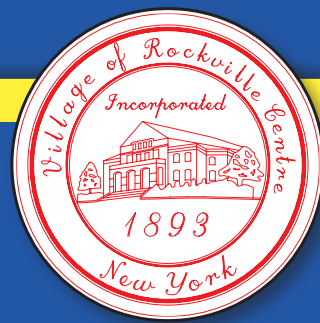


# THIS MONTH IN Rockville Centre

May/June 2015 • Vol. 62, No. 3



Dates & Events

June 1, At 7 P.M.  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

June 16, At 7 P.M.  
**PLANNING BOARD**

June 16, 7 A.M. - 9 P.M.  
**VILLAGE ELECTIONS**

John A. Anderson Recreation Center

June 17, At 7:30 P.M.  
**BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS**

June 24, At 7:30 P.M.  
**BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS**

JULY 9, At 7 P.M.  
**ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING**

July 13, At 7 P.M.  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

July 15, At 7:30 P.M.  
**BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS**

July 21, At 7 P.M.  
**PLANNING BOARD**

July 11  
**FIREWORKS**  
Mill River

Events are at Village Hall  
unless otherwise indicated.

**TRANSFER STATION AND  
E-CYCLING IS NOW OPEN**

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

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

THIS MONTH IN  
**Rockville Centre**  
One College Place, P.O. Box 950  
Rockville Centre, New York 11571

## Once Again Village Stays Under State Tax Cap

*Allows Eligible Residents to Receive Refund Check From State*

For the third consecutive year the Rockville Centre Board of Trustees passed a budget that stays within the tax cap while not impacting services. The budget of \$43.19 million includes the smallest real estate tax increase in 15 years of 2.83% and is less than \$550,000 over the current fiscal year. The small increase in the tax levy is well within the permissible New York State tax cap and consequently can result in refunds for thousands of homeowners in the Village from the State.

Like every municipality, the Village of Rockville Centre has been challenged by increasing costs including those mandated by other levels of government. However RVC has risen to the challenge and refuses to pass all the increased costs

along to homeowners through higher real estate taxes. Instead the Village has been creative in the way they operate and has implemented prudent fiscal policies. These policies were recently recognized by Standard & Poor's Rating. S&P raised the Village's AA+ rating to AAA, the highest possible rating.

"I believe the 2016 budget balances the need to hold down taxes and not impact the services that residents have come to expect and enjoy while staying under the tax cap for the third year in a row," commented Mayor Francis X. Murray "I have been extremely aggressive in pursuing grant money, private/public partnerships, and gifts to improve upon our great Village with little expense to our residents."

Over the last few years the Village has

been able to secure over \$6 million dollars in federal, state and local grants to make improvements within the Village. Much of the money has been used to improve our roadways, parks and services for our seniors. In addition, grants have been obtained to help our Police and Fire Departments utilize state-of-the-art equipment to keep residents safe.

"The spending plan we are putting forth is the product of a great deal of work by the Village, our Comptroller and our department heads to hold down costs wherever possible," continued Mayor Murray. "We will continue to look for ways to reduce costs and bring in additional revenue to the Village."

Residents can view the spending plan on the Villages web site, [www.rvcny.us](http://www.rvcny.us).

## Board of Trustees Honor Local Athletes

The Board of Trustees honored local athletes at its April meeting. An eighth grader at South Side Middle School, Kyle Mosher has already earned a few Varsity letters in wrestling. This past February, Kyle became the first South Side Cyclone to win a Nassau County Wrestling Championship in almost 20 years. Kyle competes in the 99-pound weight class and has a career record of 66-11.

The St. Agnes Boys Basketball Team, coached by Mike Prendergast and Tim Blackford, played against St. Mary's

on February 12th for the Catholic Middle School Sports Association Championship title. This was the second consecutive Championship season for this group of St. Agnes Stags. The Board of Trustees would like to congratulate: Gavin Kelly; Ryan Ledwith; Brendan McCabe; Eamon McGowan; Charles O'Brien; Brendan Daly; Tommy DeJong; Logan Fitzgerald; Austin Freeman; Liam Hulbert; Patrick Mooney; Connor O'Brien; Ryan Panzavecchia; Kevin Roth; Tristan Shafer; and Managers Danny Kirley; Jake Murphy; and Danny Whang.



## RVCFD To Host Nassau County Firemen Association Parade & Drill

The Rockville Centre Fire Department is honored to announce it will be hosting this year's Nassau County Firemen Association Parade and Drill on Saturday, July 25th. This time-honored tradition of all the Nassau County Fire Departments assembling to display their Department and community pride has been conducted since 1903.



Over two-dozen teams will compete in motorized and old fashion tournament of firefighting skill against the clock and each other for trophies. Spectators are welcome to watch and support the teams in performing the skilled maneuvers. The tournament begins at 8:00 am sharp at Fireman's Field.

The Rockville Centre Fire Department will lead a parade later that day of over 3,000 firefighters with hundreds of fire apparatuses from 71 Fire Departments located throughout Nassau County. The parade begins at 6:00 pm and proceeds down Maple Avenue to Front Street. The Rockville Centre Fire Department invites the community residents and businesses to join and support us in welcoming the other Fire Departments and their families to the Village for the day's festivities.

