

VILLAGE NEWSLETTER
Village of Green Island
20 Clinton Street
Green Island, NY 12183
(518) 273-2201
www.villageofgreenisland.com
JULY 2014

RECREATION NEWS

Soccer Clinic – August 4th – August 8th at Veterans Memorial Stadium. The clinic will be held from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. for K – 6th grade and from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. for 7th – 12th grade. Thank you to **Bimbo Bakeries** for sponsoring this year's clinic. Registration forms are available at the Village Office, the Paine Street Park, or on the village website.

Movie Night – Bring your lawn chairs and blankets and watch a movie the whole family can enjoy. Movie Night is FREE. The movies begin at approximately 8 p.m. and will take place on: Friday, July 25th, Friday, August 8th and Friday, August 22nd.

In the event of inclement weather, the movie will be shown on the following Friday. Movies will be posted at the park and on the Green Island Recreation Facebook page.

The **Bike Rodeo** will be held on Wednesday, July 23rd at approximately 1:00 p.m. Great way to learn about Bike Safety!

The American Red Cross will be presenting their "**Pillow Case Project**" and the "**Scrubby Bear Hand Washing Program**" to the children at the Park on Friday, August 8th starting at 1:00 p.m. The presentations are best suited for children ages 2 to 11.

"**Like**" the Green Island Recreation Department page on Facebook for up to date information on what's happening at the park this summer!

COUNTY EXECUTIVE DANIEL MC COY – STATE OF THE COUNTY PRESENTATION

Albany County Executive Daniel McCoy will present his "State of the County" message to village residents on Monday, July 21st, 2014 at 5:30 p.m., prior to the MONTHLY MEETINGS of the various boards starting at 6:00 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Green Island Municipal Center, 19 George Street, Green Island. All residents are encouraged to attend and ask any questions.

TOWN OF GREEN ISLAND – FERAL and STRAY CATS

The Town of Green Island has received several complaints regarding cats. They will be working in conjunction with Scroffs, Snips and Alley Cats to do a TNR = trap, neuter/spay and release. The event is tentatively scheduled for the weekend of August 9th & 10th. Information flyers will be distributed door to door in the affected area prior to the event. It is important to keep your pet cat indoors during the trapping days. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer to help with the event, please contact Julie in the Town offices @ 273-0661.

LAWN AND LEAF BAGS

If you would like to stock up on lawn and leaf bags, now is the time to do it. We are going to sell all of our stock and discontinue the sale of them. We can't compete with the markets and hardware stores when it comes to pricing them. It also has become a storage problem. So we are going to sell what we have left for 3 for \$1.00 until they are gone.

KEEP OUR RIVERS CLEAN

Please remember that it is illegal by law to intentionally place or allow flowing waste into our catch basins. Please help us out and sweep the curb line of dirt, grass clippings and other debris in front of your properties when you can and never throw or allow such debris and/or liquid chemicals and/or petroleum such as dirt, grass, grease, cleaners, gasoline or oil into the catch basin. Please report any emergency spill or report violators to the Green Island Police Department at 911 immediately. Thank you for your cooperation. Together we can help keep our waterways clean and free from debris.

DIG SAFELY NEW YORK-CALL 811 BEFORE YOU DIG

Homeowners are reminded to call Dig Safely New York every time you dig into the ground, even if it is in your own back yard. This is so that all utilities in the ground can be located before digging. The number is simply 8-1-1. Failure to do so can result in the obvious danger, and can be very expensive, as the utility companies will charge you back for any damages, which could be in the thousands of dollars. We recommend that you call our building department at 273-2201 beforehand if you have any questions. They also have literature about the Dig Safely program for your use.

SWIMMING POOL SAFETY

The Code Enforcement Office reports that there are many inflatable pools throughout the Village. Please note that any pools with a water depth of over 18 inches must be in compliance with the same code regulations as the larger pools including secure fencing and lot coverage requirements. Electrical inspections by an independent agency may be required as well. To avoid the issue of non-compliance please call Maggie at the Village Office at 273-2201 for further information.

