

COMMENTS FROM THE MAYOR
By Charles Jessup



Taxing Times

These are trying times. The City of Meadows Place is being affected by what has been a dismal economy. The past couple of years have seen the collapse of basic industries, a strained financial system, foreclosures at a rate not seen since the depression and cities across the country selling premier property and assets just to reduce fiscal responsibilities in an attempt

to shed debt. Meadows Place has been stung by this terrible downturn as well. Fortunately, your city leaders got together last year and, anticipating this continued downturn, made what were considered by some to be draconian cuts. Hindsight proves they were reasonable, justified and timely.

Last year I learned a new word – diminimus – which many of you will know, means a difference too small to make an impact. Or, something too small to bother with. Well, we bothered. Last year we scrutinized every single line item and, driven by anticipated declines in revenue, did it again this year. This year however, there wasn't much left to cut before we got to trimming programs and services. Through hard work by Staff and Council, we were able to strike a balance and came up with a plan, and a budget, that will allow us to enjoy both the services and safety we are used to. But make no bones about it, it's going to be tough.

Strengthening our Reserves

We are going to take in less money than we did this last year, but we are also spending less. Revenues are down again but it is important to note that this budget does not increase our debt. In fact, we are reducing our debt a little and in order to protect you and protect the financial integrity of the City are NOT dipping into our reserves like many cities are. The following is a comparison of this budget year to last. You can go online to look at the details but for your convenience we put a summary of the totals.

Summary All Funds

	2010-2011		2009-2010
Total Revenue	\$5,146,092	(\$101,123 less)	\$5,247,215
Total Expense	\$4,984,466	(\$196,954 less)	\$5,181,420

(continued on page 3)

City Of Meadows Place
Animal Wellness Center ~ Countryside Mobile Vet

FREE EXAMS!



City of Meadows Place pet tags (\$1.00)
Saturday, November 6th, 2010
11:00 AM - 2:00 PM
Community Center Parking Area
11975 Dorrance

We offer all vaccinations, heartworm testing and prevention!

Call for more information 713.492.8045
www.countrysidemobilevet.com



The Halloween Carnival is back! October 31st
Look inside the newsletter for more details

CITY CALENDAR

- October 26** City Council Meeting
7:30pm - City Hall
- October 31** Halloween Carnival 6:00-8:30
Brighton Lane Cul-de-sac
- Nov. 12 & 13** Garage sale

Did You Know?...

Did You Know... a lot of folks come up to City Hall to pay their water bill?

Some do it for the exercise. Some do it just to go in to see what is new at City Hall. Some go in to visit Patty Spade, who does all the local utility billing for Meadows Place. She is also the one who dispatches water line repairs and answers all manner of questions for folks who just don't know who to talk to at City Hall. Thanks Patty!

Did You Know... that the PTO is up and running for the new school year? I had the honor of swearing in the new PTO Board and it looks as if they have managed to put together another outstanding group of volunteers. This is an important function for the school and for the City so let's all congratulate and thank these hardworking folks:

- President - Shandra Davis
- Programs - Eunice Jones
- Membership - Jocelyn Tyer
- Ways & Means - Maria Eleftheriades
- Ways & Means - Nadia Hernandez
- Hospitality - Troylin Gipson
- Treasurer - Carrie Gregg
- Recording Secretary - Shelley Brough
- Corresponding Secretary - Cindy Alpha
- Historian - Terri Court
- Parliamentarian - Bernadette Carter
- VIPS (Volunteers) - Connie Johnson
- VIPS(Volunteers) - Ebony Thompson
- Teacher Representative - Kerri Fujiwara
- Administrator - Irma Cobos

PTO is another example of folks stepping up here in Meadows Place. Speaking of stepping up...

Did You Know... that one of our businesses noticed something a little suspicious in the parking lot of another business and called the Meadows Place Police Department right away? Our PD responded immediately and was able to stop the bad guys just as they were trying to leave the City. Good thing they called because it turns out that they were in fact up to no good and thanks to that call they

were arrested and are now off the street. This is a great example for all of us. Call the PD if something bothers you or just doesn't look right. Don't wait. Do it right away. Our PD always says "It is better to call us out for nothing than not to call us out to something". Neighbors helping neighbors – business or resident – is something we have always done well in Meadows Place. Let's keep it up.

