



#### **Ongoing Library Events**

Visit the Library's interactive calendar online at:

eastrockawaylibrary.org/calendar

#### **Senior Center Events**

M, W, Th & F

Call (516) 341-0996 for times

Mayor Charles H. Formont Senior Center

#### **SEPTEMBER 28, 2024**

East Rockaway Homecoming Pep Rally Parade Step-Off

**Memorial Park** 

#### OCTOBER 25 & 26, 2024

Village Fall Fest

Memorial Park

#### **DECEMBER 14, 2024**

Village Winter Fest

Memorial Park



Keeping citizens informed.

CodeRED is the Village of East Rockaway's free emergency notification service.

Sign up for these important alerts via phone, text, e-mail or all three if a time-sensitive or emergency situation occurs.

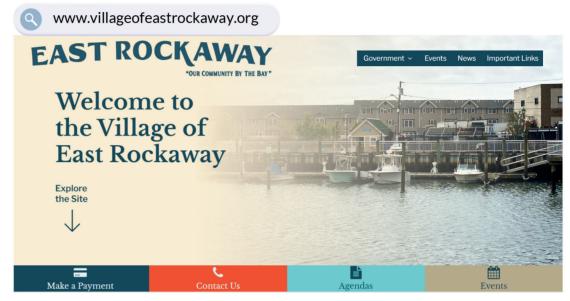
Register for East Rockaway Emergency Notifications at:

https://bit.ly/4bSPLp4



## **ROLLING OUT THE DIGITAL WELCOME MAT**

**Mayor Fox Launches New Village Website** 



Mayor Gordon Fox and the village board announced the launch of the Village of East Rockaway's new website at <a href="www.villageofeastrockaway.org">www.villageofeastrockaway.org</a>. The completely redesigned internet home marks a significant step forward in the village's commitment to better communicate with residents. The sleek website better connects residents with key government services, departments, and resources at the touch of a finger or click of a mouse.

"The Village Board and I are very excited to unveil a modern, user-friendly, and mobile-friendly website that's easy-to-navigate and enhances East Rockaway's digital presence," Mayor Fox said. "It's been one of my administration's top priorities to provide timely, easy-to-find information that meets neighbors' needs – and the new village website accomplishes that and more," Fox added, pointing out that a robust digital footprint improves community engagement, streamlines communications, and enhances transparency.

"Most importantly, our new website makes village resources easily accessible to residents," Mayor Fox noted, pointing to features including full department information and updates, village news, a calendar of events, and heightened functionality that also allow neighbors to apply and pay for most village permits.

The new website also adheres to New York state digital requirements and was built to be WCAG 2.1 Level AA compliant, and published in line with the American Disabilities Act, underscoring the village's commitment to a more accessible digital environment. The technology used has auto-responsive pages load quickly. The new village website can most importantly be easily navigated by users on a desktop or laptop at home or on a phone or tablet on the go, as the site is fully mobile compatible.

"My administration and the village board say 'welcome to your new online home.' Neighbors can open any door of their new website 24/7, empowering them and all our taxpayers to thrive in the digital landscape," Mayor Fox concluded.



# with VILLAGE TRUSTEE STEPHANIE PAUL

As one the newest elected members of the East Rockaway Village Board, elected this past March, Trustee Stephanie Paul brings a wealth of knowledge of both community and service to our village. With her strong background in grassroots advessey. Trustee Paul's dedication to re-

our village. With her strong background in grassroots advocacy, Trustee Paul's dedication to neighbors and commitment to addressing local issues is clear. Through her community activity, Stephanie Paul brings expanded perspectives coupled with an immense energy to keeping our community a great place to live, work, raise a family, and retire.

## QUESTION

You've been active in various East Rockaway organizations for many years – and cast a wide net around the community through your involvement. How do you ensure that everyone is represented well?

#### **ANSWER**

I'm honored to continue serving on the village board, earning the trust of neighbors at the ballot box this past March. As President of East Rockaway Kiwanis, a Girl Scout leader, and an active member of St. Raymond's, I've prioritized honest communication, inclusivity, and community engagement. We have a wonderful, tight-knit small town and I believe a rising tide lifts all boats. This drives my efforts to ensure every resident feels heard and valued. I look forward to partnering with Mayor Fox and my village board colleagues to develop policies that benefit all and make East Rockaway an even better place for everyone.



Trustee Paul, Mayor Gordon Fox and Deputy Mayor Bruno Romano catch up with East Rockaway Kiwanians at a recent event.

Trustee Paul, Mayor Fox, and Deputy Mayor Romano join local dignitaries at the

100th Anniversary Celebration of Centre Avenue School.

### QUESTION

Since your board tenure began, you've been interested in Village Recreation. Can you tell us more about that?

### **ANSWER**

Being a mother to three great girls has been my best job. It's crucial to provide our children with the best education and experiences. As a Girl Scout leader for East Rockaway Troop 2062, I've loved mentoring youngsters, helping them develop skills and confidence. This is vital for the village too, and I advocate for policies benefiting all youth. I'm glad the Village Recreation Department shares this commitment. I am dedicated to enhancing programs to meet the diverse needs of our children and families. By fostering a supportive environment, we help our youngsters thrive and build strong community connections.

