



The Stafford Newsletter



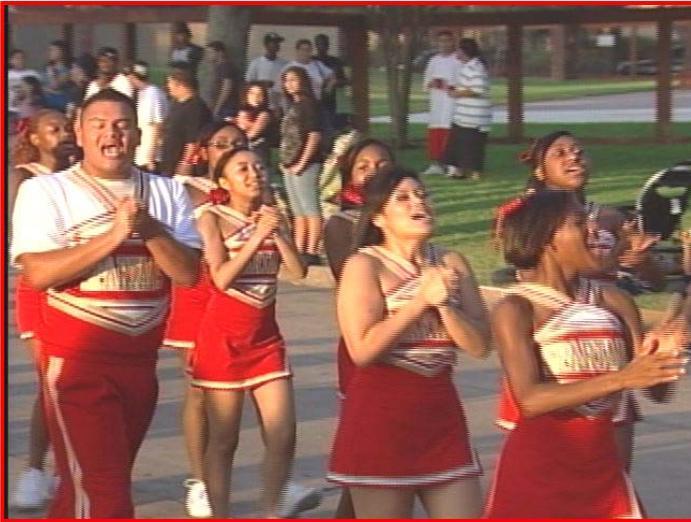
Volume 31, Issue 3

Circulation 7,010

July 2010

Long-Running Events on Saturday, July 3; Freedom Rings Concert on Sunday, July 4

INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION SET



July 2009 Parade

Stafford is once again preparing to celebrate Independence Day. The long-running activities which people have come to enjoy and anticipate will be held on Saturday, July 3. These include the parade, street dance, carnival rides and hay ride.

One traditional feature has been canceled: the fireworks display. As most of you know, last year there was a near tragic development when the fireworks stand erupted setting off a widespread fire. Due to the limited area available for shooting the fireworks, City Council has determined it unsafe to continue this event.

An event introduced last year which proved popular and inspiring will be continued. The Freedom Rings Concert at 5 p.m. on Sunday, July 4, is being performed by the Fort Bend Symphony Orchestra at the Stafford Centre Theatre.

The Orchestra will feature a repertoire of patriotic songs to capture the true spirit of this most important day in our Nation's history.

Featured at the concert will be the Impact a Hero organization which recognizes and supports veterans of the Afghanistan and Iraq wars.

As the only city in the area to continuously provide a significant annual celebration starting with the Bicentennial in 1976, this extravaganza offers an excellent opportunity for Staffordians and their guests to once more enjoy the activities sponsored by the City of Stafford for their pleasure and entertainment. Admission to all events is free.

STAFFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY HONORED AS PARADE MARSHAL

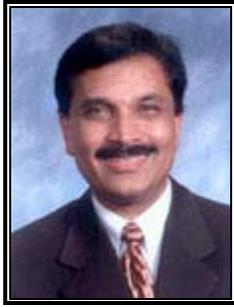
The Stafford Historical Society, which has long trumpeted the unique and exciting history of this City, will be honored as this year's Parade Marshal.

Formed in 1990, the Historical Society has undertaken numerous projects to demonstrate Stafford's special place in Texas history. One such project was the Holiday Lighting Ceremony initiated in 1999 when the lighting of the businesses in the Island gave a special charm to this storied area of the City. Another major undertaking was the publishing of *The History of Stafford* which was unveiled at a reception in December 2008. Probably its most notable collaboration was the dedication of the Margaret Havens Historical Memorial Garden in 2009 on the grounds of City Hall. The Garden, with chronicles told on engraved walls, benches, pavers and bricks, has fast become a featured attraction drawing many interested and impressed visitors.

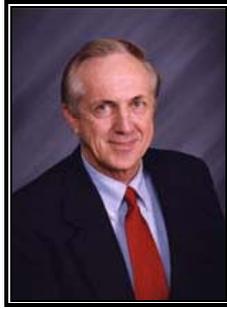
Sadie Williams, the Society's current President, and a noted list of Staffordians who have advanced this organization and perpetuated the history of the City will be honored at the presentation on Saturday, July 3.

Incumbents Are Victors in May 8 Race

WILLIS, SORBET, MATHEW WIN 2-YEAR TERMS



Ken Mathew



Cecil Willis



Robert Sorbet

A spirited campaign for City Council resulted in Councilmen Ken Mathew, Cecil Willis and Robert Sorbet being reelected to City Council each for two-year terms.

Challenger Mike Guerra asserted himself during the campaign but failed to gain a Council seat.

There remains a vacancy on City Council as a result of the resignation of Jeff Smith in April. Under the City Home Rule Charter, that position must be filled by a special election which will

be held in November.

Anyone interested in seeking the vacant Council seat should contact the election official, Bonnie Baiamonte, at 281-261-3902 for more details.

Mathew, Willis and Sorbet took their Oaths of Office on May 19 before family and supporters.

As is the long-running tradition, the position of Mayor Pro Tem was alternated. Councilman Wen Guerra was appointed Mayor Pro Tem by acclamation for the coming year.

POWER OUTAGES UNDER SCRUTINY OF CITY COUNCIL

City Council has challenged CenterPoint to address the numerous power outages in Stafford. Due to the severe problems experienced after Hurricane Ike in September 2008, many deficiencies in the composition of the power supplies to the City have been highlighted.

Representatives from CenterPoint came before Council as recently as April 7 and May 12, 2010. They stated that they would be addressing these many disruptions and the need for major improvements to the service in and around the Island and other areas. They said this would be completed by the end of June. Council will address the matter this month.

