

# THIS MONTH IN

# Rockville Centre



**August 15, At 7 P.M.  
PLANNING BOARD**

**August 16, At 7:30 P.M.  
BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS**

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

**September 5, At 7:30 P.M.  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**September 13, At 7:30 P.M.  
BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS**

**September 19, At 7 P.M.  
PLANNING BOARD**

**September 27, At 7:30 P.M.  
BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS**

Events are at Village Hall unless otherwise indicated.

## Holiday Sanitation Schedule

### Labor Day

**Monday, September 4, 2017**

**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, September 6, 2017**

**No bulk items or paper pickup**

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

### Village Hall Hours

Cashier & Registrar 8:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

Court Counter 8:00 A.M. - 3:30 P.M.

Electric/Water Billing 8:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

Tax Department 8:30 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

Closed Saturday and Sunday

## Village Says Goodbye to Deputy Mayor Howard and Welcomes Trustee Kathleen Baxley

It was a full house for the June Board of Trustees meeting. Countless residents came out to say farewell to former Deputy Mayor Nancy Howard. Mrs. Howard served as Deputy Mayor since 2011 and was the liaison to the Rockville Centre Fire Department, the Sandel Senior Center, the Martin Luther King Center and the Recreation Center.

“A talented, inspirational, motivator who has shown us time and time again what it means to lead by example, Deputy Mayor Nancy Howard has dedicated six years of her life to the residents of our beautiful Village,” said Mayor Francis X. Murray during the presentation. Representatives from her liaison departments, the Mayor and Trustees Emilio Grillo, Michael Sepe and Edward Oppenheimer thanked Mrs. Howard for her dedication, professionalism, and service.

Following the farewell, Kathleen

Baxley was sworn in as a Trustee. Trustee Baxley, a South Side High School graduate, has spent countless hours volunteering for the betterment of the RVC community and has served on several boards including: PTA boards throughout the Rockville Centre School District, the RVC Education Foundation, the RVC Breast Cancer Coalition, and the RVC Sponsors of the Arts. Kathleen has been a Girl Scout Leader for over a decade and served as a Cub Scout Den Leader for five years.

“I am excited to have her join me, our Board of Trustees, and Department Heads to share in our vision to keep our community safe, affordable and highly desirable,” continued Mayor Murray. “With her help, we will continue to improve on this great foundation to make Rockville Centre an even better place for our children and generations to come.”



## 30th Annual Mayor's Golf Classic

On Monday, September 25th, the Rockville Links Country Club will be hosting the 30th Annual Mayor's Golf Classic. For its 30th anniversary, the Classic will be honoring former Deputy Mayor Nancy Howard.

“It is my great pleasure and privilege to honor such an integral part of our community,” commented Mayor Francis X. Murray. “Nancy's unwavering support has made our Village a better place to live, work and play.”

Howard served as Deputy Mayor from 2011 before resigning in May of 2017 to join her husband in Florida for a new job. She and her husband called Rockville Centre home for over 24 years. During her tenure as Deputy Mayor, Howard served as liaison to the Rockville Centre Fire Department,

Sandel Senior Center, Martin Luther King Center, and the John A. Anderson Recreation Center. She was instrumental in the downtown renaissance, field restorations, road programs, vehicle purchases, electric and water improvements, as well as the refurbishing of Eugene J. Murray Village Hall. She has spent countless hours volunteering her time with the Rockville Centre PTA, Rockville Centre Education Foundation Board, Mercy League, Rockville Centre Guild for the Arts, and the RVC Community Fund.

The Classic, and accompanying dinner, is the primary fundraiser for the Rockville Centre Community Fund. The Fund, dedicated exclusively to helping members of the Rockville Centre community, has raised more

than \$1.6 million in emergency assistance since 1987. Tickets and sponsorships for the all-day event, as well as journal ads are still available. The donation for breakfast, lunch, cocktails and dinner as well as a round of golf at the Rockville Links Country Club is \$350. Dinner-only tickets are \$125.

