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Issue
 08
 June
 2017

Great River Gazette

A QUARTERLY JOURNAL FROM THE GREAT RIVER COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



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2017 Membership drive in progress..
 Our community needs your help..

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2017 Membership Form



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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 2017-December 2017 - \$25 Silver/ \$50 Gold / \$100 Platinum

Membership Option: _____ Silver _____ Gold _____ Platinum

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

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Next General Meeting:
June 14th 7:00 P.M.

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GRFD

Speaker: Alexis Weik,
receiver of taxes

What You Need to Know About Zika Virus for 2017



After ranking as one of the top health stories of 2016, the Zika virus all but disappeared from the headlines once mosquito season came to an end for most of the continental U.S.

But warmer days are coming back. And whether you're bracing for the return of mosquito season here in the states or thinking about heading someplace tropical for spring break, it's important to understand where things stand with this strange and troubling virus.

Is Zika Still Spreading?

The World Health Organization lifted the "public health emergency of international concern" designation for Zika last November. But that status change did not mark the outbreak's end. Between then and January, some 4,000 new cases were reported in just the U.S. and its territories.

Still, the news is not all bad: Although every state in the continental U.S. has reported at least one case of Zika virus infection, Florida and Texas remain the only two states to have suffered local outbreaks (meaning they are the only ones where the virus has been transmitted through local mosquito populations); the remaining states' cases are all travel-related.

What's more, Florida is no longer an active transmission zone, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. And although the south-Texas city of Brownsville is still under a travel-advisory issued in late November (when locally acquired infections were first reported there), the rest of Texas remains Zika-free.

There's good news in Latin America, too. Several countries that struggled to contain outbreaks in 2016 are reporting lower case numbers than expected so far this season, suggesting that mosquito-control efforts are working and/or population immunity is taking hold and dimming the crisis as epidemiologists hoped it would. "The prevalence of Zika is dropping, certainly in the Americas," Ian Clarke, WHO incident manager for Zika, said recently. "The anticipation was that we would see a second wave, certainly in Brazil, and we haven't."

But this drop in incidence does not mean that we can throw caution to the wind. The WHO and CDC are still urging people—pregnant women, especially—to be very careful about traveling to countries where locally acquired infections have been reported.

Zika Virus Disease Cases Reported to Abonet*

- US States: 5,274

Pregnant Women with Any Lab Evidence of Zika Virus Infection

- US States: 1,793

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Great River Fire Department (631) 277- 5837	East Islip Middle School Main Office (631) 224-2174/21175
Non Emergency Police Department (631) 224-2772 Third Precinct (631) 854-8300	East Islip High School Main Office (631) 224-2110/2111/2113
Traffic Safety/Street Lighting (631) 224-5535/5600	Great River Community Association greatriver11739@gmail.com
Town of Islip (631) 224-5500	Great River Community Association Events greatriverevents@gmail.com
East Islip Library (631) 581-9200	Great River Neighborhood Watch greatriverwatch@gmail.com
Town of Islip Public Safety & Enforcement (631) 224-5548	Southside Hospital (631) 968-3000
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Great River Community Association News



1st Annual Easter Egg hunt

The Easter Bunny made an early appearance for the families of Great River at Field 3 in Heckscher State Park on the beautiful spring morning of Saturday, April 15, 2017 for the First Annual Great River Community Association Easter Egg Hunt. The field was covered with over 2,500 colorful plastic eggs filled with surprises for the children. After picking up a basket, egg hunters were released into age appropriate sections. When all Easter eggs were collected, the children joyfully returned to the starting point to open their eggs revealing the various surprises within.

Through the morning, parents and adult community members were entertained under the pavilion with music, food and beverages which added to the festivities. This event which welcomed in the spring season as well as the Easter Holiday was well received by everyone present.

In addition to the Easter Egg Hunt, a master of ceremonies entertained children with games, sack races, face painting and other activities. Participants also had the opportunity to have photographs taken with the guest of honor, a larger than life Easter Bunny who made the wishes of many youngsters a reality.

