

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

MAY 2014

MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

The annual **Memorial Day Parade** will be held on **Thursday, May 22nd at 6:00 p.m.** Lineup is at 5:30 p.m. on **Hudson Avenue**. Please note Hudson Avenue will be closed to traffic at George Street during lineup. All residents are encouraged to attend the parade and the brief ceremony at the Legnard-Curtin Post that follows. Please attend and honor our veterans and those who made the supreme sacrifice. The Green Island Power Authority puts a lot of effort into assembling the Veteran's float for the parade. We would like to fill the float to show our appreciation to our military service men and women. Please contact Maggie Alix at 273-2201 if you would like a ride on the float this year!

NEWS FROM DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

The Department of Public Works has asked that we remind all residents that they cannot accept lawn/leaf bags with dirt in them. Please remember to remove any and all dirt from lawn clippings and/or leaves that you are placing in the brown bags. Thank you for your cooperation.

AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY RELAY FOR LIFE

Green Island will be hosting the **Relay for Life** with the American Cancer Society on **Friday, June 6th, at Veterans Memorial Stadium**. There will be a reception for cancer survivors at **5:00 p.m.** The event will kick off at **6:00 p.m.**, with cancer survivors walking the first lap at **6:15 p.m.** The event will run until **6:00 a.m.** on **Saturday**. For further information please contact Loretta Hackney at 220-6931 or via e-mail at loretta.hackney@cancer.org or call Michele Bourgeois at 281-8976 or email relay.greenisland@gmail.com. You can register online at www.relayforlife.org/greenislandny.

MS4 ANNUAL PUBLIC MEETING AND DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT

The Village of Green Island Municipal Separate Stormwater Sewer Systems (MS4) Annual Public Meeting will be held on Monday, May 19th at 5:30 p.m. (prior to the start of the Green Island Power Authority meeting at 6:00 p.m.) at the Green Island Municipal Center, 19 George Street. A brief presentation of our 2013 Annual Report and our overall storm water program will be followed by questions and answers. Please visit www.stormwateralbanycounty.org to view the draft joint annual report that has been prepared together with other Albany County communities. Please contact Sean Ward at seanw@villageofgreenisland.com if you have any questions or comments related to the draft annual report.

2013 ANNUAL WATER REPORT

In order to save on postage and keep with our theme of being environmentally conscious, the annual Village of Green Island Water Report is now available at www.villageofgreenisland.com, scroll to bottom of page and click on Water & Sewer Dept. Please contact Sean Ward at seanw@villageofgreenisland.com if you have any questions or comments related to the report or Anne Strizzi at annes@villageofgreenisland.com if you would like to obtain a paper copy.

NEWS FROM RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Park Identification Cards

The Department of Parks and Recreation is enforcing **RESIDENTS ONLY** in the Paine Street Park between the hours of **6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. seven days a week**. You may obtain a **RESIDENT ID** at the Village Office during regular office hours. ***It is strongly advised you call first to make an appointment with Maggie Alix at 273-2201.***

Men's Summer Basketball League Sign-Up

All men, 18 and over are welcome to sign up to play in the Green Island Basketball League. Games are played every Tuesday and Thursday with game times starting at 6:00 p.m., 7:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. All players must be residents of the Village and be able to show proof. The regular season games will begin June 24th. All participants must sign up **before May 30th** at the Village Office or contact Chris Karwiel at 273-2201. ***Failure to sign up before the league starts could result in not being assigned to a team.*** Please do not assume you have been placed on a team. There will be a fee of \$50.00 per player this year. The fee must be paid before May 31st.

NEWS FROM THE ASSESSOR'S OFFICE

Grievance Day is set for **Tuesday, May 27th** from **5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.** at the Green Island Municipal Center, 19 George Street.

NEWS FROM THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

- **FREE COMMUNITY DINNER** - Friday, May 30th from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. – Everyone is welcome!
- **MISSION DINNER** – Saturday, June 14th from 4:30 – 6:30 p.m. – SPAGHETTI and MEATBALLS. Dinner will benefit mission trips to Belize, central Maine and A.U.M.S. (an inner city mission in Albany). Adults - \$8.00, Children under 12 - \$5.00 and under 5 – FREE. Eat in/take out and parking available. Bring the family, all our welcome!

