



May/June 2015



# NEWS & Views

Volume 19 Number 3



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

## Memorial Day Events to Remember Those Who Defended Freedom

Rolling Meadows will once again honor those who have defended our freedoms Saturday, May 23rd, with a traditional Memorial Day Parade at 11 a.m., followed by a solemn observance at the Carillon Tower.

The parade will feature generations of local veterans and their family members,

along with marching bands, community organizations and more. It will commence at the corner of Meadow Drive and Kirchoff Road. Participants will march west along Kirchoff and complete the parade route at the Carillon Tower.

During a ceremony at the City's Veterans Monument, local officials will pay tribute to the men and women who have served in our nation's armed forces – many of whom paid the ultimate price. The observance will conclude with a wreath-laying ceremony performed by members of the Rolling Meadows Veterans Committee.

“As a city founded by veterans of World War II and the Korean War, Rolling Meadows has always held Memorial Day in high regard,” City Manager Barry Krumstok explains. “We encourage all our residents to bring their families to this year's parade and observance. It's a fitting way to say “thank you” to those who have served our country.”

City officials encourage veterans who have taken part in previous Memorial



Community members will gather at the Carillon Tower Saturday, May 23rd, to honor veterans for their service.

Day parades to join this year's events. Family members of veterans are also welcome to march in the parade, carrying photos or other mementoes to honor their loved ones.

Organizers will provide vehicles to transport participants unable to walk the parade route.

Veterans who have not joined in previous parades, and would like to participate in this year's event, may contact City Hall at 847-394-8500.

### Veterans Dinner to Boost Camaraderie Among Fellow Service Members, May 22nd

Rolling Meadows veterans and their guests will enjoy a multi-course meal and cash bar, when the City hosts its 13th annual Veterans Dinner, Friday, May 22nd, 6 p.m., at Meridian Banquets (1701 Algonquin Road).

Since its establishment in 2003, the Veterans Dinner has attracted hundreds of guests each year. The event offers local veterans an opportunity to reconnect with fellow service members, laugh about former inter-service rivalries, and rekindle the camaraderie felt among those who served in the U.S. Armed Forces.

For reservations, contact City Hall at 847-394-8500 by Tuesday, May 12th. Space is limited to 200.

## Flashback: Jewel has Served City's Generations

As one of the City's original businesses and an anchor of the downtown business district for more than 60 years, Jewel/Osco has served generations of Rolling Meadows families. Notice the window displays in this 1950s-era photo that promote the store's “88-Cent Sale.” What a bargain!



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

### MAYOR and CITY COUNCIL

Mayor: *Tom Rooney* . . . . . 847-392-2254  
1st Ward Alderman: *Mike Cannon* . . . . . 847-925-8919  
2nd Ward Alderman: *Len Prejna* . . . . . 847-776-9442  
3rd Ward Alderman: *Laura Majikes* . . . . . 847-577-3746  
4th Ward Alderman: *Brad Judd* . . . . . 847-902-3248  
5th Ward Alderman: *Rob Banger, Jr.* . . . . . 847-818-1663  
6th Ward Alderman: *John D'Astice* . . . . . 847-409-9367  
7th Ward Alderman: *Tim Veenbaas* . . . . . 847-385-1425  
City Manager: *Barry Krumstok* . . . . . 847-394-8500

### SERVICES

Fire & Police Emergency . . . . . 911  
Fire 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 . . . . . 847-506-6030  
Senior Handyman Program . . . . . 847-506-6030  
ComEd. . . . . 1-800-EDISON-1  
Curfew . . . Sun. – Thurs. 11 p.m.; Fri. & Sat. Midnight



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[www.cityrm.org](http://www.cityrm.org)

## Farmers & Food Trucks Schedule\*

Saturday, May 23  
Friday, June 19\*\*  
Saturday, June 27  
Saturday, July 25  
Saturday, August 22  
Saturday, September 26

\*Saturday events to be held 10 a.m. – 2 p.m., in the City Hall parking lot (3600 Kirchoff Road).

