



# Lucas City Newsletter

151 Country Club Rd. • 972/727-8999 • City Website: [www.lucastexas.us](http://www.lucastexas.us)

## CITY COUNCIL

**Tom Fleps, Mayor**

**Kristy Hall, Mayor Pro Tem**

**Debbie Fisher, Councilmember**

**Tonda Frazier, Councilmember**

**Mike Marafine, Councilmember**

## CITY ADMINISTRATOR

**Joe Gambill**

## Meeting Schedule

### City Council Regular

May 2, 7:00 PM  
City Annex

### Planning & Zoning

May 9, 7:00 PM  
City Annex

### City Council Workshop

May 16, 7:00 PM  
City Annex

### Parks & Open Spaces

May 23, 7:00 PM  
City Annex

### Municipal Court

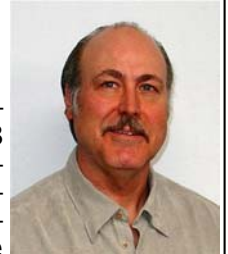
May 25, 2:00 PM  
City Annex

## MEMORIAL DAY — May 30<sup>th</sup>

Originally called Decoration Day when officially proclaimed in 1898 to honor those who died in military service for their country, Memorial Day was declared a national holiday in 1971. City offices will be closed on the 30<sup>th</sup> in observance.



## MAYOR'S CORNER By Tom Fleps



The final Meet the Candidates forum will be held on Sunday, May 1<sup>st</sup>. The moderator for this event is Precinct 3 County Commissioner Joe Jaynes. Election Day is the following Saturday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, at the City Hall Annex. Early voting will continue to be held until May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Voting is a freedom that is enjoyed by all but used by few. Help to shape the future of Lucas by voting for the candidate of your choice on May 7<sup>th</sup>.

A new full-time road maintenance crew has been created. The new crew will repair road failures and conduct an ongoing preventative road maintenance program that was designed by our City Engineer. The maintenance program will ensure that we realize the optimum life and service from our roadways. Included among their road repair duties will be the repair and upkeep of our drainage ditches and tree trimming and mowing along the roadways. Road reconstruction will continue to be done on a bid basis. Future plans are that road reconstruction will also be done in-house. This program is a giant step forward in ensuring that our roads will be properly constructed and maintained and that your tax dollars are used more efficiently.

Voluntary curbside recycling will be available in Lucas beginning in June. Details on how to participate in this program will be included in the next newsletter.

Don't forget to honor your mother on Mother's Day, May 8<sup>th</sup>.

Remember those who gave their all so that we have the freedom to elect our leaders. Fly your flag to show your appreciation on Armed Forces Day, May 15<sup>th</sup>, and on Memorial Day, May 30<sup>th</sup>.

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](mailto:tfj@swbell.net) or [tfleps@lucastexas.us](mailto:tfleps@lucastexas.us).

## JOHN BLACKWELDER MEMORIAL TREE

The White Rock Trail neighbors of Lucas have donated a memorial tree in memory of our friend and neighbor John Blackwelder who passed away on April 20, 2004. A Lacey Oak tree has been purchased and is now planted in Forest Creek Park on Orchard Gap in Lucas.

John and Mariann Blackwelder moved to Lucas in June, 1992. He was retired from Arco Alaska, Inc. where he worked on the north slope of Alaska. John loved working outside in his yard and grew a large vegetable garden. He is survived by his wife of 46 years, Mariann Blackwelder, by two daughters, Rene Ballard of Little Elm and Regina Duran of Frisco and by 4 grandchildren.

## Newsletter Submissions: [newsletter@lucastexas.us](mailto:newsletter@lucastexas.us)

Deadline is the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month for inclusion in the next month's issue.

**PUBLIC WORKS**



The McGarity Pump Station is now on-line, and the tower will be very soon, pending test results.

The water crew successfully lowered the water line under FM 3286 as mandated by the State.

We are looking for summer help in the Parks Department. Print and complete the application on the website or come by City Hall to pick up one. Applicants must be at least 16 years old.

