

Your
Place for
Life

City of
Meadows PLACE

JANUARY 2009

COMMENTS FROM THE MAYOR

By Charles Jessup



HAPPY NEW YEAR

2008 presented us with several unique and difficult challenges but all in all it was a wonderful year for the City of Meadows Place. We had some new business start ups, commercial properties hit the tax roles, our housing prices remained stable and the City was able to provide services, improve our parks and facilities and still increase our reserve fund. Quite an accomplishment, but, 2008 is over and we are now looking forward to 2009. Yes, the economy, legislative mandates and an ever changing housing market will present us all with some difficult challenges and difficult choices but thankfully, Meadows Place is in a position to face and overcome these challenges while still providing us with a quality of life that makes us a success as a City.

In order to achieve true success, the City must continue to win and retain the confidence and respect of the community it serves. This can be only be accomplished with an earnest endeavor on the part of the Mayor, Council, all Staff members and Department Heads to perform their duties in an efficient, honest and professional manner. We must continue to be fiscally responsible with an eye toward the future. Furthermore, we must exhibit exemplary conduct, cultivating in the public mind the realization that our Police Department is a most vital requisite to public well-being, our Public Works accepts its role protecting our health and safety, that our Parks Department is determined to keep improving the quality of life in and around Meadows Place and that our Staff takes a very personal position when dealing with the public. This is, and will continue to be, our standard for success and our goal for 2009. Happy New Year!

VOTING

Meadows Place has every right to be a little proud of itself. In the recent runoff election for the District 17 State Senate Seat, Meadows Place voters turned out at a rate that was 50% higher than the precinct average! In fact, out of the 53 precincts voting in Fort Bend, Meadows Place was Number 2 in voter turnout. We were only thirty-seven votes from number one. Maybe next time. A strong voter turnout helps your City Leaders as they talk to other governmental agencies on your behalf. Thanks to all who voted, you are helping us keep Meadows Place..... *Your Place for Life.*

www.cityofmeadowsplace.org



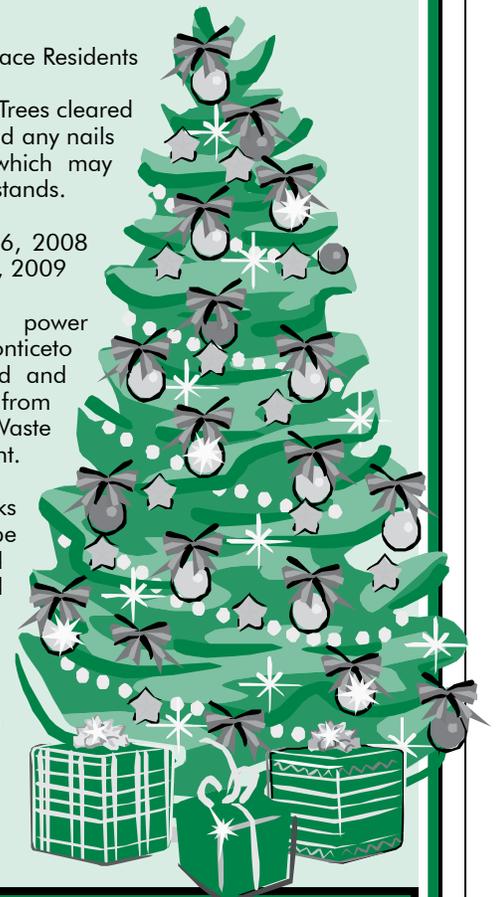
Who: All Meadows Place Residents

What: Live Christmas Trees cleared of all decorations and any nails or other material which may have been used for stands.

When: December 26, 2008 through January 9th, 2009

Where: At the power easement on Monticeto between Amblewood and Meadow Trail across from the Meadows Place Waste Water Treatment Plant.

Why: The Public Works Department will be chipping trees and using the mulch and some trees will be donated to the Gulf Coast Area Beach Association to help rebuild the dunes after Hurricane IKE.



CITY CALENDAR

- January 27th Regular City Council meeting
City Hall 7:30 p.m.
- January 30th & 31st Garage Sale Weekend

Did You Know?...

