

VILLAGE OF GREEN ISLAND NEWSLETTER
OCTOBER 2017

**ALL RESIDENTS PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE WILL NOT BE ANY CHANGE IN
GARBAGE COLLECTION FOR TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7th - ELECTION DAY.
DPW will be closed November 6th.**

RECREATION NEWS

HALLOWEEN PARADE - The annual Halloween Parade will be held on Tuesday, 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. In the event of rain, festivities will be held under the Collar City Bridge on Hudson Avenue.

FAMILY DAY PICNIC – THANK YOU – The Village would like to thank the Green Island Fire Department, the Albany County Sheriff's Department and all the sponsors, community vendors and workers who made this year's picnic a success. This year's sponsors include the GIG, Green Island Police Dept., Green Island Senior Citizens, Green Island Little League, The Bourgeois Family, MacMurray & Sons, Dausie's Bounce Rental, Premo Designs, DJ AJ Lazzaro and the Three Easy Pieces Band, who all made it yet another successful event. Thank you to all!

YOGI CYO BASKETBALL REGISTRATION – Just a reminder that registration will be held on Tuesday, October 24th from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Municipal Center. Any questions, please contact the Village Office.

ANNUAL FOOD DRIVE

The Annual Food Drive to benefit the Green Island Food Pantry will be on Saturday, October 21st starting at 10:00 a.m. Residents are asked to contribute whatever they can to help the needy families in our community. **Please refrain from donating expired items**. We are in need of ALL items at this time, in addition to the traditional items for the upcoming holiday baskets; stuffing, mashed potatoes, corn, peas, green beans, cranberry sauce, sweet potatoes, turkey gravy. THERE WILL BE NO BAG DROP OFF. Please use whatever bag you deem necessary to handle your donations.

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 1st, 2017. 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 | 9. James Street | 17. Hamilton Street |
| 2. Tibbits Avenue | 10. High Street | 18. Market Street |
| 3. George Street | 11. West Street | 19. Albany Avenue |
| 4. Hudson Avenue | 12. John Street | 20. Lower End Side Streets |
| 5. Arch Street | 13. Swan Street | Walnut, Harlem, Saratoga, |
| 6. Bleecker Street | 14. Lafayette Street | Pine, Thames, Whitehall, Cannon |
| 7. Center Street | 15. Lafayette Park | 21. Lower Hudson Avenue |
| 8. Paine Street | 16. Lower Paine 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 Village Offices 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 are on vacation, work out-of-town or who leave their cars on the streets for any reason 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. The Village will also be using the Emergency Alert System to notify residents. Forms to register can be picked up and dropped off at the Village Office. Forms can also be downloaded on our website at www.villageofgreenisland.com. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

HYDRANT FLUSHING

Hydrants will be flushed in Green Island and Maplewood on **Wednesday, November 8th, Thursday, November 9th and Friday, November 10th**. 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 4th, 2017** 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 GREEN ISLAND SENIOR CITIZENS

Tickets are currently on sale for the *Super Raffle* to be drawn on **Wednesday, November 29th, 2017!** 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.

NEWS FROM THE CHURCH OF GOOD SHEPHERD

Friday, October 27th – 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. – FREE Community Dinner.

Sunday, October 29th – 9:30 a.m. – HEALING SERVICE – “Finding Comfort & Care Together: A Service for Wholeness and Healing.

Saturday, November 4th, 2017 – HOLIDAY BAZAAR and HAM DINNER. BAZAAR 1:00 – 4:30 p.m. and DINNER 4:30 – 6:30 p.m.

NEWS FROM HEATLY SCHOOL – CLASS OF 2020

Heatly School – Class of 2020 will hold a Bingo Fun Night and Bake Sale on **Friday, November 3rd from 6 to 8 p.m.** in the School Cafeteria. Event is open to the public. Students in Grades 5 and under must be accompanied by an adult.

