

VILLAGE NEWSLETTER
VILLAGE OF GREEN ISLAND
www.villageofgreenisland.com

JUNE 2019
RECREATION NEWS
Park Program Registration

The **Summer Park Program** for **Green Island residents** will officially begin on **Monday, July 1st**. The parents of any child wishing to use our facilities this summer will be required to fill out a program registration form. This will help our staff in an emergency situation when parents have to be notified. The registration forms can be picked up and dropped off at the Paine Street Park or the Village Office during operating hours.

Save the dates for the following events happening this summer:

Bike Rodeo – Thursday, July 11th at 12:30 p.m. Please bring your bike and bike helmet to the park by 12:15 p.m.

Men's Basketball League - Tuesday and Thursday evenings at 6:15 p.m., 7:15 p.m. and 8:15 p.m. starting on **Tuesday, July 9th**.

The **Albany County Department of Recreation** and the **Green Island Recreation Department** will sponsor **Lacrosse** on Saturdays starting on July 27th – August 31st from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the Paine Street Park. Equipment will be provided. This program is **FREE** for all Albany County residents. This is the perfect opportunity to try a new sport. Members of our staff will be present to ensure everyone is having fun! Visit <http://www.albanycounty.com/recreation.aspx> to download a registration form. The **Albany County Department of Recreation** and the **Green Island Recreation Department** are also hosting a basketball camp in early August. Stay tuned for more information.

"Stan the Produce Van" will bring fresh fruits and vegetables to the Paine Street Park on Fridays, starting July 12th. This program is sponsored by CDPHP and is **FREE**. We will also have a free lunch program for persons 18 yrs. old and younger. Lunches will begin July 8th and are typically served between 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. at the Paine Street Park.

Also new this summer will be **"Tammy Tales Storytime."** Come Monday mornings between 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. to participate in stories and crafts!

The **Sprinkler Pad** will be on throughout the summer program, Monday – Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and on Tuesday and Thursday evenings during the Men's Basketball League from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. (Weather Permitting).

"LIKE" the Green Island Recreation Department on Facebook for updates on what's to come, you won't want to miss it.

HELMET LAW

Another issue that coincides with nice weather is youths riding on bicycles, scooters and skateboards. The law states that any child 14 years of age and younger must wear a helmet when riding on any of these. We also suggest elbow and kneepads and wrist guards for skateboarders. Our police department will be on the lookout for violators, but more important they may even stop those that are wearing helmets to tell them "good job".

GREEN ISLAND SECTION 8 HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHER PROGRAM

Beginning on **June 3, 2019**, **APPLICATIONS** were issued for the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Payment Program. This is a Federal Government funded program assisting very low-income families, the elderly and the disabled to afford decent, safe and sanitary housing in the private market. **Please note: At the present time, there are no openings in the PROGRAM.** The purpose is to establish a new waiting list.

HOW DO I APPLY?

You can pick up applications at the Green Island Village Office at 20 Clinton Street, Green Island, NY 12183 on Monday thru Friday between 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

You may return completed Applications to the Green Island Village Office at 20 Clinton Street, Green Island, NY 12183 between 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Monday thru Friday.

Applications will be accepted on a first come, first serve basis until 50 completed and approved applications have been accepted for the waiting list. Applicants must supply proof of their current address at the time of submittal of application.

If you have any questions, please contact the Green Island Section 8 Office, Village of Green Island, 75 Hudson Avenue, Green Island, NY 12183, telephone number is 518-629-0368 and ask for Ted Koniowka, Section 8 Administrator.

