



## THE ANDERSON RECREATION CENTER

### Fishing Clinic

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and the RVC Recreation Department present the annual freshwater fishing clinic at Hempstead Lake State Park on Saturday, October 13 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. There are exhibits, contests, and prizes. The fee is \$6 per person for anyone age 12 or older.

Call 766-1029 for further information.

### Mural Painting Contest

Boys and girls in grades 4 through 8 must register by October 16 at the Recreation Center for the annual contest on Saturday, October 20 from 9 a.m. to noon.

The Halloween artists are invited to paint on paper that is taped to the lobby and auditorium walls of the Recreation Center.

Plaques are awarded by a distinguished panel of judges.

### Halloween Ragamuffin Costume Parade and Party

Rockville Centre's 22nd Annual Halloween Costume Parade and Party are Sunday, October 28.

Youngsters pre-K and up, their parents and families are invited to join the parade which starts from the Village

Green, Maple and Lee avenues, at 2 p.m. and proceeds down Maple to the Rec Center. At the Center will be games, fun, and prizes for the costumed marchers.

Everyone must register for the parade and / or party at the Rec Center for \$8 per family.

In case of rain, the parade is canceled, but the party will begin at 3 p.m. at the Recreation Center.

### Connor and Friends

Free Special Ed play days for pre-schoolers and up will be held once a month beginning Sunday, October 21 from 2:30 to 4 p.m. Pre-register by emailing [mplawless@verizon.net](mailto:mplawless@verizon.net).

### Goblin Calls

Fill out a Goblin Slip at the party after the Ragamuffin Parade and you may receive a Goblin Call and a Goblin Prize on Halloween evening, Wednesday, October 31.



Enjoy the costumes at the annual Halloween Parade and Party on Sunday, October 28. Register at the Recreation Center.

### Operation Christmas Child

The Rec Center is collecting school supplies, toiletries and small games for distribution to needy children.

Bring your donations, in their original packaging, Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. by early November.

### Food Donations Needed

The Rec Center is accepting donations of canned and dry goods as well as frozen turkeys for distribution to the needy in our community.

Bring your donations Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. before Thanksgiving.

## Recycle Wednesdays!



### It's more than newspapers!

Cardboard, product packaging, magazines, catalogs and junk mail can also be recycled on Wednesdays from the convenience of your curb.

Recycling lowers the cost of government and your Village real estate taxes!

## THIS MONTH in Rockville Centre

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

PRSR STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
Hicksville, NY 11801  
Permit No. 70



## Dates & Events

Monday, October 8  
**COLUMBUS DAY**  
Village Offices Closed

Tuesday, October 9, 7 P.M.  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Wednesday, October 10, 7:30 P.M.  
**BOARD OF APPEALS**

Tuesday, October 16, 7 P.M.  
**PLANNING BOARD**

Sunday, October 21, 7 P.M.  
**CANDLELIGHT VIGIL**  
Village Green

Wednesday, October 24, 7:30 P.M.  
**BOARD OF APPEALS**

### Columbus Day Week Sanitation Schedule

- ◆ Monday, October 8 – Columbus Day: No trash collection.
- ◆ Normal Monday / Thursday trash collections on Tuesday and Thursday.
- ◆ Normal Tuesday / Friday trash collections on Wednesday and Friday.
- ◆ No collection of bulk items or recyclable paper products on Wednesday, October 10.



To add your cell, work, unlisted phone number or email to the Village's automatic emergency notification system visit the Village website [www.rvcny.us](http://www.rvcny.us)

# THIS MONTH in Rockville Centre

October 2012  
Vol. 61, No. 7



Gathering for the beginning of renovations to Maple Avenue are Trustee Ed Oppenheimer (in back), Electric Department Superintendent Paul Pallas, grant writer Kathleen Murray, Deputy Mayor Nancy Howard, Trustee Michael Sepe, Mayor Fran Murray, Village Administrator Keith Spadaro and contractor Richard Grim. The concrete block in the background on the north side of Maple in front of the firehouse is one of 15 new manholes that will be installed underground as part of the infrastructure improvements.

## \$1.2 Million for 'Rockville Centre's Fifth Avenue'

It will be next spring before the most visible improvements to Maple Avenue will be apparent — the newly-paved street surface, the new stamped concrete crosswalks, new lamp posts, benches and plantings.



