Place for Life

Meadows PLACE

NOVEMBER 2014

COMMENTS FROM THE MAYOR By Charles Jessup



Meadows Place gets top Fire Rating Residents living in Meadows Place may now be eligible for a reduction in their homeowner insurance premiums as a result of the City's new ISO Class 1 rating.

Our rating changed when Stafford Fire Chief Larry DiCamillo accompanied Deputy State Fire Marshal Jesse Williams

and ISO State Manager Phillip Bradley to the October 28th council meeting where Meadows Place was presented with a plaque and certificate announcing the City of Meadows Place has earned an ISO Class 1 rating. This is a very difficult rating to achieve and is almost unheard of in a town as small as ours. There are only a handful of Class 1 ratings all across Texas...and now we are one of them!

Chief DiCamillo and the Stafford Volunteer Fire Department worked very hard to meet these challenging standards for Stafford and then had to work with Meadows Place to help us to achieve the Class 1 rating. The ratings are based on many factors, including the quality of the fire department, staffing, response times, the water supply, hydrant locations, communication systems, building codes, and building inspection programs. The lower the class number the lower the insurance premium can be so there is a significant benefit for a community to invest in its overall fire protection system. Check with your insurance company and insure that it is crediting you the proper rating.

City Council Retreat

Your Meadows Place City Council recently met for an all-day Council retreat and visioning session. All council members were present as many topics were discussed. These included including preparing for the Kirkwood reconstruction project, how to deal with our long term infrastructure needs, including the funding. Much emphasis was put into ways to continue the good job we are doing on maximizing our status as an enclave city on the move in Fort Bend County and separating ourselves from Alief/Houston.

(Continued on page 3)

www.cityofmeadowsplace.org

FRIENDLY REMINDER:

Please make sure your current contact information is updated in our water utilities system.

Email information updates to:
utilities@cityofmeadowsplace.org



Also, when paying your utility bill please make sure your check includes the following to allow us to provide you with superior service:

- Name, Address and current Phone Number
- Payment made out to "City of Meadows Place"
- Current Date: We **cannot** accept postdated checks. Postdated payments will be returned
- Written Payment Agrees with the Numerical Box
- Utility Stub
- Account Number
- Signature

Remembering these helpful tips will allow for timely, efficient, and accurate processing and allow us to serve YOU better! Thank you in advance for your cooperation and for questions contact us at

(281) 983-2950 or utilities@cityofmeadowsplace.org

CITY CALENDAR

Nov. 4 General Election

Nov. 11 Veteran's Day

Nov. 13 Economic Development Corporation Meeting 7:00 p.m.

Nov. 25 City Council Workshop 6:00 p.m. Regular Meeting 7:30 p.m.

Did You Know?...

show Meadows Place turned out fairly well for Early Voting this year? For those who did not make it, City Hall will be open from 7 to 7 on election day, Tuesday, November 4th. As a city, we really need to turn out! Meadows Place has a chance to shine in this election. Our turnouts in recent years have captured the attention of county, state and national candidates. If you have not voted, and can, please vote - and don't forget to vote on Prop 1. Thank You.

Did You Know... the group starting the Meadows Place Community Garden is close to being up and running? Bob Dybala and Shelley Brough are working on getting the first two garden boxes in and finalizing the paperwork to make them official.

If you are interested or have questions, you may contact them at mpcommuitygarden.com. This should be a great addition for the city, especially with their commitment to working with students of Meadows Elementary.

Did You Know... we had more rain by the end of September than we had all last year and we have had over twice as much rain so far in 2014 than we did in all of 2011? To check our rainfall totals - click on Public Works on the website and look for the Rainfall tab. Besides being interesting - good, consistent rainfall is an indicator of how much we will be spending on water main breaks.

Did You Know... that Meadows Place website has 'Links' to many of the websites you may commonly use or may need someday? It is listed under the "Community' tab on our website. Links range from our national, state and county representatives, the Garden Club, schools, and much more. Take a look at the Links page and see if you have any suggestions for us. If so, send me an email.