## First Responders Attain Paramedic Certification

Thomas Barbieri, Donna Hitscherich, and Michael Woram of Floodlight Rescue Company 1 recently attained paramedic certification, the highest pre hospital certification in EMS. The program was offered by the Nassau County Fire Police Academy and entailed 1,400 of training over 15 months. There were 14

graduates with Rockville Centre having three of the graduates all of whom performed at the top of the class including Donna who was the Valedictorian of the class. The Board of Trustees would like to congratulate Thomas, Donna, and Michael for their hard work and commitment to serving our community.



Pictured here at the graduation in the top row, from left, are Firefighter and EMTCC Joseph Howard, Ex-Chief and Chairman of the Fourth Battalion Fire District John Hennig, RVCFD Chief Bob Seaman, Mayor Francis X. Murray, First Assistant Chief Brian Cook, and Firefighter Andy Healey. Graduates in the bottom row, from the left are Michael Woram Donna Hitscherich, and Thomas Barbieri.

**Meet The Candidates Inside** - page 3

[www.RVCNY.us](http://www.RVCNY.us)

Find us on facebook







# Around Our Community

## RVC and Its Police Department Aid Families of NYC's Slain Officers

With the help of RVC Moms, Mormile Florist, Art Flower Shop, and the RVC PBA the Village donated \$2,000 to the New York City PBA Widow and Children's Fund in honor of officers Wenjian Liu and Rafael Ramos, who were assassinated by a gunman days before Christmas. NYPD Officer Jeff Broadman, who was Ramos' former partner, was present to accept the check.

At the suggestion of the Village of Rockville Centre's First Lady, Barbara Murray, blue ribbons were placed throughout the Village in honor of the fallen heroes to express appreciation, respect, and support for all the NYPD, RVC PD and for those who serve and protect their communities.

Pictured here with the check are, from left, RVC PD Commissioner Charles Gennario, Sergeant Jim Giovaniello, Detective Tim Seward, Officer Nick DeLuca, Art Flowers owner Keith Linsalata, Officer Ramos' former partner NYPD Police Officer Jeff Broadman, Sergeant Randy Dodd, Officer Evan Siar, Officer Everett Mojica, RVC PBA President Jim Carty, Officer Matt Vickery, Deputy Mayor Nancy Howard, Rockville Centre First Lady Barbara Murray and Mayor Francis X. Murray.



## The Village of RVC Participates In Building Safety Month

When you enter a house or other type of building, you assume it is properly constructed and safe, and that it complies with state and local building codes. Fortunately, the Village of Rockville Centre's Building Department works hard to ensure buildings are safe within our community. To help raise awareness of building safety, the Village proudly celebrates Building Safety Month during May. This year's theme is Building Safety: Resilient Communities Start with Building Codes.

"Public safety is our number one concern," said Mayor Francis X. Murray. "During Building Safety Month and all year long, building safety and fire prevention officials are here to help protect you, your family and our community."

Building Safety Month is a public safety awareness campaign to help individuals, families and businesses understand what it takes to create safe, resilient, affordable and energy-efficient homes and buildings. The RVC Building Department continues to take the appropriate measures to ensure that the places people live, learn, work, worship and play are safe and sustainable.

"When our building safety and fire prevention experts inspect buildings during and after construction, they help to ensure that the places where you live, learn, work, worship and play are safe," said Dan Casella, Superintendent of Buildings for the Village. "Ensuring public safety is something we think about and do every day working with home builders, plumbers, roofers and other construction industry trades and contractors."

Building codes address all aspects of construction, from structural to fire prevention, plumbing and mechanical systems, and energy efficiency. To ensure buildings are safe requires the active participation of code officials, fire inspectors, architects, builders, engineers, contractors and others in the construction industry, as well as property owners.

The Village Building Department asks all residents to be conscious of all projects to improve building safety and sustainability at home and in the community. If you have any questions, please call the Building Department at 678-9247.

## Sandel Center Wins Big at Monte Carlo Night

The Sandel Center brought Las Vegas to Rockville Centre with its annual Monte Carlo night. The major fundraising event of the year, sponsored by Friends of Senior Services, Inc. (FOSSI), was filled with a variety of games with professional dealers. The night also paid tribute to honoree Margarita Grasing. For over thirty years Mrs. Grasing has served as Director of the Hispanic Brotherhood of Rockville Centre.



## Real Estate Tax Due June 1, 2015

Village real estate tax bills due June 1st are scheduled to be mailed the week of May 25th. Taxes may be paid, without penalty, at the Cashier's Office in Village Hall, via U.S. mail or online at the Incorporated Village of Rockville Centre website [www.rvcny.us](http://www.rvcny.us) no later than July 1st.

Online payments may be issued via electronic check or credit card. There is no fee for paying by electronic check and a 2.75% convenience fee for paying by credit card. Credit card payments may only be made with either Mastercard or Visa.

New property owners and those who have satisfied, refinanced or sold their mortgage to another lending institution should contact the Tax Office as soon as possible either by telephone at (516) 678 9242, fax at (516) 678 9306 or email at [taxoffice@rvcny.us](mailto:taxoffice@rvcny.us).

