

December Events at the Senior Center



The Center Stage singers and dancers will perform at the Sandel Senior Center holiday luncheon on Wednesday, December 20 at Noon.

Seasonal events and activities are underway at Rockville Centre's Sandel Senior Center located at the northwest corner of South Park and Lincoln avenues. Call 678-9245 for information.

Special Events

The RVC Choral Society presents its annual holiday concert on Sunday, December 3, at 2 P.M.

Registration has begun for appointments with the Nassau Health Care Corp. mammography van which will be at the Center January 4 and 5, 2001. Call 678-9350 for information.

The students of the South Side Middle School Chorus will present a holiday concert on Tuesday, December 5 at 11 A.M., sponsored by the Men's Club.

The annual holiday party will be held at George Washington Manor on Friday, December 15. \$21 for members. Call 678-9350 for information.

A trip to the EAB Plaza holiday display, a tour of decorated homes in Rockville Centre, and dinner at the Sizzler in Monday, December 15 beginning at 5 P.M.

The holiday luncheon on Wednesday, December 20 beginning at Noon features the Center Stage singers and dancers. \$2.50 per person.

The intergenerational holiday party with South Side High School students and Senior Center members is December 22.

The post-New Year's bash "Puttin' on the Glitz" is Wednesday, January 5 at 1 P.M. Paid-up members only.

Arts and Leisure Activities

The film *From Here to Eternity* is featured on Sunday, December 17 at 2 P.M. on the Center's 60-inch TV screen.

The new Book Club continues on Wednesday, December 20 at 2 P.M.

Ellen Berman of the RVC Public Library will lead a discussion of *Who Moved My Cheese?* by Spencer Johnson. Reserve a copy by calling 678-9350.

Bridge lessons with Marie Fiorillo are every Wednesday at 3:15 P.M.

Instructor Brenda Dye presents sing-alongs and music appreciation every Thursday at 1:30 P.M.

December's monthly art display is work by the Photo Study Group.

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This Month In Rockville Centre

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

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Dates & Events

Wednesday, December 13, 8 P.M.
BOARD OF APPEALS

Monday, December 18, 8:15 P.M.
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Monday, December 25
**CHRISTMAS DAY
Village Holiday**

Monday, January 8, 8:15 P.M.
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Monday, January 22, 8:15 P.M.
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

NOTE:

Videotapes of Board of Trustees meetings are broadcast on Cable Channel 70 on Wednesdays (8:15 p.m.) and Saturdays (1:30 p.m.) following each meeting.

Events are at Village Hall unless otherwise noted.

There are no residential garbage collections on designated holidays

For general information, call
678-9300

Emergency Numbers

Fire 766-0400
Police 766-1500
Electric 766-5800
Water 678-9252
Nights & Weekends
766-5800

Internet Address
www.ci.rockville-centre.ny.us

This Month In Rockville Centre

DECEMBER 2000

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Happy Holidays!

December is a great month at the Rockville Centre Recreation Department on North Oceanside Road.

Holiday Crafts Fair and Flea Market

The annual event will be held this year on Sunday, December 3 from 9:30 A.M. to 4 P.M. in the auditorium. A variety of seasonal items and gifts will be sold.

Have-A-Heart Square Dance

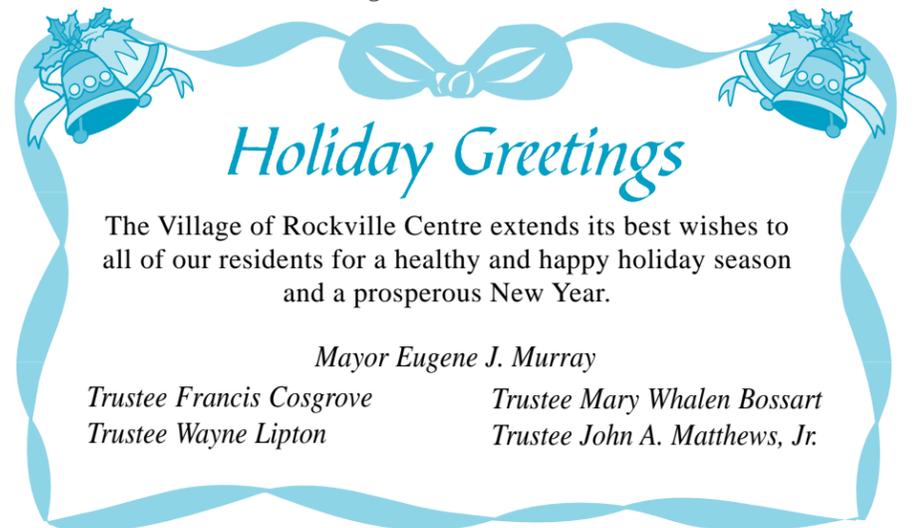
The annual Have-A-Heart Square Dance is Saturday, December 9 from 8 to 11:30 P.M. Class levels include mainstream plus, A-1 and A-2. Admission is one new, unwrapped toy.

