

VILLAGE NEWSLETTER
VILLAGE OF GREEN ISLAND
www.villageofgreenisland.com
JUNE 2020

RECREATION NEWS

The Governor made an announcement that summer day camps may reopen June 29th and has released guidelines that will apply to all child care and day camp programs statewide. The Village of Green Island does not operate a day camp, the Recreation Department has always hosted a summer program. Yes, there is a difference between a day camp and a summer program. The Recreation Department has been proactive in revising a plan to accommodate as many summer activities as possible. The main goal is to open in a manner that is safe for everyone. If municipal parks are allowed to open under the Governor's order, the summer program will begin on Monday, July 6th. Please visit the Village website and follow the Green Island Recreation Department Facebook page for updates.

Bike Rodeo – Tentatively Scheduled for **Thursday, July 8th at 12:30 p.m.** Please bring your own bike and bike helmet, sharing will not be permitted, to the park by 12:15 p.m.

The **Sprinkler Pad** schedule will coincide with the summer program. Tentatively scheduled to be on Monday – Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., starting **July 6th**.

Free Lunch and Breakfast – Tentatively scheduled to begin **July 6th**.

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 any 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 they 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 or therapy dog, into any **public park. This includes all parks, and 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) from running 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. Lastly, we have also heard complaints about dogs that are habitually barking. This is a violation of Local Law. 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.

RECREATIONAL AND OTHER BACKYARD FIRES

We have recently received a few complaints about backyard fire pits, recreational fires, etc. This is not new around this time of year and usually can be solved by keeping a small manageable fire in a safe area of your property, through communication with neighbors and by being "neighborly" when talking to them. Most of the time that approach works.

If not, and when police and fire personnel are called, the NYS Fire Code and Section 307.1.1 is pretty clear that a fire is prohibited if the burning is "offensive or objectionable because of smoke or odor emissions.....". The Code also states in Section 307.4.2 that "Recreational fires shall be not be conducted within 25 feet of a structure or combustible material.....". If our personnel are called they will enforce the law, most likely making you extinguish the fire immediately and depending on the situation cite you as well. Please be a good neighbor and don't allow yourself to be put in to that situation. Thank you for your cooperation. **LANDLORDS PLEASE SHARE THIS INFORMATION WITH YOUR TENANTS.**

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.

PRIMARY DAY ELECTION

PLEASE TAKE NOTE THAT THE POLLING PLACE FOR ELECTION DISTRICTS 3 AND 4 IS NOW AT THE LEGNARD-CURTIN POST AMERICAN LEGION POST 927

With the change in the New York State Election Law, Primary Election Days will now be held earlier in the year. This year's will be held on Tuesday, June 23rd, from 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. The polling sites will be the Green Island Municipal Center for Districts 1 and 2 and Legnard-Curtin Post American Legion for both Districts 3 and 4. Only enrolled members of the Democratic Party have primary candidates running this year. You must be enrolled in the Democratic Party to vote on June 23rd. Please contact the Albany County Board of Elections at 518-487-5060 if you have any questions.

NEWS FROM THE LEGNARD-CURTIN AUXILIARY POST #927

If there are any veterans or active duty military who are not receiving birthday or Christmas cards, please let Brenda Persons know. Anyone who has a Price Chopper Advantage Card – please go to the customer service counter and have it registered for the school of your choice. The amount of money you spend gets credit to the school and the Auxiliary gets credit also. If you have any questions, please call Brenda at 518-271-6184. There are drop off boxes and baskets at the Green Island Senior Center and the Village Office for coupons and Price Chopper cash register tapes. Thank you.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN GREEN ISLAND

June 11, 2020

Dear Friends,

As you will notice from the date above, I am starting my letter a week before we will be sending it out. I don't like to start it too soon because things may change, but there are three very important issues I want to talk to you about that won't be changing any time soon.