The Tax Office, located on the 2nd floor of Village Hall at One College Place, is open weekdays from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.



## Lawn Sprinkling Hours

The Rockville Centre Board of Trustees has adopted a stringent water conservation plan, as mandated by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC).

This plan includes universal water metering as well as mandatory fines for watering between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. Watering of lawns must coincide with the house address for odd and even days.

## Annual EAT. SHOP. ROCK. RVC.

The RVC Chamber of Commerce invites you to join us in its 2nd Annual EAT.SHOP. ROCK.RVC. The event is being held on Saturday, May 30th from noon to 9:30 p.m. on Park Ave between Sunrise Hwy and Lincoln Ave. For further details, visit <http://www.eatshoprockrvc.com>.

## Farmers' Market Reopens

The Farmers Market will resume on Sunday, May 31st and continue every Sunday until November 22nd from 7 a.m. to noon in Municipal Parking Field 12, along the north side of Sunrise Highway, between Long Beach Road and N Forest Ave.

## Yoga

The RVC Conservancy and RVC Yoga are partnering for Yoga on the Green. Classes are available Sunday mornings in June beginning on June 7th at 10 a.m. on the Village Green. Bring your own yoga mats or towels and a donation of \$5 per session to join in the fun. To register please visit [www.rvcconservancy.org](http://www.rvcconservancy.org).

## Kayaks on the Lake

Come and explore Hempstead Lake on Saturday, June 13th from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Kayaks are available to rent. Reservations recommended, but not required. Secure your spot today with RVC Conservancy at [www.rvcconservancy.org](http://www.rvcconservancy.org)

## Fireworks July 11th!

The Village's 122nd birthday celebration is Saturday, July 11th. There will be food vendors and entertainment beginning at 6 p.m. The South Shore Symphony concert of summertime favorites will begin at 7:45 p.m. and the Grucci fireworks display over Mill River will begin about 9:15 p.m. Rain date: Sunday, July 12th.

There is still time to make a tax-deductible donation in support of this event. Make checks payable to RVC Guild for the Arts and mail to: RVC Guild for the Arts, Fireworks Celebration, P.O. Box 950, Rockville Centre, NY 11571-0662.

## TRANSFER STATION

THE TRANSFER STATION IS OPEN THE FIRST AND THIRD SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH APRIL THROUGH NOVEMBER.

10:00 A.M. TO 2:00 P.M.

THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS 10 SUNRISE HIGHWAY.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE TRANSFER STATION WILL BE CLOSED ON JULY 4, 2015.

RVC LICENSE REQUIRED

## E-CYCLING IS NOW OPEN

EVERY FIRST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH 10:00 A.M. TO 2:00 P.M.

RESIDENTS MAY BRING THEIR ELECTRONICS

THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS 10 SUNRISE HIGHWAY

ASSISTANCE WILL BE GIVEN FOR EXTRA LARGE ITEMS PLEASE CALL (516) 678-9216

ACCEPTABLE E-CYCLING ITEMS  
COMPUTERS / COMPUTER MONITORS  
ANYTHING THAT PLUGS INTO A COMPUTER  
TELEVISIONS / SMALL ELECTRONICS  
VCR \* DVD \* IPAD \* GPS  
VIDEO SYSTEMS  
CABLE BOXES  
SMALL SERVERS  
CAMERA OR VIDEO CAMERAS  
TELEPHONES (ANY TYPE)  
CALCULATORS

THE TRANSFER STATION & E-CYCLING WILL BE CLOSED JULY 4, 2015





## Meet The Candidates

### Mayor Election Candidate for Mayor



FRANCIS X. MURRAY

Mayor Francis X. Murray is a life-long Rockville Centre resident. He and his wife Barbara are the proud parents of five and grandparents of three. He is a graduate of St. Agnes Grammar School and Cardinal Farley Military Academy and attended the University of Dayton.

Before his retirement, Fran was president of FX Murray Maintenance, he has a long record of public service to the Rockville Centre community: an active member of the RVC Fire Department since 1972 including service as an EMT on Floodlight Rescue Company #1; is a former co-chair of the RVC Environmental and Beautification Committee; former Vice-President RVC Conservancy; former board member to the Friends of Senior Services (FOSSI); is currently President of the RVC Community Fund; former member of Mercy Medical Center's Board of Trustees; former St. Agnes Cathedral School board member; Knight of the Holy Sepulchre; member of the Knights of Columbus; member, Friendly Sons of St Patrick LI; member RVC Chamber of Commerce; 2009 Grand Marshal for RVC St. Patrick's Parade; two-time chair St. Agnes Parish Celebration; Mercy Medical Center Planning Board member; former president of the Friends of Mercy and Special Advisor to the board as well as serving on the Executive Committee to Nassau County Village Officials Association and New York State Conference of Mayors.

### Deputy Mayor Election Candidate for Trustee



NANCY HOWARD

Nancy has been a Trustee and Deputy Mayor since July 2011. During her tenure she has been actively involved in the current administration's efforts to improve their Village through improvement of quality of life issues while maintaining the lowest tax increases in recent history. Her responsibilities as a Trustee include Liaison to the Recreation Department, Sandel Senior Center, and Fire Department. Nancy has been the recipient of the Town of Hempstead Pathfinders 2012 Humanitarian award and was named one of New York State Assemblyman Brian Curran's 21st District 2014 Women of Distinction.

