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Comments from the Mayor

By Mark McGrath

On September 23, Council adopted the budget for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2003. The budget adoption was the culmination of a process that started with a series of workshops beginning in June and concluded with a public hearing on September 9.

The focus of this year's budget was to ensure that the compensation package for our City employees, particularly our police officers, was competitive with the surrounding area. All City employees received a 3% pay increase. In addition, some police officer positions received an additional increase. Retirement benefits also increased, again to ensure that our employee benefit package is competitive with the surrounding cities. A special thanks to Mayor Pro-Tem Terry Henley and his connections with the Houston-Galveston Area Council for providing us with data to make these comparisons. On the revenue side, sales tax revenue has been projected to come in at roughly the same pace as last year. However, I am hopeful we will exceed this level. Building permit fees and water and sewer revenue are expected to increase from the addition of Meadows Place Seniors Village to our community. Finally, at the September 23rd meeting, Council adopted a property tax rate of \$0.73 per \$100 of assessed valuation for the next fiscal year. This is the same rate that has been in effect for the last several years.

Throughout the budget process, which included meetings with all City department heads, Council exhibited a sincere, consistent desire to provide quality City services at reasonable prices. We are confident this budget accomplishes that goal.

CITY HALL OFFICE HOURS

9:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

VEHICLE STICKERS

Meadows Place vehicle stickers are available at City Hall for your vehicles at the cost of \$1.00 each. While the stickers are optional, they do identify your vehicle as belonging in Meadows Place and are an aid to the Police Department. Be sure to bring your vehicle identification number and license plate number when applying for a sticker.

GARAGE SALE DATES

Garage sales are limited to the last weekend of odd numbered months (January, March, May, etc.) Weekends are defined as Friday and Saturday. Residents may have up to 2 garage sales per year on the designated weekends. A garage sale permit is required. We regret the error that last month's newsletter showed October 28 & 29 as garage sale dates. Please refer to the dates show below for garage sale dates.

Upcoming sale dates are:

- September 26 & 27, 2003 - March 26 & 27 2004
- November 28 & 29, 2003 - May 28 & 29, 2004
- January 30 & 31, 2004 - July 30 & 31, 2004

CITY ORDINANCE / CODE ENFORCEMENT

There are many benefits to keeping our individual properties in good compliance with normal respectability. Trash cans may be placed at the curb no sooner than 18 hours before service pick up time, which means no earlier than 1:00 p.m. on Mondays and Thursdays. At all other times receptacles must be stored out of sight. Make your neighbor's day and remove your trash cans from the curb as soon as possible after the trash has been picked up. And remember to hide those cans and/or bags so they are not visible from the street.

Please remember to be a responsible pet owner and be considerate of your neighbors when walking your dogs. Those plastic bags from the grocery store make perfect pickers-uppers!

CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE

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

MAYOR.....**Mark McGrath** (281) 568-1553
e-mail: mayor@cityofmeadowsplace.org

ALDERMAN**Terry Henley** (281) 530-7136
e-mail: alderman4@cityofmeadowsplace.org

ALDERMAN**Charles Jessup** (281) 568-3461
e-mail: alderman1@cityofmeadowsplace.org

ALDERMAN**Joe McCann** (281) 498-2082
e-mail: alderman2@cityofmeadowsplace.org

ALDERMAN**David J. Piwonka** (281) 498-3336
e-mail: alderman3@cityofmeadowsplace.org

ALDERMAN**Leen Zellers** (281) 530-0390
e-mail: alderman5@cityofmeadowsplace.org

CITY SECRETARY**Elaine Herff**

EMERGENCY	9-1-1
CITY HALL.....	(281) 983-2950
POLICE DEPARTMENT / 24 Hours	(281) 983-2900
FT. BEND COUNTY SHERIFF	(281) 342-6116
WATER AND SEWER.....	(281) 983-2950
FT. BEND COUNTY COURTHOUSE	(281) 342-3411
ANIMAL CONTROL	(281) 342-1512
PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT	(281) 983-2935

PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT Holds 11th Annual Golf Tournament

The City of Meadows Place Parks and Recreation Department held their 11th annual golf tournament at Sienna Plantation Golf Club on Monday, September 29th. Mayor Mark McGrath enjoyed the great day of golf along with other city dignitaries, former Mayor Jim McDonald, Mayor Pro-Tem, Terry Henley and City Attorney Grady Randle and (former city councilman) Harry Hamilton.

