



The Stafford Newsletter



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July 2013

New Lighting Installed in Festival Field

INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION ON GO

The 38th annual Independence Day celebration of the City of Stafford will be held on Wednesday, July 3 and Thursday, July 4. As with last year's activities, this year's celebration will be held at the Stafford Centre.

In order to elevate the festivities, the City has installed impressive lighting around the Festival Field where most of the activities will occur. As a result of this feature, the event should be even more wonderful than in previous years.

As has been the case in past years, a parade will initiate the activities on Wednesday. Honoring of the Parade Marshal, street dance, hay

ride, and kiddy rides will make for a most fun-filled evening. Various organizations will be operating their booths as usual. Thursday's activities will commence with the annual Patriotic Concert in the Stafford Centre Theatre, and an outstanding fireworks display will follow in the Festival Field.

We encourage Stafford residents and their friends and family to join us for these many excellent events.

Please note that the streets along the parade route will be closed within 30 minutes of the start of the parade and reopened immediately after.

A complete schedule of activities is included within this *Newsletter*.

COOPER Valves, AVSCO, and R. STAHL Join OMB Valves

FOUR NOTED COMPANIES ADDED TO CITY

Three more noted companies - - namely, COOPER Valves, AVSCO, and R. STAHL - - have moved their operations to Stafford. Each is highly regarded in the area of oil and gas valve manufacturing and engineering innovations - - niches in the economy for which Stafford is gaining a worldwide reputation.

COOPER Valves, which occupies a 60,000-square foot facility on Wright Road, anticipates a significantly expanded production of stainless steel and high quality exotic and nickel alloy valves.

R. STAHL, a company originating in Germany, is a leading manufacturer of explosion protection and electrical products. It recently held a grand opening and ribbon cutting for its new offices on North Promenade Boulevard.

Arriving in August will be AVSCO, a 17-year organization, which is involved in supply chain and global project management in the upstream side of oil and gas worldwide. AVSCO will be located in the Freeport Southwest Business Park.

They join OMB Valves, a family-owned company established in Italy, which selected Stafford last year for its Western Hemisphere headquarters to provide engineering, sales, marketing, and production. Its products are used in upstream and downstream applications in the energy industry. OMB Valves is located on North Promenade Boulevard.

With these four internationally recognized companies, Stafford's prominence in valve manufacturing and engineering takes on a heightened status.

City of Stafford



38th Annual Independence Day Celebration

Guests of Honor
2013 Parade Marshals

Sadie & Jimmy Williams



Wednesday, July 3

Parade 7:00 p.m.
Free Carnival Rides 7:30 – 11:30 p.m.
Food/Game Booths 7:30 – 11:30 p.m.
Free Hay Ride 7:30 – 11:30 p.m.
Free Dance 7:30 – 11:30 p.m.

Opening acts – Michael Dixon
Headlining the festivities – Ram Herrera

Thursday, July 4

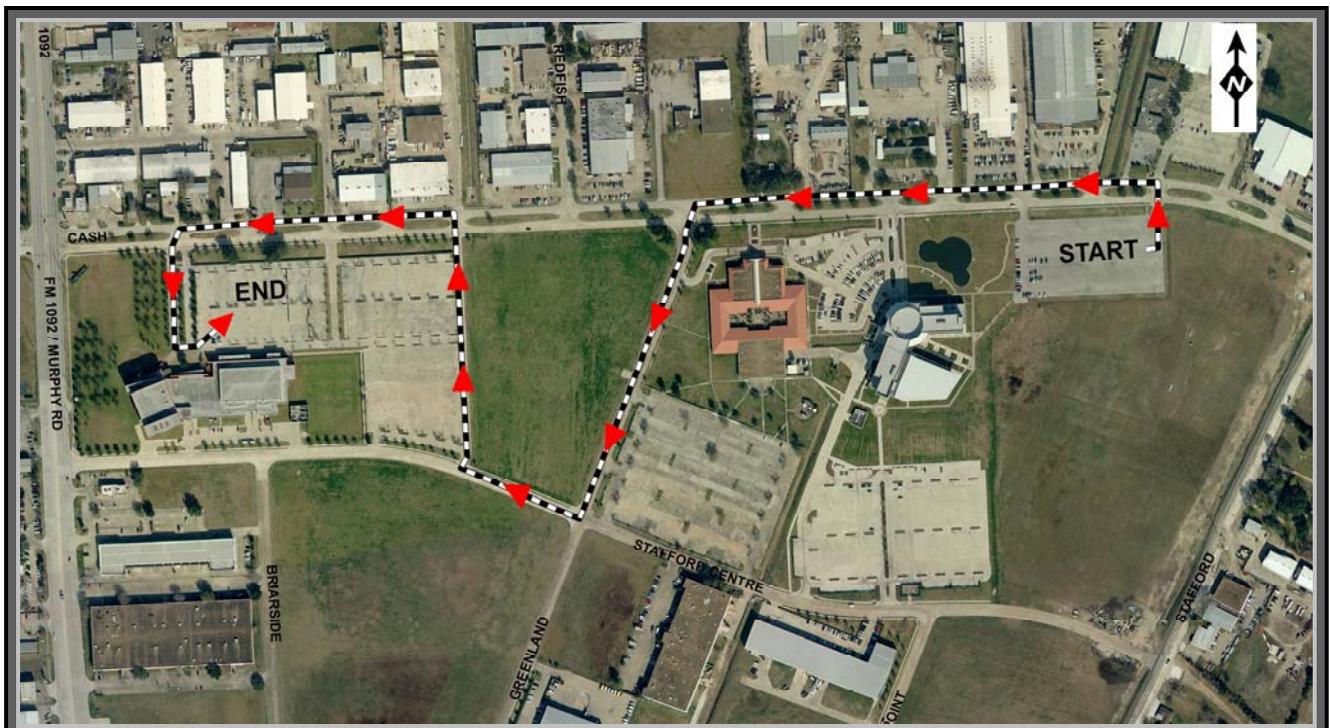
Freedom Rings Concert – Free 7:00 p.m.
Featuring the Fort Bend Symphony
Orchestra

Fireworks

9:00 p.m.