For reservations or for information about sponsorships or journal ads, call Lois Tinghitella at 516-678-9260.



*Pictured with the 2015 Eugene Murray Outstanding Citizenship Award recipient Janet Poggi, from left, is Mayor Francis X. Murray, Trustee Edward Oppenheimer, Trustee Emilio Grillo, former Mayor Gene Murray, Trustee Michael Sepe and former Deputy Mayor and 2017 honoree, Nancy Howard.*



## Fireworks Spectacular Takes to the Sky

Thousands came out to the Village's annual fireworks show. Every year Village residents, family and friends come together to enjoy an evening under the stars funded by

local residents and businesses, the Rockville Centre Guild for the Arts and the Village of Rockville Centre. Attendees were dazzled with a performance by South Shore Symphony.



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



# Around Our Community

## Village Welcomes New Police Officers

Police Commissioner Charles Gennario swore in new Officers Anthony Gonzalez, Joseph Burnside, and Joseph Loiacono at the June Board of Trustees meeting. In addition, Police Officer Peter Pellegrino was promoted to Sergeant.

“Police officers in our Village make significant sacrifices every day to ensure our safety and maintain our peaceful neighborhoods,” commented Mayor Francis X. Murray. “When others are running away from danger, they run toward it, putting their

lives on the line in pursuit of helping innocent bystanders and victims while bringing criminals to justice.”

Police Officer Anthony Gonzalez, born and raised in Valley Stream, attended Nassau Community College where he received an Associate Degree. Prior to his position with Rockville Centre, Officer Gonzalez was a member of the NYPD for two years and most recently assigned to patrol in downtown Flushing in the 109th precinct.

Police Officer Joseph Burnside, a Rockville

Centre native, obtained a Bachelor’s Degree of Biological Science from the University at Albany. Officer Burnside comes from a long line of law enforcement including his father Joseph Burnside who worked in Queens Robbery Task Force, grandfather Joseph Burnside who was a Detective in the 71st Precinct, grandfather Dennis Cunningham who served as an Inspector in Special Operations, and aunt Majorie who worked in the Queens Robbery Task force. Before coming to Rockville Centre, Officer Burnside worked for the NYPD in the 83rd precinct in Bushwick.

Joseph Loiacono, a Garden City South native, graduated from SUNY Old Westbury with a Biological Sciences Degree. After many years in the sales and service industry, Officer Loiacono decided to follow in his father’s footsteps and joined the NYPD where he proudly served for over three years in the busy 103rd precinct of South Jamaica.

Police Officer Peter Pellegrino, born and raised in Suffolk County, has been a police officer in Rockville Centre for 13 years. Officer Pellegrino joined the Training Unit in which he became the departments lead instructor. As lead instructor, he obtained various credentials including a certification through New York State as a General Topics Instructor, New York State Certified Firearms



Instructor, and FBI Carbine Instructor. In addition, Officer Pellegrino acquired Active Shooter Instructor certification through the National Tactical Officer’s Association, as well as a certification from TASER International. He also assists local police academies with Firearms Training for new recruits. Officer Pellegrino continues to further his professional development by attending the most current and effective Firearms tactical institutes.

“I feel extremely confident that these officers will continue to keep our community a safe home to work, play, and raise a family,” added Mayor Murray.



## Village Urges Water Safety this Summer

With the warm summer months upon us, the Village of Rockville Centre urges residents to practice water safety. According to the Centers for Disease Control, drowning is the leading cause of unintentional injury death among children one to fourteen years old and fifth among all age groups.

“Swimming is a fun way for families to be active during the summer,” commented Mayor Francis X. Murray. “However, it is imperative that each household takes the proper safety measures to help prevent a water-related tragedy from occurring. Constant supervision, along with four-sided fencing, knowing how to perform CPR and teaching children how to swim are all important steps in preventing pool tragedies.”



