



# GRAYHAWK IN TOUCH

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## Grayhawk welcomes Stafford Middle School

The opening of Stafford Middle School is a definite welcomed sight next to our Grayhawk community. Frisco ISD has brought another fantastic school to our community.

Stafford has much to offer their students. Athletics, Band, Choir, Orchestra, and Theatre are popular electives. The school also offers multi-media and video production classes.

Robin Scott is the new principal. An educator for 13 years, Robin joined FISD in 2002 as an assistant principal at Staley Middle School. Prior to 2002 she worked in Plano ISD as an administrator, an Academic Specialist and a Special Education teacher. Robin is a creative thinker and has brought much enthusiasm to this campus. Robin sent all the Teachers and Staff on "home visits" to meet the students at the end of the summer. It was a "hands on" concept that started the year off right!

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### Important Information

#### Police and Fire Emergency 911

**Police Non-Emergency**  
972.292.6010

**City of Frisco**  
friscotexas.gov  
972.292.5000

**Sewer & Water**  
972.292.5575

**CWD (Trash Pick-Up)**  
972.392.9300

#### Utilities

**CoServ Electric & Gas**  
940.321.7800

**AT&T (24hr Service Line)**  
800.246.8464

**Time Warner Cable**  
972.PICK-TWC

**SBB Management**  
972.960.2800 x316

#### Local Schools

**Frisco ISD**  
469.633.6000

**Boals Elementary**  
469.633.3300

**Robertson Elementary**  
469.633.3675

**Stafford Middle**  
469.633.5100

**Wakeland High**  
469.633.5700



### Quick Stats

2288 Little River Road  
Frisco, TX 75034

Phone: **469.633.5100**

Fax: **469.633.5110**

Web: **www.friscoisd.org/stafford**

Grades: **6-8th**

Students: **540+**

School Colors: **Maroon and Gold**

Mascot: **Spartans**

Dedicated: **September 21, 2008**

School Motto: **Doing whatever it takes!**

"My goals for Stafford Middle School are BIG. As many of you have discovered from staff members visiting your homes before school even started, we are serious about parent and community involvement. We continue to plan and create opportunities to involve our families, as we know that without this relationship neither of us will be successful." —Robin Scott, Principal

Sue Wilson Stafford, the school's namesake, was born in Madill, Oklahoma, in 1946. She graduated from Madill High and Southeastern Oklahoma State University. She began teaching in 1969 in Oklahoma and moved to Frisco ISD in 1979.

She has taught at the elementary, middle school and high school levels and served as the district's Migrant Education Coordinator from 1983-1994. She currently teaches students at the alternative program for middle school students and also teaches English as a Second Language and GED preparation classes to adults in the evenings. Her work with students has always extended outside of the classroom and she has worked countless hours for Frisco's youth over the years.

The Grayhawk community welcomes Stafford Middle school and looks forward to a great partnership!

More information regarding Stafford Middle school and all of the other schools in Grayhawk will be communicated through our website and in our quarterly newsletters.



## Santa and Mrs. Claus are coming to Grayhawk!



### Grayhawk Winter Bazaar

Where: **Stafford Middle School**

When: **Saturday November 15th 1—5 PM**

Santa and Mrs. Claus will be available for pictures with the kiddos from 1—3 PM. Bring your own camera and capture the special moment!

### 'Tis the Season for Giving

**Toy Drive** – bring a new unwrapped toy and/or holiday gift-wrap. Help give a needy child a happy holiday.

**Blood Drive** – Carter Blood Care will be there with their mobile unit. The blood banks are low – help save lives!

### 'Tis the Season for Fun

Fun Sporting activities for all ages!

Free festive snack treats! Face painting and more!

