

VILLAGE NEWSLETTER
VILLAGE OF GREEN ISLAND
20 Clinton Street
Green Island, NY 12183
518-273-2201
www.villageofgreenisland.com
DECEMBER 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 – 2021. 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 1st, please contact the Assessor's office.

The **ENHANCED STAR EXEMPTION ON THE 2021 ROLL** will be based on the applicant's 2019 income. The **NEW INCOME LIMIT** of \$90,550 will be based on the **Adjusted Gross Income of the 2019 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 2020**.

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 or by phone at 518-457-2036.**

ALL EXEMPTION APPLICATIONS MUST BE FILED BY MARCH 1, 2021. If you file your tax return after March 1st, we will put a hold on your application until we receive your income information. If you have any questions, please call the office at 518-273-2201.

NEWS FROM POLICE REFORM & REINVENTION COLLABORATIVE COMMITTEE

Mayor Ellen McNulty-Ryan and the Village Board of Trustees have appointed members to the Police Reform & Reinvention Collaborative Committee. The committee has been working on reviewing policies, procedures, and programs within the Green Island Police Department. The committee will be reaching out to the community for input. The first public meeting will be at the end of January. Please look for more information in the January newsletter or visit <https://villageofgreenisland.com/village/police-department/police-community-review-board/>

BULK GARBAGE PROGRAM EXPANDED

Due to a recent increase in the demand for our bulk garbage program, the Department of Public Works will now pick up the items every Thursday, excluding holidays. This expanded pickup schedule will continue during the next few months and will be evaluated at that time for its effectiveness. Please note that there will not be bulk pickup on Christmas Eve or New Year's Eve and pickup could also be postponed or cancelled due to weather emergencies if and when they occur. All requests for pick up must be pre-scheduled and pre-paid. Please email tarab@villageofgreenisland.com with a picture of the item(s) that you wish to have removed as well as your contact information including name, address, email and phone number at least 24 hours before the scheduled pick up and she will make arrangements to get you on that list. For more information, please visit our website at <https://villageofgreenisland.com/village/recycling/>.

RECREATION NEWS

Thank you to everyone who sent a donation in support of the Green Island Food Pantry. Your kindness and generosity has not gone unnoticed. Thank you to Lydall, CapCom, and Bimbo Bakeries. A special thank you to Big and Small Dog Care – Pet Boarding for graciously donating all of the turkeys! It certainly was a community effort; the Thanksgiving baskets were delivered successfully in time for the holiday.

Thank you to Huersch Marketing Group, LLC, Peter Luizzi & Bros Contracting, and Green Island Autobody for sponsoring our Holiday Decorating Contest. We hope everyone enjoyed the Holiday decorations as much as we did – Happy Holidays!

SENIOR CITIZEN NEWS

If you are looking for a gift for the Special Senior in your life, gift certificates for Lunch are available for \$3.00 each. Call Jill at 518-272-7262 if you wish to purchase a gift certificate.

NEWS FROM THE AMERICAN LEGION POST #927

The Sons of the American Legion Post #927 are hosting a **CHICKEN PARMIGIANA DINNER** on **Saturday, February 27th, 2021** from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. Cost is \$10.00 for adults, \$5.00 for kids 5 – 12. Cost includes Chicken Parmigiana, Pasta, Roll and Dessert. Take Out's Only and Pre-Sale is REQUIRED. They will not accept walk-ins. Deadline for orders is Tuesday, February 23rd. For further information, please contact the American Legion at 518-272-1198, Donna Lazzaro at 518-274-1237 or Bridget Brannigan at 518-273-1812.

PLEASE POST THIS IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Village, GIPA and Town Offices will be closed on Thursday, December 24th, Friday, December 25th, Thursday, December 31st and Friday, January 1st in observance of the Christmas and New Year Holidays.

Also, please note that the January 2021 Village Board, Planning Board and GIPA meetings normally held on the third Monday of the month will be held on Tuesday, January 19th beginning at 6:00 p.m. due to the Martin Luther King holiday.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN GREEN ISLAND

December 14, 2020

Dear Friends,

I can't believe it is almost Christmas. This has been one heck of a year. The last nine months have been like no other in my lifetime. When I think of nine months, I think of the time it takes to make a beautiful baby – not how long it takes to develop a vaccine to fight a viral pandemic. But as of today, shipments of the vaccine have started and hopefully we will get our most vulnerable folks protected and get our front line people safe so they can continue the heroic work they have been doing. We can ALL do our part to help stop the spread by wearing our masks and practicing social distancing. The experts tell us if we just did that, this virus would be gone in three months. PLEASE let's all do our part so that we can get back to "normal" in 2021.

As crazy as it has been, we managed to have a beautiful start to our Festival of Trees on December 5th. The weather wasn't very good, but we are somewhat accustomed to that. The DPW and GIPA guys did a great job getting the park ready. And all the attendees were very good about wearing their masks and keeping socially distanced. The best part was Santa and Mrs. Claus arriving at five o'clock to say hello to the kids and do the countdown to light the trees. I want to thank everyone for their patience and cooperation in making this event happen in the midst of this pandemic. Santa and Mrs. Claus were so happy with everyone obeying the rules that they have agreed to visit us again on Saturday the 19th. They will be traveling up and down the north/south streets on their sleigh beginning at two o'clock. Maggie is putting some info on the website and Facebook and has agreed to keep everyone notified in real time as to what street the sleigh will be traveling. I don't understand all this technology but I hope you do. I also hope this letter reaches you before Saturday in case you aren't on Facebook (I'm not). Whatever happens, we are doing our best to try and bring a smile to everyone's face (not that you can see it with our masks on) and make things feel a little less isolated and lonely. If the weather is bad on Saturday, we are hoping to reschedule it for Sunday, but stay tuned because we never know what Mother Nature has in mind for us!!!

OK. Back to business. Please see the other letter with lots of information from our Assessor, Brad Canning. There have been changes made by the Governor and the NYS Legislature, so please make sure you read Brad's information so you don't lose any exemptions you may be entitled to.

Our newly formed Police Reform and Reinvention Collaborative Committee has met and are excited to be working together with the members of our GIPD. This is a very diverse group that is enthusiastic about representing all of our residents. I thank them for their time and investment into making our community a safe and inviting place to live. There will public meetings, although they may be by Zoom or some other virtual method. We will keep you posted on that next month and you can visit our website (link listed in the other newsletter) to get more information about the committee and its members.

I want to thank all the residents and businesses that have been so generous again this year in supporting our Food Pantry Holiday Baskets for Thanksgiving and Christmas. And even though our traditional "Giving Tree" had to kind of go into virtual mode, you still managed to make it a success. I am always so impressed with your generosity and your willingness to make the holidays happen no matter what. I hope you are all rewarded many times over for being so kind. Thanks for making this a better world!

Ok. I think that's it for this month --- and this year! I wish you all a healthy and happy New Year!

Sincerely,



Ellen M. McNulty-Ryan