

# eNEWS

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

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VOLUME 12 ISSUE 5



# HOMETOWN HOEDOWN

*Kimball Hill Park*

## GRAB YOUR BOOTS AND HEAD OVER TO KIMBALL HILL PARK SAT., OCTOBER 4TH, FOR THE CITY'S HOMETOWN HOEDOWN!

This year's fantastic fall fest includes:

### Family Fun (2 – 5pm)

Hay rides, pony rides, petting zoo, games and crafts, square dancing, line dancing, and more!

### Cowboy Cookout Dinner & Bar (2:30 – 8pm)

Food and beverages provided by Rolling Meadows' own [Rep's Place](#). Alcohol purchases will be

available for guests ages 21 and up with valid ID.

### Sundown at the Hoedown (5 – 8pm)

Live music and food and drink specials, capped off by a performance by BUCKLE (6-8 pm), "the Midwest's hottest country-rock experience."

## PUBLIC WORKS TO HOST EWASTE/SHRED EVENT

The Public Works Department (3900 Berdnick Street) will host an electronics recycling and document shredding event on Saturday, October 4th, 9am – 12pm.

Sponsored by the Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County (SWANCC), this annual event allows residents of Rolling Meadows and other SWANCC communities to safely dispose of old electronics equipment (TVs, computers, tablets, etc.). State law prohibits these items from being tossed into landfills.

It also offers a safe, tamper-resistant way to get rid of sensitive documents such as old tax forms, bank statements, medical records, and more (limit six bags or boxes).

Attendees should bring ID to confirm they are SWANCC customers.

For more information, and a listing of accepted eWaste items, visit [SWANCC's website](#).



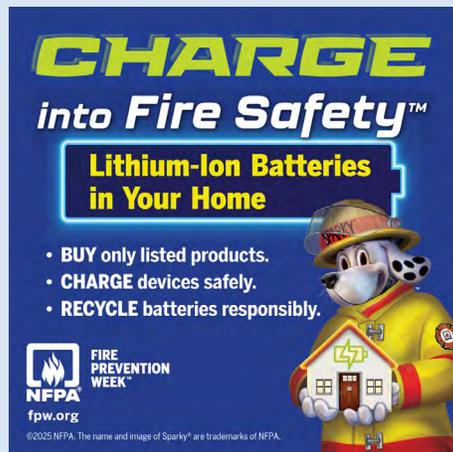
## 'CHARGE INTO FIRE SAFETY' OCT. 5TH-11TH

Rolling Meadows Fire Department and the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) are proud to partner in support of this year's [Fire Prevention Week](#) theme:

### Charge into Fire Safety: Lithium-Ion Batteries in Your Home.

These batteries power everything from mobile devices to cordless vacuum cleaners. We urge residents to:

- **Buy only listed products.** Purchase lithium-ion-powered products with a safety certification (UL, ETL, or CSA). These certifications ensure the device meets important safety standards.



**CHARGE**  
*into Fire Safety™*

**Lithium-Ion Batteries in Your Home**

- BUY only listed products.
- CHARGE devices safely.
- RECYCLE batteries responsibly.

**NFPA**  
FIRE PREVENTION WEEK™  
fpw.org

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- **Charge devices safely.** Always use charging cords that came with the product. Follow all manufacturers' instructions. Buy new chargers from the manufacturer or a manufacturer-approved provider. Charge your device on a hard surface and unplug when it's fully charged.
- **Recycle batteries responsibly.** Throwing lithium-ion batteries in the garbage or into regular recycling bins could start a fire. Recycle your device or battery at a safe battery recycling location (visit [www.call2recycle.org](http://www.call2recycle.org) to find a recycling spot near you).



Explore life in the fire service at Rolling Meadows Fire Department's October 11th Open House.

## OCTOBER 11TH FIRE DEPARTMENT OPEN HOUSE TO SHOWCASE LIFE-SAVING SERVICES & CAPABILITIES

Join Rolling Meadows firefighters and learn more about the Fire Department's life-saving services, training, and state-of-the-art equipment during its annual Open House.

