

# NEWS & VIEWS

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VOLUME 24 ISSUE 1



Beatles tribute band American English will make Rolling Meadows 'twist & shout' this summer!

## SAVORY CUISINE, DUELING PIANOS AT FEB. 29TH 'TASTE'

Rolling Meadows' 2020 events schedule kicks off Saturday, February 29th, with the 4th annual "Taste the Town," a culinary journey offering great flavors from local restaurants and live music, courtesy of Howl2Go Dueling Pianos.

This year's Taste will be held from 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. at the Rolling Meadows Community Center (3705 Pheasant Drive).

Additional details, including ticket prices and participating restaurants, will be featured in the February edition of eNews.

## 65 & Live! CITY TO HIGHLIGHT 65TH ANNIVERSARY WITH EXPANDED ROSTER OF LIVE MUSIC

Rolling Meadows is the place to catch the best live music in 2020, as the City celebrates its 65th anniversary with an expanded roster of exciting bands and solo artists. Planners have already confirmed 11 live acts who will perform at City events throughout the year:

- **Howl2Go Dueling Pianos** – "The variety of a DJ and the excitement of a live band." (Taste the Town, February 29th)
- **Arranmore** – Irish folk music (St. Patrick's Dinner, March 14th)
- **The David Paige Band** – Rock & pop (City Market, May 23rd)
- **American English** – Beatles tribute band (Community Block Party, June 12th)
- **Hi Infidelity** – 80s covers (Fridays ROCK!, June 19th)
- **Stann Champion** – Guitarist/singer/songwriter (City Market, June 27th)
- **Hot Rocks** – Rolling Stones tribute band (Fridays ROCK!, July 10th)
- **Simple Band** – "70s rock, modern pop, and everything in between." (Wine-Down by the Creek, Aug. 14th)

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## CELEBRATE AT JAN. 5TH MUSEUM OPEN HOUSE

Already missing the holidays? Join members of the Rolling Meadows Historical Society for an encore celebration Sunday, January 5th, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m., during an open house at the City's Historical Museum (3100 Central Road).

Guests will enjoy free refreshments, guided tours of the museum (decked out in vintage décor from the 1950s and 60s), plus the chance to admire "classic" holiday items on display from the Society's own collection.



## CITY CONGRATULATES NEWLY PROMOTED POLICE LEADERS

Mayor Joe Gallo and Police Chief John Nowacki congratulated new Deputy Police Chief John Sircher, Commander Mike Spanos, and Sergeant Carlos Saez on their recent promotions during a swearing-in ceremony before City Council.

### John Sircher, Deputy Chief



John Sircher

Deputy Chief Sircher joined the RMPD in 1992 as a patrol officer. He was a member (and leader) of the Investigations Unit, served as sergeant and commander, and also worked with students as a school resource officer based at Rolling Meadows High School.

### Mike Spanos, Commander



Mike Spanos

Commander Spanos began his career as a police officer in Crystal Lake before coming to Rolling Meadows in 2000. He served as a Community Involvement Officer before earning promotion to Sergeant in 2006.

### Carlos Saez, Sergeant



Carlos Saez

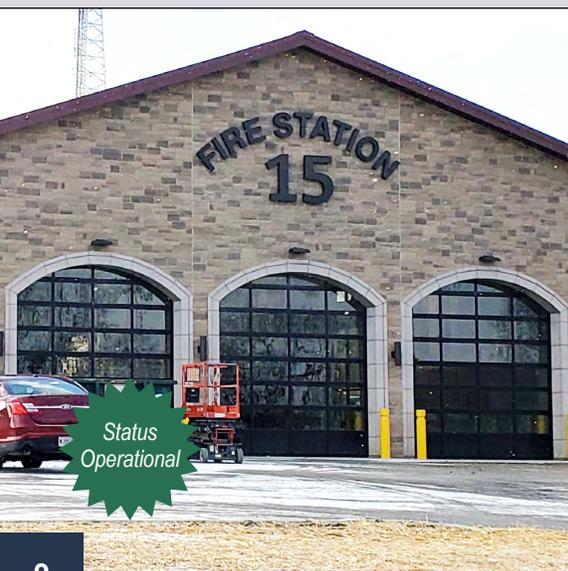
Sergeant Saez has overseen and managed the Department's Crime Free Housing and Community Involvement programs for the past seven years. Since arriving in 2006, he has also served as Officer in Charge, Field Training Officer, Juvenile Officer, Elderly Service Officer, Gang Specialist, and Translator.

