

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

AUGUST 2016

HEATLY SCHOOL – CHANGE IN TRAFFIC PATTERN

In an effort to keep our children safe, beginning the first day of school and on all days that school is in session, traffic traveling EAST on ARCH STREET between George Street and Hudson Avenue will be CLOSED from 7:15 a.m. to 8:15 a.m. and 2:15 p.m. to 3:15 p.m. It will also be closed at any time that school is dismissed early. Traffic will be allowed traveling WEST on ARCH STREET.

GREEN ISLAND FAMILY PICNIC – SEPTEMBER 25, 2016

The Village of Green Island will sponsor the “GREEN ISLAND FAMILY PICNIC” to be held on **Sunday, September 25th from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.** at the Paine Street Park.

Included will be many different food vendors, face painting, balloon animals, dunk tank, bouncy bounce, as well as live entertainment by **Barbara Verdile’s Band, “Three Easy Pieces”**.

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

PARKS & RECREATION NEWS

A **HUGE THANK YOU** goes out to, Tom Mullins 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.

A SPECIAL thank you to AJ Lazzaro for DJing our second (annual) dance party in the park. A great time was had by all!

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.

Thank you to everyone that contributed to the 2016 Summer Program. Special thanks to District Attorney David Soares for allowing Green Island to participate in the WORDS, Summer of Kindness Campaign. The traveling camps: Tony Butler & ACTKO Karate, Albany Barn, CrossFit Beyond and Alex Huntley & Young Noble Gentlemen. The Albany County Recreation Department and Albany City Rocks for sponsoring our basketball camp. Albany County Sheriff’s Department, Deputy Kayla Apple and her K-9 Jack for visiting the park.

Thank you to all the families, parents and children, for spending your summer with us. We hope you had as much fun as we did!

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.

WELCOME to “The Bottle & Can Company, LLC”

We have a new business opening in Green Island – “The Bottle & Can Company, LLC” located at 1-7 James Street (the former Folmsbee’s Bus Transportation garage). They will be holding their “**Grand Opening**” on Thursday, September 1st. They will be offering “6 cent” redemption on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The hours of operation will be: Monday – Friday – 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., Saturday – 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and Sunday – CLOSED. Please help support this new business!

STOP SIGNS AND OTHER TRAFFIC ISSUES

We have received complaints recently about vehicles speeding and not stopping and/or rolling through stop signs. The stop sign complaints have been targeted at intersections on both Swan and Bleecker Streets but are not limited to those areas. Please be aware that the Green Island Police Department will be adding traffic enforcement details to those and other areas around the Village to assure the safety of pedestrians, bicyclists and other vehicles. When on the details, officers will also be on the lookout for all traffic infractions including speeding, seatbelts and improper use of cellular or other mobile devices. Safety is of the utmost importance and while nobody likes enforcement action, it sometimes becomes necessary. Please abide by law so that we can remain a safe community. Your cooperation is appreciated by all.

PLEASE DON'T FEED ANIMALS

We have had recent complaints about wild animals and birds causing a nuisance in the Village. This can cause a dangerous situation for our residents and especially children including the possibility of being bitten or contracting a serious illness. PLEASE DO NOT FEED ANY ANIMALS OR BIRDS OUTSIDE OF YOUR HOME, INCLUDING YOUR OWN PETS. Wild animals and nuisance birds are attracted by food sources left outside and are attracted closer to homes because of that. An enclosed bird feeder meant only for small birds is okay but please locate them according to instructions so as not to attract those it was not intended for. By not providing a feeding source for these animals and birds we create less of a chance that they will populate in our neighborhoods. Please cooperate for the good of our residents and especially our children.

BLOOD DRIVE

The Village of Green Island will be sponsoring a Blood Drive on Friday, September 30th from 1 to 6 p.m. at the Community Center located at 5 George Street. Please contact Mayor Ellen McNulty-Ryan at her home telephone of 271-6965 if you have any questions or would like to schedule an appointment.

NEWS FROM CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

Please note that there will **NOT** be a Community Dinner for the month of August. The next monthly dinner is Chicken and Biscuit scheduled for Saturday, October 15, 2016.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN GREEN ISLAND

August 14, 2016

Dear Friends,

I am going to start this month's newsletter with some happy news reports. Our Commissioner of Public Works, Tony Cesare and his wife, Annalisa, are the proud parents of Nicholas Francis Cesare, who was born on Friday, August 12th. He and Mom are coming home today, where he gets to "hang out" his big brother, Anthony, Jr. Congratulations to the Cesare family!

