

# KEEPING UP WITH WHAT'S GOING ON IN GREEN ISLAND

## FROM MY DESK TO YOUR HOME

January 15, 2012

Dear Friends,

As I write this letter, I realize it is exactly two weeks ago that we celebrated the first day of the New Year. It seems like it was months ago. December seemed to wiz by. I miss the beautiful trees in the River Park. Thank you to all who participated in the "Festival of Trees" and thank you for leaving your decorations on until "Little Christmas." We had the trees up for a whole month this year. I love to look out the window from my home and see all the lights. And almost every time I look, there are people strolling through the park admiring the trees and reading the plaques to see who they are dedicated to. Every time I walked through I saw something new that I had missed before. So many of the trees tell a story. As much as I hate the winter, those beautiful trees give me a reason to enjoy it.

Thanks to all who donated to our Food Pantry and made it so successful. We were able to help out more families this year than ever before. Our "Giving Tree" at the Village Office was also a huge success. So many people are generous and help out. It's one of those volunteer activities that has no age limit. There were helpers from preschool age to senior citizens. I'm glad I live in a community that embraces its blessings and is always willing to share. *We are our brother's keeper!*

Our swearing in ceremony on December 30<sup>th</sup> was well attended. We even had a few surprise out of town guests. Our new County Executive, Dan McCoy, our newly elected Sheriff, Craig Apple and Colonie Town Supervisor, Paula Mahan all stopped by to wish us well as we start out new terms. I think we were the only venue that had ten local officials being sworn in. My oldest son, Stephen, swore me in and I had the pleasure of doing the same for him on New Year's Day as he was sworn in for his second term as Niskayuna Town Justice. Four years ago my father, Jack, swore both of us in. We miss him, but his presence was truly felt; not just by Stephen and me, but by all those present who love and miss him. We're all working hard, "Big Daddy," just like you taught us!

Enough of what's past. Let's talk about what's coming.

The Police Department and Chief Parker are holding a Community Outreach Program on Thursday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00 p.m. at the Municipal Center. This month's topic will be "Tips on Crimes Against the Elderly." You don't have to be a senior citizen to attend and I'm sure they will give us some pointers on how to keep our seniors safe. See, I call them "seniors." I didn't call them "elderly." I'll have to tease the Chief about the language he used. Then he'll probably remind me that I'm now one of the "elderly" myself. I'm not quite sure when that happened. Turning 60 sure has been an eye opener!

Make sure you check out the other newsletter. There is info on property tax exemptions, Relay for Life and dinners at the Legion (I always love the events that have FOOD). Please support these worthwhile endeavors.

Well, I'm afraid to say this because it will probably curse us, but it's the middle of January and we really haven't had any SNOW. We were up to our eyeballs last year at this time. Maybe Mother Nature is taking pity on us after last winter and the floods at the end of summer. Or maybe she's just saving it up to give us one humdinger a little later. Either way, I'm a happy girl that we've escaped it so far. My first year as Mayor, we had four feet of snow in one week. I call that 'Baptism by Fire.' But we survived due to the great cooperation that we have between all the departments in the Village – especially our DPW guys. Some of those guys were surviving on three or four hours of sleep. So I guess my message here is "Get your beauty sleep now guys, 'cause Mother Nature has a sick sense of humor."

That's it for this month. Stay warm and pray for no snow!

Sincerely,



Ellen M. McNulty-Ryan

**VILLAGE NEWSLETTER**  
**VILLAGE OF GREEN ISLAND**  
**20 CLINTON STREET**  
**GREEN ISLAND, NY 12183**  
**(518) 273-2201**

**JANUARY 2012**

**NEWS FROM THE ASSESSOR**

There are exemptions available to those senior citizens that are or will be 65 during the year that they are filing for the exemption – 2012. The exemptions require that one of the owners meet the age requirement, and that the home is the primary residence.

New and renewal applications for the **ENHANCED STAR EXEMPTION ON THE 2012 ROLL** will be based on the applicant's 2010 income. The **NEW INCOME LIMIT of \$79,050** will be based on the **Adjusted Gross Income of the 2010 Income Tax Return**.

The **Senior Citizen** exemption for County and/or Village tax purposes is available for those 65 and older with an annual income not to exceed \$37,400 for county purpose and \$14,700 for village purposes. This exemption is based on the **Total Gross Income for 2011**.

