



JANUARY 2005
VOLUME VI, ISSUE 1

Lucas City Newsletter

151 Country Club Rd. • 972/727-8999 • City Website: www.lucastexas.us

CITY COUNCIL

Tom Fleps, Mayor

Kristy Hall, Mayor Pro Tem

Debbie Fisher, Councilmember

Tonda Frazier, Councilmember

David Harvey, Councilmember

Mike Marafine, Councilmember

CITY ADMINISTRATOR

Joe Gambill

MAYOR'S CORNER By Tom Fleps

With the beginning of 2005 I hope you will agree that we have a lot to be thankful for. Lucas affords us the opportunity to live in a pleasant country atmosphere with good friends and neighbors.

With each passing year many new and different situations will arise that will need resolution in new and different ways. As our population grows there will be an influx of ideas about the direction our community should take. Because of these differing opinions we must strive to reach consensus on which codes and ordinances are needed to protect the lifestyle of the residents. When these issues come before Council I hope that you will take the time to attend the meetings or submit your views on the issues via e-mail, letter or phone call. Council wants to address the issues in a way that reflects the will of the community. Your input is greatly needed so that this can be accomplished. Please check the upcoming agendas at either the City web site or the posting at City Hall and let your voice be heard.

Deputy Bobby Webb will no longer be our Deputy as of January 1. Bobby will move to the overnight shift in another area of Collin County and will be replaced with Deputy Mike Holcomb. Bobby's daughter has won a scholarship to Loyola University and this move affords Bobby the opportunity to spend time with his daughter before she moves away. Bobby has been an exemplary officer and has endeared himself to the community. Mike shares Bobby's philosophy on community policing and will be a welcome addition to the City. Welcome aboard Mike. Bobby, we'll miss you.

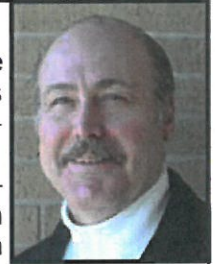
Road repair for 2005 will be discussed at our January meeting. We hope to try several options for road repair so that we are sure that we get the best value for our money. Watch for road repair schedules in upcoming newsletters.

The road to home rule begins this month as the Home Rule Committee has their kickoff meeting. Through the upcoming year they will propose a City Charter that will outline how the City will be governed. There will be public meetings and an approval vote by the residents before a charter is enacted.

Our new water tower on our Western border with Allen is nearing completion. As a finishing touch the tower will be painted to include our new logo. This water tower has been needed for many years and will provide a much needed water delivery system for our residents on our west end.

This year's Founder's Day will be held on Saturday, March 19 at Hart Elementary School. Watch the newsletter in the upcoming months for more information about the event.

If you would like to discuss any issue facing the city please feel free to contact me at 972-390-1917 or send me an e-mail at either tfj@swbell.net or tfleps@lucastexas.us



WHAT DID DEPUTY WEBB ASK SANTA TO BRING?



MEETINGS

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR

JANUARY 3, 7:00 PM

City Annex

PLANNING & ZONING

JANUARY 10, 7:30 PM

City Annex

CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP

JANUARY 17, 2005

City Annex

PARKS & OPEN SPACE BOARD

JANUARY 24, 6:30 PM

City Hall

MUNICIPAL COURT

JANUARY 26, 2:00 PM

City Annex

Newsletter Submissions: newsletter@lucastexas.us

Deadline is the 15th of the month for inclusion in the next month's issue.



DR. DAVID AND MRS. RUTH KUO

THANK YOU DR. KUO!

Dr. David Kuo of Lucas, assisted by his wife **Ruth**, had standing room only for flu shots December 11. The line began forming about an hour before they were scheduled to arrive, but all who came were accommodated.

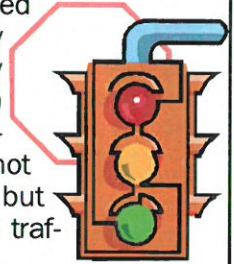
We are so appreciative they provided this much needed service to our citizens. Our thanks, also, to nurse **Denny Rice**, **Fire Chief Ron Grotti** and **Captain Lee Bauer** for facilitating an orderly flow throughout the process. We're fortunate to have these great citizens doing great things for Lucas!



