



Lucas City Newsletter

September 2005

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

CITY COUNCIL

Bob Sanders, Mayor
 Mike Marafine, Mayor Pro Tem
 Bill Carmickle, Councilmember
 Debbie Fisher, Councilmember
 Tonda Frazier, Councilmember
 Don Zriny, Councilmember

CITY ADMINISTRATOR

Charles Fenner

Meeting Schedule

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

City Council Regular
 September 6 (Tuesday)

Planning & Zoning
 September 12

City Council Workshop
 September 19

Parks & Open Spaces
 September 26

Municipal Court
 September 27, 2:00 PM

TARA WINS NEIGHBORHOOD AWARD

The Tara subdivision, located on Estelle Road in Lucas, won the “2005 National Night Out Award Winning Neighborhood Crime Watch.”

To win this award, Tara held an Ice Cream Party on August 2, 2005 which was also National Night Out. Activities included a Kid’s Kreaions dessert contest, bicycle parade, face painting, water gun games, and hula hoop contest. Over 1/3 of the neighborhood was in attendance and many more participated by turning on their porch lights. Neighbors enjoyed visiting and getting to know one another better.

The best way to beat crime is to know your neighbors and watch out for each other.



Above, Tara Crime Watch Coordinator Carolyn Rasmussen receives Neighborhood Crime Watch signs from Collin County Sheriff Terry Box. Pictured, left to right, are Linda Schenck, Major Chuck Ruckel, Lisa Marshburn, Sheriff Terry Box, Deputy Dickie Thomas, Gary Cumbie, Carolyn Rasmussen, Cindy Broughton, Deputy James Murphy, and Christopher Rogers.

ELECTION



Make your vote count!
 Saturday, September 10,
 7am to 7pm, City Annex.

LABOR DAY

Since 1882, Labor Day has signified a tribute to the contributions all workers have made to the strength, prosperity, and well-being of our country. Read more about it at <http://dol.gov/opa/aboutdol/laborday.htm>.

PROPOSED BUDGET & TAX RATE for 2005-2006

The City Council is scheduled to adopt the budget for the 2005-2006 fiscal year at their regular business meeting on Tuesday, September 6, 2005, 7 p.m., City Annex.

The City Council will also be adopting the tax rate for the 2005-2006 fiscal year at their meeting on September 19, 2005. Our tax rate is expected to remain at the same level as the 2004-2005 rate of \$0.3766 per \$100 of assessed valuation.

BOBBY WEBB FUNDRAISER



The Collin County Sheriff's Office is sponsoring a garage/bake sale on Saturday, September 10th @ 8 a.m. at the Lucas Fire Station for the family of Deputy Bobby who lost his battle with cancer on Monday, August 22. He passed away peacefully with his wife, daughter, and sister around him.

Deputy Webb was the first deputy assigned full-time to Lucas under our agreement with the CCSO. Always willing to share a bit of fun at events and take the opportunity to meet our citizens, he charmed our community with his amiable nature, all the while tolerating no deviance from the law. He was ever vigilant to keep us safe and secure.

This Vietnam veteran had a background in naval communications and computer systems administration, worked as a corporate pilot, was a long-time HAM radio operator, and was trained as a storm spotter.

He once said he enjoyed helping people and found it rewarding to make situations better than he found them. Lucas is certainly better having experienced his spirit, humor, intelligence, and goodness. He will be deeply missed.

ORDINANCES and RESOLUTIONS

The resolutions and ordinances listed below may be found on our website.

- Ordinance 2005-08-00530
Amending Ordinance 2005-06-00529 ordering a special election on the adoption of the home rule charter
- Ordinance 2005-08-00531
Providing for accessory building regulations
- Ordinance 2005-08-00532
Providing for public notice of proposed zoning changes
- Ordinance 2005-08-00533
Adopting a new emergency water management plan
- Resolution 2005-08-00260
Appointing election judges for the September 10 special election

OUTDOOR WATERING SCHEDULE

Address	Outdoor Watering Days
Even Numbered Address	Wednesday, Friday, Sunday
Odd Number Address	Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday
No outdoor watering: Monday	

HOME RULE CHARTER ELECTION

A special election on the adoption of the proposed Home Rule Charter will be held on Saturday, September 10th from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. in the City Annex at 185 Country Club Road. **Early voting** at City Hall continues September 1, 2, and 6 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The charter is available for review at City Hall and online at <http://www.lucastexas.us/new/homerule.asp>.

Lucas is currently a Type-A General Law Municipality and, as such, has no charter. We operate according to the powers the State grants to us. Home Rule cities on the other hand, have inherent powers for "public purpose" that are not specifically granted by the state legislature. Home Rule cities look to the legislature only for limitations and must act in accordance with the laws of the State of Texas and of the U.S.

Inherent powers include, but are not limited to, the structure and organization of the government, annexation, initiative, referendum, recall, and charter amendments.

Our proposed charter maintains the same form of government that we have presently, but it adds a councilmember, gives the mayor a vote, and changes the term of office from two years to three.

An example of a home rule city complying with State regulations while also exercising local control concerns property tax rates. The State sets a maximum allowable rate; however, a home rule charter may set a rate lower, but not higher, than that rate. Our proposed charter does just that: it sets a maximum allowable rate substantially lower than that allowed by the State. Setting a maximum allowable rate **does not** set the current tax rate. Tax rates are determined annually and set by ordinance each September when the budget is approved.

