



Avoiding Identity Theft

I recently applied for a credit card and was denied. Upon investigation, I thought I was a victim of identity theft. In the end the credit bureau had my information and someone else's linked and I was able to clear up the matter in a few days. But since I do most of my banking online, it scared me and forced me to see if I was taking all the necessary



By John Peters
Director, Information Technology

steps to prevent someone from obtaining my identity fraudulently.

The first thing that I did was review my banking transactions to verify that nobody got access to my bank accounts. I reviewed savings, retirement, checking and credit card activity to verify that nobody obtained my identity. I reviewed my computer settings, making sure that the firewall and phishing filter were turned on. I verified that I was running the latest version of anti-virus and anti-spyware software.

Phishing is a scam where pop-up messages or spam e-mails request personal and financial information from you. Although many of these websites look legitimate, never give any personal information from a pop up message or an e-mail. Most likely it's someone trying to steal your credit card information.

Here are some things we can do in an effort to prevent identity theft:

- ◆ Be wary of telemarketers calling and trying to persuade you to buy goods over the phone with a credit card. It could be a scam. Many scammers use VoIP (voice over internet) phone systems, which allow them to display false numbers on your caller ID.
- ◆ Shred all financial statements that contain bank account, credit card numbers and personal information prior to putting them in the trash.
- ◆ Don't e-mail personal or financial information.
- ◆ Do not use obvious passwords to your accounts, like favorite colors,

pet names or your birth date. Passwords should contain a mixture of letters and numbers in a random pattern. Any inconvenience from a forgotten password is far outweighed by the protection a good one provides.

- ◆ Do not carry extra credit cards, your social security card or personal documents that identify you

in your wallet.

- ◆ Memorize PIN numbers. Do not have them affixed to your credit or bank card or written on a piece of paper where you keep your cards.

- ◆ Request your credit report. You are entitled to a free one annually. www.annualcreditreport.com was developed by the three credit bureaus (Transunion, Experian, EquiFax).

- ◆ When mailing confidential information, use certified mail to verify that the information arrived and was signed for.

- ◆ Never click on links sent in unsolicited e-mails. Renew your software subscription for anti-virus and anti-spyware software. At least six new computer viruses are developed each day. Running outdated software leaves you at risk. Visit www.OnGuardOnline.gov for more information.

The Federal Trade Commission website contains a special section on identity theft, www.ftc.gov/bcp/edu/microsites/idtheft, that provides further information about deterring and detecting identity theft and what to do if you suspect a problem.

No method is fool proof. Being careful, by safeguarding our personal information, means there is less chance there for identity theft.

John Peters started the Village's Data Processing Department in August 1984. He holds a degree in computer science and has attended many schools to support the Village's technology. He is also responsible for the Village's telecommunications, its cable channel and its website.



Tax Office Announcements

Applications for **partial exemption** from Village real estate taxes are now available and must be filed by December 31. If approved, exemptions take effect June 1, 2009.

Exemptions are available to volunteer firefighters with five years or more of certified service and to veterans based on the date and type of military service. The value of the veterans' exemptions varies with the status of the claimant: non-combat: \$686; combat: \$1,143 and up to \$2,790 based on the percent of disability.

Exemptions are also available to disabled homeowners and to senior homeowners 65 and older with a 2007 gross income not exceeding \$36,400.

To ensure the proper delivery of tax bills, **homeowners** are reminded to notify the tax office of any changes in the status of their mortgages.

THIS MONTH in Rockville Centre

Published by the Village of Rockville Centre

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Andrew P. Karamouzis

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David A. Krasula

Village Administrator

Francis D. Quigley, Jr.

678-9300

Fall Clean-up and Planting Day Nov. 15

The Environmental and Beautification Committee is sponsoring a fall clean-up and tulip planting day on Saturday, November 15. Volunteers will meet at the Recreation Center on North Oceanside Road at 8 A.M. for breakfast before working from 9 to 12 at several sites around the Village cleaning up or planting.

Volunteers should sign up on the Village's website, www.rvcny.us.

Enchanted Winterland Nov. 16

The Rockville Centre Community Fund presents a special, new fundraising event for the whole family. The Enchanted Winterland event on Sunday, November 16 from 1:30 to 4 P.M. in the Ballroom of the Best Western on Sunrise Highway features a sit-down luncheon with a Victorian/Edwardian flair.

Special guest Leighton H. Coleman III presents a slide show and talk on the true story of the toy bear that survived the sinking of the Titanic and a discussion on preserving family history.

Other attractions include the 100-item Bevilacqua bear collection, a display of fashions and toys from Rockville Centre's past from the Phillips House Museum, and raffles and shopping.

All proceeds benefit the RVC Community Fund.

Tickets are \$25 and \$35. For information or to reserve a table, call the Mayor's office at 678-9260.

