

Meadows PLACE

#### COMMENTS FROM THE MAYOR By Charles Jessup



#### Councilman Isbell to Step Down

After serving nine years on City Council, Alderman John Isbell will be stepping down. John and Shirley are moving to the country and will be sorely missed. Both have contributed mightily to our city. I have enjoyed knowing John and Shirley for 30 years and have had the honor to serve on Council with both of them. Moving is one of the legally

defined acceptable reasons for a Council vacancy in a Type A General Law City like Meadows Place. Among the many statues in State law that cover a filling a vacancy are - Tex. Loc. Gov't. Code (LGC) 22.012; Tex. Elect. Code (EC) Section 201.023 and LGC 22.010. Filling a vacancy is a very specific process and our City Secretary is working with our legal team at Randle Law Office to make sure we are doing everything by the book. Council will be working with our City Administrator as replacement plans are discussed. Until the plan is finalized, please know the public will be part of the process. John will be at the March 23rd City Council meeting so save the date and plan to attend in the new Council Chambers or view live online. We give our Thanks to John and Shirley who worked so hard to make our little One Square Mile of Wonderful even better.

#### Steps being taken to Move to Home Rule

The Home Rule Charter Commission continues to work hard to create a document to offer to the residents of Meadows Place. After they do, it will be up to you. They still have months to go but when ready, we will hold public meetings and then have a Charter election which will put the decision of going Home Rule up to you. I am proud to say that the feedback I'm receiving says this is the most well prepared and hardworking Charter Commission many have ever seen. Thanks to our City Attorney, City Administrator and City Secretary for helping move the process on, and Thank You commission members.

(Continued on page 3)



<section-header><section-header>

**MARCH 2021** 

## **CITY CALENDAR**

CAMPAIGN BEGINS MARCH 1,2020

#### **Meadows Place**

Mar. 11 EDC Meeting - 6:30 p.m.

Mar. 23 Regular Council Meeting - 6:30

#### Fort Bend ISD

Mar. 15-19 Spring Break - 6:30

Mar. 22-26 No School Transition/Professional Days

#### Mar. 29 Regular Board Meeting - 6:00 p.m.

# Did You Know?...

**Did You Know...** Meadows Place All Play President James Baker, Tia Baker and several other parents were out dressing up the fields getting ready to "Play Ball". It has been a trying year for them with the main field closed for games, so drop by and show some support. It'll be fun. Ask Steve Bezner, he did.

**Did You Know...** Scott Lester and two Scouts, Owen Lester and Kevin Baker were part of the last Council meeting to earn a Citizenship badge. They asked Mayor and Council some great questions. Thank You Scouts, this type of is commitment keeps Meadows Place - "*Your* Place for *Life*."

**Did You Know...** Texas Pride Disposal has asked us NOT to put garbage out in our Recycle Bins. It will contaminate the recycled materials. Thank You.

**Did You Know...** Colene Cabezas, Parks & Rec Director, has built strong ties and municipal relationships with several cities. These benefit us in many ways and allow us to share critters for the Nature Center, equipment for programs and also go work with them to see what works well and pick up new ideas. Thank You, Colene. This outreach takes time and effort but pays off by making sure Meadows Place Parks will get stronger and we will always be...*Your* Place for *Life*!

**Did You Know...** March is mailbox month in Meadows Place. This popular program was started by former Code Enforcement Officer Tracey Spiller back in 2009. Since then we have had hundreds of residents upgrade, replace or repair their mailbox and take advantage of the \$10 Utility Bill discount. This really helps give the city a facelift. Thank You, Tracey!

**Did You Know...** We have informational messages on our Utility Bills?

**Did You Know...** Our neighbor James Urban wrote me with the following:

#### Dear Mayor Jessup,

"I just wanted to thank you and the staff for opening the community center this week. I've been without water since Monday and have hesitated to turn on my water to the house until the weather warms up consistently (tomorrow). I ran out of my conserved water yesterday and went to fill up my 2 liter bottle. I got to meet Isela and Colleen and was able to get enough water for my dogs and to flush the toilet. I've been back a couple of times just to refill my bottles and stay stocked. I told Isela several times, but I wanted to pass that to you, I appreciate the center being open for those of us without water and others who may have been out of power. It was much appreciated. I'm glad to be part of this community."

- James Urban

Thank you for the kind words Mr. Urban. Opening the center for our residents was an example of Staff and elected officials working together to respond for good in a bad situation.

