**Growing up in the City of Frisco Through the Eyes of a 15-Year Resident**

By: Emma Gueorguieva

 When I first moved to the city, I was four years old. I remember playing simon says with our realtor who told my mom to call him when I finally understood how the game worked. On our first day moving in, we went to the Albertsons nearby and buying a box of juice pouches from a brand that no longer exists, and coming home to set them next to our silver toaster oven, the only furniture that had arrived to the house at that time. Our neighborhood was at the end of a dead-end street, so it had a largely tranquil atmosphere that only residents nearby would quietly drive through to return home for the night.

 I take those memories out of the bottle they normally reside in when I am trying to make a left turn on what is now one of the busiest streets in the city, when I drive past the streetlamps which replaced the purple wildflowers that would bloom every spring, or when I sit in traffic on a Tuesday night, wondering how many cars it will take to fill up the multiplying streets and shrinking green landscape I ran around on as a child.

 I would not say that I resent the innovation this city has experienced, because, largely, it has been for the greater good. However, I find it hard not to reflect back on what the city of Frisco used to be like, and, as I prepare myself to move to Austin for college, I realize I have learned quite a few lessons I feel essential to be passed down.

 First and foremost, it is important to know that Preston is a street almost entirely avoidable, and should be, at all costs. The traffic piles up so bad intersections get blocked off, which is not good news for the frustrated commuter looking to make it home. Parkwood is a street more and more people are beginning to become aware of, and should be avoided between 4:45 and 6:30pm. Wade is a savior for me, especially as Stonebrook grows busier, since not many people tend to drive that way. Legacy, similar to Preston, is a street that should be avoided if possible, but if I had to choose between the two I would definitely advise taking Legacy.

 Besides learning the streets, something else I have had the ability to realize about the city of Frisco is that its school district is truly exceptional. As an incoming college students, I do not feel as nervous about the workload I will be taking next year, and know I am prepared to study for finals as I have developed proper study habits. I would definitely recommend to anyone searching for the right district for their child to seriously consider Frisco ISD.

 Another thing I would advise to newcomers would be to try as many restaurants as possible. The breakfast, lunch, and dinner options are broad and delicious all over the city, and neighboring Plano, Addison, and Dallas have even more options that Frisco itself lacks. Alongside the various and increasing meal options, Frisco itself is simply a beautiful destination. One of my favorite places is the city park, as it is wonderfully constructed and family-friendly, prepared to handle any picnic or walking adventure. Main street, running through the heart of the city, is a mandatory destination for those who want to experience the unique culture of Frisco and get a sweet treat from the famous Snow Cone Lady when it is inevitably scorching outside.

 While the weather changes on a whim, my love for the city only grows with every passing day and anyone who has moved here believes the exact same thing. I feel lucky to have grown up in such a diverse and continually-innovative city, because I have gotten opportunities I would have never received anywhere else, and I would not be able to have written this article without!

 Mostly, my greatest piece of advice would be to anyone contemplating moving to the city of Frisco: living here changes your life for the better!