Place for Life

Meadows PLACE

SEPTEMBER 2016

COMMENTS FROM THE MAYOR By Charles Jessup



New Utility Bills

Look over to the right and you will see an example of the new Meadows Place utility bill. You asked for something different- and you got it! No more little blue post cards that can get lost, stuck inside something else or get misplaced. It's letter sized and comes in a regular envelope. This new billing system is better for you and it saves our staff a lot of time. A

lot. Meadows Place is on the move always seeking to improve in all areas all the time, and this is just one more example of those ongoing efforts. Your new utility bills are easier to read, contain additional billing information, shows your usage for the past 12 months, and has a lot more room for messages and notes you need to know. On top of that, it comes with a return envelope for your convenience. Council, Staff and I really like it and we hope you do too.

Moody's Rates Meadows Place Aa3!

I cannot begin to tell you how proud I am of everyone whose efforts made this high Moody's Rating possible. I could go on and on about what it takes, but I would rather you just read what Moody's has to say about us. Italics are added for emphasis.

"Meadows Place has a strong credit position, and its Aa3 rating matches the median rating of Aa3 for US cities. The notable credit factors include a robust financial position, and an affordable pension liability with an extremely small debt burden. The rating also reflects a strong socioeconomic profile with a limited tax base.

Finances: The financial position of the city is very *healthy* and is a strength in comparison to the assigned rating of Aa3. Meadows Place's fund balance as a percent of operating revenues (79.9%) *far surpasses* the US median. Furthermore, the cash balance as a percent of revenues (87.9%) is *far superior* to other Moody's-rated cities nationwide and increased from 2012 to 2015."

I hope you are as proud of this as I am, but I would be remiss if I did not thank City Council, the Department Heads and Financial Staff for working so hard to keep Meadows Place financially viable, secure and... *Your Place for Life*.

(Continued on page 3)

www.cityofmeadowsplace.org



CITY CALENDAR

Meadows Place

Sept. 5 Labor Day - City Hall Closed

Sept. 8 Economic Development Meeting

Sept. 16 Youth Action Council (YAC)

Meeting 6:00 p.m.

Sept. 27 City Council Meeting - 6:00 p.m. Regular Meeting - 7:30 p.m.

LABOR DAY WEEKEND POOL HOURS

Saturday 11:00am - 8:00pm Sunday 1:00pm – 8:00pm Monday 12:00pm – 7:00pm Pool Closes for Back to School September 6th

Fort Bend ISD

Sept. 5 Holiday

Sept. 23 Fort Bend County Fair Day

Did You Know?...

Did You Know... recently we have had many discussions about responsible pet ownership in our city, not only when it comes to picking up after your pets, but what to do with a pet you cannot keep. This is a great time be a good parent and set a good example. If you no longer want or can't keep a pet - handle it. Whether you find it another home, take it to no kill shelter or to Fort Bend Animal Shelter is up to you, but do the right thing....not like one parent who shamefully sent her child to drop off a litter of kittens at the park. Thankfully the child had more courage than the parent and sought help. The child found some people willing to take them until homes could be found. This is shameful behavior to be sure and not worthy of Meadows Place so please, please, do not just drop off or abandon any animal. Ever. Thank You.

Colene Cabezas has some great changes on the horizon for the park area up by the lake. Before Thanksgiving we should be seeing some new exercise stations and- wait for it - an exciting new water feature up by the field house! I can't wait, this is going to be great. Thank You's go to Council and Colene for working so hard to make every penny count and yet provide the very types of new amenities Meadows Place residents have asked for

Did You Know... Meadows Place held Jr. Lifeguard Training this year for young leaders from 9 to 13 years old. What a great program and a good way to train and prepare our Lifeguards of the future. Participation in this year's program were:

Anahi Pacheco; Kaleigh Brown; Meridian Ashton; Nicholas Martinez; Tanner Cabezas; Vinh Tang; Adrianne Tovar; Jai Wagner; Jesse McIntyre and Nikitha Sudhagar. The course introduces participants to lifesaving skills such as in-water rescue, use of a rescue tube, scanning and whistle commands. Participants also had the opportunity to shadow lifeguards to get a real sense of being on the job.

has an ordinance addressing the condition of our driveways? We are required in Section 150 of our Building Code to keep our driveways in good repair, which the city strictly enforces when a house is sold or rented, so be sure to prepare for this additional expense. I am pleased to say we have had many home owners go ahead and get a new driveway, which looks better, adds value to the home, and is safer to walk on for themselves and their visitors. Contact City Hall or our Code Enforcement official for more info.

