

## CONTACT CITY OFFICIALS AND STAFF

**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 Pitzaferrro  
847-655-1390

**2nd Ward:** Barb Lusk  
847-567-2444

**3rd Ward:** Lawrence Buske  
847-255-9126

**4th Ward:** Brad Judd  
847-902-3248

**5th Ward:** Glenn Adams  
847-259-5875

**6th Ward:** John D'Astice  
847-409-9367

**7th Ward:** James Larsen  
630-244-4228

### Services

**Fire & Police Emergency:** 911

**Fire Department non-emergency:** 847-397-3352

**Police non-emergency:**  
847-255-2416

**Public Works:** 847-963-0500

**Finance/Utility Billing Questions:**  
847-394-8500

**New walk-up hours:**  
8 a.m.-4 p.m.

**Community Development Dept.:**  
847-506-6030

**New walk-up hours:**  
8 a.m.-4 p.m.

**TDD:** 847-506-0490

**Senior Services:** 847-394-8500

**ComEd** — 1-800-EDISON-1

**PNRC** — 847-506-2059

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

## Major Residential Fires Demonstrate Department's Professionalism

Two recent major residential fires in Rolling Meadows demonstrated the professionalism of Rolling Meadows firefighters and the importance of the Department's mutual aid agreements with surrounding communities, Fire Chief Ron Stewart reports.

A three-alarm fire at a multi-story building in the Woodfield Gardens apartment complex on May 7 was followed just weeks later by a four-alarm fire at Carriageway Court Condominiums on Memorial Day, May 25. In each situation, first responders activated the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS) that automatically dispatched support from fire departments throughout the northwest suburbs.

In each situation, up to 23 area fire departments supported Rolling Meadows firefighters as they fought to extinguish the blazes and rescue residents from harm. The Fire Department reported one civilian injury at Woodfield Gardens. One firefighter at Carriageway Court Condominiums was treated at Northwest Community Hospital for a minor equipment-related injury and released that day.

"In the span of 18 days, Rolling Meadows firefighters fought two major fires that resulted in significant property damage and no loss of life," Chief Stewart explains. "The effectiveness of the operations is a direct result of the Fire Department's training

**Rigorous training scenarios (as shown here) prepared Rolling Meadows firefighters to act quickly and decisively to save lives.**



regimen, which prepares firefighters to act quickly and decisively to save lives."

"More than 100 firefighters were on-scene at each fire, and our only injury was a minor cut. That speaks volumes about the Fire Department's preparedness and high level of professionalism," City Manager Sarah Phillips adds.

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## Rolling Meadows Residents to Celebrate Nation's Independence, July 4

**11:30 a.m. – "City of Excellence" Independence Day Parade,** sponsored by the Rolling Meadows Chamber of Commerce. The parade begins at the corner of Barker Avenue and Central Road, heads west on Central to Owl Drive, north on Owl to Kirchoff Road, then east to Meadow Drive.



**1 – 4 p.m. – 3.2 K "Family Walk/Bike in the Park,"** presented by the Rolling Meadows Cancer Awareness

Committee. Register at the Rolling Meadows Community Center, 3705 Pheasant Drive, to be entered into a raffle drawing for front row seating at the City's fireworks display later that evening – complete with an inflatable couch and refreshments.

**9:30 p.m. – Fireworks display.** The Independence Day celebration concludes with a thunderous fireworks

display at Salk Park (Rain date: July 5).

## Terry Moran Day Duck Race to Benefit Salt Creek Preservation Efforts, July 18

A flotilla of little plastic ducks will help raise funds for Salt Creek restoration efforts when the Environmental Committee, Rolling Meadows Rotary Club and Park District Foundation sponsor its 2009 Duck Race, Saturday, July 18, 4 p.m., to coincide with Terry Moran Day festivities.

The race will take place along a section of Salt Creek that stretches from the Kimball Hill Park Bridge to the Kirchoff Road overpass.

Residents may purchase tickets for the event (one ticket equals one duck) at City Hall for \$5 each. Tickets may also be purchased at the Community Center, 3708 Pheasant Dr.; Nelson Sports Complex, 3900 Owl Dr.; Public Works Department, 3900 Berdnick St.; and Minuteman Press, 2224 Algonquin Rd. The owner of the winning duck will receive a \$500 grand prize. Other prizes will be awarded to runners-up.

