

## COMMENTS FROM THE MAYOR By Charles Jessup



### *Current Marquee Message*

In an ongoing attempt to improve our means of communication, we are once again taking advantage of current technology. As those who regularly drive by our Community Center at the corner of Amblewood and Dorrance can tell you, there is a constant changing of messages to keep passers by informed of important and noteworthy goings on in the City. They range from messages on City Council

Meetings and Public Hearings to Baseball signup times. The problem has always been that only a certain segment of our residents drive by there on a regular basis. Then, while looking at photos on the website, an idea was born. "What if we just took a picture when we put a new message on the sign and then post it on the website". Would that work? We requested Bizopia, our web host, to create a new spot on our website for just this purpose. Parks and Rec Assistant Kristina Hickle posted a new message on our marquee, took a digital photo and then posted it on the website. It worked! It is now our intent to post a photo of our marquee within hours of putting up a new message. I hope you will find this helpful and check it on a regular basis. Keeping you informed is one of my priorities, so, if you have an idea that may help us improve our communications, please let me know. In another communication area, if you have not signed up for our CodeRed emergency communications system, please consider doing so. The sign up portal is on our website.

### *BEHR Paint Project*

In the next week or two we will be mailing a packet to every home in Meadows Place. This packet will contain the BEHR Exterior Collection Chart # 50001540 which was chosen as the exterior paint color standard for our city. There will also be some additional color cards, discount coupons and an application to enter the FREE PAINT drawing.

The drawing will take place at the Kick-Off on Saturday, March 26th at 2:00 p.m. Join us as experts give us tips on paint and painting and then sit down to eat some crawfish or hot dogs and wait for the drawing. Ten Meadows Elementary students, a boy and a girl from grades 1-5, will pick the lucky winners who will receive free paint for the outside of their homes! Three of those will also receive both paint AND labor courtesy of BEHR Paint Company so, keep your eye out for the packet with the coupon, color card and free paint application. Good luck.

*(continued on page 3)*

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



## Current Marquee Message

The Meadows Place website has a new feature on its homepage! The right side column now has a "Current Marquee Message" module with a picture of the city marquee. If the marquee located at the community center is not on your usual route through Meadows Place, you will no longer miss out on current information that the Parks Department puts up on the marquee!

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

Garage  
Sale Dates  
2011

**May 13 & 14**  
**August 12 & 13**  
**November 11 & 12**

## CITY CALENDAR

March 13	Daylight Savings Begins
March 20	First Day of Spring
March 22	Regular City Council Meeting City Hall 7:30PM
March 26	BEHR Paint Kick-Off Community Center 12PM - 3PM

# Did You Know?...

**Did You Know...** former Meadows Place resident Robert Shever is currently serving on the Nimitz Class Carrier USS Ronald Reagan? As you read this, Robert is steaming around somewhere in the Pacific. Thanks to Robert and all the other men and women who so unselfishly volunteer to serve in our armed services. Next time you are at City Hall check out our Wall of Heroes dedicated to these veterans.

**Did You Know...** famous science writer Seymour Simon visited Meadows Elementary last month? Wow. This is quite a compliment. Simon has written over 250 books designed to peak interest in both writing and science. His visit was coordinated by the Meadows Elementary Library and Media specialist Shelly Puckett. Another example of Meadows Elementary working a little bit harder and setting the bar a little bit higher for our kids.

Speaking of Meadows Elementary, **Did You Know** Meadows Elementary has a group of students involved with Destination Imagination (D.I.), which is an after-school activity where students work in teams to solve Creative Challenges and then present their solutions at tournaments? The Meadows team is called the "Wit-Crackers". Meadows Place residents Michael Brough, Elsbeth Chow, Ethan Chow and Sarah Donnell are joined by Adriana and Sugero Hernandez to make up the team. The 'Wit-Crackers' have been practicing their goal of social outreach by visiting Oasis Lifestyles Assisted Living Center to perform and help entertain the residents. Way to go 'Wit-Crackers'!!

Also facing challenges, **Did You Know** Meadows Place resident Michael Danotti is President of the Strake Jesuit Engineering Team? Michael is leading his team in an international robotics competition called

'FIRST' which will be competing against 2,300 teams from around the country. They are given a set of tasks to perform and in just six short weeks must build an organization, get funding, develop a plan and build a robot that will meet the strict criteria and then perform those tasks better than the other teams. It's like the super bowl of high school science. They are team # 3847. You can check their progress at : [www.roaringcrusaders.org](http://www.roaringcrusaders.org) Good luck Michael.