**WHEN:** Saturday, October 11th, 10am – 2pm

**WHERE:** Fire Station 15  
(3201 Algonquin Road)

\*Event parking is available at 3223 Algonquin Rd, 3315 Algonquin Road, and 5005 Newport Drive.

- **Station tours.** Go behind the scenes of a working firehouse.
- **Kids' Zone.** Games, giveaways, and safety activities.
- **Vehicle extrication demonstration.** Watch firefighters cut open a car during a simulated rescue.
- **Free food and refreshments** (while supplies last).

### Open House Attractions

- **Live burn & fire sprinkler demonstration.** See how modern sprinkler systems stop a fire in its tracks.
- **Hands-on fire extinguisher training.** Learn how to use these fire suppression tools safely and effectively.
- **Touch-a-truck.** Climb aboard fire engines and specialized rescue vehicles

### Coloring Competition Winners

Congratulations to the talented students whose fire-safety artwork captured top honors in Community Consolidated School District 15's annual coloring competition! Winners will be recognized during the Open House and presented with prizes on the main stage.

For the latest event and parking updates, follow RMFD on [Facebook](#) or call 847-397-3352.

### Fire Station 15





Rolling Meadows' annual Veterans Dinner brings generations of former service members together.

## RECONNECT WITH FORMER SERVICE MEMBERS AT CITY'S ANNUAL VETERANS DINNER, NOVEMBER 7TH

Rolling Meadows' annual Veterans Dinner has helped generations of local veterans reconnect with fellow service members since its inception in 2003. This year's celebration will be held Friday, November 7th, 5:30-8:30 pm, at Meridian Banquets (1701 W. Algonquin Road).

Admission is free for resident-veterans and one guest. Attendees will enjoy a multi-course meal, pre-dinner appetizers, cash bar, raffle prizes, a professional photographer, and more.

## VETERANS DINNER KEYNOTE SPEAKER: ARMY MAJOR GENERAL & AUTHOR JAMES H. MUKOYAMA, JR.

Rolling Meadows Veterans Committee members are pleased to announce that U.S. Army Major General (Ret.) James H. Mukoyama, Jr., will serve as Keynote Speaker during the City's November 7th Veterans Dinner.

General Mukoyama, a Chicago native whose more than 30 years of service to the Army and Army Reserve included two combat

Veterans who have attended these dinners in the past automatically receive an invitation to this annual event. Those who have not taken part in previous celebrations, but would like to join this year's gathering, may contact Veterans Committee staff liaison Lori Ciezak ([ciezakl@cityrm.org](mailto:ciezakl@cityrm.org) or 847-870-9005).

Newcomers will be added to a registry of Rolling Meadows veterans curated by the City's Veterans Committee.

tours of duty, is the author of [\*Faith, Family, & Flag: Memoirs of an Unlikely American Samurai Crusader\*](#).

Signed copies of the book will be available for purchase. Proceeds will benefit [Military Outreach USA](#), a nonprofit organization that provides support to members of the U.S. Armed Forces and their families.

## NO-BURN ZONE!: LEAF & YARD WASTE BURNING PROHIBITED WITHIN CITY LIMITS

City ordinance prohibits the burning of leaves and other yard waste on private property.

Yard waste should be collected in 30-gallon biodegradable paper bags and placed at the curb for pick up on regular refuse collection days.

Call 911 if you see smoke or believe open-air burning is taking place.



## LOCAL SWEETS

### CLOUD TEA: SERVING UP A UNIQUE DESSERT AND DRINK EXPERIENCE

Rolling Meadows' Cloud Tea location offers customers a unique menu that includes bubble tea with customizable flavors and toppings, rolled ice cream, fresh waffles, and donuts.

"We offer a fun and interactive 'dessert-and-drink' experience that combines the creativity of rolled ice cream with the comfort of bubble tea and waffles," shop owner Asem Kazieva explained. "It's not just about grabbing a drink: it's about enjoying a moment of sweetness that you won't find anywhere else in town."



