



# NEWS

Volume 19 Number 6



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

November/December 2015

## Yearlong 60th Anniversary Celebration to Culminate with December Tree Lighting, Fireworks Display, Spaghetti Dinner



The final chapter of Rolling Meadows' year-long 60th Anniversary celebration will be written Thursday, December 3rd, with a winter eve's fireworks display downtown, followed by an old-fashioned community spaghetti dinner.

Both events will follow the City's annual tree lighting ceremony, which will take place at 6 p.m. in front of the McDonald's on Kirchoff Road.

Guests will officially welcome the holiday season to Rolling Meadows, then enjoy a dazzling 60th Anniversary fireworks exhibition. Afterwards, residents will gather at



the Fogarty Fire Station (3111 Meadow Drive) for dinner.

Residents who would like to volunteer to staff the event may contact Lori Ciezak, Assistant to the City Manager, at 847-394-8500 or [ciezakl@cityrm.org](mailto:ciezakl@cityrm.org).

## City, U.S. Marines Partner for Annual 'Toys for Tots' Collection

Rolling Meadows will once again partner with the United States Marine Corps Reserve to promote its annual Toys for Tots program, which collects toys for children in need during the holidays.

The collection drive begins Monday, November 2nd. Residents may answer the Marines' call by bringing new, unwrapped toys to City Hall (3600

Kirchoff Road) or the Rolling Meadows Library (3110 Martin Lane). Collection boxes provided by the Marines are available at both locations.



Toy donations will be accepted through Monday, December 7th. For more information, or to make a monetary donation, visit [www.toysfortots.org](http://www.toysfortots.org).

## Flashback: Crawford's Department Store Anchored Downtown

For 36 years, Crawford's Department Store anchored the City's downtown shopping area and endeared itself to generations of residents. The store opened in 1957 and grew along with the community it served,

while cementing its reputation for quality and service. Changing retail trends, particularly the rise of discount retailers in the 1980s, proved too difficult to overcome, and Crawford's closed its doors in 1993.



Photo courtesy of Rolling Meadows Historical Society

### 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.* . . . . . 224-639-6686  
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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## Events Foundation Donations Surpass \$50,000 Milestone

Tax-deductible contributions by residents and local businesses have helped the Rolling Meadows Community Events Foundation raise \$50,223.50 since its inception in 2012.

Nearly 40% of that total – \$18,407 – has been raised in 2015 alone, indicating rapidly-growing interest among community members to help promote the Foundation's mission: provide funding for City-sponsored activities held throughout the year and support Rolling Meadows Historical Museum maintenance.

Donations help offset the costs of staging community events such as the Memorial Day observance, annual veterans' dinner, Independence Day festivities, National Night Out, and holiday tree lighting.

The Foundation is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. All donations are tax-deductible.

"We greatly appreciate the generosity of our residents and local businesses," City Manager Barry Krumbok says. "Ongoing support is critical to achieving the Foundation's goal of covering the cost of annual City events and lessening the burden on taxpayers."

City officials encourage continued support from community members to ensure events funding is available for years to come. Going forward, Foundation leaders hope to raise about \$50,000 annually – the equivalent of \$2.06 for each City resident.

Residents and businesses who would like to contribute should make checks payable to "Rolling Meadows Community Events Foundation" and submit them to:

City of Rolling Meadows  
Community Events Foundation  
3600 Kirchoff Road  
Rolling Meadows, IL 60008



Community Events Foundation volunteers will play an important role in organizing City-wide activities, such as the seasonal Farmers & Food Trucks market (above left) and Rolling Meadows' annual Independence Day parade.

## Volunteers to Help Good Times 'Roll in Meadows'

As Rolling Meadows' 60th Anniversary celebration draws to a close in December, City officials are seeking a group of dedicated volunteers to serve on a Community Events Foundation steering committee responsible for ensuring that the good times continue to "Roll in Meadows" for years to come.

Feeding off the excitement generated by this year's celebrations, City officials are eagerly anticipating 2016 and moving forward with plans to:

- Expand the number of Friday night Farmers & Food Truck markets.
- Host a second "Wine Down by the Creek" event with live music, craft beer and fine wine.
- Coordinate Rolling Meadows' second annual community block party.

