



# Focus on Youth and Families

Among the many reasons that Rockville Centre is such an attractive and desirable place to live is that it is a great place to raise a family.

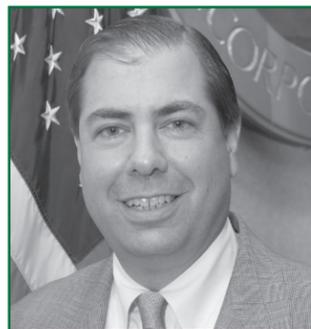
Just over the last week, I had the pleasure of attending the Annual RVC Little League Dinner and the Annual RVC Family Fun Run and 5K/10K Races. There is not enough room or time to thank and congratulate all of the hard working people who make our Little League such a success, but special mention must be made of Bob Tolan, Dave Howard, the entire Little League Board, as well as all of the volunteer managers and coaches.

Likewise, our own "Mr. B" – Tony Brunetta – and his entire staff at the Recreation Center deserve special thanks for all of their tireless work and efforts on the Family Fun Run as well as all of the great programs and events they sponsor throughout the year. These two great events demonstrate the wonderful sense of community spirit that we have here in Rockville Centre, while focusing on our most valuable resource – our children.

But as we all know, our children, especially our teenagers, are facing challenges as never before. Our children need our help and guidance, especially in their teen years, when, unfortunately, many of them may first become exposed to difficult issues such as drugs and alcohol.

Successfully navigating these obstacles requires increased parental supervision and vigilance. Over the last several years, one of the best suggestions that I've heard is that we need to provide our teens with a place to spend time on nights and weekends that will offer them a constructive alternative to simply congregating in the park or walking the streets and perhaps getting into trouble.

To that end, I'm pleased to report that, on November 11, I, along with many other parents, community and school leaders and young adults, attended the kick-



By Trustee Andrew P. Karamouzis

off meeting of the newly-formed Youth and Families Committee of the Rockville Centre Community Council, a grass roots organization devoted to making Rockville Centre better.

For more information on this worthy effort or if you would like to get involved, contact Beth Hammerman at [beth.hammerman@chsl.org](mailto:beth.hammerman@chsl.org) or 516-705-2621 or me at

[akaramouzis@rvcny.us](mailto:akaramouzis@rvcny.us) or 516-678-6660.

In discussing our youth, special mention must be made of Rockville Centre's own First Lieutenant Ronald D. Winchester, a true American hero and a shining example of the very best that our children can become. Lieutenant Winchester made the ultimate sacrifice in defending our country while on his second combat tour in Iraq in 2004.

Fittingly, Lieutenant Winchester was honored on Veterans Day, November 11, when the Village co-named a portion of Greystone Road as "1st Lt. Ronald D. Winchester, USMC Road" in his honor. Please honor his memory and remind your children about this great American hero every time you drive on 1st Lt. Ronald D. Winchester, USMC Road.

Finally, in the spirit of the holiday season, I urge everyone to take a moment to remember our troops overseas by donating at the American Legion Hall, 197 Maple Avenue, and also to consider helping those less fortunate by contributing to the many worthy local charities and organizations here in Rockville Centre such as The Annual Holiday Food Drive with collection points at the Rec Center, the MLK Center and the Senior Center, The Raymar Children's Fund at Covert Elementary School, The Rosa Lee Young Childhood Center, The Giving Tree at St. Agnes Cathedral, Temple B'nai Sholom, Central Synagogue, and Trinity Lutheran Church, just to name a few.

My sincere best wishes to all for a Happy Chanukah, a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year!



## RVC Bond Upgrade

Moody's Investor Services and Standard & Poor's have assigned very high ratings to \$2.8 million of Rockville Centre general obligation bonds that will be used to finance the renovation of the Maple Avenue water tank, road resurfacing, and rebuilding the Auxiliary Police headquarters.

Moody's affirmed its Aa3 rating, but Standard and Poor's upgraded its rating from AA to AA+, just one level below its highest.

The two credit ratings are among the very highest the agencies have assigned to Long Island municipalities and should produce a lower net interest charge on the current bond issue.

## Tax Notice

Second Installment tax bills have been mailed. Payment is due without penalty not later than December 31. If you have not received your tax bill by December 10, contact the Tax Office at 516-678-9242 to obtain a copy.

## THIS MONTH in Rockville Centre

Published by the Village of Rockville Centre

### Mayor

Mary Whalen Bossart

### Trustees

Jeanne Farnan Mulry

Andrew P. Karamouzis

Charles R. Joyce

David A. Krasula

### Village Administrator

Francis D. Quigley, Jr.

