



# Lucas City Newsletter

April, 2006

151 Country Club Road, Lucas TX 75002 • 972/727-8999 • www.lucastexas.us

## City Council

- Bob Sanders, Mayor  
(bsanders@lucastexas.us)
- Mike Marafine, Mayor Pro Tem  
(mmarafine@lucastexas.us)
- Bill Camisole, Councilmember  
(bcarmickle@lucastexas.us)
- Debbie Fisher, Councilmember  
(dfisher@lucastexas.us)
- Tonga Frazier, Councilmember  
(tfrazier@lucastexas.us)
- Don Briny, Councilmember  
(dbriny@lucastexas.us)

## City Administrator

- Charles Fanner  
(cfanner@lucastexas.us)

## Meeting Schedule

All meetings begin at 7:00 in the City Annex unless otherwise specified.

City Council Regular	April 3
Planning & Zoning	April 10
City Council Workshop	April 17
Parks & Open Spaces	April 24
Municipal Court	April 26, 2:00 PM

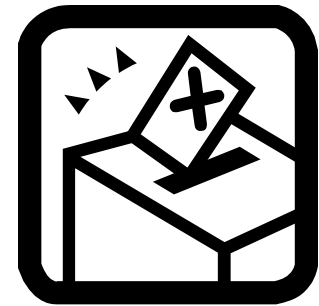
“What is the difference between a taxidermist and a tax collector? The taxidermist only takes your skin!”

Mark Twain

## MAY 13, 2006 GENERAL ELECTION

In addition to the many State and County offices up for election in May, three (3) Lucas City Council seats are also on the ballot. Six candidates have filed for these positions and are listed in order by their position on the ballot (determined by drawing):

- Tonda Frazier (incumbent)
- Kathleen Peele
- Michael Hughes
- Steve Chapman
- Debbie Fisher (incumbent)
- Mike Marafine (incumbent)
- Charlie Gaines



There will be two “Meet the Candidate” forums held at the City Annex:

- Sunday, April 30, 3PM-5PM
- Thursday, May 4, 7PM-9PM

There will be guest moderators at each of these events. Once details on these moderators are available, the information will be posted on the city website.

The last day to register to vote is **April 13** and early voting begins on **May 1**. As a result of new legislation, polls will be open twelve hours on two of the early voting days, **May 2** and **May 9**. The polls will be open on those two days from 6AM-6PM. **May 9** will be the last day early voting is allowed. On **Election Day, May 13**, polls will be open from 7AM-7PM.

We urge you to attend the “Meet the Candidates” forums, and, most of all, we urge you to **VOTE**. Make your voices heard and your votes count!!! Your futures as citizens of Lucas are in the hands of the city council you elect!

**SPRING FORWARD!**

**It's time to switch to Daylight Savings Time. Don't forget to set your clocks forward one hour at 2:00 AM, Sun. Apr. 2. It's also a good time to change your smoke detector batteries.**

## WELCOME NEW FACES AT CITY HALL



**Jeanice Martin and Delta Moody**

We want to welcome our two newest employees at City Hall.

**Delta Moody** is our administrative assistant-utility billing. Delta is married with two children, a daughter, 22, and a son, 16. She previously worked for the City of McKinney. Delta and her family live in Farmersville.

**Jeanice Martin** is our administrative assistant-accounts payable. Jeanice is married with two children, a son, 14, and a daughter, 11. Jeanice and her family are residents of Lucas. Both of these ladies are welcome additions to our staff. Be sure to say hello when you are at City Hall.

## NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

Please submit all requests or suggestions to the following email address: [newsletter@lucastexas.us](mailto:newsletter@lucastexas.us). Submissions must be received by the 15th of the month in order to be included in the next month's publication. As a reminder, advertisements for any business cannot be accepted. Items of broad general interest to the community as a whole are encouraged.

## AEROBIC SYSTEMS REMINDER

If your home has an aerobic septic system, you are required by Collin County to have routine maintenance performed at least three times a year. The company performing the maintenance is required to report to the County within 14 days of inspection or maintenance. To make sure your maintenance is being properly reported, visit the following website::

[http://co.collin.tx.us/development\\_services/reports/aerobic\\_system\\_list.html](http://co.collin.tx.us/development_services/reports/aerobic_system_list.html)

Visit the City of Lucas website for links to more information on all types of septic systems, including checklists and "do's and don'ts". A well maintained system can last for years. A poorly maintained system can be a nightmare!



## EARTH DAY

Small steps can reap big rewards when enough people are taking those steps together. That is the basic premise of

Earth Day, celebrated around the world on April, 22. Pollution and waste negatively impact all of us. What can each of us do to make a difference? There are many things, and a number of them are quite simple.

- Choosing local native plants for your landscaping and garden can save water. These plants thrive on the normal rainfall of our region. See [www.txsmartscape.com](http://www.txsmartscape.com) for more information.
- Rather than using chemical-based pesticides to keep the wild critters from eating your landscape or garden plants, try natural remedies such as cayenne pepper or commercially produced organic solutions such as Liquid Fence or Nature's Guide Garlic Pepper Tea.
- Water plants differently according to what they need. Check with local nurseries for advice.
- Use soaker hoses or trickle irrigation systems for trees and shrubs.
- Sweep outside porches, walks, patios etc. instead of using a water hose.
- Buy permanent items instead of disposables (i.e permanent coffee filters instead of paper).
- Buy frequently used items in bulk to save on packaging.
- Reuse or repurpose items whenever possible. Pass along unused items such as leftover paints to others to use.
- Repair all leaks. A leaky toilet can waste as much as 200 gallons of water per day.
- Participate in community recycling programs.