**Did You Know...** Chief Stewart has been working with the Feds on a check fraud case for almost a year. The case began when a Meadows Place resident reported the crime and the Chief and our detectives chased down leads for months. Meadows Place PD ran point and the result was fourteen charges were levied against the Bad Guys. Way to go Chief and congratulations to all the brave men and women in the PD who stand up for us every day.

**Did You Know...** Free Notary Service is available to all Meadows Place residents. Just come to City Hall between 9 & 4. No appointment necessary. Bring your ID...and it is FREE !

**Did You Know...** is for YOU. Drop us a note or email: mayor@cityofmeadowsplace.org.

# Did You Know... Eye on Water and Code Red

If you haven't signed up for our Eye on Water monitoring and alert program, now is the time to do it. It is a very effective tool, fun to use and it's free. If you are ever out of town, you can use Eye on Water to monitor water usage at your house to make sure you are not gushing water. Had I been out of town I could have seen my water usage go from 24 gallons an hour as I let the water drip to 1,250 gallons an hour when the pipe burst. This is a good thing to know to protect your home - and your wallet. Meadows Place has gone to a great deal of time and effort to provide these services so I hope you will go to the website and Sign Up. Thank You.

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

#### Surviving 'The Freeze'

Despite Covid, record temperatures, snow, sleet and ice, the real story of 'The Freeze' was the story of Neighbors Helping Neighbors. As I took call after call from the City Administrator, Chief Stewart and residents across the city I was struck by the level of concern for our fellow citizens. Department helping Department throughout the City and neighbors and strangers pitching in where help was needed. The PD patrolled the City flashing lights to let us know they were there- and to keep the Bad Guys away. Those with no lights were especially glad to see that. When the pipe over my garage burst and water gushed out, my neighbor alerted me and even found a cap for it. Then Chris Gawlick, who had been zipping around the city helping people, dropped by to fix mine too. Thank You Chris, and everyone who helped their neighbor. It was uplifting to hear some of the great stories.

Yes, the City took some weather related hits too. Some of the damage included numerous cracked/burst pipes, an electrical failure at Well 3 due to a blown transformer, and – of course – landscaping. We should all be proud of our PD, Public Works and Parks Departments, who, along



#### Solicitors and Peddlers City Ordinance

The Meadows Place Police Department receives many calls in reference to person(s) going door to door for various reasons (soliciting/peddling). The City of Meadows Place has an ordinance regulating this type of activity. The following is a brief summary of the ordinance. Permits are issued by the City of Meadows Place permits division at City Hall. Permits are issued on a case by case basis not to exceed a three month period. Questions about permits should be directed to the Permits Division at city hall. For concerns about a solicitor/peddler, contact the police department.

Soliciting/peddling in the city limits of Meadows Place is allowed under certain circumstances. A permit issued

with USW, dealt with weather related issues at every step. They managed to keep our water pressure up so we did not have to boil our water like many of our neighboring cities. To learn more about our outstanding water system, check out the Meadows Place Water Distribution video on our website.

Staff is keeping detailed cost documentation should FEMA reimbursement become an option.

City Administrator Nick Haby reports that we are investigating solutions so we will have options for backups to those unusual failures we experienced - such as electricity, communications when cell service goes down, additional road barriers/cones, and even making sure City answering machines reflect closures for those that call in. When we go through these events, we create a list of experiences. Whether it's a windstorm, flood, pandemic or ice, each disaster can show us where we succeeded, and what we need to have in place to prevent interruptions next time. Meadows Place is getting better and better at both day-to-day and emergency operations. We always want to be ready so we can continue to be... Your Place for Life.

by the City of Meadows Place is required in most cases; noncommercial is an exception to the rule. Each solicitor/ peddler is to have in their possession and ready to display when requested a City of Meadows Place issued permit to solicit/peddle. Solicitors/peddlers, who have a valid permit are allowed to operate from one-half hour after sun rise to one half-hour before sunset.

Some examples of Solicitors/Peddlers:

- Someone knocking on the door selling for Comcast, AT&T, or other sales.
- Mobile vendors such as a food or ice cream trucks in the neighborhood

In closing, the property owner has the right to specify "No Solicitation", posted on the front of their premise. This makes it a violation for any person to enter upon the premise may be soliciting or peddling. Please contact the Meadows Place Police Department if you see someone who may be a solicitor or other suspicious person in the neighborhood.

#### The Meadows Place Police Department is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week (281) 983-2900



#### March is Mailbox Month!

Submit your before and after photos of your remodeled mailbox between March 1 & March 31, 2021 to codeenforcement@cityofmeadowsplace.org to qualify and receive your \$10 discount on your March water bill.

