



NEWS

Volume 22 Number 5

'Amish Farmers' Grocery Store Opening Soon

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& Views

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

Kimball Hill Park Site of September 7th Free Concert, Annual Duck Race

Kimball Hill Park will host an evening extravaganza featuring great rock and roll and (duck) racing Friday, September 7th, as the City presents this year's final "Fridays ROCK!" music concert and 11th annual Duck Race. Both events will begin at 7 p.m.

Duck Race to Fund Preservation Efforts

Kimball Hill Park's waterfall is the site of this year's Duck Race, sponsored by the Rolling Meadows Environmental Committee, Rotary Club of Rolling Meadows, and the Rolling Meadows Park District Foundation. Proceeds from the event will support Salt Creek preservation efforts and other environmental initiatives throughout the City.

Purchase ducks for \$5 each – or buy a five-duck "Quack Pack" for \$20 – at the Community Center (3705 Pheasant Drive), City Hall (3600 Kirchoff Road), or at Kimball Hill Park prior to the event.

The Duck Race will feature great prizes awarded to owners of the first 20 ducks to cross the finish line. The 1st place duck will

win the event's \$500 grand prize.



Chicago Band Centerfold to Headline Free Concert in the Park

2018's Friday's ROCK! series, featuring free summer concerts in the park, will conclude with a lively performance by Centerfold, one of the Chicago area's most popular bands. From classic rock hits to today's pop favorites, Centerfold members pride themselves on delivering "the music you remember." Bring a picnic dinner (or purchase food from onsite food vendors) and get ready to ROCK & ROLL-in-Meadows.

Planners Seek Public Input for Revised Comprehensive Plan

Representatives of Evanston-Based Teska Associates, an urban planning firm hired by City officials, will also be on hand to conduct brief residential surveys that will be used in the development of Rolling Meadows' new Comprehensive Plan (see page 3). City planners view public input as an essential element for developing a revised plan.

Senior Luncheon, Fall Hoedown Among Upcoming City Events

There is a lot more going on in Rolling Meadows this fall besides live music and duck racing. Mark your calendars for these events:

Senior Luncheon

Tuesday, September 11th
12:30 – 2:30 pm
Community Center

Happy days are here again!

Residents ages 55 and up will enjoy a lunch buffet featuring lemon chicken,

cheese ravioli, and salad, courtesy of Buona Beef; and live music featuring classic songs from the 1960s. This event is open to all Rolling Meadows seniors and Senior Center members. Admission is \$5 per person.

For reservations, call 847-818-3205.

City Market

Saturday, September 22nd
10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Community Church

Paul Alodi and Randy Rock will provide a musical soundtrack to the season's final

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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 Majikes* 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: *Robert Williams* 847-303-0482
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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Alderman Rob Williams (right) is sworn in by Mayor Len Prejna.

Former Chamber President, Long-Time Resident Robert Williams Appointed to 7th Ward Council Seat

Robert Williams, a 42-year resident and former President of the Rolling Meadows Chamber of Commerce, was sworn-in as 7th Ward Alderman on July 24th, after his nomination by Mayor Len Prejna was formally approved by City Council members.

A retired entrepreneur and current member of the Fairfax Village Homeowners Association, Alderman Williams possesses “a strong financial background and will be an asset to City Council,” Mayor Prejna explained in his nomination letter to Council members. He succeeds Tim Veenbaas, who moved out of state in May for a new job.

Alderman Williams will represent 7th Ward residents for the remainder of the current four-year term. Ward 7 alderman is one of multiple Council seats that will be contested on the April 2019 Consolidated Election ballot.

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October 13th RMFD Open House to Feature Safety Demonstrations, Games, Refreshments

“Live burn” demonstrations that showcase the effectiveness of home fire sprinklers, automobile extrication exercises performed by Rolling Meadows firefighters, children’s games, and free food and refreshments are just a few of the many reasons to visit the Fire Department’s 2018 Open House.

