

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

JANUARY 2019

Green Island Police Department Telephone Numbers

EMERGENCY – 911

NON EMERGENCY TO DISPATCHER – 518-765-2352

ANONYMOUS DRUG TIP LINE – 518-655-7971

PHONE TREE LINE TO GIPD OFFICERS – 518-765-2351

SNOW PLOWING AND REMOVAL

Just a reminder on snow removal. The order of street plowing is also available on our website at www.villageofgreenisland.com/village/public-works. Any questions, **PLEASE CHECK WITH THE POLICE DEPARTMENT, 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. If you have any questions about snow plowing operations, please call the Police Department at 518-655-7854 or the Department of Public Works at 518-273-5565. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

RECYCLING PROTECTS OUR ENVIRONMENT

Although it is now more expensive for the Village to dispose of recyclables, it is still beneficial for our environment to do so.

Curb side Single Stream Recycling is easy. All you have to do is put clean and rinsed non-returnable glass, plastics, tin cans, cardboard, newspapers, magazines, junk mail, office paper, etc. in a plastic bag (preferably clear) **outside of your barrel** on regular pickup day.

Returnable bottles and cans can be removed from the waste stream and taken to a redemption center such as the Bottle and Can Company at 7 James Street in Green Island where they will reimburse you 6 cents per item every day, or even donate them to your favorite local charities that have pre-set accounts there.

Yard waste is also picked up curbside on regular pickup day and does not belong in the garbage barrel. Please place grass and leaves in a biodegradable paper bag and place next your barrel and recyclables. Please don't put dirt, bricks or stones in the bags.

If you have any questions, please contact the Department of Public Works at 518-273-5565.

RECREATION NEWS

Food Drive

Thank you to the many residents who donated toward our annual food drive, with the food that we collected we were able to provide Thanksgiving and Christmas food baskets to approximately fifty families. 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 those that needed just a little extra help throughout the holiday season: Lydall Manning employees, Green Island School District employees and retirees, Green Island Senior Citizens, United Methodist Women, the Green Island Fire Department, Shaker Varsity Girls Basketball Team, Johnson Controls, Bimbo Bakeries, Cheer Intensity, American Legion Women's Auxiliary, Silhouette, the Punishers, all of our anonymous Santa's Helpers, (you know who you are), all those that took tags from the Giving tree or gave a monetary donation, 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, Rachel Files, Shelby Herrington, Heather Johnson, Bob Johnson, Larry Brown, Michele Bourgeois, Tara Bourgeois, Sean Ward, Jill Alix, Elijah Legault, Michael Commisso, Tami Weisenforth, Lynn McGivern and Tom Mullins. As you can see, we have many people and organizations involved in this program.

2019 RELAY FOR LIFE – Kickoff Celebration

You're invited to the 2019 Relay for Life of the Hudson River Communities Kickoff Celebration! Please join us on Monday, January 28th, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. at the **Arsenal City Tavern** located at 795 3rd Avenue, Watervliet (directly across from Arsenal gate) for food and drink specials and raffle prizes! Come and learn about the **4th Relay for Life of the Hudson River Communities!** Hope to see you there! For further information, please contact Danielle Boudreau at 518-274-3274.

NEWS FROM THE AMERICAN LEGION POST #927

The Sons of the American Legion Post #927 are hosting a **CHICKEN PARMIGIANA DINNER** on **Saturday, February 23rd, 2019** from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. Cost is \$10.00 for adults, \$5.00 for kids 5 – 12 and Free Pasta for children ages 4 and under. Cost includes Chicken Parmigiana, Pasta, Salad, Roll, Dessert, Coffee and Tea. No Deliveries/Take-out is available. For further information, please contact the American Legion at 518-272-1198.

NEWS FROM GREEN ISLAND LITTLE LEAGUE

The **G.I.L.L.** will be holding monthly meetings at 6:00 p.m. at Heatly School Library on the following dates – Tuesday, February 5th and Tuesday, March 5th.

Please stop by to say **HI!** We are open to any and all ideas to get Little League up and running again. If you would be willing to paint, mow, work the concession stand, etc. or have expertise in plumbing, construction or coaching future professional athletes, please let us know. Having a child in little league is NOT a requirement. Former little league players, grandparents, aunts and uncles are welcome to join our "family". Any ideas for fundraising are also welcome.