Did You Know... that Parks Director Monya Keenen took it upon herself to bring back the Halloween Carnival. This is not a City run function but she worked hard to get Scouts, Swim Team and Baseball to come together and agree on a plan that would share the load so our local kids, young and old, would have a fun, safe activity to enjoy. Thank you Monya and thanks to all the volunteers who are making this great activity possible again. Don't let the goblins get ya!

Did You Know... that among the many pieces of information we put on the website, you will find that long time Parks Co-Director Terry Modeland has retired. Terry has worked hard to help take our parks from barren open fields to the outstanding Parks System they have become. She was instrumental in making Meadows Place the only city in Texas to receive FOUR Small Communities Grants from Texas Parks and Wildlife. Terry will be sorely missed for the joy, energy and expertise she brought to the city, and said, that though she will be sad to leave, she "looks back at what the City, and especially the Parks Department, has accomplished on her watch with both pride and satisfaction". She will be missed by residents and staff alike but promises to come back when we officially open our new lake. Terry, on behalf of all of us whose lives have been impacted by your efforts and dedication, let me offer a heartfelt 'Thank You' and best wishes for a wonderful future. Now, go have fun with those Grandbabies.

Did You Know... that if you have something you want to share with us, please contact Did You Know – by dropping us a note at City Hall or just send us an e-mail at: mayor@cityofmeadowsplace.org

Did You Know...

that Heritage Mall is installing new parking lot lights? That is the reason the parking lot has been closed down. It will continue to be closed down for quite some time as after the lights go up as there will be work done on the parking lot and then the mall. Though an inconvenience, it is safer for all this way.

(continued from page 1)

Tax Rate Changing

The bottom line is this - your taxes and the amount you pay will be changing this year. How much you actually pay, and which way it will go, is decided by values set by the Central Appraisal District in conjunction with the tax rate adopted by your City Council. Last years tax rate was .83 per \$100.00 of valuation. This year the rate is .895 per \$100.00 of valuation. This means a home valued at \$120,000 both last year and this year will see an increase of \$78.00 or \$6.50 a month. This rate is actually a little less than the "effective" rate and is significantly less than the "Rollback" rate of \$.979 - which is what Council could have raised it to. Everyone agreed times were too tenuous to even consider that. This was another tough budget year which raised a lot of questions by Staff and Council as we went through the budget process. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at any time. Thank You. Working together will always ensure that in good times or bad, Meadows Place will always be...**Your Place for Life.**



Our Business Neighbors are a very important part of the City. This column is dedicated to those businesses.

Did You Know that ...
part of
Sam's Club
is in Meadows Place?

They are a great corporate neighbor and support our City in many areas. Over the years, they've made donations to several departments - including our Police Department. Tell 'em 'Thanks' next time you are in there.

For such a small city, Meadows Place has a great variety of businesses for us to shop in. Be sure to visit Sam's soon. They need, and deserve, our support.



*Please support
Meadows Place businesses
whenever you can.*

Thank You



By Sgt. Richard Simmons

Identify Theft is a crime. Unfortunately, it is one of the fastest growing crimes in America, and is a crime that affects us here in Meadows Place. When people find themselves victims of identity theft most have no idea how the thief acquired their personal information. If you become a victim of identity theft the consequences can be overwhelming. Thieves can target you by opening bank or credit accounts and can access your credit card and bank account numbers, make large charges and create counterfeit checks. Those individuals involved in identity theft have become very creative in their ways to gain your personal information. Many times people don't know they have been a victim until they are notified by a collection company or law enforcement agency. Although there is no way to completely prevent yourself from becoming a victim, there are some steps you can take to guard yourself from identity theft.

Keep your personal information safe. Don't keep Personal Identification Numbers (PINs) near your checkbook, ATM card or debit card. Shred any papers with any confidential information before you discard them. This includes junk mail, credit card offers or anything with any type of account information, receipts, bank statements, expired credit cards, doctor bills, and insurance documents.

Be careful where you put your purse or wallet. Many thieves target shopping malls and stores looking for unattended purses or wallets. Keep your purse closed and fastened, if possible. A thief can reach inside an open purse and remove a wallet quickly and you may not notice it until you reach the checkout.

