

## This Month at the Recreation Department

### Bicycle Safety Week

The RVC Parks and Recreation Department in cooperation with the RVC P.T.A. will again offer the Cycle With Care program at the five elementary schools.

The inspections will take place at Hewitt School on Monday, September 9; at Watson and Riverside schools on Tuesday, September 10; at Covert School on Thursday, September 12; and at Wilson School on Friday, September 13.

### Kids Fest September 14

The annual Kids Fest open house celebration at the Rec Center is scheduled for Saturday, September 14 from Noon to 4 P.M. As always, there will be plenty for Rockville Centre families to do and see.

Representatives from all the Village's sports organizations will attend, as well as the Rockville Centre Police and Fire departments, the Post Office, the Library, the Guild for the Arts, the Lions Club, and many others.

### Fall Program Registration

Registration is now being accepted for the Fall programs that begin the week of September 17. All registrations are first-come, first-served and all participants must have valid 2002-2003 Recreation Center membership card.

Detailed flyers are available at the Rec Center or by calling 678-9339.

### New Programs

The Recreation Department has added several new programs for the Fall: A Pre-K enrichment program for children entering kindergarten in September 2003 meets Tuesdays, 11:30 A.M. to 2 P.M. for pre-reading, math, and computer skills. Cartoon Time for middle school students interested in creating their own cartoon characters meets Saturday mornings.

Peak Performance for 7th and 8th graders teaches how to maximize strength, endurance, agility and overall athletic ability. Girls meet Thursday afternoons; boys

meet Wednesday afternoons.

Strength training for women, taught by a certified personal trainer meets Wednesday evenings.

### Part-time Positions Available

Part-time workers are needed for the swim, gymnastics, and birthday programs. If you are over 16 or an adult looking for part-time employment and have good people skills, fill out an employment questionnaire at the Rec Center.



The Village's annual Kids Fest is Saturday, September 14 from Noon to 4.

### Time to Order a Tree

Residents have until October 14 to order a curbside tree from the Rockville Centre Department of Public Works. Five varieties are available for \$150 each (a \$100 savings). Village workers will plant a tree for you for \$200, which includes a one-year guarantee: if the tree dies within a year, it will be replaced with a new one for free.

#### 2003 Tree Planting Order

Order deadline: October 14, 2002 • Planting date: April, 2003

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Variety:  Pin Oak  Crimson King Norway Maple  
 Japanese Lilac  Little Leaf Linden  Golden Rain Tree

\_\_\_\_\_ Tree only: \$150 \_\_\_\_\_ Tree and Planting: \$200

Mail to: 2003 Trees, Rockville Centre DPW, P.O. Box 950, RVC, NY 11571.  
 Make check payable to Village of Rockville Centre.



## This Month In Rockville Centre

One College Place, P.O. Box 950  
 Rockville Centre, New York 11571

PRSR STD  
 U.S. POSTAGE  
 PAID  
 Rockville Centre, NY  
 Permit No. 271  
 CR-RT-SORT



### Dates & Events

Monday, September 2  
**LABOR DAY**  
 Village Offices Closed

Monday, September 9, 8:15 P.M.  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Wednesday, September 11, 8 P.M.  
**BOARD OF APPEALS**

Wednesday, September 25, 8 P.M.  
**BOARD OF APPEALS**

Monday, September 30, 8:15 P.M.  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Monday, October 7  
**MAYOR'S GOLF OUTING**  
 Call 678-9260

**NOTE:**  
 Videotapes of Board of Trustees meetings are broadcast on Cable Channel 70 on Wednesdays (8:15 p.m.) and Saturdays (1:30 p.m.) following each meeting.

Events are at Village Hall unless otherwise noted.

For general information:  
 Call 678-9300

### Emergency Numbers

Fire **911**  
 Police **911**  
 Ambulance **911**  
 Electric 766-5800  
 Water 678-9252  
 Nights & Weekends  
 766-5800

**Internet Address**  
[www.ci.rockville-centre.ny.us](http://www.ci.rockville-centre.ny.us)

## This Month In Rockville Centre

SEPTEMBER, 2002

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### New Village Administrator Ron Wasson



After an eight-month search, the Mayor and Board of Trustees have chosen Ron Wasson, a Village resident and former head of emergency services for the New York City Police Department, as Rockville Centre's new Village Administrator.

"I am very happy with this appointment," Mayor Eugene Murray said just before Mr. Wasson began work on August 12. "We conducted a very thorough search; his abilities fit right in to our operations."

Mr. Wasson had a 22-year career with the New York City police and is credited with reducing crime as a commanding officer in some of the City's busiest precincts. He spent the largest part of his career in the Emergency Services Unit which in New York City includes SWAT teams, sharpshooters, and scuba divers as well as rescue functions.

Mr. Wasson was a lieutenant assigned to the ESU in 1993 when explosives were set off at the World Trade

Center and in command of the ESU last year during the 9/11 tragedy.

