

VILLAGE NEWSLETTER
VILLAGE OF GREEN ISLAND
20 CLINTON STREET
GREEN ISLAND, NY 12183
(518) 273-2201
www.villageofgreenisland.com
JUNE 2015

RECREATION NEWS
Park Program Registration

If you would like to obtain a resident ID card, please contact Maggie Alix, Recreation Department for an appointment.

The Summer Park Program for Green Island residents will officially begin on **Monday, July 6th**. The parents of any child wishing to use our facilities this summer will be required to fill out a program registration form. This will help our staff in an emergency situation when parents have to be notified. The registration forms can be picked up and dropped off at the Paine Street Park or the Village Office during operating hours.

Save the dates for the following events happening this summer:

The **Tri-City Valley Cats Street Team** will be visiting the Paine Street Park on **Thursday, July 30th from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.** In return Green Island will be going out to a Valley Cats game later on that evening. Be the first to reserve your ticket by calling Maggie Alix at 273-2201. Tickets are \$5.00 each.

Bike Rodeo – **Wednesday, July 8th at 1:00 p.m.** Please bring your bike and bike helmet to the park by 12:45 p.m.

Men's Basketball League - 2 games every Tuesday and Thursday at 6:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. starting on **Tuesday, July 7th**.

Soccer Clinic – **August 3rd – August 7th from 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. for K – 6th Grade.** Registration forms are available at the Paine Street Park, the Village Office or on the Village website.

Boy's & Girls' Basketball Clinic – **Free Basketball Clinic** open to all ages. **Monday, July 13th, Wednesday, July 15th and Friday, July 17th from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.** at the Paine Street Park. Students in Grades K - 5 will go from 6:00 p.m. – 6:45 p.m. and students in Grades 6 – 12 will be held 6:45 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

HELMET LAW

Another issue that coincides with nice weather is youths riding on bicycles, scooters and skateboards. The law states that any child 14 years of age and younger must wear a helmet when riding on either of these. We also suggest elbow and kneepads and wrist guards for skateboarders. Our police department will be on the lookout for violators, but more important may even stop those that are wearing helmets to tell them "good job".

REMINDER – DOGS AND POOPER SCOOPER LAW

It is illegal to bring any animal, with the exception of a guide dog, into any **public park**. **This includes all parks, Heatly School yard, the Little League and Veteran's Memorial Stadium.** It is also illegal to allow your animal to defecate on any public or private property without picking up the mess, for obvious reasons, including the fact that if it washes into the storm drains it could go directly to the river, which would be a violation of the ***"Clean Water Act"***. If you wish to walk your dog, make sure you are prepared to clean up after him or her. We are also receiving complaints, and the Police have issued tickets to violators who allow or fail to secure their animals (dogs) to run at large. Please make sure dogs are secured in fenced areas or if out for a walk with a responsible owner/handler, make sure the dog is on a leash. Violators are subject to fines and the possibility that the animal will be transported to the Humane Society, which could be costly to the owner.

NEWS FROM CODE ENFORCEMENT

As summer approaches and residents are outside cleaning around their homes, it is important to remember the maintenance of the exteriors. The New York State Fire and Building Uniform Code has a section called "Property Maintenance" - this section covers all exterior wood surfaces other than decay resistant wood. Peeling, flaking and chipped paint needs to be corrected by protective coating or painting. Window frames, siding, cornices and balconies on all buildings, houses and garages are all included in "Property Maintenance" Section.

The Village Code has a section of law, which specifies that homeowners must maintain grass and weed growth on their properties. Failure to do so will result in legal action against that property owner and if the Building Inspector orders the owner to clean the property and the owner refuses then the Village will hold a public hearing and if the owner does not respond; the Village DPW will be directed to clean up the property and a hefty bill will be attached to your property taxes. The Building Inspector will conduct a survey and notify homeowners if they have buildings that are subject to this ruling. Please cooperate by making our community a more attractive place to reside.

NEWS FROM THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

FREE Community Dinner - Friday, June 26th from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. Enjoy a great meal; menu includes a green salad, hot main course, coffee/tea and dessert. All at no charge. EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

Pulled Chicken Sandwich Dinner - Friday, July 10th from 4:30 - 6:30 p.m. The cost is \$8.00. Dinner includes - pulled chicken, sandwich roll, corn on the cob and coleslaw. No beverage provided. This will be a TAKE OUT/DRIVE THRU event, you don't have to get out of your car.

The annual **Village Wide Garage Sale** will be held on Saturday, August 1st from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Maps, Breakfast, Lunch and Merchandise will be available at the Church of Good Shepherd, 89 Hudson Avenue, Green Island, NY. Tables will be available for rent at \$10 to members and \$15 to non-members. To be included on the **MAP FOR THE YARD SALES**, please send your check for \$3 made out to the Church of the Good Shepherd, P.O. Box 1523, Green Island, NY 12183 by July 26th. Thank you.

NEWS FROM AMERICAN LEGION - LEGNARD-CURTIN POST NO. 927 AUXILIARY

Thank you all for the manufacturer coupons, Box Tops for Education, all Campbell product labels and Price Chopper register tapes. Please keep them coming. There is a drop box at the Green Island Village Office and at the Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in Watervliet. If you have any questions, please call Unit President Brenda Persons at 271-6184 or cell # 423-2653.