\*\*Friday program will take place 4 – 8 p.m., at Community Church (2720 Kirchoff Road).

## Farmers & Food Trucks, Meadows Cruise Night to Combine for June Block Party Event

What happens when you take Cruise Night at Meadows Christian Fellowship and add a special Friday evening edition of Farmers & Food Trucks at Community Church? A summer downtown block party, Rolling Meadows-style!

On Friday, June 19th, 4 – 8 p.m., a section of Kirchoff Road between Meadow and Oriole Drives will be closed off by the Police Department, transforming the area into a summer street festival with music, food and fun.

Residents may experience a variety of classic muscle cars and vintage automobiles at Meadows Christian Fellowship (2401 Kirchoff), then wander over to Community Church (2720 Kirchoff) to explore fresh new tastes from onsite food trucks and food vendors. Guests will also shop for locally-grown produce, home goods, hand-made jewelry, clothing, art, and other items.

More information on the event will be featured in the June edition of *eNews & Views*, which will be posted on the City's Website in late May.

## Summer Fun Begins May 23rd, When Expanded Farmers & Food Trucks Program Returns

A wider variety of food truck menu items, a rotating roster of live entertainment, and monthly raffle prizes are just a hint of what's in store this summer, when the City's eagerly-anticipated Farmers & Food Trucks program returns for its third season. The fun begins Saturday, May 23rd, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m., in the City Hall Parking lot.



Residents select from fresh, locally-grown produce.

Farmers & Food Trucks has grown steadily since its debut in 2013. City officials believe the program continues to set Rolling Meadows apart from other area farmers' markets by offering an ever-expanding array of unique vendors.

"Farmers & Food Trucks is the only event in the area where residents may shop for fresh fruits and vegetables, sample freshly-made offerings prepared by onsite food trucks, and choose from a variety of hand-made jewelry and other crafts," Market Manager Lori Ciezak explains. "The addition of live music and raffle drawings will lend a more festive atmos-

phere to each event. We are extremely excited to welcome guests for what is sure to be our most successful season so far!"



Additional events will be held the fourth Saturday of each month (June – September). A special Friday evening event has also been scheduled for June 19th, 4 – 8 p.m., at Community Church of Rolling Meadows (*see story at left*).

Event planners have confirmed at least 13 different food vendors that will participate on select dates. Area vendors who are interested in participating will find additional information and registration forms on the City's Website ([www.cityrm.org](http://www.cityrm.org)).

Residents who wish to volunteer for this year's program may contact Lori at 847-394-8500 or [ciezakl@cityrm.org](mailto:ciezakl@cityrm.org).



Hungry guests choose from an ever-expanding variety of participating food trucks.

## 2015-16 Vehicle Sticker Sales Begin June 1st

City officials will introduce a simplified vehicle sticker program on June 1st that offers free stickers to active military personnel and reduces the number of different fee categories paid by customers.

The amended vehicle sticker ordinance, approved by City Council as part of the 2015 budget, will help reduce administrative costs by making it simpler for City staff to process sticker applications, Finance Director Melissa Gallagher reports.

"Eliminating vehicle sticker pricing for those currently serving in the military, and consolidating fees, where appropri-

ate, will make it more cost-effective to administer the program," she says.

The City's 2015-2016 vehicles stickers, which commemorate Rolling Meadows' 60th Anniversary, will go on sale June 1st, starting at \$30. Pre-printed applications being mailed to residents in early June may be used to purchase stickers by mail, online or at City Hall. Vehicle stickers will also be sold at select retail locations.

Motorists must purchase and display new vehicle stickers by June 30th or be subject to a \$100 police citation. Sticker costs will double beginning July 1st.