DENNY RICE AND CHIEF RON GROTTI

NEW TRAFFIC LIGHT IN OPERATION

The new signal light is installed and operational at the three-way intersection of FM 1378 (Country Club) and FM 3286 (Branch Road) by the Lucas Food Store. It will require some adjustment for those not accustomed to stopping on 1378, but should improve overall safety and traffic flow of the intersection.



The State recognized the need for a light there due to the increased growth that inevitably brings increased traffic. Our thanks to **Councilmember Kristy Hall** for her diligence in pursuing the matter with TXDOT.

Please be respectful of the surrounding residential neighborhoods in that area and don't use them as a cut-through route to bypass the intersection. It endangers the children at play and reduces the quality of life for those residents. It has been an unanticipated consequence to the signal light. Let's all drive friendly and stay safe.

LAFFS HOLIDAY PARTY WAS MERRY AND BRIGHT

It was a holly, jolly party at the Annex when the seniors gathered for the LAFFS holiday fest. Tasty food, a musical ornament exchange and a bit of caroling yielded all the elements for a good time.

Our thanks to **Hayden Williams**, **Grayson Williams**, **Tyler Toth** and **Andrew Womack** for volunteering their time to serve the seniors and assist at the party. Grayson and Hayden's mom, **Carolyn Williams**, said she "wanted to foster



L-R: DARLENE ISAACKS, CARL ISAACKS, AND RUTH HAHN PASS ORNAMENTS DURING THE "MUSICAL ORNAMENT EXCHANGE."



Eleanor Lindsay, Velma Spurgin and Alice Pharr

community service" in her young charges. What a great way to start! The seniors enjoyed having the young men and they were a big help to the LAFFS committee members: **Neta Fleps**, **Debby George**, **Lee Ford**, **Laura Bloch**, **Annic Martin**, **Cheryl Stroup**, **Jill Mormon**, and **Tonda Frazier**.

Planning will begin in January for more LAFFS events in the coming New Year! Hope to see more of you at the next one!



NEWSLETTER IN COLOR ONLINE

The photos on these two pages provide a real visual treat in color. Go to our City website, click on Newsletters, then click on January 2005 for this issue. View past issues by month and year — 2004 are all in color as well!



L-R: GRAYSON WILLIAMS, HAYDEN WILLIAMS, TYLER TOTH AND ANDREW WOMACK



COMMUNITY SERVICE WEBSITES:

- www.lucastxonline.com
- www.trinitytrailriders.org
- www.lovejoyschools.com



IT WAS A "COOL YULE" GATHERING!

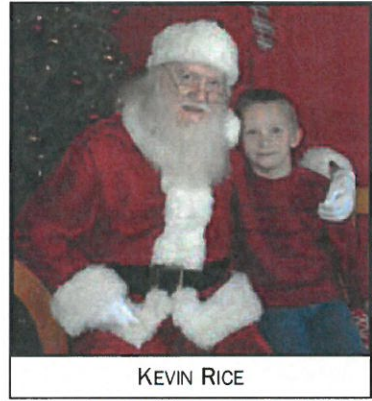
We had fun at the Holiday Open House December 11. The cookies, hot chocolate, and hot cider were well-received, but Santa was the star of the party! A few turned shy and took some coaxing to sit beside him, but he won most of them over. All the youngsters received a gift bag of fun, Christmas-themed items. We want to especially thank **Harrison Massey** for helping to set up and serve and **Cheryl Massey** for assembling Santa's gift bags. It was a nice get-together and great to see so many there.



ALYSON AND LAUREN SUDAK



KATHY MORRIS, DEP. BOBBY WEBB, AND DENNY RICE ADMIRE THE SLINKY THAT CAITLIN RICE RECEIVED FROM SANTA.



KEVIN RICE



MASON OLK



ALYSSA BEATTY



COLTON AND HAILEY LOWDER



WILLIAM AND ELIZABETH HOWELL



CASSIE YOUNG



CASSADY ZALE

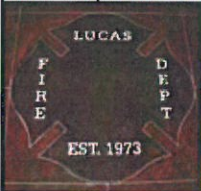
FIRE DEPT. YEAR-END BANQUET

The Fire Dept. gathered with their families for their year-end banquet/holiday party to socialize and recognize the accomplishments of several individual members. Lucas FD made over 300 calls this past year and plaques were awarded to firemen in three categories. Those that answered over 100 calls were **Frank Delvalle** and **David Leonard**. Those who answered over 150 calls were **Randy Conrad**, **Brandon Marshall**, **Gary Johnson**, and **Craig Zale**. **Lee Bauer** was credited with over 175 calls.



