



GRCA
GREAT RIVER
 COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
 SINCE 1945

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 Cliff Gibbons, President
 Ashley Salzo, Vice President
 Nancy Stein, Treasurer
 Bill Vavricka, Recording Secretary
 Joseph Bertuglia, Corresponding Secretary

2018 Board of Directors
 James Bruno
 James DiGiovanna
 Paul Llobell
 Chris Stein
 Tom Vicedomini
 Joann Kukenis
 Tony Blumestetter



2018 Membership Form



Name(s): _____

Street Address: _____

P.O. Box #: _____ Home Phone #: _____ Years in GR: _____

Email Address : _____

Interested in **joining** a GRCA Committee? _____ If yes, please circle committee(s) of interest:

Events Welcoming Beautification Communications

Interested in **donating** to a GRCA Committee? _____ If yes, please circle and write the amount.

\$_____ Events \$_____ Welcoming \$_____ Beautification \$_____ Communications

Suggestions/Ideas for GRCA: _____

Membership Dues

January 2018-December 2018- \$25 Silver/ \$50 Gold / \$100 Platinum

Membership Option: _____ Silver _____ Gold _____ Platinum

Great River Fire Department Members: Silver Waived / \$25 Gold / \$75 Platinum

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Please Send Application and Check Payable To:

Great River Community Association

P.O. Box 13 · Great River · New York · 11739

or PAY ONLINE @grca11739@gmail.com

Issue
 10
 December
 2017

Great River Gazette

A QUARTERLY JOURNAL FROM THE GREAT RIVER COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

**Happy
 Holidays!**

2018 Membership drive in progress.

Not a member yet?

PAY ONLINE

@ grca11739.com



*******New for 2018*******

Platinum members receive a **gift basket** courtesy of Strip Steak including a bottle of wine, Strip Steak's famous steak seasoning and a "Preferred Member" card for 10% off regular meals.

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Next General Meeting:

TBD: Please check the website for Updates and make sure you are on our Eblast list....

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GRCA
GREAT RIVER
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GRCA 2017 TREE LIGHTING

On Saturday, December 2nd, 2017, The Great River Community Association hosted our annual Great River Christmas Tree Lighting. The event brought together almost 200 community members to share in the holiday spirit. This spectacular event commenced with a community ceremony inside one of Great River's historical icons, the Emmanuel Episcopal Church, led by Father Ellis Tommaseo. Attendees then gathered at the entrance for Santa's arrival on the Great River Fire Department's Antique Fire Truck. Santa was greeted and escorted into his cozy and festive living room where families were able to have a personal meet-and-greet and turn in their letters to Santa. While walking the property, children and adults were enjoying our infamous hot chocolate bar, listening to our professional acoustic guitar singer, decorating gingerbread cookies, eating New York style pretzels, crafting and making reindeer food to ensure that Santa and his reindeer stop by their home on Christmas. The feel of Christmas was in the air and the joy on everyone's faces was a sight not to be missed. The event commenced with Santa, lighting a traditional Blue Spruce Christmas Tree while our community gathered to enjoy the sparkling view. . We hope you all had as much fun as we did and are already looking forward to our next community event!

November General Meeting Highlights

Officers/Board Present : Cliff Gibbons, Ashley Salzo, Billy Vavricka, Tony Blumenstetter, Tom Vicedomini, Joann Kukenis

Cliff Gibbons called the meeting to order at 1900 and spoke about the membership drive, the Gazette, old business, new business, past events, and upcoming events.

It's an important time of the year for the membership drive. There has been talk that George Martin Strip Steak is willing to offer some type discounts to the Platinum members.

We are looking for feedback from the community if there is still interest in continuing the Gazette. We might look to have fewer editions or possibly go digital.

Old business -The marathon was still an inconvenience but seem to run a little smoother. One community member stated that the resident pass allowed them to leave there property but then could not return. We would like feedback from the community if there were any other inconveniences caused by the marathon. There also seemed to be debris and signs left behind that was not cleaned up.

There was no update on the proposed sewer project at this point. A community member read an article in the newspaper about possibly enforcing advanced septic systems.