## IN WITH THE NEW

### FIRE DEPARTMENT'S NEW STATION 15 BEGINS OPERATIONS

Rolling Meadows firefighters began operating from the newly built Station 15 (3201 Algonquin Road) in mid-December. The state-of-the-art facility offers an additional equipment bay, expanded training space and living quarters, and is geographically positioned to provide improved response times to residents and businesses throughout the City.

Construction on the Department's second new fire station at 2340 Hicks Road will be completed this spring.



## IT COORDINATOR WASEEM KHAN COMES FULL CIRCLE IN RETURN TO ROLLING MEADOWS

Waseem Khan's arrival in October as the City's IT Coordinator was a return to the community where he began his career 23 years earlier.

"I wrote accounting software for a company based here in the City and always had fond memories of Rolling Meadows," he recalled. "It's great to come back – especially with all that is happening here from an information technology perspective – and be part of this team."

Khan's goal is to help expand the City's existing IT infrastructure and make it more interactive (and simpler to use) for residents. He points to the pending rollout of Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) software and a planned redesign of the Rolling Meadows website later this year as examples of how the City is harnessing technology to improve customer service and internal operational efficiencies.

"ERP is going to be a gamechanger in terms of how the City manages delivery of services to its customers," Khan explained. "We're also exploring ways to improve communications and make important information more accessible. My IT Department colleagues, John Kwandras and Kelly Vlieger, have done a fantastic job



Waseem Khan

implementing new technology for the public's benefit. My goal is to keep that momentum going."

Khan spent the past 11 years working as an IT consultant to multiple park districts throughout the area. He considered re-entering the corporate world but decided to come "home" to Rolling Meadows instead. It was a better match for him, his wife, Shagufta, and their three daughters.

"I want to be a good example for my kids. Working in a municipal setting helps me make a difference in the community," he said.

## FIVE REASONS WHY AN ACCURATE CENSUS COUNT IS SO IMPORTANT

Rolling Meadows residents, like their fellow citizens in communities across the country, will soon receive an invitation to participate in the 2020 census – the Constitutionally-mandated population count that occurs once every 10 years. Surveys will be distributed by April 1st.

Residents may complete the census survey online, by mail, or by phone. Confidential responses are critical to ensuring that Rolling Meadows is fairly and accurately counted.

### *Why is a complete (and accurate) count so important?*

- 1. Funding to States and Local Governments** – Census totals help determine the amount of funding that state governments and local communities receive from the federal government for the next decade.
- 2. Emergency Response** – Detailed population information is critical for emergency response in the wake of disasters.
- 3. Apportionment** – State population counts from the decennial census are used to reapportion seats in the U.S. House of Representatives.



Photo: Census Bureau

Nearly all U.S. households will receive their census invitation through the U.S. mail. Fewer than 1% of households will be counted in person by a census taker.

- 4. Redistricting** – Census results help redraw congressional, state, and local district boundaries (including City wards).
- 5. Planning** – Data from the census inform a wide range of government, business, and nonprofit decision-making.

Be informed. Be counted. Visit [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov) for more information.

Source: Population Reference Bureau

## 65 & LIVE ...continued from p. 1

- **Roots Rock Society** – Reggae (Wine-Down by the Creek, Aug. 14th)
- **School of Rock** – Local student musicians (City Market, Sept. 26th)
- **Wild Earp** – “Old school, newfangled, funky country western rock n roll-abilly.” (Hometown Hoedown, Oct. 3rd)

Community Events Foundation. “Live bands have proven very popular with residents over the past few years, so we’re doubling down for 2020. We’ll see everyone at the shows!”

