

*Your  
Place for  
Life*

City of  
**Meadows**   
**PLACE**

FEBRUARY 2011

**COMMENTS FROM THE MAYOR**  
By Charles Jessup



***Behr Project - Simplifying the Process***

For some time we have struggled to devise a method to establish a process that will allow for some degree of control on regulating paint colors that is quick, and simple, yet allows for a variety of color combinations suitable for the many different types of homes here in Meadows Place. After a number of Selection Committee meetings and workshops, the

Behr® Exterior Color Chart # 500001540 was chosen as the pre-approved Color Standard for Meadows Place. Basically this means if you want to paint your house, you can use any of the color combinations without wondering if your colors are approved. It is simple and easy and these beautiful designer color combinations are designed to work together for the best visual statement for your home and for the City.

This is a major shift in how paint colors are regulated in the City. At one time this was handled by an organization called the Meadows Community Improvement Association, or MCIA, which was established prior to our becoming a city. There were a number of factors that predicated this change. One factor was the City adopting Code Enforcement regulations that conflicted with the role of the MCIA. There were also several major legal liabilities that surfaced while we were seeking a solution for this conflict. This forced the City to reevaluate the way we regulated paint color control and look for a simple answer. It was decided that since the MCIA charter had expired some years back and it would now take multiple MCIA's to legally deal with the multiple deed restrictions within the city, that it would be much simpler for residents if the city took over color regulation. It would also be a LOT less expensive. Our Thanks do go out to the many volunteers who served on the MCIA for all those years. We appreciate their support for our City.

We addressed this change at the last City Council Meeting but you will have another opportunity to learn more about the new process by attending a joint Public Hearing with the Planning and Zoning Commission on Tuesday, February 15th. This will be followed by a City Council meeting. It is important for you to understand that we are adopting the color chart as our official color standard but you can use this to color match and use any paint you want.

*(continued on page 3)*

[www.cityofmeadowsplace.org](http://www.cityofmeadowsplace.org)



**LIFEGUARDS WANTED!**

The City of Meadows Place is accepting lifeguard applications until Friday, March 25, 2011!

You must be 15 years old to apply,  
and available for ALL training dates.

Interviews will be held on  
Saturday, April 2nd starting at 10:00 a.m.

**TRAINING DATES**

CPR Training: Thursday, April 21st  
6:00-9:00 p.m. - Community Center

Pool Training: Saturday, April 23rd  
and Saturday, April 30th  
10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. - Community Pool

*Applications can be picked up at City Hall.  
Turn in applications to City Hall.*

*[www.cityofmeadowsplace.org](http://www.cityofmeadowsplace.org)  
for additional information.*

**CITY CALENDAR**

**Feb. 11 & 12**      **Garage Sale Weekend**

**February 14**      **Happy Valentine's Day**

**February 22**      **Regular City Council Meeting**  
**City Hall 7:30PM**

# Did You Know?...

**Did You Know...** Public Works Director Dan McGraw and Melody Vaal have spent hours and hours and more hours compiling data for Meadows Place Hazard Mitigation Plan? This Hazard Mitigation Plan will help us identify and organize our resources and determine how to minimize or manage risk to those resources. It will also be used by the County as part of their Hurricane Action Plan. Additionally, it will be part of the H-GAC plan and may be used by FEMA for anything from reimbursements to grant selection. Thanks, Dan. Thanks, Melody.

**Did You Know...** that an appraiser working in Meadows Place told me “it is plain to see there is pride of ownership here in Meadows Place? It is a very nice city”. I thought that was nice to hear and it made me feel good. I thought you might like hearing it too.

**Did You Know...** Residents on Brighton between Mulholland and Dairy Ashford are really working hard and their street is looking good? At least eighteen homes have been painted or power washed since November. Even more have had other property improvements and several have spruced up those beautiful tile roofs. That is a huge percentage of those homes. Congratulations and Kudos to all of you – and I LOVE the canopy look of the trees. Check it out.

Speaking of proud, **Did You Know** Mike Mithani, wife Saira, and daughter Aarzo are proud to be residents of Meadows Place? They are also proud of their son/brother Adnan. Adnan, is a UT grad, completed law school in two years (Hartford) is a 1st Lieutenant in US Army Intelligence and is serving in Iraq. Wow! I would be proud too. A big Meadows Place Thank You to you Lt. Mithani.