REMINDER – DOGS AND POOPER SCOOPER LAW

It is illegal to bring any animal, with the exception of a guide or therapy dog, into any **public park**. **This includes all parks, and the Little League and Veteran's Memorial Stadium.** It is also illegal to allow your animal to defecate on any public or private property without picking up the mess, for obvious reasons, including the fact that if it washes into the storm drains it could go directly to the river, which would be a violation of the "***Clean Water Act***". If you wish to walk your dog, make sure you are prepared to clean up after him or her. We are also receiving complaints, and the Police have issued tickets to violators who allow or fail to secure their animals (dogs) from running at large. Please make sure dogs are secured in fenced areas or if out for a walk with a responsible owner/handler, make sure the dog is on a leash. Lastly, we have also heard complaints about dogs that are habitually barking. This is a violation of Local Law. Violators are subject to fines and the possibility that the animal will be transported to the Humane Society, which could be costly to the owner.

RECREATIONAL AND OTHER BACKYARD FIRES

We have recently received a few complaints about backyard fire pits, recreational fires, etc. This is not new around this time of year and usually can be solved by keeping a small manageable fire in a safe area of your property, through communication with neighbors and by being "neighborly" when talking to them. Most of the time that approach works.

If not, and when police and fire personnel are called, the NYS Fire Code and Section 307.1.1 is pretty clear that a fire is prohibited if the burning is "offensive or objectionable because of smoke or odor emissions.....". The Code also states in Section 307.4.2 that "Recreational fires shall be not be conducted within 25 feet of a structure or combustible material.....". If our personnel are called they will enforce the law, most likely making you extinguish the fire immediately and depending on the situation cite you as well. Please be a good neighbor and don't allow yourself to be put in to that situation. Thank you for your cooperation. **LANDLORDS PLEASE SHARE THIS INFORMATION WITH YOUR TENANTS.**

NEWS FROM CODE ENFORCEMENT

As summer approaches and residents are outside cleaning around their homes, it is important to remember the maintenance of the exteriors. The New York State Fire and Building Uniform Code has a section called "Property Maintenance" - this section covers all exterior wood surfaces other than decay resistant wood. Peeling, flaking and chipped paint needs to be corrected by protective coating or painting. Window frames, siding, cornices and balconies on all buildings, houses and garages are all included in "Property Maintenance" Section.

The Village Code has a section of law, which specifies that homeowners must maintain grass and weed growth on their properties. Failure to do so will result in legal action against that property owner and if the Building Inspector orders the owner to clean the property and the owner refuses then the Village will hold a public hearing and if the owner does not respond, the Village DPW will be directed to clean up the property and a hefty bill will be attached to your property taxes. The Building Inspector will conduct a survey and notify homeowners if they have buildings that are subject to this ruling. Please cooperate by making our community a more attractive place to reside.

PRIMARY DAY ELECTION

With the change in the New York State Election Law, Primary Election Days will now be held earlier in the year. This year's will be held on Tuesday, June 25th, from 12 noon to 9:00 p.m. The polling sites will be the Green Island Municipal Center for Districts 1 and 2 and Heatly School for both Districts 3 and 4. Only enrolled members of the Democratic Party have primary candidates running this year. You must be enrolled in the Democratic Party to vote on June 25th. Please contact the Albany County Board of Elections at 518-487-5060 if you have any questions.

NEWS FROM THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

FREE COMMUNITY DINNER – Friday, June 28th from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. A free delicious dinner for all to enjoy. Bring your family and friends, all at no charge. EVERYONE IS WELCOME! NOTE: There will NOT be a Free Community Dinner in July or August.

VILLAGE WIDE YARD SALE – Saturday, August 3rd from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Sales tables in/outside of the church. **Breakfast** – Fresh Egg Sandwiches, **Lunch** – Hot Dogs & Hamburgers, **Free Maps of Village Sales** – Available at the church, 89 Hudson Avenue. **To be included on the map:** 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 27th. They will have limited lawn spaces available to rent that day. Contact church for more info – 518-273-5531.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN GREEN ISLAND

June 18, 2019

Dear Friends,

Summer is almost here, so that means the Paine Street Park will be in full swing very soon. Opening day will be on Monday, July 1st and I am sure that Mr. Mullins will be ready for the Sprinkler Pad! Please see the other newsletter for info on the lunch program, bike rodeo, lacrosse and basketball programs, "Stan the Produce Van" and lots more. Parents, PLEASE be sure to fill out a registration form for each of your children so the park staff will have your contact information in case of an emergency. This summer program has been a great success for many years and just keeps growing. Thanks to all the staff that makes it so special.