**GET EMAIL NOTIFICATIONS**

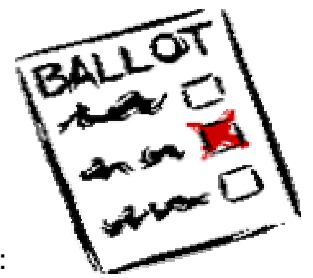
Would you like to receive informational emails from the City about meeting agendas, website updates, city events, and other city news? If so, please sign up on the City's website at <http://www.lucastexas.us/>.

**FISCAL YEAR '05-'06 BUDGET**

Work has begun on developing next year's budget which includes setting the city's property tax rate. Items having a large impact on the budget include streets, waterline improvements, & fire department equipment. After several review sessions with Staff, Council will do final budget approval in September.

**EXERCISE YOUR RIGHT to VOTE**

**Saturday, May 7, 2005  
7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.  
City Annex Building**



The 2005 Lucas Voter Challenge: 50% voter turnout. If you can't make it on election day, you can always vote by mail or take advantage of early voting at City Hall from April 20th through May 3rd. Your vote matters!

**MEET the CANDIDATES**

Need more info about the candidates? Come hear what they have to say on **May 1st, 2-4 p.m., City Hall Annex.**

*Mayor*

★ Bob Sanders

*Councilmembers (select 2, ballot order)*

★ Natha Wilkison

★ Roger Behymer

★ Don Zriny

★ Bill Carmickle



**NEW ORDINANCES and RESOLUTIONS**

PDF versions of the new resolutions and ordinances may be found on our website.

- *Ordinance 2005-03-00523*      *Annexing 21.75 acres, McGarity/FM2551, zoned "CB"*
- *Ordinance 2005-04-00524*      *Granting SUP for Agape House*
- *Resolution 2005-04-00246*      *Appointing May 7 Election Judges*

21,000 tons of litter end up on Texas highways each year. There are 6,300 litter items per month per mile, 14% of which are cigarette butts. Please don't litter!

**FREE LANDFILL SERVICE**

Collin County contracted with the North Texas Municipal Water District's landfill in Melissa to conduct once-a-month cleanup days where all residents of Collin County can bring their items for disposal at no cost. Residents will be able to drop off



most refuse consisting of general debris, furniture, appliances that do not contain Freon, 6 tires per household, boards or tree limbs etc. not exceeding eight feet in length. Household garbage, chemicals, paints, motor oil / fluids and batteries cannot be accepted. For more info, see the Collin County Public Works link on Page 4.

**ALARM PERMITS NEEDED**

All Lucas residents using Burglar, Robbery, Fire, Medical, & Panic Alarms must comply with the Collin County Alarm Ordinance, including submitting the permit application form. Should you have questions regarding the ordinance, please contact the Collin County Sheriff's Office Crime Prevention Section at 972-547-5167. More details along with the permit application are available on the City's website in the Public Safety section.

**COMMUNITY CORNER**

June 13-18: Jerusalem Marketplace VBS at Lucas First United Methodist Church

## HOME RULE COMMISSION

The Commission members are continuing their work to prepare a Home Rule Charter for the City of Lucas. A Home Rule Charter will provide a structure for increased independence for city government, and more power over local matters including the effective, efficient, and fiscally responsible conduct of the City government, and allow full participation in the affairs of the City by every member of the community.

However, special mention should be made of the place of the Charter in relation to other applicable laws. The Bill of Rights and other protections afforded citizens by the United States Constitution are, of course, primary. The Constitution of the State of Texas also contains specific limitations on the City's home rule powers. The Commission recognizes that the Charter is subordinate to, and must keep faith with, these federal and state enactments which limit the City's home rule powers. The Commission also recognizes that certain State statutes continue to apply to the City. As the commission continues drafting the Home Rule Charter variations will be made from such statutes only where home rule powers are permitted and sound reasons exist.

With the foregoing principles in mind, the following summarizes some of the key provisions of the Charter as thus far determined by the commission.

