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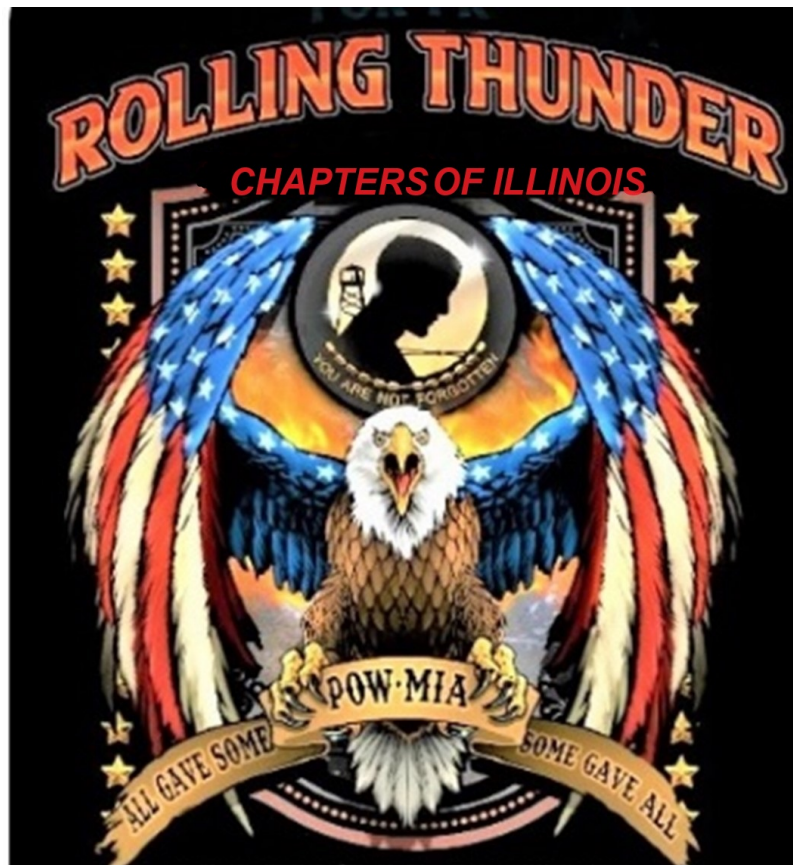
05-2026

ROLLING THUNDER

XXXVIII

MidAmerica Ride For Freedom

Illinois Rolling Thunder Chapters



(23-24 May 2026)

MISSION: Rolling Thunder – Illinois Chapters conduct the Rolling Thunder XXXVIII MidAmerica Candlelight Vigil and Ride For Freedom Demonstration Parade in the Chicagoland area.

CONCEPT: Rolling Thunder – Illinois Chapters, and all local participants, will host a Candlelight Vigil at FT Sheridan National Cemetery, Vattman Road, Lake Forest, IL. on the evening of 23 May. On 24 May, Rolling Thunder – Illinois Chapters will stage at James A. Lovell Federal Health Care Center (VA Hospital) (Annex 1) and lead the Parade 37 miles (Annex 2) to Edward Hines Jr. VA Hospital to do a “Drive Thru” (Annex 3) then ride 17 miles to Cantigny Park and the 1st Infantry Division Museum, Annex 4. NO REGISTRATION FEES.DONATIONS ONLY.

TIMELINE:

Saturday 1930 – 2105 hrs, 23 May – Rolling Thunder Candlelight Vigil

At the Fort Sheridan National Cemetery on Vattman Road, Fort Sheridan, IL adjacent to the Fort Sheridan Forest Preserve – North at the corner of Vattman Road and Sheridan Road.

