



Nursery School Registration

Registrations are now being accepted for the RVC Recreation Center's nursery school programs for the 2009 - 2010 school year.

Pre-K classes for those entering kindergarten in September 2010 are offered five days a week from 9 to 11:30 A.M. or Monday, Wednesday, Friday from 12:15 to 2:45 P.M.

Pre-Pre-K for those entering kindergarten in September 2011 are offered Monday through Thursday from 9 to 11:30 A.M. or Tuesday and Thursday from 12:15 to 2:45 P.M.

To schedule an appointment to visit the school, call the Recreation Office at 678-9338.

Winter Recess Events

All trip and activity participants must be registered members of the Recreation Department for the 2008-2009 year. To register, a parental permission slip and the appropriate fee must be submitted to the Rec Center office PRIOR to the day of the event.

Monday, February 16

Speed Stacking competition, the new international sport, for grades K to 8 from 11 A.M. to 12:15 P.M. Fee \$4.

Trip to Fun Zone in Farmingdale for grades 1 to 8. Fee of \$23 includes



Relays of all kinds are part of the fun on Sports Day, just one of the winter recess activities at the Rec Center.

35 game tokens, unlimited rides, and transportation. 12:30 - 4:15 P.M.

Combo, both Speed Stacking and Fun Zone, with staff chaperone, \$30.

Tuesday, February 17

Presidents' Day Relays for grade 1 from 10:45 A.M. to 12:15 P.M. Fee \$6.

Whole Lotta Fun with Maura Ressegger for grades 2 to 5 from 10:45 A.M. to 12:15 P.M. Fee \$6.

Bowling at RVC Lanes Bumper Bowling for grades 1 & 2 from 12 Noon to 2:30 P.M.; for grades 3 to 8, 12:30 to 3 P.M. Fee \$13.

Combo, both Fun and bowling, with staff chaperone, \$26.

Wednesday, February 18

Ice Skating Trip to Freeport arena for grades 1 to 8 from 9:30 A.M. to 12 Noon. Fee \$13, includes skate rental and transportation. Children must wear warm clothing, socks and gloves.

Craft activities for grades K to 5 from 10:30 to 11:45 A.M. or 12:15 to 1:30 P.M. Fee \$8.

Combo, both activities, with staff chaperone, \$24.

Thursday, February 19

Honest Abe Sports Day game and sports activities for grades K to 5 from 10:30 A.M. to 12 Noon; grades K - 1 from 12:30 - 2 P.M. Snack of bagels and beverage. Fee \$10.



The calm before the mess: the Annual Pie Eating Contest is Friday, February 20.

Michael's Amusements in Oceanside features arcade video games and connected X-box games. Trip includes one game of laser tag, pizza and beverage lunch. For grades 2 to 5; from 12:30 to 3 P.M. Fee \$21.

Combo, both sports and Michael's, with staff chaperone, \$30.

Friday, February 20

Annual Cherry Pie Eating Contest for grades 1 to 6, begins at 11:15 A.M. Fee \$2.

IMAX Theater trip at the Cradle of Aviation Museum to see Batman: The Dark Knight, for grades 1 to 8, from 12:30 to 3:45 P.M. Fee \$18.

Combo, both pie eating and Batman, with staff chaperone, \$23.

Open Gym and Game Schedule

Monday, February 16 through Saturday, February 21. For grades 4 and up from 12:30 to 4:30 P.M.; for grades 6 and up: 7:30 - 10:15 P.M.

THIS MONTH in Rockville Centre

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

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Dates & Events

Monday, February 2, 8 P.M.

CABLEVISION FRANCHISE HEARING

Wednesday, February 4, 8 P.M.

BOARD OF APPEALS

Tuesday, February 10, 7 P.M.

PLANNING BOARD

Wednesday, February 11, 9:30 A.M.

IDA - AVALONBAY HEARING

RVC Public Library

Monday, February 16

PRESIDENTS' DAY Village Offices Closed

Monday, February 23, 8:15 P.M.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Events are at Village Hall unless otherwise indicated.

Emergency Numbers

Fire 911

Police 911

Ambulance 911

Electric 766-5800

Water 678-9252

Nights & Weekends

766-5800

Board of Trustees and Zoning Board meetings are shown on Channel 18. A cablecast schedule and a complete Calendar of Events are available on the Village's website www.rvcny.us

2009 State of the Village Address

Tonight I am proud to be delivering my second State of the Village address and I am proud to report that the Village of Rockville Centre remains a great place to live and raise a family.