During her children's academic careers, Nancy was a stay at home parent and was extremely involved in school district committees and organizations, serving on the PTA's of several schools, including as PTA President of Wilson Elementary School; chairing South Side High School's Post Prom committee fundraising efforts; as a member of the Education Foundation Board and the District Compact Committee; and as Co-President of the South Side High School Booster Club.

An active member of the community, Nancy was also a member of the Rockville Centre Guild for the Arts and the Mercy League that benefits Mercy Medical Center.

Prior to raising her children, Nancy was a freelance illustrator and a Human Resources executive. Her career took her from Macy's, where she was an Employment Manager, Management Recruiter and Training Executive to the Wall Street investment bank Salomon Brothers, where she was responsible for recruiting MBAs as well as conducting management, communication skills and conflict resolution training.

Nancy and her husband Dave have lived in Rockville Centre for 22 years and have four children, Matthew, Thomas, James and Emily.

### Trustee Election Candidate for Trustee



MICHAEL SEPE

Michael Sepe, 44, is a graduate of Rutgers University and Fordham Law School. He served as a Nassau County Assistant District Attorney from 1996-2003. After working for regional law firms, he founded his law practice in Rockville Centre in 2007. He is currently the managing partner of Sepe & O'Mahony, PLLC. Michael is counsel to St. Mark's Nursery School and Temple B'nai Shalom, is a past guest commentator for Court-TV and a former faculty member of the National College of District Attorneys. Michael has received the peer review rating of "AV Preeminent" by members of the bar and judiciary, the highest possible rating for legal ability and ethical standards.

Michael is the Village liaison to the Rockville Centre Police Department, the Rockville Centre Building Department and the Nassau County legislature. Since being elected, Michael has authored and sponsored more than fourteen separate changes to the Village Code in addition to implementing numerous changes in procedures for Village Departments. Over the past four years, he has been central in labor contract issues, in the Village budget process and in the Village's success in bringing three consecutive budgets under the NYS tax cap.

Michael and his wife Alyssa have lived in Rockville Centre since 2005 with their two sons, Jack and James.

### Village Justice Election Candidate for Village Justice



WILLIAM J. CROUTIER, JR

William J. Croutier, Jr. is the current two-term Village Justice for Rockville Centre. Bill is the managing partner of HAMMILL, O'BRIEN, CROUTIER, DEMPSEY, PENDER & KOEHLER, P.C., a defense litigation law firm in Syosset. Bill received his undergraduate degree from Iona College and then went on to attain his law degree from the St. John's University School of Law. He was admitted to the New York State Bar in 1979. In addition to his professional career, Bill has been a past member of the Rockville Centre Planning Board for 20 years and Chairman of the Rockville Centre We Care September 11th and the September 11th Memorial Committees. Because of his dedication to the community, Bill has received several awards including Person of the Year - Rockville Centre (2002), Molloy College Caritas Medal for Service to the Community (2003) and the Eugene J. Murray Citizen of the Year Award (2012). Bill has served on the St. Agnes School Board. He enjoys coaching CYO basketball for both boys and girls. Bill has been a life-long resident of Rockville Centre where he and his wife, Mary Beth, have raised their three daughters.

### Gregoris Subaru "Shares the Love"

Richard DeGregoris, owner of Gregoris Subaru in Valley Stream, presented the Village with a \$4,890 check for the Rockville Centre Community Fund at the April Board of Trustees meeting. As part of its "Share the Love" campaign, Gregoris Subaru picked the RVC Community Fund to donate a portion of sales from January and February. The Community Fund is dedicated exclusively to helping members of the Rockville Centre community. The Board of Trustees would like to thank Richard and Gregoris Subaru for their generous donation and support to the RVC Community Fund.



### "We Dig Seniors"

The Board of Trustees recognized Rich McQuillan, the broker/owner of EXIT Links Realty in Rockville Centre, and his team of over 30 volunteers for the "We Dig Seniors" task force at the April meeting. This past winter, the group shoveled out the homes of Rockville Centre's senior citizens. The Board of Trustees would like to thank the group for their community service and giving back to their fellow neighbors. Volunteers included: Brendan Arleo, Michaela Becconsall, Maria Brunetta, Timmy Capitelli, Lily Coll, Emma Cuccurullo, Anthony Culley, Connor Ernst, Ailis De Tommaso, Sean Griffin, Brianna Heinz, Paige Hennessy, Aidan Kelly, T.J. Long, Tim Mann, Marc Messina, Haley McDonald, Jack McDonald, T.J. McNicholas, Kayla McQuillan, Richie McQuillan, Samantha McQuillan, Michael Murray, Griffin O'Shea, Richie Petrone, William Pickett, Robert Reis, Kaitlyn Rosenbaum, Quinn Shannon, John Stamboulidis, Nicole Talkin, Katie Wagner, Jackie Wilkins, Kate Woythaler, and Johnny Wright.