Did You Know... Neighborhood Watch will have some great Door prizes for those attending their next meeting. In more exciting news, Neighborhood Watch postponed their next meeting until October so they can hold it in our NEW Tactical Training and Emergency Operations Center- You are all invited!

Did You Know... over the past three months, Wade Boatwright and Tanner Cabezas have collected 174 used tennis balls from our tennis courts. They set up a collection station and are collecting used, or 'flat'' tennis balls to take them out to Fort Bend Animal Shelter and are donating some to Meadows Elementary for use there. The boys are pleased with their efforts and are going to continue on with the project. Like their parents, we should all be proud of their efforts and proud to see our young neighbors doing something so worthy. Thank You Wade. Thank You, Tanner. You both help make Meadows Place... **Your Place for Life!**

Did You Know... we had over 850 people, not including all the kids, at our Battle of the Bands and Food Festival? Great turnout and lots of fun. Next up is Octoberfest, which should be a lot of fun too. Hope to see you there!

Did You Know is for YOU. To get something in Did You Know, drop us a note at City Hall or email: mayor@cityofmeadowsplace.org.

Did You Know. Colene Cabezas and Monica Parsons from our Parks Department, are trained members of the Houston Bat Team! Bat Conservation International recently invited them to take part in a mission focused on how to conserve the world's bat population and bat ecosystems. They attended a special tour of Bracken Cave near San Antonio, which is the summer home of more than 20 million Mexican free-tailed bats, making it the world's largest bat colony and the largest concentration of mammals on earth. They said the sight of millions of bats spiraling out of the cave for their nightly insect hunt is an unforgettable sight and gave them some ideas for our parks. Way to go Meadows Place Bat Team!

(Comments From The Mayor continued from page 1)

Continued Development Efforts

Due to concerted and continued efforts, there are signs of progress in Meadows Place. In addition to Aldi coming in, the EDC, P&Z and the City have been in preliminary talks with Mr. Jerry Sun, owner of the 9+ acres of undeveloped property along West Airport. Mr. Sun wants to put something significant in our city that not only gives him a return on his investment, but something special for Meadows Place. We are working hard to find the right option for all parties. Texas Direct Auto has pulled the permits for the 59 frontage renovation, Murphy Oil is going up, UPS is moving in next to Walgreens and we have several people looking at the available pad sites in the city. Meadows Place is reaching out and seeking revenue generating businesses. These efforts are beginning to pay off so and let us know who YOU would like to see in Meadows Place.

Meadows Place
Economic Development Corporation
BUSINESS OF THE MONTH

Sterling McCall Nissan!

Thank You Sterling McCall Nissan



Left to right: Matthew Walker – Director – Meadows Place EDC; Kurt Kopczynski – Director – Meadows Place EDC; Chris Anderson – General Manager – Sterling McCall Nissan Charles Jessup – Mayor-City of Meadows Place; Marvin Marcell – National Director- Public Affairs for Group 1 Automotive

Please support Sterling McCall Nissan and all Meadows Place businesses





Radical Firearms

The Meadows Place Police Department has been blessed with outstanding community support. One such supporter; Radical Firearms has assisted Meadows Place Police Officers

and the Department by donating AR-15 Rifles. Radical Firearms held a Police Officer Only Raffle, in which four of our Officers won AR-15's and to sweeten the deal Radical Firearms offered special pricing to Police Officers on their Blue Line Rifle, but it didn't stop there, for each rifle that an officer purchased, Radical donated a rifle to the Police Department. This has been a tremendous help in equipping our officers with a necessary tool that can be cost prohibitive.

Radical Firearms is a small firearms manufacturer located in Stafford, Texas and are strong supporters of Law Enforcement. We are grateful for all their assistance with our Patrol Rifle Program. Thank you Radical Firearms.