More information, and a complete listing of all 2020 Community Events, is available online at [www.cityrm.org/669/Community-Events](http://www.cityrm.org/669/Community-Events).

“Rolling Meadows is celebrating its 65th birthday, but age is just a number, right?” said Lori Ciezak, Assistant to the City Manager and liaison to the



## OUT WITH THE OLD

### RECYCLING PROGRAM HELPS RESIDENTS DISPOSE OF OLD HOLIDAY LIGHTS

Tired of storing old, outdated holiday lights in your basement or attic? Rolling Meadows’ holiday light recycling program offers a safe, convenient way to dispose of them.

Bring holiday lights (incandescent or LED) of all sizes and colors, electrical/extension cords, and wire to City Hall (3600 Kirchoff Road). Drop boxes are located on the west side of the building.

The program, co-sponsored by the Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County (SWANCC) and Elgin Recycling, cannot accept garland, live greens, wreaths, and other non-recyclables.

This year’s collection will run through Friday, February 14th, 2020.

For more information, visit [www.swancc.org](http://www.swancc.org) or [www.elginrecycling.com](http://www.elginrecycling.com).



Wild Earp performs at last year’s Hoedown in Kimball Hill Park.

# JANUARY 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>Christmas Tree Disposal</b> Public Works will collect Christmas Trees for disposal December 30th – January 10th. Remove all decorations and place trees at the curb (cut end facing the street) on regular refuse days.			<b>1</b> <i>NEW YEAR'S DAY</i> City offices closed. Refuse pick-up delayed one day for the remainder of the week.	<b>2</b> Adjudication Hearing (Parking), 2 pm	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b> Historical Society Holiday Open House, 1-4 pm (3100 Central Road)	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> Environmental Committee, 7:00 pm	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> Adjudication Hearing, 1 pm	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> Board of Fire & Police Commissioners, 9 am	<b>14</b> Crime Stoppers, 5:30 pm City Council Meeting, 7:30 pm	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> Adjudication Hearing (Redlight), 2 pm 5th Ward Informational Meeting, 7:30 pm, Library	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> <i>MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY</i> City offices closed. Regular refuse pick-up. <i>Water bills due</i>	<b>21</b> City Council Committee of the Whole, 7:30 pm	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> Fire Pension Board, 8:30 am	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> Police Pension Board, 3:30 pm	<b>28</b> City Council Meeting, 7:30 pm	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	All meetings take place at City Hall, unless noted.

# FEBRUARY 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>Want more news?</b> Check out Rolling Meadows' electronic newsletter, <i>E-News &amp; Views</i> , published in February, April, June, August, October and December, and archived at <a href="http://www.cityrm.org">www.cityrm.org</a> .					<b>All meetings take place at City Hall, unless noted.</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Economic Development Committee, 6 pm Environmental Committee, 7:00 pm Planning & Zoning Commission, 7:30 pm	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> Adjudication Hearing (Parking), 2 pm	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> Board of Fire & Police Commissioners, 9 am	<b>11</b> Crime Stoppers, 5:30 pm City Council Meeting, 7:30 pm	<b>12</b> <i>LINCOLN'S BIRTHDAY</i>	<b>13</b> Adjudication Hearing, 1 pm	<b>14</b> <i>VALENTINE'S DAY</i> Holiday Light Recycling Program ends	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> <i>PRESIDENT'S DAY</i>	<b>18</b> Community Events Foundation, 6 pm City Council Committee of the Whole, 7:30 pm	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> Adjudication Hearing (Red Light), 2 pm <i>Water bills due</i>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> <i>WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY</i>
<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> City Council Meeting, 7:30 pm	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> Taste the Town, 6-9 pm, Community Center

## RESIDENTS SOUGHT TO FILL P&Z VACANCIES

Residents who would like to play a more active role in their community are encouraged to serve on the City's Planning & Zoning Commission. The volunteer committee currently has multiple vacancies.