### RVC Paints the Village Green

With nearly 7,000 onlookers, the Parade That Cares and Shares took to the streets with green pride. On March 21st, the 19th annual St. Patrick's Parade brought over 100 organizations and groups from across Nassau County and New York City to march on behalf of the three chosen charities: Katie McBride Foundation, the Hance Family Foundation, and Dublin Children's Pilgrimage. The parade was led by the 2015 Grand Marshal and Rockville Centre native Bob Williams. Bob has spent his life serving others with his unwavering dedication, commitment and willingness to get involved in the Village of Rockville Centre.



### THIS MONTH IN

## Rockville Centre

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

www.rvcny.us

## I ♥ RVC Winner Announced

The Village announced the winner of its first video contest- I ♥ RVC! The Sandel Senior Center topped the competition with its "All about the Place" parody of pop sensation Meghan Trainor's "All About That Bass."

The winning video featured Sandel Center members and employees dancing around the Village streets and businesses showcasing many of the amenities the Village of Rockville Centre has to offer to residents and visitors. Mayor Francis X. Murray even makes an appearance, jamming with the crowd at the School of Rock. The witty lyrics and clever dance moves can be seen on the Village website and Facebook page.

"All of the entries received in the 'I ♥ RVC!' contest were videos that creatively expressed what they love about living, working and playing in Rockville Centre," commented Mayor Francis X. Murray. From our top-notch schools to our thriving downtown, contestants used innovative ways to highlight everything Rockville Centre has to offer. I would like to thank and congratulate everyone who participated in this fun contest."

The second-place team, Nicholas and Allison Demeo and James Woo, and third-place finisher Joseph MacNair, as voted by the Village Board of Trustees, are featured on the Village's Facebook page. The winners walked the red carpet before previewing the winning video.







# The John A. Anderson Recreation Center

## Summer Playground and Rec. Middle School Program

Summer Playground will be held this year from July 1st through August 12, 2015. The program is conducted as a regular weekly program staffed by trained recreation personnel. Residents of Rockville Centre or those attending RVC schools in grades 1-7 are eligible to register for this program at any time at the three sites (Hewitt, the Rec. Center, or Wilson). Daily activities include athletics, arts & crafts, recreational activities and special events. Summer Playground will meet Monday-Friday from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Flyers and additional information is available at the Recreation Center.

## Summer Nursery School

Young children need the opportunity to interact with their peers in an environment geared to their needs. We have it all. Come see for yourself. There will be many outdoor activities including sprinkle parties and picnics. Call the Rec. Center office at 678-9339 to make an appointment to visit. Summer classes begin Monday, June 23 and run through August 9, in coordination with the Summer Playground Program. This program is for children entering kindergarten in September 2013 and 2014.

## Nursery School for Fall 2015

The Recreation Department is currently taking registration deposits for the Fall Nursery School Program for children entering Kindergarten in September 2016 and 2017. New for this Fall: Time for Two's Nursery School Program - A drop-off nursery program intended as a separation class for 2-year olds with a curriculum designed to help children explore their own ideas at the same time they are gaining new skills. A warm, nurturing and positive school experience is offered in our bright, inviting classroom, playground and gymnasium! Call or visit the office for information or to visit our school.

## 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., 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.

## Tennis Courts Open

The Har-Tru courts, adjacent to the Recreation Center, 111 North Oceanside Road, are ready for play. The courts are open from 8 a.m. until dusk, seven days a week. Admission is by valid recreation card, plus court fee.



Come down for the 40th annual gymnastics shows on May 29th, 30th, and 31st.



With a variety of activities and trips planned, the Summer Program is sure to be a blast this summer. Call the Recreation Center for detailed information.

## Summer Program

The Summer Program Registration has begun and programs will begin June 29th. Additional information is available at the Recreation Center.

## Gymnastics Show

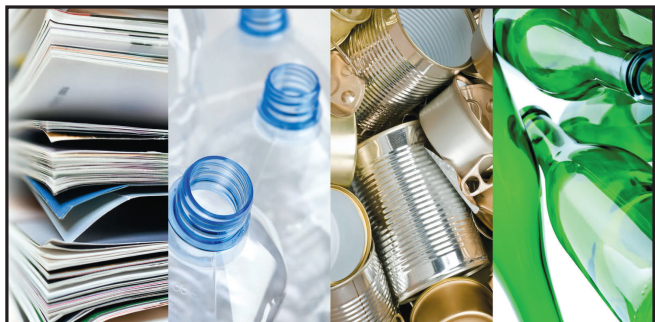
The 40th annual gymnastics shows will be held on May 29th, 30th, and 31st. Over 700 children will be practicing their routines during the spring session, which they will showcase for parents and friends at this annual event. Tickets will be on sale in May.

## Art Show

On June 13th the Recreation Center will be displaying the work of its smallest artists. The nursery school pre-K and pre-pre K will be exhibiting their work.

