

NEWS & VIEWS

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VOLUME 25 ISSUE 2



Online shopping is one simple way to support local businesses.

SUPPORT LOCAL BUSINESSES IN FIVE EASY STEPS

Rolling Meadows' businesses offer outstanding value and variety, and play a critical role in the City's overall economic health. They deserve our support.

Despite the continued importance of social distancing and the need for limited capacity, here are a few simple ways to help local stores and restaurants during this difficult time:

- 1) **'Shop local' online.** Enjoy local goods and services without having to leave the comfort of your home. Surf the web and load your online shopping cart with items from your favorite shops.
- 2) **Order takeout or delivery.** Enjoy a "taste" of Rolling Meadows' with phone or online orders. Stop by and pick up your meal or have it delivered to your door.

- 3) **Share a great online review.** Share your experiences on platforms such as Yelp, Google, and Facebook to help local businesses gain new customers through word-of-mouth recommendations.
- 4) **Say thanks.** Post a social media note or send an email to local business owners letting them know you appreciate their services. They are grateful for your continued patronage.
- 5) **Wear PPE in stores.** Wear personal protective equipment (face coverings) and keep your distance from others when visiting local businesses in-person. Doing so helps limit the spread of airborne particles and protects yourself and others – including store employees and fellow shoppers – from potential exposure.

VOTE IN APRIL 6TH CONSOLIDATED ELECTION

Rolling Meadows voters in Wards 1, 2, 4, and 6 will elect their City Council representative during the April 6th Consolidated Election:

In Ward 1, voters will choose between candidates Karen McHale and Dave Whitney. *The winner will serve the final two years of former Alderman Mike Cannon's term. Cannon resigned his seat last November.*

In Ward 2, Alderman Nick Budmats is running unopposed for a four-year term.

In Ward 4, former Alderman Brad Judd and current Alderman Jenifer Vinezeano are running to serve a four-year term.

In Ward 6, Mandy Reyez is running unopposed for a four-year term. *Current 6th Ward Alderman John D'Astice cannot run again because of term limits.*

Profiles of each candidate are featured on pages 2 and 3 of this newsletter.

Registered voters may cast ballots in-person at their assigned polling place on April 6th, vote early at select locations beginning March 10th, or request a mail ballot from the Cook County Clerk's Office.

Learn more at www.cookcountyclerk.il.gov.



KAREN MCHALE (WARD 1)

Occupation: Stay-at-home mom

Education: Bachelor of Arts (English), Northeastern Illinois University



Karen McHale

Rolling Meadows resident for: 4 years

Family members: Married to my husband, Mike, for 13 years. We have three sons and one daughter all under 10 years old.

Past/current public offices held: Current Ward 1 Alderman

Volunteer service: President, Plum Grove Creek Neighborhood Association; Holy Family Church; People Helping People (Palatine)

My favorite place in Rolling Meadows is...my home! It's where my heart is and surrounded by the best neighbors!

Three words that best describe me are...kind, objective, collaborative.

In my spare time I like to...spend time with my family and friends, read, and experience live music.

My favorite quotation is..."Be yourself; everyone else is already taken." – Oscar Wilde

My hero is...my husband. His patience is unmatched. He is the greatest role model for my kids and he's supportive without question.

MEET THE CANDIDATES FOR CITY COUNCIL



DAVE WHITNEY (WARD 1)

Occupation: Recently retired from a management career in telecommunications and finance

Education: Northwestern University and many technical training programs



Dave Whitney

Rolling Meadows resident for: 42 years

Family members: Married to Sally; two sons; four grandchildren

Volunteer service: 2019 Community Leader of the Year for volunteer service; Planning and Zoning Commission (Chairman); Zoning Board (Chairman); Comprehensive Plan Ad Hoc Committee; Community Events Foundation; Rolling Meadows Crime Stoppers (President); Citizens Emergency Response Team; Senior Center Board (Treasurer); Plum Tree Homeowners Association (President); Emergency Services and Disaster Agency (Lieutenant); Rolling Meadows Youth Baseball (President and Coach); Rolling Meadows Basketball and Soccer (Coach); Police Department Handicap Parking and Prisoner Watch; Fourth of July Parade staging manager

My favorite place in Rolling Meadows is...Kimball Hill Park.

Three words that best describe me are...honest, dedicated, knowledgeable.

In my spare time I like to...spend time with my family, volunteer, golf, and bike ride.

My favorite quotation is..."When the going gets tough, the tough get going."

My hero is...anyone who puts themselves at risk to benefit others.

NICK BUDMATS (WARD 2)

Occupation: Elevator repairman

Education: Elevator trade school



Nick Budmats

Rolling Meadows resident for: 26 years

Family members: Wife, Theresa; two daughters/sons-in-law; three grandchildren

Past/current public offices held: Rolling Meadows 2nd Ward Alderman

Volunteer service: I volunteer in compassion/justice issues with my church and serve as a board member for a camp in Wisconsin.

