### and our Tree Management Program has once again been recognized by the New York State Department of **Environmental Conservation** Urban and Community Forestry Program the National Arbor Day Foundation by designating Garden City a "Tree City

USA" and awarding the Village a \$24,000 reimbursement grant for tree planting. Our inventory of 11,500 Village trees contains over 60 different cultivars in order to create biodiversity throughout the community. Each year, under the direction of Department staff, approximately 80 to 100 trees are removed from inventory and replaced. An additional 600 trees are pruned using both Village staff and private arborists under contract.

Regulations do exist relative to the removal of privately owned trees; residents may remove one tree per calendar year without a permit. Residents wishing to remove more than one tree must first make a request and obtain a permit by contacting the Department of Recreation and Parks. Our arborist will then visit the site and determine if a permit may be issued.

Maintaining both private and public properties in the Kevin E. Ocker Village is critical not only for our general landscape Chairman of the Board of Commissioners aesthetics but for safety as well. As stipulated in Village of Cultural and Recreational Affairs



**GERDEN CITY, NY 11530 TOS R**OCKAWAY AVENUE DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS





Dr. Varano DDS Tarr Home İmprovement İnc. La Bottega West Hempstead Animal Hospital Sportloft Connolly Clan TCBY of 7th Street Garden City Play It Again Sports **Phoenix Construction Solutions** Avellino's Pizzeria and Catering Garden City Spirit Academy

**WINTER 2019** 

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Covanta All İsland Transportation Garden City Tent and Party Rentals Scala-Wisell International Inc. Sound Solutions Inc. Wells Fargo Advisors Denise I. Emma DDS Hengstenberg's Florist National Land Tenure Company LLC Boccia Inc. Huntington Learning Center

NYU Winthrop The Garden City News Adelphi University Molly Biggane Foundation Rosenzweig Insurance Agency, Inc. Doc O'Grady's **Coach Realtors** Carve İt Fitness College Nannies+Sitters+Tutors

# Schweiger Dermatology

Sponsorships are available for any company or organization interested in associating their name with all that Recreation and Parks offers. Sponsors are listed on our website, in our Pool brochure, on the Pool message board and on park signage. Special events can be sponsored with banners hung by the sponsoring company. They will also be listed in our quarterly newsletter reaching every home in Garden City. Sponsorship opportunities range from \$100 to \$3,000.

#### Please call 516-465-4075 to find out about our sponsorship opportunities.

Sandra Young Timothy Messner Lori Kampe Steven Espey Kevin E. Ocker, Department Head

#### **DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS**

Timothy Stapleford Christian Siragusa Місһае! Кудег Kristina Russo Walter McKenna Ventine Countiney Kevin E. Ocker, Chairperson **ZAID RECREATIONAL AFFAIRS** 

#### BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR CULTURAL

Trustee Colleen E. Foley Trustee Mark A. Hyer Trustee Louis M. Minuto Trustee John M. Delany Trustee Stephen S. Makrinos Trustee Robert A. Bolebruch Deputy Mayor Theresa A. Trouvé Mayor Brian C. Daughney

#### **BOARD OF IRUSTEES** VILLAGE OF GARDEN CITY



#### **108 ROCKAWAY AVENUE** GARDEN CITY, NY 11530 (516) 465-4075



not only contributes to

enhancing the charm of the

Village landscape but also sets

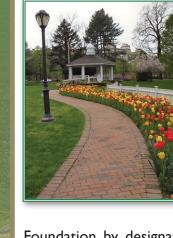
our community apart from

most municipalities. Our

Village trees are magnificent

and

Maintaining the Villages urban forest, planting 35,000 spring flowering bulbs as well as hundreds of perennials and annuals flowers and hanging baskets each year



**WINTER 2019** 



# "VISIONS OF GARDEN CITY" ENHANCE THE SENIOR CENTER

In our continued effort to enhance our visitors' experience at the Senior Center, the Garden City Department of Recreation and Parks recently commissioned professional photographer John Ellis Kordes to produce six 20"x 30" enlargements of

Garden City to be permanently displayed at the Senior Center on Golf Club Lane. Several of the images are from Mr. Kordes' book, Visions of Garden City, and are exquisitely custom matted and framed and compliment other images of Garden City already on display at the Center. The Senior Center continues to be utilized by over



1,300 residents and guests each month. To find out more about our Senior Center, please visit our website at www.gardencityrecreation.org.

ordinances we kindly remind residents to be sure that private trees and shrubs are not blocking sidewalks or creating line of site issues at intersections. Also, no owner of property within the Village shall permit long grass and overgrowth to exist on their property. Residents are assessed the cost of cleanup for noncompliance.

INCORPORATED VILLAGE OF GARDEN CITY

# ONGOING WINTER PROGRAMS

Recreation and Parks offers a variety of programs for young and old each season. Program offerings and registration times can be found in the local papers and on our website, www.gardencityrecreation.org. Here are some of the ongoing programs for the winter:

- Tennis for ages 4 through Adult. Participants are grouped by age and ability
- Art for Youth and Adults
- After school Gym Programs for students
- After school Mad Science for Grades K-4
- Yoga for ages six through Adult
- Adult basketball, volleyball and soccer evenings
- PeeWee Sports for ages 4 and 5 in the early afternoons
- Recreation sports programs through US Sports Institute
- Senior bus trips
- Senior exercise
- Senior computer classes
- Events for Special Needs Adults

Please visit our office at 108 Rockaway Avenue, visit our website or call 516-465-4075 for information on any program. All programs are open to residents of the Village of Garden City.

