



The Stafford Newsletter



**Spring Clean Up
April 11**

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April 2015

Mayor, City Council, and School Board Positions on Ballot

SPIRITED ELECTIONS SET FOR MAY 9

With the challenge of long-time Mayor Leonard Scarcella by incumbent Councilman Robert Sorbet, the City elections promise to be some of the most spirited in recent memory.

Adding to the interest in this annual election is the race for three seats on Council. Incumbents Wen Guerra and A.J. Honore will be opposed by Virginia Rosas, Jacqueline Jean-Baptiste, and Ray Garcia. The three leading vote getters will earn seats at the Council table.

In conjunction with the City election is the SMSD General Election coupled with a Special Election for a one-year remaining term. Seeking

election for two seats on the Board for three-year terms are incumbent Etienne Zak and newcomers Xavier Herrera and Manual Hinojosa. Attempting to fill the one-year vacated seat will be Alicia Lacy-Castille and Jeff Hutchinson.

Hear all the candidates express their views at the Candidates' Forum on Thursday, April 16, beginning at 7 p.m., at the Stafford Civic Center.

All election-day voting on May 9 will be held at Stafford City Hall. For early voting and other election information, see Page 2. All registered qualified voters of Stafford are urged to participate in these elections.

ALL EYES ON TRANSFORMATION OF TEXAS INSTRUMENTS PROPERTY

The local media has been filled with reports on the adoption by City Council, at the recommendation of the Planning and Zoning Commission, of a new mixed-used ordinance for the 192-acre Texas Instruments property on US 59. Subsequently, Council approved the application of the proposed developer, Street Level of Dallas.

Now, the most intriguing aspect of this three-pronged approach is whether to give the green light to the ultimate transformation of this iconic property from a light-industrial manufacturing area to a complex, multi-use, and many-faceted development.

This transformative series of events is anticipated to cost a half-a-billion dollars, attract over five million people to the City annually, and

generate about \$6 million in City sales tax each year.

That is all most inspiring. The testy part is the proposed rebate by not only the City of Stafford but by Fort Bend County and Fort Bend County W.C. & I.D. No. 2 of tens of millions of dollars which will be paid to the developer every year for more than a decade.

The City Council and Stafford Economic Development Corporation are currently reviewing a detailed proposal by Street Level addressing these various matters. Negotiations of the terms, assuming they can be resolved, are expected to take several weeks. In the meantime, there is likely to be extensive speculation as to what the ultimate results of these negotiations will be. Stay tuned.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ACCELERATES

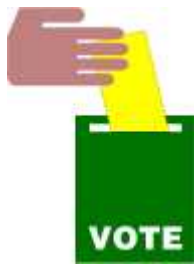
A spurt of economic development activities is underway in the City. Imperial Linen Services on Bates Lane is opening soon; Houston Badminton Center is under construction on West Airport; Frost Bank is continuing construction; Towne Place and Home 2 Suites have submitted plans for The Fountains area; and the Five Below store has plans for a space in The Fountains.



2015 ANNUAL ELECTION INFORMATION: SCHEDULES & POLLING LOCATIONS

EARLY VOTING

at Stafford City Hall
2610 South Main, Stafford
Monday, April 27 – Friday, May 1,
8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Monday, May 4 – Tuesday, May 5,
7 a.m. – 7 p.m.



EARLY VOTING

at SMSD Administration Building
1625 Staffordshire, Stafford
Monday, April 27 – Friday, May 1,
7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Monday, May 4 – Tuesday, May 5,
7 a.m. – 7 p.m.

Stafford voters may vote early at any Fort Bend County early polling location.

ELECTION-DAY VOTING

at Stafford City Hall only
2610 South Main, Stafford
Saturday, May 9
7 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Stafford Centre Events

Coming in April:

9, CCA Greater Sugar Land Chapter Crawfish Boil Fundraiser; 11-12, Balletforte's Spring Gala;
14, Kevin Costner & The Modern West Concert; 25, IPMS Model Mania 2015

Coming in May:

2, Oyster Creek Rotary Club Crawfish Festival Fundraiser; 6, Greg Allman Concert; 7, Boz Scaggs Concert; 8, Oliver Dragojević Concert; 17, Fort Bend Symphony's "Fabulous 40's";
19, SMSD Band Concert; 20, SMSD Athletic Booster Banquet; 22, Ekal Vidyalaya Fundraiser

Coming in June:

6-7, Houston Bead Market; 26-27, Fred Astaire Dance Showcase

City Offices Closed

Friday, April 3 – Good Friday
Monday, May 25 – Memorial Day

Tree Limb Service

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

CITY POOL PREPARES FOR OPENING



The Stafford City Pool will **open Memorial Day weekend on Saturday, May 23**, and everyone is looking forward to another summer season - - especially the children who are just beginning their summer break and are ready for swim lessons and pool parties. Take advantage of the activities offered while you can, as the City Pool will then close for the season at the end of Labor Day, Monday, September 7.