Did You Know... our neighbor, Greg Autry, wants us to know that Meadows Elementary

PTO is trying to raise funds to replace the aging white (tan) playground equipment on the north side of the school? If you would like to help, or find out how to help, you can Contact Meadows Elementary PTO at: ptomeadowselementry@gmail.com.

Did You Know... Meadows Place is represented on the District 26 Advisory Team (DAT) for Transportation? This is a very significant panel which is compiling data to make projections and seek possible legislative solutions for Fort Bend and Texas transportation issues. Representative Rick Miller will take these ideas with him when the next Texas legislature meets. This is just one more example of The City of Meadows Place being involved in our larger Fort Bend community. It's nice to be included!

Did You Know... we had a Meadows Place senior win a one-thousand dollar scholarship! The Central Fort Bend Chamber Alliance is making this offer available to one senior from each city in Fort Bend County. The scholarship recipient was the one who best answered the question "What is unique about your city and what challenges do you see for the future". The winner will be announced next month. Keep checking Did You Know for the results.

Did You Know... Matt Oltremari, President of Meadows Pony Baseball, has been encouraged by the fun the kids are having, their level of play and parent involvement? He knows it takes everyone to keep the league at a top level and has a good number of parents who want to make sure the kids have a place to play ball, have fun and hone their skills. Drop by, they are fun to watch.

Do YOU have something for **Did You Know?** Drop a note at City Hall for or email: mayor@cityofmeadowsplace.org. Thank You.

Meadows Place... *Your* Place for *Life!*

Did You Know... the Garage Sale Survey was a great success. We use Survey Monkey which helps us not only design the survey, but collects the responses and analyzes the data. Bar graphs bring the survey alive and let us view the results immediately. In this case the results point overwhelmingly for us to leave things just the way they are. We did have some folks who wanted to eliminate Garage Sales altogether while others wanted more. Over 60% of the respondents want to leave the number of sales the same and allow them on both Friday and Saturday. While some showed concerns, more look as them more as a social event and a way to "repurpose" items no longer needed. To everyone who participated - **Thank You**

(Comments From The Mayor continued from page 1)

One important item the Council considered was how do we capitalize on our location and encourage the development of the available commercial properties. The conversations ebbed and flowed between specific items like local mosquito control to the overall vision of Meadows Place in 25years. One thing all agreed on – we cannot wait to begin making that vision come true or it will never happen. Thank You to Terry Henley, Rick Staigle, Steve Bezner, John Isbell and Kelle Mills for taking time out of their busy lives to help make sure Meadows Place will continue to be... *Your Place for Life!*

Board Openings

There is an opening on the Meadows Place Economic Development Corporation (EDC) as well as spot open for Alternates on the Planning and Zoning Commission and our Board of Adjustment. These positions are appointed by the City Council so if you are interested please send the Mayor an e-mail at mayor@cityofmeadowsplace.org or drop off a letter of intent to City Hall by November 15th. Include your contact information. These positions typically do not require a large commitment but can make a huge difference in the future of our city. Please consider sitting on one of these fine boards.

National Night Out

National Night Out in Meadows Place was a huge success this year. Captain Jack Ashton and I were excited to see everyone at all the "Block Parties". It was a mad dash to visit all the parties, gatherings and feasts. As we dashed from site to site, it was so encouraging to see our community come together! Neighbor knowing neighbor is one of the most effective ways to prevent crime. National Night Out is a community-police awareness-raising event and is designed to:

- Heighten crime and drug prevention awareness.
- Generate support for local anti-crime efforts like Neighborhood Watch.
- Strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships.

Your Council, our Meadows PD and the Stafford Fire Department visited with residents throughout the city. Most ate too much but they had fun! Hope to see YOU at next year at National Night Out -Texas.



