

Meadows PLACE

#### COMMENTS FROM THE MAYOR By Charles Jessup



West Airport Blvd. Reconstruction Project

TxDOT has selected a construction company, and this project is now in motion, though the exact date for construction to begin has not been set. It is looking more like April now before the contractor takes control of the project. Public Works Director Dan

McGraw has been to the pre-construction meeting and is prepared to move forward as the work begins. There is a lot for the city to prepare for, some of which will no doubt affect us who live here as well as those who travel through. For instance, we will have road closings within the city to prevent commuters from detouring through the city and causing problems. Dan has prepared road closure maps for the newsletter, which will also be put on the city website and will be updated as needed. Though it will be a major inconvenience, the project will help the traffic flow through our city and significantly reduce the money we spend to maintain this section of Airport for years to come. Thankfully, this project is part of the Ft. Bend Mobility Bond Project of 2007, which we then coupled with a federally funded TIP plan so county and federal funds are picking up most of the cost. Meadows Place, moving forward - contact Dan McGraw or City Hall if you have any questions.

### **Community Garden Committee**

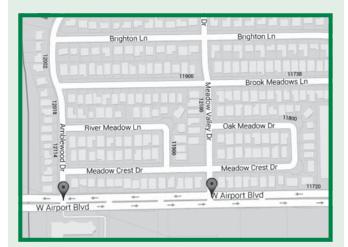
Meadows Place is seeking eleven (11) residents to serve on a committee to determine the feasibility, costs, location, and type of community garden that could most benefit our city. A recent survey showed an overwhelming majority believe it is important for Meadows Place to continue to do things which will set it apart and strengthen our image of an enclave city that is continually improving and reinventing itself. It is also important to keep our small time charm and one idea selected to help accomplish this was a community garden. They can be fun, informative and educational benefitting multiple generations at once. But, we need to define a few things before getting started – like who, what, how, where and when.

(Continued on page 3)



Street Closed for Construction

**MARCH 2014** 



 Amblewood/W.Airport Amblewood closed from April to October 2014

 Meadow Valley/W.Airport Meadow Valley street closed for construction April to October 2014

### **CITY CALENDAR**

- Mar. 10-14 Fort Bend ISD Holiday/Spring Break
- Mar. 25 Workshop 6:00 p.m.
- Mar. 25 Regular City Council Meeting City Hall 7:30 p.m.

# Did You Know?...

**Did You Know...** Meadows Place is home to a centenarian? That is a person who has lived to over a hundred years. Ms. Lillian Cox just celebrated her 107th birthday and boy was it a blast! A proclamation declaring February 22, 2014 as Lillian Cox Day in Meadows Place was read, she was serenaded with a song written just for her and got to ride in an old Model T - the same car she started driving, when she was EIGHT! Ms. Cox is quite a woman, and we are so pleased she chose Meadows Place as her home. Happy Birthday Ms. Lillian - and many more!

**Did You Know...** that our Director of Public Works, Dan McGraw, was asked to serve as an advisor on the Solid Waste Advisory Committee for the Houston Galveston Area Council? Only the best of the best get asked. Be sure to congratulate Dan when you see him. He represents Meadows Place very well and reminds those folks that great things sometimes do come in small packages. Thank You, Dan.

**Did You Know...** that Matthew Pham made the Dulles Middle School Tennis Team? Matthew started tennis lessons with the Meadows Place Parks & Recreation Dept. in the summer of 2012 with the goal of making the Tennis Team. Last year, he was upset that he didn't make it, but like all true champions, he continued with the lessons and the perseverance paid off. What a great example. Congratulations Matthew.

**Did You Know...** that Makayla Mueller, a Meadows Place resident and Dulles High School Senior, signed with Texas Lutheran University in Seguin to play soccer on National Signing Day? Way to go Makayla, they They are lucky to have you. Bet Mom & Dad (Rick & Sue Ella) will be taking a trip or two to Seguin next year.

**Did You Know...** Channel 2 traffic reporter and mid-day anchor, Jennifer Reyna, often

mentions Meadows Place in her early morning traffic reports? Where do you hear Meadows Place mentioned? Please let us know by emailing a note to Did You Know. Thank You

**Did You Know...** Long time Meadows Place resident Rick Madsen, was selected as the Kerr High School, TEACHER OF THE YEAR? What an honor to be selected as the best of such a noble profession. Thank you for preparing all those young men and women for the future. Congratulations "Mr. Madsen".

