### January/February 2015 THIS MONTH IN Vol. 62, No. 1 **Rockville Centre**





February 2, At 7 P.M. **BOARD OF TRUSTEES** 

February 11, At 7:30 P.M. **BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS** 

> Monday, February 16 PRESIDENT'S DAY Village Offices Closed

> February 24, At 7 P.M. **PLANNING BOARD**

February 25, At 7:30 P.M. **BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS** 

> March 2, At 7 P.M. **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

March 11, At 7:30 P.M. **BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS** 

> March 21, At Noon **ST. PATRICK'S PARADE**

#### March 24, At 7 P.M. **PLANNING BOARD**

March 25, At 7:30 P.M. **BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS** 

Events are at Village Hall unless otherwise indicated.

Holiday Sanitation Schedule President's Day Week

• Monday, February 16, 2015

- President's Day No trash collection Normal Monday/Thursday trash collection will be on Tuesday and Thursday
- Normal Tuesday/Friday trash collection will be on Wednesday and Friday
- Wednesday, February 18, 2015 No bulk items or paper pickup.

During holiday weeks, paper products may be deposited Monday through Friday at DPW headquarters 10 Sunrise Hwy.

# Maple Avenue Status Report

There is a light at the end of the tunnel for the Maple Avenue project. The majority of the work has been completed after a long and difficult process involving almost every level of government. Just before the holidays, motorists and residents were given an early gift in the way of a newly paved roadway. This capped off the work done last fall to replace and improve the aged water and electric infrastructure below. The work is nearly complete but the efforts to get the Village to this point were significant.

The cost of the project all in is approxi-mately \$5 million. To offset the burden on the taxpayers of the Village, a grant was secured for well over \$1 million. This grant is from the Federal Government and is dedicated to the resurfacing portion of the project. The NYS Department of Transportation (DOT) administers the Federal grant, making the NYS DOT responsible for overseeing almost every element of the project. From the design, to the thickness of the asphalt, to which materials are being used, and where street lamps are being placed the DOT was involved. The NYS DOT is also responsible for making sure that we follow their procedures for obtaining bids from vendors, making sure we include minority and other disadvantaged businesses in the process and for contracting with vendors. DOT has close-



ly monitored the project and it's important for our residents to understand that the involvement of NYS DOT has increased the timeline of this project significantly.

Currently, the striping to separate lanes and indicate stop lines is a temporary paint. When the weather is a little warmer a thermographic product will be put down that will adhere to the road more permanently and offer maximum reflection at night. Fear no more, the familiar green parade route striping will return too! Ten Maple trees of varying species have been planted along the road and we have plans to plant many more thanks in part to a grant from the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation's Urban and Community Forestry. In addition, there are many areas of the sidewalk that are simply topsoil right now. Some of those areas will be home for trees and some will be paved with red brick. During the next few weeks we'll be making the decisions on that for implementation in the spring. Finally, crosswalks will be constructed along key intersections with brick colored material for maximum а pedestrian safety in the spring. We look forward to seeing you and your family on our beautiful "Main Street.

## Never Forgotten

NYPD, RVCPD and

for those who serve

and protect their

was made possible

due the generos-

ity of Mormile Florist

who donated the rib-

"These two lives that were tragically

taken from us too soon, has shed a light on all the brave

officers who put

their lives on the line

This

communities.

bons.

Days before Christmas, two of New York City's finest, Officer Wenjian Liu and Officer Rafael Ramos, were assassinated by a gunman. This was a tragedy for the family and friends of these officers, as well as the

abiding citizens. At the suggestion of the Village's First Lady Barbara Murray, blue ribbons

entire force and law-

were placed throughout the Village in honor of the fallen heroes to express appreciation, respect, and support for all the

every day to keep our communities safe," said Mayor Francis X. Murray at the January board meeting. "They run toward danger when all of our



instincts tell us to run away - and they deserve our respect and gratitude every single day. This kind of violence against police officers cannot be tolerated or forgotten. Their families are in our thoughts and prayers."



Village Honors Local Athletes

The Mayor and the Board of Trust- board meetings. Student athletes from



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ees honored many South Side High School athletes for their successful

the volleyball team, girls and boys soccer teams, the swim team and the seasons at the December and January cross country team were honored.





www.RVCNY.us



# Around Our Community RVC Showcased Holiday Spirit



Festive crowds came out for the annual Rockville Centre tree lighting at the Village Green. Molly Cosgrove turned on the lights for the Christmas Tree while students from South Side High School performed holiday songs.