Watering Tips



By Danny Segundo

- Water your lawn early in the morning during the hot months. Much of the water used on the lawn can simply evaporate between the sprinkler and the grass. (Watering late in the day to avoid evaporation can invite plant disease.)
- Use a sprinkler that produces drops of water rather than a fine mist, to avoid evaporation.
- · Water slowly for better absorption, and never on windy days.
- Learn to know when your grass needs watering. If it has turned a dull gray-green and when footprints remain visible as you walk across it, it's time to water.
- Don't water too frequently. Too much water can overload the soil so that air cannot get to the roots, and can encourage plant diseases.
- · Don't over-water. Soil can absorb only so much moisture and the rest simply runs off. A timer will help, and either your kitchen timer or an alarm clock will do. An inch-and-a-half of water applied once a week will keep most Texas grasses alive and happy.
- · If small areas in your yard need more frequent watering (those near walks or driveways or in especially hot, sunny spots), use watering can or hand water with the hose only in those areas.
- Remember that saving water also saves energy. About 50 percent of the water used in a home is hot water. Providing energy to fuel your hot water heater is a major drain on your utility bill. So save water and you save energy and money at the same time.





Updates



rash cans may not be stored in view of **I** the public. I have been receiving a lot of web mail and email reports of violations. This means that if your neighbors can see your cans from the street or while walking down the sidewalk, you are in violation. This includes the new recycle cans that we

received last month. As wonderful and pretty as they are, they may not be left out in public view. It is still a Code Violation to leave them at the side of the house, in front of the garage or worse yet, out at the curb!

There has been an unfortunate rise in lost pets. Please do not violate state law by posting signs to street signs or stop signs. Look at our city website and you will find a link to report lost/found pets.

Thank you for helping! **Top Hits from July:**

Violation:	Warn/Cit	Comply:
Grass/weeds	28	18
Trees / Shrubs	24	11
Trailer/Car/Boat	22/1	13
Trash Cans / Debris	132/5	69
General Nuisance	68/17	39
Totals	274/23	150

Please remember, I can't see everything. If you don't let me know what is happening and what is important to you, I can't make it a priority.

Code Enforcement Official • Office: 281-983-2938 E-Mail: code-enforcement@cityofmeadowsplace



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By Bob Dybala, Publicity

Ye congratulate the following homeowners whose front yards were selected for Yard of the Month for August. We thank all of you for your efforts to keep Meadows Place "Your Beautiful Place for Life."

Section I

Mary and Gary Hiestand 11515 Brook Meadow Ln.

Section II

Mike and Regina Shreve 11803 Monticeto

Section III

Luke & Jennie Kreager 12106 Scottsdale

Section IVN

Maridyth & Jonathan Wiles 12206 Scottsdale

Section IVS

Zenaida Tapiador 12223 Meadow Crest

Section V

Joe and Jeanette Palash 12219 Meadow Crest Ct.

This ends the Yard of the Month program for 2016. We will begin again recognizing beautiful yards for April 2017. Judging will take place the last three days of March. We thank the judges for this year's program: Anne Dybala, Louann Kelly, Becky Gill, Kathy Gilmore, Mike Jones, and Beverly Martin. Joe De Bruyn took over for Louann when she moved out of the community in June. A very special thanks to Beverly Martin who is the chairperson of our Civic Development Committee that organizes this program.

Our program year for 2016-2017 begins on September 13th with our first meeting and presentation. We are excited to announce that Texas A&M Agrilife Extension Service will present a program on "Fall Vegetable Gardening." This year all our meetings and presentations will take place at City Hall. All our meetings begin at 7:00 PM with a presentation open to the public. Presentations are followed by refreshments and then a business meeting.

We are finalizing plans for our annual Fall Craft Show. The show will take place on October 22nd from 9 AM-3:00 PM in our Community Center. We are proud that our Craft Show features only home-made/hand-crafted items. The show is open to all such vendors but we hope that you crafty Meadows Place residents will be there to show your "stuff." It's not too early to contact Joe De Bruyn (281-799-1847), the chairperson in charge of the Show.

We are developing our membership roster for the coming year. If you are interested in Home Improvement and/or Gardening and would like to join the Club, please contact Betty Landers (281-495-0080) or Betty Schofield (713-202-6663), the co-chairpersons of our Membership Committee. Dues for an individual membership are \$25.00; for a family membership it is \$35.00. Remember half of your membership dues go into our Scholarship Fund.