# PROGRAMS FOR SPECIAL NEEDS ADULTS

We now offer events geared toward the Garden City population of special needs adults. Our Department has held two events each month with wonderful participation. Future events and programs are being planned with the hope of offering monthly exercise, crafts and special events for our special needs residents. Special thanks to Enriching Special Adults, Inc. for helping to sponsor our events! For further information contact Sandy Young at 465-4076.

# SAFE SPORTS MANAGEMENT PLAN

In collaboration with the leaders of the "Safe and Healthy Fields Initiative for Garden City," the Board of Commissioners of Cultural and Recreational Affairs (BCCRA) has begun a process to explore the impact of the elimination of pesticides, specifically herbicides (weed controls) and insecticides (grub control) on natural turf athletic fields in several neighborhood parks, including Edgemere, Hemlock, and Tullamore. As we move forward our Department, the Environmental Review Board and the BCCRA realize the greatest challenge will be balancing the need to ensure a safe playing environment for our children while at the same time maintaining our fields at a level that produces safe, even playing surfaces and vigorous athletic field turf capable of withstanding extremely high usage.

The Department currently is in full compliance of existing New York State Department of Environmental Conservation law pertaining to the application of approved pesticides in a municipal setting. Also, the Department currently performs several of the cultural practices included in the Cornell Safe Sports Management Plan such as timely mowing, watering, fertilizing, core aerification, and slice seeding. As we move forward all field conditions will be evaluated on a regular basis and we will continue discussion with all interested parties, including the Environmental Advisory Board.

# WEBSITE & FACEBOOK

Recreation and Parks' website and Facebook page is the way to go to find up-to-date information on our programs and events!

Over 30,000 people visited our website last year and 1,100 follow our Facebook page! Our website lists everything our Department offers as well as rental venues, sponsorship opportunities and other items pertinent to our Village. You can download brochures, print applications and find the most up-to-date information. Please visit our website at www.gardencityrecreation.org.

Our Facebook page "Garden City Recreation" is updated daily with current photos and information to help residents stay informed of our many events! "Like" us to get updates as they occur.

We accept online registrations for our memberships and programs. In order to be able to use this feature, you must first visit our office at 108 Rockaway Avenue to verify residency. You will then receive a password to use anytime you want to register. All credit cards are accepted except American Express.

# STRATEGIC PLAN

## **IMPLEMENTING OUR INVESTMENT IN RECREATION AND PARKS** FACILITIES

As the Department continues through year three of Phase I of the Strategic Plan emphasis is placed on building renovations and additional athletic field improvements. Over the past six months the exterior and interior renovation of the Edgemere Park building has been completed. In addition upgrades to Field #1 at Community Park have been completed as well.



A full renovation of the interior of Edgemere Park's restrooms, including the installation of new tile board on the walls, new fixtures and lighting is completed.

Looking ahead to spring 2019 we anticipate the completion of the interior renovation of the Saint Paul's comfort station, the complete renovation and improvement of Field #2 at Community Park, including a synthetic turf infield, and the completion of the Community Park Inclusive Playground. In addition, over the next several months in-house staff will be completely renovating the baseball field at Tullamore Park and will be completing the interior renovation of the Grove and Hemlock parks buildings.



The Department offers fun after school programs

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## **BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS** OF RECREATIONAL AND **CULTURAL AFFAIRS**

The Incorporated Village of Garden City has numerous Boards and Commissions that are run by residents who volunteer their time. Members of these Boards and Commissions, both past and present, help to enhance Garden City while maintaining its rich tradition.

The Board of Commissioners of Recreational and Cultural Affairs is comprised of one member from each Property Owners' Association and two at-large members as well as the Recreation and Parks Department head, Kevin Ocker, who holds the position of Chairman. The current Commissioners are:

> Walter McKenna – East Michael Ryder – West Christian Siragusa – Estates **Timothy Stapleford - Central** Judy Courtney – at large Kristina Russo – at large

The mission of our Department is "to enrich the lives of residents, serve as stewards of Village resources, and foster a sense of community by providing diverse and valued parks, recreational facilities, and programs." Our Commission helps promote our mission by establishing and updating policies, fees, and guidelines, reviewing budgets and capital projects, and assisting in the many components that help promote and provide better leisure time opportunities for our residents.

The Commission meets monthly to discuss the various short-term and long-term needs of our Department. Recent meetings included the scheduled improvements to Community Park, including the addition of synthetic turf to the Little League field, an overview of Pool season, and a combined meeting with the Environmental Advisory Board regarding the use of pesticides in our parks. The Commissioners strive in each meeting to use the Department's recreational resources to meet the needs of our residents while keeping in mind the financial aspects of each decision.

# LEGACY TREE & BENCH PROGRAM

Recreation and Parks' new Legacy Tree and Bench Program allows groups and individuals to honor, recognize, and remember loved ones. Trees and benches that are purchased through the program are planted and placed at various parkland locations throughout the Village. Our

staff will work with the purchaser in selecting a native and durable tree for planting at an agreed upon site or help find a perfect location for a commemorative bench. Costs include installation and a commemorative plaque. For further information or an order form, please visit our website at www.gardencityrecreation.org.