The new Maple Avenue intersections.

"This is our Fifth Avenue, where we host our parades. By next year it will be a showcase for our Village," Mayor Fran Murray said as work was about to begin in September.

Before the streetscape can be

beautified, the underground infrastructure must be upgraded: 15 new manholes, 4,200 linear feet of electrical conduit, 1,200 feet of new, larger water mains and 10 new fire hydrants need to be installed.

The project was made possible by a \$1.2 million federal grant secured with the assistance of Rep. Carolyn McCarthy on an application prepared by Village grant writers hired by Mayor Murray last year.

## Survey: RVC Business Occupancy Rate Rises

The business occupancy rate in Rockville Centre is above 94 percent, the highest mark in five years and the fifth highest in the past 20 years, according to a recent Building Department survey.

Of the 497 business locations counted, 28 or 5.6 percent were vacant, the lowest rate since September 2007.

The last business district survey was conducted in December of 2010 when there were 40 vacancies recorded. In June 2010 there were 50 vacant stores, a rate of 10 percent.

"Interest in our Village is high and I continue to solicit business owners, brokers and developers to open businesses here," Mayor Murray said.



# Recent Changes Showing Results

In what seems like a never-ending national economic crisis, it's nice to be able to report some positive news about the state of our Village.

More than a year ago, the Village Board of Trustees set out to take a careful look at the policies and regulations that determine how we live and conduct business in Rockville Centre. The goal has been to maintain those restrictions that make

sense. At the same time, a serious effort is underway to reform laws and policies that discourage residents or businesses from investing in our Village.

Working with Mayor Murray and Trustees Howard, Glynn and Oppenheimer, we've made changes to our Village Code in the areas of business regulation, parking, zoning and building.

Our residents have responded. Our building department reports that residential and commercial construction and renovations exceeded last year's projections by more than 20 percent. That means, without any taxpayer funds being used, residents and businesses have invested 10 million more of their own dollars in Rockville Centre in the past year than projected.

The business community has also responded. The Village has managed to bring in new businesses, filling many previously empty storefronts. Our store



By Trustee Michael Sepe

occupancy space is now approximately 95 percent, the highest level in the last five years. So that this trend continues, we are working to further renovate our downtown and business areas.

We were also able to negotiate a new contract with our Civil Service Employees Union, protecting their jobs and our services while at the same time reducing the Village's costs in salaries

and benefits.

Mayor Murray has aggressively pursued state and federal grants. As a direct result, we've received millions of dollars for projects such as maintaining our Fire Department and rebuilding Maple Avenue.

Finally, we have also been able to secure lower rates on our bond issues and recently realized the savings of more than \$600,000 on our most recent refunding bond. All this has been done at the very same time that we have been able to maintain our AA+ credit rating.

In all of those efforts, we are grateful for the hard work of Village Administrator Keith Spadaro, Village Comptroller Michael Schussheim, our department heads and Village employees and most importantly our residents.

Together we have shown that no matter what happens at the State and Federal level, what a Village does makes a difference.



## Transfer Station Open

The Village Transfer Station on Sunrise Highway adjacent to the Public Works building, is open to the public the first and third Saturdays of the month from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. through November 17 to receive large items of trash, including furniture and appliances. Proof of residency is required.

## E-cycling Collection Day

The Town of Hempstead's last E-cycling collection day of the year is Sunday, October 14 at the Town Point Lookout Parking Field on Lido Boulevard in Point Lookout from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Recycling old electronic equipment removes toxic materials from the waste stream.

The program is open to Town residents only and does not accept drop-offs from businesses or commercial vehicles.

For further information, call 378-2200.

## THIS MONTH in Rockville Centre

Published by the Village of Rockville Centre

### Mayor

Francis X. Murray

### Trustees

Nancy Howard

Kevin R. Glynn

Edward J. Oppenheimer

Michael Sepe

### Village Administrator

Keith M. Spadaro

678-9300



# October is Fire Safety Month: Some Tips

The Rockville Centre Fire Department is the largest all-volunteer fire department in New York State. We are very proud of our dedication, both in the manner in which we respond and the efforts that we make to be ready for any type of emergency.

Because October is Fire Safety and Prevention Month, we would like to give you some helpful tips to keep you safe and healthy as the colder weather approaches.