This year the 1st place foursome was Kevin Kral, Kevin Martin, David Content and Jay Zgarba with a score of 59. Each player on the first place team was awarded a nice trophy and a \$25 gift certificate. The winner of the Longest Drive was Cliff McInnis who won a gift certificate from Gringos and a plaque. The money winner for the closest to the pin was John Gonzales. Trophy winner for Closest to the pin winner was David Alpha. Steven



Galvin won the putting contest and the big money pot, as well as a free entry spot in the city's 2004 tournament. Several golfers should be recognized for their dedication and years of entry in the tournament. Councilman Terry Henley, Kevin Kral, David Content have all teed up for 11 years and Ray Modeland for the past 10 years.

The tournament was a great day of golf and socializing for all that attended. Numerous volunteers helped out to make such a great day. Special thanks to our volunteers: Linda Baker, Debra McGraw and Tracy Spiller. City Public Works Director Dan McGraw assisted in the set up, organization and the tournament. Thanks to all the volunteers and Dan who kept things running smoothly. The Parks and Recreation directors appreciate everyone who entered and



attended this fun day. The competition gets tougher every year and the great time had by all is what this day is all about.

Any proceeds generated from this tournament will be used for park improvements within Meadows Place. Thanks to all our great sponsors. Corporate sponsors were Claunch and Miller, Eco Resources and Pamela Printing. Hole sponsors were Lopez Mexican Restaurant, Den Mar, Gringois Mexican Kitchen, Chapparral Group, First Southwest Company, Severn Trent Services, Assessments of the Southwest, Colony One Auto Center, Wallis State Bank, Perdue, Brandon, Gelder, Collins and Mott, LLP, Houston Yamaha Motorsports South, Bernshausen Oil Co., Custom Floors and Remodeling, Southwest Surveying Co., Tackle Construction, Texas State Bank Riverway, Republic Waste, and Mike Baldwin. These great sponsors made it possible for everyone to come out and have a good time. Please remember these companies with your patronage.

TIPS FROM THE FIRE MARSHAL

Keep lighters and matches out of the reach of children. Never leave children unattended with fire or space heaters. Children are naturally curious about fire, so keep an eye on them. If youngsters stay overnight occasionally, be sure that they know how to escape from every room and are part of your emergency exit plan. Remember to "Think Ahead".

HOME AND GARDEN CLUB

Yard of the month winners for September were:

- Section I** Terri & Patrick Lindquist - 11507 Scottsdale
- Section II** Tom & Jennifer Stansbury - 11803 Brighton
- Section III** Janet Kulitaneck - 12138 Monticeto
- Section IVN** Dan and Concetta Rittgers - 11711 Solano Court
- Section IVS** Mr. & Mrs. Rogelio Exconde - 12041 Brighton
- Meadowglen III** Dave & Tricia Wilkins - 12322 Meadowglen

Meadows Home and Garden Club members and guests began the new season with a wine tasting get together following a brief business meeting on September 7th.

The main business was a discussion on the plans and progress of the Club's 28th Annual Craft Show to be held on Saturday, November 8th from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm inside the gymnasium at Meadows Elementary School. There will be 45 vendors from the Houston area presenting beautiful hand crafted items for sale. The Club will have its annual bake sale and raffle and the Boy Scouts will have an outside area selling their BBQ. This is the major fundraiser for the Club and the proceeds are used towards the many projects the Garden Club supports within Meadows Place, including Scholarship Fund, landscaping and maintenance around the Community Center, Christmas tree presentation to Meadows Elementary School and several smaller contributions that are made when the need arises. We would like to encourage all our city's residents to come out to visit and shop this event, as we need your support to make this a huge success. So please mark your calendars and say "Hi" to us on Saturday, November 8th.