**Did You Know...** Alderman Rick Staigle was a part of the Dulles Middle School Career Day program? Again! Career Day asks local community professionals to volunteer their time to teach 8th graders at Dulles Middle School about different career opportunities. Rick gave up over a half a work day to talk to the students. When asked

about it he said “you just need to do things like this”. Yes, but only people like you actually do it. Thanks Rick. You make us Meadows Place proud!

**Did You Know...** that we have had over a hundred people freshen up or replace their mailboxes during our past two Mailbox Months? Your mailbox is one of the first things visitors and realtors see as they drive around our city. First impressions are important, so if your mailbox needs a touchup, do it in March and take advantage of the \$5.00 discount on your water bill. March is Meadows Place Mailbox Month. Check the Code Enforcement Article on page 4 for more details.

**Did You Know...** our neighbor Kay Pilgrim contacted Parks Director Monya Keenen? Kay wanted to thank Monya and “all the folks who keep the park so nice”. She went on to talk about the birthday parties, families and all the children she sees playing in, and enjoying, our parks. Thank You for the note Kay, we really appreciate it. But REMEMBER - in the next week or so we are going to be closing part of the big park to start the lake construction. We will work hard to bring it back up to your level of expectations, except it will now have a lake and a bridge to fish off of!

**Did You Know...** another Kay, Kay Ewing, President of the Meadows Place Home & Garden Club, asks for Garden Club volunteers to attend City Council meetings every month? Thanks Kay, we encourage everyone to attend. Hope you do too.

**Did You Know...** our Police Dispatcher, Madonna Bolmanski, wanted everyone to know that the PD is a place to check when looking for lost items? She said the PD gets items constantly – keys, iPods, bicycles, wallets, cell phones, toys, etc. You can call Madonna Monday thru Friday 9am til 4pm or you can send them an email at [police@cityofmeadowsplace.org](mailto:police@cityofmeadowsplace.org). Thanks for the tip Madonna.

**Did You Know** is for YOU. Drop a note by City Hall or email: [mayor@cityofmeadowsplace.org](mailto:mayor@cityofmeadowsplace.org) Thank You

## Did You Know...

that Monya Keenen has been working hard to make sure our Phase IV parks project is as “green” as possible? Most of the new items, benches, etc., are produced using recycled materials. Not only are they extremely attractive and cost effective, they have a very long shelf life and low maintenance. Way to go Monya! Remember we are starting the construction up at the park any day now and will be closing part of the park and trail system. Yes, it is going to be an inconvenience for a little while, but boy is it going to be worth it!

(continued from page 1)

There is also an appeals process if you wish to use a color that is not on the color chart. All this will be covered at that meeting. Hope you will attend. We hope you will attend because this is going to be a big deal - and it is going to be fun. Behr® is going to help us kick this off in a big way. They will be providing a Behr® Exterior Color Chart for every resident in Meadows Place. They will also have interior color charts, experts to answer your questions and have put together a one time discount coupon for every home in the city. There will be lots going on. Behr® is going to use City sites, possibly using City Hall and the Annex as locations for examples, will have paint experts and contractors here to give you some tips and answer your questions. We will let you know the exact dates and locations of the kickoff.

### **Free Paint Job?**

We are working on the process and hammering out the details, but Behr® is going to provide FREE PAINT for ten homes in Meadows Place. Three of these will be getting a complete external makeover with paint and labor being supplied by Behr® and their parent company Masco. No, Council and city employees are not eligible but everyone else is! Thanks to Behr® this should be a fun and exciting way to initiate this transition.

Why are we doing this? Because statistics prove that cities and neighborhoods that have esthetic regulations maintain their integrity and property values at a much higher rate than those that don't. The MCIA knew that - and so does Council - and that is why we are working so hard to make sure Meadows Place is, and will always be... **Your Place for Life.**

## *Taking Care of Business*

**Our Business Neighbors are a very important part of the City. This column is dedicated to those businesses.**

Every week our Police Department will visit the businesses in the Meadows Place commercial centers. These visits are done as part of a program we call

### **BAC-UPS**

BAC-UPS promotes a better working relationship between the businesses and the City. Thru BACUPS, our business partners have become a great ally to our Police Dept. Please support them whenever possible.