## QUESTION

What are your priorities for the rest of 2024?

### **ANSWER**

Working with Mayor Fox, Deputy Mayor Romano, and the village board, we've identified key short-term priorities. Our top priority is maintaining excellent municipal services at the lowest cost. We're also pushing the Town of Hempstead to repair the old East Rockaway Yacht Club property, which they own, to eliminate the eyesore for neighbors.

One of our first priorities since I joined the village board actually just resulted in a big win. Thanks to our strong advocacy with Mayor Fox, alongside the New York Conference of Mayors, our efforts help secure the first boost in New York State Aid and Incentives for Municipalities funding in 15 years, reversing Governor Hochul's cuts to the program. This critical win helps East Rockaway combat rising costs due to inflation through increasing non-tax revenues.

# VILLAGE & SCHOOL DISTRICT CO-HOST PRE-PROM PARADE AT THE WATERFRONT







The weather more than cooperated, providing our prom-going students the best imaginable send-off to their big night. Their parents, grandparents, relatives, Rock boosters, and neighbors poured into Mayor Joseph Carrigan Point at the Waterfront and took their seats. Each were awaiting the arrival and parade of elegantly dressed students through one of our community's most well-known focal points.

Mayor Gordon Fox, Deputy Mayor Bruno Romano (a parent of a prom-goer himself) and Trustee Frank Passanisi III each took to the microphone to welcome neighbors and celebrate our community's future.

Excitement buzzed through the crowd and on the "runway," where beaming young adults ready to make unforgettable memories lined up. Cameras flashed, capturing students' radiant smiles and stylish outfits, while proud parents and relatives exchanged stories of their loved one's accomplishments inside and outside the classroom.

As the students stepped onto the runway, cheers erupted, and the warm air filled with applause. Mayor Fox, Deputy Mayor Romano, and Trustee Passanisi announced each student, offering words of encouragement and congratulations. The waterfront setting, with the sun reflecting off the water, added a touch of magic to the evening.



# CURRAN & VILLAGE SALUTE CENTRE AVENUE STUDENT'S ESSAY CONTEST WIN

Assemblyman Brian Curran hosted his annual Flag Day event, celebrating the American Flag's birthday. Students from the 21st Assembly District participated in an art/essay contest. Avery Goldfelden from Centre Avenue School won, with Audrey Rocholl as runner-up. Mayor Gordon Fox and Trustee Frank Passanisi III joined Assemblyman Curran to salute Avery and other students for their submissions on "What the American Flag Means."



# VILLAGE WELCOMES HERJC FOR 'SHABBAT IN THE PARK'

Mayor Gordon Fox and the Village Board welcomed Rabbi Michel Schlesinger, Hazzan Bonnie Zakarin, and Hewlett-East Rockaway Jewish Centre congregants to Memorial Park for the first "Shabbat in the Park." Jewish neighbors enjoyed an evening of music and fellowship under the open sky. The event highlighted the village's commitment to ensuring all neighbors feel a deep sense of belonging and inclusion in our village.





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Mayor **Gordon J. Fox** 

Village Board

Deputy Mayor

Bruno Romano

Frank Passanisi III Anthony J. Santino Stephanie Paul

Village Justice
Richard Braverman

Village Clerk-Treasurer Theresa Gaffney

> Deputy Village Clerk Cynthia Lark

Deputy Village Treasurer
Donna Pagliaro

Superintendent of Public Works Kevin Conklin

Superintendent of Buildings Jack Felbinger

Recreation & Senior Center Director Nancy Landerer

> Emergency Manager James Carrigan

> > Tax Clerk Robert Vito

For Police, Fire, or Medical Emergencies

Dial (516) 599-4400 or 9-1-1

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# PROGRAMS FOR ALL AGES

As the heat and lazy days of summer hit homes across the community, East Rockaway Village Recreation is firing on all cylinders with programs geared towards every age.



Trustees Anthony J. Santino and Stephanie Paul dropped in on the John Street Recreation Complex with Recreation Director Nancy Landerer to see how the department's programs were being enjoyed by some of our community's youngest residents.

From volleyball & track to soccer, football and arts & crafts, the Recreation Department ensures that children and residents of all ages have access to enriching and fun experiences throughout the summer and all year long, fostering a vibrant and active community.

Recreation programs not only provide opportunities for physical activity and creative expression but they also strengthen community bonds, social interactions, and friendships, while also and creating lasting memories.

### **NEW BUSINESS OPENS ON MAIN STREET**



Village of East Rockaway and East Rockaway Chamber of Commerce officials welcomed the village's newest small business to town. Rosa's Nails at 101 Main Street is a family-owned venture that will serve their clientele with a variety of personalized nail care services.

Joining the ribbon cutting celebration were Deputy Mayor

Bruno Romano, Trustee Stephanie Paul, Trustee Frank Passanissi III, and East Rockaway Chamber of Commerce President Michael Hawksby.