

THIS MONTH IN Rockville Centre



**December 5, At 7 P.M.
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**December 7, At 7 P.M.
BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS**

**December 20, At 7 P.M.
PLANNING BOARD**

**January 9, At 7 P.M.
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**Monday, January 16
VILLAGE OFFICES CLOSED
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR DAY**

**January 10, At 7 P.M.
PLANNING BOARD**

**January 11, At 7 P.M.
BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS**

Log onto www.rvcny.gov for detailed information for each meeting.

Holiday Sanitation Schedule

Monday, January 16, 2023
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. 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, January 18, 2023 No bulk items or paper pickup

During holiday weeks, no newspaper or bulk collections on Wednesday

Village Hall Hours
Due to construction, Village Hall has temporarily relocated to 34 Maple Avenue
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

Rockville Centre Police Department Cuts Ribbon for State-Of-The-Art Police Headquarters

After breaking ground on the facility more than a year ago, the Rockville Centre Police Department held a ribbon cutting ceremony and open house at its new headquarters, located at 142 Maple Avenue.

“This new station will support our Rockville Centre Police Department well into the future while providing the essential tools to keep our Village one of safest communities in the United States,” commented Mayor Francis X. Murray.

Mayor Francis X. Murray, Deputy Mayor Kathy Baxley, Trustee Mike Sepe, Trustee Emilio Grillo, Trustee Katie Conlon, and Rockville Centre Police Department Commissioner were joined by Senator Kevin Thomas, Assemblywoman Judy Griffin, Legislator Debra Mulé, Legislator William Gaylor’s office, Councilman Anthony D’Esposito, Judge William Croutier, and community members to unveil the newly 10,000 square-foot station. After the



ceremony, tours were given that showcased the new drive-in booking area, holding cells, training room, enhanced communications center, as well as the history of the Department with photos and artifacts on display throughout the new station.

56 sworn Rockville Centre Police Officers and 20 civilian employees of the Rockville Centre Police Department moved into the new station. The station is equipped with a new drive-in booking area alongside three holding cells through a fenced-in area, providing a secondary layer of security. It is also fitted with a new training room, 15 advanced screens at the front desk for surveillance monitoring, 90’ antenna for enhanced radio communications, fitness room, a larger and enhanced communications center, a new armory room, and a motorized perimeter fence for the entire site. The station will keep the existing phone number, (516) 766-1500.

“Having this modernized, new police station gives our outstanding police officers the tools they need to work at a high level and continue to keep our community safe, which is a key component of making a community thrive,” commented Police Commissioner James Vafeades. “I would like to thank Mayor Murray, our Board of Trustees, and Village Administrator Nancy Howard for their diligent work and making this come to fruition.”



RVCFD Holds Annual Memorial Service



The Rockville Centre Fire Department paid tribute to those we lost over the past year at its annual memorial service. Mayor Francis X. Murray, Board of Trustees, and residents joined Chief James Avondet and the Rockville Centre Fire Department at Fireman’s Memorial



Park to pay respect to members who passed away since last October: Firefighter Andrew E. Healey with Floodlight Rescue Company No. 1, firefighter Lorenzo Camerano with Defender Hose Company No. 1, ex-captain Milford H. Ottman with Woodland Engine Company No. 4, ex-captain John H. Husser with Alert Engine and Hose Company No. 2, and ex-captain Charles F. Kerrigan with Floodlight Company No. 1.

“As always, the Rockville Centre Fire Department did an impeccable job in paying tribute to our heroes we have lost over the year,” commented Mayor Francis X. Murray. “This year, we honored five individuals who consistently put the needs of others before



their own and instinctively ran into dangerous situations while others fled. We thank these brave firefighters for their dedicated service and keeping Rockville Centre safe.”



PRSR STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 301
Garden City, NY 11530

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



Around Our Community



35TH Annual Mayor's Golf Classic a Swinging Success

The 35th Annual Mayor's Golf Classic proved to be a success this October. The fundraiser for the RVC Community Fund raised approximately \$70,000 to allow the Rockville Centre Community Fund to fill its mission to help residents in the Village who have emergency financial needs.

"I would like to thank the committee, whose tireless efforts ensured that the golf classic was a success, as well as our honorees, Michael and Nicole Graziano," commented Mayor Francis X. Murray. "These worthy honorees are a shining example of what it takes to make a community a great place to live, work, and raise a family."

