

#### COMMENTS FROM THE MAYOR By Charles Jessup



#### **CITY BUSINESS**

Insurance update. It took a lot of effort on the part of our City Staff to get it done, but we have finally completed and submitted the mountains of paperwork required for reimbursement of damages that occurred as a result of Hurricane Ike. The city submitted claims to both our insurance carrier and to FEMA. As you

know, Meadows Place did suffer some damage. Thankfully, most was superficial and our ability to provide city services was not permanently impaired. While we are waiting for the final tallies to be reviewed, and hopefully approved, we need to thank City Secretary Elaine Herff and Public Works Director Dan McGraw for all the hard work they put in on our behalf. They had to compile data, work with all the other departments, work with the adjusters, answer all their questions, forage for information from up to twenty five years ago and still do their job on a day to day basis. It was a very daunting and difficult task. Their dedication and desire to do what is best for the City of Meadows Place is remarkable and serves as an inspiration to all.

#### **REMEMBER MARCH IS MAILBOX MONTH**

Meadow Place has designated March as "Mailbox Month". This program is designed to encourage and reward homeowners that fix up, paint or replace their mailboxes. All who participate get a discount on their water bill. Check inside for details.

#### PARKS

Meadows Place city parks provide outdoor recreation sources such as the pool, our very special track system, baseball fields, shuffleboard, swings and BBQ pits. Our Parks Department provides us many indoor activities and programs as well. A good park system encourages young and old alike to step away from their TV and computer games for some real interaction with family and friends. They promote good health, lifelong exercise regiments, enhance our property values and promote a sense of strong Community. This year our Parks Directors, Monya Keenen and Terry Modeland, have some great programs lined up and there are even more additions coming to our existing parks that should really add some pizzazz. I hope you will participate in our programs and visit our parks because Meadows Place Parks are something we should all be proud of and enjoy. They help make Meadows Place ..... Your Place for Life.

www.cityofmeadowsplace.org

**NOW HIRING** 

# LIFEGUARDS

Lifeguards needed for summer 2009! Come be a part of our Platinum

award winning lifeguard team!

Lifeguard applications are being ACCEPTED at Meadows Place City Hall UNTIL Friday, March 27, 2009. INTERVIEWS are scheduled @ the Community Center/ Pool starting @ 10:00 am, Saturday, April 4 starting @ 3:00 pm and Monday, April 6, 2009.

All applicants must be 15 years of age by the following training dates:

Thursday, April 16 @ Community Center/Pool 6-9:00 PM

Saturday, April 18 @ Community Center/ Pool 9:00 AM- 4:00 PM

Sunday, April 19 @Community Center/ Pool

9:00 AM- 4:00 PM

#### **CITY CALENDAR**

March 24th

Regular City Council meeting City Hall 7:30 p.m.

March 27th & 28th Garage Sale Weekend

**Did You Know**....that Parks & Rec. and Meadows All Play Baseball had a dedication ceremony on Opening Day? They dedicated their new Daktronix scoreboard which was purchased for the City and Meadows All Play by Wallis State Bank – the only bank in Meadows Place. Tom Russo of Wallis Bank threw out the first pitch, tossing it to Steve Smelly of Daktronix. The new scoreboard is quite an asset to both the City and the league and adds a lot to quality of the games. Try to take in an inning or two this season. It's fun and a nice place to meet new friends and neighbors. Now – Play Ball !!!

**Did You Know**....that Scout Leader Oscar Villarreal invited Mayor Jessup, Rich Doina and Monica Ferriera to be judges for the Pack 301 Pinewood Derby? The competition was fierce but it was a lot of fun too. There were some beautiful cars there. Silly ones too. Like the eraser car and the smores car. There were guitar cars and I-pod cars and, well you get the idea. A great time was had by all. Great job Pack 301. If ya'll were working for our automakers they would be making tons of money! Oh, and Alderman Staigle took the Scouts down to Corpus where they stayed overnight on the USS Lexington – or 'The Blue Ghost' to those of us who have stayed on her.

**Did You Know**....that Public Works Director Dan McGraw is working hard to get Meadows Place in compliance with a new federal law that requires us to produce a series of extensive annual reports or change some equipment at our wastewater treatment plant? After studying the situation, surprisingly, Dan recommended permanently upgrading our plant. His figures proved that it will quickly be more cost effective to do that – and – when we are done- will be safer.

**Did You Know**...that your neighbor Lee Noak wrote in asking about solicitors and door to door salespeople? He also wanted to know if the City still maintains a "Do not Solicit" list. The answer to this is Yes. Call City Hall if you have any questions. No one is supposed to put anything on or in our mailboxes and salespeople are supposed to have a permit.