**Did You Know...** that we test water samples from around the city every month? Several of your neighbors allow us to pull samples from their taps so we can ensure that the water sent to our homes is as safe as it can be. Public Works Director, Dan McGraw, monitors the results and checks them against state requirements but he also checks them against our typical benchmark results just to make sure there are no changes or unusual results. His knowledge, dedication and expertise in this area give me confidence in our drinking water safety. Thanks Dan.

**Did You Know...** that Meadows Place Alderman Rick Staigle will be acting as MC and doing the introductions at the Region 14 meeting of the Texas Municipal League later this month? Amongst other things, Dr. Richard Murray (the one from TV) will be discussing the process and impact of Congressional redistricting. This is a very important topic that will affect us all. Congratulations Rick.

**Did You Know...** Mark Jessup has been selected as a Corps Scholar in the Texas A&M Corps of Cadets? He will have his name posted on the Corps Honor Board in the Academic Center.

If you have someone YOU are proud of, drop a note at City Hall for Did You Know or email: [mayor@cityofmeadowsplace.org](mailto:mayor@cityofmeadowsplace.org). Thank You!

## Did You Know...

we have begun work at the Waste Water Treatment Plant that will provide a Type 1 Reclaimed water? This is the water with which we will fill our new lake. We will also use the water to irrigate the big park and eventually use it to irrigate esplanades. To get an idea of what the area will look like, check out the drawing at City Hall or look for it on the website... and yes, we will be stocking the lake.

(continued from page 1)

### Thank You

I would like to personally thank everyone who attended the two Public Hearings last month. Public input is a vital part of our decision making process. Your comments and opinions are valued by both Council and myself. I would also like to thank our neighbors Bob McDonald, Steve Gardner, Patrick Lindquest, E. J. Messarra, Bryan Swinney and Travis Tanner. These folks make up our Planning and Zoning Commission and are deserving of our thanks for all their hard work and for stepping up and accepting the responsibilities that go with this very important position. Their efforts will help keep Meadows Place...**Your Place for Life.**

### Public Works



By Dan McGraw

### Freeze Update

Several residents and a few commercial businesses found out "Pipes Can Freeze in Meadows Place"!! The hard freeze that hit Meadows Place during January and February of 2011, left several residents and commercial business without water. Some were without water for hours and others up to a day or so. City Hall received calls from frozen pipes to broken water service line in the yard, and broken irrigation backflow protectors. Please remember to turn irrigation systems off during freezes and drain the backflow preventers or they will crack in half.

It is the resident's responsibility to wrap their pipes and protect them from cold weather temperatures that drop below 32 degrees. If you are not sure how to wrap your exterior water, have any questions on how to protect your pipes or if you will be out of town please contact Dan McGraw at publicworks@cityofmeadowsplace.org.

I can recommend some of the "Best Practices for Water Pipe Protection". Meadows Place has three water wells and Public Works starts their freeze protection in November and completes the job by the first week in December. We use several methods of freeze protection to keep our city's water plants protected so the residents will not have an interruption in water supply or pressure. Making sure there is adequate water supply to fight fires is also on our minds when winter hits Texas. So, please contact me if you have any questions and start freeze protection of your home and exterior pipes in the late fall, that way it's done and you don't have to worry when Old Man Winter sneaks up on you.

# COP TALK

By Chief Mike A. Baker



### What is Cyberbullying?

Young people are using the Internet more than ever, and most have Internet access from home. For many children, the Internet is a big part of their social life. Social media has become a regular part of many kids' daily activities. Like many other social situations, some kids bully other kids online.

Cyberbullying is similar to other types of bullying, except it takes place online and through text messages sent to cell phones. Cyberbullies can be classmates, online acquaintances, and even anonymous users, but most often they do know their victims.

Some examples of cyberbullying are:

- Sending mean or threatening emails, instant messages, or texts.
- Excluding someone from a buddy/friend list or blocking their email for no reason.
- Tricking someone into revealing personal embarrassing information and sending it to others.
- Breaking into someone's email or social media accounts to send cruel or untrue messages while posing as that person.
- Creating websites to make fun of another person.
- Using websites to rate peers as "prettiest", "ugliest", etc.

Boys and girls tend to bully online in different ways. Boys more commonly bully by sending messages of a sexual nature or by threatening to fight or hurt someone. Girls more often bully by spreading rumors, sending cruel or demeaning messages, revealing secrets, or by excluding certain others.

