

**VILLAGE NEWSLETTER**  
**VILLAGE OF GREEN ISLAND**  
20 Clinton Street  
Green Island, NY 12183  
518-273-2201  
[www.villageofgreenisland.com](http://www.villageofgreenisland.com)  
**DECEMBER 2019**

**SWEARING IN CEREMONY FOR NEWLY ELECTED OFFICIALS**

Everyone is invited to the Swearing In Ceremony for our recently elected and appointed officials for the Village and Town. It will be held on Sunday, December 29<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m. at the Michael A. Cocca, Sr. Community Center, 5 George Street, Green Island. All are welcome and invited to attend!

**GARBAGE COLLECTION CHANGED DUE TO HOLIDAYS**

Just a reminder that GARBAGE that is normally picked up on Tuesday will be picked up on Thursday and garbage normally picked up on Wednesday will be picked up on Friday for the next two (2) weeks due to Christmas and New Year holidays. Pickup will return to normal schedule starting on January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2020. **PLEASE NOTE:** There will be no PAID garbage pickup on January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2020.

**NEWS FROM THE ASSESSOR**

**SENIOR CITIZENS (65 yrs. and older)** - There are exemptions available to those senior citizens that are or will be 65 during the year that they are filing for the exemption – 2020. The exemptions require that one of the owners meet the age requirement, and that the home is the primary residence. Exemption renewal applications will be mailed out in mid-December. If you have not received your renewal application by January 1<sup>st</sup>, please contact the Assessor's office.

The **ENHANCED STAR EXEMPTION ON THE 2020 ROLL** will be based on the applicant's 2018 income. The **NEW INCOME LIMIT** of \$88,050 will be based on the **Adjusted Gross Income of the 2018 Income Tax Return**.

The **Senior Citizen** exemption for County and/or Village tax purposes is available for those 65 and older with an annual income not to exceed \$37,400 for county purposes and \$29,000 for village purposes. This exemption is based on the **Total Gross Income for 2019**.

**If you are eligible for the Senior Citizen Exemption you may not automatically receive the Enhanced STAR. However, if you are eligible for the Enhanced STAR you may NOT be eligible for the Senior Citizen exemption. They are two (2) separate exemptions. Senior Citizens exemptions are filed at the Village Office with Brad Canning.**

Due to changes enacted by the NYS Legislature, all recipients of the **Enhanced STAR must** enroll in the Income Verification Program. This includes the Enhanced STAR portion of the Senior Citizens Exemption. NYS Tax and Finance will determine your eligibility for the Enhanced STAR. If you are denied, or more information is needed, you will be contacted directly by the State. You will only receive information regarding Senior Citizen Exemption from the Assessor's Office.

**New Home Owners** – Due to recent law changes approved by the Governor and the NYS Legislature, the BASIC STAR program has been restructured. The NYS Tax Department will administer all NEW STAR applications, taking the responsibility from your local assessor. **If you have recently purchased your home and are eligible for the STAR benefit you MUST register with NYS Department of Tax and Finance either online at [www.tax.ny.gov](http://www.tax.ny.gov) or by phone at 518-457-2036.**

**ALL EXEMPTION APPLICATIONS MUST BE FILED BY MARCH 1, 2020.** If you file your tax return after March 1<sup>st</sup>, we will put a hold on your application until we receive your income information. If you have any questions or would like to meet with Brad it is highly advised that you call the Village Office to schedule an appointment, 518-273-2201.

### RECREATION NEWS

Thank you to Jill Alix, Ellen McNulty-Ryan, Mark Ryan, Kristin Swinton, Rachel Files, Lynn McGivern, Chris Karwiel, Michael Commisso, Michele Bourgeois, Shelby Herrington, Larry Brown, Rae'an Littlejohn, Lisa McNulty, Tom Mullins, Heather Johnson, Tara Bourgeois, the Senior Citizens, Lydall, CapCom, Stewart's Shops, Heatly Student Council and Bimbo Bakeries for contributing to the success of this year's food drive and **Thanksgiving** deliveries.

### SENIOR CITIZEN NEWS

**REMINDER** - A **Holiday Party** featuring "**The ACCENTS**" will be held on Friday, December 20<sup>th</sup> from 7:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. at the American Legion. Tickets are \$20.00 (must be 21 yrs. old) and includes beer, wine, soda and snacks. Call 518-272-7262 for more information. Proceeds to benefit the Green Island Senior Citizens.

If you are looking for a gift for the Special Senior in your life, gift certificates for Lunch are available for \$3.00 each. Stop by or call Jill at 518-272-7262.

### NEWS FROM THE AMERICAN LEGION

**Holiday Breakfast** - On Sunday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>, the American Legion Auxiliary #927 is having a **Holiday Breakfast with Santa** from 8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. Breakfast will consist of Scrambled Eggs, Bacon, Sausage, Home Fries, Pancakes, Coffee, Tea and Juice. The cost is \$8.00 per person and children Under 5 are Free. You do not need to purchase a breakfast to see Santa. All Green Island children are welcome. For more information call 518-272-1198.

