

VILLAGE NEWSLETTER
Village of Green Island
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AUGUST 2020

HEATLY SCHOOL PARKING AND TRAFFIC PROCEDURES

In an effort to keep our children safe, beginning the first day of school and on all days that school is in session the Green Island Police Department will be enforcing parking and traffic flow procedures in the area of Heatly School.

ARCH STREET between George Street and Hudson Avenue will be **CLOSED** to eastbound vehicle traffic from **7:15 a.m. to 8:15 a.m.** and **12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.** Please note the change in dismissal times this year. It will also be closed at any time that school is dismissed early. Traffic will be allowed traveling **WEST** on **ARCH STREET**. In addition, a reminder that the crosswalk pattern at Hudson Avenue and Arch Street changed recently and the crosswalk on the south side of Hudson Avenue has been removed. The other two (2) remain as is.

Those dropping off students in vehicles must look closely at parking signs in front of school. Drivers must not leave their vehicles while parked in the area marked by signs in front of school. Double parking is also not allowed. Please drop off children at the sidewalk and in a timely fashion so as to keep traffic flowing at busy times. Those that must leave their vehicles unattended must park in a legal parking spot down the street or around the corner from school.

We ask that you follow these simple rules and please listen to our Crossing Guard and Police Officers. This will make for a better and safer drop off area for our children. Thank you for your anticipated cooperation.

HUDSON AVENUE PROJECT

Work has begun on the second phase of the Hudson Avenue Project which will include new ADA compliant ramps at the intersections, new pavement, road signs and markings, all in an effort to create a safer thoroughfare for vehicles, pedestrians and bicyclists. With any project, it also brings the nuisance of traffic detours and delays. We will make every effort to create the least amount of impact on the area, but please note that no matter what we do there will be detours and delays in that area for at least short time frames. We ask that you remain patient and cooperate at all times. Please pay attention for alerts and website postings about the project.

PARKS & RECREATION NEWS

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

Thank you to all the families, parents and children, for spending your summer with us. It has been a challenging year as we have navigated through uncharted territory. We hope you had as much fun as we did. We appreciate your cooperation, patience and participation.

Thank you to Daryl Whited and the Watervliet School District, NYS Nutrition Consortium and NYS Department of Health for bringing the **FREE** healthy lunch program to the Paine Street Park.

PLEASE DON'T FEED ANIMALS

We have had previous 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.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN GREEN ISLAND

August 17, 2020

Dear Friends,

We are in our sixth month of COVID regulations and I think everyone is getting a little tired of the rules --- but PLEASE keep following them. New York is doing pretty good right now and we need to keep getting better. With things starting to get back to a little more normal and schools reopening, we have to be extra vigilant about wearing our masks, washing our hands and keeping social distancing when not wearing a mask. My biggest concern is our young people traveling the village streets in groups and not wearing masks. We have walked the streets and given masks to the kids and tried to explain how important it is, but it isn't working. Parents, this lies squarely with you. You need to insist that your children wear their masks or stay at home. We have had several residents die of this virus. It is here and it is real! It can kill you or you can spread it to someone else and they will die.

Please don't learn the lesson the hard way.

Well, if it seems like every street you go down has a detour – you are right. We have a lot of construction going on. It is tough living with it, but it will all be worth it in the end. This should have been completed by now but with so many people working remotely due to restrictions, some of the State approvals have taken longer than expected. Hopefully it will all be finished soon. Please use caution when traveling near the construction areas and please try and be patient if you are living in one of the areas. I know it is difficult. I live in it and my business is in it and the last two summers have been difficult. But we are probably two months away from completing it, so just hang on a little longer.

The Paine Street Park has been open for its summer program, but there aren't many children coming. Mr. Mullins and his crew are there Monday through Friday from 10 to 6. It is unfortunate that we have to shorten the hours and keep it locked on weekends, but if we don't have staff on to disinfect the equipment and facilities and make sure everyone is following the mask and distancing requirements, the Park must be locked. Hopefully next summer will be better!

Our Concerts at the GIG are going very well. We were a little concerned that people wouldn't follow the health and safety protocols, but folks have been great. I can't tell you how many people come up to me every week and say how grateful they are that we can have the concerts, so they don't mind the rules. I am a little disappointed that more Green Island residents don't join us. The music is great, the food is delicious and the views of the beautiful Hudson River and our resident eagles that join us every week are a lovely visual. We still have three more concerts (Wednesday, August 19th and 26th from 6 to 8 and Sunday, August 23 from 2 to 4). Hope you can join us and if you do, you must wear a mask when standing, walking or dancing and you can take it off when you are seated and socially distanced. And please note that whichever location we have the concert at (River Park or under the Collar City Bridge), that portion of the road on Hudson Avenue is completely closed to traffic from 5:30 until 8 so that concertgoers can distance their chairs in the roadway if they wish.

We haven't talked "trash" in a while, so we thought it would be a good idea to go over the rules and regulations as a reminder to residents, especially new residents. Please go onto our website at *villageofgreenisland.com* for all the details. And if you have any questions, please call the village office and speak to Tara. She is a wealth of knowledge and is great to work with. And if she doesn't have an answer for you (which I highly doubt) she will get it for you.

Well that's it for this month. I hope you all stay well and enjoy the rest of the summer. **And please, parents, have a talk with your children about wearing their masks. It could be a matter of life or death!**

Sincerely,



Ellen M. McNulty-Ryan