



Lucas City Newsletter

February, 2006

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

City Council

Bob Sanders, Mayor
Mike Marafine, Mayor Pro Tem
Bill Carmickle, Councilmember
Debbie Fisher, Councilmember
Tonda Frazier, Councilmember
Don Zriny, Councilmember

City Administrator

Charles Fenner



MAYOR'S COMMENTS

The Home Rule Commission has been appointed by the City Council for the purpose of drafting a proposed Home Rule Charter. It is the responsibility of the Charter Commission, not the Council, to draft a proposed charter. At their meetings, the Commission reviews and determines what provisions shall be placed in the charter. Once the charter is completed and the council votes to call an election, the proposed Charter will be submitted to the qualified voters of the City of Lucas. It is not the role of the Council to influence the work of the Commission during their meetings or citizens on how to vote. The final say on whether the City of Lucas should become a Home Rule City will be **YOURS**.

Meeting Schedule

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

Home Rule Charter Commission

Call city hall for dates

City Council Regular

February 6

Planning & Zoning

February 13

City Council Workshop

February 20

Parks & Open Spaces

February 27

Municipal Court

February 22, 2:00 PM

Let us never forget that government is ourselves and not an alien power over us. The ultimate rulers of our democracy are not a president and senators and congressmen and government officials, but the voters of this country.

Franklin D. Roosevelt

HOME RULE COMMISSION UPDATE

The commission continues to make progress on the re-drafting of a proposed Home Rule Charter. A number of important issues have been reviewed and are recommended to be included in the charter as of the meeting of January 12th. The following summarizes some of these provisions.

- *Form of Government to remain Council-Mayor-City Administrator*
- *Number of Council members to remain at 5.*
- *Council members and Mayor will continue to serve for 2 year terms.*
- *Establishment of Code of Ethics mandated by Charter.*
- *No specific tax cap will be included .(Tax cap as set by state law will still apply.)*
- *Provision calling for citizen vote on waste water (sewer)agreements removed from charter draft.. Power to enter into waste water (sewer) agreements will remain with city council.*
- *Citizens will have powers of Recall, Referendum, and Initiative.*

Once the entire proposed charter has been drafted, commissioners will then have the opportunity to review and discuss any changes, additions, or deletions to the final proposal prior to presenting to the city council for their review. Dates for further meetings will be determined based upon the time needed to complete this process. You may call city hall or check the city website for updates on future meetings. A decision by council to include on the May 13th ballot must be made by Feb. 11th.

Collin County Wins National Night Out Award



From left: Janice Nickolson, *San Remo-Princeton*, Dewey Hill, *Blue Ridge*, Deputy Dickie Thomas, Sheriff Terry Box, Lee Ford, *"Ford" Watch Group-Lucas*, Judy Parmalee, *New Hope*, Eldon Streck, *Hillcrest Watch Group-Lucas*, Deputy James Murphy, Carolyn Rasmussen, *"Tara" Watch Group-Lucas*

Lucas "Tara" Crime Watch Group recently won the 2005 Collin County National Night Out Award. In 2004 the same award was won by the "Ford" Watch Group, also of Lucas. Collin County was selected as a National Award Winner for its outstanding participation in the 22nd National Night Out (NNO) initiative against crime, drugs, and violence. Collin Co. placed nineteenth in the nation in its population category and was one of only three Texas counties to be recognized, including Houston/Harris Co. and Travis Co. This year's event was the largest ever, involving 34.8 million people in 10,750 communities from 50 states, US territories and military bases worldwide.

Congratulations to "Tara" Watch Group, Carolyn Rasmussen, coordinator, and "Ford" Watch Group, Lee Ford, coordinator, for their outstanding achievements.

Salutes are also due to the block captains and residents of these neighborhoods for their support and participation in this important program. All Lucas Crime Watch Groups are to be commended for their willingness to take a stand against crime by supporting this initiative. Lucas also owes a big thank you to Sheriff Terry Box, Deputies D.L. Thomas and James Murphy of the Crime Prevention Unit, as well as our own deputy, Chris Meehan.

