



LUCAS LEADER



A publication of the City of Lucas

December 2016

Transportation Town Hall Meeting

Thursday, January 26, 2017

6:30 pm - City Hall Council Chambers



As you may know, the City of Lucas Comprehensive Plan is a document that the City uses to help guide decisions regarding how the citizens desire the City to grow and develop. The Planning and Zoning Commission and the City Council are currently working to update the Comprehensive Plan. This is setting

up to be a yearlong project, but that is fine provided we get it right. At this time, we are working on the Transportation Plan portion of the Comprehensive Plan.

The Transportation Plan looks at the long range development of the City and how we want to move traffic through the City. It describes which City streets will be thoroughfares, neighborhood collectors and/or local streets. It tells the City how many lanes we expect the roads will have in the future.

The Transportation Plan is an extremely important part of the Comprehensive Plan because the City has a significant

investment in its roads. We don't want to build more pavement than what we need, and we don't want to leave ourselves short when it comes time to share road construction costs with a developer, the County or the State.

The City Council would really like your input on all of the Comprehensive Plan, but we thought it would be a good idea to provide information and listen to you, the citizens of Lucas, about issues surrounding the Transportation Plan. On January 26, 2017 at 6:30 pm, the City of Lucas will hold a Town Hall meeting in the Council Chambers at City Hall. We would love to see you there and hear your praises, comments and concerns.

The Lucas City Council is in the process of developing an electronic survey to provide citizens with another opportunity to provide insight on transportation issues. Watch for the January issue of the Lucas Leader for more information.

Join us for a
Lucas Country
Christmas
Friday, December 2
6:00 pm – 9:00 pm
at the Community
Park next to City Hall.

Bring the entire
family and enjoy
holiday music, train
rides for the kids and
ice skating too (skates
provided, or you can
bring your own).

There will be
popcorn, hot dogs,
and hot chocolate to
enjoy while you wait
for Santa to arrive.



We're Here For You

Main Number

972.727.8999

www.lucastexas.us

Important Numbers

Lucas Fire Station	972.912.1242
After Hours Water Emergencies	972.727.8999 <i>option 2</i>
Water Billing	972.912.1205
Code Enforcement	972.727.8999 <i>ext 3001</i>

Staff Directory

City Manager Joni Clarke	972.912.1212
City Secretary Stacy Henderson	972.912.1211
Dev. Services Dir. Joe Hilbourn	972.912.1207
PW Dir./City Eng. Stanton Foerster	972.912.1208
Fire Chief Ted Stephens	972.912.1234
Finance Director Liz Exum	972.912.1201
HR Manager Cheryl Meehan	972.912.1204
Building Inspector Jim Hurley	972.727.8999 <i>ext 3000</i>

Adopt a Pet

Collin County Animal Services

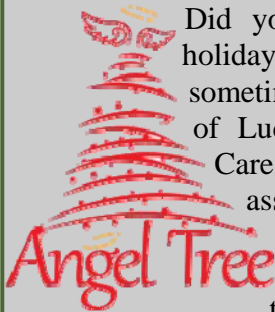


This is Shiva, a beautiful one year old spayed female Calico cat. Shiva has her Christmas bow on and is ready for adoption.

She is very friendly and loves to be petted. Help her find her forever home by stopping by the Collin County Animal Shelter located at 4750 Community Boulevard in McKinney. To learn more about Shiva and others to adopt, visit the Collin County website at http://www.collincountytx.gov/animal_services/Pages/default.aspx or their Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/CollinCountyAnimalServices/>.

Donate to the Senior Angel Tree

November 21 through December 12



Did you know that over the holidays our seniors are sometimes forgotten? The City of Lucas is home to Loving Care and The Agape Home assisted living facilities.

Help us show our senior citizens who reside at these facilities some "Lucas Love" over the holidays.

Lucas City Hall will once again sponsor our Senior Angel Tree. If you would like to be a Santa to one of our beloved seniors, stop by City Hall and visit our Senior Angel Tree and select an angel from the Senior Angel Tree to help guide your gift purchase and then drop off your new, unwrapped gift at City Hall by Monday, December 12. City Staff will wrap your gift so that Santa and his elves can make their special delivery to our special seniors during the week of December 19.



Food and Toy Drive November 21 through December 12

The City of Lucas is hosting a food and toy drive benefiting Family Promise of Collin County, Amazing Grace Food Pantry in St. Paul and The Bridge Connection in Wylie.

