

**THIS MONTH IN  
ROLLING MEADOWS**

**April 7 – Election Day,** Wards 2, 4 and 6. Candidate profiles and polling places featured inside. Polls open 6 a.m.- 7 p.m.

**April 7 — Economic Development Committee,** 6 p.m., **Plan Commission,** 7:30 p.m., both at City Hall. **Library Board,** 7 p.m., at the Library

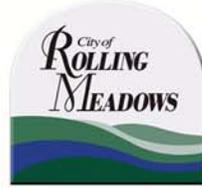
**April 14 – City Council Meeting,** 7:30 p.m., City Hall

**April 16 – Adjudication Hearing,** 1 p.m. City Hall

**April 28 – City Council Meeting,** 7:30 p.m., City Hall

**April 23 – Adjudication Hearing,** 1 p.m., City Hall

**April 30 – Adjudication Hearing,** 1 p.m., City Hall



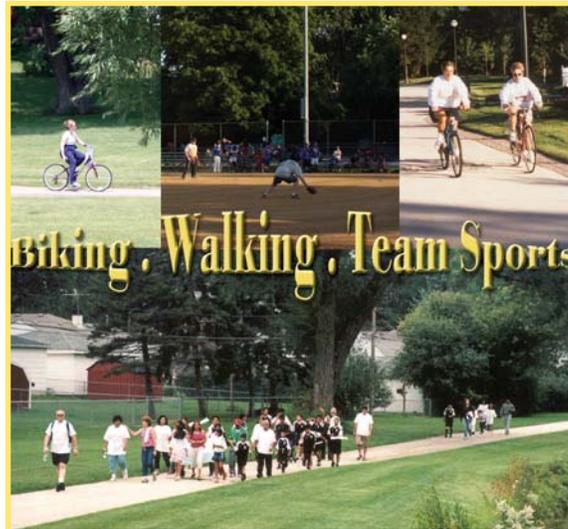
3600 Kirchoff Road . Rolling Meadows, IL 60008 . 847-394-8500 . [www.cityrm.org](http://www.cityrm.org)

**Residents Sought for ‘Team Rolling Meadows’  
As City Launches 10-Week ‘Get Active Challenge’**

The City’s Cancer Awareness Committee has partnered with the American Cancer Society to launch Rolling Meadows’ “Get Active Challenge,” a 10-week program designed to help residents embrace a physically active lifestyle, Committee Chair and Ward 2 Alderman Barb Lusk reports.

The community-wide fitness program will take place Monday, April 13 – Monday, June 22.

The Get Active Challenge is an online exercise management program developed by the American



Cancer Society. It helps participants set personal fitness goals, provides tips and tools on how to achieve those goals, and lets individuals monitor their progress.

Program participants will represent “Team Rolling

Meadows” by tracking their physical activity on a daily ledger found at the Get Active Challenge Website. A link to the site is available on the City’s homepage, [www.cityrm.org](http://www.cityrm.org).

“Regular physical activity can reduce one’s risk of cancer,” Lusk, a healthcare professional at Northwest Community

Hospital, explains. “The Get Active Challenge will encourage residents to increase their physical activity and offer unique resources to achieve personal fitness goals in a

*Continued on page 2*

**Don't Forget  
to Vote!  
Election Day  
is April 7.  
Polls are  
open from 6  
a.m. to 7 p.m.**

**Residents to Elect New Council Members April 7**

BY GINNY COTUGNO, DEPUTY CITY CLERK

On Tuesday, April 7, Rolling Meadows voters will cast ballots for City Council candidates in Wards 2, 4 and 6.

Here are the candidates, listed in the order they appear on the ballot:

**Ward 2**

- Barb Lusk (incumbent);

**Ward 4**

- Brad Judd;

**Ward 6**

- Kathy Kwandras (incumbent);
- John D’Astice.

Current 4<sup>th</sup> Ward Alderman Tom Rooney

declined to run for re-election.

