



# eNEWS

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# & Views



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

## Events Foundation to Host April 28th Wine & Cheese Fundraiser

The Rolling Meadows Community Events Foundation in late April will host an “historic” event where guests will sip fine wines, sample delicious appetizers, and savor the City’s rich history and unique origins.

The Foundation’s “Wine and Cheese Affair...with a 1950s Flair” fundraiser will take place Thursday, April 28th, at

the Rolling Meadows Historical Museum (3100 Central Road). Guests will enjoy:

- Mouth-watering cheese and other hors d’oeuvres.\*
- 10 different vintages supplied by a local winery.\*
- Museum tours and up-close views of its authentic 1950s-era treasures.
- Silent auction featuring Chicago Blackhawks and other sports memorabilia.
- Music, raffles, and more.

*\*While supplies last.*

Tickets are \$40 each and available for two separate seatings (5-7 pm & 7-9pm). Proceeds from the event will help offset the costs of staging upcoming community events, such as the City’s Memorial Day observance and Independence Day cele-



The Rolling Meadows Historical Museum will add some “1950s flair” to the Community Events Foundation’s April 28th fundraiser.

bration, as well as help fund ongoing museum maintenance.

Space is extremely limited – only 50 tickets will be sold for each seating (100 total). Order now by contacting Lori Ciezak at [ciezakl@cityrm.org](mailto:ciezakl@cityrm.org) or 847-394-8500.

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Nothing Bundt Cakes  
Plum Grove Senior Living  
Stadium Sports Club  
Thrivent Financial

## Residents to Join Environmental Committee’s Annual Salt Creek Cleanup, April 23rd



Salt Creek winds through scenic Rolling Meadows.

The Rolling Meadows Environmental Committee is seeking volunteers for this year’s Salt Creek cleanup event, set for Saturday, April 23rd.

Residents who would like to participate should report to the Old Public Works facility, 3200 Central Road, at 8:30 a.m. that morning to register for the cleanup and receive their assignments.

For more information, contact the Public Works Department at 847-963-0500.

The annual Salt Creek cleanup was established in 2005 as a way for Rolling Meadows to observe Earth Day (April 22nd) and give residents an opportunity to help preserve the City’s natural environment.

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# Rolling Meadows Business Donates Plumbing Supplies, Coordinates Humanitarian Effort in Wake of Flint, Michigan Water Crisis

Rolling Meadows-based Plumbing Manufacturer's International (PMI) donated hundreds of faucets and other plumbing supplies to residents of Flint, MI, where water quality issues have made national headlines.

PMI also helped coordinate efforts by nearly 500 Flint-area plumbers to install the fixtures at no cost to residents.

"Seeing hundreds of volunteers gathered in one place was truly inspiring," explained Barbara C. Higgins, PMI's CEO and Execu-

tive Director. "The can-do attitude demonstrated by all the participants was heartwarming, but it is what we've come to expect from these outstanding professionals and companies."

PMI is a not-for-profit industry association of plumbing product manufacturers. Member companies produce 90% of the plumbing products sold in North America.



For more information, visit [www.safeplumbing.org](http://www.safeplumbing.org).

## Planning Home Improvement Projects? Community Development Department Permits Protect Homeowners' Most Valuable Investment



Valerie Dehner

Residents planning home improvement projects this spring have an important ally in the Rolling Meadows Community Development Department: the Department's permit process

helps property owners protect their investment – and maximize its value – by guarding against poor workmanship that does not meet City safety codes.

"Tradespeople, such as electricians and plumbers, are certified by local or state authorities for a reason: to protect customers," Community Development Director Valerie Dehner explains. "The City's permit process is no different. Issuing permits for a particular project allows the City to schedule inspections to verify all work is performed properly and accord-

ing to code."

Most projects – from hot water heater installation to structural additions – require a permit. Other common home improvement projects where permits are required include new siding and roofing, patios, back yard sheds, and fencing.

State mandates for energy efficiency and lead-based paint removal also require permits for projects such as window replacement, and for remodeling work in homes built before 1978.

Residents who want to verify whether their project requires a permit may contact the Community Development Department at 847-506-6030. Visit the Department's Webpage, [www.cityrm.org/148/Community-Development](http://www.cityrm.org/148/Community-Development), for detailed information on the permit process and application forms.

### Common Home Improvement Projects That Require Permits Include:

- Air conditioning
- Back yard sheds
  - Fencing
  - Heating
- Hot water heater
- New Window Installation
- Patios and decks
  - Roofing
  - Siding



Photo courtesy of Linda Ballantine

Carl Couve served as mayor from 1991 to 1995.

### In Memoriam

## Carl Couve Served as City Mayor, Alderman

Carl F. Couve, who represented Rolling Meadows residents for 14 years as alderman and mayor, passed away March 7th. He was 84 years-old.

