



Lucas City Newsletter

October, 2007

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

I am pleased to announce that effective October 1, we have a new City Administrator, Paul Catoe. Paul most recently served as city manager for Colorado City in West Texas. He is a graduate of Texas Tech University. He has extensive experience in city management, having also served as city manager for a number of years in Eastland, as well as in Hamilton. Paul also recently served as president of the Colorado City Lions Club. Mr. Catoe and his wife Kay have purchased a home in Wylie.

The Home Rule Commission has now had two meetings, and are working to draft a proposed Home Rule Charter for inclusion in the May, 2008 general election. Cheryl Massey was elected Chairperson, and Star Daniels, Secretary. They will continue to meet every other Monday over the next few months, beginning on October 1. Each meeting begins with a Citizens Comments section during which residents can give their input on the process. On the upper left corner of the home page of the official city website at www.lucastexas.us there is a link to a Home Rule Commission page. This page contains Commission information, as well as links to posted agendas and approved minutes. It also lists the scheduled meeting dates. I want to personally urge all residents to support this commission as they work through this important process.

Meeting Schedule

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

City Council Regular Thurs., Oct.4
Planning & Zoning Thurs., Oct. 11
City Council Workshop Thurs., Oct. 18
Parks & Open Space Mon., Oct. 22
Municipal Court TBA
Home Rule Commission Mon., Oct. 1, 15, & 29



LUCAS STICK HORSE RODEO AND FOUNDERS DAY CELEBRATION SAT., OCT. 13th, 9:AM UNTIL 3:00PM

Come join in the fun activities for the entire family. This year's event will truly be a taste of the Old West, featuring a Stick Horse Rodeo for kids through age 8, horse riding demonstrations, a calf roping simulator for grownups and kids of all ages to try, and lots of free chuck wagon grub! There will be bounce houses for the kids, a pie baking contest, face-painting, a small petting zoo, and a prize raffle. Other attractions will be pony cart rides, and a sheep/goat scramble for the kids. You will also have the opportunity to meet our new City Administrator Paul Catoe.

Several local churches will have booths, and will be providing desserts. There are still booth opportunities, and churches, schools and other non-profits are encouraged to participate. There are no booth fees, entry fees, or any other costs other than the entry fees for Stick Horse Rodeo participants and the pie baking contest. As this event benefits the Lucas Volunteer Fire

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Department, any donations, however, will be greatly appreciated.

It's not too late to volunteer to help with this event, or to enter your little cowboys or cowgirls in the Stick Horse Rodeo. (Kids may either bring their own stick horse, or ones will be available for rent from our stable.) Forms are available at City Hall or on the City Website (under calendar, click on "Founders Day Event"). Donations of prizes to be awarded to the Stick Horse Rodeo winners will also be appreciated. Contact Council Member Kathleen Peele at 972-727-7201 for details on appropriate prizes.

The entry fee for the pie baking contest is \$2.00, and all proceeds will benefit the LVFD. Just bring your favorite pie between noon and 2:00PM, fill out an entry form and leave both on the pie entry table. Pies will be judged by our panel of experts at 2:30 PM, and the winner will be announced at 3:00PM.

The festivities will be held in back of City Hall and the Fire Station on Country Club Road. Additional parking will be available at Hart Elementary, also on Country Club Road, and shuttles will be provided to and from City Hall as needed.

For more information on this event, contact either Mayor Bill Carmickle at 214-693-9408, or Councilmember Kathleen Peele at 972-727-7201.

Later on this same evening, you are all invited to attend a Chili supper being held to benefit the Fitzhugh Cemetery, details of which are in the following article.

This will be a fun day for the entire family. Please come out, enjoy yourselves, and show your support of the great volunteers who make up the Lucas Volunteer Fire Dept.

ANNUAL FOREST GROVE/FITZHUGH CEMETERY CHILI SUPPER AND AUCTION SAT., OCT. 13, 5:00PM



This annual event benefits the maintenance fund for the historic Forest Grove/Fitzhugh Cemetery. The group that administers this fund is a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation and maintenance of the wonderful old cemetery that was established before the

Civil War, and is still in use today.

The event will be held beginning at 5:00PM in the church fellowship hall located at the intersection of Country Club Road and Forest Grove Rd. The menu will include homemade chili or beef stew, tea or soft drinks, and desserts. The cost is \$7.00 per person.

After dinner you will be entertained with an old-fashioned country auction where you will have the opportunity to bid on a variety of wonderful items, including quilts, craft items, and delicious homemade desserts. Raffle tickets will be sold for a beautiful queen size hand crocheted bedspread, and are also currently available at the front desk at Lucas City Hall. Tickets are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00.

For more information about this event, contact Jack Covington at 214-793-4371.

ROAD WORK UPDATE

The City has contracted with Reynolds Asphalt to do paving on Lynn Lane, McMillen Road and Orr Road, with the work scheduled to be completed in October. The roads will be repaired, then resurfaced with hot mix asphalt.

Lynn Lane will require a complete reconstruction by milling the existing pavement and recompacting the millings. It will then be repaved with new asphalt. Orr and McMillen will get spot patching, asphalt leveling, and, finally, a new surface of asphalt.

Traffic will be allowed to continue during this work, with only minimal delays. Please be reminded to drive carefully through all construction areas.

MAYOR AWARDS PLAQUE TO LOCAL HERO



Kathy Erickson (left) looks on as Mayor Carmickle presents plaque to Eddie Bowman (center).