Speaking of preparing young people **Did You Know...** the Knoepfels are very proud of their son Bruce, who was in Russia at the Olympics with Alpine Skier Warren Cummings Smith, whom he has been training? Before Bruce moved to Colorado to train skiers, he coached several Meadows Place kids in soccer.

**Did You Know...** The Science Bowl Tteam from Dulles High School (DHS), is one of only 14 teams across the U.S. to win their regional competition for the 2014 National Science Bowl and advance to the National Finals to be held April 24-28 in Washington, D.C.? This proves once again that Meadows Place students have an exceptional educational path starting right here with Meadows Elementary, who recently got another great write up in the FBISD website!

**Did You Know...** that Meadows Place PD is continuing with its TLC program and getting better and better results? This means more of us are removing items from our cars and locking them. This results in slim pickings and a safer city. Proactive programs like this help keep Meadows Place...*Your* **Place for** *Life!* 

**Did You Know...** is just for YOU - and counts on you for input? Please let us know what is going on and drop a note at City Hall for or email: mayor@cityofmeadowsplace.org. Thank You!

**Did You Know...** Meadows Place was selected to host the Texas Municipal League (TML) Small Cities Problem Solving Clinic? These one-day clinics rotate throughout the state and are designed to provide answers to some of the questions most frequently asked by elected and appointed city officials from small cities. They are particularly helpful to small cities who do not have the staff or resources larger cities do. Meadows Place is proud to host this highly participatory clinic, which include legal question-and-answer discussions with legal experts from TML as well as a roundtable discussion of any and all problems faced by small cities. It went very well, so we can all be Meadows Place proud!.

#### (Comments From The Mayor continued from page 1)

If you are interested in serving on this exploratory committee, please send your contact information to Heidi Case at: hcase1@ comcast.net with Community Garden as the subject. If you have any questions, feel free to contact myself or Dan McGraw. We are looking for anyone with an interest in our community as well as those with gardening experience. Involvement in projects like this help Meadows Place continue to be...*Your* **Place For** *Life*.

### Water Meter Update

After extensive training by our staff, we have just run and completed our first full cycle with the new water meters and new billing system. As most of you know, a few months ago, we began a transition from our old manual style water meters to a new "Smart Meter" type meter by Badger meters. The meters are in and functioning as advertised. Now, instead of having your meter read once a month by a person coming into your yard, the data from your meter is constantly being fed to one of three "collector stations" in the city. Now, when it is time to read the meters instead of taking several people several days, it just takes a few minutes - and yes, there are fail-safes built in. This data is also available to our Utilities Department on a demand basis, which means we can review your usage for you and pull reports for the month, day or even hour. This reporting function will play a role in the future as the City moves toward being more proactive on water issues instead of just reactive. At some point in the future, possibly less than a year, you, the homeowner, will be able to monitor your usage online as well. This will enable you to use your water more effectively and see just how much you are using and when, and yes, we are working toward online billing. This run makes Meadows Place the very first city in this area to have its entire city using radio read meters! Sometimes there are advantages to being small.

Taking Care of Business

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

Housing is big business and our house values have been going up recently. To find new ways to make your home increase in value and be more fun to live in - sign up for the April 26th.

### Meadows Home & Garden Tour

Check it out under events at: www.meadowshomegardenclub.com

For such a small city Meadows Place has some really great places to eat. Be sure to use them.

> Our businesses need, and deserve, our support





### **Gun Safety**

Gun Safety is the responsibility of every adult, whether or not you own a firearm. If you own a firearm and obtain a concealed weapons permit, you are required by law to know that there are "Weapon Free" zones. It is illegal to carry a pistol on school property. As an adult, you are responsible for properly securing your firearm. If another person is injured as a result of your negligence in properly securing a gun, you can be charged with a crime or be held civilly liable. If convicted, you could be fined or sentenced to time in prison.