Michael and Nicole Graziano have called the Village of Rockville Centre home for over a quarter of a century. In that time, they have touched countless lives with their unwavering dedication, commitment, and willingness to get involved in this great community. Both have been historically active supporters of the RVC Community Fund, as well as various youth sports programs and local organizations. In addition, Nicole has spent countless hours volunteering at the Sandel Senior Center

and as a Board member of the Rockville Center Breast Cancer Coalition, where she chairs fundraising and event planning.

Founded in 1987 by Mayor Eugene Murray, the RVC Community Fund has supported many who find themselves in need, whether due to a sudden illness, a job loss, a death in the family, or any other such emergency circumstances. As a not-for-profit charity dedicated to helping the residents of RVC, the fund responds quickly and confidentially to requests for financial assistance and to referrals by neighbors and friends who reach out on behalf of an individual or family facing crisis. Typical recipients are families struck by illness or disaster, senior citizens, single parents, and unemployed residents.

Financial support for the fund comes primarily from the proceeds of the Mayor's Annual Golf Classic and an additional annual fundraising event held each February. During the past 35 years, the generosity of our residents and other contributors has earned an estimated \$1.9 million to assist our neighbors in need. Additional contributions are always welcomed and are tax deductible.

Mayor Murray Announces Free Parking on Saturdays for Holiday Shopping

As the holiday shopping season gets underway, the Mayor, along with the Board of Trustees, would like to remind residents to shop local and promote our downtown. In recognition of the importance of shopping local, the Mayor announced that parking will be free for patrons on Saturdays during the month of December and on Small Business Saturday on November 26th, a day dedicated to supporting local small businesses and strengthening and celebrating communities throughout the United States.

"There's no denying that small businesses are essential for a healthy local economy that sustains the unique character and quality of life that exists

here in Rockville Centre," commented Mayor Francis X. Murray. "We are fortunate to have a thriving downtown with a variety of shops to meet every holiday shopping list. Please support our neighbors and shop local this holiday season."

Downtown Rockville Centre remains a diversified business district. The Village is home to some one-of-a-kind specialty boutiques, yet there are choices to meet the needs of any family – home furnishings, sporting goods, clothes, florists, drug stores, gift shops, and a variety of other options. A diverse selection of restaurants allows residents and visitors to complete a long day of shopping.

Rockville Centre Electric News

New Appliance Rebates Program for Rockville Centre customers

Residential and commercial Rockville Centre Electric customers can participate in our newly implemented Appliance Rebates Program. If you have recently purchased and installed an ENERGY STAR air purifier, ENERGY STAR dehumidifier, ENERGY STAR dishwasher for your home OR a refrigeration automatic door closer for a walk-in cooler/freezer or cooler and freezer door strip for your business, you could be eligible for an incentive. Residential rebates vary from \$50 - \$75 and commercial rebates from \$150 - \$250. For questions, please call (866) 314-9611, or email us at info@rvcpeaksavers.com.

LED lighting upgrades can measure up to efficient savings

Commercial-rate customers can receive rebates when retrofitting their place of business with energy efficient lighting. Whether self-installed or with your preferred contractor, the Rockville Centre Small Business Lighting Program can put your money back into your daily costs with energy efficient lighting upgrades. Rebates available up to \$500 per



Net kW saved. Download our Commercial Lighting Program application today.

3rd Annual Holiday Lights Contest Set Shine Bright This Holiday Season

The Village of Rockville Centre will be holding its third annual "RVC Holiday Lights," a community-wide decorating contest. Homeowners are invited to dig out their lights and decorations to showcase their holiday spirit and traditions to win bragging rights. Each home entered in the contest will be included in a community map that will be available to residents. Residents are encouraged to take a lights tour and cast their vote online at

www.rvcny.gov. The winning designs will be announced on the Village website and social media pages on Friday, December 16th.

Homeowners can register their home to be a part of the Village-wide contest by calling the Recreation Center at 678- 9238 by December 5, 2022. Homes should be fully decorated by December 8th and will be judged on curb appeal in the following categories:

- **Clark Griswold:** Over the top lighting

and decorations.

- **Martha Stewart:** Design elements that make Martha Stewart jealous.
- **Party of Lights:** Can we see your home from space?
- **Family Friendly:** Displays that engage our youngest residents.
- **Best Block:** A street that went all out this holiday season.