This year’s event – a chance for residents of all ages to learn more about Fire Department equipment, tactics, and life-saving services – will take place at the Neuckranz Fire Station (2455 Plum Grove Road) on Saturday, October 13th, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

“We welcome all Rolling Meadows residents to climb aboard fire engines and meet with the firefighters who protect our community 24 hours a day, seven days a week,” Fire Chief Terry Valentino said. “The Open House is a great way for the public to catch a glimpse of life in the fire service and for firefighters to better connect with those we serve.”

Representatives from Northwest Central Dispatch System and the Illinois Fire Safety Alliance will also be on hand to



Future firefighters test their skills at RMFD’s annual Open House.

provide information to residents. Guests will also be able to interact with therapy dogs from Northwest Community Healthcare.

Other highlights will include a children’s bounce house (weather permitting) and a community art show featuring the works of Plum Grove Junior High School students.

For more information and updates, follow the Fire Department on Facebook (@rollingmeadowsfire), Twitter (@meadowsfire) or call 847-397-3352.

Upcoming City Events...continued from page 1

City Market. Come out for fresh produce, entertainment, and great food, courtesy of G-Force Concessions, Famous Frankie’s Hot Dogs and Mario’s Cart. September’s market will also feature new vendors, including Blooms Floral Design, Cardinal Greens, and Smarty Pants Kid Books.

Hometown Hoedown

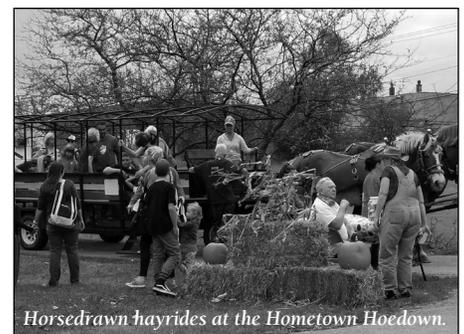
Saturday, October 6th, 12 – 5 p.m.
Kimball Hill Park

Put on your dungarees and join Rolling Meadows’ third annual fall festival! Grab

some “vittles” at the Cowboy Cookout (hamburger or hot dog, chips, and a drink for just \$5); enjoy horse-drawn hayrides, crafts, mini-golf, kids’ games, face painting, and other family-friendly activities; experience live performances by children’s entertainer Miss Jamie (www.miss-jamie.com) and folk rock/Americana band Killing Bottles; and much more. *Special thanks to Dynegy Energy for sponsoring this year’s Hoedown.*



City Markets



Horsedrawn hayrides at the Hometown Hoedown.

Firing Range Upgrades to Improve Air Quality, Protect Officers' Safety



Bill Arneson

Rolling Meadows Police are moving forward with upgrades to the Department's basement firing range that, when completed, will improve air quality for police officers and ensure the facility remains in compliance with updated safety standards, Deputy Police Chief Bill Arneson reports.

The \$49,635 project – approved as part of the City's 2018 budget – will modify the range's ventilation system to ensure

consistent airflow. This is critical for police officers' well-being. The ventilation system is designed to safely disperse hazardous airborne particles (those resulting from a range weapon being fired) and direct them away from the shooter.

"Our current ventilation system dates back to the late 1980s, and recent baseline airflow testing results were not where we wanted them to be," Deputy Chief Arneson explained. "Modifying the ventilation system will correct those deficiencies and protect the long-term health of our officers."

Project upgrades will also increase the range's usable space by removing an outdated ventilation wall located at the back of the facility.

The project's estimated three-month timeframe will not have any effect on police officer readiness or training, since personnel usually undergo range testing on a quarterly basis. Training schedules were modified to ensure they were completed before the project's start date, Deputy Chief Arneson added.

Residents' Community Spirit Banishes Clouds, Clears Way for Sensational National Night Out

Torrential downpours drenched Rolling Meadows on the afternoon of August 7th but cleared away just as residents began arriving for the Police Department's epic 2018 National Night Out.

The annual community event celebrates the bonds between Rolling Meadows

police officers and the residents and businesses they serve, and this year's gathering exceeded the Department's wildest expectations.