**DETAILED  
INFORMATION  
FOR ALL ACTIVITIES  
CAN BE FOUND AT THE  
RECREATION CENTER  
OFFICE, ON THE  
RECREATION CENTER'S  
NEW WEBSITE AT  
[WWW.RVCREC.WEBLY.COM](http://WWW.RVCREC.WEBLY.COM)  
OR BY CALLING THE  
RECREATION CENTER AT  
678-9238**

## Recycle Wednesday



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

During holiday weeks, paper products may be deposited Wednesdays through Fridays at DPW headquarters, 10 Sunrise Highway.

## TIME TO ORDER A TREE

The Rockville Centre Department of Public Works curbside tree planting program is now underway for the Fall of 2015. Residents have until September 30, 2015 to order a tree from among the six varieties listed below. Trees are \$250.00 each. Village contractors will plant a tree for you for \$350.00, which includes the cost of the tree, planting and a one-year guarantee.

(If the tree dies within a year, it will be replaced with a new one for free)

### 2015 TREE PLANTING ORDER FORM

Order deadline: September 30, 2015 – Planting date: Fall, 2015

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

Address \_\_\_\_\_

VARIETY:

- ☐ Pin Oak    ☐ Crimson King Norway Maple    ☐ Male Ginkgo Biloba  
☐ Japanese Lilac    ☐ Little Leaf Linden    ☐ Kwanzan Oriental Cherry

\_\_\_\_ Tree Only: \$250.00    \_\_\_\_ Tree and Planting \$350.00

MAIL TO: 2015 TREES \* ROCKVILLE CENTRE D.P.W. \* P.O. BOX 950 \* RVC \* NY \* 11571

Make check payable to Village of Rockville Centre





# 2015 State of Village Address

I can't believe it's been nearly 4 years since my father swore me in as the 23rd Mayor of Rockville Centre. At that time I promised you that I would devote my time and energy into sustaining, and more importantly improving the quality of life for those who live and work in Rockville Centre. Today I stand before you to let you know that I have kept that promise to the people of this Village. We have changed the way business in our Village operates.

Rockville Centre is a better place to live and raise a family today than it was 4 years ago. I want to be perfectly clear one man does not run this Village, it takes a team. I want to thank my running mates from 2011, Deputy Mayor Nancy Howard and Trustee Mike Sepe for their insight and guidance helping me put forth fresh innovative ideas that have made Rockville Centre a better place. Also, I thank Trustees Oppenheimer and Grillo and our dedicated Village employees for their tireless service to Rockville Centre and its residents.

## What Have We Done?

Let's start with our Commercial District. A priority of my administration has been the health of our downtown. Four years ago we changed the entire philosophy on how to govern this very important part of our community. For example, we stopped ticketing our residents and visitors after 6 P.M. by allowing free parking at night. We partnered with our Chamber of Commerce to solve problems and to be proactive.

Our downtown business district is key to our Village's future and sets the tone for our Village. It is the most visible indicator of community pride as well as the economic health of the Village. Our downtown represents a significant portion of our tax base and their prosperity protects residents' property values. When I took office almost 4 years ago, the downtown occupancy rate was 84% compared to a staggering 98% that we are enjoying now with more businesses on the way. Over 50 new businesses have moved in or expanded over the last 4 years. Unlike other communities, our downtown is not littered with boarded up windows and "For Rent" signs. To the contrary, Rockville Centre downtown is filled with thriving businesses that are expanding their operations and updating their facades. An article published in the June 22, 2014 edition of Newsday pointed to the Village of Rockville Centre as a model with our "diversified housing and smart growth." This is a model I believe in.



**Mayor**

**Francis X. Murray**

## Infrastructure Updates

A number of infrastructure improvements have taken place throughout the Village during my four year term, including the painting and interior repairs of three of our four water towers and improvements of lighting and sidewalks in our downtown districts. We have also started environmentally safe power washing of the sidewalks in the downtown district.

The 2014-15 winter brought a significant amount of snow and ice to the Village. The Public Works highway division plows over 55 miles of roadway, 30 parking fields, and Village owned sidewalks. The Village will be unveiling its new salt brine snow management system. This new brine truck will provide a separation layer, keeping the snow from bonding, which will increase traction and will provide easier separation for plowing.

In the past, the Village improved approximately one-mile of roadway per year. However, my model with the help of our Village Board, Department of Public Works, and our Engineers, we have improved approximately three to four-miles of roadway per year and that will continue in 2015.

This year we are re-paving Eton Road, Richmond, Nottingham, Sherwood, Foxcroft Road, Hollywood Court, Milton Court, Arden Court. The Loch, Loch Path, Cash Lane, Essex Lane, Glenwood, Wright Road, Arrandale Road, Hargale, Briarwood, Kenwood and Tamwood Courts, Winding Road, Aldershot Court, Argyle Place, Brevoort Place, Cambridge Street, Crocker Street, Devon Road, Hamilton Road (between Long Beach Road – Earle), Hawke Lane, Rockville Avenue, Waverly Place, Shellbank Place (Rockaway to Woods) Wilson Place, Raymond Street from Long Beach Road to Meadow Lane, Earle Avenue from Princeton Road to Brevoort Place, Yorkshire Road, Strathmore Road, Surrey Lane, Varick Court, Judson Place, Royal Court, DeMott Place, Woods Avenue (from Rockaway to the Village line), Driscoll Avenue (Woods to dead end), and Broadway.

