



THE ANDERSON RECREATION CENTER

Nursery School Registration

Registrations are now being accepted for the nursery school programs for the 2010 - 2011 school year.

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 for the 2009-2010 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 15

Presidents' Day Relays, for grades K and 1 from 10 to 11:15 a.m. or 11:15 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Fee \$8.

Dodgeball Day, for grades 2 to 5 from 11:15 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Fee \$8.

Trip to Fun Zone in Farmingdale for grades 1 to 8. Fee of \$25 includes 35 game tokens, unlimited rides, and transportation. 12:40 to 4:30 p.m.

Combo, both Relays or Dodgeball and Fun Zone, with staff chaperone, \$37.



In these difficult economic times, you can help the Village and yourself by recycling all your paper products —magazines, catalogs, newspapers, junk mail, cardboard and most product packaging — from the convenience of your curb on Wednesdays.

Recycling can save hundreds of thousands of dollars a year, lowering the cost of government and lowering your Village real estate taxes!

To see the schedule for recycling glass, cans and plastics and for an explanation of what items are included in each category of recyclables, visit the webpage www.rvcny.us/recycle/recycle.html.

Tuesday, February 16

Honest Abe Sports Day game and sports activities for grades K to 1 from 10 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. or from 11:15 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.; grades 2 to 5 from 11:15 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Fee \$8.

Bounce-U in Farmingdale, the ultimate inflatable destination, for grades 1 to 5 from 12:40 to 3:45 p.m. Fee of \$20.

Combo, both Sports Day and Bounce-U, with staff chaperone, \$31.

Wednesday, February 17

Junior Winter Olympics for grades K to 5 from 9:45 to 11 a.m. or 11:15 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Fee \$8.

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 and up; from 12:45 to 3:45 p.m. Fee \$22.

Combo, both activities, with staff chaperone, \$33.

Thursday, February 18

Ice Skating Trip to Freeport arena for grades 1 to 8 from 9:30 a.m. to 12 Noon. Fee \$13.

Honest Abe Sports Day game and sports activities for grades K to 5 from 10:45 a.m. to 12 Noon or 12 Noon to 1:15 p.m. Fee \$8.

Craft activities for grades K to 5 from 10:45 to 12 Noon or 12:15 to 1:30



Relays of all kinds are part of the fun at the Rec Center during the winter recess.

p.m. Fee \$8.

Annual Cherry Pie Eating Contest for grades K to 6, begins at 1:45 p.m. Fee \$2. Register by February 13.

Friday, February 19

Whole Lotta Fun Day with Maura Ressegger for grades 2 to 5 from 11:15 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Fee \$8.

Just For Fun Day for grades K to 1 from 9:30 to 10:45 a.m. or 10:45 a.m. to 12 Noon Fee \$8.

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

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

THIS MONTH in Rockville Centre

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

PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Freeport, NY
Permit No. 50



THIS MONTH in Rockville Centre

February 2010
Vol. 59., No. 1

Dates & Events

Wednesday, February 3, 8 P.M.
BOARD OF APPEALS

Tuesday, February 9, 8:15 P.M.
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Monday, February 15
PRESIDENTS' DAY
Village Offices Closed

Tuesday, February 23, 7 P.M.
PLANNING BOARD

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

2010 State of the Village Address

Good evening. Tonight, I am privileged to have my third opportunity to offer my thoughts on the state of our Village. I want to concentrate on the changes Rockville Centre is undergoing and how we can respond to them, both as a municipality and as individuals.



The Village budget, passed last spring and that will be in effect until May 31, was responsible and austere.

This year, in preparation for the next budget, the Board of Trustees and I, as well as all the Village department heads and the Citizens Budget Advisory Committee will look to achieving the same ends: a responsible, restrained budget, one that supports the excellent municipal services that make Rockville Centre such a desirable place to live and work. We must maintain our infrastructure and our municipal departments because they sustain our strong property values and the character of our Village.

But to do all that, we must increase the tax rate. There is no way around our responsibility to pay for our services and to invest in our community – now and for the future.