1930	Gathering	All
1955	Introduction	Ted Makarewicz, President, RT IL-2
2000	Welcome	Wayne Kirkpatrick, Chairman, RT IL-2
2005	Benediction	Sr Chaplain Philip Chappy Ferrer, RT IL-1
2015	National Anthem	Bill Swanson
2020	Pledge of Allegiance	Pack 34 and, Scout Troop 46 NE IL Council
2025	Featured Speakers	☛US Army MG (Ret) James Mukoyama, Chairman and CEO, Military Outreach USA ☛Sr Chaplain Philip Chappy Ferrer, RT IL-1 ☛Georget Gandara, VFW Post 8741
2100	Taps	Tom Poznanski
2105	Closing	Wayne Kirkpatrick, COB, RT IL-2
2107	Walk of Honor	Jim Brunner, Piper,Shannon Rovers

Sunday 0800-1500 hrs, 24 May - RT XXXVIII MidAmerica Parade at James A. Lovell Federal Health Care Center 3001 Green Bay Road,North Chicago, IL

0730 - 0830	Assemble, Set Up, Distribute flags, flag up, and stage,	All
0830 - 1000	Staging / registration / sales	
1000 – 1010	Welcome	Wayne Kirkpatrick, RT IL-2 and Al Miller RT IL-1
1010 – 1015	Invocation	Mary Kirkpatrick, Chaplain, RT IL-2
1015 – 1020	Post Colors	VFW Post 8741
1020 – 1025	National Anthem	Tracy Grzenia
1025 – 1030	Pledge of Allegiance	Scouting America, Troop 46, Pack 34
1030 – 1035	Blessing of the Bikes	VFW State Chaplain Gary Holmes George Gandara, VFW 8741
1035 - 1050	Guest Speaker	☛Ken List, Dir, Comm Activities, Lovell FHCC ☛Dr Buckley, Director, Lovell FHCC
1050 – 1055	Mission Briefing	Wayne Kirkpatrick
1055 – 1100	Safety Briefing	LT Jay Russo Lake County Deputy Sheriff
1100 -	Saddle Up / Roll Out	Dave Skinner
1120 -	Teardown and load	All
1120 - 1330	Parade 54 miles.	
1330 -	Arrive at Cantigny Park, 1S151 Winfield Road, Wheaton, IL	
1400 – 1430	POW/MIA Remembrance Table Ceremony	

1330 - 1500
1500

1st Infantry Division tours, Tank Park, Beer Garden with music and food
Conclusion, de-flag, return home.(Note. next morning, 0700, we have the Arlington Heights Parade.)

COORDINATING INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Uniform:
 - a. RT IL-2 is black on black. Black collar shirt or T shirt. Rolling Thunder Vest, Rolling Thunder hat.
 - b. Chapters 1 and 3 determined by their chapter SOP.
2. Rolling Thunder Illinois chapters will stage at the front of the area to be the lead ride groups.
3. All cars and trucks will stage separate from the bike parking and behind the bikes.
4. The Evanston VA Vet Center truck will be the trail vehicle.
5. Lake County Sheriff has directed that they will not escort any parade if any political flags / banners are flown.
6. Groups and clubs should be placed up front but, behind RT Chapters.
7. This event is a free demonstration parade. No Fees, donations accepted.
8. American, POW/MIA, Service Flags will be at Lovell VA for mounting.
9. Flag Assignments: TBD Made on site. First come, first flagged.

STAGING SITE (LOVELL VA Hospital) DETAILS:

1. Site OIC: **Bill Fulton**
2. Parking Leads: **Greg Smith, Paul Hebein**
3. Flag delivery to Lovell: **Wayne Kirkpatrick**
4. Porta Potty delivery: **Ted Makarewicz**
5. Sound System / podium setup: **Gene Rigsby, Bob Pullman**
6. Cash Bank: **Paul Hebein**
7. Order of March: Order of March is:
 - a. American Flag
 - b. POW/MIA Flag
 - c. Six service flags
 - i. Army
 - ii. USMC
 - iii. Navy
 - iv. Air Force
 - v. USCG
 - vi. Space Force
 - d. POW/MIA Flags
 - e. Chapter Presidents

