



# NEWS

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# & Views

3600 Kirchoff Road . Rolling Meadows, IL 60008 . 847-394-8500 . [www.cityrm.org](http://www.cityrm.org)

## New Meadows Marketplace Shopping Center to Debut in October

Downtown Rolling Meadows is on the cusp of an exciting new era. After nine years of frustration, redevelopment of the former Dominick's site at the corner of Kirchoff Road and Meadow Drive is moving forward at full speed, City Manager Barry Krumstok reports.

as we embark on the next stage of this important redevelopment project," Krumstok explains. "When completed, Meadows Marketplace will play a major role in the downtown area's future and contribute greatly to the City's overall economic health."

Mayor Tom Rooney, City Council members, Krumstok and Community Development Director Valerie Dehner – for their role in helping move the project forward.

Plans developed by Chicago-based Clark Street Development call for the new "Meadows Marketplace" to debut in October with a completely redesigned



Initial design rendering of the new Meadows Marketplace.

exterior. October will also mark the grand opening of Uncle Joe's Tuscan Fresh Market, a 55,000 sq. ft., full-service grocery store that will serve as the property's anchor tenant.

"Residents will see a lot of activity and construction at the site beginning in June,

"From the beginning, Meadows Marketplace has represented a rare opportunity in these economic times to create a completely redeveloped neighborhood shopping center that will significantly enhance Rolling Meadows' downtown," he says.

Duda credits City officials – particularly

Clark Street Development's Fritz Duda says the firm is excited to play a role in creating a new chapter for the downtown area.

"City leaders were very clear about wanting to make progress on the site as soon as possible and we thank them for their leadership. Without their support, none of this would have happened," he adds.

As construction proceeds, Clark Street Development will identify potential new tenants for the redeveloped property. AA-EE Shoes, a member of Rolling Meadows' business community for more than 20 years, will continue to operate from the redeveloped site.

The upgraded property will provide a significant boost to sales tax revenues and draw more people to the downtown area. Meadows Marketplace updates and progress reports will be featured in upcoming issues of *News & Views*.

## What Does Uncle Joe's Tuscan Fresh Market Have 'in Store' for Shoppers?

Quality products at great prices and a focus on customer service are the driving forces behind Uncle Joe's Tuscan Fresh Market, a 55,000 sq. ft., full service grocery store that is scheduled to open in October at the new Meadows Marketplace, explains co-owner Louie Ruffolo.

"Our goal is to be a neighborhood shop where we know our customers by name and provide them with the products they want," says Ruffolo, who is launching the new venture with his business partner, Nat Caputo. "We

are very excited to be joining the Rolling Meadows business community. We'll see you in October!"

Ruffolo says Uncle Joe's will offer a wide selection of crisp produce, high-quality deli meats and cheeses, and fresh seafood.

"But what will set us apart is our commitment to providing value through a combination of great products, pricing and service," Ruffolo adds.



### Contact City Officials: City Hall Hours: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Friday

#### MAYOR and CITY COUNCIL

Mayor: *Tom Rooney* . . . . . 847-392-2254  
1st Ward Alderman: *Mike Cannon* . . . . . 847-925-8919  
2nd Ward Alderman: *Len Prejna* . . . . . 847-776-9442  
3rd Ward Alderman: *Laura Majikes* . . . . . 847-577-3746  
4th Ward Alderman: *Brad Judd* . . . . . 847-902-3248  
5th Ward Alderman: *Rob Banger, Jr.* . . . . . 847-818-1663  
6th Ward Alderman: *John D'Astice* . . . . . 847-409-9367  
7th Ward Alderman: *James Larsen* . . . . . 630-244-4228  
City Manager: *Barry Krumstok* . . . . . 847-394-8500

#### SERVICES

Fire & Police Emergency . . . . . 911  
Fire Department Non-emergency . . . . . 847-397-3352  
Police Non-emergency . . . . . 847-255-2416  
Public Works . . . . . 847-963-0500  
Finance/Utility Billing Questions . . . . . 847-394-8500  
Community Development . . . . . 847-506-6030  
TDD . . . . . 847-506-0490  
ComEd . . . . . 1-800-EDISON-1  
Curfew . . . . . Sun. – Thurs. 11 p.m.; Fri. & Sat. Midnight

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# Police Department Outreach Specialist Natalia Mercado Believes Individual Empowerment Helps Transform Communities



Natalia Mercado

Natalia Mercado believes that all residents should have access to community resources that can empower them to improve their lives. That's why she joined the Rolling Meadows Police Department

earlier this year as its Social Services Outreach Specialist.

