



Photo: Meijer Inc.

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Business & Community Showcase Set for Sept. 23rd

Rolling Meadows' 2021 Business & Community Showcase is tentatively scheduled* for Thursday, September 23rd, 4:00 – 8:00 pm, at Meridian Banquet & Conference Center (1701 West Algonquin Road). Businesses will receive an invitation to the event in June.

This year's Showcase – free and open to the public – will appeal to multiple constituencies:

- **Business owners** looking to connect with customers and/or hire employees.
- **Professionals** who actively engage in business-to-business (B2B) networking.
- **Residents** interested in learning more about products and services offered by area companies.

Online registration will be available this summer at just \$25 per exhibitor.

For more information, contact Business Advocate Martha Corner at cornerm@cityrm.org or 847-870-9004.

**The Showcase will incorporate COVID-19-related public safety precautions – including social distancing and face coverings, as deemed necessary. The event may be postponed or canceled for public health reasons.*

Meijer's Service to Residents, City Partnerships Strengthen Community

Rolling Meadows' reputation as a "vibrant shopping community" made it an ideal location for Grand Rapids, Michigan-based Meijer Inc. to open one of its first Illinois supercenters in 2004, recalls Tom Dant, Regional Vice President for Meijer.

"From the day the store opened, we've had much to celebrate here in Rolling Meadows," Mr. Dant explained. "The City's diversity was – and remains – a major strength, and we've cherished the opportunity to build relationships with its leaders. It's really a testament to what we strive to be: a community partner."

Brian Lach, Store Director of the Rolling Meadows Meijer for the past five years, concurs.

"Our goal is to help make the City a better place by enriching the lives of its residents," he explained. "Our team members – many of whom also live here – are really the driving force behind those efforts."

Support Community Events

The efforts to which Mr. Lach alludes

include financial, material, and personnel support for a variety of activities. The City's annual National Night Out (NNO) celebration, the Police Department's "Shop with a RM Cop" holiday program, and its Family Day barbeque/social services fair have all benefited from Meijer's generosity.

In fact, the Rolling Meadows Meijer has provided more than \$10,000 in food and beverage donations to City events over the past few years. It has also donated prizes for multiple City contests: children's art competitions, holiday light decorating contests, and gift cards for community raffles.

"Meijer is always ready to step up and help – whether it's providing sponsorship support for City events or donating supplies to local organizations and initiatives," said Lori Ciezak, Assistant to the City Manager and liaison to Rolling Meadows' Community Events Foundation. "Their contributions are incredibly generous, they are ready to assist even at short notice, and the store's leadership team has been exceptional to work with."

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'Shop, Dine, Visit' Campaign Encourages Residents to Support Local Businesses

"Shop, Dine, Visit" is the tagline of a City-sponsored multimedia content marketing initiative that supports local business success by encouraging residents to shop locally.

Program elements include:

- **Online Resources**, including information on new businesses and a comprehensive Dining Guide that highlights Rolling Meadows-based restaurants. Visit <https://cityrm.org/35/Business>.

- **Print features** in monthly News & Views publications that highlight new business openings, report on local business initiatives, and expand public awareness of Rolling Meadows' growing business community.

Past issues are archived on the City's website. Visit <https://cityrm.org/Archive.aspx?AMID=46>.

- **RM Business Buzz Website**, which lists nearly 800 local shops,



restaurants, and service providers at no cost to businesses (see page 3 for more information). Visit <https://rmbusinessbuzz.org>.

Connect with us at www.cityrm.org or through:



Meijer's Service to Residents...continued from page 1

Team members at the Meijer store also like to get in on the action. Residents attending National Night Out over the past several years have likely noticed cashiers, greeters, pharmacy technicians, and team leaders – many of whom have likely served them as store customers – grilling complimentary burgers for guests to enjoy.

"We try to have fun with it," Mr. Lach, the store director, explained. "These events are a great way for our employees to meet new people and take part in the community. One thing I'm most proud of is that my team likes to volunteer with me."

Benefit Local Food Pantries

Meijer's **Simply Give** program, which supports local food pantries across the Midwest, is another way the company strives to make a difference.

In late 2020, with the need greater than ever due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Rolling Meadows store and its customers raised \$35,000 to benefit food banks in Elk Grove and Schaumburg Townships.

Since the program's inception in 2008, Simply Give has generated \$62 million (620 million meals) for nearly 350 food pantry partners.

Team members are also encouraged to identify families who may need assistance.

"We try not to limit ourselves when it comes to assisting others," Mr. Lach said, citing Meijer's donation of winter coats, hats, and gloves to area families this past winter.