Did You Know...the City of Meadows Place was chosen to receive an award from the Texas Commission On Environmental Quality for "exceptional compliance" in meeting TCEQ water safety requirements for our Public Water Supply? The award – and the congratulations – were sent to our Public Works Director, Dan McGraw. This award is based on "Outstanding Performance for the Preceding Five Years". To receive this award the city must meet or exceed a number of very strict standards designed to keep our water safe to drink. Caring, constant vigilance, systems monitoring and maintenance programs all play a part in making this award possible and in keeping Meadows Place – Your Place for Life!

Did You Know...that Meadows Place now has a Lost Pets link on our Website? Please check it out. There is a section for Lost Pets and one for Found Pets. All you have to do is click on our Website, fill out the form and send it in. The information will then be forwarded on and posted. You can even include an electronic photo. We have Bob and Lillian Graf to thank for this humanitarian addition to our website. Bob spent many hours working with our Web provider and Capt. Jack Ashton to put it all together and Lillian is going to monitor and update the site. Thank You Bob and Lillian!

Did You Know...it is important to keep leaves and debris from going down our storm drains? Please pick up your leaves and report storm drain dumping to the Storm Drain Hotline at 281- 983-2932.

Did You Know...we handed out Employee Recognition Awards to three employees for their many years of dedicated service? Receiving 15 Year pins were Public Works Director Dan McGraw and Patty Spade, who amongst other things, manages the utility and water bills for the City.

Patty also received the Employee of the Year award! Then, City Secretary Elaine Herff, was presented with her 25 year pin. All have additional years of service as employees of the Meadows MUD. Congratulations to Elaine, Patty & Dan and Thank You for all you do on our behalf.

Did You Know....Charles Jessup received his MBA from Texas A&M last month? Charles was one of only two undergrads accepted by the Mayes School of Business. Congratulations Charles, your Mom is proud of you! (Dad too.)

Did You Know....that we processed well over 800 permits this year? This includes permits for Alarms, Building, Garage Sales, Heating, Plumbing, Electrical, Signs, etc. If you have any questions about permits, or whether or not you need one for work around the house, check our Website or call City Hall.

Did You Know....Alderman Charles Kulhanek gave Council a report on the Post-Ike AAR (After Action Review) at the last Council Meeting? It was a very comprehensive report that led to a number of Action Items the City will be considering in the future. Other members of that Committee included Sgt. Larry Eissler of the Meadows Place PD, Captain Mason Mills of the Stafford Volunteer Fire Department and Dan McGraw, our Public Works Director. Thank You for all your efforts.

Did You Know....This column is for you? Send any news we can use about your projects, kids or neighbors. Drop a note to "Did You Know" at City Hall or e-mail: mayor@cityofmeadowsplace.org

Thanks - hope to see you at this months City Council meeting.

Public Works



By Dan McGraw

STORM WATER POLLUTION IN MEADOWS PLACE

Unlike the water that goes down your sink or bathtub drain to the sewer, water that flows into storm drains is not treated and filtered for pollutants. This contaminated water flows directly into the drainage ditches, Keegans Bayou, Brays Bayou, the Houston Ship Channel and ultimately to the Gulf of Mexico. So, letting pollutants reach your storm drain is like contaminating your own food source. Anything other than pure rainwater is a potential contaminant that degrades water quality and aquatic life. It's very important that you help prevent contaminants from flowing into storm drains. Never pour anything down your storm drain. Intentionally pouring pollutants into street gutters and storm drains is dangerous to the environment and it is also illegal and carries a fine plus the cost of cleaning or removing the contaminate.

Solid debris takes up space in the storm piping thereby making it less effective in transporting storm water to the ditch. In other words, dumping solid debris and pollutants into the storm sewer allows streets to become flooded after heavy rains.

Three types of storm water Pollution:

Storm water pollution can be split into three general classifications.