- f. Chapter 1
- g. Chapter 2
- h. Chapter 3
- i. All participants

- 8. Parking Assistance: **Scott Seal, Bill “Hawk” Sharpness, Dave Bakke, Scott Miller**
- 9. Raffle ticket sales: **Rich Gruner, Patrick Thielen, Steve Jonson, Neil Joslun**
- 10. Patch and Pins, –**Cindy & Don Delordo, Mark Mazurkewicz, Sue Price**
- 11. Registration – Waivers (waivers will be on site) –**Bozzena Haszlakiewicz, Cindy Jonson,**
- 12. Water/ refreshments - **Mary Kirkpatrick**
- 13. Bagels – **Nick Bender**
- 14. Tear down, load up - **All**

RIDE / ROUTE DETAILS:

- 1. Ride OIC: **Dave Skinner**
- 2. All riders will be directed to: Obey all traffic control devices, speed limit and, above all, to yield the right of way.
- 3. Ideally, parade speed will be limited to no more than 35 mph.

ROLLING THUNDER CONTACTS

President IL-1:	Al “Shadow” Miller	(708) 341-6283
VP IL-1:	Kandice “PG” Jacobs	(708) 227-7685
President IL-2:	Ted “TJ” Makarewicz	(847) 456-0717
VP IL-2:	Bill Fulton	(262) 221-4931
President IL-3:	Tony “Mongo” Schmidt	(618) 843-8079
VP IL-3:	Kevin “Grizzly” Foster	(618) 838-9548
IL RT XXXVIII OIC:	Wayne “Traveler” Kirkpatrick	(847) 915-8428

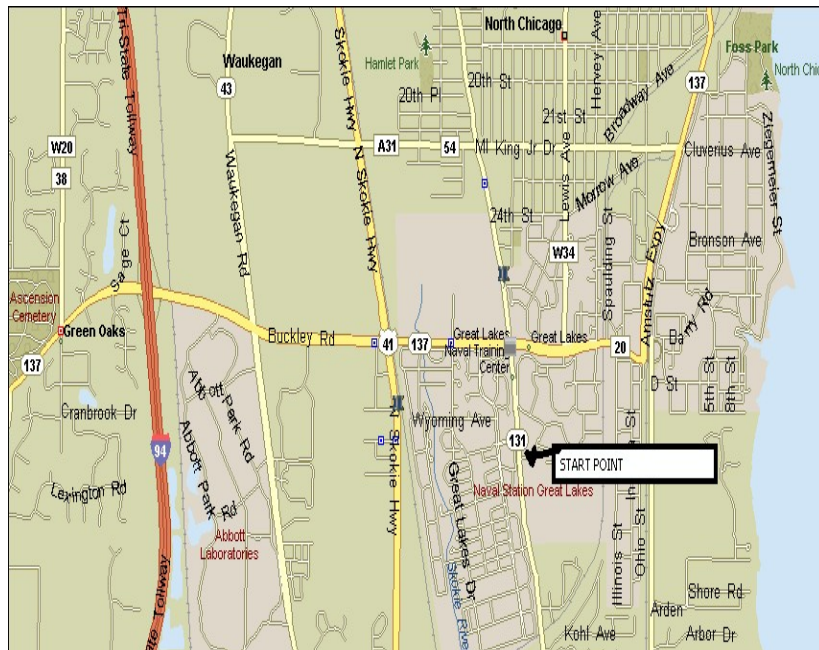
POLICE CONTACTS

Lake County Sheriff		
Deputy Chief Stan Taylor	(847) 344.0207	
Auxiliary Deputy Lt. Jay Russo	(224) 321.3831	
Cook County Sheriff		
Deputy Chief Ted Stajura	(312) 882-7655	
Officer Tom Sieja	(312) 804-6412	
DoPage County Sheriff		
Patrol Division	sheriff@dupagesheriff.org	
Hines VA Security		

(708) 202-2013
(530) 429-5802
(708) 202-5627

ANNEX 1 ROLLING THUNDER XXXVIII STAGING SITE:

Start Point : James A. Lovell Federal Health Care Center 3001 Green Bay Road, North Chicago, IL

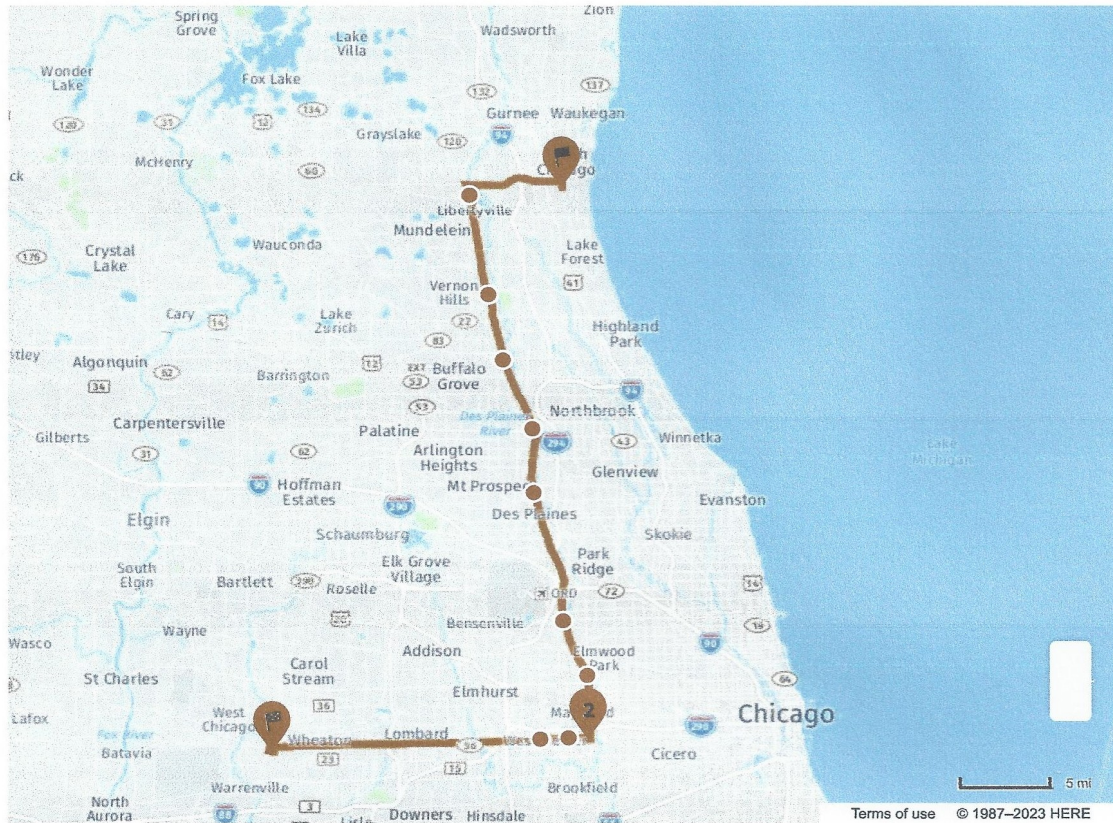


ANNEX 2 ROLLING THUNDER XXXVIII PARADE ROUTE:

Start Point : James A. Lovell Federal Health Care Center 3001 Green Bay Road, North
Chicago, IL