Couve served as 6th Ward Alderman from 1981 – 1991, and as mayor from 1991 – 1995. He was a member of the Rolling Meadows Plan Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals, and served as president of the Rolling Meadows Chamber of Commerce.

A graduate of Iowa's Grinnell College, Couve was a graphic artist who eventually starting his own business, BC Lettering.

He was also a pilot in the U.S. Air Force, earning the rank of 1st Lieutenant before being honorably discharged in 1958.

Couve is survived by his wife, Barbara, four children, and five grandchildren.



## Residents Honored with Blue Star Banners

Sisters Lindsey Alesch and Kelly Pfeiffer received Blue Star Banners that honor the service of their brother, United States Marine Corps Sergeant Daniel Megleo, during the Palatine Township Board of Trustees' February 22nd board meeting.

The tradition of the Blue Star Banner dates to World War I. Banners hang in the windows of homes where a family

member is serving in the United States Armed Forces.

Mayor Tom Rooney (far right), who attended the event with State Senator Matt Murphy (R-27th) and Illinois Representative Thomas Morrison (R-54th), calls the Blue Star Banner program "a moving tribute to the men and women who serve our nation."

## Independence Day Parade Planners Issue Call for Community Floats

Local businesses, community organizations, school groups, service clubs, and residents have a grand opportunity to showcase their American spirit this summer by entering floats in Rolling Meadows' annual Independence Day Parade.



City officials welcome all kinds of decorative floats.



The Celebrate 60! Committee created a birthday cake float for last year's parade.

This year's red, white, and blue spectacle will take place Monday, July 4th, 11:30 a.m. The parade will begin at Rolling Meadows High School before heading north on Jay Lane, west on Grouse Lane, north on Meadow Drive, and west on Kirchoff Road to the Rolling Meadows Shopping Center.

Parade applications are available online at [www.cityrm.org/631/4th-of-july](http://www.cityrm.org/631/4th-of-july). For more information, contact Lori Ciezak, Assistant to the City Manager, at 847-394-8500 or [ciezakl@cityrm.org](mailto:ciezakl@cityrm.org).



## This Month in Rolling Meadows

April 4th: **Yard Waste Collection Begins**

April 5th: **Economic Development Committee, 6 pm, Environmental Committee, 6:30 pm; Plan Commission, 7:30 pm, all at City Hall**

April 7th: **Adjudication Hearing (Parking), 2 pm, City Hall**

April 11th: **Board of Fire & Police Commissioners, 9 am, City Hall**

April 12th: **City Council Meeting, 7:30 pm, City Hall**

April 13th: **Crime Stoppers, 5:30 pm, City Hall**

April 14th: **Adjudication Hearing, 1 pm, City Hall**

April 19th: **City Council Committee of the Whole, 7:30 pm, City Hall**

April 20th: **Water bills due**

April 21st: **Adjudication Hearing (Red Light), 2 pm, City Hall**

April 22nd: **Earth Day**

April 23rd: **Annual Salt Creek Cleanup, 8:30 am, Old Public Works (3200 Central Rd)**

April 26th: **City Council Meeting, 7:30 pm, City Hall**

April 28th: **"Wine & Cheese Affair...with a 1950s Flair" Fundraiser, 5-7 pm & 7-9 pm, Rolling Meadows Historical Museum (3100 Central Road). Tickets required. See story on page 1.**

April 30th: **RMPD/DEA Prescription Drug Take-Back Collection, 10 am - 2 pm, City Hall**

## Where Are They Now?

# Former Mayor Ken Nelson Lends Voice to Weekly Radio Broadcast

It's been nearly five years since Ken Nelson completed his second and final term as Rolling Meadows mayor, but term limits were not going to keep him from finding new ways to continue his long record of community service.

These days, thousands of residents throughout the Chicago area hear Nelson as a voice of the Chicagoland Radio Information Service (CRIS Radio). The station is an initiative of the Chicago Lighthouse, a world-renowned social service organization that serves the blind, visually-impaired, disabled, and veteran communities.

Every Thursday afternoon, Nelson spends several hours reading newspapers, including the *Chicago Sun-Times*, *USA Today*, and *Daily Herald*, to station listeners. The station's signal is carried on a sub-carrier frequency of WBEZ-FM, and can be accessed with a special receiver available through Chicago Lighthouse.

CRIS Radio represented an ideal opportunity for Nelson to "do something useful and continue to give back in some capacity," he explains. "I've always been com-

elled to find ways to contribute. I enjoy bringing people together to help build stronger communities."

A Rolling Meadows resident since 1985, Nelson spent 16 years representing Rolling Meadows residents. He spent eight years as 1st Ward Alderman before serving as mayor from 2003 - 2011. He also served on the Plan Commission and chaired the Economic Development Committee.