The community map and voting ballot will be available at www.rvcny.gov on Friday, December 9th. Residents are encouraged to take the RVC Lights Night tour and cast their vote online between Friday, December 9th and Wednesday, December 14th at midnight. To be featured on the Village social media pages, please submit a photo of your decorated home to RVCHolidayLights@gmail.com. Let the decorating begin!



Village Tax Grievance

The Village Tax Grievance period begins annually on February 1st and concludes on February 21st, which is Grievance Night. If you wish to file a grievance, complaint forms are available on the Village website at www.rvcny.gov.

Village E-Alerts

Please take a moment and sign up for the Village E-Alerts to receive timely email notifications with Village news and events. Subscribers can get the latest edition of This Month in Rockville Centre, as well as notifications from the Village. Residents can sign up on the Village website at www.rvcny.gov.

Leaf Pickup

Bagged leaves should be placed in clear plastic bags and placed on the curb strip and will be picked-up until Friday, December 9, 2022.

- Monday: North of Sunrise Highway (between Hempstead Avenue & N. Long Beach Road)
- Tuesday: North of Sunrise Highway (East of N. Long Beach Road)
- Thursday: North of Sunrise Highway (West of N. Village Avenue)
- Friday: South of Sunrise Highway

Village Tree Lighting

Join the Mayor, the Board of Trustees, and your neighbors for the Annual Tree Lighting at the Village Green on Thursday, December 1st at 7:30 p.m.

January Tree Pick-ups

Discarded Christmas trees will be picked up from the curb-strip beginning on Monday, January 2nd on your regular scheduled garbage collection day. Discarded trees will be picked up by the Village. Please remove all lights, decorations, and tree stands.

Menorah Lighting

Join the Mayor, the Board of Trustees, and your neighbors for a Menorah Lighting on Sunday, December 18th at 5:30 p.m. at the Village Green.

After the Menorah lighting on the Village Green, Temple B'nai Shalom-Beth David invites all to take part in the After Glow and enjoy food, drinks, and festive entertainment. Join your fellow neighbors at 6:15 p.m. to celebrate the festival of lights.

Pearl Harbor Day

The Village of Rockville Centre and American Legion Post #303 will host ceremonies, including casting a wreath on the water, at Mill River Park on Wednesday, December 7th beginning at 10:30 a.m., honoring the courage and sacrifice of American troops who defended Pearl Harbor in 1941.

Tax Office Announcements

Real estate tax exemptions are available to volunteer firefighters with five years or more of certified service and to veterans based on the date and type of military service. The

maximum assessed value that may be exempted varies with the status of the veteran claimant: non-combat and Cold War \$626; combat \$1,044; and disabled up to \$2,088 based on the percent of disability.

Real estate tax exemptions are also available to disabled homeowners and to senior homeowners 65 and older with a 2021 gross income not exceeding \$37,400.

Applications are available on the Village website www.rvcny.gov on the Tax Office page, by emailing taxoffice@rvcny.us or by calling the Tax Office Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at (516) 678-9242.

The filing deadline for all 2023/24 exemption applications is January 3, 2023.

New property owners and those who have satisfied, refinanced or sold their mortgage to another lending institution should contact the Tax Office as soon as possible either by email at taxoffice@rvcny.us or telephone at (516) 678-9242 in order to avoid billing errors that may lead to penalties for late real estate tax payments.



Viewpoint: Comments by Mayor Francis X. Murray

As 2022 nears to a close, we must take the time to reflect and give thanks to all that has been accomplished in our thriving community over the past year. I am inspired by the great things happening in our Village and I am grateful to serve as your Mayor.

Once again, the Village of Rockville Centre received the highest possible bond rating from one of the top credit rating services. Standard & Poor's (S&P) Global Ratings has affirmed Rockville Centre's AAA rating for public improvements bonds. We continue to make great strides on upgrades throughout the Village this year. We continue to improve our infrastructure; refurbishing roadways and planting trees, replacing water mains, upgrading our electric infrastructure, and continuously updating our parks and ballfields. The Rockville Centre Police Department has moved into its new state-of-the-art headquarters that will continue to keep our Village one of the safest communities

in the U.S. well into the future. We have aggressively pursued grants and gifts to make improvements in order to hold the line on taxes for our residents. After years in the making, funding for the Mr. B's inclusive playground at the John A. Anderson Recreation Center. The playground will feature a sensory dome, play structures with ramps, performance stage with instruments, and more. Upgrades to the park will also include new ADA-compliant restrooms, the installation of new LED lighting, new walking track, exercise stations, tennis court, and basketball court. The boundless playground is coming to fruition thanks to grants from the New York State Dormitory Authority, Assemblywoman Judy Griffin, former New York State Senator



Todd Kaminsky and generous donations from many of our local community groups.