### 'Tis the Season for Shopping

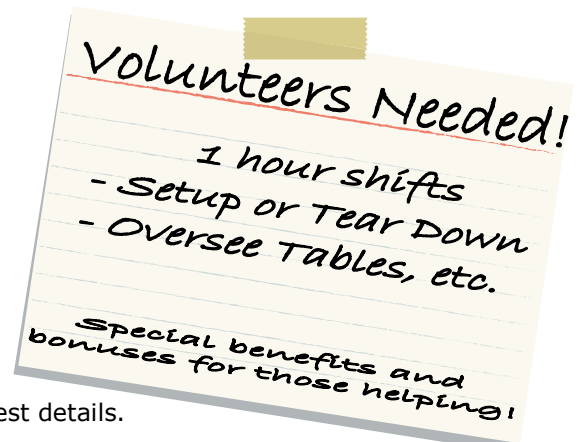
**Vendor fair** – Shop for your holiday gifts!

### 'Tis the Season for Better Health

**Health fair** – Free health screenings!

Check the Social Committee page on the Grayhawk website for the latest details.

For information regarding vendor participation or volunteering send an email to [social@grayhawkfrisco.com](mailto:social@grayhawkfrisco.com).



## Grayhawk Moms

*Supporting all Moms in Grayhawk*

To join visit

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/grayhawkmoms>

## ADVERTISE HERE

To advertise in a future issue of *Grayhawk In Touch* contact the Communications Committee by email at

[communications@grayhawkfrisco.com](mailto:communications@grayhawkfrisco.com)

for more information

## July 4th Parade—a Huge Success



Grayhawk's first annual July 4th parade was an overwhelming success. The Frisco Fire Department led the parade through Grayhawk along Talon Drive around Grayhawk Hill and ended near Falcons Field Park. Frisco Police joined in the festivities bringing up the tail of a parade that involved an estimated 150-200 people in cars, on bikes, on foot, and in costumes. Young and old alike waved flags and displayed their patriotic colors all along the parade route.

Next year's parade has the potential to be an even bigger success. Every day brings more people to the Grayhawk community through the construction of new homes. Many of those people will become involved in activities here in our neighborhood.

Be sure to check out more pictures found in the **Photo Albums** on the Grayhawk HOA website.







## Safe Trick-or-Treating

The Frisco Police Department is committed to providing a safe environment for the city's citizens to celebrate Halloween. The Frisco Police Department has put together these tips to allow the children of the city to enjoy a happy AND safe Halloween.



### Top 10 Safety Tips for Halloween

- 10. NEVER** let children trick-or-treat alone.
- 9.** Do not enter houses; only accept candy in the doorway.
- 8.** Try to finish trick-or-treating before dark, and carry a flashlight just in case.
- 7.** Make sure all pets (particularly dogs) are secured indoors. A costumed child may frighten a pet causing it to become aggressive or bite.
- 6.** Plan your route and make sure your family knows where you are.
- 5.** Only visit houses of people you know and are comfortable with.
- 4.** Choose a costume that is flame retardant/resistant.
- 3.** Make sure masks, wigs and head coverings do not obstruct the child's vision.
- 2.** Make sure the costumes are easily seen by motorists and short enough to eliminate the danger of tripping.
- 1.** Children should **NEVER** eat candy until parents have inspected it. If in doubt about the safety of the candy, **DO NOT** eat it!



## Website Updates

The Communications Committee is always striving to provide information in a timely manner as well as make it easier for people get involved in Grayhawk and find neighbors with similar interests. We now have nearly 800 residents registered on the website. It should be noted that while information shown in the Resident Directory is visible only to registered residents of Grayhawk, not all of the users choose to show their information in the Resident Directory.

Here are some examples of the latest additions to our website with more to come:

**FAQ—** Frequently Asked Questions to the Board and Committees will be posted in this area to help people find answers quickly to common questions.

**Message Board Email Notification—**In late July we added this functionality to the Message Board. In order to get email sent every time a new message is posted to the message board, simply click on the '**Subscribe**' button at the top of the Message Board. Posting new messages and replying to previous posts still requires logging in to the website and cannot be handled through email.

**Grayhawk Groups—**If you have a group or social gathering and you would like to extend an invitation out to the residents of Grayhawk please send your information to the Communications Committee.

**Grayhawk Business Directory—**Connecting residents to businesses that are located in or owned by someone living in Grayhawk.

