

**VILLAGE NEWSLETTER**  
**VILLAGE OF GREEN ISLAND**  
**20 CLINTON STREET**  
**GREEN ISLAND, NY 12183**  
**(518) 273-2201**  
**www.villageofgreenisland.com**  
**JUNE 2018**

**RECREATION NEWS**  
**Park Program Registration**

The **Summer Park Program** for **Green Island residents** will officially begin on **Monday, July 2<sup>nd</sup>**. The parents of any child wishing to use our facilities this summer will be required to fill out a program registration form. This will help our staff in an emergency situation when parents have to be notified. The registration forms can be picked up and dropped off at the Paine Street Park or the Village Office during operating hours.

**Save the dates for the following events happening this summer:**

**Bike Rodeo** – Wednesday, July 11<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. Please bring your bike and bike helmet to the park by 12:45 p.m.

**Men's Basketball League** - Tuesday and Thursday evenings at 6:15 p.m., 7:15 p.m. and 8:15 p.m. starting on Tuesday, July 10<sup>th</sup>.

The **Albany County Department of Recreation** will host **FLAG FOOTBALL** on Fridays, June 29<sup>th</sup> – August 17<sup>th</sup> from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Paine Street Park (6 p.m. to 7 p.m., ages 5 to 8, 7 p.m. to 8 p.m., ages 9 to 12 and 8 p.m. to 9 p.m., ages 13 to 17). **LACROSSE** will be hosted on Saturdays, June 30<sup>th</sup> thru August 18<sup>th</sup> from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at Veterans Memorial Stadium (the Big Field) for ages 7 to 11. Equipment will be provided. Visit <http://www.albanycounty.com/recreation.aspx> to download a registration form. These programs are available to all Albany County Youth.

The Educational Opportunity Center (EOC) in Troy will be hosting a **FREE Ice Cream Social** on Thursday, August 2<sup>nd</sup> from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the Paine Street Park. Come learn about the EOC and have a tasty treat!

The **Sprinkler Pad** will be on throughout the summer program, Monday – Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and on Tuesday and Thursday evenings during the Men's Basketball League from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. (Weather Pending).

In addition to **Movie Nights** and **Sports Camps** the **Recreation Department** has so much more in store for this summer. **"LIKE"** the Green Island Recreation Department on Facebook for updates on what's to come, you won't want to miss it.

**HELMET LAW**

Another issue that coincides with nice weather is youths riding on bicycles, scooters and skateboards. The law states that any child 14 years of age and younger must wear a helmet when riding on any of these. We also suggest elbow and kneepads and wrist guards for skateboarders. Our police department will be on the lookout for violators, but more important they may even stop those that are wearing helmets to tell them "good job".

**REMINDER – DOGS AND POOPER SCOOPER LAW**

It is illegal to bring any animal, with the exception of a guide dog, into any **public park**. **This includes all parks, and the Little League and Veteran's Memorial Stadium.** It is also illegal to allow your animal to defecate on any public or private property without picking up the mess, for obvious reasons, including the fact that if it washes into the storm drains it could go directly to the river, which would be a violation of the **"Clean Water Act"**. If you wish to

walk your dog, make sure you are prepared to clean up after him or her. We are also receiving complaints, and the Police have issued tickets to violators who allow or fail to secure their animals (dogs) from running at large. Please make sure dogs are secured in fenced areas or if out for a walk with a responsible owner/handler, make sure the dog is on a leash. Violators are subject to fines and the possibility that the animal will be transported to the Humane Society, which could be costly to the owner.

### **RECREATIONAL AND OTHER BACKYARD FIRES**

We have recently received a few complaints about backyard fire pits, recreational fires, etc. This is not new around this time of year and usually can be solved by keeping a small manageable fire in a safe area of your property, through communication with neighbors and by being "neighborly" when talking to them. Most of the time that approach works.

If not, and when police and fire personnel are called, the NYS Fire Code and Section 307.1.1 is pretty clear that a fire is prohibited if the burning is "offensive or objectionable because of smoke or odor emissions....". The Code also states in Section 307.4.2 that "Recreational fires shall be not be conducted within 25 feet of a structure or combustible material....". If our personnel are called they will enforce the law, most likely making you extinguish the fire immediately and depending on the situation cite you as well. Please be a good neighbor and don't allow yourself to be put in to that situation. Thank you for your cooperation. **LANDLORDS PLEASE SHARE THIS INFORMATION WITH YOUR TENANTS.**

### **NEWS FROM CODE ENFORCEMENT**

As summer approaches and residents are outside cleaning around their homes, it is important to remember the maintenance of the exteriors. The New York State Fire and Building Uniform Code has a section called "Property Maintenance" - this section covers all exterior wood surfaces other than decay resistant wood. Peeling, flaking and chipped paint needs to be corrected by protective coating or painting. Window frames, siding, cornices and balconies on all buildings, houses and garages are all included in "Property Maintenance" Section.

The Village Code has a section of law, which specifies that homeowners must maintain grass and weed growth on their properties. Failure to do so will result in legal action against that property owner and if the Building Inspector orders the owner to clean the property and the owner refuses then the Village will hold a public hearing and if the owner does not respond, the Village DPW will be directed to clean up the property and a hefty bill will be attached to your property taxes. The Building Inspector will conduct a survey and notify homeowners if they have buildings that are subject to this ruling. Please cooperate by making our community a more attractive place to reside.

