

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

AUGUST 2015

PARKS & RECREATION NEWS

A **HUGE THANK YOU** goes out to, Tom Mullins and the entire Park Staff for putting on another successful summer program. Thank you for doing such a tremendous job!

Thank you to Bimbo Bakeries USA for sponsoring our annual Soccer Camp directed by Coach Larry Brown and Coach Terrance Florence for instructing the Basketball Camp.

A SPECIAL thank you to AJ Lazzaro for DJing our first (annual) dance party in the park. A great time was had by all!

Thank you to the Watervliet School District, NYS Nutrition Consortium and NYS Department of Health for bringing the FREE healthy lunch program to the Paine Street Park. It had an overwhelmingly positive response.

Thank you to all the families, parents and children, for spending your summer with us. We hope you had as much fun as we did!

GREEN ISLAND FAMILY PICNIC – SEPTEMBER 20, 2015

The Village of Green Island will sponsor the “GREEN ISLAND FAMILY PICNIC” to be held on **Sunday, September 20th from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.** at the Paine Street Park.

Included will be many different food vendors, face painting, balloon animals, dunk tank, bouncy bounce, as well as live entertainment by **Barbara Verdile’s Band, “Barb Wired”**.

Anyone interested in a booth, or in need of further information regarding the picnic, should call Maggie Alix at the Village Office, 273-2201.

NEWS FROM ASSESSOR’S OFFICE – SCHOOL TAXES

Just a reminder, Pioneer Bank in Green Island will be collecting school taxes. You can mail your check or money order to Green Island School District, P.O. Box 1541, Green Island, NY 12183 OR pay in person at Pioneer Bank, 148 George Street, Green Island, NY 12183. See your tax bill for more information.

STOP SIGNS AND OTHER TRAFFIC ISSUES

We have received complaints recently about vehicles speeding and not stopping and/or rolling through stop signs. The stop sign complaints have been targeted at intersections on both Swan and Bleecker Streets but are not limited to those areas. Please be aware that the Green Island Police Department will be adding traffic enforcement details to those and other areas around the Village to assure the safety of pedestrians, bicyclists and other vehicles. When on the details, officers will also be on the lookout for all

traffic infractions including speeding, seatbelts and improper use of cellular or other mobile devices. Safety is of the utmost importance and while nobody likes enforcement action, it sometimes becomes necessary. Please abide by law so that we can remain a safe community. Your cooperation is appreciated by all.

PLEASE DON'T FEED ANIMALS

We have had recent complaints about wild animals and birds causing a nuisance in the Village. This can cause a dangerous situation for our residents and especially children including the possibility of being bitten or contracting a serious illness. PLEASE DO NOT FEED ANY ANIMALS OR BIRDS OUTSIDE OF YOUR HOME, INCLUDING YOUR OWN PETS. Wild animals and nuisance birds are attracted by food sources left outside and are attracted closer to homes because of that. An enclosed bird feeder meant only for small birds is okay but please locate them according to instructions so as not to attract those it was not intended for. By not providing a feeding source for these animals and birds we create less of a chance that they will populate in our neighborhoods. Please cooperate for the good of our residents and especially our children.

BLOOD DRIVE

The Village of Green Island will be sponsoring a Blood Drive on **Saturday, October 17th from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.** at the Community Center located at 5 George Street. Please contact Mayor Ellen McNulty-Ryan at her home telephone of 271-6965 if you have any questions or would like to schedule an appointment.

NEWS FROM CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

Community Dinner – Friday, August 28th from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Menu includes a green salad, hot main course, coffee/tea and dessert. Come; bring your family and friends, **all at no charge.**

Come to the Church of the Good Shepherd, 89 Hudson Avenue for a delicious **PULLED PORK and SUMMER SALAD BUFFET** on **Saturday, September 12th from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. (TAKE-OUTS START AT 4:00 P.M.)** Enjoy the buffet in their family friendly atmosphere. Proceeds will benefit church projects, missions and programs. The event is open to the public with free parking. Take out is available. The cost of the dinner is \$12 for adults, \$6 for children (5-12 years) and children under 5 are FREE. **Upcoming events:** Chicken and Biscuit Dinner – October 17th, Annual Holiday Bazaar and Ham Dinner – November 14th, and Pancake Dinner – December 12th.