**Did You Know**....that Fire Chief Larry DiCamillo of the Stafford Fire Department sends a monthly

report to the City documenting their activity in Meadows Place? Typically they make just under a call a day, most of them EMS type calls. The Fire Department is working closely with the City and will be participating in future training exercises with our Public Works and Police Department Emergency Response teams. We are fortunate to have such a professional organization protecting the city.

**Did You Know**....that our online Lost & Found for Pets has already enjoyed success and has reunited a 'Found' pet with it's owner? Please become familiar with it, use it when needed and make it one of those things you check on a regular basis.

**Did You Know**....the City just put in a new controlled access entrance/exit for the Police Department? It is located at the east end of the City Hall parking lot. This will allow for an even quicker response to certain parts of the City and prevent our patrol cars from being slowed down by traffic problems. Next time you come to City Hall be sure and check it out.

**Did You Know**...one of our neighbors wrote in to remind parents and pet owners need that our streets are not designed to be play areas and that pets and children in our streets are at risk? That is a good reminder, especially with springtime weather here already. **Did You Know**....that Meadows Place

**Did You Know**....that Meadows Place resident Jessica Rodriguez is state bound after her 400 relay team broke Dulles High School record at Regional's? Way to go Jess, your neighbors are proud of you!

**Did You Know**...that March 27th is Old Town Meadows at Meadows Elementary from 6pm to 9pm? Fun, games, live and silent auction, student performancesand more.....Hope to see all of you there!

**Did You Know**....This column is about you? Send any news about projects, kids or neighbors "Did You Know' at City Hall or just e-mail us at : mayor@ cityofmeadowsplace.org

Thanks – and hope to see you at the City Council meeting.

Home & Garden Club

By Beverly Martin, Publicity

Early Notice: The Meadows Home and Garden Club will soon be taking applications for our Scholarship Award. The forms can be picked up at Dulles High School Counselor's office or at City Hall. Essay topics will be announced next month.

This year's February International Dinner went Italian. Members with their guests or spouses enjoyed Johnny Carino's Italian Restaurant in Missouri City.

We would like to invite you to attend our March meeting on Tuesday, March 10th. Diana Liga, Horticulturist, 2008 Advisory Board of Urban Harvest will talk to us about "Colorful Springtime Planting", 7:30 pm at the Meadows Community Center. You do not have to be a Garden Club member to attend. For more information, call Margaret (281) 933-8034.

As Spring arrives, here are the guidelines for the Garden Club selection for Yard of the Month.

- 1. Overall landscaping as seen from the street, variety and symmetry.
- 2. Lawns: condition and manicure.
- 3. Shrubs: condition, suitability and quality.
- 4. Trees: condition, quality and trim.
- 5. Annuals, seasonal, color, harmony. No artificial flowers or plants.

Garden tip: Time to start plant container gardens.

City Ordinances / Code Enforcement





Well, we are already in the month of March and there are

**VV** some great pictures coming in for our 1st Annual Mailbox Month! If you haven't submitted a picture of your repainted or new mailbox make sure to get them in for \$5.00 off your water bill!

Has anyone ever noticed when driving through the City the number of properties that don't have address numbers posted either on the house, mailbox, or curb? For those of you who don't know it is a requirement in the City codes to have proper identification posted. Below I have included the code and requirements for property identification:

Section 304.3 Premises identification: Buildings shall have approved address numbers placed in a position to be plainly legible and visible from the street or road fronting the property. These numbers shall contrast with their background. Address numbers shall be Arabic numerals or alphabet letters. Numbers shall be a minimum of 4 inches high.

Simply stated you must have an address number posted on your property that is visible from the street. This is helpful for many reasons but mainly for emergency vehicles to be able to locate the property in the event of an emergency.

I had a resident stop me and ask if I had any suggestions on how to keep squirrels from chewing on the wood siding on their home. Well, off the top of my head I had nothing, however, I accepted the challenge and here are a few of the ideas I got from the web:

- Trim trees back from the house
- Use gutter guards
- Keep bird feeders 30 ft from your home
- Treat wood areas with a repellent such as Havahart Deer, Rabbit and Squirrel
- Animal Repellent that can be found at places like Home Depot and Lowe's Hardware
- Last but not least you can place a feeder on your property strictly for squirrels and keep them fed

A **big** thank you goes out to the following families: The Mu family had their fence replaced and it looks great! The Parker family has recently remodeled their kitchen and are loving the new look.