> Contact us via e-mail at: meadowshomegardenclub@gmail.com

> > Visit our web site today.

Meadowshomegardenclub.com

Meadows Place Neighborhood Watch

Where you learn what to look for and learn to protect yourself, your family, your home and your car.





This Month at Neighborhood Watch 🛣



What To Do

In a Live Shooter Event!

Event Limited to first 55 people.

Door Prizes * Refreshments

Next Meeting - Thursday, October 20th in MPPD Training Center -- 11975 West Airport.

Begins promptly at 7.p.m. Ends at 8:00

To report suspicious activity call 281-983-2900 Neighborhood Watch makes us Stronger!

Classified & Advertising

Anyone wishing to place an ad in the newsletter can contact City Hall for information. All ads are due by the second Friday of each month. The appearance of paid advertising is not an endorsement by the City.

- William Sutherland Handyman Repairs. Appliance, Electrical, Plumbing, Clean out sewer line from 2"-8" pipe. Power washing, interior/exterior, Carpentry work, Painting, Concrete, Tiles. Cell 713-384-2817 / 281-568-0308
- Home Daycare enrolling. 22 years experience. References available. Melanie 281-235-2107.
- AFFORDABLE QUALITY ROOFING Roof leak? Hail damage? Aging roof? We can help. 22 yrs. experience, fully insured, member in good standing of the Houston area Better Business Bureau and an MP resident. We provide excellent workmanship with an excellent warranty, for a free estimate call (713) 484-9398- ROOFING, SIDING, and WINDOWS.
- Baby Bunny Daycare has openings available! 20 + years' experience in my Meadows Place home. Call or email Margaret for more information. New phone number: 832-803-3694 Email: margrussell0317@yahoo.com
- Mary Kay Cosmetics. Call for your complementary skin care or glamour makeover. Carol Evans, Meadows Place -281-933-8298.

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PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE TIP ~ FYI:

Have the duct work checked in your homes attic space for air leaks. If your home is 25-30 years old the typical "flex duct" originally installed by builders can deteriorate & literally "fall apart" due to constant heat & humidity of attic conditions in our area. This can hit you hard in the "pocketbook" (i.e. very comfortable attic space!!). Not to mention your system has to work harder to comfortably heat & cool your home. Having your duct work checked can be easily scheduled during your annual fall furnace inspection. **Call Now** before you make the switch to heat.

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NOT VALID WITH 99¢ RITAS

HOUSE RITAS ON THE 5TH, 15TH & 25TH OF EACH MONTH

(while promotion lasts)



Meadows Place has many ways for you to get out, get active, and get involved. Stay current with the latest program and event information by checking the City website, Facebook and monthly Newsletter. We are always open to hear your ideas and suggestions, so please call or email your comments to parksdirector@cityofmeadowsplace.org or 281.983.2935.

PROGRAM REGISTRATION

There are two ways to register for our programs:

- 1) Forms can be found on-line at cityofmeadowsplace.org under the department tab / parks and recreation / programs. Make checks payable to City of Meadows Place then mail to, 1 Troyan Dr., Meadows Place, TX 77477
- 2) You may also register in person at City Hall, Monday Friday between 9am 4pm. If after hours place form & payment in the night drop.

RENTALS

If you are looking for a location to host a meeting, celebration or family gathering, the Community Center is a great local option. It can accommodate up to 160 occupants. Tables and chairs are provided with rental. We also offer seasonal rentals of the community pool. Consult the website for more details.

Beginning Oct 1, rental rates will increase AND will now include cleaning following your event!





OCTOBER 28 FROM 6-9PM

Come enjoy the sounds and taste of Germany. Food Trucks will be on site offering German Fare, desserts and beer for purchase. The Texas Legacy Czech Band will be performing throughout the night along with children activities. No admission fees just bring a chair or blanket and enjoy a night out in Meadows Place.

10/28, 6-9pm @ McGrath Park



Birding Program

A beginner Birding class will be offered in October/November. This is a 6 week course; weeks 1, 3 & 5 will be classroom instruction in the Community Center, and weeks 2, 4 & 6 will be field trips to local area Parks.

Instructional class will include information about birding etiquette; choosing/using binoculars; field guides & birding apps; what to wear/what to bring; identification methods; bird calls; bird topography; and how to get involved in birding activities in our area. Photos would be shown of some of the common birds of the City of Meadows Place area. A field trip schedule with locations and addresses will be distributed. Registration is limited to only 8 participants, register early!

