

# THIS MONTH IN

# Rockville Centre



**February 5 At 7 P.M.**  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**February 7 At 7:30 P.M.**  
**BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS**

**Monday, February 19**  
**VILLAGE OFFICES CLOSED**  
**PRESIDENT'S DAY**

**February 20 At 7 P.M.**  
**PLANNING BOARD**

**February 21 At 7:30 P.M.**  
**BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS**

**March 5 At 7 P.M.**  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**March 7 At 7:30 P.M.**  
**BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS**

**March 20 At 7 P.M.**  
**PLANNING BOARD**

**March 21 At 7:30 P.M.**  
**BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS**

**March 24 At Noon**  
**ST. PATRICK'S PARADE**

Events are at Village Hall unless otherwise indicated.

## Holiday Sanitation Schedule

### President's Day Week

**Monday, February 19, 2018**

**President's Day**

No trash collection

**Normal Monday/Thursday trash collection will be on Tuesday and Thursday**

**Normal Tuesday/Friday trash collection will be on Wednesday and Friday**

**Wednesday, February 21, 2018**

No bulk items or paper pickup.

### Village Hall Hours

Cashier & Registrar 8:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

Court Counter 8:00 A.M. - 3:30 P.M.

Electric/Water Billing 8:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

Tax Department 8:30 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

Closed Saturday and Sunday

## 22nd Annual St. Patrick's Parade To Hit The Streets Of Rockville Centre

The 22nd Annual Rockville Centre St. Patrick's Parade begins at Noon on Saturday, March 24, starting from Maple Avenue and Long Beach Road and proceeding to the reviewing stand in front of St. Agnes Cathedral.

"This parade is one of the biggest events here in our Village," commented Mayor Francis X. Murray. "It's one of the most exciting days of the year in Rockville Centre. The downtown shops are booming, the streets are full of Rockville Centre pride and the Village is able to give back to three worthy causes."

This year's Grand Marshal is John Coghlan. John attended St. Agnes High School where he met his wife Patti. After high school graduation, he attended North Adams State College in Massachusetts and received a Master's in Education from Harvard University. He would later be awarded a Doctor of Laws from his undergraduate school. John spent twenty-eight years in the financial services industry working at Lehman Brothers. John shares his vast experience in his current role as Director at Data Storage Corporation. John has been extremely active in the community as well. He has coached CYO basketball for many years and served on the CYO board. He recently completed a twelve-year term as a Trustee on the Molloy College Board. Both John and Patti are active members of Legatus, an organization of business leaders and their spouses dedicated to supporting the Magisterium of the Church. John has received recognition for his charitable works, including the Bishop McGann Lifetime Achievement Award for his work with Mercy Hospital and the St. Thomas Aquinas Award for his significant contributions to Catholic education. Patti and John have been married for forty-two years. They have four married children and eight grandchildren. All reside in Rockville Centre, NY.

Over the last 20 years, the Rockville Centre St. Patrick's Parade has become one of the most successful and well-attended parades in New York State. It has become a source of not only cultural pride, but civic pride, as well. The parade is an incorporated not-for-profit organization that annually shares its success with three worthy charities, which are National, Irish, and Rockville Centre focused. Since the parade's inception in 1997, \$1,006,000 has

been distributed to 58 individual charities. Rockville Centre's St. Patrick's Parade is "The Parade that Cares and Shares"®.

This year's charities are the Life's WORC Family Center for Autism (FCA), working to engage the autism community with its unique model of providing innovative programs for individuals with autism and their family members, Family Lives On Foundation, supporting the lifelong emotional well-being of children

who have suffered the death of a parent, and the Irish American Heritage Museum, home to the Paul O'Dwyer Library. The Museum creates and displays exhibits, hosts lectures on historic topics and modern politics, hosts film screenings, theater performances, cooking classes, open sessions, genealogy courses, concerts, and much more.

