

KEEPING UP WITH WHAT'S GOING ON IN GREEN ISLAND FROM MY DESK TO YOUR HOME

August 15, 2012

Dear Friends,

It seems like every time I start to write you a letter this summer it is a Wednesday and I'm watching the weather forecast to find out if we have to move our concert under the bridge. I must say I do a lot of praying on those Wednesday afternoons and today is no different. By the time you get this letter Mother Nature will have already decided our fate. If I were a betting woman, I'd say Captain Squeeze and the Zydeco Moshers will be trolls under the bridge tonight. I'm making Chili for our special tonight so I'm really hoping we will be in the park because it seems like everyone is hungrier when we are at the Gazebo! Wherever we are, we will have a great time. We only have two more concerts after tonight. We have tried some new specials this year and the Gig-A-Bite Crew has been very successful. This is actually our best year ever! We are trying a new special next week for Jody Shayne. Jody and her group played here several years ago. She is a jazz singer and she and her group are quite "classy." So our special is going to be "classy" too. We are going to try cheese and fruit boards. I have been experimenting and I think they will be good to eat and fun. We will also have "pretend" wine in the form of white grape juice. We can just sit back and pretend we are at Tanglewood or SPAC - but without the cost of the ticket! Our final concert on August 29th is TS Ensemble and they are always full of energy. That's also the night that we have free desserts so come and enjoy. There is no way I could properly thank all the people that make our concert series so great; from our generous sponsors who come through for us every year, to our faithful Gig-A-Bite crew, to our yummy "Green Island Keebler Bakers", to our fantastic DPW and GIPA crews, to all of you - our faithful fans, and last but not least, my wonderful husband, Mark, who does all the graphic work, fans, schedules, photos and everything else that needs to be done. Thank you for making our Gazebo River Park the "Summer Place To Be." Thank you from the bottom of my heart!!!!

Notice the new STOP signs at Tibbits Ave. and Cannon Street? I mean did you notice them BEFORE you went through them? It is really hard to adjust to something new like that. I have been driving that street for 44 years so I realize how hard it is to change. But it looks like it is working very well to slow down the traffic near the park - so it is working. Thanks to Maureen Clifford for making the suggestion at one of our Community Needs Survey meetings. I brought her idea to the Village Board, we had a public hearing and put it into law. Democracy at its best. Now we just have to remember to STOP or we will be seeing Justice in the Courtroom!

Speaking of laws, we just had a Public Hearing last week for four properties that were notified of violation of the weed law and their right to be heard before we send someone in to clean up the properties and put the charges on their tax bills. Two of the property owners have cleaned up their properties, but two didn't show up to be heard or clean their properties, so our guys now have to go in and clean them up. This law has been very beneficial to the neighbors of these properties because before we enacted it, we had no legal right to go in and clean the properties up. Now, by going through the legal process spelled out in the law, we do have that right. This has been a tough summer for weeds. I wish my plants grew as good as the weeds!

Maggie has things all set for our Green Island Family Picnic on Sunday, September 16th from Noon to 4:00 p.m. at the River Park. Usually this is held in the Paine Street Park, but we are hoping to have demolition/construction started for the new Sprinkler Park, so we thought it safest to hold it in the River Park. Besides it gives us one more celebration in that park before the snow flies and the Christmas trees go up. Oh My God!!! Did I just mention SNOW? Erase it from your thoughts and come join us for some food, fun and festivities on September 16th! We won't talk about the Festival of Trees until October.

Just a reminder about the Mayor's Cup golf outing on Saturday, September 29th at Frear Park. As I told you in previous letters, we are trying to help raise some funds for the Legnard-Curtin Post. This organization's facilities are the center of most of the community activities and they need our help. Call Donna Lazzaro at 274-1237 or the Legion Post at 272-1198 for information on registering to play. You can also pick up a form from Barb at the Village Office. If you aren't a golfer and would like to make a donation or just attend the dinner at the Post later in the day, you can also do so by calling Donna or the Post. I have a foursome playing and none of us are good golfers, but we do know how to have fun. Please join us and support our Legion Post. I won't even get mad if you laugh at my swing ---- that's my golf swing that I'm talking about!

Summer is quickly coming to a close and school will be back in session in just a few short weeks. Our new parking regulations for drop off and pick up of students worked pretty well last school year, with the exception of a few people who persistently defied the law. Please be very clear that the Police will be there whenever possible and violators will be ticketed. We tried to be somewhat lenient last year until everyone got accustomed to the new routine - but practice is over. We need your cooperation in abiding by the regulations and reporting violators to the Police. If you see someone who is in violation, just get a license plate number and report it to 273-2401 and let the Police handle it. Our children's safety is the highest priority and we need everyone's cooperation to make it happen. Can we count on you?

