

*Your
Place for
Life*

City of
Meadows 
PLACE

OCTOBER 2009

COMMENTS FROM THE MAYOR
By Charles Jessup



Status Quo – Oh, No

A recent publication of the Greater Houston Newcomers Guide had Meadows Place listed as The Meadows and lumped us in with Alief and Southwest Houston. After they peeled me off the ceiling at City Hall, I picked up the phone and made a call. As I spoke to the publisher, he was quick to understand that we were not satisfied with what he assumed to be “The status quo” - and did indeed need to talk. They were just about to release a new Fort Bend Newcomers Guide for the Fort Bend Chamber of Commerce and had planned to list us the same way. The publisher, Michael Blalock, was most gracious, and quick to accept my offer to “Bring them up to date” about Meadows Place. By the time you read this, I will have met with the Editor, taken them on a tour of Meadows Place, loaded them down with our brochure, maps and the Meadows Place Welcome Packet that we hand out to every new resident. I will show them what we have done the last few years and what we have planned for the future. This will give us a chance to be recognized for who we are today, not who we were 35 years ago.

We are not Houston. We are Meadows Place. We are Fort Bend. We are not standing still, we are moving forward. We are continuously working to enhance the quality of life for our residents – from our toddlers to our senior citizens. You can see this reflected in past and future projects. Today, we have major plans for park additions and have begun a major overhaul of our Waste Water Treatment Plant to make it more efficient and save the city tens of thousands of dollars in operating costs each year.

We have plans to revamp Kirkwood to make traffic move more safely and efficiently through our city. When complete, it will be a beautiful gateway into our city and Fort Bend County. You will know you are somewhere special.

The only thing that remains the same is that Meadows Place is a special little city. A safe city. A quiet, wonderful city in which to live and raise a family. Councilman Wilkens and I were meeting with a commercial developer trying to get some ideas for the future when he told us that he has lived in the Sugar Land area all his life but had no idea how idyllic and Mayberryesq Meadows Place really is. This made me smile. Hope it does you too.

Now, I don't know how much of this I can get them to put in their Newcomers Guide, but I promise you one thing, they will know more about us, know we are different and know Meadows Place truly is – *Your Place for Life*.

www.cityofmeadowsplace.org



POLICE • COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

**National Night Out
Meadows Place**

Tuesday, October 6th from 6:00 - 8:00pm



October 30 & 31
Last Garage Sale Dates



The Boy Scouts Halloween Carnival traditionally held at McGrath Park has been cancelled. However did you know that Sugar Grove Church invites you to join them to their Treat-in-a Trunk event that evening?

CITY CALENDAR

October 6 2nd public hearing on tax rate
7pm - City Hall

October 27 Regular city council meeting
7:30pm - City Hall

October 30 & 31 LAST garage sale weekend for 2009

Did You Know?...

Did You Know....that the Central Appraisal District (CAD) delayed the valuation and certification process this year? This put a great strain on our ability to conclude the budget process in a timely manner and meet the legal requirements for public notification and schedule public hearings. The CAD cannot issue certified numbers until it has 95% and they ran behind this year. It was mostly commercial appeals that caused the delay, but it sure played havoc for staff and Council. You can check the website for the calendar of events to see when we are meeting. Hope you come see us.

Did You Know....that some thirty something volunteers turned out to help on Field Prep Day for Meadows Place Baseball? The fields were in rough shape because of the extremely hot, dry summer but that is not the case now. The volunteers removed sod, weeded the infield, added dirt and sand to the areas that needed it and basically transformed the fields to game ready condition. Their fall season started late last month and Richard Garza, who is on their board, told me the large and enthusiastic turnout was one of his proudest moments as a Meadows Place resident. Congratulations to everyone who pitched in - I am sure your efforts are appreciated.

Speaking of baseball, Lynn Dippon contacted **Did You Know**.... to let us know that former Meadows Place ball player Kyle Colligan, who played for Dulles HS and Texas A&M, was drafted by the White Sox? He is playing for their farm team in Montana where the fans voted him the 2009 Most Valuable Player. He led the team in many individual categories and helped them win both halves of their season. Congratulations Kyle - and to think, it all started here in Meadows Place.