The Village of Rockville Centre and New York State building codes include very specific rules and regulations regarding swimming pool and hot tub safety such as pool alarms and secure fencing to protect the safety of all our residents and guests.

Residents can contact the Building

Department at 678-9247 for a no cost evaluation to assure that all fencing, safety and electrical codes are met to assure your continued safety and enjoyment of your swimming pool. For further code and safety requirements and information residents are encouraged to visit our Village Building Department “help topics” website at <http://www.rvcny.us/bldhelp.html>.

“It can happen very quickly,” stated Rockville Centre Police Commissioner Charles Gennario. “Most young children who drown in swimming pools were last seen in the home, had only been missing from sight for a matter of minutes, and were in the care of one or both parents at the time. You can never be too aware when it comes to children and swimming pools.”

Below are some precautions to Keep you and your family safe this summer in and around the pool:

- Never leave your children alone in or near the pool, even for a moment. Do not rely on older children to watch a younger child.
- Do not rely solely on safety aids such as water wings, arm bands or safety vests. Adult supervision is still necessary.
- Practice ‘touch supervision’ with children younger than 5 years. This means that an adult is within an arm’s length of the child at all times.
- Install an alarm in your pool.
- If you are planning a pool party, consider hiring a certified lifeguard to supervise those who will be in the pool.
- When entertaining have adults gather facing the pool, more eyes means better safety.
- Encourage swimming with a buddy, never swim alone.
- Put up a fence to separate your house

from the pool. The fence should be at least 4 feet high around the pool. Use gates that self-close and self-latch, with latches higher than your children’s reach.

- Keep rescue equipment (such as a shepherd’s hook or life preserver) and a telephone by the pool.
- Do not use air-filled “swimming aids” as a substitute for approved life vests.
- Remove all toys from the pool after use so children aren’t tempted to reach for them.
- After the children are done swimming, secure the pool so they can’t get back into it.
- Drain Entrapment occurs when part of a child’s body becomes attached to a drain because of the powerful suction of a pool or hot tub filtration system. The powerful suction can trap a child underwater or cause internal injuries. It can also occur when a child’s hair, swimsuit or jewelry becomes entangled in the drain. Warn your children about the dangers of drain entrapment, and teach them never to play near a pool drain, with or without a cover.
- Pin up long hair when in the water and remove loose parts of swimsuits and loose jewelry that can get ensnared.
- Equip pools and hot tubs with an anti-entrapment drain cover and an approved safety vacuum release system and regularly check that drain covers are secure and have no cracks. Flat drain covers can be replaced with dome-shaped ones.
- Be aware of “kiddie” pools with missing or broken drain covers. Small children have direct access to the bottom drain in “kiddie” pools and sitting on open drains can cause serious internal organ damage.
- Learn CPR and first aid to prepare for emergencies.



### 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.

### Community Day

The Annual Community Day will be held in front of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Center on Centre Ave. Saturday, August 26th from noon to 4 p.m. The day will include activities for children, music, dance performances, and tasty treats.

### 2017 Tree Program

The Rockville Centre Department of Public Works curbside tree planting program is underway for the Fall of 2017. Residents have until September 15, 2017 to order a tree. 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. For further details contact the Department of Public Works at 678-9267.

### TRANSFER STATION

The 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. until November 19th to receive large items of trash, including furniture and appliances. Proof of residency is required.

### THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

10 SUNRISE HIGHWAY  
RVC License Required

### E-CYCLING

EVERY FIRST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH  
10:00 a.m. TO 2:00 p.m.