**If you are eligible for the Senior Citizen Exemption you will automatically receive the Enhanced STAR. However, if you are eligible for the Enhanced STAR you may NOT be eligible for the Senior Citizen exemption. They are two separate exemptions.**

**ALL EXEMPTION APPLICATIONS MUST BE FILED BY MARCH 1, 2012.**

If you are in the Income Verification Program you have received a letter to confirm your exemption. If you receive this confirmation by mail you do not have to reapply for the Enhanced STAR exemption. All other applicants have received their renewal applications by mail.

**GREEN ISLAND POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS**

The Green Island Police Department's Community Outreach Program has scheduled a community meeting to offer "**Tips on Crimes Against the Elderly**" for Thursday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. at the Green Island Municipal Center, 19 George Street. We hope to see you there.

**AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY'S RELAY FOR LIFE OF GREEN ISLAND 2012 LAUNCH**

Please join us on Tuesday, January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2012 from (6pm-8pm) at the Community Center, 5 George Street, as we kickoff the celebration of 10 years of Relay on the Island. Any and all are welcome to learn what Relay For Life is all about, how to get involved and what's new for 2012. For additional information, please contact Michele Bourgeois at 281-8976 or [relay.greenisland@gmail.com](mailto:relay.greenisland@gmail.com)

## RECREATION NEWS

### Food Drive

Thank you to the many residents who donated toward our annual food drives here in Green Island. The food that was collected here was more than enough to feed all of our needy families at both Thanksgiving and Christmas. We are sure that the families that receive the food baskets are very grateful to those of you that contributed and all those who purchased gifts off the Giving Tree.

In addition, the Church of the Good Shepherd was extremely generous with their donations this year. They donated 10 baskets at both Thanksgiving and Christmas complete with turkeys. We greatly appreciate their continued support.

Special thanks go out to the following groups that assisted with both food and gift programs for the needy which were held throughout the holiday season: Lydall Manning employees, Green Island School District employees and retirees, Green Island Senior Citizens, Albany County Legislature, Green Island Parks and Recreation, Green Island Lanes-bowling leagues, and all of our anonymous Santa's Helpers, (you know who you are) and any others that may have assisted in any way at all. A big thanks to our volunteers that helped prepare or deliver the goods including Maggie Alix, Chris Karwiel, Sean Ward, Ellen McNulty-Ryan, Mark Ryan, Kristin Swinton, Scott Siegel, Rachel Files, Jill Alix, Heather Gregory, Christina Stebbins, Anita Brown, Larry Brown, Julie Iannone, Dave Mahoney, Beth Vanderheyden, Blair McGuirk, Kevin Mahoney, Don Cicchinelli, Nancy Kipp, Jeffrey Dorrance, Tina Burns and Luke Burns. As you can see, we have many people and organizations involved in this program.

### NEWS FROM THE AMERICAN LEGION

On **Saturday, February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2012**, the American Legion will be holding a **Lasagna Dinner** sponsored by the Sons of the American Legion Post 927 from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The dinner includes Lasagna, Salad, Roll, Coffee/Tea and Dessert. The cost is \$8.00 for adults and \$4.00 for children 4 – 12 and FREE Pasta for Kids 3 and under. Delivery is available. For further information, please contact the Legion Post at 272-1198.

On **Saturday, March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2012**, the American Legion will be hosting a **St. Patrick's Day Dinner** from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. The cost is \$10.00 for adults, \$5.00 for children 4 – 12 and for children 3 and under – FREE. Dinner will be your choice of Corned Beef & Cabbage or Ham & Cabbage, served with potatoes, carrots, bread/butter, coffee/tea and dessert. Presale is recommended. For further information call 272-1198 and Delivery will be available.

### SPAGHETTI AND MEATBALL DINNER TO BENEFIT NORTHEAST KIDNEY FOUNDATION

There will be a **Spaghetti and Meatball Dinner** on **Saturday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2012** at the American Legion Post No. 927, 35 Cohoes Avenue, Green Island to benefit the Northeast Kidney Foundation for their WALK to be held on June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2012. Tickets will be \$10.00 sold in advance or \$12.00 at the door. Children under 3 will be free. Takeout will be available. For further information or tickets, please contact Denise Cesare at [dcesare@aol.com](mailto:dcesare@aol.com) or by calling 518-378-7739 or 518-598-2171.