



# NEWS

Volume 14 Number 3

This Issue:  
Public Works

# & Views

May/June 2010

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

## May 29 Memorial Day Parade, Observance to Honor Veterans

Rolling Meadows will honor those who have defended our freedom in the armed forces Saturday, May 29, with its annual Memorial Day Parade and observance.

The parade begins at the corner of Kirchoff Road and Meadow Drive at 11 a.m. Participants will march west on Kirchoff to the Carillon Tower, site of a solemn ceremony set for 11:30 a.m.

Local veterans and their family members are welcome to participate in this year's parade. The City will provide transportation for participants unable to walk the parade route.

At the Carillon, Mayor Ken Nelson will lead City officials and invited dignitaries in a wreath laying ceremony at the

base of the Veterans Monument (pictured at right).

The Rolling Meadows Veterans Committee maintains a registry of resident veterans who have taken part in previous Memorial Day Parades. Veterans who wish to participate in this year's parade, and have not registered for the event in previous years, may contact Assistant City Manager Barry Krumstok at 847-394-8500 (ext. 1002).



### Committee to Host May 28 Veterans Dinner

Local veterans are invited to reconnect with fellow service members at a special veterans dinner hosted by the City's

Veterans Committee, Friday, May 28, 6:30 p.m., at Meridian Banquets, 1701 Algonquin Road. Space is limited to 200. For reservations, contact Barry Krumstok at 847-394-8500 (ext. 1002).

## Purchase Vehicle Stickers, Dog Licenses June 1 - 30

Beginning June 1, residents may purchase 2010-11 vehicle stickers and dog licenses online at the City's Website, [www.cityrm.org](http://www.cityrm.org), at City Hall, or at select retail outlets. The deadline to purchase is June 30.

Vehicle stickers start at \$22, while dog tags cost \$10 (\$5 for neutered/spayed animals). All dogs must be licensed and have rabies shots.

To order online, log onto the City's Website, select "Online Payments" at the left side of the page, then click "Purchase Vehicle Stickers/Dog Tags." By using the preprinted application that will be mailed out to all City

residents in early June, customers have no need to mail in applications.

For residents without Internet access, the mailing will include a pre-addressed envelope, making it convenient to order stickers from home. Drivers may also use the white drop box located in front of City Hall, or purchase stickers at select retail locations to be listed on the City's Website.

All drivers with cars registered or housed in Rolling Meadows – including residents with Palatine mailing addresses – must purchase and display the 2010-11 vehicle

*Continued on back cover*



### Contact City Officials: City Hall Hours: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Friday

Mayor: Kenneth Nelson  
City Clerk: Lisa Hinman  
City Manager: Sarah Phillips

#### Aldermen

1st Ward: John Pitzaferrro  
847-655-1390  
2nd Ward: Barb Lusk  
847-567-2444

3rd Ward: Lawrence Buske  
847-255-9126  
4th Ward: Brad Judd  
847-902-3248  
5th Ward: Glenn Adams  
847-259-5875  
6th Ward: John D'Astice  
847-409-9367  
7th Ward: James Larsen  
630-244-4228

#### Services

Fire & Police  
Emergency: 911  
Fire Department  
non-emergency:  
847-397-3352  
Police non-emergency:  
847-255-2416  
Public Works: 847-963-0500

Finance/Utility Billing Questions:  
847-394-8500  
Community Development Dept.:  
847-506-6030  
TDD: 847-506-0490  
Senior Services: 847-394-8500  
ComEd — 1-800-EDISON-1  
Curfew: Sun.-Thurs. 11 p.m. Fri.  
& Sat. Midnight

Look Us Up on the Web at: [www.cityrm.org](http://www.cityrm.org)

# Public Works Academy Spotlights Residents' Interest, Staff Pride

Following the "graduation" of residents who attended the Department's 2010 Citizens Training Academy, Assistant Director Bob Hartnett found himself wondering who enjoyed the experience more: the residents who attended or the Department employees who presented the five-week program.

"Since we established the Academy in 2008, our experience has been that the residents have a very strong interest in the services Public Works provides. They ask great questions and have an obvious thirst for learning more about Department operations," Hartnett says.

"It's no secret that Department staff members take great pride in what we do," he continues. "What is so exciting to watch is how that pride really comes through in the way they discuss their jobs, demonstrate equipment and take the time to answer residents' questions."