Residents may bring their electronics

### Televisions must be dropped off at e-cycling

Assistance will be given for EXTRA LARGE items. Please call (516) 678-9216 to schedule a pickup



### ACCEPTABLE E-CYCLING ITEMS

- Computers / Computer monitors
- Small Electronics
- VCR \* DVD \* I PAD
- Video Systems
- Anything that plugs into a computer
- Televisions
- Cable Boxes
- Small Servers

### Bulk Pickup

Schedule your bulk pickup online  
[www.rvcny.us](http://www.rvcny.us)

## RVC Conservancy Launches New Picnic Table Program

The RVC Conservancy is offering a new way to acknowledge individuals and groups by expanding its popular commemorative bench program. The Conservancy is selling picnic tables to be placed at the new playground at the John A. Anderson Recreation Center. Donators can commemorate a person, company or any special occasion with the purchase of a table. Financial donations will also be collected to purchase the tables.

The new metal tables use a durable thermoplastic coating which will withstand all weather elements. The RVC Conservancy is seeking donations to fund the purchase of three 46” round tables, one 8’ rectangle table,

and one 8’ wheelchair-accessible rectangle table. Donations for individual tables range in price from \$680 to \$700. Smaller donations are also welcome.

The RVC Conservancy group is made up of Rockville Centre residents, volunteering their time to make a difference in the community. Their mission is to identify local public spaces which need attention, gather volunteer support and private funding, and work with our village government to restore and enhance its trees, parks and public spaces.

For further information or to make a donation, please call the RVC Conservancy at 678-9244.

## Village Hall Comments by Trustee Kathleen Baxley



This past June, I was sworn in as a newly appointed trustee of the Village of Rockville Centre, stepping into Nancy Howard's position for a one-year term. Nancy Howard, a dedicated, wonderful woman, has been my mentor and guide throughout this process. How fortunate we are to have had her lead our Village for the past six years! Being asked to take on her Trustee role is an honor and I look forward to working for the residents of this Village.

I would like to tell you a little bit about myself. I am almost a life-long resident of Rockville Centre. My family moved here in 1969. I attended Hewitt Elementary School, South Side Junior High and High Schools. I attended Bucknell University and Adelphi University, where I earned my Bachelors and Master's Degrees in Elementary Education. I taught for two years in Queens, and then taught for 12 years at Oceanside School 5, where I met and taught many Rockville Centre students. I also recently taught at United

Nursery School here in Rockville Centre.

When we were first married, my husband Matt and I lived in Lynbrook, but we knew we wanted to live in Rockville Centre. We bought our house in 2001 and have lived here ever since. Our children are now students at South Side High School, following in my footsteps.

Over the past 15 years I have been involved in many Rockville Centre organizations. I am a past PTA president of Hewitt, SSMS, and now SSSHS. I am on the board of the RVC Sponsors of the Arts and the RVC Breast Cancer Coalition. I have been involved with Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, the St Agnes Parish Gala, and the RVC Education Foundation. These experiences have allowed me to meet many, many residents here in town, and we have formed lasting friendships.

As Village Trustee, I am liaison to many Village departments. Over the past month, I have had the privilege of attending the Sandel Senior Center's exercise and health day at Sportset, the "Frank Sinatra/Dean

Martin" concert at the Senior Center, I have toured the five fire houses with Chief Brian Cook as my guide, as well as the RVC Police Department with Commissioner Chuck Gennario. I look forward to meeting with the directors of all the Village departments and getting to know in depth how each department works. Already I have seen that we have energetic, kind, helpful employees, who have all welcomed me and are eager to help me learn. I have already witnessed the dedication of Mayor Murray and all the employees in keeping our village as wonderful as it is.

I look forward to meeting many more residents and I encourage everyone to come to the monthly Village Board meetings so that you, too, can see how hard-working and innovative the Trustees and the Mayor are, and to observe first-hand the decision-making process involved in continuing to make improvements to our wonderful Village of Rockville Centre.

## Rockville Centre Gives Thanks to Veterans



Rainy weather didn't stop hundreds of residents from paying tribute to the Village's veterans and service men and women. While the annual Memorial Parade was canceled, a remembrance ceremony was held at the John A. Recreation Center. Veterans led a wreath-laying ceremony in remembrance of those who made the ultimate sacrifice in service to their country.