55 mi / 1 hr 50 min

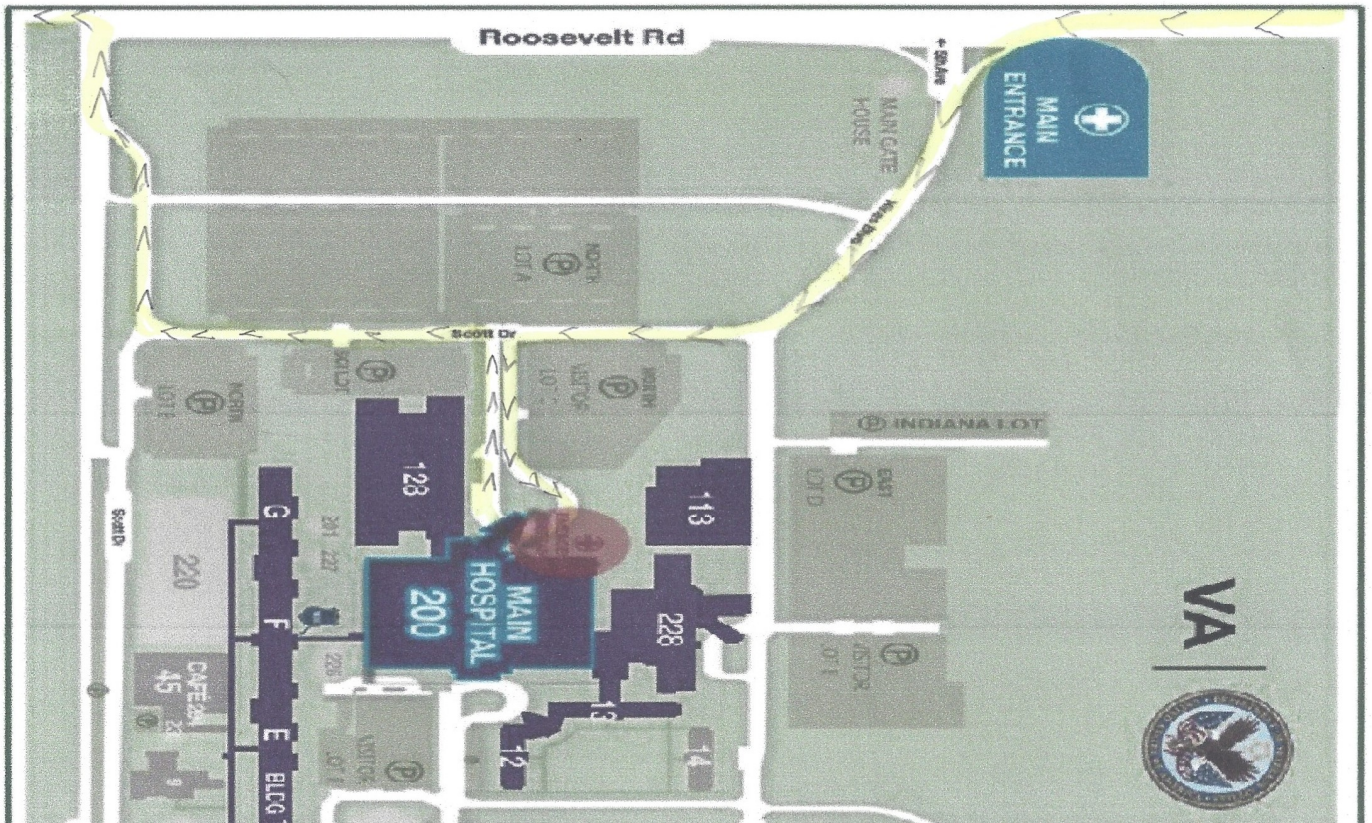
Rolling Thunder MidAmerica Parade



↑	Start at 3279 Green Bay Rd, North Chicago, IL 60064, United States	0.3 mi / 1 min
↑	Head toward Buckley Rd on Green Bay Rd (IL-131). Go for 0.3 mi.	
	Ride Segment: 38 mi / 1 hr 15 min	
↩	Turn left onto Buckley Rd (IL-137). Go for 0.7 mi.	0.7 mi / 1 min
↪	Turn slightly right onto Buckley Rd (IL-137). Go for 1.5 mi.	1.5 mi / 3 min
↪	Keep right onto Buckley Rd (IL-137). Go for 2.9 mi.	2.9 mi / 4 min
↑	Continue toward Buckley Rd/IL-137. Go for 236 ft.	0 mi / 1 min
↩	Turn left onto N Milwaukee Ave (IL-21). Go for 14.5 mi.	14.5 mi / 26 min
↪	Turn right onto S River Rd (US-45). Go for 7.8 mi.	7.8 mi / 16 min
↑	Continue on N River Rd. Go for 5.9 mi.	5.9 mi / 12 min
↑	Continue on N 1st Ave (IL-171). Go for 0.5 mi.	0.5 mi / 1 min
↑	Continue on 1st Ave (IL-171). Go for 1.4 mi.	1.4 mi / 2 min