Did You Know....our Code Enforcement Officer has been asking people who have non-functioning gas lights in their yards to either replace them, bring them up to code or remove them? Not only can they be unsightly but they can also be a danger if they leak, so, if you have one, please check it out. If you have any gas related questions

call CenterPoint Energy at 713-659-2111. For Code Enforcement questions, call Kathi Sutton at 281-983-2950 or check the website.

Did You Know....that one of our good corporate neighbors, Walgreens, has volunteered their sign in case of an emergency? As you know, communication was a big problem during Ike. As part of our Emergency Preparedness Plan, Chief Baker talked to Manager Bob Madura and arranged for us to use their sign as part of our emergency communications system. Thanks Bob.

Speaking of our Police and Emergency Preparedness, **Did You Know**....that our Police Department has been busy converting space up at the Kirkwood Annex into Communications Central? It is really quite impressive. They have it set up so that all the communications can be run from there so we could function even if City Hall were non-functional.

Did You Know....the Garden Club had a great turnout for their "Get to Know You" dinner last month? New President Kay Ewing did a great job of running the show and acting as MC. The Mayor and several of the City Council were in attendance and everyone had a great time, especially Virginia McDonald, who won the drawing for the 2nd year in a row! The Garden Club is involved in the community in many ways including their annual scholarship to a deserving Meadows Place collegian. Their meetings are open to the public and are always fun and informative. The next Garden Club meeting is on Tuesday, Oct. 13, and will feature a program on the road repair projects and the conversion of Kirkwood from stop signs to modern Roundabouts. They would love to have you join them.

Did You Know....Mark Jessup is now a member of the Ormand R. Simpson Corps Scholastic Honor Society at Texas A&M? His folks are real proud of him. If your kids do something you are proud of and want to share with your neighbors, please contact Did You Know - by dropping us a note at City Hall or you can send e-mail us at: mayor@cityofmeadowsplace.org

COP TALK

By Chief Mike Baker

r.a.d.Kids

The Meadows Place Police Department held their second r.a.d.Kids training class at the Meadows Place Recreation Center from July 31 - August 2, 2009. The acronym stands for Resisting Aggression Defensively. Boys and girls from the ages of five (5) to twelve (12) years old are eligible for the training. The fun, activity-based program includes lecture, safety drills, muscle memory exercises, and dynamic simulation.

The Meadows Place class consisted of nine (9) children. Meadows Place police officers Lynn Dottei and Kelly Davis (certified r.a.d.Kids instructors) taught the class. The young participants became empowered with knowledge, confidence, and the skills necessary to replace fear and confusion in dangerous situations. They learned how to protect themselves from violence and harm by seeing, hearing, and doing. Included in the curriculum are: 1) home, school, vehicle, and "out and about" safety; 2) predator tricks, including physical resistance strategies against abduction; 3) internet safety; 4) good, bad, and uncomfortable touching; and 5) r.a.d.Kids revolutionary bullying prevention program. At the completion of the course, the new r.a.d.Kids demonstrated their abilities to escape harm and run to safety.

For more information visit the website at www.radkids.org

Meet the Council



Charles Kulhanek
ALDERMAN, POSITION II

Charles Kulhanek is a second generation Meadows Place resident. He has lived in Meadows Place approximately 35 years.

Charles has been married to his high school sweetheart Lisa for 20 years. Charles and Lisa have three sons - Austin age 13, and Christopher and Devon both age 11, all attend Dulles Middle School.

Charles graduated from the University of Houston in 2006 with an accounting degree. He is a CPA and currently works for Weinstein Spira & Company. Previously, Charles worked in commercial insurance and the brokerage industry for several years.

Prior to serving on council, Charles was a member of the Planning and Zoning Commission from 2004 to 2006 and volunteered as the City's Webmaster from 2004 to 2007.