Grand Marshal Daniel Brandi led the proceedings. Brandi served in the Korean War aboard the United States heavy cruiser U.S.S. St. Paul, where he participated in the longest naval blockade in American history at 361 days. Brandi also served as a sergeant in the Rockville Centre Police Department for 22 years before his retirement.



## Village Urges Hurricane Preparedness

With hurricane season once again upon us, the Village of Rockville Centre cannot stress enough that all residents need to be prepared. The Atlantic hurricane season began on June 1st and lasts until November 30th. On average there are six hurricanes, three which are categorized as "major," each year.

"History has taught us time and again just how dangerous and destructive hurricanes and other forces of nature can be," commented Mayor Francis X. Murray. "I encourage all residents to be prepared by creating a family hurricane plan and assembling a hurricane supply kit. Being prepared is your best defense to safely weathering a storm, or any other disaster."

According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, forecasters are predicting a 70% likelihood of 11 to 17 named storms (winds of 39 mph or higher) for the 2017 season. Of those, five to nine could become hurricanes (winds of 74 mph or higher), including two to four major hurricanes (Category 3, 4 or 5; winds of 111 mph or higher).

Creating an emergency plan ahead of time for you and your family will help you stay organized if a hurricane strikes. Your emergency plan should include a communication system, disaster supply kit, and an alternate meeting place if your home is unsafe. Depending on the severity of the hurricane, you may need to evacuate where you live. Flying debris from the excessive winds are often the deadly and destructive results of these weather events. Residents are encouraged to bring in all outdoor furniture, decorations, garbage cans and anything else that is not tied down. If you have construction activities underway, make sure the job site is



secure before the storm hits.

Major concerns during these natural disasters include downed power lines, which can cause extreme electrical hazards. In the event you lose power, residents can report a power outage, anytime, by calling 516-766-5800. Please DO NOT go near any downed wires and always assume that any downed wire is a live electric wire. Do not approach or drive over a downed wire. If a wire falls on a vehicle, occupants should stay inside the vehicle until help arrives.

"I advise all residents to gather any important paperwork including insurance, birth certificates and other documents and keep them in a handy location," continued Murray. "Rest assured that in any case of an emergency, we will be doing everything in our power to assist our residents."

Get alerted about emergencies and other important community news by signing up for the Village's Swift 911. This system enables the Village of Rockville Centre to provide residents with critical timely information in a variety of situations, such as severe weather. Residents can register for Swift 911 on the Village's website at [www.rvcny.us](http://www.rvcny.us).

For further details and preparedness guidelines, please log onto <http://www.rvcny.us/RedCross.html>.

### THIS MONTH IN

# Rockville Centre

Published by the Village of Rockville Centre

#### Mayor

Francis X. Murray

#### Trustees

Kathleen Baxley

Edward J. Oppenheimer

Michael Sepe

Emilio F. Grillo

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

## Honorary Chiefs Recognized

Six members of the Rockville Centre Fire Department were recognized at the Board of Trustees meeting on June 5th. William Ruchdeschel, Barry McCarthy, John Lamonica, Robert Dunwoody, William Lapkowski and Steve Rakeman were nominated by their respective fire companies and confirmed by

the members of the Rockville Centre Fire Council to receive the prestigious honor of becoming Honorary Chiefs of the Rockville Centre Fire Department. With a minimum of 25 years of service in the Fire Department and having earned a minimum of 50 Length of Service Award Program points for the past

five years, these men have demonstrated their commitment to the Department and the Village of Rockville Centre. The Mayor along with the Board of Trustees thanked each member for their years of dedicated service.





# The John A. Anderson Recreation Center

## Summer Recess Extension

The Recreation Department will be sponsoring trips for children during the week of August 14 – 18, following the ending of the Summer Playground Program.

- Monday, August 14th - Adventureland
- Tuesday, August 15th - L.I. Laser Bounce
- Wednesday, August 16th - Bounce Trampoline Sports
- Thursday, August 17th - Merrick Movie "Nut Job"
- Friday, August 18th - Bowling at RVC Lanes

Check our website or the office for permission slip and fee schedule. These trips are open for all children, not only those who participated in the Summer Program.



