

COMMENTS FROM THE MAYOR
By Charles Jessup



**Meadows Place Bond Rating
Goes Up**

I am very pleased to announce that after evaluating and assessing the financial position of the City of Meadows Place, Standard & Poor's (S&P) has raised our bond rating from a AA- to a AA. We should all be very proud of this rating.

For those who are unfamiliar with what this is, bonds are our primary source of long-term and large project financing. The bond rating is a major indicator of credit risk evaluation and the financial stability of, in this case, the City of Meadows Place. The bond rating is primarily used to establish the risk for potential investors and, subsequently, the interest rates (costs) attached to the bonds. While there are many factors involved, the bond rating is often the single most important factor affecting the interest cost on bonds, and a AA rating assures us that we would be able to secure a most favorable interest rate.

The criteria used in assigning a rating include: Financial Condition, Debt Structure, the Economy, Stability and the Management Practices of the Governing Body and Administration. Rating agencies use a complex set of mathematical ratios for analysis and to compare one issuer to another. The rating is not a purely scientific evaluation however and subjective evaluation based on history, strength of community and determination to remain fiscally viable also appear to play a role in the final rating. I believe Meadows Place shined in this area, which, when taken into account, play a role in our being assigned a AA rating "while affirming a Stable Outlook".

The following is taken from the S&P report in which they explain the rationale behind our rating/ rating change.

- The city's budgetary performance in our view has been very strong overall, with the city closing its two most recently completed fiscal years with surpluses and expecting another surplus in the next fiscal year.

(Continued on page 3)

**Christmas
Memories
in the
Park**

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13TH, 2013

6:00-9:00 P.M.

**MARK MCGRATH MUNICIPAL PARK
12001 BRIGHTON LANE**

(See Inside for More Details)

CITY CALENDAR

**DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME
- CHANGE REMINDER -**

Sunday, November 3rd

Turn clocks back 1 hour at 2:00 a.m.



**Nov. 5 General Election 7:00 a.m.
to 7:00 p.m. in City Hall**

Please support County Mobility Bond Project

Nov. 25-29 Fort Bend ISD Thanksgiving Break
Nov. 26 City Council Workshop at 6:00 p.m.
**Nov. 26 Regular City Council Meeting
City Hall 7:30 p.m.**
Nov. 27 City Hall Closing Early at 12 Noon
**Nov. 28-29 City Hall Closed for
Thanksgiving Holiday**

Did You Know?...

Did You Know... Meadows Place Parks & Recreation Director Monya Keenen is on the Meadows Elementary Campus Based Leadership Team (CBLT)? This way both sides at least have some knowledge of what the other is doing. Having a representative on the CBLT is just one more way the city and school stay connected. Thanks to Principal Labus for continuing this great tradition, and thank you to Monya for taking the time to participate. A win win for sure.

Did You Know... about the new Meadows Home and Garden Club website? It is nothing short of fantastic. Besides being beautiful, it chock full of useful information. While at Larry and Beverly Martin's home for National Night Out, Ann Dybala - who did most of the heavy lifting on the sight - told me they had 2,838 hits in June - not bad for the first month. The data for September just became available and it seems they had 6,400 hits. Not bad for a city of 4,660! You can reach it through the LINKS section of the City of Meadows Place website or go to www.meadowshomeandgardenclub.com. It is worth the visit.

Speaking of the Garden Club, **Did You Know...** they have holding their world famous Fall Craft Show at the Sugar Grove Church of Christ on November 2 from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm this year? I urge EVERYONE to support this wonderful event now being held right here in our little city! Not only can you pick up some great gifts, you will be helping them fund their scholarship program - a program that has helped Meadows Place kids for 19 years now. 19! Thanks Garden Club. Hope to see everyone at the Craft Fair.

Did You Know... National Night Out was a rousing success this year? Even more gatherings than last year. This is such an important event, so I need to say Thank You to all those who hosted or went to the many block parties throughout the city. Thanks to all the Council members who took the time

to mix and mingle but special kudos to John Isbell who flew in from out of town on his own nickel just to be here. Thanks John. OH, and our new County Commissioner, Grady Prestige, was quite impressed. In between "helpings of BBQ", he told me "You folks in Meadows Place knows how to do things right". Yes we do commissioner, yes we do.

