

VILLAGE OF GREEN ISLAND NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2013

**ALL RESIDENTS PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE WILL NOT BE ANY CHANGE
IN GARBAGE COLLECTION FOR TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5th - ELECTION DAY.**

RECREATION NEWS

HALLOWEEN PARADE - The annual **Halloween Parade** will be held on **Thursday, October 31st**. Cash prizes will be offered for the best costumes and floats. The parade forms at **5:30 p.m.** at the corner of George and Hamilton Streets and will begin at **6:00 p.m.** Rain date will be Friday, November 1st.

ANNUAL FOOD DRIVE

The **Annual Food Drive** to benefit the Green Island Food Pantry will begin with the **BAG DROP OFF** on **Tuesday, October 22nd** and **PICK UP** will be on **Saturday, October 26th** starting at **10:00 a.m.** The Green Island Department of Parks and Recreation and students from Heatly School sponsor the food drive. Residents are asked to contribute whatever they can to help the needy families in our community. **(Please refrain from donating expired items).**

PUBLIC MEETING FOR UPDATE ON GREEN ISLAND REASSESSMENT IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

There will be a meeting in regard to the Reassessment Improvement Project on **Tuesday, October 22nd**, at **6:00 p.m.**, at the Municipal Center. Municipal Assessment Services (MAS) will give an overview of what has been done and what to expect in the coming months. The next phase of the project is valuation. At this meeting the MAS staff will explain the valuation process used to determine the market value estimate of your property. They will also go over how homeowners can be involved in the process.

POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS

In preparation for snow plowing and snow removal, all inoperative or unregistered motor vehicles, recreational vehicles, dumpsters and all types of trailers must be removed from village streets by November 1, 2013. All illegally parked motor vehicles, recreational vehicles, dumpsters and trailers will be ticketed and towed at the owner's expense.

SNOW PLOWING AND REMOVAL

The streets are generally plowed in the following order. However, this procedure is subject to change based upon various emergency conditions, which might arise.

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|----------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Clinton Street | 6. Arch Street | 16. West Street |
| 2. Albany Avenue | 7. Hudson Avenue | 17. John Street |
| 3. Pine Street | 8. Lafayette Street/Lafayette Park | 18. Mohawk Street |
| Walnut Street | 9. Lower Paine Street | 19. Swan Street |
| Saratoga Street | 10. Hamilton Street | 20. Bleecker Street |
| Whitehall Street | 11. Market Street | 21. Tibbits Avenue |
| Lower Hudson Avenue | 12. Center Street & Center Court | 22. Cohoes Avenue |
| Harlem Street | 13. Upper Paine Street | 23. Veterans Memorial Dr. |
| 4. Cannon Street (So. End) | 14. James Street | 24. Cannon Street (No. End) |
| 5. George Street | 15. High Street | |

All vehicles which are not moved for snow plowing operations will be ticketed and towed. The **fine is \$50.00**, the **fee for towing is \$75.00** and there will be a **storage fee of \$5.00 per day** after the first 24 hours. All fines and fees must be paid at the Green Island Police Department before the vehicle is released. There will be an additional charge if special equipment is required to move a vehicle from the street.

Residents who work out-of-town or who leave their cars on the streets should make arrangements with a friend or neighbor to move their car for snow plowing operations.

The Department of Public Works does an excellent job of keeping our streets open for travel and emergencies until the storm ends and the regular snow plowing operation can be carried out. Some people who have had their cars towed during the past storms have complained that they have moved their car to streets they thought had been plowed and

find out that they have not been completely plowed. In order to avoid this problem, **PLEASE CHECK WITH A POLICE OFFICER, 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. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

HYDRANT FLUSHING

Hydrants will be flushed in Green Island and Maplewood on **Wednesday, November 6th, Thursday, November 7th and Friday, November 8th**. A slight discoloration in the water may occur and washing of laundry is not recommended during this time.

RABIES VACCINATION CLINIC

The Rabies Vaccination Clinic for dogs, cats and ferrets has been arranged by the Albany County Department of Health in cooperation with the Capital District Veterinary Medical Society. On **Saturday, November 16, 2013** from **1:00 – 2:30 p.m.** for cats and ferrets and **2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.** for dogs at the Public Works Garage, Cohoes Avenue.

All dogs, cats and ferrets must be on leashes or in carriers. A record of prior vaccination will be required for a three-year immunization. If no record is present, a one-year vaccination certification will be issued. The clinic is open to any Albany County resident. Any inquiry can be directed to Division of Environmental Health Services at 447-4620 or 447-4625. **There will be an \$8.00 donation per animal.**

NEWS FROM ALBANY COUNTY

Mark your calendars for Sunday, November 3rd from 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., as Albany County hosts its first ever “Live Life Local” event at the Times Union Center. Food and craft vendors from all over Albany County will be highlighted, as part of the County’s 330th birthday celebration festivities and best of all attendance and parking are FREE! If you are a fan of our local farmer’s markets you will not want to miss this opportunity to see and taste all that Albany County has to offer under one roof. More information about the day’s schedule of events are available online at <http://www.albanycounty.com/Events/AlbanyCounty330/LiveLifeLocal.aspx> or by contacting the County Executive’s Office at 518-447-7040. Hope to see you there!