Charles coached youth sports for a number of years including several seasons in Meadows Place Baseball. Currently, Charles is active with Boy Scout Troop 731 as an assistant scoutmaster. His wife Lisa also volunteers in the community. She is active in Dulles Middle School PTO and works for the Fort Bend Education Foundation.



By Dan McGraw

Create a Disaster Plan and Be Prepared

One of the most important steps you can take in preparing for any type of emergency is to develop a disaster plan. Once you've made your plan, it is important to meet with your family and discuss it. Explain dangers such as fire, severe weather and the possibility of flu epidemics. Safe meeting places are a necessity. Be sure and pick two places to meet after a disaster. One good example is meeting right outside your home in case of a sudden emergency - such as a fire. A second recommended spot is outside your neighborhood in case you cannot return home or are asked to evacuate your neighborhood. It may not be necessary to be a certified electrician in the wake of an emergency - but it does help to know a few things about items around your house. Each adult in your household should learn how and when to turn off utilities such as electricity, water and gas. If you do not know how to use the fire extinguisher in your home, contact your local fire department to show you. Communication is key during unexpected events. Ask an out-of-state friend or relative to be your "family contact." After a disaster it's often easier to call long distance. Other family members should call this person and tell them where they are. Everyone must know your contact's phone number. Have a list of all contact persons names and phone numbers posted in your home. Make sure everyone knows where this list is located. Make smaller copies for all family members to carry with them. Include parent work numbers, doctor, dentist, daycare, and other important or frequently used numbers in your household. It is a good idea to include any medical needs that a family member may have on this list. Disaster plans should include a list of proper precautions to take. Explain the importance of washing hands and covering your cough. The best way to stop the spread of disease is by socially distancing yourself. If you or a family member is sick, if possible, stay at home until you are well. For more information about the publication, or to submit questions The City of Meadows Place wants you and your family to be safe with emergency preparedness planning. We are counting on our residents to also be prepared. This may require your family to be self sufficient for up to three days. We have learned lessons from Hurricane Ike. Preparation and communication is the key to our success when responding to severe weather and disasters. Homeland Security and the Red Cross suggest we all do the following; GET A KIT- this disaster supply kit will help you survive for three days or more. MAKE A PLAN- the emergency information for you family will provide the communication needed to put your family into action rather than struggling with chaos and confusion. BE INFORMED- Do you know how to respond to disasters? We also recommend that you GET INVOLVED be out volunteer opportunities to assist City of Meadows Place There are many ways to positively impact our communities and our county.

This could mean becoming a skywarn spotter, ambulance volunteer, or donating blood. We need you to not only read this document, but also react to the information and prepare.



By Kathi Sutton

Fire safety is something that we all need and want, but having a busy and full life can tend to relegate matters to the back of our minds. National Fire Prevention Week is October 4 – 10 this year. Taking a few minutes to look around your home objectively can help identify areas that need improvement.

- Install smoke alarms in every bedroom, outside each sleeping area, on each level of the home, and in the kitchen
- Test smoke alarms monthly, change batteries every 6 months, and replace the unit every 10 years
- Check every room to ensure that the escape route did not get blocked unintentionally; either by stored items, furniture or clutter
- Use emergency release devices inside all barred doors and windows
- Never paint or nail windows shut
- Keep trash and debris from collecting on your property
- Post 4" high address numbers onto the front of your home (with a contrasting color)
- Replace cracked or damaged electrical cords
- Use tamper-resistant receptacles when you have children in the home
- Ask smokers to smoke outside, and provide them deep and sturdy ashtrays
- Have your chimney swept and inspected each Fall
- Use fireplace screens to keep sparks contained
- Check the firebox within your fireplace for damage or cracks
- Make sure that your portable space heater has an auto shut-off, so that if it tipped over it will turn off
- Clean the lint tray in your clothes dryer after each load
- Purchase two home fire extinguishers and keep them handy
- Don't leave food cooking on the stovetop unattended
- Have a 3 foot "Kid Free Zone" around the stove
- Install "anti-scald" devices on tub faucets and shower heads
- Keep matches and lighters only within adult reach
- Plan a family escape route, select a meeting place outside and practice with a quick drill twice a year

Fire safety is one thing that can take a little bit of conscious awareness and turn it into averting a heart wrenching disaster. Talk to your kiddos, explain these tips to them and help them grow up with a key lifesaving skill. If you have any questions or concerns, please give me a call at 281-983-2950.

