

VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

Village of Green Island
20 Clinton Street
Green Island, NY 12183
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www.villageofgreenisland.com

MARCH 2015

BUDGET HEARING DATE

Village Budget Hearing will be held on **Thursday, April 2nd, 2015** at 5:00 p.m. at the Green Island Municipal Center, 19 George Street, Green Island for the presentation of **Village Budgets** for fiscal year 2015-2016.

RECREATION NEWS

The Recreation Department is partnering with the Green Island Senior Citizens to host a **Breakfast with the Easter Bunny**. The event will take place on Sunday, March 29, 2015, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the Community Center, 5 George Street. The cost is \$8 for adults, \$4 for children ages 5 – 12 and FREE for children 4 yrs. and under.

Don't have time for breakfast but want to stop in and see the Easter Bunny that's great too. We will take pictures to be posted on the Village website and the Bunny will have plenty of Easter treats for everyone!

Summer Employment: The Recreation Department is accepting applications for **summer employment**. Due to budget constraints, summer jobs will be extremely limited. A competitive interview process will be mandatory for all applicants. Applications are now available at the Village Office or with Mrs. Legault in the main office at Heatly School. All applications must be returned to the **VILLAGE OFFICE** on or before April 30th, no exceptions. Applicants must be 14 years old by July 1, 2015 to be eligible for employment.

STORMWATER COALITION OF ALBANY COUNTY

The Stormwater Coalition of Albany County was formed in 2008 via an inter-municipal agreement between 13 municipalities and the University of Albany. The Village of Green Island is a charter member and Executive Assistant to the Mayor, Sean Ward, has been Chairman of their Board of Directors since its inception. The purpose of the Coalition is to foster cooperation, achieve cost savings and to provide for the provision of joint shared services related to compliance with the NYSDEC SPDES Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4) Permit program and Federal Clean Water Act requirements. For more information about the Stormwater Coalition please log on to their website at www.stormwateralbanycounty.org. This website has very specific information about how our community benefits from the program and includes educational components for homeowners, businesses and contractors. We also do our own outreach as well and periodically mail out flyers to many businesses that show best management practices as it relates to their operations. This is just an example of the many efforts to educate the public in our quest for clean water. For further information about Green Island's MS4 program contact Sean Ward at 273-2201 or seanw@villageofgreenisland.com.

NEWS FROM HEATLY CLASS OF 2017

The Heatly Class of 2017 is sponsoring a **Chili, Sauce, Mac'n Cheese Cook-Off** on **Saturday, April 25th**. The Class of 2017 will would like to take this opportunity to invite you to be a participant. The event will be held at the American Legion, 35 Cohoes Avenue. Set up is at 10:00 a.m., entrance fee for cooks is \$15.00 and there will be prizes for each category. The public is invited from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. to sample a bottomless cup of chili, sauce, mac'n cheese for \$5.00. For further information or to obtain an entry form, please contact Kathy Kirch or Kim Watkins at Heatly School at 273-1422 or kkirch@greenisland.org or kwatkins@greenisland.org.

HEATLY PTO AND YEARBOOK COMMITTEE

The Heatly PTO and Yearbook Committee will be holding a **TCBY fundraiser on Thursday, April 2nd from 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.** in front of Heatly School. Start your Spring break off with a tasty treat and a visit from the Easter bunny!

GREEN ISLAND RELAY FOR LIFE BENEFIT

Team **"HARD ROCKING RELAYERS"** will host a Vendors Fair on **Friday, March 27th, 2015 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.** at the American Legion Hall, 35 Cohoes Avenue, Green Island. They will have vendors from MarEle Boutique, Tastefully Simple, Partylite, Tupperware, Fifth Avenue Jewelry, Mische, ThirtyOne Gifts, Gold Canyon Candles, Pure Romance, Origami Owl, Silpada, JamBerry Nails, Princess House, Younique, Pampered Chef and Paparazzi. Please join them for fun, they promise to have something for EVERYONE! For additional information, please call Jenn Dorrance at 518-892-8701.

NEWS FROM GREEN ISLAND LITTLE LEAGUE

The Green Island Little League will be holding player evaluations and final registrations in the Heatly School Gymnasium. Registration fees are \$40.00 for T-Ball and \$55.00 for baseball and softball. **T-Ball evaluations** will be held on Saturday, March 21st from 10 a.m. until Noon. Birth dates from 01/2009 to 12/2011 are encouraged to register. **Girls Softball evaluations** will be held on Tuesday, March 24th from 7 p.m. until 9 p.m. Birth dates from 01/2002 to 12/2007 are encouraged to register. **Baseball evaluations** will be held on Wednesday, March 25th from 7 p.m. until 9 p.m. Birth dates from 05/2002 to 12/2008 are encouraged to register.

Registration can be done on the website: eteamz/greenislandlittleleague.com and registrations will NOT be accepted after April 1st.

Opening Day will be Saturday, April 25th. Field cleanup day is scheduled for Saturday, April 11th, 2015. Green Island Little League is a **volunteer** run organization and relies heavily on the support of its community. If you wish to volunteer or donate, please contact Dave Monahan at 763-9895.

NEWS FROM THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

Friday, March 27th, Community Dinner at the church, 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Thank you to all who joined who attended the February dinner. The group is growing! The menu includes a green salad, hot main course, coffee/tea and dessert. **All at no charge.** Everyone is welcome!

Saturday, March 28th, All-You-Can-Eat Pancake Dinner – 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Pancakes, sausage, scrambled eggs, fruit, beverages and dessert. **PAY WHAT YOU WILL** – proceeds benefit the Good Shepherd Youth Group activities.

