# Lucas City Newsletter



October , 2009 newsletter@lucastexas.us

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MEETING SCHEDULE
ALL MEETINGS BEGIN AT 7:00 IN THE NEW
CITY HALL UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED.

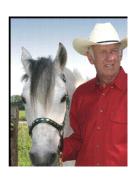
NEW CITY HALL OPENS MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1

PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8

CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15

# Straight Talk from the Mayor



By the time you receive this newsletter, we will be occupying our new City Hall Building at 665 Country Club Drive. Our first day in new quarters was Monday, Sept. 28. You are all invited to drop by and take a look at the spacious new facilities. A number of residents attended our Coffee with Council event on Sat., Sept.19 and enjoyed tours of the building hosted

by myself, Mayor Pro Tem Kathleen Peele, and Councilmember Rebecca Mark. We were pleased to have Supt. Ted Moore of Lovejoy ISD and newly appointed District Judge Greg Wheless drop by to have coffee with us. Mr. Moore commented that he was greatly impressed by the quality of the interior renovations, particularly since he had had an opportunity to see the building in its unimproved state.

The new complex is one of which we can all be proud. Both inside and out, the décor is reflective of our proud country heritage. Another source of pride is that the purchase of this facility was accomplished without our City incurring any debt! We were able to write a check out of our general and utility funds. In an era when most cities must incur debt and float bond issues to cover that debt, this is an outstanding accomplishment. It is not uncommon for new facilities of this type to cost in excess of \$200 per square foot to construct, not counting land costs.

Our new complex has almost nine acres, a main building of around 10,000 square feet, and a 6,000 square foot maintenance barn with a large security fenced equipment yard. It also features a large paved parking area, which is a great improvement over our previous limited and unpaved parking. Considering a purchase price of \$1.3 million, with an additional \$350,000 allocated for renovations, the acquisition of this facility was considerably less expensive than constructing a new complex would have been. We have now applied for a \$500K park grant from Collin County to make park improvements next to the City Hall.

All of this was accomplished with <u>no</u> tax increase for the coming fiscal year. We want to thank all of you who attended the council meetings held earlier in the year and who participated in the numerous discussions held regarding this purchase. Your input was greatly appreciated.

We are planning a holiday open house on December 12<sup>th</sup> with food being served along with a special visit from Santa. In the meantime, feel free to drop by any time and see your new City Hall.

## **Community Events**

Lovejoy ISD 2009 Property Tax Increase Election Information Election Day voting, on September 29, 2009, will be held during the hours of 7:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M. at the following location:

Lovejoy Elementary School Gymnasium 259 Country Club Road Allen, Texas **Ballot Proposition:** 

APPROVING THE AD VALOREM TAX RATE OF \$1.535 PER \$100 VALUATION IN THE LOVEJOY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR THE CURRENT YEAR, A RATE THAT IS \$0.01995 HIGHER PER \$100 VALUATION THAN THE LOVEJOY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT'S ROLLBACK TAX RATE

Voting "FOR" this proposal will raise the tax rate \$.02 per \$100 valuation by increasing the M&O from \$1.04 to \$1.06. House Bill 1 (HB1) requires local voters of a school district to approve any M&O tax rate above \$1.04.

#### **Coffee With Council**



Councilmember Rebecca Mark, Gina Embry and Larry Essary



Mayor Carmickle and the Hall Family



Councilmember Rebecca Mark, Lovejoy ISD Superintendent Ted Moore and Mayor BIll Carmickle



Ruth Hahn, OG Hahn, Kristy and Royce Hall along with their Children chat with Cheryl Massey



Mayor Pro Tem Kathleen Peele makes everyone feel at home

## "National Night Out" set for October 6th

participating in National Night Out 2009.

National Night Out takes place on the first Tuesday in October of each year from 7 to 10 p.m. This year National Night Out will be on Oct. 6. The City encourages all neighbors throughout the city of Lucas to participate in the nationwide 26th annual National Night Out crime and drug prevention event.

The Collin County Citizens Sheriff's Academy Alumni Association will again sponsor the "Award Winning Crime Watch" competition for business and neighborhood crime watches in the City of Lucas and will serve as judges for the competition. This year the Sheriff's Office will have 27 deputies to go out and visit in our neighborhoods.

This year included in the competition is a food drive. Representatives from local food banks suggest that you limit the foods collected to staples that are less likely to be abused. The suggested items most needed are: powdered milk, oatmeal, dry beans, rice, and peanut butter. Please check the dates on all items donated. The food banks are regulated by their local health departments and cannot stock any out of date foods. Deputies will pick up the donated food when visiting your neighborhood parties.

To make this year as successful as in years past, City of Lucas requests resident participation, as follows:

- Notify your neighbors to turn on their porch lights and come outside;
- Organize a block party; and,
- Register your party with The Collin County Sheriff's Office.

National Night Out helps strengthen neighborhood sprit and reinforce community partnerships to make the community a safer place to live and play. Anyone interested in signing up for a National Night Out block party and having the Collin County Sheriff's Office visit your party should contact Deputy D.L. Thomas, 972-547-5100.

#### **Storm Water Runoff**

The City of Lucas requires Storm Water Run-off Permits  $\blacksquare$  as of 4/2009 with site plans showing the following: The City of Lucas invites the community to join them in 14-524. All land disturbances. Land disturbances associated with any new construction, development, redevelopment, or land use change on any site of 2,500 square foot or larger or requiring a building permit shall incorporate into the development plan the following elements as minimum:

- 1. Stone construction entrance
- 2. Silt fence or other sediment retaining device on the low side of the site
- 3. Temporary seeding of disturbed areas remaining open more than three Weeks.
- 4. Removal of soil tracked into the public right-of-way immediately.
- 5. Permanent turf established. A copy of the development plan shall be submitted to the city prior to starting construction.

#### **Night Drop Box**



eginning September 28, 2009, the City of Lucas will provide a drive-up night drop box for the citizen's convenience when paying your water bill. It will be located at 665 Country Club, in the parking lot of the new city hall. If you have questions, please feel free to contact Delta Moody, 972-727-8999 X 409



The Department of Defense announced Monday that Air Force Senior Airman Matthew R. Courtois, 22, of Lucas, Texas; assigned to the 366th Security Forces Squadron, Mountain Home Air Force Base, Idaho; died Sept. 20 as a result of a non-hostile incident on Abdullah Al Mubarak Airbase, Kuwait.

Matt is survived by his wife, Cheyenne, and two stepchildren. Matt was a 2005 graduate of Allen High School. A memorial service was held on Friday, September 25<sup>th</sup> and burial will be at Veteran's Cemetery in Idaho.

The City of Lucas' City Council, City Staff and Citizens offer our thoughts and prayers to Matt's family during this time.

### **Congratulations to EMS Workers**

Congratulations to Ben Hardy Paramedic, Nick Bottoms Paramedic, Justin Bailey Paramedic and John Ricker EMT-B for obtaining the additional training and certification. This adds to the EMS capability of the Lucas Fire Department. Keep up the great work in expanding your knowledge and skills.

CITY OF LUCAS
151 COUNTRY CLUB
LUCAS, TEXAS 75002

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