



# The Stafford Newsletter



Volume 36, Issue 1

Circulation 7,000+

January 2015

Set for Wednesday, January 28, at 7 p.m., at Civic Center

## TOWN MEETING TO ADDRESS VITAL ISSUES

There's a lot on the City's plate for the New Year. Prominent among those are the revitalizing of the 192 acres currently owned by Texas Instruments, dealing with the significant downturn in oil prices, expanding educational opportunities, and completing the Comprehensive Development Plan for the next 25 years.

Stafford's continued success in fiscal responsibility, including the 19-year old abolishment of city property taxes and the complete extinguishment of General Obligation Debt, gives the City a unique and exalted status not only in Texas, but across the Nation. This is amplified by having the only municipal school district in the State and the challenge to elevate it to a lofty status.

On Wednesday, January 28, at 7 p.m., in the Stafford Civic Center, the City of Stafford will conduct its annual Town Meeting.

The meeting will begin with the presentation by Mayor Leonard Scarcella of the "State of the City and Goals for 2015". This will be followed by reports of the Department Heads on the status and highlights in their departments and a special presentation by SMSD Superintendent Dr. Robert Bostic on the school's innovative robotics program.

The general public is encouraged to attend and will be afforded the opportunity to address all pertinent issues pertaining to the City during the comment and question session in the open public hearing.

The agenda set forth provides an opportunity for a comprehensive review of the vital issues facing the City in the New Year.

- a) *City's economy, zero property tax, sales and other taxes, fiscal condition, and declining oil prices;*
- b) *Police and fire protection, homeland security, emergency management operations, and animal control;*
- c) *Redevelopment of the Texas Instruments property;*
- d) *Economic development of City corridors and revitalization of underutilized areas;*
- e) *Comprehensive Development Plan;*
- f) *Elevation of the Stafford Municipal School District, its educational programs, and student diversity;*
- g) *Zoning, building standards and regulations, and enhancement of residential expansion;*
- h) *Major highway improvements, streets, mobility, and commuter and freight rail;*
- i) *Stafford Centre and Stafford Civic Center;*
- j) *Houston Community College and workforce development;*
- k) *Stafford Municipal Educational Television Station, streaming video, and websites;*
- l) *Increased information technology for security, business safety, and operations;*
- m) *Parks and Swimming Pool;*
- n) *Municipal Court;*
- o) *Future water supply, sanitary sewer, and irrigation sources; and*
- p) *Other matters of interest to the City.*

Over the years, the Town Meeting has been looked to for setting the parameters for improving the City in the coming year. It will be televised live on S-METV Channel 16 Comcast and Channel 99 AT&T U-verse and rebroadcast numerous times.

# SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT EXPANDS

One of the most discussed and debated topics to face City Council and the Planning and Zoning Commission during the past year was the expansion of single-family residential development. After many hours of discussion and public hearings, single-family homes on areas equalling about 20 acres were approved. These authorizations will ultimately allow for the construction of an additional 37 homes in the Promenade Subdivision off of US 90A and a new gated development of 64 homes in Fountain Park Village fronting on Dairy Ashford.

The residences in the Promenade will average approximately \$300,000 and will be on the standard 7,100-square-foot lot. The single-family residences in the newly-zoned, gated-community of Fountain Park Village will carry a price tag of about \$500,000 and will be on lots ranging from 2,500 to 5,000 square feet.

The addition of these two residential developments will elevate housing styles and plans in the City. With cooperation from the local economy, significant construction on these projects should occur this year.



*Fountain Park Village Layout*

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## SMSD HIGH SCHOOL CHOIR PRESENTS RODGERS & HAMMERSTEIN'S "CINDERELLA"

*Friday, January 30, at 7:30 p.m.  
Saturday, January 31, at 7:00 p.m.  
Stafford Centre*

"Cinderella" is the 14<sup>th</sup> annual spring musical to be presented by the Stafford Choirs and is co-sponsored by the City of Stafford, SMSD, and the Stafford Choral Boosters.

"Cinderella" is a timeless Broadway musical fairy tale which transports the audience to a miraculous kingdom of dreams-come-true. Popular songs include "Impossible", "In My Own Little Corner", and "10 Minutes Ago".