Concert Nov. 22

The South Shore Symphony concert on Saturday, November 22 at 8 P.M. features compositions for cellos and clarinet.

The concert is at the South Side Middle School. Call (516) 616-3610 for reservations and additional information.



Veterans Day Ceremony Nov. 11

American Legion Post #303 will hold a Veterans Day ceremony at Veterans Memorial Park at the Recreation Center, 111 North Oceanside Road on Tuesday, November 11 beginning at 10:30 A.M. Following the ceremony, refreshments will be served at American Legion Hall, 197 Maple Avenue.

Fall Leaf Collections

Rockville Centre's curbside leaf collections will begin Monday, November 3 and end Friday, December 19.

All leaves must be placed in the Village's free paper collection bags, which are available from the Public Works Department, 10 Sunrise Highway, or from the Recreation Center, 111 North Oceanside Road.

Bagged leaves will be collected from the curbstrip on the following schedule:

Mondays – South of Sunrise Highway

Tuesdays – North of Sunrise Highway and east of Long Beach Road

Wednesdays – North of Sunrise Highway, west of Long Beach Road, east of Hempstead Avenue

Thursdays – North of Sunrise Highway



and west of Hempstead Avenue

Note the following holiday exceptions:

Pick-up for Tuesday, November 11, Veterans Day, will be rescheduled to Friday November 14.

Pick-up for Thursday, November 27, Thanksgiving Day, will be rescheduled to Friday November 28.



THE SANDEL SENIOR CENTER

Veterans Day Tribute

The Sandel Center Men's Club hosts a tribute to all veterans on Friday, November 14 at noon. Includes luncheon and featured speakers. \$5 per person; reservations required. Call 678-9350.

Thanksgiving Luncheon

The annual Thanksgiving meal with all the trimmings is Wednesday, November 19. \$5 per person; reservations required. Call 678-9350.



Handmade holiday goods will be on sale at the Sandel Center's Holiday Crafts Fair on Saturday, November 22 from 10 A.M. to 2 P.M.



THE ANDERSON RECREATION CENTER

31st Annual 10K and Family Fun Run

The Annual 10K, 6.2-mile road race and the new 5K, 3.1-mile race both begin Saturday, November 8 at 10 A.M. on Park Avenue between Merrick Road and Sunrise Highway opposite the Fantasy Theatre. Race day registration is at Village Hall, One College Place and Clinton Avenue and costs \$25 for the 10K and \$17 for the 5K.

The course is flat and fast. The race will be run rain or shine.

The one-mile Family Fun Run begins at 9 A.M. on Front Street in front of the LIRR station. The entry fee is \$9. For information, call 678-9339.

Food Donations Needed

The Rec Center is accepting donations of canned and dry goods as well as frozen turkeys or coupons for distribution to the needy in our community. Bring your donations Monday through Saturday from 9 A.M. to 5 P.M. before Thanksgiving. Coupons may be mailed or dropped off at the Rec Center.

Operation Christmas Child

The Recreation Department is collecting school supplies and toiletries for needy children. Donations, which must

be in their original packaging, may be made Monday through Saturday from 9 A.M. to 5 P.M. at the Recreation Center. For information, call 678-9339.

Winter Programs

The Recreation Department will start taking reservations for winter programs beginning November 10. Detailed fliers are available at the Rec Center, 111 North Oceanside Road.

Middle School Dance

The Recreation Department is sponsoring a dance for sixth graders on Friday, November 14 from 7:30 to 10 P.M.

The dances are open to teenagers who live in Rockville Centre or who attend Rockville Centre schools. A school ID is required for admission.

Nursery School Openings

There are limited openings remaining in the pre pre-kindergarten classes which meet Monday through Thursday from 9 to 11:30 A.M. and in the pre-kindergarten classes which meet



Join the crowd for Rockville Centre's 31st Annual 10K race and new 5K November 8 at 10 A.M.

Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 12:15 to 2:45 P.M.

Call Peggy at 678-9338 for further information.

Birthday Parties and Rentals

The Rec Center offers age-appropriate birthday parties to Village residents for pre-school and elementary age children seven days a week. All parties include an organized activity followed by refreshment and celebration time in the party room. Call 678-9338 or 9339 for available dates and the fee schedule.

Rooms at the John A. Anderson Recreation Center and the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Center are also available for rental.



All ages are welcome at Rockville Centre's Family Fun Run beginning on Front Street at 9 A.M. on Saturday, November 8.

THIS MONTH in Rockville Centre

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

PRSR STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Freeport, NY
Permit No. 50



Dates & Events

Saturday, November 8, 9 A.M.
FAMILY FUN RUN
Front Street

Saturday, November 8, 10 A.M.
RVC 10K RACE
North Park Avenue

Tuesday, November 11
VETERANS DAY
Village Offices Closed

Wednesday, November 12, 8 P.M.
BOARD OF APPEALS

Monday, November 17, 8:15 P.M.
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Tuesday, November 18, 7:30 P.M.
PLANNING BOARD

Thursday, November 27
THANKSGIVING DAY
Village Offices Closed

Events are at Village Hall unless otherwise indicated.

