

VILLAGE NEWSLETTER
Village of Green Island
20 Clinton Street
Green Island, NY 12183
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AUGUST 2017

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. In addition, the crosswalk pattern at Hudson Avenue and Arch Street will change. Due to federal regulations, the crosswalk on the south side of Hudson Avenue will be removed. The other two (2) will remain as is.

GREEN ISLAND FAMILY PICNIC – SEPTEMBER 24, 2017

The Village of Green Island will sponsor the “GREEN ISLAND FAMILY PICNIC” to be held on **Sunday, September 24th from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.** at the Paine Street Park.

Included will be food vendors, face painting, balloon animals, bouncy bounce, as well as live entertainment by **Barbara Verdile’s Band, “Three Easy Pieces” and DJ Lazz.** The Albany County Sheriff will be bringing the Safe Kids RV and the Green Island Police Department will take on the kids in a game of kickball.

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

Check the Department of Parks & Recreation Facebook page for more updates as Family Day gets closer!

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 Larry Brown for putting on another great Soccer Clinic, fun was had by all!

Thank you to the Daryl Whited and the Watervliet School District, NYS Nutrition Consortium and NYS Department of Health for bringing the FREE healthy lunch program to the Paine Street Park.

Thank you to everyone that contributed to the 2017 Summer Program. Special thanks to District Attorney David Soares and the Traveling Camps, Albany Barn & CrossFit Beyond for visiting the park on a weekly basis. Thank you to the Albany County Recreation Department for bringing Flag Football and Lacrosse to our town.

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!

STOP SIGNS AND OTHER TRAFFIC ISSUES

We have received previous complaints about vehicles speeding and not stopping and/or rolling through stop signs and with school starting soon there is added concern. 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 previous 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 29th 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.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN GREEN ISLAND

August 14, 2017

Dear Friends,

First I would like to give a big “Happy Birthday” to Naomi Onyon Dubiac Brassard on celebrating her 100th birthday on August 7th. Naomi is quite a lady. She still lives in her own home and takes pretty good care of herself. And, she is sharp as a tack! But that is no surprise because she “comes from good stock.” Her mother, Minnie “Ma” Onyon lived to be 107. I think Naomi is going to break that record. “Happy 100th Birthday” Naomi from all your Green Island friends!

I have another happy story to share. I will try to be brief – but that has never been my strong suit. About a year ago, a mom who has kids in Heatly, Erica Milliner Gardner, was trying to kick off a “helpful hygiene” project for an elementary class at the school. She was making up gift bags with samples of soaps, deodorants, toothpaste, etc. to give the kids. But she was looking to somehow get products in larger sizes to get the kids to develop a regular hygiene routine. She was able to get some monetary donations to help, but was really looking to expand the program. I told her I had an idea and asked her to give me a couple of weeks to work on it. I connected with Diane Cocca (wife of Anthony Cocca and daughter in law of Marian Cocca) who works for Colgate-Palmolive in Ohio. I was trying to see if we could purchase some products at wholesale prices. I told her we were trying to expand the program to maybe 4th, 5th and 6th grades. She asked me to send her data as to how many boys and girls. The next thing I know, a delivery truck arrives with a pallet of bar soap, body wash, toothpaste, mouthwash and deodorant – *all donated by her company*. And she just told me she has more stuff on the way and is working on some things for our Food Pantry too! **I can't thank Diane enough for her efforts.** We need to keep good companies like this in business. I want to thank Erica for caring about these kids and starting this program. I also want to thank Maggie for finding space at the Food Pantry to store the products.

Family Day at the Paine Street Park will be held on Sunday, September 24th from 12 noon to 3:00 p.m. Please see the other newsletter for more details and hope to see you there.

The Church of the Good Shepherd had its annual Village Wide Garage Sale scheduled for Saturday, August 5th, but had to cancel the portion to be at the Church because of predicted bad weather. They still had the maps for people to pick up, but they are rescheduling the whole thing for Saturday, September 23rd. They will be serving breakfast and lunch at the Church, along with items for sale. They will also be issuing new maps for that day. If you would like to participate and have your address put on the map, just put \$3.00 in an envelope with your name and street address and drop it off at the Church. And those of you who participated in the sale on August 5th but didn't pay the three bucks – now is the time to make a donation to the Church. You would hate to get to the Golden Gates

on judgement day and have St. Peter say, “Remember that three bucks for the Garage Sale.....?”

We are having our American Red Cross Blood Drive for this Fall on Friday, September 29th from 1:00 to 6:00 p.m. at the Community Center. If you would like to schedule an appointment, please call my home at 518-271-6965. I will be calling my “regulars” as soon as I get my list from the Red Cross.

OK. Told you all the happy stuff ---- now comes the not so happy stuff!

I know it is only a few people who cause quality of life problems for all of us, but we all need to do something about it. The American Legion has been kind enough to let a not for profit place a clothing bin in their lot to help those who are less fortunate. Some people use it as a dump. There is a mattress and box spring dumped there now that we will have to get rid of. All the local laws we have to pass are because someone is doing something wrong. And in the long run, these laws sometimes punish or restrict people who are trying to do good things. If this continues, we will probably have to make a law that bans these clothing bins. That’s not right. We also have been getting more complaints about people walking their dogs and letting them poop on public and private properties and not picking it up. Also, some dog owners are letting their pets run without a leash. Let’s all of us who abide by the law start reporting things.

If you see something – say something!

We all need to take ownership of our Village. I am grateful to the folks who tell me when they see something in their neighborhood that “doesn’t quite look right.” I pass it on to the Police Department and they check it out. We have had some good arrests because of you folks being vigilant in your neighborhoods. I tell people I don’t mind delivering the information, but it is always best to call 911, especially if someone is in danger. Or if you are hesitant to call 911, then please call the non- emergency number at 518-765-2351.

We only have a couple of concerts left – and that makes me sad. But what makes me happy is that we have had the absolute BEST concert season ever. The bands have been great, the crowds get bigger every week and the food is outstanding. We have a line waiting every week to start serving. Thank you to Joe Lazzaro who brought two 1957 Chevys and a 1932 Ford to display at our “Sock Hop” last week. We had a ball with our “poodle skirts” and other costumes. Rachel Files even donned an Elvis wig --- but not for very long. Hope to see more of you in the next couple of weeks.

That’s it for this month. Enjoy the rest of your summer!!!

Sincerely,



Ellen M. McNulty-Ryan