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

We are looking for new businesses to move to Meadows Place. If you know of a business that would be good for our city and could take advantage of our great location, go to our website, open the tab for Economic Development and leave them a message. A resident suggesting Meadows Place is how we got

Kelley's Country Cookin'

Can you get us the next great business?

Meadows Place has some really great businesses. Be sure to utilize them. They need, and deserve, our support.







Walkers and Joggers

The City of Meadows Place is a great place for walkers and joggers! As the seasons change, and the days get shorter, the Meadows Place Police

Department offers the following suggestions:

- 1. Use the sidewalk (when possible). If the street isn't designed for pedestrians, don't walk on it. Never walk on highways or in restricted zones
- 2. You know those "walk" and "do not walk" signs? Listen to them. Don't jaywalk.
- **3. Don't make assumptions.** Don't assume that a vehicle will stop for you just because you are waiting to cross. Try to make eye contact with the driver before initiating crossing. If you're in a busy city, don't cross without looking both ways—even when you have the pedestrian "walk" symbol—as drivers do occasionally run red lights.
- **4. Do not walk long distances under the influence of alcohol or drugs.** Just as you should never drive under the influence, do not walk long distances or in traffic-heavy areas when you are under the influence. Call a taxi or use public transportation.
- **5. Be courteous.** When a driver stops to allow you to cross, give him or her a quick wave to demonstrate your appreciation.
- **6. You wouldn't drive distracted, so don't walk distracted.** Stay aware of your surroundings by not texting, using headphones, or talking on your cell phone.

When you're in the driver's seat, avoid an accident by abiding by these five tips:

- 1. Always be on the lookout. Pedestrians can—and will—be found anywhere, even places where you are not expecting it (like highways or busy, multiple-lane intersections). Therefore it's crucial that you frequently scan the road ahead of you, including shoulders and sidewalks, so that you spot pedestrians before you approach them.
- 2. Stay alert and avoid distracted driving. Assuming that they have the right-of-way, many pedestrians walk into the street without confirming that oncoming traffic is aware of their presence. Furthermore, pedestrians—especially children—are often hidden in between parked cars or behind other objects. To avoid an accident, stay alert by avoiding distractions. Do not eat or drink, fiddle with the radio or navigation units, or use a cell phone while driving.
- **3. Show caution.** There are likely areas in your community where you can anticipate pedestrians. In crosswalks and intersections, drive slowly and stop for pedestrians looking to cross—even if they are not at a marked crosswalk. When stopping at an unmarked point, stop far enough in advance so that the drivers behind you can also prepare to stop. Furthermore, when approaching a red light, be sure to stop far enough behind the line for pedestrians to cross safely.
- **4. Be respectful.** Don't show hostility or aggression to drivers who are yielding to pedestrians. Never honk or get frustrated when the driver in front of you has stopped, and don't attempt to pass the stopped vehicle in front of you.
- **5.** Watch for children. Because of their small size, children can be difficult to spot. Drive slowly and be on the lookout in school zones and residential neighborhoods.





By Jerry Parker

ctober was an interesting month. Many of us began to leave our trash cans out, and in the middle of the month, I began issuing citations to those that made a habit of it. Unmowed grass started to become an issue, but we all pitched in and took care of our lawns.

Now that the weather may finally be cooling down, more of us will be out walking our pets. Our City Ordinance # 90.04, addresses the fact that we do not allow our dogs to run loose in the city limits so please keep them on a leash when out and about. This includes our City Parks. Even though some have fences and gates, they are NOT dog parks. You may not allow your pet to run freely. Also, you must pick up after your dog. Our parks are also used by the children from Meadows Elementary. Texas Direct Auto has provided a beautiful dog park for us to use on Dorrance near Bloomington.

Don't forget about your trees: please trim them, 16' over the street and 10' over the sidewalks.

Thanks for your help in keeping Meadows Place,

Your Place for Life!