NEWS FROM AMERICAN LEGION – LADIES AUXILIARY

Legnard-Curtin Auxiliary #927 September Unit Meeting will be held on Sunday, September 13th, 2015 at 11:30 a.m.

Anyone who has Halloween costumes that they do not want, please contact Brenda Persons at 271-6184, as they will have their costume giveaway in October.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN GREEN ISLAND

August 18, 2015

Dear Friends,

I am going to start this letter off with some very good news. Lou Perfetti, Jr., one of our officers and a native of Green Island, was named as our Green Island Community Police Liaison. Lou is a very bright young man and a very professional law enforcement officer. He is full time in Troy and was recently awarded the John J. Givney Award in the Troy Police Department, which is like the "Officer of the Year" award. Lou has some very good ideas for improving safety and community relations, but his first order of business is making things safe for our children during drop off and pick up at Heatly School. This has been a problem for several years and we passed a local law a couple of years ago to improve safety for our kids, but many parents are ignoring the law. We went before the School Board earlier this month and asked for their help. When this local law was passed, the administration committed to helping us make it work, but the help did not materialize. We are looking for parents, teachers, student council and volunteers to help us make this happen. The Police Department is buying safety vests to identify people who are working with the Department and the school to facilitate drop off and pick up of students. **IT IS ILLEGAL TO DROP OFF OR PICK UP ANYONE FROM A LANE OF TRAFFIC. YOU MUST DO THIS AT THE CURB.** We are going to enforce this from day one of the start of school and anyone violating the law will be ticketed. There will be no warnings. This is not how we like to do things, but we are not getting cooperation from many parents and they are endangering the safety of all students. If you would like to help us keep our children safe, please call the school and register as a volunteer. There is **NOTHING** more important than our children, so **PLEASE** help us!

We have also been getting many complaints about people blowing through stop signs, parking on crosswalks, parking in front of fire hydrants and parking facing the wrong way on a two way street. These are all very serious safety issues so please be aware that the Police Department will also be cracking down on violators.

OK. I started that off positive, but it took a turn. So here goes with the positive. The summer concerts at the River Park GIG have been **AWESOME!** This is our 12th season and it is without a doubt the **BEST** season ever. The crowds have been awesome, the bands have been incredible, the food is sensational and the weather has even been wonderful. I have never seen such positive energy in the park. By the time you get this, we will only have two concerts left and that makes

me sad, but the positive feedback that we have gotten this year will keep me going until next season starts. Many of the bands have gotten such positive response that they have already been asked to come back next year. We will be doing a survey at the last concert (as we did last year) and I hope to get honest feedback so we know what you want for next year. I can't say enough about our GIG crew, Rachel, Rachel, Christa, Kristin, Maddie, Scott and Mark. I can tell you that without them --- there would be no concerts. In next month's newsletter I plan to tell you all the good that their efforts have accomplished, and it isn't just in the River Park. Please try and make our last two concerts on August 26 and September 2nd. I promise you will have a great time!

And the River Park isn't the only park that has had its best year ever. The Paine Street Park, with its water park, has had an incredible year. I have never seen so many kids and families enjoying the park every single day. Maggie and Mr. Mullins and their crews have done an incredible job of entertaining and enriching our children. I had a resident tell me the other day that she put a post on Facebook saying that she hoped that the residents appreciated what a jewel we have for our children in that park. I don't do Facebook, but I hope many of you saw it and take to heart how lucky we are and how dedicated our workers are to our community.

I love our Green Island Family Picnic which is held every September, but it makes me sad that it means the summer is over! But let's look at it as our last chance to enjoy ourselves before the #*& snow comes. It will be held on Sunday, September 20th from noon to 3:00 at the Paine Street Park. Maggie is putting a lot of effort into making this community day a real celebration, so please come and help make it a success. Please see the other newsletter for more details.

We will be hosting our fall blood drive on Saturday, October 17th from 8:00 to 1:00 at the Community Center. Please call me at 271-6965 if you would like to schedule an appointment. I will be calling my "regulars" a couple of weeks before the drive.

Please check out the other newsletter for all the other information and activities going on around town.

I am out of space so I better sign off. I do hope to see you all at the next couple of concerts in the River Park. Remember it will be a LONG --- COLD WINTER, so make hay while the sun shines. And maybe give me a dance or two!!

Sincerely,



Ellen M. McNulty-Ryan