Did You Know... Meadows Elementary was highlighted on the FBISD webpage? I didn't know either until Shelly Brough told me. Seems they wanted to highlight the Lone Star Leadership Camp participants on the FBISD webpage and Meadows Elem had the most student participation (due to Ms. Garcia). This truly is an incredible experience for our young people. Shelly said she is very proud of our community, Meadows Elementary and the Lone Star Leadership Academy. I think we all are. Congratulations to all those outstanding youngsters who are learning to be the leaders of tomorrow.

Did You Know... Congressman Pete Olson chose Meadows Place to hold a very important meeting last month? There were dignitaries and elected officials and folk from all over his district right here in Meadows Place. The event took place at my favorite steakhouse - Tradicao! This is a big deal for us folks. It shows that we are becoming known as the neat little enclave city that does things right. No, I didn't get to go - I had another offer...I could go to this event, or go to Alaska with my wonderful wife to celebrate our 30th wedding anniversary. I think I made the right choice, but Thank You Congressman Olson for thinking of Meadows Place... **Your Place for Life!**

P.S... **Did You Know** the Terrassos celebrated their 46th anniversary last month? Congratulations and best wishes for 46 more...

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... that Meadows Place has its own Municipal Court? Many new residents do not, so here are a few tidbits of information you may want to know. The mission of our court is predetermined by the State of Texas and ours is a Civil Court for Meadows Place matters only. In our court we see all people who have business with our Court are treated with courtesy, respect and justice. Another thing you should know is that all jurors are taken from within our own community and that you may be summoned to be on a jury. If you are summoned, please show up. Our system depends on everyone doing their civic duty. We are all guaranteed a right of jury so please, stand tall if called. For more information on our Courts or jury duty, please check the website.

(Comments From The Mayor continued from page 1)

- Supporting the city's finances is what we consider to be very strong liquidity, with total government available cash as a percent of total governmental fund expenditures and as a percent of debt service both above 90%. We believe the city has strong access to external liquidity.

It can be most difficult for a small city with limited resources to obtain this type of rating. A great deal of credit goes to our staff and department heads for keeping expenditures down, to our finance department for keeping such good track of finances and keeping the numbers current so we can make good fiscal decisions. We must also thank Council for making the tough decisions which allow us to progress and move forward while not becoming overextended. I thank them all as both a taxpaying citizen of Meadows Place and as the Mayor. Great job everyone.

TML & Meadows Place

TML stands for Texas Municipal League, an organization which began in 1913 with 14 cities at the table. Today there are 1,135 members, mostly small cities. TML is "dedicated solely, to provide services to Texas cities and to serve the needs and advocate the interests of cities and city officials." The TML Constitution states that the purpose of the League is "to render services which individual cities have neither time, money nor strength to do alone." That's us.

TML is helpful to Meadows Place in several ways, from providing sample ordinances and free legal advice to the annual convention its with strong seminars, meetings, and workshops, which allow us to study municipal issues and exchange information with TML and other cities. They also provide administrative services to the Texas Municipal League risk (insurance) pools, so we can offer quality coverages at reasonable and competitive rates.

Terry Henley, John Isbell and myself all attended this year and we all learned, or relearned a lot about governing in a manner to deal with the changes that are most certainly coming without losing the things that make our city special. It is because I respect the efforts of TML so much that I am so proud to announce that Meadows Place has been selected to host a TML Small Cities Problem Solving Clinic in February. I know you will be proud too. That is why I wanted to share this with you. I would also like to say Thank You for allowing me to serve you and the City of Meadows Place.

COP TALK



By Chief Gary Stewart



REMINDER! Holiday Safety

As the Holiday Season approaches, we want to remind you that it is also a time to take special precautions against becoming a victim of a crime. TLC is a program of the Meadows Place Police Department that reminds you to, Take out Valuables - Lock Your Vehicle - Close Windows and Moon Roofs. We encourage you to practice this whether you are at home or out shopping. When you practice TLC, you reduce the chances for becoming a victim. Make sure your packages are locked away or completely hidden from view. When you are out shopping, no matter how rushed you are, make sure that you are aware of your surroundings and stay alert. When you are home, take extra care to lock your doors and windows, and don't answer the door to people you don't know. Always remember **Report Any Suspicious Activity** to the Meadows Place Police Department at 281-983-2900. Don't let a criminal ruin this special time of the year.