Top Hits from August:

Violation:	Warn/Cit	Comply:
Grass/weeds	15	15
Trees/Shrubs	10	8
Trailer/Car/Boat	4	4
Trash Cans/Debris	18/3	15
General Nuisance	36	30
Totals	83/3	72

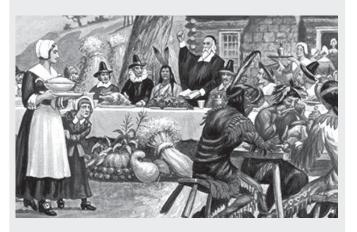
Code Enforcement Official • Office: 281-983-2938 • E-Mail: code-enforcement@cityofmeadowsplace.org



GIVE THANKS ON NOVEMBER 27TH!

By Janice M. Moore, MMC, City Secretary

Tach year on the fourth Thursday in November, LAmericans gather for a day of feasting, football and family. While today's Thanksgiving celebrations would likely be unrecognizable to attendees of the original 1621 harvest meal, it continues to be a day for Americans to come together around the table - albeit with some updates to pilgrim's menu!







Tips from Public Works Cold Weather and Pipes

Tt is not too early to **⊥**start thinking about By Dan McGraw 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.





Notary Services at City Hall

Non-Residents: \$6.00 **Residents: FREE**



City Hall Hours:

9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday - Friday

Another reason to LOVE Meadows Place!



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.
- Edible Arrangements at The Fountain's Shopping Center hiring a new part time team member. If you are interested in Wowing! our customers with delicious and beautiful Edible Arrangements and dipped fruit boxes.

We are only interested in folks excited about our product and hard workers who enjoy making folks happy. If you have experience in food prep, marketing and customer service, please email us at workforediblearrangements@ gmail.com with why you feel you would like to work for Edible Arrangements! We are flexible with scheduling and time off except for our two required holidays of Valentine's day and Mother's day.



By Rose Melancon, Publicity

Thanks to Jerry Parker, Code Enforcement Official, I many of us residents learned at last month's meeting what the City is doing to keep Meadows Place in compliance and what we can do to help.

Our next meeting is at 7:00 pm November 11th, at the Community Center. If you have ever wanted to try your hand at flower arranging come join us as we hear from the Flowers And More owner as she discusses how easily it can be done!

Thanks to all of you who attended our 39th Annual Fall Craft Show and made it so successful! Each year well deserving Meadows Place college students receive scholarships from the Show's proceeds.

Remember your Meadows Place pride and decorate your homes for the holiday! Your home may be selected as the Holiday Yard of the Month winner!

Please check out our web site for the new 2014-2015 Garden Club Year Book.

Visit our web site today.

Meadowshomegardenclub.com



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PARKS & REGREATION











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

Description: Beginning Tennis Lessons

for Youth 8 - 14 years old

Where: Tennis Courts

When: 2014 Session 11: October 29 - November 22

2014 Session 12: December 3 - 20

Time: Wednesdays @ 6 pm and/or Saturdays @ 8 am

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



Tennis Court Access System

Residents may purchase new Tennis Court access cards at City Hall, Monday through Friday, 9 am to 4 pm.

- Only residents of Meadows Place may purchase a card.
- A driver's license and/or water bill verifying Meadows Place residency must be shown to purchase the access card.
- Access cards are \$50 per card, maximum 2 cards per family.
- Cards are valid through May; old cards will be deactivated at the end of May.
- · All tennis players must have access card with them while on the courts.
- A maximum of three (3) guests allowed per card and all guests must be accompanied by a resident.
- Do not prop open the gate at any time or allow access to the courts to anyone without a Tennis Court access card.

Failure to comply with all rules posted at the Tennis Courts and on the Registration Card may result in forfeiture of Access Cards.