### **NEWS FROM THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD**

**FREE COMMUNITY DINNER – Friday, June 29<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.** A free delicious dinner for all to enjoy. Bring your family and friends, all at no charge. **EVERYONE IS WELCOME!**

**VILLAGE WIDE YARD SALE – Saturday, August 4<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.** Sales tables in/outside of the church. **Breakfast – Fresh Egg Sandwiches, Lunch – Hot Dogs & Hamburgers, Free Maps of Village Sales – Available at the church, 89 Hudson Avenue. To be included on the map:** Please send your check for \$3.00 made out to the Church of the Good Shepherd, P.O. Box 1523, Green Island, NY 12183 by July 27<sup>th</sup>.

### **NEWS FROM WATERVLIIET YOUTH SOCCER**

Green Island residents are encouraged and welcome to play soccer with Watervliet Youth Soccer. If your child is interested in playing soccer this fall, please visit [www.watervlietyouthsoccer.org](http://www.watervlietyouthsoccer.org) or call Charlene Legault at 518-944-4316 or Larry Brown at 518-527-5427 for more information.

## WHAT'S HAPPENING IN GREEN ISLAND

June 14, 2018

Dear Friends,

I am in my 16<sup>th</sup> year of writing you a monthly newsletter. I have had some interesting information and news to give you in those 183 letters (only missed 3), but I think the opening topic on this one is going to top the others. I want to talk to you about what you put down your toilets at home (bet you didn't see that one coming). Now I will explain why I am concerned. You all know our water and sewer infrastructure is old. We are constantly fixing breaks and collapses but we just don't have the millions of dollars it would take to replace them – so we just keep repairing them when they fail. Our water and sewer plant employees have told me that baby wipes are their number one problem when it comes to sewers. They jam up the pumps and clog the lines. They even cause problems at the Albany County sewer facility in Menands. I know the companies that manufacture these wipes (and they aren't just for babies) advertise that they are “flushable” – but just about anything you can fit in the toilet is flushable. That doesn't mean it isn't harmful to the system. It just means it will flush. **PLEASE DO NOT FLUSH THESE WIPES!!!** PLEASE discard them in the trash. We just had a very costly sewer collapse on Swan Street and guess what we found when we opened the road to repair the break? You guessed it. While doing my unexpected research on sewers, I was told another serious problem is people flushing their dental floss down the toilet! I can't imagine why anyone would flush dental floss, but I'm sure they were not aware it causes serious sewer problems. There really isn't any way for us to prevent water main breaks, but we can help to reduce the problems with the sewer repairs. Please help us keep our old pipes in good working order. Another way you can help keep our storm sewers running smoothly is to sweep up the gutter in front of your home and if you have a catch basin near your home, please sweep up any debris you see around it before it gets washed down into the system. Our DPW guys do their best to keep them clean but they sure would appreciate any help you can give them! And remember, blowing grass out into the roadway is not permitted. Please sweep it up after you finish mowing. I won't even get into the dog poop issue in my letter because it is covered in the other newsletter. I'm trying to figure out how to get out of the sewers and segue into some other news!!!

You all received new recycling guidelines in a previous letter a couple of months ago, but if you lost it, just go on our website and you can find them. The cost of disposing trash is climbing and we need to do all we can to save some money – and save our earth. Please recycle!

I recently had an electrician put in a generator at my home and at my business. It seems that more and more people are doing this. I spoke with our building inspector, fire chief and Power Authority employees about this and the dangers it may cause if an emergency occurs and the responding agencies don't know there is a generator connected to the building. We are working on getting the existing generators registered and a permitting process for new installs so we can know where they are in case of an emergency. You will be hearing more about this in the coming months, but if you plan to have a generator installed, please call the building department before doing so.

I am soooooo happy to tell you that Catskill Hudson Bank will be opening their doors here in Green Island officially the last week of this month. Their "soft opening" is planned for Wednesday, June 27<sup>th</sup> and their grand opening on Thursday, June 28<sup>th</sup>. I am very pleased to have them join our community. The Chairman and CEO, Mario Martinez and his wife, Dawn, have been a delight to work with. Please stop in and give them a warm Green Island welcome – and open a few accounts while you are there! With the support of our community, I hope they will be here for many, many years.

OK, now I'm going to get into some happy stuff. The summer concert series at the GIG will be starting before long. Our crews will be working hard to get everything ready. And Sheriff Apple is sending in his "work crew" at the end of this month to help us chop down the weeds on the river bank to improve the view of the river and keep the mosquitos away. Last month we sent out the schedule which also included our sponsors and weekly food specials. First concert is Wednesday, July 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. at the River Park. I hope to see you there – and remember to wear your "dancin' shoes."

Please make sure to see the other newsletter because there are a lot of things in there that I didn't get into my letter this month.

Hope you are enjoying the nice weather and gearing up for summer. The Recreation Department has a lot of things planned for the kids and I hope you all take advantage of them.

Sincerely,



Ellen M. McNulty-Ryan