Taking Care of Business

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

Bob Graf and the rest of our Economic Development Corporation (EDC) are working very hard to get some new businesses for Meadows Place. If you want to suggest a business we should pursue, or know someone we can contact about expanding or moving their business here, please send an email to:

mayor@cityofmeadowsplace.org

Meadows Place has some really great businesses. Let's support them.

*Our businesses
need, and deserve,
our support*



Thank You

Code Enforcement

Stray/Loose animals



By Jerry Parker

Section 90.04 of the City Code, addresses the fact that we do not allow our dogs to run loose in the city limits; however, cats are not addressed as of yet in this ordinance.

As responsible pet owners, and courteous neighbors, please maintain control of your feline friends.

If you have a problem with stray/feral cats, first talk to your neighbors who may own them. If it is truly a stray/feral cat, the Fort Bend County Animal Services Department have humane traps available. They can be picked up for a 1-week loan, at their Rosenberg office. Please call in advance to verify availability.

For more resources and shelter information visit:

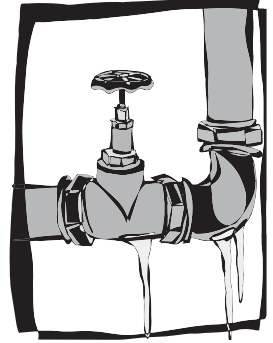
www.nokillhouston.org

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

Public Works

Tips from Public Works Cold Weather and Pipes

It's not too early to start thinking about freeze protection! It's a great idea to get started wrapping pipes now and making a plan for the plants that you would wrap IF we get a freeze.



Happy Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving is traditionally a time to gather with friends and loved ones to give thanks for life's blessings. The holiday lends itself to reflection on the things for which one is most grateful. Marked on the fourth Thursday in the month of November every year, Thanksgiving Day is a significant festival of the United States of America, considered to be amongst the top six annual holidays of the country. Luxurious traditional meals, colorful parades, holidaying, exciting sport games, and partying are the most common customs observed on this auspicious festival. The entire country can be witnessed as a grand carnival time as this three-day occasion draws closer. For those who aren't able to meet their close ones, sending greetings through emails, greetings cards, and text messages is the best alternative.

"Thanksgiving dinners take eighteen hours to prepare. They are consumed in twelve minutes. Half-times take twelve minutes. This is not coincidence."

- Erma Bombeck



Happy Thanksgiving
from City of Meadows Place

Garage Sale Dates

November
8 & 9





Meadows Place Home and Garden Club's
38th Annual
Fall Craft Show

Saturday, November 2nd
9:00 - 4:00

Sugar Grove Church of Christ
11600 W. Airport

The Craft Show is the big fund raiser for our Scholarship Awards. 35+ hand craft vendors will be selling glass ware, spices, wooden art, jewelry, wearables, florals, candles, home and holiday décor and many novelty items. Event includes a bake sale and raffle. No admission charge.



City of Meadows Place Parks & Recreation

2013

Christmas Memories In the Park



Friday, December 13, 2013

6 -9 pm

Live Music from the Emotions

Hayrides & Petting Zoo

Campfires & S'mores

Santa Visits From 7 - 8:30 pm

Meadows Elementary Choir

Sledding on Munchkin Mountain & Memories Snow Mountain

Concessions Available From

Meadows Place Baseball & Meadows Marlins Swim Team



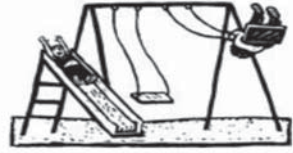
Please Help!



Please bring food pantry for the
Sugar Grove Hands of Christ Pantry & a
new, unwrapped toy for Toys for Tots.