In other operational areas last year, we were able to economize while improving our services:

◆ The Village began a new sanitation contract in late August that could



By Mayor
Mary Whalen Bossart

save us more than \$300,000 a year in disposal fees. Under the new contract the basic disposal fee was reduced by 25 percent, transportation costs were significantly reduced, the recycling program was expanded and curbside pick-up of leaves was made easier, eliminating the expense of special leaf bags.

But to fully take advantage of this new contract, we need the cooperation and participation of all our residents.

Most of us are using the blue bins every week for glass, cans and plastics. But not everyone is yet separating and saving cardboard and paper products for the curbside pick-ups on Wednesdays.

We can easily save an additional \$100,000 to \$200,000 a year which would significantly help our budget and lower any tax rate increase.

If you are unsure about our recycling programs, visit the Village website for a full explanation of what to recycle and when.



Citizen participation is an essential part of municipal government. Too often we may think of local government as our servant, rather than as a partner. Compounding the issue is what has been called "just-in-time" thinking that leads us to believe that government can magically fix any disruption in our daily

Continued on page 2

INSIDE

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



2010 State of the Village Address

Continued from page 1

routine.

Government services are no substitute for individual preparedness, responsibility and engagement. Even as government prepares itself for foreseeable but potentially dangerous circumstances, so, too, should our residents:

None of us can control weather events such as snow, hurricanes, heat waves or unusually heavy rainstorms or keep them from happening. And though our excellent police force does everything in its power, crimes will still occur. There are hazards and dangers in the world that individuals need to anticipate and prepare themselves to cope with. Individuals need some resiliency in dealing with the world no less than governments.



The resilience of the American people was the subject of an article in the Journal of Foreign Affairs which pointed out the need for greater self-reliance and resourcefulness in facing both natural disasters and the increased likelihood of domestic terrorism.

The Village is fully engaged in training its employees in the National Incident Command System, a program of the National Incident Management System established by the Department of Homeland Security.

At the individual level, residents should also prepare themselves and their families for emergencies. The American Red Cross recommends creating a family emergency contact plan, making a three-day emergency kit as well as having a "go-bag" when evacuation is necessary. Direct links to all the information for following these recommendations is available on the Village's website or on the American Red Cross website.

Residents who feel called to a greater commitment to the welfare of their neighbors should consider volunteering for either the Rockville Centre Fire Department or the Rockville Centre Auxiliary Police. Both of these

organizations provide invaluable service, both will train volunteers, both need your help and both provide a sense of engagement and accomplishment you will find nowhere else.

Other models for citizen engagement include FOSSI, the Friends of Senior Services, Inc., which year after year has supported the department and the Sandel Center with such projects as acquiring buses and building the garden park and which this year raised funds that helped complete a much needed 470-square-foot expansion to the Center, at no cost to Village taxpayers.

Another model and another opportunity to contribute to the community are our citizen committees that advise the Board of Trustees. I am especially proud of the creation of the RVC Conservancy last year, an evolution of the former Environmental and Beautification Committee.

I also want to commend the youth and adult volunteers under the leadership of Beth Hammerman who have formed and are incorporating the RVC Youth Council as an independent organization.

These are all examples of citizen participation that provide a level of community resiliency and support of Village operations. In fact they do even more – they enrich the lives of all in our community.



During this coming year I will be asking my fellow Board members to use resiliency – the capacity to remain flexible and recover rapidly from unexpected challenges – as a guiding principle in our decision making for the Village. In exercising our fiduciary duties to our fellow residents, we must count not only the costs, but the value of each of our decisions. I believe that this is a prudent course that will help us to improve and remain a desirable Village in which to live, work and raise a family.

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

Community Notes

Snow Storm Help

Information about what to do before, during and after a snow storm is now available on the Village's website www.rvcny.us.

The webpage provides emergency contact numbers; a description of how the Rockville Centre Department of Public Works prepares for, reacts to and cleans up after a major storm; and tips for residents and business owners on what to do if a storm is approaching.