"Helping people identify ways to make positive changes can create remarkable transformations that have profound effects on the entire community," says Natalia, a licensed professional counselor with degrees from Michigan State University and Chicago's Adler School of Professional Psychology. "My job is to help individuals use the tools they need in order to become survivors, rather than victims."

The goal of the RMPD's Social Services

Outreach Program is to coordinate resources, and promote the education and health of City residents. Natalia provides services such as short-term counseling, crisis intervention, court advocacy, well-being checks, senior citizen assistance, community education/workshops, orders of protection and more.

"This type of outreach program plays a very important role in maintaining a healthy, prosperous community," Natalia explains. "Besides helping residents access the resources they need, the program also strengthens relationships between the Police Department and those it serves."

Natalia primarily meets with residents at the Police Department, but also spends several hours each week at the Department's neighborhood offices, located at 2272 Algonquin Parkway and 4700 Arbor Drive. She plans to begin sched-

uling visits to the Rolling Meadows Senior Center, 3705 Pheasant Drive, later this year.

"People encounter challenges at all stages of life. We want to make it simple for residents who may need these services to access them," Natalia explains.

Before coming to Rolling Meadows, Natalia worked at the Children's Advocacy Center in Hoffman Estates, and served as a counselor in several Chicago public schools. She has also worked with children with autism and other behavioral disorders, and with victims of rape and domestic violence.

Residents seeking assistance through the Social Services Outreach Program may contact Natalia at 847-570-2636 or [mercadon@cityrm.org](mailto:mercadon@cityrm.org). More information on the program may be found online at [www.cityrm.org/rmpd](http://www.cityrm.org/rmpd).

## Fire Department Enlists Volunteers for Community Partnership Program

Six Rolling Meadows seniors are at the forefront of an innovative Fire Department volunteer program that supports the activities of the Fire Prevention Bureau and allows firefighters to focus more fully on maintaining the quality of Department services, Fire Chief Scott Franzgrote reports.

Several days a week, these senior volunteers report for duty at the Neucranz Fire Station on Plum Grove Road, where they handle tasks such as data entry, filing and other administrative work. These are important jobs that make up a significant part of the Fire Prevention Bureau's overall efforts to help reduce the potential for damaging fires in the community and promote public safety.



Fire Prevention Bureau volunteers Charlene Swichtenberg (left) and Pat Hobbs.

"Twenty years ago, we had two full-time employees dedicated to Fire Prevention Bureau operations. In today's era of limited resources and budgetary constraints, we have none," Chief Franzgrote explains. "Enlisting volunteers to handle many of the Bureau's administrative duties allows firefighters to focus on our top priority: protecting Rolling Meadows residents and businesses. We are grateful to the Rolling Meadows Golden Years Council for taking such an interest in the program and encouraging people to volunteer on our behalf," he adds.

Two of the program's volunteers, Pat Hobbs and Charlene Swichtenberg, are updating a local business database used to oversee inspections of fire sprinkler systems installed in more than 1,600 businesses throughout the City. When completed, the database will also help with the Fire Department's pending transition to a Web-based fire inspection scheduling system.

"I saw this as an opportunity to help give something back to the City," explains Pat, who first moved to Rolling Meadows in 1955. "But when people ask what I do at the Fire Department, I can't resist joking that I drive the fire trucks," she adds with a laugh.

"It's been very interesting to learn more about how the Fire Department serves the community," adds Charlene, a resident for the past 47 years. "We are very focused on our responsibilities and proud to contribute."

Nancy Portelius, Pat Schmitt, Shirley Tyson and Gregory Wagner also volunteer with the Fire Prevention Bureau.