### What your children need to know

Children should know that guns are not toys, that guns are dangerous and can hurt people. If they see or find a gun (even if they think the gun looks like a toy), they should follow these three (3) steps to safety:

- 1. They should not touch or handle the gun.
- 2. They should get away from the gun quickly and leave the area.
- 3. They should immediately tell a trusted adult (parent, guardian, teacher or police officer) about the gun.

**Remember:** It is illegal to bring weapons to school, onto school property, or into vehicles used by a school to transport students to and from school property.

Meadows Place Police Department provides free gun locks to secure your weapons. All you have to do is visit the Police Department and request one or more locks to fit your needs.





### "Bigger Things to Do"



ne of the reasons that we have Code Enforcement here in the City of Meadows Place is to help control the spread of Neighborhood Blight (urban

Bv Jerry Parker

decay) into our City.

I recently spent a couple of Saturdays out in the city. Aside from meeting a few people that are normally at work during the week, I spent most of my day issuing warnings to those that had not yet picked up their trash cans from the curb. I know some would say that trash cans are a small thing, but we all know that small things add up. That morning, I wrote a warning and posted it on a resident's front door. Later I received an angry voicemail from that resident. He said, "Aren't there bigger problems that need your attention?" The truth of the matter is, YES, but if I let these small things go, then THEY become the next big problem! Considering the large accomplishments that I have made, imagine how much more I would be able to do if I didn't have to spend a lot of time on those small things.

The small things like garbage cans are infectious. If you do your part, my focus can be on the big things, like vacant houses, abandoned vehicles, peeling paint and the like. In the meantime, I will still write you a warning to get you to take in your trash cans, cut your grass, and pick up the trash stored in your driveway and all of the other small things like that. But only one warning, upon the next occurrence, I will issue a citation. Why a citation so soon? Because I have been told that I have "smaller things" to do.



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



### Water System Network



The City's new water system network is L up and running! We are now able to assist the homeowner with more detailed information of their water usage. When you need to know about your hourly, daily and monthly water usage send a request by email

to utilities@cityofmeadowsplace.org and we will get that information out to you. Also, you can make a request over the phone by calling Dan McGraw at 281-642-7700. Water Wise Water Smart!



**Dates to Know** 

- Mar. 5th: Last Day for Candidate to Withdraw from Election
- Mar. 7th: Drawing for Ballot Positions at 4:00 p.m. City Hall





### 2014 BOY SCOUT FLAGS OVER MEADOWS PLACE



Holiday flag placement in your yard on:

### Memorial Day > Flag Day > Independence Day > Labor Day

We wish to express our sincere Thank You to those who have subscribed to this Flag Service, for supporting Boy Scouts and for expressing the patriotic spirit on the holidays when we honor America. To those who have not yet subscribed, we extend this invitation and ask for your support.

Troop 731 will proudly post an American Flag in front of your residence on each of the following national holidays:

- Memorial Day
- Flag Day
- Independence Day
- Labor Day

(On Veteran's Day, the scouts are usually in school so flags will NOT be placed in front of homes that day). Boy Scout Troop 731 flag placement occurs early morning and flag retirement early evening. Note: The flags and flagpoles are the property of Troop 731. You are purchasing a subscription service and NOT the flag or flagpole itself.

The subscription cost is \$25.00 per calendar year, <u>paid in advance</u>. To subscribe, please complete the following information and return this form with your \$25.00 donation to:

### Please Make Checks Payable to "BSA Troop 731"

BSA Troop 731 Rick Staigle, Flag Fundraiser Chairman (713-446-4566, e-mail rjs2004@sbcglobal.net) 12327 Scottsdale Dr. Meadows Place, TX 77477

 Name\_\_\_\_\_
 Address\_\_\_\_\_

 E-Mail\_\_\_\_\_\_
 or
 Phone\_\_\_\_\_

(Provide preferred communication method: e-mail or phone)



### **City Of Meadows Place**

Animal Wellness Center ~ Countryside Mobile Vet ~

Saturday, May 3rd, 2014 10:30 am - 12:30 pm Community Center Parking Area 11975 Dorrance



Vaccinations, heartworm testing & prevention!

> Call for more information 713.492.8045

### www.countrysidemobilevet.com



Come out to Constellation Field and have the chance to participate during in-game promotions and mingle with fellow Meadows Place residents!