**Helping Hands—**Dedicated section of the website used by the Helping Hands Committee to coordinate volunteers to assist residents during their time of need in life events such as the birth of a new baby, illness or death in the family.

**Grayhawk Schools (Coming Soon)—**We will be working with the surrounding schools to better incorporate them into our community and provide them an avenue for communicating news and events to everyone in Grayhawk.

If you have not had a chance to check out the HOA website, visit **[www.grayhawkfrisco.com](http://www.grayhawkfrisco.com)**.



## Committee Updates

**Architectural Control Committee (ACC)**— To get the Request for Home Improvement or Architectural Approval form contact SBB or print the forms from the HOA website documents section.

Note: Typical approval time frames are approximately 7 days.

**Beautification Committee**— Grayhawk's Showcase Yards are here! Check out **page 5** for more information.

**Communications Committee**— Continually maintaining and updating the Grayhawk HOA website to provide the latest HOA related news and information. Nearly 800 users have registered for access on the website in just the first 4 months, representing nearly half of all of the current homes in Grayhawk. The more residents that register on the website, the easier it will be to communicate through email when time sensitive important information needs to be disseminated quickly.

New features have been added to the site that residents should find helpful. Some of those features include email notification of new messages posted to the message board as well as a dedicated page for the Helping Hands Committee. The Classified Ads section of the website has been updated to allow photos to be added to ads, reflect when new ads are posted, and categorizing of the ads for easier readability. A Grayhawk Business Directory is now available where those that own businesses here in Grayhawk can list their business for the residents of Grayhawk to see.

**Safety / Crime Watch Committee**— After evaluation of several companies, we have submitted recommendations to the HOA Board of Directors for a keycard access and camera system for the two pools. We are also working with the City on issues involving the pedestrian tunnel.

Everyone is encouraged to participate in National Night Out the evening of Oct 7<sup>th</sup>. This night is set aside every year to bring neighbors together and let criminals know that we are empowered and informed. We also continually strive to encourage active participation in the Frisco Neighborhood Watch Program.

**Social Committee**— Coordinating and organizing events through the remainder of 2008. Those events include:

**Neighborhood Garage Sale (Saturday November 1st)** This is a date designed to bring in garage sale traffic to the neighborhood. Plan a garage sale at your home. The more individual sales going on within the neighborhood, the more traffic each will get.

**Winter Bazaar (Saturday November 15th)** 1—5 PM at Stafford Middle School. See **page 2** for details. The original event that was planned for October 18th had to be changed to this date due to circumstances beyond our control. We apologize for any inconvenience this has caused and hope you enjoy the new event.

**Volunteers are needed for the Winter Bazaar.** We need help setting up and tearing down the event as well as people to help oversee the vendor tables. There are special benefits and bonuses to those that help with this event. For more information contact the Social Committee by sending an email to **social@grayhawkfrisco.com**.

### Grayhawk Helping Hands

Coordinates volunteers to assist residents by providing meals, babysitting, running errands etc, during times of need. Support from neighbors during events such as the birth of a baby or illness is wonderful. Let us know when you or a neighbor needs a helping hand or if you are interested in volunteering.

For more information please contact Beth Kleiber at **helpinghands@grayhawkfrisco.com**

### Grayhawk's Committees Need Volunteers!

*We Need You!*

Find out how you can help Grayhawk by contacting Betty Crudden (**b.crudden@sbbmanagement.com**)



## Showcase Yards Launch

The Beautification Committee is proud to announce the launch of the Grayhawk HOA Showcase Yards. Five yards will be chosen during the peak yard season as well as periodically in dormant winter months. Neighbors with great curb appeal will have an HOA Showcase sign posted in their yard as well as recognition in Grayhawk In Touch and on the website under the Beautification Committee page.

Showcase Yards recognize owners who go above and beyond with landscaping excellence and those requiring lower maintenance that are just darned pleasant to see every day. The program promotes community pride, curb appeal and ideas for neighbors to improve their lawns regardless of the time and gardening skill they have.



