



November/December 2017



NEWS

Volume 21 Number 6

December 7th Tree Lighting, Fireworks & Spaghetti Dinner

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& Views

3600 Kirchoff Road . Rolling Meadows, IL 60008 . 847-394-8500 . www.cityrm.org

Shop and Dine Locally This Holiday Season



Find great value, variety, and convenience close to home this holiday season in Rolling Meadows!

The City's business community – featuring everything from cozy shops with unique gifts to “Big Box” retailers offering the latest in electronics and apparel – offers a wide range of goods and services. Local businesses are eager to welcome shoppers.

Boosts Sales Tax Revenues

Rolling Meadows' blend of independent merchants, large retailers, and service businesses offer advantages that go well beyond unmatched convenience for busy residents. That's because dollars spent here at home go further: shopping locally boosts sales tax revenues that fund City services and reduces reliance on homeowners' property taxes.

Shop First, Then Dine

Want another reason to *Shop Rolling Meadows*? Take time to explore the City's bustling restaurant scene that offers a savory menu of flavors to suit any taste!

Foundation Donations, Business Sponsorships to Support Meadows' 2018 Community Events

Good times will continue to “Roll in Meadows” in 2018, with a year-long slate of community events already in the works for residents' enjoyment. Long-time community staples, including the City's annual Holiday Tree Lighting and Independence Day festivities, will again be joined by newer (and extremely popular) events such as:

- “Taste the Town” (March).
- **FRIDAYS ROCK! concert series** (June/July/September).
- **Downtown Block Party** (June).
- **Wine-Down by the Creek** (August).

Financial support for these events is provided by the Rolling Meadows Community Events Foundation, a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization that relies on donations from residents and local businesses. Tax-deductible contributions help support a wide range of community events, including summer City Markets,



Kimball Hill Park will “rock” again next year, with the return of the City's free summer concert series.

the annual Memorial Day observance and Hometown Hoedown fall festival, and the Police Department's National Night Out. Foundation funding also supports ongoing maintenance at the Rolling Meadows Historical Museum.

Tax-Deductible Donations Welcomed

City officials believe strong, community-based financial support for the Foundation will ensure that events funding is available for years to come. To sustain that effort, Foundation leaders encourage residents and area businesses to help them raise at least \$50,000 annually.

“Ongoing fundraising is critical for the Community Events Foundation's continued success,” explained Finance Director Melissa Gallagher. “We

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“Taste the Town” offers residents a culinary tour of Rolling Meadows restaurants in March.

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

MAYOR and CITY COUNCIL

Mayor: *Len Prejna* 847-776-9442
 1st Ward Alderman: *Mike Cannon* 847-925-8919
 2nd Ward Alderman: *Nick Budmats* 847-202-0855
 3rd Ward Alderman: *Laura Majikas* 847-577-3746
 4th Ward Alderman: *Joseph Gallo* 847-814-9271
 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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Twenty-Nine Year RMFD Veteran Named New Deputy Fire Chief

With nearly 30 years of fire service experience under his belt, Jeff Moxley had already achieved his goal of serving as one of Rolling Meadows Fire Department's Battalion Chiefs. But when the Department began its search for a new Deputy Fire Chief, following the retirement of former Chief Scott Franzgrote and the promotion of then-Deputy Chief Terry Valentino, Moxley decided it was time to set a new goal.

"I felt I owed it to the City and Fire Department that had given me so many opportunities and helped me achieve my dream," he recalled. "It was a chance to take on new challenges – something I've always enjoyed – and help this organization continue to deliver exceptional services to Rolling Meadows residents and those in neighboring communities."

Deputy Chief Moxley has been with RMFD since 1991, after beginning his career in Carol Stream as a part-time firefighter/EMT in 1988. He served as a firefighter/paramedic for 16 years before earning promotion to lieutenant in 2007. He was named Battalion Chief in 2012, and was sworn in as Deputy Chief on October 2nd.

"Jeff has demonstrated impeccable professionalism and dedication to service throughout his career," Chief Valentino explained. "He's incredibly detail-oriented and possesses an outstanding level of integrity. I always say, 'when in doubt, do the right thing,' and Jeff epitomizes that phrase. He's also maintained his paramedic certification throughout his entire career. That's truly remarkable for a fire service officer," he added.