That pride was evident during the April 1 session devoted to Underground Utilities, which ran well past its scheduled 8:30 p.m. conclusion.



Following a series of presentations and equipment demonstrations, residents continued to mingle with Department employees and ask questions. When asked how long the employees planned to stay, Hartnett replied, "They love doing this. They'll be here until every resident goes home."

Five Thursday evening informational presentations and two "field courses" allowed registrants to participate in hands-on training activities and educational sessions, tour City facilities, and observe crews in action.

Residents received a detailed

*Public Works Department employee Kevin Casey describes sanitary sewer maintenance techniques during the April 1 session devoted to Underground Utilities.*



*Academy participants learned about the Public Works Department's water quality and monitoring operations during the April 8 Water Division session. Residents also learned how to perform basic home plumbing maintenance.*

review of all Public Works Divisions during the 2010 Academy:

- Underground Utilities;
- Water;
- Inspection Services;
- Facilities;
- Street Maintenance;
- Fleet Services.

Academy graduates were honored during a brief ceremony at City Council's April 27 meeting.

Public Works plans to continue the Citizens Training Academy in 2011. Information on the program will be available later this year on the City's Website, [www.cityrm.org](http://www.cityrm.org), and in upcoming issues of *News & Views*.

## Academy Attracts National Attention With Magazine Article, Boston Conference Invite

Public Works' Citizens Training Academy has attracted widespread interest among municipal professionals across the country. A feature article on the Academy appears in the March 2010 issue of the American Public Works Association's official magazine, *APWA Reporter*, and Department officials have been invited to present the program at the 2010 APWA International Public Works Congress and Exposition in August.

The four-page magazine article was the result of growing "buzz" in public works circles generated by the Academy since its establishment in 2008. *Reporter* editors contacted Assistant Public Works Director Bob Hartnett and asked if he would be interested in developing an article for possible publication.

"The article was written for communities that may be thinking about launching similar programs," Hartnett explains. "It offered background into why the Academy was launched, how the program benefits residents and employees, and plans for the future."

To read the article online, visit [www.apwa.net/Publications/Reporter/Reporteronline](http://www.apwa.net/Publications/Reporter/Reporteronline), and click on the "March 2010" link.

At the annual APWA Congress in Boston, MA, Hartnett and Public Works Director Fred Vogt plan to present an Academy overview designed to help public works professionals see how these types of programs generate residential interest and support.

# Frontage Road Improvements To be Completed This Summer



BY FRED VOGT, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS  
Watching and repaving of East and West Frontage Roads, running between Kirchoff and Algonquin Roads, is proceeding on schedule and should be completed in July.

Funded by federal stimulus money, the \$2.6 million project will replace roughly 25% of existing pavement, overlay new asphalt, pave existing gravel shoulders, and make drainage improvements. It also includes sidewalk, fence and guardrail repairs, where needed.

Frontage Roads have long been an integral part of the City's infrastructure improvement plans. This 100% federally funded project is making needed improvements to two important roadways that are 45 years old. East and West Frontage Roads divert traffic from nearby residential streets, offer alternative routes from the downtown area to the southern end of the City, and serve as access roads to many neighborhoods in the vicinity of Route 53.

Phase 1 of the project focuses on West Frontage Road. Phase 2 moves to the east side of Route 53, where traffic will be limited to northbound local traffic only until project completion.

Across town, we continue negotiations with the Illinois Department of Transportation and adjacent property owners to clear the way for a long-awaited project to rebuild part of New Wilke Road and its intersection with Golf Road. Our hope is to get the details ironed out and accept bids on the project in June.

## Streets Program to Resurface Seven Roads, One Intersection

Plans call for the resurfacing of seven residential side streets and one intersection as part of this year's Streets Program. Streets to be repaired in 2010 are:

- Colleen Court;
- Jody Court;
- Deepwood Lane;
- George Street (Meadow Drive to Dove Street);
- Meadow Drive (Kirchoff Road to Grouse Lane);
- Pheasant Drive (Martin Lane to Grouse Lane);
- Vermont Street (Kirchoff Road to Euclid Avenue);
- Intersection of Kirchoff and Hicks Roads.

## Curbside Brush Pickup Begins May 10

The City's annual brush pickup and chipper service begins May 10. The program provides free curbside pickup of brush and branches up to six inches in diameter once per year.

