

June 18, 2012

Dear Friends,

I have a lot to tell you this month and I'm going to talk fast --- so I hope you can read fast (ha-ha-ha-ha).

My favorite time of the year is coming up ---- Concerts in the Park!!!! We have a great line up with some old favorites and some new bands. We begin the season on Sunday, July 8th with the "Swing Docs" who have been our opening act since our first year. Our first Wednesday concert on July 11th will be a tribute to Ernie Williams, who died very suddenly on March 21st. Ernie's band has been with us since our 2nd season and we will miss him, but he will remain a legend in Green Island and the entire Capital District. All of our other concerts will be on Wednesday evenings from 6 to 8 with the exception of a new wrinkle we are trying on Sunday, July 29th from 2 to 5 p.m. This concert will feature Skip Parsons' Riverboat Jazz Band and we are going to "kick it up a notch" with a patriotic hat contest and some extra tasty treats including cotton candy, candy apples and popcorn in addition to Rachel's delicious grilled menu. Entering the hat contest is easy - just show up with your creation. Prizes will be given for the most patriotic, most original, funniest, youth under 12 and senior over 65. We had a lot of fun last year with the umbrella contest, so I hope this year will be a hit. For your convenience, I have included a schedule of the concerts on the back of this letter. We owe a great deal of thanks to our generous sponsors who make this concert series possible. Between our sponsors and the profit made by our "Gig-A-Bite" crew at the concession stand, all of the expenses are paid and we make improvements at the park each year. That means no cost to the taxpayers!!! That is "music to my ears." (Even I'll admit that was a bad pun).

On Sunday, June 10th, the Church of the Good Shepherd held a service and dinner to say goodbye to their Pastor, Ken Scott. Pastor Ken is truly one of the nicest people I have ever met. He is so genuine and kind. I hear the congregation has a new Pastor starting on July 1st. I wish her all the best, but she has a tough act to follow. I'm sure Pastor Ken will help her settle in. God bless you Pastor Ken and don't be a stranger to our community.

Thank you to the residents who attended our public workshop at Heatly on June 6th to hear about the ideas developed from their comments at the previous meeting. We still have a long way to go, but this is a step in the right direction so we know what type of grants to apply for. As was stressed at the meeting, these are preliminary proposals. Yet, there were the people who got on Facebook to make negative comments - and they didn't even attend any of the meetings. I just wish people would get all the facts (by attending a meeting or calling us) before they make negative comments. A lot of people have been working very hard to make our community a better place to live and it is discouraging to them when people put down these ideas without understanding how they came about. Enough said.

The Paine Street Park will be officially opening on July 5th. There is info in the other newsletter about program registration and scheduled events, so please check it out.

In an effort to slow traffic down in the village, we have installed new stop signs on Swan Street at the corner of West Street. We will also be addressing a new local law tonight at our Village Board meeting to install new stop signs on Tibbits Avenue at Cannon Street (near the Paine Street Park). This idea was presented to us by a resident at the first planning meeting at Heatly. It makes good sense. It will slow down traffic near the park, making it safer for our kids, and it will make it safer to pull out of Cannon Street (which is sometimes difficult during rush hour). Please make a mental note of these changes. I still catch myself almost going through the stop sign going west on Arch Street at Cohoes

Avenue and that has been up for probably a year now. But it wasn't there for the first 44 years I had been driving – so it is an adjustment.

A message from our DPW: PLEASE PUT OUT ALL TRASH, RECYCLABLES AND LAWN BAGS BY 7 AM ON YOUR PICKUP DAY. Some people have been putting out their recyclables and lawn bags later in the day. Once the guys make their pass, they will not be going back over the route. Some weeks the pickup is later in the day, but it depends on what other things they have scheduled for that day (which changes weekly). So to be safe, please put all items out for 7 AM pickup. Thanks.

I told you about our American Legion Post sponsoring their first "Mayor's Cup" golf outing on September 29th at Frear Park. If you are interested, please call the Legion (272-1198) or Donna Lazzaro (274-1237) for info on how to register. We hope this will be a major fundraiser for the Post. They have some costly repairs to make and they need our help. We have lost so many organizations in our community over the last few years. The Legion is our last independent organization and if we don't help them now, who knows what their future may be. I will expand upon this more next month, but I wanted you to keep the date open if you are interested.

On a personal note, my youngest son, Mark, is getting married at the end of this month. I will not only be getting a lovely daughter in law, Tanya, but I get a great 10 year old grandson, Nick, in the deal, too. That brings the total grandchild number to four – three grandsons and one granddaughter. That means Madelon is still the only "Princess". She'll love reading that in this letter!!!!!!

Well I think that just about wraps things up for this month. I REALLY hope I see you at the concerts. I also hope my dance partners come so I don't have to dance all by myself. Georgie Reinoehl is 90 now, but that hasn't slowed him down. He can still outlast me on the dance floor!

Have a great summer!

July 8	Swing Docs	2-4:30 pm
With Special Guest INTO WISHIN'		
July 11	A Tribute to Ernie Williams	6-8 pm
July 18	Rymanowski Bros.	6-8 pm
July 25	The Accents	6-8 pm
July 29	Riverboat Jazz Band	2-5 pm
Skip Parsons		
August 1	Lustre Kings	6-8 pm
August 8	Switch Band	6-8 pm
August 15	Capt. Squeeze	6-8 pm
August 22	Jody Shayne	6-8 pm
August 29	TS Ensemble	6-8 pm

VILLAGE NEWSLETTER
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RECREATION NEWS

Park Program Registration

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

The **Summer Park Program** for **Green Island residents** will officially begin on **Thursday, July 5th**. 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:

Bike Rodeo – Wednesday, July 18th at 1:00 p.m. Please bring your bike and bike helmet to the park by 12:45 p.m. Children will have the opportunity to register their bikes with the Police Department.

Men's Basketball League - 3 games every Tuesday and Sunday at 6:00 p.m., 7:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.

Soccer Clinic – August 6th – August 10th from 5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. for K – 2nd Grade and from 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. for 3rd – 6th Grade. Registration forms are available at the Village Office or at the Village website.

Boy's & Girl's Basketball Clinic – **Free Basketball Clinic** open to all ages. Monday, August 6th – Friday, August 10th. Grades K – 4 will be held from 9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. and Grades 5 – 12 will be held 10:45 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

NOTICE OF NEW STOP SIGNS

In an effort to enhance vehicle and pedestrian safety, please take notice that the intersection of Swan and West Streets is now a four (4) way STOP. New stop signs have recently been installed on Swan Street going east and west. Only the stop signs going north and south on West Street had been there previously.

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. 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 several tickets recently, 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 Court orders that the Village clean up the property because the owner won't, 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

The annual **Village Wide Garage Sale** will be held on Saturday, August 4th from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. There is a \$3.00 fee to have your name and location on the map. Breakfast and lunch will be available at the church. Those who would like their names and locations on the maps should get their information and \$3.00 to the church by July 30th. Maps are available at the Church of the Good Shepherd on the day of the sale. Please send your fee to the Church of the Good Shepherd, P.O. Box 1523, Green Island, NY 12183.

FREE Community Dinner - Friday, June 29th from 5:30-6:30 p.m. There will not be dinners in July or August. The next dinner will be September 28th. Everyone is welcome!