



# NEWS

Volume 20 Number 5

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# & Views

September/October 2016

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

## 3,500 Celebrate with Police Officers at Jam-Packed 'National Night Out'

A record-setting crowd of nearly 3,500 people gathered at the Community Center August 1st to honor Rolling Meadows police officers and the special bonds they share with residents, during the City's 2016 National Night Out celebration.



National "Knight" Out: Two knights from Medieval Times clash in an epic mock battle.

Police Chief John Nowacki, in his opening remarks to the crowd, called National Night Out "a celebration of community pride and a representation of the strong ties Rolling Meadows police officers have with the residents we serve."

Mayor Tom Rooney, responding to a flurry of negative headlines that had appeared on TV news programs throughout the summer, recognized the annual event as a way for residents to honor "our boys in blue."

Featured attractions at this year's event included a "percussive" performance by the Chicago Bears Drumline, amazing acrobatics by the world-renowned Jesse



Rolling Meadows police officers mug for the camera with some of the City's younger residents at this year's National Night Out celebration.

White Tumblers, fierce mock battles by the knights of Medieval Times, a "star-spangled" performance of our National

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## In Memoriam: Donald M. Rose

## Long-Time City Attorney Helped Chart City Growth, Development

Former City Attorney Donald M. Rose, who advised eight mayors and multiple City Councils on legal issues impacting Rolling Meadows growth and development, passed away in July. He was 85 years-old.

Rose moved to Rolling Meadows in 1958. He was appointed City Attorney in 1961, and would spend the next 44 years as trusted legal counsel for City officials who helped guide the community's rapid growth in the 1960s and 1970s.

He retired in 2006, after "44 years, four months, and over 1,400 night meetings," a story in the May 2006 edition of *News & Views* reported.

Rose had "many interests and varied talents," according to his obituary. He was an avid reader, fisherman, part-time farmer, and

licensed pilot who loved to travel the world to "experience first-hand the places he read about."

Rose first found success as a high school and college basketball player. He was captain of the Tilden Technical High School team that won Chicago's 1949 city championship, and earned a scholarship to DePaul University, where he played for the legendary coach Ray Meyer.

Rose served three years in the U.S. Marine Corps after graduation, then returned to DePaul to complete his law degree.

He is survived by his wife, Mary; four children; seven grandchildren; a great-granddaughter; two sisters, a brother, and numerous nieces and nephews.



Don Rose

## 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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[@CityofRM1](http://www.twitter.com/CityofRM1)

Find Us on the Web: [www.cityrm.org](http://www.cityrm.org)

## Business Briefs Meadows Credit Union 'Returns' for September 24th Grand Reopening

Meadows Credit Union will hold a grand opening event Saturday, September 24th, at its new 2401 Plum Grove Road location. Attractions will include a free onsite document destruction event (10 a.m. – 1 p.m.), Grill Chasers food truck, and a special appearance by Chicago Wolves mascot, Skates. The event marks MCU's return to Rolling Meadows, after operating from its former Arlington Heights location since 1993. For more information, call 847-342-9300 or visit [www.mcuonline.com](http://www.mcuonline.com).



New drive-up lanes improve service at Ben Franklin Bank, located at 3166 Kirchoff Road.

## Ben Franklin Bank Adds Drive-Up Service

Drive-up banking services are now available for customers at Ben Franklin Bank, located at 3166 Kirchoff Road, in the Rolling Meadows Shopping Center. Drive-up hours are Monday – Thursday, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.; Friday, 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.; and Saturday, 8 a.m. – 1 p.m. For more information, call 847-394-0600 or visit [www.benfrankbank.com](http://www.benfrankbank.com).

## Yonan Carpet One Opens Hicks Road Showroom

Yonan Carpet One recently opened its new Rolling Meadows showroom at 1400 Hicks Road. The company offers a wide spectrum of carpet, area rugs, flooring products, and installation services. Rolling Meadows is the third Yonan location, joining its other showrooms in Chicago/Oak Park and Downers Grove. (847-788-8000, [www.yonancarpetone.com](http://www.yonancarpetone.com)).