I would like to Congratulate Ms. Gomez & Mr. Ayala on Cedar Form for the wonderful job they are doing on their home to help beautify the neighborhood!

We can all be good neighbors and help keep our City attractive this month by being patient and following the City's trash guidelines. Due to the freeze last month there is dead vegetation that needs to be cleaned out and removed, and varying degrees of home repairs being done that will increase the trash at the curbs.

Here are important reminders to help stay in compliance.

- Trash Pick Up Tuesday and Friday, the maximum number of bags that Texas Pride will pick up is 8.
- Each bag should not exceed 50 lbs.
- Yard Waste branch items should be tied in in bundles not exceeding 50 lbs. in piles no larger than 3'x 3' x 3'
- Bulk Waste items (carpet, pipes, fencing, etc.) should be tied in bundles not exceeding 50 lbs. and no longer than 4' in length.
- Household, Heavy, or Bulk Trash should not be placed in the right of way or be kept in view of the public during the weekends.

All repairs normally needing permits will continue to require permits. Make sure your contractor pulls them.

Ultimately, the homeowner, is responsible to ensure compliance. If you are not sure if you need a permit, please call me or Angie your Permit Clerk at 281-983-2932 to verify. We are here to assist you!

The table below show a few items that consistently need attention. If you have any questions about a Notice of Violation, please let me know before the due date listed. I am always here to help you.

# The Most Frequent Violations & Cases between January 13, 2021 to February 24, 2021 were:

| Cases                                                                        |                |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| New Cases to Court                                                           | 18             |
| Overall Total New Cases                                                      | 126            |
| Overall Cases Closed                                                         | 116            |
| Frequent Violations                                                          | Notices Issued |
|                                                                              |                |
| Trash next to curb area (not trash day)                                      | 59             |
| Trash next to curb area (not trash day)<br>Bandit Sign - Prohibited Sign (D) | 59<br>25       |
|                                                                              |                |
| Bandit Sign - Prohibited Sign (D)                                            | 25             |

Jennifer Cabello, Code Enforcement Official Office: 281-983-2938

Email: code-enforcement@cityofmeadowsplace.org





## **NOTICE TO RESIDENTS: Requirements for Backflow Preventers**

Under Public Law 99-339...the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1986...and regulations of most States the water purveyor has the primary responsibility for preventing water from unapproved sources from entering the public potable system.

These regulations are in place for the benefit of the General Public who have the implicit faith that the water is always safe to drink. City of meadows Place already has the designation of "Superior Water System".

There are several different types of "backflow prevention assembly". Reduced Pressure, Pressure Vacuum and Double Check valve to name a few. Each has their own Degree of Hazard application. NOTE: Sprinkler systems require a "backflow prevention assembly".

#### Within the City of Meadows Place.

Commercial and sprinkler systems with "backflow

prevention assembly" approximately 63 units. Residential "backflow prevention assembly" there are at least 30 units.

The company VEPO is under contract with the City to monitor and receive the initial installation inspection report and the required annual testing report.

All the commercial units are providing the required testing certification. Public Works will begin reaching out to the residents that have Back flow devices installed and require the testing certificates be submitted to VEPO. The city Web site has the instructions for the Back-flow tester to submit the form electronically.

Notice to Residents: Please plan to have your Back-flow device tested and submit the appropriate test certification.

If you have already had the device tested in 2021 just submit the certification to VEPO.



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.
- ONYX Landscaping: Residential and Commercial total lawn care. Fertilization, flowerbeds, and mulch. Seasonal flowers, sod, tree trimming, tree removal. New fence installation and repair. New Sprinkler system installation and repair. Pressure washing. Meadows Place resident free estimates. Manuel 281-865-6636.
- AVON! Call me Belle. Resident 281-495-3297.
- ROOF LEAKING? NEED GUTTERS? Call Affordable Quality Roofing (713)484-9398 MP resident. Winners of the Better Business Bureau's Award for Excellence 2017, 2018, 2019, and 2020. "A Mercedes roof at a Honda price"

Home & Garden Club

By Harriet Weymon, Publicity

The Meadows Home & Garden Club has been awarding scholarships for over 32 years. We are happy to report that the club will again be awarding scholarships for the 2021-2022 year. High school graduating seniors, or students continuing their college, university, or trade school education are eligible. The application and instructions are available on the Home & Garden Club website to download. The application deadline is April 30th.