Cloud Tea has been serving Rolling Meadows for just over 18 months, but Ms. Kazieva is its new owner. She's excited to build on the shop's success by adding new menu ideas and building relationships with existing and future customers.

"I'm grateful to be part of this community and look forward to welcoming everyone to Cloud Tea – whether you're a loyal fan or someone interested in trying bubble tea for the first time!"

#### Cloud Tea

3226 Kirchoff Road  
224-800-0729

[www.cloudteaus.com](http://www.cloudteaus.com)  
[Instagram](#) · [Facebook](#)

All meetings take place at City Hall, unless noted.

10/1: **Yom Kippur begins at sunset**

10/2: **Environmental Committee**, 6pm

10/4: **eWaste & document shredding event**, 9am – noon (3900 Berdnick St)

10/4: **Hometown Hoedown**, 2–8pm (Kimball Hill Park)

10/6: **Economic Development Committee**, 6pm

10/8: **RM Garden Club**, 6pm (3705 Pheasant Dr); **Library Board**, 7pm (3110 Martin Ln)

10/9: **Adjudication Hearings**, 11am (Red light), 1pm (Code), 2pm (Parking)

10/11: **Fire Department Open House**, 10am–2pm, (3201 Algonquin Rd)

10/13: **Board of Fire & Police Commissioners**, 8:30am

10/14: **City Council Meeting**, 7pm

10/20: **Water bills due**

10/21: **CEF Volunteer Committee**, 6pm; **City Council Committee of the Whole**, 7pm

10/27: **Police Pension Board**, 3:30pm

10/28: **Veteran’s Committee**, 6pm; **Capital Projects Committee**, 6pm; **City Council Meeting**, 7pm

10/30: **Firefighters’ Pension Board**, 8:30am

10/31: **Halloween**

October 2025						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

## CITY LAUNCHES NEW ONLINE PORTAL FOR PAYING UTILITY BILLS & OTHER FEES

The September 26th debut of the City’s new Resident Access Portal makes it easier than ever for customers to pay monthly utility bills and City-generated invoices for permits, licenses, and other fees.

### What’s New?

For the first time, residential and business customers will be able to pay by phone, using an automated Interactive Voice Response (IVR) system.

Users will also be able to make one-time payments without logging into their accounts.

### How to Enroll

Visit [www.cityrm.org](http://www.cityrm.org) and choose ‘Online Payments’ to create a login and password (please have account and customer numbers available). Users may then set up automatic payment preferences.

*NOTE: Customers who previously set up automatic payments via*

*credit card through the City’s former Citizen’s Self-Service Portal will need to re-enroll. Those currently enrolled in EFT auto draft do not have to re-enroll.*

### No-Fee Payment Options Available

The City offers several ways to make payments while avoiding additional fees. These include cash, check, e-check, EFT debit, or in-person at City Hall (utility bills only).



Customers who prefer the convenience of paying online or by phone with a credit or debit card will incur a 3% convenience fee to help offset processing fees charged by credit card companies. Those fees cost the City nearly \$100,000 in 2024.

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

## ‘GIVE THEM A BRAKE’ SCHOOL BUS & SCHOOL ZONE SAFETY TIPS

### DID YOU KNOW?

Illinois state law prohibits drivers on two lane roads from passing a stopped school bus when its lights are flashing and its stop signal arm is extended.

Motorists found guilty of illegally passing a stopped school bus will have their drivers’ licenses revoked for three months and face fines starting at \$300.

### Use Caution on Four-Lane Roads

Drivers on roads with four or more lanes are **not required to stop** when approaching a school bus that is stopped on the opposite side of the street but should always proceed with caution.

Motorists who are behind a

stopped bus on a four-lane street are not allowed to pass.

### Slow Down in School Zones

Drivers who enter a marked school zone between 7am and 4pm (on days when school is in operation and children are present) must reduce their speed to 20 mph and yield the right of way to any children or adults in a crosswalk area. For more information, review the [Illinois Rules of the Road](#).



