

## September Rec Center Events

### Bicycle Safety Week

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

Anyone wishing to register a bicycle must see that it is equipped with strong brakes, a warning device (bell, horn, or whistle), front and rear reflectors at least 3-inches square, reflectors on pedals, and reflective tires or wheels with reflectors on the spokes.

The inspections will take place at Hewitt School on Monday, September 11; at Watson and Riverside schools on Tuesday, September 12; at Covert School on Wednesday, September 13; and at Wilson School on Thursday, September 14.



*The Village's annual Kids Fest is Saturday, September 16 from Noon to 4 and features pony rides, give-aways, demonstrations and other hands-on exhibits*

### Kids Fest September 16

The annual Kids Fest open house celebration at the Rec Center is scheduled for Saturday, September 16 from Noon to 4 P.M.

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 18. All registrations are first-come, first-served and all participants must have valid 2006-2007 Recreation Center membership card.

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

### Part-time Positions Available

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

### Fall Nursery School

There are limited openings remaining in some fall nursery school classes for children entering kindergarten in September 2007 or 2008.

Classes follow the RVC public school holiday schedule. Call Peggy at 678-9338 for registration information.

### Time to Order a Tree

Residents have until October 27 to order a curbside tree from the Rockville Centre Department of Public Works. Five varieties are available for \$200 each. Village contractors will plant a tree for you for \$300, which includes a one-year guarantee: if the tree dies within a year, it will be replaced with a new one for free.

### 2006 Tree Planting Order

*Order deadline: October 27, 2006 • Planting date: April, 2007*

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

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Variety:  Pin Oak  Crimson King Norway Maple

Japanese Lilac  Little Leaf Linden  Kwanzan Oriental Cherry

\_\_\_\_\_ Tree only: \$200 \_\_\_\_\_ Tree and Planting: \$300

Mail to: 2006 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

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



### Dates & Events

Monday, September 4  
**LABOR DAY**  
Village Offices Closed

Wednesday, September 13, 8 P.M.  
**BOARD OF APPEALS**

Monday, September 18, 8:15 P.M.  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Tuesday, September 19, 7:30 P.M.  
**PLANNING BOARD**

Monday, September 25  
**MAYOR'S GOLF OUTING**  
Call 678-9260

Wednesday, September 27, 8 P.M.  
**BOARD OF APPEALS**

Events are at Village Hall unless otherwise indicated.

Videotapes of Board of Trustees meetings are aired on Cable Channel 18  
Monday - Friday at 8:15 P.M.  
Saturday at 1:15 P.M.  
and Sunday at 10 A.M.

For general information  
Call 678-9300

### Emergency Numbers

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

A complete Calendar of Events, is available on the Village's website  
[www.rvcny.us](http://www.rvcny.us)

# This Month In Rockville Centre

SEPTEMBER, 2006

VOL. 55, NO. 6

## We're 30 on the 29th!



*Seniors gather in front of the Sandel Center for the 30th anniversary of the Village's Department of Senior Services. A gala celebration on September 29 kicks off a year-long series of events and activities. See Page 3.*

### Mayor's Golf and Tennis Outing Sept. 25

The Mayor's annual Golf and Tennis Classic and Dinner, the primary fundraiser for the RVC Community Fund, is scheduled for Monday, September 25 at the Seawane Club in Hewlett Harbor.

The all-day event includes breakfast, lunch, cocktails and dinner as well as a round of golf for \$350. The donation for tennis, lunch and dinner is \$265. Dinner-only tickets are \$110.

This year's journal will honor Rockville Centre native Jeffrey Greenfield, a Community Fund

founder and longtime co-chair of the Mayor's Classic. For information about sponsorships or placing a journal ad, call Monica Derr at (516) 678-9246.

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 95 percent of the more than \$850,000 that have been raised since the Fund was founded in 1987.

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

From the Rockville Centre Police Department  
**School Traffic Safety Brochure**





# Village Hall Comments

## By Wayne H. Lipton

### Board Must Fill 'Big Shoes'



It takes exceptional people to make great government. The Village of Rockville Centre has been fortunate to have many great people working in both management and in the general workforce.