These are a few ways we can make a difference. For more ideas and information, check out [www.earthday.gov](http://www.earthday.gov).



## **MARCH CITY COUNCIL ACTIONS**

(Complete text of all resolutions and ordinances may be found on the City website.)

There were no new ordinances or resolutions enacted in March.

## **APRIL AGENDAS**

(All agendas/items are subject to change. For the most up-to-date agendas, check at City Hall or on the City website 72 hours prior to meetings.)

### **City Council Meeting, April 3, 2006**

- Consideration/Discussion/Action to approve a Development Agreement between the City and Lakeview Development.
- Consideration/Discussion/Action to approve Lakeview Downs Final Plat..
- Public Hearing on amending the Comprehensive Plan to include a Master Park Plan.

### **City Council Workshop Meeting, April 17, 2006**

- Public Hearing on amending Chapter 6 Subdivision and Development Regulations of the Code of Ordinances.
- Consideration/Discussion/Action on Fox Glenn Preliminary Plat.
- Consideration/Discussion/Action to approve amendment to the City's Comprehensive Plan for the Master Thoroughfare Plan.
- Consideration/Discussion/Action to approve amendment to the City's Comprehensive Plan for the Master Water Plan (*copy available at City Hall for review*).
- Consideration/Discussion/Action on the current population estimate for the City of Lucas.
- Discussion and update from Economic Committee.
- Consideration/Discussion/Action on Budget Adjustments.

### **Planning & Zoning Meeting, April 10, 2006**

- Consideration/Discussion/Action to amendment to the City's Comprehensive Plan for the Master Thoroughfare Plan.
- Consideration/Discussion/Action on 192 Stinson Preliminary/Final Plat.
- Consideration/Discussion/Action on Cameron Subdivision, located at Snider and Shady Lane.

### **Parks & Open Spaces Meeting, April 24, 2006**

To be determined.

## **HAPPY BIRTHDAY, BEN!**

By David Leonard, Captain/ EMT-B

Lucas Volunteer Fire Department

Benjamin Franklin was born 300 years ago on January 17, 1706. We have all heard about his many inventions and accomplishments, but did you know that he can also likely be called the first volunteer fireman?

Franklin is credited with founding Philadelphia's (and possibly America's) first organized fire department. After noting how men of all ranks and professions rushed to help fight fires, Franklin suggested a "Club or Society of active Men belonging to each Fire Engine; whose Business is to attend all Fires with it whenever they happen."

Under Franklin's leadership, a group of thirty men came together to form the Union Fire Company on December 7, 1736. Their equipment included "leather buckets, with strong bags and baskets (for packing and transporting goods), which were to be brought to every fire. The blaze battlers met monthly to talk about fire prevention and fire-fighting methods. Thanks to the matchless leadership of Benjamin Franklin, the dire fear of fires expired in Philadelphia, which became one of the safest cities in the world in terms of fire damage.

The Lucas Volunteer Fire Department looks to the past for a lineage of firefighting service, but we are also looking ahead to determine the future needs of the citizens of Lucas. The similarities between the Union Fire Company and the Lucas VFD are strong, including the cross section of abilities and ages in the membership, as well as a strong commitment to the community.

Our pool of talent includes career firefighters, automobile technicians, software programmers and safety professionals. Salesman, heavy equipment operators, and management types enhance the ranks of our members. The membership includes volunteers of all ages.

Whereas our firefighting forefathers used buckets and hand pumps, we have some of the best and most up to date equipment available. Like our ancestors, the membership meets regularly to train and retain the skills necessary to be a first class department. Meetings are held on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month.

New schools, increasing population and heavier traffic are new challenges faced by the department but because of past and present leadership, the Lucas Volunteer Fire Department stands ready to protect and serve the citizens of our community.

Anyone who desires to be part of the continuing lineage of volunteer firefighting is welcome to submit an application or attend one of the regularly scheduled training meetings at the fire station.



### MAKE IT EASY ON YOURSELF

If like so many of us, you are busy, stressed out, or just plain forgetful, there is a way to make it a little easier on yourself when it comes bill-paying time. You can automate the payment of your water bill. All you have to do is to complete a **Direct Payment Form**, attach a voided check or deposit slip, and either mail to or drop off at City Hall. A copy of the form can be obtained and printed from the City website or picked up at City Hall. You will still receive your water bill in the mail each month. Direct payment is fast, easy, and convenient.

### BURN BAN LIFTED

Due to our recent rainfall, the outdoor burn ban has now been lifted. You should still use extreme caution when doing any outdoor burning. For complete information regarding **City of Lucas Burn Control Guidelines**, either check the City of Lucas website, or call the Lucas Fire Department at 972-727-1242 or City Hall at 972-727-8999.

Burn days for the City of Lucas correspond with Collin County burn days. These burn days are for brush and vegetation only. Dial 972-424-1460 ext. 4799 for burn day information.

All controlled burns must be reported to Plano Dispatch at 972-941-7900 (request fire dispatch) prior to the start of the burn. You will need to provide your name, location, and intended time of burn.

Again, we urge you to read the **City of Lucas Burn Control Guidelines** prior to any burn. These guidelines contain complete information you should have prior to any burning activities. Please be cautious and keep your family and your property safe!

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**DON'T FORGET SAT., APRIL 22**  
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That's the date of the First Annual Lucas Country Parade. Read your newsletter insert for complete details on this fun event "Celebrating Our Country Way of Life."  
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CITY OF LUCAS  
151 COUNTRY CLUB  
LUCAS, TEXAS 75002

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