Mr. Wasson is currently visiting the Village departments and acquainting himself with the hundreds of employees that he now supervises. "As residents, we tend to take the Village for granted because things are so well-run. That's why it's such a great place to live and raise a family," he said.

Mr. Wasson replaces Anthony Cancellieri who left the job to become a deputy Nassau County executive in the Suozzi administration. Village Comptroller Michael Schussheim has served as Acting Village Administrator since Mr. Cancellieri's departure.

Mr. Wasson, who was born in Mercy Hospital, grew up in Rockville Centre and moved back into the Village six years ago. He and his wife, Karen, have three daughters: Lisa, 11, and Laura, 12, who attend St. Agnes school, and Keri, 14, who attends Sacred Heart Academy.

### Village Maintains High Bond Rating

Moody's Investor Services and Standard & Poor's, citing the Village's "consistently stable and well-managed financial operations," have again assigned high ratings to \$3 million of Rockville Centre general obligation bonds.

The Moody's rating of Aa3 and the S&P rating of AA are among the very highest the agencies have assigned to Long Island municipalities.

Both Moody's and S&P also based their ratings on the Village's high wealth and income levels, on its rapid retirement of modest levels of debt, and on its self-supporting electric and water utilities.

The new rating covers \$3 million in bonds whose proceeds will finance street paving, repairs to the arch at Firemen's Field, an ambulance, and the RVC North Park project on Peninsula Boulevard.



## Village Hall Comments

By Mayor Eugene J. Murray

### Many Heroes On A Sad Anniversary



This is a September like none other before it, marking a national tragedy that has had a profound effect on Rockville Centre.

First there was the numbing awareness that our

lives had been changed forever. Mothers, fathers, sons, and daughters who had done nothing but go to work in Manhattan on a beautiful September morning never came home again.

No community was hit harder than ours and we responded as a community. The outpouring of good will and generosity and genuine feeling for others inspired us all. We will never forget the heroic firefighters, police officers, and medical technicians who worked so bravely in lower Manhattan. But we will also not forget the hometown heroes who gave of themselves so selflessly, both personally and financially.

As the Mayor of Rockville Centre, I was deeply touched by the hundreds of phone calls and visits I received from concerned residents. They all simply

said, "What can I do to help?" And help they did.

Our children created art, raised money, and volunteered. Our religious institutions, businesses, sports, charitable, and service organizations all mobilized their memberships. Our residents gave their time, their money, and their blood. I am proud of us all.

I am especially proud of the We Care Committee for its caring and sensitive work in directly helping the stricken families cope with their losses and then with all the burdens that followed. The We Care RVC Fund has raised more than \$800,000 for the families, but the contributions to the lives of the survivors was not limited to money.

Under the leadership of Bill and Mary Beth Croutier, the We Care Committee created a community network of volunteer support services for the affected families. To protect their privacy, each family designated a "champion" who was the family's contact with the Fund and with the volunteer network. As the need arose, families had access to lawyers, counselors, accountants, insurance agents, plumbers, electricians, babysitters, drivers, and other kinds of

## This Month In Rockville Centre

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

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Mary Whalen Bossart  
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For information concerning Village facilities, residents are invited to telephone Ron Wasson, Village Administrator, Clerk-Treasurer, 678-9300

assistance. Those who made this effort a success have not sought recognition, but they have earned our heartfelt thanks.

This September, a year later, through our collective community efforts, we have fought through our fear and our anger and our grief. We cannot and will not forget, but we are healing.

Dr. Thomas DeMaria and South Nassau Communities Hospital continue to operate a community outreach program for grief counseling in the Village. A local 9/11 Foundation has pledged to fund the college educations of the children of the victims. And we are preparing a suitable permanent memorial on the Village Green.

Our community's response is the best answer to those who would try to bring America down: We have not merely survived this tragedy; we have prevailed.

## RVC North Park Under Construction

RVC Mayor Eugene Murray and State Senator Dean Skelos work the shovels at the groundbreaking ceremony in June for the multi-million dollar project to develop the RVC North Fields on Peninsula Boulevard. The project includes two soccer/lacrosse fields, a baseball/softball field, lighting, bleachers, scoreboards, jogging paths, concession and picnic areas and an expanded parking lot. Sod will be laid this month and the fields are expected to be ready for competition in 2003. On hand for the ceremony were Village Trustee Jack Matthews, Mayor Murray, Parks Department Superintendent Tony Brunetta, Senator Skelos, Trustee Greg Rinn and Deputy Mayor Wayne Lipton.



## September at the Senior Center

### Special Events

Sandel Center's Fall Open House is Friday, September 13 at 10:30 A.M. Residents are invited to sample the activities, enjoy brunch, and stay for the general meeting.

Belles and Beaux, a performing group from the Bellmore Senior program, visits on Friday, September 20 at 1 P.M.

The Sandel Center Flea Market is Saturday, September 21 from 10 A.M. to 2 P.M. Find quality, gently-used items of jewelry, clothing, household goods, books, and more.