## Coming Attractions: May 16th Community Events to Offer Pancakes, Plants & a Blast from the Past

There's plenty going on in Rolling Meadows Saturday, May 16th, with a pancake breakfast at Park Central, a Plant & Craft Sale at the Old Public Works building, and an Open House at the City's Historical Museum. Come to one and come to all!

### Golden Years Council to Partner with Firefighters at Pancake Breakfast

Local firefighters will break out their chef's aprons and feed hungry residents of all ages, when the Rolling Meadows Golden Years Council hosts its annual Pancake Breakfast, 8 – 11 a.m., at Park Central (3000 Central Road). Tickets are \$5 for adults and \$4 for children when purchased in advance (\$6 and \$5 at the door). To register, contact the Rolling Meadows Senior Center at 847-818-3205.

### Garden Club to Host Plant & Craft Sale

Members of the Rolling Meadows Garden Club will present their annual Plant and Craft Sale, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m., at the Old Public Works building (3200 Central Road). Guests will find wonderful hanging

baskets, unusual annuals, perennials, garden accessories, and much more. For more information, contact the Garden Club at 847-397-0286 or visit [www.rollingmeadowsgardenclub.org](http://www.rollingmeadowsgardenclub.org).



Rolling Meadows Historical Museum, 3100 Central Road.

### Historical Museum Open House to Offer Trip Down Memory Lane

Historical Society members will welcome guests to their spring Open House, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m., at the Rolling Meadows Historical Museum (3100 Central Road). The Museum, a replica of an original Kimball Hill home, lets residents step back in time and learn more about the City's rich history up close. For more information, call 847-577-7086.



What's missing from this picture? The former AMF Bowling Center on Kirchoff Road was demolished in April.

## Demolition 'Strikes' Former Bowling Center



Downtown motorists and pedestrians have a whole new view along Kirchoff Road, after the former AMF Bowling Center on Kirchoff Road was demolished to make way for a new,

54-unit townhome development by Chicago-based Lexington Homes.

The new development, known as Lexington Crossing, will feature a mix of two- and three-bedroom townhomes. City officials expect the project to boost downtown's residential population and create opportunities for local businesses, many of which are within walking distance of the new development.

For more information on Lexington Crossing, call 847-299-0500.

## City Briefs...

### Environmental Committee Seeks Volunteers

Members of the Rolling Meadows Environmental Committee are seeking volunteers to help plan and execute a variety of "green" initiatives that will benefit the community. Committee members organize the City's annual Salt Creek Cleanup each April, and participate in a variety of other activities throughout the year that help conserve Rolling Meadows' natural resources. For more information, contact Public Works Director Fred Vogt at [vogt@cityrm.org](mailto:vogt@cityrm.org).

### Meadows Cruise Nights Return May 22nd

Cruise Nights will resume in Rolling Meadows Friday, May 22nd. This annual summer staple lets residents explore vintage autos while enjoying music and a variety of family activities. Cruise Nights will take place every Friday through September 25th, 5 – 8 p.m., at Meadows Christian Fellowship (2401 Kirchoff Road). For more information, call 847-255-8764 or visit [www.meadowscruisenights.com](http://www.meadowscruisenights.com).

## Pet Owners Urged to Show Courtesy to Fellow Residents

A recent complaint prompts us to remind residents with four-legged family members that City ordinance requires pet owners to pick up after their animals.



Section 14-6 of the City Code states that owners are responsible for the pickup and disposal of animal waste "deposited anywhere in the City." The code also requires dogs to be leashed at all times while in public areas.

Please show courtesy to others and help keep Rolling Meadows beautiful by picking up after your pets.