## April Election Results

**Len Prejna, Jr.**, a 29-year resident of Rolling Meadows, will be sworn-in as the City's 2nd Ward Alderman on May 14, after running unopposed in the April 9 election. He succeeds James Allen, who declined to run.

4th Ward Alderman **Brad Judd** and 6th Ward Alderman **John D'Astice**, also running unopposed, will each continue to represent their constituents for another four-year term.



## eBilling Saves Taxpayers Money, Promotes Eco-Friendly Operations

More than 900 Rolling Meadows utility customers now receive their water bills by email through the City's eBilling service, which helps save taxpayers thousands of dollars each year in printing and mailing costs, and contributes to "greener" operations.

Instead of a printed bill, eBilling customers receive a monthly email that contains a link to their utility billing statement. Balances may be paid in several ways: banks' online bill pay services,

the City's Web-based Utility Bill Management System, by mail, or in person at City Hall.

The service lets users review a two-year billing history for their account and provides a link to the City's newsletter, *News & Views*.

Register for the eBilling program online at [www.cityrm.org/finance](http://www.cityrm.org/finance). For more information, contact the Finance Department at 847-394-8500.

## eLockbox Speeds Utility Payment Processing

With an increasing number of customers paying their utility bills through online bill pay services, Finance Department staff members have implemented an electronic check processing system that streamlines operations and improves efficiencies.

J.P. Morgan Chase's eLockbox service electronically processes customer payments made through banks' online bill pay services in just one or two days. Before, banks would literally "cut" a paper check on behalf of the customer and send it to the City for processing. That would often take anywhere from 7 – 10 days.

"eLockbox significantly improves the Finance Department's operational efficiencies and lowers costs because it virtually eliminates the time-consuming process of manually entering customer payment data," explains Finance Department Director Melissa Gallagher. "Besides promoting 'green' business practices, it also improves customers' ability to track their available balances because payments are processed much faster."

For more information on eLockbox, contact the Finance Department at 847-394-8500.

## Vehicle Stickers, Dog Licenses On Sale June 1

Beginning June 1, residents will be able to purchase 2013-14 vehicle stickers and dog licenses through the City's Website, by mail, or in person at City Hall or select retail locations throughout the City. Vehicle stickers start at \$30. Dog licenses are \$10 (\$5 for spayed/neutered animals).

Pre-printed applications being mailed to residents in early June may be used for online purchases. Visit [www.cityrm.org](http://www.cityrm.org), then select "Online Payments" at the left side of the home-

page. Residents without Internet access may use a pre-addressed envelope in-

cluded in the June mailing to order stickers and dog licenses from home. Vehicle stickers will also be sold at select Rolling Meadows retail locations.

All drivers with cars registered or housed in Rolling Meadows – including those with Palatine mailing addresses – must purchase and display the 2013-14 vehicle stickers by June 30 to avoid a late fee that doubles the price. Motorists who do not display the new sticker by July 1 are subject to a \$100 police citation.

Funds generated from vehicle sticker sales support Rolling Meadows' annual street resurfacing program and ongoing maintenance activities, which help keep City streets in good condition and prevent excessive wear and tear on residents' vehicles.



## Sanitary Sewer Backups? Call Public Works First

Homeowners experiencing clogged or backed up sanitary sewers should call the Rolling Meadows Public Works Department before calling a contractor, Underground Utilities Division Supervisor Dan Seveska reports.

Public Works staff members will identify the causes of residential sanitary sewer backups at no cost, which helps protect homeowners' interests. Seveska says that Department employees have encountered situations where residents hired contractors without first contacting Public Works and may have been charged for services that were not required.

"We want homeowners who experience sewer problems to call us before calling a plumber," Seveska explains. "Our maintenance crews will check the main sanitary sewer to help determine the problem. That information helps residents make informed decisions if they need to hire a contractor."