My favorite places in Rolling Meadows are...my backyard and Comet.

Three words that best describe me are...honest, straight-forward, dry sense of humor.

In my spare time I like to...read, play piano, and watch sports.

My favorite quotation is..."Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere." – Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

My hero is...Abraham Lincoln.

IMPORTANT DATES: APRIL 6TH ELECTION

- March 10th: **Early voting begins.** For locations, visit www.cookcountyclerk.kil.gov/agency/early-voting.
- March 21st: **Deadline to register to vote.** Online applications available at www.cookcountyclerk.kil.gov/agency/register-vote.
- April 1st: **Final day to request a mail ballot.** Visit <https://mailvoting.cookcountyclerk.kil.gov>.
- April 5th: **Early voting ends.**
- April 6th: **Election Day.** Mail ballots must be postmarked by this date.

BRAD JUDD (WARD 4)

Occupation: Securities and Options broker

Education: Bachelor of General Science with Economics major from Northwestern University



Brad Judd

Rolling Meadows resident: Since 1995

Family: Married with two adult children

Past/current public offices held: 4th Ward Alderman (2009-2017)

Volunteer service: Adult Bell Choir and Adult Choir, All Saints Lutheran Church

My favorite place in Rolling Meadows is...Rep's Place.

Three words that best describe me are...independent, honest, detail oriented.

In my spare time I like to...golf, ski, and study the financial markets.

My favorite quotation is..."All you truly have in life is your word and your credit. Everything else can or will leave – including friends, family, wealth and health – so control the only two things you can always control." – Unknown

My hero is...my grandfather, who taught me the value of hard work; to earn what you have; to always tell the truth; and to take care of the things you have so they will last.

WATCH OR STREAM COUNCIL MEETINGS

Watch City Council meetings on the Rolling Meadows Broadcasting Network (Channel 6 or www.cityrm.org/520/Rolling-Meadows-Broadcasting-Network).

APRIL 6TH ELECTION INFORMATION

Additional information about the April 6th Consolidated Election is available at www.cookcountyclerk.gov.

JENIFER VINEZEANO (WARD 4)

Occupation: Home Care RN for Northwest Community Hospital

Education: Nursing degree from Harper College



Jenifer Vinezeano

Rolling Meadows resident since: We moved here in 2018 (into the home my husband grew up in). We previously lived in Palatine but spent more time in Rolling Meadows.

Family members: My husband and I have been married for almost 12 years and we have three children. Our oldest attends RMHS and our other two children attend St. Thomas. My husband's family is one of the original large families of Rolling Meadows and my late father-in-law, Carmen Vinezeano, contributed to many events and organizations. He even ran for 4th Ward Alderman.

Past/current public offices held: Current 4th Ward Alderwoman.

Volunteer service: St. Colette School (Athletic Director; fundraiser chairperson; Renew My Church Committee). I now volunteer my time with various senior residents within our community.

My favorite place in Rolling Meadows is...Kimball Hill pond. We love taking the kids there to fish, play on the playground, and ride our bikes around the pond.

Three words that best describe me are...compassionate, giving, outgoing.

In my spare time I like to...spend time with my children, play games, and ride bikes. I also like to read and binge-watch Netflix.

My favorite quotation is..."The Lord never gives us more than we can handle."

My hero is...my grandmother. She was my best friend. She was one of the smartest, most compassionate, forgiving people I knew. She taught me so much in life and helped me become the woman I am proud of today.

MANDY REYEZ (WARD 6)

Occupation: Account Manager

Education: College of DuPage



Mandy Reyez

Rolling Meadows resident since: I grew up in Rolling Meadows and went to Kimball Hill Elementary before moving to Palatine. I moved back to Rolling Meadows with my husband and son in 2012, shortly before our daughter was born.

Family members: Husband, Ernesto; son, Gavin (12); daughter, Helena (8)

Past/current public offices held: None

Volunteer service: American Red Cross and Folds of Honor

My favorite place in Rolling Meadows is...the Park District! The pool is a beautiful place to hang out in the summer. I also really enjoy watching my daughter participate in gymnastics and my son play hockey.

Three words that best describe me are...thoughtful, thorough, organized.

In my spare time I like to...read, run, and spend time with family and friends.

My favorite quotation is..."Staying positive does not mean that everything will turn out okay. Rather, it is knowing that you will be okay no matter how things turn out."

My hero: History is filled with an abundance of strong, brilliant and spirited women. If I had to pick one that moves me the most, I would go with Ruth Bader Ginsburg. She had a quiet but fearless energy that she used to improve so many lives. She worked tirelessly for what she felt in her mind and heart was right.