For further information about the parade visit the parade website at [www.rvcstpatrick.com](http://www.rvcstpatrick.com).



## Trustee Edward Oppenheimer Named Person of the Year



A third-generation Rockville Centre resident serving his third term as a Village Trustee, Ed Oppenheimer was chosen as the 2017 Person of the Year by the Rockville Centre Herald.

"Ed has always been a valuable member of this community," commented Mayor Francis X. Murray. "He is the embodiment of what an outstanding citizen is and should be. Not batting an eye to get involved to help his fellow neighbors, he has spent a large portion of his life trying to make the community better. He is a worthy recipient of this honor."

His dedication to the Rockville Centre community began in 1979 when he joined the Rockville Centre Fire Department. Ed is qualified as a firefighter and New York State Emergency Medical Technician. In 2016,

Ed earned, along with other members of the Rockville Centre Fire Department, the Town of Hempstead Firefighter of the Year Award for their life saving efforts. In 2016, Ed was fortunate to be able to assist in two successful resuscitation efforts, numbers 12 and 13 of his 38-year RVCFD career.

In addition to his service as a village trustee and a first responder, Ed is a former Nassau County Legislator and past President of the Rockville Centre Public Library. He was a founding trustee of the Rockville Centre Community Fund, serving as its treasurer for 25 years, and has been on the Village Planning Board and has served as a Trustee for the Chamber of Commerce and Congregation B'nai Shalom-Beth David.

PRSR STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
Hicksville, NY 11801  
Permit No. 70

THIS MONTH IN  
**Rockville Centre**  
One College Place, P.O. Box 950  
Rockville Centre, New York 11571



# Around Our Community

## RVC Commemorates Pearl Harbor Day

Military veterans from Rockville Centre and neighboring towns gathered at Mill River Park to commemorate the 76th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor. The ceremony, hosted by the Village of Rockville Centre

and American Legion Post #303, honored the courage and sacrifice of American troops who defended Pearl Harbor in 1941. During the ceremony, Mayor Francis X. Murray casted a wreath into Mill River.



## RVC Showcased Holiday Spirit



Festive crowds came out for the annual Rockville Centre tree lighting at the Village Green. After a countdown and a flip of the switch, residents joyously gathered around the tree while students from South Side High School performed holiday songs. Rudolph and Frosty the Snowman visited, and Santa made an appearance on a fire truck.

cereal, juice, milk and bagels. After eating Vixen's Fixin's, kids visited Santa, Rudolph and Frosty. Cheerful guests attended the annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Center Christmas party. In conjunction with the National Council of Jewish Women, the Recreation Center held its annual Chanukah Party/Festival of Lights. In addition, the Mayor and the Deputy Mayor attended the annual community Chanukah Candle Lighting at Temple B'nai Sholom-Beth David.

The Recreation Center held its annual Breakfast with Santa's Helpers. Hundreds of families attended with elves serving pancakes,



## Wrap for Relief

Village of Rockville Centre Mayor Francis X. Murray stopped by the Recreation Center in December for the third annual "Wrap for Relief." For a \$1 donation per present, volunteers wrapped gifts to benefit the Rockville Centre Community Fund,

which has been helping village residents in need for more than 20 years. Pictured left to right are Sarah Alaimo, Kayla Pipia, Maggie Reich, Mayor Murray, Allison Mahoney, and Kara Pipia.



### Swift 911

Get alerted about emergencies and other important community news by signing up for the Village's Swift 911. This system enables the Village of Rockville Centre to provide residents with critical timely information in a variety of situations, such as severe weather, unexpected road closures, missing persons, evacuations of buildings or neighborhoods, and power outages. Residents can register for Swift 911 on the Village's website at [www.rvcny.us](http://www.rvcny.us).

