

# THIS MONTH IN

# RockvilleCentre



*Dates & Events*

**February 1 At 6 P.M.  
BRIEFING MEETING**

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

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

**February 13 At 7 P.M.  
PLANNING BOARD**

**February 15 at 6 P.M.  
MID-MONTH MEETING**

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

**February 29 At 6 P.M.  
BRIEFING MEETING**

**March 4 At 7 P.M.  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**March 6 At 7 P.M.  
BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS**

**March 12 At 7 P.M.  
PLANNING BOARD**

**March 14 At 6 P.M.  
MID-MONTH MEETING**

**March 23  
ST. PATRICK'S PARADE**

**March 27 At 6 P.M.  
BRIEFING MEETING**

Events are at Village Hall unless otherwise indicated.

## Holiday Sanitation Schedule

### President's Day Week

**Monday, February 19, 2024**

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, 2024**

**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. - 3:00 P.M.

Tax Department 8:30 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

Closed Saturday and Sunday

## Rockville Centre Police Department Welcomes Three New Officers

The Rockville Centre Police Department added three new officers to the rank and file. At the January Board of Trustees meeting, Officer James Garrity, Officer Eric Hochhauser, and Officer Michael Guerrini were sworn into their new posts.

"The safety of our residents, businesses, visitors, and their property remains the top priority of my administration," commented Mayor Francis X. Murray. "I welcome the addition of these three highly trained Officers to the RVC PD. We are fortunate to have dedicated officers who are committed to keeping Rockville Centre one of the safest



communities in New York."

Officer James Garrity was born and raised in Bellerose, NY. He attended Chaminade High School, then went on to Manhattan College where he received a bachelor's degree in business management. Officer Garrity brings with him over 10 years of experience and training from the NYPD. Officer Garrity considers his best accomplishment in the NYPD as meeting his wife who currently is a detective in the Special Victims Unit. Officer Garrity is extremely excited to begin his new journey with us and looks forward to working and serving the community of Rockville Centre!

A Long Island native, Officer Eric Hochhauser was born and raised in Bellmore. He joined the NYPD in 2015 and began his law enforcement career as a Patrol Officer in the 26th precinct in Harlem. He was selected for the plain-clothes anti-crime unit, whose mission was to reduce violent crimes and conditions within the community. Within the 26th precinct, he was promoted to detective



and subsequently transferred to the 113th detective squad where he continued his investigative career until joining RVC PD.

Officer Michael Guerrini began his career in law enforcement as a Correction Officer on Riker's Island. He also spent the last six years in the NYPD in the 100th precinct. Prior to coming to the Rockville Centre Police Department, Officer Guerrini was most recently assigned to the Domestic Violence unit where he focused on the aid of Domestic Violence victims and enforcement on offenders.

## Village Recognizes Nassau County Champions

Mayor Francis X. Murray and the Board of Trustees have a long history of recognizing our youth for their outstanding accomplishments. At the December Board of Trustees meeting, the SSHS Varsity Girls Soccer Team, Girls Cross Country Team, and Varsity Football Team were recognized for their achievements this past season and taking home the Nassau County Championship titles in each of their respective sports. In recognition of their dedication, teamwork, and sportsmanship, players and coaches were awarded certificates from the Village Board of Trustees.



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





# Around Our Community

## RVC Shined Bright During the Holiday Season

Festive crowds celebrated the holiday season at 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, courtesy of the Rockville Centre Fire Department.

The Recreation Center held its annual Breakfast with Santa. With over 1,000 families in attendance, the elves were extra busy serving up delicious pancakes provided by the Pantry Diner before kids visited Santa, Rudolph, and Frosty. The Phillips House Museum once again hosted its Holiday Open House. Attendees enjoyed holiday music, hot chocolate, crafts, festive decorations, and a special visit from Santa thanks to the Rockville Centre Fire Department. The Festival of Lights continued at the Menorah Lighting on the Village Green.