For **\$10 per person, Stafford residents** have access to the pool the entire season. **Daily passes** for non-residents are **\$4 for 5 years and over; \$2 for 2-4 years; free for under 2 years**. The pool rental fee is \$100 for Stafford residents and \$150 for non-residents for three hours of fun. There is an additional \$10 hourly lifeguard fee. Call 281-499-8783 or 281-499-5763 for the pool schedule, swim lessons, and other information.

INDEPENDENCE DAY FESTIVITIES PLANNED

This year's Annual Independence Day Celebration will be held on Friday and Saturday, July 3-4, and organizers have promised two days of excitement with loads of entertainment for the entire family.

Persons interested in volunteering should contact Susan Ricks at 281-208-6902. Look for complete details in the July issue of the *Newsletter*.

Parade Marshal Nominations

The deadline for nominations for the Parade Marshal is April 30, 2015. The nomination form and instructions are located in the Hot Topics section of www.cityofstafford.com. If you have questions, please contact Susan Ricks at 281-208-6902.



July 3, 2014 Celebration at Stafford Centre

BRAND LANE IMPROVEMENTS ADVANCE



The major Brand Lane Street construction project within Stafford is being built with City funds totaling \$2.24 million and without incurring any debt.

COMMUNITY READIES FOR APRIL 11 CLEANUP

The City of Stafford is proud to announce the Annual City Wide Pride Spring Cleanup on April 11, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. This event is an important opportunity for Stafford citizens, businesses, HOA groups, youth groups, civic groups, and churches to show their pride in living and working in our beautiful city. It is being promoted by the City of Stafford in conjunction with corporate sponsors and many local businesses.

For the 500 volunteers' special efforts, each will receive a T-shirt and a gourmet lunch of hot dogs and hamburgers. The fun is not complete until trophies are awarded to teams and individuals in a number of categories, such as the Most Trash Collected. Last but not least, special cash bonuses will be paid for finding unsuspecting bottles.



In addition to the team trash pickup, a certified contractor will be on the north side of City Hall from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. to **shred sensitive documents**. The operation will allow you to drive through for this shredding.



City of Stafford
2610 South Main
Stafford, TX 77477

Also, it is **Chunk Your Junk** time for those old or broken computers, televisions, monitors, laptops, cell phones, keyboards, and similar items. You will be able to drive through the City Hall's north side parking lot to unload your **e-waste** junk in the designated area. Large appliances, thermometers, fire alarms/detectors, or anything with sludge or liquid will **NOT** be accepted.

As always during the Spring Cleanup, there will be **heavy trash** curbside pickup. The local waste collector, WCA, will send trucks throughout the neighborhoods to pick up heavy trash. Residents must have this trash placed by the curb no later than **7 a.m. on Saturday**. Paint, chemicals, batteries, regular household waste, and car parts will **NOT** be accepted. Refrigerators and freezers will be accepted but must have the coolant/refrigerant removed. Lumber, plywood, small tree limbs, and other such

material must be cut into four-foot lengths and tied into bundles. Regular garbage will **NOT** be picked up. If your junk is not removed on Saturday, it will be collected the next week.

Automobile batteries can be dropped off at **Stafford Auto Supply** located at 2424 South Main.

With the support from **Firestone Tire & Service Center** at 515 FM 1092, City crews will canvass the neighborhoods and pick up used tires **without** rims. Those should be at the curb early Saturday morning, separate from the other heavy trash. Anyone having a large quantity of tires should contact 281-261-3945 to make special arrangements for disposal. They will **NOT** be accepted at the Firestone Center without prior consent from the City of Stafford.

Come join the fun. Call 281-261-3941 if you or your group are interested in participating in this exciting event.