# May 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Saturday, May 16th</b> Golden Years Council's Pancake Breakfast, 8-11 am, Park Central (3000 Central Rd.) Historical Museum Open House, 9 am-2 pm (3100 Central Rd.) Garden Club Plant & Craft Sale, 9 am-2 pm (3200 Central Rd.)					1	2
3	4	<b>Economic Development Committee, 6 pm</b> <b>Environmental Committee, 7 pm</b> <b>Plan Commission, 7:30 pm</b> , all at City Hall	6	<b>Adjudication Hearing (Parking), 2 pm</b> , City Hall	8	9
10 <i>Mother's Day</i>	<b>Board of Fire &amp; Police Commissioners, 9 am</b> , City Hall	<b>Crime Stoppers, 5:30 pm</b> <b>City Council Meeting, 7:30 pm</b> , both at City Hall	13	<b>Adjudication Hearing, 1 pm</b> , City Hall	<b>Sprinkling Ban Begins</b> 15 To conserve water, lawn sprinkling is prohibited between noon & 6 pm daily.	<b>Pancake Breakfast</b> 16 <b>Historical Museum Open House</b> <b>Garden Club Plant &amp; Craft Sale</b> <i>See above for details</i>
17	18	<b>City Council Committee of the Whole, 7:30 pm</b> , City Hall	<b>Water bills due</b> 20	<b>Adjudication Hearing (Red Light), 2 pm</b> , City Hall	<b>Cruise Night, 5-8 pm</b> , 22 Meadows Christian Fellowship (2401 Kirchoff Road) <b>Veterans Dinner, 6 pm</b> , Meridian Banquets (1701 Algonquin Road)	<b>Farmers &amp; Food Trucks, 10 am-2 pm</b> , City Hall <b>Memorial Day Parade &amp; Observance, 11 am</b>
24	City Hall and Public Works closed. Refuse collection delayed one day all week.	<b>City Council Meeting, 7:30 pm</b> , City Hall	27	28	<b>Cruise Night, 5-8 pm</b> , 29 Meadows Christian Fellowship (2401 Kirchoff Road)	<b>Historical Museum Garage Sale, 9 am</b> <b>60th Anniversary Ice Cream Social, 12 - 1 pm</b> , Community Center Playground
31	<b>Memorial Day</b>					

# June 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>2015-16 vehicle stickers on sale</b> 1	<b>Economic Development Committee, 6 pm</b> <b>Environmental Committee, 7 pm</b> <b>Plan Commission, 7:30 pm</b> , all at City Hall	<b>Zoning Board of Appeals, 7:30 pm</b> , City Hall	<b>Adjudication Hearing (Parking), 2 pm</b> , City Hall	<b>Cruise Night, 5-8 pm</b> , 5 Meadows Christian Fellowship (2401 Kirchoff Road)	6  D-Day
7	<b>Board of Fire &amp; Police Commissioners, 9 am</b> , City Hall	<b>Crime Stoppers, 5:30 pm</b> <b>City Council Meeting, 7:30 pm</b> , both at City Hall	<b>Urban Affairs Committee, 5:45 pm</b> , City Hall	<b>Adjudication Hearing, 1 pm</b> , City Hall	<b>Cruise Night, 5-8 pm</b> , 12 Meadows Christian Fellowship (2401 Kirchoff Road)	13
14 <i>Father's Day</i>	<b>Coffee with a Cop, 9 - 11 am &amp; 5 - 7 pm</b> , Starbucks (1414 Golf Rd)	<b>City Council Committee of the Whole, 7:30 pm</b> , City Hall	17	<b>Adjudication Hearing (Red Light), 2 pm</b> , City Hall	<b>Farmers &amp; Food Trucks, 4-8 pm</b> , Community Church (2720 Kirchoff Road) <b>Cruise Night, 5-8 pm</b> , Meadows Christian Fellowship (2401 Kirchoff Road)	20
21 <i>First Day of Summer</i>	<b>Water bills due</b> 22	<b>City Council Meeting, 7:30 pm</b> , City Hall	24	25	<b>Cruise Night, 5-8 pm</b> , 26 Meadows Christian Fellowship (2401 Kirchoff Road) <b>Wine-Down by the Creek, 5:30 - 11:30 pm</b> , Kimball Hill Park	<b>Farmers &amp; Food Trucks, 10 am-2 pm</b> , City Hall
28	29	<b>Deadline to purchase and display vehicle stickers</b> 30			<i>Keep updated on City news with Rolling Meadows' electronic newsletter, E-News &amp; Views, published in February, April, June, August, October and December. Each newsletter is archived on the City's Website, www.cityrm.org.</i>	