678-9300

## The Nutcracker

The RVC Guild for the Arts annual production of the classic Tchaikovsky ballet *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 5 at 8 P.M., Saturday, December 6 at 5 P.M. and Sunday, December 7 at 4 P.M. at South Side High School. Tickets are \$18 to \$22. Call 766-7171 for reservations and additional information.

## Christmas and Chanukah at the Captain's

The Phillips House Museum of the Rockville Centre Historical Society invites residents to view Chanukah pieces from the Gruner Menorah collection on weekends from 1 to 4 P.M. through the month of December.

The Captain's house will also be adorned with special Victorian-era Christmas decorations, including an 1880 feather tree and a kitchen utensil tree, during the month.

The annual Christmas at the Captain's celebration follows the Village tree lighting ceremony on Thursday, December 4. Come and share the wassail bowl of mulled cider and cookies. The museum is located at 28 Hempstead Avenue.

## Sanitation News

The sanitation schedule for holiday weeks in 2009 is enclosed.

Please note changes to the Sanitation Regulations reflecting the Village's extensive new curbside recycling programs.

Residents may now see their individual trash pick-up schedule by entering their street address online at <http://www.rvcny.us/recycle/recycle.html>.

## Police Urge Caution During Burglary Season

Although Rockville Centre is very well protected and the crime rate is very low, the holiday season is, unfortunately, a prime time for home burglaries. Criminals know that homes are often filled with gift purchases this time of year and that people are often away from home attending events and parties.

RVC Police Commissioner Jack McKeon said, "Burglaries are crimes of opportunity. Burglars go for the easy targets first, so don't leave inviting items in plain sight behind unlocked doors and windows. Lock your cars, lock your garage, lock your house."

To reduce your chances of becoming the victim of a burglary, the police recommend the following:

1. If you have an alarm system, keep it armed even when you are at home. (Village permits are required for all

alarm systems.)

2. Keep doors, windows, and all entry points closed and locked. If you need to keep windows open, ask your alarm company to provide specially-wired screens. Look outside before opening your door.

3. 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.

4. Keep an eye on your neighborhood and report anything or anyone that is suspicious to the police by using 911. It is always better to be safe than sorry.

(Remember, calls from cell phones go first to Nassau County; calls from land lines come right to the Rockville Centre Police.)



## THE SANDEL SENIOR CENTER

### Special Events

The Annual Holiday Party at the Milleridge Inn is Friday, December 12 at 12 P.M. Enjoy a delicious meal and the music of The Dance Machine. 9:30 A.M. bus for shopping and 10:30 bus for party only. \$30 per person for members and \$34 for non-members.

The Intergenerational Holiday Party with South Side High School students presenting entertainment and holiday cheer is Thursday, December 20 from 11:45 A.M. to 2 P.M.

The 2009 Post New Year's Bash rings in the New Year with live entertainment and a light meal on Friday, January 9 at 1 P.M. This party is free to all Sandel members who show their current red membership card at the door. Reservations are required; call 678-9350.

### Writing Memoirs

A series of five workshops for seniors who want to capture their memories through the written word begins January 8 at 2:30 and runs for five consecutive Thursdays. Participants will learn ways to develop interesting memoirs that can be shared with family and friends.



Visit the Village Hall Christmas tree, decorated by Sandel Seniors.

The workshop will concentrate on the techniques needed to develop written memoirs. Sharing memoirs with other workshop participants will enrich the learning process. Registration required; call 678-9350.



**Annual Christmas Tree Lighting**

An evening of song and fellowship officially opens the holiday season at 7:30 P.M. on Thursday, December 4 on the Village Green, Maple and Lee avenues. Santa and his helpers will be on hand to add to the festivities.

**Crafts Fair and Flea Market**

Shop for holiday gifts and decorations on Sunday, December 7 from 9:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. Vendors feature jewelry, floral arrangements, ornaments, crafts and edibles. Free admission and parking.

**North Pole Calling**

Children in kindergarten through 2nd grade can speak directly to Santa again this year. To receive a call on Tuesday, December 9 or Wednesday, December 10, fill out an information sheet at the Rec Center.

**Breakfast with Santa's Helpers**

The annual breakfast on Sunday, December 14 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 12 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 22 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.

**Food Donations Needed**

The Rec Center, the Senior Center and the Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Center are drop-off points for donations of canned and dry goods as well as frozen turkeys for distribution to the needy in our community. Bring your donations by December 19.