***"CRIS Radio represented an opportunity to do something useful and give back in some capacity. I've always been compelled to find ways to contribute."***  
— Ken Nelson

"Looking back on my time as alderman and mayor, I'm most proud of our efforts to bring new businesses to the City and diversify its tax base," Nelson recalls. "We weren't able to accomplish everything we wanted, but I relished the opportunity to help our City grow and thrive. For me, Rolling Meadows will always be a great place to call home."

His favorite spots around town these days include the Rolling Meadows Library – he recently participated in the Library's cele-



Photo courtesy of Chicago Lighthouse

Ken Nelson volunteers each week as a reader for Chicago Lighthouse's CRIS Radio.

bration of Dr. Seuss' 112th birthday – and the City's parks.

Nelson also appreciates Rolling Meadows' population diversity and tips his hat to its employees who "provide services that are second-to-none."

Nelson and his wife, Carol, celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary this year. They have three children and four grandchildren. Together, they own an automotive service and repair shop in Libertyville.

"I'm starting to consider retirement at some point down the line, but can't envision myself sitting around the house all day," Nelson says with a laugh. If history is any indication, it's a pretty safe bet he'll find some way to stay busy.

## 2015 Recap: 58 New Businesses Establish Rolling Meadows Roots

Fifty-eight companies in a variety of fields – everything from information technology and financial services to neuroscience diagnostics and restaurant/retail – joined the Rolling Meadows business community in 2015.

The City's strong reputation as a business-friendly community – specifically, its commitment to attracting new businesses and helping promote their success – improves residents' quality of life.

"Our business development and retention program strengthens Rolling Meadows in multiple ways," City Manager Barry Krumstok



Verizon is moving 900 employees to its Continental Towers location.

explains. "First, residents enjoy a greater variety of local shopping options and services. It also helps diversify the City's tax base, which reduces reliance on residents' property taxes to fund services."

From independent merchants to Fortune 500 corporations, Rolling Meadows is home to many of the world's leading companies:

- **Northrop Grumman** – Aerospace/defense technology.
- **Meijer** – "Big box" retail/grocery.
- **Capital One** – Financial services.
- **RTC** – Retail consulting.
- **Verizon** – Telecommunications & wireless communications.



Capital One has occupied 150,000 sq. ft. in the Atrium Corporate Center since 2013.

## Local Motor Fuel Tax Funds City Infrastructure Upkeep, Promotes Support of Area Businesses

Drivers who fill up their vehicles at any of Rolling Meadows' 11 gas stations are directly contributing to the upkeep of nearly 70 miles of City-maintained roads.

The City's 4-cent per gallon Local Motor Fuel Tax (LMFT) generates nearly \$400,000 per year for its annual Streets Program – roughly 40% of the total revenue budgeted. Each year, City officials allocate around \$1 million for road resurfacing and repairs to ensure that streets remain in good condition. This helps reduce excessive wear and tear on residents' vehicles.

"The concept behind the City's LMFT is very simple: drivers who use City streets should help pay for their upkeep," Finance Director Melissa Gallagher explains. "It's a way for motorists who work in Rolling Meadows, or who shop here, to contribute

to street maintenance. Another advantage is that it helps reduce reliance on residents' property tax dollars to raise those funds."

Many local communities have approved LMFTs, and surveys commissioned by the City confirm that Rolling Meadows' is among the lowest in the area. Gallagher

***"Purchasing fuel from Rolling Meadows gas stations ensures the continued vitality of an important segment of our business community and a well-maintained local infrastructure."***

***– Finance Director Melissa Gallagher***

believes that serves as an important incentive for residents to "shop locally" at City-based gas stations.

"Purchasing fuel from Rolling Meadows gas stations is a win-win situation", she says. "It promotes the continued vitality of an important segment of our business community and ensures a well-maintained local infrastructure."

### Rolling Meadows Gas Stations

- **BP**  
2059 Hicks Road
- **Citgo**  
3600 Berdnick Street
- **Citgo**  
2300 Plum Grove Road
- **Marathon**  
3321 Algonquin Road
- **Marathon**  
1300 Hicks Road
- **Marathon**  
3005 Kirchoff Road
- **Marathon**  
4200 Kirchoff Road
- **Meijer**  
1251 Golf Road
- **Mobil**  
2101 Hicks Road
- **Shell**  
2200 Algonquin Road
- **Shell**  
1950 Plum Grove Road

## Seek Veterans, Family Members for 2016 Memorial Day Observance

Have you or someone you know served in the U.S. Armed Forces? The Veterans Committee wants to honor that service during Rolling Meadows' annual Memorial Day ceremonies.