I am sad to say that the recent resignations of Village Administrator Ron Wasson and Village Attorney Martha Krisel have been significant losses to our management team. The Village was extremely fortunate to have such dedicated, non-political people in these important positions. Martha served this Village for 11 years. Ron came to us four years ago.

Ron Wasson drew from his years of management work in emergency services in the NY Police Department to help us change the police shifts, reduce overtime significantly and to bring a calm and thoughtful approach to managing the Village. He always tried to help people and to respond as directly as possible. I will miss him and I wish him the best in his future work. Martha Krisel was a highly regarded and respected village attorney who managed the legal affairs of the Village in such diverse areas as tax work, municipal code work, employment law and all forms of contracting. She worked under various party majorities and for over a decade was the voice of knowledge and the law in our Village. She always acted

in the best interest of the Village and left the politics to the politicians. She will be missed and truly did a phenomenal job as village attorney.

With 34 years of experience as a business owner and manager, after hiring over 500 people, I recognize that anyone is replaceable. But when two senior people leave suddenly and unexpectedly, there is reason to look at ourselves for some of the explanation. When two senior people leave, you lose institutional memory and continuity.

The Village Board is now actively searching for replacements for these two key individuals. Although these are "big shoes" to fill at Village Hall, I am sure that the replacements for Ron and Martha will be looking to make their mark in Village history.

Recently in an article in Newsday (August 15, 2006) about the return of a past city manager of Long Beach, it was noted that there have been eight managers in the last 10 years. The article also mentioned that the city council "didn't let city managers do their jobs. They drove them crazy, and out of city hall." Our Village must avoid this behavior to remain efficient and effective. We need to encourage our top performers to continue performing for the good of Rockville Centre.

I hope that the Board continues its tradition of non-political hiring, staying away from hiring friends and cronies, and hiring the best person for the job. I also hope that the current Board helps to create a positive environment that encourages people to stay and to continue working for the Village of Rockville Centre.



Ron Wasson

### Village Administrator Resigns

Village Administrator Ron Wasson announced his resignation for "personal reasons" at the August Board of Trustees meeting, but no effective date has been announced.

Mr. Wasson came to the Village in 2002 after a 22-year career with the New York City Police Department where he was in charge of the Emergency Services Unit during the 9/11 attacks.

## This Month

### In Rockville Centre

Published by the Village of Rockville Centre

Eugene J. Murray, Mayor

#### Trustees

Wayne H. Lipton

Jeanne Fanan Murly

Andrew P. Karanouras

Suzanne Murphy Sullivan

For information concerning Village facilities, residents are invited to telephone Ronald J. Wasson, Village Administrator, Clerk-Treasurer, 678-9350

## Community News

### Change Announced in

#### School Crossing Guard Hours

The RVC Police Department has announced a new schedule for school crossing guards which cancels all lunch period assignments and adds coverage at the beginning and end of the school day.

The decision to cancel the crossing guard assignments between 11 A.M. and 1 P.M. came after a study observed no children using the crossings during lunch periods.

The new assignments will provide increased crossing guard coverage at all intersections: in the morning, coverage will begin at 7 or 7:30 and end at 9 or 9:30; in the afternoon, all crossings will be covered between 2 and 4.

The new hours for specific intersections are available from the schools or from the RVC Police Department.

#### Back-to-School Safety Brochure

This issue of This Month in Rockville Centre includes a brochure from the Rockville Centre Police Department on School Traffic Safety. Please review its contents and share the information with your children.

The RVC Police Department asks all residents to try to be courteous to each other in the congested traffic areas around schools during drop-off and pick-up times.

#### Fall Lacrosse Club Series

The Rockville Centre Lacrosse Club will be offering a Fall Lacrosse series of Saturday morning clinics and Weeknight FallBall.

For details, please visit the Club's website at [www.rvcclax.com](http://www.rvcclax.com).

