

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

JANUARY 2017

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

NEWS FROM THE ASSESSOR

SENIOR CITIZENS (65 yrs. and older) - There are exemptions available to those senior citizens that are or will be 65 during the year that they are filing for the exemption – 2017. 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 2017 ROLL** will be based on the applicant's 2015 income. The **NEW INCOME LIMIT of \$86,000** will be based on the **Adjusted Gross Income of the 2015 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 2016**.

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 (2) separate exemptions.** Senior Citizens exemptions are filed at the Village Office with Maggie A. Alix.

New Home Owners – Due to recent law changes approved by the Governor and the NYS Legislature, the BASIC STAR program is being restructured. New York State has decided that the NYS Tax Department will administer any NEW STAR applications, taking the responsibility from your local assessor. **This change is retroactive to March 1, 2015.** If you have recently purchased your home and are eligible for the STAR benefit you **MUST** register with NYS Department of Tax and Finance either online at **www.tax.ny.gov** or by phone at (518) 457-2036.

ALL EXEMPTION APPLICATIONS MUST BE FILED BY MARCH 1, 2017. If you have any questions or would like to meet with Maggie it is highly advised that you call the Village Office to schedule an appointment, (518) 273-2201.

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, the NYS Police, Green Island Lanes "Sunday Night" bowlers, 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, Madelyn Swinton, Cole Bourgeois, Bob Bourgeois, Rachel Files, Shelby Herrington, Heather Johnson, Bob Johnson, Larry Brown, Michele Bourgeois, Tara Bourgeois, Sean Ward, Joshua Catrine and Tom Mullins. 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 18th, 2017 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 American Legion at 272-1198.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN GREEN ISLAND

December 15, 2017

Dear Friends,

You have all heard the phrase: "If you see something -- say something." Well a resident listened to that and called 911 when she saw something suspicious at a neighbor's house. Her alertness made it possible for our police officers, with the help of surrounding departments, to catch a burglar red handed. If she had felt like some people do who "don't want to get involved," the burglar would have gotten away. Please help us keep an eye on our community and keep it safe. Our officers do a great job of patrolling, but they can't be everywhere. Be our eyes and call 911. Let's let the "bad guys" know they can't get away with anything in Green Island!

Last month we had a drug related incident in the restroom of one of the businesses in the strip mall on Lower Hudson Avenue. In the course of the arrest, two officers were exposed to a drug that sent them both to the hospital via ambulance. Fortunately they are OK - but it was scary. What scared me even more is what could have happened if the police hadn't been called and a young child went into the restroom after the drug user left and had the same exposure that the officers had. It was a real eye opener for all of us. Our Police Department set up a meeting with all the businesses and the school officials to do some awareness and preventative training. It was very well received and appreciated by all who attended. We realize that we need to get the word out to everyone, especially parents, about the dangers of even being near anyone who is using heroin. We are working on an informational meeting for all residents to attend. I will keep you posted when a date and time have been set. If it is before the next newsletter, we will get the word out via the village website, Facebook and our alert system. Many of us think we aren't in danger because we don't use the drugs, but you may be in danger just by using a public restroom! Please make an effort to attend once we get the meeting scheduled.

Please check out the information from our assessor in the other newsletter relating to Senior Citizen and STAR property tax exemptions. Some things have changed and you may need to take some action to keep or obtain your exemption. Please read it carefully and call Maggie Alix if you have any questions.

The Sons of the American Legion Post #927 are having a Chicken Parmigiana Dinner in February (details in the other newsletter). I always look forward to the dinners at the Legion, but this one will be a little sad for us because we won't see T-Boy Collins running around and getting everyone to pose for pictures. T-Boy died on January 10th with his wife, Betty, and other family members by his side. T-Boy was one of the proudest Americans I have ever met. He put in a lot of time and effort at the Legion, serving as their Historian, photographer and all around "Jack of all trades." T-Boy loved life and always had a smile on his face. He always took good care of himself, getting his daily exercise walking around the village. He and Betty were always one of the first to arrive at the summer concerts at the GIG on Wednesday nights. And he made sure he got his pasta fagioli and chili orders in before they ran out. He also took on the responsibility of decorating the Veterans Tree at the Festival of Trees for the last several years. When he didn't come to decorate this last year, I knew he had to be really sick because he never let me down. But as sick as he was, he had assigned someone to make sure the Veterans were honored with their tree. We will all miss T-Boy. I will miss that twinkle in his eye – it always made me think he was up to something! Rest in peace T-Boy. And make sure they have the American Flag flying in Heaven!

That's it for this month. Stay warm and keep praying the snow falls someplace else!

Sincerely,



Ellen M. McNulty-Ryan