Comet opened its doors in August at 3001 Kirchoff Road.

## 'Comet' Lands in Downtown Rolling Meadows; Menu Features Frozen Desserts, Coffee, Sodas

Rolling Meadows' newest downtown business, Comet, offers an intriguing menu of frozen desserts, coffee beverages, and hand-crafted sodas. But owner/operator Craig Carlson sees Comet as something more: a gathering place where residents can enjoy tasty treats with family, friends, and neighbors.

### Comet Frozen Custard

3001 Kirchoff Road  
Rolling Meadows

"Our goal is to offer more than just delicious custard and coffee. We want to deliver an environment where people can come together," Carlson explains.

The new Comet stands at 3001 Kirchoff Road, at the corner of Kirchoff and Meadow Drive. Carlson says it's the perfect location for welcoming his customer base – kids who ride their bikes to and from school; residents who live in nearby single family homes, townhomes, and condominiums; and visitors who attend downtown events such as the Rolling Meadows

Cruisers' weekly car shows and the City's Farmers & Food Trucks markets.

"I wanted to create a place where people could go without having to get in their cars," he adds. "This concept wouldn't work if we opened the business on Golf Road."

Comet customers may choose from a wide variety of frozen goodies (custard, malts, and shakes available in multiple flavors), home-brewed coffee drinks (hot or cold), and a full line Boylan brand sodas. There's ample outdoor patio seating for enjoying downtown summers, as well as welcoming interior spaces for times – or seasons – when the weather doesn't want to cooperate.

The interior features clean lines that provide a modern, welcoming décor. Carlson says the objective was to avoid a "cookie cutter" appearance and instead be something residents will be proud to visit.

"Comet is a unique experience," he explains. "We want to offer something new for customers of all ages. Whether you're three years-old or in your 70s, there is a place for you here."

## Scenic Salt Creek Bike Path Extension Connects City's Downtown Area and Library

The latest addition to the City's extensive bike path system made its debut in late August, with the official opening of a section along Salt Creek that provides two-wheeled access between the downtown area and the Rolling Meadows Library.

The new path begins near Fratello's (3301 Kirchoff Road) and runs south along the eastern edge of Salt Creek to the Library parking lot. It also connects directly to the Kirchoff Road underpass, which lets users access Kimball Hill Park and other

paths on the City's north side.

Eighty percent of the \$350,000 project was covered by a grant from the Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program. ITEP provides funding for community projects that "expand travel choices and enhance the transportation experience by improving the cultural, historic, aesthetic and environmental aspects of our transportation infrastructure," according to the Illinois Department of Transportation website.

## 29-Year Veteran William Arneson Named Deputy Police Chief; PD Promotes Commander John Sircher, Sergeant Sam Mollenhauer

Commander William Arneson, who began his career with the Rolling Meadows Police Department in 1987, was sworn-in as Deputy Police Chief during City Council's July 26th meeting.

The swearing-in ceremony also honored newly-promoted Commander John Sircher and Sergeant Sam Mollenhauer, who have served Rolling Meadows residents for a combined 36 years.

### Deputy Chief Bill Arneson:

Since beginning his career in Rolling Meadows nearly 30 years ago, Deputy Chief Arneson has served as a patrol officer, field training officer, and firearms range officer and range master. He was a member of a regional auto theft task force, and previously served as



PD promotees (l to r): Deputy Chief Bill Arneson, Sgt. Sam Mollenhauer, and Cmdr. John Sircher.

Department Coordinator for the Northern Illinois Police Alarm System (NIPAS) regional SWAT force.

He earned promotion to sergeant in 1994, and achieved the rank of commander in 2002.

Earlier this year, he served two months as Acting Chief, following the retirement of former Police Chief Dave Scanlan.

### Commander John Sircher

Commander Sircher has served as patrol officer, school resource officer, detective, and sergeant since joining the Rolling Meadows Police Department in 1992. He is recipient of the District 2014 Staff leadership Award for his work with local schools.

### Sergeant Sam Mollenhauer

Sgt. Mollenhauer began his career in Rolling Meadows as a Community Service Officer in 2004. He became a patrol officer the following year, and also served as the School Resource Officer at Rolling Meadows High School.