In an effort to have as much documentation as possible in assuring a resolution of this situation, the City will keep a log of calls from all persons, residential and commercial. The date, time, and length of outage or outages

in a particular day will be compiled.

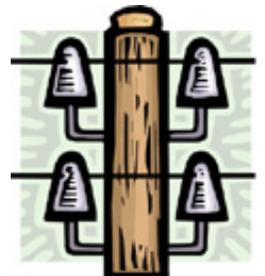
Additionally, records of the damages and

losses incurred will be made. These will include equipment in homes and businesses such as televisions, refrigerators and computers, as well as spoiled food. Ms. Jo Ann Holloway, in the Public Works Department, will compile these records. Call her at 281-261-3922 to file a report.

Also, you should report outages to CenterPoint. They can be reached at 713-207-2222 or 800-332-7143.

For CenterPoint's suggestions on dealing with power outages, you can access their website at www.centerpointenergy.com.

Your assistance in keeping the City informed about this situation is encouraged and most helpful so that we can endeavor to address and significantly minimize this problem.



Construction has commenced on the Stafford/Staffordshire Roads Project. Information will be forthcoming on its progress and potential traffic flow disruptions.



“REMEMBERING OUR HISTORY, CELEBRATING OUR FREEDOM”

SATURDAY, JULY 3

 6:00 p.m. 

Line up at SMSD football parking lot

 7:00 p.m. 

PARADE begins at the Municipal Complex on Staffordshire, then right on First Street, right on Present Street, right on War Admiral, left on Bold Ruler, right on Ruffian, right on Constitution, and ends at the Civic Center in the Municipal Complex (see map)

 **Following the Parade** 

PRESENTATION of Parade Winners and **CAKE RECEPTION** for Parade Marshal –
The Stafford Historical Society

 7:30 p.m. - 12:00 midnight 

FOOD and **DRINK BOOTHS** sponsored by non-profit organizations

 7:30 p.m. - 11:30 p.m. 

FREE - CARNIVAL RIDES sponsored by the City of Stafford

 7:30 p.m. - 11:30 p.m. 

FREE – HAY RIDE sponsored by the City of Stafford

 8:00 p.m. - 11:30 p.m. 

FREE - STREET DANCE with music by the Johnny Cruz Band & Thibodeaux Cajun Band

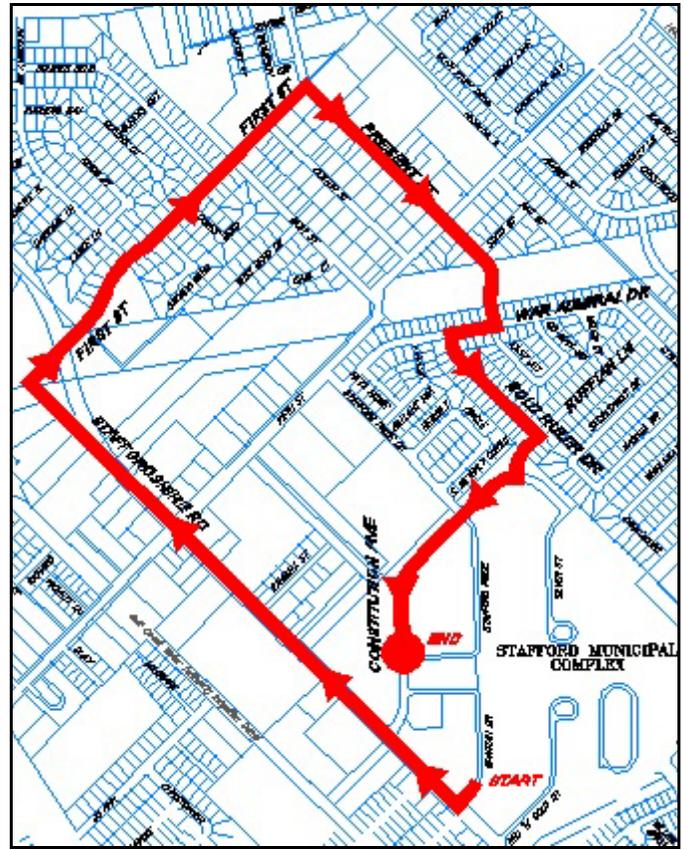
SUNDAY, JULY 4

 5:00 p.m. 

FREE – FREEDOM RINGS CONCERT

performed by the Fort Bend Symphony at the Stafford Centre Theatre

PARADE ROUTE



KEEPING YOU INFORMED

Hurricane Season:

June 1–November 30
(Flyers can be picked up at City Hall or found at www.cityofstafford.com)



City Offices Closed:

Monday, July 5, in observance of Independence Day
Monday, September 6, in observance of Labor Day

Tree Limb Pickup:

Monday, August 2
Monday, October 4

Stafford Centre Events:

Freedom Rings Concert, July 4
Kolaboration Houston Asian-American Talent Show, July 24
Charley Pride, July 31
ABBA the Concert, August 14
Halan Hoola Ka Manan O Hawaii Hula Competition, September 4
Coastal Plains Quilt Guild Showcase, September 10-11
Houston Hot Sauce Festival, September 18-19
Houston Bead Jamboree, September 18-19
B.J. Thomas, September 25



City of Stafford
2610 South Main
Stafford, TX 77477

MONUMENTS ON US 90A AND US 59 INSTALLED



The long-awaited monuments, one on US 90A and four along US 59, which are intended to provide identity to the City and enhance its image, have been installed. The lighting features will add special appeal to these structures. The monument shown being installed is located just off Present Street.