This issue of *News & Views* features brief profiles of each candidate on pages 2 and 3. **Polling places, also listed in this issue, will be open 6 a.m. – 7 p.m. on Election Day.**

Voters will also be asked to choose Rolling Meadows Park District commissioners; board members for Harper College and school Districts 15, 211 and 214; and candidates for offices in Elk Grove, Palatine, Schaumburg and Wheeling Townships.

For more information on the April 7 Consolidated Election, contact Cook County Clerk David Orr’s office at 312-603-0906, or visit [www.voterinfonet.com](http://www.voterinfonet.com).



## Ward 6: John D'Astice



**Occupation:** Director of Sales for a major hotel corporation. I have been in the hospitality industry for over 30 years at various hotels in the Chicago area.

**Education:** I attended DePaul University for four years and graduated in 1977 with my Bachelor of Science in Marketing.

**Rolling Meadows resident for...**21 years.

**Family:** I have been married to my wife, Mary Lou, for 28 years. We have 4 children: Nicole, Michelle, Dominic and Angela, who have all attended or will be attending Central Road School, Carl Sandberg Junior High and Rolling Meadows High School.

**Past and current public offices:** I was first elected in 1993 as Rolling Meadows' 6<sup>th</sup> Ward Alderman. I was re-elected two more times before being forced to retire in 2005 due to the City's self-imposed term limit ordinance that restricts aldermen to three consecutive terms.

**Volunteer service:** I currently serve on the Rolling Meadows Economic Development Committee. I have served on the Rolling Meadows Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, Woodfield Convention Bureau Board of Directors, and the Central Road Elementary School Task Force. I was a leader for 15 years in the Indian Princesses program with my daughters, and for 6 years in the Indian Guides program with my son.

**I belong to...** St. Colette's Church.

**My hero is...** My father. He came to the United States when he was a young man with less than a high school education. He worked hard to learn the English language and accepted American customs without forsaking the traditions of his native country. He earned his citizenship, got married 55 years ago, raised a family of four sons and sent them to college. He accomplished his dreams with faith, loyalty, dedication and hard work. He taught my brothers and me these qualities so we could apply them in our lives and pass them on to our children.

## Ward 6: Kathy Kwandras



**Occupation:** Homemaker/Community Volunteer, Alderman

**Education:** Graduate of Moser Business School in Chicago

**Rolling Meadows resident since...**

1955. I grew up in this City and have lived most of my life here. My husband and I raised our family here.

**Family:** My husband John and I have been married 27 years. Sons: Michael and John William.

**Past and current public offices:** 6<sup>th</sup> Ward Alderman, 2005 – present; Vice President of the Rolling Meadows Historical Society 2002 – present.

**Volunteer service:** CERT (Community Emergency Response Team); Cancer Awareness Committee; WINGS; Ad hoc 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee; Home Rule referendum; ran Neighborhood Watch in my area 1996 – 2004; Police, Fire & Public Works citizens training academies; 911 referendum; former Central Road Elementary School PTA Health & Safety chairman; Rolling Meadows Historical Museum; Ad hoc Historical Committee; Committee for Police Chief Search (1998); Police Neighborhood Resource Foundation Board, City liaison to Rolling Meadows Library.

**I belong to...** St. Colette Parish and the Rolling Meadows Historical Society.

**My hero is...** my Grandfather, Willard M. Watson, former teacher and principal at Barrington High School, for his wisdom and understanding.

