

THIS MONTH IN

Rockville Centre



Dates & Events

**February 3 At 7 PM.
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**February 11 At 7 PM.
PLANNING BOARD**

**February 12 At 7 PM.
BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS**

**February 13 at 6 PM.
MID-MONTH MEETING**

**Monday, February 17
VILLAGE OFFICES CLOSED
PRESIDENT'S DAY**

**February 27 At 6 PM.
BRIEFING MEETING**

**March 3 At 7 PM.
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**March 5 At 7 PM.
BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS**

**March 18 At 7 PM.
PLANNING BOARD**

**March 20 At 6 PM.
MID-MONTH MEETING**

**March 22
ST. PATRICK'S PARADE**

Events are at Village Hall unless otherwise indicated.

Holiday Sanitation Schedule

President's Day Week

Monday, February 17, 2025

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 19, 2025
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

PRSRT STD
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Permit No. 301
Garden City, NY 11530

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

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 22, starting from Maple Avenue and Long Beach Road and proceeding to the reviewing stand in front of St. Agnes Cathedral.

"Since its inception nearly three decades ago, the Rockville Centre St. Patrick's Parade has been a staple in our great Village," 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 28 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 \$1.8 million has been distributed to 78 individual Charities.



2025 Grand Marshal Suzanne Sullivan

Suzanne Murphy Sullivan has been named the grand marshal of the 2025 Rockville Centre St. Patrick's Parade. Sullivan is a third-generation Rockville Centre native and former Village Trustee. She first joined the St. Patrick's Day Parade committee in 2006, during her time in Village office, and continued to serve on the board of directors over several years. A longtime member of the St. Patrick's Parade Committee, Sullivan held numerous roles, including former parade manager and director emeritus of the parade's board of directors.

Suzanne Sullivan has served as director of Community Development for the Village of Rockville Centre since 2017, managing approximately \$40 million in grant funding for projects including Mr. B's inclusive playground, the Living with the Bay initiative, upgrades to local parks and community centers, and improvements to the fire and police departments.



Sullivan has also served the Rockville Centre community as past president of the St. Agnes Mothers' Club and has been involved in community initiatives, including post-Hurricane Sandy relief efforts, coaching sports teams, and organizing Swim Across America events. Turning tragedy into hope, Sullivan has organized the "Friends of Rob Sullivan blood drive" in honor of her late husband, which has collected more than 2,000 units of blood for the New York Blood Center since its inception in 2010.

"Suzanne has embedded herself into the very core of our Village. Her long record of community services is unmatched and makes her a natural choice to lead the Annual St. Patrick's Parade," continued Mayor Murray.

This year's parade will raise money for SIBSPlace, the Remember Nolan Project, and the Kevin Bell Repatriation Trust. SIBSPlace (Survivorship in Brothers and Sisters) assists children who have siblings with cancer or another devastating illness. The Remember Nolan Project Foundation promotes anti-hazing awareness, offers scholarships, and engages with students directly. The foundation was created by Kim and TJ Burch after the 2014 death of their son, Nolan Michael Burch, in a hazing incident while pledging a fraternity at West Virginia University. The Kevin Bell Repatriation Trust helps families repatriate the bodies of loved ones who die abroad in sudden or tragic circumstances to Ireland.

For further information about the parade visit the parade website at www.rvcstpatrick.com.



RVCPD Officer Eric Hochhauser Awarded Cop of the Month

In recognition of his dedicated performance of duty that resulted in the arrest of a subject, Officer Eric Hochhauser was named RVCPD's "Cop of the Month."

On November 26, 2024, Officer Hochhauser was notified by members of the FBI's Gang Task Force that a vehicle wanted in connection with an ongoing narcotics investigation was heading towards Rockville Centre. Officer Hochhauser positioned himself at what he believed to be the most likely point of entrance to the Village and located the vehicle. After stopping the vehicle, it was determined that it was being operated with a suspended registration. When the defendant was asked to exit the vehicle, the defendant immediately became uncooperative and attempted to remain inside the vehicle. With assistance from Officer Boncore, both officers were able to remove the defendant from the vehicle and place him into custody.