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN GREEN ISLAND

May 14, 2014

Dear Friends,

I finally get to start a letter and it isn't snowing. Yahoo!!!! But, along with the good weather comes the quality of life issues that surface when the nice weather makes its entry. That means noisy motorcycles, backyard fires (which there is a state ban on open fires) and doggie poop. But the most distressing issue so far this year is VANDALISM! In the last week we have had broken bleachers in the stadium, graffiti under the Collar City Bridge, broken tree limbs in the parks and the "mortal sin" of vandalizing the Gazebo. I had a passer-by call me on Mother's Day evening to tell me a group of kids were in the Gazebo and one of them was kicking out the posts in the railings. I was out the door in a flash, had the police on the cell phone and confronted the kids in the Gazebo. Of course everyone claimed innocence. One even had the nerve to tell me he was trying to kick the posts back in! Once the officers arrived, my husband and I began to scour the river bank and garbage cans to find the missing post. We were lucky and found it. Someone also broke off the locks and switches on the electrical boxes and they were charging their phones (that takes a lot of nerve to do the damage and then steal the electricity). The officers got a confession from one of the kids (after the others told the truth when they realized they would be charged too). The child is 12 years old so it will be referred to Family Court. Mark made all the necessary repairs to the Gazebo the next day. I told the kids involved that night that there would be zero tolerance for vandalism and when we catch anyone damaging any village property that we would prosecute to the fullest extent of the law. We work very hard to provide nice places for our residents to enjoy themselves and we don't have money to repair unnecessary vandalism. Parents and grandparents, PLEASE talk to your kids and explain to them the consequences of their actions. About an hour after all this occurred, a group of kids (I believe some of the same ones from earlier) were screaming vulgar obscenities at the top of their lungs and breaking the branches off the trees in the River Park. I went out and told them to watch their mouths and leave the trees alone. I went back in my house to do my dishes at the kitchen sink and this same group walked over Bleecker Street and two of the girls sat down and laid down in the middle of the road on George Street. I know they were just trying to "get my goat" but this was such a stupid and dangerous action that I couldn't believe they did it. Back out I went and made them get up from the road and get on the sidewalk. I went back in the house, closed my blinds and had a drink. It had been one heck of a Mother's Day! Before all this chaos, I had enjoyed a lovely day with my kids and grandchildren. It really is a shame that it was spoiled by a bunch of unruly children who should have been home enjoying Mother's Day with their own moms. Next year I am going out of town!

Please join us for our Memorial Day Parade on Thursday, May 22nd at 6:00 p.m. Our veterans and present day military have made tremendous sacrifices so

that we may live in freedom. Too often we take that freedom for granted. We need to show our appreciation to these men and women who have given us so much. Please line the streets on George and Arch and give them a "wave" of thanks. And if you can, join us at the Legnard-Curtin American Legion Post for a salute and some refreshments. Remember: "***Freedom isn't free.***"

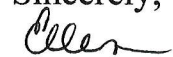
Thank you to all who cooperated so well on Monday, May 12th for our street cleaning. I was amazed that as soon as I started to announce a street, people a block in front of me were running out of their homes to move their vehicles. I'm not sure if they were just well trained from all the snow removals we had this winter, if they had been recipients of a "ticket and tow" during the winter or if they were just anxious to see the winter dirt and grime disappear. I hope it was the latter of the three, but never the less, I am grateful for the cooperation. Also, a BIG thanks to Cohoes Mayor Primeau and DPW's Kenny Radliff and their staffs for the sweepers and help to make our village nice and clean. This is one more example of shared services and municipal cooperation that helps us to keep costs down. Thanks also to our own Tony, Rick and Corey from DPW and Officers Barker and Beaudoin from our PD for their efforts.

Our bands are booked and the schedules are printed for our Wednesday night summer concerts at the River Park Gazebo. I will give you more details in next month's newsletter. I am soooooo grateful to the sponsors who make these concerts possible ***at no cost to the taxpayers!*** And to our GIG-A-BITE crew for the delicious food that they prepare for us and for the money that they raise to help with our expenses. I don't want to give away too much this month, but Rachel and her crew have some awesome culinary "specials" in store for us. Mark is preparing the graphics for the fans, the menus and sandwich boards so you will have all the info you need. We will not be having any Sunday concerts this summer. The attendance at Sunday concerts in the past couple of years has been sparse and it is a lot of work for our crew to do three concerts in a week (none of us are spring chickens anymore --- sorry gang.) As I said, I will give you more info next month and I hope to see you there every week. This will be a sad start for me because I lost two of my dance partners this past year, Georgie Reinoehl and Joe "Motts" DeMento. They were two of my favorite people in this world and I miss them -- and I will miss them even more when the band plays a jitterbug!

I am running out of room so PLEASE make sure you see the other newsletter for info on what is happening in the village. Please pay special attention to the ***Relay for Life*** info for their June 6-7 event. This is their 12th year in Green Island and it is a wonderful and important event. Please support their efforts.

That's it for this month. I have so many emotions in my letters --- from anger to American pride to appreciation to dancing in the streets! I'm really glad you guys can "go with the flow" in my letters! Let's see what next month brings!

Sincerely,



Ellen M. McNulty-Ryan