The Events Committee, the Officers and the Board members of the Great River Community Association would like to thank everyone involved in making this unique experience for the families and residents of our hamlet such an overwhelming success.



BINGO GAME NIGHT!

The GRCA and the Events committee are planning an evening of Bingo & prizes. Details to follow...



Our Spring Clean Up on May 7th, 2017 was an incredible success! A huge "thank you" to our amazing Beautification Committee & Great River residents who volunteered their time and put forth their greatest efforts in making Great River's entrances beautiful again! We would also like to thank DiGiovanna Bros. Landscaping for all of their assistance, plantings and management to make this day run smoothly. Together, we are confident that we will be able to keep our community a clean place for all of us to enjoy. We look forward to our next community clean up but in the meantime if there is something you feel in your surrounding area that can use a quick cleaning, please make the effort!



On Sunday, May 28th, 2017 Great River Residents gathered to watch our brave and honorable Great River Fire Department members parade through our community and end with a beautiful ceremony recognizing Memorial Day. After the ceremony was over, everyone gathered at the Great River Firehouse for traditional hotdogs. The Great River Community Association donated Italian Ices and patriotic giveaways to add to this celebration of our brave men and women who have served our country and those who have made the ultimate sacrifice.

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Summer Bucket List 2017: Celebrate Summertime with Tons of Local Fun Right Here on Long Island!

One way to ensure that this summer is your best one yet, is to make a bucket list of things to do! It doesn't have to be skydiving or running a marathon (Though both are excellent choices for thrill-seekers on Long Island!) your list can comprise of whatever it is that makes you happy - like hosting a summer barbecue for your friends and family or becoming a volunteer at a local cause that you're passionate about! The possibilities are truly endless.

When it comes to the summer season, there's no denying that Long Island is the place to be! From visiting the beautiful beaches on both the North and South shores, to taking the whole gang out to one of the many family-friendly parks located on the Island, all with plenty of opportunities for outdoor fun and recreation, to heading over to one of the walk-around towns on Long Island to browse the various shops and local restaurants, there's never a lack of things to do and see!

Here's what's on our Summer 2017 Bucket List:

- **Fire Island:** *Of course.* Everyone has their own preference of which town to visit on Fire Island. My family and I grew to adore Davis Park and Ocean Bay Park; however, I'm sure every other town is just as great. The feeling of being in a whole separate world while visiting these towns is incredible. Most towns include several grills/restaurants, adorable boutiques and other little shops. Whether it be a day trip or a week-long rental in one of the welcoming beach houses, this visit is definitely a must for your summer.
- **Swimming with sharks:** You have to try it. The Long Island Aquarium located in Riverhead, New York offers a shark dive experience to its guests. Riverhead is also loaded with many restaurants on the water, providing the perfect experience all in one day.
- **Connetquot River State Park Preserve:** If you're also a fan of historic locations, this is yet another interesting place to explore. The many acres of land and water hold diverse species of plants and animals. There are also many events that take place at this preserve.
- **Bayard Cutting Arboretum** The site was originally wooded and many of the large oaks now seen were retained during the clearing of the land. The current collection of fir, spruce, pine, cypress, hemlock, yew and other lesser known conifers is still probably the most extensive to be found on Long Island
- **Flyboarding:** Flyboard L.I may be more on the pricier side, but this experience is definitely worth the extra shift you picked up at work. This newly popular water sport has gained a lot of attention within the year and is now *finally* on Long Island.
- **Montauk:** This well-known hamlet is famous for its lighthouse (that is rumored to be haunted). The beaches, bars, restaurants and boutiques never fail to attract more and more visitors each year. You need to make sure you travel here at least once during the summer to explore this fun-spirited area.

