



# The Stafford Newsletter

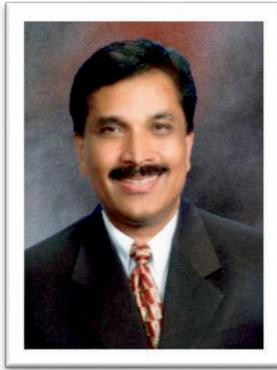


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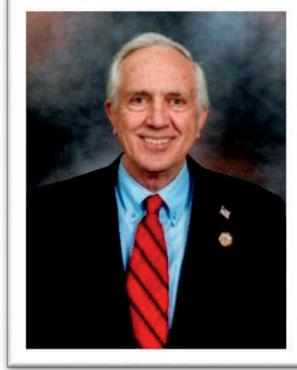
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July 2018

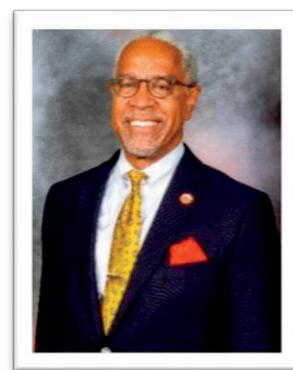
## COUNCIL ELECTION RETAINS INCUMBENTS



Ken Mathew



Cecil Willis



Don Jones

The City of Stafford election held in May resulted in the three incumbent Councilmembers namely Ken Mathew, Cecil Willis and Don Jones being reelected. They were opposed by Citizen Johnny Baiamonte, who failed in his bid to attain a seat on City Council.

A turnout of 803 voters which is 8.86% of the registered voters in Stafford, was an average turnout, which showed the advantages of those exercising their right to vote, made their choices known. Mathew's received 578 votes, Cecil Willis garnered 482 votes, while Don Jones polled 417 votes. Johnny Baiamonte gathered 225 votes.

The reelected candidates were formally installed at the City Council meeting on May 16, 2018 and initiating their new two year term.

## 4<sup>th</sup> JULY CELEBRATION SET

For the 43<sup>rd</sup> consecutive year, the City of Stafford will be celebrating the birth of our nation. As in previous years there will be numerous activities for the whole family to enjoy and it will all take place on Tuesday, July 3<sup>rd</sup> and Wednesday, July 4<sup>th</sup> at the Stafford Centre.

The kick off to the two day event will be the parade led by this year's honoree "Parade Marshal Parkay Louie". As is the tradition there will be children's rides, a street dances, a hayride and many other activities, together with booths operated by several nonprofit organizations will add to the excitement of the event. The much acclaimed and outstanding Fort Bend Symphony Orchestra will provide an inspirational patriotic concert at 7 PM. The conclusion of this two days of fun activities will be the Fireworks Display at 9 PM. following the concert. All activities are free.

The City of Stafford is proud to once again host these events, honoring America and welcoming its citizens and visitors to enjoy this outstanding event. A special feature will recognize Stafford baseball star Dylan Smith, a 2018 SMSD graduate, recently been awarded with two incredible options to further his talents in baseball: A scholarship to the University of Alabama and drafted by the Major League Baseball team, the San Diego Padres. The Mayor, City Council and citizens offer their congratulations on this outstanding recognition.

A complete schedule and parade route are on page 2.

## RESIDENTIAL TRASH SURVEY

As of January 1, 2018, the City entered into a three year agreement with Waste Corporation of Texas LP/WCA for the collection of solid waste.

In April the City provided a survey for our citizens, in order to seek their input as to how they would like to see their recyclable products handled. The survey is located on the City's home page or can be reached online at : <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ZRSCRNY>.

# SPRING CLEAN UP RAINED OUT



For the first time in 17 years Mother Nature felt the need to rain upon our event. Cold temperatures and strong winds preceded the rain and thunderstorms. Despite a slight delay, registration took place and groups assembled at City Hall. However, the storm took hold forcing participants to retreat into City Hall Atrium, Council Chambers, City Hall corridors and the Court Department Jury Room.