To Purchase Tickets: Fill out a Program Registration form from the City website or come by City Hall & prepay with cash or check. To pay with credit card: Call Tyler @ Skeeters Box Office 281.207.9127

Sponsored by: City of Meadows Place Parks & Recreation One Troyan Drive, Meadows Place, TX 281.983.2935

Purchased Tickets can be picked up from City Hall 2 weeks before the game.



# Home & Garden Club

By Beverly Martin, Publicity

Our next meeting scheduled is for Tuesday, March 11th at 7:00 pm at the Community Center. Please join us to learn about "Community Gardening" with Boone Holladay, an Extension Agent with Texas A & M Agrilife Extension Service. This is a topic being considered here in Meadows Place. For information, call Lou Ann at 281-568-2989.

April 26th Spring Home and Garden Tour See our ad in this newsletter. To purchase tickets in advance for \$10.00, call Kay 281-933-0729 or Lou Ann 281-568-2989 or 713-249-8981. This is an important fund raiser for our Scholarship Awards Fund. Please offer your support and enjoy touring these great homes and gardens here in our city.

The Garden Club wants to send a special thanks to our 2nd Vice President Kay Ewing for setting up our February 11th International Dinner at Tradicao Brazilian Steak House. Everyone really enjoyed the evening. Thanks Kay.

> Visit our web site today. Meadowshomegardenclub.com

🗩 2014 Scholarship Awards

### It's time to apply for The Home and Garden Club Scholarship Awards.

To be eligible you must be a Meadows Place resident, Dulles High School graduate or post secondary education student.

Our 2014 Scholarship Committee Chairpersons

are Karin and Lee Noack, 12027

Meadowdale Drive, Meadows Place, TX 77477. 281-498-5065

Visit meadowshomegardenclub.com for an application. Please mail your applications to them as soon as possible.



To participate in any City of Meadows Place program or class, pre-registration is required and most classes have a minimum/maximum enrollment.

### **PLEASE REGISTER EARLY!**

Registration forms can be picked up at City Hall Monday - Friday, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm or printed off the City website www.cityofmeadowsplace.org. Make checks payable to City of Meadows Place; with payment, mail or turn into the City payments box at City Hall. For more information, call Parks & Recreation @ 281.983.2935 or email: parks3@cityofmeadowsplace.org.

# Classes-

### **TENNIS ANYONE?!**

Description: Beginning Youth Tennis Lessons

Who: Youth 8 - 14 years old

Where: Tennis Courts

When: Wednesdays 6:00 pm / Saturdays 8:00 am

2014 Session 3: March 1 - 29 (no class March 12)

2014 Session 4: April 2 - 30 (no class April 19)

*Cost:* \$75 per session, 4 weeks per session (2 classes per week) \$40 per session, 4 weeks per session (1 class per week)

Instructor: Jami Burt





# **LIFEGUARDS WANTED!**

The City of Meadows Place is accepting lifeguard applications until March 28, 2014 for Summer 2014!

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

### TRAINING DATES

CPR Training: Friday, April 25th 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. at the Community Center

Pool Training: Saturday, April 26th and Sunday, April 27th 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Community Pool

Applications can be picked up and turned in at City of Meadows Place City Hall One Troyan Drive Monday-Friday 9:00am - 4:00pm

For additional information go to www. cityofmeadowsplace.org

# PARKS & REGREATION

Kids

Market

# PARKS AND RECREATION

Concert BULLETIN BOARD

Mar. 1-28	Karate & Taekwondo ongoing New sessions in April!
Mar. 1	Tennis Classes Begin!
Mar. 1	MP P.O.N.Y Baseball Opening Day Baseball Fields in McGrath Park
Mar. 1	Swim Team Registration Community Center 9am - 11 am
Mar. 11	Garden Club: Texas Parks & Wildlife Agent Boone Holliday 7 pm
Mar. 28	Last Day Lifeguard Applications Accepted
Apr. 25	Music Memories (Concert at the Lake) 7pm - 9:30 pm
Apr. 25-27	Lifeguard Training
May 3	Countryside Animal Clinic Comm. Center 10:30am -12:30 pm
May 10	Kids Market McGrath Park - 9:30 am - 11:00 am

### Contact the Parks Department about Registration!

281-983-2935

Kid's Flea Market

### Come join us for the 2nd Annual Meadows Place Kids' Market!

What: Kids make crafts in advance then sell them for either 25¢ up to \$1.00. Kids (and adults!) can buy those treasures or goodies at the market.