Public Works will conduct pickups in Sections 1 and 2 in May. Sections 3 and 4 will be served in June. A map showing the chipper sections is available on the City's Website, [www.cityrm.org](http://www.cityrm.org).

**Section 1** (south of Euclid, west of Wilke, north of Kirchoff and east of Salt Creek):

- Set out: Monday, May 3-Friday, May 7
- Pickup: Monday, May 10-Friday, May 14

**Section 2** (south of Kirchoff, west of New Wilke, and east of Salt Creek):

- Set out: Monday, May 17-Friday, May 21
- Pickup: Monday, May 24-Friday, May 28

**Section 3** (the area west of Route 53):

- Set out: Monday, June 7-Friday, June 11
- Pickup: Monday, June 14-Friday, June 18



**Section 4** (the area south of Euclid, west of Salt Creek and east of Route 53)

- Set out: Monday, June 21-Friday, June 25

- Pickup: Monday, June 28-Friday, July 2

For 2010, Public Works will introduce modified chipper routes designed to enhance collection efficiencies. This means roughly 790 homes that were in Sections 3 and 4 are now in a different chipper section.

Public Works will send notices to affected homeowners to inform them that their sections have been changed, and remind them of their new set out and pickup dates.

For more information, visit [www.cityrm.org/PublicWorks/default.htm](http://www.cityrm.org/PublicWorks/default.htm) or call 847-963-0500.

## City Launches Disposal Program For Old Medications, Needles

Rolling Meadows has partnered with the Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County (SWANCC) to help residents properly dispose of old medications and needles known as "sharps."

Through the City's Prescription Drug and Sharps Disposal Program, residents may bring expired/unused prescription and over-the-counter medications to the Public Works facility, 3900 Berdnick Street, for proper disposal.

"Flushing medications down the toilet or pouring them down the drain can contaminate the water supply because wastewater treatment systems are not designed to treat

pharmaceutical waste," Assistant Public Works Director Bob Hartnett explains. "This disposal program protects the environment while preventing unintended use of old or expired medicine."

The program also protects residents and refuse workers from being injured by used needles by allowing customers who administer home injections to pick up a free sharps container. Once full, residents may exchange containers for new ones.

Residents may drop off medications or sharps containers Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. For more information, call Public Works at 847-963-0500.

# May 2010

1

2	3	4 Plan Commission, 7:30 p.m., at City Hall	5 Zoning Board of Appeals, 7 p.m., City Hall	6	7	8	
Brush setout week section 1							
9 Mothers Day	10	11 City Council Meeting, 7:30 p.m., City Hall	12	13 Adjudication Hearing, 1 p.m., City Hall	14	15 Garden Club Plant Sale, Historical Society Bake Sale, Golden Years Council Pancake Breakfast.	
Brush collection week section 1							
16 National Public Works Week, May 16-22	17	18 City Council Committee of the Whole, 7:30 p.m., City Hall	19	20 Adjudication Hearing (Red Light), 2 p.m., City Hall Water bills due	21	22 Community Day at Arlington Park	
Brush setout week section 2							
23 Spring Fling Craft Fair, 11 a.m.-3 p.m., Indigo Hotel, Palatine	24	25 City Council Meeting, 7:30 p.m., City Hall	26	27	28 Veterans Dinner, 6:30 p.m., at Meridian Banquets	29 Memorial Day Parade and Observance, 11 a.m.	
Brush collection week section 2							
30	31 Memorial Day, City Hall, Public Works closed. Refuse Collection delayed one day	Sprinkling ban begins May 15 To conserve water throughout the community, lawn sprinkling is prohibited between noon and 6 p.m. daily.					

# June 2010

	1 Vehicle stickers, dog licenses on sale Plan Commission, 7:30 p.m., at City Hall	2 Zoning Board of Appeals, 7 p.m., City Hall	3	4	5	
6 D-Day	7	8 City Council Meeting, 7:30 p.m., City Hall	9	10 Adjudication Hearing, 1 p.m., City Hall	11	12
Brush setout week section 3						
13	14 Flag Day	15 City Council Committee of the Whole, 7:30 p.m., City Hall	16	17 Adjudication (Red Light), 2 p.m., City Hall	18	19
Brush collection week section 3						
20 Fathers Day	21 First Day of Summer Water bills due	22 City Council Meeting, 7:30 p.m., City Hall	23	24	25	26
Brush setout week section 4						
27 Garden Walk, noon-4 p.m.	28	29	30 Deadline to purchase and display vehicle stickers, dog licenses			
Brush collection week section 4						

# Retiring Supervisor Bob Nixon's Commitment To Customer Service Will Leave Lasting Impression



Underground Utilities Superintendent Bob Nixon's commitment to customer service will continue to define the division he's led for 28 years long after he retires on May 28.

