

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

JANUARY 2016

Green Island Police Department Telephone Numbers

EMERGENCY – 911

NON EMERGENCY TO DISPATCHER – 765-2352

ANONYMOUS DRUG TIP LINE – 655-7971

PHONE TREE LINE TO GIPD OFFICERS – 765-2351

Please see Mayor's newsletter for detailed explanation.

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 – 2016. 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 2016 ROLL** will be based on the applicant's 2014 income. The **NEW INCOME LIMIT of \$84,550** will be based on the **Adjusted Gross Income of the 2014 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 2015**.

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, 2016.

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.

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.

Special thanks go out to the following groups that assisted with both the 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, the Church of the Good Shepherd, The Stewart Shops, Bimbo Bakeries, Cheer Intensity, American Legion Women's Auxiliary, Police & Fire Insurance Association, all of our anonymous Santa's Helpers, (you know who you are), all those that took tags from the Giving tree, and any others that may have assisted in any way at all. A big thanks to our volunteers that helped prepare and/or deliver the goods including Chris Karwiel, Ellen McNulty-Ryan, Mark Ryan, Kristin Swinton, Rachel Files, Heather Johnson, Larry Brown, Michele Bourgeois, Tami Weisenforth, Sean Ward, Colleen Ward, Christian Ward, Joshua Catrine, Tom Mullins, Beth Vanderheyden, Blair McGuirk, Dave McGuirk, and Jamie Lochner. As you can see, we have many people and organizations involved in this program.

NEWS FROM THE AMERICAN LEGION

The Sons of the American Legion Post #927 are hosting a **CHICKEN PARMIGIANA DINNER** on Saturday, February 20th, 2016 from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. Cost is \$10.00 for adults, \$5.00 for kids 5 – 12 and children 4 and under will get free pasta. Cost includes Chicken Parmigiana, pasta, salad, roll, dessert, coffee and tea. Take-out is available. For further information, please contact the Legion Post at 272-1198.

NEWS FROM GREEN ISLAND LITTLE LEAGUE

The Green Island Little League will hold registration for the 2016 season during the CYO games at Heatly School on Sunday, February 14th from 11:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. This is a great opportunity to sign up early; spring training is right around the corner.

NEWS FROM WATERVLIET POP WARNER FOOTBALL, CHEER & DANCE

Watervliet Pop Warner Football, Cheer & Dance will have an information and registration table set up during the CYO games at Heatly School on Sunday, February 21st from 11:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Children ages 5 to 16 years old who are interested in participating in the upcoming season should stop by and check it out.

NEWS FROM THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

Friday, January 29th – 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. – **Community Dinner** at the Church of the Good Shepherd. They will be serving a delicious Supper for all to enjoy. Come; bring your family and friends, **all at no charge. Everyone is welcome!**

Saturday, February 13th – 4:30 – 6:30 p.m. **Baked Chicken Dinner** at the Church of the Good Shepherd. Bring the family, all are welcome! After dinner sit back and enjoy a delicious dessert with your coffee or tea. Proceeds will benefit church projects, missions and programs. Take-out dinners start at 4:00 p.m. The cost of the dinner is \$12 for adults, \$6 for children 12 and under; and children under 5 are FREE.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN GREEN ISLAND

January 18, 2016

Dear Friends,

I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas. I got to spend some time with my kids and grandchildren – and it was wonderful! It was nice with the holiday falling on a Friday because it seemed like Christmas was three days long. But it didn't take long to get "back in the saddle" and get back to work. I want to thank Mother Nature for the best present --- no snow! We have been very lucky this year and I hope it keeps up. It is snowing as I am writing this, but I don't think it will amount to much (famous last words). We are better than half way through January, so whatever we get now won't be here that long. If every winter was like this one so far, I wouldn't mind winter at all. But I quickly recall last winter and it wasn't nice. It seemed like everything came on nights and weekends and our poor guys on the salter and plows were going 24/7. As bad as the snow and ice may be, nothing is as bad as the massive water main break that Troy had yesterday. I am glad we don't have any pipes that big. We have had our share of water breaks, but I have never seen anything like that. From all accounts they handled it well. God bless them!

Back to business. We had our first Community Police meeting on Tuesday, January 12th and it was great. We had a pretty good turnout for the first meeting, but I hope the word spreads and we get a lot more folks for the next one. Officer Lou Perfetti and Chief Parker did a great job. Lou explained a lot about how we as residents play such an important part in helping the officers get the job done. Kevin Demarest, who is one of our officers but also works full time for the Sheriff's Department in communications, gave a pretty intensive overview of the 911 system and how it works. One of the hardest things to get residents to do is use the 911 system. I have a hard time using it myself. I grew up in an era where you didn't call 911 unless it was a matter of "life and death." That has changed and we are encouraged to use 911 for everything and let the dispatcher "triage" where the call should go and how to handle it. But there are still some people who won't call 911, so they have given us a "non-emergency" number to call and report anything that is not a true emergency. That number is 765-2352. We hope this will make people more comfortable with calling the police. The Police have always gotten very valuable information in the past from residents who see things in their neighborhoods that don't seem quite right. Unfortunately, most of those people aren't passing on that information anymore because they are uncomfortable calling the Sheriff's dispatchers. So, we now have an anonymous "DRUG TIP LINE" number to call that goes directly to our Green Island Police Station and you can leave a message with the information. Only Chief Parker and Officer Perfetti will have access to this line and they will determine how to handle the information. It is an anonymous line, but if you are comfortable leaving your name and number, it may be helpful if the Chief or Lou need more information. Either way, we need your eyes and ears to pass along anything you encounter that seems not quite right. Don't worry if it turns out to be nothing. It's always better to be safe than sorry. The "DRUG TIP LINE" number is 655-7971. We also have

a phone tree line if you would like to leave a message for a particular officer. That number is 765-2351. We are working on getting some magnets with these new numbers that you can put on your refrigerator so it is always handy (I have put the numbers at the bottom of this page so you will have them until the magnets come in.) But PLEASE remember, you can always call 911 if you don't have these other numbers with you. We will let you know when the next meeting is scheduled and hope you will join us. The success of Community Policing truly depends on the partnership between the residents and the officers in our department. Please help us make it a success! I'm halfway down my second page, so I better shorten my chatter because I have a lot more to cover.

THANK YOU to everyone who was so generous for our "Giving Tree" and food pantry for the holidays. Your kindness made a big difference in the way many families were able to celebrate Christmas.

I feel like spring is in the air because the other newsletter has info about Little League! Please check it out. And while you are checking the other newsletter, make note of the Legion's Chicken Parmigiana Dinner on 2/20 and the Church of the Good Shepherd's Community Dinner of 1/29 and their Baked Chicken Dinner on 2/13. Sounds like some happy times for the tummies! Also please see Maggie's "News from the Assessor" info about Star exemptions.

I just looked out the window and it looks like the snow has stopped – for now anyway. Hopefully we won't get any big storms, but if we do, please make sure your sidewalks are shoveled and please cooperate with our snow removal operations. Your cooperation is vital and greatly appreciated.

Stay warm and dry! Spring is just around the corner --- I hope!

Sincerely,



Ellen M. McNulty-Ryan

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