For the fourth year, residents were invited to showcase their holiday spirit with the community-wide decorating contest, "RVC Holiday Lights." With over 30 participating homes, contestants pulled out all the stops for their elaborate displays. Just shy of 3,000 votes were cast for festive displays. First place in the Clark Griswold category was won by 174

Pine Street, with the second place awarded to 47 Fenway. In the Martha Stewart category, first place was awarded to 17 Hollywood Court, while the second place was presented to 2 Woods Place. First place in the Family Friendly category was awarded to 6 Olive Court, while second place was presented to 21 Hamilton Street. In the best block category, first place was presented to Arbor Lane and second place went to Kent Court. First place for the best municipal building category was awarded to the Rockville Centre Fire Department's Reliance Hose Company No. 3 for their decorations of the firehouse at 137 N. Forest Avenue. Montemarano Plumbing on N. Long beach Road was also presented with first prize in the best business category. Congratulations to all of our winners.

"Thank you to all our homeowners that



participated and made our Village shine bright," commented Deputy Mayor Kathy Baxley. "Every participant truly captured the holiday spirit."



## RVC Commemorated Pearl Harbor Day

Military veterans from Rockville Centre gathered at Mill River Park to commemorate the 81st 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, a wreath was cast into Mill River in honor of those who were lost that day.

"December 7, 1941 was a day that changed the course of history as the United States of America was attacked at Pearl Harbor," commented Mayor Francis X. Murray. "It is vital that we honor the service of those who went above and beyond and remember their sacrifice."



## Rockville Centre PBA Hosted Successful Food Drive

The Rockville Centre Police Benevolent Association, in conjunction with Mayor Francis X. Murray and the Board of Trustees, hosted its first drive-up food drive to benefit Sharon's Pantry prior to the holiday season. Over 100 vehicles pulled-up to the RVC PD headquarters to donate non-perishable food items throughout the day. The drive proved to be a success with well over a van full of food collected. Food items can be dropped off at Sharon's Pantry located within the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center at 150 N. Centre Ave., Rockville Centre, N.Y. between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. on Friday mornings.



### Village Tax Grievance

The Village Tax Grievance period begins annually on February 1st and concludes on February 20th, which is Grievance Night. If you wish to file a grievance, complaint forms are available on the Village website at [www.rvcny.gov](http://www.rvcny.gov).

### 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.



## Viewpoint: Comments by Mayor Francis X. Murray

On behalf of everyone at Village Hall, I would like to wish you all a Happy and Healthy New Year. Every new year is an opportunity for a renewal of hope and a reassessment of goals. As your Mayor, I resolve to continue working with my fellow elected officials; Deputy Mayor Kathleen Baxley, Trustee Emilio Grillo, Trustee Katie Conlon, and Trustee Gregory P. Shaughnessy, as well as our dedicated employees, to ensure that the Village of Rockville Centre remains one of the most desirable communities to live, work, and raise a family on Long Island.

We have been aggressive when it comes to receiving grants for new initiatives to hold down the Village property taxes. Throughout my tenure, we have secured over \$50 million

dollars in federal, state, and local grants and gifts to make improvements in our Village. Most recently, we were awarded a grant from Senator Kevin Thomas and the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York for two new police cruisers. In 2024, I promise to continue to leave no stone unturned to receive grants to benefit our great Village.

The safety of our residents and employees are paramount. Distracted and impatient drivers create dangerous situations on our roadways that have dangerous consequences. I am asking all motorists to slow



down and obey the traffic laws. One such law is New York's Move Over law. Drivers need to slow down, or stop if necessary, when approaching emergency vehicles, construction and maintenance vehicles, and garbage or recycling trucks on the side of the road. We want to get everyone home safely at the end of the day. Please make sure to share this safety message with other drivers in your family, especially younger drivers who don't have as much experience behind the wheel. We can each do our part to keep Rockville Centre's roads safe by simply moving over or slowing down

when we see stopped vehicles on the side of the road.

We are committed to communicating with you and to responding to you because we believe that a responsive and responsible Village government is an important reason why Rockville Centre continues to be such a desirable community in which to live. I encourage you to log onto our website at [www.rvcny.gov](http://www.rvcny.gov) and follow the Village on our social media pages including Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram to learn about news and upcoming events for 2024.