Beware of any phone calls or emails requesting personal information. Unless you have initiated the contact don't give out any of your information, such as your birth date, social security number, PINs, or any codeword such as your mother's maiden name that might be used as security question to gain access to your accounts. Never answer phishing emails. If your receive one of these and it directs you to a link for the company, do not use this link. Contact your bank directly through their website or by phone.

Monitor your bank, credit statements and credit reports on a regular basis. Be on guard for identity theft. If you find yourself the victim of Identity theft or fraudulent activity contact the Police Department.

Below are several links for more information.

<http://www.justice.gov/criminal/fraud/websites/idtheft.html>

<http://www.ftc.gov/>



By Kathi Sutton

Junked Vehicles

I would assume that the image that pops into a person's mind when I mention the term "Junked Vehicle" would be that of an old rusty car or truck that is missing several pieces. It possibly conjures up the image of a vehicle that has obviously seen better days, and is headed for the scrap heap.

Well the term "Junked Vehicle", as defined in our code of ordinances, is actually any vehicle that is self-propelled and:

1.) does not have lawfully attached to it both an unexpired license plate, including annual registrations certificate, and a valid motor vehicle inspection certificate issued by the proper authority under the laws of the State of Texas;

OR

2.) Is wrecked, dismantled or partially dismantled or discarded; or has remained inoperable and not moved from the property upon which it has been parked for more than thirty (30) consecutive days. Movement shall not be deemed to have occurred unless said vehicle is operated upon a public street of the City of Meadows Place for a distance of at least five (5) miles, displaying a valid license numbered plate, registration certificate and a valid Texas inspection sticker.

Junked vehicles which are located in any place where they are visible from a public place or public right-of-way are declared to be detrimental to the safety and welfare of the general public. Such junked vehicles tend to reduce the value of property, to invite vandalism, to create fire hazards, to constitute an attractive nuisance creating a hazard to the health and safety of minors, and are detrimental to the economic welfare of the City by producing urban blight which is adverse to the maintenance and continuing development of the City.

So just to sum things up; a vehicle that isn't registered or doesn't carry a current inspection (even when parked in your driveway) is not allowed within our city. To be driveway legal, the vehicle needs to be street legal.

Look for further Code Enforcement topics on our webpage at: www.cityofmeadowsplace.org

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- Laceration Repair With Sutures
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- Ear Wax Removal

Common Illnesses / Symptoms

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

-Minor Emergencies
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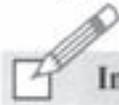
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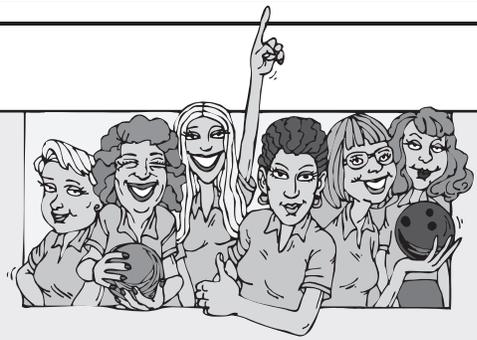


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Attention!!!

Meadows Place Ladies Bowling is getting ready to kick off the season at Stafford Bowling Lanes. If you are interested please contact Bell Murray 281-495-3297 or Betsy Galona at 281-498-8330. The league meets every Wednesday morning at 9 AM. Starting September 1, 2010.



Congratulations Meadows Place Lifeguards!

This summer, the Meadows Place lifeguards exceeded ALL of their unannounced audits from Jeff Ellis and Associates! Exceeding is the highest score possible to achieve on an audit. The lifeguards train throughout the summer and are kept on their toes awaiting an unannounced audit that can happen at any time during operating hours. An auditor is sent to secretly video record the lifeguards on stand for one hour, and then they come into the pool and test the guards on water rescues, CPR, and spinal injury skills. Exceeding all three of the audits puts Meadows Place Pool in the running to receive a Platinum award, which is only given to the top 10% of the best pools registered with Jeff Ellis. We're keeping our fingers crossed to see if we get a Platinum award this year! Congratulations to lifeguards: Kristina Hickle (Pool Manager), Tyler Smith (Asst. Manager), Sammi Ferriera (Asst. Manager), Justin Gonzalez (Supervisor),

Christian Kelly (Supervisor), Vinnie Doina, Jacob Bravo, Mark Jessup, Darren Hymel, Connor Shaw, Jennifer Sterner, and Francis Tan, and of course Scot Herff, the Aquatics Director who trains the Lifeguards!