"This is a great opportunity to generate support for environmental initiatives that will benefit the entire community," says Amy Charlesworth, Parks and Recreation Director. "Together, we can make a difference."

Money raised by the event will support native plant restoration along the banks of Salt Creek.

For more information on the Duck Race, or to learn more about sponsorship opportunities, contact Amy Charlesworth at 847-818-3220.

## After Iraq, Public Works' Graham Strebler Returns to Active Duty in Rolling Meadows

May 18, 2009 began as just another day for Public Works Refuse Division employee Graham Strebler. To his fellow team members, however, it was a cause for celebration.

It was Strebler's first day back on the job in Rolling Meadows, following a one-year deployment to Iraq as a member of the United States Marine Corps. Just minutes after starting his collection route, Strebler received a call from his foreman, saying that he was needed at the Old Public Works building on Central Road. Thinking nothing of the request, Strebler headed over.

It was all part of a carefully planned effort to acknowledge Strebler's service to his country. Members of the Warriors' Watch Riders joined Public Works, Police and Fire Department employees, and Strebler's family there to welcome him home.

"I was clueless about what was happening,"



Graham Strebler is welcomed back to Public Works.

Strebler admits. "I went into the building, stepped out a side door and found all these people waiting for me. It was a total surprise."

A motorcade, led by the Riders on their motorcycles, then escorted Strebler to Public Works' Berdnick Street facility, where City officials and staff welcomed him back to "active duty" in Rolling Meadows with cake and coffee.

"Graham's not the type to seek attention, but we wanted to show him our appreciation for his service – to Rolling Meadows and the nation," Public Works Director Fred Vogt says. "Since the day he left, we looked forward to the time we could welcome him home."

A Rolling Meadows High School graduate, Strebler joined the Marine Corps in 2002, and had already completed a tour of duty in Iraq. After being honorably discharged from the Corps in 2006, he joined the Public Works Department as a part-time employee. He earned full-time status the following year.

Strebler was recalled to active duty last year, as part of the "troop surge" deployed to Iraq. A Marine Corps firefighter, Strebler was assigned to Marine Wing Support Squadron 373, stationed at Camp Korean Village in far-western Iraq.

"There's not much to tell, really," he says when asked about his time in the Middle East. "A lot of people over there have done far more than I have. It's been a privilege to serve my country in uniform, but I've had enough excitement. I think I'll stay home and spend time with my wife now," he adds with typical understatement.

Welcome home, Sgt. Strebler!

## Major Residential Fires... *Continued from page 1*

Fire Department investigators believe the fire at Woodfield Gardens started in a vacant apartment that was undergoing renovation. As this issue of *News & Views* went to press, the cause of the Carriageway Court fire was still under investigation.

The fires were the first major emergencies handled by the Fire Department following the City's recent transfer of emergency dispatch operations to Northwest Central Dispatch System, a regional dispatch center located in Arlington Heights. The transfer vastly improves the ability of firefighters and paramedics to communicate with surrounding fire departments during mutual response calls, reducing response times.

"As part of the regional dispatch system, requests for assistance were delivered immediately," Deputy Chief Brian Dempsey explains. "That helped us focus on tracking available engine companies en route, and positioning

them where they were most needed."

Chiefs Stewart and Dempsey believe the presence of on-site fire alarms at both locations, which alerted residents of danger, helped avoid any loss of life. The Fire Department urges all residents to:

- Install working smoke detectors on each level of the home;
- Test smoke detectors once per month;
- Replace batteries in smoke detectors at least twice per year;
- Prepare a fire escape plan as part of a home's overall safety plan.

"These simple steps can literally mean the difference between life and death," Chief Stewart adds.

Residents who would like to learn more about fire safety may contact the Fire Department at 847-397-3352.

# Chamber Honors Business, Community Leaders



**1:** City Manager Sarah Phillips, guest speaker for the 2009 Rolling Meadows Chamber of Commerce awards dinner, described her experiences providing economic development assistance in Bulgaria, Lebanon, and India as a representative of the International City/County Management Association.