I consider it a privilege to be the Mayor of Rockville Centre. I am proud of the work we have done and look forward to continuing to improve on this great foundation in 2024.

## Viva La Fossi Sandel Center Set for Annual Fundraiser

April 12, 2024, Las Vegas is coming to the Sandel Senior Center! This year's FOSSI fundraiser will be featuring Las Vegas style entertainment and gaming tables. Opening the night will be Frank Sinatra and Dean Martin. Following, will be none other than Lamar Peters as Elvis Presley. Place your bets at our Casino Tables including Craps and Blackjack. Dance the night away while honoring Gwynne Feiner, Co-

Director, Public Works and Pat O'Brien, Superintendent, Building Department. Mrs. Feiner and Mr. O'Brien are being recognized for their dedication to the Village of Rockville Centre and especially the Senior Services Department. Look for tickets on sale and sponsorship opportunities at the FOSSI website, [www.fossirvc.com](http://www.fossirvc.com).

The South Side High School Chamber Singers delighted the Sandel Center with

beautiful holiday music this past December. Sandel Members enjoyed the sounds of traditional seasonal carols mixed with new favorites. Following the concert, students and seniors mingled while enjoying tasty desserts provide by the Chamber Singers. A lively group sing-a-long took place to the delight of everyone. Members also celebrated the arrival of a new low floor handicap bus through a grant from New

York State. Mayor Francis X. Murray and Deputy Mayor Kathy Baxley were on hand to help the seniors exit the bus from their inaugural ride.

Sandel membership is open to those aged 60 and over who reside in Rockville Centre and the surrounding communities. To become a member, please call (516) 678-9350 or visit our page on the Village website at [www.rvcny.gov](http://www.rvcny.gov).



## St. Patrick's Parade Set to Hit the Streets of Rockville Centre this March

The Annual Rockville Centre St. Patrick's Parade is set to hit the streets of Rockville Centre this March. The highly anticipated parade will begin at noon on Saturday, March 23, starting from Maple Avenue and Long Beach Road and proceeding to the reviewing stand in front of St. Agnes Cathedral.

"Rain or shine, the Annual St. Patrick's Parade always proves to be one of the most exciting days of the year here in Rockville Centre," commented Mayor Francis X. Murray. "Our residents come out in droves to cheer on their fellow neighbors all while giving back to three worthy causes. It truly captures the spirit of Rockville Centre."

Over the last 27 years, the Rockville Centre St. Patrick's Parade, which is known as "The Parade that Cares and Shares" ®, 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 locally focused. Since the parade's inception in 1997, over \$1.5 million has been distributed to 75 individual Charities.

This year's charities include: Beyond the Badge, a local nonprofit dedicated to reducing the growing epidemic of first responder suicides and breaking the stigma surrounding first responders coming forward for mental health treatment; the Limb Kind Foundation, helping children with limb loss regain their motivation and determination by providing prosthesis free of charge; and the Crocus Cancer Support Centre, a peer support group for those

living with a cancer diagnosis who are at different stages of their journey.

The 2024 Grand Marshal, Greg Schaefer, was born and raised in Rockville Centre where he continues to live with his wife, Michelle, and two children, Cain and Cameron. A Chief Executive Officer and owner of Better Home Health Care Agency, Inc., Greg's leadership and dedication have supported thousands of recipients receiving quality health care as well as more than 500 Better Home Health Care Employees. An active community member, Greg has donated a great deal of his time volunteering with the Rockville Centre Little League, Basketball League, Lions Club, Chamber of Commerce, St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee, the Maurer Foundation, and a variety of other programs to benefit his fellow neighbors and community.

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

THIS MONTH IN

# Rockville Centre

Published by the Village of Rockville Centre

**Mayor**

Francis X. Murray

**Deputy Mayor**

Kathleen Baxley

**Trustees**

Trustee Emilio F. Grillo

Trustee Katie Conlon

Trustee Gregory P. Shaughnessy

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



# The John A. Anderson Recreation Center



## 2024 Presidents' Week Activities February 20-23

During the February Recess, the Recreation Department will offer activities for Village youngsters. Detailed flyers will be available on our website [rvcny.gov/recreation](http://rvcny.gov/recreation). Residents can enjoy the convenience of on-line registration at [rockvillecentre.recdesk.com](http://rockvillecentre.recdesk.com). Registration is taken on a first come first-served basis.