NEWS FROM GREEN ISLAND SENIOR CITIZENS

Tickets are currently on sale for the **Super Raffle** to be drawn on **Wednesday, November 20th, 2013!** If you would like to purchase a ticket(s), please contact Jill Alix at 272-7262. Tickets are \$1.00. This is a community wide raffle; you do not have to be a member of the senior citizen organization to participate. 1st Prize - \$1,000; 2nd Prize - \$300 and 3rd Prize - \$200. **SAVE THE DATE** - The Annual Holiday Party with “The Accents” will be held on **Saturday, December 7th** at the American Legion. More information to follow in the November Newsletter.

NEWS FROM THE CHURCH OF GOOD SHEPHERD

Community Dinner will be held on **Friday, October 25th** from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. They will be serving a delicious Baked Chicken Dinner for all to enjoy at **No Charge. EVERYONE IS WELCOME!**

The Annual Holiday Bazaar will be held on **Saturday, November 9th from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m.**, along with a Ham Dinner from **4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.** The cost of the dinner is \$11 for adults, \$6 for children (5-12 years of age) and under 5 FREE. The **Holiday Bazaar** will include a Christmas Table, White Elephant, Silent Auction, Baked Goods, Jewelry, Handmade Items, Toy Table, 25 Cent Table and MORE!

Just a reminder that the Village and Town Offices will be closed Tuesday, November 5th for Election Day; Monday, November 11th in observance of Veteran’s Day and Thursday, November 28th, 2013 in observance of Thanksgiving Day.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN GREEN ISLAND

October 16, 2013

Dear Friends,

I have to start this newsletter off with a bunch of "Thank You" messages. First of all, a huge thank you to all who made our Red Cross Blood Drive our best one ever. It was especially meaningful to my husband, Mark, because the drive was in his honor to thank and support the Red Cross for being there in March when he required nine transfusions. We had a record number of first time donors, which is very important because hopefully now they will become second, third, fourth and forever donors. I gave my 37th donation and hopefully will reach my "five gallon" goal by next year. It only takes an hour and it saves lives --- and I have my husband to prove it. Hope to see you all in the spring for our next one!

Thank you to all who sponsored our flag drive to replace all the flags we lost in the storm this past spring. Our goal was 70 and you came through for a grand total of 97!!! That means we can also put them on Albany Avenue when the reconstruction is completed. It never fails to amaze me how our residents come through when we ask for help. I love living here!

Also thank you to Phil and Linda Gross for donating three trees that were in front of their home and had to be moved for the reconstruction of Albany Avenue. The trees were special to them because they were a gift from their children. We were able to have them relocated to the Paine Street Park to replace some of the trees we lost in the storm earlier this year. Our GIPA guys did a great job transplanting them and they look great. Transplanting can be tricky, so let's say a prayer they "take root" and continue to grow to provide shade in the hot summer months.

We are getting pretty good response to folks registering for our new "FirstCall" system. If you haven't registered yet, please do so by picking up a form at the Village Office or registering on line through our website.

Our Assemblyman, John McDonald, will be in town on Wednesday, October 23rd for a Town Hall Meeting at the Community Center (Senior Center) at 4:30 p.m. This is a great opportunity to hear what is happening in NYS and ask John any questions that you might have. John is closing in on his first year in the Assembly and he is doing a great job for us. His door is always open to us and he is very quick to let us know about any legislative action that would affect us in Green Island. John's visit will be followed by the monthly dinner at the Senior Center so if you plan to stay for dinner, please give Jill or Connie a call at 272-7262 and make a reservation.

Please mark your calendars for our annual Halloween Parade on Thursday, October 31st at 6 p.m. I'm still trying to decide what I want to be that night. Usually my granddaughter Maddie and I hook up and do something together, so we better get going and make up our minds. And parents, please speak to your children before they go out that night about safety and respecting other people's property.

Construction on Albany Avenue is coming along --- slowly. There is a lot of major work being done that doesn't show but really needs to be done and that is why it is taking so long. I feel bad for the folks that live and work on the street, but it will be well worth the inconvenience and wait when it is done. Remember, good things come to those who wait!

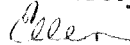
I can't believe the Festival of Trees will be here soon. We are scheduled to decorate the trees on Saturday, December 7th at 2 p.m. with Santa arriving at 5 p.m. to help us light the trees and have a "visit" with the children. (We have a rain date of Sunday the 8th in case of inclement weather.) It is a wonderful event and a great way to get into the holiday spirit. Please join us and remember to bring Santa your list.

Now I have to talk to you about something that really stinks ---- literally: SKUNKS. We, along with every other municipality, have been experiencing an unusual number of these stinky rodents. PLEASE don't feed your pets outside. Skunks love pet food. Skunks do not like light, so if you are having trouble in your back yard you may want to install a motion sensor light. We had a skunk around our house last year that was so stinky I thought the little bugger was in our basement. Their odor really permeates. My husband even installed a motion light in the basement in case the little stinker was getting in. Skunks are nocturnal animals, so if you see one out in the daylight hours, please call 911 and do not go near it because it is probably ill. Our best bet to lessen their presence is to keep the lights on, don't feed our pets outside and minimize easy food access by keeping the lids shut on our garbage cans.

Well we certainly have covered a lot of territory in this letter from thanking you for your generosity and blood --- to skunks! Next month you can look forward to hearing about the crows because they are due back in town later this month. And then comes the SNOW! But I will also get a chance to talk about my favorite holiday --- THANKSGIVING --- and I have much to be thankful for! Maybe we should start a pool to guess at how many pounds of turkey I will cook this year!

That's it for now. PLEASE be sure to check the other newsletter for the many activities and events going on around town.

Sincerely,



Ellen M. McNulty-Ryan