"Do not wait for leaders; do it alone, person to person" Mother Teresa



By Chief Mike A. Baker

In our February article we outlined strategies used by the Meadows Place Police Department during times of increased criminal activity. One of the things we pointed out was how important your help and participation is to us in the effort to keep our city safe. Well, this month we have a shining example of what that means. On January 27, 2009, one of our citizens confronted two individuals on her property. Without antagonizing them or putting herself in danger, she took note of their appearance, the vehicle they were driving, and copied down the license plate. She immediately called this information in.

While one officer contacted the reporting person, other officers quickly found the vehicle and the two occupants on a nearby street, most likely about to break into another home. Based on additional information taken from the alert citizen, we were quickly able to establish similarities between this incident and several burglaries we've had over the past few months. Officers detained the two individuals and shortly thereafter found two laptop computers in their vehicle. Further investigation revealed that the computers had been stolen in Houston earlier that day – a burglary that had not even been discovered at the time.

The citizen who initially called this in probably prevented at least two homes in Meadows Place from being burglarized that day. Although we are certainly proud of the quick response and great work of our officers, it would not have been possible if our resident had not called in so promptly. She did an outstanding job of observing and gathering important information that started the chain of events that helped get two burglars off our streets. Together, we can make difference!

Special Thanks

The Meadows Place Police Department would like to thank the following contributors for their generous donation to the Association of Retarded Citizens (A.R.C.) fund raiser. The following are the gracious contributors to be recognized:

Discount Tire Great Wraps Pro Clips Sandwich King Golden Corral Walgreens Sterling McCall

Thank you for your participation, we look forward to working with each of you in next year's event.

Ofc. K. Davis

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 / 281-568-0308

Registered home daycare enrolling, Meals and snacks. Registered since 1994. Call 281-495-7996 –Melanie.

Registered Day Care in my Meadows Place home. All meals and snacks provided. Call Nancy 281-530-6740.

Mary Kay skin care and glamour products. Call for your complementary makeover. Meadows Place resident. 281-933-8298

Puppies for sale. Rat Terrier Mix \$65.00 281-561-5574.



# **Doody Duty**

Pet owners please be courteous and pick up after your pets!



# Public Works



A friendly 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/or inspection at 281-983-2932.

publicworks@cityofmeadowsplace.org By Dan McGraw

#### **Volunteer Opportunity**

You might be wondering "Why the fuss over storm drain dumping all of a sudden"? Well, first of all, keeping our storm water runoff clean is just the right thing to do. Secondly, we are now heavily regulated by both the Environmental Protection Agency and the Texas Commission for Environmental Quality – or TCEQ. The State says we have to develop a plan to "Inform and Educate" the public about Storm Drain Pollution. Part of this plan discusses the consequences of non compliance and the other part deals with the prevention of Storm Drain Pollution. To comply, we have developed a plan that includes seven BMP's – or Best Management Practices and a plan for their implementation. One part of this plan is the stenciling of our storm drains and sewers. This is where YOU come in.

The City is about to enter Phase Two of this project and needs your help because The State wants this to be done by citizen volunteers and youth. You can volunteer individually, with your child (6-18) or with a scout group, church group or team. This is a fun project and a great way to get your children (and you) involved in our community.

This project will be taking place – tentatively – the last two Saturdays in April and possibly the first weekend of May. There will be a Volunteers Appreciation cookout upon completion of the project and everyone will get an Official Certificate from the City of Meadows Place and the TCEQ. You can register online or at City Hall. Contact Public Works Director Dan McGraw with questions. Thank You!







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 Spring Karate Schedule

Starts:	Ongoing			
Ends:	Thursday April 2 (No class Spring Break)			
	\$4011weeks			
	\$30Uniform (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.

#### **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.

#### New Tennis Schedule Beginning March 30th

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)
Sunday
5:00 – 6:25pm
Youth Beg/Adv Beg – ages 8 – 14yrs - \$60/month (4 weeks)
Sunday
6:30 – 7:55pm
Youth Intermediate – ages 10 – 16yrs - \$60/month (4 weeks)

# PARKS & REGREATION

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

## New Class

#### American Shoo Lin Kung Fu

American Shoo Lin Kung Fu Master Shi Yan Feng together with Taekwondo instructor Jenny Pless are teaching Martial Arts at the Community Center.

Where: City of Meadows Place Community Center.