For more highlights, visit the Police Department's Facebook page (www.facebook.com/rollingmeadowspolice).



Police Chief John Nowacki (left) and Deputy Police Chief Bill Arneson enjoyed chatting with residents near the event's law enforcement vehicle display.



The Community Center parking lot was packed with thousands of residents who enjoyed a smorgasbord of free burgers, hot dogs, quesadillas, pizza, popcorn, and more from local restaurants and businesses.



Live entertainment was a staple of this year's event, including mock sword battles by the Knights of Medieval Times, Stunt Dog Productions, and the XPOGO stunt team (pictured).

September Commission Meeting to Discuss Comprehensive Plan Update

A September 4th meeting between urban planning consultants and members of the City's Planning & Zoning Commission will mark the first major step toward updating Rolling Meadows' Comprehensive Plan. The meeting, which is open to the public, will take place at 7:30 p.m., at City Hall.

The Comprehensive Plan serves as a blueprint for economic development and land use. It was last updated in 2006.

"An updated Comprehensive Plan will serve as a guide when considering new development proposals, strengthen the City's ability to pursue state and federal grant funding, and help market Rolling Meadows' advantages to developers and businesses," Public Works Director Fred Vogt explained.

City leaders have partnered with Teska Associates, an Evanston-based urban planning group, to help prepare Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Code updates

for expected approval next spring. Teska will conduct extensive outreach and engagement efforts to gain additional public input on Comprehensive Plan modifications - including community surveys that will be distributed at the City's September 7th community events.

Residents may share their own ideas for Rolling Meadows' future, and sign up to receive project news and updates, at www.plan4rollingmeadows.org.

September 2018

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	Labor Day City Hall and Public Works closed. Refuse collection delayed one day all week.	3 Economic Development Committee , 6 pm Environmental Committee , 6:30 pm Planning & Zoning Commission , 7:30 pm, all at City Hall	4	5 Adjudication Hearing (Parking), 2 pm, City Hall	6 Duck Race , 7 pm FRIDAYS ROCK! and Roll in Meadows , 7-10 pm, both at Kimball Hill Park	7 8
9	Board of Fire & Police Commissioners , 9 am, City Hall	10 Patriot Day Senior Luncheon , 12:30 pm, Community Center Crime Stoppers , 5:30 pm City Council Meeting , 7:30 pm, both at City Hall	11	12 Adjudication Hearing , 13 1 pm, City Hall	14	15
16	17	18 City Council Committee of the Whole , 7:30 pm, City Hall	19	20 Water bills due Adjudication Hearing (Red Light), 2 pm, City Hall	21	22 City Market , 10 am-2 pm, Community Church
23	24	25 City Council Meeting , 7:30 pm, City Hall	26	27	28	29
30						

October 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 Economic Development Committee , 6 pm Environmental Committee , 6:30 pm Planning & Zoning Commission , 7:30 pm, all at City Hall	3	4 Adjudication Hearing (Parking), 2 pm, City Hall	5	6 Hometown Hoedown , 12-5 pm, Kimball Hill Park
7	Columbus Day Board of Fire & Police Commissioners , 9 am, City Hall	8 Crime Stoppers , 5:30 pm City Council Meeting , 7:30 pm, both at City Hall	9	10 Adjudication Hearing , 11 1 pm, City Hall	12	13 Fire Department Open House , 10 am-2 pm, Neuckranz Fire Station
OCTOBER 7-13: NATIONAL FIRE PREVENTION WEEK						
14	15	16 City Council Committee of the Whole , 7:30 pm, City Hall	17	18 Adjudication Hearing (Red Light), 2 pm, City Hall	19	20
21	Water bills due	22 City Council Meeting , 23 7:30 pm, City Hall	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31 Halloween Trick or Treat hours: 3-8 pm		Learn more about National Fire Prevention Week, and ways to keep your family safe, at www.nfpa.org/jpw .	