Those interested in being considered should contact Mayor Joe Gallo ([mayor@cityrm.org](mailto:mayor@cityrm.org)).

The Planning & Zoning Commission is responsible for providing guid-



ance and recommendations to City Council for rezoning, special use, sign appeals, and planned development requests. The Commission meets the first Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

More information on the roles and responsibilities of Rolling Meadows' volunteer commissions is available on the City's website ([www.cityrm.org/349/Boards-Commissions](http://www.cityrm.org/349/Boards-Commissions)).

## ZONING CODE UPDATES DISCUSSED AT MONTHLY COMMISSION MEETINGS

Learn more about pending updates to Rolling Meadows' Zoning Code by attending monthly meetings of the Planning & Zoning Commission. The Commission meets the first Tuesday of every month, 7:30 pm, at City Hall. (Note: No meeting will take place in January)

View upcoming agendas and past meeting minutes on the Commission's web page ([www.cityrm.org/352/Planning-Zoning-Commission](http://www.cityrm.org/352/Planning-Zoning-Commission)).

The updated zoning code, scheduled for approval in early 2020, will reap many benefits, including:

- Helping residents plan more effectively for home addition projects or

other major property improvements.

- Aiding businesses preparing to join the Rolling Meadows business community or expand current operations.
- Highlighting property use designations for developers.
- Allowing residents, businesses, and developers to more easily navigate the regulations and processes that apply to their specific needs.
- Improving staff efficiency and customer service.

Contact Jo Ellen Charlton, Assistant Public Works Director, at 847-963-0500 for further information.

## COUNCIL APPROVES SPECIAL USE PERMIT FOR NEWPORT DRIVE MICROBREWERY



Aldermen in December unanimously approved a special use permit for Leaky Keg Brewing Company to operate a microbrewery at 5100 Newport Drive. Approval was required for the brewery to operate in an area zoned for manufacturing.

Leaky Keg is a home-based City business that co-sponsored last year's Wine-Down by the Creek. Plans call for its Newport Drive location to feature an onsite brewery, tasting room with limited hours, and retail sales.

Leaky Keg Brewing Company is slated to open later this year.

## 5TH WARD ALDERMAN TO LEAD JAN. 16TH RESIDENTIAL MEETING



Jon Bisesi

5th Ward Alderman Jon Bisesi will lead an informational meeting for Ward residents Thursday, January 16th, 7:30 p.m., at the Rolling Meadows Library (3110 Martin Lane).



### Online Payments

Submit payment for City services

## HOW DO I PAY MY UTILITY BILL?

Rolling Meadows offers multiple options for customers to pay their monthly utility bills:

### Automatic Payments

Pay directly from a bank account, or by a credit or debit card on the 20th of each month. Register by visiting the Applications & Forms page ([www.cityrm.org/235/applications-forms](http://www.cityrm.org/235/applications-forms)) on the City's website.

### Online

Visit the website's Online Payments page ([www.cityrm.org/146/Online-Payments](http://www.cityrm.org/146/Online-Payments)) to pay your bill safely and conveniently with a credit or debit card.

### In-Person

Stop by the Finance Department's front counter at City Hall, Monday – Friday, 8 am – 4 pm.

### By Mail

Mail payments to:  
City of Rolling Meadows  
26568 Network Place  
Chicago, IL 60673-1265

### Drop Box

Place payments in the white drop box located in the City Hall parking lot.

Note: Drop box payments will post on the following business day.



## MAYOR'S CORNER BY MAYOR JOE GALLO

### WHAT'S OLD IS NEW

Welcome to 2020! I've often heard that a new year brings new opportunities. As we focus on new and exciting ways to drive the evolution of our community, we also set our sights on a target we've aimed at before: participation in the upcoming decennial U.S. Census.

