

Happy Holidays from the Recreation Center

Crafts Fair and Flea Market

Shop for holiday gifts and decorations on Sunday, December 4 from 9:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. Vendors feature jewelry, floral arrangements, ornaments, crafts and edibles. Free admission and parking.

Annual Christmas Tree Lighting

An evening of song and fellowship officially opens the holiday season at 7:30 P.M. on Thursday, December 8 on the Village Green, Maple and Lee avenues. Santa and his helpers will be on hand to add to the festivities.

Holiday Recess Events

The Rockville Centre Recreation Center is sponsoring the following events during the December school recess. Participants must have a valid recreation card.

Monday, December 26

12th Annual Holiday Games of nok-hockey, basketball shooting, and alligator pit. Grades 1 and 2 from 10:30 A.M. to 12 Noon. Grades 3 to 5 from 12 Noon to 1:30 P.M. No fee, but register by Friday, December 23 and wear sneakers.

Tuesday, December 27

Holiday Craft Activity for Grades K to 4 from 10:30 to 11:45 A.M. or 12:15 to 1:30 P.M. Different projects for K to 1 and Grades 2 to 4. \$7 per person; must register by Friday, December 23.

Wednesday, December 28

Ice Skating Trip to the Long Beach Recreation Complex for Grades 1 through 8. Fee of \$10 includes skate rental and transportation. Bus leaves at 2:15 and returns about 5:45 P.M.

Thursday, December 29

Trip to Fun Zone in Farmingdale for Grades 1 and up. Fee of \$20 includes 35 game tokens, unlimited rides, and transportation. Bus leaves at 12:30 and returns about 4:15 P.M.

Friday, December 30

Bowling at RVC Lanes for Grades 1 and 2, 12 Noon to 2:30 P.M.; for Grades 3 to 8, 12:30 to 3 P.M. Fee of \$12.

Monday, January 2

Sports Day of alligator pit / obstacle course, kickball and dodgeball. Pizza snack and juice. Grades 1 and 2 from 10:30 A.M. to 12 Noon or 2:30 to 4 P.M. Grades 3 to 5 from 12:30 to 2 P.M. or 4:30 to 6. Fee \$8 per person.

Monday, December 26 - Saturday, December 31 and January 2

Open Gym and Gameroom for Grades 4 to 12, 12:30 to 4:30 P.M.; for Grades 6 to 12, 7:30 to 10:15 P.M.

North Pole Calling

Children in kindergarten through 2nd grade can speak directly to Santa again this year. To receive a call on Tuesday, December 6 or Wednesday, December 7, fill out an information sheet at the Rec Center.

Breakfast with Santa's Helpers

The annual breakfast on Sunday, December 11 is one of the Rec Center's most popular events. All faiths are invited to join the elves who serve pancakes, cereal, juice, milk, rolls, and bagels. After eating Vixen's Fixin's, kids may visit Santa or have a picture taken with Rudolph and Frosty.

Deadline for tickets is Friday, December 9 for one of three seatings at 9:15, 10:30 or 11:30 A.M. Fee is \$5 per person and tickets are available at the Rec Center.

Chanukah Party

Children from pre-kindergarten through 2nd Grade of all faiths are invited to the annual party sponsored by the National Council of Jewish Women and the Rec Center on Monday, December 19 from 4 to 5:15 P.M.

There will be crafts, face painting, gifts, snacks and Chanukah music. Children are encouraged to donate a small, unwrapped gift.

Toys for Tots Square Dance

The annual Have-A-Heart Square Dance to benefit Toys for Tots is Saturday, December 17 from 8 to 11 P.M. Admission is one new, unwrapped toy.



Santa will visit with youngsters after their pancake breakfast with Santa's helpers. Sign up by December 9 for one of the three seatings.

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 23.

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 beginning December 5.

The donations will be hung on the Mitten and Hat Tree in the Rec Center lounge. Bring your donation before December 17.



This Month In Rockville Centre

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

PRSR STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Rockville Centre, NY
Permit No. 271
CR-RT-SORT



Dates & Events

Thursday, December 8, 7:30 P.M.
CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING
Village Green, Maple and Lee avenues

Monday, December 12, 8:15 P.M.
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Wednesday, December 14, 8 P.M.
BOARD OF APPEALS

Tuesday, December 20, 7:30 P.M.
PLANNING BOARD

Monday, December 26
CHRISTMAS DAY (observed)
Village Offices Closed

Sunday, January 1, 5 P.M.
COMMUNITY MENORAH LIGHTING
Central Synagogue, 430 DeMott Avenue

Monday, January 2
NEW YEAR'S DAY (observed)
Village Offices Closed

Monday, January 9, 8:15 P.M.
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Wednesday, January 11, 8 P.M.
BOARD OF APPEALS

Monday, January 16
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY
Village Offices Closed

Tuesday, January 17, 7:30 P.M.
PLANNING BOARD

Monday, January 23, 8:15 P.M.
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Wednesday, January 25, 8 P.M.
BOARD OF APPEALS

Emergency Numbers

Fire **911**

Police **911**

Ambulance **911**

Electric 766-5800

Water 678-9252

Nights & Weekends 766-5800

www.rvcny.us

This Month In Rockville Centre

DECEMBER, 2005

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Pearl Harbor Day Ceremony Dec. 7

The Village of Rockville Centre and the Chosin Few, survivors of the Korean War, will host a wreath-laying ceremony at Mill River Park at 11 A.M. on Wednesday, December 7.