CITY CALENDAR

- October 28, 2003** City Council
City Hall 7:30 p.m.
- October 31, 2003** Halloween fun at the park

PARKS AND RECREATION DEPT. 281-983-2935

COMMUNITY CENTER RENTAL
Food and no alcohol \$150.00
Food and alcohol \$250.00
Nonresidents add \$50.00

HALLOWEEN FUN IN MEADOWS PLACE
Check out insert for additional information.

POOL/TENNIS ACCESS CARDS
If your card has not been renewed since April 1, 2003, you must purchase a new card. Cards are available at City Hall.

KARATE CLASSES
On going at the Community Center.

WEIGHT WATCHERS
Where: Community Center
Days: Every Wednesday
Time: 8:15 a.m.
Fee: Pick up coupons at city hall for free registration.
Weekly meetings cost \$11.00.

DID YOU KNOW...?

Did You Know... that Council Chambers were full at the last Council Meeting? Lots of regulars, like the Wilkins and the Kitchens, came to hear Department Head reports and find out what the latest is from the Mayor and Council. This one had some additional interest because of the Special Session Mayor McGrath had called. I think the highlight was the Parks Dept. report. Should be there. Not going to tell you what they said but look for some major happenings next year.

Did You Know... that the last years Town Hall audience came up with about a thousand volunteer type projects, but there was no way to coordinate them. Well, if all goes as planned, Meadows Place should have a Volunteer Coordinator soon. Watch the Newsletter or the City's Website for info. This has huge potential for us all to serve this wonderful little community we call Meadows Place.

Did You Know... that the Boy Scouts from Troop 301 have offered to revamp the Public Utility Building on Kirkwood to make it a better meeting place for groups like the Boy Scouts, Girls Scouts, and even the Bridge Club. Councilwoman Leen Zellers had some great questions for Troop Leader Brian Turner but was assured that this revamp was in the best interest of Meadows Place. Mayor Pro-Tem Terry Henley pointed out that this would free up the Community Center for additional events for Meadows Place residents and their friends.

Did You Know... we have an official Meadows Place web site.



REMINDER!

PAINT APPROVALS

- * It is necessary to obtain a paint approval form signed by a MCIA board member before painting the exterior of your home. Failure to do so may result in your having to redo the entire paint job.
- * Paint approvals are necessary even if you intend to repaint using the same color. This is because the list of approved colors has changed over the years.
- * As a general rule, the range of approved paint colors has been narrowed to eliminate pastels and bold colors in favor of more neutral colors.
- * While the paint approval book is still in the process of being edited, a copy of the book as it stands is available at City Hall.

MAILBOXES

The board has had a number of inquiries about brick mailboxes. These don't require approval, but must be well constructed with a proper foundation to prevent early deterioration or collapse.

Members:

Mike Schofield 281-575-7471 Steve Court 281-498-4334
Cathy Jacobson 281-933-8333 Ann Joyner 281-495-8573
Sherry Carlson 281-879-1359

Water Leaks and Sewer Stoppages

If you experience a water leak or sewer stoppage at your residence, call ECO Resources at 281-240-1300 BEFORE calling a plumber, unless you are absolutely positive the leak or stoppage is your responsibility. An operator from ECO will come to your home, diagnose the problem and notify you whether or not you will need a plumber to correct the problem. If the problem is occurring in the City owned main or house line tap on the main, it will be rectified. If you call a plumber first and the problem turns out to be the responsibility of the City, you will not be reimbursed for the cost of the plumber.

Please visit and give us some feedback.

The address is: www.cityofmeadowsplace.org It even has a place for lost and found pets! And on that note - NEW residents Alica Andres and Dack Franks would like to thank everyone who showed concern, kindness and helped to look for their lost cat. Murphy finally made it safely home after 3 weeks!

