



FRISCO LOVES A PARADE!

A crowded Main Street filled with school bands, beauty queens, floats and clowns is a Frisco tradition that community volunteers Mike Simpson, Buddy Minett, Lee Myrben and others are determined to foster—even if it costs a bit of cash.

This year's community parade theme is once again Salute to the Troops. The event is scheduled for November 8 at 11 a.m. Registration is available online at FriscoParade.com. State Congressman Ralph Hall is scheduled to be grand marshal.

The parade committee is hoping to entice parade participants to be creative by offering cash prizes and trophies for school float entries. The schools with the best overall entries will be eligible for a Grand prize of \$1,000, a runner-up prize of \$500 and honorable mention \$250. This is a nod to the parade's roots in the old Frisco High School homecoming parade.

In addition to schools being eligible to win cash there will also be trophies for the best high school, middle school and elementary float in their category. The judges will be announced closer to the parade date.

"The committee wants the parade to become bigger and better every year. We've worked hard this year to come up with incentives to attract floats and entries from the schools. We know that booster clubs and parent groups have the necessary volunteer force to come up with creative ideas for entries. In coming years we may expand our categories. This is the first time cash awards have been offered," Simpson said. "I would really like to see us get a corporate sponsorship and be able to offer even more prizes."

The prize money for this year's event is being provided through funds charged for entry in the parade and will not come from the City or the FISD, according to

parade committee members. Additional money raised will be donated to the Frisco Education Foundation for scholarships.

Frisco began holding a parade back in the 1960s to celebrate Frisco High School's Homecoming. At that time, with only a few thousand folks living here, the entire town got involved. Committee member Buddy Minett can trace his ties back that far because his in-laws were early parent volunteer float builders. Minett and wife Joni have continued that family tradition for their five daughters. With today's parade having evolved into a community-based patriotic concept instead of football rivalry, this year's community parade will still attempt to engage the entire town – but on a much larger scale.

"We hope this new twist on an old tradition is one that Frisco will continue to embrace and nurture for the future," Minett said.

Saturday, November 8, 11 am Downtown Frisco



For more information on participation and sponsorship, go to friscoparade.com