Even though the rain fell, together with thunder, lightning and cold winds the food which had been cooked by our vendors and participants allowed everyone to enjoy hamburgers, hot dogs and soft drinks. The inclement weather did not dampen the spirits of those in attendance, and there was significant interaction between the attendees, City Council and School Board members.

## CITY POOL IS OPEN

Memorial Day weekend officially signaled the opening of the City Swimming Pool. After the cold, wet Spring Clean Up, we were greeted with the sun out in full force with seasonably hot temperatures. Staffordians, especially children and visitors, are thoroughly enjoying the relief afforded by this outstanding pool, which is now in full swing for its summer usage. A complimentary feature afforded by the summer recreation program are activities in the Spartan Red Gym Weight Room of Stafford High School.

### POOL HOURS:

DAILY HOURS: Tuesday – Friday 10AM – 8PM; Saturday 11AM -7PM; Sunday 12PM – 7PM.

SWIM LESSONS: Swim lessons offered for ages 4 and over including adults. Please call (281) 499 8783 for scheduling.

STAFFORD SWIM TEAM: Contact Yvette Hinijosa at [Stafford.stingrays17@gmail.com](mailto:Stafford.stingrays17@gmail.com) to join.

FEES: Season resident's recreation pass card - \$15.00; One day resident pass card - \$2.00.  
Non-residents 5 years or older - \$5.00 per day and non-residents 2 years – 4years - \$3.00 per day.  
Children under 2 years will enter free when accompanied by their parent or guardian.

POOL CLOSURES: Labor Day – Monday, September 4<sup>th</sup> is the last day of our swimming season.

## 4<sup>th</sup> JULY PARADE ROUTE



### Tuesday, July 3rd

Parade 7:00PM

Parade Marshal 7:00PM

### 7:30 – 11:30PM

Carnival Rides

Food/Game Booths

Hay Rides

Street Dance:

Art Tigerina Band and

Cecil Shaw and the Allstylz Band

### Wednesday, July 4<sup>th</sup>

Fort Bend Symphony Orchestra-

Freedom Rings Concert 7:00PM

Fire Works 9:00PM



COLLEGE & CAREER READY

# SPOTLIGHT

SUMMER 2018

## CONGRATULATIONS STAFFORD HIGH CLASS OF 2018



The Stafford High Class of 2018 received \$2.7 Million in scholarships, including \$27,000 from the SMSD Education Foundation.

The Class of 2018 graduated on Friday, May 25 at Texas Southern University in Houston. The graduates will attend 48 different colleges and universities.



### FROM THE DESK OF

### SUPERINTENDENT BOSTIC

Hello Spartan Family,

It is a very exciting time to be part of the Stafford Municipal School District!

We congratulate our “College & Career Ready” 2018 Stafford High School graduates who earned \$2.7 million in scholarships and will go on to attend universities and colleges, serve in the United States military and begin careers.

At our graduation ceremony on May 25, we were honored to have 1998 Stafford High School graduate Raymond Root as the keynote speaker. Many of you know that Mr. Root isn't just a prominent SHS graduate, but the new Stafford High School Principal!

Some key highlights from Spring 2018:

- We would like to congratulate our Stafford MSD District Teacher of the Year, Stafford Elementary's Ashley Bratcher. Due to our strong partnership with Classic Chevrolet of Sugar Land, Ms. Bratcher will drive a complimentary Chevrolet throughout the summer. It is well-deserved!
- The Board of Trustees recently approved the purchase of land necessary to build the new state of the art Stafford Middle School. Construction is expected to begin later this year on the 2017 Bond – the Stafford community's largest investment in education.
- We have elaborate plans to roll out a Digital Learning Platform, which will create options for our students. They will have the choice of traditional classroom learning, blended learning or online classes. In line with our 20/20 Vision, this initiative will be implemented gradually, with completion expected in the year 2020.
- Our students continue to excel academically, with a record number of students selected to participate in the Duke Talent Identification Program (Duke TIP) Program.
- The Stafford Robotics Team, showcasing the importance of STEM Education (Science, Technology, Engineering & Math), competed in both the FIRST Robotics World Championships in Houston and the UIL State Championships in Austin, this spring.
- Athletically, we continue to reach new levels. Our Boys Track & Field Team finished second at the UIL Class 4A Meet in May. In June, Stafford 2018 Graduate Dylan Smith made history when he became the first SHS graduate to be selected by Major League Baseball, directly out of high school. The San Diego Padres selected Smith in the 18<sup>th</sup> Round.