Did You Know... that MP resident Scott Nicholas and former MP resident Bob Stolling are both overseas serving in the 1-149th Aviation Battalion. They are flying Apache helicopters. Scott is hubby to Bob's daughter, Jennifer Stolling Nicholas. You know them. They are the guys who flew the helicopter in the 4th of July parade. Now they are flying for real!! Keep them in your thoughts and prayers. Tell them "Hi" for us Jennifer.

Meadows Place was well represented at the Dulles / Willow ridge football game. Both the Middle School and High School bands were playing. The bands were great.

Other news starring our future Meadows Place leaders, Jeremy Kemp made Eagle Scout, Callee Roberson is one of the Captains of the Dulles Dolls and Mark Jessup had a leading roll in Ft. Bend Community Theater production of the Hobbit. If YOU have any news please let us know.

Send YOUR news, and ideas
to: alderman1@cityofmeadowsplace.org
or drop it off for me at City Hall. Thank You Neighbor.

CLASSIFIEDS & ADVERTISING

- ▶ **Pet sitting.** References available. Grant or Richard (281) 933-3499
- ▶ **William Sutherland, handyman** - Appliance repairs, Electrical, Plumbing, Interior-Exterior carpentry work, Painting. Pager, 713-833-9847. Home, 281-530-0706.
- ▶ **Registered Home Child Care after school pick up and full time preschool age.** 7:30 a.m - 5:30. CPR, lunch and snacks provided. In service days = field trips. Call Terrie, 281-568-8526.
- ▶ **House cleaning, house sitting, cakes for all occasions.** Avon, gift baskets, and custom wreaths. References available. 832-549-9892.
- ▶ **Professional musician offers private violin and piano lessons for children.** Credentials include ten years as violinist in major orchestra and Master's degree from top music university in former Soviet Union. E-mail acerrone@ev1.net. Phone 281-879-1641.
- ▶ **Experienced Math Tutor.** Elementary thru college level. Call Joyce Hallaway. (281) 933-5533.


REPORTING A STREET LIGHT OUTAGE

FROM CENTERPOINT ENERGY

It is important to note as much information as possible when reporting a street light outage. To help the company better identify the location of a street light, provide the address nearest the light and/or report the street light number. Street light numbers can be found on either side of the light pole. If you notice a streetlight that is out or malfunctioning, you can report it by:

* Calling **CenterPoint Energy** at [redacted] and follow the voice response prompts by pressing number 4 to report a street light outage or

* Visit www.CenterPointEnergy.com/outage/ and provide a street address and/or pole number if possible.



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Southwest Cheer Academy,
(281) 530-7625 or (281) 793-9987.
12950 Sugar Ridge Blvd. Stafford, Tx

ADVERTISING IN THE NEWSLETTER

Anyone wishing to place an ad in the newsletter can contact City Hall for information. All ads are due by the last day of each month. By changing the due date to the end of the month, we will be able to bring residents up to date on the latest activity from City Council meetings sooner. We wish to thank the advertisers who have helped to make this newsletter possible. The appearance of paid advertising is not an endorsement by the City. However, if you choose to use these advertisers, please let them know that you saw their ad in our newsletter.

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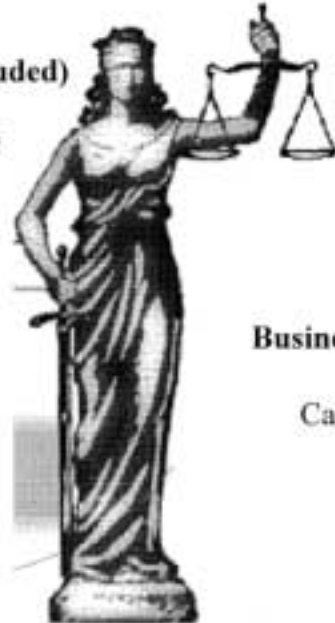
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Treat-in-a-Trunk

