



Mayor Mark McGrath

MAYOR PRO-TEM TERRY HENLEY TML PRESIDENT

By Mark McGrath

On November 21, Mayor Pro-Tem Terry Henley took over as President of the Texas Municipal League (TML). TML is an association of over 1,100 Texas cities. It provides a wide variety of services to its member cities. Perhaps the most important service is to work with the Texas Legislature in ensuring that new laws are not harmful to city interests.



Mayor Pro-Tem Terry Henley

Terry has been active in TML for many years. He has headed the local TML region 14 and has served on the TML board. His election as President is obviously a first for Meadows Place. Also, to the best of my knowledge, no city official in the history of Fort Bend County has risen to this level.

Terry's service with TML has provided, and will continue to provide, State-wide recognition for our City. Please join me in congratulating Terry for a job well done and wish him success in his term of office as TML President.

CHRISTMAS MEMORIES 2003

The Parks and Recreation Department
presents the annual event
Friday, December 12th 6:00-9:00 P.M.

This Spectacular Event will entertain you with night-time hayrides, Meadows Elementary Choir, a DJ, and more. There will be Snow, Snow and more Snow! A special visit from Santa will be at 7:00 p.m. Food and drinks will be available at a nominal cost. See the schedule of events inside this newsletter.

CHRISTMAS MEMORIES FOOD DRIVE

We would like everyone attending Christmas Memories to share the Christmas Spirit by bringing canned goods or non-perishable food to be donated to the Human Needs Ministry in Stafford. There will be drop off boxes located at the community park during the event. Remind your friends and neighbors to bring their donations between 6:00 — 9:00 p.m. If you miss the event on Friday evening you may drop off your items at City Hall on Monday, December 15th. Suggested items are: crackers, dry milk, canned beans, flour, sugar, corn meal, tuna, tomato sauce, canned meat, pasta, rice, dried beans, soup, toilet paper, soap and detergent. Thank you for your help.

CITY HALL OFFICE HOURS
9:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

CITY OF MEADOWS PLACE

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

- MAYOR **Mark McGrath** (281) 568-1553
e-mail: mayor@cityofmeadowsplace.org
- ALDERMAN **Terry Henley** (281) 530-7136
e-mail: alderman4@cityofmeadowsplace.org
- ALDERMAN **Charles Jessup** (281) 568-3461
e-mail: alderman1@cityofmeadowsplace.org
- ALDERMAN **Joe McCann** (281) 498-2082
e-mail: alderman2@cityofmeadowsplace.org
- ALDERMAN **David J. Piwonka** (281) 498-3336
e-mail: alderman3@cityofmeadowsplace.org
- ALDERMAN **Leen Zellers** (281) 530-0390
e-mail: alderman5@cityofmeadowsplace.org

CITY SECRETARY **Elaine Herff**

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

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
FOR
CHRISTMAS MEMORIES 2003**

Christmas Memories has become a traditional event held in the City of Meadows Place. It has grown throughout the years to an event that is challenging and requires many volunteers in order to make the night a success.

The following areas are in need of volunteers:

- ¥ Santa s helpers
- ¥ Digital camera photographer (for pictures with Santa) — camera provided
- ¥ Hayrides, ride monitor
- ¥ Carriage rides, assist people into carriages
- ¥ Snowball target throw competition
- ¥ Snow play area — monitor kids
- ¥ T-shirt sales

These are new to Christmas Memories this year! Be sure to come and enjoy the fun filled evening of Christmas Spirit and Holiday Fun. This evening is sure to get you in the Holiday Spirit and provides a great time with neighbors and friends. There is something for everyone. Contact Terry or Monya in the Parks Department if you are interested in volunteering a little bit of your time to help make Christmas Memories the best ever for 2003. The 24 hour voice mail number is 281-983-2935.

MEADOWS COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION



MCIA

Ann Joyner presented her resignation at the October MCIA Board meeting. The MCIA Board and City of Meadows Place want to thank Ann for her years of service to the community and the dedication and insight she provided the MCIA. Ann and her husband John will be moving to the Texas Hill Country in the next few weeks. We wish them well — they will be missed!

WINDOW AIR CONDITIONERS The use of window air conditioners has been brought to the board s attention. Window units that are visible from the street are prohibited! Please assist in keeping our homes aesthetically tasteful and therefore, enhancing the values in our city.