Public Works crews use a sophisticated lateral camera that is fed through a property's cleanout. It allows them to inspect the line's interior for blockages caused by defects, tree roots or debris, or other problems such as a collapsed pipe. Signs of potential sewer trouble:

- Water bubbling from the ground
- Standing water in a typically dry area
- Water gurgling in the toilet or bathtub while doing laundry
- Water above ground level at existing cleanout

Rolling Meadows is one of only a few Chicago suburbs that limit homeowners' liability for sewer line maintenance. While residents are responsible for the lateral sewer lines that connect their homes to the main sewer system, City crews maintain the lateral sewer lines that run beneath parkways, streets, and public easements.

For more information on services provided by the Underground Utilities Division, contact Public Works at 847-963-0500 or visit [www.cityrm.org/PublicWorks](http://www.cityrm.org/PublicWorks).

# May 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>Saturday, May 18th</b> <b>Pancake Breakfast</b> , 8–11 a.m., (3000 Central Rd.); <b>Historical Museum Open House</b> , 9 a.m.–2 p.m., (3100 Central Rd.); <b>Plant &amp; Craft Sale</b> , 9 a.m.–2 p.m., (3200 Central Rd.)	<b>Zoning Board of Appeals</b> , 7:30 p.m., City Hall	<b>1</b>	<b>Adjudication Hearing</b> (Parking), 2 p.m., City Hall	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> <b>Senior Center Kentucky Derby Party</b> , 4 p.m., Community Ctr. (3705 Pheasant Dr.)
<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>Economic Development Committee</b> , 6 p.m. <b>Environmental Committee</b> , 7 p.m., both at City Hall	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>12</b> <i>Mother's Day</i>	<b>Board of Fire &amp; Police Commissioners</b> , 9 a.m., City Hall	<b>13</b> <b>Crime Stoppers</b> , 5:30 p.m. <b>City Council Meeting</b> , 7:30 p.m., both at City Hall	<b>14</b>	<b>Sprinkling Ban Begins</b> To conserve water, lawn sprinkling is prohibited between noon and 6 p.m. daily.	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> <b>Adjudication Hearing</b> , 1 p.m., City Hall
<b>19</b>	<b>Water bills due</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> <b>City Council Committee of the Whole</b> , 7:30 p.m., City Hall	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> <b>Adjudication Hearing</b> (Red Light), 2 p.m., City Hall	<b>24</b> <b>Veterans Dinner</b> , 6 p.m., Meridian Banquets
<b>26</b>	City Hall and Public Works closed. Refuse collection delayed one day all week.  <i>Memorial Day</i>	<b>27</b> <b>City Council Meeting</b> , 7:30 p.m., City Hall	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> <b>Community Events Foundation fundraiser</b> , Potbelly Sandwich Shop (1402 Golf Rd.)	<b>31</b>
						<b>11</b>
						<b>17</b> <b>Pancake Breakfast</b> <b>18</b> <b>Historical Museum Open House</b> <b>Garden Club Plant &amp; Craft Sale</b> <i>See above for details</i>
						<b>25</b> <b>Farmers &amp; Food Trucks</b> , 10 a.m. – 2 p.m., City Hall  <b>Memorial Day Parade, Observance</b> , 11 a.m., Kirchoff Rd.

# June 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>June 1</b> Vehicle stickers, dog license on sale  <b>June 30</b> Deadline to purchase and display vehicle stickers, dog licenses					<b>1</b> <b>Plum Grove Pool Opening</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Economic Development Committee</b> , 6 p.m. <b>Environmental Committee</b> , 7 p.m. <b>Plan Commission</b> , 7:30 p.m., all at City Hall	<b>4</b> <b>Zoning Board of Appeals</b> , 7:30 p.m., City Hall	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> <b>Adjudication Hearing</b> (Parking), 2 p.m., City Hall  <i>D-Day</i>	<b>7</b> <b>8</b> <b>New Splash Pad Grand Opening</b> , 11 a.m., Nelson Sports Complex Pool
<b>9</b>	<b>Board of Fire &amp; Police Commissioners</b> , 9 a.m., City Hall	<b>10</b> <b>Crime Stoppers</b> , 5:30 p.m. <b>City Council Meeting</b> , 7:30 p.m., both at City Hall	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> <b>Urban Affairs Committee</b> , 5:45 p.m., City Hall	<b>13</b> <b>Adjudication Hearing</b> , 1 p.m., City Hall	<b>14</b>
<b>16</b> <i>Father's Day</i>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> <b>City Council Committee of the Whole</b> , 7:30 p.m., City Hall	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> <b>Water bills due</b> <b>Adjudication Hearing</b> (Red Light), 2 p.m., City Hall	<b>21</b> <b>Community Events Foundation fundraiser</b> , Culver's (1410 E. Algonquin Rd., Schaumburg)  <i>First Day of Summer</i>	<b>22</b> <b>Farmers and Food Trucks</b> , 10 a.m. – 2 p.m., City Hall
<b>23</b> <b>Garden Walk</b> , 12 – 4 p.m.	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> <b>City Council Meeting</b> , 7:30 p.m., City Hall	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> <b>Blood Drive</b> , 1 – 7 p.m., City Hall	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b> <b>City License Deadline</b>						