The primary benefit of home rule is the right of citizens to control and manage a municipality's governmental affairs at the local level.

A man who seeks truth and loves it must be reckoned precious to any human society. — Frederick the Great

COMMUNITY CORNER

- SPCA low-cost pet vaccinations, Saturday, October 1st, 9 a.m. to noon, City Hall.
- Bazaar for Hope's Door, Saturday, October 8th, 4-9 p.m., First United Methodist Church of Lucas. For more information, visit www.lucasumc.org/lucasumc/bazaar.html.
- Hart Elementary Silent/Live Auction and Carnival, Saturday, October 22nd, 4-7 p.m. For more information or to make a donation, call 972-442-6734.

PROPOSED ZONING CHANGES

Public Hearings scheduled for the September 6th City Council and/or September 12th P&Z meetings:

- Zoning change from AO to R-2 for McCamy/Anderton tracts
- Zoning change from AO to R-2 for 15.62 acres fronting FM1378 and West Lucas Rd across from City Hall

STUDENT PROFILE

Cayla Coleman, daughter of Jerry and Carla Coleman and big sister to Alexis, is an 11th grader at Plano Senior High School. She aspires to work in law enforcement and is currently in her second year in the Plano Police Explorers. This past summer during a Police Explorer event, Cayla was chosen to demonstrate the sky cam to children in the Police Safety School (photo below). Cayla is active in the Allen Achievers 4-H travel exchange group, which is traveling to Washington DC next summer. In addition, she traveled with her church group to Durango, CO, this past summer to build houses for the poor. What makes these accomplishments even more significant is that Cayla is deaf and was fitted with a bionic ear, the cochlear implant, just this past December. Most amazing to her are the chirps of birds. She can hardly believe how beautiful they sound now that she can finally begin to hear!



NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

newsletter@lucastexas.us

Submissions must be received by the 15th of the month for inclusion in the next month's issue.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR CHARLES FENNER



Charles Fenner started with the City of Lucas on August 15th. He has 10 years of experience in government management and program development. Charles recently served as the City Manager of Canton and, prior to that, as the Director of Planning & Development Services for Kaufman. He has also held the positions of Senior City Planner with Mesquite and Interim Director of Planning with Kerrville.

Charles holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Geography and Planning from Southwest Texas State University. He has completed graduate studies in GIS, holds a Masters Degree in Public Administration from Suffield University, and is a Certified Human Resource Manager, a Certified Public Manager, and a Texas Real Estate Broker.

Charles also has numerous professional affiliations and is a member of the Dallas Association of Realtors, Texas City Manager Association, American Society for Public Administrators, Society of Human Resource Management, American Planning Association, American Water Works Association, Canton Lions Club, Canton Rotary Club, and others.

Charles and his wife, Amy, have two daughters, Landry and Laney, and one son, Nicklas. They currently reside in Canton and are members of the Lakeside Baptist Church where Charles serves as Deacon and Youth Sunday School Teacher. He is also a member of the Praise Band.

LABOR DAY TRASH REMINDER



During the week of September 4th, trash will be picked up one day later than usual due to Labor Day observance. Friday trash will be picked up on Saturday.

CODE CORNER

All non-essential outdoor lighting must be turned off after 10:30 p.m. in residential areas and after business hours in commercial zones. "Non-essential" applies, but is not limited, to display, aesthetic, parking, sign, playground, or yard lights. These lighting curfews do not apply to lighting necessary for site security. Lighting regulations were approved December 6, 1999, and are part of Chapter 9 of our Code of Ordinances which is available online.

WATER USAGE and CONSERVATION

Citywide Water Usage August—July (gallons)		There are 1,553 water customers in Lucas. Over 30% of those water accounts each consumed 30,000 gallons or more in the month of July. The subdivisions with the highest water usage are The Enclave, Saddlebrook, Stonegate, Forest Creek Estates, and Austin Trail. While this past July was pretty parched, even with the new developments we didn't match the water consumption from 2000 when the area went 84+ days without rain in the July-September timeframe.
1999-2000	266,584,000	
2000-2001	310,460,000	
2001-2002	243,856,000	
2002-2003	271,766,000	
2003-2004	264,218,000	
2004-2005	307,494,000	

TIDBITS

- The average high temperature for Lucas in September is 93.2 degrees Fahrenheit, with an average low of 70.8 and average precipitation of 2.1 inches.
- In September: Caesar Augustus born, 63 B.C; William the Conqueror invaded England, 1066; *Mayflower* sets sail from Plymouth, 1620; U.S Constitution signed, 1787; U.S. Treasury Department established, 1789; First Labor Day parade, NYC, 1882; First Miss America crowned, 1921; World War II began, 1939; Transistor invented, 1947; *Gunsmoke* premiered on TV, 1955; James Dean died at age 24, 1955; Viking II landed on Mars, 1976.

BY the NUMBERS

Citywide Water Usage (gallons)	
July 2005	41,085,000

July 2005 Sheriff's Office Calls for Service in Lucas	
Traffic Stops	87
Building Checks	57
Alarms	22
Traffic Accidents & Hazards	13
Theft, Burglary	6
Suspicious Vehicles, Persons, Circumstances	20
Assistance	9
Disturbances	13
Other	52
Total	279

CITY OF LUCAS
 151 COUNTRY CLUB
 LUCAS, TEXAS 75002

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

POSTAL PATRON