In 2015, he was assigned to the Department's Investigations Unit as a detective.

## Residents Raise \$1,200 for Police Department Summer Camp Program

A Mexican food sale organized by residents who live in Rolling Meadows' East Park Apartments raised more than \$1,200 for the Police Department's annual summer camp for kids, Social Services Outreach Specialist Natalia Mercado reports.

The Woman Leaders of Rolling Meadows partnered with Trinity Lutheran Church to host a July 29th event that welcomed residents for "authentic Mexican food home-cooked on the spot," according to a flier promoting the event.

"The food sale was an incredible success and a real milestone for the summer camp program," Mercado explains. "It marked the

first time the parents of our campers came together to fundraise on our behalf. We're hoping this compels other community organizations and groups to consider supporting our program in the years ahead."

The Police Department's summer camp is open to all Rolling Meadows children ages 8-13. Camp activities take place at two locations: East Park Apartments and the Apartments at Woodfield Crossing.

Nearly 100 kids joined this year's program, which included a field trip to Chicago's Museum of Science and Industry, as well as visits to the Rolling Meadows pool, library, and Police and Fire Departments.

Summer camp activities were funded by the RMPD, with additional support provided by the Rotary Club of Rolling Meadows, the Apartments at Woodfield Crossing, and money raised during the July Mexican food sale.

"The kids had a wonderful camp experience this year and we're already looking forward to planning next summer's events," Mercado adds.

Local groups who are interested in supporting the Police Department's summer camp may contact Mercado at 847-870-2636 or [mercadon@cityrm.org](mailto:mercadon@cityrm.org).



Rolling Meadows fire station tours (above) and a field trip to the Museum of Science and Industry were popular activities for campers this summer.

# September 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Keep updated on City news with Rolling Meadows' electronic newsletter, <i>E-News &amp; Views</i> , 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> .				<b>Adjudication Hearing</b> 1 (Parking), 2 pm, City Hall	<b>Cruise Night</b> , 5-8 pm, 2 Meadows Christian Fellowship (2401 Kirchoff Road)	3
4	City Hall and Public Works closed. Refuse collection delayed one day all week.  <b>Labor Day</b>	<b>Environmental Committee</b> , 7 pm <b>Plan Commission</b> , 7:30 pm, both at City Hall	<b>Crime Stoppers</b> , 5:30 pm, City Hall	8	<b>Farmers &amp; Food Trucks</b> , 9 4-8:30 pm, Community Church (2720 Kirchoff Rd) <b>Cruise Night</b> , 5-8 pm	10
11	<b>Board of Fire &amp; Police Commissioners</b> , 9 am, City Hall	<b>City Council Meeting</b> , 13 7:30 pm, City Hall	14	<b>Adjudication Hearing</b> , 15 1 pm, City Hall	16	17
18	19	<b>Water bills due</b> 20 <b>Senior Luncheon</b> , 11:30 am -2 pm, Community Center (3705 Pheasant Dr) <b>City Council Committee of the Whole</b> , 7:30 pm, City Hall	21	<b>Adjudication Hearing</b> 22 (Red Light), 2 pm, City Hall	23	<b>Farmers &amp; Food Trucks</b> , 10 am-2 pm, City Hall
25	26	<b>City Council Meeting</b> , 27 7:30 pm, City Hall	28	29	30	