10/10 – 11/14, 8:30–10:30 am @ Community Center (Ages 14 & up) \$60 residents/ \$75 non-residents Registration Required.



CHAIR YOGA

Soothe achy joints and Increase your range of motion with this gentle seated yoga class, adaptable to your comfort level. Specifically designed for the 55+ crowd, but all ages are welcome! Chairs will be provided. Registration required.

9/6 – 9/27, Every Tuesday, 6 pm @ Community Center, (All Ages) \$20 – Now on Tuesday evenings too!

9/7 – 9/28, Every Wednesday, 9 am @ Community Center, (All Ages) \$20



RESTORATIVE FLOOR YOGA

Center your mind and body in this calming, breath-focused class. Build your endurance with standing postures that transition into floor work and an extended time of silent meditation. No previous yoga experience necessary.

9/6 – 9/27, Every Tuesday, 7 pm @ Community Center, (All Ages) \$20 – New Time! Registration Required.



Coming Oct 3 – Parent & Preschooler Yoga

Join your preschooler in yoga poses and breathing exercises to help strengthen coordination, gain flexibility, and build body awareness. All caregivers are welcome as we work though this bonding routine that may include some fun partner poses. 10/3 – 10/31, Every Monday, 8:30 am @ Community Center, \$40 (includes parent & child); Pre-Registration Required.



KAYAK SKILLS TRAINING

This eco-friendly sport is recognized as the fastest growing sport in the world! Our lessons provide an introduction for the beginner paddler, the instructor will teach safety, paddling, and turning through this interactive experience. This course will be offered periodically throughout the year.

9/17, 9 am @ McGrath Lake (7yr & Up) \$15 Pre-registration required.



LAKE KAYAK DAY

Have you completed Kayak Skills Training and would like to kayak at the lake for free, then come during open kayak day.

9/17, 10am-12pm @ McGrath Lake (Anyone previously certified)



TURBO KICK

It's an energetic workout that will get your heart pumping. Come and get into shape while having fun. No experience necessary just the desire to feel better and improve yourself. Teen Challenge kids are welcome! **Must pre-register**.

9/7 - 9/28 Wednesdays 7:30- 8:30pm @ Community Center (All Ages) \$20 – Registration Required.

TENNIS COURT / PICKLEBALL ACCESS

Resident Access Cards are available for purchase at City Hall Monday – Friday 9am-4pm. Cards are \$50. Cards are valid through May of each year.



PICKLEBALL OPEN PLAY

The rules are posted and the courts have been striped for play. Find a partner and enjoy this fun sport. Equipment is provided on site. Court passes can be purchased at City Hall M - F / 9-4pm for year round access.

Tuesday and Thursday Courts reserved for Pickleball



Tennis classes offered by Fort Bend Tennis Services. **Register online at fortbendtennis.com**

Junior Beginner/Adv. Beginner 6:00-7:00pm Monday & Wednesday \$95/month

Juniors, age 7-12 years. Beginner/Advanced Beginner: For students with little or some experience. You will learn the basic shots of the game, ball handling, movement & keeping score.

Adult Novice Class Monday & Wednesday

7:00-8:30pm \$135/month

Adults, age 18 & older. Adult Novice: For students with little or some experience or who have not played in many years and are ready to return to the game or improve their basic shots and movement. You will learn/review the basic shots, movement and playing the game.

Class size: minimum 4, maximum 8 per Instructor.

Pre-registration and raquet required. Sign up online at fortbendtennis.com



Sharpen your mind and strengthen your body with Hall of Famer, Master Jenny Pless. She teaches all levels of skill from basic to advanced.