The Oakdale Yacht Club recently sought out the GRCA looking for support in expanding their docks. The GRCA has not taken a position either way and is looking for more feedback from the community. Currently there are some members for it and some members against it. It was proposed to have a separate meeting to discuss the topic. One of the community members suggested a visit from the NYSDEC. Another issue expressed from the members was the noise from across the river.

Past Events - The Paint and Sip was a huge success with 75 people in attendance. There was no Treasure report at the meeting, so no figures were discussed, end of year report will be online.

The Halloween parade was rained out but all the kids gathered at the fire house for treats and fun.

Upcoming Events - The Tree lighting will be held on Dec 2, at 4pm. It was noted that the tree lighting has been moved to the Church. There are currently 150 people registered, which should make for a great event. This will be a free event for members that will be supplemented by the Paint and Sip fundraiser.

For those residents concerned about the new location, we will still be lighting the tree and the menorah at the Veterans Memorial Park.

Still looking to secure a date for the Easter egg hunt.

There will be a giving tree at the tree lighting where members can donate money for hanging flower baskets, money towards the spring cleanup, the Easter egg hunt, and the Gazette.

John Dolan, East Islip School District Superintendent, spoke in great detail about the upcoming bond that the district will be voting on. The bond proposal is currently around 60 million and all of which would go towards fixing our schools. He went through all of the capital improvements that we will have to be addressed in the near future whether the bond passes or not. Some of these improvements include; new roofs for all schools, A.D.A. compliant doors, updating bathrooms, parking lots, stairwells that are no longer code compliant, masonry pointing on all the buildings, updating electrical panels and more. He also discussed other improvements such as new athletic fields, auditorium upgrades, lobby and security upgrades, updated locker rooms, and cafeteria upgrades.

FD/LT

Bishop, James
Boyle, Phil
Carino, Frank
Chicarelli, Mike
Daniele, Joseph
DiGiovanna, James
Erhard Jr., Alfred
Gormley, William
Howard, Robert F.
Keup, Gunter
Leibbrandt, Henry
Llobell III, Paul
Manzella, Michael
O'Connor, David
Orgera, James
Potter, Thomas
Salzo, Eric
Sansone, Karen & Thomas
Schneider, Larry
Seekamp, Bob
Sudano, Robert
Sundin, Harold
Verdino, Brian
Viniotis, Michael
Vogel Jr., William

GOLD

Acocella, Pete & Patty
Bauer, John & Lori
Beatty, John & Lorraine
Begun, Mard & Donna
Burke, Angelina & Patrick
Carino, Pete & Christine
Carney, John Kevin & Carol
Chamberlain, Kevin & Noreen
Crowe, Nick & Lorrie
Cutler, Bob & Lauren
DeNapoli, Tom & Pat
Ferland, Mr. & Mrs. Bret J.
Flynn, Scott & Eileen
Fox, John & Meredith
Garbarino, Phyllis
Gillies, Kathleen & Robert
Gormley, Marilyn & Bill
Gradante, Bill & Kathleen
Guinaw, Jim & Carol
Hallowed, John & Meg
Hayden, Steven & Brenda
Hernandez, Carlos
Hopkins, Jeffrey
Jones, Dave & Janet
Jones, Thomas & Jacqueline
Kersch, Barbara & Bob
Lawless, Stephen & Karen
Lozinski, Stan & Ellen
MacMahon, Brian & Terri
Maretsky, David & Carolyn
McCarthy, Carolyn
McGovern, Anthony
McKee, Doris & Al
Morrell, Jack & Barbara
Naftal, Mary
O'Connor, James & Maureen
Pabón, Angel L & Dinoria
Papal, Sean & Theresa
Papayani, John & Athena
Renganeschi, Rick & Janet
Rooney, Donna & James
Sallie, Ed & Linda
Scalise, Peter & Kim
Schauss, Frances & Peter
Schneider, Peggy
Shaw/Knudsen, Fergus & Ruth
Single, Robert C.
Single, William
Talamo, Gil & Liz
Theo, Theodore & Janice
Vaca, Laura & Efen
Valva, Robert & Ellen
Verde, Craig & Gina
Verdino, Carmine & Laura
Vetter, John R.
Wilker, Jay