## Community News

### RVC Basketball Registration

The RVC Basketball League will register boys and girls in grades 3 through 12 for its 52nd season in the South Side Middle School lobby on the following schedule:

Thursday, Sept. 14, 7 to 9 P.M.  
Saturday, Sept. 16, 10 A.M. to Noon (and Noon to 4 P.M. at the RVC Kids' Fest at the Recreation Center).

Tuesday, Sept. 19, 6 to 8 P.M.

The RVCBL is a recreational and instructional league that guarantees playing time to players of all skill levels. For further information and to download a registration form, visit the league website at [RVCBL.com](http://RVCBL.com).

### Lion's Club Festival Sept. 30

The RVC Lions Club will host its 8th Annual Duck Race and Family Festival in Centennial / Mill River Park on Saturday, September 30 from 10 A.M. to 4 P.M.

The highlight of the day is the rubber duck race along Mill River, but other attractions include inflatable rides, prizes, a magic show, a hay ride, pumpkin painting, seasonal arts and crafts, food, and music.

Proceeds benefit Lions Club charities, including the RVC Community Fund, St. Agnes Outreach, RVC Confide, the RVC Fire Department, the L.I. Lions Eye Bank, and the Empire Speech and Hearing Clinic.

For information on the event, sponsorships, and donation, call the organization's president, Michael Jordan, at 764-1775.

### Quilts, Flowers at Phillips House

The Phillips House Museum of the Rockville Centre Historical Society will hold an exhibit of quilts and pressed flowers on Sunday, September 10 from 1 to 4 P.M.

Lydia Paulson will demonstrate the steps of quilting and Lesia Shmorhum will discuss her framed pressed flower collection. The museum is located at 28 Hempstead Avenue.



**Rockville Centre Senior Services Director Dr. Cyd Beth Charrow and Deputy Director Chris O'Leary are welcoming the community to a year of events celebrating the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Long Island's only fully accredited senior center.**



**The Village took possession of this gas station on South Park and Lincoln avenues on a tax lien in 1975 and renovated it into the first senior center. The Sandel Center has become a model facility in the state and the nation.**

### Anniversary Party

The community is invited to the Sandel Center's 30th Anniversary Party Friday, September 29 from 11 A.M. to 2 P.M. All Rockville Centre residents 60 and older are eligible for membership in the Center. Visit the center at South Park and Lincoln avenues or call 678-9350.

## A Timeline of Senior Services in RVC

- 1954** Recreation programs established for all ages and held at the Water Department on Maple Avenue and in local schools.
- 1961** Senior programs offered in the newly-built Recreation Center two days a week by volunteers from the National Council of Jewish Women.
- 1974** First free lunch program for seniors at the Recreation Center funded by Nassau County grants to Catholic Charities and the NCJW.
- 1976** A former gas station on South Park and Lincoln avenues is renovated into a "drop-in" center for seniors, supervised by Barbara Karro, a recreation specialist.
- 1982** The Senior Center is enlarged with a \$250,000 Community Development grant.
- 1982** The Friends of Senior Services, Inc. (FOSSSI) is established to raise funds for the Senior Center programs.
- 1983** A Department of Human Services is established that includes the Recreation Center and the Senior Center. Barbara Karro becomes the administrator of the Senior Center.
- 1987** The Department of Senior Services is established with Cyd Beth Charrow as its first director.
- 1988** A modular office annex is added to house the social work staff and add programming space.
- 1989** The Senior Services Department wins the first of many awards from the National League of Cities.
- 1990** The building is renamed the Leonard Sandel Senior Center to honor the former mayor.
- 1996** The FOSSSI all-volunteer building expansion and renovation project is completed and wins awards from the Town of Hempstead and the New York State Conference of Mayors.
- 2002** Award-winning SPA program begins. Sunroom extension completed.
- 2003** Sandel Center is first senior facility on Long Island, and the 85<sup>th</sup> nationwide, to be accredited by the National Institute of Senior Centers, a unit of the National Council on Aging.