Chanukah Party

The National Council of Jewish Women and the Rec Center will co-sponsor the annual party at the Rec
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Breakfast with Santa's Helpers has grown so popular over the years that three different seatings are planned for this year's event on Sunday, December 17.



Holiday Greetings

The Village of Rockville Centre extends its best wishes to all of our residents for a healthy and happy holiday season and a prosperous New Year.

Mayor Eugene J. Murray

Trustee Francis Cosgrove
Trustee Wayne Lipton

Trustee Mary Whalen Bossart
Trustee John A. Matthews, Jr.



Village Hall Comments

By Deputy Mayor Wayne Lipton



When You Have to Appear Before the Zoning Board



Almost every day, you see friends or neighbors improving their homes. When the planned improvements go beyond what our zoning code allows, the Building Department will tell you that you need to apply for a variance. To get a variance, residents are required to go before the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) for approval. The ZBA makes its determinations based on various criteria, including the effect of the proposed improvements on the neighborhood, available alternatives, and the need or extenuating circumstances of the applicant.

As the trustee liaison to the ZBA, I have seen many people go through the process of appearing before the Board. To make this process easier, here are a few recommendations based on my own observations and on comments from the current members of the ZBA.

Before you even apply to the Building Department for a building permit, talk to your neighbors about your plans. You are required to notify any neighbor within a radius of 200 feet from the borders of your property when you apply for a variance. Some of these neighbors may voice concerns at the ZBA hearing. Most often, a successful applicant is one who takes the time to talk to the neighbors who will be most affected first, BEFORE they receive the required notice of a ZBA hearing about your plans by registered mail.

Listening to your neighbors and incorporating some of their suggestions usually reduces criticism at the hearing. If the neighbors are in opposition to your appeal, you have a greater chance of being denied. If neighbors like your

new plans, ask them to speak at the hearing on your behalf. And remember, you still have to live with all your neighbors well after a ZBA hearing is over.

Although the Village requires professionally produced plans, you may appear by yourself before the ZBA, if you are comfortable making a public presentation about your project. Most people, however, benefit from consulting with an architect, lawyer or both. Although having an attorney at the hearing is not required, it is beneficial, especially for substantial projects.

Corner lots are particularly difficult to work with in meeting code requirements and neighborhood limitations. Before investing in plans from an architect or builder, come to the Building Department at 110 Maple Avenue to get a copy of the codes that apply. Talk to the inspectors to get an understanding of what can be done within the limits of the code. This will help you decide whether or not your situation requires an appeal to the ZBA for a variance.

It does not take long to get a hearing date, usually within a month of your completed building application and submissions to the ZBA. You must notify your neighbors and show proof of such notice in advance of the hearing.

Decisions are usually made the night of the hearing unless there are complications and the hearing is continued (carried over to another date). Stay around to hear the deliberation. You always do better when the board has to voice its opinions in your presence.

It is also a good idea to come to a ZBA meeting in advance of your own hearing date to become familiar with its procedures and questions. These hearings are open to the public and can be very helpful when it comes time for you to apply.

This Month In Rockville Centre

Published by the Village of Rockville Centre
Eugene J. Murray, Mayor

Trustees
Francis A. Cosgrove
Mary Whalen Bossart
Wayne Lipton
John A. Matthews, Jr.

