



Village Hall Comments

By Trustee Mary Whalen Bossart



Village has taken steps to make computers Y2K compliant, and prevent interruptions in essential services.

The so-called "Y2K Bug" has been the subject of extensive media attention, with frequent quotes from a variety of people predicting multiple problems on January 1, 2000 when computers "crash" because they do not recognize the date. There are an equal number of comments from computer specialists reassuring the public that safety, banking, utilities and food distribution have adjusted their computers for the year 2000.

Although municipalities often are cited for being lax about the potential problem, the Village government has been working on it for two years. Following an assessment of potential trouble spots in 1997, the staff has worked in cooperation with its suppliers and several consultants to get ready for 2000.

For the residents of Rockville Centre, life will go on as usual in Y2K. It is worth noting that police, fire, ambulance and utility operations are not computer dependent ... all are controlled by trained employees.

Utilities Ready for Y2K

Consider the electric utility. It imports a major share of power from Niagara Falls through the cables of the New York Power Authority, LIPA and ConEd, three organizations that have upgraded their computer systems to be Y2K compliant. Distribution of that electricity to customers is managed by the utility's around-the-clock staff at the power plant on Maple Avenue. The Village also has its own generating equipment, eight diesel engines also controlled by on-site operators. Operable with either natural gas or fuel oil, the engines are a viable back-up whether as a supplement in hot summer weather or as a sole source of energy for basic customer needs on most winter days. Computer systems that develop reports on usage and fuel are ready for year 2000.

The water system also is not com-

puter dependent. Its computers turn on the pumps to bring water from the deep wells into the tanks based on need, not the day or date. The pumps can be started manually by a technician from the control station at each of the four well fields. And, water flows into the underground system of mains by gravity from the overhead tanks that hold four million gallons, more than a full day's supply during most days of the year.

Police and Fire Service

The response of police, fire and emergency medical services rely on people to dispatch assistance. The radio equipment used by the Police and Fire Departments is all battery operated as are the beepers of individual volunteers and the alarm stations on the streets throughout the Village.

Both Police and Fire have computer systems to provide ancillary information such as alarms and incident reports, and those systems have been enhanced to assure smooth operation in 2000 and beyond. The county and state report have taken the necessary steps to keep traffic lights operating without a hitch.

It is the same story for other services essential to our quality of life. The vehicles used for garbage collections, snow plowing, road repairs and sewer maintenance need no computers, thus will continue unabated in the new year.

Record-keeping computers for a variety of information ... budgets, taxes, court calendars, permits ... have all been reviewed and steps taken to make certain they are Y2K compliant.

For the few people who continue to have doubts and concerns about Y2K, the Red Cross offers a suggestion ... prepare for the coming of the year 2000 the same way as you would prepare for a hurricane or a big snow storm. That includes new batteries for flashlights and portable radios and food to feed a family for several days.

This Month In Rockville Centre

Published by the Village of Rockville Centre
Eugene J. Murray, Mayor

Trustees
Francis A. Cosgrove
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For information concerning Village facilities, residents are invited to telephone Anthony Cancellieri, Village Administrator, Clerk-Treasurer, 678-9300

Community Notes

TV FOR BOARD MEETINGS ... Videotapes of meetings of the Board of Trustees will be broadcast twice during the week in which the meetings are held. The tape will be shown on each Wednesday (8:15 p.m.) following a meeting and on Saturday (1:30 p.m.) on cable channel 40/79. The meeting agenda also will be carried as an announcement beginning on the Friday before the Monday meetings. Included with the agenda will be announcements of public hearings and architectural reviews.

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SENIOR THEATRE PARTY to "Kiss Me Kate" plus lunch is scheduled for Wednesday, November 10. Advance reservations are required. The cost is \$96, including bus, lunch and tickets. Call the Senior Center at 678-9350 for information and reservations.

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SIDEWALK POWER WASHING ... Sidewalks in the business districts will be power washed this fall. Public Works crews using high pressure sprayers will clean walkways in the downtown area as well as the commercial sections of Long Beach Road and Brower Avenue. The work will be done in the early morning hours each Saturday until all the streets are completed. The power washing will be repeated in the spring and again in the fall of 2000.

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HALLOWEEN CONCERT ... A free concert by the Camarata String orchestra will be played in the foyer of the Recreation Center on Saturday, October 30, at 1 p.m. The orchestra is composed of young people from Rockville Centre and neighboring communities.

Semiannual Flushing Begins October 4

Rockville Centre's water system will be flushed beginning October 4. The semi-annual cleaning project will be conducted during nighttime hours to minimize inconvenience.

The flushing project involves opening every hydrant in the Village. Water will be safe to drink while the work is done between midnight and 7:30 a.m.