- *Form of Government to be: Council-Mayor-City Administrator*
- *Council members will be elected by Place at large*
- *The Council will consist of 6 Council members and 1 Mayor, and all will vote*
- *The Mayor will be elected at large*
- *Council members and Mayor will serve for 3 years*

Once the commission has completed their draft of the Home Rule Charter, it will be presented to the City Council. Council members will have an opportunity to review the proposed charter and make their own changes and / or recommendations. With final Council approval, the Home Rule Charter will be available, in its entirety, for every citizen to review and then vote on its adoption.

## RECYCLING NEWS

Barnes Waste Disposal will soon be offering optional curbside recycling on a subscription basis. Pick-ups will occur twice monthly. Clear or translucent blue bags will be required. Items placed in dark bags will be sent to the landfill. Stay tuned here and on the website for more info.

## LUCAS VFD NEWS

The LVFD received a \$2,100 cost-share grant to send 6 trainees to the TEEX Summer Fire School in July.

### EMS Week — May 15-21

By David Leonard, LVFD

Have you ever called 911? Have you ever been transported in an ambulance? Each year, millions of people need emergency medical care while at work, in their homes or in places outside of a hospital. That's when Emergency Medical Services, or EMS, is there for you — any time, any day, anywhere that you need us.

Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Week brings together local communities and medical personnel to publicize safety and honor the dedication of those who provide the day-to-day lifesaving services of the medical "front line."

Members of the Lucas Volunteer Fire Department provide EMS in this community. Many members of the department have attended extensive training that provides the community with "front line" lifesaving skills. Medical calls range from minor medical problems to CPR. The volunteers respond to any 911 call in Fire Department vehicles because each engine is equipped with all the equipment that may be needed.

Ambulance service is contracted through East Texas Medical Center and comes out of Wylie. Lucas firefighters who are trained in EMS deliver patient care, medical treatment and basic life support until advanced capabilities arrive on the scene.

LVFD members who have received EMS training are:

- *Craig Zale* Captain / EMT
- *Mike Cox* Captain / EMT
- *David Leonard* Captain / EMT
- *James Tellier* Lieutenant / ECA
- *Don Narans* Firefighter / EMT
- *Larry Abston* Firefighter / Paramedic
- *Gary Johnson* Firefighter / ECA
- *Mark Atkison* Firefighter / EMT
- *CJ Alexander* Firefighter / EMT
- *Frank DeValle* Firefighter / EMT
- *Mark Randle* Firefighter / EMT
- *Austin McKitrick* Firefighter / EMT (Probationary)
- *Robert Brashears* EMT (Probationary)





### USEFUL WEBSITES

Collin County Public Works — [http://www.co.collin.tx.us/public\\_works/](http://www.co.collin.tx.us/public_works/)

Collin County Trails — <http://www.co.collin.tx.us/living/recreation/trails/>

Texas State Unclaimed Property — <http://www.window.state.tx.us/up/>

Texas Education Agency — <http://www.tea.state.tx.us/>

*"There is nothing harder than the softness of indifference." —  
Juan Montalvo*

### TIDBITS

- *The average high temperature for Lucas in May is 80.8 degrees Fahrenheit. The average low is 60.7. Average precipitation is 5.5 inches.*
- *Read more about Memorial Day at <http://www.usmemorialday.org/>*
- *In May: New York Stock Exchange was established in 1792; Washington DC was incorporated as a city in 1802; Transcontinental Railroad was completed in 1869; First Indianapolis 500 road race was held in 1911; Lindbergh flew the first nonstop, solo, transatlantic flight in 1927; Golden Gate Bridge opened in 1937; Hindenburg exploded in 1937; Hillary and Norkay reached the summit of Mt. Everest in 1953.*

### BY the NUMBERS

Citywide Water Usage (gallons)	
March 2005	16,900,000

March 2005 Sheriff's Report Calls for Service in the Lucas Grid	
Traffic Stops	101
Building Checks	75
Alarms	13
Vandalism	4
Theft, Burglary	11
Suspicious Vehicles, Persons, Circumstances	11
Accidents	5
Disturbances	8
Other	40
<b>Total</b>	<b>268</b>

CITY OF LUCAS  
151 COUNTRY CLUB  
LUCAS, TEXAS 75002

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

POSTAL PATRON