**Circling back to academics, we are proud of our community's commitment to reaching Our Vision for every SMSD student to graduate college or career ready, without remediation.**

In closing, I would like to emphasize the importance of Literacy. Stafford MSD has an excellent Summer Reading Program. I encourage parents to take the time to read with their children this summer.

Enjoy the summer break, and we'll see you in August!

Dr. Robert Bostic, Superintendent





# Students, Parents & Employees in Action

## SMSD TEACHER OF THE YEAR: STAFFORD ELEMENTARY'S ASHLEY BRATCHER



The Stafford Municipal School District is grateful for its partnership with Classic Chevrolet of Sugar Land. Classic has presented Stafford Municipal School 2017-18 District Teacher of the Year Ashley Bratcher with a complimentary lease for June, July and August.

Shortly after Stafford MSD Superintendent Dr. Robert Bostic announced that Bratcher was the District Teacher of the Year, Ray Aguilar, community relations director at Classic Chevrolet of Sugar Land, presented Bratcher with the option of driving a 2018 Chevrolet Malibu or a 2018 Chevrolet Equinox for the month of June.

Bostic, with the full support of the Stafford MSD trustees, spearheaded the partnership between Stafford MSD and Classic Chevrolet of Sugar Land. Megan Thompson (Stafford High) was named the Secondary Teacher of the Year./SHS Teacher of the Year. Cheri Bernazal (Intermediate) and Marissa Vanison (Middle) also earned Teacher of the Year Honors. Ginny Gayle (Middle) was the Principal of the Year, and Stafford Elementary Associate Principal Twyla Hynes was named Administrator of the Year.

## CLASS OF 2018 VALEDICTORIAN/SALUTATORIAN



Stafford High School Valedictorian Dung Trinh, left, and Salutatorian Bryan Burman will both attend the University of Texas in the fall.

Trinh plans to study Computer Science at UT, and Burman will major in Biochemistry with plans of attending law school after he graduates from college.



## SMSD HOSTS "A DAY WITH THE U.S. SECRET SERVICE"



The Stafford Municipal School District and the City of Stafford provided a unique training opportunity for education and law enforcement professionals throughout the State of Texas on Wednesday, with "A Day With The U.S. Secret Service."

Agents and Civilians with the U.S. Secret Service gave presentations on School Safety, preventative measures, Cybersecurity, Child Safety and much more.

With approximately 500 attendees, this was believed to be one of the largest "Safe Schools Programs."

We were proud to welcome Superintendents, Police Chiefs, school resource officers and law enforcement officers, Principals, School Counselors, Administrators, Teachers and more.

The morning portion of the event featured a panel with two school counselors, a principal, a school resource officer and a teacher.

The event was a collaborative effort, and we are especially thankful for the Stafford Culinary Arts program for providing breakfast, lunch and dinner, the SMSD personnel who handled registration and the Superintendent's Student Advisory Council, who assisted the attendees throughout the event.



## Stafford High Robotics qualifies for World & State Championships!

For the second straight year, the Stafford High School Robotics Team qualified for the FIRST Robotics World Championships in Houston and the UIL State Championships in Austin.

The Stafford Robotics Team continues to grow each year, and the students who participate are motivated and prepared for careers in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM).

The Stafford Robotics Team finished in the Top 20 at the UIL State Meet in Austin, competing against many larger schools from throughout the Lone Star State.

## STAFFORD ELEMENTARY HIRES NEW PRINCIPAL

The Stafford Municipal School District Board of Trustees approved the hiring of Twyla Hynes as the new principal of Stafford Elementary School.