A search of the vehicle resulted in the recovery of a loaded Taurus 9mm handgun, additional ammunition, several grams of cocaine, several grams of hallucinogenic mushrooms, percocet, and marijuana. The defendant was charged with Vehicle and Traffic Law offenses and seven felonies, including Criminal Possession of a Weapon 2nd degree, Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance 3rd degree, and Criminal Possession of a Narcotic Drug 4th degree.

"Because of Officers like Eric Hochhauser, the Village of Rockville Centre remains a safe community to live, work and raise a family," commented Mayor Francis X. Murray. "The Board of Trustees and I applaud Officer Hochhauser for his dedication and commitment which exemplify the values upheld by the Rockville Centre Police Department."

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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, hundreds of residents joyously gathered around the tree. The night also featured musical performances by the South Side Middle School Chorale, led by Melissa Lagoudes, the South Side High School band and wind ensemble, led by conductor Barry LeBron, and the South Side High School Choraleers and South Side High School Chamber Singers, led by Doreen Fryling. 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's Helpers. With over 900 families in attendance, the elves were extra busy serving up delicious pancakes donated 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

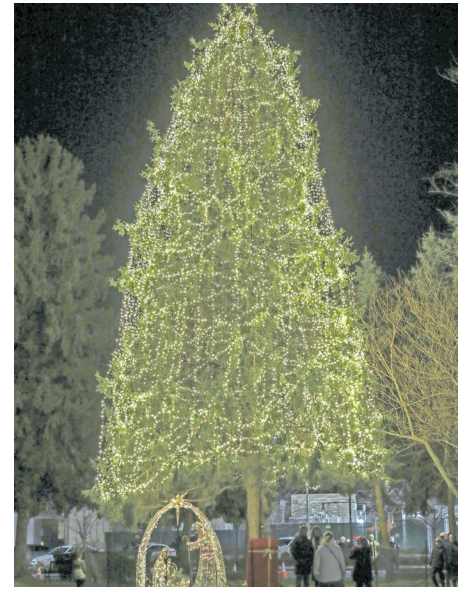
Rockville Centre Fire Department. The Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center helped to continue the holiday festivities with its Christmas Wonderland party.

For the fifth year, residents were invited to showcase their holiday spirit with the community-wide decorating contest, "RVC Holiday Lights." With nearly 30 participating homes, contestants pulled out all the stops for their elaborate displays. Over 4,300 votes were cast for festive displays. First place in the Clark Griswold category was won by 174 Pine Street. In the Martha Stewart category, first place was awarded to 2 Woods Place. First place in the Family Friendly category was awarded to 6 Olive Court. In the best block category, first place was presented to A to Kent Court. First place for the best municipal building category was awarded to Douglas Elliman Real Estate located at 304 Merrick Road.

"Each year we have had many homeowners and businesses work tirelessly to bring the holiday spirit to our Village," commented Deputy Mayor Kathy Baxley. "I want to sincerely thank each participant for making

our Village shine bright and spreading joy."

The second night of Hanukkah brought countless community members together for the Menorah Lighting at the Village Green. Mayor Francis Murray and the Board of Trustees joined Rabbi David Lerner of Congregation B'nai Shalom-Beth David and Rabbi Mendel Gurkov of the Chabad of Rockville Centre to celebrate the triumph of light over darkness.



RVC Commemorated Pearl Harbor 83 Years Later

Military veterans from Rockville Centre gathered at Centennial Park to commemorate the 83rd 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.

Trustee Gregory P. Shaughnessy spoke about how the annual observance serves as a solemn reminder of the sacrifices made that day and the resilience that followed.

"Today, we come together to remember and honor all those who were lost during that brief but deadly attack," he said. "However, we also come together to honor the resilience of the American spirit. Even though we mourn, our nation rose up and fought back. We showed the world why the United States of America is the greatest nation on Earth."

During the ceremony, a wreath was cast into Mill River in honor of those who were lost that day.



Village Tax Grievance

The Village Tax Grievance period began on February 1st and will conclude 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.

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 Deputy Mayor Kathy Baxley

Over the past year, the Village Board and various Village departments have been working diligently to improve traffic and pedestrian safety throughout our Village. I would like to share procedures and programs we have implemented throughout our neighborhoods.

