



# LUCAS LEADER



July 2016

## Meetings and Events

**July 4**  
Holiday - City Hall Closed

**July 7**  
City Council  
7:00 pm - City Hall

**July 14**  
Planning and Zoning  
7:00 pm - City Hall

**July 17**  
City Council Budget Workshop  
2:00 pm - City Hall

**July 19**  
Neighborhood Meeting -  
Blondy Jhune Bridges  
5:00 pm - 7:00 pm - City Hall

**July 21**  
City Council  
7:00 pm - City Hall

**July 26**  
Parks and Open Space  
7:00 pm - City Hall

**August 9**  
Neighborhood Meeting -  
Winningoff Reverse Curve  
5:00 pm - 7:00 pm - City Hall

## Mayor's Message *by Jim Ole*



Well, I think the heat finally got here and the rain has let up. I might actually get to mow my yard this week. This month I just have a few thoughts to share.

I want to say thank you for all who turned out to vote regarding the sales tax allocations. Both propositions were approved. So now we will have ½ cent of our two cents sales tax going directly to street maintenance. Please read some of the other articles in this newsletter to see how our street maintenance program is progressing.

You might also note that the City Council will soon be reviewing the City budget for the upcoming 2016-2017 fiscal year. This process takes several months, multiple meetings, and two public hearings. So if you have any comments on things you would like to see happen in the City, please plan to attend any of the meetings or email any or all of the City Council with your suggestions. You can find our budget documents on the City's website at [www.lucastexas.us](http://www.lucastexas.us) under the Finance page.

We were truly lucky that the hail storm that hit Wylie just grazed Lucas. I know a few of our homes were damaged but nothing compared to the devastation that Wylie saw. We did receive a special thanks from the City of Wylie Mayor, Eric Hogue for the assistance our Lucas Fire-Rescue provided while the Wylie Fire-Rescue Department was responding to the damaged areas. Please pat a fireman on the back for a job well done when you see them.

With the heat coming on and still having a bunch of water around the area, be sure to check your property for standing water that could breed mosquitoes. It looks like it might be a banner year for the little buggers, and anything we can do to slow them down will help all of us. Please do not hesitate to contact any of the City Councilmembers if you have questions or concerns. Thanks for being part of the City of Lucas.

## New Collin County Deputy for Lucas



The City of Lucas welcomes Collin County Sheriff's Deputy George White. Deputy White will begin patrolling Lucas on July 1. Deputy White grew up in Allen and moved to Lucas during high school. After graduating from Allen High School, he attended the University of Kansas on a football scholarship. Deputy White has family in Allen and an 18 year old son, Bailey. His nephew Jay Lee is currently a rookie with the Detroit Lions.

Deputy White joined the Collin County Sheriff's Office in 2000. During that time, he has been assigned as a Detention Officer, Detention Supervisor, Patrol Deputy, and most recently as an officer for the Anna Independent School District for the past five years. Deputy White stated that protecting the citizens of Lucas was a homecoming of sorts and looks forward to serving this great community.

## Adopt a Pet

Collin County Animal Services



Look at this adorable dynamic duo. The sweetheart on the left is a two-year-old spayed female and the two-year-old handsome gentlemen on the right has been neutered. Help this adorable pair find their 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](http://www.collincountytx.gov/animal_services/Pages/default.aspx).

## Founders Day Set For October 22, 2016

Mark your calendar, Founders Day is set for Saturday, October 22 from Noon to 5:00 pm at the Lucas Community Park next to City Hall. There will be live music, booths, a parade, costume contest, and the best stick horse rodeo in town.

Applications will be available on the City's website starting in August to register for a booth or participate in the parade. Be sure to look for more information in the months to come for Founders Day updates in the Lucas Leader and the City's website at [www.lucastexas.us](http://www.lucastexas.us).

## Country Christmas Set For December 2, 2016

It's never too early to plan ahead. Mark your calendar for the Lucas Country Christmas event scheduled for Friday, December 2, 2016.