New Neighborhood Grocer Sources Products from Amish Farmers

Amish Farmers, a new neighborhood grocery store that will soon open in Rolling Meadows, sources all of its products from authentic Amish farms located in Michigan, Indiana, and Wisconsin.

That commitment to traditional farming offers shoppers access to an ever-changing selection of fresh seasonal produce, high-quality meats, fish, poultry, cheese, and more.

“We buy our products daily from Amish farmers who grow their fruits and vege-



Shoppers will be able to choose from the freshest, healthiest produce available.

tables, and raise their animals, the way it was done more than 100 years ago - no electricity, no factory production methods, no GMOs, and no growth hormones,” explains store owner Jacek Cholko, who is busy preparing the store for a late September opening. “It’s how we are able to offer our customers the freshest, healthiest, highest-quality food available.”

As a family business, Amish Farmers reflects Cholko’s Polish heritage. The store plans to offer an extensive selection of authentic Polish specialties, including Paczki (filled donuts), Pierogi (Polish dumplings), smoked meats, and more. It will also feature home-baked goods and a variety of cheeses, as well as lamb, veal, pork, venison, duck, and other seasonal fare.

An onsite kitchen, meanwhile, will allow Amish Grocers to offer freshly-prepared meals for lunch or dinner – perfect for busy customers who are constantly on-the-go.



Fresh-baked goods are a staple of Amish Farmers’ product offerings.

Amish Farmers (2122 Plum Grove Road) will be Cholko’s second store, located in a space that once housed a Polish deli. His first store opened in Franklin Park in 2013.

“We’re happy to be expanding our business to Rolling Meadows and look forward to serving our new customers,” he explained.

For more information on Amish Farmers, visit www.facebook.com/amishfarmers.

Apply to Serve as Judge for November Elections

Rolling Meadows residents who are interested supporting the cornerstone of the democratic process should consider serving as an election judge or equipment manager for the November 6th midterm election.

According to the County Clerk’s website:

- **Election judges** work together to ensure their polling place is running smoothly and voters are properly served. Election judges earn \$190 for their service.
- **Equipment managers** work directly with the election judges to assist voters

and ensure their polling place is running smoothly. Equipment managers also have more responsibility for setting up and maintaining the voting equipment. Accordingly, they receive additional training and earn higher pay (\$390).

All Election Day workers must be U.S. citizens and registered voters, and complete a series of online and classroom training courses. High school juniors and seniors who would like to serve on Election Day must have a 3.0 GPA.

Learn more – and apply – at www.cook-countyclerk.com.

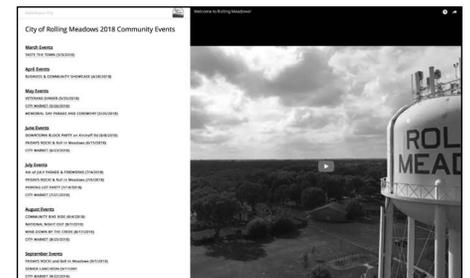
Handyman Program Helps with Minor Repairs

Rolling Meadows’ Senior Handyman Program connects residents ages 65 and up with a fully trained, trustworthy handyman to perform minor household repairs at a rate of \$35 per hour or less, depending on seniors’ income.

Handyman Tom Thompson, who has been the face of the program since 2001, offers a range of services, including:

- Leaky faucet repair.
- Light fixture repair/replacement.
- Drywall repair.
- Toilet and drain repairs.

Contact the Community Development Department (847-506-6030) for more information on the Senior Handyman program. To schedule a service appointment, contact Tom directly at 847-870-7751.



Online ‘Story Map’ Helps Share City Event Tales

Re-live the excitement of past community events and get ready for upcoming celebrations with the City’s interactive Community Events Story Map, available on the Rolling Meadows website.

Users will find a variety of videos, web links, photos, and descriptive copy that help showcase residents’ community spirit and the City’s extensive events calendar. It’s also a way to help residents “feel the pride” of Rolling Meadows and encourage them to get involved!

To access the story map, visit www.cityrm.org/669/Community-Events and then click the “Community Events Story Map” link.