### "Margaritaville"

The RVC Community Fund presents "Margaritaville," to be held at St. Agnes Parish Center on Saturday, February 3rd at 7 p.m. Guests will enjoy dinner and dancing while listening to the sounds of Jimmy Buffet. All proceeds will go to the RVC Community Fund. For further information, call 678-9260

### Monte Carlo Casino Night

FOSSI's annual Monte Carlo Fundraising Event will take place Saturday, April 7th at 7 p.m. Every year the Sandel Center is transformed into a glittering casino with delicious food, open bar, entertainment and the chance to win great prizes through exciting gaming action! Butch Yamali of the Dover Group was selected as the 2018 Monte Carlo honoree. For information about tickets or sponsorship opportunities please contact Chris O'Leary, Senior Services Director, 678-9268.



### Snow Reminders

In the event of a snowstorm, the Village urges residents not to go out during or immediately after a snowstorm unless it is necessary. Crews will be able to do their job more quickly and completely if there is less traffic on the roads.

Residents and business owners are reminded that all sidewalks must be cleared within 24 hours after the end of a storm and snow should not be thrown into the roadway when

clearing their driveways and sidewalks. If you have a fire hydrant on your property, snow should be cleared so they may be located easily in case of an emergency. Corner properties are responsible for clearing to the corner and curb cut access to allow pedestrian access to sidewalks.

### Scam Alert

Please be advised that from time to time we are made aware of a variety of scams attempted against our residents and surrounding communities.

Residents should always check the immediate vicinity for a Village of Rockville Centre vehicle if anyone posing as a Village employee unexpectedly appears at your home. When in doubt, contact the Water Department office at 516-678-9301 to confirm the visit. If at any point you feel threatened, dial 911 immediately. And if you receive a phone call about your water bill account that you feel is suspicious, please do not hesitate to call our billing office at 516-678-9221. As always, we are here to serve you and answer any questions you may have.

## Village Hall Comments by Mayor Francis X. Murray



Happy New Year!

2017 was a busy year for the Village of Rockville Centre and we remain a highly desirable community to live, work, and play. As everyone who lives here knows, we have a great deal to offer our residents. This includes our first-rate Village services, our excellent schools, beautifully updated parks and ballfields, our booming Recreation Center and Sandel Senior Center, our thriving downtown business district and our first class police and fire departments.

We have made great strides on upgrades throughout the Village. One of the most notable improvements is our roadways. I am pleased to say that in 6.5 years, the Village has completed approximately 18.25 miles of roadway, more than a quarter of our roadways, including Maple Avenue and North Park Avenue in our downtown. The road construction process includes several stages, including surveying, design/drafting, and then it is bid out. Once the contract is awarded, water main upgrades, drainage upgrades, electrical lighting, as well as new concrete curbs, pads, driveway aprons,

handicap ramps, new base and top asphalt, and new stop bars are addressed. Rather than lay down a layer of asphalt and have to come back in a year to replace a water main or street lighting, we are addressing all of the underground matters at once. Typically these are done as separate contracts. In October, the Village was awarded a \$50,000 grant in state funding to assist with local road repairs. We will be continuing these upgrades into 2018.

We believe in our future and drinking water safety is paramount to our existence. We have rebuilt and refurbished 3 of our 4 water towers and rebuilt our only iron filtration plant. We have committed to rebuilding and refurbishing our 4th water tower on Sunrise Highway at the western entrance of our Village next year. Last year, we encapsulated all our water wells in cement buildings to secure water safety. Since there is iron in the Long Island Water supply, we have committed to building a second iron filtration plant on the corner of Maple Avenue and Forest Avenue. I am also pleased to announce that Rockville Centre was recently awarded \$953,121 in state funding through the NY Water Infrastructure Improvement Act. The grant was awarded through Governor Cuomo's office and will secure eight water well enclosures for the protection of our water supply.

In an effort to update some of our aging electric system, we have been working with our Superintendent and New York State to find grants. Recently we won Phase II of a statewide microgrid contest and are receiving one million dollars. This has qualified us for the Governor's next phase and six million dollars. We hope to add new generation,

solar and battery backup.