Where: Parking Lot of Sugar Grove Church of Christ

When: Friday, October 31

Time: The car trunks will open at 6:30 for treating

Cost: None

Food: Free hot dogs, popcorn, & cokes

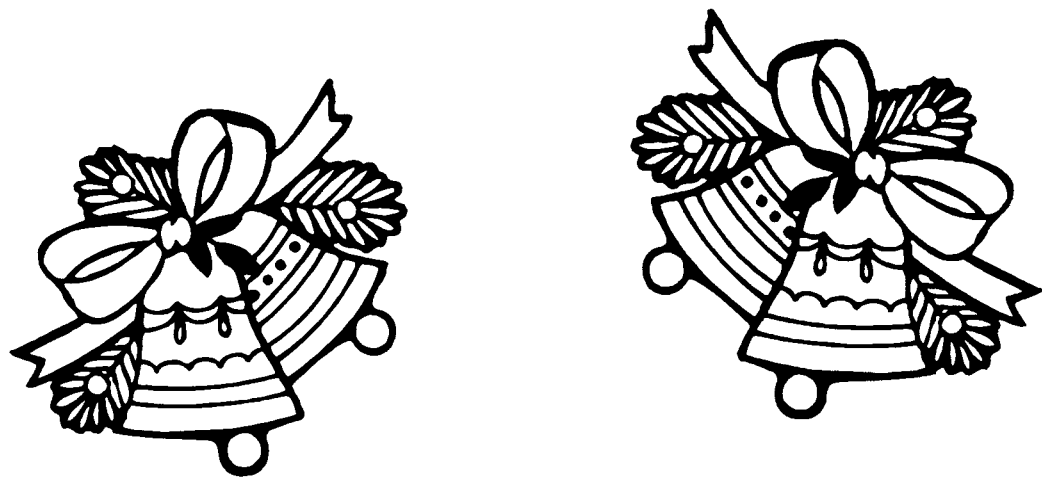
Dress: Wear your costumes



Come join us for a
fun safe night

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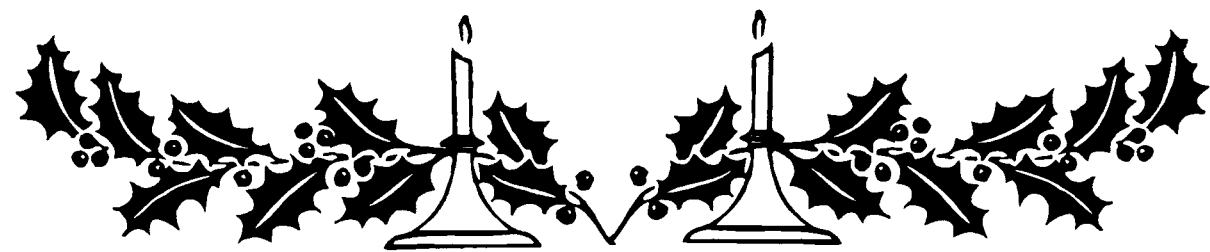
Call if you have questions
281-530-9651



All ladies are invited to join us for a morning of fun, food, festivities and fellowship Saturday, November 8, at 9:30 a.m. as we celebrate Dickens in the Grove.

Tickets are \$15 and includes lunch and all craft materials.

Please call the church office at 281-530-9651 to make reservations.



*Sugar Grove Church of Christ
11600 W. Airport Blvd.
Meadows Place Tx 77477*

LIVE MUSIC - OCTOBER!

