



# Lucas City Newsletter

March, 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 Carmickle, Councilmember  
(bcarmickle@lucastexas.us)
- Debbie Fisher, Councilmember  
(dfisher@lucastexas.us)
- Tonda Frazier, Councilmember  
(tfrazier@lucastexas.us)
- Don Zriny, Councilmember  
(dzriny@lucastexas.us)

## City Administrator

Charles Fenner  
(cfenner@lucastexas.us)



## MAYOR'S MESSAGE

## Meeting Schedule

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

City Council Regular

March 6

Planning & Zoning

March 13

City Council Workshop

March 20

Parks & Open Spaces

March 27

Municipal Court

March 29, 2:00 PM

**“EXAMPLE IS NOT THE MAIN THING IN INFLUENCING OTHERS, IT IS THE ONLY THING.”**

*Dr. Albert Schweitzer*

### ST. PATRICKS DAY



Although originally a religious holiday celebrating the life of St. Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland, over the years this holiday, celebrated on March 17<sup>th</sup>, has become more of a secular holiday with persons of all faiths and backgrounds joining in the fun. One theory of its popularity is that the “bit o’green” is a welcome sight after a long winter, and can be considered one of the first signs of the spring that will soon follow. The celebration first came to America in 1737 and was celebrated publicly in Boston, home to many Irish immigrants. Here’s an old Irish blessing for all of you:

*“For each petal on the shamrock, this brings a wish your way—Good health, good luck, and happiness for today and every day”. Considering the long drought we’ve suffered through, I’d like to add one of my own: “May your lands and your pockets be ever green!”*

### L.A.F.F.S

(Lucas Activity Fund for Seniors)



The members of L.A.F.F.S would like to thank all the volunteers who helped make the Valentine’s Social such a great success. Special thanks go to Forest Grove Christian Church for the use of their heated pavilion which was greatly appreciated on the cold, windy day! All our guests had a wonderful time, singing along with Ron Shipman, winning prizes, and being served tasty food and drinks. Our next event will be in September. To be added to our “regulars” invitation list, become a member of L.A.F.F.S , or volunteer to help plan our wonderful events, call **Jennie** at **972-442-7787**. We also have L.A.F.F.S Cookbooks for sale at \$10.00 each. To purchase a cookbook, call **Debby** at **972-359-1683**. All proceeds help support our seniors events.

### ELECTION WORKERS NEEDED

The city needs election workers for the Sat., May 13th election. This is a paid position and meals will be furnished! Please contact the city secretary at 972-727-8999 ext 227 for details on duties and pay. Workers will be needed from 6:00 AM until close of polls and counting of ballots. Half day may be available.

### Wildland Fire Danger



By David Leonard, Captain, EMT-B

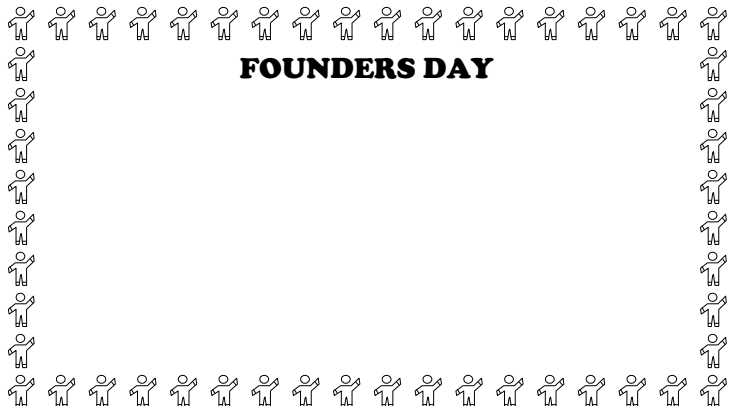
In this drastic time of wildfires, the Lucas VFD is prepared to render assistance in the event we are notified of a fire in the area. Although our town has not suffered like the counties to our West, the locale is primed for a serious event. The National Weather Service is predicting these drought conditions through the spring and perhaps the summer.

The department encourages all citizens to pay close attention to the following guidelines:

- LPG tanks should be far enough away from buildings for valves to be shut off in case of fire. Keep area around the tank clear of flammable vegetation.
- Store gasoline in an approved safety can away from occupied buildings.
- All combustibles such as firewood, wooden picnic tables, boats, stacked lumber, etc. should be kept away from structures.
- Clear roof surfaces and gutters regularly to avoid build-up of flammable materials such as leaves and other debris.
- Remove branches from trees to a height of 15 feet or more from the ground.
- In rural areas, clear a fuel break of at least 3 times the fuel length around all structures.
- Have fire tools handy such as: ladder long enough to reach your roof, shovel, rake, and a bucket or two for water.
- Place connected garden hoses at all sides of your home for emergency use.
- Assure that you and your family know all emergency exits from your home and neighborhood.