A Community Business

A generation of Rolling Meadows residents cannot recall a time when Meijer was not a vital component of the City's economic engine. However, Meijer's announcement in late 2000 that it was building a 210,000 square foot supercenter – a complete supermarket that also offered extensive lines of general

merchandise – near the intersection of Algonquin and Golf Roads represented a major development project for the greater northwest suburban area.

The store, which currently employs more than 200 team members, has grown with the community and undergone several updates since it first opened in 2004. The latest upgrade took place in 2019 and involved a comprehensive remodeling/reimagining of all store departments, a refinished parking lot, and installation of electric vehicle charging stations.

"I'm proud of the way we take care of our customers," Mr. Lach explained. "My team members and I know a lot of them by name and others by their buying habits. We work hard to make their shopping experiences rewarding."

Just as the store has always tried to make the community it serves stronger.



Photo: Meijer Inc.



Store Director Brian Lach



Photo: Kendall McCaugherty, Hall + Merrick

The Deck offers a comfortable, relaxing outdoor environment.



Local Business 'Buzz' Continues to Grow

A growing number of Rolling Meadows businesses are taking advantage of free listings on the City's "Business Buzz" website to offer their customers coupons and special offers, Business Advocate Martha Corner reports.

The Buzz (<https://rmbusinessbuzz.org>) is a City-sponsored marketing tool that supports local businesses by promoting their brands and encouraging residents to "shop local." Nearly 800 companies, merchants and restaurants currently have a presence on the site – which is available at no charge to all businesses located in Rolling Meadows.

"The Buzz is an ideal platform for area businesses to offer coupons, discounts, and deals," Corner explained. "These online offers help expand the site's appeal to the local customer base. That, in turn, fuels greater demand for products and services offered by participating companies."

Expanded Features

Other features available on the site to drive interest in/demand for local products and services include:

- **Business of the Month showcase** that highlights a member of the Rolling Meadows business community.
- **Local business news/accolades** that share company success stories.
- **Job listings** designed to help local companies recruit employees.

Join the Buzz... It's Free!

It's easy (and free) to join the "Buzz:" contact Martha Corner (847-870-9004 or cornerm@cityrm.org) or click the site's "Join the Buzz" button.

Continental Towers' New Outdoor Plaza Makes Going to Work a 'Breeze' for Tenants

Continental Towers' upgraded and expanded outdoor plaza is the centerpiece of a \$20 million renovation program that positions the property as best-in-class in the northwest suburban office market, reports owners Glenstar Properties LLC and Rubenstein Partners.

The one-acre-plus amenity – the largest of its kind in Chicago's suburbs – is divided into two distinct areas:

- **The Deck** features flexible seating arrangements, fire pits, a grill, and space for outdoor games.
- **The Meadows** offers a large turf area for tenants to participate in outdoor health and wellness activities.

"The full outdoor area offers tenants

additional space to work or gather with colleagues in a more informal setting," explained Cathi Carlson, Vice President and General Manager. "It has really had a positive impact on tenant mindsets during the pandemic and helps promote social distancing."

Continental Towers (1701 Golf Road) is a 910,000 sq. ft. Class A commercial office complex first built in the late 1970s and early 1980s. The recently completed capital program also upgraded the facility's tenant lounge, game room, lobbies, and elevators.

In addition, the property features a 23,000 square foot fitness center, onsite restaurant and retail, flower studio, spa, and chiropractor. Learn more at www.continental-towers.com.



Photo: Kendall McCaugherty, Hall + Merrick

The Meadows features ample space for outdoor health and wellness activities.



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- Finance Department 847-394-8500
- Fire Department (non-emergency) 847-397-3352
- Police Department (non-emergency) 847-255-2416
- Public Works Department 847-963-0500
- Community Development Division 847-506-6030

Local Business Support Drives Success of City Events

The success of Rolling Meadows' community events over the past several years has been due in large part to the support received from the City's business community, Assistant to the City Manager Lori Ciezak reports.

"Local business support has been a key factor in the overall success of these events," she explained. "It's a great way for companies to connect with residents, build relationships with customers, and strengthen their local branding efforts."

Upcoming community events offer plenty of ways for local businesses to join the celebration:

- **Encourage employee attendance.** Your team works hard to ensure your organization's success. That, in turn, helps make Rolling Meadows a great place to live, work, and play. Remind them of their important role in our community's success by inviting them to attend and enjoy local events.
- **Sponsor Individual events.** Connect with customers and build brand equity by sponsoring specific events.

