



# Lucas City Newsletter

**January, 2008**

**newsletter@lucastexas.us**

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

## City Council

- Bill Carmickle, Mayor  
(bcarmickle@lucastexas.us)
- Debbie Fisher, Mayor Pro Tem  
(dfisher@lucastexas.us)
- Don Zriny, Councilmember  
(dzriny@lucastexas.us)
- Kathleen Peele, Councilmember  
(kpeelee@lucastexas.us)
- Mark Barratt, Councilmember  
(mbarratt@lucastexas.us)
- Wayne Millsap, Councilmember  
(wmillsap@lucastexas.us)

## City Administrator

Paul Catoe  
(pcatoe@lucastexas.us)



## STRAIGHT TALK FROM THE MAYOR

As we begin a new year, I think it is appropriate to reflect upon some of the successes of the past year as well as my pledge for the future.

In 2007 we were able to successfully recruit a respected and highly qualified individual to take the position of City Administrator, Paul Catoe. It is already evident that he is a welcome addition to our City administration, and I look forward to him serving in this capacity for a number of years to come.

One of my deepest concerns has been the large amount of un-annexed land (known as “extra-territorial jurisdiction or ETJ”) within our boundaries. One of the successes that came late in the year was the voluntary annexation of 68 acres in the Rockland Farms subdivision. The public hearings have been held, and the ordinance establishing the annexation was approved on Dec. 20.

Supported by City staff, I have been working with the developers of the Claremont Springs to effect a development agreement that would result in the annexation of Phases I and II of that subdivision. That development agreement was approved by Council on December 6.

Prior to being elected mayor, as a City Councilmember I served as liaison to the Parks and Open Space Board. As a result of their evaluation of the need for park improvements, I worked with Public Works Director Stacy Caudell to write a grant application for submission to Collin County Commissioners Court. We were awarded this matching funds grant in the amount of \$82,587, and have begun the process of bidding out the construction of a number of upgrades to the Lucas Community Park, including a new walking trail, upgraded parking lot, additional landscaping, and other improvements.

Last, and likely most important to our City’s future, we appointed a new Home Rule Commission to again draft a Home Rule Charter for inclusion on the May 2008 election ballot. As I mention, one of my deepest concerns is how we gain control over ETJ land within our city borders. The best tool we could have is a Home Rule Charter that gives us the power to control these borders through expanded annexation power. It is critical to our future that we become a Home Rule city. (Read the latest update on the Home Rule Commission’s progress on Page 2.)

My pledge to you for 2008 is to continue to work hard to improve our wonderful City, yet preserve the country atmosphere that we all treasure.

## Meeting Schedule

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

**City Council Regular**

**Thurs., Jan. 3**

**Planning & Zoning**

**Thurs., Jan 10**

**City Council Workshop**

**Thurs., Jan 17**

**Parks & Open Space**

**TBD**

**Municipal Court**

**Wed., Jan 23 , 4:00 PM**

**Home Rule Commission: Mon., Jan 7,  
7:00 PM (Joint Meeting with Council  
at 7:30)**

### HOME RULE COMMISSION UPDATE

After many hours of thoughtful deliberation, the Home Rule Commission completed the draft of this important document on December 17. From the time they first convened in early fall of 2007, they met for a total of 23 hours of discussion over the course of several months.

This figure doesn't include the many hours each commissioner spent preparing for each meeting by reading numerous documents important to the thorough understanding of the proposed charter. The commission is comprised of citizens with a wide range of backgrounds, living in Lucas anywhere from over 21 years to just over 2 years.

The final charter draft has been given to the City Council for their review, and there will be a joint meeting of the Council and the HRC on Monday, January 7 at 7:30 PM following the HRC meeting that starts at 7:00.

Residents are urged to attend this meeting and are welcomed to give any input during the Citizen's Comments section of the meeting. To date, only a small number of citizens have attended the Home Rule Commission meetings. This is your chance to make your feelings known prior to the final approval of the draft.