**Annual Mitten and Hat Tree**

The RVC 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 3.

The donations will be hung on the Mitten and Hat Tree at the Rec Center.

**Have-a-Heart Toys-for-Tots Dodgeball Tournament**

Bring a new toy to enter the tournament in this team sports event. Teams of at least six players in grades 9 and up will play in a round-robin format starting at 4 P.M. on Sunday, December 14. Roster form are available from the office; call 678-9339 for information.

**Toys-for-Tots Square Dance**

Bring a new toy to join the fun with master of ceremonies and world-famous caller Lee Kopman, starting at 7 P.M. on Sunday, December 21.



Join your neighbors for an evening of song and fellowship to open the holiday season at the Annual Christmas Tree Lighting, 7:30 P.M. Thursday, December 4 on the Village Green.

**Roll-Around Play Days**

The Roll-Around set-up will be available from 9:15-10 A.M. for children ages 1-4 daily, except for Sunday and the two holidays, from December 24 through January 3. Parents must accompany children. \$7 per family per session. No pre-registration; no older children please.

**THIS MONTH in Rockville Centre**

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

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Permit No. 50



**Dates & Events**

Thursday, December 4, 7:30 P.M.

**CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING**

Village Green, Maple and Lee

Wednesday, December 10, 8 P.M.

**BOARD OF APPEALS**

Monday, December 15, 8:15 P.M.

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Sunday, December 21, 5:30 P.M.

**COMMUNITY MENORAH LIGHTING**

Central Synagogue, 430 DeMott

Tuesday, December 23, 7:30 P.M.

**PLANNING BOARD**

Thursday, December 25

**CHRISTMAS DAY**

Village Offices Closed

Thursday, January 1

**NEW YEAR'S DAY**

Village Offices Closed

Monday, January 5, 8:15 P.M.

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Wednesday, January 7, 8 P.M.

**BOARD OF APPEALS**

Monday, January 19

**MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY**

Village Offices Closed

Tuesday, January 20, 7:30 P.M.

**PLANNING BOARD**

Wednesday, January 21, 8 P.M.

**BOARD OF APPEALS**

Monday, January 26, 8:15 P.M.

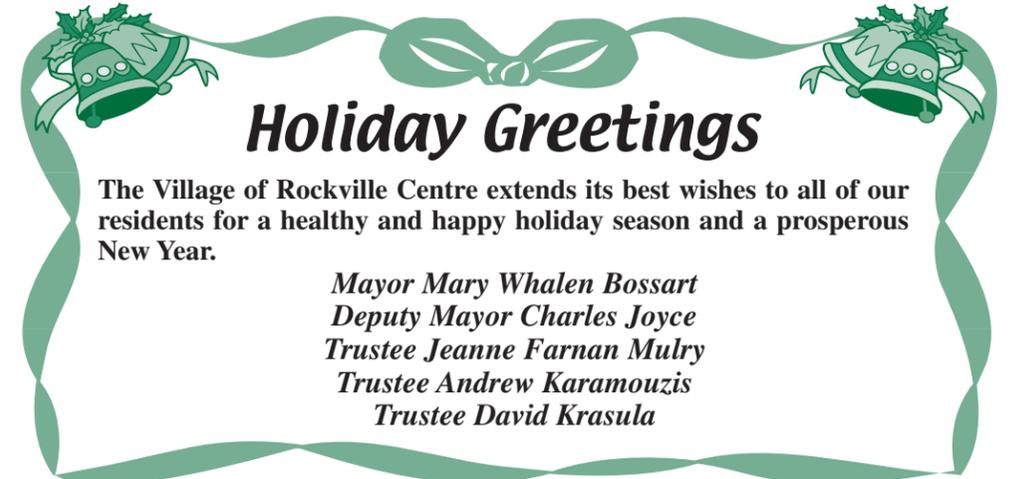
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Visit the Village website at:  
[www.rvcny.us](http://www.rvcny.us)

**THIS MONTH in Rockville Centre**

December 2008

Vol. 57., No. 9



**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 Mary Whalen Bossart  
Deputy Mayor Charles Joyce  
Trustee Jeanne Farnan Mulry  
Trustee Andrew Karamouzis  
Trustee David Krasula*

**Free Shopper Parking Holiday Saturdays**

The Village of Rockville Centre is providing free shopper parking in the downtown business districts on the four Saturdays between Thanksgiving and Christmas.