PARADE ROUTE



Parade starts in HCC parking lot at corner of Cash and Stafford Road. Travels west down Cash and turns left on Greenland Drive. Turns right on Stafford Centre Drive. Turns right into Stafford Centre's far parking lot. Turns left on Cash. Turns left and enters main entrance of Stafford Centre. Parade ends in Stafford Centre parking lot.

SADIE AND JIMMY WILLIAMS WILL LEAD THE PARADE

Numerous nominations for Parade Marshal for the 2013 Independence Day Parade were submitted to a committee, chaired by Councilwoman Felecia Evans-Smith, which recommended and City Council approved naming Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Williams as Parade Marshals in honor of their contributions to the community, lifetime achievements, and dedication to the City of Stafford.

James "Jimmy" and Sadie Williams were married on June 29, 1963, at Holy Family Catholic Church in Stafford and just celebrated their Fiftieth Wedding Anniversary. They have made Stafford their home for the last 40 years.

Jimmy served in the Army for four years, worked for Continental Construction, and for KBR/Halliburton from which he retired after 32 years. Further, he served on the Board of Directors of the Fort Bend County Water Control and Improvement

District No. 2 for 30 years from 1982-2012 and was instrumental in the development of the District's new surface water plant in 2011 which was named in his honor. He initiated the Water Smart Program at SMSD where students learn about conserving water. Jimmy takes pride in serving as usher at Holy Family Church.

Sadie worked for Southwestern Bell, the First National Bank of Stafford, and the Stafford Municipal School District from which she retired after 23 years. She is active in the SMSD Education Foundation, serves as President of the Stafford Historical Society, and co-authored the *History of Stafford Texas* book. She is a member of the Saint Joseph Altar Society at Holy Family.

Jimmy and Sadie have three children - - Debbie, Mark, and Jennifer who are all educators - - and are the proud grandparents of Zac, Morgan, Macie, Matt, and Madyson.

Stafford Centre Events

Stafford Gun Show, July 6-7; Greater Houston Quilt Show, July 12-13; Shree Krishna Madhuran Dance Performance, July 19; Center for Indian Classical Music of Houston Concert, July 26; Kollaboration Houston, July 27; Fort Bend Women's Center's *MusicFest* featuring the band America, Aug. 10; Houston Gun Collector's Show, Aug. 17-18; Fort Bend Theatre's *Shrek*, Aug. 17-18; Loretta Lynn Concert, Aug. 24; India Culture Centre Independence Day Concert & Festival, Aug. 25; Indian Senior Citizens Association National Convention, Sept. 14-15; Peter Noone Concert, Sept. 20; Houston Hot Sauce Festival, Sept. 21-22; "Smile! - You're in America," Sept. 27; Pankaj Udhas Concert, Sept. 28

City Offices Closed

Thursday, July 4 - Independence Day
Monday, September 2 - Labor Day

Reminder: Holiday Trash

When regular trash pickup falls on a holiday (New Year's Day, Memorial Day, July 4 Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, and Christmas), removal will be the next regularly scheduled day.

Tree Limb Service

Tree limb services will be performed beginning Monday, July 1, and Monday, October 7. Tree limbs cannot lie in a yard longer than 7 days prior to the pickup schedule.

Hurricane Preparedness

June 1 - November 30

Information can be picked up at City Hall or found on the City's website.

NO SMOKING ORDINANCE GOES INTO EFFECT AUGUST 1

With the passage of the No Smoking Ordinance by City Council which takes effect on August 1, 2013, numerous regulations and restrictions apply to businesses.

Section 78-163 of the Ordinance is specific about the requirement for business owners, operators, managers, or other persons in control to post "No Smoking" signs or the international "No Smoking" symbol in every public place and place of employment where smoking is

prohibited. Failure to comply can result in a fine not to exceed \$2,000 per offense. Certain exceptions apply to restaurants serving food outdoors and not closer than 25 feet to the entrance.

The entire Ordinance is posted on the City's website under the "Hot Topics" section.

Questions related to the signage or other aspects of the Ordinance should be directed to the Building Department at 281-261-3940.



City of Stafford
2610 South Main
Stafford, TX 77477

TEXAS INSTRUMENTS MOVES CLOSER TO PROPERTY SALE

The Texas Instruments property continues to be a hot topic of interest not only to the City of Stafford but also to its citizenry.

Based on comments from TI and several developers interested in acquiring the property, an intense bidding process is occurring to determine to whom the company will sell this prime 192 acres. TI has narrowed the potential buyers to a short list.

Due to the significant impact on the future of this City, the Mayor and City Council are carefully monitoring and discussing the most productive approach to this transition from the largest economic establishment in the City for over 45 years to a multi-use development property.

You will be kept informed of subsequent steps in the process through this *Newsletter* and other communiques.