



THE STAFFORD NEWSLETTER

JULY 2019

CITY OF STAFFORD, TEXAS

VOL 40 ISSUE 3

MAYOR SCARCELLA REELECTED TO 4 YEAR TERM; COUNCILMEMBER ROSAS WILL HAVE 3 YEARS AND COUNCILMEMBER GUERRA WILL HAVE 2 YEARS ON THE NEW COUNCIL



Leonard Scarcella



Virginia Rosas



Wen Guerra



Alice Chen

Under the new Home Rule Charter amendments and the election on May 4th, the Mayor will serve 4 years. Ultimately, Councilmembers will serve 3 year terms, however, the transitional rule provided the May election would be for Position 3, to be for 3 years and Positions 1 and 2 to be for 2 years each.

Both Councilmembers Rosas, Position 3 and Guerra, Position 2 were unopposed. They received 1249 and 1252 votes respectively. Scarcella was opposed by Councilmember A.J. Honore and Adam “Bob Sugar” Sanchez. Scarcella received 1,150 votes, while Honore got 638 votes and Sanchez had 40 votes.

In the race for Position 1 in May, Arturo Jackson received 868 votes, while Alice Chen received 790 votes and Esther de Ipolyi received 100 votes.

Under the amended Charter, to be elected, a candidate must receive over 50 percent of the votes in order to be elected. Since none of the three candidates for Position 1 attained that level, a run-off election was required. At that election on June 8, 2019 Alice Chen received 614 votes; while Jackson garnered 569 votes; consequently Alice Chen was elected to Council Position 1 for a 2 year term.

4th of July Celebration – *New One Day Format*

THE STAFFORD PATRIOTIC CELEBRATION FACE A NEW LINE UP

After a healthy debate and a vote of 4-3, Council decided to discontinue the two day celebration which had been in effect for 43 years, since 1976. Instead, a new one day format as is reflected below. There will be a patriotic concert, street dances, hayrides and children’s activities and vendor booths with a concluding fireworks display.

No longer will there be a parade or parade marshal, however, the Stafford High School Band has been chosen to be honored with a Letter of Recognition. You are strongly encouraged to join us at the Stafford Centre starting at 2:30 p.m. July 4th in the theatre for the beginning of all the activities.

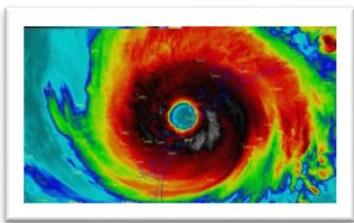
CITY OF STAFFORD 44TH ANNUAL FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATION

THEATRE: 2:30PM – 4:00PM FREEDOM RINGS CONCERT PRESENTED BY THE FORT BEND SYMPHONY

FESTIVAL FIELD: 4:00PM – 9:00PM DJ/BAND; NON-PROFIT BOOTHS; KID MOONWALKS & HAYRIDES

FIREWORKS: 9:15PM





PLAN AND BE PREPARED

STAFFORD OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

2019 HURRICANE SEASON.

The 2019 hurricane season kicked off on June 1st, following a very active 2018 Atlantic Hurricane Season.

Living in an area where storm systems produce hurricanes with damaging winds and tornadoes as well as flooding from heavy rain and storm surge, the one thing we have all learned is that being prepared and having a plan is vital.

Distributed around all City complexes are the Hurricane and Severe weather guides, published by the Houston Galveston Weather Center, which provide a wealth of information on planning and staying safe during a hurricane.

While monitoring the weather through the National Hurricane Center, your City's Emergency Management team will be keeping vigil to assure that in the event of one of these potentially deadly storms, you will be given as much advance notice as possible.

A new innovation, available at the Office of Emergency Management is documents bags for safeguarding your most valuable documents. You may contact our Emergency Management team at 281-261-3947 to get one for free.

The following links contain vital information and tips:

<https://www.nhc.noaa.gov/prepare/ready/php>

https://media.click2houston.com/document_dev/2019/05/31/Hurricane%20Flood%20guide%20191559314284189_21921624_ver1.0.pdf

<http://www.staffordtx.gov/departments/emergency-management/home.html>

STAFFORD SPONSORED SUMMER ACTIVITIES



ONCE MORE STAFFORD PURSUES A VERY ACTIVE SUMMER PROGRAM, LED BY ACTIVITIES AT THE STAFFORD POOL.

POOL HOURS AND FEES

All Stafford residents can obtain a pool/recreation pass for \$15.00 for the entire 2019 season. The 'Family Pass' for Stafford residents of up to 4 family members is \$15.00 for each member and each additional family member will be at a fee of \$10.00 each. The pool is closed on Mondays (non-holidays) for cleaning and maintenance.

POOL HOURS: Tuesday – Friday 10:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Saturday - 11:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Sunday - 12:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

SWIM LESSONS: Swim lessons are offered for ages 4 through adult. Sign up began on May 25th either in person at the pool or by calling 281-499-8783.

STAFFORD SWIM TEAM: Online registration is currently open at www.staffordstingrays.swimtopia.com. You can also register by emailing Yvettehinojosa@yahoo.com.