## Neighborhood Meetings To Discuss Blondy Jhune Bridges & Winningkoff Reverse Curve

City Staff will be hosting neighborhood meetings to keep our citizens informed of two important upcoming projects: the replacement of both Blondy Jhune Bridges and the reconstruction of the Winningkoff Reverse Curve. Neighborhood meetings have been set for:

- **Replacement of East & West Bridges on Blondy Jhune Road**  
Tuesday, July 19  
5:00 pm until 7:00 pm in the City Council Chambers
- **Reconstruction of the Reverse Curve on Winningkoff Road**  
Tuesday, August 9  
5:00 pm until 7:00 pm in the City Council Chambers

## Budget Workshop & Public Hearings

On Sunday, July 17 at 2:00 pm at City Hall, the City Council will conduct its budget workshop. The proposed budget and tax rate will be brought to the City Council for discussion on Thursday, August 4, 2016 and projected dates for public hearings will be Thursday, August 18, 2016 and Thursday, September 1, 2016, with the final budget and tax rate being presented to Council for approval on Thursday, September 15, 2016. For information on the Fiscal Year 2016/2017 budget process, you may contact the City Finance Director, Liz Exum at 972.912.1201 or [lexum@lucastexas.us](mailto:lexum@lucastexas.us).

## Fireworks Prohibited In Lucas



Summer means picnics, barbecues, and fireworks displays, especially around the Fourth of July. However, the possession, storage, sale, handling, and use of fireworks is prohibited within the City of Lucas and within 5,000 feet of its borders.

The Fourth of July is one of the busiest days of the year for emergency services, and most calls are for injuries and fires caused by people using illegal fireworks. Too often our firefighters care for painful and disfiguring firecracker injuries that happen to the eyes, hands, head, and face. This time of year is also perfect for the misuse of fireworks to ignite a large wildfire putting homes and lives in danger. There has been a tremendous amount of vegetation growth in Lucas due to all the rain received this spring. As the days become longer and hotter, much of this vegetation will dry out and become a good source of fuel for possible wildfires.

This Fourth of July our local law enforcement and fire department will be on the lookout for violators. Remember, the safest way to enjoy fireworks this Fourth of July is to attend a public display conducted by trained professionals.



Did you know that as a City of Lucas resident, you are required to maintain your property to the pavement. Why? This helps keep Lucas beautiful and helps sustain property values. It is also required by City ordinance.

You may also hear the land near the pavement referred to as right-of-way or an easement. The Lucas City Code requires that property owners keep the right-of-way and easements clear of any obstructions that would be a hazard to vehicles or pedestrians. That includes obstructions like weeds, tall grass, trees, shrubs or other vegetation more than 12 inches in height. One reason our city looks so beautiful is that our citizens go beyond that requirement and maintain the right-of-way as an extension of their lawn.

To have a beautiful City with country charm and low taxes takes a concerted effort on everyone's part to keep Lucas beautiful. During the summer months, City staff will be proactively addressing property that is not being properly maintained. So please maintain your property and the right-of-way and easements adjacent to it to avoid a visit from the Code Enforcement Officer.

## 2016 Scarecrow Contest



Sponsored by the City of Lucas Parks & Open Space Board, this year's contest promises to be even more fun for all. Last year was our first year for this event, and what a great time everyone had with 16 entries. There are two scarecrow categories for participation, individual and business/organization.



Lucas residents are encouraged to register and create a scarecrow display at their home or business and have it ready for display during the month of October. This way citizens and visitors can participate in the "Scarecrow Tour" and enjoy the entries.

Look for more information to come regarding registration and event details starting in August in the Lucas Leader and on the City's website at [www.lucastexas.us](http://www.lucastexas.us).



Many people will be firing up their grills throughout the summer. With grilling season set to be in full force, take time to review a few safety tips from the U.S. Fire Administration to protect yourself and your guests from a fire or burn injury:

- Only use your grill outside
- Keep your grill away from siding and deck rails
- Keep a three-foot safe zone around your grill to keep kids and pets safe
- Clean your grill after each use to remove grease, which can start a fire
- Place the coals from your grill in a metal can with a lid once they have cooled
- Open your gas grill before lighting
- Keep an eye on your grill, fire pit, or patio torches.