## Nursery School Registration

The Rockville Centre Recreation Department is pleased to offer Nursery School programs for the 2024-2025 school year September through June. These programs have operated with great success for many years. Prospective students may visit our nursery school with their parents. Please call the Recreation Department office to make arrangements.

### Eligibility:

- Pre-Kindergarten 3's: Children entering Kindergarten September 2026. Four day-a-week options available.
- Time For Two's: Children age two by September 30, 2024. Two day-a-week options available.

Registration begins online on Monday, March 4, 2024, for residents. Please call the Recreation Center for more details.

## Spring Program Registration

Registration for Spring programs will begin on Monday, February 26th for residents and Wednesday, February 28th for non-residents. Take a look at our lineup of activities on [rockvillecentre.recdesk.com](http://rockvillecentre.recdesk.com). We have a wide array of unique programs including Art, CrossFit Kids, Ninja Challenge, and Chess, as well as the perennially popular offerings such as Gymnastics and Tumbles. Be sure to register early to ensure your inclusion in the class of your choice! Detailed flyers are available at [rvcny.gov](http://rvcny.gov). Register online at [rockvillecentre.recdesk.com](http://rockvillecentre.recdesk.com). The Spring sessions begins the week of March 17th.

## Men's and Women's Softball

The Recreation Department's Men's

Spring Softball season is tentatively scheduled to commence the week of March 25th. Information for men's teams is available on our website or at the office. Information for Summer Softball Leagues for Men and Women will be available in beginning of May.

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.

## Summer Sports Schools

You will never find a better group of professionals than those who run the sports schools at the Recreation Center. The Rockville Centre Baseball School, Game 7's Basketball School, Ultimate Sports Camp and the Recreation Department's

DETAILED INFORMATION FOR ALL ACTIVITIES CAN BE FOUND AT THE RECREATION CENTER OFFICE OR ON THE VILLAGE WEBSITE AT [WWW.RVCNY.GOV](http://WWW.RVCNY.GOV) CLICK ON THE RECREATION DEPARTMENT LINK.



**SHEILA CLARK-HAWKINS**  
I am a Miss Fitt

**BE STRONG, BE HEALTHY AND STAY CUTE WITH US**

**OUR SCHEDULE**

- Tuesday 6:40pm - Strength Training w/ equipment
- Tuesday 7:25pm - Zumba
- Thursday 6:40pm - Strength Training w/ equipment
- Thursday 7:25pm - Zumba
- Saturday 9:00am - Zumba

**Classes held at**  
**Rockville Centre Recreation Center**  
**111 N Oceanside Road 11570**

All Classes are \$10 pay as you go or packages are available.  
Payment options: contactless or pay at door. Gift certificate available

**Get in touch with us**  
516-655-7967  
[sohappy2bfit@gmail.com](mailto:sohappy2bfit@gmail.com)  
Baldwin Chamber of Commerce Member

## Rockville Centre Electric News

Every month, homeowners pay for electricity, heat, and water, and these costs can easily add up. However, there are ways to save money on each of these bills by making your home more energy efficient. One of the best ways to do this is by conserving electricity, which not only saves you money but also helps reduce your carbon footprint. An efficient home uses energy wisely, minimizing waste and reducing the amount of money you spend on utility bills. Follow some simple tips, such as turning off lights and electronics when they're not in use. Use energy-efficient light bulbs, and properly insulate your home. Conserve electricity and save money on your monthly bills.

Consider upgrading your old thermostat to an advanced model. Purchasing a learning thermostat can allow for remote access, control heating or cooling on the go for optimal equipment performance and help lower energy costs.