# Restaurant Fundraisers to Support Community Events Foundation

Upcoming fundraisers at two local restaurants will offer residents a “delicious” opportunity to support the City’s Community Events Foundation:

- Potbelly Sandwich Shop (1402 Golf Rd.) will donate 25% of total sales between 5 – 8 p.m. on Thursday, May 30. In addition, Potbelly will donate 50 cents from the sale of each “Summer Strawberry” shake between May 15 and June 15. For menu items and other information, call 847-593-3080 or visit [www.potbelly.com](http://www.potbelly.com).
- Culver’s (1410 E. Algonquin Rd. in Schaumburg) will return 15% of all purchases made from 10 a.m. – 10 p.m. on Friday, June 21. Mention the Community Events Foundation when ordering, or pick up a coupon from City Hall. For more information, call 847-925-8000 or visit [www.culvers.com](http://www.culvers.com).

In 2012, residents and local businesses contributed nearly \$13,000 to the Foundation, which was established to help offset the costs of staging City-sponsored

events such as the Memorial Day parade and observance, Independence Day festivities and holiday tree lighting. It will also help fund maintenance at the Rolling Meadows Historical Museum.

City leaders encourage the community to consider tax-deductible donations as another way to grow the Foundation’s fund balance and ensure ongoing support of community events.

“Ongoing support from the community is critical to achieving the Foundation’s goal of supporting annual City events,” explains City Manager Barry Krumstok.

## Submit Tax-Deductible Donations

Residents, businesses and community organizations interested in contributing should make checks payable to *City of Rolling Meadows Community Events Foundation*. Submit tax-deductible donations to:

*City of Rolling Meadows  
Community Events Foundation  
3600 Kirchoff Road  
Rolling Meadows, IL 60008.*



The Foundation will financially support annual events such as the City’s annual Memorial Day Parade.



Firefighter Lance Neuses (left) and 7th Ward Alderman James Larsen participated in a variety of training scenarios.



Search and rescue training required firefighters to locate mannequins “trapped” in a burning structure.

## Alderman Dons Protective Gear, Joins Firefighters for Regional Training Exercise

Seventh Ward Alderman James Larsen joined Rolling Meadows firefighters in March for *Fire Ops 101*, an intensive, realistic regional exercise designed to teach elected officials and community leaders about the fire service’s risks and challenges. The program allowed community decision makers from the area to suit up

in protective gear and perform a series of exercises that mirror what firefighters and emergency medical responders face on a daily basis. Firefighters from the Palatine Rural and Palatine Fire Departments also participated in the training, which took place at the Camelot Property on Dundee Road in Palatine.



## Historical Museum To Host May 18 Open House

Historical Society members will welcome guests to the Rolling Meadows Historical Museum’s annual Open House event, Saturday, May 18, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m., 3100 Central Road.

The event will coincide with the Rolling Meadows Garden Club’s Plant & Craft Sale, which takes place simultaneously at the old Public Works building, 3200 Central Road.

That same morning, the Rolling Meadows Golden Years Council will host a pancake breakfast served by Rolling Meadows firefighters, 8 – 11 a.m., at Park Central, 3000 Central Road.