NEW ROOFS Many new roofs are going on after several instances of severe weather. All new roofs require color approval and a building permit prior to being installed. Be sure you and your roofer work with the city in advance of installation.

PAINT APPROVALS Another reminder that all exterior painting needs to be approved by a MCIA Board member. Copies of the paint approval book as well as approval forms are available at City Hall. Painting prior to approval may result in your having to repaint.

If you need assistance in maintaining your yard or the appearance of your home, please contact Tracey Spiller, our Code Enforcement Officer, or one of the MCIA Board members. There are service groups in the area that might be available to help.

Members:

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

DID YOU KNOW...?

Did You Know that October's Council Meeting was very energetic. Had great energy and input from attending audience members. Steve Galvin came up after the meeting and said he thought there was great interaction between Mayor, Council and the folks who attended. There were several topics which evoked response and several folks expressed gratitude for the pro-active stance by Mayor and Council to spur proper commercial investment in Meadows Place.

Speaking of Meadows Place investments, the numbers show a lot of us are investing and re-investing in our homes. This adds stability, enhances the sense of community and provides input and leadership. Great Combo. Great Neighbors.

Did You Know that to help us all benefit from a well maintained neighborhood, our MP Code Enforcement officer provided a report that showed how active that department has been in looking out for our best interests. It was very impressive. We are LUCKY to have someone work that hard on our behalf. Speaking of Lucky, we are lucky to have such a great bunch of officers on our Police Force. They have been doing a great job and many have noticed the additional effort they have put in around the

school. Parks & Rec and Public Works had interesting things going on too. Thanks to all of you!!!

Did You Know that the Ft. Bend County Extension Agent puts out a pamphlet called the Fort Bend Gardener. It is chock full of ideas and timely tips for our area. This month had the Garden Checklist for Fall And Winter and it's Free!! If you want on the mailing list, you can call 281-342-3034.

Did You Know Meadows Elementary will be out of school for Thanksgiving, so be on the look out for those kids. Also in December, they have the 5th grade program on the 4th with Mrs. Court's big Christmas Extravaganza on the 11th. Her Show Choir is remarkable. It's a great evening of entertainment and you don't have to have a child attending to attend. Go, and take a friend. Starts at 7:00 p.m.

Did You Know ... the Meadows Place web site has a new look. Check it out at and let us know what you think. While you are there you can send me your *Did You Know* item. Like the one somebody sent me about MP Resident Morris Waxler who was just nominated for Volunteer of the Year for the Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP). Congratulations Morris and thank you for all you do.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Send YOUR news, and ideas to:

alderman1@cityofmeadowsplace.org

HOME AND GARDEN CLUB

A very interesting and informative program was presented at the October 14th meeting. Diane Cotton, of Creative Custom Blinds, showed a variety of window treatments. Diann Eiserloh who has been featured on HGTV's *Decorating Cents* is an independent decorator who specializes in interior redesign was also present.

This was the last regular membership meeting before the Club's annual craft show on November 8th. All plans were finalized for the bake sale and refreshment area and the raffle booth.

We hope everyone enjoyed the Craft Show at Meadows Elementary School, where six beautiful gift baskets were raffled off. At the November 11th meeting a craft designer from Michael's was featured who helped members create holiday decorations.

WATER LEAKS AND SEWER STOPPAGES

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

GARAGE SALE DATES

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

Upcoming sale dates are:

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

CITY ORDINANCE / CODE ENFORCEMENT

The City of Meadows Place has an ordinance limiting the height of grass and/or weeds to nine inches (9). This includes front and back yards as well as along the curb line, sidewalks and driveways. When mowing and edging, don t forget to get around trees and along fence lines.

SANTA S MAILBOX

Beginning November 26th through December 24th, Santa s special mailbox will be in place at City Hall. Letters to Santa can be mailed in his special mailbox without any postage! Santa s helpers pick up his mail everyday and make sure it gets to the North Pole before Christmas Eve.