Eddie Bowman, an employee of Barnes Waste Disposal, was making his rounds several weeks ago when he heard a cry for help from Kathy Erickson who had fallen from her horse while out for a ride. Mr. Bowman immediately came to her aid. In appreciation for his quick response and service beyond his duties, City Council awarded him a plaque and a City of Lucas pen at the Sept. 6 Council Meeting. Norman Barnes, owner of Barnes Waste Disposal was also in attendance, along with Ms. Erickson.

SEPTEMBER CITY COUNCIL ACTIONS

Beginning this month, we are going to try a new format for presenting City Council actions. The actions will be presented in a "plain language" format instead of the prior legal agenda language whenever possible. Complete descriptions of all actions may be found on the City website once the minutes are approved for the meetings..

Sept. 6, 2007 Regular City Council Meeting

- Approved an application by William Stilwell, Jr. to re-plat a 6.23 acre tract located in Brookhaven Estates, Lot 3, into two (2) approx. 3 acre tracts.
- Approved minutes from prior meetings held on 7/30, 8/2, 8/16, 8/18, 8/25, and 8/27.
- Accepted the resignation of Municipal Judge Gorfida.
- Appointed new Municipal Judge , Dana Huffman.
- Approved a new ordinance changing the speed limit on Snider Lane to 30 MPH at all points within the city limits.
- Authorized the City Administrator to call a public hearing regarding annexation request by Rockland Farms subdivision for around 61 acres currently not in City of Lucas.
- Authorized the City Administrator to call a public hearing regarding the adoption of an ordinance to allow City of Lucas to tax tangible personal property in transit. This is in response to a recent TX Legislature bill to exempt a tax of goods in transit unless the City passes an ordinance allowing this tax by 1-1-08.

Sept..17 City Council Special Meeting.

- Approved the City Budget for Fiscal Year beginning Oct. 1, 2007 and ending Sept. 30, 2008. (A copy of this budget is available at City Hall upon request) **Ordinance #2007-09-00603**
- Approved tax rate of .375 (same as 2006-2007 tax rate) and levying of Ad Valorem Taxes for the Fiscal Year of 2007-2008. **Ordinance #2007-09-00604**

September 20, City Council Workshop Meeting

- Nominated Jim Olk as our candidate for election to the Board of Directors for the Collin Central Appraisal District.

September 24, City Council Special Meeting

- Approved a new lease with Buzznet Communications for space on three water towers and agreement to drop litigation between Buzznet and the City.
- Approved change to the Thoroughfare Plan that changes Brockdale Park Rd. and future extension, and a future planned road on the eastern boundary of Seis Lagos from Minor Collector to Major Collector roads.

LUCAS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT PROFILES

This is the first in a series of profiles of individual members of the Lucas Volunteer Fire Department. There have been many articles in this newsletter over the years about the department as a whole, and we thought you might like to "meet" some of the individual members who serve our community.



David Leonard joined the LVFD in 1999. He is a Captain/EMT-B. He has earned numerous certifications, including SFFMA Accredited Advanced Firefighter, SFFMA Level II Instructor, SFFMA Driver/Operator, and SFFMA Certified

Training Coordinator. David is also a frequent contributor to this newsletter, and we always enjoy his informative articles.

David is employed by Extruders-Wylie. He and his wife live in Allen. They have two daughters and two grandchildren. Thanks to David for his outstanding service to our community.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Collin County Sheriff's Department and Collin County Homeland Security have joined forces with **CRIMEWEB.NET** to provide an effective method of alerting the citizens of Collin County of significant events. The CrimeWeb site provides six basic types of information to subscribers:

- Missing Child Alerts
- Missing Adult Alerts
- Major Crime Alerts
- Homeland Security Alerts
- School Alerts
- Community Information Alerts.

In the event of a significant incident, an email or a text message will be sent to citizens who have registered with the site and requested to be informed. The service is free. Citizens can also provide feedback to law enforcement if they have info or details on incidents that have been entered. To register, log on to www.crimeweb.net.

ADVISORY/DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE UPDATE

By Councilmember Don Zriny

A few months back, City Council created this advisory committee made up of volunteer residents. The idea was that they would operate independently, studying various issues, and reporting their conclusions and suggestions to Council. I have the pleasure as serving as Council liaison to this committee.

The group of five citizens will be working on long and mid-range city facilities planning, public safety planning, and economic development. The group's initial task was to work on facilities planning. They were asked to begin with this project first in order to interview the then City Administrator, Charles Fenner. Prior to his departure, they wanted to take advantage of his knowledge of current facilities, current needs, and his predictions and ideas for the future. They have toured Lucas City facilities, interviewed City Staff, studied current city properties and plans, and toured other cities' facilities. The committee meets periodically to discuss what work they have done, and what tasks still need to be done. They use email and phone calls to exchange information and ideas between meetings, which is allowed since they are an

advisory committee. The City owes a special thanks to the committee members, Karen Campbell, Phil Hanson, Cheryl Massey, Brenda Rizo, and Chris Hendrix for their dedication and hard work



NEW MUNICIPAL JUDGE APPOINTED

We reported in the last newsletter that our Municipal Judge, Joe Gorfida, had resigned and would resume working with the City as one of our City attorneys. At the Sept. 6 Council meeting, Judge Dana Huffman was appointed as our new Municipal Judge. She currently serves as prosecutor for the City of Murphy, City of Glenn Heights, City of Red Oak and Red Oak ISD. She also serves as Presiding Judge to the City of Balch Springs, as well as Alternate Judge to the City of DeSoto.

TRAFFIC ALERT: The speed limit on Snider Lane at all points within City limits is now **30** mph. Once the signs are changed, they will be flagged for a period of time to alert people to the change.

CITY OF LUCAS
151 COUNTRY CLUB
LUCAS, TEXAS 75002

PRESORTED STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE
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PERMIT 157

POSTAL PATRON