The safety of our residents is paramount. Our Police answered over 17,000 calls for service during the year including more than 2,000 medical aided cases, and more than 1,000 traffic accidents. Our officers are continuously involved in training exercises and programs to assist them in their daily duties. Thanks to a grant, we will be installing more license plate readers throughout the Village for the protection of our residents.

We are so lucky to have one of the largest and highly trained volunteer Fire Departments in the entire state. The Fire Department answers more than 2,500 alarms a year including fire alarms, carbon monoxide alarms, vehicle fires, elevator rescues and brush fires. They also respond as mutual aid to our surrounding villages when the need arises.

Like every municipality, increasing costs including those mandated by other levels of government, have challenged the Village of Rockville Centre. However, my administration has risen to the challenge and we refuse to pass all the increased costs along to homeowners through higher real estate taxes. Instead we have been aggressive in seeking grants, donations and partnerships. My lobbying efforts in Washington, DC, Albany and Nassau County, has brought over \$15 million dollars in grants and gifts to our Village. These grants along with prudent spending, have allowed us to hold the line on taxes and have been under the 2% tax cap for the past four years. In addition, we have implemented prudent fiscal policies. These policies have been recognized by Standard & Poor's Rating of AAA, the highest possible rating, and Moody's rating of AA2, one of its

highest ratings.

Our downtown business district is the key to our Village's future and sets the tone for our village. It is the most visible indicator of community pride as well as the economic health of our Village. It represents a significant portion of our tax base and its prosperity protects resident's property values. We have grown our occupancy rate from 84% to a staggering 98%. I would also like to take the time to announce the launch of "Whoosh!," a mobile phone application that will enable users to pay on-street parking meters by cell phones, tablets, and computers. The new system is available in parking field 27 located adjacent to the St. Agnes Cathedral and will help make mobile parking payments an alternative to conventional coin- and bill-operated parking meters. Once we are assured that the system works properly and everything is going smoothly for patrons, we will roll out the new program Village-wide.

None of these accomplishments would be possible without the help of my Deputy Mayor Kathy Baxley, Trustees Mike Sepe, Emilio Grillo and Ed Oppenheimer, as well as our dedicated Village employees. Our Village Administrator Kathleen Murray, department heads, and employees work tirelessly to make Rockville Centre a desirable community to work, play and live.

I consider it privilege to be the Mayor of Rockville Centre and I pledge to continue to keep our home the desirable community it is, while striving to make it better. I am proud of the work we have done and look forward to continuing to improve on this great foundation in 2018 to make it an even better place for our children and grandchildren.

## January Board Meeting Honors RVC Youth

The January Board of Trustees meeting highlighted the accomplishments of some of the youngest Rockville Centre residents. "There is no shortage of talent and community service here in Rockville Centre," commented Mayor Francis X. Murray.

The Cancer Awareness Club at South Side High School along with their advisor Meagan O'Brien announced Rockville Centre's first Relay for Life event on Saturday, June 2nd. Relay For Life is the signature fundraiser for the American Cancer Society. Relay is a team fundraising event where team members take turns walking around a track or designated path. Each event is 6-24 hours in length and each team is asked to have a member on the track at all times to signify that cancer never sleeps. Volunteers from the Cancer Awareness Club were presented with a Community Service Award Certificate. Interested participants can register at

<http://www.relayforlife.org/rockvillecentreny>

The South Side Girls Cross Country team ended the season as County Champions. Ending the regular season, the girls finished with a record of 12 wins and 1 loss. Facing their toughest opponent, Manhasset, South Side came away with the victory by 3 points for the title of Nassau County Championship. Top runner, Carly Woelfel ran away with the race, winning the Nassau County title. Second fastest runner, Katie Mohr, finished third in the race and five of the team's top runners earned the title "All County." The girls came back the next week to run in the State Championship qualifier, facing a team that has a ten-year winning streak of 140-0. Again, the girls showed what they were about, defeating that team and earning the privilege of representing Nassau County in the State Championships, located in Rochester, NY. The final exciting moment of our season was watching Carly Woelfel place 9th in the State Championship, earning her the title "All State." A special congratulations to the entire team and Coaches Chris Webster and Kerry Figueiredo.