The next registration date is Sunday, January 27th at Heatly School during the CYO Basketball games from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

The registration fee is \$40.00. Family prices are available and no child will be turned away. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Marcia Etman at etmanm74@aol.com.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN GREEN ISLAND

January 15, 2019

Dear Friends,

I can't believe it is the middle of January and we don't have any snow on the ground!!! But the reports all say that is going to end this weekend (BOOOO!). I guess we can't complain, but the thoughts of snow really depress me. I am old, so I don't even think it is pretty anymore. But, it is winter and we live in the northeast, so we will deal with it. Please remember our winter "basics": keep your sidewalk cleared, don't blow or shovel snow into the roadways and PLEASE move your vehicles when we are doing snow removal. Hopefully I will only be talking about this for one more month – and then it is on to SPRING!!!

Just a reminder that the deadline for "Hometown Heroes" Veteran Banners is the end of January. If you are interested, you can get the application on line at the Village website or pick one up at the Village or Town Offices. The cost is \$200.00 and you must have a DD 214 Honorable Discharge Paper, a photo of the Veteran in uniform and the Veteran must have lived in Green Island at some time during their life. The banners will be displayed on the light posts on Veteran's Memorial Drive in the north end of town (and adjacent streets if needed). We have had a pretty good response so far. I would also like to remind everyone that this is a one-time printing of the banners and there will not be another chance to order a banner after this. Thank you to all of you who have responded to honor our Veterans.

Two of our long time police officers, Paul Johnson and Jamie Hogan, have just retired from our Green Island Police Department. Paul served us for 20 years and Jamie for 19. Chief Parker and the entire Police Department honored them recently at their holiday get together and presented them with retirement badges. I want to thank both Paul and Jamie for their many years of faithful service to our village. They were both a credit to our department and great examples of honorable public servants. I wish them the best in whatever comes their way and I know this will give them more time with their young families. Best of luck guys!

Now I would like to talk a little about recent power outages we have had. The two hour outage we had on the evening of November 24th was caused by someone releasing a Mylar balloon into the overhead wires on upper James Street. I am happy to say our GIPA and DPW guys located the problem and had it repaired and the power back on within two hours. If you were at the scene, you would have been impressed at how quickly and safely they made a difficult repair on two different poles. Fortunately no one was injured, but it really makes you realize just how dangerous these cute little balloons can be. Please use caution if you purchase these balloons!

The last outage on January 2nd was due to wind damage to National Grid lines in Cohoes and North Troy on New Year's Day. You may ask how damage on Grid lines would cause a problem in Green Island, so I will explain. Although we have our own Power Authority in Green Island, the power we use comes from

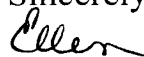
outside the village and is fed to us through a National Grid feed line. National Grid had to turn off our feed line (and many other places that it feeds) on January 2nd to make necessary repairs to their lines that were damaged on January 1st. We only had an hour's notice about the shutdown and we did our best to let everyone know. If you are signed up for our alert system, you would have been notified. Grid estimated it would only take two hours, but it turned into a five hour outage. We don't blame Grid for having to turn our feed off because it was the only way they could safely make their repairs. In recent years we have had more outages than usual and that is due to several things: more severe weather events, older infrastructure, human error (Mylar balloon and auto accidents that take down power poles) and our dependency on other sources to bring the power to Green Island. We have no control over the weather (look around the country and world at the strange events that are happening), we do not have the resources to replace all of our infrastructure (but we keep it in very good repair), we can't control human error (but we do hold parties responsible when a crime is committed) and there is no way for us to have a direct hookup to Niagara Falls! I know it is annoying when we have an outage. I worry about folks with special needs, but we do have a registry where the Fire Department will check on anyone registered – but you must sign up. If you did not get a notice for the last outage it is because you did not sign up for it. It is simple and we have been asking everyone to enroll since we started the program several years ago. And it is best to use your cell phone as the first point to notify because some land lines require power to work. We are doing our best to keep everyone safe and informed – but you all need to help us.

I feel that I must say something about Facebook – I don't have it! And the reasons I don't have it are: I think some people get on there and say things that they have no knowledge of, some folks say things in haste and some people are just negative about everything. I am very proud of our employees and the jobs that they do and it bothers me when people say things that are not true – of course I don't know what is said unless someone tells me. So if you want to say something to me – good or bad - give me an email at: mayor@villageofgreenisland.com or a call at the Village Office at (518) 273-2201. My door is always open, but I won't get the message on Facebook!

Please see the other newsletter for info about the 2019 Relay for Life Kickoff Celebration, the Chicken Parm Dinner at the Legion (always a portion big enough to have dinner that night and lunch the next day) and the Little League's hard working and worthwhile attempts to get back in shape for the 2019 Season. My hat is off to all of the volunteers of the above mentioned organizations who give their time and talents to making Green Island a great place to live, work and raise a family!

Happy 2019! Let's hope we set a record for the least amount of snow ever recorded in history!

Sincerely,



Ellen M. McNulty-Ryan