SUMMER RECREATION PROGRAM

SMSD in conjunction with the City of Stafford has again created a summer recreation program, offering the use of the Spartan Red Gym, Weight Room. To enter the gym you must present the pool/recreation pass – each time, No exceptions. Children under 10 years of age must be accompanied by an adult. All Pool/Gym Passes shall be purchased at the City Pool during regular operating hours. For more information you can contact the SMSD Athletic Department at 281-208-6140.



COMMUNITY BULLETIN

STAFFORD CENTRE EVENTS

July

4th - City of Stafford “2019 Independence Day Celebration”

6th – Belleza Mundo Latino Pageant

26th – 27th – Lee Labrada Classic Competition

August

3rd – Soundbox Studios “ Summer Meltdown”

11th – Sino –US Performing Arts “C Dream Festival 2019”

17th – Indo American “SAPTVARNA – Seven shades of Indian classical dance”

30th – HumFM presents “Saif Ali Khan in Concert”

September

19th – Tobin Entertainment “Little River Band” Concert

21st – Indo American Forum of Fort Bend “Navratri – Dinner & Dance”

21st – Sino Professional Organization “2019 Chinese New Year’s Multi-Art Show”

22nd – Houston Double Ten Celebration Committee presents “Diabolo Dance Troupe”

STAFFORD CIVIC CENTER EVENT

September

14^h – Freedom2Praise “Afro Caribbean Praise Jam” 6:00pm

[Tickets available on www.eventbrite.com]

FIRE AND BURGLAR ALARM FEES

Burglar/Fire Alarm Fees

Residential Alarm Registration - \$30.00

Commerical Burglar Alarm Registration - \$100.00

Commercial Fire Alarm Registration - \$100.00

False Alarm Fees

Three (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 that any dog or cat kept, over four months of age harbored or maintained by their owner in the City, shall be vaccinated and registred with a licensed vetinarian.

Fees: \$2.00 per dog or cat. Bring the animal’s current vaccination certificate to City Hall. All pet registrations expire December 31st.

CITY OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED

Thursday, July 4th 2019 in observance of Independence Day

Monday, September 2nd 2019 in observance of Labor Day

TRASH PICK UP AND TREE LIMB PICK UP

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

Residential Trash Pick-Up: Monday & Thursday or Tuesday & Friday. There will be NO TRASH PICK UP on a Holiday. Your trash will be collected on your next scheduled pick up day.

A LETTER FROM THE MAYOR

AN AGGRESSIVE PROGRAM TO ELEVATE STAFFORD

I wish to express my deepest appreciation to the voters of Stafford for my resounding victory in the May election and my heartfelt gratitude to the Good Lord for his abundance of blessings that has allowed me to lead this City and its people over these many years.

As is becoming widely acknowledged, Stafford has a most storied and widely acclaimed history—and a future with incredible promise. In order to further to solidify our glamorous array of achievements, which includes SMSD, zero property taxes, the Stafford Centre, the 90A corridor with underpasses, a very prominent commercial establishment and a most racially, culturally diverse population that has gained us this esteemed reputation, we should aggressively pursue the following:

- A very inviting SMSD, with impeccable academic standards, that will entice all Stafford students to attend SMSD. Simply, this most unique school district has lost its way. Hundreds of our best and brightest students are choosing to leave. This was the unmistakable message on the campaign trail, borne out by the recent devastating Texas Education Agency report.
- The rejuvenation of FM1092 into a most attractive, highly mobile and commercially enhanced corridor to spark a flurry of growth and development—and increased resources.
- Encourage the expeditious completion of the GRID so as to fulfill its many promises.
- Expanding the Stafford Centre with a unique, innovative, monumental project that will truly transform our City and make it into a point of destination.
- Preserving and perpetuating the Zero City Property Tax. Nothing better defines and distinguishes Stafford.

I look forward to the next four years as exciting, creative, with our City continuing as a beacon of prudence, fiscal responsibility and innovation. Thank you for the opportunity to serve you.

Respectfully submitted,

Leonard Scarcella, Mayor

STAFFORD ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION NEWS

With the summer months in full swing, things are heating up all over Stafford!

The much anticipated El Tiempo Cantina opened May 22 in The Fountains. The service, food and drinks are spectacular and we are so excited to have them finally open here in Stafford! New stores coming to The Fountains will be announced soon!

The first phase of the 1879 at The Grid apartments have opened and are welcoming new residents daily. This is a beautiful addition to the West Airport area and if you or someone you know is looking for a great place to live, the amenities offered are spectacular. Go by for a tour of this upscale community that even boasts its own pet park!

Landscaping along Highway 90 is nearly complete and has managed to make a beautiful thoroughfare even more eye appealing with the clearing out and new plantings along the area. Highway 59/69 is well underway and should be complete in the next few months and will continue into the Fall with new plantings in conjunction with TxDot. You will also see upgraded lighting to the city monuments along with a fresh exterior to go along with all the new landscaping helping to further beatify the city.

As the new budget year approaches, we are excited about upcoming infrastructure projects and an update to our website. As always, we are committed to making Stafford a great place to live, work and play!

Respectfully submitted as the opinion of:

Wen Guerra, President