### Join Parade, Carillon Observance

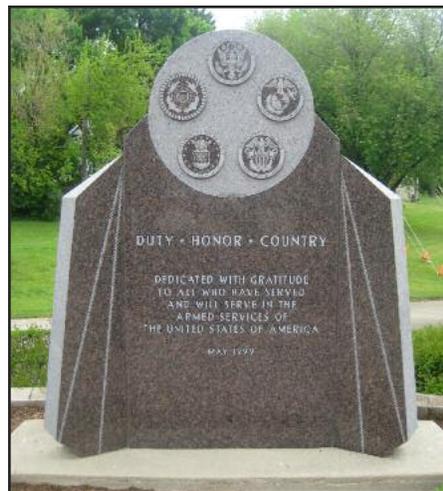
Committee members are seeking resident veterans and their family members to join this year's Memorial Day Parade and observance, Saturday, May 28th. Participants will march west along Kirchoff Road to the Carillon Tower, site of a solemn observance honoring those who have defended our freedom – especially those no longer with us.



Local veterans march along the Kirchoff Road parade route.

Committee members maintain a registry of all Rolling Meadows veterans who have participated in previous Memorial Day ceremonies. Veterans who have not registered before – and would like to be part of this year's events – may contact City Hall at 847-394-8500.

More information on this year's activities will be featured in the May/June issue of *News & Views*.



The City's annual Veterans Dinner is free for resident veterans and guests.

### Weekend Ceremonies Begin with Friday Evening Veterans Dinner

The City will also host its annual Veterans Dinner Friday, May 27th, at Meridian Banquets (1701 West Algonquin Road). The dinner offers a chance for local veterans to reconnect with fellow service members. Each attendee may bring a guest. Space is limited to 200. Contact City Hall (847-394-8500) for reservations.

# Construction Pending on Bike Path Extension Connecting Meadows' Downtown, Library

A \$350,000 project to build a bicycle path extension that connects Kirchoff Road and the Rolling Meadows Library will take place this spring and summer, Public Works Director Fred Vogt reports.

Eighty percent of the project is being covered by a grant from the Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program (ITEP), which provides funding for community projects that "expand travel choices and enhance the transportation experience by improving the cultural,

historic, aesthetic and environmental aspects of our transportation infrastructure," according to the Illinois Department of Transportation website.

When completed, the new extension will allow bicyclers to travel along the east side of Salt Creek between the City's downtown area and the Library

Tentative construction timetables are based on seasonal weather conditions, but Vogt believes the IDOT-selected contractor will begin work in April or May.



Rolling Meadows' bike path system lets residents harness "pedal power" to travel around town.

## Welcome New Businesses

**Edward Jones** –  
Financial advisor/investing  
1645 Hicks Rd Ste S (847-202-9636)



2nd Ward Alderman Len Prejna (far left) and Mayor Tom Rooney (center) attend Edward Jones' February ribbon-cutting ceremony.

**Fresca Supermarket** – Retail grocer  
3985 Algonquin Rd (630-506-2600)

**Lakeshore Title Agency** –  
Title insurance company  
3501 Algonquin Rd #120 (847-758-0300)

**Redefined Realty** – Real estate office  
2775 Algonquin Rd #200 (630-936-9250)

**State Farm** – Insurance & financial products  
2114 Plum Grove Rd (847-322-4296)

**UPS Store\*** – Shipping/packaging services  
2118 Plum Grove Rd (847-991-9980)

**Woodridge Builders** – Contractor  
5400 Newport Drive #5 (847-577-2722)

\*New Ownership



## City Website Offers Tips to Reduce Water Consumption, Lower Utility Bills

Homeowners interested in learning how to lower their monthly utility bills by reducing water consumption will find informational tips posted on the City's website.

Visit [www.cityrm.org/587/Experiencing-High-Water-Consumption](http://www.cityrm.org/587/Experiencing-High-Water-Consumption) to take an active role in limiting overall water usage. Suggestions include:

- Checking for "silent" toilet leaks.
- Confirming the presence of a leak based on water meter readings.
- Adjusting and maintaining lawn irrigation systems.
- Checking for malfunctioning appliances, such as refrigerators, washers, and water softeners.

For more information, contact City Hall at 847-394-8500.

## 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. . . . . 224-639-6686  
6th Ward Alderman: John D'Astice . . . . . 847-409-9367  
7th Ward Alderman: Tim Veenbaas . . . . . 847-385-1425  
City Manager: Barry Krumstok . . . . . 847-394-8500

### SERVICES

Fire & Police Emergency . . . . . 911  
Fire 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  
Senior Handyman Program . . . . . 847-506-6030  
ComEd . . . . . 1-800-EDISON-1  
Curfew . . . Sun. – Thurs. 11 p.m.; Fri. & Sat. Midnight



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