Each of these non-profit organizations serves the Collin County homeless and low-income through donations and community partners. The Amazing Grace Food Pantry feeds approximately 300 people each week. Family Promise partners with faith communities throughout Collin County to provide food, shelter and support services to homeless families to help them gain their independence, and The Bridge Connection also helps families in need and this year will assist approximately 40 families at Christmastime through their Christmas Outreach Program. If you would like to participate in one of these worthy causes, items that can be donated include new unwrapped toys and non-perishable food items that will be donated to The Bridge Connection and the Amazing Grace Food Pantry. Family Promise of Collin County is in need of gas gift cards, grocery store gift cards, Wal-Mart and Target gift cards. Items can be dropped off at Lucas City Hall located at 665 Country Club Road before December 12.

Eagle Scout Service Project By Brandon Garrett



Brandon Garrett, a Sophomore at Lovejoy High School and member of Troop 131 sponsored by St. Jude Catholic Church in Allen chose to build a fire pit at the Lucas Community Park as his Eagle Scout Service Project this year for the benefit of his community.

A special thanks to John Martin of Martin Stone Company for donating the crushed granite, Allen Lowes for the discounted materials, and the boy scouts and parents that came out to help over two Saturdays in October. The community only needs to bring their own firewood to enjoy the new fire pit. Brandon expects to earn his rank of Eagle Scout in 2017. Thank you Brandon for the great addition to the Community Park.

Introducing...Your New and Improved Website

Trying to convey consistent and reliable information can be a challenge. We are doing our best to keep the information to the point, comprehensive, and up-to-date, and this is why we have continued to work on the City of Lucas website. By noon Thursday, December 15, 2016, the City's new website should be up and running. We need your help to pick and poke at the information to make sure we crossed all our t's and dotted all of our i's. What do we need to do to make it better for you? Please visit our new site www.lucastexas.us, check out the new look and style, and provide your feedback and ideas to stanton@lucastexas.us.

Lucas Fire Chief Jim Kitchens Retiring



After more than 40 years in public safety, City of Lucas Fire Chief Jim Kitchens has announced his retirement. Chief Kitchens will retire from Lucas Fire-Rescue on December 31, 2016. A celebration in his honor has been scheduled for 4:00 pm on Thursday, December 15, 2016 at the

Frank H. Hamlin Fire Station, located at 165 Country Club Road in Lucas. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Chief Kitchens began his public safety career in 1975 as a Sheriff's Deputy for the Dallas County Sheriff's office. In 1976, he accepted the Police Chief position with Ouray, Colorado and later moved back to the Metroplex as a constable with the Dallas County Sheriff's Office. In 1980, Chief Kitchens moved to Highland Park, Texas as a public safety officer, paramedic, firefighter and five years later, became a firefighter/paramedic at the City of Coppell where he was promoted up through the ranks and retired in 2012 as a Battalion Chief/Paramedic.

On June 27, 2005, Chief Kitchens was hired as the first part-time Fire Chief for the City of Lucas and took the full-time position in 2012 following his retirement from Coppell. Chief Kitchens has brought many changes to the City of Lucas including an ISO rating of 3, implementation of the Community Emergency Response Program, FireWise recognition for the City, instituted an effective Fire Rehab group, fostered a great working relationship with the National Weather Service and the Amateur Radio Emergency Services, moved the department from an all-volunteer fire department to a combination fire department, and lastly, establishing our Emergency Medical Services. Chief Kitchens was instrumental in the addition to the Frank Hamlin Fire Station. Chief Kitchens has dedicated countless hours to the City of Lucas and he will be missed. He and his wife Debbie, plan on traveling and enjoying family and friends.

Welcome Incoming Fire Chief - Ted Stephens



Assistant Fire Chief Ted Stephens of the Lucas Fire-Rescue Department has been appointed Fire Chief bringing with him 16 years in public safety. Chief Stephens brings with him a long list of accomplishments. He is a licensed paramedic, health services instructor, licensed firefighter, and certified fire executive among just a few of his many

accomplishments. The City of Lucas looks forward to the expertise that Fire Chief Ted Stephens will bring to the Fire-Rescue Department.



With the holiday season approaching, there are a few things from a crime prevention standpoint you can do to keep things merry and avoid having the Grinch steal your Christmas. Many folks enjoy the convenience of shopping online, but it does come with its own list of precautions. There are things to keep in mind when you decide to click the "buy" button on the computer.