Meadows Place Parks & 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: 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

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

Session 11: October 30 - November 23

Session 12: December 4 - 21

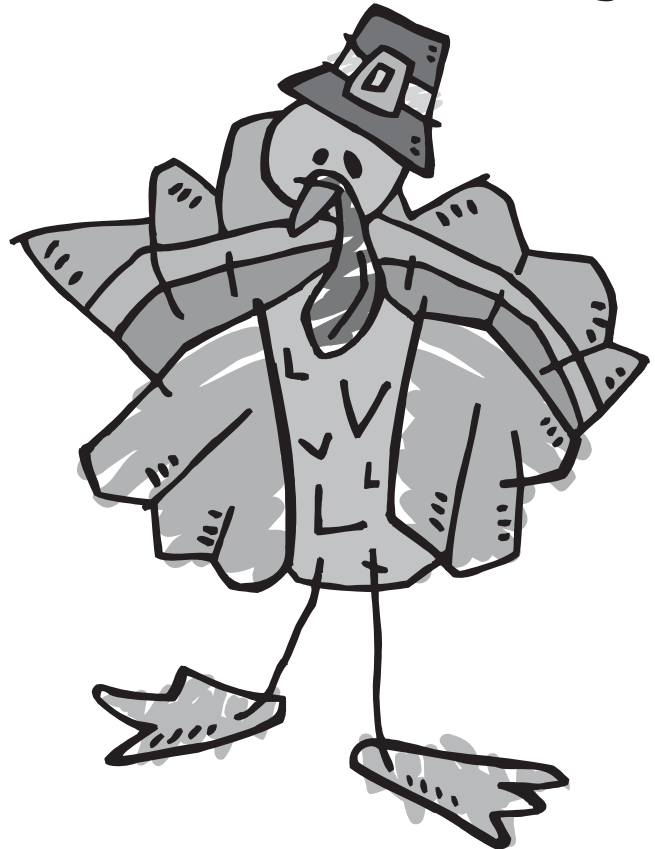
Cost: \$75 per session, 4 weeks per session (2 classes per week)
\$40 per session, 4 weeks per session (1 class per week)

Instructor: New Instructor, Jaime Burt

To participate in any City of Meadows Place program or class, pre-registration is required. Registration forms can be picked up at City Hall Monday through Friday, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm or printed off the City website www.cityofmeadowsplace.org. Make checks payable to the City of Meadows Place; with payment, mail or turn into the City payments box at City Hall.



Happy Thanksgiving



from City of Meadows Place

PARKS & RECREATION

PARKS AND RECREATION

Karate!!

BULLETIN BOARD

Happy
Thanksgiving!

- Nov.** Taekwondo & Tennis - New Sessions
Karate - Session Ongoing
- Nov. 2** Countryside Animal Clinic
Community Center Parking Lot
10:30 am - 12:30 pm
- Nov. 7** 55+ Club - Walking at the Lake
8:30 am Meet at Field House
- Nov. 21** 55+ Club - Book Club
9:00 am Community Center
- Nov. 28** Happy Thanksgiving!
- Dec. 13** Christmas Memories in the Park!
6:00 pm - 9:00 pm

**Contact the Parks Department
about Registration!
281-983-2935**

Mobile Vet

City Of Meadows Place
Animal Wellness Center
~ Countryside Mobile Vet ~

Saturday, November 2, 2013
10:30 AM - 12:30 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

55+ Club

Thank you to everyone that came out to the presentation on Protecting Yourself and Your Identity! We shared some great ideas.

**I look forward to seeing everyone
at our November events.**

- **Nov. 7:** Walking at Lake @ 8:30 am
(Field House)
- **Nov. 21:** Book Club meeting @ 9:00 am
(Community Center)



*I look forward to
see all of you at the
Community Center!*

Santa's Mailbox

Beginning November 27th through December 24th, Santa's mailbox will be in place at City Hall. Letters to Santa can be mailed in this special mailbox without any postage. Santas' helpers pick up his mail every day and make sure it gets to the North Pole before Christmas Eve.



Taekwondo

Early bird sign up, get a free uniform! (First 10 only)
Come earn a belt!

SHARPEN YOUR MIND, STRENGTHEN YOUR BODY

New Sessions starting Now!

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

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

Session 2: November 4 - December 18
(No class Nov. 25 & 27)

Fee: 6 Classes - \$40 (1 class per week)
12 Classes - \$55 (2 classes per week)

Instructor: Jenny Pless (City of Meadows Place
resident, teaching at the Community Center
since 2006)



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Fishing at the Lake!

Catch and release fishing is permitted. Anglers ages 17 and up must have a current fishing license. Discounts are offered to those ages 65+. Grab your pole & bait and head to the lake!

Please do not release any outside fish into the lake or critters into the lake or park.



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 19 years at the Community Center and welcomes new students.

New session starts in January!