I say this for two reasons - first, it is true and second, as a counterweight to all we have heard and are experiencing as our nation undergoes a serious economic rebalancing. Our current situation is not all bleak. It is a good thing to remember that our property values are still strong, we have excellent municipal services, low utility rates, and an especially high level of community spirit not found in other villages.

However, we are not immune to the worldwide financial struggles that are affecting all levels of government as well as our residents and businesses. Our revenues are down from all sources and our expenses are up. The current circumstances require us to be attentive and very careful in all of the decisions we make on behalf of our fellow residents.

Last year at this time, there were early indications that an economic change was developing. The Board of Trustees and I, as well as all the Village department heads and the Citizens Budget Advisory Committee took note of the situation and worked especially hard to deal with



By Mayor Mary Whalen Bossart

Mayor Bossart delivered her address at the January 26 Board of Trustees meeting.

these realities in our annual budget. We deferred hiring, we curtailed projects and we eliminated programs wherever we felt we could do so without jeopardizing the character of our Village.

And so we kept the Village tax increase as low as we responsibly believed was possible. The initial proposed 14 percent tax increase was reduced to just under 10 percent.

But even with the need for austerity, Rockville Centre moved ahead on several fronts:

We put safety first and funded a new emergency ambulance service recommended by the Rockville Centre Fire Department . . . This service provides an ambulance specifically dedicated to Rockville Centre and staffed by at least one paramedic and one emergency medical technician, for 12 hours a day Monday through Friday.

Other accomplishments during the year include:

Completion of the new \$7 million electric substation . . . [that] increases our import capacity and means we will be able to maintain our low rates for the future. . . .

We are proceeding on schedule with the rehabilitation of Water Tank #2 at Maple and Forest avenues. . . [T]he job is scheduled for completion by this summer.

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INSIDE

From the Rockville Centre Fire Department 'Make The Right Call' in an Emergency



2009 State of the Village Address

Continued from page 1

• We also saved money this year and acted in an environmentally responsible manner by expanding our curbside residential paper recycling program.

Village residents may now recycle virtually all clean paper and cardboard products from the convenience of their curbside each Wednesday, in a program with the potential to reduce the volume, weight and cost of trash disposal by as much as 20 percent. . . .

To help residents understand our new programs, the Village website was also updated: Residents may now visit www.rvcny.us to find all of the information they need. . . .

Other noteworthy events during 2008 included:

• The completion and dedication of the Sandel Senior Center's new Garden Park, a 30th anniversary project that provided beautiful landscaping, new paving, a gazebo, benches and waterfall. . . .

• The Rockville Centre Police Department earned its second five-year reaccreditation in 2008. It is one of only two departments in the New York metropolitan area accredited by the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services. . . .

• Standard & Poor's upgraded its rating from AA to AA+ on our latest \$2.8 million bond issue which will pay for the renovation of the Maple Avenue water tank, road resurfacing, and rebuilding of the Auxiliary Police building including handicap accessible restroom facilities at Mill River / Centennial Park.

Looking to the future, we intend to continue and to improve on our record as good stewards of your municipal government.

• The Village Administrator convened a Task Force on "green" initiatives in 2008 and we will be taking steps to become more green in 2009, including . . . energy audits of all Village buildings . . . [and] investigating replacement of some of our vehicles with hybrid electric, natural gas or other high-efficiency vehicles. . . .

• Another important environmental initiative . . . [is] a village-wide energy efficiency program funded by a surcharge on electric bills. . . . Details are being prepared by the RVC Electric Department.

• The Village will resume its road paving program in the spring. . . . All residents on the affected streets will be sent letters explaining the work and announcing when the work is expected to begin and end.

We will also continue to use a two-stage process to confirm when curbside trees need to be removed during roadway reconstruction. Construction includes replacing the water mains, the preparation of the roadbed and the replacement of all curbs and driveway aprons.

Trees are removed only because the trees are diseased and create a hazardous condition or because the root system is affecting the roadway or the water lines.

During the coming year, while Rockville Centre, like the rest of the country, will be facing economic challenges, we as a Board and as a community have the opportunity to come together, to discuss the issues before us, and work together to craft solutions that will benefit the Village as a whole.