## Maple Avenue Project

The largest road project in the history of Rockville Centre was completed after a long and difficult process involving almost every level of government. Just before the holidays, motorists and residents were greeted with a newly paved roadway. Currently, the striping to separate lanes and indicate stop lines is 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. 10 trees of varying species have been planted along the road and 20 more were ordered

as part of 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, we will be planting in many of those areas, and flower baskets will be hanging from our decorative light posts in the summer.

## Parking

Parking has and continues to be a great concern of this administration. We can no longer take a cookie cutter approach. We need to think of out of the box solutions. As I indicated earlier, one of my first acts as your Mayor was to make parking in our downtown free after 6 P.M. This has had a tremendous impact on our occupancy rate, which in turn has increased our tax base. We are a victim of our own success. We need more parking.

Currently, I am working with an engineering firm to redesign two of our parking lots. Lot #9 behind El Mariachi and Lot #4 behind Churchill's which are in a horrible state of disrepair. This will improve the safety, aesthetics, and provide 18 additional spots. I am seeking grant money to pay for this project.

## Fields

Our children are our future, and my administration promised to refurbish, repair, and add new fields where possible.

## Here Is What We Have Done:

- 1) Hickey – completely refurbished backstop fencing – sod – irrigation and installed bathrooms for the first time.
- 2) Hickey II – we saw an old patch of dirt and built a new softball field with irrigation, lights, bleachers and backstops.
- 3) Klein Field – in a private, public partnership with Molloy College, we built a state of the art NCAA approved turfed softball field at no cost to our residents.
- 4) Bligh/Ketler Field was full of moguls. We leveled it, seeded it and put back the infield grass, new irrigation and new dugouts have been ordered.
- 5) Tighe Field – in another private public agreement with RVC Soccer the entire playing field was re-sodded and irrigation improved.
- 6) Centennial Park - The Basketball Courts were resurfaced, new hoops, and fencing was installed.
- 7) Lister Field – all new backstop fencing was installed. In the fall, the outfield will be leveled out, new irrigation installed and the infield dust bowl will be replaced with new sod and new lighting for the athletic field.
- 8) Skelos Field - This summer we will be replacing the turf on Darcy Field.
- 9) New Playground - We are working with the RVC Little League and the RVC Lions Club to secure

continued on other side





# 2015 State of Village Address

continued from other side

grants and gifts to build a special needs accessible playground on North Forest Avenue at Sunrise Highway.

## Beautification

Beautification of our Village will continue to be a focus in 2015. We intend to improve the appearance of downtown areas with plantings, new lighting, and sidewalks. I want to thank the Chamber of Commerce for their commitment to our downtown, especially President Barbara Goldfeder and Vice President Greg Schaefer. We have had many meetings in my office with Steve Didominico from Dee's Nursery. The result last year yielded the prettiest flower baskets our Village has ever seen. Last month I met with the RVC Conservancy – Mary Beth Croutier, Bridget Kelly, Stacy Meekins, and Kathleen Murray to identify a Village Flower, colors and ways to implement that effort in this summer's plantings around this Village. We continue to be recognized as Tree City USA, for our commitment to re-planting.

The fence along North Village Avenue from Mercy Medical Center to Lakeside Drive was installed replacing a 20-year eyesore to us all. This was provided from a grant I received from Nassau County after pursuing them for three years. Thank you Legislator Howard Kopel.

I look forward to our annual fireworks in July and I thank all residents who donate to make this night possible.

## IT Department

We are always looking for more efficient and green ways to do things around the Village. That is why our IT Department has and continues to update our computer systems. Our new system will streamline the way we do business to make us more efficient and easily accessible to our residents.

## Electric Department

The Village of Rockville Centre is one of only three municipally owned electric utilities on Long Island. We are also one of a few full service municipal electric utilities in New York, providing everything from electric generation, transmission and distribution. I will continue to work with our Superintendent of the Electric Department to explore new ways to implement an energy efficiency program to help slow the growth of electric demand within the Village.

## Fire Department

I am proud to be an active 43-year member of one of the largest, and all Volunteer Fire Departments in New York State with over 340 highly trained members. We continue to look for ways to improve upon the equipment being used to ensure the safety of the volunteers as well as residents.

My administration recognizes their value, and four new fire trucks were ordered for the Rockville Centre Fire Department this year. In addition, I am seeking funds through grants to build a new firehouse that will be used as an Emergency Management Headquarters and dormitories for State Police and National Guard for disasters like Superstorm Sandy.

I would like to thank Chief John Thorp for his last two years of dedicated guidance as Chief Engineer of our Fire Department. Your commitment to our residents, and all visitors of Rockville Centre, has not gone unnoticed by the Village Board. Good Luck to our incoming Chiefs – Bob Seaman, Brian Cook and Eric Burel.

## Police Department

Our Police Department plays a vital role in the Village. The Rockville Centre Police Department is comprised of 52 sworn officers and a support staff of 10 full-time civilians and 32 part-time civilians. We wanted a greater presence in our residential areas so this year we hired two additional officers bringing the total to 54 officers. In 2014, the department handled more than 17,000 calls for service. Members of the department are continuously involved in training exercises and programs to assist them in their daily duties.