## Golf Road Accessibility Improvements Slated for Late Summer

Long-awaited infrastructure improvements along the busy Golf Road corporate corridor are scheduled to begin this summer, with the addition of new sidewalks and street crossings that will vastly improve accessibility to area businesses and the safety of pedestrians.

The approximately \$700,000 project, covered entirely by federal funding and a grant from the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA), will create nearly one mile of sidewalk along the north side of Golf Road between Route 53 and New Wilke Road.

“One of the most pressing concerns among Golf Road businesses has been the area’s lack of non-vehicular accessibility. It’s not really suited for pedestrians in its current configuration,” Public Works Director Fred Vogt explains. “Adding new sidewalks will help connect employees at the corporate campus to the City’s restaurant and retail businesses further east.”

In addition, two pedestrian crossings, to be placed near the Atrium Corporate

Center and Meadows Corporate Center, will help employees who work in those buildings safely access Pace buses that connect Rolling Meadows to the region’s greater public transportation system.

Public transportation and pedestrian accessibility are important components of the City’s economic development plans, Community Director Valerie Dehner adds.

“This project will help improve access to Golf Road businesses and help companies attract and retain younger employees – many of whom prefer to use public transportation,” she says.

City leaders believe the project will offer additional benefits besides upgrading public access to some of Rolling Meadows’ largest companies and improving pedestrian safety. According to RTA estimates, increased use of public transportation by area employees will reduce traffic congestion along Golf Road and reduce vehicle emission levels, which will improve the City’s air quality.



Golf Road businesses, including those located at Meadows Corporate Center, will benefit from the planned improvements.

According to preliminary timetables, the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) will request contractor bids in June. Construction is tentatively scheduled to begin in August and wrap up by late October.

A final section of new sidewalk, to run directly beneath the I-90 overpass that is located just west of New Wilke, will be built by the Illinois State Toll Highway Authority next year. It is part of an ongoing highway widening project that requires the bridge stretching across Golf Road to be completely rebuilt.

## RMPD to Offer Youth Police Academy; Application Deadline is May 15th



The Rolling Meadows Police Department will launch its first ever Youth Police Academy this summer and is seeking residents ages 15 – 17 to participate. Applications are due Friday, May 15th.

Academy members will gain an in-depth understanding of law enforcement activities – crime scene investigation, traffic enforcement,

domestic violence prevention, criminal investigation and more – while also participating in a variety of team-building and physical agility exercises.

“Our Youth Police Academy offers a valuable opportunity to connect with younger residents and help them learn more about the many different services police officers provide to improve the City’s quality of life,” explains Officer Carlos Saez. “It’s also a great way for them to see what it’s like to be a police officer.”

Academy participants will also have the opportunity to earn awards for excellence in leadership, physical agility, and individual and team achievement.

For more information or to request an application, contact Officer Saez at 847-870-2449 or [saezc@cityrm.org](mailto:saezc@cityrm.org).

## 60th Anniversary Celebration Continues with Ice Cream, Wine & Beer

Rolling Meadows’ year-long celebration of its 60th birthday continues in May with a family-friendly ice cream social, followed by an adults-only wine and beer tasting event along Salt Creek in June:

- **Celebrate 60! Ice Cream Social** (Saturday, May 30th, noon – 1 p.m.): Bring the entire family for a “sweet” spring day of ice cream, crafts, face-painting, balloon animals, giveaways, and more

at the Rolling Meadows Community Center playground (3705 Pheasant Drive). *Co-sponsored with the Rolling Meadows Park District.*

