



LUCAS LEADER



April 2016



Mayor's Message *by Jim Olk*

Hello, Lucas residents. It looks like Spring is here. I, for one, am glad to see it. I am not a big fan of cold weather. To start off Spring, the City is sponsoring a Lucas Clean-Up event on April 2. For more information please see the article in this newsletter.

City Council has been busy with looking at street and bridge repairs and how to fit it all in the budget. At this point, the City Council has only approved funds to repair the two Blondy Jhune bridges as well as looking at what can be done to improve safety on the Winningkoff reverse curve. All the other projects have been put on the back burner as we look at the best approach for street maintenance.

Additionally, City Council will be forwarding a Resolution onto Collin County and the Regional Transportation Council opposing any plans that would consider putting a major thoroughfare through the City of Lucas. Council's position comes on the heels of the County supporting a number of transportation projects, one of which had a vague statement that the County supported a "limited access roadway" west of Lake Lavon. *(From my understanding a limited access roadway is basically a highway with on and off ramps.)* We (the City of Lucas) do not want our community bisected by a highway and we are going to make that position very clear to both Collin County and the Regional Transportation Council. I do want to make it clear, there are no defined plans for the limited access road and no State or regional funding has been approved for a limited access road through Lucas or any of the other projects supported by the County, but the City Council did feel that it was in the best interest of our community to get our position out there as soon as we could, so that we can avoid any misunderstanding about this later. Don't hesitate to contact me or any of the City Council should you have any concerns or comments.

Outdoor Watering Schedule

Starting on Monday, May 2, 2016, City of Lucas water customers are required to limit outdoor watering to twice per week. Please comply with the outdoor watering schedule to prevent stressing the capabilities of our water system. The City has reestablished specific watering zones to help us manage water usage.

Geographical Area	Outdoor Watering Days	Zone Description
Zone 1	Monday and Saturday	West of Country Club - North of West Lucas
Zone 2	Tuesday and Friday	East of Country Club - West of Orr - North of Blondy Jhune
Zone 3	Wednesday and Saturday	East of Country Club - South of Blondy Jhune - East of Orr - North of West & East Lucas
Zone 4	Thursday and Sunday	South of West & East Lucas

Please refer to the enclosed map that identifies watering zones to help you determine your watering days. This map is also available on the City's website located at <http://lucastexas.us/PDF/AdditionalLinks/Outdoorwateringschedule.pdf>. In accordance with the City's Drought Conservation Plan, **NO OUTDOOR WATERING IS ALLOWED BETWEEN 10:00 am and 6:00 pm ON ANY DAY.**

City staff will be monitoring water consumption and may make changes to the schedule based on water demand. Help us ensure that everyone has an adequate water supply by following this outdoor watering schedule.

Your Councilmembers

Mayor Jim Olk

jolk@lucastexas.us

Term expiring: 2018

Mayor Pro Tem Kathleen Peele

kpee@lucastexas.us

Term expiring: 2019

Councilmember Wayne Millsap

wmillsap@lucastexas.us

Term expiring: 2017

Councilmember Tim Baney

tbaney@lucastexas.us

Term expiring: 2017

Councilmember Steve Duke

sduke@lucastexas.us

Term expiring: 2018

Councilmember Phil Lawrence

plawrence@lucastexas.us

Term expiring: 2018

Councilmember Debbie Fisher

dfisher@lucastexas.us

Term expiring: 2019

Meeting/Event Reminders

- April 2
Keep Lucas Beautiful Cleanup Event
9:00 a.m. - City Hall
- April 4
Volunteer Pension Board
6:30 p.m. - City Hall
- April 7
City Council
7:00 p.m. - City Hall
- April 8
Relay for Life at Lovejoy High School
6:00 p.m.
- April 14
Planning & Zoning Commission
7:00 p.m. - City Hall
- April 21
City Council
7:00 p.m. - City Hall
- April 26
Parks and Open Space Board
7:00 p.m. - City Hall

Adopt a Pet Collin County Animal Services



This sweet boy is a male terrier mix. He is one year old and neutered. Help him find his forever home by stopping by the Collin County Animal Shelter located at 4750 Community Boulevard in McKinney or visit their website at http://www.collincountytx.gov/animal_services/Pages/default.aspx.