Foundation volunteers will also have an opportunity to support the success of enduring events, including the City's National Night Out, Independence Day parade and fireworks, and holiday tree

lighting celebrations.

"Residents' passion for their City is the reason we've had so much fun celebrating these past 12 months," explains Assistant to the City Manager Lori Ciezak, who serves as staff liaison to the Celebrate 60! Committee that planned this year's events. "Looking ahead, we are searching for residents who are willing to contribute their time and talents to create something that endures."

Tax-deductible donations from residents and local businesses have already helped the Community Events Foundation raise more than \$50,000. What is needed now, Ciezak says, are volunteers bursting with Rolling Meadows pride.

"Volunteering is an opportunity for people to build on the City's past successes. That's how Rolling Meadows was built – by people working together." Residents who wish to volunteer with the Community Events Foundation may contact Ciezak at [ciezakl@cityrm.org](mailto:ciezakl@cityrm.org) or 847-394-8500.

## Council Hosts Public Hearings, Seeks 2016 Budget Approval

Following a series of public hearings and months of review and discussion, City Council and staff are moving forward with plans to approve Rolling Meadows' budget for Fiscal Year 2016 (FY 2016).

September's "Truth in Taxation" hearing on the proposed 2016 tax levy, and an October hearing on the City and Rolling Meadows Library budgets, offered residents an opportunity to lend their voices to the budget process.

Plans call for aldermen to approve the budget in November. State law requires the City to file its 2016 budget with Cook County in December.

A draft of the 2016 budget is available for public review at City Hall (3600 Kirchoff Road), the Rolling Meadows Library (3110 Martin Lane), and online at [www.cityrm.org/233/Annual-Reports](http://www.cityrm.org/233/Annual-Reports).

# Historical Museum Celebrates City's 60-Plus Years of Rich History

2015 has been a year of community celebration and reflection, as residents proudly marked the City's 60th Anniversary. But for members of the Rolling Meadows Historical Society, every day is a reason to celebrate.

The Rolling Meadows Historical Museum (3100 Central Road) is the centerpiece of the Society's ongoing efforts to document the City's humble beginnings and its transformation into a thriving community. Built as a replica of an original Kimball Hill Home, the Museum features authentic 1950s-era décor that transports visitors back through time.

The home's "garage" serves as the Mu-

seum's Education Center, where an exhaustive trove of historical photos, videos, documents, and memorabilia present the story behind Rolling Meadows' growth and development.

"Guests who visit the Museum – especially younger generations – come away with a better understanding of the City's past and an appreciation for how Rolling Meadows has grown," explains Historical Society member Alice Fitzgerald. "It's a wonderful opportunity to build bridges between the past and present."

The Museum is open Sundays, 1-4 p.m., during its regular winter hours. Group tours are available by appointment. For



The Rolling Meadows Historical Museum helps guests step back in time.

more information, call 847-577-7086 or visit [www.cityrm.org/376/Historical-Museum](http://www.cityrm.org/376/Historical-Museum).

## Watch City Council Meetings Live via Updated Website

Residents may now view City Council meetings and other Rolling Meadows Broadcasting Network (RMBN) programming in real time on their computers, tablets, and other devices, following the latest updates to the City's Website.

Visit [www.cityrm.org/609/Live-Feed](http://www.cityrm.org/609/Live-Feed) to stream Council deliberations live, or to access other programs and information broadcast daily.

"Live streaming of City Council meetings is just the latest example of how technology is making it easier than ever before for residents to access information," explains Information Technology (IT) Coordinator Justin Chiappetta. "Our goal is to help people understand what's happening in our community."

The Website also offers an "On Demand" archive of past Council meetings. Chiappetta says that IT staff are in the process of cataloging past meetings for posting on the Web.

Residents who prefer to watch City Council and Committee-of-the-Whole meetings on their televisions may tune in to TV Channel 6.

## 'IRS Phone Scam' Targets City Residents; Callers Threaten Arrest for Taxes Owed



Rolling Meadows Police Officer John Manfredi has a very simple solution for residents who receive a phone call from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) demanding payment of taxes they may owe.