Monday, October 4 - The area between Lakeview Avenue on the north and Merrick Road on the south.

Tuesday, October 5 - The area south of Merrick Road.

Wednesday, October 6 - The area between Lakeview Avenue on the south and McDermott Road on the north that is east of Brower Avenue and Long Beach Road.

Thursday, October 7 - The area west of Brower Avenue on the south and DeMott Avenue on the north.

Friday, October 8 - The area north of DeMott Avenue lying between Long Beach Road and North Village Avenue.

Village Will Pick-up Fallen Fall Foliage

Highway Department crews begin their annual curbside collection of autumn leaves from all the streets in the Village beginning October 18. Every street will be visited four times to assure that leaves are recycled.

The Village is divided into two sections for the leaf-gathering work. The NORTH is the area north of Sunrise Highway and west of Long Beach Road; the SOUTH consists of all the streets south of Sunrise plus the area east of Long Beach extending north to Salem Road.

Collections in the north will be during the weeks of October 18, November 1, 15 and 29, while the South will be visited the weeks of October 25, November 8 and 22, and December 6.

Residents are asked to rake leaves into the street in front of the property on the weekend before scheduled collections.

Ragamuffin Parade, Party, Highlight Busy October Recreation Schedule

It is time for creative costume makers to begin working on the creations they will wear in the ninth annual Halloween Ragamuffin Parade scheduled to step off at 2 p.m. on Sunday, October 31, from the Village Green on the corner of Maple and Lee Avenues. The event, which attracts up to 2,000 marchers, includes toddlers, teens and adults in individual, family and group entries competing for awards in a dozen age and group categories.

The parade moves west on Maple Avenue to the Recreation Center for an awards ceremony that is followed by a children's party. In the event of rain, the parade is cancelled and the party begins at 3 p.m.

Parade participants must register prior to October 31 at the REC for a fee of \$4 per family.

Window Painting

As a Halloween warm-up, the REC is again sponsoring a window painting contest in the downtown business district. The event is from 9 a.m. until noon on Saturday, October 23, and is open to youngsters in grades 4-8. Pre-registration at the REC is required, and the paintings on paper that is affixed to the store windows, are on display until Halloween at the center.

Fresh Water Fishing

Recreation joins with the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation to host a fresh water fishing festival on Saturday, October 23 at Donald F. Browne park between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. The event features fishing contests and exhibits organized to provide instruction for young people.

10K Runners Travel Village Streets Saturday, November 13

Residents can expect some traffic delays in the northwestern portion of the Village between 10 until 11:30 a.m. on Saturday, November 13, as about 1000 runners from the Metropolitan Area compete in the 23rd annual Rockville Centre 10 Kilometer road race.

Awards go to the best overall finishers and to the top Rockville Centre runners in a number of age categories. Applications are available at the Recreation Center or by calling 678-9238. Entries received before October 22 pay a fee of \$15, while later entries are \$16. Senior Citizens pay \$9.

The race starts on Park Avenue in front of the Fantasy Theatre and follows a loop through the streets to a finish line on Front Street just east of North Village Avenue. Police, Auxiliary Police and police aides will be posted at major intersections to stop traffic until the runners have passed. Most streets will be reopened by 11 a.m., but slower competitors will mean delays until after 11:30 on Lakeside Drive, Broadway and North Centre Avenue and their cross

streets.

The following is the planned route of the 10K:

Runners start north on Park Avenue to Maple Avenue; east on Maple to Brower Avenue; north on Brower to Linden Street; west on Linden to Hempstead Avenue; (runners should reach this point about 10:10); north on Hempstead to Princeton Road; east on Princeton to Forrestdale; north on Forrestdale to Hamilton; west on Hamilton to Hempstead; Hempstead north to Allen Road; (lead runners here by 10:20).

From Allen, runners head west to Windham, then loop around Bulson and Buckminster and back to Allen; west on Allen to North Village; south on Village to Lakeside Drive and continue south on Broadway to Judson Place; west on Judson to Lakeside; cross Lakeview Avenue and onto North Centre (leaders here about 10:30); continue south on Centre to Front Street; then east to the finish line between Village and Clinton Avenues.



State Senator Dean Skelos cuts the ribbon for the new children's playground at Lister Park as Mayor Murray and Trustee Amato, Bossart and Lipton join a group of residents who were on hand for the opening. Constructed by Village employees for a saving of \$40,000, the playground was funded by a \$50,000 grant obtained by Senator Skelos.

Senior Services Programs Focuses on Fulfillment for Mind and Body

Residents who participate in the Village's Senior Services activities that focus on the whole person by considering the physical, mental and emotional aspects of life for older adults. Membership is open to people in Rockville Centre who are 60 or older.