Our Police Department is also celebrating a couple of weddings. Officer Lou Perfetti married the girl of his dreams, Megan, on July 15th and Officer Chris Pollay married his beautiful soulmate, Nicole, on August 12th. We wish them all a lifetime of happiness, health and good fortune!

Heatly News: I had the pleasure of having a nice lunch date last week with Dr. Snyder, our Superintendent at Heatly School. We talked about a lot of things, but mostly about how we can work together to coordinate things between the school and the village. One ongoing issue we have is student safety when dropping off or picking up students. We have been working for several years and the situation has greatly improved, but we can do more. Jerry Legault, who has been a volunteer crossing guard for the last year, is going to be the official crossing guard as a village employee through our Police Department. He is going for training at the Zone 5 Training Academy this week. The Police will still be present to assist. The other thing we are going to try is closing eastbound traffic on Arch Street, between George and Hudson, during drop off and pick up times when school is in session. I think this will help to eliminate gridlock and make it safer for our students. It simply means that all traffic going to the school will have to travel north on Hudson from Swan Street, rather than from Arch Street. The Police, Dr. Snyder and Jerry all think this will improve safety --- so we are going to give it a try. If we find it to be successful, we will take it to the Village Board to make it a local law, just like we did the restricted parking in front of the school a few years ago. PLEASE COOPERATE so we can keep our kids safe.

Our Recreation Director, Maggie Alix, had great success with the summer program at the Paine Street Park this year. Besides everyone enjoying the spray park, several new programs were instituted with the help of many people. Please see the Village Newsletter where Maggie thanks all those responsible for its success. And thank you to Maggie, because without her leadership and dedication, these programs wouldn't be possible.

I had a meeting with our guys at DPW and GIPA to see how their departments were doing and if there was anything we could do to make things better. They weren't shy and asked me to request a couple things from our

residents. One thing we need to ask is that on garbage days, please put all trash AND recycles out by 7:00 a.m. They used to pick up recycles after trash, but they now do them both starting first thing at 7:00 a.m. Also, if you have cardboard boxes, PLEASE break them down to save room on the truck. It also helps to prevent them from blowing around on the streets on windy days. If possible, please use clear bags, or bags that are translucent, for recycles so they are identified properly. And recycles cannot have any trash or food in them or they can't be recycled. Please rinse out any food from cans before putting in recycle bags or bins. These men work very hard and have streamlined the pick up on garbage days to allow them to do other tasks around the village in the afternoon. Anything we can do to help them make better use of their time benefits us all, so please help us!

We have a new business opening up on September 1st. "The Bottle & Can Company LLC" will be located at the south end of James Street at the old Folmsbee Bus Garage. They will be open six days a week and will give you six cents per can or bottle on Tuesdays and Thursdays. You can also open an account where you can drop off your bag of returnables and they will count them up and put the money in your account. If you are not interested in opening an account for yourself, they will also be establishing some charity accounts where you can drop off your bag and they will credit the charity of your choice. You don't have to stand there and put the cans through a hole one by one, or wait for someone to count them. Just drop them off and be on your way. I hope this works out. Once we know the list of not for profits that will be participating, we will let you know.

We will have more news about September events in next month's newsletter, but save the dates of Sunday, September 25th from noon to 3 p.m. for the Green Island Family Picnic at the Paine Street Park and our fall Red Cross Blood Drive for Friday, September 30th from 1 to 6 at the Community Center.

We only have three concerts left at the GIG. I can't believe the summer has gone by so fast. This is the BEST year we have ever had. The first six concerts were all at the Gazebo, but I probably just cursed us for this week. The weather looks crummy all week, but that won't dampen our spirits. Rachel and the GIG a Bite crew have served more food this year than in any other year, and we still have three weeks to go! Please join us for good music, good food and good friends! I promise you won't be disappointed!

I am so glad that I got to write this newsletter with all happy news. No snow, no floods, nobody died ---- LIFE IS GOOD!!!!!!

Sincerely,



Ellen M. McNulty-Ryan