



eNEWS

City to Host Second Business 'Showcase' Thursday, April 25th See Page 2

Volume 6 Number 1 February 2019

& Views

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

Third Annual 'Taste the Town' to Showcase Local Restaurants March 2nd Event Will Feature Menu Samples, Dueling Pianos

Feed your hunger and quench your thirst with delicious samples (while supplies last) from some of Rolling Meadows' finest restaurants Saturday, March 2nd, when the City hosts its third annual culinary showcase – more commonly known as "Taste the Town."

This year's event will be held from 6:00 – 9:00 pm at the Community Center (3705 Pheasant Drive). Past years' Taste the Town celebrations have drawn nearly 500 attendees, and event planners are expecting another impressive turnout for 2019.



Meet and mingle with local restaurant owners/operators.

"Taste the Town offers a food-lover's tour of Rolling Meadows' outstanding range of restaurants," explained Lori Ciezak, Assistant to the City Manager and liaison to the Rolling Meadows Community Events Foundation. "It's also an ideal forum for



Previous Tastes have drawn hundreds of "hungry" residents for an evening out with family and friends.

restaurants to generate word-of-mouth reviews among residents and gain new business.

"Bring family, bring friends, and enjoy an array of local flavors and tastes all under one roof!" she added.



Sample fare from a diverse array of local restaurants.

Besides flavorful cuisine, Taste the Town 2019 will also feature live entertainment by **HOWL2GO Dueling Pianos**.

Tickets are \$15 each and may be purchased at the door.

Restaurants that would like to participate in this year's event may contact Lori Ciezak at ciezakl@cityrm.org or 847-394-8500 to reserve their spots.

City's Business Community 'Trending' With 37 New Openings in 2018

Thirty-seven new businesses opened their doors in Rolling Meadows last year, continuing a trend that has seen more than 300 businesses put down roots in the community since 2014.

For 2018, new additions to the City's robust restaurant and retail sectors were joined by companies that specialize in professional services such as health care, publishing and graphic design, automotive repair,

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

technology consulting, and more.

"Rolling Meadows' well-established reputation as a business-friendly community helps attract new companies that expand shopping and service options for residents," City Manager Barry Krumbok explained. "Meanwhile, the continued diversification of the City's tax base reduces the burden on residents to fund essential City ...continued on page 2

In This Issue

- Fourteen Candidates vie for City Council Seats . . . 3
- One Year In, Police K-9 Unit Leaves its Mark . . . 3
- City's Risk Management Policies Protect Employees, Deliver Taxpayer Value. 4
- Library to Begin Phase II Expansion This Spring. 4
- Police Partnerships Help Spread Holiday Joy to Local Families 5
- What's Happening This Month in Rolling Meadows (Important Dates) 5
- Welcome New Businesses 6
- Public Works Offers Household Battery & CFL Drop-Offs. 6

2019 Business Showcase to Feature New Venue, New Time Program Updates Designed to Foster Networking & Drive Business Success

Rolling Meadows' 2019 Business & Community Showcase will offer local business leaders an outstanding opportunity to network with their peers, generate excitement for their products and services, and connect with customers, Business Advocate Martha Corner reports. This year's Showcase will feature a new location (Meridian Banquets) and a new date and time (4:00 – 8:00 pm, Thursday, April 25th).



Over 40 local businesses and more than 500 community members attended last year's event.



Thursday, April 25th
4:00 – 8:00 pm*
Meridian Banquets
1701 W. Algonquin Road

*This year's event will feature private Business-to-Business (B2B) networking from 4:00 – 5:00 pm.



Local business leaders will network with other professionals and increase visibility for products and services at this year's Business & Community Showcase.



Local business leaders will network with other professionals and increase visibility for products and services at this year's Business & Community Showcase.

Program Updates to Drive Success

Updates to this year's program are intended to help drive success among participating business and build on last year's inaugural event, which took place on a Saturday morning at Rolling Meadows High School.

"Moving this year's Showcase to Meridian Banquets will allow participants to benefit from a facility that specializes in hosting high-end business conferences

and meetings," Corner explained. "We are also confident that a Thursday evening will be more accommodating to professionals' busy schedules and boost attendance."

Registration for this year's event will begin in mid-February. Cost is \$25. Participating businesses will be provided with a display table for showcasing marketing materials and be listed in the event's exhibitor guide.

Open to the Public

The Business & Community Showcase will be free to the public from 5:00 – 8:00 pm, giving business owners the chance to connect with potential customers. It's a proven recipe for success: last year's event drew more than 500 attendees.

For more information about the 2019 Business & Community Showcase, contact Martha Corner at 847-870-9004 or cornerm@cityrm.org.