*Our businesses need, and  
deserve, our support.*

*Thank You*

# COP TALK



By Chief Mike A. Baker



Mail and package thefts are becoming more and more common. Whether they are taking mail from your mailbox or packages from your front porch, the fact is that thieves are always looking for easy ways to take what does not belong to them. Here are a few tips that might help prevent you from becoming a victim:

- Do not leave outgoing mail in your mailbox. Deposit mail in a U.S. Postal Service mailbox or at the nearest Post Office.
- Promptly pick up your mail once it is delivered. If you are concerned about mail theft, arrange for a trusted neighbor to pick up and hold your mail for you - or you can rent a Post Office Box for mail delivery.
- Consider purchasing a locked mailbox.
- Have incoming checks direct deposited into your bank account rather than mailed.
- Report non-receipt of expected credit cards, checks, or other valuable mail to the senders.
- If you are going to be away from home for more than one day, have the Post Office hold your mail, or arrange for a trusted friend to pick it up.
- Promptly notify the Post Office of any change of address.
- Keep your mailbox in good condition. Mailboxes in poor condition expose mail to theft and bad weather.
- For package deliveries, request a signature confirmation of delivery so the deliverer will have to wait until you are home or leave the package with a family member or neighbor (who signs for it).
- If your boss allows it, have packages delivered to you at work.
- Give special instructions for where to leave packages so they are not visible from the street.
- Track packages online or by phone to see exactly when they are shipped so you will know when to expect their delivery.
- Report any suspicious vehicles, persons, or activity to the Meadows Place Police Department. Note physical & clothing descriptions of suspicious persons and make, model, color, and license plate numbers of suspicious vehicles. Also note street locations and which direction they are traveling.

**Meadows Place Police Department**  
281-983-2900 (Emergency 911)  
[www.cityofmeadowsplace.org](http://www.cityofmeadowsplace.org)



By Kathi Sutton

It's time for our Third Annual **MAILBOX MONTH!** The month of March is Mailbox Month; time to take a look at the first impression of your home & see what needs to be repaired or replaced.

Mailboxes are constructed to last only about 10 years (depending on materials used). The United States Postal Service states that it is the individual homeowner's responsibility to maintain and replace worn or damaged mailboxes. If it's been quite awhile since you've replaced yours then take an objective look at it.

**HOW TO PARTICIPATE:** Through the month of March; mail, place in utility billing box, or email (code-enforcement@cityofmeadowsplace.org) a picture of your newly rejuvenated or replaced mailbox to City Hall. **Each participant will receive \$5 discount off their water bill!**

Some mailboxes will only need updating and maintenance; paint, rust removal, up-righting post; adding address numbers...), while others may need replacing. Hardware stores sell replacement kits at reasonable prices, and with reasonable effort you can have a fresh new look.

**CURBSIDE MAILBOX STANDARDS:**

- The bottom of the mailbox should be located between 41 - 45 inches (vertical height) from the surface of the street.
- The name and address on your mailbox should be at least 1 inch high.
- The front of your mailbox door should be located 6 - 8 inches from the front face of the curb.

Contact our local post office directly if you are considering moving the location of your mailbox.

Thank you in advance and I'm excited to see what improvements are made. For information on Code Enforcement, please check us out on our website: [www.cityofmeadowsplace.org](http://www.cityofmeadowsplace.org)






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## *Garage Sale Dates*

**February 11 & 12**

**May 13 & 14**

**August 12 & 13**

**November 11 & 12**



## *Public Works*



By Dan McGraw



### **Tree Maintenance and Regulatory Signs**

Periodically, city hall will receive phone calls about trees and limbs blocking the view of our very important signs in the city, traffic and safety signs called "Regulatory Signs". These are the stop signs, crosswalk, speed limit, child at play, no parking and turn signs that are strategically located around the city. Please be reminded that tree trimming is the homeowner's responsibility, but the city monitors it for safety's sake. Our Code-Enforcement will approach any address in violation of the city statute and most of the time the homeowner complies quickly and willingly. So; if you see a sign that is blocked by a tree or limb, because most of the time we just need a reminder, please call city hall and report the location.

*Let's keep our city streets safe!*




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## Home & Garden Club

By Beverly Martin, Publicity

The Home and Garden Club hopes that your 2011 is off to a good start. We had a great meeting in January and we are looking forward to our next meeting. Tuesday, February 8th is our International Dinner. We will be dining out at Gringo's Mexican Restaurant at 7:00pm. For information call Kay at 281.933.0729.

Wednesday, February 23rd at 11:00 am the Lunch Bunch plans a nice lunch at Serenitea Tea Room. We would love for you to join us. Call Kay at 281.933.0729.