"This is the second year we have offered free Saturday shopping and we hope it continues to attract additional holiday shoppers and helps our business community," said Mayor Mary Whalen Bossart.

The Village has joined with the Rockville Centre Chamber of Commerce to implement and monitor the program which will provide free parking both on-street and in municipal lots on Saturdays November 29, December 6, 13 and 20.

The Village also announced that while shopper parking will be free, the regular time limits and the restrictions against employee parking, as well as all safety regulations, will be strictly enforced.

**Breakfast with Santa's Helpers**



Santa himself will be on hand for the annual Family Breakfast with Santa's Helpers on Sunday, December 14. Deadline for tickets is Friday, December 12.

**INSIDE**

Rockville Centre Department of Public Works Snow Newsletter  
Rockville Centre Sanitation Department Official 2009 Holiday Schedule

# Snow Newsletter



Public Works Department Superintendent Harry Weed and Mayor Mary W. Bossart with some of the snow removal crew.

## We're Ready for Winter!

### Before the Snow Falls

The Rockville Centre Department of Public Works uses the fall months to prepare for the coming winter. Vehicles are serviced, equipment is checked, and about 800 tons of salt and 3,000 gallons of calcium chloride are stockpiled at DPW headquarters on Sunrise Highway. When snow is expected, the Department monitors the weather reports and someone is always on duty to report when the snow begins to fall.

### When the Snowfall Starts

The DPW employs nearly 50 experienced, full-time workers who are on the job, round the clock if necessary in the case of a major snow storm, operating 20 vehicles dedicated to removing snow from the Village's 52 miles of roadway.

The first step is salting the streets, beginning with the Village's main roads and downtown areas. If temperatures are very low, liquid calcium chloride is added to the mix. Applications continue until the streets are cleared or until the snow is too deep for the chemicals to be effective.

### When the Snowfall Continues

When two or three inches of snow have accumulated or more is expected, plowing becomes more effective than salting. All main roads and residential streets will be

plowed by the DPW, which assigns its crews to eight plow zones.

The first priority is to open the main roads to provide safe access for emergency vehicles and to maintain traffic flow, since most residents live within a few blocks of the main roads. The plows then continue to all streets in each zone until all the streets are clear.

If the storm continues, the crews continue working in the same pattern until the storm abates. Then the trucks begin to widen out all roads by pushing the accumulated snow back to the curbs and clearing the intersections.

The crews will be out working throughout a storm. To report a hazardous condition, call the DPW at 678-9267. For medical emergencies or the police, call 911.

### After the Storm Is Over

Crews continue to monitor all roads for icy conditions and where winds may redeposit snow onto the roadways. Usually salt and / or sand are applied so that all surfaces remain safe to drive on.

Residents and business owners are reminded that all sidewalks must be cleared within 24 hours after the end of a storm. Residents are asked NOT to throw snow into the roadway when clearing driveways and sidewalks.

# Snow Newsletter

## When Snow Falls:



## Help Us Help You

### Be Prepared, Be Aware, Be Patient

Before it snows, make sure you have your tools and supplies handy. Shovels, ice chippers, snow blowers, salt, sand, and calcium chloride should be ready for use. If you hire someone to do snow removal, make your arrangements in advance.

Please do not go out during or immediately after a snowstorm unless it is really necessary. Crews have many hours of hard work to clear away the snow. Less traffic on the roads means the crews will be able to do their job more quickly and completely. Under the best conditions, it will take 8 to 10 hours after the snow has stopped falling to complete the snow removal operations.

Snow removal is an arduous and time-consuming task. Please understand that the Department of Public Works cannot shovel out your driveway entrance nor can it plow out any private property.

### Tips and Suggestions

- If snow is expected, move your cars into the driveway. Parking on the streets during a snowstorm is prohibited.
- If you are shoveling out the entrance to your driveway, never throw snow directly into the street; shovel onto the curbstrip or other area of your property.
- If possible, finish clearing your driveway entrance AFTER the final widening pass by the snow plow, which will come about 8 to 10 hours after the snow stops falling, depending on the severity of the storm. DO NOT throw snow back into the middle of a cleared street.
- If you have to go out during hazardous driving conditions, remember to drive slowly, brake slowly, allow plenty of room between you and the vehicle in front, and watch for sudden obstructions.
- Plan alternate ways to travel to main routes and to your place of employment and give yourself extra time to get there.



**The Rockville Centre Fire Department reminds you to clear snow away from any fire hydrants on your property so they may be located easily in case of an emergency.**