## April 7 Consolidated Election Precincts & Polling Places

### Palatine Township

**5 & 12** – Rolling Meadows Library, 3110 Martin Lane.

**9** – William Fremd High School, 1000 S. Quentin Road.

**11, 19 & 52** – Plum Grove Park, 4001 Park Drive.

**13** – Kimball Hill School, 2905 Meadow Drive.

**14 & 21** – Carl Sandburg School, 2600 Martin Lane.

**24 & 72** – Community Center, 3705 Pheasant Drive.

**28 & 71** – Rolling Meadows City Hall, 3600 Kirchoff Road.

**41 & 50** – Plum Grove Junior High School, 2600 Plum Grove Road.

**51** – Church of Christ, 2300 Cardinal Drive.

**70** – Little City Foundation, 1760 W. Algonquin Road.

**91** – High School District 211 Offices, 1750 S. Roselle Road.

### Elk Grove Township

**28 & 71** – Rolling Meadows Holiday Inn, 3405 Algonquin Road.

**52 & 64** – Rolling Meadows High School, 2901 Central Road.

### Schaumburg Township

**2** – Walden Recreation Center, 1833 Thoreau Drive, Schaumburg.

### Wheeling Township

**41** – Westgate School, 500 South Dwyer, Arlington Heights.

# Welcome Home, Staff Sgt. Chrabot!

City officials helped welcome U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Nicholas Chrabot home from Iraq on March 10 for two weeks of rest and recreation (R&R). A caravan of Rolling Meadows Police and Fire Department vehicles and members of Warriors' Watch Riders escorted Sgt. Chrabot to his home on South Street, where he was mobbed by friends, family members and neighbors.

Sgt. Chrabot, a member of the Army's 172<sup>nd</sup> Stryker Brigade, has served two tours in Iraq. He is a recipient of the Combat Infantryman Badge, presented to soldiers who participate in active ground combat.

Welcome home, Sgt. Chrabot!



## City Clerk Finds Mistaken Tax Exemptions Worth Thousands

A little detective work by an enterprising Community Development Department clerk uncovered 187 owners of rental properties in Rolling Meadows who mistakenly claim homeowner and/or senior exemptions on their property taxes – costing local taxing bodies thousands of dollars each year, Community Development Director Valerie Dehner reports.

During a routine comparison of the City's multi-family dwelling database with information on file with the Cook County Assessor's and Treasurer's Offices, the Department found several discrepancies. With Dehner's approval, staff began a comprehensive examination of property tax records for all 594 rental properties in Rolling Meadows. In total, staff members found 187 property owners (31%) who mistakenly declared one or both of the exemptions.

"I was very impressed by staff's initiative and persistence over the course of this effort," Dehner explains. "Homeowner exemption is for those who live in their own homes, not owners who rent to others. Once the Treasurer's Office updates its records, local schools, the library, the Park District and other local taxing districts may benefit by receiving their rightful share of property tax revenue."

This update may also lower the City's tax rate, according to Finance Director Jim Egeberg.

"This is an excellent example of how staff members go above and beyond their normal responsibilities to benefit the City," Dehner adds.

## City Approves Transfer of 911 services To Northwest Central Dispatch System

By unanimous vote, City Council last month approved the transfer of Rolling Meadows' emergency dispatch operations to Northwest Central Dispatch System, an Arlington Heights-based regional dispatch center established in 1972.

The City will begin the transfer of fire and emergency medical dispatch calls to Northwest Central Dispatch this month. A complete transfer of all 911 services will be completed by July.

Transferring dispatch operations will improve the ability of Rolling Meadows firefighters and paramedics to communicate with surrounding fire departments on mutual response calls and improve response times, Fire Chief Ron Stewart says.

"Nearly one-third of all calls we receive involve the

support of departments that are Northwest Central Dispatch System members," Chief Stewart explains. "Because the City's current dispatch system does not operate on the same frequency as the regional dispatch center, the Fire Department is forced to monitor two separate radio frequencies and equip each vehicle with two sets of radios. This technology gap creates a built-in delay that affects communications and, ultimately, response times."

The severe economic downturn and budgetary constraints also played a role in Council's decision to join the regional system. The move will save taxpayers nearly \$1.8 million over the next three years.

"Rising costs, new technology upgrades and

interoperability requirements are causing a national trend toward regional dispatch services," Police Chief Steve Williams explains. "Independent municipalities increasingly can't pay for these by themselves. Today's economic climate, especially, requires the City to seize initiatives that will reduce the burden on taxpayers who fund emergency services."