## RECENTLY PROMOTED FIRE DEPARTMENT LT. MIKE PADULA COMMITTED TO COMMUNITY SERVICE

The desire to “do something meaningful” has been the driving force behind Mike Padula’s nearly 25 years as a firefighter/paramedic. That includes gaining new knowledge and skills in support of his professional development, as highlighted by a recent promotion to Rolling Meadows Fire Department lieutenant.

Padula, who began his career in Des Plaines before joining the New York City Fire Department (FDNY), has proudly served this community for the past 15 years. He appreciates residents’ tremendous support for their local fire department and enjoys engaging with them at social events and around town.

### ‘Work as a Team’

“It’s a privilege to help people in both emergency and non-emergency situations,” he explained. “I’m also fortunate to work with like-minded people. We may have diverse backgrounds, experience, and professional interests, but we are committed to working as a team to keep this community safe.”

Every shift is an opportunity to further his skills and public service proficiency. Lt. Padula’s daily responsibilities involve supervising the shift’s engine or truck company; reviewing emergency medical service (EMS) reports; generating operational reports for all calls received; and overseeing vehicle checks, training exercises, and other special details that may be scheduled on a daily basis.



*Lt. Mike Padula is sworn-in by Deputy Clerk Judy Brose.*

During emergency calls, he reports directly to the on-duty battalion chief who supervises all responding companies.

“My goal is to continue my development as a company officer and master the skills required to serve as acting battalion chief, as needed,” Lt. Padula added. “It’s a great opportunity to grow in a professional capacity but, more importantly, it’s a way to help improve overall Fire Department operations and become more involved in department training programs.”

### Education & Certification

Lt. Padula is a Vernon Hills native who earned a Master of Design Studies (Sustainable Design) from the Boston Architectural College and a bachelor’s degree in Communication Studies from Marquette University (Milwaukee).

He also holds Fire Instructor II and Company Fire Officer professional certifications.

His hobbies when off-duty include fishing, hockey, and playing guitar.

## RECORD-SETTING DUCK RACE RAISES NEARLY \$5,000 FOR LOCAL CONSERVATION EFFORTS

The 2025 installment of Rolling Meadows’ annual Duck Race, held last month during an electrifying three-day Meadows Fest celebration in Kimball Hill Park, set new records for the amount of money raised for local preservation initiatives (\$4,808) and the number of ducks purchased (1,179) for the event.

Organizers thank the Rolling Meadows Environmental Committee, Rolling Meadows Historical Society, and Rolling Meadows Parks Foundation for sponsoring this year’s race. Proceeds from the event will help fund upcoming initiatives by these organizations.

Special thanks goes to:

- **Christopher B. Burke Engineering, Ltd.** for donating this year’s grand prize money.
- **Mayor Lara Sanoica** for serving as honorary event starter.
- **Public Works crews** for their help running and staffing the event.
- **Community volunteers** who helped collect prizes for the Top 30 finishers.

### Grand Prize Winners

1st Place (\$300): **David & Sheri Moreno**

2nd Place (\$200): **Gene Bell**

3rd Place (\$100): **Dottie Jachim\***

*\*Two-time winner (1st Place winner in 2023)*



**HALLOWEEN  
TRICK-OR-TREAT  
HOURS**  
Friday, October 31st  
3:00 — 8:00 pm  
Have Fun! Stay Safe!



## HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT WILL RECOGNIZE OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY PARTNERS DURING OCTOBER 7TH 'CELEBRATION OF HOPE' LUNCHEON

The Human Services Department will honor three community partners for exceptional service at an award ceremony held during its second annual "Celebration of Hope" fundraiser luncheon on Tuesday, October 7th:

- **Illinois Senator Mark L. Walker (D-27th)**, will be recognized as the 2025 recipient of the "Greatest of All Time (GOAT)" Award for his role in securing grant funding for a new community resource center facility on Algonquin Road.
- **Laura Garcia, Rolling Meadows Librarian**, will receive a "Hope Award" for her efforts to create a welcoming space where children feel safe, and for empowering abuse survivors through digital literacy and skills training.
- **Kimberly Bianchini, Owner, Advance Preschool**, will also accept a "Hope Award" for her dedication to ensuring children have access to safe, reliable childcare – especially in times of family crisis.