City's Business Community 'Trending' with 37 New Openings in 2018...from page 1

services and helps limit our risk in the event of an economic downturn."

From independent merchants to Fortune 500 corporations, Rolling Meadows is home to many of the world's leading companies, including **Arthur J. Gallagher** (insurance brokerage/risk management), **Capital One** (financial services), **Northrop Grumman** (aerospace and defense technology), **Verizon Wireless** (cell phones), and **Weichai America** (diesel engine manufacturer).



Jersey Mike's was one of several new restaurants to open in Rolling Meadows last year.



Rolling Meadows is home to many industry-leading companies, including Arthur J. Gallagher.

Who's Running for Local Office on April 2nd?

The April 2nd Consolidated Election ballot will feature 14 candidates running for local office, ensuring that Rolling Meadows voters will have multiple options when determining who will serve on City Council for the next four years.

The election will feature contested races for mayor and City Council seats in the 3rd, 5th, and 7th Wards. Current 5th Ward Alderman Rob Banger is not running for re-election, which ensures the new Council that will be seated in May will feature at least one new member.

Here is an alphabetical listing of all candidates set to appear on the April ballot and the offices they seek:



City Council Chambers

Mayor

John D'Astice
Joe Gallo
Len Prejna (incumbent)
Dave Whitney

Ward 1 Alderman

Mike Cannon (incumbent)

Ward 2 Alderman

Nick Budmats (incumbent)

Ward 3 Alderman

Deb Banach
Laura Majikes (incumbent)
Kevin O'Brien

Ward 5 Alderman

Glenn Adams
John Bisesi
Joseph Szafran

Ward 7 Alderman

Lara Sanoica
Rob Williams (incumbent)

Learn more about the candidates in the March/April issue of *News & Views*. Candidate bios will also be posted on the [City's website](#).

Holiday Blood Drive Offers 'Gift of Life' to Those in Need



A community blood drive held at City Hall on December 19th helped provide the "gift of life" to more than 70 patients in need, just in time for the holidays.

The drive, sponsored by Vitalant (formerly LifeSource), collected 24 units of blood – enough to touch the lives of 72 patients. Donations also helped restock supplies at local blood banks. Thanks to all who took time to donate!

Community members will have another chance to donate blood on Friday, February 22nd, 12:00 – 6:00 pm, when the Rolling Meadows Fire Department hosts a blood drive at the Neuckranz Fire Station (2455 Plum Grove Road). Visit www.vitalant.org or call RMFD at 847-397-3352 to schedule an appointment. Walk-ins are welcome on the day of the event.

One Year In, Police K-9 Unit Leaves its Mark on the Community

It didn't take long for Rolling Meadows K-9 Officer Chris Don and his four-legged partner, Scar, to surpass expectations for operational effectiveness, Police Chief John Nowacki reported to City Council at its January Committee of the Whole meeting.

In just over one year of on-duty service, RMPD's K-9 Unit has:

- Responded to nearly 150 calls for service.
- Seized nearly 1,000 grams of various illegal substances and over \$6,000 in drug-related funds.
- Issued citations totaling \$5,100 in fines.
- Conducted more than a dozen locker sweeps at area schools.
- Provided support services to 23 outside law enforcement agencies, including the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA), Cook

County Sheriff's Office, and local police departments.

- Connected with community members through participation in countless outreach events.

Beyond Statistics

For Chief Nowacki, the impact made by Officer Don and Scar impact extends well beyond standard law enforcement statistics.

"Our goals for establishing a K-9 unit were to improve service to the community, enhance officer safety, and expand community engagement. In just over a year, Chris and Scar have achieved success far beyond anything we could have anticipated," he explained.

"I've always felt strongly about the benefits available through K-9 programs, but I'm overwhelmed by how quickly they have left their mark – pardon the bad



Officer Chris Don and his K-9 partner, Scar, have far surpassed initial expectations in just over one year of active duty service.

pun," he added with a laugh.

K-9 Unit Members

Scar is a Belgian Malinois/German Shepherd mix. His skillset includes narcotics detection, building and vehicle searches, and scent tracking. Officer Don is a five-year Police Department veteran.

'Exceptional' Compliance Rating and Risk Management Policies Ensure Employee Well-Being, Deliver Value for Taxpayers

The Intergovernmental Risk Management Agency (IRMA), following a comprehensive audit of City operations, awarded Rolling Meadows a 95% compliance rating for exceptional risk management policies in place across all departments, Human Resources Specialist Joyce DeLeon reports.

The audit, part of IRMA's Management Assessment Program (IMAP), confirmed the City's demonstrated commitment to excellence in three categories: (1) risk management administration; (2) employment practices; and (3) injury and liability prevention.