The City's Financial Scorecard



The City's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) was presented to the City Council by their audit firm, Brooks Cardiel, PLLC on March 17, 2015. The City of Lucas' financial

statements for the year ended September 30, 2015 were issued an unqualified ("clean") opinion and were free of material misstatement.

The City has been awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting by the Government Financial Officers Association (GFOA) for the previous five years in a row for the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report. We believe that our current comprehensive annual financial report continues to meet the Certificate of Achievement Program's requirements and we are submitting it to the GFOA to determine its eligibility for another certificate.

Mid-Year Budget Review Underway

The City's Finance Department is currently reviewing the Fiscal Year 2015-2016 budgets with the City departments and the City Manager. Adjustments to properly reflect actual trends and recommendations will be brought to the City Council Meeting scheduled for Thursday, April 21, 2016.

City of Lucas Proudly Announces New Fire Captains



The City of Lucas Fire-Rescue recently announced the promotion of Ethan Carver, Jonathan Haynes, and John Ricker to the rank of Fire Captain. A formal pinning ceremony was held at the City Council meeting on Thursday, March 3, 2016 to recognize their achievement. During the ceremony, family members participated in pinning the Captain's badges on these deserving officers. A Fire Captain protects life and property by supervising and performing the duties of firefighting, emergency medical services, fire

prevention, and maintaining fire equipment, apparatus and facilities. The Lucas Fire-Rescue has 11 fulltime firefighter/paramedics, and 32 volunteer emergency responders. We congratulate Captains Carver, Haynes, and Ricker on their accomplishments and thank them for their dedication and service.

Ethan Carver joined the Lucas Fire-Rescue as a volunteer firefighter in December 2011. He graduated from the fire academy in 2012 where he was Captain of his class. Ethan became a paramedic and an acting Lieutenant for the department in 2014. Ethan has been married to the love of his life, Taylor, for a year and a half. They live in Allen with their dog, Ellie, and enjoy good food and traveling to the hill country. In his spare time, Ethan's hobbies include hunting, fishing, and working on home projects with his wife.

Jonathan Haynes joined the Lucas Fire-Rescue as a volunteer firefighter in March 2007. He also graduated from the fire academy and completed fire inspector school in 2007. Jonathan became a paramedic in 2009 and a Lieutenant with the department in 2010. Jonathan has lived in Texas all of his life; he is from the Plano area and currently lives in Allen. He loves participating in anything outdoors and is quite the movie buff.

John Ricker joined the Lucas Fire-Rescue as a volunteer firefighter in January 2009. He graduated from the fire academy in 2010, became a paramedic and a Lieutenant with the department in 2011. John served in the United States Navy for six years as a Damage Controlman aboard the USS Dwight D. Eisenhower. John has been married to his high school sweetheart, Jennifer for 12 years. They live in Allen with their two kids, Jayden and Jillian. In his spare time, John has enjoyed coaching his son's baseball and hockey teams and his hobbies include any sports related activity and grilling out.

Voter Turnout in Record Numbers



As a service to our community, the City Council has continued to ensure that voting is convenient for Lucas residents by making city facilities available.

Record numbers of voters turned out for the Primary Election at the Lucas Community Center on March 1, 2016. It is estimated that over 1,000 people came to the Community Center to vote that day. Parking was at a premium at City Hall, many thanks to City Staff members Pedro Ovalle, Joe Hilbourn and Stanton Foerster for assisting with traffic control on Election Day.



MAY 7, 2016 ELECTION UPDATE AND SALES TAX PROPOSALS

Congratulations to City Council candidates Mayor Pro Tem Kathleen Peele and Councilmember Debbie Fisher that have been elected to serve for another three year term as they have been declared the winner and are running unopposed during the May 7 election.

On the ballot in the May 7, 2016 election will be two propositions regarding sales tax proposals.

For Proposition 1, the ballot language will read:

- (1) "The continuation of the one-quarter of one-percent (.25%) sales and use tax within the City of Lucas Texas, to provide revenue for maintenance and repair of municipal streets."