You do not need to be a member to join in our activities. We would like to meet you.



## Classified & Advertising

Anyone wishing to place an ad in the newsletter can contact City Hall for information. All ads are due by the last working day 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

• Onyx Landscape residential and commercial. Total lawn care, fertilization, flowerbeds, and mulch. Seasonal flowers, sod, tree trimming, tree removal, wood fence installation and repair. Meadows Place resident. Free estimates. Manuel 281-865-6636.

• Mary Kay Cosmetics. Pamper yourself with a complementary glamour or facial makeover. New Spring colors. Consultant for 32 years. Carol Evans 281-933-8298.

• White electric Whirlpool washer and dryer. 4 years old. Top load - extra large capacity. Excellent condition. \$350.00 for both - 832-396-5438.

• Registered home daycare enrolling. Meals and snacks included. 281-495-7996. Melanie

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**Bag it, don't blow it.**

Next time you are taking care of your yard, remember: It's important for all of us to make it a point to keep our storm drains clean and clear. You see, they're meant to carry rain water away and to help water flow easily away from your home during a heavy rainfall. The water that runs into and through the storm drain system is not treated. It goes straight to our waterways, and ultimately to Galveston Bay.

Don't blow it - bag or compost your leaves or grass clippings. And please, don't put anything - garbage, motor oil, paint, doggy doo or what-have-you - down the storm drain. Because it could wind up as "ewww" on you.

For more information call (713)685-7356 or log on to [www.CleanWaterways.org](http://www.CleanWaterways.org)



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**Parks and Recreation**

*Pre-registration is required and most classes have a minimum/maximum enrollment. PLEASE REGISTER EARLY!!!*

**Call Parks and Recreation for information @ 281-983-2935 or**

**email us: [monya@cityofmeadowsplace.org](mailto:monya@cityofmeadowsplace.org) or [parcs3@cityofmeadowsplace.org](mailto:parcs3@cityofmeadowsplace.org)**

**Unless otherwise noted, Meadows Place Community Center/Pool will be the location for all activities.**

**You can download registration form from the website: [www.cityofmeadowsplace.org](http://www.cityofmeadowsplace.org)**

# Classes



## AMERICAN SOCIETY OF KARATE (A.S.K.)

The American Society of Karate is an association designed to teach American Karate to ages 5-70 in a positive ever-changing system. Its goal is not necessarily to be the largest, but to be the best. This class has been on going for 17 years at the Community Center and welcomes new students.

### Meadows Winter Karate

**Starts:** Ongoing

**Ends:** Thursday, March 31, 2011

No class Spring Break

\$45--10 Week Session

\$30--Uniform (sorry no checks, CASH ONLY)

All Students MUST Register and pay Class

Fee by Third Week

**Time:** 6:30pm - 7:30pm Junior Class (Ages 5-12)

7:30pm - 8:30pm Adult Classes (Ages 13 and up)

**Where:** Community Center

**Instructors:** Steve Puma, Meadows Place resident (3rd Degree Black Belt), Michael Puma (2nd Degree Black Belt), and Steve Court (1st Degree Black Belt)

New students will be accepted the 1st 3 weeks. You may try the 1st class **Free** before you sign up.

Children must be 5 years of age.



## TENNIS LESSONS

Please contact Fort Bend Tennis Services at 281-980-4219 if you are interested in joining Tennis Classes. Fort Bend Tennis Services provides a Tennis Pro for each class for instruction. All classes are held at City of Meadows Place Tennis Courts. You do not have to be a resident to enroll in these classes.

Additional classes may be added if there are enough requests.

**Friday - 5:30 – 6:55pm**

Junior Adv Beg – ages 8 – 14yrs - \$60/month (4 weeks)

**Saturday - 8:00 – 9:25am**

Adult Beg/Adv Beg – age 18 and up - \$60/month (4 weeks)

**Saturday - 10:00 – 11:25am**

Youth Beg/Adv Beg – ages 8 – 14yrs - \$60/month (4 weeks)

*You can enroll in classes online at [fortbendtennis.com](http://fortbendtennis.com)*

# PARKS & RECREATION

## PARKS AND RECREATION

### BULLETIN BOARD

Lifeguards  
Needed!