NEWS FROM THE AMERICAN LEGION

The Legnard-Curtin Post American Legion will be hosting the "Commander's Cup" on Sunday, August 10th, 2014 at the Frear Park Golf Course in Troy. The time of the event is 12:30 p.m. with a "Shotgun Start" and the cost is \$100 per person. The cost includes: green fees, cart, and lunch on the course, Prime Rib dinner, and two hour open bar. Dinner only for non-golfers is available at a cost of \$30.00. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Donna Lazzaro at 274-1237 or the Legion Post at 272-1198. The deadline for reservations is August 1st, 2014.

The Legnard-Curtin Post Auxiliary #927 is seeking any new or used Halloween Costumes that you no longer need. Please contact Brenda Persons at 271-6184 or 423-2653. Please don't forget our school and military with manufacturer's coupons, Box Tops for education, Campbell Soup labels and Price Chopper register tapes.

NEWS FROM THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

There will **NOT** be a Community Dinner for the month of July, but there will be a dinner on Friday, August 29th, from 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. at no charge.

Annual Village Wide Tag Sale will be held on **Saturday, August 2nd** from **9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.** Maps, breakfast, lunch and merchandise will be available at the Church of the Good Shepherd, 89 Hudson Avenue, Green Island. To be included on the **MAP** for the "Yard Sale" please send your check for \$3.00 made out to the Church of the Good Shepherd, P.O. Box 1523, Green Island, NY 12183 by July 26th, thank you.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN GREEN ISLAND

July 15, 2014

Dear Friends,

You got off easy last month with a short newsletter, but I'm going to make up for it this month because we have a lot of news.

I want to start off with happy news. One of my favorite ladies in Green Island, Margaret Donnelly, just turned 100 years young on July 1st. Her family and friends had a couple of celebrations at her home and we were going to do a little something for her at our first concert, but the "rain gods" had a different idea and we had to cancel (more about that later). But we did get her a big chocolate cupcake with a "0" candle on it. I told her after the first 100, you have to start all over again, so it was back to "0". She laughed. She also showed me her report card from Mildred Elly School and she had all "A"s. She is still sharp as a tack. I told her the second one hundred would be easier than the first. She said she enjoyed them all. From the smile on her face I think she really meant it. "Happy 100th Birthday Margaret!

I think I cursed us by saying I hoped we could have one season with no concerts under the bridge. Boy was I wrong! The first one was cancelled beforehand because of severe weather and the fact the three municipal workers in Rotterdam were struck by lightning that afternoon. We felt it was too dangerous to even have the concert under the bridge – so we cancelled. As luck would have it, the storm ended around 5:30 and the sun came out. REALLY????? It was too late because it was a 20 piece orchestra that had to set up and we had to make the decision by 3 p.m. But on a good note, they are coming for a special concert on Sunday, July 27th from 6 to 8 p.m. and hopefully it will be at the Gazebo. Then concert #2 comes along. The weatherman said it would be calm between 6 and 8, so we went to the park. On the second song with the Rymanowski Brothers, the skies opened up and the thunder and lightning was so severe that we lost power for three and a half hours. REALLY????? To say the least, I was upset and disappointed. A tremendous amount of work goes into preparing and setting up for these concerts and the decision to stay put, cancel or go under the bridge is very difficult because we have to decide three hours before the concert starts. And the #%* weatherman isn't any help. And while we were struggling to get everyone to safety and bring all our food and equipment inside the shed, a young woman comes inside our little shed and made a comment to one of our workers that "They should have gone under the bridge." I bit my tongue. It is easy to be a Monday morning quarterback and second guess decisions when you can look back. But we have to make the best decisions we can with the "iffy" information that we are given by the weatherman. By the time you get this newsletter, concert #3 will have already taken place. I hope we will have had a great 100th concert in the Gazebo because I can't take another nerve wracking Wednesday. And Captain Squeeze and the Zydeco Mosher is the band and this will be their last concert in Green Island because the Captain is moving to New Orleans. So besides celebrating our 100th concert, we have to give the Captain a good send off!