"Hang up the phone. It's a scam," he says.

In countless cases across the U.S., residents have been cheated out of thousands of dollars by criminals who claim to be IRS officials and threaten victims with immediate arrest unless they "pay up." These scam artists will demand that residents withdraw money from their bank accounts or have funds debited directly from their accounts.

It is extremely difficult to apprehend these callers, since many of the calls originate from overseas. That's why Officer Manfredi emphasizes that residents' best defense is knowledge.

- The IRS will **never** contact a citizen by phone to demand immediate payment.
- IRS agents will **never** send police officers to a resident's home.
- The IRS will **never** ask for bank account, credit card or debit card information over the phone.

"The IRS follows a distinct, deliberate process when contacting citizens about collecting outstanding debts," he explains. "The first method of contact is an official letter that arrives in the mail. The IRS will only contact someone by phone after correspondence is firmly established, and accountants and tax attorneys have been retained."

Officer Manfredi has witnessed the scam in action, after a Rolling Meadows resident contacted the Police Department to report a voicemail message left by someone claiming to be from the IRS\*. In fact, the scammer called again after Officer Manfredi arrived at the resident's home.

"This con artist told me I was interfering in a federal investigation," Officer Manfredi recalls with a laugh. "I replied that we were on to him and then hung up the phone. Happily, we were able to help the resident before any money was transferred."

Residents who receive threatening calls are encouraged to contact the Rolling Meadows Police Department's non-emergency number, 847-255-2416.

\*Visit the Police Department's Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/rollingmeadowspolice](http://www.facebook.com/rollingmeadowspolice)) to hear audio of the voicemail message.

# November 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Daylight Saving Time Ends. 1 Clocks "fall back" one hour. Change batteries in smoke and carbon monoxide detectors.	Early refuse set-out begins. 2	<b>Economic Development 3</b> Committee, 6 pm <b>Environmental</b> <b>Committee, 7 pm</b> <b>Plan Commission, 7:30 pm,</b> all at City Hall	4	<b>Adjudication Hearing 5</b> (Parking), 2 pm, City Hall	6	7
8	<b>Board of Fire &amp; Police 9</b> <b>Commissioners, 9 am,</b> City Hall	<b>Crime Stoppers, 10</b> 5:30 pm <b>City Council Meeting,</b> 7:30 pm, both at City Hall	City Hall closed. Regular refuse pickup.  <b>Veterans Day</b>	<b>Adjudication Hearing,12</b> 1 pm, City Hall	13	14
15	16	<b>City Council Committee 17</b> <b>of the Whole, 7:30 pm,</b> City Hall	18	<b>Adjudication Hearing 19</b> (Red Light), 2 pm, City Hall	<b>Water bills due 20</b> <b>Police Pension Board,</b> 3:30 pm, City Hall	21
22	23	<b>City Council Meeting, 24</b> 7:30 pm, City Hall	25	City Hall & Public Works 26 closed. Refuse collection (Thursday & Friday) delayed one day.  <b>Thanksgiving Holiday</b>	City Hall & Public Works 27 closed. Refuse collection (Thursday & Friday) delayed one day.  <b>Thanksgiving Holiday</b>	Yard waste collection 28 ends.
29	30	Keep updated on City news with Rolling Meadows' electronic newsletter, <b>E-News &amp; Views</b> , published in February, April, June, August, October and December. Each newsletter is archived on the City's Website, <a href="http://www.cityrm.org">www.cityrm.org</a> .				