CLASSIFIEDS & ADVERTISING

- € Pet sitting. References available. Grant or Richard (281) 933-3499
- € William Sutherland, handyman — Appliance repairs, Electrical, Plumbing, Interior-Exterior carpentry work, Painting. Pager, 713-833-9847. Home, 281-530-0706.
- € Registered Home Child Care after school pick up and full time preschool age. 7:30 a.m — 5:30. Lunch and snacks provided. In service days = field trips. Call Terrie, 281-568-8526.
- € Cakes for all occasions, Catering, House Sitting, Gift Baskets, and Custom Wreaths. References available. 832-549-9892.
- € Daisy s registered home child care infants and up. Lots of fun and learning activities. CPR certified. Call Daisy 281-495-7340.
- € Professional musician offers private violin and piano lessons for children. Credentials include ten years as violinist in major orchestra and Master s degree from top music university in former Soviet Union. E-mail acerrone@ev1.net. Phone 281-879-1641.
- € Party Rentals! Margarita and Frozen Drink Machines. Beverage mixes with multiple flavors available. \$75.00 per machine. Al Scheaffer - resident. 281-495-4856.
- € House Cleaning Service. Have experience and references are available 281-561-6556.
- € Moving Sale. We re moving into smaller quarters and have too much stuff. Call us for details on a side-by-side refrigerator, washer, gas dryer, upright freezer, and many other items. Home 281-495-8573; Mobile 832-524-3615.

BIG CITY LIGHTS

Along with Christmas time carriage rides and hayrides, Big City Lights has become a great tradition in our city and Christmas Memories has traditionally kicked off the viewing of residential lights, decorations and displays. Each year we ask residents to promote this community project by lighting up their yards. Outlining your yard with lights has been a basic procedure encouraged since Big City Lights was first introduced, but we encourage everyone to be creative and unique in lighting their yards and homes. We hope everyone will choose to participate and use this opportunity to promote spirit within our city. Good Luck on your project!

¥Please remember to remove lights after the holidays.

PUBLIC HEARING

A Public Hearing will be held on Tuesday, December 16th at 7:00 p.m. to listen to information and receive comments, both for and against, a proposal to submit a request for grant funds to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

WATER LEAKS AND SEWER STOPPAGES

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

ALARM PERMITS

All alarm permits expire December 31st. Alarm permits are renewable for \$5.00. Any permit that is not renewed by December 31st, 2003 will be deemed cancelled.

Cancelled permits shall not be renewable and must be reapplied for at the initial fee of \$15.00. Alarm permits are required by City Ordinance. Failure to comply may result in the issuance of a citation by Meadows Place Police Department.

When renewing your permit by mail, your cancelled check will be your receipt.

CITY CALENDAR

November 25, 2003 City Council
City Hall 7:30 p.m.

November 27 & 28, 2003 City Hall Closed
Thanksgiving Holiday

PARKS AND RECREATION DEPT. 281-983-2935

COMMUNITY CENTER RENTAL

Food and no alcohol \$150.00
Food and alcohol \$250.00
Nonresidents add \$50.00

POOL/TENNIS ACCESS CARDS

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

KARATE CLASSES

On going at the Community Center.

WEIGHT WATCHERS

Where: Community Center

Days: Every Wednesday

Time: 8:15 a.m.

Weekly meetings cost \$11.00.

VEHICLE STICKERS

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

TIPS FROM THE FIRE MARSHAL

Remember, you are deliberately bringing fire into your home; respect it.

¥ Use a fireplace screen to prevent sparks from flying.

¥ Don't store newspapers, kindling, or matches near the fireplace or have an exposed rug or wooden floor right in front of the fireplace.

¥ Have your chimney inspected by a professional prior to the start of every heating season and cleaned to remove combustible creosote build-up if necessary.

¥ Install a chimney spark arrester to prevent roof fires.

¥ When lighting a gas fireplace, strike your match first, then turn on the gas.



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ADVERTISING IN THE NEWSLETTER

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

Tumbling Tots!



**Gymnastics classes for tots 2yrs. -5yrs.*

* Call Program Director: Erika Franklin ☺
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(281) 530-7625 or (281) 793-9987.
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MeadowsPlaceHomes.com

Marti's Meadows Place Listings ~ Help us find your new neighbors...

11715 Cedar Form Lane ~ 4BR/2BA ~ Approx 1842 sq ft
11827 Meadowdale ~ 4BR/2BA ~ Approx 1841 sq ft

A Healthy Home is a Happy Home

If you or a family member is one of the 50+ million people who experience some form of allergic symptoms, you understand the importance of controlling your home's environment. Here are some common substances that tend to trigger allergic reactions and ways to reduce effects:

Your home's air is easy to control, especially when air filters and air conditioning are used. When selecting a filter, ask for test data from the manufacturers to determine the quantity and the size of the dust particles captured. It is important to maintain your filters regularly.