I know I speak for all our residents when I personally thank our entire Police Department for their commitment in keeping and making Rockville Centre a safer place to live. We are fortunate to have our own Police Department.

## Taxes

My administration is aware with the rising costs of living on Long Island. We have brought you the lowest tax increases in modern Rockville Centre history. And we've done it without cutting your services, as a matter of fact, we've even added some including garbage, recycling, e-cycling, power washing of sidewalks and adding crossing guards. We have stayed under the New York State Tax Cap and freeze each year.

I must mention another first, our Bond rating has gone to AAA, the highest possible rating, by Standard & Poor. In addition, another rating service, Moody's, affirmed the Village's rating to and AA2, which is one of the highest ratings. The agencies cited our strong fiscal policies and procedures for giving us high marks. And at the end of the day, high ratings equal lower costs to our residents on any future borrowing. I would like to thank our Comptroller and his staff for a great job.

## Building Department

During the 2014 calendar year, the Building Department processed more than 1,000 building permits, plumbing permits, and property maintenance inspections in an effort to provide a safe community. The construction projects had an esti-

mated cost in excess of \$20 million dollars. Ladies and Gentlemen, businesses in Rockville Centre is alive and well. People believing in their village and investing in the future.

## Recreation

Visit our Recreation Center and MLK Center anytime of the day, seven days a week, and you'll find a flurry of activities for babies, children, teens, adults, and senior citizens. Our Recreation Department hosts more than 3,000 athletic fitness, entertainment, education, and enrichment classes. Activities are tailored to every age group and interest, offered in all seasons.

## Senior Services

It is the mission of the Rockville Centre Department of Senior Services to provide essential, quality, and responsive service to our Senior residents and their families. The Sandel Senior Center provides numerous programs and activities for our aging population. Most recently, members swept the I Love RVC contest that showcased why Rockville Centre is such a great place to live.

## What Are Our Plans Going Forward?

- Keep taxes down.
- Complete More Roads.
- Address Parking Lots, Redesign and Improve.
- One of my mandates from day one was securing grants. I have put a great team in place to do this, and it has worked. We are the recipients of over \$10 million dollars in grants and gifts since I became your Mayor and it shows around this Village. I will continue my efforts in Nassau County, Albany, and Washington, D.C.
- We are currently lobbying the State to be chosen for a \$50 million dollar grant for Rockville Centre, our waterways, South Pond, and Mill River.
- Keep the successful Mayor's Youth Task Force busy with its many projects throughout our Village. You truly make a difference, thank you.
- Continue our downtown revitalization of streetscapes including – sidewalks, lighting, and roads.
- Continue to improve our fields

I, as your Mayor, and the entire Village Board pride ourselves on our openness and availability to our residents. Please continue to call us with any of your questions and concerns. In closing, let me say this, I consider it a privilege to be your Mayor and pledge to continue to keep our home the desirable community it is, while striving to make it better. I am proud of the work we have done and look forward to continuing to improve on this great foundation to make it an even better place for our children, grandchildren and our great-grandchildren.



# Support the RVC Fireworks Celebration Saturday, July 11, 2015



The Annual Fireworks Celebration and Concert along Mill River Park has been a tradition for 22 years. Every year Village residents, family and friends come together to enjoy an evening under the stars with a fabulous fireworks display and concert/performance all supported by the generosity of the Rockville Centre Guild for the Arts and the Village of Rockville Centre.

As before, we need your help. The costs of the fireworks and the performances are supported by businesses and residents who make donations each year to make this spectacular event possible.

Please take a moment today to make a donation by filling out the form on the bottom of this page and sending a check to:

The Rockville Centre Guild for Arts  
P.O. Box 950  
Rockville Centre, N.Y. 11571

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Donation      ☐ \$25      ☐ \$50      ☐ \$100      ☐ \$200      ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_



### **Credit Card Donations:**

**You can also call to make a donation by credit card by calling:  
(516) 766-0555, Monday thru Friday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and ask for Christine  
who can process your payment to the RVC Guild for the Arts.**

### **Event Activities:**

**We plan to have food, music and Grucci Fireworks on Saturday Evening, July 11 (rain date Sunday, July 12). Entertainment and food begin at 6 p.m. The South Shore Symphony will perform at 7:45 p.m. and the world famous Grucci Fireworks Show will begin at 9:15 p.m. There will be music after the fireworks until 10:15 p.m.**

**Corporate Sponsorships are still available:**

**RVC FIREWORKS CHAMPION: \$5,000**

**RVC FIREWORKS GUARDIAN: \$2,500**

**RVC FIREWORKS ADVOCATE: \$1,000**

**RVC FIREWORKS SUPPORTER: \$500**

**If you are interested in a corporate sponsorship, please contact Keith Spadaro  
at (516) 678-9212 or Wayne Lipton at (516) 984-4620 for details.**

**THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR GENEROSITY AND HELP  
IN MAKING THIS EVENT POSSIBLE!**

**Mark your calendars today – we hope to see you all at the fireworks!**

**Visit our Facebook page for Rockville Centre Fireworks and RVC Guild for the  
Arts!**