PARKS & REGREATION

PARKS AND RECREATION

Karate

BULLETIN BOARD

Animal Clinic

November Taekwondo & Tennis - New Sessions

Karate - Session Ongoing

Nov. 1 Countryside Animal Clinic

Community Center Parking Lot

10:30 am - 12:30 pm

Nov. 27 Happy Thanksgiving!

Nov. 28 Santa's Mailbox @ City Hall

Dec. 12 Christmas Memories! 6:00 – 9:00 pm

Registration forms can be found at cityofmeadowsplace.org or at City Hall.



If interested in starting a class or program at our Community Center or outdoor facilities in Meadows Place, follow the format below and send to Meadows Place Parks and Recreation Department, One Troyan Drive, Meadows Place, Texas 77477 or email, parks3@cityofmeadowsplace.org.

Must have class and or program information in writing for approval by 1st Friday of the month in order to meet newsletter deadline 2nd Friday of the month.

Description: (Briefly describe your class or activity)

Who: (Age of students to participate)

Where: (The location of where the participants meet

every week)

When: (Include dates and times of your program)

Cost: (How much you plan on charging for your session)

Additional Info: (Include any type of specifics that pertain to your class, such as certain attire, supplies needed, etc.)

Instructor: (Your name, as well as the names of any additional helpers/assistants, along with a short biography of you and contact phone number optional)

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 over 20 years at the Community Center and welcomes new students.

Where: Community Center

When: Thursdays

September 11 - December 4 (no class November 27)

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

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

Fee: \$45 (13 Weeks)

\$30 Uniform (cash only, no checks)

Instructors: Steve Puma, Meadows Place resident (3rd degree

black belt) & Michael Puma (3rd degree black

belt). Since 1993.



SHARPEN YOUR MIND, STRENGTHEN YOUR BODY New Sessions in the Fall!

Where: Community Center

When: Mondays and Wednesdays

November 3 - December 17

Time: 5 - 6 pm (Children 5 - 12 years old)

6 - 7 pm (Children 13 & up and Adults)

Fee: 6 Classes - \$30 (1 class per week)

12 Classes - \$55 (2 classes per week)

Instructors: Jenny Pless

(teaching at the Community Center

since 2005)



PARKS & REGREATION





The City of Meadows Place is once again an official drop off location for the U. S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program and will be highlighting their support for this wonderful organization at Christmas Memories in McGrath Park on December 12th. This Christmas, help us bring a smile to a Fort Bend County child; bring a new, unwrapped toy to Christmas Memories. A collection box will be available near Santa's tent and at City Hall until December 15th from 9 am to 4 pm.





Beginning November 28th 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. Santa's helpers pick up his mail every day and make sure it gets to the North Pole before Christmas Eve. Clayton Parker has his letter ready to go!



Animal Wellness Center Countryside Mobile Vet



Saturday November 1, 2014 10:30 am – 12:30 pm Community Center Parking Area 11975 Dorrance Lane

We offer all vaccinations, heartworm testing and prevention!

Call for more information 713.492.8045

www.countrysidemobilevet.com

Meadows Place Parks & Recreation Presents:

The 25th Annual Christmas Memories

Friday, December 12, 2014 6-9 pm McGrath Park 12002 Brighton Lane

Sledding on Munchkin Mountain & Memories Snow Mountain

Live Music from the Emotions

Santa visits from 7 - 8:30 pm

Hayrides & Petting Zoo

Bounce House & Wrecking Ball

Meadows Elementary Choir

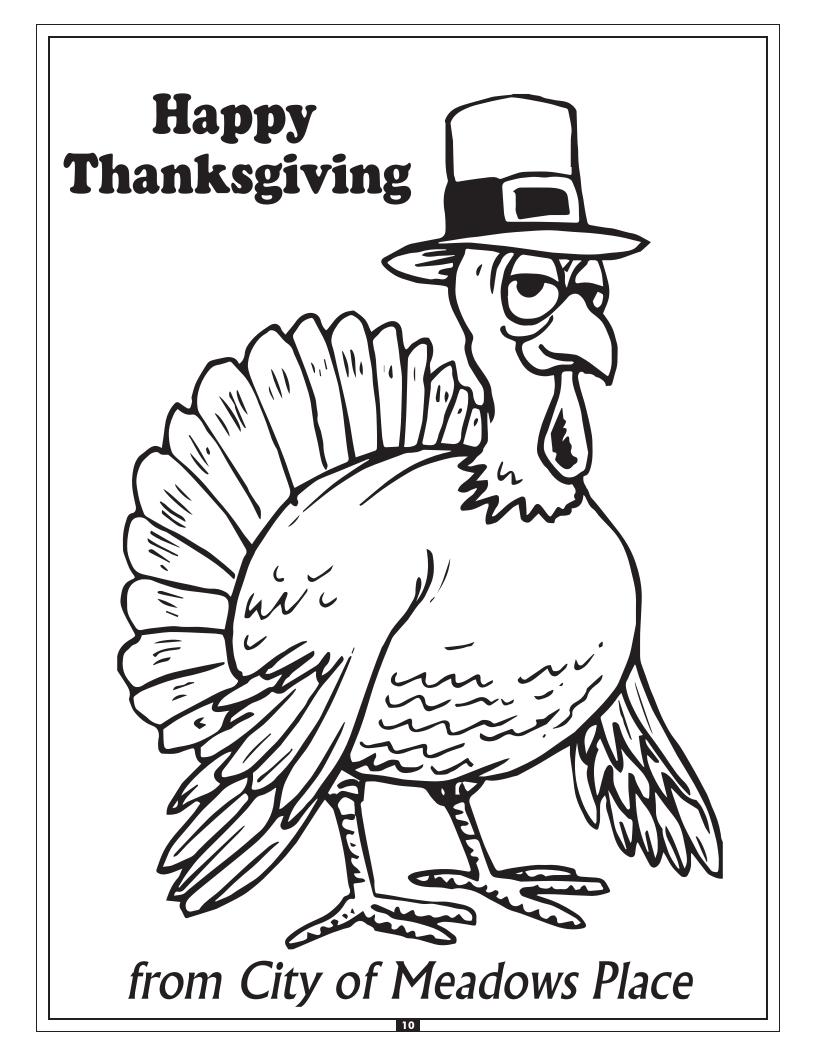
Christmas Memories T-Shirts \$10



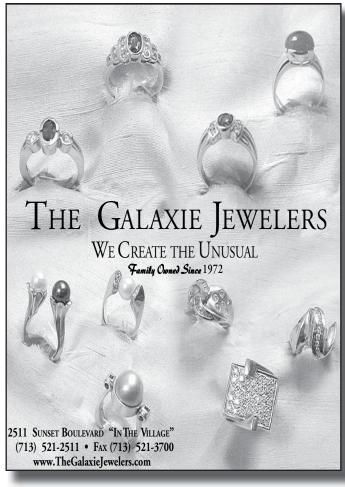
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Meadows Place PONY Baseball & Meadows Marlins Swim Team
Campfires & S'mores kits sold by Cub Scout Pack 301









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Michael D. Koons

832-607-5601 cell 281-242-6754 fax mkoons2@hotmail.com 14905 Southwest Freeway, Sugar Land, TX 77478

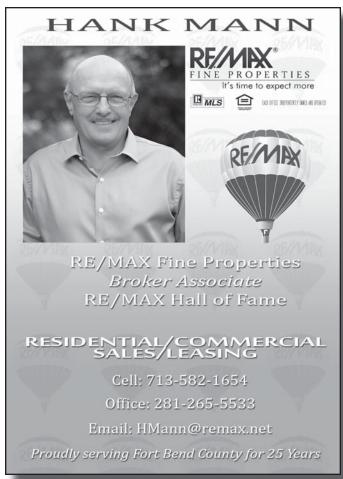
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- 2. Initial Walk-Thru appointment to assist you in staging Your Home! * FREE
- 3. Signage, flyers, Listing of <u>Your Home</u> on MLS! *FREE