### Community Members Welcome

The event, which begins at 11am at Meridian Banquets (1701. W. Algonquin Road), is a fundraiser for the Rolling Meadows [Hope Fund](#). Residents, businesses, and community groups are welcome to attend. Tickets are \$55 each. [Click here to reserve your seat.](#)



For more information – on the Celebration of Hope or for details on available services – contact the Human Services Department at [SocialWorkRM@cityrm.org](mailto:SocialWorkRM@cityrm.org) or 847-870-2695.

### Support City's HOPE Fund

Supported solely by tax-deductible donations from community members, the Hope Fund provides (1) relocation support for survivors escaping violence, (2) emergency funding for recovery-related expenses, and, (3) financial relief for crime survivors and families navigating traumatic circumstances.



**CONTACT CITY OFFICIALS**  
City Hall Hours: 8am—4pm Mon.—Fri.

### MAYOR and CITY COUNCIL

- Mayor Lara Sanoica . . . . . 224-230-8772
- 1st Ward Alderman  
Karen McHale . . . . . 224-580-6675
- 2nd Ward Alderman  
Nick Budmats . . . . . 224-580-8484
- 3rd Ward Alderman  
Kevin O'Brien . . . . . 224-221-3469
- 4th Ward Alderman  
Jenifer Vinezeano . . . . . 630-546-8133
- 5th Ward Alderman  
Stefanie Boucher . . . . . 224-200-9015
- 6th Ward Alderman  
Mandy Reyez . . . . . 847-209-5435
- 7th Ward Alderman  
Mike Koehler . . . . . 847-912-8750
- City Manager  
Rob Sabo . . . . . 847-394-8500

### SERVICES

- Fire & Police Emergency . . . . . 911
- Crime Stoppers . . . . . 847-590-7867
- ComEd . . . . . 1-800-EDISON-1

 [www.facebook.com/cityofrollingmeadows](https://www.facebook.com/cityofrollingmeadows)

 [www.youtube.com/@cityofrollingmeadows184](https://www.youtube.com/@cityofrollingmeadows184)

### INQUIRE ABOUT CITY SERVICES

Contact specific departments for information about City services or operations.

**Administration**  
[admin@cityrm.org](mailto:admin@cityrm.org) . . . . . 847-394-8500

**City Clerk's Office**  
[clerk@cityrm.org](mailto:clerk@cityrm.org) . . . . . 847-394-8500

**Community Development**  
[cd@cityrm.org](mailto:cd@cityrm.org) . . . . . 847-506-6030

**Finance Department**  
[fin@cityrm.org](mailto:fin@cityrm.org) . . . . . 847-394-8500

**Fire Department**  
[fd@cityrm.org](mailto:fd@cityrm.org) . . . . . 847-397-3352

**Human Resources**  
[hr@cityrm.org](mailto:hr@cityrm.org) . . . . . 847-394-8500

**Human Services**  
[socialworkrm@cityrm.org](mailto:socialworkrm@cityrm.org) . . . . . 847-870-2695

**Information Technology**  
[it@cityrm.org](mailto:it@cityrm.org) . . . . . 847-394-8500

**Police Department**  
[pd@cityrm.org](mailto:pd@cityrm.org) . . . . . 847-255-2416

**Public Works**  
[pw@cityrm.org](mailto:pw@cityrm.org) . . . . . 847-963-0500

### CELEBRATION OF HOPE BUSINESS SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Event sponsorships help tie local business brands to this worthy cause and include multiple promotional opportunities. 2025 sponsor tiers are:

- **Sapphire** – \$10,000
- **Platinum** – \$2,000
- **Silver** – \$500
- **Diamond** – \$5,000
- **Gold** – \$1,000
- **Bronze** – \$250

Learn more about event sponsorship levels and corresponding marketing benefits by contacting Human Services at 847-870-2695 or [hopefund@cityrm.org](mailto:hopefund@cityrm.org).