If you are a **VETERAN** (past or present duty) and not receiving cards from the Ladies Auxiliary, please contact Brenda Persons at 518-271-6184.

### NEWS FROM THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

**Sunday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>** – Caroling at local nursing homes – 12 Noon – 3:00 p.m. Great voices not needed. Meet at the church.

**Tuesday, December 24<sup>th</sup>** - Christmas Eve – 6:00 p.m. A quiet service with candlelight and music.

**Wednesday, December 25<sup>th</sup>** – Christmas Day – 9:30 a.m. Informal 30 minute service. Bring your coffee (and PJ's if needed).

**Friday, December 27<sup>th</sup>** - **FREE Community Dinner** - 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. They do the cooking ... and cleaning. Relax with family and friends, everyone is welcome.

### GREEN ISLAND LITTLE LEAGUE NEWS

The Green Island Little League will be selling concessions at all the home CYO basketball games at Heatly School. Registration forms for Spring 2020 Little League will be available. The price is still only \$30.00 per child and we work with all families with discounts on multiple children playing baseball and softball. CYO home games are: January 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>; February 2<sup>nd</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>. The games are held at 10:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 12 Noon and 1:00 p.m.

### PLEASE POST THIS IMPORTANT INFORMATION

*Village, GIPA and Town Offices will be closed on Tuesday, December 24<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday, December 25<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday, December 31<sup>st</sup> and Wednesday, January 1<sup>st</sup> in observance of the Christmas and New Year Holidays.*

*Also, please note that the January 2020 Village Board, Planning Board and GIPA meetings normally held on the third Monday of the month will be held on Tuesday, January 21<sup>st</sup> beginning at 6:00 p.m. due to the Martin Luther King holiday.*

## WHAT'S HAPPENING IN GREEN ISLAND

December 17, 2019

Dear Friends,

I am not sure what I ever did to Mother Nature, but she must really be mad at me. We were all set for our Festival of Trees when she sent us two feet of really heavy snow and we couldn't get into the River Park to set up the trees – so we postponed it until the next Saturday. Then she followed that up with warm weather and pouring rain – which did help with getting rid of the snow – but gave us a park full of mud – which made it difficult for the DPW and GIPA guys to get the trees and electricity in place. Then the weatherman gave a 90% forecast for heavy rains for that Saturday – so we postponed until Sunday – which he said would be nice. But noooooo! We had rain, then snow, then wind, then sun, then more wind, then more snow, then more wind!!! We kept trying to straighten the trees – but we were losing the battle – but we didn't give up! Santa and Mrs. Claus arrived at five and we lit our trees --- **AND THEY WERE BEAUTIFUL!** We sang the 12 Days of Christmas for Santa and Mrs. Claus and then the kids got to sit on Santa's lap and tell him their Christmas wishes. It was a great – but short evening because of the cold. I can't thank our guys enough for their hard work, Santa and Mrs. Claus for rescheduling several times, my husband, Mark, for all the work he puts into the event and lastly the participants for their patience with rescheduling. If you haven't gone up to see the trees at night, you should make the trip. They really are beautiful!

OK – now onto the not so fun stuff. That snowstorm we had at the beginning of the month was a doozie! It was really heavy and difficult to move. We had our first curb to curb snow removal for the season and it went pretty good except for two things: 1 – Some folks made no attempt to move their vehicles for the snowplows and it made our operations run about two hours longer than it should have. We don't like to ticket and tow cars, but we have no choice. People have to realize that it costs us between \$1,500 and \$2,000 per hour to do snow removal. So that means that extra time cost our taxpayers money and made everyone's work day longer than necessary. 2 – We had both residents and businesses piling snow in the right of way – which is against Village Law. Some of the piles were so high that it made it dangerous for vehicles to see around them when trying to pull out of an intersection. You cannot plow snow or blow snow into the roadway or pile it on sidewalks, blocking pedestrian traffic and causing people to walk in the road. We will be enforcing the law and tickets will be given to violators. **PLEASE** don't force us to do that! I can't remember when we raised

the cost of towing and tickets, but we will be having a Public Hearing on Tuesday, January 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 p.m. at the Municipal Center to propose a substantial increase in the charge for both. All are welcome to attend.

We will be having a swearing in ceremony for all of the recently elected Village and Town officials on Sunday, December 29<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m. at the Community Center at 5 George Street. We would love to have a good crowd to show all these public servants that we appreciate their efforts. We have a wonderful team of dedicated folks and I am very grateful for all they do for our community!

Please note that garbage collection will be on Thursday and Friday of both holiday weeks and that the Village and Town offices will be closed on Tuesday and Wednesday of both weeks.

There is a lot of information in the other newsletter, so please make sure to check it out. The Legion, the Seniors and the Little League all have activities scheduled and the Assessor has important info on STAR exemptions.

Well, I think that is it for this month. I hope Mother Nature gets in a better mood and gives us a break! But most importantly, I hope you all have a wonderful, blessed and healthy Christmas and New Year! And don't forget to leave milk and cookies for Santa!!!!

Sincerely,



Ellen M. McNulty-Ryan