During this past year, parents of children enrolled at both Hewitt and Wilson School shared with me dangerous crossing concerns regarding the major intersections at both schools. The Mayor and I met and stood with parents at the intersections to observe drivers and crossing issues. Through multiple emails, conversations, and meetings with the Traffic Department of Nassau County DPW, I am happy to share that studies were completed by the County division and as a result, new walk signals and delayed green traffic lights were installed at both intersections. The new walk signals have numbered countdowns, and the time was increased on each of them to give pedestrians a longer amount of time to cross at the crosswalk. Additionally, a "Yield to Pedestrians" sign was installed on Demott Avenue for any cars turning right onto Brower or Long Beach Road by our Rockville Centre DPW, and a crossing guard has been stationed at that same five-way intersection since September.

You may have noticed the new digital speed

radar signs installed on N. Long Beach Road, N. Village Ave., N. Centre Ave., and Lincoln Avenue. These electronic speed signs were paid for with a grant from the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG). RVCPCD Commissioner Dodd states that these locations have decreased speeding at an average of 5.1 mph. Residents living by those speed signs were spoken with to see how they felt about the installation and they were enthusiastically received because of the decrease in cars speeding on these busy streets.

Our RVCPCD has a designated traffic unit whose primary focus is enforcing traffic laws. Sunrise Highway is a major road that runs through our Village. Safety remains a top priority for our traffic officers. Over this past year, 4,540 tickets were given to trucks and vehicles on Sunrise Hwy and N. Long Beach Rd, for infractions such as excessive speed. 304 vehicles and unsafe trucks were impounded by our Police Department due to infractions such as insurance lapses and overweight loads. Several of our officers are certified DOT inspectors, which takes weeks of training to maintain this certification. RVC is unique in this endeavor because of the time we

devote to enforcement like this.

We are fortunate that our RVCPCD participates 100% in N.Y. State and Nassau County Traffic campaigns, where other departments across the state don't often participate. Our Village receives grant funding due to our participation which funds more safety campaigns. Some examples of such campaigns include "Distracted Driver" (cell phones), "No Empty Chair" (teen safe driving during prom and graduation season), "BUNNY" (Buckle Up NY), and several others.



Our Police Department uses software to analyze accident frequency and location, and causes of those accidents, such as following too closely, failure to yield, etc. Enforcement increases at locations where accident incidences are higher will hopefully decrease the number of car accidents in the future.

Over this past year, Trustee Katie Conlon worked with the State and County officials

to have new crosswalk buttons installed for vision-impaired pedestrians at many major intersections in our downtown crossings. Trustee Conlon is also working with residents and the RVCPCD to mitigate safety concerns on Grand Avenue near the Middle School.

Another dangerous pedestrian crossing we are working to make safer is on N. Centre Avenue by the train trestle. I am hoping we can install a new "Yield to Pedestrians" sign at that crossing, where a person waiting to cross has to push a button to light up the flashing yield sign, and that this will notify drivers that someone is waiting to cross safely. I have seen this work successfully in other towns across the country and am hoping we can bring that here for our busiest roads.

As always, your Mayor and Trustees are available to work with you on safety concerns for our residents. Please email us though feedback on our Village website, or email any of us directly. We know there is increased traffic throughout our Village and we are working hard to make it safer for all residents.

Village Unveils New Salt Shed

With winter approaching, the Village of Rockville Centre was pleased to unveil its new salt storage facility in November. The newly constructed facility will support approximately 1,600 tons of rock salt. Located at the Department of Public Works on Sunrise Highway, the salt shed will allow the Highway Department to efficiently maintain 53 miles of roads, 30 parking fields, and all Village owned sidewalks this winter. The salt shed was partially funded through American Rescue Plan (ARPA) funds.



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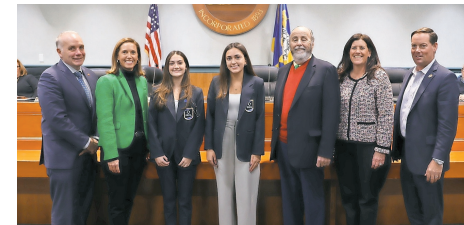
SSHS Students Recognized for Combating Hate

South Side High School DECA Club Co-Vice Presidents Lauren Ferazani and Kate Gupta were recognized by the Village of Rockville Centre for their efforts to combat antisemitism at the December Board of Trustees meeting.