**2&3:** Two awards for Community Leader of the Year went to Bruce K. Crowther, President & CEO, Northwest Community Hospital, and the late David Hill, Founder and Executive Chairman, Kimball Hill Homes, whose widow, Diane Hill, accepted the award. Northwest Community Hospital separately received a Community Outreach Award.



**4:** Jack A. Lloyd, Regional President for Harris Bank, who grew up in Rolling Meadows and always wanted to be a hometown banker, was honored as Business Leader of the Year.



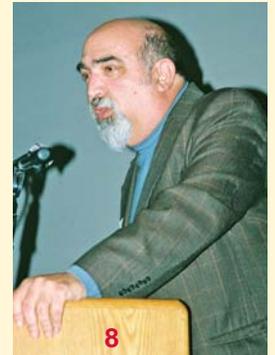
**5:** Business of the Year was Trans-National Bancard, a Rolling Meadows based credit card processing firm headed by Alderman John Pitzafarro.



**6:** Earl Bateman, Lee Wayne Corporation Account Executive, received the award for Chamber Volunteer of the Year.



**7:** Panasonic Corp's Alan Rubin accepted his company's Community Enhancement Award, recognizing its nationwide recycling program and ongoing global campaign to help achieve an environmentally sustainable future. **8:** Dan Greenhouse, of Village Profile, which has partnered with the Chamber for over 20 years to produce its Community Guide and City Map, was cited as Communications Partner.



## City Council Asks City Manager To Propose 5% Spending Cut

After devoting a long Saturday morning to a detailed review of the City's budgets for 2008, 2009, and 2010, City Council asked City Manager Sarah Phillips to present a proposal for a 5 percent spending reduction for the last six months of 2009 to make up for a continuing revenue shortfall and some unanticipated expenses, such as the costs to fight two major fires.

Each of the City's department heads will recommend spending reductions, and City Council will approve the final plan.

The City has also instituted a new monthly budget forecast to try to track more closely how well revenues and expenses are being kept in balance.

Alderman Larry Buske complained that the City sometimes spends money included in the budget before the funds have been collected. Finance Director Jim Egeberg explained that more than 80 percent of the budget pays costs of personnel, mostly employee salaries that are governed by state law with no provision for reducing or delaying

payments. Council is eager to discuss approaches to the 2010 budget that would lower overall personnel costs.

Mayor Ken Nelson reminded Council and staff that a state capital spending bill includes \$500,000 for Rolling Meadows. However, the bill has not yet received final approval. Meanwhile, another proposal would cut state payments to municipalities, which could cost the City \$2 million, and the City's required contribution to state pension funds could double.



City officials and residents honored the courage of those who have served in the nation's armed forces during Rolling Meadows' Memorial Day Parade and observance, May 23. Event participants included the Rolling Meadows High School Marching Mustangs (above), the U.S. Army 327<sup>th</sup> Military Police Battalion (right), local veterans and their family members.



U.S. Army 327<sup>th</sup> Military Police Battalion (right), local veterans and their family members.



Former 4<sup>th</sup> Ward Alderman Tom Rooney (left) and Lieutenant Colonel Glenn Gibbs (top right), along with

Mayor Ken Nelson and State Representative Mark Walker (D-66<sup>th</sup>), offered moving tributes to veterans who have defended this country at a solemn observance at the City's Carillon Tower.

# Memorial Day Events Honor Veterans

Longtime resident and World War II veteran Merle E. (Gene) Davis, in a letter to Mayor Nelson, wrote that the City's Memorial Day Parade helped him recall "a sense of pride in my long ago combat service in the European Theatre of Operations. This sense of pride is a gift to me from our City and I am humbled by it."

## Department's DUI Enforcement Ranks Among Tops in State

BY POLICE CHIEF STEVE WILLIAMS



Drunk drivers are a leading cause of traffic accidents and motor-related fatalities, and I have always believed that DUI enforcement is one of the most worthwhile public safety activities performed by police officers.

Last year, Rolling Meadows Police once again ranked among the best in the state of Illinois, according to the latest statistics compiled by the Alliance Against Intoxicated Motorists (AAIM).

Rolling Meadows police officers arrested 311 motorists for driving under the influence of alcohol in 2008. That ranks the Department 16<sup>th</sup> among 170 Illinois municipalities included in the report. If we analyze these figures on a per-capita basis, however, Rolling Meadows ranks 5<sup>th</sup>.