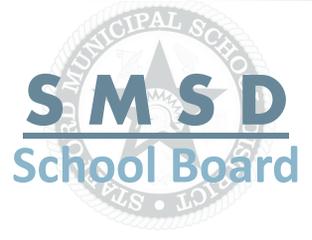
"I'm ready to take the bull by the horns and get going," Hynes said. "I want to build camaraderie and spirit in the building. We want people to feel enthusiasm and sense the energy in the building."

Hynes, who has 22 years of experience in public education, arrived at Stafford Primary School as an Assistant Principal in 2014.

When Stafford Primary (Pre-K through 1) and Stafford Elementary (Grades 2-through-4) merged last summer, Hynes was promoted to Associate Principal at Stafford Elementary.

She succeeds Dr. Valerie Orum, who is retiring this month. Stafford Elementary has reached high levels of success in recent years, including a ranking among the Top 1 Percent of Elementary Schools in Texas.





**Christopher Caldwell** President  
**Xavier Herrera** Vice-President  
**Alicia Lacy-Castille** Secretary  
**Jacqueline Jean-Baptiste** Trustee  
**Auturo Jackson** Trustee  
**Greg Holsapple** Trustee  
**Manuel Hinojosa** Trustee

The Board of Trustees meets monthly on the second Monday at 6:30 PM in the SMUSD Administration Building Board Room. Meeting agendas, information about each agenda item and past meeting videos are linked to the district website under the Board of Education.



## STAFFORD MSD TRUSTEE NEWS

Stafford MSD Trustees **Xavier Herrera** and **Manuel Hinojosa** were sworn in to their second terms on May 23. Both Trustees were unopposed and their terms run through 2021. Fort Bend County Commissioner Grady Prestage swore in Herrera, and Attorney David Hodgins swore in Hinojosa.

After the swearing-in ceremony, the Board voted on 2018-19 officers. **Christopher Caldwell** was elected President. Caldwell has served on the Board since 2014 and as Vice President since 2015. **Xavier Herrera** was elected Vice President. He had served on the Board since 2015 and as Secretary since 2016. **Alicia Lacy-Castille**, who has served on the Board since 2014, was elected Secretary.

The Board thanked Trustee **Auturo Jackson**, who has served on the Board since 2013 and as President from 2015-18, for his service. He will continue to serve as a Trustee.

Vice President Herrera was nominated to represent SMUSD on the Texas Association of School Board's Board of Directors.



## Community and Business Partners in Action

### STAFFORD MSD PROUD MONTH

**AUGUST IS  
STAFFORD MSD  
PROUD MONTH**



This is your chance to  
build your customer base  
with the students, parents  
and  
teachers of SMSD



The **Stafford Municipal Education Television (SMETV)** through a partnership with Houston Community College creates quality video programs shown on Comcast Channel 16 and linked to the district's website from the "About Us" section.

Starbucks, Marco's Pizza partner with Stafford MSD



The Stafford locations of Starbucks and Marco's Pizza, both located on U.S. 90-A, have become strong partners of Stafford Municipal School District. Starbucks honors our Teacher of the Month at each campus each month with a free coffee and free pastry. Marco's Pizza recognizes our Student of the Month at each campus with a free dine-in pizza for the student and their family.

Stafford MSD Proud Month is an annual August tradition in Stafford. This August, we would like to partner with the local business community to promote the strong relationship between Stafford MSD and the local community.

If you are interesting in partnering with us, e-mail Stafford MSD Communications Coordinator Michael Sudhalter at [msudhalter@staffordmsd.org](mailto:msudhalter@staffordmsd.org)

# STAFFORD BOYS TRACK FINISHES SECOND AT UIL 4A STATE MEET

For the third time in four seasons, the Stafford High Boys Track & Field Team finished in the top two at the UIL Class 4A Track & Field Meet at the University of Texas in Austin.

The Spartans finished second at the meet with 52 points, to Dallas Carter's 58. After finishing second in 2015, the Spartans won the 2016 4A State Championship.

"We couldn't have asked for more than that from our kids," Stafford High Boys Track & Field Coach Sergio Hinojosa said. "We stepped up whenever it was a big meet. I am proud of the way our kids competed when it counted."