To report a hazardous condition during a snow storm, call the Department of Public Works at 678-9267. At all other times, call the Village's 24-hour emergency number at 799-5800.

Holiday Sanitation Schedule Reminder

Monday, February 15 is Presidents' Day and Village offices are closed.

Normal Monday – Thursday trash pick-ups will be on Tuesday and Thursday that week and normal Tuesday – Friday pick-ups will be on

Wednesday and Friday.

There will be no Wednesday collection of bulk items or paper recycling the week of Presidents' Day, but recyclable glass, cans and plastics will be collected on the designated day for your area.

Visit the Village website at www.rvcny.us/sanitationinfo.html for the sanitation schedule and department regulations.

U.S. Census 2010

Due to changes in the way population data are collected, it is very important that Village residents return their 2010 Census questionnaire by the April 1 deadline.

Red Light Warning

Nassau County will soon be installing one of its red light camera systems at the dangerous intersection of Peninsula Boulevard and Lakeview Avenue to encourage compliance with the traffic laws.

The cameras automatically photograph drivers and record the license plates of cars entering the intersection after the light has turned red and will send a ticket to the registered owner of the vehicle.



Mayor Mary W. Bossart swears in Rockville Centre's new Police Commissioner Chuck Gennario at the January 4 Board of Trustees meeting.

Former Commissioner Jack McKeon "turns over the helm" to new Police Commissioner Chuck Gennario.



New Police Commissioner For RVC

After saying good-bye to former Police Commissioner Jack McKeon at the last Board meeting of 2009, the Mayor and Board of Trustees welcomed his replacement at the first meeting of 2010.

Charles A. "Chuck" Gennario, a senior lieutenant in the department and a retired Marine lieutenant colonel, who has been on the Rockville Centre police force since 1986, took the oath of office from Mayor Mary W. Bossart and then promoted and swore in new officers himself.

Commissioner Gennario introduced his new executive officer, Inspector Glenn Quinn, who has more than 24 years of service in the department; Sgt. Chris Romance and Sgt. Jim Vafeades, who were promoted to lieutenant; and Officers Ralph DiCosimo and Rick Brussell, who were promoted to sergeant.

In addition to former Commissioner McKeon's retirement, the department also lost to retirement former Inspector Richard Fantry, Det. Sgt. Kevin O'Toole and Officer Steve Christianson. Two other officers, James Lauth and Robert Anderson, retired earlier in the year.

Replacing the retirees are Terence McCartney, a New York City Police officer since 2002 and former Army captain who was awarded the Bronze Star for action in Iraq; Joseph Scibico, a New York City Police sergeant since 2007; and Paul Kaplon, a former combat Marine who won commendations for his actions in Fallujah, Iraq.

Officers McCartney and Scibico have undergone department training and are on patrol. Officer Kaplon has entered the police academy for training.



THE SANDEL SENIOR CENTER

Knitting lessons will be offered on Thursdays, February 4 and 11 at 11 a.m. for Sandel members.

The Long Island Banjo Society will perform on Tuesday, February 9 at 3 p.m. \$4 per person.

The annual Valentine Party is Friday, February 12 at 1 p.m. Wear pink and red, dance to favorite love songs and enjoy the delicious Viennese table. Sign up for \$4 per person; \$8 after Feb. 10.

RVC resident and Civil War re-enactor Robin Mary Heaney, Esq. becomes Mary Todd Lincoln on Friday, February 19 at 1 p.m.

Take a trip to the Taj Mahal in Atlantic City on Wednesday, February 24. \$34 per person includes \$20 cash give back. Reservations required.

The Long Island Banjo Society will perform at the Sandel Center on Feb. 9.



THIS MONTH in Rockville Centre

Published by the Village of Rockville Centre

Mayor

Mary Whalen Bossart

Trustees

Charles R. Joyce
David A. Krasula
Kevin Glynn
Edward J. Oppenheimer

Village Administrator

Francis D. Quigley, Jr.
678-9300