Summer also means the GIG Concerts will be starting soon. Opening day is Wednesday, July 10th. We sent you all a schedule last month with the bands, sponsors and food specials. One thing has changed. The band scheduled for August 14th had to cancel because the tour that they are on has been extended and they won't be back in time. But we have scheduled an old friend who played for us several years ago. Skip Parsons and his Riverboat Jazz Band will be performing that evening. I really love the atmosphere at our concerts – the music, the food, the dancers and chatting with the crowd. We have quite a loyal group of regular attendees and it keeps growing every year. If you are a regular – welcome back. If you have never attended a concert – we'd love for you to join us! I am praying for no rain on Wednesdays! But if it does, we will see you "under the bridge."

Summer also means fireworks, backyard fire pits and more dog poop. Let's talk about fireworks first. Last Fourth of July we had many complaints about illegal fireworks all over the village. I am not talking about sparklers and firecrackers, I am talking about professional sized illegal fireworks – and some people were not being responsible about the way they were setting them off. I personally had large pieces of hot fireworks land in my yard, deck and pool. And some also landed on the roof at Heatly School. We were lucky that it didn't cause a major fire. Some of the people with the fireworks stopped immediately when they were informed that the hot debris was falling onto adjacent properties. Some chose not to stop and the Police had to step in. I spoke with Chief Parker and there will be ZERO tolerance for illegal fireworks in the village. He is also calling in extra manpower to patrol. If anyone is caught in possession of illegal fireworks, that person will be charged. Please obey the law and let's all have a safe and happy Fourth of July!

OK, now onto backyard fire pits. Please see the other newsletter citing the NYS Fire Codes. The Police and Fire Departments will be enforcing the codes if they receive any complaints. Please be considerate of your neighbors. We want everyone to enjoy toasted marshmallows around a campfire, but keep the fire small and safely contained. Make sure your firewood is dry. Wet firewood produces a lot more smoke and that is what most folks complain about. Smoke coming into your home is bad enough, but if you are a person afflicted with breathing difficulties, that smoke can be lethal. Please be considerate of your neighbors.

Now I guess we will move on to dog poop (what a way to end a letter). If you own a pet and you want to walk that pet, please be sure you come prepared to pick up any little “packages” that Fido might drop – and some of them aren’t so little! If you see someone letting their pet poop on your property and they don’t pick it up, please call the police and file a complaint. The guilty party will be given a ticket to pay a fine. I can’t tell you how many times I have addressed this problem in my letters. And if all pet owners were considerate and responsible, I would never have to address it. Many people have cameras at their homes, so if you get caught on camera there is no denying it. Please --- pick up the poop!

OK, I can’t end my letter with poop!

If you are thinking of cleaning out your house of stuff you just don’t use anymore, why not register your address to be on the map for the “Village Wide Yard Sale” being sponsored by the Church of the Good Shepherd on Saturday, August 3rd from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Mark and I have done this several times and you would be surprised what you can sell. Like the old saying goes, “One man’s junk is another man’s treasure.” Well, we still have a lot of “treasures” to be sold, so we will be signing up. It is also fun just talking to the folks that stop to browse around. The church members are also preparing breakfast and lunch that day at the church. Stop by the church early, have breakfast, check out their vendors, get a map, walk (or drive) around town, buy some “treasures” and go back to the church for lunch. Make a day of it. And you will be helping the folks at the church who work so hard to raise money to keep their place of worship going. I promise it will make you feel good!!!

OK. That’s it for now – and I didn’t end my letter with poop! Well I guess I just actually did (ha-ha-ha). Guess I better “watch my step.” Oh, that joke really was a bad one!

Sincerely,



Ellen M. McNulty-Ryan