For more information on how you can start a Neighborhood Crime Watch Group call Deputy Thomas at 972-547-5167 or Deputy Murphy at 972-547-5118.

SHARING THE ROAD WITH EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT

By Captain David Leonard, EMT-B, Lucas VFD

As much as I enjoy being a volunteer firefighter, there is one thing in particular that really scares me. When an emergency vehicle is answering a call, many citizens put themselves and the volunteer firefighters at risk by refusing to comply with Texas laws regarding sharing the roadway with emergency vehicles. Often we observe citizens refusing to yield to oncoming engines that have their lights and sirens on. On two lane roads with little or no shoulders the difficulty of quickly navigating a large fire engine is magnified. Before anyone is allowed to operate one of the two engines, they must attend and pass three separate training classes, and pass a special written Texas Driver test. I would like to remind everyone of the "DO's & DON'T's" for sharing the road with an emergency vehicle.

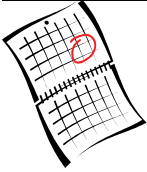
DO:

- Know the state laws when it comes to yielding to an emergency vehicle.
- Remain calm and don't panic when emergency vehicles approach.
- Move your vehicle to the right, if at all possible. Then come to a complete stop and wait. Remember to **MOVE TO THE RIGHT FOR LIGHTS & SIRENS**.
- Stay put at an intersection, stop sign or traffic light if you cannot pull to the right. **DON'T TRY TO RUN THE INTERSECTION AHEAD OF THE APPARATUS**.
- Before you move on, make sure another emergency vehicle isn't coming along after the first one. Very often there are numerous vehicles in close proximity to each other.

DON'T:

- Stop in the middle of an intersection. (Proceed through it, then pull over to the right.)
- Stop in the middle of the lane when there is room to pull to the right
- Pull to the left in the center yellow lane or left turn lane.
- Race ahead to get through a green light or turn before the emergency vehicle gets there.
- Make a left turn quickly into a driveway or side street.
- Disregard the emergency vehicle and continue to travel.

Please help the emergency responders by giving us a little extra room so we can keep everyone safe.



MAY 13TH ELECTION

Three city council seats will be up for election in May. These seats are currently held by Council members Marafine, Frazier, and Fisher. The first date to file for a place on the ballot is Feb. 11th. The last day is Mar. 13th. Packets are available at city hall for persons interested in running for these offices. Remember, you must register to vote by Apr. 13th in order to vote in this election. Early voting begins May 2nd. For further information contact city hall.

VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER RECRUITMENT DAY



Lucas VFD will be holding its annual recruitment event on February 26 from 1:00-2:00 PM. All interested persons over the age of 18 are invited to come by the station during those hours. Current volunteer firefighters will be available to answer any questions regarding operations and equipment. Information about training classes and meeting times will also be provided.

All prospective members will be asked to submit to a background check and drug testing.

Interested persons who cannot attend the recruitment event may pick up an application at Lucas City Hall.



Lucas Seniors Valentine Social

All Lucas seniors age 55 +, couples and singles, are invited to a Valentine Social on **Sat., February 11, 2:00-4:00 PM**. There will be music, desserts, coffee, tea, fun and prizes! Dancing shoes are a must, and the mayor will have a dance card just waiting to be filled. Your hostesses will be decked out in dresses and hats and will be waiting for you at the Pavilion at FM1378 (Country Club Road) next to Forest Grove Christian Church. Bring a friend, and remember, the fun begins at 2:00 sharp. RSVP to hold your place.