Saturday, OCT 4th-9:00-1:00
John McVey & Erin Jaimes

Sunday, OCT 5th-8:00-12:00
Luther and the Healers

Friday, OCT 17th-9:00-1:00
Jimmy Joe Long Band

Friday, OCT 17th-9:00-1:00
Sonny Boy Terry

Friday, OCT 24th-9:00-1:00
Groove Central Station

Sunday, OCT 26th-8:00-12:00
Luther and the Healers

Friday, OCT 31st-9:00-1:00
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11723 Solano Court ~ 3BR/2BA ~ Approx 1824 sq ft

Stocking Your First-Aid Kit

While your first-aid kit will mostly be used for minor scrapes, bug bites, etc., a well-stocked first-aid kit should be a necessity in your home and car. The most important items to include in your first-aid kit are many times overlooked. These are the emergency phone numbers and medical information pertaining to each member of your family. This means not only including the 911 emergency number, but phone numbers of your family doctors and an emergency point of contact such as a relative or neighbor. You should also include your local poison control. Furthermore, keep an updated list of medicines and allergies affecting family members.

You may want to purchase an assembled first-aid kit or prepare your own. While each family will want to include particular items for their personal use, the following is a list of basic supplies that every first-aid kit should contain:

- Bandages, gauze and adhesive tape
- Over the counter medicines such as eyewash, calamine lotion, anti-itch cream, anti-bacterial ointment, aspirin and/or non-aspirin pain relievers, cough suppressants, antacids, antihistamines, medication for nausea/motion sickness.
- A bottle of water
- Disposable latex or non-latex gloves
- Mouth to mouth shield, safety pins, rounded-tip scissors, tweezers, thermometer and oral medicine syringe
- Instant activating cold packs
- Activating charcoal, Ipecac syrup – only use after calling poison control
- Sunscreen, insect repellent
- First-aid manual, flashlight and batteries

In order to keep your first-aid kit well supplied, do not borrow from it and check expiration dates often. This is in no way a substitute for appropriate medical advice. As always, consult your family doctor when sickness or an accident has occurred. Please keep these items out of children's reach.

List w/MeadowsPlaceHomes.com by November 30th and receive a buyer/seller protection plan.

Texian Market Days

Time travel is easy when the George Ranch Historical Park, a living museum, hosts its 20th annual Texian Market Days **Oct. 25-26**. Historic homes provide varied backdrops as more than 1,000 costumed volunteers help bring 100 years of local history to life. A Civil War encampment and archeological dig sites are also featured, as are demonstrations of blacksmith, cowboy and cattle-handling skills. For a real taste of Texas past and present, sample the chuckwagon lunch, then enjoy the entertainment, craft booths and family friendly activities. Call (281) 343-0218 or visit www.georgeranch.org.

Texas Renaissance Festival

Escape from the hectic pace of the 21st century and experience the 16th at the Texas Renaissance Festival. This 29th edition inaugurates the newly completed Roman-style arena and hosts world class jousting in a daily Tournament of Champions. Elsewhere in the 50-acre complex, 21 stages host 200 performances daily. Costumed knights, knaves and maidens mix with musicians, royalty and more the seven weekends from **Oct. 4-Nov. 16**, providing ye olde entertainment, games and rides, as well as food from around the world and a marketplace of wares by local artisans. Royal fireworks culminate each evening. For information, contact (800) 458-3435 or www.texrenfest.com.

Wings Over Houston 2003

The 19th annual Wings Over Houston Airshow, one of the top airshows in the country, takes flight **Oct. 18-19** at Ellington Field. The sky becomes the stage for precise flying, aerobatics and equipment demonstrations. Joining the lineup this year are CAP 232 Unlimited Aerobatic Aircraft, Steve Coan's Sailplane "Tribute to America" and presentations by U.S. armed forces. The TORA! TORA! TORA! re-enactment of the air attack on Pearl Harbor returns as well, performed in vintage aircraft. Other exhibitions include the 143rd Infantry parachute jump, the AETC T-6 Demonstration Team, an F-18 Super Hornet and a Harrier. Among the fly-bys: a B-1, B-2, B-52 and F-16 Stealth fighter. A food court and children's carnival add to the day-long exhibition. For information or tickets, call (713) 266-4492 or visit www.wingsoverhouston.com.

HEROS WEEK AT MEADOWS ELEMENTARY



5th graders



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