Another vital consideration is the temperature of your home. Some people have low tolerance to big changes in temperature, especially from warm to cold. Close windows and doors and avoid wood stoves, fireplaces and tobacco smoke. Perfume, paint, hair spray and other strong fumes should also be regarded as suspected triggers.

The presence of dust and dust-mites are also contributors. They thrive in warm and humid air and are commonly found in bedrooms. Cut down the exposure to these allergens by washing bed linen, window coverings and throw rugs in water that is at least 130° F. Utilize allergen-impermeable coverings on pillows and mattresses, placing tape over the length of the zipper. Eliminate stuffed animals that cannot be washed and everything under the beds. Dust with a damp mop or cloth and remove bedroom and bathroom carpeting.

Combat indoor mold by keeping your home's humidity at about 35%. When humidity is high, indoor mold can present a problem. Also, make sure your bathrooms, kitchens and basements are well-ventilated and are cleaned often. Repair plumbing leaks. The information contained in this article is not a substitute for medical advice or treatment. Please consult your doctor or healthcare professional.

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

2003 Nutcracker Market

November 13-16, 2003
Reliant Center, One Reliant Park

Houston Ballet Guild's Nutcracker Market has become an annual tradition to kick off the holiday season in Houston, Texas. Since its inception, it has contributed over \$12 million to Houston Ballet Foundation, supporting scholarship funds to nurture and develop young, promising dancers who have and will become the backbone of Houston Ballet.

A Winter Wonderland Sparkles at Moody Gardens in Galveston

A wonderland of lighted scenes and music will greet guests as they stroll along the twinkling lights and magical holiday displays. Scheduled for Thursday through Sunday November 22 through December 14 and daily December 15 through January 3, this year's festival will have new and exciting features.

The ARC Best In The West Dinner & Dance

Saturday, November 22nd ~ 7 pm George Ranch Arena

BBQ, Live Band and Silent Auction benefiting the ARC of Fort Bend.

2003 Thanksgiving Day Parade

Thursday, Nov. 27, 2003 ~ 9 am ~ Downtown Houston
Downtown Houston

The 2003 Parade includes high-flying action and shining stars: Yolanda Adams, Gospel superstar, Ezra Charles and his band, Disney's Mickey & Minnie, Texans cheerleaders on KHOU "Homecoming Game" float and the Houston Children's Chorus.

Christmas Memories

Friday, December 12th
Come play in the snow at Meadows Place Community Park at this annual community event.

Visit with Santa

Saturday and Sunday December 13th and 14th
6:30 pm—8:30 pm
12106 Meadow Valley ~ Meadows Place
Bring your wish list and come have your picture taken with Santa.

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Donna Stamenkovic, Director
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SUGAR GROVE CHURCH OF CHRIST
WORSHIP & SUNDAY SCHOOL
TIMES CHANGE ON DECEMBER 7

The Sugar Grove Church of Christ will change their Sunday Worship and Sunday School times on *December 7* as noted below. We take this opportunity to invite you to one of our Worship services and Sunday School. We are here to serve our community - you - in any way possible.

Early Worship	8:30 AM
Sunday School	9:50 AM
Late Worship	11:00 AM



Thank you for being such great neighbors these past five years!

Live Music - November

Saturday - NOV 15th - 9:00-1:00

Luther & The Healers

Friday - NOV 21st - 9:00-1:00

Mean Gene Kelton & The Die Hards

Friday - NOV 28th - 9:00-1:00

Jimmy Joe Long Band

Live Music - December

Friday - DEC 5th - 9:00-1:00

Hamilton Loomis Band

Friday - DEC 12th - 9:00-1:00

John McVey & Erin James

Friday - DEC 19th - 9:00-1:00

Jimmy Joe Long Band

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Best In The West
Dinner & Dance



November 22, 2003
George Ranch Arena

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Live Band - 7:30pm - Midnight
Silent Auction • Live Auction

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For Information (713) 628-3344
(281) 240-1313 or (281) 879-1158



Meadows Place residents Tristan Spiller (age 6) and Becca Spiller (age 2) mail their letters to Santa in his special mailbox at City Hall.

City of
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