# December 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<b>Economic Development 1</b> Committee, 6 pm <b>Environmental</b> <b>Committee, 7 pm</b> <b>Plan Commission, 7:30 pm,</b> all at City Hall	<b>Zoning Board of 2</b> <b>Appeals, 7:30 pm, City Hall</b>	<b>Adjudication Hearing 3</b> (Parking), 2 pm, City Hall <b>Holiday Tree Lighting and</b> <b>60th Anniversary Fireworks</b> <b>/Spaghetti Dinner, 6 pm</b>	4	5
6  <b>Hanukkah</b>	7	<b>Crime Stoppers, 8</b> 5:30 pm <b>City Council Meeting,</b> 7:30 pm, both at City Hall	9	<b>Adjudication Hearing, 10</b> 1 pm, City Hall	11	12
13	<b>Board of Fire &amp; 14</b> <b>Police Commissioners,</b> 9 am, City Hall	<b>City Council Committee 15</b> <b>of the Whole, 7:30 pm,</b> City Hall	16	<b>Adjudication Hearing 17</b> (Red Light), 2 pm, City Hall	18	19
20	<b>Water bills due 21</b>	<b>Blood Drive, 1-7 pm 22</b> <b>City Council Meeting,</b> 7:30 pm, both at City Hall	23	City Hall & Public Works 24 closed. Early refuse pickup.  <b>Christmas Eve</b>	City Hall & Public Works 25 closed. Refuse collection delayed one day.  <b>Christmas</b>	26  <b>Kwanzaa</b>
27	28  <b>First Day of Winter</b>	29	30	31  <b>New Year's Eve</b>	City Hall & Public Works 1 closed. Refuse collection delayed one day.  <b>New Year's Day</b>	

## October Open House Showcases Firefighter Training and Equipment

The Rolling Meadows Fire Department's 2015 Open House welcomed hundreds of residents who learned more about the equipment and skills used by firefighters to protect the community.

The event's focus on public safety education included a harrowing live burn demonstration that showcased the effectiveness of home fire sprinklers, and a realistic automobile extrication exercise performed by firefighters.

Guests also explored the Department's fleet of engines and ambulances, and enjoyed meeting Department professionals on a beautiful fall day.



Several of the Fire Department's engines and ambulances were on display for residents to explore.

Free hot dogs, chips, and drinks for all attendees were provided by the Rolling Meadows Professional Firefighters Association, I.A.F.F. Local 3705.



Firefighter John Loesch, Sr. shares insights about life in the fire service with Open House guests.

## Public Works Crews Prepare for Winter; Residents Play Vital Role

The Public Works Department begins preparing for snow clearing operations long before snow blankets the City. As early as October, Department employees are busy inspecting snow fighting equipment, installing plows on vehicles, and conducting practice runs along their assigned routes.



Winter is coming and Public Works is ready.

This advance preparation allows crews to spring into action as soon as the first snowflakes begin to fall. However, residents and local businesses also play an important role in the success of those efforts:

### Avoid Shoveling Snow into Streets

Blowing snow into streets can cause icy hazards for motorists – and creates more work for residents. When plows return, the snow you've shoveled into the street is likely to end up back in your driveway. Homeowners should shovel snow to the right side of their driveways (when facing the street) and into yard areas whenever possible.

Residents should also clear the sidewalks of snow for the safety of school children and other pedestrians.

### Keep Fire Hydrants Clear of Snow

Shoveling snow away from fire hydrants may save lives. Hydrants that have been

cleared of snow are easier for firefighters to access in emergency situations.

### Observe Winter Parking Bans

Parking on City streets is prohibited for eight hours following a snowfall of one inch or more. This helps plows clear streets more effectively.

### Drive Safely While Plows are in Action

Use common sense and good judgement when driving in the vicinity of snow plows. Stay back and give plow drivers room to operate. Avoid traveling beside a snow plow – it can veer sideways when hitting drifts or cutting through deep snow. Never try to pass a snow plow that is clearing snow from the streets.

For more information on the City's snow removal efforts, contact Public Works at 847-963-0500 or visit [www.cityrm.org/301/Public-Works](http://www.cityrm.org/301/Public-Works).

## Collection Program Helps Residents Recycle Old Holiday Lights, Cords

The City of Rolling Meadows has again joined the Solid Waste Agency of Cook County (SWANCC) and Elgin Recycling to offer a seasonal recycling program that allows residents to safely dispose of old holiday lights, electrical cords and wire.

Drop off materials for recycling at a collection box outside City Hall (3600 Kirchoff Road) beginning Monday, November 2nd.