Let's keep our city looking spectacular. Yard of the Month judging begins on the last three days of March for the April awards. This award is given to one yard in each of the six sections of the city for April through August.

The next general meeting is Tuesday, March 9th via Zoom. The guest speaker will be Rod Hainey, City of Meadows Place, Public Works Director. A question and answer time will follow. Mark your calendar and invite your friends.

> Contact us via e-mail at: meadowshomegardenclub@gmail.com

## Visit our web site today. Meadowshomegardenclub.com





## March 2021 Parks & Recreation



Parks and Recreation is implementing standard COVID protocols as set by the Govenor, County Judge and City Mayor. We will continue to follow directives and provide programs, ammenities and events as allowed. Thank you for your patience.



#### Park Maintenance Worker

Full Time Position with health and vacation benefits.This is an hourtly position 40hr per week. If interested please see cityofmeadowsplace.org.

## Seasonal Lifeguards, Camp Counselors & Swim Instructors

The City of Meadows Place is accepting applications **<u>now - March 21</u>** for Summer '21.

Applications can be picked up and turned in at City of Meadows Place City Hall. You must be 15 years of age to apply. If applying for the lifeguard position, you must pass the prerequisite requirements, and available for *ALL* training dates TBD in April



## **ESSENTIALS OF KAYAKING**

This eco-friendly sport is recognized as the fastest growing sport in the world! Our lessons provide an introduction for the beginner paddler, the course is led by an ACA certified instructor who will share her love and passion for the water through this interactive experience. You will be taught the basics of safety, balance, paddling, and turns.

# **REGISTER** MUST Pre-Register

3/13, 1PM @ Meadows Place Lake (7yr & Up) \$15



## OPEN KAYAK AT THE LAKE

Come enjoy a morning of kayaking on us. If you have already taken the Essentials of Kayaking course or have a safe boating card you are ready to participate.

3/13, 2PM @ the Lake (Safe Boating Card or Essentials of Kayaking Training Pre-Requisite) No Fee

MUST CALL TO RESERVE SPOT-281-642-7696



Come enjoy music and movement while learning to line dance. Older dances and a few new ones will get your heart pumping and face smiling when you join in the fun.

3/2–3/30,Tues @11am, Community Center No Fee , Register with instructor in class





Strengthen your core muscles as well as improve stability and range of motion. Most exercises are done while sitting in a chair. All genders and ages are welcome.

**REGISTER** MUST Pre-Register. \$25

3/2- 3/25, T/TH, 10AM Community Center

## March 2021 Parks & Recreation



## TENNIS

Resident Access Cards are available for purchase at City Hall, Mon – Fri / 9am-4pm.

Cards are \$50 and valid thru May of each year. You must show proof of residency by presenting your MP water bill and TDL.



Sharpen your mind, strengthen your body with Master Jenny Pless. She has been teaching in Meadows Place Community Center since 2005 and teaches all skill levels from basic to advanced.

# **REGISTER** MUST Pre-Register

1/11 – 3/17 Monday: 5-6pm (4-11 yrs.) 6-7pm (12 years and adult)

Wednesday: 6-7pm (All Ages, families welcome)

20 classes for \$99 10 classes for \$60 Uniform \$30 (Pay instructor)

## March 2021 Parks & Recreation



Come shake, shimmy, and dance those calories away!!!! A total workout, combining all elements of fitness – cardio, muscle conditioning, balance and flexibility, boosted energy and a serious dose of awesome each time you leave class.

**REGISTER** MUST Pre-Register

3/1 – 3/29, Mon, Location TBD

#### 7:30pm – 8:30pm, Fee \$55, Walk In \$6



American Society of Karate teaches American Karate to ages 5 – 70yr in a positive ever-changing system. Its goal is to not be the largest, but to be the best. Instructors: 4th Degree Black Belt, Steve Puma and 3rd Degree Black Belt, Michael Puma. Students may try the first class for free.

REGISTER MUST Pre-Register.

1/7 – 3/25 @ Community Center

Thursday 6:30- 7:30pm (5-12yr) \$50

Thursday 7:30- 8:30pm (13-70yr) \$50

\$30 Uniform Fee to Instructor.



## HOW DO I REGISTER? REGISTER

Our programs require pre-registration.

Forms can be found on-line at **cityofmeadowsplace.org** under the department tab / parks and recreation / programs. Make checks payable to City of Meadows Place then mail to, 1 Troyan Dr., Meadows Place, 77477

You may also register in person at City Hall, Monday thru Friday between 9am–4pm. If after hours place form & payment in the night drop box in the City Hall parking lot.