In his new position, Deputy Chief Moxley oversees daily Department operations. He's also the Department's Communications Officer, and is helping prepare for the transition to a new computer aided dispatch (CAD) program in 2019.

Moxley's elevation to Deputy Chief has resulted in the promotion of two other RMFD members: Evan Dolinsky succeeds him as Battalion Chief, while Dan Kusek fills the lieutenant position vacated by Dolinsky.



Deputy Chief Jeff Moxley (left), with Fire Chief Terry Valentino.

"My promotion had a ripple effect, where other Department members were able to take the next step in their careers," Deputy Chief Moxley explained. "It represents an excellent opportunity for our people to develop new leadership skills while maintaining the 'organizational knowledge' that contributes so much to our operational effectiveness."

Interestingly, Deputy Chief Moxley originally planned to pursue a career as a police officer. He was serving as a community service officer in Carol Stream when he responded to a hazardous materials call. His interactions with the firefighters who also responded that day helped him realize it was time to take a different path.

"My neighbor was a part-time Carol Stream firefighter, and they just happened to be hiring a few months later," he recalled. "I applied for the position and it quickly became my passion. Looking back, I think it was definitely meant to be."

Deputy Chief Moxley enjoys spending his off-duty time with his wife, Lisa, and their three daughters (ages 16, 15, and 12). As a family, they enjoy boating and fishing, although he chuckled when admitting that "I don't catch many."

New Chiefs Carry on Tradition of Continuous Service Improvement

There may be new leadership at the Rolling Meadows Fire Department, following former Chief Scott Franzgrote's retirement in September, but Fire Chief Terry Valentino and Deputy Chief Jeff Moxley remain committed to the Department's long-standing tradition of identifying operational efficiencies that help provide the fastest, most effective emergency services. Key programs currently being spearheaded by both chiefs include:

Operational safety initiatives:

Continuous review of Fire Department operational protocols – and incorporation of new equipment and safety procedures, when appropriate – ensures that

firefighters have the latest tools and training to effectively perform their jobs.

"The well-being of our firefighters is the top operational priority of our Department; it's what determines our ability to provide excellent service," Chief Valentino explained.

"While assets such as equipment and other physical budget items are important, nothing is more valuable than our people, and the commitment to their continuous growth and improvement," he added

Joint "RPM" training/operations:

RMFD continues its training and resource-sharing efforts with the Palatine Fire Department and Palatine Rural Fire

Protection District. Examples of RPM (Rural/Palatine/Meadows) operational efficiencies – and corresponding service upgrades that benefit residents – include:

- Creation of a multi-department operations guide that clearly defines the responsibilities of all responding units.
- A shared service agreement in which a Palatine Rural Assistant Chief serves as the Rolling Meadows Fire Marshal. In exchange, RMFD provides incident command oversight for fires that occur within Palatine Rural's jurisdiction.
- Revisions to the Department's apparatus replacement schedule that have saved \$100,000 by sharing resources.

Residents Play Vital Role in Public Works' Snow Removal Program

The Public Works Department begins preparing for snow clearing operations long before snow blankets the City. As early as October, Department employees are busy inspecting snow fighting equipment, installing plows on vehicles, and conducting practice runs along their assigned routes.



Public Works crews and residents work together to keep City streets and bike paths clear of snow.

This advance preparation allows crews to spring into action as soon as the first snowflakes begin to fall. However, residents and local businesses also play an important role in the success of those efforts:

Avoid Depositing Snow into Streets

Homeowners should shovel snow to the right side of their driveways (when facing the street) and into yard areas whenever possible. Depositing snow on to streets is a violation of City code, and causes icy hazards for motorists. When plows arrive to clear your street, snow that has accumulated in the road is likely to end up right back in your driveway.

Residents should also clear the sidewalks of snow for the safety of school children and other pedestrians.

Keep Fire Hydrants Clear of Snow

Shoveling snow away from fire hydrants

may save lives. Hydrants that have been cleared of snow are easier for firefighters to access in emergency situations.