How do Rolling Meadows' DUI enforcement efforts measure up when compared with our larger northwest suburban neighbors? Schaumburg Police last year made 260 DUI

arrests; Palatine officers logged 250, and Arlington Heights took 240 drunk drivers off the streets. DUI arrests by Rolling Meadows Police exceeded all three of these communities, whose populations are much larger.

We take the challenge of getting those who drink and drive off the streets very seriously. City ordinance allows the Police Department to charge impaired drivers an administrative towing fee of up to \$500. That fee helps fund supplemental officer training and additional DUI enforcement patrols. It also covers the time required to process paperwork after an arrest.

On average, it requires 20 hours of administrative work to fully process one DUI arrest. If someone decides to pose a risk to themselves and others by driving drunk, they will be the ones who pay for that time.

It is difficult sometimes to measure law enforcement activities. How can we tell that the presence of a police car in a bank parking lot prevented an armed robbery? We usually cannot. However, we do know that motorists arrested for DUI will not cause injuries to themselves or others in the next 12 hours.

## City, LifeSource to Host July 29 Blood Drive

**A LifeSource-sponsored blood drive will let residents give the "gift of life," Wednesday, July 29, 1-7 p.m., at City Hall. No appointment is necessary. Walk-ins are welcome.**

# Deputy Police Chief Ed Goodman To Retire After 25 Years of Service

Deputy Police Chief Ed Goodman will retire on July 3, after 25 years of service to the City of Rolling Meadows.

"Throughout his career, Ed has been an absolutely outstanding member of the Rolling Meadows Police Department," Police Chief Steve Williams says. "He understands that teaching and mentoring are critical ingredients to developing future law enforcement professionals, and his commitment to teamwork has been the driving force behind his success. It has been my privilege to serve with him and I wish him the best of luck in the future."



Ed Goodman

Goodman, Deputy Chief of Administration, came to Rolling Meadows in 1984 as a patrol officer. He served as a tactical officer with the Department's Investigations Unit, spent two years as liaison officer to Rolling Meadows High School, and is a former member of the Northern Illinois Police Alarm System (NIPAS) Tactical unit.

NIPAS is a joint venture of suburban police departments that provides mutual aid to member communities in times of natural disasters.

In addition, he spent two years as an instructor at Northwestern University's School of Police Staff and Command, an intensive 10-week law enforcement management course similar in scope to the FBI Academy. Currently, he is an assessor for the Commission for the Accreditation of Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA).

Deputy Chief Goodman earned promotion to Patrol Sergeant in 1997 and was named Administrative Services Sergeant a year later, where his responsibilities included community relations and overseeing evidence processing.

He was promoted to Commander, Support Services, in 2003, responsible for managing the Department's accreditation activities, communications, and recruitment and retention policies. He succeeded retiring Deputy Chief Joseph Catalano, who retired in 2007.

"Credit for any success I may have had over the course of my career belongs to the professionals with whom I have worked," Goodman says. "As a team, we constantly focused on maintaining and improving our record of excellence in serving Rolling Meadows' residents and businesses. I thank them all for their hard work."

Deputy Chief Goodman credits his father, a career Marine, with instilling his management ethic and dedication to teamwork.

"My father said that you should never tell anyone to do anything that you wouldn't do yourself. That wisdom stayed with me my entire career," he explains.

The Police Department will not immediately fill the vacancy left by Goodman's retirement. Dave Scanlan, Deputy Chief of Operations, and Department staff will take over Goodman's responsibilities for the foreseeable future.

## Recycle Consumer Electronics at Panasonic Facility

Panasonic Corporation of North America has expanded its nationwide consumer electronics recycling program to include its regional headquarters in Rolling Meadows, located at 5201 Tollview Drive.

The program lets residents recycle their Panasonic-branded televisions and other consumer electronics in an environmentally-friendly manner, free of charge.

Drop off hours are Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

"Panasonic's program has a dual focus: consumer convenience and environmentally-sound recycling," said Richard Vernam, head of Panasonic's Recycling Office in a company news release. "The program will help to divert these end-of-life consumer electronics from the common waste stream and ensure they enter a separate, environmentally responsible recycling stream."