Email notifications are now available on the City's website. If you would like to receive email notifications regarding posted agenda packets, upcoming events in the City, or emergency alerts such as street closures or water issues; you can now sign up for these email alerts on the City of Lucas website.

Go to <http://www.lucastexas.us/living-in-lucas/get-email-updates.html>. Sign up using your email address and select your preferences regarding what types of alerts you would like to receive. If you have questions, contact City Secretary Stacy Henderson at 972.912.1211.

## Summer 2016 Scheduled Street Maintenance

The City Council has identified Ingram Lane, Lewis Lane, Snider Lane, and Stinson Road as streets scheduled for milling and paving improvements this summer using \$571,040 of the 2015-2016 street maintenance budget. The City Council will also consider adding Estelle Lane and Moonlight Trail once the City's contractor, APAC submits a schedule.

Typically, a roadway reclamation is completed in six to seven days in six steps: 1) milled/pulverized, 2) re-milled while adding with 5% cement, 3) compacted with roller machines, 4) allowed to settle for three days, 5) overlaid with three-inches of hot mix asphalt, and 6) the surface is finished with tire machines.

Level up of certain areas where the pavement drops off is also needed along Graham Lane, Christian Lane, Lakeview Drive, and Wendy Lane. Funds in the amount of \$14,800 have been allocated for this work. The Wendy Lane culvert construction and design was completed this fiscal year at a cost of \$164,160. The total Street Maintenance Budget for the current fiscal year is \$750,000.

Citizens are welcome to attend and comment on the street maintenance activities at the City Council meetings. If you have any questions or comments at any time, please contact Public Works Director/City Engineer Stanton Foerster at [stanton@lucastexas.us](mailto:stanton@lucastexas.us) or 972.912.1208.

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## White Rock Creek Bridge Almost Complete

Last August the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) started construction of the new, wider White Rock Creek Bridge along Country Club Road. Accelerated Critical Path, Inc. (ACP) was the contractor selected for the construction of the 0.526-mile, \$1,800,000 roadway and bridge project. Along with replacing the 20-foot wide and 100-foot long existing bridge with a new 46-foot wide and 140-foot long new bridge, TxDOT will be improving and widening the shoulders north of the bridge to Rock Ridge Road. Many driveway culverts will be replaced and safety end treatments installed in this project as part of the shoulder improvements. ACP is planning a June/July traffic switch from the old bridge to the new bridge. Once this is done, the remaining elements of the new bridge can be completed in the area that currently conflicts with the old bridge. TxDOT estimates project completion by the end of this year.



With the Texas heat, the summer months can be potentially dangerous for our pets. Here are some helpful tips to keep your pets safe and comfortable this summer.

### **Never leave your pets in a parked car:**

On a warm day, temperatures inside a vehicle can rise quickly to dangerous levels. On an 85-degree day, the temperature inside a car with the windows opened slightly can reach 102 degrees within 10 minutes. After 30 minutes, the temperature will reach 120 degrees.

### **Limit exercise on hot days:**

Adjust the intensity and duration of exercise in accordance with the temperature. On very hot days, limit exercise to early morning or evening hours. Be aware that asphalt can damage your dogs paws. If the air temperature is 77 degrees, the asphalt temperature is 125 degrees and can cause skin destruction in 60 seconds. Be sure to carry water to keep your dog hydrated.

### **Provide ample shade and water:**

Any time your pet is outside, make sure it has protection from the heat and sun and plenty of fresh, cold water. Tree shade and tarps are ideal because they don't obstruct air flow. A doghouse does not provide relief from heat. In fact, a doghouse makes the heat worse.

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## Cornerstone Baptist Church Hosting Independence Day Celebration



This event is free to the Lucas Community. Cornerstone Baptist Church will be hosting an Independence Day Celebration Picnic on July 3 from 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm at the Lucas Community Park. There will be music from the kids choir, adult choir and individuals; along with burgers, hot dogs, drinks, chips, watermelon, homemade ice cream, old fashion games, volleyball, and kickball. For more information go to [www.cbclucas.com](http://www.cbclucas.com).