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Consumer tips & news

A DIY herbicide that's effective and safe

"Mix one gallon of vinegar, 2 cups of Epsom salt, and ¼ cup Dawn dish soap. Pour in a sprayer and spray on weeds. It will kill them as well as Roundup does. The World Health Organization recently classified glyphosate, an active ingredient in Roundup, as a probable carcinogen. The alternative herbicide works because the vinegar is a mild acid, and with the Epsom salt and the detergent, it forms a scum that coats the weeds. Or try the citrus oil-based Avenger Weed Killer, which meets the strict standards of the Organic Materials Review Institute

De-stink your sink

Just dump lemon or any other citrus peels into the garbage disposal and pulse it a few times. You'll scar the peels, releasing the fragrant citrus oil. Don't overdo the pulsing so that the peels can sit overnight to counteract the stinky smell. Once the citrus aroma is gone, just run the disposal until the peels are completely shredded and flushed. Remember that the source of those odors is residual food or hardened grease that wasn't thoroughly flushed away. Be sure that you're operating the disposal regularly, then flushing it with hot water



For quick pain relief, just add rice

When you need to apply heat to any body part, take a sock, fill it with uncooked rice, and tie a knot at the end. Microwave for 30 to 45 seconds, then apply the sock to the affected area. It's economical and more effective than a heating pad says consumer reports magazine.

Sunscreen is a must

Throw away last year's unused sunscreen for a new bottle. Sunscreens aren't meant to last forever, and seeing most people don't use as much as they should. Buy a new sunscreen that has UVA and UVB products and comes in SPF 30 and SPF 70. You should be using a shot glass full for your body and a full teaspoon just on your face. Reapply it every 1-2 hours that you are in the sun to ensure a summer full of safe sun fun.

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Summertime in the Town of Islip



TOWN OF ISLIP MONDAY NIGHT FOOD TRUCKS, FILM & FAMILY FUN

Bring your family and friends down for a night of Food, Fun and Flicks! A variety of Food Trucks will be serving up delicious eats, so come hungry. Bring your chairs and blankets and leave all the fun to us.

Monday, July 3 - Stars & Stripes Bike Parade and Races Movie: An American Tail

Islip Grange, 10 Broadway Avenue, Sayville

Bring your bikes, wagons or non-motorized vehicles decorated or use our craft items (while supplies last) and take part in our first ever Stars and Stripes Bike Parade. Bike Races open to all ages. Helmets are required for all riders under the age of 18 to take part in the parade and races.

Monday, July 17 - Belle's Book Swap

Movie: Beauty and The Beast (1991)

Casamento Park, 65 Muncy Road, West Islip

Bring your gently used books to swap for some new summer reading at Belle's Book Swap, "An Exchange of Beautiful and Beastly Reads". Take part in our Beauty vs. Beasts Family Volleyball Game before the movie begins.

Monday, July 24 - Christmas in July/Bubble Blizzard

Movie: Elf

Brookwood Hall Park, 50 Irish Lane, East Islip

We are having a Blizzard, a "Bubble Blizzard" that is! Bring your bubbles and wands or have fun with ours in an all-out "Bubble Blizzard." Join in a Holiday Sing-along and a special guest appearance from Santa and his friends.

Monday, August 7 - The Dog Days of Summer

Movie: 101 Dalmatians

Islip Grange, 10 Broadway Avenue, Sayville

Bring your stuffed animals for a group picture, can we get 101 dogs in our photo? Sign your special stuffed puppy up for our dog races.

The Food and Fun starts at 6:00 pm. Movies begin at dark.

No pets please.

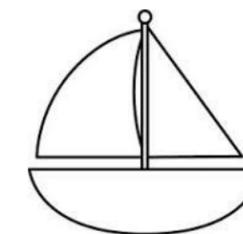
The Town of Islip has 15 marinas and 7 boat launching ramps for residents to enjoy. Senior citizen discounts apply for those who turn 60 years old by September 1, 2017. Please call us at the Division of Marinas and Docks at (631) 224-5648 for more information about the fees and guidelines for our many facilities.