Bowling is one of the fun activities at the annual Kids'Fest on September 16th.

## Kids'Fest Celebration

The Recreation Department will sponsor its annual KIDS'FEST OPEN HOUSE CELEBRATION on Saturday, September 16th from 12 noon until 4:00 p.m., at the John A. Anderson Recreation Center – Anthony T. Brunetta Pavilion at 111 N. Oceanside Rd. Residents, young and old, are invited to attend and participate in an afternoon of program information, demonstrations, music, rides and community information. Added features will be many Police and Fire Department vehicles plus a helicopter landing. All food and festivities are free – so come on down and join in the fun!

## Snowflake Softball Leagues

The Recreation Department conducts softball leagues for men and women's teams during the fall months. Games are played weekday evenings at ball fields within the Village. Contact Steve at SBeauchesne@rvny.us or pick up a roster form and information at the office.

## Cycle with Care Bicycle Safety Program

The Recreation Department, in cooperation with the RVC Police Department, conducts a Bicycle Safety Program to assist children in good bicycle riding habits, to teach the rules of the road and to inspect and license bikes. Staff will

visit the local public schools during the second week of September to conduct the inspections. Anyone wishing to register a bike on their own can contact Linardy at the John A. Anderson Recreation Center.

## Fall Programs and Registration

The Recreation Department's annual brochure has been mailed to Village residents. The brochure gives details on the vast array of activities that will be offered this year. Registration for fall programs begins on August 7th. Residents are strongly urged to register as soon as possible to ensure inclusion in the class day and time of your



Police Youth Detective Nick DeLuca counsels young riders at the annual Cycle with Care Program.

choice. Informational flyers will also be available at the Recreation Department office and on our website.

## Recreation Department Hours

During our late-summer building maintenance period from August 21st to September 4th, the Recreation Center office will open for business Monday through Friday. Office hours are 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. The tennis courts will be open for play weekdays from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturdays and Sundays from 8 a.m. to 12 noon.

## Sign-up for Reminders

Would you like to be automatically notified about registration dates and programs? Sign up for Recreation Department's email newsletter! You can enter the mailing list by going to [rvrec.weebly.com/mailling-list.html](http://rvrec.weebly.com/mailling-list.html) or access the form on our homepage.

**DETAILED INFORMATION FOR ALL ACTIVITIES CAN BE FOUND AT THE RECREATION CENTER OFFICE OR ON THE RECREATION CENTER WEBSITE AT**

**[WWW.RVCREC.WEBLY.COM](http://WWW.RVCREC.WEBLY.COM)**

## New Playground Unveiled



The John A. Anderson Recreation Center unveiled its newly constructed playground on May 23rd after securing a grant from Nassau County. The playground features new slides, swings, rubberized safety surface, "smartplay" castle, and spray pad with seven circular water spouts surrounding a green sprinkler tower.

"There is nothing like a new playground and spray pad to ensure that our Village continues to be a highly desirable community to live, work and raise a family," Mayor Francis X. Murray said at the unveiling. "My administration remains committed to creating a community in which all our children can play, grow and learn in safe, secure and stimulating environments."



## Village Celebrates 29th Year as Tree City USA



The Village of Rockville Centre has been recognized as a "Tree City USA" for the past 29 years from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Division of Lands and Forests. The Tree City USA program is a national program that provides the framework for community forestry management for cities and towns across America. Trees were recently planted along Maple Avenue to complete the streetscape. Pictured (from the left to right) is Mayor Francis X. Murray, Co-Director of Public Works John Thorp, and Village Administrator Kathleen Murray.

## Wednesday is Paper Day!



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

### PLEASE NOTE

Paint Disposal- Only dried out latex paint cans are accepted. Please call 678-9288 with any further questions.

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