The South Side High School Girls Volleyball Team brought home the Nassau County Championship after defeating the top-seeded Wantagh Lady Warriors 3-1 in the Nassau County Class A final. The team showed their work ethic on and off



the court. Throughout the season, the girls participated in various charity fundraisers to raise funds to combat breast cancer. In addition to winning the Nassau County

Championship, the girls also took home the Nassau County Sportsmanship Award and Coach Cheryl Scalice was named the 2017 New York State Volleyball Coach of the Year.

THIS MONTH IN

# Rockville Centre

Published by the Village  
of Rockville Centre

**Mayor**

Francis X. Murray

**Trustees**

Kathleen Baxley

Edward J. Oppenheimer

Michael Sepe

Emilio F. Grillo

[www.rvcny.us](http://www.rvcny.us)

## RVC Conservancy Tackles Diseased Trees Update

Like communities across the country, Rockville Centre's Bradford Pear trees are under attack. An increasingly large number of these trees have become diseased in recent years and are showing many problematic symptoms. Some of these may include less flowers and leaves, leaves that may be discolored or blotchy, leaves falling prematurely and a general decline in health. One of the most common of the diseases is the fire blight that starts at twig ends and progresses back toward the main

stem. Additionally, Trellis Rust is a common cause of their decline. Unfortunately, when a large number of trees of the same variety are planted in one area, it allows diseases to spread very quickly from tree to tree. The fungus that impacts these trees is airborne and is causing problems island-wide so even if the trees are sprayed and bloom one additional year, the chances of this issue being eradicated are slim.

After consulting with numerous experts, the RVC Conservancy believes

the best option is to remove and replace the Bradford Pear trees. After negotiating with numerous tree companies, the RVC Conservancy has arranged a special price of \$140 with Weeping Willow tree service to have Rockville Centre homeowners' curbside pear trees removed.

Interested homeowners can contact the RVC Conservancy by email at [conservancyrvc@gmail.com](mailto:conservancyrvc@gmail.com).



# The John A. Anderson Recreation Center

## Nursery School Registration

The Rockville Centre Recreation Department is pleased to offer Nursery School programs for the 2018-2019 school year. These programs have operated continuously with great success for 55 years. Prospective students may visit our nursery school with their parents. Please call the Recreation Department office at 678-9339 to make arrangements.

### Eligibility:

Pre Kindergarten 4's: for children entering Kindergarten September 2019 – 4 and 5-day-a-week options

Pre Kindergarten 3's: for children entering Kindergarten September 2020 – 3 and 4-day-a-week options

Time For Two's: for children age 2 by September 30, 2018 – 2 day-a-week class

Registration is now being accepted for residents and non-residents.



Join the Easter Bunny as he hops down the bunny trail at the Recreation Center on Saturday March 24 at 10:00am.

## Easter Egg Hunt

Join the Easter Bunny as he hops down the bunny trail at the Recreation Center on Saturday March 24 at 10:00am. After searching for colored eggs, you'll be entertained by the mesmerizing magic of John Turdo. Make a springtime craft and take a photo with the Bunny. Be one of the lucky ones to find a special "prize egg." All activities are FREE and pre-registration is not required.

## Crafts Fair and Flea Market

All residents and friends are encouraged to stop by the John A. Anderson Recreation Center for the annual Spring Crafts Fair and Flea Market on Sunday, March 18. There will be a large assortment of merchandise for your shopping pleasure. There is plenty of free parking, free admission and refreshments from 9:30am-4:00pm.