When: Thursdays

Cost: \$45--12 Week Session
\$30--Uniform (sorry no checks, CASH ONLY)
All Students MUST Register

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 (3rd Degree Black Belt)

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www.WindowCityHouston.com



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
- Yoga for health and well being. M-W-F morning classes for all levels. Beginners and seniors welcome. For further information call Judy Oteno at 281-498-7933.
- Infant Care in my Meadows Place home. 17 years experience. CPR & First Aid Certified. References available upon request. Margaret - 832-606-9653
- 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
- Odd Job Services. "If you have a job to get done, we have work to do." Catering - Serving - Party Setup/Teardown - Garage Cleaning - Power Washing - Carwash-Carpet Cleaning - Gardening - Babysitting - Pet sitting - House Sitting, General errands. AND MORE!!! For more info. www.Oddjobservices.wix.com/oddjob #281-943-9263 oddjobservices96@gmail.com



Home & Garden Club

By Beverly Martin, Publicity

Please take time to go to the Home and Garden Club's new website. Thanks to our Treasurer, Anne Dybala for her creative work maintaining and setting this up. You'll find it very informative, and you will see why you should join us on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7:00 at the Community Center. \$25.00 per person or \$35.00 per family annually.

At the November 12th meeting, we have our new member, Marie Nicolai, teaching us craft tips on "Pumpkin Toppers."

Please see our website for more information:
www.meadowshomegardenclub.com.

Have you made any home improvements? Small ones, upgrades or major renovations? We are looking for several homes to show case in our Spring Home Tour Fund Raiser. It is for Meadows Place residents only. This gives others ideas what is possible for our Meadows Place homes. "Don't Move... Improve." Call Lou Ann at 281-568-2989.

Gardening Tips from Master Gardener, Kathy Gilmore:

- Step 1: Nitro-Phos Eagle Turf Fungicide Protects and cures lawns of turf grass disease including take-all patch, gray leaf spot and brown patch.
- Step 2: Nitro-Phos Fall Special Fertilizer 8-12-16
A winterizer to promote healthy root systems, winter hardiness and vigorous spring growth.
- Step 3: Nitro-Phos Barricade Pre-Emergent Weed Control Prevents weeds from emerging into spring. Second application is recommended.

FALL CRAFT SHOW!

Mark your calendar for Saturday, November 2nd. This year the Craft Show will be at Sugar Grove Church of Christ, 11600 W. Airport from 9:00 to 4:00.

If you have made some additions to your home, remodeled, upgraded... we are looking for Meadows Place homes to show case in our Spring Home Tour. Call Lou Ann at 281.568.2989.

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Ring The Bells

Sugar Grove Church of Christ

11600 W. Airport Blvd.

Meadows Place, Tx. 77477

281-530-9651 www.sugargrove.org

December 8 at 6:00 PM
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Musical program and dessert.

December 24 at 5:00 PM
Christmas Eve
Candlelight Service

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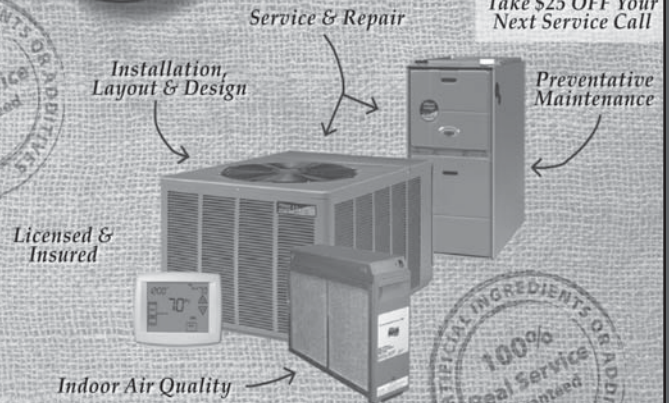
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re-al *adj* \rē(-ə)l\
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so-lu-tion *noun* \sə-'lū-shən\
a : an action or process of solving a problem
b : an answer to a problem : explanation; specifically : a set of values of the variables that satisfies an equation
ser-vice *noun* \sər-'vīs\
: the act of serving; as
a : a helpful act <did him a service>



Real
Phone Number

(281) 208-2665

13335 Murphy Road,
Stafford, Texas 77477

Definitions. They describe, explain, and make clear who we are.

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