The Recreation Center held its annual breakfast with Santa. Hundreds of families attended with elves serving pancakes, cereal, juice, milk, rolls and bagels. After eating Vixen's Fixin's, kids visited Santa, Rudolph and Frosty. In conjunction with the the National Council of Jewish Women, the Recreation Center held its annual Chanukah Party/Festival of Lights. In addition, the Mayor and the Board of Trustees attended the annual community Chanukah Candle-Lighting at Central Synagogue.

The Sandel Senior Center hosted its annual Intergenerational Holiday Party, giving seniors a chance to spend time with students from South Side High School. Seniors and students shared food and conversation before the SSHS Chamber Singers performed holiday numbers.







# **RVC Commemorates Pearl Harbor Day**

The Village of Rockville Centre and American Legion Post #303 hosted ceremonies, including casting a wreath on the water, at Mill River Park on Sunday, December 7th. The ceremonies honored the courage and sacrifice of American troops who defended Pearl Harbor in 1941.







Black History/ Brotherhood Month

### Monte Carlo Casino Night

FOSSI's annual Monte Carlo Fundraising Event will take place Saturday, April 25. Every year the Sandel Center is transformed into a alittering casino with deli-

### 19th Annual St. Patrick's Parade

The 19th Annual Rockville Centre St. Patrick's Parade will begin at Noon on Saturday, March 21st. This year's Grand Marshal is long-time Rockville

### Women's Heart Health Awareness Month

Celebrate Women's Heart Health Awareness Month in February with the Sandel Senior Center. Guest speakers will present programs about health and nutrition to promote heart healthy lifestyles. Members will "go red" with participation in "National Wear a Red Dress Day," and enjoy many events designed to raise awareness.

### at the Phillips House Museum

The Phillips House Museum will be featuring the works of Westbury, New York artist George C. Burgess. Burgess began his early years reproducing comic book characters. He later graduated to oils and acrylics. His mixed media art has been exhibited in the Annual Molloy College Black History Month Exhibit, the African-American Museum in Hempstead, Aswagh Hall in South Hampton, and the Black-Expo in Charlotte, North Carolina. His series include First Fruits, Street Games, and Yester-Feelings. Burgess possesses over 50 years of dedicated art study and development. The show will be open on Saturdays and Sundays from one to four p.m. through February 28th at the Phillips House located on 28 Hempstead Avenue. For further details, please call 764-7459.

formed into a glittering casino with delicious food, open bar, entertainment and the chance to win great prizes through exciting gaming action! For information about tickets or sponsorship opportunities please contact Chris O'Leary, Senior Services Director, 678-9268.

### I ♥ RVC!

Residents are invited to share a short high-definition video, less than three minutes, showcasing everything you love about Rockville Centre.

All videos with "I♥ RVC!" in the title must be submitted by Monday, March 2, 2015 at 11:59pm EST and is open to residents of all ages. Mayor Francis X. Murray and the entire Board of Trustees will select the winner/s. The winning video will be announced on the Village's Facebook page on Monday, March 20, 2015 and showcased on the Village website. Contest rules and further details can be found on the Village of Rockville Centre's website at www. rvcny.us. Grand Marshal is long-time Rockville Centre attorney Bob Williams, the Parade's original attorney. The parade that "shares and cares" will benefit the Katie McBride Foundation, the Hance Family Foundation, and Dublin Children's Pilgrimage.



# Around Our Community



### Village Hall Comments

### RVC Leading The Way on "Smart Growth"

2015 has begun and we have started to put forth our plans for the New Year. We continue to focus on smart growth and quality of life concerns.

For those of us living a decade or more in Nassau County, we can all site examples of how the county and more specifically our own Village has changed. The county and therefore Rockville Centre has become more "populated" and for some it is not a welcome change. Unfortunately we can not stop the traffic and congestion problems that accompany a growing population but we as a Village Board can certainly take it by the hand and address it with our sensibilities so that our wonderful community maintains its unique and family oriented feel.

We have been identified as a community that understands "smart growth" and we will remain dedicated to that. Our residential area, which includes stately homes, co-ops, condos and apartments, will continue to be beautiful and a desirable place to live. The new Avalon bay project (where the RVC tennis center was) is an example of growth. While the Ava-Ion Bay developers purchased that property as "a matter of right," meaning we have no legal right to deny a landowner the right to sell their property to a viable purchaser, we can certainly communicate our concerns and preferences. The Board of Zoning Appeals is there to oversee and ensure all required traffic studies, build-ing codes and environmental concerns are addressed. As a Village Board we have communicated our desire for the development to include smaller affordable units that allow our young people who have grown up and been educated here to return after college to begin their professional lives. With our county being one of the most expensive places in the United States to live, we are losing our young professionals to other parts of the country thus threatening our sustainability. We invest a great deal into their education and should benefit from it into the future. With the reasonable commute to the city, the walkability to the train station and the desirability to young professionals the Avalon Bay project can be a welcome addition to Rockville Centre.