Victims of cyberbullying may experience many of the same effects as children who are bullied in person – such as a drop in grades, low self-esteem, a change in interests, or depression. However, cyberbullying can seem more extreme to the victims because of several factors:

- It occurs in the child's home. Being bullied at home can take away the place children should feel the safest.
- It can be harsher. Often kids say things online they wouldn't say in person.
- It can be far reaching. Kids can reach a vast audience with just a few clicks.
- It can be anonymous. Cyberbullies often hide behind screen names or email addresses that don't identify who they are. Not knowing who they are being bullied by can increase a victim's fear and insecurity.
- It may seem inescapable. Staying offline may seem simple enough, but for many kids it takes away a huge part of their social life.

Cyberbullying can be a complicated issue, especially for adults who are not as familiar with the Internet and social media as their children. But like more typical forms of bullying, it can be prevented when kids know how to protect themselves and parents are available to help.

For more information visit the National Crime Prevention Council website at [www.ncpc.org](http://www.ncpc.org). • [www.cityofmeadowsplace.org](http://www.cityofmeadowsplace.org)

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## Code Enforcement



By Kathi Sutton

This month marks the 3rd Annual Mailbox Month for our city! If you haven't submitted a picture of your repainted / restored or new mailbox, make sure to get them in for \$5.00 off your water bill!

**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 a 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.

While on the subject of mailboxes, I thought that I would remind everyone that address numbers are required by City Code to be displayed on the exterior (curb, mailbox, front exterior wall) of your home. Below I have included the code and requirements for property identification:

Section 304.3 Premises identification: Buildings shall have approved address numbers placed in a position to be plainly legible and visible from the street or road fronting the property. These numbers shall contrast with their background. Address numbers shall be Arabic numerals or alphabet letters. Numbers shall be a minimum of 4 inches high.

Simply stated you must have an address number posted on your property that is visible from the street. This is helpful for many reasons but mainly for emergency vehicles to be able to locate the property in the event of an emergency.



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## Taking Care of Business

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

As we do every month, we ask you to support Meadows Place businesses so, next time you need to gas up or hit a quick stop, remember that we have not one but two

### SHELL Stations

in town. Both are on Airport. One at Dairy Ashford and the other at the corner of 59. Our business partners are important to our City so please patronize them whenever possible. Thank You.

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

*Thank You*



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# Celebrate the Risen Savior this Easter at Sugar Grove Church

April 24, 2011

Easter Schedule:

**8:30 AM....1st Service**

10:00 AM...

-Classes for Children & Teens

-Coffee Fellowship for Adults

**11:00 AM..2nd Service**



They saw that the stone was rolled away....



Mark 16:4

*40-Day-Prayer-Guides are available in preparation for Easter.*

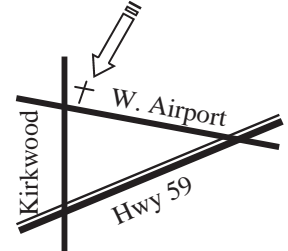
*Please stop by 'Grand Central' at the Sugar Grove building.*

**A Christ-centered church for you and your family in Meadows Place!**

**Sugar Grove Church of Christ**

**11600 W. Airport Blvd.  
Meadows Place, TX 77477**

NE corner of Airport and Kirkwood



## Sugar Grove Easter Egg Hunt Saturday April 16 10:00 AM - Noon

- ◆ GAMES
- ◆ PRIZES
- ◆ FREE PICTURE WITH EASTER BUNNY!
- ◆ Easter Egg Hunts at 10:30 & 11:30 AM
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[www.sugargrove.org](http://www.sugargrove.org)

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## Home & Garden Club

By Beverly Martin, Publicity

The Home and Garden Club is accepting applications for our Scholarship Award. The Scholarship goes to a Meadows Place resident, either a high school senior or a continuing education adult. Applications can be picked up at the Dulles High School counselor's office or on the Meadows Place website. For information call Lou Ann at 281.568.2989. Entry deadline is April 30th.

Please join us for our meeting, Tuesday, March 8th at 7:00 pm at the Community Center. Our speaker, Cricia Bratbury from the Fort Bend Extension Service will discuss "Culinary Herbs."

Friday, March 18th is Bunco Night, 7:00 pm at the Community Center. Always a lot of fun.

Thursday, March 29th the Lunch Bunch is going to The Cracker Barrel. For information about any of our events call Kay at 281.933.0729.

**Gardening Tip:** If you haven't already pruned your Crepe Myrtles, now is the time. Remove small branches/suckers from the base of the tree unless you want a shrub form. Snip any remaining seed pods and branches less than pencil size. If you are thinking of planting a new Crepe Myrtle, all varieties flower best in full sun.