As the holiday shopping season is underway, I would like to remind residents to shop local and promote our downtown. Once again, parking will be free for patrons on Saturday's during the month of December. There's no denying that small businesses are essential for a healthy local economy that sustains the unique character and quality of life that exists here in Rockville Centre. We are fortunate to have a diversified business district with a variety of shops to meet every holiday shopping list.

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to Deputy Mayor Kathy Baxley,

Trustees Mike Sepe, Emilio Grillo and Katie Conlon, as well as our dedicated Village employees. Our Village Administrator Nancy Howard, department heads, and employees work tirelessly. They play a vital role in the advancement of our Village through their dedication, hard work, and service. Their contributions have helped to shape and grow the Village into one of the most desirable communities to live, work, play, and raise a family on Long Island.

I am looking forward to the New Year with optimism and a true sense of duty to continue working with my fellow employees to ensure that the Village of Rockville Centre is thriving for our children and generations to come. I would like to wish you all a happy holiday and, most importantly, a happy, healthy, safe and successful New Year. May the New Year bless us all with good health, success and may there be Peace on Earth.

Sandel Center: Keeping Members Active

Sandel Center members enjoyed a variety of fall activities and are not slowing down this winter. South Side High School students will gather with Sandel members for a celebration of the holiday

season at the Annual Intergenerational Holiday Celebration. The celebration will take place on December 14th from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Join the festivities for entertainment, camaraderie, and

refreshments. Mark your calendars for the Holiday Party on Friday, December 16th and trip to see Elf at the Madison Theatre on December 21st.

Sandel membership is open to those

aged 60+ 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.



Members enjoyed an afternoon of German music, German food, pretzels and beer for an Oktoberfest celebration. Accordion player Greg Zukoff was the entertainment for the day thanks to the generosity of Rockville Centre Boy Scout Troop #40.



The Plants and Grounds Committee took a trip to Atlantic Nursery to purchase fall plants with the generous gift certificate received from Rockville Centre Boy Scout Troop #40.

THIS MONTH IN

Rockville Centre

Published by the Village of Rockville Centre

Mayor

Francis X. Murray

Deputy Mayor

Kathleen Baxley

Trustees

Trustee Michael Sepe

Trustee Emilio F. Grillo

Trustee Katie Conlon

www.rvcny.gov

Weather Reminders and Tips

Winter weather is making its regularly scheduled appearance in Rockville Centre with cold weather temperatures and the possibility of snow. In the event of a snowstorm, the Village urges residents to not go out during or immediately after unless it is necessary. Crews will be able to do their job more quickly and completely if there is less traffic on the roads. The Department of Public Works is responsible for plowing 53 miles of roads, 30 parking fields and all village owned sidewalks. Throughout the storm the DPW will use over 20 pieces of snow equipment including snowplow vehicles, dump trucks, and payloaders. In addition, DPW will be using four small plows and four snow blowers for walks and ramps.

Please Remember:

- All sidewalks must be cleared within 24 hours after the end of a storm.
- **Snow should not be thrown into the roadway when clearing your**

driveways and sidewalks.

- Snow and ice should be cleared from the fire hydrants near your home so that they are clear, visible and accessible, which will allow emergency responders to act more quickly in case of a fire.
- While out shoveling your sidewalk, keep an eye on your storm drains. Helping to clear them of snow, ice and debris will prevent flooding as temperatures rise.
- Remove vehicles from street parking. This allows plows to clear more snow, which will make driving and parking easier and safer after a storm.
- Individuals who rely on electricity to operate life-sustaining electronic equipment, such as a respirator or dialysis machine, should alert the electric department, police department and fire departments of their needs, in case of emergency. Customers with life-sustaining equipment should also have emergency back-up equipment on hand, since immediate power restoration



cannot be guaranteed.

- If you must go out during hazardous driving conditions, please remember to drive slowly, brake slowly, allow plenty of room between you and the vehicle in front of you, and watch for sudden obstruction. Give yourself plenty of time.