Kenneth Bodwin was the star of the meet, winning gold medals in the High Jump (a personal record 6 feet, 6 inches) and the 300 Meter Hurdles (37.12), He earned a bronze medal on the 4x400 relay.

Bodwin is headed to Texas A&M-Kingsville on a Track & Field Scholarship where his college coach expects him to compete nationally as a decathlete.

Junior Ryan Martin placed second in the 100 Meter, setting a new school record with 10.41 seconds. He finished second to a Kalon Barnes, a senior from Silsbee, who set a new national record. Martin will enter the 2019 season with the fastest time of any returning athlete. Martin, who finished fifth in the 100 in 2017, tried the 200 this year and finished eighth (21.70).



## STAFFORD'S DYLAN SMITH DRAFTED BY SAN DIEGO PADRES



Dylan Smith, who graduated from Stafford High School less than two weeks ago, made history on Wednesday.

Smith, an 18-year-old Stafford native was drafted in the 18<sup>th</sup> Round of the Major League Baseball Draft by the San Diego Padres. He was selected as a starting pitcher.

"It's a blessing and an honor to be drafted," Smith said.

He became the first Stafford High baseball player to be drafted out of high school and also the highest draft pick among Stafford graduates.

Smith, who turned 18 on May 28, was only a few days old the last time a Stafford player was drafted by MLB.

Coincidentally, all three Spartans were drafted by California-based National League franchises.

Smith grew up in Stafford and enrolled at Stafford High School before his junior year, due to the strong academic programs at the Stafford College & Career Center.

If he chooses the professional route, the Padres will pay for his college education. If he chooses college, he will be eligible again for the MLB Draft in 2021.

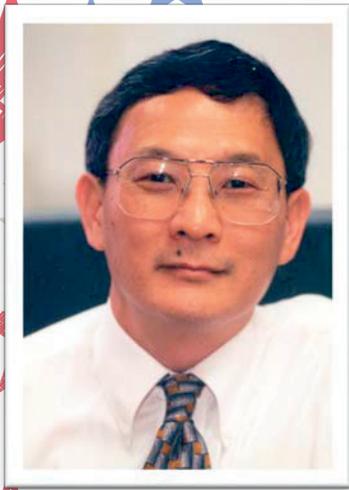
Regardless of which path he chooses, Smith plans to complete a degree in Mechanical Engineering.



For Daily Updates, log on to the  
Stafford Municipal School  
District Facebook page at  
[Facebook.com/SMSD82](https://www.facebook.com/SMSD82)



# PARKAY LOUIE IS THIS YEAR'S PARADE MARSHAL



Parkay Louie

Parkay Louie, Stafford resident since 1987, who served as a Board Member, Vice President and President of the Stafford Municipal School District Board from 1991 – 2003 is this year's Parade Marshal.

Mr. Louie is a native Texan, graduated from Texas Tech University in 1966 whereupon he began his service in the US Air Force and rose to the rank of Captain. Upon retiring from the Air Force after 12 years of service he was awarded a Bronze Star for his tour of duty in Vietnam.

With his education credentials Mr. Louie served 29 years at Houston Community College from which he recently retired.

Besides spending some of their most delightful moments with their children and grandchildren he and his wife Su, are literally on an around the world sightseeing expedition which they feel is most justified in view of his outstanding contribution to his country and community.



## BULLETIN BOARD

### STAFFORD CENTRE EVENTS: JULY - SEPTEMBER

**JULY:** 3<sup>rd</sup> City of Stafford Independence Day Celebration  
4<sup>th</sup> Fort Bend Symphony Orchestra "Freedom Rings" Concert  
7<sup>th</sup> Shaan-Live Concert  
20<sup>th</sup> Rey Valera & David Pomeranz Concert

**AUGUST:** 4<sup>th</sup> Indo American Association "Mirza Ghalib Andaaz-e-bayaan aur" Concert  
22<sup>nd</sup> Gillian Welch Concert

**SEPTEMBER:** 6-8<sup>th</sup> Coastal Prairie Quilt Guild of Texas "Quilt Show"  
14<sup>th</sup> Steve Tyrell Concert  
15<sup>th</sup> Indo American Association "Indie Routes-bridging the generation gap" Concert

**CITY OFFICES CLOSED – Wednesday, July 4, 2018 – Independence Day**

**CITY OFFICES CLOSED – Monday September 3, 2018 – Labor Day**



**COFFEE WITH A COP & COMMUNITY FOOT PATROL** – Please watch the Stafford Police Departments social media for time and dates for this very popular program with our police officers hosting our citizens.