If there are any veterans or active duty service men and women who have not received birthday cards or Christmas cards, please call Brenda with your address and the month you were born. They would love to send them to you and thank you for your service.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN GREEN ISLAND

June 16, 2015

Dear Friends,

I have a lot of stuff to talk about this month – some good and some bad, so I guess I will get the bad out of the way first.

On Tuesday, June 9th, we had a very dangerous situation at our Paine Street Park, which started on the basketball court and spread out on to Bleecker Street. Some Green Island youths were playing basketball with some out of town kids. According to our park employee, everything was going well until one of the out of town kids said and did something to anger the crowd and a brawl ensued. My husband and I were on our porch and heard the commotion. I called one of the on duty officers and he said he was already on his way. I went over to the park because I was very concerned for the safety of our park staff, who was all alone and trying to gain control of the crowd. The out of town kids drove away as I was arriving, but the remaining youth were still out of control. The police arrived, along with the fire department to tend to the injured, and things were under control.

We have a “residents only” policy, but it hasn’t been strictly enforced because our kids asked to be allowed to bring in out of town friends to play basketball. Unfortunately, that will no longer be allowed. The only time out of towners will be allowed to be in the park is during sanctioned events like the Men’s Summer League on Tuesday and Thursday nights. However, any non-resident must leave at the end of the game. And if the players, resident or non-resident, can’t control their tempers and language, they will be expelled from the park for the entire season. And if problems continue, I have asked the village board to support me in giving our Recreation Director the authority to suspend all league play for the season. I don’t make decisions like this hastily. They are made after much deliberation. I cannot, and will not, take any chances with the safety of our staff or innocent bystanders. Unchecked, this kind of violence can easily escalate to knives and guns, so we are sending the message out loud and clear that this type of behavior will not be tolerated. Parents, I strongly suggest that you sit down with your children and explain the ramifications of their behavior. A few bad apples could cause the entire summer program to be disbanded – and it will be their fault! So before we reach that point, please have a serious talk with your kids. And parents, I would also make a suggestion that you spend some time in the park and see what the park staff puts up with. You could volunteer to be the eyes and ears for the staff and let them know if you see or hear something suspicious. Help us keep our park safe. It is a jewel and we want to keep it that way. Enough on that subject.

I was invited to a screening of a documentary called “The Hunting Ground.” It is about sexual assault and rape on college campuses. I knew that there was a problem, but I never in my wildest dreams imagined it was as bad as it is. And what makes it even worse is the colleges are covering it up so enrollment doesn’t decline --- all at the price of the safety of our youth. This documentary is

something that EVERY college bound student and their parents should see. I am trying to get a copy of it to either be shown at school or through our Recreation Department. If we can get it, PLEASE make every effort to see it. It may make the difference in keeping your child safe from sexual assault.

OK. Enough with the depressing stuff.

Our Red Cross Blood Drive was once again a success. We met our goals and helped to narrow the critical gap in available blood supply that traditionally comes with summer months. Thanks to all who rolled up their sleeves. You really do save lives!

OK ---- now my favorite ---- SUMMER CONCERT TIME! I have enclosed a schedule that also includes what our food specials will be each week and who our very generous sponsors are. Believe me when I tell you if it weren't for the sponsors and the Gig-A-Bite crew that works so hard, there would be no concerts. When the economy is tough, the first thing to go in budgets is non essentials and that means the concerts. Fortunately for us, our sponsors and our volunteers come through every year and we don't use a dime of taxpayer money. We are hoping to have some volunteers show up Saturday morning at 9 to help with some extra "sprucing up" before the concerts begin. We are only two weeks away from opening day and I hope to see you all there. I need a dancing partner and as good as my husband is --- he draws the line when it comes to dancing. He is too busy taking pictures, just as he has been doing at the concerts for the last 11 seasons. What makes our concert season a success is volunteers like him and Rachel, Rachel, Christa, Kristin and Scott working the concession, along with the help from our "Keebler Bakers" who bring delicious homemade desserts every week. We go to quite a few other concert venues to check out potential new bands and I have never seen one that works like ours. I can't wait for it to start and I hope Mother Nature is in a better mood than last year. But even if it does rain, we are lucky to be able to go under the Collar City Bridge. And this year we were able to buy a small shed to put down there so we don't have to get the big rack truck from DPW and schlep all that heavy stuff back and forth. I'm not as young as I used to be -- and not as old as I hope to get! So now all we have to bring is the food and drinks, which is no easy chore, but it beats the heck out of lugging the whole kitchen!

Well I think that's it for now. I hope you enjoy the nice weather that is here. And that reminds me to remind you to keep those backyard fires small and under control. Someone had one the other night that set off the smoke alarms in our house around 11:30. It scared the bejeevers out of me because I thought we had a fire IN the house. Just imagine how harmful that is to someone with breathing difficulties. PLEASE be a good neighbor.

OK. Now I'm REALLY done!

Sincerely,



Ellen M. McNulty-Ryan