"Underground Utilities may be the most 'customer-focused' division in Public Works, due to their frequent interaction with residents who experience water and sewer service problems, flooding or other utility issues," Public Works Director Fred Vogt explains. "We have received a great many compliments from residents about the professionalism and courtesy of Underground Utilities employees. I see those comments as a testament to Bob's leadership."

Nixon's retirement caps a 38-year career with the Public Works Department spent almost entirely with the Utilities Division, which he joined in May 1972. He worked in the Water Division during the



*Underground Utilities Superintendent Bob Nixon discusses utility repair procedures during the 2010 Citizens Training Academy. Nixon, a 38-year Public Works Department veteran, will retire May 28.*



late 1970s – where he played a key role in administering the City's water meter replacement programs – before being promoted to Utilities Supervisor in 1982.

During his tenure as Utilities Superintendent, Nixon developed the

scheduling system for inspecting and flushing sewer lines, which helped prevent backups that once occurred with regular frequency. He was instrumental in implementing a Citywide program to replace old fire hydrants with newer models that required far less maintenance and, therefore, saved taxpayers money.

Nixon has also been an advocate of "trenchless technologies" that are used to repair underground utility lines without requiring excavation.

"Bob has always been good at finding solutions that improve service, increase efficiencies and reduce operational costs," Assistant Public Works Director Bob Hartnett says. "His management approach is best defined as 'systematic.' He gets his employees on the same page, then works with them to solve problems as a team."

Nixon implements a cross-training regimen for all Underground Utilities Division employees, who know roles and responsibilities of each team member. Vogt calls Nixon "a very effective team-builder with a reputation for getting people to work together in common purpose."

Rolling Meadows residents have been the beneficiaries of that effort for 38 years.

## Free Program Offers Residents 20% Off Prescription Medications

City residents will be able to save up to 20% on their prescription medications through a complimentary program developed by the National League of Cities (NLC).

NLC's Prescription Discount Card Program offers residents of all NLC member communities – including Rolling Meadows – the opportunity to reduce the retail price of prescription medications. NLC has provided City officials with registration and marketing materials to launch the program, which begins May 8.

Residents may receive their prescription discount cards at City Hall, 3600 Kirchoff Road; Rolling Meadows Library, 3110 Martin Lane; Rolling Meadows Park District, 3000 Central Road; and Rolling Meadows Senior Center, 3705 Pheasant Lane.

Customers may also request a card by calling 888-620-1749, or visiting [www.caremark.com/nlc](http://www.caremark.com/nlc). For more information, contact Joyce DeLeon at 847-394-8500.

## Over 20% of Residents Enjoy Convenience Of City's Automatic Utility Bill Payment System

More than 20% of Rolling Meadows' residents have enrolled in the City's automatic utility bill payment program, which offers a secure, convenient way to pay utility bills with a credit card or through direct debit from a bank account.

Customers may register for the program by clicking the "Online Forms" icon found on the left side of the City's homepage at [www.cityrm.org](http://www.cityrm.org), then downloading the "Direct Debit for Utility Bills" form. Residents may also pick up registration forms at City Hall.

Once registered, residents' monthly bills will be charged automatically to their respective credit cards or bank accounts on the 20th of each month.

For more information, contact the Finance Department at 847-394-8500.

## No Refuse Bag Delivery to Residents; Purchase Bags at Local Stores

Public Works reminds residents that the Department no longer distributes refuse bags to residential households. The program was eliminated last year to reduce costs.

Paper refuse and yard waste bags are available for purchase at local stores.

## Summer Fun, Rolling Meadows-Style

BY MAYOR KEN NELSON

At last! Summer is right around the corner, with some fun events coming up for all of us.