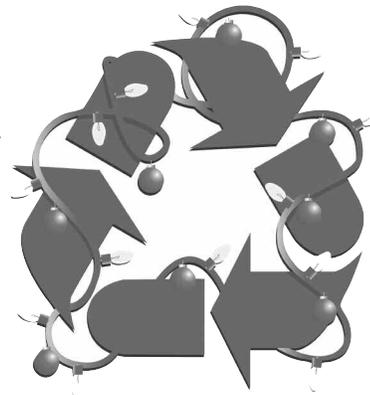
The program will run through Friday, February 12th, 2016.

The City cannot accept garland, live greens, wreaths, or other non-recyclables.

For more information, please visit [www.swancc.org](http://www.swancc.org) or [www.elginrecycling.com](http://www.elginrecycling.com).

### Items Accepted Include:

- Incandescent and LED lights (all sizes and colors).
- Extension cords.
- Household wire.
- Computer wires & cords.





# 60th Anniversary Renews Interest in City's Rich History, Sets Standard for Future Community Celebrations

by Mayor Tom Rooney

It's been a heck of a birthday year, hasn't it, Rolling Meadows? Council members and City staff have received very favorable feedback from residents on our 60th Anniversary events.

We've discovered that many residents, over the course of this celebratory year, enjoyed learning more about our City's rich history.

Still others mentioned that attending an event inspired them to learn more about Rolling Meadows on their own. If you

are one of those who have a new or renewed interest in our past, perhaps you'll consider channeling that interest by joining the Rolling Meadows Historical Society.

Many other residents have simply enjoyed the social aspects of our anniversary events. They appreciated having more opportunities to enjoy food, fun and – thanks to Wine Down by the Creek, drink – here in town.

These events wouldn't have been possible without the time, energy, and talents

of our 60th Anniversary Committee members. They all deserve our thanks for a terrific job this year. Perhaps you'd consider volunteering to organize and support an expanded roster of community events again in 2016?

Whether we help Historical Society members recall the City's proud past or focus our efforts on organizing future community events, Rolling Meadows is a better place when we all contribute.

See you at the 60th Anniversary Christmas Tree lighting!

## Police Department Outreach Efforts Improve Rolling Meadows Residents' Quality of Life

The Rolling Meadows Police Department's proud history of service expands far beyond law enforcement and crime prevention. Its focus on community policing fosters cooperation and trust between officers and the residents they serve. That commitment was evident at two recent Department-sponsored events.

**Coffee with a Cop** – Police officers welcomed residents to The Mug (1450 Golf Road) for complimentary coffee. In addition to the caffeine "jolt," the event also offered residents an opportunity to share their views and concerns in a relaxed, informal setting.

**Prescription Drug Take-Back** – The Department's partnership with the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) provided residents a safe, convenient way to dispose of old prescription medications during National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day.



Sergeant Mike Spanos meets with residents at the Police Department's October "Coffee with a Cop" event.



Commander Tom Gadomski helps residents safely dispose of unused medications during September's "Take Back" collection.

## Deck the Halls and Shop Rolling Meadows

Searching for great value and shopping convenience this holiday season? Look no further than Rolling Meadows. Local merchants are stocking their shelves and eager to welcome shoppers. The City's diverse business community offers something for everyone on your list.

Choose from specialty shops offering unique products and services; "Big Box" retailers with the latest electronics, toys, and apparel; or certificates and gift cards from the City's vast selection of restaurants. Shopping locally also boosts sales tax revenues that reduce reliance on property taxes to fund City services.

## Refuse Collection Update

### Early Refuse Set Out Begins November 2nd

Residents may set their refuse at the curb after 3 p.m. the day before their regularly scheduled pick-up starting Monday, November 2nd. This "early refuse set out" time will run through March 2016, per City ordinance. Regular set out times (after 6 p.m.) remain in effect during the months of April – October.

### 2015 Yard Waste Collection Ends November 28th

The City's yard waste collection service will conclude for the year during the week of November 23rd – 28th\*. Residents should place yard waste in craft paper bags at the curb – separate from household waste – for pick up on their regular collection date. Public Works will begin yard waste collection again next spring.

\*Note: Thursday and Friday routes will be delayed one day, due to the Thanksgiving holiday.

For more information, contact Public Works at 847-963-0500 or visit [www.cityrm.org/301/Public-Works](http://www.cityrm.org/301/Public-Works).