MARCH 2021

All meetings take place at City Hall, unless noted.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Economic Development Committee, 6 pm	2 Environmental Committee, 6:30 pm Planning & Zoning Commission, 7 pm	3	4 Adjudication Hearing (Parking), 2 pm	5	6
7	8 Board of Fire & Police Commissioners, 9 am	9 Crime Stoppers, 5:30 pm City Council Meeting, 7:30 pm	10	11 Adjudication Hearing, 1 pm	12	13
14 Daylight Saving Time begins. Clocks "spring" ahead one hour. Check batteries in your smoke and CO detectors.	15	16 City Council Committee of the Whole, 7:30 pm	17 ST. PATRICK'S DAY	18 Adjudication Hearing (Red Light), 2 pm	19	20 First day of spring
21	22 Water bills due	23 City Council Meeting, 7:30 pm	24	25	26 Early refuse set-out ends	27 PASSOVER BEGINS AT SUNSET
28	29 Yard waste collection begins	30	31	WANT MORE NEWS? Check out Rolling Meadows' electronic newsletter, <i>eNews</i> , published in February, April, June, August, October and December, and archived at www.cityrm.org .		

APRIL 2021

All meetings take place at City Hall, unless noted.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	Due to ever-changing circumstances related to the COVID-19 pandemic, meetings and events may be held remotely or postponed for public health purposes. Find the latest updates on the City's website and on Facebook.			1 Adjudication Hearing (Parking), 2 pm	2 GOOD FRIDAY	3
4 EASTER	5 Economic Development Committee, 6 pm	6 Environmental Committee, 6:30 pm Planning & Zoning Commission, 7 pm	7	8 Adjudication Hearing, 1 pm	9	10
11	12 RAMADAN BEGINS Board of Fire & Police Commissioners, 9 am	13 Crime Stoppers, 5:30 pm City Council Meeting, 7:30 pm	14	15 TAX DAY Adjudication Hearing (Red Light), 2 pm Fire Pension Board, 8:30 am	16	17
18	19	20 Water bills due City Council Committee of the Whole, 7:30 pm	21	22 EARTH DAY	23	24
25	26 Police Pension Board, 3:30 pm	27 Capital Improvements Committee, 7 pm City Council Meeting, 7:30 pm	28	29	30 ARBOR DAY	

YOUTH HOCKEY INSTRUCTOR HONORED AS FIRST 'MAKING ROLLING MEADOWS PROUD' RECIPIENT

Rolling Meadows Park District Youth Hockey Coordinator Stephan Polus was honored at City Council's February 9th remote meeting as the first recipient of the City's "Making Rolling Meadows Proud" Award.

The award, established earlier this year, encourages community members to nominate individuals or efforts that exemplify outstanding public service and good deeds.

'Inspiring & Engaging'

The resident who submitted the nomination wished to remain anonymous but cited Polus' "natural ability to inspire and engage our kids," even in the midst of a global pandemic. When youth hockey and most other sports programs shut down in the wake of COVID-19 last year, Polus led a series of interactive Zoom sessions to help over 100 players – ranging from 5 to 8 years of age – keep their skills up.

"I wanted to offer some structure to the kids' schedules and keep them focused during a really strange, often scary time," Polus explained. "It was a way to build team spirit even though they couldn't be on the ice together."

Polus also created several YouTube videos that focused on specific drills and activities the kids could watch at their own pace.



Stephan Polus is the first recipient of the City's "Making Rolling Meadows Proud" Award.

Polus possesses a "natural ability to inspire kids and impart a strong sense of equality and achievement," explained the resident in his nomination letter. "Stephan is quick to act, compassionate, and always puts others before himself."

Born and raised in Rolling Meadows, Polus continues to call this community his home. He and his wife, Amelia, are both graduates of Rolling Meadows High School and have two sons.

Submit Nominations

Community members who would like to recommend someone for the "Making Rolling Meadows Proud" award may submit nominations to admin@cityrm.org or by U.S. Mail to: City of Rolling Meadows, Attn: Barry Krumstok, 3600 Kirchoff Road, Rolling Meadows, IL 60008.

YARD WASTE PICK-UP TO BEGIN MARCH 29TH

Public Works will resume seasonal yard waste collection services Monday, March 29th. Customers should place yard waste in 30-gallon kraft paper bags and place them at the curb the night before scheduled pick-up.

Separate Yard Waste from Trash

All yard waste bags collected by Public Works crews are delivered to an eco-friendly composting facility for processing. To minimize the risk of cross-contamination with household refuse (and help crews complete their routes more efficiently), residents should place bags containing yard waste on the opposite end of the driveway and mark them with an "X."