	Continue on S 1st Ave (IL-171). Go for 1.6 mi.	1.6 mi / 4 min
	Turn right onto W Roosevelt Rd. Go for 0.1 mi.	0.1 mi / 1 min
	Turn left onto S 3rd Ave. Go for 75 ft.	0 mi / 1 min
	Turn left toward S 1st Ave. Go for 479 ft.	0.1 mi / 1 min
	Continue on S 1st Ave. Go for 262 ft.	0 mi / 1 min
	Turn right. Go for 43 ft.	0 mi / 1 min
	2 Arrive at S 1st Ave, Maywood, IL 60153, United States	
	Start at S 1st Ave, Maywood, IL 60153, United States	
	Head north. Go for 59 ft.	0 mi / 1 min
	Ride Segment: 17.4 mi / 35 min	
	Turn right. Go for 253 ft.	0 mi / 1 min
	Turn left toward S 3rd Ave. Go for 423 ft.	0.1 mi / 1 min
	Turn right onto S 3rd Ave. Go for 75 ft.	0 mi / 1 min
	Turn left onto W Roosevelt Rd. Go for 2.4 mi.	2.4 mi / 5 min
	Continue on Roosevelt Rd (IL-38). Go for 14.4 mi.	14.4 mi / 25 min
	Turn left onto Winfield Rd (CR-13). Go for 0.2 mi.	0.2 mi / 1 min
	Turn left. Go for 0.1 mi.	0.1 mi / 1 min
	Turn right. Go for 436 ft.	0.1 mi / 1 min
	Turn left. Go for 259 ft.	0 mi / 1 min
	Turn right. Go for 148 ft.	0 mi / 1 min
	Arrive at 1S115 Winfield Rd, Wheaton, IL 60189-3353, United States	

ANNEX 3 DRIVE THRU HINES VA: Hines VA Hospital, 5000 South 5th Ave, Maywood, IL for “Drive Thru” continuing to Cantigny Park



ANNEX 4 END POINT (Cantigny) DETAILS:



1. Cantigny OIC is: **Ted Makarewicz**
2. Welcome: **Ted Makarewicz**
3. Parking is in South Lot near Tank Park
4. Parking Assistance: **Scott Seal, Ken Parison, John Cummings**
5. Chapter raffle ticket sales: **Chuck Carlson, Tommy Carr**
6. Food (Available for purchase): **Cantigny Park Beer Garden**
7. First Infantry Division Museum and McCormick Place Tours: **Individuals**
8. POW/MIA Remembrance Table Ceremony(45min after arrival): **Ted Makarewicz**

OIC:

Ted Makarewicz

Commander of Troops:

Dave Bakke

Moderator:

Wayne Kirkpatrick

Sound / Music Synch:

Gene Rigby

Army Headgear (14 June 1775):

Army Flag

Marine Corps Cover (10 Nov 1775):

Marine Corps Flag

Navy Cover (13 Oct 1775):

Navy Flag

Air Force Cap (18 September 1947):

Air Force Flag

Coast Guard Cover (4 August 1790):

Coast Guard Flag

Space Force Cap (20 December 2019)

Space Force Flag

Arlene Walsh

Andy Haszlakiewicz

Mark Mazurkewicz

John Cummings

Rich Gruener

Patrick Thielen

Chuck Carlson

Nick Bender

Mary Kirkpatrick

Dave Skinner

Bozenna Haszlakiewicz

Scott Seal

9. De - Flag and Clean up: **All members!**