- Litter - cigarette butts, cans, food wrappers, plastic bags or paper
- Natural Pollution - leaves, yard clippings or animal feces
- Chemical Pollution - fertilizers, paint, oil, or detergent



Also, in the aftermath of Hurricane Ike, **A**our city has seen a large increase in the number of residents getting new roofs. Please be advised that any roof repairs or replacement requires a permit. Failure to do so is in direct violation of our City Ordinance. All contractors are to be working under the 2003 IRC. Non-compliance can result in redoing completed work as well as being double permitted.

Also on the rise, is the number of new fences being put up. Although the city does not require obtaining a permit for fences, certain criteria must be met. Height requirements as well as materials being used are just a few examples.

If you have any questions about permits please call 281-983-2932, email permits@cityofmeadowsplace.org, or log on to our website at www.cityofmeadowsplace.org.

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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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City Ordinances / Code Enforcement



By Tracey Spiller

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

As we welcome in 2009 just a quick reminder to have your holiday decorations packed up and put away by January 15th.

I would like to congratulate the following establishments for scoring a 95 or better on their yearly permit renewal inspection:

**Teeter Toddler
Burger King
Pappas Grill
CVS Pharmacy**

**Meadows Elementary
Walgreens
Sugar Grove Christian School
Pizza Hut**

I wish you all a very happy and safe New Year!



Bag it. Don't blow it.

The water that runs into and through the storm drainage system is not treated—it goes straight into our waterways, and ultimately into Galveston Bay. Storm drains are part of our system to help prevent flooding, so please keep them clear:

- Don't blow your leaves or grass clippings down the drain.
- Bag or compost the trimmings from your yard.
- Please, don't put anything—garbage, motor oil, paint, doggie doo or anything except rainwater—down the storm drain.

For more information on how you can keep our waterways clean, call Harris County at (713) 250-3000 or log on to www.CleanWaterClearChoices.org



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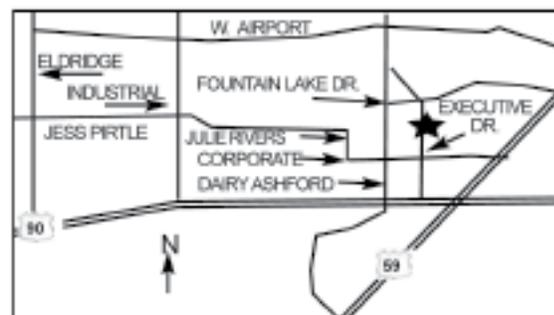
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Pre-registration is required and most classes have a minimum/maximum enrollment. PLEASE REGISTER EARLY!!!

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 Winter Karate Schedule

- Starts:** Thursday – January 15
- Ends:** Thursday April 2 (No class Spring Break)
\$40--11weeks
\$30--Uniform (sorry no checks)
- Time:** 6:30pm - 7:30pm Ages 5-12
7:30pm - 8:30pm Teens/Adults
- 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.

Ladies Bowling League

Contact: Parks Department - 281.983.2935

or terry@cityofmeadowsplace.org

Wednesday Morning League

9:00am, Stafford Lanes



ATTENTION TENNIS PLAYERS

Please take a moment to read the tennis rules sign located at the tennis court. All rules will be enforced and violators will be subject to forfeiture of their privileges to use of City facilities. The access card reader installed at the entrance gate will read every card and allow or deny access. The memory in the card reader gives the Parks and Recreation Office the information as to which resident's card was swiped at any given time of the day. It has been observed on a regular basis that too many guests or even nonresident use may be going on. Upon observation of such occurrence and notification to the Parks Department, we will research access information. This information will enable the Parks Office to contact the card holder to discuss possible violation of the access card rules.

If you see suspicious use of the tennis courts, or anyone violating the rules, please take note of the time of day and the possible violation and contact the Parks Department. You can call and leave a detailed message 24 hrs a day. Your personal name and information is optional. We will investigate the situation and contact you, if you wish, as well as the prospective violator.

PARKS & RECREATION

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.