Observe Winter Parking Bans

Parking on City streets is prohibited for eight hours following a snowfall of one inch or more. This helps plow operators clear streets more effectively.

Drive Safely When Near Plows

Use common sense and good judgment when driving near snow plows. Stay back and give plow drivers room to operate. Avoid traveling beside a snow plow – it can veer sideways when hitting drifts or cutting through deep snow. Never try to pass a snow plow that is clearing snow from the streets.

For more information on the City's snow removal efforts, contact Public Works at 847-963-0500 or visit www.cityrm.org/301/Public-Works.

Stadium Sports Club Offers Customers 'Great Food & Great Company'

Stadium Sports Club owner Vincent Bufalino calls the restaurant he's operated for 32 years "a neighborhood establishment" where customers can enjoy dinner with family or catch a game on TV with friends.

"We cater to everyone," Bufalino says proudly. "We've always been a place where people can share great food and great company. That's been our mantra since we opened."

According to Bufalino, Stadium Sports Club's most popular food items are its pastas, pizza, and wings (the restaurant sells around 1,500 pounds of chicken wings each week). The menu also features a variety of BBQ platters, sand-

wiches, soups and salads, appetizers, and desserts. "We offer customers a tremendous variety of items at affordable prices," he says, pointing to Stadium's \$3.99 lunch specials offered Monday – Friday.

The restaurant has been a strong supporter of the City's community events: Bufalino "rustled up the vittles" for October's Hometown Hoedown, and will provide the food for December's spaghetti dinner at the Fogarty Fire Station (*see page 6 for details*).

Stadium has also sponsored local Little League teams for many years. Photos of each of those teams are among the sports memorabilia that line the restaurant's walls.



"It's fun to see customers find their team pictures from 15 or 20 years ago," Bufalino says. "The photos are a record of our commitment to this community, and we look forward to serving customers for many years to come."

Foundation Donations, Business Sponsorships to Support Roster of Events...continued from page 1

appreciate the generosity of past donations, and encourage community members to continue their support."

Residents and businesses who wish to support the Community Events Foundation with a tax-deductible financial donation may visit www.cityrm.org/679/Community-Events-Foundation.

Supporters may also make checks payable to "Rolling Meadows Community Events Foundation" and send them to City Hall (3600 Kirchoff Road).

Business Sponsorships Available

Local businesses are increasingly lending their support by sponsoring specific events. Recent examples include August's Wine-Down by the Creek (*Ben Franklin Bank*), September's FRIDAYS ROCK! concert in the park (*Holiday Inn*), and last month's Hometown Hoedown (*Constellation Energy*). Event sponsors are showcased in all event marketing materials.

To learn more, contact Lori Ciezak, Assistant to the City Manager (847-394-8500; ciezakl@cityrm.org).

November 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday						
Early refuse set-out begins Monday, November 6th. Residents may place refuse at curb after 3 pm the evening prior to scheduled pick-up.			1	Adjudication Hearing (Parking), 2 pm, City Hall	2	3	4					
Daylight Saving Time ends. Clocks fall back one hour. Replace batteries in your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors.	5	Early Refuse Set-Out Begins	6	Economic Development Committee, 6 pm Environmental Committee, 6:30 pm Planning/Zoning Commission, 7:30 pm, all at City Hall	7	8	Adjudication Hearing, 1 pm, City Hall	9	Veterans Day (observed) City offices closed. Regular refuse collection provided.	10	Veterans Day	11
12	Board of Fire & Police Commissioners, 9 am, City Hall	13	Crime Stoppers, 5:30 pm City Council Meeting, 7:30 pm, both at City Hall	14	15	Adjudication Hearing (Red Light), 2 pm, City Hall	16	17	18			
19	Water bills due	20	City Council Committee of the Whole, 7:30 pm, City Hall	21	22	Thanksgiving City offices closed. Regular Thursday and Friday refuse collection delayed one day.	23	Thanksgiving Holiday City offices closed. Regular Thursday and Friday refuse collection delayed one day.	24	25		
26	27	City Council Meeting, 7:30 pm, City Hall	28	Open House and Coin Appraisal, 10 am – 3 pm, Village Bank & Trust (1635 Algonquin Rd)	29	30						