PLATINUM

Aloise/Melodia, Robert & Frank
Barsch, Gerard & Bridget
Boeri, James & Donna
Brown, Chrissy & Jimmy
Bruno, James & Kristy
Curtin, Rose Mary & Jerry
DeLesia, Louis
Dugan, Robert & Claudine
Eide (Spina), Bjorn & Lori
Gibbons, Cliff & ChrisAnn
Gibbons, Ron & Ellen
Gibbons, Ron & Gigi
Gilmore, Angela & Mark
King, John & Sinead
Lipari, Alan
Llewellyn, Richard & Irene
Llobell, Paul & Barbara
Peras, Shanna & Renee
Petrelli, Christine & Frank
Phelan, Jim & Marge
Pickney, Christian & Amanda
Schmid, John & Michelle
Seshadri, Padma & Rajagpal
Stein, Nancy & Chris
Tardi, James & Lori
Tonyes, Natalie
Tonyes, Richard & Sonya
Tonyes, Richard Jr. & Monica
Varone, James & Tina
Wallace, Dan & Becky
Wodicka, Scott & Jane
Zwick, Deborah

Great River Community Association 2017 Members

Silver

Alessi, Dan & Jennifer
 Allen, Lucille & Ruggiero, Pauline
 Allen, Samantha & Joshua
 Barto, Erin & Chris
 Bassen, Randy & Michelle
 Bast, Bill & Regina
 Baum, Susan & Eric
 Baylis, Jane & Bob
 Bertuglia, Joseph
 Bertuglia, Joseph G.
 Blank, Ted & Leslie
 Blatz, Wayne & Lyons, Kathleen
 Bleess, Lynn & Gallagher, Betty
 Bloom, Jonathan & Olga
 Blumenstetter, Tony & Kukenis, JoAnn
 Bowman, Ken & Marylyn
 Brabender, Gia & Christian
 Brown, Peter & Jeanette
 Bruno, Ann & John
 Businski, Mark & Bonnie
 Canavan, Edward & Anne
 Carpluk, Christina
 Carrara, Lil
 Cenenelli, Fran & Dave
 Cirillo, Raffaella & Teuschler, Carl
 Colarossi, Richard & Rosalie
 Connolly, Steven & Vera
 Czyski, Ludomir & Francesca
 Dahl, Robert & Darcy
 Damore, Donald & Linda
 Dattero, Anthony
 Denton, Howard
 Desiderio, Joe & Kathleen
 DeVito, George & Shawn
 DiGioia, Donna & Lou
 Dolan, Monique H & Thomas
 Domozych, Robert & Stacy
 Donovan, Gabrielle & Kevin
 Drake, Jan & Chris
 Duffy, Tom & Peg
 Durso, Theodora
 Emmanuel Episcopal Church
 Feldscher, Robert & Laurie
 Ferrara, Robert & Karen
 Flood, Anita & Jim
 Fonseca, Peter & Susan
 Forlizz, Heather & Christopher
 Frasca, Vinny & Debbie
 Fuss, Don & Claudine

Gallipoli, Nicholas & Kimberly
 Garbarino, Phyllis M.
 Garrett, Diane & Thomas
 Giannini, Joe & Maureen
 Graziano, Anthony & Robyn
 Hill, Kenneth & Nancy
 Hofrichter, Peter & Linda
 Hopkins, Carol & Tim
 Hynes, Stephanie & Dennis
 Ingenito, Eileen
 Irace, Nancy & Greg
 Jack, Karen & Andrew
 Kaplan, Colleen & Steve
 Kloefkorn, Karen & Al
 Knippler, Lynne
 Kopp, Paul & Valerie
 Kramer, Jack & Eileen
 Kreuzer, Jim & Jennifer
 Labbate, J.R. & Keri
 LaRosa, Stephen & Inge
 Leonard, Richard & Jacqueline
 Leslie, Allison / Sullivan, Timothy
 Longo, Joe & Donna
 Magnifico, Molly
 Mahoney, Bill & Debbie
 Maimoni, Francis
 Manley, Robert
 Maurer, Charlie & Irene
 Maurelis, Rita & Nick
 McBride, Mike & Jeanne
 McCarthy, Virginia
 McGlone, Paul
 McGoldrick, Kathleen & Burke, Chris
 Meehan, Brian & Laura
 Mehner, Richard & Laurie
 Mercogliano, Christine
 Merida, Mitch & Jamie
 Mottl, Adele
 Neville, Jeanne & Jacque
 Nwaiser, Zuhair & Yvette
 O'Connor, Victoria
 O'Neill, Dennis & Patricia
 O'Neill, Michael & Theresa
 O'Shea, Rosina & Shane