Jennie Sanders 972-442-7787

City Council Actions —01/03/06

Ordinances and Resolutions

The new resolutions and ordinances adopted by the City Council may be found on our website:

- Resolution 2006-01-00268 Agreement with North Texas Municipal Water District regarding the Wilson Creek Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant Pretreatment Program.
- Resolution 2006-01-00269 City Council designation of a Public Information Officer.
- Resolution 2006-01-00270 City Council to authorize City Secretary to appoint a Deputy Municipal Court Clerk.
- Ordinance 2006-01-00547 Granting of a Special Use Permit (SUP) for Trinity Hills Ranch.
- Ordinance 2006-01-00548 Amending the Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance, as heretofore amended, by adding Article 11B, Planned Development District.
- Ordinance 2006-01-00549 Change in zoning from the existing "AO" Agriculture District to "CB" Commercial Business District for 22.898 +/- acres generally located on the NE Quadrant of FM 2551 and West Lucas Road.
- Ordinance 2006-01-00550 Change in zoning from the existing "LI" Light Industrial District to "CB" Commercial Business District for 5.550 +/- acres generally located on the NE Quadrant of FM 2551 and West Lucas Road.
- Ordinance 2006-01-00551 Change in zoning from the existing "AO" Agriculture District to "R-1.5" Residential District for 7.93 +/- acres generally located East of the Estates at Austin Trail Phase II and South of West Lucas Road.

Other than Ordinances and Resolutions

- Approved the minutes from the December 5, 2005 Regular City Council Meeting.
- Held a Public Hearing on the adoption of an ordinance for an amendment to the Code of Ordinances, Chapter 9, by adding a new Article 23 to provide regulations for the placement of telecommunication antennas and support structures to establish other safety and welfare provisions.
- Approved the Financial Audit for Budget Year 2004 - 2005.
- Council approved the final plat for the applicant Bighorn Development for a residential development named Cimarron consisting of 32.978 acres situated in the Benjamin Sparks Survey A#813, Tract 71, Collin County, Texas, and generally located on the northeast quadrant of FM 1378 and West Lucas Road.
- Council approved the final plat for applicant Skorburg Company for Claremont Springs Addition, a single-family residential development consisting of 52 lots on 78.18 acres +/- situated in the James M. Snider Survey, Abstract #824, in the City of Lucas, Collin County, Texas, commonly know as the Cunningham Tract and Fowler Tract generally located South of Estates Parkway (FM 2170) and West of Ingram Lane.

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City Council Actions

Other than Ordinances & Resolutions

(continued from Page 3)

- Council approved the Development Agreement between the City of Lucas and Claremont Springs, LTD regarding on-site oversized water line improvements and authorized expenditure for the cost difference of the oversize water line, amount not to exceed \$78,560
- Council approved the probable construction cost(s) for the proposed 8" water system improvements along Brockdale Road and authorized Staff to move forward with Plan Option #3 . \$75,800 in funds to come from Impact Fees.
- Council approved the First Amendment to Interlocal Development Agreement dated May 3, 2004, between the City of Lucas, Texas (the "City") and Lovejoy Independent School District ("LISD").
- Council directed the Mayor and City Administrator to begin negotiations for the two (2) million gallon water storage tank located at the Intersection of FM 2170 and FM 1378.
- Council approved the improvement/construction to the City Hall and Annex parking lots with the current bid price of approximately \$16,000.



Catelyn Fisher, Cara Brazeal and Holly Duhon

Correction to January article on Holiday Open House: Caption under picture should have read: **Catelyn Fisher, Holly Duhon, and Cara Brazeal.** Also, thanks should go to **Cara Brazeal** for making those wonderful homemade cookies.

BURN BAN EXTENDED

Outdoor burning is still prohibited. All open flames outdoor are included in this ban. This includes grills or smokers that use wood or charcoal unless they have a fully enclosed fire-box. Portable tabletop grills, including campstoves using white gas, are also banned. Call 972-424-1460 ext. 4799 for status of ban.

CITY OF LUCAS
 151 COUNTRY CLUB
 LUCAS, TEXAS 75002

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