Rolling Meadows: A Community Bustling with Activity

by Mayor Len Prejna

Rolling Meadows has been bustling with activities this

summer.

In August alone, residents gathered for our Community Bike Ride, National Night Out, Wine-Down by the Creek, and another successful City Market. And we are eagerly looking ahead to September and October, with another Friday ROCKS! concert in Kimball Hill Park, the annual Duck Race, one more City Market, and our third annual Hometown Hoedown. It has been great seeing so many of you come out for these events!

In other community news, residents will begin to see a change in a number of our City's restaurants this fall: Stadium Sports Club on Algonquin Road, Rep's Place on Kirchoff Road, and Red Apple Restaurant on Plum Grove Road all have plans in the works for remodeling and new outdoor seating. I hope residents will continue to support our local establishments. Remember to shop – and dine – locally!

The appointment of new 7th Ward Alderman Rob Williams fills the City Council vacancy created when former Alderman Tim Veenbaas moved out of town. Rob is a long-time Rolling

Meadows resident who has served as President of Fairfax Village Homeowners Association. He also has a strong background in finance and is a former member of the Rolling Meadows Chamber of Commerce.

Are you looking to give back to the community through volunteering? Consider donating your time and talents by serving on the City's Environmental Committee. Meetings take place at 6:30 p.m., on the first Tuesday of each month at City Hall (Room 230). If interested, please email Alysse Dahlgren at 1988origamist@gmail.com.

Pastor Rande Smith Set to Retire After 17 Years of 'Community' Service

Pastor Rande Smith has delivered 820 sermons, performed 69 baptisms, officiated 121 weddings, and presided over 252 funerals since arriving at Community Church of Rolling Meadows in July 2001. His impact on his congregation and the entire community, however, goes beyond mere statistics.

As he approaches his September 30th retirement date, Pastor Smith finds great joy in recalling the bonds he has built with church members and Rolling Meadows residents. Those recollections, however, are also the source of emotional strain.

"Over 17 years, I've established a personal connection with every single person here and become, in some small way, part of their daily lives. It will be difficult not having those connections anymore," he explained

Throughout his tenure at Community Church, Pastor Smith always sought to build stronger ties with other congregations and Rolling Meadows residents at-large. Soon after arriving, he began reaching out to other local pastors and encouraging greater communication between the many churches that call the City home. Those initial discussions planted the seeds of greater cooperation and, in the days after 9/11, brought together multiple congregations for a community worship service that helped

residents find a small measure of comfort in a time of anger, fear, and national grief.

He also built strong relationships with City leaders and donated his time to local volunteer boards. He is a former member of the Police Chief's Advisory Council and the Ethics Committee at Northwest Community Hospital. In 2005, he served on the City's 50th Anniversary Committee – a group tasked with organizing a year-long celebration of Rolling Meadows' 1955 incorporation.

"I always thought it was important to work with City Hall for the betterment of the community," Pastor Smith said.

Pastor Smith is confident that the church's commitment to community involvement will continue long after he leaves. That commitment is apparent in the ongoing appeal of Community Church's annual Cornfest celebration – the longest-running event in Rolling Meadows' history – and the annual community prayer breakfast, which brings City churches together to pray for local and state leaders.

Other examples include the church's willingness to serve as the location for Rolling Meadows' summer "City Markets," and welcoming the use of its parking lot for the City's annual downtown block party.

"Community Church is more than a place of worship: it is place for community



members to meet and hold community activities," he explained.

Pastor Smith and his wife, Kathy (who currently serves as the church's administrative assistant), are retiring to Nashville, IN, a small artists' community of 900 people located approximately 40 miles south of Indianapolis. He intends to keep busy writing and, occasionally, providing special worship services to churches around their new home.

Mostly, however, retirement will be an opportunity for both of them to spend more time with their five children and 12 grandchildren.

"It's time to focus more of our energies on family," Pastor Smith said. "In 50 years, no one is really going to know I existed except for my grandchildren."

He may think so, but an entire congregation – more likely, an entire community – probably disagree.