Tickets may be purchased online at [www.staffordcentre.com](http://www.staffordcentre.com), by phone at 281-208-6900, or in person at the Stafford Centre Administrative Office, Monday-Friday, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Advance ticket prices are: General Admission \$10, Orchestra \$15, and Box \$25.

A limited number of tickets are available to Stafford residents at no cost through the City's sponsorship of the event.

# COUNCIL AND SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS SET



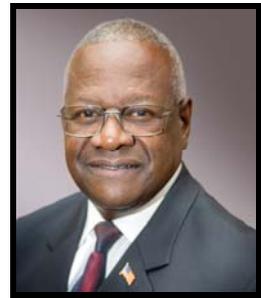
*Mayor  
Leonard Scarcella*



*Councilman  
Wen Guerra*



*Councilman  
A.J. Honoré*



*Councilman  
Fred Woolridge*

The City will hold its annual officials' election on Saturday, May 9. The terms for Mayor Leonard Scarcella and Councilmen Wen Guerra, A.J. Honoré, and Fred Woolridge will expire. Those four seats will appear on the ballot, and candidates for these positions will seek a two-year term.

Applications for a place on the ballot for the City of Stafford General Municipal Election are available at Stafford City Hall, Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. and may be filed from Wednesday, January 28, 2015, through Friday, February 27, 2015. Candidate's packets will contain

instructions, forms, and information about the process and the required reports.

In conjunction with the City election, SMSD will conduct an election as the terms for members of the Board of Trustees, Virginia Rosas and Ettienné Zak, will expire. There also will be a special election to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Ed Castillo.

Applications for the Board member positions, which are three-year terms, are available in Terry Loudenburg's office at the school's Administration Building.

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## REDEVELOPMENT OF TEXAS INSTRUMENTS PROPERTY TOPS AGENDAS

During the past year, many hours were spent in City Council, Stafford Economic Development Corporation, and Planning and Zoning Commission meetings to develop a proper rezoning of the Texas Instruments property and various infrastructure considerations affecting this project.

Both the developer and the City are optimistic that an ultimate resolution of the many matters that are involved in such a complicated and expensive program, estimated to have a value of \$500 million and attract 5 million visitors a year, will be agreed to

this year.

Anticipated for this 192-acre tract is a mixed-use development consisting of a retail outlet center, restaurants and other gathering venues, office buildings, extensive and varied multi-family complexes, and a light-industrial component. (*See map on back page.*)

Due to TI's continued use of the heart of the property, development could extend well beyond 2020.

Negotiations will be ongoing, and progress on these efforts will be continually reported in the *Stafford Newsletter*.

### *Alarm Permits Expired December 31*

Renew Alarm Permits by January 31, 2015, for \$15. The fee is \$25 on or after February 1.

The Application can be found at [www.cityofstafford.com](http://www.cityofstafford.com) in the section "Forms, Instructions, Fees" on the front page. For questions, call 281-261-3955.

### *City Offices Closed*

Monday, February 16 – President's Day

Friday, April 3 – Good Friday

### *Tree Limb Service*

The next tree limb service will be conducted beginning Monday, April 6.

# STAFFORD CENTRE ENTERS SECOND DECADE

As the Stafford Centre begins its eleventh year of operations - - and with more than three million guests having attended - - an exciting array of events is planned. Some of those are as follows:

**January:** 24 & 25 - Sugar Land Home and Garden Show; 31 - ICC's India Republic Day Festival.

**February:** 5 - Fort Bend Women's Center "Girlfriend Giggle"; 11 - Chubby Checker Concert; 14 - HLSR Fort Bend/Stafford Metro Go-Texan Fundraiser; 16 - Michael McDonald Concert; 21 - San Jacinto Railroad Club's "Greater Houston Train Show"; 21 - The Ultimate Doo Wop Show Concert; 22 - Fort Bend Symphony Orchestra "Stormy Weather".

**March:** 20 & 21 - Clear Channel "Senior Expo"; 22 - ICF-Houston Persian Festival; 28 - Fort Bend Women's Center "Boogie".

**April:** 4 - Indo American Association "Sufi Concert"; 9 - CCA Greater Sugar Land Chapter Fundraiser; 11 & 12 - Balletforte's Spring Performance; 25 - IPMS - Model Mania 2015.



City of Stafford  
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Planned Mixed-Use Redevelopment of Texas Instruments Property