Emergency Numbers

Fire 911

Police 911

Ambulance 911

Electric 766-5800

Water 678-9252

Nights & Weekends

766-5800

www.rvcny.us

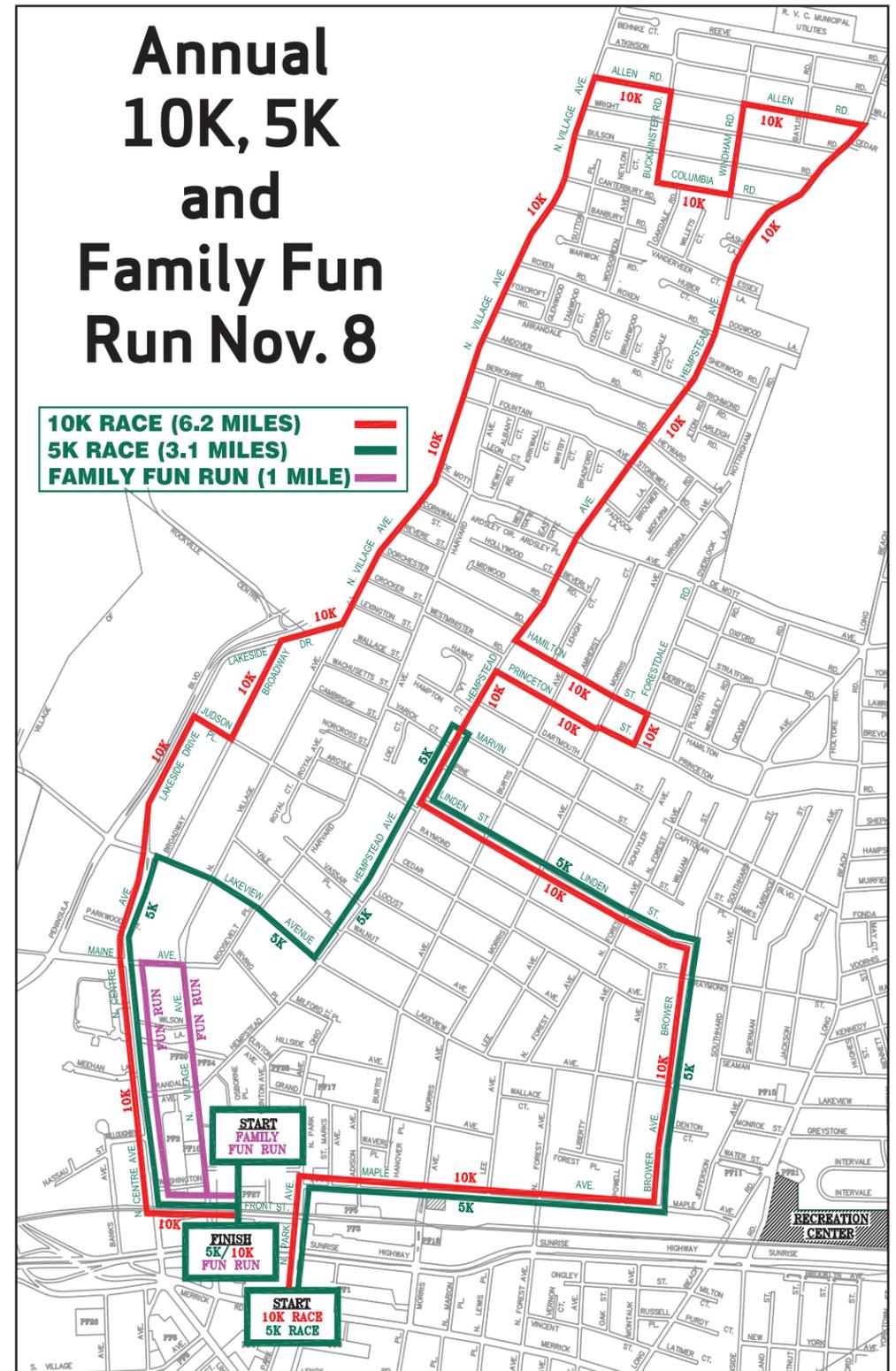
THIS MONTH in Rockville Centre

November 2008

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Annual 10K, 5K and Family Fun Run Nov. 8

10K RACE (6.2 MILES)
5K RACE (3.1 MILES)
FAMILY FUN RUN (1 MILE)



The Rockville Centre Recreation Department's new 5K (3.1-mile) race will be run for the second time this year along with the 31st Annual 10K race and the Family Fun Run on Saturday, November 8. See Page 4 for details.