**Memorial Day weekend starts** out with our Veteran's Dinner on Friday, May 28. The following day, we will honor those who have served with a parade and ceremony at the Veteran's Memorial. I hope you can join us.

All of our **July 4th activities** are on track. Our parade will step off from Rolling Meadows High School at 1:30 p.m. That afternoon will be the Cancer Awareness Committee's Fun Walk, with a chance to win front row seats at the best fireworks show in the northwest suburbs.

And I hope you've noticed the **more than 50 cancer awareness** banners along Kirchoff and Algonquin Roads. Thanks to all who purchased them.

Admittedly, summer also brings some hassles. Those of you who use the Frontage Roads between Kirchoff and Algonquin have already had to work your way around that \$2.6 million federally funded construction project. And later this summer, we anticipate that construction along Wilke Road between Golf and Algonquin will cause some headaches.

Hopefully the disruptions will be far outweighed by the good times. I hope you have a great summer!

## Cancer Awareness Campaigns in Full Bloom

Examples of Rolling Meadows' support for cancer awareness are "springing" up across the City.

**Tulips** in the shape of a cancer awareness banner, planted during the American Cancer Society's "Plant it Pink" campaign in late 2009, are now blossoming. Bear Construction, Christopher B. Burke Engineering, J C Restoration and Storino, Ramello & Durkin supported the program.



**Commemorative banners** honoring residents who have battled cancer hang from street lights along Kirchoff Road. In total, **community members purchased 52 banners** through a program launched by the City's Cancer Awareness Committee.

## Purchase Vehicle Stickers *Continued from page 1*

stickers by June 30. Stickers purchased after the June 30 deadline will double in price. Beginning July 1, motorists who fail to display the new sticker will be subject to a \$100 police citation.

Funds generated from vehicle sticker sales support Rolling Meadows' ongoing street maintenance activities, which keep City streets in good condition and prevent excessive wear and tear on residents' cars and trucks.

## Parade, Fireworks to Celebrate Nation's Independence, July 4

Rolling Meadows residents will celebrate America's independence Sunday, July 4, with an old-fashioned parade at 1:30 p.m. and a thunderous fireworks display in Salk Park.

The Rolling Meadows Chamber of Commerce invites residents, businesses, community organizations and school groups to enter floats or other specialty vehicles in this year's parade. Parade entry forms are available at City Hall.

Complete and return applications to the Chamber by June 4 to secure a spot in this year's event.

Richard Wright, PhD, President of the Rolling Meadows Library Board of Trustees, will serve as Grand Marshal for the 2010 Parade in celebration of the Library's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

For more information on the July 4 Parade, contact the Rolling Meadows Chamber of Commerce at 847-398-3730, or [office@rmchamber.org](mailto:office@rmchamber.org).

## What's Going on Around Town

### Garden Club Plant & Craft Sale, May 15

Rolling Meadows Garden Club will hold its annual Hometown Plant and Craft Sale, Saturday, May 15, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m., at the Old Public Works Building, 3200 Central Road. Visit [www.rollingmeadowsgardenclub.com](http://www.rollingmeadowsgardenclub.com), or call 847-818-3200 (ext. 230).

### Historical Society Bake Sale, May 15

Enjoy freshly baked goodies when the Rolling Meadows Historical Society

hosts a spring bake sale to coincide with the Garden Club Plant and Craft Sale. The bake sale takes place Saturday, May 15, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m., at the Rolling Meadows Historical Museum, 3100 Central Road. For more information, call 847-577-7086.

### Spring Fling Craft Show, May 23

"Crafting for a Cure," a Rolling Meadows-based Relay for Life team, will raise funds for cancer awareness when it hosts the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Fling Craft and Vendor Show Sunday, May 23, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m., at the Hotel Indigo in Palatine. Visit

[www.craftingforacure.org](http://www.craftingforacure.org) for more information.

### Sixth Annual Garden Walk, June 27

Rolling Meadows Garden Club's sixth annual Garden Walk, to be held Sunday, June 27, noon – 4 p.m., will feature seven local gardens. Tickets go on sale June 1 (\$10) at the Community Center, 3705 Pheasant Drive. Purchase tickets the day of the event at the Rolling Meadows Historical Museum for \$15. Call 847-818-3200 (ext. 230) or visit [www.rollingmeadowsgardenclub.com](http://www.rollingmeadowsgardenclub.com).