Early Refuse Set-Out Ends

Friday, March 26th, is the final day of Rolling Meadows' seasonal early refuse set-out schedule. Beginning Monday, March 29th, residents should place refuse and recyclables at the curb after 6:00 p.m., the evening before pick-up.

Learn more about the City's refuse and yard waste collection programs at www.cityrm.org.311/refuse-recycling.



'GROWING' COMMUNITY GARDEN SEEKS NEW MEMBERS

Rolling Meadows' Community Garden will begin its eighth growing season this spring and is welcoming new residents who wish to be part of the fun.

The garden is located on a City-owned parcel of land near Salt Creek in downtown Rolling Meadows. It features 44 individual parcels, measuring 4' x 8', where members may grow fresh vegetables, flowers, and other types of plants. Plots are available for a \$25 annual fee.

"Gardening is a natural way to social distance," explained former 5th Ward Alderman Rob Banger, who helped

spearhead the Garden's establishment in 2014. "I always saw people in and around the garden every time I visited last summer, and feedback from our members has been overwhelmingly positive. We welcome anyone who wants to learn more about gardening and working cooperatively with others," he added.

Residents interested in joining this year's Garden may contact Banger at robbangerjr@gmail.com.

Learn more at www.facebook.com/rmcommunitygarden.





GUEST COLUMN BY LARA SANOICA, 7TH WARD ALDERMAN

VOLUNTEERS HELP CITY ACHIEVE BIG DREAMS

We have so many talented individuals in Rolling Meadows, and I'm pleased to say that I've met many with big dreams for our hometown. I encourage everyone to contact their aldermen to offer ideas and suggestions for making those dreams a reality. Those of you eager to roll up your sleeves and make a more direct impact on our community are welcome to apply to serve on the City's many volunteer committees and commissions.

Council members began 2021 on a mission to create more opportunities for residents and business to get involved by adopting updates to City Code. These changes include the creation of new commissions and the dissolution of defunct or duplicated committees – those whose functions are already carried out by other local government

entities, such as Cook County.

We currently have several open committee seats. What type of person should apply? That's easy: anyone who wants to help ensure our City remains "A Great Place to Live and Work."

There are a variety of standing committees, and even more opportunities for ad-hoc committees to address specific, time-sensitive topics that are important to you and your neighbors. Learn more about Rolling Meadows volunteer commissions at www.cityrm.org.

Community members who would like to apply for committee service should reach out to Mayor Joe Gallo at mayor@cityrm.org, or contact the City at admin@cityrm.org.

NEW CDD CONSULTATION PROGRAM HELPS SPEED REVIEW PROCESS FOR PERMIT APPLICATIONS

The Community Development Division has launched a new initiative to help residents better understand the process of applying for property improvement permits – information that helps speed the Division's review and approval of permit applications.

The pre-submittal consultation program partners residents with a CDD inspector or plan reviewer for a 30-minute discussion of the necessary paperwork and steps involved.

Missing or incomplete documentation is the primary cause for permit issuance delays.

The free consultation program runs through April 1st. For more information, or to schedule an appointment, contact the Community Development Division at 847-506-6030 or cd@cityrm.org.

CDD Tip: *Submit your permit requests early, so you're ready to go when the weather breaks!*



CONTACT CITY OFFICIALS
City Hall Hours
8:00 am to 4:00 pm
Monday – Friday

MAYOR and CITY COUNCIL

- Mayor Joe Gallo847-814-9271
- 1st Ward Alderman
- Karen McHale773-517-3873
- 2nd Ward Alderman
- Nick Budmats847-202-0855
- 3rd Ward Alderman
- Kevin O'Brien847-212-2587
- 4th Ward Alderman
- Jenifer Vinezeano630-546-8133
- 5th Ward Alderman
- Jon Bisesi847-772-8428
- 6th Ward Alderman
- John D'Astice847-409-9367
- 7th Ward Alderman
- Lara Sanoica847-770-3097
- City Manager
- Barry Krumstok847-394-8500

SERVICES

- Fire & Police Emergency 911
- Fire Non-emergency847-397-3352
- Police Non-emergency847-255-2416
- Finance/Utility Billing847-394-8500
- Public Works847-963-0500
- Community Dev. Division . .847-506-6030
- Senior Handyman Program .847-506-6030
- Crime Stoppers847-590-7867
- ComEd 1-800-EDISON-1

 www.facebook.com/cityofrollingmeadows

 www.twitter.com/@cityofrm1

CREWS REMOVE 23.9" OF JANUARY SNOW

Public Works employees responded to eight separate snow events in January that blanketed Rolling Meadows in 23.9 inches of snow.

Key Stats

- Miles traveled by snow removal crews/equipment: **8,665**
- On-duty personnel hours: **1,005**
- Tons of salt/de-icer used: **868**

Learn more at www.cityrm.org/316/Snow-Ice-Removal-Program.