Happy Chanukah Merry Christmas Happy New Year

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

Deputy Mayor Wayne Lipton

Trustee James C. Sutton

Trustee Jeanne Farnan Mulry

Trustee Andrew Karamouzis

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Rockville Centre Department of Public Works Snow Newsletter
Rockville Centre Sanitation Department Official 2006 Holiday Schedule



Village Hall Comments

By Trustee James C. Sutton



DPW Working Hard for You



Normally this column is one of the fun parts of being a Village Trustee. I get to write about happenings in the Village, try to impress our residents with my rapier wit, and generally get to deliver a fun message. I have always been committed to keeping this column outside of politics. Thus, despite all the current issues facing our Village government today, I will keep this commitment and not use this column as a political forum.

So today I am here to sing the praises of our Department of Public Works. What, you say – the men in orange who go about the Village extricating us from our refuse? Yes, the one and the same.

The truth is, one part of DPW is sanitation. Every day we take for granted that what we put to the curb will be gone that night. Many times we fill pails with items weighing in at slightly more than the average prize hog at the county fair. Yet our staff picks up everything (although please remember that they cannot pick up soil or cement as they cannot dispose of these items – not to mention their

excessive weight).

We leave out appliances, furniture, swing sets, broken glass, building supplies – all disappear. And, much like the post office, this occurs rain or shine – and they sometimes start when it is still in the gloom of night. Amazingly, they accomplish this with a fleet that in some cases predates Noah and his Ark.

But DPW is much more than just sanitation. It also works hand in hand with our Village engineers on our road program and with our Recreation Department on some of our fields. It works on recycling initiatives with other villages such as Lynbrook, and with the Town of Hempstead.

These initiatives reduce costs, helping to control your Village taxes. They keep our roads safe over the winter months, quickly responding to weather emergencies. And we all know of their contributions at festive events such as the St. Patrick's Parade and the Annual Village Anniversary Celebration.

The Village Board recognizes the importance of investing in our DPW. Over the past two years we have purchased three new garbage trucks, two rear loaders and one side loader. We also invested in a new dump truck and a chipper trailer. This trailer has been a tremendous help to the Electric

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

Trustees
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For information concerning Village facilities, residents are invited to telephone Ronald J. Wasson, Village Administrator, Clerk-Treasurer, 678-9300

Department when tree maintenance or removal is necessary.

Over the next few years we will look to invest in a catch basin cleaner, which will enable us to clean out our catch basins annually instead of every six years, a major improvement. We will look to purchase an asphalt system, which will include an asphalt machine, a roller, hot box, and a hi-lo street miller. This system will give DPW the ability to easily handle emergency repairs between road resurfacings, and will save the Village significantly. We also will look to add a new payload.

Please remember a few things to help out – keep the weight in your garbage cans reasonable. Get the new personalized Village garbage cans, and remember to use the recyclable lawn bags, not plastic. And when the folks at DPW go the extra mile, let Harry W. know. Remember – they keep us clean.

Rockville Centre Community News

Tax Office Announcements

• Village real estate taxes for the second half of the year due December 1 have been mailed and are payable no later than January 3, 2006. If you have not received your tax bill, you may obtain a copy by visiting the Tax Office on the second floor of Village Hall, One College Place or by calling (516) 678-9242 between 9 A.M. and 3 P.M.

• Applications for partial exemption from Village real estate taxes must be filed at the Tax Office by January 3, 2006. If granted, exemptions become effective June 1, 2006.

Exemptions are available for seniors aged 65 and older with a gross income not exceeding \$32,400; for persons with disabilities with a gross income not exceeding \$32,400; for volunteer firefighters with five

years or more of certified service; and for veterans based on the date and type of military service. The tentative value of the exemption varies with the status of the claimant: non-combat (\$440), combat (\$733), or disability (\$1,467).

Application for exemption are also available from the Tax Office.

• Homeowners are reminded that it is important to notify the Tax Office regarding any change to a mortgage, whether satisfying or refinancing, or when a mortgage is sold from one lending institution to another. Contact the Tax Office at 678-9242 or by e-mail to nhall@rvcny.us.

'The Nutcracker'

The Rockville Centre Guild for the Arts annual production of "The Nutcracker" with the full South Shore Symphony conducted by Scott Jackson

Wiley and a 90-member corps de ballet under the direction of Joan MacNaughton will be performed Friday, December 2 at 8 P.M., Saturday, December 3 at 7:30 P.M. and Sunday, December 4 at 3 P.M. at South Side High School. Call 766-7171 for tickets.

