paying members of the EPOA. They must be currently attending either public or private high school and planning to attend college in the fall of 2019.

Early in 2019 applications will be available on the EPOA website at www.gcepoa.org or from the GCHS Guidance Department. Deadline for applications will be April 17, 2019.

Should you have a question, please call EPOA director Barbara Moore at 516-747-7047.

We encourage all seniors to apply!

School District Report continued from page 7

Other School District News

- The District has been meeting with representatives from the LIRR Third Track Project to minimize any impact the construction will have on the District.
- The Legislative Affairs Committee continues to advocate for a legislative solution to remove polling from our school buildings and to advocate for security expense exemptions from the Tax Cap.
- David Tellier, of Nawrocki Smith LLP, reported on their annual fiscal report of June 30, 2018. All items are clean and within all allowable limits. The General Fund has good financial position. The District is fiscally sound with no material weaknesses or significant deficits in internal control. This report is available on the District website.
- The District has completed negotiations with teachers, paraprofessionals and administrators, and seeks to complete negotiations with the CSEA during this 2018-2019 school year.
- Please attend the upcoming Board of Education meetings. Meetings dates, agendas, minutes and audio recordings of past BOE meetings and work sessions are available on the District website.

Facts of the East—Bill Bellmer

Garden City Lawns

That part of the Hempstead Plains east of Clinton Road and south of the Stewart RR, after being lent by the Garden City Company to the Federal Government for use as Camp Mills and Aviation Field 2 (later Mitchel Field), was first mapped for residential development in 1923. At this time most of the camp buildings had been cleared but some of the concrete roads remained.

The C.F. MacDonald Realty Corp. purchased the northern part of the property and issued a map called "Garden City Lawns" in 1927. The concrete road called New York Street in Camp Mills became Chestnut Street, and Avenue C became the north end of Boylston Street. Camp Mills' Main Street, its entrance from Clinton Road, was relocated slightly south to become Locust Street. The east/west streets were named as continuations of those west of Clinton. The initial development extended from Clinton Road to Oak Street, one block beyond the Village line at Grove Street, and south into Hempstead. A large early-1930s aerial drawing of the development by the George J. Brown Organization that takes the development two blocks farther east, adding Bond Street and East End Avenue, is on display in the back study room at the Library. It shows NYC in the distance (one item identified: "New Tri-Boro Bridge").

Home construction proceeded eastward from Clinton. By 1930, as shown in the photo, 157 houses had been built by various companies on Chestnut, Locust, Poplar and Garden (part way to Tremont), Brook (just east of Tremont), and Pine and Meadow (from Clinton to College). An unsuccessful attempt was made to prevent what were called "Bungalows" (now called Capes) from being built on Meadow.

In the 1940s the Gross-Morton Company built houses on Willow and Pine streets, identifiable by their not having roof eaves. In the 1950s the Eagle Rock Estates development essentially completed the area with mostly Cape-style houses from Boylston to Grove and from Meadow to Brook, priced as low as \$12,490.

At that time, to prevent through traffic, the east/west streets were terminated at Grove Street, and Tremont and Boylston were disconnected from Commercial Avenue with the establishment of Custer Park. The Village line, which originally went down the middle of Grove, was adjusted to allow house construction within the Village along the east side of Grove and the addition of Grove Playground and buffer strip to its south. After those houses were built, the school district line also was adjusted to put them in the GC district rather than Uniondale. The area now includes 690 houses plus Locust School.



Aerial view of Garden City Lawns facing north in the early 1930s. This is a detail of a photo of the area available at the Garden City Archives website. Go to www.NYHeritage.org, scroll to Contributors, select G and Garden City Public Library, search "aer31".

EPOA Honors Althea Robinson and Bill Bellmer



Althea Robinson and Bill Bellmer with EPOA President Tom Hogan at the EPOA's October meeting in the Garden City Fire House.

The EPOA at its October 9 public meeting honored longtime members Althea Robinson and Bill Bellmer for their many years of service to the EPOA and the Village.

Althea is a former director of the EPOA and served for 25 plus years on Garden City's Civic Beautification Committee, which designs and designates various Village landscape improvements. She regularly updated residents on the Committee's projects in this newsletter and in the GC News. However, the CBC was not formally appointed at the Village Board of Trustees' annual organizational meeting this past April, resulting in its termination. Althea is also the former Executive Director of the GC Chamber of Commerce.

Bill has been active in the EPOA since 1973 and is a past director for several terms. He was a member of Garden City's Planning Commission from 2009 to 2018. A resident of Garden City since 1943, Bill has served as the Village Historian since 2015.

Congratulations, Althea and Bill! Thank you from the EPOA and the residents of our Village for your volunteer service over so many years to the community and its residents.



2019 EPOA Dues for Household

One Year Membership.....\$20.00

or Commit to a Two Year Membership.....\$40.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Please make check payable to the EPOA and mail in the enclosed envelope, pay online at gcepoa.org via PayPal under "Membership," or by Venmo @GCEPOA. When paying by check, the canceled check is your receipt.

Registration

Designated Members: Wife, Husband, and Any Adult Residents

First Name _____ **Last Name** _____

First Name _____ **Last Name** _____

First Name _____ **Last Name** _____

Household Address: _____ **Garden City,**
NY 11530

Email* _____

Email* _____

*As a dues paying member, if you provide us with an email address, you are eligible to receive our monthly e-communication bulletins. Two email addresses allowed per household. Please print clearly.

By selecting this box, you consent to receive the EPOA newsletter via email (as provided above), which helps us save on mailing costs. If you do not select this box, the newsletter will be mailed to your household address.

P.O. Box 7525, Garden City, New York 11530

www.gcepoa.org/  [@GardenCityEPOA](https://www.facebook.com/GardenCityEPOA) /  [@GC_EPOA](https://twitter.com/GC_EPOA) /  [@GCEPOA](https://www.venmo.com/GCEPOA)

**100 YEARS REPRESENTING RESIDENTS OF THE EAST
Founded 1918**

Save the Date: Tuesday—January 15—2019

**Resident Electors' Meeting
7:30 pm, Senior Center on Golf Club Lane**

EPOA Public Meeting Immediately Follows

All Residents Welcome

Updates from EPOA President Tom Hogan, Trustees John Delany and Mark Hyer

School Trustee Michael Cassaro and Library Trustee Charlie Murphy

—Bring your concerns and comments to the meeting—

100 YEARS REPRESENTING RESIDENTS OF THE EAST: 1918-2018

EPOA NEWS

Eastern Property Owners' Assoc. Inc.

P.O. Box 7525

Garden City, New York 11530



To: