

VILLAGE NEWSLETTER
VILLAGE OF GREEN ISLAND
20 Clinton Street
Green Island, NY 12183
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DECEMBER 2013

SWEARING IN CEREMONY FOR NEWLY ELECTED OFFICIALS

Everyone is invited to the SWEARING IN CEREMONY for our recently elected Village and Town officials. It will be held on Sunday, December 29th, 2013 at 12 Noon at the Green Island Community Center, 5 George Street.

HOLIDAY GARBAGE PICKUP

During the Christmas and New Year holidays, garbage normally picked up on TUESDAY of those two weeks will be picked up on Thursday, December 26th and Thursday, January 2nd. WEDNESDAY pickup will be picked up on Friday, December 27th and Friday, January 3rd. Normal schedule will resume the week of January 6th. Please contact the DPW at 273-5565 with any questions.

REMINDER: If we have snow banks at the curb, please remember to shovel a space wide enough for the DPW crew to be able to roll your garbage can through on trash pick-up days. Please do not park in front of those open spaces or DPW will not be able to take your garbage.

NEWS FROM THE ASSESSOR'S OFFICE
BASIC STAR EXEMPTION

ALL recipients of the BASIC STAR Exemption must re-register with the NYS Department of Tax & Finance prior to December 31, 2013. This is a **ONE TIME** event and must be done through the Department of Tax & Finance. The exemption is worth several hundred dollars on an annual school tax bill and is granted to a person(s) primary residence with an annual income less than \$500,000. All current **BASIC STAR** recipients have received information regarding the registration process in the mail. Use the information provided in the letter to re-register or register online at <http://www.tax.ny.gov/pit/property/star13/default.htm>. Please call the STAR hotline if you have any questions at 457-2036. This procedure **DOES NOT** apply to recipients of the **ENHANCED STAR EXEMPTION**. Those of you with the ENHANCED STAR Exemption will follow normal registration procedures with the Assessor starting January 1, 2014.

RECREATION NEWS

Thank you to Jill Alix, Adriana Brown, Anita Brown, Larry Brown, Victoria Brown, Alyssa Burdick, Matthew Etman, Cayla Heffern, Cameran Henderson, Mercedes Hogan, Michael Johnson, Chris Karwiel, Abby Mahoney, Ellen McNulty-Ryan, Tom Mullins, McKenzie Patalino, Brenda Persons, Mark Ryan, Katherine Smith, Katie Stufflebeam, Kristin Swinton, Madelon Swinton, Monica Weisenforth, Jade Cook, Melissa Darmetko, Judy Benson, Rachel Files, Jessica Garipey, Tyler McHargue, Ellen Connery, Scott Siegel, Don Oeffler, Kyra Oeffler, Orianna Spoon, Carla Yaddow, Heatly School 5th Grade Class, Pioneer Bank, Lydall, the Senior Citizens, and the Church of the Good Shepherd for contributing to the success of this year's food drive and **Thanksgiving** deliveries.

NEWS FROM GREEN ISLAND LITTLE LEAGUE

Registrations for the upcoming 2014 season are underway! Upcoming REGISTRATION dates are Saturday, January 11th from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Green Island Bowling Alley and Sunday, January 26th at Heatly School from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. The registration cost for T-Ball ages 4 - 6 is \$35.00, Baseball ages 7 - 13 is \$50.00 and Girls Softball ages 7 - 12 is \$50.00

Rates include hat, shirt, trophy, and the end of season ice cream banquet. This year they are offering a 50-70 baseball division for 12 and 13 year olds. Ask about participating in a Tag Day Fundraiser at Crossgates Mall to get your child's registration FREE. For more information, please contact a board member or on the web at www.greenislandll.com.

The Little League will be hosting a SPAGHETTI DINNER at the American Legion Post #927 on Saturday, January 25th from 4 to 7 p.m. All proceeds will go toward the much needed repair of the league's concession stand roof. Contact a Board Member today to pre-order your tickets.

NEWS FROM THE AMERICAN LEGION

- **Holiday Breakfast** - On **Saturday, December 21st** the American Legion Auxiliary #927 is having a Holiday Breakfast with Santa from 8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Breakfast will consist of Scrambled Eggs, Bacon, Sausage, Home Fries, Pancakes, Toast, Coffee, Tea and Juice. The cost is \$8.00 is per person and children under 5 are Free. You do not need to purchase a breakfast to see Santa. For more information call 272-1198.
- **New Year's Eve Party** - On **Tuesday, December 31st**, The American Legion will host their annual **New Year's Eve Party** beginning at 7:00 p.m. The cost is \$75.00 per couple or \$40.00 per person and includes open bar from 7:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m., DJ, Snack Food, Hat, Horns. Call Legion at 272-1198 or Donna at 274-1237 for reservations. Deadline is December 20th.