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

Coastal Prairie Quilt Guild of Texas

An open sew opportunity will follow all regular meetings. Bring your lunch, your machine or just hand work, and join us for lots of fun! For more information call: 832.693.2512

Who: Anyone interested in Quilting
When: 3rd Thursday of Each Month
Where: Meadows Place Community Center

PARKS AND RECREATION

BULLETIN BOARD

RAD
Women Starts

New
Years

February 5 RAD Womens Starts
 February 8 RAD Womens Ends

Seniors Activities

Meadows Place Parks and Recreation has joined with the Sugar Land Parks and Recreation Department to offer field trips/classes and activities for seniors citizens. All events will be offered at the Sugar Land Community Center unless stated otherwise. A calendar of daily events is available at the Sugar Land Senior Center which can be reached at 281-275-2893 or you can email them at seniors@sugarlandtx.gov

Senior Classes Now Offered:

Softball	Mondays (Imperial Park)	9am
Yoga	Monday & Friday	9am
Computer Class	2nd Monday of each month	10am
Mah Jong	Monday	10am
Line Dancing	Monday & Wednesday	1pm
	SL Co mm. Center	& 10am
Jazzercise	Tuesday, Thursday & Friday	9am
Walking Club	Tuesday & Friday	8:30am
	First Colony Mall	9am
Tai Chi	Wednesday	8am - noon
Table Tennis	Wednesday & Friday	1pm - 3pm
Crafts	Thursday	
Horseshoes	Daily (Imperial Park)	
Pool	Daily	
We Have Wii!	Thursday	3pm
Art Class	Monday	1-3pm
China Painting	Tuesday	10am- noon

In Recognition of a Job Well Done

If you enjoyed yourself at the 25th Celebration you had a lot of fellow Meadows Place citizens to thank. Lisa Kulhanek chaired the committee that provided the wonderful Silent Auction baskets. Janet Kulhanek, Lynette Cegelski, Sharon Kitchen, Tricia Wilkens, Jennifer Townsell, and Michelle Wittman all worked hard to create them. Sue Ella Mueller handled the publicity of the 25th Celebration. Her articles were published in the Fort Bend Business Journal, The Star, and the Fort Bend Chronicle. The Historical Section was chaired by Nancy Lewallen. Together, with Bob and Charlene Favorite and Rob Bush, an interesting and remarkable display of historical Meadows Place was laid out to peruse while an ongoing slide show played throughout the day.

The layout of the Celebration was planned by Benet Gaytos. He, along with Dan McGraw and Monya Keenen, made sure everyone had the space and power needed. Volunteers were staffed by Monica Ferriera, Jeanette Doina, and Tim Shoulders of Sugar

Grove Church of Christ. They drew workers from Dulles students and members of the church so that the residents of Meadows Place could have a good time. Kristina Hickie and Mitchell Case provided labor during set up and take down and acted as "gofers" all day long; and Theresa Bathe and Kay Brown displayed the history and times of Meadows Elementary.

Meadows Place Swim Team, All Play Baseball, ASK Karate, and Garden Club all hosted booths, providing information and/or substance. Last, but not least, Pack 301 acted as Color Guard and did general clean up of the area. Instrumental in the success of the Celebration, was the combined efforts of the staff of City Hall, Public Works, Parks Department, and Police Department. The character and caliber of the people involved really showed at this event. It brings home why we live here and why Meadows Place is "our place for life."



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RAD FOR WOMEN

The National Standard in Self Defense Education (tm)

“Rape Aggression Defense” is a program taught nationally by certified instructors representing law enforcement, women’s assistance centers and college and universities throughout the United States and Canada. Instructors, *Jim and Sandra Baylor*, have instructed over 4000 women ages 12 – 86 in the RAD Systems Basic Physical Defense Course. This is truly a program for all females regardless of age, fitness level or any physical restriction. At the conclusion of the training, the students will be able to apply their skills in simulated confrontations with aggressors.

Attendees will be introduced to lectures on the theories of **Risk Avoidance, Risk Recognition, Risk Awareness, and Risk Reduction** to help them stay safe in their every day environments. In addition, basic self defense techniques and strategies to avoid abductive or aggressive acting out person(s) will be taught to help a person who is confronted to escape and survive. A series of active simulations will be conducted on the last day of training so the participant can apply skills learned.