- **Wine-Down by the Creek** (Friday, June 26th, 5:30 – 11:30 p.m.): Mingle with family and friends at Kimball Hill Park, and sample a variety of locally-produced wines and local beers, when the City hosts a special 21-and-up event featuring

live music and local food trucks. Additional details, including admission and drink prices, will be featured in the June issue of *eNews & Views*. For more information, contact City Hall at 847-394-8500. *Co-sponsored with the Rolling Meadows Chamber of Commerce and Rolling Meadows Park District.*



## Stuck with the Consequences of Business Decisions

by Mayor Tom Rooney

I recently read two business articles that could have been written about Rolling Meadows. The first, published in *Crain's*

*Chicago Business*, reported on a large grocery store chain that had closed one of its local stores. The second involved the lingering economic effects of a vacant Sam's Club.

Since the two largest development challenges currently facing our city are a vacant grocery store and an abandoned Sam's Club, I figured these articles might offer some insight. They certainly did...and I wish the news was better.

The *Crain's* article describes how the grocery store chain vacated a store, but then "sat" on the existing lease to prevent the site from being used by potential competitors. Sound familiar?

"It's a fairly easy decision to have bad real estate on your books when you can afford it," explains a professional retail consultant quoted in the article. "You're leveraging your size and your

position to make it as hard as possible for your competitors to get into the market."

While the City no longer faces this particular problem with our vacant Dominick's site, it took eight long years for the property to be transferred to new owners.

The second article, about the vacant Sam's Club, explains an additional complication often facing municipalities when large retailers abandon their sites: non-compete clauses that keep similar businesses from moving into a vacant property, even though the building's layout and sheer size make it impractical for other businesses in different industries to effectively use the space. The result: a large empty parking lot with "potholes, cracked curbs and other signs of low maintenance." Sound familiar?

Here's the kicker: The *Crain's* article was written in 1997. The second article was from a community newspaper in Colorado. These problems have been happening everywhere for quite a while.

## It's Big, It's Yellow, and It's Keeping Rolling Meadows Clean

Public Works' new refuse truck is designed to help refuse employees complete their daily routes more efficiently and with less risk for on-the-job injury.

The truck's "front-loading" configuration enables crew members to place curbside refuse into a large receptacle that hangs directly in front of the cab. Once filled, two hydraulic arms lift the receptacle above the truck and dump collected waste into its rear storage compartment.

Before the \$244,000 vehicle entered City service, Public Works officials reviewed

detailed operational data from the manufacturer and contacted refuse service providers in surrounding communities that use front-loading vehicles. That research helped confirm there were multiple benefits to be realized.

"The vehicle helps lessen the physical 'wear and tear' on our refuse employees and limits their exposure to potential injury," Public Works Director Fred Vogt explains.

"There is also a built-in time-savings because crews no longer have to carry refuse items to the back of the truck at each stop."



The City's new refuse truck speeds refuse collection and improves employee safety.

The City was able to shave \$20,000 off the manufacturer's price by trading in an older refuse truck that had reached the end of its service life.

## 'Green' Tip: Keep Yard Waste Separate from Household Refuse

**Did You Know?** Yard waste collected by Rolling Meadows refuse crews does not end up in the landfill. Instead, it is brought to an environmentally-friendly composting facility for processing.

The City makes it easy for residents to keep their refuse and yard waste separate for collection. All it takes is a few simple steps:



1. Place yard waste in 30-gallon kraft paper bags. Roll down the bags' tops to seal them and prevent spillage – which also makes it easier for refuse employees to pick them up.
2. Use a thick marker to write an X on the front of each bag containing yard waste.
3. Place yard waste bags at the opposite side of the driveway – away from household refuse awaiting pick up (see photo).

For more information, contact the Public Works Department at 847-963-0500 or visit [www.cityrm.org/PublicWorks](http://www.cityrm.org/PublicWorks).