COVID-19 has been haunting us for three months now. Never in our lives did we think we would face a pandemic – but that is just what has happened. For the most part, people have been smart about wearing masks in public and social distancing, but many of our youth are totally ignoring the safety directives we have been given. Everyone's lives have been disrupted, some more than others, but many of the kids now are totally ignoring the safety rules. They are traveling the streets in clusters, no masks, no social distancing and I even saw them last night sharing drinks from the same bottle. I have approached them on several occasions and given them masks and tried to explain the danger that they pose to the public, especially those with compromised immune systems or other health issues, but they just don't seem to care. Parents, you are the only ones who can make these kids do the right thing to keep us all healthy. PLEASE enforce the rules!

PROTESTS have been happening all around the country about the brutal killing of George Floyd, a young black man, by a white Police Officer, as three other officers looked on and did nothing. There is no one on this earth who could explain away how awful and wrong that murder was. You can argue the legality or necessity of other arrests and incidents that have occurred, but nobody can defend this bad cop for what he did and he should be punished for taking an unarmed man's life that was not resisting arrest. Troy had a planned protest on Sunday the 7th. We all saw what happened in Albany the week before with rioting and looting after their protest. What most people don't understand is that those who were rioting and looting were NOT the peaceful protesters. That being said, we still had to prepare for the worst and hope for the best. On our side of the river, our Police Department worked with Sheriff Craig Apple and his entire department, the NYS Troopers and Police agencies in Menands, Watervliet and Cohoes. While some were quick to criticize the manpower, if they had not been here we would have lost an apartment building on Rivers Edge that was intentionally set on fire, but quickly put out by four men from the Sheriff's department. These agencies also tracked down a militant group (not associated with the peaceful protesters) that came into the city with weapons and the intent to cause harm. So while the protest seemed to most to be completely peaceful, it would have turned out quite differently had those in law enforcement not been on duty. I am truly grateful to all the agencies involved, especially our own GIPD, for the exceptional job that they did the day of the protest – and every day! A lot of good officers are enduring disrespect because of a few bad cops. Please show your appreciation for "the good guys."

2020 Census - The information packets have been sent to every residence to be filled out. You can go on line and put in your information too. I can't tell you how important it is that we get EVERY PERSON registered. The count determines how much funding the Village and the School District will receive in aid for the NEXT 10 YEARS. As of right now, we only have 45% of the population registered with the Census Bureau. That means we will lose OVER HALF of the funding we will be getting for the NEXT 10 YEARS. Once the deadline comes, it can't be fixed. We are stuck with it for the NEXT 10 YEARS. I hope you are getting my point that this is a long time commitment. PLEASE, if you did not receive a packet, call 1-800-923-8282 or on line go to www.2020census.gov and press "Respond" and you can complete your registration.

OK. We have covered COVID, Protests and the Census. Now, let me talk about my favorite time of the year – CONCERTS IN THE RIVER PARK GAZEBO. I only have a little bit of space left because the schedule is on the back of this letter. So far, we will have to wear masks when not seated and must keep social distance, but the food will be great, the bands will be super and we will no longer be quarantined at home! Please join us – and don't forget your dancing shoes!

Stay well!
A.A.

THE **GIG20**

TWENTY

Sponsors

Schedule

July 8 **The Accents**
Celebrating our 150th Concert

July 15 **Get Up Jack**
Irish Night at the GIG

July 22 **Tichy Boys**
Featuring Johnny Rabb

July 29 **Swing Docs**

NOTE: So the band can maintain social distancing, this concert will be held Under the Bridge

Aug. 5 **Big Fez**
And The Surfmatrics

Aug.12 **Lustre Kings**

Aug. 19 **Oldies Show**
Sock Hop at the GIG

Aug. 26 **TS Ensemble**

Concerts are held at the River Park Gazebo. In the event of rain, concerts will be held under the Collar City Bridge on Hudson Ave.

GOLD

Catskill Hudson Bank
McNulty Funeral Home
Finning Properties

SILVER

Michael Cocca Jr.
Galesi Group

BRONZE

Ann Marie Lazzaro
Lazzaro Autobody Inc.
Roberta Hardt
In Memory of Matty Crudo
Green Island Democratic Committee
Nancy & Mike McNulty
Green Island Senior Citizens
Rosemarie & Bob Rizzo
In Memory of Teresa Fulgan
In Memory of Michael J. Nirsberger