

VILLAGE NEWSLETTER
VILLAGE OF GREEN ISLAND
20 CLINTON STREET
GREEN ISLAND, NY 12183
(518) 273-2201
www.villageofgreenisland.com
JANUARY 2021

Green Island Police Department Telephone Numbers

EMERGENCY – 911

NON EMERGENCY TO DISPATCHER – 518-765-2352

ANONYMOUS DRUG TIP LINE – 518-655-7971

PHONE TREE LINE TO GIPD OFFICERS – 518-765-2351

SNOW PLOWING AND REMOVAL

Just a reminder on snow removal. The order of street plowing is available on our website at www.villageofgreenisland.com/village/public-works. Any questions, **PLEASE CHECK WITH THE POLICE DEPARTMENT, OR SOMEONE IN CHARGE OF THE SNOW PLOWING OPERATIONS, BEFORE YOU PARK YOUR CAR ON ANY STREET YOU THINK HAS BEEN PLOWED.**

The Police Department travels the streets to announce the time that snowplowing operations will begin. If you do not hear the announcement, it will not be considered a legitimate excuse for not moving your vehicle. If you have any questions about snow plowing operations, please call the Police Department at 518-655-7854 or the Department of Public Works at 518-273-5565. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

CORONAVIRUS VACCINATIONS

We have been asked a lot of questions about Coronavirus vaccinations. Albany Medical Center is the coordinator for the Capital Region Hub of the Regional Vaccine Network. They are developing plans to ensure the safe, equitable and efficient distribution of the COVID-19 vaccine across Albany, Columbia, Greene, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schenectady, Warren and Washington counties. The Regional Hub is working closely with local health departments across the eight counties to provide information, organize vaccination clinics, called PODs, and to recruit volunteers.

Further information can be found on the AMC Vaccination website at: <https://amc.edu/capitalregionvax/#Distribution>. We will keep you updated as information becomes available to us.

NEWS FROM POLICE REVIEW BOARD

Mayor Ellen McNulty-Ryan and Police Chief Christopher Parker, and the members of the Village of Green Island Policing Reform and Reinvention Collaborative want the public's input as they continue the important work of reviewing policies, procedures, and programs within the Green Island Police Department. A public input session will be held virtually via ZOOM on Thursday, January 28th, 2021 at 6:00 P.M. Residents will have the opportunity to submit questions and voice concerns. The Village will use the alert system, media outlets, and the Village website to share further information regarding the virtual meeting. Additional meeting information can be found at the following website <https://villageofgreenisland.com/village/police-department/police-community-review-board/>

GARBAGE CONCERNS

We have received complaints and witnessed garbage being put out early, many times several days before the scheduled pickup day. Please note that garbage cannot be put out to the curb until 5 p.m. on the night before scheduled pickup. Large items (anything that cannot fit into a barrel) would fall into the bulk pickup category and would be picked up on a Thursday. All bulk pickup must be registered first by emailing tarab@villageofgreenisland.com at least 24 hours beforehand.

We also see overflowing garbage cans with no recycling done to take away from garbage thrown in the barrel. Our rules stated that the lid must be able to be closed and the law states that you must recycle. Recycling takes away from your allowable garbage, creates more room in your barrel and is better for the environment (see below).

Let's all do our part to help keep our Village clean. Place all garbage in your barrels and keep all other items off the curb and out of site until your scheduled pickup day. Thank you for your cooperation.

RECYCLING PROTECTS OUR ENVIRONMENT

Although it is now more expensive for the Village to dispose of recyclables, it is still beneficial for our environment to do so.

Curb side Single Stream Recycling is easy. All you have to do is put clean and rinsed non-returnable glass, plastics, tin cans, cardboard, newspapers, magazines, junk mail, office paper, etc. in a plastic bag (preferably clear) **outside of your barrel** on regular pickup day.

Returnable bottles and cans can be removed from the waste stream and taken to a redemption center such as the Bottle and Can Company at 7 James Street in Green Island where they will reimburse you 6 cents per item every day, or even donate them to your favorite local charities that have pre-set accounts there.

Yard waste is also picked up curbside on regular pickup day and does not belong in the garbage barrel. Please place grass and leaves in a biodegradable paper bag and place next to your barrel and recyclables. Please don't put dirt, bricks or stones in the bags.

If you have any questions, please contact the Department of Public Works at 518-273-5565.

RECREATION NEWS

Thank you to everyone who sent a donation in support of the Green Island Food Pantry and/or the Green Island Christmas Program. Your kindness and generosity has not gone unnoticed.

Special thanks go out to the following groups that assisted those that needed just a little extra help throughout the holiday season: Lydall Manning employees, Green Island School District employees and retirees, Green Island Senior Citizens, Bimbo Bakeries, American Legion Women's Auxiliary, Silhouette, Troy YMCA, the Sunday Night Bowling League, Lynn Fraim and the Christmas Pajama Project, all of our anonymous Santa's Helpers (shoppers and wrappers – you know who you are), all those that took tags from the Giving Tree or gave a monetary donation, and any others that may have assisted in any way at all. Many people and organizations are involved in this program and the Village is extremely appreciative of all of them.