Residents are also encouraged to sign up for notifications on Swift 911, the Village's notification system. 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.gov.



The John A. Anderson Recreation Center

Winter Program Registration



Registration for winter programs continues during the month of December. Registration is open until classes reach their maximum enrollment. Register online at ROCKVILLECENTRE.RECDESK.COM. Along with our perennially popular programs such as Gymnastics, Tae Kwon Do and Tumblers, we also offer Learn to Play Chess for Kids, Ninja Challenge, Pint-sized Picasso, Happy Piano, and Cross-Fit Kids and more! Check out the schedule on our website. Programs begin on January 3, 2023.

Food Donations Needed

The Recreation Center is accepting donations of canned food and dry goods, as well as frozen turkeys for distribution to families in our community. In addition, gift cards for grocery stores may be dropped off at the Recreation Center. We are also collecting new, unwrapped toys and gift cards to brighten the holiday season.

Pickleball League

Pickleball leagues are forming for January. Please contact Frank Milillo at (516) 384-5124 for details.

North Pole Calling

Children in PreK through second grade can speak directly to Santa with their holiday wish-lists again this year on Tuesday, December 13th or Wednesday, December 14th. Parents can fill out a "helpful hints" sheet at the Recreation Center or on ROCKVILLECENTRE.RECDESK.COM.

Breakfast With Santa

The big guy is coming back to the Recreation Center. Save the date! Sunday, December 11, 2022. Make your reservation today at ROCKVILLECENTRE.RECDESK.COM.



Annual Mitten And Hat Tree

The Rockville Centre Recreation Department requests residents to share their warm holiday feelings by donating new hats and mittens of all sizes and colors beginning December 1st. The donations will be hung on the Mitten and Hat Tree in the Recreation Center lobby.

Chanukah Party

Join your neighbors and friends for the National Council of Jewish Women Annual Chanukah Party on Monday, December 19th from 4:15 to 5:30 p.m. The party is a perfect holiday event for PreK through elementary age children of all faiths. No pre-registration is required.

Roll Around



Join open play in the Roll Around gym for ages one to four on Mondays through Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m., Fridays at 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., and 11:30 a.m., and Saturday's at 9:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. All sessions are 45 minutes and \$13 per child. Please register in advance online at ROCKVILLECENTRE.RECDESK.COM.

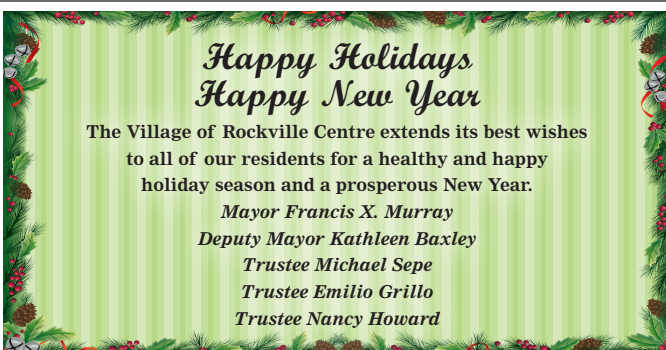
Recreation Department Gift Certificates

Give the gift of an experience at the Recreation Center. Gift certificates of any denomination are available for your holiday gift giving. This is the perfect gift for your children or grandchildren and can be applied to any program run through the Recreation Center.



Holiday Recess Events

Detailed information for all activities can be found at the Recreation Center office, the Village website at www.rvcny.gov, or open the QR Code.



VILLAGE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE

SANITATION IMPORTANT TIPS

Garbage should be placed in standard garbage containers without 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, pesticides, anti-freeze, drain cleaners, rechargeable batteries

SPECIAL PICKUP/BULK ITEMS

Call 678-9216 before 12 noon on Tuesday for Wednesday/Thursday pick-up 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)

HELPFUL LINKS

Sanitation pickup schedule:

<http://www.rvcny.us/recycle/recycle.html>

Sanitation holiday schedule:

https://www.rvcny.gov/sites/g/files/vyhlf4946/f/uploads/2022_sanitation_schedule.pdf

Recycling Guide:

https://www.rvcny.gov/sites/g/files/vyhlf4946/f/uploads/recycling_march_2020_0.pdf

Recycling FAQ:

https://www.rvcny.gov/sites/g/files/vyhlf4946/f/uploads/recycling_faq.pdf