

# eNEWS

3600 Kirchoff Road | Rolling Meadows, IL 60008 | 847-394-8500 | [www.cityrm.org](http://www.cityrm.org)

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VOLUME 8 ISSUE 4



Incentives are designed to expand the number of restaurants and retail stores on Kirchoff Road (pictured) and throughout town.

## CITY ADOPTS INCENTIVE PROGRAMS TO DRAW NEW RESTAURANTS, RETAILERS

City leaders have established a series of incentives aimed at drawing new restaurants and retail shops to Rolling Meadows, with particular emphasis on welcoming businesses to its downtown corridor along Kirchoff Road.

The incentives include a blend of fee reimbursements, refunds of sales or food/beverage tax payments, and grant funding for façade or interior work. They are designed specifically for non-corporate, independent restaurants and retailers. National chains and franchise owners, in most cases, are not eligible.

“We’ve expanded our available options for attracting new restaurants and businesses to Rolling Meadows,” Business Advocate Martha Corner explained when outlining the program. “We view it as an opportunity to grow our business community, expand available options for local shopping and dining, and further diversify the City’s tax base.”

### Tax Rebates

Under the incentive program, restaurant owners will receive tax rebates equaling 40% of the food and bev-

erage taxes paid to the City after one year, 20% after the second year, and 10% after year three. The rebate amount increases to 60%, 40%, and 20%, respectively, for restaurants that open on Kirchoff Road (between Rohlwing and Wilke Roads).

Likewise, retail business owners will receive sales tax rebates equaling 15% after one year, 10% after two years, and 5% after three years. These rise to 25%, 20%, and 15%, respectively, for shops that open on Kirchoff Road (see sidebar at bottom right).

Eligible businesses must remain in good standing with the City to qualify for the refunds.

### Fee Reimbursements & Grant Funding

Business owners who purchase or lease property for a new restaurant or retail store are eligible for reimbursement of up to \$5,000 for permit, inspection, and other fees paid to the City.

New restaurant and retail store owners may also apply for up to \$10,000 in grant funding to cover façade and/or interior remodeling upgrades.

## PERMITS PROTECT HOMEOWNERS, LIMIT RISK

City-issued permits for home improvement or construction projects help customers protect what, for many of us, is our most important asset.

Residents who are planning upgrades to their home this summer or looking ahead to next spring should first call the Community Development Division (847-506-6030) or stop by City Hall for help determining whether a permit is required.

Permits also entitle homeowners to City inspections that protect them from unsafe workmanship. Knowledgeable inspectors leverage their expertise to protect residents’ interests and may help avoid delays or potentially costly mistakes.

Learn more at <https://cityrm.org/169/permits-inspections>.



## TAX REFUNDS FOR NEW BUSINESSES\*

### Food & Beverage Tax (Restaurants)

- Up to 60% after first year
- Up to 40% after second year
- Up to 20% after third year

### Home Rule Sales Tax (Retail)

- Up to 25% after first year
- Up to 20% after second year
- Up to 10% after third year

*\*Refunds are higher for businesses that open in the City’s downtown (Kirchoff Road) area.*

## THE HEAT IS ON! EVENTS RAISE THE BAR FOR SUMMER FUN

Temperatures are heating up as the calendar turns to August...and Rolling Meadows' community spirit is also on the rise with an action-packed schedule of seasonal festivities throughout summer and fall. Don't miss out on these upcoming community events!

### National Night Out

Friday, Aug. 3rd, 6:00 pm – 8:30 pm  
Community Center (3705 Pheasant Dr.)

Celebrate the bonds between Rolling Meadows police officers and the residents and businesses they serve with free food and giveaways (while supplies last), performances by the Xtreme Team High-Flying Basketball Stunt Team and Canine Stars Stunt Show, City vehicle displays, fireworks, and more! Visit the [RMPD Facebook page](#) for updates.



### Cornfest

Saturday, Aug. 7th, 11:00 am – 7:00 pm  
Community Church (2720 Kirchoff Rd.)

Enjoy community fellowship and lunch or dinner (including all-you-can-eat sweet-corn) at this community tradition that began in 1956. Learn more and purchase tickets at [www.communitychurchrm.com/annual-events/cornfest](http://www.communitychurchrm.com/annual-events/cornfest).

### Wine-Down by the Creek

Friday, Aug. 13th, 6:00 pm – 11:00 pm  
Kimball Hill Park

Sample fine wine, craft beer, and live music on the banks of Salt Creek with performances by Roots Rock Society (reggae, soul, calypso) and Semple (all genres). Admission is free for all-ages; wine and beer sales will be available to residents ages 21 and up with photo ID.

### City Markets

Saturdays, Aug. 28th & Sept. 25th,  
10:00 am – 2:00 pm  
Community Church

Take your pick of freshly grown fruits and vegetables, food vendors, kiddie train rides, live music, caricatures, balloon animals, hand-crafted wares, and much more.