The spray park in the Paine Street Park is getting a great workout in its second year. I see lots of kids enjoying themselves cooling off. I'm sure glad John and Lynda Kutey won that lottery and were generous to their old hometown. Sometimes I feel like joining Mr. Mullins and the kids, but me in a bathing suit isn't a pretty thing!

Welcome to the new Pastor at the Church of the Good Shepherd, Rev. John Greenough. I haven't had the pleasure of meeting him yet, but I hope to very soon.

Please make sure you see the other newsletter for info on the Recreation Department summer program, the Village Wide Tag Sale, the Legnard-Curtin Post's "Commander's Cup" and lots of other good stuff.

If you would like to stock up on lawn and leaf bags, now is the time to do it. We are going to sell all of our stock and discontinue the sale of them. We can't compete with the markets and hardware stores when it comes to pricing them. It also has become a storage problem. So we are going to sell what we have left for 3 for \$1.00 until they are gone.

Now it's time for the not so happy stuff to talk about. We have been getting complaints about feral cats, dog poop, people not cutting down weeds on their property and speeding at the Little League. I will quickly tackle them one at a time. We will be cosponsoring a program to trap, neuter/spay and release cats that are becoming a problem in some areas of the Island. It is tentatively scheduled for August 9th and 10th. Flyers will be delivered to homes in the targeted area and there will be info on our website as more details become available. However, it is important that pet owners keep their animals inside on the trapping dates to avoid your animal being trapped and taken away. It has been explained to us by the experts that simply trapping and removing the cats does not improve the situation because other cats simply fill in the area. By neutering/spaying the animals and returning them, the groups will eventually die off because they can no longer reproduce. It's worth a shot and it is humane, so we are going to give it a try.

Please stand in front of your property and look at it to see if you may be one of the properties that we have received weed complaints about. We do have a local law about weeds growing high and they must be cut down. Please take action before the Building/Codes Inspector has to visit you. This is a friendly nudge to get you to do it.

We are looking to put more speed bumps in the Little League due to complaints from residents of many "near miss" accidents due to speeding cars going into and out of the Little League. Please watch your speed and keep our kids safe.

And finally, my least favorite subject – dog poop. I had a resident call me yesterday to let me know someone put dog poop on her porch and the paperboy threw the newspaper on top of it. Well, when she went to pick up the paper --- you guessed it --- she got more than the paper. She was hopping mad and I don't blame her. A couple of weeks ago, I saw a young man walking his dog in front of Heatly School. I was a block away from him and he let his dog do a massive poop in the grass and left it there. When I got to where I could see what Fido had left behind, I turned around and caught up to him and made him get a bag and clean it up. I saw the same young man yesterday and he now carries bags on the dog's leash. Lesson learned! We all have to say something when we see this happen, even if it isn't on our property. We have a law and it will be enforced but we need some eyes out there helping us catch the culprits. And remember that dogs are not allowed in any of the parks. And if you enjoy walking your dog along beautiful Cannon Street, you still need to pick up Fifi's poo poo.

Well I think that about covers it for this month. We covered a lot of territory in today's letter. I hope the weather improves for our concerts. I guess you have to look at the positives. The rain does help wash away the dog poop, but then it goes in the storm sewers and that creates another problem (see Keep Our Rivers Clean in the other newsletter). The whole scenario kind of sounds like that old song, "There was an old lady who swallowed a fly...". Probably only us old folks remember that one. I think it was Burl Ives that sang it. I can hear anyone under 50 saying "Who the heck is Burl Ives." That's OK because I have no idea who any of today's singers are. And they sure don't have great songs like "I know an old lady who swallowed a fly..."

Sincerely,



Ellen M. McNulty-Ryan