Christmas at the Captain's

The Phillips House Museum of the Rockville Centre Historical Society invites residents to its annual celebration following the Village tree lighting ceremony on Thursday, December 8. Enjoy the Victorian era decorations, including an 1880 feather tree and a kitchen utensil tree, sing carols, and share the mulled cider and cookies. The museum is located at 28 Hempstead Avenue.

From the Police Commissioner How to Avoid Home Burglaries

Dear Residents of Rockville Centre:



I have been hearing concerns in the Village about the recent newspaper reports of a rash of home invasions on Long Island. It is true that police are working on several home invasion crimes that seem to follow a similar pattern.

But it is also true that none of these pattern home invasions has taken place in Rockville Centre where crime is at an all-time low.

However, try as we may, Rockville Centre is not an island and we have no moat and drawbridge to keep the criminals out. We can educate, take precautions, minimize, but not totally eliminate this problem.

We are taking extra steps during this period and there are things that you can do as well.

I have ordered an extra layer of residential police protection to meet and

defeat this potential challenge to the quality of life in our Village. We have deployed covert tactical manpower resources, enhanced by new, state-of-the-art thermal imaging devices and advanced electronics.

But your actions may be the most helpful of all, especially now that we have entered the holiday season when criminals know that homes are often filled with gift purchases and that people are often away from home attending events and parties.

Most burglars avoid homes that are occupied, but both "ordinary" burglaries and these new home invasions are crimes of opportunity: The perpetrators typically gain access through open or unlocked doors and windows.

Following a few simple procedures will help us protect you most effectively:

1. If you have an alarm system, keep it armed even when you are at home.
2. Keep doors, windows, and all entry points closed and locked.
3. Keep an eye on your neighborhood and report anything or anyone that is suspicious to your police by using 911. It is always better to be safe, than sorry.

4. Keep lights on outside your home at night. Be sure to try to illuminate trees and shrubs along the house, where people might hide. Keep ladders or other items that could help an intruder enter a ground floor window in a locked garage or shed.

5. Be aware that there are unmarked and disguised police vehicles and plainclothes police officers operating in your area around the clock. If they need to approach you while conducting an investigation, effecting an arrest, or protecting you, they will always show you their Rockville Centre Police Department badge and photo-identification card.

All of our police officers have taken an oath to "Protect and Serve" YOU. We take that very seriously and try to do our best in every way.

Please do not hesitate to call us if and when you feel the need by dialing 911. (Remember, calls from cell phones go first to Nassau County; calls from land lines come right to us.) We are always open for business and we are known for extra fast delivery.

Very truly yours,
John P. McKeon
Commissioner of Police

Resolve to Join Sandel Center in 2006!

The Sandel Center offers a vast selection of fitness programs designed to improve the quality of life of each participant.

Fitness classes range from seated exercise to much more strenuous activity.

Transportation to and from the Sandel Center is offered daily, including Thursday evenings. Rockville Centre residents may visit the Sandel Center for a complimentary class.

To step into the new year on the right foot, try one or more of the following fitness offerings:

Mondays:

11:00 A.M. Range of Motion
12:30 P.M. Mind Aerobics
2:00 P.M. Tai-chi

Tuesdays:

9:00 A.M. Aerobics
10:00 A.M. Pilates
12:40 P.M. Yoga
1:00 P.M. Ping Pong

Wednesdays:

10:00 A.M. Stretch and Balance
11:00 A.M. Total Gym
2:00 P.M. Line Dance practice



Several kinds of seated and more strenuous physical activities are available five days a week at the Sandel Center.

Thursdays:

10:00 A.M. Cardio Dance
4:15 P.M. Tai chi
5:30 P.M. Yoga
7:00 P.M. Line Dance

Fridays:

9:30 A.M. RVC walk-about
10:30 A.M. Just Joints (seated activity)

For additional information about the RVC Department of Senior Services or the Sandel Center, please call 678-9245.

Special Events

The Annual Holiday Party at the Milleridge Inn is Friday, December 2 at 12 P.M. and features a delicious lunch and entertainment. \$28 for members and \$30 for non-members.

Sandel Showtime presents "Bon Voyage," a musical for all ages on Sunday December 4 at 8 P.M. at the Stage Theater in Merrick. Tickets for the original musical are \$10. For more information, call 678-9245.

A musical program with South Side Middle School students is Monday, December 19 at 11:15 A.M.

Sandel's own Center Stage players led by music director Frank Scafuri will perform Wednesday, December 21 at 12 P.M. The event includes a holiday meal will all the trimmings for \$5 per person. Reservations are required.

The Intergenerational Holiday Party with South Side High School students presenting entertainment and holiday cheer is Thursday, December 22 from 12 to 2 P.M.