### Senior Luncheon

Tuesday, Sept. 7th, 12:30 pm – 2:30 pm  
Senior Center (3705 Pheasant Dr.)

Reconnect with longtime friends and acquaintances over an Italian-style buffet luncheon and live musical entertainment. All Rolling Meadows residents ages 50 and up are welcome. Cost is \$5 per person. For reservations, call 847-818-3205.

### Duck Race

Friday, Sept. 10th, 6:30 pm – 7:00 pm  
Kimball Hill Park

Hundreds of plastic ducks "racing" into Kimball Hill Pond for a \$300 grand prize makes for a unique sight, but this annual event also helps raise money for Salt Creek preservation efforts. Purchase tickets (one ticket equals one duck) at upcoming City events or at City Hall, Rolling Meadows Park District, and at the Public Works Department. Ducks are \$5 each (or \$20 for five).



### Friday's ROCK! & Roll in Meadows (Featuring Boy Band Review)

Friday, Sept. 10th, 7:00 pm – 10:00 pm  
Kimball Hill Park

Tribute group Boy Band Review channels the choreography, harmonies, and energy of late 1990s pop. Bring a blanket, a picnic dinner, and relive the days when frosted tips were all the rage and *Total Request Live* was must-see-TV!

### Business & Community Showcase

Thursday, Sept. 23rd, 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm  
Meridian Banquets  
(1701 W Algonquin Rd.)

The City's annual Showcase caters to job seekers exploring career opportunities with local businesses, residents interested in learning more about products/services available from Rolling Meadows companies, and business professionals looking to expand their networks. Admission is free for all attendees. Local businesses may register as exhibitors at <https://cityrm.org/728/Business-Community-Showcase>.

### Hometown Hoedown

Saturday, Oct. 2nd, 12:00 pm – 5:00 pm  
Kimball Hill Park

Rolling Meadows' 5th annual fall festival is lining up to be a stompin' good time! Attractions include horse-drawn hayrides, kid's games, crafts, a performance by Wild Earp (funky country western rock n roll-abilly), and more. Admission is free. Food and drinks will be available for purchase.

### RMFD Open House

Saturday, Oct. 9th, 10:00 am – 2:00 pm  
Station 16 (2340 Hicks Rd.)

Meet Rolling Meadows firefighters, climb aboard fire engines and ambulances, explore "behind-the-scenes" of the Department's newest fire station, and learn more about the ways RMFD members protect residents and businesses.

Visit <https://cityrm.org/669/community-events> and the City's Facebook page for more information and updates.



Photo: NWCDS

## INFORMATION PROVIDED BY 911 CALLERS PLAYS IMPORTANT ROLE IN DELIVERY OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

Rolling Meadows' firefighters train constantly to ensure they are ready to provide the fastest, most effective fire/emergency medical services, but residents' ability to relay important information to 911 telecommunicators is essential in situations where seconds may mean the difference between life and death, Fire Chief Jeff Moxley explains.

As a member of the Northwest Central Dispatch System (NWCDS), Rolling Meadows "benefits from having highly-trained professionals who are ready to serve residents at a moment's notice," he said. "The information 911 callers provide to NWCDS plays a critical role in our ability to deliver emergency services that save lives."

### Administer Care Before Crews Arrive

In fact, 911 telecommunicators are licensed with the Illinois Department of Public Health and trained to help callers begin to administer potentially life-saving treatment while emergency crews are being dispatched. Studies repeatedly show that rapid delivery of emergency medical care is a key indicator of survivability.

"We offer a way for care to commence even before emergency crews arrive on the scene," explained NWCDS Executive Director John Ferraro. "We may guide a caller on how to administer CPR or, in cases of cardiac arrest, help them identify the location of the nearest AED."

Meanwhile, 911 telecommunicators are also providing a constant stream of information to emergency responders

on their way to a scene – information received from the callers themselves.

"NWCDS telecommunicators will ask callers a lot of questions and provide those updates to us in real-time. The more information we have enroute, the more effective we can be once we arrive on-scene," Chief Moxley added.

### Confirming Location Essential

NWCDS uses advanced technology that reports the home address of callers using landlines and provides GPS coordinates to identify the location of calls made by cell phone. However, 911 telecommunicators will always ask callers for their location.

"Technology can sometimes be wrong," Ferraro explained. "There is no substitute for having callers – if they are able – confirm their location. We dispatch emergency crews as soon as we have that information."

To help speed response times, callers should also:

**Remain Calm:** speak slowly and provide the information requested by telecommunicators. This includes, but is not limited to, the nature of the emergency, the address/location of the emergency, and the number from which they are calling.

**Clearly Display Home Addresses:** Home and business addresses should be clearly visible from the street. Multi-family complexes should be easily identifiable.