Seven City dispatchers, who will lose their jobs in the transition, have been offered the opportunity to apply for job openings with Northwest Central Dispatch.

Rolling Meadows joins the communities of Arlington Heights, Buffalo Grove, Elk Grove Village, Hoffman Estates, Inverness, Mount Prospect, Palatine, Prospect Heights, Schaumburg and Streamwood in the regional dispatch system.

# Expanded Program Boosts Recycling by 20%, Saves City \$35,000 in Refuse Disposal Costs

Recyclable materials collection in Rolling Meadows has increased more than 20% since April 2008, following delivery of 65-gallon wheeled carts to all Rolling Meadows refuse customers as part of the City's expanded recycling program, according to an analysis of recycling data by the Public Works Department.

The larger carts, which replaced residents' old 18-gallon recycling bins, also helped reduce regular refuse collection by 11%. That saved the City about \$35,000 in disposal costs, or "tipping fees."

Between April and December, recycling collection jumped to 2,101 tons of material, up from 1,744 tons for the same period in 2007.

"The larger carts are making it easier for residents to conserve limited natural resources and protect the environment by increasing the collection of recyclable materials," Public Works Director Fred Vogt explains. "Besides the obvious environmental benefits, the program is helping to reduce costs for normal household refuse disposal, as waste that would usually end up in a landfill is instead recycled."

"We appreciate residents' support of the City's recycling program. Their commitment to recycling is the driving force behind its suc-

cess," he adds.

The data reinforces what City officials believed would happen following implementation of the new program. The 65-gallon carts have:

- **Increased the volume** of recyclables collected in Rolling Meadows;
- **Reduced costs** for disposal of household refuse;
- **Improved service quality** by making recycling more efficient;
- **Reduced litter** by offering recycling containers with attached lids.



Residents who believe they would be better served by using a smaller, 35-gallon recycling cart may contact Public Works to arrange an exchange at no charge. Homeowners who generate large quantities of recyclable materials may also purchase a second cart (\$45 for 35-gallon carts, \$55 for 65-gallon carts).

For more information on Rolling Meadows' recycling program, contact Public Works at 847-963-0500 or visit [www.cityrm.org](http://www.cityrm.org).

## *A Job Well Done*

### Builder Praises City's 'Well Run' System for Permit Inspection

Rolling Meadows residents should take pride in City's "well-run system" of permit processing and inspection scheduling, according to a letter to the Community Development Department from Bradley J. Schneider, President of Rolling Meadows-based B.J.S. Builders.

Schneider's letter praised the Department's professionalism in "providing us the information and knowledge to proceed in a quick and timely manner, with minimal disruption" on a recent project.

"I would also like to take a minute to commend Rolling Meadows on its inspection scheduling," he wrote. "Rolling Meadows is the only community that provides a specific time for scheduled inspections. It is very frustrating and costly for contractors when other municipalities cannot put together an inspection schedule. Other villages should follow your lead."

### New Residents Must Purchase Vehicle Stickers, Dog Licenses

New residents are required to purchase and display City vehicle stickers for their vehicles, and ensure that their dogs are licensed with the City.

Vehicles stickers start at \$22, while dog tags cost \$5 (\$3 for neutered/spayed animals). All dogs must be licensed and inoculated against rabies.

For more information, contact the Finance Department at 847/394-8500 or [vs@cityrm.org](mailto:vs@cityrm.org).

## 2009 Vehicle Stickers on Sale in June

Residents will be able to purchase 2009-2010 vehicle stickers June 1 – June 30, following Council approval of a condensed sales period, Finance Director Jim Egeberg reports. In years past, sticker sales began one month earlier.

The change will allow the Finance Department, which eliminated two accounting positions for 2009, to effectively manage the program upon completion of the City's annual audit in May.