Date: 1st session February 2nd – March 30th (8 classes). No Class Spring Break 2nd session: April 6th – May 25th (8 classes)

**Time:** Monday, 3:15p.m. – 4:30p.m.

**Fee:** \$40.00 for (8 classes)

Master: Sho Lin Master Shi Yan Feng

Instructor: Jenny Pless (City of Meadows Place resident)

## PARKS AND RECREATION

Lifeguard

Mailbox Month | BULLETIN BOARD

Application Deadline March 27 March Mailbox Month! March 27 Deadline for lifeguard applications April 4 Lifequard Interviews - 10 AM April 5 Swim Team Registration - 11AM - 4PM April 6 Lifeguard Interviews - 3PM April 11 Swim Team Registration - 11AM - 4PM April 16 Lifeguard Training - 6-9PM Lifeguard Training - 9AM-4PM April 18 April 19 Lifeguard Training - 9AM-4PM April 20 Lifeline Screening - 8AM-5PM

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

Don't miss out on these fun classes!

Crochet Every Thursday 1:00-3:00 PM Supplies needed: yarn and crochet needles

> Computer Buddies Every Friday 11:00 AM-12:00 noon Hands on help with computers!

### **MEADOWS PLACE POOL UPDATES ITS DRAIN COVERS**

The Parks and Recreation Department has been informed of a new Act that will result in the pool getting new drain covers! The Virginia Graeme Baker Pool & Spa Safety Act has established specific

requirements that public swimming pools drain covers must have in order to be in compliance with the Act. This Federal Law states that if the drain covers in the pool do not meet the specifications, the pool will not be operational, and will be forced to close down. The Parks and Recreation Department with the help from Sun Source Pools has completed the renovation for the existing drains in the pool. Meadows Place Aquatics Director, Scot Herff, along with Gery Dobbins



Picture above: scuba diver, Justin Martindale, fixing the pool's drain

owner, Sun Source Pools, supervised the placement of the covers. Justin Martindale, Manager of Sugar Land Scuba Shop and scuba diver installed the updated drain guards. Thanks to the cooperation of everyone involved, the pool will be ready just in time for lifeguard training, swim team practice, and the summer season ahead! Mr. Dobbins, a Certified Pool

Inspector was very instrumental in obtaining this type of modification to the drains which saved the city from incurring a very costly renovation. Many pools throughout the country face either having to close down or

> delay opening for their season due to the high cost of bringing their pools up to code. In 2006, City of Meadows Place also did a drain modification to address a dual drain issue for possible entrapment issues, thus making our situation one step closer to this now current enforcement and substantially lower costs to bring up to code. The Parks Department is proud to have the relationship with CPI, (certified pool inspector), Gery Dobbins, who has looked out for the city and helped in

saving time and money in the process.

We are also proud of our Aquatic Director, Scot Herff, who is also a firefighter who sought out his fellow firefighter to do the diving to actually get this work done for the city. Hats off to all involved in this project, Meadows Place Proud.

### MEADOWS PLACE SCOREBOARD UNVEILING CEREMONY AT 2009 OPENING DAY







# **ANITA MILNE** RE/MAX SOUTHWEST PRESENTS AREA HOMES ON THE MARKET



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12039 MULHOLLAND



12203 PAMELA SUE CT.



11572 S. KIRKWOOD





Moving to MEADOWS PLACE is like finding A Pot of Gold! It's a GREAT TIME TO BUY! Call me any time, I'll be there to HELP!



ANITA MILNE (281) 413-9732 DIRECT anita@anitamilne.com



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### **City of Meadows Place**

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

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
		Elsis a lissifi

CITY SECRETARY.....Elaine Herff

#### CALL PARKS AND RECREATION TO SCHEDULE YOUR EVENT 281-983-2935 monya@cityofmeadowsplace.org

terry@cityofmeadowsplace.org

EMERGENCY	-1-1
CITY HALL ( 9:00 a.m 4:00 p.m.) Mon-Fri(281) 983-2	950
POLICE DEPARTMENT / 24 Hours(281) 983-2	900
FT. BEND COUNTY SHERIFF	5116
WATER AND SEWER(713) 405-1	750
FT. BEND COUNTY COURTHOUSE(281) 342-3	411
ANIMAL CONTROL	512
PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT(281) 983-2	935

#### Street Light Repair 13-207-2222 or www.centerpointenergy.com



One Troyan Drive • Meadows Place, TX 77477

### Storm Water Hotline

Report dumping in storm water drains. Only **RAIN WATER** is allowed 281-983-2932 or report online, see website. For updates on Public Works News visit the website.

publicworks@cityofmeadowsplace.org

## **Street Light Repair**

When calling or emailing about a street light outage, you will need to get the pole number, and if you add your email address Center Point can keep you apprised of the status of the repair request.

713-207-2222



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. A garage sale permit is required.

### 2009 Garage Sale Dates March 27 & 28 May 29 & 30 • July 24 & 25 September 25 & 26 • October 30 & 31

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