In addition to a discussion of the proposed charter, citizen education meetings schedules will be considered.

One upcoming opportunity to meet representatives of the Commission will be the Coffee With Council scheduled for Saturday, Jan. 12, from 8:00 AM to 11:00AM. Future educational meetings will be posted on the City web site as well as in later editions of this newsletter.

Once Council has reviewed the proposed Charter, and has officially decided to include it on the May, 2008 election ballot, a copy of the final proposed charter will be mailed to every Lucas household for review at least 30 days prior to the election.

For the most current HRC information, minutes and agendas, go to the City web site and click on "Home Rule Commission" on the upper left corner of the home page. To be notified via email when the website is updated, send an email to [secretary@lucastexas.us](mailto:secretary@lucastexas.us) and ask to be added to the email update list.



### COFFEE WITH COUNCIL

You are invited to the next "Coffee With Council" event on Saturday, January 12 from 8:00AM until 11:00AM. Your hosts at this coffee will be Councilmembers Mark Barratt and Wayne Millsap. This is your opportunity to express your views or ask questions of your elected representatives in an informal setting.

Representatives from the Home Rule Commission will also be on hand to discuss the recently completed draft of the Home Rule Charter with you. Please mark your calendars and make plans to attend.

### REGISTER TO VOTE



In anticipation of the May, 2008, election, you are all encouraged to register to vote, if you have not already done so. Forms can be obtained online at:

<http://www.sos.state.tx.us/elections/forms/vr17/pdf>

You may also pick one up at City Hall. Your voter registration must be received and processed by April 10th in order to vote in the May 10th, 2008 election.

Election workers will be needed. If you are interested in working in this paid position, contact our City Secretary, Kathy Wingo at 972-727-8999.

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Over the years, the City has accumulated a number of old records that are no longer needed. Due to space constraints, these records need to be "weeded" out. If you would like to help with this project, your participation as a volunteer would be great appreciated by City Staff. If you are willing to donate your time, please contact our City Secretary, Kathy Wingo.

### VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION

Don't forget to attend the Volunteer Appreciation reception to be held during the City Council Workshop Meeting on Thursday, Jan 17 at 7:00PM (see Dec. newsletter). Be on hand to personally thank all the wonderful volunteers who serve on our city's various boards and commissions, as well as volunteer in other areas.

## **DECEMBER CITY COUNCIL ACTIONS**

### **December 6, 2007 City Council Regular Meeting**

- Approved a preliminary plat submitted by Estate of Roberta Crumpton and Sterling Development Group for proposed development of Lucas Crossing at Northeast Corner of West Lucas Rd. and FM2551
- Approved minutes from Nov. 1 Regular and Nov.1 Workshop City Council meetings.
- Awarded bid for electrical wiring system improvements and repairs to the Lucas City hall.
- Approved an agreement with engineering firm of Freese & Nichols to provide professional environmental services for development of state mandated Storm Water Management Plan.
- Approved a development agreement with Trails of Forest Grove for improvements to CR 321 .
- Approved Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation of Friends of the Lucas Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.
- Approved an Interlocal Agreement between the City of Lucas and Collin County for animal control services.
- Approved a revised plat for development known as Amherst Estates.
- Approved a development agreement between City of Lucas and Claremont Springs addition which includes voluntary annexation into the City.
- Denied a petition by RCC Brockdale Estates requesting City of Lucas consent for inclusion of their property within the Seis Lagos Utility District.
- Agreed to create an implementation plan that will provide for certain City services currently provided to ETJ areas to cease.

### **December 13, 2007 City Council Special Meeting**

- Approved Resolution #R-2007-12-00307 ratifying City Council's decision of December 6,2007 to deny petition filed by Tim Coltart of RCC Brockdale Estates requesting the consent of the City of Lucas for the inclusion of property within the Seis Lagos Utility District.