For information concerning Village facilities, residents are invited to telephone Anthony Cancellieri, Village Administrator, Clerk-Treasurer, 678-9300

Community Notes

The South Shore Symphony of the RVC Guild for the Arts will perform Tchaikovsky's "The Nutcracker" with a 90-member corps de ballet under the direction of Joan MacNaughton of the Leggz Dance Studio on December 8, 9 and 10 at South Side High School. Tickets are \$16 and \$20 and can be ordered by calling 766-7171.

Community Blood Drive sponsored by the Friends of Etai is scheduled for Sunday, December 10 from 8:30 A.M. to 1:30 P.M. at the RVC Recreation Center.

The Sanitation Schedule for holiday weeks in 2001 is enclosed. Please keep a copy for easy reference. Sanitation Department rules and regulations concerning garbage and trash collection are listed on the reverse side of the schedule.

The ZBA members are Village residents who are there to listen to your application. The Board tries to help you as well as to protect the interests of the community. Not everyone who applies gets a variance, but by following some of these suggestions, you can optimize your chances of success.

Contact our Building Department for the complete list of requirements to file for a ZBA hearing. If you have any questions about the ZBA, feel free to contact me at 536-8187.

Holiday Recess Special Events

Tuesday, December 26, 2:15 - 5:45 P.M.

Ice Skating Trip to the Long Beach Recreation Complex for grades 1 through 8. Fee includes skate rental and transportation.

Wednesday, December 27, 12:30 - 4:15 P.M.

Trip to Fun Zone in Farmingdale for grades 1 through 6. Fee includes 35 game tokens, unlimited rides, and transportation.

Thursday, December 28

7th Annual Holiday Games of nok-hockey, basketball shooting, and alligator pit. Grades 1 & 2 from 12 Noon to 1:30

P.M. Grades 3 to 5 from 1:30 to 3 P.M. No fee, but register by December 26.

Friday, December 29

Holiday Craft Workshop to make holiday decorations and enjoy a cup of holiday hot chocolate. For kindergarten through 4th grade. 10:30 to 11:45 A.M. or 12:15 to 1:30 P.M. Fee \$7; pre-register.

Friday, December 29

Bowling at RVC Lanes for grades 1 & 2, 12 Noon to 2:30 P.M.; for grades 3 to 8, 12:30 to 3 P.M. Fee.

December Rec Center Events

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on Wednesday, December 20 at 4 P.M. Children from pre-kindergarten through 2nd Grade of all faiths are invited to participate.

Breakfast with Santa's Helpers

This year's breakfast is Sunday, December 17 with seatings at 9:15, 10:30, and 11:15 A.M. The fee is \$4 per person. Pre-register by December 15.

Food Donations Needed

The Rec Center is accepting donations of canned and dry goods as well as frozen turkeys for distribution to the needy in our community. Bring your donations Monday through Saturday from 9 A.M. to 5 P.M. before December 18.

December at the Senior Center

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December Speakers

Wendy Weinstock, MSW, will speak on "Grandparenting in the New Millennium" Wednesday, December 6 at 6 P.M.

A guest speaker will talk on "After Shingles" Tuesday, December 12 at 11 A.M.

Bob Weidner of Costa Lines will present a video program on cruises, including information about the March 18 Caribbean cruise, on Monday, December 14 at 12:30 P.M.

Annual Mitten and Hat Tree

The Rockville Centre Parks and Recreation Department is again requesting residents to share their warm holiday feelings with those less fortunate by donating new hats and mittens of all sizes and colors.

The donations will be hung on the Mitten and Hat Tree in the Rec Center lounge. Bring your donation before December 22.

North Pole Calling

Children in kindergarten through 2nd Grade can speak directly to Santa again this year.

To receive a call on Wednesday, December 13 or Thursday, December 14, fill out an information sheet at the Rec Center.

Travel and Dining

A dine-around at La Primavera Restaurant followed by a performance by students of Waverly Avenue School is Friday, December 8. \$15 per person.

The Ms. New York State Senior America Pageant is Saturday, November 18 at Suffolk Community College in Brentwood. \$28 per person includes admission, dinner at a local restaurant, and transportation. Call 678-9350 for reservations.