Our downtown is also an area of focus for the Mayor and Board. We hear concerns about the number of similar



TRUSTEE NANCY HOWARD

businesses entering our Village but once again we can't deny a landlord or property owner the right to sell or lease to interested parties. Business types that already exist cannot be arbitrarily denied because of the number of other like businesses. We continue to develop codes that can help us address the size of interested establishments that would add extra burden to our parking lots.

Parking has and continues to be an issue for our Village. We have hired an engineering firm to redesign two of our lots in order to increase the number of spots. We are considering a variety of other parking solutions as well.

We are also addressing the aesthetics of our vibrant downtown. With an eye towards creating a charm and distinguished look to our business district we are developing new codes that will provide business' that are new, or existing ones that are renovating, with an approved palate of fabric types and colors for their awnings. We are refining sign codes that will also assist in the overall goal of an improved appearance for our downtown.

Certainly the Maple Avenue project is a marked improvement as the main thoroughfare that links our residential and business district. With the arrival of spring we look forward to new plantings and park benches that will add to the dramatic improvement.



### 78th Annual Mercy Ball

Friends of Mercy held its 78th annual Friends of Mercy Medical Center Mercy Ball supporting a new Center for Hyperbaric Medicine & Wound Healing. The facility will offer comprehensive wound care services for the treatment of chronic, non-healing and/or poorly healing wounds. Pictured left to right are Mayor and co-chair of the Mercy Ball Francis X. Murray, Bishop Andrzej Zglejszewski, Andy Healey and Councilman Anthony Santino.



### Mayor Murray Receives Leadership Award

Superintendent of Public Works Harry Weed presented Rockville Centre Mayor Francis X. Murray with the Franklin D. Roosevelt Award from the New York Metropolitan Chapter American Public Works Association. The award is in recognition of the Mayor's distinguished leadership and initiative in advancing strong support for effective public works programs to improve the environment and the quality of life.

# Rockville Centre

Rockville Centre resident Tom Aiello received a certificate for his dedicated service to the Rockville Centre community. For the past several years, Aiello coached Rockville Centre lacrosse teams. Aiello is also a teacher and Assistant Dean of Students at Carey High School in Franklin Square as well as the Assistant Head Coach/ Defensive Coordinator of their football team. Last year, Aiello's team won the Rutgers cup, the championship for all of Long Island, and he was named Nassau County Assistant Coach of the Year. This year, his team once again won the Nassau/Suffolk championship. The certificate is in recognition of all that Aiello does for local youths.

### Village Honors Tom Aiello for Service to Community

Published by the Village of Rockville Centre

Mayor Francis X. Murray

Trustees Nancy Howard Edward J. Oppenheimer Michael Sepe Emilio F. Grillo

Village Administrator Keith M. Spadaro

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# **The John A. Anderson Recreation Center**

### **Pre-School Programs**

There are a limited number of openings in the Nursery School Classes at the John A. Anderson Recreation Center, 111 North Oceanside Road. These classes are for children entering kindergarten in September 2015 or 2016. Classes follow the RVC public school holiday schedule. Openings are in the morning classes from 9 to 11:30 a.m. Other pre-school programs being of-fered this year include: Nursery School En-richment, A Class of My Own, Roll Around, Kinder-Crafts, Introduction to Gymnastics, Happy Piano Enrichment, Happy Piano Jam-Tappy Plano Enrichment, Happy Plano Jam-boree, Happy Plano Baby Bounce, Parent-Toddler Workshop, ComputerTots, Ballet/ Tap 1, Lego Bricks 4 Kidz, Nuts for Signs (baby signing), For Kids Only, Funday Mon-day, Tumbles 1, 2, and 3, Little Decorating Boss, and Yoga Kids. For further details or to particular planes and the Page Castor at 678 register, please call the Rec. Center at 678-9338.

### Spring Programs and Registration

The Recreation Center Department Spring Program schedule begins the week of April 13th. Detailed flyers describe a wide array of activities offered by the Rec. Registration begins on February 23rd for residents and March 2nd for non-residents. For all activities call 678-9339.

Youth Programs Babysitting, Basketball, Bowling, Car-toon Time, Computer Explorers, Cooking for Kids, Crossfit Kids, Decorating Boss, Fencing, Touch Football, Happy Piano, Ice Skating, Introduction to Guitar, Lego Bricks 4 Kidz, Mad Science, Schoolhouse Chess, Swimming Instruction, Tae Kwon Do, Tennis Lessons, Time to Shine, All 4 One Yoga, and Yoga Kids.