For more information on NWCDS operations, visit <https://www.nwcads.org>.

## PETE SUTTER BEGINS NEXT PHASE OF RMFD CAREER AS DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF

Fire Chief Jeff Moxley (below, at left) congratulates new Deputy Chief Pete Sutter, following his swearing-in on June 21st at Fire Station 15.

D/C Sutter is a 20-year member of the Rolling Meadows Fire Department who previously served as battalion chief, lieutenant, and firefighter/paramedic before earning his latest promotion. He began his fire service career with the Elk Grove Township Fire Department.

Firefighting is a multi-generational calling for the Sutter family: D/C Sutter's father served with the Wood Dale Fire Department for 30 years.



All meetings take place at City Hall, unless noted.

8/02 — **Planning & Zoning Commission**, 7:00 pm

8/03 — **National Night Out**, 6:00 pm – 8:30 pm, Community Center

8/04 — **Environmental Committee**, 6:30 pm

8/05 — **Adjudication Hearing (Parking)**, 2:00 pm

8/07: **Cornfest**, 11:00 am – 7:00 pm, Community Church (2720 Kirchoff Road)

8/09 — **Board of Fire & Police Commissioners**, 9:00 am; **Economic Development Committee**, 6:00 pm

8/10 — **Crime Stoppers**, 5:30 pm; **City Council Meeting**, 7:30 pm

8/12 — **Adjudication Hearing**, 1:00 pm

8/13 — **Wine-Down by the Creek**, 6:00 pm – 11:00 pm, Kimball Hill Park

8/17 — **Community Events Foundation**, 6:00 pm; **City Council Committee of the Whole**, 7:30 pm

8/19 — **Adjudication Hearing (Red Light)**, 2:00 pm

8/20 — **Water bills due**

8/24 — **City Council Meeting**, 7:30 pm

8/28 — **City Market**, 10:00 am – 2:00 pm, Community Church

Meetings and events may be held remotely or postponed for public health purposes, due to ever-changing circumstances related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Find the latest updates on the City's [website](#) and on [Facebook](#).



The Community Events Foundation float winds its way along the 2021 parade route.

## INDEPENDENCE DAY 2021: WHAT A 'HOOT!'

Community events mascot Kimball Hoot (above) waves to spectators during Rolling Meadows' Independence Day Parade, which returned in full patriotic force after its cancellation last year due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Thousands of residents lining the parade route were treated to a red, white, and blue spectacle that featured decorative floats and spe-

cialty vehicles; live musical performances by Rolling Meadows High School's Marching Mustangs and the Northwest Concert Band; high-flying aerial acrobatics by the Jesse White Tumblers; and much more.

The celebration concluded later that evening in Salk Park with a thundering fireworks display to commemorate the 245th anniversary of America's independence.



Volunteers load donated goods during the Police Department's 2020 Holiday Food Drive.

## 'PROUD' PROGRAM CELEBRATES PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE

The "Making Rolling Meadows Proud" program encourages community members to nominate individuals who exemplify community service and/or perform good deeds that make the City a better place to live, work, and play.

The program's first award recipient, Park District Youth Hockey Coordinator Stephan Polus, was recognized earlier this year for creating a series of interactive Zoom sessions and YouTube videos that helped over 100 players keep their skills up while they were away from the rink during the Covid-19 pandemic shutdown.

Other examples of Rolling Meadows' community spirit deemed worthy of "Proud" consideration include a local business that donated personal protective equipment (PPE) to the Rolling Meadows Police Department and volunteers who turned out to support its holiday food drive.

Submit nominations via email to [admin@cityrm.org](mailto:admin@cityrm.org).

Selected honorees will receive a certificate of appreciation and be recognized at upcoming City Council meetings.



Photo: Community Church



## ‘HERE COMES THE SUN’ COMMUNITY BLOCK PARTY KICKS OFF SUMMER IN ROLLING MEADOWS

Thousands of revelers celebrated summer’s arrival on June 11th at Rolling Meadows’ Community Block Party on Central Road, headlined by Beatles tribute band American

English (above). Other event attractions included an expansive display of classic and modern law enforcement vehicles, food trucks, market vendors, and a range of family activities.

## REPORT CONFIRMS CITY WATER QUALITY ‘Consumer Confidence Report’ Available Online

Rolling Meadows drinking water in 2020 again met all standards established by the Environmental Protection Agency, according to the City’s latest Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) that provides information on the source and quality of the water used by residents and businesses.



The full 2020 report is available for review online, at <https://cityrm.org/archivecenter/viewfile/item/7102>.

Posting the CCR online helps streamline the process of delivering this information to water customers, which is required by law.

Customers who would like to receive a printed version of the report may contact Public Works at 847-963-0500.