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- Ear Wax Removal

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- Cold/Flu/Sinus/Throat Infections
- Kidney/Bladder Infection
- Joint Sprain/Muscle Strain
- Back Pain
- Headaches/Migraines
- Depression
- Anxiety

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Calling Swim Coaches Come Join Head Coach Jessica



The Meadows Marlins Swim Team is accepting applications for swim coaches for the 2010 summer season.

Deadline for application is Dec 18, 2009.

See **meadowsmarlins.com** for application information.

Parks & Recreation

City of Meadows Place



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 terry@cityofmeadowsplace.org

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

You can download registration form from the website: 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.



2009 Fall Karate Schedule

Starts: Ongoing

Ends: Thursday, December 3 - No class November 26
(Thanksgiving)

\$40--11 weeks

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

All Students MUST Register and pay Class

Fee by Second Week

Time: 6:30pm - 7:30pm Ages 6-8

7:30pm - 8:30pm Ages 9-12

8:30pm - 9:30pm Ages 13-70

Where: Community Center

Instructors: Rex Mahy (3rd Degree Black Belt) and 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 Schedule

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.

Monday and Wednesday - 5:30 - 6:25pm

Youth Beg/Adv Beg - ages 8 - 14yrs - \$80/month (4 weeks)

Monday and Wednesday - 6:30 - 7:25pm

Youth Intermediate - ages 10 - 16yrs - \$80/month (4 weeks)

Monday and Wednesday - 7:30 - 8:25pm

Adult Beg/Adv Beg - age 18 and up - \$85/month (4 weeks)

Saturday - 8:00 - 9:25am

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

Saturday - 9:30 - 10:55am

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

PARKS & RECREATION

PARKS AND RECREATION

Pets

BULLETIN BOARD

Jingle Bells

November 7 Countryside Animal Clinic
Parking Lot of Community Center
11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

December 11 Christmas Memories in the Park

Quilting Classes

Quilting classes are held in the Meadows Place Community Center ANNEX building located on S. Kirkwood the 2nd Saturday of each month. Different machine stitch patterns will be taught and will range in skill level from beginner to advance. If you have some sewing experience and can sew a straight seam, you can make a beautiful quilt. Please contact Brenda Meadows for details @ 281-498-3484.



When: 2nd Saturday of the month
Where: Community Center Annex building
@ 11803 S. Kirkwood
Time: 9am - 4pm
Fee: \$30.00 and up, depending on project
Max: 10 students

Quilting Club

Several Meadows Place residents are experienced quilters and want to share their love of quilting with others. This group is meeting at the Community Center ANNEX building located on S. Kirkwood on the 3rd Saturday of each month. Contact Margaret Minton 281-933-2927 or 281-948-8823 to join the group.

Taekwondo

Taekwondo instructor Jenny Pless, serving the community since 2006. Come earn your own belts!

Class every Monday except November 23rd and 30th

Where: City of Meadows Place Community Center
Starts: Ongoing
Ends: December 14
Time: 3:15 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.
Fee: \$59 for 12 classes
Instructor: Jenny Pless (City of Meadows Place resident)
jennypless@gmail.com

Please call Jenny Pless at 281-788-8564 to sign up.

Seniors Activities

If you are interested in senior activities, visit the city website cityofmeadowsplace.org. Under the Parks and Recreation tab, there is a section for Clubs and Programs. There you will find a link to the City of Sugar Land website with a list of classes and events that are offered.

City Of Meadows Place

Animal Wellness Center ~ Countryside Mobile Vet



FREE EXAMS!