CITY OF ROLLING MEADOWS 2021 COMMUNITY EVENTS CALENDAR	
<i>NOTE: All 2021 City of Rolling Meadows event dates are subject to cancellation or postponement at any time due to COVID-19 precautions and/or government mandates. Occurring events will implement new social distancing and sanitation precautions to maximize health and safety for all attendees. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation. For updated information, visit www.cityrm.org.</i>	
AUGUST 2021	
AUGUST 3 TUESDAY	NATIONAL NIGHT OUT 6:00-8:30 pm - Community Center, 3705 Pleasant Drive
AUGUST 13 FRIDAY	WINE-DOWN BY THE CREEK 6:00-11:00 pm - Kimball Hill Park
AUGUST 28 SATURDAY	CITY MARKET 10:00 am-2:00 pm - Community Church, 2720 Kirchoff Road
SEPTEMBER 2021	
MAY 29 SATURDAY	CITY MARKET 10:00 am-2:00 pm - Community Church, 2720 Kirchoff Road
MAY 29 SATURDAY	MEMORIAL DAY PARADE & CEREMONY 11:00 am Downtown RM - Along Kirchoff Road
JUNE 2021	
JUNE 11 FRIDAY	BLOCK PARTY on Central Road 4:30-8:30 pm - Between Barker Avenue & Jay Lane
JUNE 18 FRIDAY	FRIDAYS ROCK! & Roll in Meadows 7:00-10:00 pm - Kimball Hill Park
JUNE 26 SATURDAY	CITY MARKET 10:00 am-2:00 pm - Community Church, 2720 Kirchoff Road
JULY 2021	
JULY 4 SUNDAY	4th of JULY PARADE 11:30 am - Meadow Drive Parade Route
JULY 9 FRIDAY	4th of JULY FIREWORKS 8-11 pm or dusk - Community Center, 3705 Pleasant Drive
JULY 9 FRIDAY	FRIDAYS ROCK! & Roll in Meadows 7:00-10:00 pm - Kimball Hill Park
JULY 17 SATURDAY	CITY MARKET 10:00 am-2:00 pm - Community Church, 2720 Kirchoff Road
JULY 31 SATURDAY	FAMILY NIGHT WITH THE RM COPS 7:00-10:00 pm - Community Center, 3705 Pleasant Drive
AUGUST 2021	
SEPTEMBER 7 TUESDAY	SENIOR LUNCHEON 12:30-2:30 pm - Community Center, 3705 Pleasant Drive
SEPTEMBER 10 FRIDAY	FRIDAYS ROCK! & Roll in Meadows 7:00-10:00 pm - Kimball Hill Park
SEPTEMBER 23 THURSDAY	BUSINESS & COMMUNITY SHOWCASE 4:00-8:00 pm - Meridian Banquets, 1701 W. Algonquin Road
SEPTEMBER 25 SATURDAY	CITY MARKET 10:00 am-2:00 pm - Community Church, 2720 Kirchoff Road
OCTOBER 2021	
OCTOBER 2 SATURDAY	HOMETOWN HOEDOWN Fall Fest 12:00-5:00 pm - Kimball Hill Park
OCTOBER 9 SATURDAY	FIRE DEPARTMENT OPEN HOUSE 10:00 am - 2:00 pm - Station #16, 2340 Hicks Road
NOVEMBER 2021	
OCTOBER 30 SATURDAY	HALLOWEEN KICK-OFF on KIRCHOFF - Details TBA On Kirchoff Road - Between Owl Drive and Oriole Lane
NOVEMBER 2021	
NOVEMBER 5 FRIDAY	VETERANS DINNER 6:00 - 8:00 pm - Meridian Banquets - 1701 W. Algonquin Road
DECEMBER 2021	
DECEMBER 2 THURSDAY	HOLIDAY TREE LIGHTING 6:00 pm - Hill Historical Museum, 3100 Central Road
	SPAGHETTI DINNER (Free to residents while supplies last.) 6:30 pm - Willow Bend School, 4700 Barker Avenue



Event sponsors are prominently featured in the City's promotional and marketing efforts – a cost-effective option for expanding awareness of your company's products and services.

NOTE: Businesses may also provide general grant funding and/or donate materials for specific events. Contact Ciezak (ciezakl@cityrm.org or 847-394-8500) for details.

- **Support Community Events Foundation.** Financial support for City events is provided by the Rolling Meadows Community Events Foundation, a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization that relies on tax-deductible donations from residents, businesses, and community groups. To contribute, please visit www.cityrm.org/679/Community-Events-Foundation.

View a complete listing of upcoming City events online at www.cityrm.org/669/Community-Events.



Guests view a law enforcement vehicle display at the 2019 Community Block Party – an annual summer event staple.