The IMAP ratings, which are currently conducted every three years, represent an

important component of the formula used to determine the City's annual insurance premiums. Higher ratings help reduce overall costs and deliver greater value to taxpayers.

"We take these two-day reviews very seriously because they help ensure we are providing a safe work environment for all our employees," explained DeLeon, who, as a lifelong Rolling Meadows resident, is able to judge success from multiple angles.

"As a taxpayer, it's gratifying to know that everyone here is committed to identifying and implementing procedures that help

reduce operational costs," she added.

The City's Administration, Fire, Police, and Public Works Departments all scored above 90%. The overall 95% rating also matches Rolling Meadows' previous 2015 rating, which DeLeon said demonstrates the City's sustained commitment to excellence.

Rolling Meadows is a founding member of IRMA, a risk management co-op established in 1979. It is currently comprised of more than 70 public entities across northeast Illinois. Learn more at www.irmarisk.org.



Free Holiday Light Recycling Program Ends February 15th

Friday, February 15th is the last day to take advantage of a free program designed to help residents safely and conveniently dispose of old holiday lights.



The City's Holiday Light Recycling initiative, developed in tandem with the Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook

County (SWANCC) and Elgin Recycling, lets Rolling Meadows residents drop off materials at a designated collection box outside City Hall. Accepted items include:

- Incandescent and LED lights (all sizes and colors).
- Extension cords.
- Household wire.
- Computer cords and wire.

The City cannot accept garland, live greens, wreaths, and other non-recyclables.

For more information, visit www.swancc.org or www.elginrecycling.com.

Library to Embark on Phase II Facility Expansion This Spring

The Rolling Meadows Library this spring will begin Phase II of its facility expansion project: an initiative that will add roughly 1,100 square feet of new storage space on the north side of the facility located at 3110 Martin Lane.

The "North Expansion," as it's known, will improve overall Library operations by accomplishing multiple goals:

- Provide a larger, more efficient space to house more than 400 cases of old items withdrawn from the Library catalog, as well as books that have been donated for the Friends of the Library's annual book sale.
- Expand storage space for bulk supplies, furniture, and other Library equipment (which is currently stored in a 338 sq. ft. garage space alongside the Friends' book stock).

The Phase II construction begins less than two years after the Library added 1,625 square feet of space to its reconfigured west wing – including an open seating "garden lounge" and small group meeting rooms.

"The North Expansion, from patrons' perspective, is probably not as exciting as when we added the Garden Lounge and meeting rooms in 2017," Library Director Dave Ruff explained. "But, from an inter-



As shown in this rendering, Rolling Meadows Library's North Expansion project will create 1,100 square feet of new storage space that will help improve internal operations.

nal operations perspective, it represents a nice opportunity to expand our onsite storage and make better use of our available space."

As part of the North Expansion project, construction crews will reconfigure adjacent parking areas and walkways to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). In total, construction is expected to last 8 – 10 weeks.

The \$450,000 upgrade will create zero debt. It is being funded entirely from the Library's capital reserves, Friends of the Library donations, and Fiscal Year 2019 tax revenues.

Police Partnerships with Meijer & Walmart Spread Holiday Joy to Local Families

Rolling Meadows Police Department's 2018 "Shop with a Rolling Meadows Cop" program helped bring a Yuletide dose of holiday cheer to more local families than ever before, thanks to the support of Meijer and Walmart.

The retail titans provided gift cards that allowed nearly 100 children to go on a holiday shopping spree for family members. Each child was accompanied by a Police Department member who volunteered for "shopping duty."



Deputy Police Chief Bill Arneson helps local children select gifts for family members.



Participating children and police officers are all smiles after completing their holiday shopping sprees.

According to RMPD Social Services Outreach Specialist Natalia Nieves, both stores offered sweet treats and gift-wrapping stations for program participants. Shoppers and officers alike also enjoyed taking pictures with "St. Nick" in Meijer's Winter Wonderland area.

Families who took part in this year's "Shop" event were previously served by the Police Department's social services outreach program, which helps families access a range of services available through public and private organizations at the local, county, and state levels.