"With Finance Department staff concentrating on completing the annual audit in May, it would be extremely difficult to simultaneously manage the vehicle sticker

program," Egeberg explains.

All residents with vehicles registered or housed in Rolling Meadows – including residents with Palatine mailing addresses – must purchase and display the new stickers by June 30.

Vehicle sticker prices are \$22 for passenger vehicles, "B" plate trucks (under 8,000 lbs.), and motorcycles. Senior residents age 65 and over are eligible for a reduced rate of \$10 per sticker (limit two per address).

The Finance Department will mail vehicle sticker renewal notices to all residents in early June. The mailing will include a pre-

addressed envelope, making it convenient to order stickers from home.

Residents may also use the white drop box located in front of City Hall, 3600 Kirchoff Road, in order to avoid potentially long lines when purchasing stickers in person.

Stickers purchased after the June 30 deadline will double in price.

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.



## City Revenues to Depend on Accurate Census in April 2010

By Mayor Ken Nelson

Just about a year from now, a very important event

will take place. In April 2010, the U.S. Census Bureau will conduct its survey to find out just how many of us Americans there really are.

The census count is extremely important to us as a City. We receive state and federal funds based on our population. A short count means we won't get our fair share of those funds. In addition, population determines state and federal legislative boundaries. After the census is concluded, our Congressional, State Senate and State House districts will be redrawn. So a lot of things depend

on us getting a proper count of our residents.

For this census, the form is going to be much shorter and much less intrusive than in 2000. There will only be 10 questions on the form that you'll be asked to fill out. The information is absolutely confidential. We at the City level never see the information. We only get a broad analysis of the data.

The census will also offer an opportunity for employment. We'll be posting information about where and how to apply for jobs working with the census ... or you can go to the census website at [www.2010.census.gov](http://www.2010.census.gov). This is an extremely important survey and I hope you'll all be counted.

## City Of Rolling Meadows

Mayor: Kenneth Nelson

City Clerk: Lisa Hinman

City Manager:  
Sarah Phillips

City Hall Hours:  
8 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Monday-Friday

Curfew: Sun.-Thurs. 11 p.m.  
Fri. & Sat. Midnight

Aldermen

1st Ward: John Pitzafarro  
847-655-1390

2nd Ward: Barb Lusk  
847-567-2444

3rd Ward: Lawrence Buske  
847-255-9126

4th Ward: Tom Rooney  
847-392-2254

5th Ward: Glenn Adams  
847-259-5875

6th Ward: Kathy Kwandras  
847-398-7113

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

PNRC — 847-506-2059

*City Council, Committee of the Whole, Zoning Board of Appeals, and Plan Commission Meetings are televised on Cable TV Channel 6*



## Meadows Club to Host Internationally Televised Dance Competition, April 12

The Meadows Club is hosting the national U.S. finals for Sony TV's "Boogie Woogie" Bollywood dance competition beginning at 6 p.m., Sunday, April 12. This is the first time this internationally televised dance contest will be held in the Midwest. For ticket information, go to [www.themeadowsclub.com](http://www.themeadowsclub.com).

## NWHP Offers 0% Deferred Interest Loans

Income-qualified homeowners may be eligible for 0% interest deferred loans of up to \$25,000 with no monthly payments as long as the homeowner lives in and retains title to the home.

The North West Housing Partnership (NWHP) office will determine the amount of assistance for which each applicant is eligible based on the income table at right.

These loans are part of the Cook County Community Development Block Grant

Household Occupants	Maximum Gross Income
1	\$41,700
2	\$47,700
3	\$53,650
4	\$59,600
5	\$64,350
6	\$69,150
7	\$73,900
8+	\$78,650

Program and HOME Investment Partnership Program, which are funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Approved applicants may use these loans to cover basic structural repairs, roofing, doors and windows, electrical work, plumbing, heating and home weatherizing. Funding cannot be used for interior or exterior decorating.

For more information, contact the NWHP at 847-969-0561.