The sales/use tax for street maintenance is an optional, dedicated city sales tax, which must be spent to repair and maintain existing city streets, and expires after four years unless another election is held. This revenue source for street maintenance will cease effective September 30, 2016 unless the voters approve its continuation. The City receives approximately \$132,500 annually from this revenue stream.

For Proposition 2, the ballot language will read:

- (2) "Abolishing the one-quarter of one-percent (.25%) sales and use tax dedicated to property tax relief and approving an additional one-quarter of one-percent (.25%) sales and use tax dedicated to provide revenue for maintenance and repair of municipal streets."

The sales/use tax collected for property tax relief offsets an equivalent amount of city property tax. The City of Lucas is asking voters to consider abolishing the property tax relief and replace it with an additional one-quarter of one percent (.25%) for street maintenance. If Proposition 2 passes, it will provide an additional \$132,500 for the maintenance and repairs of city streets.

For a house with a taxable value of \$400,000, the sale/use tax used for property tax relief would reduce the City's portion of the property tax owed by **approximately** \$70.00. While Proposition 2 may cause a very small increase in the property tax you pay to the City, it is a deduction on your federal income tax return. If you look at your Property Tax Notification/Statement sent to you from the Tax Assessor Collector for Collin County, in the middle of the statement you will find the phrase **"*ADDITIONAL CITY SALES TAX REDUCED YOUR CITY AD VALOREM TAX BY \$"** to find the amount that is applicable to your property. If Proposition 2 passes, this money can ONLY be used to maintain City streets and cannot be used for any other purpose.

Passage of both proposals would mean that one-half of one percent (.50%) of sales and use tax collected by the City would be earmarked for the repair and maintenance of existing city streets representing approximately \$265,000 annually. The Lucas City Council is dedicated to evaluating all financial strategies to maintain our City streets while keeping your taxes low.

This is not a request for, nor would it increase the sales tax amount. The sales tax rate will remain the same. Rather it is a redirection of the amount collected. If you need any clarification or additional information on this matter, please don't hesitate to contact any of your City Council members, City Manager Joni Clarke at jclarke@lucastexas.us or Finance Director Liz Exum at lexum@lucastexas.us.

Street & Bridge Project Update



For the past two years, the Lucas City Council has been actively engaged in evaluating our municipal streets and bridges. This is sometimes a long and complicated process and many hours have been devoted to this endeavor. The City Council held several public forums, including two Town Hall meetings and encouraged citizen engagement through public meetings and electronic communication. This progression identified five potential priority "neighborhood connector" streets (Blondy Jhune, Winningkoff, Stinson, Forest Grove and Snider) and the City acquired professional, consulting engineering services to assist us in evaluation of several of these streets. Since several of these roadways included bridges, we also evaluated the structural integrity and condition of four bridges, two on Blondy Jhune, one on Snider Lane and one on Stinson. The City of Lucas placed the two bridges on Blondy Jhune out for bid and received four bids for the project. The City Council rejected these bids based on the cost and made changes to the initial design in an effort to reduce costs. The Lucas City Council continued to listen to public comment and took action to make design modifications to the two bridges on Blondy Jhune and to reconstruct the Winningkoff Road Reverse Curve. Both of these projects will NOT be constructed at the same time and will be staggered to manage traffic. City staff will be advertising the Blondy Jhune Bridge replacement project in early May 2016 and hope to place it on the City Council agenda for June 16, 2016. If the bid is awarded by the City Council, construction is scheduled from July 2016 through March 2017.

Watch for updates and specific information on alternate travel routes in the City's newsletter and on the website. Currently, the street reconstruction projects are on hold while we focus on the identified priority safety projects. Do not hesitate to contact any of your Lucas City Council members (see page one for email addresses), City Manager Joni Clarke at jclarke@lucastexas.us or City Engineer Stanton Foerster at sfoerster@lucastexas.us should you have any questions or concerns.