When: May 10th, 9:30 am - 11:00 am

Where: McGrath Park, along the trail in the shady area.

Why: To give kids a chance to buy, sell and have a lot of fun!

The Kid's Market is free to participate; everything should be priced at  $25 \notin$  up to \$1.00! We want a wide variety of merchandise so register your goods and reserve your table by emailing parks3@cityofmeadowsplace.org. The Market is a great place for kids to find the perfect Mother's Day gift!

Taekwondo

Early bird sign up, get a free uniform! (First 10 to sign up for 13 classes) Come earn a belt!

SHARPEN YOUR MIND, STRENGTHEN YOUR BODY New Sessions in April!

Where: City of Meadows Place Community Center 11975 Dorrance Lane.

Time: Mon. & Wed.: 5:00-6:00pm (5-12 years old) Mon. & Wed.: 6:00-7:00pm (13-up)

2014 Spring Session: April 2 - May 14

Fee: 7 Classes - \$35 (1 class per week) 13 Classes - \$60 (2 classes per week)

Instructor: Jenny Pless (City of Meadows Place resident, teaching at the Community Center since 2005)

### 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 everchanging system. Its goal is not necessarily to be the largest, but to be the best. This class has been on going for 19 years at the Community Center and welcomes new students.

### New Session Starts in April

- When: Thursdays April 3 - May 29
- Cost: \$45--12 Week Session \$30--Uniform (sorry no checks, CASH ONLY)
- Time: 6:30pm 7:30pm (Ages 5-12) 7:30pm - 8:30pm (Ages 13 and up)
- Where: Community Center

Instructors: Steve Puma, Meadows Place resident (3rd Degree Black Belt). Michael Puma (3rd Degree Black Belt)

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

• 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.

• Pool Cleaning. Full service. Includes cleaning, chemicals, inspecting equipment, emptying baskets. CPO Certified. 281-865-6636 Manuel.

• Sprinklers, new installations, repairs and maintenance. Service all sprinkler systems. Affordable. Licensed/insured. Free estimates. 281-865-6636 #20062

• Mary Kay Cosmetics. Call for re-orders, complementary skin care session, or glamour look. Call Carol: 281-933-8298.

• Daycare enrolling. Meals included. 20 years experience. Melanie 281-495-7996





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Fax: 713.771.1559

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- Hotel Stay Train & Bus Station Funerals

Weddings Etc. TruCare

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# Keep a level head in an up-and-down market.

Amid recent market volatility, we've seen substantial upswings and downturns. But when the market reacts one way, it doesn't mean you should, too. The actions you take today can significantly impact your financial future. So before you alter your investment strategy, schedule a financial review. We can help you stay focused despite the market's recent disappointments and find opportunities for the long term.