Give a big GREEN THUMBS UP to our first winners and be sure to ask for their secrets if you see them in the neighborhood!

### August Showcase Yards:

**Joe and Doreen Schneider** - 13446 Roadster Drive

**Juan and Martha Diaz** - 13735 Stevens Point Drive

**Kristie and Shawn McKernan** - 12706 Swan Lake Drive

**James and Jean Seyfert** - 12438 Cardinal Creek Drive

**Nicole and Mike McGuire** - 1043 Marquette Drive

If you would like to nominate a deserving neighbor, send their address to the Beautifications Committee through the **Contact Us** page on the website or send an email to [beautification@grayhawkfrisco.com](mailto:beautification@grayhawkfrisco.com).

## Organic Grass Killing for Planting Beds



If you are like most Grayhawk homeowners, there are a few areas in your yard you want to improve. Maybe it's a planting bed for tulips, a tough spot to mow you'd just as soon mulch, or some decorative beds in the front yard area. But how do you get rid of that lush carpet of grass? Digging the sod may be an option, but it also removes topsoil you may need for planting. Harsh chemical killers do the job, but are

not always satisfactory and often take several weeks of ugly browning and reapplication.

Using newspaper and mulch is a surprisingly effective and nutritious way to get a beautiful plant bed. Simply mark off the bed using edging. Mow or trim the existing grass as short as possible. Then lay down newspaper with overlapping sections to a depth of about  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch. A watering can to wet the paper and bucket of mulch to lay over the top will keep it from blowing away. Finish with mulch a couple inches deep. The paper covering kills the grass and decomposes into the soil as organic mulch (don't worry about the inks, they're mostly nontoxic soy now). The entire process will take a few weeks, and you may need to repaper some areas, but you'll have a great planting bed! Just punch through where you want to plant and voila!

### Watch Your Speed



Remember the speed limit on residential streets is 30 MPH and 15 MPH in our alley ways.



## City of Frisco News and Updates



### Road Construction Updates

City of Frisco Engineer Services Staff Report from September 2, 2008

<http://www.friscotexas.gov/departments/engineering>



### State Projects

**FM 2934/Eldorado Parkway (FM 423 – DNT)** – Project to widen the existing two lane road to a six lane urban roadway with curb and gutter. TxDOT bid the project in February 2008, and construction is expected to begin in September, pending relocation of utilities. Franchise utility companies continue to work on finishing the relocation of facilities along Eldorado ahead of a September start date. Construction is expected to take 26 months, but the contractor is analyzing ways to improve upon the original schedule.

**FM 423 (SH 121 – US 380)** – Project to widen the existing two lane road to a six lane urban roadway with curb and gutter. Environmental clearance (FONSI) for the Middle and North Sections was received on July 7, 2006, and ROW acquisition will be conducted by TxDOT in accordance with the SH 121 Memorandum of Understanding.

North Section (Eldorado – US 380) – Staff completed review of the 95% plans on July 2, 2008. Design is expected to be completed in January 2009. The north section is scheduled to be bid by TXDOT in early 2010, or upon completion of ROW acquisition and utility relocation. Construction is anticipated to require 24 months.

Middle Section (Stewart Creek – Eldorado) – Jacobs Carter Burgess has submitted 100% plans to the District for final review. Right of Way acquisition is approximately 50% complete. . Coordination with the utility companies continues as they have been requested to submit completed Utility Packages by June 2008. The middle section is scheduled to be bid by TXDOT in August 2009, or upon completion of ROW acquisition and utility relocations. Construction is anticipated to require 24 months.

### City Projects

**Panther Creek Parkway (DNT – Teel) and Legacy Drive** - This project constructed 4 lanes of arterial street in a location where no roadway existed to provide traffic relief for Eldorado Parkway. Construction began in January 2008 and Panther Creek Parkway was opened for traffic on July 2, 2008. Crews have completed subgrade stabilization of Legacy Drive and paving began on August 6, 2008. Substantial completion of Legacy Drive is anticipated in September

**Teel Parkway (Panther Creek Parkway to North of Little River)** – Project to construct the two northbound lanes widening the roadway to four lanes. This project is jointly funded by Fisd. Construction began in May 2008. Utilities have been installed and subgrade preparation has begun. Poor weather eliminated the possibility of completing pavement prior to school starting in August 2008. Rodman Excavating is focused on finishing the roadway in early September and minimizing the impact to Fisd. Project completion is anticipated in November 2008.