Contact Your Elected Representatives*

Cook County Commissioners

Scott R. Britton (D-14th)
118 N. Clark Street, Room 567
Chicago, IL 60602
312-603-4932

Kevin B. Morrison (D-15th)
118 N. Clark Street, Room 567
Chicago, IL 60602
312-603-6388

Illinois House

Thomas Morrison (R-54th)
117 E. Palatine Road #106
Palatine, IL 60067
847-202-6584

Martin J. Moylan (D-55th)
24 S. Des Plaines River Road #400
Des Plaines, IL 60016
847-635-6821

Michelle Mussman (D-56th)
15 W. Weathersfield Way
Schaumburg, IL 60193
847-923-9104

Illinois Senate

Ann Gillespie (D-27th)
108D Capitol Building
Springfield, IL 62706
217-782-4471

U.S. House

Sean Casten (D-6th)
429 Cannon HOB
Washington, DC 20515
202-225-4561

Raja Krishnamoorthi (D-8th)
1701 E. Woodfield Road #704
Schaumburg, IL 60173
847-413-1959

Jan Schakowsky (D-9th)
5533 Broadway
Chicago, IL 60640
773-506-7100

U.S. Senate

Richard Durbin (D)
230 S. Dearborn Street #3892
Chicago, IL 60604
312-353-4952

Tammy Duckworth (D)
230 S. Dearborn Street #3900
Chicago, IL 60604
312-886-3506

*County, state, and federal levels
(Effective January 9th, 2019)



This Month in Rolling Meadows

February 5: **Economic Development Committee**, 6 pm; **Environmental Committee**, 6:30 pm; **Planning & Zoning Commission**, 7:30 pm, all at City Hall

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

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

February 12: **Lincoln's Birthday; Crime Stoppers**, 5:30 pm; **City Council Meeting**, 7:30 pm, both at City Hall

February 14: **Valentine's Day; Adjudication Hearing**, 1 pm, City Hall

February 15: **Holiday Light Recycling program ends**

February 18: **President's Day**

February 19: **Community Events Foundation**, 6 pm, **City Council Committee of the Whole**, 7:30 pm, both at City Hall

February 20: **Water bills due**

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

February 22: **Washington's Birthday; Fire Department Blood Drive**, 12 – 6 pm, Neuckranz Fire Station (2455 Plum Grove Road)

February 26: **City Council Meeting**, 7:30 pm, City Hall



Public Works Offers CFL, Battery Collection

Rolling Meadows offers a convenient way for residents to dispose of spent compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs) and all kinds of batteries: simply bring materials to the Public Works Department (3900 Berdnick Street) for proper disposal. Drop-off hours are Monday – Friday, 8:00 am – 4:00 pm.



Recycle CFLs and household batteries with the help of Public Works' drop-off program.

Batteries

The City's battery collection program – the result of a partnership with the Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County – accepts household alkaline batteries (AA, AAA, C, D, & 9-volt); and rechargeable NiCd, NiMh, lithium ion, and lithium polymer batteries.

Rechargeable batteries must have masking tape on all contact points or be contained in individual self-locking plastic bags.

CFLs

The CFL disposal program is an ideal way to safely get rid of old light bulbs in an eco-friendly manner. CFLs contain trace amounts of mercury and should not be discarded with regular household waste.

For more information on the collection programs, please call Public Works at 847-963-0500.

Council Action

Aldermen Consider Motion to Raise Age Limit for Tobacco Purchases

City Council members in January narrowly approved preliminary reading of an ordinance that would raise the age requirement for tobacco and e-cigarette product sales in Rolling Meadows.



The ordinance, which would prohibit local businesses from selling these products to customers under 21 years of age, now moves forward for a second and final reading on February 12th. If approved, Rolling Meadows would join more than 30 other local communities that have passed similar ordinances.

Public health advocates have long touted the benefits of raising the minimum legal age for purchasing nicotine and tobacco products.

A 2015 study sponsored by the U.S. Food & Drug Administration concluded that a national effort to raise the legal purchasing age to 21 would, over time, lead to a 12 percent decrease in smoking



Welcome New Businesses

AB 2 Consulting, Inc.
IT consulting/staffing
3501 Algonquin Rd. #530
847-903-9637

ACH Lighting
LED light distribution
5420 Newport Dr. #56
224-735-2539

Dunkin' Donuts/Baskin Robbins
1921 Algonquin Rd.
224-232-5535

Pita Pita Mediterranean Grill
1219 Golf Rd.
224-404-4949

Solutions for Association Management
Meeting management
5550 Meadowbrook Dr. #210
847-956-9125

prevalence, improve health among all age groups, and save lives.

Furthermore, the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine reported there is substantial evidence that e-cigarette use by young adults increases their risk of using other tobacco products.

Contact City Officials: City Hall Hours: 8 am to 4 pm Monday-Friday

MAYOR and CITY COUNCIL

Mayor: Len Prejna 847-776-9442
1st Ward Alderman: Mike Cannon 847-687-3276
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
Community Development Division 847-506-6030
Finance/Utility Billing Questions 847-394-8500
Senior Handyman Program 847-506-6030
Crime Stoppers 847-590-7867
ComEd 1-800-EDISON-1



 www.facebook.com/cityofrollingmeadows

 [@CityofRM1](http://www.twitter.com/@CityofRM1)

 Find Us on the Web:
www.cityrm.org