Burglars love the holiday season as much as you do. One trick that proves to be productive for the thieves is following a UPS or Fed-Ex truck. They watch from a distance as the deliveryman knocks. When no one comes to the door for the package, they can easily snag your purchase off the porch. Or worse yet, know you aren't home and help themselves to what you have inside, as well.

When possible, make arrangements to be home when packages arrive. If not, have the items shipped to a neighbor who is always home or a work address. You can also sign up for delivery notifications and have someone stop at the house when it arrives. If you are more the traditional shopper and enjoy going store to store, here are some things to remember when making those purchases:

- Be aware of your surroundings
- Don't park in secluded and unlit areas
- Keep your car locked
- Have your keys out before you approach your vehicle
- Avoid carrying large amounts of cash and pay with cards when possible
- Keep purchases locked in the trunk, out of view

Have a safe holiday season!

Blondy Jhune Bridge Update

There were a few rain delay days in November, but the May opening of the Blondy Jhune bridges is still anticipated. The construction focus in December will continue to be abutment and retaining walls. The placement of beams is also planned for December. Retaining walls have a large footing to prevent them from moving because of the rotational and moving forces pushing against the back side of the wall. In the creek channel, the face of the retaining walls will be hidden behind gabion walls. A gabion is basically a wire basket filled with baseball size rocks. The purpose is to protect the retaining walls for the scouring and erosion caused by the rushing water in the creek. The beam fabrication of the 60-foot bridge beams is on schedule, and delivery is expected this month. For more information about the project check out the city website: <http://www.lucastexas.us/living-in-lucas/neighborhood-connector-street-projects.html>.

Get Involved - Join a Board or Commission

Would you like to serve your community and get involved? One way to do that is to serve on a City of Lucas Board or Commission. The Lucas City Council is always looking for dedicated individuals that are interested in preserving the quality of life in Lucas. To serve on the City's Boards and Commissions, all candidates must:

- Be a citizen of the city for twelve (12) continuous months prior to the date of appointment
- Be eighteen (18) years old prior to the date of appointment
- Have not been convicted of, and are not currently charged with a felony or a crime involving moral turpitude
- Have no indebtedness to the city, such as delinquent taxes
- Be a qualified voter of the city

Visit the City's website at <http://www.lucastexas.us/city-of-lucas-board-commission-volunteer-application.html> to complete the on-line application. The City Council will be considering board appointments to take place in January 2017. Here is a current listing of Boards/Commissions at the City of Lucas:

- **Board of Adjustment:** 7 Members - 2 year terms - Meetings held as needed
- **Parks and Open Space Board:** 7 Members - 2 year terms - Meetings held 4th Tuesday of each month
- **Planning and Zoning Commission:** 7 Members - 2 year terms - Meetings held 2nd Thursday of each month

Meetings and Events

December 1

City Council Meeting
7:00 pm - City Hall

December 2

Country Christmas
6:00 pm - 9:00 pm
Lucas Community Park

December 8

Planning and Zoning Meeting
7:00 pm - City Hall

December 15

City Council Meeting
7:00 pm - City Hall

December 23 and 26

Christmas Holiday
City Offices Closed

City Council Highlights

- A Town Hall meeting has been set for Thursday, January 26, 2017 at 6:30 pm to discuss roadways and transportation needs in Lucas.
- Amendments were made to the Streetlight Ordinance clarifying where streetlights may be located based on safety and establishing an appeal process for residents.
- City Council adopted the Collin County Hazard Mitigation Action Plan for disaster preparedness.
- City Council adopted the Collin County Emergency Management Plan for emergency preparedness.

Arbor Day Sponsored by Girl Scout Troop 8938



On Saturday, November 12, Girl Scout Troop 8938 held an Arbor Day event at the Lucas Community Park next to City Hall. The Girl Scouts had several educational booths and planted a beautiful Shumard Red Oak with each attendee receiving a seedling to plant. A big THANK YOU to these amazing young ladies who are making a difference in their community, as well as the Collin County Master Gardeners, the Texas Master Naturalists-Blackland Prairie Chapter, and the Chambersville Tree Farm for participating in this event.

(Pictured from left to right): Kylee Reinke, Jackie Carroll, Emma Smith, Cassandra Morris, Ella Goldsmith and Kelsey Carroll.