Tennis  
Lessons

February Winter Taekwondo, Karate  
and Tennis Lessons Begin

March 25 Deadline for Lifeguard Applications

**Contact Parks Department  
about Registration!**

**COMING SOON  
TO A PARK NEAR YOU!!!**



Meadows Place Park  
ILLUSTRATIVE PLAN  
THE LAND DESIGN GROUP, INC.

CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE



*Attention!!!*

Meadows Place Ladies Bowling meets every Wednesday morning at 9 a.m. at the Stafford Bowling Lanes. If you are interested, please contact Bell Murray 281-495-3297 or Betsy Galona at 281-498-8330.



*Taekwondo*

Early bird sign up, get a free uniform!  
\*\*(First 5 only) come earn a belt\*\*

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#### Fall Schedule

Class will be held every Monday

**Where:** City of Meadows Place Community Center  
11975 Dorrance Lane, next to Meadows  
Elementary School.

**Time:** 5:00 - 6:00pm, 6:00 - 7:00pm (2 classes on Monday)  
3:15 - 4:15pm (1 class only on Tuesday)

**Starts:** Ongoing

**Ends:** March 30, 2011

**Fee:** 18 classes for \$89.00  
9 classes for \$45.00

**Instructor:** Jenny Pless (City of Meadows Place  
resident, teaching at the community center  
since 2006)

Please call Jenny to sign up! 281-788-8564  
or [jennypless@gmail.com](mailto:jennypless@gmail.com)

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- Texas Franchise Tax
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[diane@dianeschomburg.com](mailto:diane@dianeschomburg.com)

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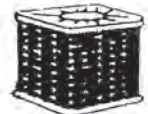
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- MAYOR..... **Charles Jessup** (281) 568-3461  
e-mail: mayor@cityofmeadowsplace.org
- ALDERMAN..... **Heidi Case** (281) 561-7351  
e-mail: alderman1@cityofmeadowsplace.org
- ALDERMAN..... **Terry Henley** (281) 530-7136  
e-mail: alderman4@cityofmeadowsplace.org
- ALDERMAN..... **Shirley Isbell** (281) 498-1984  
e-mail: alderman2@cityofmeadowsplace.org
- ALDERMAN..... **Rick Staigle** (713) 446-4566  
e-mail: alderman5@cityofmeadowsplace.org
- ALDERMAN..... **Dave Wilkens** (281) 240-7887  
e-mail: alderman3@cityofmeadowsplace.org
- CITY SECRETARY..... **Elaine Herff**

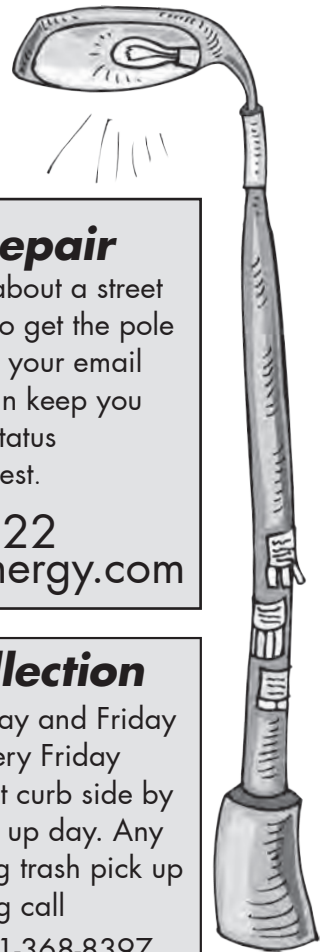
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  - CITY HALL ( 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.) Mon-Fri..... (281) 983-2950
  - POLICE DEPARTMENT / 24 Hours..... (281) 983-2900
  - FT. BEND COUNTY SHERIFF..... (281) 342-6116
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Tables and chairs to accommodate your party.

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Rent both and receive a discount of \$50.00

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**Street Light Repair**  
When calling or emailing about a street light outage, you will need to get the pole number, and if you add your email address Center Point can keep you apprised of the status of the repair request.  
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[www.centerpointenergy.com](http://www.centerpointenergy.com)

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Please have trash at curb side by 7:00am each pick up day. Any questions concerning trash pick up or recycling call  
WCA direct at 281-368-8397.



**Storm Water Hotline**  
Report dumping in storm water drains.  
Only **RAIN WATER** is allowed  
281-983-2932 or report online, see website.  
For updates on Public Works News visit the website.  
[publicworks@cityofmeadowsplace.org](mailto:publicworks@cityofmeadowsplace.org)