Well, it's 4:30 and I just got a call that we are going to have the concert in the Gazebo tonight!!!! I'm a happy camper. I just hope the weatherman is right! Gotta go home and pack up the Chili. I hope everyone is hungry because I made a LOT of it. There are enough beans in this Chili to power the island for a few days. What you hear probably isn't thunder!!!!

Hope you enjoy the rest of your summer!!!!

Sincerely,



Ellen M. McNulty-Ryan

VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

Village of Green Island
20 Clinton Street
Green Island, NY 12183
518-273-2201
www.villageofgreenisland.com

AUGUST 2012

PARKS & RECREATION NEWS

SUMMER MOVIE SERIES

Thank you to everyone who attended our Summer Movie Series in the park. Thankfully the weather cooperated and we were able to get all the movies in as scheduled. A special thank you to Larry Brown and Scott Siegel for setting up and breaking down the equipment each week.

RECREATION DEPARTMENT

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

Thank you to Bimbo Bakeries USA for sponsoring our annual Soccer Camp directed by Coach Larry Brown.

Thank you to the Green Island Senior Citizens for sponsoring an outing to allow our youth to see an Albany Dutchman baseball game.

Thank you to the Watervliet School District, NYS Nutrition Consortium and NYS Department of Health for bringing the FREE healthy lunch program to the Paine Street Park. It had an overwhelmingly positive response. We were serving up to 70 free lunches a day. We're looking forward to having the program back again next year!

GREEN ISLAND FAMILY PICNIC – SEPTEMBER 16, 2012

The Village of Green Island will sponsor the "GREEN ISLAND FAMILY PICNIC" to be held on **Sunday, September 16th from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.** at the River Park.

Included will be many different food vendors, face painting, balloon animals, dunk tank, bouncy bounce, as well as live entertainment by **Frank Jaklitsch**.

Anyone interested in a booth, or in need of further information regarding the picnic, should call Maggie Alix at the Village Office, 273-2201.

THE FIRST ANNUAL MAYOR'S CUP

The First Annual Mayor's Cup will be held on Saturday, September 29th, 2012 for the benefit of the Lenard-Curtin Post American Legion. Please see the Mayor's newsletter for further details.

NEWS FROM ASSESSOR'S OFFICE – SCHOOL TAXES

Just a reminder, Pioneer Bank in Green Island will be collecting school taxes. You can mail your check or money order to Green Island School District, P.O. Box 1541, Green Island, NY 12183 OR pay in person at Pioneer Bank, 148 George Street, Green Island, NY 12183. See your tax bill for more information.

BLOOD DRIVE

The Village of Green Island will be sponsoring a Blood Drive on **Friday, September 14th** from **1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.** at the Community Center located at 5 George Street. Please contact Mayor Ellen McNulty-Ryan at 273-2201 if you have any questions or would like to schedule an appointment and you may also contact the **American Red Cross at 1-800-GIVE-LIFE to schedule an appointment.**

NEW STOP SIGNS AT TIBBITS AVENUE AND CANNON STREET

In an effort to further enhance vehicle and pedestrian safety, especially around the Paine Street Park, please take notice that the intersection of Tibbits Avenue and Cannon Street is now a four (4) way stop. New stop signs have recently been installed on Tibbits Avenue going east and west. Only the stop signs going north and south on Cannon Street had been there previously.

BEWARE OF SCAMS

Over the last few weeks our office has been contacted by concerned residents that have been solicited by email, phone, door to door and US Mail about such items as utility insurance, gas and electricity suppliers, contractors and even the Nigerian Bank scam. Even though some of these may be legitimate businesses (the Nigerian Bank is not), we advise you to never give personal information out to anyone by email, mail or phone unless they have been checked out as legitimate. Do not answer your door unless that they have proper identification with them and it is visible. Any person soliciting a product or service door to door must also have a permit from the Village Clerk's office with them at all times. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to immediately report it to our Police Department at 273-2401. You can also check out websites for scam prevention information and tips from the Better Business Bureau at www.upstateny.bbb.org or the NYS Consumer Protection Board at www.dos.ny.gov/consumerprotection/.

KEEP OUR RIVERS CLEAN

Please remember that it is illegal by law to intentionally place or allow flowing waste into our catch basins. Please help us out and sweep the curb line of dirt, grass clippings and other debris in front of your properties when you can and never throw or allow such debris and/or liquid chemicals and/or petroleum such as dirt, grass, grease, cleaners, gasoline or oil into the catch basin. Please report violators to the Green Island Police Department at 273-2401 immediately. Thank you for your cooperation. Together we can help keep our waterways clean and free from debris.

NEWS FROM THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

Pulled Pork and Summer Salads Dinner – Saturday, September 8th from 4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. Pulled Pork dinner with Summer Salads and Homemade Desserts, the cost is \$10.00 for adults, \$5.00 for children under 12 and 5 and under are FREE. Take out begins at 4:00 p.m.