Have you ever considered the true cost of your appliances? It's not just the price you pay at the store, but also the cost of running it over its lifetime. In fact, the cost of running your appliance can often be higher than its purchase price. But don't worry, there's a solution. By choosing energy-efficient appliances, you can significantly reduce your operating costs. When shopping for appliances, look for the Energy Star® symbol, which indicates that the appliance meets strict energy efficiency standards. Consider the shape of the appliance - fridges with freezers on top are most efficient, and front-loading washers are more efficient than top-loading machines. Check the yellow Energy Guide label, which shows the appliance's operating cost and gives comparisons to similar machines. Compare efficiency across models before making a purchase. It's also important to get the right size, as oversized appliances waste energy. Finally, look for high-efficiency features such as soil-sensing detectors on dishwashers and automatic shutoffs on clothes dryers to save energy and money. By following these tips, you can make your home more energy-efficient and save money on your energy bills.

**Don't forget to apply for an appliance rebate with Rockville Centre Peak Savers!**

Go to <https://www.rvcny.gov/electric-department/pages/energy-saving-tips> for program information and easily download your appliance rebate application.

Questions? Please call 866-314-9611 or email us at [info@rvcpeaksavers.com](mailto:info@rvcpeaksavers.com).

## VILLAGE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE

### SANITATION IMPORTANT TIPS

Garbage should be placed in standard garbage containers with detachable lids.  
**NO LARGER THAN 32 GALLONS**  
Garbage should not exceed 50 pounds.  
Please do not over fill plastic garbage bags as they can easily tear.

**To prevent injury to our village employees, please use caution when disposing of any broken glass or sharp objects. Please securely wrap broken glass in newspaper or brown paper or place inside cardboard box, tape shut and label broken glass. Do not place broken glass in plastic bags.**

**E-Cycling:**  
Drop off your e-cycling items on the first Saturday of every month between 10am and 2pm at 10 Sunrise Hwy including: Televisions, Computers, Monitors, VCRs, DVDs, iPads, Cable boxes, Cameras or Video Cameras, Telephones (any type), GPS, Calculators

**Contractor debris:**  
Contractors MUST dispose of all building and landscaping debris.  
The Village is not responsible for disposal of refuse from tradesmen.

**Town of Hempstead STOP Program 516-378-2200:**  
Disposal of hazardous materials including paints, solvents, car batteries, fluorescent bulbs,

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### SPECIAL PICKUP/BULK ITEMS

Call 678-9216 before 12 noon on Tuesday for Wednesday/Thursday pickup of waste items too large for insertion into trash containers.  
Please indicate if you have metal items or live on a dead end.  
During weeks with a Monday Holiday there is no bulk pickup or paper recycling on Wednesday.  
Please see the annual sanitation calendar for details.

**WEDNESDAY BULK ITEMS INCLUDE:**  
Mattresses – must be sealed in bedbug proof encasement bags or heavy-duty plastics bags  
Branches and wood debris in bundles (NO more than 4 feet in length, NO more than 50 pounds)  
Tables, chairs, dressers, rugs

**THURSDAY METAL BULK ITEMS INCLUDE:**  
Household Appliances (dishwashers, refrigerators (with doors off), stoves, washer/dryers)

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### HELPFUL LINKS

**Sanitation pickup schedule:**  
<http://www.rvcny.us/recycle/recycle.html>

**Sanitation holiday schedule:**  
[https://www.rvcny.gov/sites/g/files/vyhlif4946/f/uploads/2022\\_sanitation\\_schedule.pdf](https://www.rvcny.gov/sites/g/files/vyhlif4946/f/uploads/2022_sanitation_schedule.pdf)

**Recycling Guide:**  
[https://www.rvcny.gov/sites/g/files/vyhlif4946/f/uploads/recycling\\_march\\_2020\\_0.pdf](https://www.rvcny.gov/sites/g/files/vyhlif4946/f/uploads/recycling_march_2020_0.pdf)

**Recycling FAQ:**  
[https://www.rvcny.gov/sites/g/files/vyhlif4946/f/uploads/recycling\\_faq.pdf](https://www.rvcny.gov/sites/g/files/vyhlif4946/f/uploads/recycling_faq.pdf)