Mon &/or Wed. @ Community Center / Must pre-register

Session I - 9/7-10/26 (no class 10/17) 5-6pm (4-12 yrs. old) 6-7pm (13+ – adult) 7 classes for \$35.00 or 14 classes for \$69.00

Session II - 11/2-12/14 (no class 11/23) 5-6pm (4-12 yrs. old) 6-7pm (13+ - Adult) 6 classes for \$30.00 or 12 classes for \$59.00



American Society of Karate teaches American Karate to ages 5 – 70yr in a positive ever-changing system. Its goal is to not be the largest, but to be the best. Instructors: 4th Degree Black Belt, Steve Puma and 3rd Degree Black Belt, Michael Puma. May try 1st class for free w/signed waiver. **Must pre-register.** @ Community Center. Uniform Fee paid to instructor \$30

9/15 -12/8, 6:30-7:30pm Thursdays (5-12yr) \$50 9/15 -12/8, 7:30-8:30pm Thursdays (13yr &up) \$50



The Community Garden meets twice a month to plant, till and weed the beds on the second & fourth Saturday of the month at 9am. If you are interested in learning how to grow and tend a garden, just show up and you will be taught.

2nd & 4th Saturday monthly, 9am @ Community Garden



Bridge Group

Do you play Bridge? The Bridge Group meets the 1st Tuesday of each month, September – May. If you are interested in socializing and playing cards, come join the fun! 9/6, 9am-2pm @ Community Center



New Bowlers Needed!

Meadows Place Ladies Bowling Team bowls every Wednesday morning, 9am @ Emerald Bowl; Come join the team, meet new friends and get active! Call: 281.495.8330







ATTENTION, INCOMING FRESHMAN AND ALL HIGH-SCHOOL STUDENTS

Attend the upcoming meeting on September 16, 6-8pm @ the Community Center to learn more.

Would you like to be a part of a national organization while making a difference in your own community? If so, now is the time to join the Meadows Place Youth Action Council. Serve as the voice of teens in the community, promote leadership through volunteerism, and make a positive impact while having fun with other teens. YAC is a great way to earn service hours and also include on your college application. This is a youth run organization. Teens create the bylaws, set the schedule, and make the plans for service, volunteering and fun. Applications will be accepted throughout the year and can be found on the City website. There is no fee to join.

2016 / 2017 School year will include YAC Camping Trip, Skeeters Baseball, volunteering at City events and more. Charitable activities will include food drive, host a color run, beach cleanup, feed the homeless and blood drive host.



Meadows Place Haunting – October 14

6:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Zombie Laser Tag / Ghost Train / Inflates

Little Joe's DJ and Light Show, Tiger Rock Marshall Arts of Sugar Land Skills Challenge Course, train, inflates and concessions will be available for your enjoyment.

Wristbands will be sold for unlimited outdoor Zombie Laser Tag - \$10 each, 5 years & up. All other activities are no charge.

This is a family friendly community event for all ages. Come and enjoy a night out in Meadows Place!

Around Meadows Place



















Stafford Fire Department



is looking for a few new volunteers from Meadows Place

Contact info: Larry Di Camillo - Fire Chief, City of Stafford Fire Department

ph: 281.208.6950 www.staffordfirerescue.org 10210 Mula Road.

Stafford, Texas 77477

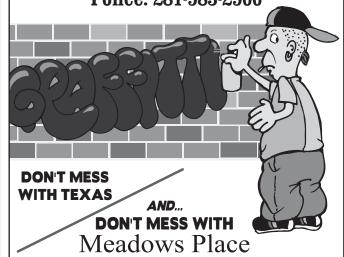


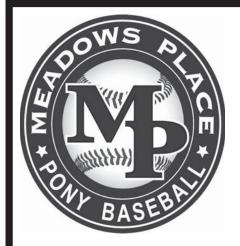
Meadows Place Residents

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Police: 281-983-2900





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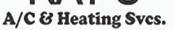
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Terry J. HenleyMAYOR PRO TEMPORE (281) 530-7136		
e-mail: alderman4@cityofmeadowsplace.org		
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Courtney RutherfordCITY SECRETARY(281) 983-2931		
e-mail: crutherford@cityofmeadowsplace.org		
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CITY HALL (9:00 a.m 4:00 p.m.) Mon-Fri(281) 983-2950		
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Community Pool Rental\$350.00 (after Community Hours, maximum rental time is 3 hours)		
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Resident Community Center/ Pool Combo Rental Available May - August		
Meadows Place residents receive a \$50 discount when renting		

the Community Center & Pool for the same event.

For rental reservation information, go to cityofmeadowsplace.org

click on Parks & Recreation, then Community Center

To check availability, call (281) 983-2935 or email:

parks3@cityofmeadowsplace.org

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