Pabon, Angel L. & Dinora
 Paglino, Jack & Joan
 Panzner, Maryann
 Pechin, Joan
 Perino, Joseph & Diane
 Popovich, Peter & Heather
 Purdy, Robert & Carol
 Quinn, Janet & Dan
 Regula, Ken & Deborah
 Rogers, Christopher & Kathaleen
 Ross, Tom & Christine
 Rottkamp, Denise & Larry
 Sadowski, Stanley & Elizabeth
 Salcedo, German & Marina
 Scio, Salvatore & Jacqueline
 Scully, Pat
 Shaw, Fergus & Knudsen, Roth
 Shulman, Ellen
 Sidoti, June & Tony
 Smith, Peter & Barbara
 Soltes, Rich & Toni
 Spatafora, Maureen
 Staebler, Lawrence & Nancy
 Taormina, Joseph (Jay) & Rita
 Tegins, John
 Thornell, Patricia L.
 Thornell-Martin, Gwendolyn
 Timberpoint Pro Shop - A.C. Golf Inc.
 Trigg, Arlene & Steve
 Valva, Virginia
 Vavricka, William & Mary
 Vicedomini, Tom
 Vollmuth, Wendy & Tom
 Von Seggern, Vanessa
 Weber, Kathryn
 Westley, Rose Ann
 Winter, Joseph & Melanie
 Zawyrucha, Susan & Tom
 Zummo, Tom & Nicole

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How are my GRCA membership fees used?

The Great River Community Association is funded through yearly membership dues and donations. With these contributions our nominated voluntary board of officers and directors are able to allocate where these funds need to be utilized. Although a more detailed budget will be available on our website at the end of the year, the following will provide a brief overview of where these funds are applied. Throughout the year, the GRCA has monthly and yearly maintenance fees such as our website, constant contact (our eblast host and so much more), gazette, signage, seasonal decorations, spring clean up, permits for events, Easter Egg Hunt, Paint & Sip, Memorial Day parade, Halloween event, Christmas tree lighting, Menorah lighting, mailers/postage, Suffolk County Water Authority for Sprinklers, liability insurance for events, donations toward fireworks over the river, postmaster fees for GRCA and lastly donations towards local community-based programs (such as to the Flower Power Nursery that hosts East Islip High School's special needs life skills class and the EJ Autism Foundation to plant our flower baskets). All Officers and Directors of the GRCA volunteer to plan events, maintain contact and build relationships with our local legislature, keep in contact with the town for clean ups and repairs as well as eblasts to communicate any necessary information with our community.

Join a GRCA Committee Today!

One of the best ways to get involved, make a difference and meet new people in our community is to join one of our wonderful committees. These committees are responsible for maintaining a close, friendly and beautiful place to live!

Some of our offered committees:
 Welcoming Committee
 Membership Committee
 Social Events Committee
 Beautification Committee

If you are interested in becoming involved in a specific committee within our town, please contact greatriver11739@gmail.com

The GRCA is looking for a tech savvy person to join us and help with Social Media, Website updates, E-blasts, etc. If interested please contact us ASAP.
 Thank you

Town of Islip Garbage Pick-Up Regulations

There have been numerous complaints within the Great River Community about neighbors putting garbage out over holiday weekends and several days before the scheduled pick-up date. This not only hinders the appearance of our beautiful community but it also encourages non-residents to drive around our community to "garbage pick" bringing unnecessary attention and jeopardizing the safety our community.

Garbage should not be put out earlier than 4:30PM the day before your scheduled garbage pick-up.

WRAP DAY IS WEDNESDAY, PLEASE RECYCLE...

Should you have any additional questions or wish to report garbage being left out for days, please contact the Department of Environmental Control at 631-224-5645.