For more information, contact the Historical Society at 847-577-7086, or the Park District at 847-818-3200.

## Rolling Meadows Proud to Welcome WINGS 'Home'

by Mayor Tom Rooney

I couldn't be prouder that Rolling Meadows

will be the new home for the entire WINGS organization. As you may know, the WINGS safe house has been a part of our community since 2004, but now the organization is bringing their administrative headquarters to town as well.

Back when the safe house was proposed, the debate contained a lot of "what-ifs." Nobody knew what the future held, but the City's relationship with WINGS has continued to grow, thanks to the work of the very people

who brought us the safe house idea nearly ten years ago:

- Former WINGS President Rita Canning. Rita and her husband, John, remain pillars of philanthropy in the Chicago area. Recently, one of the many homes used for WINGS programs was named the Canning House.
- WINGS' attorney at the time, Jim Lennon. Jim succeeded Rita as Board President and remains very involved.
- Paul Pavlus, who was an advocate for the safe house from the State's Attorney's office. Paul is now a Cook

County judge.

And of course, there's Rebecca Darr. She continues to serve as WINGS' Executive Director and has capably guided it through both natural and artificial crises, such as fires, flooding and state funding delays. She is a passionate advocate and outstanding manager – a rare combination.

I sincerely wish that WINGS didn't have to be in business at all. But since every community needs its services, I'm thrilled that the organization finds Rolling Meadows "a great place to call home."

## City to Honor Local Veterans, May 24 & 25

Rolling Meadows' proud tradition of honoring those who have defended America's freedom continues this Memorial Day weekend with a series of events that pay tribute to veterans of the United States Armed Forces:

**Veterans Dinner** (*Friday, May 24, 6 p.m.*) – Local veterans will reconnect with fellow service members at this annual dinner hosted by the Rolling Meadows Veterans Committee. Held at Meridian Banquets (1701 Algonquin Road), the dinner is free for resident veterans and one guest. For reservations, contact City Hall at 847-394-8500.

**Memorial Day Parade and Observance** (*Saturday, May 25, 11 a.m.*) – The parade begins at the corner of Kirchoff Road and Meadow Drive. Participants will march west on Kirchoff to the Carillon Tower, site of a solemn observance scheduled for 11:30 a.m. Veterans and their family members are encouraged to participate.



The City's Veterans Committee maintains a registry of resident veterans who have taken part in previous Memorial Day parades. Veterans who have not registered for the event in previous years – and wish to participate in this year's parade – may contact City Hall at 847-394-8500.

## City Organizes 'Farmers & Food Trucks' Summer Program Series; Inaugural Event to Coincide with May 25 Memorial Day Observance

Rolling Meadows will offer its own unique take on the traditional farmers' market this summer with a monthly series of "Farmers & Food Trucks" events. Each will feature savory menu items prepared by area food trucks, hand-made crafts by local artisans and locally-grown produce.

The inaugural event will take place Saturday, May 25, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m., and coincide with the City's Memorial Day Parade and Observance.

Other events are scheduled for June 22, July 20, August 24, September 28 and October 26. All will take place in the City

Hall parking lot, 3600 Kirchoff Road.

"City leaders have been discussing the possibility of hosting a local farmers' market for several years. We want to create something that will set us apart from everyone else," explains Zach Creer, Assistant to the City Manager. "Farmers & Food Trucks will be a community-based event that brings people together, helps celebrate Rolling Meadows' uniqueness and encourages visitors to explore the downtown area."

The goal for this summer is to establish the foundation for a successful long-term program that will expand each year.

"Starting off with a smaller, more intimate event will better help us establish solid relationships with vendors and customers," Creer adds. "Most of the area's farmers' markets have been around for many years. We have to approach things a bit differently if we are going to make our mark."

Area vendors who are interested in participating will find additional information and registration forms on the City's Website, [www.cityrm.org](http://www.cityrm.org). Residents who wish to help organize the events should contact Zach Creer at 847-394-8500 or [creerz@cityrm.org](mailto:creerz@cityrm.org).