#### RENTALS

If you're looking for a location to host a celebration, lock in or family gathering, the Community Center and Garden is a great local option.

We also offer rentals of Covered Park Pavilions, Community Pool, Large BBQ Pit,& Kayaks

#### Email for pricing and availability parksdirector@cityofmeadowsplace.org

Parks and Recreation is implementing standard COVID protocols as set by the Govenor, County Judge, City Council and City Mayor. We will continue to follow directives and provide programs, ammenities and events as allowed. Thank you for your patience

.....

For program or event questions please email parksdirector@cityofmeadowsplace.org / 281-642-7696

# 2021 BOYSCOUT FLAGS OVER MEADOWS PLACE



Holiday flag placement in your yard on:

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

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

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

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

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



The subscription cost is \$30.00 per calendar year, <u>paid</u> in advance.

## **Payment Methods**

#### SignUpGenius (additional fee applies):

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0e4eada92faaf49-2021

#### Check Payable to "BSA Troop 731":

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

| Name_  |                             |        | Address  |                |
|--------|-----------------------------|--------|----------|----------------|
| E-Mail |                             | or     | Phone    |                |
|        | (Provide proferred communic | notion | mathad a | mail or phone) |

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



Prsrt Std U.S. Postage **PAID** Stafford, TX Permit No. 36



One Troyan Drive • Meadows Place, TX 77477 www.cityofmeadowsplace.org

#### **City of Meadows Place**

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

| Charles D. Jessup, IVMAYOR                                                                                             |  |  |  |  |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| e-mail: mayor@cityofmeadowsplace.org                                                                                   |  |  |  |  |
| Kurt KopczynskiMAYOR PRO TEMPORE (281) 686-6078                                                                        |  |  |  |  |
| e-mail: alderman4@cityofmeadowsplace.org                                                                               |  |  |  |  |
| John F. IsbellALDERMAN 1                                                                                               |  |  |  |  |
| e-mail: alderman1@cityofmeadowsplace.org                                                                               |  |  |  |  |
| Tia BakerALDERMAN 2 (832) 875-8120                                                                                     |  |  |  |  |
| e-mail: alderman2@cityofmeadowsplace.org                                                                               |  |  |  |  |
| Rick StaigleALDERMAN 3 (713) 446-4566                                                                                  |  |  |  |  |
| e-mail: alderman4@cityofmeadowsplace.org                                                                               |  |  |  |  |
| Kelle K. MillsALDERMAN 5                                                                                               |  |  |  |  |
| e-mail: alderman5@cityofmeadowsplace.org                                                                               |  |  |  |  |
| ***************************************                                                                                |  |  |  |  |
| Courtney RutherfordCITY SECRETARY (281) 983-2931                                                                       |  |  |  |  |
| e-mail: citysecretary@cityofmeadowsplace.org                                                                           |  |  |  |  |
| Nick HabyCITY ADMINISTRATOR(281) 983-2939                                                                              |  |  |  |  |
| e-mail: cityadministrator@cityofmeadowsplace.org                                                                       |  |  |  |  |
|                                                                                                                        |  |  |  |  |
| EMERGENCY                                                                                                              |  |  |  |  |
| POLICE DEPARTMENT / 24 Hours                                                                                           |  |  |  |  |
| FT. BEND COUNTY SHERIFF                                                                                                |  |  |  |  |
| FT. BEND COUNTY COURTHOUSE                                                                                             |  |  |  |  |
| ANIMAL CONTROL(281) 342-1512<br>PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT                                                        |  |  |  |  |
| ***************************************                                                                                |  |  |  |  |
| Community Center Rental<br>Building Capacity 165                                                                       |  |  |  |  |
| Rental includes tables and chairs to accommodate events                                                                |  |  |  |  |
| Food/no alcohol\$275.00 Food/with alcohol\$375.00<br>(Cash deposit required)                                           |  |  |  |  |
| Community Pool Rental\$350.00<br>(after Community Hours, maximum rental time is 3 hours)                               |  |  |  |  |
| Non-Meadows Place residents add \$175.00 to above rates                                                                |  |  |  |  |
| Resident Community Center/ Pool Combo Rental                                                                           |  |  |  |  |
| Available May - August<br>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<br>click on Parks & Recreation, then Community Center |  |  |  |  |
| To check availability, call (346) 754-5873 or email:                                                                   |  |  |  |  |

lylanan@cityofmeadowsplace.org



For updates on Public Works News visit the website.

publicworks@cityofmeadowsplace.org