City of Meadows Place Donates to Garden Club

The City of Meadows Place Parks and Recreation department put together a basket to be used as a door prize for The Meadows Place Home & Garden Club's Craft Show this year. The basket, valued at \$500, contains gift certificates for pool and community center rentals, as well as T-shirts from various City events, hats, cozies, and the City's 25th Anniversary commemorative ornament. The 35th annual craft show will take place on Saturday, November 6th from 9 am - 4 pm at St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church. The Garden Club was founded in 1970, and 5 years later, the club members handmade items and started a craft show to raise funds for various charities, as well as a scholarship given to a deserving resident. Virginia McDonald, Ways and Means Chairperson and wife of former Meadows Place Mayor Jim McDonald, picked up the basket from City Hall and gave Parks and Recreation a brief history of the Garden Club. Virginia has been involved with the Garden Club since the early 80's. Everyone is invited to come to the Craft Show and browse all of the beautiful homemade wreaths, floral arrangements, dolls, jewelry, wood items, art and much more!

It is not too late to get involved in the Craft Sale, if you are interested in a booth, please contact Virginia McDonald at 281-498-8794. There are booth spots available and donations are certainly welcome to help raise scholarship funds.



Left to right: Kristina Hickle -Parks and Rec. Assistant, Former Mayor Jim McDonald's wife Virginia McDonald, and Parks and Rec. Co-Director Terry Modeland

Home & Garden Club

By Beverly Martin, Publicity

It's not too early to mark your calendar for our 35th Annual Fall Craft Show. Saturday, November 6th from 9:00 to 4:00 at the St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church on 12627 W. Bellfort between Eldridge Road and Dairy Ashford. 40+ vendors will be selling handcrafted items and we will have The Garden Club's Scholarship Fund Bake Sale and Raffle. The Boy Scouts will be selling Bar-B-Q. Please join us!

This year the Home and Garden Club's Community Projects include Fort Bend Meals on Wheels, The Rainbow Room, Children's Protective Services, The Kidney Walk, and Community Garden. We will provide a Thanksgiving Basket for a family from the Meadows Place Elementary School.

The monthly meeting on Tuesday, October 12th at 7:00 p.m. at the Community Center will feature a talk from Mike and Lorraine who are with Community Garden. You do not need to be a member to attend. We would love to have you.



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

- Piano lessons by certified teacher. Call 832-273-0962 Carol

- Registered Day Care Home in Meadows Place has openings. CPR and First Aid. Meals and snacks included call Nancy 281-530-6740.

- Onyx Landscape residential and commercial. Total lawn care, fertilization, flowerbeds, and mulch. Seasonal flowers, sod, tree trimming, tree removal, wood fence installation and repair. Meadows Place resident. Free estimates. Manuel 281-865-6636.

- Registered home daycare enrolling. Meals and snacks included. 281-495-7996. Melanie

- If you want to keep your house in good living condition please call Elena for free estimates. 10 years of experience. Excellent references and Professional Service 832-882-5597

- Baby items for sale. From crib to monitor. Gently used. carolemez@yahoo.com

- Adult Day Care in my home or yours. Meals and transportation provided. Specializing in Alzheimer's & Dementia. We provide comfort and care when you can't be there. Please call Sandy Olive 832-264-3017. Meadows Place resident.

- Beige and pastel sofa bed \$125.00, beige bedside touch lamps \$25.00 ea, beige and brown Brighton purse \$50.00, maple and black TV stand \$50.00, soft top burgundy print coffee table \$75.00, white kitchen storage pantry \$75.00, maple and glass coffee table \$100.00, 7 collectible, framed dolphin plates \$100.00 281-685-7610. Can email pictures.