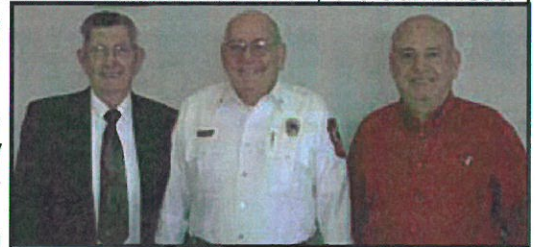
L-R: **BACK ROW:** DAVID LEONARD, MIKE COX, C.J. ALEXANDER, CHIEF RON GROTTI, JAMES TELLIER, GARY JOHNSON, DAVID PALMER, MARK RANDLE, BRANDON MARSHALL. **MIDDLE ROW:** ANDREW TOKARZ, CAPTAIN DOUG HILLEN, CAPTAIN CRAIG ZALE, LARRY ABSTON. **FRONT ROW (KNEELING:)** RANDY KEARBY, DON NARANS, CAPTAIN LEE BAUER, FRANK DELVALLE, MARK ATKINSON, RANDY CONRAD, ASST. FIRE CHIEF ED FLEMING (KENNY FERGUSON AND JARRETT SKIDMORE NOT PICTURED.)

Special recognition went to recent retirees **Chief Roy Matheny** and **Chief Tuck Minnett** for their many years of service to the department.



Mike Cox, **Gary Johnson** and **Randy Kearby** were involved in developing a new logo for the Lucas FD. All members received a jacket with the logo on front and Lucas Fire Rescue spelled out on the back. In addition, the administration office floor was recently refinished and the logo etched in the center for a very professional and sharp look (see photo at left.)

Original FD members **Calvin Fast**, **Frank Hamlin** and **Richard Morris** were on hand to view the photo albums recently compiled by **La Vada Brown** and to reminisce with their former crewmen and meet the newer ones.



L-R: CALVIN FAST, FRANK HAMLIN, RICHARD MORRIS

We wish them all a very Happy and *safe* New Year and thank them for their service.

WHY THEY JOINED



Gary Johnson has been with LFD since 2001. This veteran utilized his Navy experience in Damage Control to serve as a volunteer firefighter in South Carolina. He learned about the Lucas department when he met Craig Zale, and decided to join.

What does it feel like when he's going into a fire? "Your heart is pounding hard!" he said. That's where the para-military discipline comes in, so your reflexes take over. He acknowledged it takes a lot of time away from family, but does it to give something back to the community. He said, "Anyone with the time and ability *should* do it."

Craig Zale, Captain, has been with the department since 1996. He had served as a volunteer EMT (Emergency Medical Technician) in Cedar Hill. When he opened his auto repair shop here, he wanted an affiliation to keep his EMS certification with the Texas Dept. of Health. He met Lee Bauer and asked if the Department needed help during the day. The rest is history!



He admits being scared his first few times responding to fires, but says that the extensive training they do gives them the familiarization needed to focus and get

the job done. Lucas has been fortunate to never have anyone injured or killed on duty.

James Tellier had wanted to be a firefighter as a kid, but his career path led to service in the Navy then into the technology field. When he moved to Allen, he joined the reserve program for Allen firefighters. When it disbanded in 2000, he joined Lucas FD.



James said on a call, you get tunnel vision and you're just trying to do what you've been trained to do. He pointed out it's a bit more challenging as a volunteer. Firefighters for paid departments fulfill the same role every day and learn its pattern through repetition. Each call for a volunteer department is different because it depends on who responds as to what role they will play.

All the firefighters stressed how important family support is to their ability to do this job. Training and calls require a great deal of time away. A family who understands the commitment is key to their success. They are also appreciative of the City's financial backing to provide good equipment and training to keep them safe.

We appreciate all our firefighters. Next time you see one of them - be sure to tell them so!



LAND USE PLAN APPROVED

City Council approved the Comprehensive Land Use Plan and Land Use Map for years 2004 through 2025 at their regular meeting on December 6. In addition, Council moved to conduct an Economic Analysis of the plan within the next eight months.