Sandel Sunday on September 22 from 2 to 4 P.M. features musical entertainment with Linda Ipanema and the Dixie Cats.

The 26th Anniversary Party is Friday, September 27 at the Milleridge Carriage House. Members are \$23, non-members \$24.99.

### Arts and Leisure Activities

The artwork of sculptor Mike Bryan is on display this month. The artist's reception is Tuesday, September 3 at 11 A.M.

The film *Oceans Eleven* with George Clooney and Brad Pitt is featured on Sunday, September 15 at 1 P.M. on the Center's 60-inch TV screen. Light lunch included.

Dr. Lenore Sandel, Professor

Emeritus at Hofstra University, offers a creative writing workshop on Tuesdays beginning September 10 at 1:30 P.M. for beginners and 2:30 for intermediates. All are welcome.

The Book Club meets Wednesday, September 25 at 10 A.M. to discuss *Open House* by Elizabeth Berg. Call 678-9245 to reserve a copy.

Bridge classes for beginners or intermediates are 2 P.M. on Wednesdays. Mah-Jongg instruction for beginners, games for experts are Thursdays at 3 P.M.

Monthly duplicate bridge games with Marie Fiorillo continue Sunday, September 29 beginning at 5 P.M. after a light dinner at 4. \$5 or \$7 per session. Register by calling 678-9245. A partner is not required.

### Health and Wellness Activities

The new Senior Bike Club meets monthly. This month's meeting is Sunday, September 15 at 7:30 A.M. Bring your bike and helmet to the Senior Center.

The Sandel Center offers grief counseling for those who have suffered a recent loss. Call Helene Locke, M.S.W. at 678-9255 for information.

The Care Club for the frail elderly meets twice weekly for music,

## Community News

The 911 emergency system is now in service in Rockville Centre. The system sends all calls for fire, police, and medical emergencies to the RVC Police Department. Previously, 911 calls were answered by Nassau County dispatchers who had to re-route some calls back to Rockville Centre. The direct numbers to the RVC Police Department (766-1500) and to the RVC Fire Department and to emergency medical services (766-0400) will remain in service, but residents should use 911 when there is a fire; when you need the police; when you think someone's life is in danger, when someone faints or collapses, or when someone is badly injured.

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Mayor Eugene Murray is the RVC Lions Club special guest bartender at Chadwicks, 49 Front Street, on Thursday, September 19 from 5 to 8 P.M., one of the events leading up to the 4th Annual Duck Race and Fall Family Festival at Mill River on October 19. All proceeds benefit Lions Club local and national charities.

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The Rockville Centre Basketball League will register boys and girls in grades 3 through 12 for its 48th season on the following schedule:

Tuesday, September 10, 7 - 9 P.M., South Side Middle School

Thursday, September 12, 7 - 9 P.M., South Side Middle School

Saturday, September 14, Noon - 4 P.M., RVC Rec Center

Wednesday, September 18, 7 - 9 P.M., South Side Middle School

The program guarantees that each child plays half of each game. For further information, to confirm the dates, and to download a registration form, visit the league website at RVCBL.com.

crafts, exercise, a hot lunch, and social opportunities. Call Wendy Weinstock, M.S.W. at 678-9245 for information.

## Mayor's Annual Golf Outing Tees Off October 7

The Mayor's annual Golf Outing, the primary fundraiser for the RVC Community Fund, is scheduled for Monday, October 7 at the Rockville Links.

The all-day event includes breakfast, lunch, cocktails and dinner as well as a round of golf for \$300. Golfers are limited to the first 144 signing up, but dinner-only tickets are also available for \$100, as well as business sponsorships, by calling Mary Rohrs at (516) 678-9260.

Each year the Community Fund provides confidential assistance to hundreds of people in emergency need. Unlike other non-profit charities, the Fund is directed exclusively to Rockville Centre residents, who have received 99 percent of the fundraising proceeds.



The 2002 Golf Classic Committee members surround the hole-in-one prize, a 2002 Dodge sedan from Reese Dodge in Lynbrook: Pat Cantwell, Pommy Levy, Harold Reese, Jr., Kevin McPherson, Sylvia Chertow, Jeff Greenfield, John Cameron, Steve Ruchman, Bill Hogan, Dr. Mike Russo, Trustee Greg Rinn, Tom Glynn, Matt Murray, Chuck Joyce, Ron Wasson, David Karp, Ed Oppenheimer, Janet Poggi, Frank Pelliccione, Wanda Murray, and Ann Goulding. In the driver's seat, with the driver: Mayor Eugene Murray. Not pictured: Kevin Akner, Trustee Mary Bossart, Brian Burke, Anthony Cancellieri, Francis Darcy, Mark Gentile, Steve Kanowitz, Kevin Laurie, Mickie Leamey, Deputy Mayor Wayne Lipton, Joan MacNaughton, Raffaella E.A. Marciari, Trustee Jack Matthews, Robert McBride, Francis X. Murray, Robert Pagnotta, and Mary Rohrs.