FACILITY	LOCATION
Atlantique Marina	Fire Island
Bay Shore Marina*	S. Clinton Avenue, Bay Shore
Brown's River East Side	Seaman Avenue, Bayport
Brown's River West Side	River Road, Sayville
Champlin Creek Dock*	Dock Road, East Islip
East Islip Marina*	Bayview Avenue, East Islip
Great River Ramp*	Great River Road, Great River
Homan Creek Dock*	Paulanna Avenue, Bayport
Maple Avenue Dock	Maple Avenue, Bay Shore
Maple Street Dock*	Maple Street, Islip
Ocean Avenue Marina	Ocean Avenue, Bay Shore
Port O'Call Marina	Foster Avenue, Sayville
Raymond Street Dock	Raymond Street, Islip
West Avenue Dock	West Avenue, West Sayville
West Islip Marina*	Beach Drive, West Islip

*Boat Launching Ramp available at these facilities

BOAT LAUNCHING PERMITS

A boat launching permit is required for the use of Town boat launching ramps. Applicants must have a valid boat and trailer registration and an additional proof of residency (driver's license/tax/utility bill). All items must be in the same name and address. The permit is valid from March 1, 2017 through February 28, 2018.



Resident boat launch permit fee	\$75.00
Senior Citizen (60 and over)	\$37.50
Non-resident launching permit	\$150.00

Chris Ann Gibbons
Independent Consultant

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cap516us@yahoo.com
cagibbons.myrandf.com
cagibbons.myrandf.biz

Suffolk County Marathon October 29, 2017

After several neighbors complained about the inconvenience of the marathon route, the County and organizers have agreed to "limit" this inconvenience by allowing residents to leave the neighborhood during the race & also dedicated phone # to facilitate this. Several other measures will be taken such as electronic sign board placement for reminding residents, Target Code messaging & increased patrols on race day. The GRCA will keep everyone informed so that it minimizes the inconvenience



ABOUT TOWN

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 for more information.

Please note this is a volunteer opportunity and you only need to provide your time when you are able to help.

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.

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.

Emmanuel Episcopal Church Holy Eucharist:
Every Sunday 8:00 A.M. and 10:00A.M.



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

Annual FREE Philharmonic concert in the park.

Join the Islip Arts Council and thousands of your fellow Long Islanders to "Celebrate Our Hometown Heroes" at Long Island's premiere summer concert under the stars on Saturday night, **July 15, 2017.**

Heckscher park



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.

Summer Slaw

- 3\4 cup Mayo
- 3 tbs Sugar
- 1 1/2 tbs White wine vinegar
- 1/3 cup Oil
- 1/8 tsp Garlic powder
- 1/8 tsp Onion powder
- 1/8 tsp Dry mustard
- 1/8 tsp Celery salt
- 1 dash Black pepper
- 1 tbs Lemon juice
- 1/2 cup Half and Half
- 1/4 tsp Salt
- 1 Large Cabbage head-finely shredded

Blend mayo, sugar, vinegar and oil. Add garlic and onion powder, mustard, celery salt, pepper, lemon juice, half and half & salt. Stir until smooth. Pour over cabbage in large bowl and toss until well coated.

Hawaiian Chicken Kabobs

- Marinade:
- 1 cup Soy Sauce
 - 1/2 cup Oil
 - 3-4 Cloves garlic, pressed
 - 1/4 cup Pineapple juice
 - 1 tbs. Vinegar
 - 2 Green onions, finely diced
 - 2 tbs. cornstarch

- Kabob:
- 2-4 boneless, skinless chicken breasts
 - 1 (16oz) can pineapple chunks
 - 1 green Bell pepper, cut into chunks
 - 1 pint cherry tomatoes

Marinade: Combine soy sauce, oil, garlic, pineapple juice, vinegar, green onion and cornstarch; blend well.

Kabobs: Cut chicken breast into 1-inch cubes. Marinate chicken pieces for 1-1/2 to 2 hours in fridge. Alternate chicken piece son skewers with pineapple chunks, peppers and tomatoes. Grill on each side. Brush with remaining marinade . Serves 6-8

Recipe Corner