December 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday				
Keep updated on City news with Rolling Meadows' electronic newsletter, E-News & Views, published in February, April, June, August, October and December. Each newsletter is archived on the City's website, www.cityrm.org.					1	2				
3	4	Econ. Dev. Cte., 6 pm Environmental Cte., 6:30 pm Planning & Zoning Commission, 7:30 pm City Council Meeting, 7:30 pm, all at City Hall	5	6	Adjudication Hearing (Parking), 2 pm, City Hall Holiday Tree Lighting, 6 pm, McDonald's (3140 Kirchoff Rd) Community Spaghetti Dinner, 6:30 pm, Fogarty Fire Station (3111 Meadow Dr)	7	8	9		
10	Board of Fire & Police Commissioners, 9 am, City Hall	11	Hanukkah begins Crime Stoppers, 5:30 pm City Council Committee of the Whole, 7:30 pm, both at City Hall	12	13	Adjudication Hearing, 1 pm, City Hall	14	15	16	
17	18	Blood Drive, 1 – 7 pm City Council Meeting, 7:30 pm, both at City Hall	19	Water bills due	20	First Day of Winter Adjudication Hearing (Red Light), 2 pm, City Hall	21	Christmas Eve (observed) City offices closed. Early refuse pick-up.	22	23
Christmas Eve	24	Christmas City offices closed. Refuse collection delayed one day all week.	25	Kwanzaa	26	27	28	29	30	
31	New Year's Eve									

Residents Celebrate Fall's Arrival at Hoedown

The second annual Hometown Hoedown welcomed the fall season to Rolling Meadows October 2nd, as residents enjoyed a variety of country/western-themed activities:



Horse-drawn carriage rides offered scenic tours of Kimball Hill Park.



Square dancing demonstrations encouraged guests to stomp to the beat.



Craft tables proved a popular draw for kids.



Children's entertainer Miss Jamie performed a set list that had younger Hoedown guests hopping.

'Scar's Blog' Introduces Police Dog to Residents

Residents interested in learning more about the Rolling Meadows Police Department's new K9, a two-and-a-half year-old Belgian Malinois/German Shepard mix named Scar, have been following a weekly blog featured on the RMPD Facebook page.



RMPD's new K9 Unit: Officer Chris Don and Scar.

"Scar's Blog," cleverly written from the dog's own perspective, has tracked the progress of a six-week training program attended by Scar and his K9 handler, Officer Chris Don, at Vohne Liche Kennels in Denver, IN.

Informational tidbits gleaned from recent blog entries include Scar's favorite toy (tennis balls) and the fact that he understands commands in Dutch. This required Officer Don to learn a new language.

When Officer Don and Scar officially report for duty in early November, it will represent the first time in four years that the Police Department has wielded a K9 unit. Police Chief John Nowacki says that Scar's skill set will include narcotics detection, building and vehicle searches, and scent tracking.

"K9 units are a very effective way to improve police services. Studies show that the mere presence of a well-marked K9 vehicle has a positive effect on crime reduction," Chief Nowacki explained. "Scar will excel in a wide range of areas, including drug detection, missing persons cases, school searches, community relations, and officer safety."

For more information about Rolling Meadows Police Department's K9 program, call 847-255-2416 or visit the Department's Facebook page (www.facebook.com/rollingmeadowspolice).



Comet Offers 'Flavor of the Day' Custard Menu

Comet's November "Flavor of the Day" custard menu ensures that customers will be able to expand their palates and try something new throughout the month. Planned flavors include Salted Caramel, Apple Crisp, Chocolate Chocolate Chip, and Peanut Butter Oreo.

Find Comet's entire menu – including its Flavor of the Day calendar – on the shop's social media feeds: Facebook (facebook.com/comet-custard), Twitter (@CometSpot), and Instagram (@CometCustard).

Shop hours are 12 p.m. – 10 p.m., Monday – Saturday. Comet will close for the season on November 22nd and reopen next spring.