The Village of Rockville Centre adopted a resolution pledging to combat antisemitism and educate residents on ways to identify and report such acts when they occur. In an effort to spread this message among Rockville Centre youth, Kate Gupta and Lauren Ferazani teamed up with the Foundation to Combat Antisemitism (FCAS) in the hopes of inspiring others to join them in standing against hate in all its many forms. Founded in 2019 by Robert Kraft, FCAS aims to continue to grow a unique movement to stand up against Jewish hate and all hate through messaging, bringing people together,

and targeted research.

"Part of the resolution included a continuing endeavor to cooperate with recognized organizations which combat antisemitism and to assist such organizations in educating residents about identifying acts of antisemitism," Village Trustee Katie Conlon said. "We commend Lauren and Kate for standing up against hate in all its forms and spreading a message of positivity, compassion, and tolerance."



Sandel Senior Center Celebrates Joyous and Eventful Holiday Season

The Sandel Center came alive with holiday spirit this winter. From students and seniors sharing songs and stories, to fun trips and concerts, there was no shortage of activity taking place with Sandel members.

The holidays began with heartwarming visits from local elementary schools, Riverside and Covert. Young students brought smiles to everyone's face with handmade holiday cards and lively caroling. Members enjoyed a performance from the Middle School Chorale. The young singers belted out holiday tunes. The holiday celebrations continued with a special

intergenerational day. Members of the South Side High School came together to enjoy sweet homemade treats and a delightful holiday sing-along. A happy game of hot potato and line dancing wrapped up this wonderful afternoon.

The highlight of the season was the Sandel Center's very own Center Stage Chorus concert. Led by the talented director, Frank Scafuri, members delivered a beautiful performance, spreading holiday cheer through song.

The fun didn't stop there! Members also embarked on several exciting trips. They visited the Nassau County Museum to take in the latest exhibit and enjoyed a holiday show at the Merrick Theatre and Center for the Arts by Lamar Peters and his band. Sandel members took a stroll down

Park Avenue to the AMC Theatre to see the wildly popular Wicked. They capped off the month by taking a trip to Port Washington to see the lively performances of the Red-Hot Mamas.

This season also featured the Sandel Center's annual gala, a grand celebration attended by Mayor Francis X. Murray, Deputy Mayor Kathy Baxley, and Village Administrator Nancy Howard who joined in the festivities and praised the vibrant community of seniors.

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.

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





The John A. Anderson Recreation Center



Nursery School Registration

The Rockville Centre Recreation Department is pleased to offer Nursery School programs for the 2025-2026 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 2027. Four day-a-week options available.
 - Time For Two's: Children age two by August 31, 2025. Two day-a-week options available.
- Registration begins online on Monday, March 3, 2025, for residents. Please call the Recreation Center for more details.

2025 Presidents' Week Activities February 18-21

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



Basketball League held at Mill River and the John A. Anderson Recreation Center for rising 5th grade thru adult. Information is available starting in April, contact the Recreation Center at (516) 678-9238

Spring Program Registration

Registration for spring programs will begin on Monday, February 24th for residents and Wednesday, February 26th for non-residents. Take a look at our lineup of activities on 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. Register online at rockvillecentre.recdesk.com. The spring sessions begins the week of March 24th.

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 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.

Men's and Women's Softball

The Recreation Department's Men's Spring Softball season is tentatively scheduled to commence the week of March 24th. 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.

Summer Basketball

Over 125 teams registered for our Summer

DETAILED INFORMATION FOR ALL ACTIVITIES CAN BE FOUND AT THE RECREATION CENTER OFFICE OR ON THE VILLAGE WEBSITE AT WWW.RVCNY.GOV CLICK ON THE RECREATION DEPARTMENT LINK.

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,

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/vyhlif4946/f/uploads/2022_sanitation_schedule.pdf

Recycling Guide:

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

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

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STRONG, HEALTHY & CUTE!