**Panther Creek / Legacy (Traffic Signal)** – This signal is expected to be complete next month.

## Chunk Your Junk

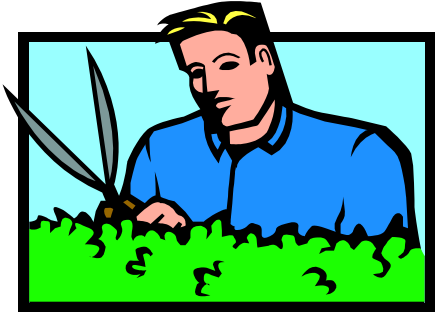
Is your old paperwork piling up? Is your garage full of furniture, toys and chemicals that are way past their prime? Here is a chance to manage the mess. Bring your discards to the next 'Chunk Your Junk' event on **Saturday, November 15th from 8 a.m. to noon**. The one-stop drop off for all your unwanted items is located at **6616 Walnut St.**, next door to the City of Frisco's Environmental Collection Center.

For more information or directions visit [www.friscotexas.gov](http://www.friscotexas.gov) or call **972-292-5900**.



## Landscaping Tips to Help Prevent Crime

How can landscaping help prevent crime? Certainly, landscaping cannot prevent all crime, but it is the first layer of defense to your home or business. By making an exterior inhospitable to criminals, you can decrease your chances of becoming the next victim. First and foremost, do not provide a hiding place or shelter for intruders: trees should be trimmed to a minimum height of 6 feet, shrubs should be no taller than 3 feet and the area surrounding the structure should not be overgrown.



Borders, paths and fences also play a psychological role in preventing unwanted individuals from encroaching on your property. Borders help define private property from common areas. As borders are crossed, the risk for the criminal increases.

**Lights!** Criminals do not want to be seen. Effective lighting is essential and also forms a border around your property. Ideally, lighting would be motion sensitive to only people on your property, not to cars just passing by. Of course, be considerate: security lights should only illuminate your property, not your neighbor's.

Securing your home or business involves layers of defense. Those layers can be aesthetically pleasing and functional at the same time.

As a service to the residents of Frisco, the Frisco Police Department Community Services Division offers free home security evaluations. If you are interested in an evaluation, please contact the **Frisco Police Community Services Division** at (972) 292-6134 or (972) 292-6139 for more information.

## Simple Vehicle Burglary Prevention Tips

Here are some simple vehicle burglary prevention tips to follow that may help keep you, your family, friends or neighbors from becoming a victim. These steps should be used whenever and wherever you park your vehicle, whether you are just "running in for a minute" or parking for the evening.

- **ALWAYS** close your windows, lock your vehicle and garage doors - an open or unlocked window/garage door is an invitation to a criminal and an easy target.
- Park in well lit areas close to the building - or if at home in the garage (always the best option).  
If you must park in your driveway utilize (or install) floodlights - installed above/around your garage set on a motion detector to illuminate your driveway, as this will help discourage a Burglar (lighting is one of the best property crime deterrents).
- **ALWAYS** remove loose valuables from your vehicle - including the garage door opener .



## Frisco Neighborhood Watch

Meeting Location: **Frisco Police Station** (7200 Stonebrook Pkwy)

Next Meetings: **7:00 PM on October 27th**

Frequency: **4th Monday of every month (except November/December)**

For more information visit **[www.frisconehoodwatch.com](http://www.frisconehoodwatch.com)**

Come out and join us to learn how doing simple things around our Grayhawk Community can help to make this a safe and happy place to live through knowledge and friendship.

**GRAYHAWK NEEDS MORE BLOCK CAPTAINS!**