### **December 20, 2007 City Council Workshop Meeting**

- After conducting two (2) required public hearings on the matter, approved a petition by various developers, builders, and Rockland Farms Homeowners' Association to annex 68.48 acres of land known as Rockland Farms into the City of Lucas.
- Approved Ordinance #2007-12-00608 that establishes the annexation as approved above.

- Approved Resolution #R-2007-12-00308 providing for the Taxation of Goods In Transit as defined by Tax Code, Section 11.253.

## **ROADS AND PUBLIC WORKS REPORT**



**From Stacy Caudell, City Engineer/  
Public Works**

Road capital improvement projects in 2007 included the resurfacing of approximately 2.2 miles of roads with new hot mix asphalt, including Orr Road, McMullen Road, Horseman Drive, and Lynn Lane. Lynn Lane required milling and base stabilization in addition to the asphalt overlay. Winningkoff Road was planned to be resurfaced as part of a County assistance project, but was dropped from their program due to their large work load after the heavy spring rains. Winningkoff will be considered a high priority in 2008 for a City project.

In 2008, approximately three (3) miles of roads will be proposed for asphalt overlay.

Water capital improvement projects in 2007 included the design, bid and onset of construction of the 750,000 gallon ground storage tank and pump improvements to the North Pump Station on Country Club Road. Additionally, engineering design for water line improvements in Country Club Road, from Estelle Lane to the North Pump Station and from Blondy Jhune road to Forest Grove Road, including a portion of the north end of Rock Ridge Road, was started. These projects were part of the City's Water Master Plan to meet the City's water delivery needs, as growth continues. These projects will also improve water pressure and flow to existing customers.

Several 2008 water projects are planned, including the completion of the ground storage tank and pump improvements, the continuation of the design of the Country Club Road water line improvements, and the beginning of construction of those lines.



### LUCAS HOME TO CHAMPIONS!

Three Lucas gymnasts brought home top honors from recent gymnastics meets. At the North State gymnastics meet held December 1 in Mesquite, competing in the Gold division of the Junior C age group, Cassidy Keelen, daughter of Dr. Greg and Stephanie Keelen of Lucas, won two events. She earned an unbelievable 9.9 out of 10 on balance beams, and a 9.775 on floor exercise. She also took silver all-around.

At the same meet, Maddie Kruse, daughter of Kevin and Trish Kruse of Lucas, competed in the Junior A Silver division. She placed second on all-around with a score of 9.45, and fourth on floor exercise with a score of 9.1.

The Carol Hillenburg Achievement State Invitational meet was hosted by Trevino's Gymnastics in Lancaster on December 8. Jordan Duncan, daughter of Paula Duncan of Lucas, who competed in the level 5A division, was champion on two events. She won the floor exercise event with a score of 9.45, and the vault, with a score of 9.025. She also placed second all-around.

We are very proud of these Lucas athletes, and offer our congratulations to them.

### HELP KEEP OUR CITY BEAUTIFUL

We've all seen those signs along roads and highways, showing that various organizations, companies, or even individuals have "adopted" that section of the road. Adopt-a-Highway began in Texas in 1986, and more than 8000 miles of Texas highways are now kept clean by almost 4000 volunteer groups.

Volunteer groups interested in adopting a two mile stretch of highway (both sides of the road for a total of four miles) enter into a two year contract with TX Dept.of Transportation) and agree to clean "their" stretch at least four times a year. TXDOT provides trash bags, safety training , safety vests, and picks up the trash bags filled by the volunteers. They also post the signs along the highways recognizing the groups.

We have highways available for adoption in Lucas: FM 2170(Estates Pkwy.), FM 2551, FM 3286, and FM 1378 (Country Club Rd.)

It's a way for your group to help keep our roadsides beautiful, and give back to our community. If you are interested, contact City Hall by phone (972-727-8999) or email (secretary@lucastexas.us) for more information.

CITY OF LUCAS  
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PRESORTED STANDARD  
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PERMIT 157

POSTAL PATRON