◆ Smoke and carbon monoxide detectors are an essential part of any fire safety plan for your home. You should have one of each, or a combination detector, installed on each level of your residence and you should change the batteries every six months. The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) suggests you get into the habit of changing them when you set your clocks back in the fall and ahead in the spring. Hard-wired detectors also need to have their backup batteries changed in case the house current is interrupted.

◆ Before you turn your home heating system on for the first time, especially if you heat with oil, have



By RVC Fire Chief John Busching

your service provider check your system in case it needs repairs.

◆ Don't forget your propane barbeque. Many people simply cover the grill and leave it until next season. It is better to make sure the tank is shut off and disconnected. Store the tank in a well-ventilated outdoor area away from your house and check on it several times throughout the winter to ensure that it hasn't begun to leak.

◆ When it snows, please shovel the sidewalks and walkways to your front door promptly. It is also important to clear snow and ice away from your furnace and hot water heater vents, as well as the vent used by your clothes dryer. In the event of a deep

snow, please assist the fire department by clearing snow away from any fire hydrants near your home so we can access them without delay.

◆ One aspect of home safety that is not unique to the fall is ensuring your house number is readily visible from the street. Please make sure that you have large, visible numbers on your home, illuminated if possible, so that responding police officers, ambulance crews and firefighters can find you quickly.



The NFPA's theme for Fire Prevention Week 2012 is "Have 2 Ways Out." A home fire escape plan prepares your family to think fast and get out quickly when a smoke detector or CO detector is activated.

What would you do if your first escape route was blocked by smoke or flames? Practicing evacuation using two ways out is a key part of a home safety plan.

Your fire department stands ready to assist you 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. If you are interested in joining our ranks and seeing just how gratifying an experience it can be, stop by any local firehouse on a Sunday morning or call 516-678-9320 for more information.

## Annual Golden Gathering

State Senator Dean Skelos sponsors his annual senior health day offering demonstrations and informational booths focused on the needs and interests of seniors from 9 a.m. to noon on Friday, October 19 at the Recreation Center, 111 North Oceanside Road.

Call 766-8383 for further information.



## 9/11 Vigil October 21

Residents are invited to share the comfort of community at a brief candlelight prayer vigil commemorating the dedication of Rockville Centre's 9/11 Memorial on the Village Green at 7 p.m. on Sunday, October 21.

Please bring candles.

## RVC, Molloy Field Project Scaled Back

Rockville Centre Mayor Francis X. Murray recently announced that the proposal to upgrade the Centennial Park athletic fields in partnership with Molloy College has been cancelled due to unanticipated additional construction costs.

Only the NCAA-regulation, synthetic turf women's softball field and tee ball field at the Skelos Sports Complex will be built.

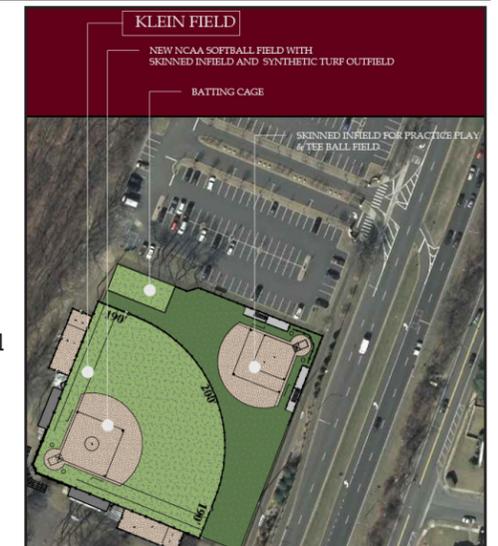
"We are disappointed that we cannot proceed with the full plan," Mayor Murray said, "but we are very happy about our continuing partnership with Molloy and with

President Drew Bogner."

The extra expense that cancelled the proposed NCAA field hockey and baseball fields — which would have also accommodated local soccer and Little League games — is due to structural deficiencies in the ground beneath Centennial Park.

The fields are acceptable for natural turf, but the soil will not support synthetic turf and its associated drainage system, according to the Village's engineers on the project.

The mayor also announced that he and the trustees will meet with local sports organizations to discuss future improvements to RVC's athletic fields.



Synthetic turf will be installed at Klein Field in the Skelos Sports Complex.