## OBSERVE ‘NO SMOKING’ SIGNS AT CITY EVENTS

The Smoke Free Illinois Act of 2008 that prohibits smoking in bars, restaurants, and other indoor public places also allows municipalities to designate specific outdoor public spaces as non-smoking areas.

Therefore, as a courtesy to everyone who attends Rolling Meadows community events, residents should refrain from smoking tobacco prod-

ucts – such as cigarettes and cigars – or vaping in areas where “No Smoking” signs are posted.



## CATCH THE ‘BUZZ’



## CITY-SPONSORED WEBSITE GENERATES ‘BUZZ’ FOR LOCAL BUSINESSES

Residents who are motivated to “shop locally” will find a growing number of great deals and promotions offered by local retailers and restaurants on the [RM Business Buzz](https://rmbusinessbuzz.org), a City-sponsored website that makes it simpler than ever to support area businesses.



More than 760 Rolling Meadows-based companies already have a presence on the site, which allows users to search for specific businesses by name or industry.

“The Buzz makes it easier and more convenient for residents to take advantage of Rolling Meadows’ thriving local business community,” explained Business Advocate Martha Corner. “Simply click on the site’s ‘Special Offers’ link to view and download special coupons,” she added.

The “Buzz” also features local business profiles, listings of job openings at area companies, new business listings, and more. Visit <https://rmbusinessbuzz.org>.



# PROTECT YOURSELF: SEEK SHELTER DURING SEVERE WEATHER

## Did you Know?

Illinois ranks fourth in the United States for most tornados per square mile and experiences, on average, 53 of these dangerous storms per year. That's why it is essential for residents to monitor weather reports on TV, radio, or online; maintain awareness of impending severe weather; and take shelter when storms strike.

## Know the Terminology

Here in Rolling Meadows, one of the best ways to keep yourself and your family members safe is to have a firm understanding of the terms used by meteorologists to describe potential storm risk:

- A **tornado watch** means that current weather conditions create the possibility of tornados forming.
- A **tornado warning** occurs when a tornado has been sighted or indicated on radar. Emergency sirens operated by Northwest Central Dispatch Services are activated during tornado warnings.

- A **tornado emergency** is declared when there is a severe threat to human life and expected catastrophic damage due to a violent tornado in the area.

## Take Shelter

Residents should continue to monitor weather reports and prepare accordingly during a tornado watch. If authorities issue a tornado warning, seek shelter immediately in your basement.



If your home does not have one, move to a closet or interior room/hallway without windows. Keep away from exterior windows and walls, which may be impacted by high winds or flying debris.

For more information and guidance on severe weather safety, access the Illinois Emergency Management Agency's [Severe Weather Preparedness Guide](#).

## HANDYMAN PROGRAMS HELP CITY SENIORS MAINTAIN INDEPENDENCE & ENHANCE QUALITY OF LIFE

Rolling Meadows senior citizens in need of simple maintenance or home repair services are eligible to receive assistance from two local programs: one [sponsored by the City](#); the other offered through the [North West Housing Partnership \(NWHP\)](#).

### City Senior Handyman Program

Residents ages 65 and up have access to a fully trained, trustworthy handyman to perform minor household repairs at a rate of \$35 per

hour or less, depending on seniors' income. Services offered include leaky faucet repair, light fixture repair/replacement, drywall repair, and toilet and drain repairs.

Contact the Community Development Department (847-506-6030) for more information – including qualification criteria.

### NWHP Handyman Program

Residents who are at least 60 years-old may take advantage of NWHP's Handyman Program, which offers services such as gutter cleaning, dryer vent installation/replacement, and more. Costs range from \$20 – \$40 per hour, depending on income. Residents who live below the poverty line may access services up to five times at no cost.



**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 Karen McHale . . . . .	773-517-3873
2nd Ward Alderman Nick Budmats . . . . .	847-202-0855
3rd Ward Alderman Kevin O'Brien . . . . .	847-212-2587
4th Ward Alderman Jennifer Vinezeano . . . . .	630-546-8133
5th Ward Alderman Jon Bisesi . . . . .	847-772-8428
6th Ward Alderman Mandy Reyetz . . . . .	847-209-5435
7th Ward Alderman Lara Sanoica . . . . .	847-770-3097

### SERVICES

Fire & Police Emergency . . . . .	911
Fire Non-emergency . . . . .	847-397-3352
Police Non-emergency . . . . .	847-255-2416
Administration . . . . .	847-394-8500
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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 [@CityofRM1](http://www.twitter.com/@CityofRM1)

## CRIME PREVENTION 101: LOCK VEHICLE DOORS

Following a rash of car burglaries in residential areas earlier this summer, the Rolling Meadows Police Department urges residents to make it harder on potential thieves by always locking their cars and trucks and avoid leaving valuables in unattended vehicles.

“Your odds of becoming a victim decrease significantly if you simply lock your car’s doors,” Police Chief John Nowacki explained.