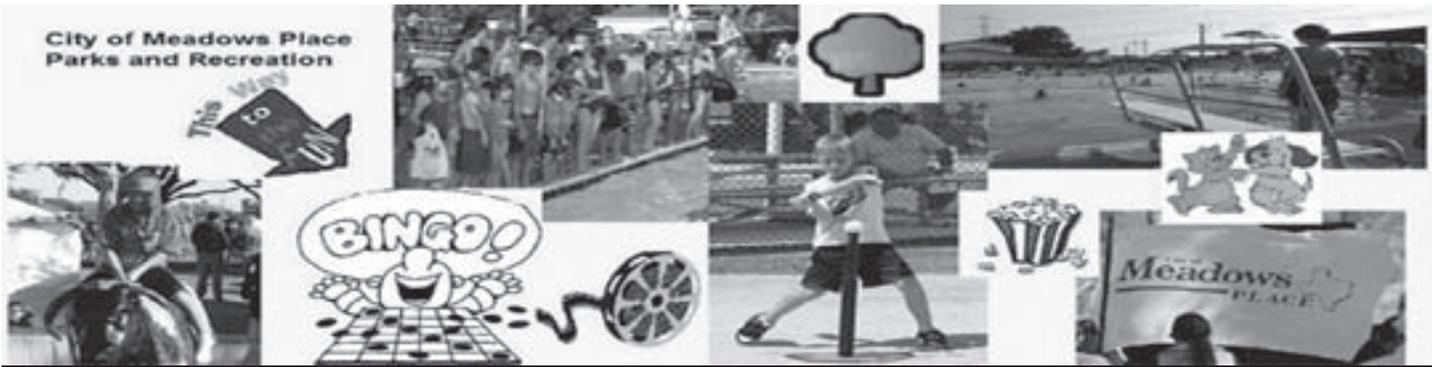


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Pre-registration is required and most classes have a minimum/maximum enrollment. PLEASE REGISTER EARLY!!!

Call Parks and Recreation for information @ 281-983-2935 or

email us: monya@cityofmeadowsplace.org or parke3@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.

Meadows Fall Karate

Starts: Thursday, September 16, 2010

Ends: Thursday, December 2, 2010

No class November 25 (Thanksgiving)

\$40--11 Week Session

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

All Students MUST Register and pay Class

Fee by Third Week

Time: 6:30pm - 7:30pm Junior Class (Ages 5-12)

7:30pm - 8:30pm Adult Classes (Ages 13 and up)

Where: Community Center

Instructors: Steve Puma, Meadows Place resident (3rd Degree Black Belt), Michael Puma (2nd Degree Black Belt), and Steve Court (1st Degree Black Belt)

New students will be accepted the 1st 3 weeks. You may try the 1st class **Free** before you sign up.

Children must be 5 years of age.



TENNIS LESSONS

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.

Friday - 5:30 – 6:55pm

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

Saturday - 8:00 – 9:25am

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

Saturday - 10:00 – 11:25am

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

You can enroll in classes online at fortbendtennis.com

PARKS & RECREATION

PARKS AND RECREATION

Driving
Class

BULLETIN BOARD

Halloween
Carnival!

October 23	Sugar Grove Church of Christ Fun Run
October 26	AARP Driving Class 9:00-1:00pm
October 31	Halloween Carnival Returns
November 6	Pet Clinic Community Center 11:00am-2:00pm
December 10	Christmas Memories In the Park

Don't forget to Register for Fall Programs!
Contact Parks Department about Registration!

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 Margaret Minton 281-933-2827 or 281-948-8823 to join the group.



When: 2nd Saturday of the month

Where: Community Center Annex building
@ 11803 S. Kirkwood

Time: 9am - 4pm

Fee: \$30.00 and up, depending on project

Max: 10 students

Quilting Club

Several Meadows Place residents are experienced quilters and want to share their love of quilting with others. This group is meeting at the Community Center ANNEX building located on S. Kirkwood on the 3rd Saturday of each month. Contact Margaret Minton 281-933-2827 or 281-948-8823 to join the group.

Personal Fitness in Meadows Place

KENYA RAQUEL'S H.Y.P.P.E FITNESS

Come train with Kenya, a group trainer and certified nutritionist!

Where: Pavilion located in
McGrath Park

When: Ends October 4, 2010 (4 weeks)

Days: Monday and Wednesday evenings

Time: 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Cost: \$120 per session (8 classes - 1 hour)

1 month program includes:

- Effective 1 hour training sessions
- Personalized cardiovascular/strength training program
- Nutritional guidance
- Progress evaluations every four to six weeks

Minimum of 10 students

Contact Kenya to sign up! 832-741-6676



Taekwondo

Early bird sign up, get a free uniform!