Consumer electronics products and brands accepted at the Tollview facility include:

- Panasonic TVs, VCRs, DVD players, portable stereos, home theater systems, laptop computers, stereo equipment and telephones.

- Quasar, Sharp and Technics-branded consumer electronics;

- Toshiba televisions.

For more information, contact Panasonic's regional headquarters at 847-637-4899.

## SWANCC Program Makes Computer Recycling Easy

A program offered by the Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County (SWANCC) lets residents schedule at-home pickup of old computers and electronics for recycling.

The program seeks to reduce the number of personal computers and electronic items that are destined for the landfill. These items often contain toxic elements – such as lead and mercury – that are harmful to the

environment.

Using SWANCC's recycling program requires only three simple steps:

1. Schedule a pickup by contacting SWANCC at 847-724-9205 between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.
2. Place electronic and computer equipment (without packaging) on the front porch or steps by 7:30 a.m. on the scheduled pickup day.
3. Tag equipment with

signage provided by SWANCC.

A \$25 fee covers collection of up to six items per pickup.

SWANCC cannot accept televisions larger than 27 inches, air conditioners, copy machines, humidifiers and dehumidifiers, power tools, software, disks, CDs or DVDs.

For more information, visit [www.swancc.org](http://www.swancc.org) or email [athome@swancc.org](mailto:athome@swancc.org).



## Community Pride On Display This July 4th

BY MAYOR KEN NELSON

I love the Fourth of July! It's a time when friends and family get together to share their pride in being an American.

Each year as I walk along the parade route, everybody is smiling and cheering for the bands and the floats. The sense of community is tremendous. This year we've got some special activities that should make our 4<sup>th</sup> even better than usual. Of course, there's the parade that starts at 11:30. We've got some terrific participants this year that I think everyone will enjoy.

We also have a special activity in the afternoon. From 1 – 4, as part of our "City of Excellence" project in cooperation with the American Cancer Society, we're holding a 3.2K Family Walk/Bike event at Salk Park. Along the way, you can pick up some information on cancer awareness. Be sure to register for the special drawing. At the end of the event, we'll draw a name and that family will get special front row seating for the fireworks.

And, of course, at dusk we'll have the best fireworks display in the northwest suburbs. I hope you and your family will be attending our 4<sup>th</sup> of July activities on Saturday. See you there!

## Get Active: It's Like Riding a Bike

Residents looking to embrace a healthier lifestyle and enjoy the outdoors have yet another option for physical activity now that the weather is finally cooperating: bicycling.

"Given the upward trends in obesity rates for children and adults, regular rides around the neighborhood or even farther can shed pounds," according to an informational article developed by the League of Illinois Bicyclists. "Long, slow distances are the most effective way to burn calories and drop weight."

Riding a bicycle also offers environmental benefits.

"Given that many trips in the car are three miles or less, a bicycle is an alternative for making those trips while saving on gas and reducing pollution," the article explains.



For those who have not ridden a bike in a while, the League offers the following tips:

- Begin by riding only a mile or two, adding distance slowly each week.
- Avoid increasing distance by more than 10 percent each week.

For more information, visit the League of Illinois Bicyclists Website at [www.bikelib.org](http://www.bikelib.org).

# July 2009

<b>Independence Day Festivities</b> Parade (11:30 a.m.), Family Walk/Bike event (1 – 4 p.m.), fireworks at Salk Park (9:30 p.m.)			<b>1</b> Zoning Board of Appeals, 7 p.m., City Hall	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> City Hall, Public Works closed for July 4 holiday. Regular refuse pickup	<b>4</b> Independence Day
<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> Plan Commission, 7:30 p.m., City Hall	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> City Council Meeting, 7:30 p.m., City Hall	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> Adjudication Hearing, 1 p.m., City Hall	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> Terry Moran Day, Kimball Hill Park, Duck Race, 4 p.m.
<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> Water bills due	<b>21</b> City Council Committee of the Whole, 7:30 p.m., City Hall	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> Adjudication Hearing, 1 p.m., City Hall	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> City Council Meeting, 7:30 p.m., City Hall	<b>29</b> Blood Drive, 1-7 p.m., City Hall	<b>30</b> Adjudication Hearing, 1 p.m., City Hall	<b>31</b>	