Census 2020 is just around the corner, and I cannot emphasize enough how important it is for each and every resident within Rolling Meadows to participate. Make sure you're counted!

Census data is not something to fear. It is extremely beneficial. It determines everything from the number of seats each state has in the U.S. House of Representatives to the amount of funding our local schools receive.

Rolling Meadows has already achieved a few significant victories in preparing for this year's census. We applied for and received a \$25,000 Cook County grant for use toward ensuring census success. We've also established a highly capable Census Committee comprised of residents who understand the value of a successful complete count.

Currently, we're actively recruiting volunteers who'll be out in the community familiarizing our residents with information about the census and why full participation is so important. It's a great opportunity to get involved. If you're interested and would like to help, feel free to contact my office at [mayor@cityrm.org](mailto:mayor@cityrm.org).

### CITY POSTS 2020 PUBLIC MEETING SCHEDULE

City Council's regular 2020 meetings will take place at 7:30 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month\*. Aldermen will also hold a Committee of the Whole "workshop" meeting on the third Tuesday of every month at 7:30 p.m.

Agendas for upcoming meetings, and approved minutes from prior meetings, are available online at [www.cityrm.org/AgendaCenter](http://www.cityrm.org/AgendaCenter). The 2020 schedule also establishes meeting dates and times for the City's many volunteer boards and commissions, including the:

- **Economic Development Committee** – meets the first Tuesday of each month (6 p.m.).
- **Environmental Committee** – meets the first Tuesday of each month (6:30 p.m.).

- **Planning & Zoning Commission** – meets the first Tuesday of the month (7:30 p.m.).
- **Community Events Foundation** – meets the third Tuesday of the month (6 p.m.) except for December and January.

All meetings take place at City Hall, unless noted. Visit [www.cityrm.org/349/Boards-Commissions](http://www.cityrm.org/349/Boards-Commissions) for a full list.

Meeting information is also published monthly in every issue of *News & Views* and *e-News & Views*. Past issues of both publications are archived on the City's website.

*\*Editor's Note: City Council will convene on the first and third Tuesdays of December. December's Committee of the Whole meeting will be held on the second Tuesday of the month.*

**CONTACT  
CITY OFFICIALS**  
City Hall Hours  
8 am to 4 pm  
Monday – Friday



#### MAYOR and CITY COUNCIL

- Mayor Joe Gallo . . . . .847-814-9271
- 1st Ward Alderman  
Mike Cannon . . . . .847-687-3276
- 2nd Ward Alderman  
Nick Budmats . . . . .847-202-0855
- 3rd Ward Alderman  
Kevin O'Brien . . . . .847-212-2587
- 4th Ward Alderman  
Jenifer Vinezeano . . . . .630-546-8133
- 5th Ward Alderman  
Jon Bisesi . . . . .847-772-8428
- 6th Ward Alderman  
John D'Astice . . . . .847-409-9367
- 7th Ward Alderman  
Lara Sanoica . . . . .847-770-3097
- City Manager  
Barry Krumstok . . . . .847-394-8500

#### SERVICES

- Fire & Police Emergency . . . . .911
- Fire Non-emergency . . . . .847-397-3352
- Police Non-emergency . . . . .847-255-2416
- Finance/Utility Billing . . . . .847-394-8500
- Public Works . . . . .847-963-0500
- Community Dev. Division . . . . .847-506-6030
- Senior Handyman Program . . . . .847-506-6030
- Crime Stoppers . . . . .847-590-7867
- ComEd . . . . .1-800-EDISON-1

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

### NEW LOCATION FOR 'HISTORICAL' HOLIDAY EVENT

Revelers gathered at a December 5th Tree Lighting celebration that also included complimentary horse-drawn wagon rides and a free spaghetti dinner at Willow Bend Elementary School.

The event was held at the Rolling Meadows Historical Museum – a new location for a cherished tradition.