Rabies Vaccinations
City of Meadows Place pet tags (\$1.00)
Saturday, November 7th, 2009
11:00 AM - 2:00 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

Wall of Heroes

Add Your Hero to the Meadows Place Wall of Heroes

In driving about this city, it is evident that there are many residents who have loved ones serving our country. Please honor these men and women by having a plaque commemorating their service on Meadows Place Wall of Heroes.

The Wall of Heroes is a special place set aside at City of Meadows Place City Hall and is designed to honor the brave men and women of Meadows Place who are serving in the Army, Air Force, Navy, Coast Guard or anyone called to active duty from the reserves or the Army National Guard.

To have a photo placed on our Wall of Heroes the person must be or have been a Meadows Place resident who has a relative currently living in Meadows Place.

To be added to the wall, the service person's family must purchase a City of Meadows Place Wall of Heroes plaque that costs approximately \$26.00 plus tax. This is an 8 x 10" Oak veneer plaque with a 5 x 7" plexi-glass photo cover and three lines of laser etched print which has the service persons name, branch of service and overseas area of deployment. A 5x7 portrait type photo is required. Uniform preferred. The plaque is purchased from Team Texas, 1300 Murphy Rd., Ste. B1, Stafford, TX. Tel. 281-879-4004.

Once complete, bring the plaque to City Hall. It is the property of the person who purchased it and may be removed at any time by contacting City Hall.

If you have any questions, please contact our Wall of Heroes Liason Sharon Kitchen at 281-530-9045 or jkcck@aol.com. Thank you for participating in the Meadows Place Wall of Heroes program.



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Home & Garden Club

By Beverly Martin, Publicity

Our September 8th "Get to Know Us" picnic dinner was a great success. Welcome to new members and for anyone interested in joining, please come to our next meeting on Tuesday, October 13th held at the Community Center at 7:00pm. Mayor Charles Jessup will be speaking to the Club about the West Airport/ Kirkwood Reconstruction Project. Come hear about our city's street improvements. For information call Kay at 281-933-0729.

Mark your calendar for the 34th Annual Craft Show on Saturday, November 7th 9:00 to 4:00. The event is at the St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church, 12627 W. Bellfort. At the Craft Show we have our Bake Sale and Raffle to raise money for our Scholarship Award and community projects. Community projects include donations to the Children's Protective Services, the Rainbow Room, and Fort Bend Meals on Wheels. This year we are also supporting the Kidney Walk.

Saturday, November 7th ...Start your Holiday shopping at our Craft Show!

Meadows Home and Garden Club Fall Craft Show

Saturday, November 7th, 9:00 – 4:00

The 34th Annual Craft Show is at
St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church,
12627 W. Bellfort (between Eldridge and Dairy Ashford Roads)

Forty + craftspeople will be selling holiday and home décor, wearables, wooden items, wreaths, jewelry, candles and much more.

Garden Club's Scholarship Bake Sale and Raffle.
Boy Scouts' Bar-B-Q.

No admission charge.



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.