For more information, please visit the Great River Fire Department website at www.greatriverfire.com or facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/greatriverfire/>

ABOUT TOWN

Paint and sip

Our 2nd annual paint and sip event was a blast!. Over 75 neighbors came out to support us and show off their artistic ability. We are truly impressed with the amount of hidden talent our community has and are looking forward to next year. Thank you to the Great River Fire Department for hosting our event.

Town of Islip Noise Ordinance Information

There have also been several complaints within the Great River Community about lawnmowers and other outdoor machinery being used prior to allowed time by the Town of Islip Code. For your convenience and information, we have condensed the information found on the Town of Islip website in regards to this Code to make sure we are all informed and work as a community to abide by these Codes.

Noise from operation of machinery/construction should take place between the hours of :
7:00AM-8:00PM on weekdays and
10:00AM – 5:00PM on Sundays. State or Federal holidays follow a Sunday schedule.

If you have any further questions about these Town of Islip Codes you may visit their website <http://www.islipny.gov> and go to E-Services, Town Code. You may also contact the Division of Law Enforcement with any noise complaints and/or questions at (631) 224-5375.

Timber point here



Great River Giving Tree

This holiday season, The Great River Community Association has decided to launch our first "Great River Giving Tree". During this time of year, many of us feel this is the season of giving and what better way than to give back to your own community. By making a small donation you will contribute to future community events, help pay costs for the gazette, purchase flower baskets and their maintenance in downtown Great River as well as help welcome new neighbors and purchase signs and posters to notify community members of upcoming events. All donations are a minimum of \$20 with the exception of the flower basket purchase, which is \$100 per basket. Below are some of the specific donations that can be made.

- Flower Baskets- \$100 each – 12 total (all other donations will go towards beautification)*
- Gazette – \$20*
- Signs & Posters – \$20*
- Welcoming New Neighbors- \$20*
- Easter Egg Hunt – \$20*

Payments may be mailed to:
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Consumer tips & news

Winter means snow . . . and snow blowers

For snow up to 24 inches ...

Consumer Reports recommends going for a heavy-duty two-stage model. All models have a spinning auger that breaks up the snow, and an impeller that hurls it out of the chute. Better models also have beefier engines, easier steering, and better tires. Lighter-duty two-stage models have the same auger and impeller as larger models and are easier to store. But they don't clear as fast.

Pros: These models clear the widest swath and handle steeper inclines. They can muscle through the snow as well as the frozen piles at the foot of the driveway.

Cons: They're heavy and expensive, and they can take up as much storage space as a lawn tractor. They don't usually clean right down to the pavement, a plus only for gravel driveways, and they need maintenance.

For snow up to 18 inches ...

Lighter-duty two-stage models have the same auger, impeller, and driven wheels as larger models, but they don't clear snow as quickly because of their narrower clearing widths.

Pros: They cost a bit less and require less storage space than their larger siblings.

Cons: The less expensive ones come with fewer additional features, such as freewheel steering and single-hand controls.

For snow up to 9 inches ...

When you have less than a foot of snow, a single-stage model, which has a high-speed auger to loosen and hoist the snow through the chute, will suffice. These machines have a rubber-tipped auger that helps propel them forward and is safe for deck finishes.

Pros: They're fairly light and easy to handle, and they clean down to bare pavement. They also take up only about as much storage space as a lawn mower.

Cons: These smaller models have the most trouble with dense, wet snow, particularly plow piles, and they can't be used on gravel surfaces.

If you have a wood-burning fireplace, **save your ashes** in a tin instead of throwing them away. Cold wood ashes can be mixed in your compost heap to create a valuable soil amendment that provides nutrients to your garden.

Unclaimed funds returned in 2017 : \$399,918,398

Why does New York State have unclaimed funds? *Banks*, insurance companies, utilities, investment companies and many other businesses are required by State law to turn over inactive accounts to the State. The Office of the State Comptroller then serves as the custodian of this money until it is claimed. You may be entitled to some of over \$10 Billion in unclaimed funds. Unclaimed funds are money or the rights to money that have been dormant or forgotten. Some common examples include: savings accounts, checking accounts, uncashed checks, telephone/utility deposits, rental security deposits, wages, insurance benefits/policies, safe deposit box contents, mortgage insurance refunds, stocks and dividends, & mutual funds.

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