#### Call today to schedule your financial review.



**Ever A Ramirez Financial Advisor** 5806 New Territory Blvd Sugar Land, TX 77479

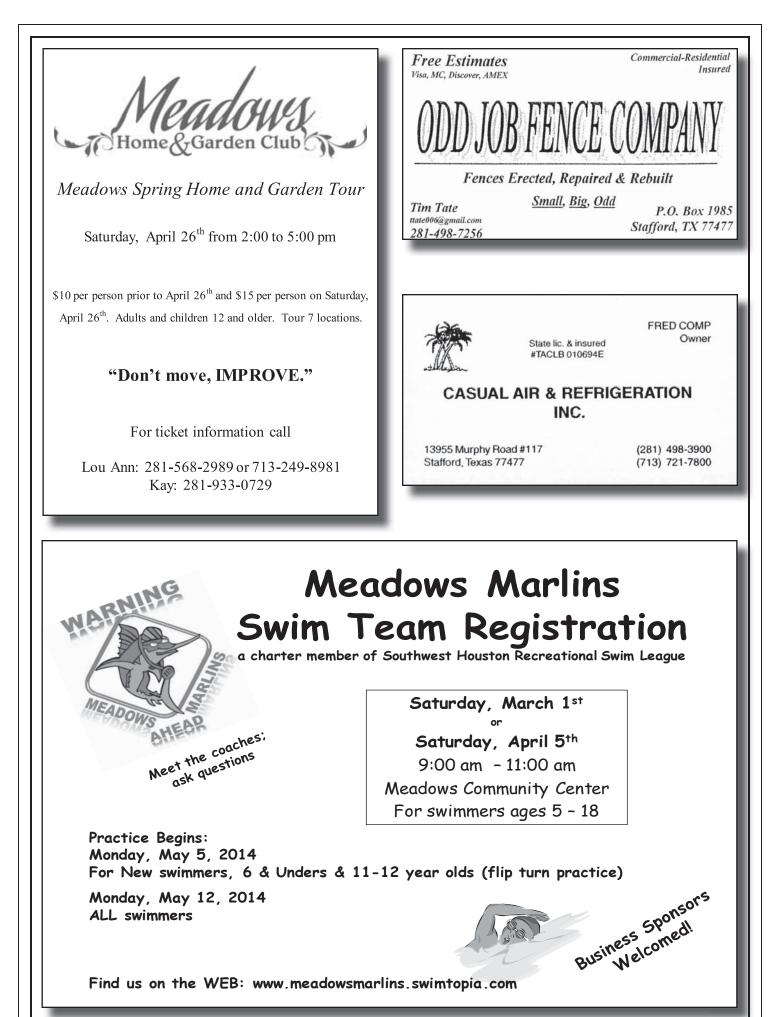
281-565-5353

Edward Jones MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

# **Give Your Old Car** The Boot

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**ON THE MARKET** 



12243 Meadowhollow



12002 Meadowhollow



11923 Meadowdale



11411 Dorrance



11318 Dorrance



11810 Monticeto



**Anita Milne** 281-413-9732

milneanita@yahoo.com





One Troyan Drive • Meadows Place, TX 77477 www.cityofmeadowsplace.org Prsrt Std U.S. Postage **PAID** Stafford, TX Permit No. 36

### **City of Meadows Place**

### One Troyan Drive • Meadows Place, TX 77477 (281) 983-2950 • Fax (281) 983-2940

Charles D. Jessup, IVMAYOR	-3461		
e-mail: mayor@cityofmeadowsplac	ce.org		
Terry J. HenleyMAYOR PRO TEMPORE (281) 530	-7136		
e-mail: alderman4@cityofmeadowsplace.org			
John F. IsbellALDERMAN 1	-4982		
e-mail: alderman1@cityofmeadowsplac			
Kelle K. MillsALDERMAN 5			
e-mail: alderman5@cityofmeadowsplac	ce.org		
Terry W. Morgan, SrALDERMAN 2	-		
e-mail: alderman2@cityofmeadowsplac			
David A. WilkensALDERMAN 3	-		
e-mail: alderman3@cityofmeadowsplac			
Janice M. MooreCITY SECRETARY			
e-mail: jmoore@cityofmeadowsplac			
*****	•		
EMERGENCY	9-1-1		
CITY HALL ( 9:00 a.m 4:00 p.m.) Mon-Fri			
FT. BEND COUNTY SHERIFF			
WATER AND SEWER(281) 398-8 FT. BEND COUNTY COURTHOUSE(281) 342-3			
ANIMAL CONTROL			
ANIMAL CONTROL	83-2935		
*********************			
Community Center Rental			
Building Capacity 165			
Tables and chairs to accommodate your party.			

Tables and chairs to accommodate your party.		
Food / no alcohol	\$150.00	
Food and alcohol	\$250.00	
Non-residents add	\$100.00	

(Cash Deposit equal to Rental Fee required) Community Pool Rental......\$300.00 (Maximum time allowed is 3.5 hours)

> **Community Center / Pool Combo** Available for rental May - September Rent both and receive a discount of \$50.00

> CALL PARKS AND RECREATION TO SCHEDULE YOUR EVENT 281-983-2935 parks3@cityofmeadowsplace.org

### **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



# WCA Trash Collection

Trash pick up is every Tuesday and Friday / Recycling every Friday 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.

# **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.

1-800-332-7143 www.centerpointenergy.com