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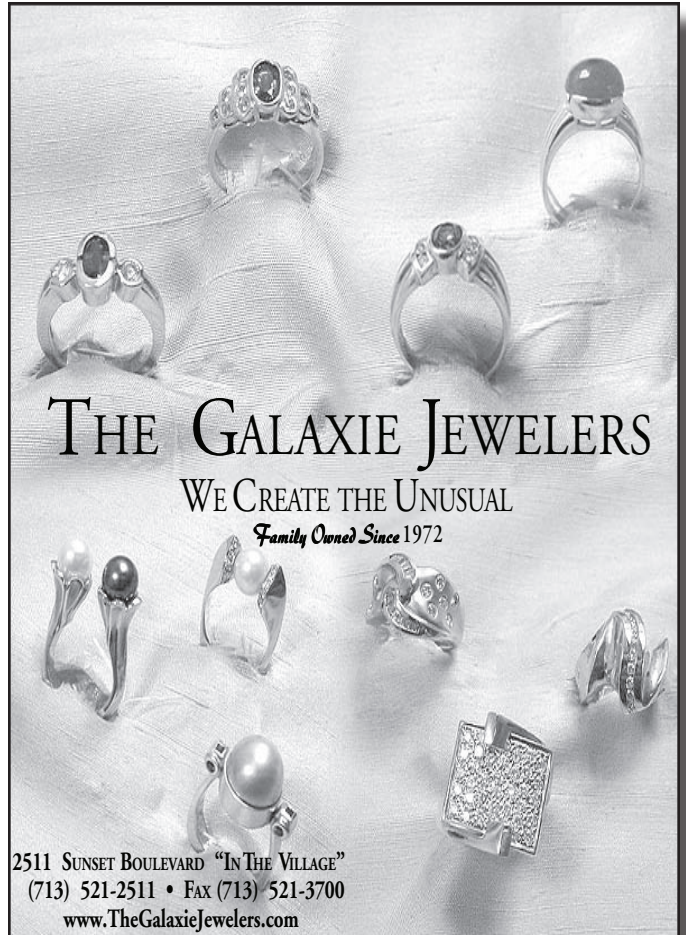
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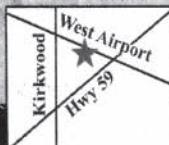
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and grilled Pico de gallo)
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Pico de gallo or Pineapple Pico
Chips and Salsa Tortillas
(corn or flour)
Grated Cheese & Sour Cream
- .5 lb. Pack for 1..... \$11.99
1 lb. Pack for 2-3 \$22.99
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Beef, Spicy Beef, Chicken or
Spicy Chicken Fajitas, Rice, Charro
or Refried Beans, Pico de gallo,
Cheese, Sour Cream and Tortillas
- \$7.25**

A LA CARTE FAJITAS

- Beef/Spicy Beef**
(made with fresh jalapeños
and grilled Pico de gallo)
- Chicken/Spicy Chicken**
(made with fresh jalapeños
and grilled Pico de gallo)
- \$16.95 lb.**

- Rice.....\$3.50 pint
Charro Beans.....\$3.50 pint
Refried Beans\$3.50 pint
Pico de gallo.....\$3.75 pint
Pineapple
Pico de gallo\$4.50 pint
Chips and Salsa\$2.95 pint
Tortillas (corn or flour) ..\$1.50/6 ct.
Guacamole\$4.95 pint
Sour Cream.....\$2.95 pint
Grated Cheese\$3.95 pint

SIDE ITEMS

- Guacamole\$1.50 4oz
Grated Cheese\$1.50 4oz
Pineapple Pico\$1.50 4oz
Sour Cream.....\$1.75 4oz
Sodas.....\$1.25 12oz

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or Spicy Chicken

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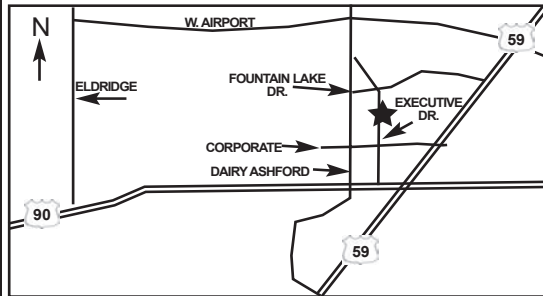
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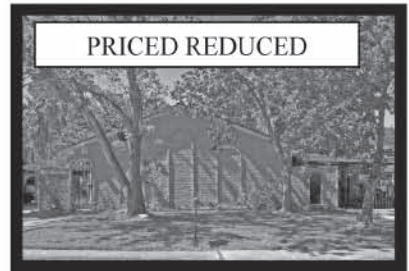
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e-mail: mayor@cityofmeadowsplace.org
ALDERMAN..... **Heidi Case** (281) 561-7351
e-mail: alderman1@cityofmeadowsplace.org
ALDERMAN..... **Terry Henley** (281) 530-7136
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EMERGENCY..... 9-1-1
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