The map keeps our commercial areas on the periphery and maintains a citywide majority of 2 acre-plus lot sizes. Consulting planner Tim F. Glendening recognized the unique character of Lucas and felt we should do everything possible to preserve it. He said, "I've become emotionally attached to this project. You have a great thing here and I hope Lucas won't be in a rush to 'Allenize' it."

No plan, including this one, is perfect, but it provides a guideline to shape the direction we wish to grow. We believe the majority of citizens support this vision.

STUDENT STARS

Michael and Neva Russell, 12 White Rock Trail Lucas, Texas announce the graduation of their daughter, **Rebecca Marie Russell**, from Lubbock Christian University on December 11, 2004. She received her Bachelor of Social Work degree. Honor designations were Summa Cum Laude and she received the Dean's Award. Congratulations, Rebecca!



Lucas resident **Harrison Massey** bowled in the Dallas YABA Championship Tournament on October 30 and 31st, 2004. Harrison bowled in Division 3 with a book average of 139. He won 1st place in Division 3 singles, high scratch series, and all events, earning \$100.00 in scholarship for Division 3 all events and \$110.00 in scholarship brackets. He had a high scratch game of 246 during the doubles match, and a scratch series of 605 during the singles match. Harrison attends Lowery Freshman Center and is a member of the Allen High School JV bowling team. He is the son of **Raymond and Cheryl Massey**. Way to go, Harrison!



DEPUTY MIKE HOLCOMB REPORTING FOR DUTY

Beginning this month, Sheriff's Deputy Mike Holcomb will become Lucas' deputy, replacing Dep. Bobby Webb. Dep. Webb will be working the deep night shift to allow him more time with his daughter before she moves away to college next year.

We are saddened to lose Dep. Webb as our officer. He has done a tremendous job getting our community policing program underway and will be very much missed. He leaves some pretty big shoes to fill — figuratively speaking, not literally of course!

Dep. Webb and the Sheriff's department are confident that Deputy Holcomb will continue to serve our City in the great way to which we are accustomed. We feel certain that is true!

Welcome to Lucas, Deputy Holcomb!

NEWSLETTER CONTENT POLICY

City Council directed a new policy governing articles in the Newsletter at their September workshop. They discussed whether to accept paid advertising, and whether school and church announcements were appropriate in a publication funded by City tax dollars.

It was decided to limit church and school information to a few lines in the "Community Calendar" section (see below) in order to avoid the appearance of advertising for special interest groups with public funds. In addition, they declined to accept any paid advertising due to the difficulty of enforcing uniformity and quality of content.

Commitments made to groups prior to the policy change have now been fulfilled, and the new procedure will be implemented beginning this month.

Submissions may be emailed to newsletter@lucastexas.us or dropped off at City Hall.



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

JANUARY 16—Special Friends Day at First Baptist Church of Lucas, 100 Stinson Rd. at Lucas Rd. . . **The Crystal River Quartet from Greenville** will perform at 10:30 a.m. . . Free Admission—call 972-442-3902 for more information.





HAPPY NEW YEAR



DESCENDANTS OF
GABRIEL HENRY LUCAS,
OUR FOUNDER

FOUNDER'S DAY FAIR PLANNED FOR MARCH 19, 2004

Planning is underway for this year's Founder's Day Fair. We'll have great food, history presentations, a bounce house, fire engine tours, door prizes and lots of fun!

The bake contest is  back – the entries will be for Best Cake, Best Pie and Best Cookies so start testing those recipes!

Meal tickets will be free of charge to Lucas residents, but non-residents may purchase a ticket if they would like to attend. Details will be in the February Newsletter.

Crafters – do you have items you would like to sell? We'll have a limited amount of space available on a first-come, first-serve basis. There is no charge for space, but you will need to provide your own table no larger than 72" long by 30" wide. Call Tonda Frazier at 214/495-0245 or email to tfrazier@lucastexas.us for details or to reserve a spot.



Mark your calendars and plan to come!



CITY OF LUCAS
151 COUNTRY CLUB
LUCAS, TEXAS 75002

PRESORTED STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
ALLEN TX 75002
PERMIT 157

POSTAL PATRON