PLEASE POST THIS IMPORTANT INFORMATION

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

Also, be aware that the January Village Board, Planning Board and GIPA meetings normally held on the third Monday of the month will be held instead on Tuesday January 21st beginning at 6:00 pm due to the Martin Luther King holiday.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN GREEN ISLAND

December 14, 2013

Dear Friends,

Winter is here! It is Saturday afternoon and I'm sitting in my office looking out the window as I write this letter and the snow is coming down. I'm thinking of how many times I have sat here in any December, January or February and wrote those same exact words to you. But it is winter – and we do live in the Northeast – so I guess that isn't supposed to be unusual. I guess some of it is just getting “mentally” ready for the cold and the snow – neither of which I like. Our DPW guys have already had several nights out salting but it looks like we will be dropping the plows to the pavement this week. I hope everyone cooperates so we can get the job done. Besides announcing the night before and the day of snow removal, everyone who signed up for FirstCall will be notified. Please remember that if you don't move your car when your street is announced you will get a \$50 ticket and a \$75 tow charge. I know you all have better ways to spend your money and we don't like ticketing and towing, but it costs us about \$1,000 an hour to do curb to curb snow removal, so waiting 30 minutes until you show up isn't very cost effective or a smart way for us to spend your tax dollars. So please cooperate and help us make our roads safe.

Snow also means it is much more difficult to do trash pick-up. If we have snowbanks, please shovel a path wide enough for the guys to get the cans through to the truck. And PLEASE don't park in those pathways or the barrels will not be emptied. There is no way the men can lift those cans over a snowbank. Common sense goes a long way in these cold winter months! And don't be a nasty neighbor and block the path of the guy next door. It's ALWAYS easier to be nice than nasty---- and remember that SANTA IS WATCHING!!!!

Speaking of Santa, it was really nice of him to make it to our Festival of Trees on December 7th. He came in on his sleigh and he even brought Mrs. Claus with him. He helped us light our 36 trees – and it was magical! Then he helped us do a couple Christmas Carols and sat with every child to hear their Christmas wishes. He even brought them presents! We had a nice crowd even though it was freeeeeeeezzzzzzing! The hot chocolate hit the spot but not enough to keep anyone around too long after the festivities. If you haven't been by the park since the trees were lit, please take a minute to stop and see them. Walking through, seeing the beautiful decorations and reading the plaques telling who they are dedicated to really makes you feel the spirit of Christmas – both past and present. I don't know about you, but with Christmas becoming so commercial, I can use all the

help I can get to “feel the spirit.” Maybe Santa’s return tomorrow night to ride around the village will help my “spirit” return. I hope he doesn’t get snowed in at the North Pole!

Maggie Alix and her elves and volunteers also do their part to “make the spirit bright.” I can’t thank all of you enough for your generosity in making our “Giving Tree” a success again this year. As of Friday there were still a few tags left, but Maggie wasn’t worried because she said the folks in Green Island *always* come through. If it weren’t for your generosity and the hard work of the volunteers, there are a lot of families that wouldn’t have a Christmas. Thank you for making sure that never happens in Green Island.

Please see the other newsletter for the details on schedule changes for garbage pick-up, office closings and meeting date changes. Also see info on Star Exemption registration, Little League, Home Energy Assistance Program and events at the Legion (Santa returns yet again!).

We would also like to invite you to the Swearing In Ceremony for all the recently elected Town and Village officials. It will be held on Sunday, December 29th at 12 noon at the Community Center (old Italian Club). We would love to see you!

Well I think that’s it for now. The snow is starting to cover the ground. I thought the weatherman said it wouldn’t start until later this evening --- SURPRISE! He was wrong! Let’s hope he is wrong again and we won’t get the ten inches that he was predicting. That’s probably the one thing he will be right about. Oh well. Nothing we can do about it --- but shovel!

I wish you the most blessed and merriest Christmas of your lifetime, a very healthy and happy New Year --- and a winter with little snow! Not necessarily in that order!

Peace and Love,



Ellen

PS: It is now Sunday afternoon and we probably had a foot of snow dumped on us. We had to cancel Santa’s trip around the village because he got snowed in at the North Pole and I don’t know how we can reschedule with it being so close to Christmas. Maybe we can schedule him for the 4th of July and have an early (or late) Christmas visit. We will let you know if things change. Please check the website and listen to your FirstCall messages.

Try to keep the Spirit!!!!!!