Open Houses at Peak Times to assure viewings and to increase traffic to <u>Your Home!</u> ***FREE**

- 4. Assist, screen and follow-up with all potential buyers, and Agents interested in <u>Your Home!</u>
 *FREE
- 6. Handle all negotiations and assist with Listing, Selling, and Closing at Title Company on <u>Your</u> Home! * **FREE**







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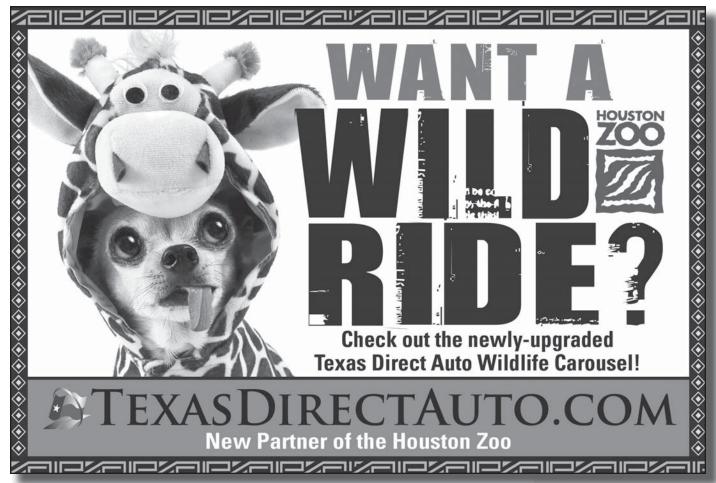
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Anita Milne

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11942 River Meadow
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11702 Blair MeadowBeautiful Sun Porch ♦ Large Bedrooms



11714 Kenzie Ct.
Sparkling Pool ♦ Screened-In Patio
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Anita Milne (281) 413-9732 milneanita@yahoo.com



Your Neighborhood Realtor for Buying or Selling Your Home



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City of Meadows Place

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e-mail: mayor@cityofmeadowsplace.org		
Terry J. HenleyMAYOR PRO TEMPORE (281) 530-7136		
e-mail: alderman4@cityofmeadowsplace.org		
John F. IsbellALDERMAN 1(804) 240-4982		
e-mail: alderman1@cityofmeadowsplace.org		
Kelle K. MillsALDERMAN 5(281) 933-0374		
e-mail: alderman5@cityofmeadowsplace.org		
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e-mail: alderman2@cityofmeadowsplace.org		
Rick J. StaigleALDERMAN 3(713) 446-4566		
· · ·		
e-mail: alderman3@cityofmeadowsplace.org		
Janice M. MooreCITY SECRETARY(281) 983-2931		
e-mail: jmoore@cityofmeadowsplace.org		

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(281) 398-8211		
FT. BEND COUNTY COURTHOUSE(281) 342-34		
ANIMAL CONTROL(281) 342-1512 PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT(281) 983-2935		

Community Center Rental		
Building Capacity 165		

Building Capacity 16

Rental includes tables and chairs to accommodate events

Food/no alcohol......\$200.00 Food/with alcohol......\$300.00 (Cash deposit required equal to Rental Fee)

Community Pool Rental.....\$350.00 (after Community Hours, maximum rental time is 3.5 hours)

Non-Meadows Place residents add \$175.00 to above rates

Resident Community Center/ Pool Combo Rental

Available May - September

Meadows Place residents receive a \$50 discount when renting the Community Center & Pool for the same event.

For rental reservation information, go to cityofmeadowsplace.org click on Parks & Recreation, then Community Center

To check availability, call (281) 983-2935 or email: parks3@cityofmeadowsplace.org or monya@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. You may request an email notification so Center Point can keep you apprised of the status of the repair request.

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