To promote good health, the program includes aerobics, walking groups, dancing, swimming, health and fitness lectures and medical screenings. There also is a nutritious lunch program at the Senior Center on Park Avenue at Lincoln Avenue.

There are a variety of opportunities that promote intellectual growth, including music studies, computer classes, current events discussions and a guest speakers series (Tuesday Topics). Skills training ranges from art, crafts, stitchery and chess, to bocce, golf and photography, and there are group travel opportunities.

Senior Services members also enjoy opportunities to give their time and talent for others. Friendly "visitors and callers" keep in touch with homebound members; others prepare holiday baskets ... activities that open up avenues for new friendships.

Members, or for that matter any resident can get help with entitlement programs such as Social Security, Medicare and tax exemptions.

Joining in Senior Services activities is easy. Just call 678-9350 for information, or visit the center any weekday between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. No need to be concerned about transportation ... Buses make the rounds of the Village to get members to and from the Center.

**This Month
In Rockville Centre**

BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
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Permit No. 271
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Curtain Going Up On Village Talent

With a program that combines elements of vaudeville and the Ed Sullivan Show, the Millennium Committee will present an all-Rockville Centre 2000 Talent Show at Molloy College on Saturday, October 30, followed by a Masquerade Party. The talent show is at 7 p.m. in the Hayes Theater with the costume event at 9 p.m. in the Anselmo Room.

Individuals and groups ... singers, dancers, musicians, specialty acts ... will showcase their talent in a fast-paced, 90 minute program that will both surprise and entertain their neighbors.

The festivities move across the campus at nine with a Halloween party that features an open bar, buffet supper and music in a party room decorated for the occasion. Guests are encouraged to wear costumes that reflect real and fictional people of the second millennium although 1999 attire is perfectly acceptable.

Tickets for the talent show are priced at \$10 for adults and \$6 for anyone under 21 years old. There is a combination ticket ... \$30 for over 21; \$25 for under 21 ... that includes the show and the party. Tickets are available at Village Hall and at the Recreation Center.



Dates & Events

Monday, October 11
COLUMBUS DAY
Village Offices Closed

Wednesday, October 13 – 8:00 p.m.
BOARD OF APPEALS

Monday, October 18 – 8:15 p.m.
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Saturday, October 23 – 9:00 a.m.
WINDOW PAINTING
Downtown Stores

Wednesday, October 27 – 8:00 p.m.
BOARD OF APPEALS

Saturday, October 30 – 7:00 p.m.
**MILLENNIUM TALENT SHOW
HALLOWEEN PARTY**
Molloy College

Sunday, October 31 – 2:00 p.m.
RAGAMUFFIN PARADE
Maple Avenue

Events are at Village Hall unless otherwise noted.

There are no residential garbage collections on designated holidays

For general information, call
678-9300

Emergency Numbers

Fire 766-0400
Police 766-1500
Electric 766-5800
Water 678-9252
Nights & Weekends
766-5800

Internet Address
www.ci.rockville-centre.ny.us

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Committee Continues Zoning Review

The Zoning Codification Committee will conduct the eight in a series of meetings to review the Village Zoning Code during October. The project is the first updating of the entire Code in 36 years. The date and time will be announced in the local newspapers and on the cable channel during the second week of the month.

The Committee, consisting of the Mayor and Trustees, representatives of the Zoning and Planning Boards and ten residents selected by the Board have considered revisions and additions to the Zoning Code pertaining to senior care housing, zoning districts, home occupations, sight plan review and special permits. Assisting in the review are consultants in community planning and zoning.

Residents and business people are welcome at the meetings, which are expected to continue for several months. When they are concluded, the Committee will prepare a series of suggestions for amendments and additions to the Zoning Code, which will be the subject of public hearings to

determine residents' reaction. The actual adoption of any changes will require a vote by the Board of Trustees.

Suggestions also may be submitted in writing for consideration by the Committee. They should be addressed to Village Attorney Martha Krisel at the Village Hall, Box 950, Rockville Centre 11571.

Village Bonds: A1

Thanks to the continuation of its AA-rating from Standard & Poor's and an A1 from Moody's, the Village's sale of \$1,682,000 in long term bonds attracted an interest rate just a fraction under 5% in mid-September. The rating, among the highest accorded to a Long Island municipality, resulted in the favorable rate despite the recent rise in interest rates.

The proceeds of the sale will fund a variety of capital projects, including resurfacing of 1.6 miles of Village streets, new computer equipment and software and a new parking meter system.



Mayor Murray gets a up-close view of the new speed-monitoring unit. The unit allows a motorist to see just how fast the car is traveling compared to the speed limit. Conducting the demonstration are Sgt. Tom Luthy, traffic squad supervisor, and Lt. James Kraemer, administration director.