# October 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Learn more about City services with Rolling Meadows' re-designed, updated website. Visit <a href="http://www.cityrm.org">www.cityrm.org</a> .						<b>Hometown Hoedown</b> , 1 3-8 pm, Kimball Hill Park
2	3	<b>Economic Development Committee</b> , 6 pm <b>Environmental Committee</b> , 7 pm <b>Plan Commission</b> , 7:30 pm, all at City Hall	<b>Crime Stoppers</b> , 5:30 pm <b>Zoning Board of Appeals</b> , 7:30 pm, both at City Hall	<b>Adjudication Hearing</b> 6 (Parking), 2 pm, City Hall	7	<b>Fire Department Open House</b> , 10am-2 pm, Neuckranz Fire Station (2455 Plum Grove Rd)
9	<b>Board of Fire &amp; Police Commissioners</b> , 9 am, City Hall	<b>City Council Meeting</b> , 11 7:30 pm, City Hall	12	<b>Adjudication Hearing</b> , 13 1 pm, City Hall	14	15
<b>OCTOBER 9-15: NATIONAL FIRE PREVENTION WEEK</b>						
16	17	<b>City Council Committee of the Whole</b> , 7:30 pm, City Hall	19	<b>Water bills due</b> 20 <b>Adjudication Hearing</b> (Red Light), 2 pm, City Hall	21	22
23	<b>Police Pension Board</b> , 3:30 pm, City Hall  <b>Halloween</b> , (Trick or Treat hours 3-8 pm)	<b>City Council Meeting</b> , 25 7:30 pm, City Hall	26	27	28	29
30	31					

# Open Lines of Communication Help Speed Permit Approval Process

By Valerie Dehner, Community Development Director



Valerie Dehner

Permits issued by the Community Development for home repair and improvement projects serve an important purpose: they protect residents from unsafe workmanship and safeguard the value of what, for many, is their most important asset.

Department staff members work diligently to approve permit applications submitted by residents and businesses (or their contractors) in the order they are received. The more complete an initial application, the faster we are able to review and approve it.

In some cases, however, plan reviewers discover that a permit application has not been completed fully, or does not include all the required information. When this occurs, we contact customers and ask them to provide the necessary details. Open lines

of communication between Community Development and residents applying for permits help speed the approval process.

Unfortunately, we've experienced a number of instances over the past several months where we received no reply after repeatedly contacting customers who submitted incomplete applications. Residents eager to install a new backyard patio or room addition most likely would prefer minimal delays. Our goal is the same as theirs: to get construction projects started as soon as possible.

Responding to our requests for additional information in timely fashion is one way to assure that all work proceeds quickly. Home improvement and/or business construction projects cannot begin until permits have been issued. And the City cannot issue those permits until we receive all the information needed to approve the application.

## 3,500 Celebrate with Police Officers at 'National Night Out'

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Anthem by the Chicago Blackhawks' Jim Cornelison, helicopters, and an explosive fireworks display.

Guest enjoyed free hot dogs, pizza, pasta, frozen custard, and cakes; as well as a bounce house and other kids' activities. Many took pictures with professional sports mascots "Staley Da Bear" (Chicago Bears) and "Skates" (Chicago Wolves). Residents also toured the Air One and Flight for Life rescue helicopters that touched down in Rolling Meadows specifically for the occasion.

## Upcoming Events Include September Senior Luncheon, October 'Hometown Hoedown'

Summer may have drawn to a close, but the good times will keep "rolling" in September and October with a senior luncheon at the Community Center, and the inaugural Hometown Hoedown in Kimball Hill Park.

### Senior Lunch to Feature Italian Buffet, September 20th

Residents ages 50 and up will enjoy live music, free raffles, and *delizioso* Italian cuisine during the 2016 Senior Luncheon, held Tuesday September 20th, 11:30 a.m. – 2 p.m., at the Community Center. The



Seniors gather for a lively luncheon at last year's event.

event is open to Rolling Meadows seniors and Senior Center members. Admission is \$5 per person. For reservations, call 847-818-3205.

### October 1st Hometown Hoedown to Welcome Fall Season

"Giddy-up" to Kimball Hill Park Saturday, October 1st, 3 – 8 p.m., for Rolling Meadows' first-ever Hometown Hoedown. Attractions will include horse-drawn hayrides, live country/western entertainment, square dancing demos and lessons, pumpkin decorating, kids' games, and more! Admission is free. Food and drinks will be available for purchase.

## October 8th Open House to Showcase Firefighter Training, Equipment



The Open House's interactive format helps residents learn more about Fire Department equipment and services.

Rolling Meadows firefighters will showcase the training, skills, and equipment they use to protect the community Saturday, October 8th, when the Fire Department hosts its annual Open House at the Neuckranz Fire Station (2455 Plum Grove Road).