## 2018 Presidents' Week and Easter/Passover Trips and Events

During the school recesses, the Recreation Department will offer numerous trips and special events for Village youngsters. Detailed flyers are available at the Recreation Center office. All trip participants must be registered members of the Recreation Department for the 2017-18 fiscal year. A permission slip and fee must be submitted to the Recreation Center office for trip registration, which is taken on a first-come first-served basis.

## Spring Program Registration

Registration for Spring Session Programs will begin on February 12th for residents and February 19th for non-residents. Take a look at the wide array of activities offered by the Recreation Department for toddlers through senior citizens. Be sure to register early to ensure your inclusion in the class of your choice! Detailed flyers are available at the Recreation office. Classes begin on April 9th.

Get in shape this Spring by joining Sheila Hawkins' coed cardio workout on Tuesdays, Wednesdays (Zumba), Thursdays, and Saturday (Zumba). Pay as you go for \$5 each session.

## Summer Program Registration

Summer Nursery and Summer Playground Program registration will begin on March 26. Kinder-Camp for children entering Kindergarten in Sept 2018 and Pre-K 4's classes for children entering Kindergarten in 2019 are offered from June 25 through August 11.

The annual Summer Playground Program for children in grades 1-7 in September 2018 is offered at the Recreation Center and school district buildings from June 27 through August 9. All programs are staffed by trained recreation personnel. See detailed flyers or visit our website for further information.

## Seasonal Leaders-In-Training

Prospective LIT volunteers (9th or 10th graders as of September 2018) may pick up application packets at the office January 29th. Applicants must be residents of Rockville Centre or attend Rockville Centre schools.

## Softball and Basketball Leagues

The Recreation Department currently has SPRING SOFTBALL information available for men's teams. Games will tentatively commence the week of April 9th. Information for Summer Softball for Men and Women and the Basketball Leagues for youth and adults will be available in March. Contact Linaryd at Lloveras@rvcny.us for details.

## Summer Sports Schools

You'll never find a better group of professionals than those who run the sports schools at the Rec. Bob Hirschfield's RVC Baseball School, Game 7's Basketball School, and the Recreations Gymnastics School provide your child with the best sports instruction and guarantee an exceptionally rewarding experience. Register early to secure your child's place in these very popular instructional programs. Contact the Recreation office or website for further information.

## Gymnastics Meets

Sundays February 11, March 4 and 25 at 12:30pm – Come and support RVC UNITED and RVC ULTIMATE Gymnastic teams at the Recreation Center on Sundays February 11th, March 4th, and 25th at 12:30 p.m. No admission charge for spectators!



Come and support RVC UNITED and RVC ULTIMATE Gymnastic teams at the Recreation Center.

**DETAILED INFORMATION FOR ALL ACTIVITIES CAN BE FOUND AT THE RECREATION CENTER OFFICE OR ON THE RECREATION CENTER WEBSITE AT [WWW.RVCREC.WEBLY.COM](http://WWW.RVCREC.WEBLY.COM)**

### THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

10 SUNRISE HIGHWAY  
RVC License Required

### E-CYCLING

EVERY FIRST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH  
10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.  
Residents may bring their electronics  
**Televisions must be dropped off at e-cycling**

Assistance will be given for EXTRA LARGE items.  
Please call (516) 678-9216 to schedule a pickup



### ACCEPTABLE E-CYCLING ITEMS

Computers / Computer monitors  
Small Electronics  
VCR \* DVD \* I PAD  
Video Systems

Anything that plugs into a computer  
**Televisions**  
Cable Boxes  
Small Servers

### PLEASE NOTE

**Paint Disposal- Only dried out latex paint cans are accepted.**

Please call 678-9288 with any further questions.

**\*DO NOT DISCARD USED MEDICAL NEEDLES IN HOUSEHOLD REFUSE**

## Wednesday is Paper Day!



**Cardboard, product packaging, magazines, catalogs, and junk mail can all be recycled on Wednesdays. Please consolidate cardboard by flattening and tying.**