Lovejoy High School Sponsoring Relay for Life Event



Celebrate. Remember. Fight Back. The American Cancer Society Relay For Life event is a life-changing experience that gives everyone in their community a chance to *Celebrate* the lives of people who have battled cancer, *Remember* loved ones lost, and *Fight Back* against the disease. Each year, more than 4 million people in over 20 countries take part in this global event and raise much-needed funds and awareness to save lives from cancer.

Now one of the largest, most impactful fundraising events to fight cancer is coming to Lovejoy High School on April 8, 2016 from 6:00 p.m. to Midnight. At this Relay for Life Community Event, teams will meet at Lovejoy High School and take turns walking or running around the track, and because cancer never sleeps, each team has at least one participant on the track at all times. Food, games and activities provide entertainment and build camaraderie in this family-friendly environment for the entire community. Thanks to the support of student volunteers at Relay For Life events, the [American Cancer Society](http://www.americancancersociety.org) is helping to save more than 500 lives from cancer every day.

To donate or setup a team for this event, visit Relay for Life online at www.relayforlife.org/lovejoyhstx or for more information contact Community Manager Melissa Baxter at Melissa.baxter@cancer.org or 214.819.1215. You may also contact the Event Leader, Ian Raybon at Ian.raybon@gmail.com.

Lovejoy ISD Students Present at City Council Meetings

The City Council has had the pleasure of listening and taking part in student presentations from Lovejoy High School as part of the High School's Independent Studies Program. At the City Council February 18 and March 3 meetings, students presented and discussed their area of interest with the Council.

The City Council will hear from six students in all with topics ranging from Ben Omonira discussing the Stock Market; Noah Johnson discussing Writing a Novel; Clancy Brooks discussing Arabic; and Jolen Martinez discussing Political Philosophy. The two final student presentations from Samuel Bell discussing CompTIA and Alexandria Wingard discussing Storyboarding/Animation will take place at the April 21 City Council meeting. Stop by and hear what our Lovejoy students are interested in and see what's happening in your City.

New Radio Tower Antenna Installed at Fire Station



Thank you to the Plano Amateur Radio Klub (PARK) for installing the new radio tower and antennas on the Fire Station for the Lucas emergency communication radios. Over a period of two weekends, PARK installed six antennas that will operate from High

Frequency (HF), used for very long distance communications, to 800 MHz, allowing the Fire-Rescue Department to communicate in the local area. A weather station was also installed to transmit local weather reports. Also provided was the capability of interoperability with other services such as the Texas A&M Forest Service and ham radio operators, including the national weather service. This system is a significant upgrade from the prior equipment. PARK is a non-profit organization that supports public service and public safety events and promotes amateur radio through education and community involvement.



**VEHICLES
FOR
VETERANS**

Do you have a vehicle you no longer need. You can help disabled veterans by donating