The early leaders of our Village and those who led the Village through two world wars and the Great Depression provided us with good role models. We can and will do no less than they did to ensure that Rockville Centre remains a great place to live and raise a family.

The complete text of the State of the Village address is available on the Village website, www.rvcny.us.

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

Add Unlisted Numbers to 'Reverse-911' Notification System

Residents with unlisted numbers who wish to join Rockville Centre's "reverse-911" community notification system should visit the Village's main webpage at www.rvcny.us/mayor.html and click on the Swift911 icon. All residents with listed numbers and those with unlisted numbers who register will be alerted to local emergencies or other important information when the system is activated.

The system is now capable of dialing every resident within 30 minutes or of reaching all residents within a targeted geographical area with a 30-second message about street-closings due to construction or special events, or to make other public service announcements. All calls from the system will display the caller ID "Rockville Centre."

The system also allows residents to list an alternate phone number if the primary phone number is not answered by a person or an answering machine. All information in the system remains private and will not be provided to any outside agencies or companies.

Since first being activated in 2005, the system has been used to announce parade routes, hydrant flushings, and snow and power emergencies.



New Emergency Ambulance Service in Village

At the request of the Rockville Centre Fire Department and after many months of study and negotiation, the Village has entered into an agreement with the North Shore University Hospital Ambulance Service to provide primary emergency medical service Monday through Friday from 6 A.M. to 6 P.M. beginning December 1.

The six-month trial agreement requires North Shore to dedicate and locate an ambulance in Rockville Centre staffed by at least one paramedic and one emergency medical technician. Immediate back-up is provided by the Rockville Centre Fire Department's Floodlight Rescue Company and further back-up is available from North Shore itself, from the Nassau County Police Department Emergency Ambulance Bureau, and from mutual aid from nearby volunteer fire departments.

The Rockville Centre volunteers

will continue to provide primary coverage overnight and on weekends and holidays.

The change was necessary, fire department and Village officials agreed, because of the volume of emergency calls for the volunteers during normal working hours. Also, under the old system, Rockville Centre police officers were often diverted to ambulance service instead of their regular duties.

At the January 5 Board of Trustees meeting, both Mayor Mary W. Bossart and RVC Fire Chief Michael Lapkowski praised the new service for its quick response, which averaged under four minutes per call during the first five weeks.

The Village will pay North Shore a maximum of \$83,250 every six months for the service, an amount that decreases to zero if the service performs more than 485 transports during the period.

Brian O'Neill, the Vice President of the Center for Emergency Medical Services at North Shore L.I.J. Health Systems, shakes hands with Rockville Centre Fire Chief Michael Lapkowski in front of Village Hall, marking the first week of the new public-private partnership for ambulance service in the Village. On hand for the occasion are: Trustee Andrew Karamouzis, Deputy Mayor Charles Joyce, Emergency Medical Technician Jamie Wood, Paramedic Charles Schwalbe, James Jackson, the Assistant Director for Operations at the Center for Emergency Medical Services, Mr. O'Neill, Chief Lapkowski, 2nd Assistant Chief John Busching, Mayor Mary W. Bossart, Village Administrator Frank Quigley, Trustee Jeanne Farnan Mulry, and Trustee David Krasula.

North Shore bills patients when they are transported to local hospitals, a charge normally paid for by medical insurance. In dealing with those without insurance coverage, North Shore adheres to a financial assistance policy that it must follow in order to maintain its not-for-profit status. That policy limits fees and the means by which North Shore can attempt to collect those fees from patients without coverage.

The abuse of the volunteer emergency medical service by patients requesting transport for non-emergency reasons and the inability of the volunteer department to bill for such calls were also factors in the decision to try a new system.

The fire department brochure "Make the Right Call" included with this issue of This Month explains the work of emergency medical personnel and guides residents in the use of the emergency medical system.



THE SANDEL SENIOR CENTER

Construction Progress at Sandel

A much needed construction project forced the temporary relocation of most senior programs throughout the month of January. The work should be finished in early February and all programs and activities will resume.

During the construction the

Center's regular programs were hosted by the Recreation Center, the Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Center, the RVC Fire Department, the American Legion, the RVC Public Library, the Halandia housing development, Sportset and the Atria of Lynbrook.



The RVC Fire Department lent its facilities to Senior Services during the Sandel Center construction.