** (First 5 only) come earn a belt**

Fall Schedule

Class will be held every Monday

Where: City of Meadows Place Community Center

Time: 4:45 - 5:45pm (children's class)
5:50 - 6:50pm (family class)

Session 1 Ends: October 25 (7 classes)

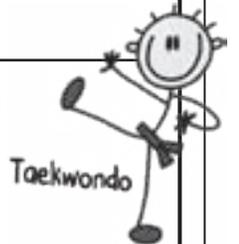
Session 2 Starts: November 1

Session 2 Ends: December 13th (7 classes)

Fee: 7 classes for 35.00

Instructor: Jenny Pless (City of Meadows Place resident,
teaching at the community center since 2006)

Please call Jenny to sign up! 281-788-8564
or jennypless@gmail.com



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2nd Annual Sugar Grove Christian School Making A Difference

5K & 1 Mile Run/Walk

Saturday, October 23, 2010



Sponsored by
Houston Swim Club

Meadows Place residents are invited to participate.

Saturday, October 23rd 8 a.m.

Help SGCS build additional classrooms and a gymnasium.

5K & 1 Mile start and finish are at Meadows Place Park.

Volunteers and sponsors are welcome.

For more information,
contact schoolinfo@sgcs.org.

Registration information is available at www.sgcs.org &
<http://therunningcompany.net/sugargrove5k>



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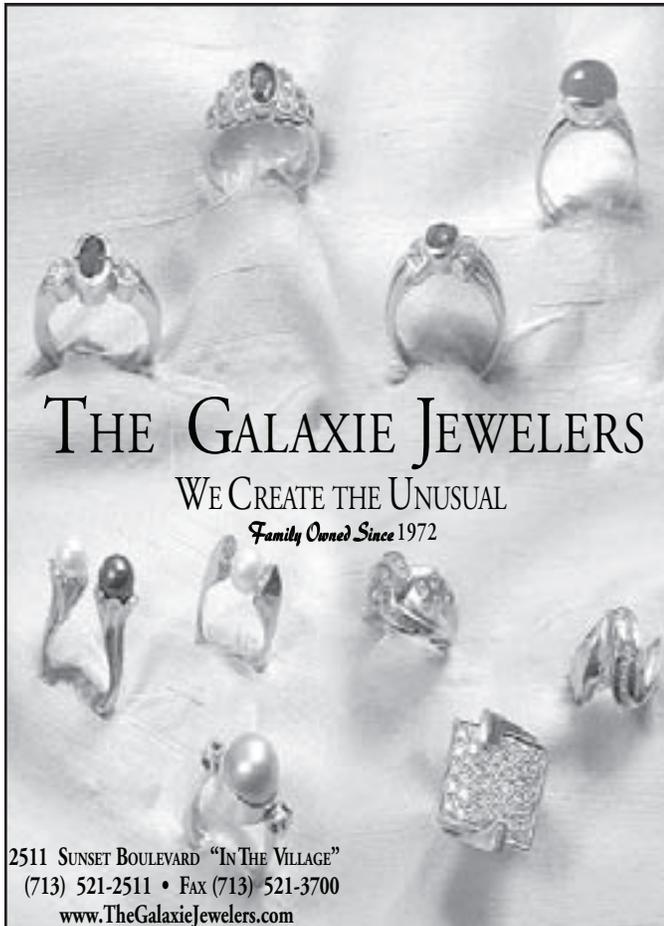
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- MAYOR..... **Charles Jessup** (281) 568-3461
e-mail: mayor@cityofmeadowsplace.org
- ALDERMAN..... **Heidi Case** (281) 561-7351
e-mail: alderman1@cityofmeadowsplace.org
- ALDERMAN..... **Terry Henley** (281) 530-7136
e-mail: alderman4@cityofmeadowsplace.org
- ALDERMAN..... **Shirley Isbell** (281) 498-1984
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**

- *****
- 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
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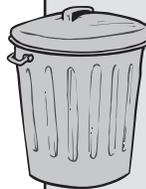
Storm Water Hotline

Report dumping in storm water drains.
Only **RAIN WATER** is allowed
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For updates on Public Works News visit the website.
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/ Recycling every Friday
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