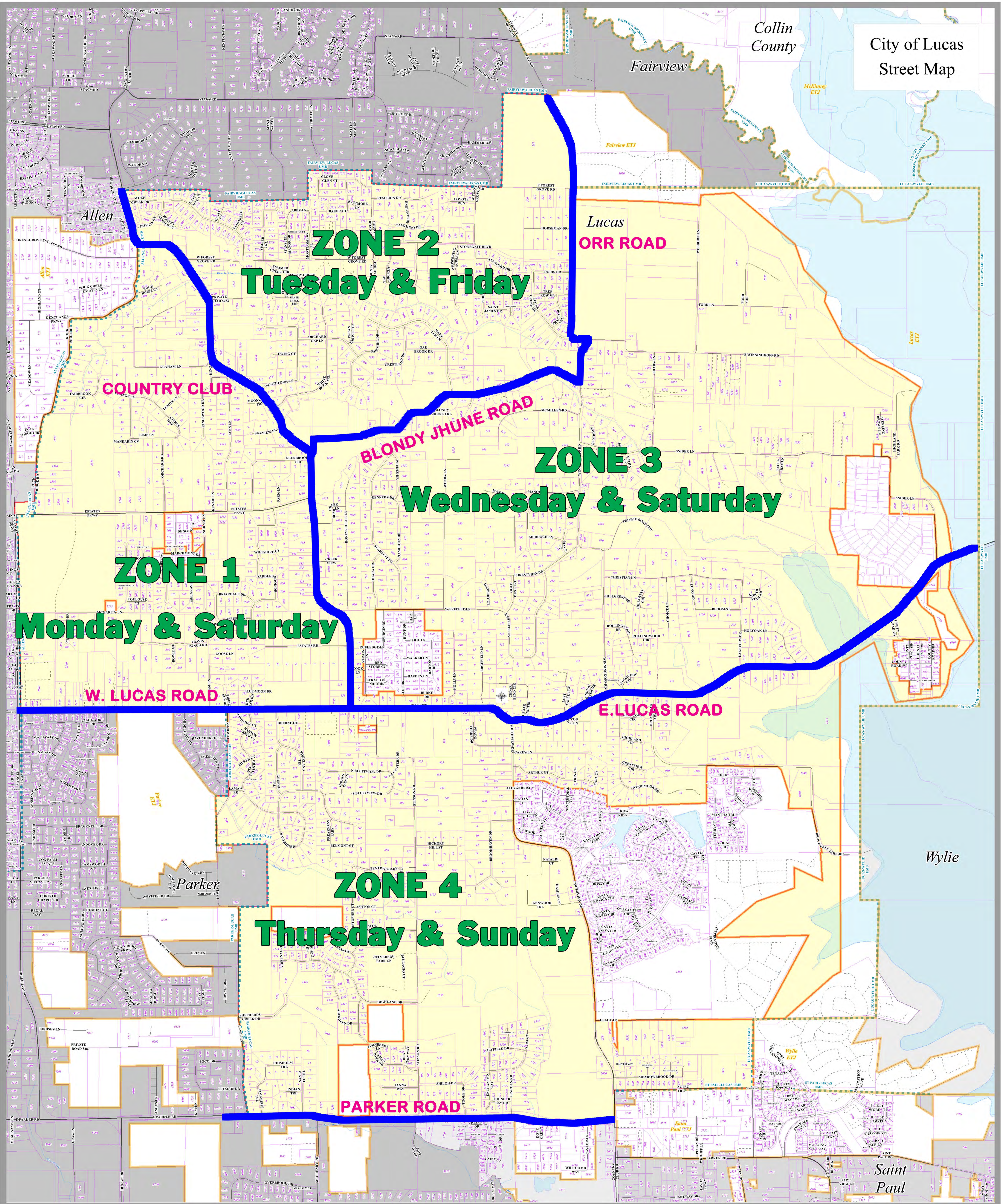
a car, truck, boat, RV, ATV, or motorcycle to Vehicles For Veterans, whether the vehicle runs or not. Vehicles For Veterans is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit vehicle donation program benefiting disabled veterans. The car donation program offers a simple alternative to selling or trading in your unwanted vehicle and provides free towing and a tax deduction. Any vehicle donation helps support the veterans' programs that provides strength and encouragement to the disabled veterans who have served our country. For more information, visit www.vehiclesforveterans.org or call 855.838.5444.



Keep Lucas Beautiful is seeking volunteers for its upcoming Cleanup Event scheduled for Saturday, April 2 from

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Volunteers can work as individuals or in groups, and will help with picking up trash and debris along specified routes. So far we have nineteen volunteers scheduled to work this great event. The cleanup event begins and ends at the Community Park pavilion next to City Hall. Participants will gather at 9:00 a.m., pick up safety vests and trash bags, listen to safety guidelines, and be assigned to a route. Volunteers will then be dropped off at their assigned location and when done, will be picked up and brought back to the Community Park. Volunteers should dress appropriately for the weather that day, wear comfortable shoes, bring gloves and a bottle of water. Children 13 and younger must be accompanied by an adult at all times.

For more information or to sign up as a volunteer, contact Donna Bradshaw at 972.912.1206 or by email at dbradshaw@lucastexas.us.



OUTDOOR WATERING SCHEDULE

Effective May 2, 2016

Outdoor watering is allowed twice per week. The approved days for each zone are shown above. Outdoor watering is prohibited between 10am and 6pm on any day of the week.