NEWS FROM SENIOR CITIZENS

The Senior Citizens are hosting a **MEATLOAF DINNER** on **Friday, February 12, 2021** from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Cost is \$10 and includes meatloaf, vegetable, mashed potatoes & gravy, dinner roll and dessert. Take Out **ONLY** and Pre-Sale is **REQUIRED**. They will not accept walk-ins. Deadline for orders is Wednesday, February 10th. Call Jill at 518-272-7262 to place your order.

NEWS FROM THE AMERICAN LEGION POST #927

The Sons of the American Legion Post #927 are hosting a **CHICKEN PARMIGIANA DINNER** on **Saturday, February 27th, 2021** from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Cost is \$10.00 for adults, \$5.00 for kids 5 – 12. Cost includes Chicken Parmigiana, Pasta, Roll and Dessert. Take Out's only and Pre-Sale is **REQUIRED**. They will not accept walk-ins. Deadline for orders is Tuesday, February 23rd. For further information, please contact the American Legion at 518-272-1198, Donna Lazzaro at 518-274-1237 or Bridget Brannigan at 518-273-1812.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN GREEN ISLAND

January 19, 2021

Dear Friends,

Usually when I start typing my newsletter to you at this time of the year, I am complaining about the snow – but not this month. Mother Nature took back what she sent us last month and we haven't had much since. And that's a good thing because that last one put a hole in our snow removal budget. But all our employees and our contractors did a great job with that storm. We had the best maintained streets in the area. I really thought those snow piles would be here until May. At least with the piles gone, we have some place to put the snow that we will get from the next storm. I should bite my tongue for saying that! And thank you to all the residents who cooperated so nicely by moving their cars so we could get the job done. We truly do appreciate your cooperation!

We are all COVID weary. The holidays were so strange with not even being able to have family gatherings. I miss being with people. Even our office staff is properly distanced at all times. As much as I hate ZOOM, at least we can get business done. And on ZOOM, we can take off our masks and I can actually see everyone's entire face – not just their eyes. I miss seeing smiles. I miss hugging my family and friends. I miss our Sunday dinners with my kids and grandkids. While we may have missed being together for the holidays, many families lost loved ones who won't ever get to share another holiday. My heart breaks for those families who had to grieve alone. Hopefully, once the vaccines become more available, we will be able to be together to support each other. You don't know how much a hug means until you can't give one or get one. I will never take "the little things in life" for granted ever again!

On a happier note, the Green Island Senior Citizens and the American Legion are both holding "TAKE OUT" dinners next month. The Seniors are having a Meatloaf dinner on Friday, February 12th and the Legion is having a Chicken Parm dinner on Saturday, February 27th. Both require pre-ordering and you can get all the details in the other newsletter. Let's support these wonderful organizations that do so much for our community.

Thanks to all you generous folks who made our Christmas Program a great success. I am amazed that all those who worked on this were able to pull it off in the middle of a pandemic. And thanks to Santa and Mrs. Claus for coming back on December 19th to take a ride through the village to wave to all the kids. I could see their smiles even with their masks on!

Please see the other newsletter for information on the Green Island Policing Reform and Reinvention Collaborative. They will be holding a public input session virtually on ZOOM on Thursday, January 28th at 6:00 p.m. The volunteers on the committee and our Police Department have put in a lot of time on this endeavor and they are looking for your input. Mark it on your calendar and ZOOM in.

There is lots of information in the other newsletter, from garbage and recycling to Coronavirus vaccinations, so please check it out.

Before I sign off, there is one more thing I would like to discuss. By the time you get this letter, we will have sworn in a new President of the United States. I pray with all my heart that our United States Capitol will not experience again what happened there on January 6th. This message to you has NOTHING to do with politics – and EVERYTHING to do with AMERICANS BEING UNITED! I ask that we RESPECT each other's right to have different opinions and beliefs. We don't have to agree on everything. Sometimes the best decisions are made because someone had a different way of looking at things. I talk all the time about what a great TEAM we have in our village government. That doesn't mean that we always agree on everything. Sometimes we will have discussions where we are at opposite sides of an issue. But we discuss the pros and cons and make a united decision based on what is best for Green Island. I pray to God that our elected officials in Washington can learn to do that same thing. You don't have to agree on everything – but you do have to RESPECT each other. And there must be RESPECT for the LAW. If you don't like the laws, work to change them. Not with violence, but with intelligence. Back up your arguments with FACTS – NOT VIOLENCE. We all lose when we accept hatred and violence as being OK. It isn't OK – and we are the only ones who can fix that. Let's all work to make our country the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA once again.

Sincerely,



Ellen M. McNulty-Ryan