Museum Open House Set for January 7th

Celebrate the spirit of holidays' past Sunday, January 7th, 1 – 4 p.m., when the Rolling Meadows Historical Society hosts its annual Holiday Open House at the City's Historical Museum (3100 Central Road). Guests will enjoy vintage holiday décor and refreshments.

Following the Open House, the Museum will temporarily close for renovations. Plans call for it to reopen to the public in April. Contact the Historical Society at 847-577-7086 for more information.

With New Year Approaching, City Keeps Focus on Economic Development, Community Events Growth

by Mayor Len Prejna

Economic development and the continued growth of Rolling Meadows' community events calendar have been two essential success stories of 2017. Those topics will continue to shape the City's overall narrative as we move into the new year.

A comprehensive survey of local businesses has been completed, and City leaders are now in the process of reviewing those findings. We've also hired a Business Advocate to help attract new businesses to the City. Combined, these initiatives represent solid steps forward in our ongoing efforts to strengthen the local business community.

The tremendous success of this year's community events programs continued in October, with the City's Hometown Hoe-

down and Fire Department Open House. And I look forward to seeing all of you at the downtown Christmas Tree lighting and spaghetti dinner on December 7th.

The momentum generated by this year's outstanding series of community events will continue in 2018, with the City planning even more activities for residents. But to ensure success, we need more volunteers. If you would like to help us expand the scope of our events and connect with your fellow citizens, please contact Lori Ciezak at ciezakl@cityrm.org or call 394-8500 (ext. 1002).

This year in Rolling Meadows has been one of profound change, and we look ahead to 2018 with a continued sense of hope. Best wishes to all for a happy, healthy holiday season.

Community Spirit is Alive and Well in Rolling Meadows for the Holidays



Support Annual 'Toys for Tots' Drive
November 6th – December 8th

Rolling Meadows has once again partnered with the United States Marine Corps Reserve to promote its annual Toys for Tots program. This year's collection drive will take place Monday, November 6th – Friday, December 8th.

Residents may bring new, unwrapped toys to City Hall (3600 Kirchoff Road) or the Rolling Meadows Library (3110 Martin Lane). For more information or to make a monetary donation, visit www.toysfortots.org.

Tree Lighting, Fireworks and Spaghetti Dinner to Welcome Holiday Season

Join family members, friends and neighbors Thursday, December 7th, for Rolling Meadows' annual Holiday Tree Lighting ceremony, followed by a free spaghetti dinner for all residents:

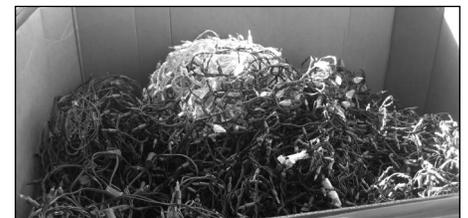
- **Tree Lighting (6 p.m.)** – Gather in front of McDonald's (3140 Kirchoff Road) for a festive ceremony featuring holiday carols, hot chocolate, and other goodies. Jolly St. Nick will preside over the Holiday Tree lighting, which will be followed by seasonal fireworks.
- **Spaghetti Dinner (6:30 p.m.)** – Journey over to the Fogarty Fire Station (3111 Meadow Drive) for an old-fashioned community dinner. This year's menu, courtesy of Stadium Sports

Club, will be served by City officials and Community Events volunteers (*while supplies last*).

Recycle Holiday Lights at City Hall

The City has again partnered with the Solid Waste Agency of Cook County (SWANCC) and Elgin Recycling to offer a seasonal recycling program that allows residents to safely dispose of old holiday lights, electrical cords and wire.

Drop off materials for recycling outside City Hall beginning Monday, November 6th. The program will run through Friday, February 16th, 2018.



Bring old holiday lights and cords to the City Hall collection box.

Items accepted include incandescent and LED lights (all sizes and colors), extension cords, household wire, and computer wires and cords.

Garland, live greens, wreaths, and other non-recyclables will not be accepted. For more information, visit www.swancc.org or www.elginrecycling.com.



Fireworks explode over downtown Rolling Meadows at last year's Holiday Tree Lighting.