Saturday, April 4th, "EASTER EGG HUNT" – 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. - Egg Hunt is for children 3 years of age to 6th grade. They will have story time, crafts, Egg Hunt and finish with refreshments. Please RSVP by April 1st to the church office at 273-5531 with each child's name and age. Children must be accompanied by an adult. They are limited to 40 children.

Saturday, April 11th, Roast Pork and dressing dinner – 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. The cost is \$11.00 for adults, \$6 for children and Under 5 Free. After dinner select a dessert to enjoy with your coffee or tea. Eat in or take-out is available. The event is open to the public with free parking.

Saturday, April 18th, "ANNUAL RUMMAGE SALE" - 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Lots of bargains – clothing, household items, books, jewelry, shoes, toys and so much more.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN GREEN ISLAND

March 16, 2015

Dear Friends,

Well it looks like Mother Nature is willing to give us a taste of Spring. I honestly thought these snow piles would be here until May. I can't believe we got rid of so much snow in the last week. I am grateful it has been somewhat gradual because the last thing we need right now is a flood. Let's hope it keeps going in the right direction. As much as I hated losing an hour's sleep with daylight savings time, it is nice that it is still light out when you come home to eat dinner. But I will tell you what my favorite thing has been --- I got to get dressed one day without putting on my long johns. Now that is probably more information than you needed, but this winter has been so cold that I have been wearing long johns every day for the last 10 weeks (just to clarify that, I have more than one pair). I only used to wear them when I went out on snow removal, but I guess feeling so cold goes along with getting old. I am not a skinny woman, so putting on an extra layer of clothing certainly doesn't enhance my appearance, so I will be happy to pack those buggers away. But I won't do it yet, because I don't think the "Old Girl" is through with us yet. Maybe by next month's letter!

I think the thing I worry about most with things thawing out is what has happened underground with our infrastructure with the frost going so deep. We had several water main breaks that were repaired and we knew of one more, but it got so cold it froze it solid, so we decided to wait until it was a little warmer so we could locate its origin and repair it. I am truly worried what will surface when the deep frost thaws. I walked two blocks the other day looking for a break because the flow in the gutter was so fast I thought it had to be a break, but fortunately it was just the snow banks melting. We will all have to keep a good watch for signs of a break. If you do see something, please call the Water Department at 273-4959 and report the location. The tough winter sure hasn't been a friend to our roads either. Our DPW crew has been out trying to fill the potholes, but they keep coming right back. We will need to do some serious assessments on our roads and determine what needs to be done. I will keep you posted, but don't expect the news to be good.

The end of March and the month of April are looking to be a busy time in the village. Our Village Budget Hearing is on April 2nd at the Municipal Center. The Recreation Department and the Senior Citizens are partnering on a Breakfast with the Easter Bunny on March 29th and Maggie is starting to accept applications for summer employment. The Class of 2017 at Heatly is sponsoring a Cook-Off on April 25th at the Legion and the PTO is sponsoring a TCBY Fundraiser on April 2nd. The Relay for Life teams are coming into action with a Vendors Fair at the Legion on March 27th and the Relay will be here before you know it. The Little League is gearing up for the 2015 season with player evaluations and final registrations. And Opening Day is set for April 25th. But the busiest place in town

seems to be the Church of the Good Shepherd that has five events scheduled, including a Community Dinner, a Pancake Breakfast, an Easter Egg Hunt, a Roast Pork Dinner and their Annual Rummage Sale. I don't meet the age requirement for the Easter Egg Hunt, but you can be sure I will make the Roast Pork Dinner on April 11th. PLEASE check the other newsletter for all dates and times and please support our organizations and their special events. These folks work very hard for their causes and it is nice to give them the support they deserve.

OK. I have talked about snow, ice, potholes, floods, water main breaks and my long johns. Now I want to talk about one of my favorite people in the world and a special event coming up for him. Former Deputy Mayor, Mike Cocca, will be turning 90 years young on Friday, March 27, 2015. Mike is a lifelong resident who is always there when you need him and has worked tirelessly to help to make Green Island a nice place to call home. Besides his many decades of being a Village Trustee and Deputy Mayor, he has been Chairman of the Green Island Senior Housing since its beginning in 2000. He and several other members of the Italian Fraternal Society worked to make that organization one of the most active and community oriented clubs in town. And when they decided to close it, Mike was the brain child of the idea to sell the building to the village to use as our Community Center – and we all know what a success that has been. Mike was also active in many other village groups throughout the years. And he never slowed down after retiring from GE. A graduate of RPI, he has been very active in their alumni group. And Mike has been a mentor to many, not just at RPI. He has been a steadfast mentor to me, especially since my father died. Whenever I go to him to bounce an idea, I know I will get an honest assessment and an intelligent answer. He has been an especially valuable asset in his years of service as a Trustee on the Board of the Green Island Power Authority. His engineering expertise has been invaluable. When an especially complicated mechanical issue will come up, I just say to Mike, "Dumb it down for me so I can understand it" and he has a talent for explaining it in a simple way for all to understand. Some engineers intentionally keep it complicated so you won't understand. Mike makes sure you will understand. He is a very intelligent, unassuming, dedicated, charming, funny, devoted and loving man. Our community is very lucky to have him – and I am especially lucky to call him my friend and mentor. Please wish him a Happy Birthday or send him a card. I am sure he would love to hear from some old friends – and maybe a few new ones.

OK. Now that I got myself all emotional talking about Mike, I am going to sign off until next month. Stay warm and hope to see you soon!

Sincerely,



Ellen M. McNulty-Ryan