## 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.

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



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- Kidney/Bladder Infection
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- Headaches/Migraines
- Depression
- Anxiety

-Minor Emergencies

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## Meadows Marlins Swim Team Registration

Meet the  
Coaches & Ask  
Questions

**Saturday April 2, 2011  
or  
Saturday April 16, 2011  
12 Noon - 3:00PM  
Meadows Community Center  
For swimmers age 5 - 18 years old**

**EVERYDAY (weekday) Practice Begins as follows:**

For New Swimmers, 6 & Unders, & 11-12 yr. olds – flip turns  
**MONDAY, APRIL 25, 2011**

For ALL Swimmers  
**MONDAY, MAY 2, 2011**

We welcome  
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Check us out on the web at: [www.meadowsmarlins.com](http://www.meadowsmarlins.com)

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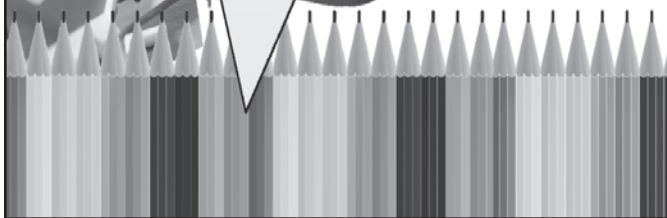
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**Parks and Recreation**

*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 or parks3@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 Spring Karate**

**Starts:** Thursday, April 7, 2011  
**Ends:** Thursday, May 26, 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!

Karate Lessons

- March 25 Deadline for Lifeguard Applications
- April 2 Lifeguard Interviews (Poolside) 10 A.M.
- April 21 Lifeguard CPR Training 6-9 P.M. Community Center
- April 23 Lifeguard Training 10 A.M.-5 P.M. Community Center/ Pool
- April 30 Lifeguard Training 10 A.M.-5 P.M. Community Center/ Pool
- May 1 Countryside Animal Clinic Community Center Parking Lot 10:30 A.M.-1:00 P.M.

**Contact Parks Department about Registration!**



*Attention!!!*

**M**eadows 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.



### City Of Meadows Place

Animal Wellness Center ~ Countryside Mobile Vet



City of Meadows Place pet tags (\$1.00)  
Saturday, May 7th, 2011  
10:30 AM - 1:00 PM  
Community Center Parking Area  
11975 Dorrance

*We offer all vaccinations, heartworm testing and prevention!*

**Call for more information  
713.492.8045**

[www.countrysidemobilevet.com](http://www.countrysidemobilevet.com)



*Taekwondo*

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

**SHARPEN YOUR MIND,  
STRENGTHEN YOUR BODY**

Taekwondo



#### Spring Schedule

Class will be held every Monday and Tuesday

**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)  
3:25 - 4:25pm (1 class only on Tuesday)

**Starts:** April 4, 2011

**Ends:** May 17, 2011

**Fee:** 14 classes for \$70.00  
7 classes for \$35.00

**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)



*Lifeguards Wanted*

**T**he 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 21  
6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.  
Community Center

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

*Applications can be picked up  
and turned in at City Hall.*

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

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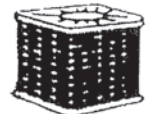
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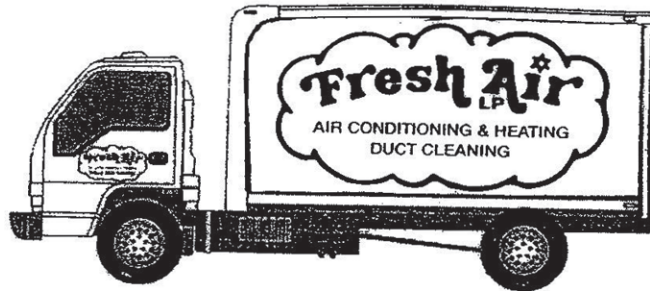
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- MAYOR..... **Charles Jessup** (281) 568-3461  
e-mail: mayor@cityofmeadowsplace.org
- ALDERMAN..... **Heidi Case** (281) 561-7351  
e-mail: alderman1@cityofmeadowsplace.org
- ALDERMAN..... **Terry Henley** (281) 530-7136  
e-mail: alderman4@cityofmeadowsplace.org
- 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**

- \*\*\*\*\*
- EMERGENCY..... 9-1-1
  - 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
  - WATER AND SEWER..... (713) 405-1750
  - FT. BEND COUNTY COURTHOUSE..... (281) 342-3411
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monya@cityofmeadowsplace.org  
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**Storm Water Hotline**  
Report dumping in storm water drains.  
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For updates on Public Works News visit the website.  
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