### Middle/High School Programs

Babysitting, Bowling, Cartooning, Co-Ed Cardio Workout, Drivers Safety Program, Fencing, Ice Skating, Decorating Boss, Basketball/ Open Gym, Step Aerobics, Swimming Instruction, Tae Kwon Do, Time to Shine, and Yoga for Teens.

### **Adult Programs**

Co-ed Cardio workouts are available. Step Aerobic classes will be held on Monday evenings from 7 to 7:45 p.m. Pay as you go for \$5.00 each class. Cardio classes will be held on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 7 to 8:00 p.m. Pay as you go for \$5 each session.

Zumba exercise to a Latin beat on Monday mornings from 9:15 to 10:15 a.m. and Wednesday evenings from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., and Saturday mornings from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. Pay as you go for \$5.00 each class.

Square dancing is available on Monday and Tuesday evenings from 7 to 8:30 p.m. and 8:30 to 10p.m. Dancers can pay as they go for \$7 per person. The weight room at the Rec is available to

adults seven days a week for \$30 a month for residents and \$35 a month for non-residents. The room features a treadmill, recumbent bike, rowing machine, Stairmaster and Arc Trainer, as well as free weights, Cybex machines and a bench cage.

### Gymnastics Show

The 40th annual gymnastics shows will be held on May 29th, 30th, and 31st. Over 700 children will be practicing their routines during the spring session, which they will showcase for parents and friends at this annual event. Tickets will be on sale in May.

### February & Spring **Recess Trips & Special Events**

Visit the Center, call 678-9339 or visit the Village website at www.rvcny.us for information on events and activities for February and spring recesses.

### **Crafts Fair and** Flea Market

Join the Recreation Department on March 8th for the Crafts Fair and Flea Market. Vendors contact Maura at the office at 678-9238

### Easter Egg Hunt

The Village's annual Easter Egg Hunt is 9:30 a.m. Saturday, March 28 at the Rec-reation Center's Veterans Park for boys and girls in pre-school through grade 4. A rain date is scheduled for Sunday, March 29th at 2 p.m

### **Roll Around**

Come in and enjoy our spectacular indoor playground! The Recreation Center creates an environment with gym apparatus and manipulatives in which your 1-4 year-old can explore, think, and discover. An adult must accompany the child at all times.

DETAILED INFORMATION FOR ALL ACTIVITIES CAN BE FOUND AT THE RECREATION CENTER OFFICE, ON THE RECREATION CEN-TER'S NEW WEBSITE AT WWW.RVCREC.WEEBLY.COM, OR BY CALLING THE RECREATION CENTER AT 678-9238.



Join the Recreation Center for its annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 28 at 9:30 a.m. at the Recreation Center's Veterans Park.





#### The Recreation Department offers gymnastic programs from recreational through competitive levels. Come support our gymnastics at one of their competitions.

# Village Announces **Employee of the Month**

For many, 30+ years with the Rockville Centre Sanitation Department would have marked the time to ride off into the sunset, but not for Jimmy Giaquinto. Almost immediately after retiring from his full-time job with the Village, Jimmy began working parttime with the Rockville Centre Department of Senior Services.

Jimmy knows the roads of the Village like the back of his hand. He is always willing to pitch in wherever or whenever he is needed at the Sandel Center. He cares about the buses as if they were his own personal vehicles. But what he really cares about, every single day, are the Sandel Center members themselves. Getting seniors to their destinations safely and on-time is only part of Jimmy's mission. Say, for example, the seniors are off to see an Elvis show; well, they can be sure that Jimmy will be playing some of the King's tunes along the way. The seniors who use the weekly grocery shopping bus can tell you all about how Jimmy helps them load their groceries from store wagons, onto and off of the bus until passengers and eggs all arrive home, safe and sound. And most touching of all, whether it's a light drizzle or heavy downpour, you can see Jimmy hop-ping off the bus, big golf umbrella in hand, to escort each senior from their door, onto the bus, keeping everyone nice and dry. For these reasons and the many other acts





Cardboard, product packaging, magazines, catalogs, and junk mail can all be recycled on Wednesdays.

During holiday weeks, paper products may be deposited Monday through Friday at Department of Public Works headquarters, 10 Sunrise Highway.



#### JIMMY GIAQUINTO

of kindness he performs each day, Jimmy Giaquinto has been named the Rockville Centre Employee of the Month for January 2015. The Village would like to thank him for a job well done.

### PLEASE NOTE DISPOSAL OF USED MEDICAL NEEDLES

Used medical needles must be discarded at The Department of Health, any local hospital or nursing home.

#### **\*DO NOT DISCARD USED NEEDLES IN HOUSEHOLD REFUSE**