Every day women have to think about their personal safety. By attending this program you will receive the education, physical skills and options to deal with violent situations and the chance to be part of the decision making process to resist or even consider compliance if confronted with any type of violent behavior.

This is a 15 hour class with a training fee. This is the only time you will pay a fee for a RAD for Women course. As a “RADGRAD”, you will receive a lifetime return policy to practice as often as you wish at no cost.

To answer any questions about the program, feel free to call
Sandra Baylor 713/408-9960





RAD TRAINING REGISTRATION

Place: Meadows Place Community Center, 11975 Dorrance Ln., Meadows Place, TX. 77477

Dates: February 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th

Times: 5th 6-9:30pm, 6th 6-9:30pm, 7th 5-9pm, and 8th 2-6pm

RAD FOR WOMEN (ages 12 and older – female only)

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

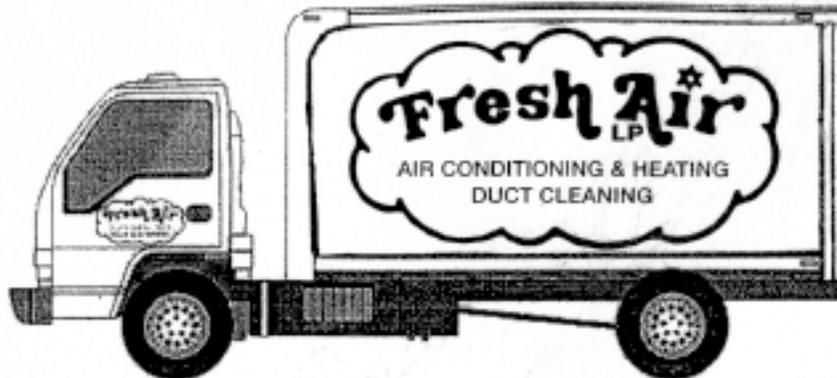
CONTACT PHONE NUMBER _____

E-Mail ADDRESS _____

AGE _____

A parental release form will be provided and required on the first day of training for all participants under the age of 18 **

Please complete form and attach registration fee of \$25.00. We accept cash or check. If paying by check please make payable to: RAD Texas



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

ALDERMAN..... **Heidi Case** (281) 561-7351
e-mail: alderman1@cityofmeadowsplace.org

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

ALDERMAN..... **Charles Kulhanek** (281) 564-1938
e-mail: alderman2@cityofmeadowsplace.org

ALDERMAN..... **Rick Staigle** (713) 446-4566
e-mail: alderman5@cityofmeadowsplace.org

ALDERMAN..... **Dave Wilkens** (281) 240-7887
e-mail: alderman3@cityofmeadowsplace.org

CITY SECRETARY..... **Elaine Herff**

CALL PARKS AND RECREATION TO
SCHEDULE YOUR EVENT
281-983-2935

monya@cityofmeadowsplace.org
terry@cityofmeadowsplace.org

EMERGENCY..... 9-1-1
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.....(713) 405-1750
FT. BEND COUNTY COURTHOUSE.....(281) 342-3411
ANIMAL CONTROL.....(281) 342-1512
PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT.....(281) 983-2935

Street Light Repair

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One Troyan Drive • Meadows Place, TX 77477

Report Storm Drain Dumping! 281-983-2932

Storm Water Hotline

Report dumping in
storm water drains.

Only **RAIN WATER** is allowed
281-983-2932

- For updates on Public Works News visit the website.
- Reminder that permits are needed for roofs, foundation repairs, water heater repairs/replacements and many others. Please visit the website and click on the permits link or call the permits department to find out if you need a permit and inspection at 281-983-2932
publicworks@cityofmeadowsplace.org



Garage Sales 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 hold up to 2 garage sales per year on the designated weekends. The last garage sale date for each year will be in October. A garage sale permit is required.

2009 Garage Sale Dates

January 30 & 31 • March 27 & 28

May 29 & 30 • July 24 & 25

September 25 & 26 • October 30 & 31

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