The 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. event will feature a series of safety and rescue demonstrations, guided station tours, and an opportunity for residents to explore the Department's fleet of emergency vehicles.

"One of the highlights of the Open House – for us – is welcoming residents to the fire station and offering a snapshot of life in the fire service," Fire Chief Scott Franzgrote says. "The event also helps residents learn more about fire safety and the wide range of services we provide."

This year's Open House is a focal point of the Department's National Fire Prevention Week observance (October 9th – 15th). For more information, contact the RMFD at 847-397-3352.

## Out-of-Pocket Expense Reimbursement Poses a ‘Taxing’ Problem

by Mayor Tom Rooney

A recent change in state law limits out-of-pocket expenses that elected officials of non-home rule governments may submit for reimbursement – items such as travel, lodging, meals, and mileage.

The legislature likely had concerns about how much local leaders were submitting for taxpayer reimbursement. It's also likely that, even though the law doesn't apply to home rule communities like Rolling Meadows, our residents might want to know what expenses I've

submitted for reimbursement over the past five-plus years as your mayor.

\$0. Zero. Zip.zilch.

As mayor, I often use public transportation while traveling to Chicago for meetings or events on behalf of Rolling Meadows. I travel to Springfield every year for municipal conferences and to meet with state officials.

Those trips usually require overnight lodging. Despite the added expense, I've never asked taxpayers for a dime of it back.

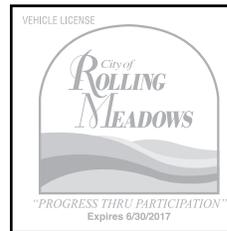
I recently concluded my term as president of the Northwest Municipal Conference. Did I charge that organization instead for my out-of-pocket expenses? Never. Do I have a campaign fund to cover these costs? No.

Here's how I cover my out-of-pocket expenses: I pay for them with my salary. I earn just under \$10,000 per year as Rolling Meadows' mayor, but it seems to me that the expenses I incur on behalf of residents should be covered by the money they pay me to do this job in the first place.

## Current Year Vehicle Stickers Required to Avoid \$100 Citation

Motorists who do not display the City's 2016-17 vehicle sticker in their windshields face a costly citation. Purchase stickers at [www.tmainc.us/XSaLTWebs/tmaXapp/online?MUNI=RM](http://www.tmainc.us/XSaLTWebs/tmaXapp/online?MUNI=RM) online or at City Hall to avoid the risk of a \$100 ticket.

Sticker costs doubled after this year's June 30th purchase deadline. Prices start at \$60 for most passenger vehicles. Discounted stickers for senior citizens ages 65 and up are \$40. All vehicles registered in Rolling Meadows – including those owned by residents with Palatine mailing addresses – must display them.



New residents, and those who acquire a new vehicle between July 1st, 2016 and May 1, 2017, have 60 days to purchase new stickers without incurring late fees. Annual sticker sales generate around \$500,000 for ongoing street maintenance, which helps reduce wear and tear on resident's vehicles, and reduces the potential for costly automotive repairs.

## Residents ‘Wine Down’ at Kimball Hill Park

Residents turned out in droves on Friday, August 5th for the City's second annual “Wine Down by the Creek” in picturesque Kimball Hill Park.

Highlights included a diverse menu of craft beer and sangria; hot sandwiches offered by the Rogue Curbside Kitchen food truck; made-to-order wood-fired pizzas; and performances by the Northwest Concert Band and Field Day, whose high energy rock and roll closed out the evening. Community support played a key role in the event's success, led by Ben Franklin Bank's generous \$2,500 sponsorship.



Kimball Hill Park (above) lent picturesque views and a relaxing ambiance for hundreds of guests who joined this year's event. Craft beer and local wines helped Wine Down attendees showcase their community “spirit” (above right).



### Thanks to our 2016 Wine Down Sponsors

- Ben Franklin Bank
- Bigby's Pour House
- Divine Design & Marketing
- Lynfred Winery
- Rolling Meadows Chamber of Commerce
- Rolling Meadows Park District
- Thrivent Financial