For more information on the internet you can visit; <http://www.firewise.org> or [www.txforestservice.tamu.edu](http://www.txforestservice.tamu.edu)

### FOUNDERS DAY



**Citizen Communication Our Top Priority**



We are always striving to improve communication in our city. Our



monthly newsletter is one way to provide information about things like meetings, roads, water issues and city events. The city website provides information in a timelier manner and is where you will find the agendas for upcoming meetings, public hearing notices and employment opportunities with the city. In addition, you can research ordinances, look at the Minutes from past meetings, or peruse city maps or past newsletters.

But how can you communicate to us? Basic questions can be answered by calling City Hall Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. or stopping in if that's more convenient. Our Staff will direct you to the person that can address your concern. Maybe you would rather come to a Council meeting and express an opinion publicly during the Citizen Input segment of a Council meeting. Choose whatever method is best for you.

What if you aren't getting the answers you need or you want additional explanation? Maybe you want to express your opinion on an upcoming agenda item at a Council meeting but don't wish to speak publicly. You can contact the Mayor and Councilmembers directly, by phone or email. Our email addresses are now listed on the newsletter masthead, and are on the website. Or call City Hall to get our contact phone numbers. There is also a form on the website where you can write a comment and it is forwarded to our attention. From the home page, click on "Contact Us," scroll down to Citizen Input and click on "Comment Corner."

Your input helps us make decisions that shape our city the way you want it to be. Let us hear from you - we're listening.

*By Councilmember Tonda Frazier on behalf of Lucas City Council*

**CITY COUNCIL ACTIONS**

**2/6/06**

Complete text of all new resolutions and ordinances may be found on city website.

- **Ordinance #2006-02-00552** of the City of Lucas, calling for a General (Regular) Election to be held on the 13th of May, 2006, for the purpose of electing three (3) councilmembers at large by the qualified voters of the City of Lucas; for notice of said election; providing for the appointment of a Deputy Early Voting Clerk; providing for early voting; establishing regular business hours of the City Secretary's office; and providing an effective date.
- **Approval** by council on 2/6/06 for the leasing of the necessary electronic voting system equipment needed for the upcoming May 13,2006 General and Special Elections.
- **Public Hearing** on an amendment to the Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance and map, to grant a change in zoning from the existing "AO" Agriculture to "R-1.5" Residential for 134.49 +/-acres generally located west of Stinson Road beginning approximately 1/4 mile south of West Lucas Road. **(DENIED BY COUNCIL ON 2/6/06.)**
- **Preliminary Plat** for applicant Bighorn Development for a residential development named Cimarron consisting of 15.627 acres situated in the Benjamin Sparks Survey A#813, Tract 71, Collin County, Texas and generally located on the northeast quadrant of FM1378 and West Lucas Road. (Cimarron Preliminary Plat 15.627 acres (In City)). **(APPROVED BY COUNCIL ON 2/6/06 SUBJECT TO BIGHORN DEVELOPMENT & STAFF CHECKING WITH TXDOT REGARDING ACCELERATION LANE.)**

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**WELCOME TO CITY HALL**

We want to welcome our new **Public Works Director, Stacy Caudell**.

Stacy started with the City of Lucas on December 12<sup>th</sup>. He comes to us from the City of Peoria, Arizona, a suburb of Phoenix, where he served as a Civil Engineer on Capital Improvement Projects. He has 30 years of Civil Engineering experience, with 25 years in the public sector. He also served Hall County, Georgia as an Assistant County Engineer and their Road Maintenance Engineer.

Stacy is from northeast Georgia and graduated from Southern Polytechnic State University in Marietta, Georgia with a Bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering. He is a licensed Professional Engineer in Georgia and Arizona, and will be seeking his license in Texas.

Stacy and his wife Kathy will be building their home in Lucas this year. Kathy is from the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, but had lived in Plano before moving to

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Georgia, where she met Stacy. She is a Cost Accountant in the manufacturing industry. They are both avid runners and enjoy competing in numerous race events every year. Stacy has a goal of running a 26.2 mile marathon race in every state. He needs 11 more states to complete that goal.

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CITY OF LUCAS  
151 COUNTRY CLUB  
LUCAS, TEXAS 75002

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POSTAL PATRON