Just a reminder that the Village, GIPA and Town Offices will be closed Tuesday, November 7th for Election Day; Friday, November 10th in observance of Veteran’s Day and Thursday, November 23rd and Friday, November 24th, 2017 in observance of Thanksgiving Day.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN GREEN ISLAND

October 17, 2017

Dear Friends,

It is colder than a witch's broomstick out there. Only 30 something when I got up this morning. Quite a difference from almost 90 a few days ago! Mother Nature likes messing with us. But I won't complain. At least we aren't having earthquakes, floods, fires or hurricanes. And I promised myself I won't complain when the snow starts to fly. Let's see how long that promise lasts.

We have a lot of things going on in town and all the info is packed into our other Newsletter, so PLEASE read it over carefully and post the snow removal info on your fridge so you will have it handy. I usually go over what is in the other Newsletter, but I am late getting my letter done, so I won't rehash it. I have a couple of other things I want to talk to you about, so let's get to it.

On Wednesday the 11th, we had a Town Hall Meeting on the heroin and opioid epidemic that is plaguing our country. I can't thank Sheriff Craig Apple and his staff enough for pulling all the experts together to make the presentation and to Dr. Teresa Snyder at Heatly for opening their doors to provide a place to hold it. Sheriff Apple did an outstanding job presenting not only the issues that law enforcement is faced with, but also the human side to how an entire family is affected by one member's addiction. As a funeral director, I know how devastating a drug overdose can be. I have watched it almost destroy families. But one of the most moving moments in the presentation to me was in a film that was shown about a young man who did not die - but was severely brain damaged. I guess I always thought about either surviving or dying - but not about the hell of being caught in the middle. The other visual that really got to me was before and after photos of beautiful young men and women who became addicted to heroin. The after photos were startling, showing images that did not even resemble the before photos. I wish there was a way of making anyone who was thinking of trying those drugs to see both the film and the before and after photos. I can't think of anything that would be more of a deterrent than that. It was good to see parents and children come together for the presentation. Opening dialog with our kids isn't always easy, but it is necessary. And it isn't always the child that can have the addiction. The Sheriff made it loud and clear that kids can get help for their parents and it is OK to ask for help. Kids shouldn't have to go through that alone. I hope we can have more presentations like this in the future. We had a good crowd, but we need to get the information out to everyone. And folks need to understand that this epidemic reaches all ages, education levels and economic levels. Nobody is immune!

OK. On to more pleasant things!

At our Planning Board Meeting last night, a presentation was made for a mixed use (commercial/residential) project on the south end of Center Island. If all goes well, this could be a beautiful asset to our community. They are proposing a restaurant, office space, commercial space, a bank and possibly a coffee shop at the front side of the property and several buildings of apartments behind it, including one building for just senior living. It will also have a marina and small amphitheater on the east side. Site work is presently being done by the owner, but no construction can be done until all the preliminary preparation is done and a complete set of plans are reviewed by the Village's engineer and a recommendation is made by the Planning Board to the Village Board. If all that happens, the Village Board will have to approve a Planned Development District (PDD) like we did for the "Cornerstone" senior project at 4 George Street. I am excited about this project. It will be an enormous improvement to that area (we old folks remember the huge oil tanks that used to be there), it will expand our tax base and it will increase our population (hopefully before the 2020 Census is counted). We don't expect the project to have much, if any, effect on the school district. The developer, Peter Luizzi, has a very similar project on Oakwood Avenue in Troy and they only have a handful of school age children in it. This kind of project tends to attract a more "mature" population (notice I didn't say "older"). The developer also gave us some artist renderings of the project and we will have them on display at the Village Office if you wish to take a peek. I will keep you posted about the progress. Keep your fingers crossed that all goes well!!!

That's about it for this month. Remember to check the other Newsletter for everything else going on around town. The next time I write my letter we will be getting ready for my *FAVORITE* holiday --- **THANKSGIVING!!!!** I can't wait.

Sincerely,



Ellen M. McNulty-Ryan