### Burglar/Fire Alarm Fees

Residential Alarm Registration - \$30.00  
Commercial Burglar Alarm Registration - \$100.00  
Commercial Fire Alarm Registration - \$100.00

### False Alarm Fees

3 free allowed per calendar year  
PD 4-7: \$50.00 each: Fire: 4-7 \$175.00 each  
PD 8+: \$100.00 each: Fire: 8+ \$250.00 each

### Pet Registrations

City Ordinance No. 1101 states any dog or cat kept, over four months of age harbored or maintained by their owner in the City, shall be vaccinated and registered with a licensed veterinarian.  
Fees: \$2.00 per dog or cat. Bring the animal's current vaccination certificate to City Hall. All pet registrations expire December 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Tree Limb Pick-Up: First Mondays of April, July, October and January**

**Residential Trash Pick-Up: Monday & Thursday or Tuesday & Friday. There will be NO TRASH PICK UP on Labor Day. When not collected on a holiday your trash will be collected on your next scheduled pick up day.**

## MAYOR'S MESSAGE

The reformation of the old Texas Instrument property, if it materializes as advertised by the developer, *will transform Stafford*, and make it a *point of destination*, which its recently adopted name of THE GRID is supposed to clearly communicate. For the owner to proceed, the City had to commit \$7 ½ million in up-front cash to the project for infrastructure and advertising, and rebates totaling just under \$10 million by remitting up to 80% of the sales tax generated by the businesses that locate on the property. All hope it materializes as presented; however, there is one irrefutable fact: For the next six years while these significant cash extractions of nearly \$18 million are occurring, the City receipts will be less than \$5 million, thus placing a serious challenge on the City's budget in this short term period. Much focus will be directed on this project to see if it indeed lives up to its billing by *transforming Stafford* and truly making the City a *point of destination*!

I am pleased to announce that the filling of critical City leadership positions, which in several instances arose due to serious conflicts between previous outstanding employees and certain Council Members. Recently coming on board in principal positions are Chris Riggs, who was promoted to Public Works Director, Ryan Young, who had extensive experience with the City of Galveston, was appointed as the new Director of Information Technology, and Peter Alvarado, who formally held a responsible role with the Stafford Police Department, has been named as the new Emergency Management Coordinator. Although their tenure with these duties has been very brief, each has demonstrated a strong and capable willingness to advance the City.

*Respectfully submitted as the opinion of :*

**Leonard Scarcella, Mayor**



**City of Stafford**  
2610 South Main  
Stafford, TX 77477

## SEDC MESSAGE

The long awaited old Texas Instruments development is finally underway and we are excited about what we are seeing! The GRID, as it will be called, will include restaurants, retail shopping, entertainment venues and hotels and plans to have many of these establishments up and running by early to mid-2019. We are looking forward to the exciting opportunities this will bring to our city and hope that you are looking forward to them as well. We all win when we shop in Stafford because that helps increase our sales tax base which in turn, supports our city and helps to keep us as a city without a property tax.

Great things continue to happen throughout the city! Several new businesses along Hwy. US90A are in the works and as

the traffic count continues to increase, the possibility of seeing even more business will grow. We also continue to get inquiries from businesses looking to relocate or add an additional location in Stafford from literally all over the world. It is a great day to do business in Stafford!

As always, we will continue our mission to bring new business and help our current businesses succeed. If there is anything we can do to help you, please don't hesitate to contact us.

*Respectfully submitted as the opinion of:*

**Wen, Guerra- President**