

# LUCAS *Estate Life*

August 2017

A SOCIAL MAGAZINE EXCLUSIVELY FOR THE RESIDENTS OF LUCAS

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**INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**

Making A Difference: Peggy Schmidt  
Athletics: Look Out...Lacrosse Is Here!  
Plus More!



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**publisher's note**

# Hello, Residents of Lucas!

I am so pleased to bring you your first Lucas magazine and hope you will enjoy the monthly publications of *Estate Life Lucas!*

Allow me to introduce myself. My name is Jonathan Price and I too am a Lucas resident, along with my wife, Shannon, and our two children: Nora (4) and Paige (1). Born and raised in Cleveland, Ohio, we moved to Texas in 2006.

I work with a company called N2 Publishing, which is the leading provider of specialty publications for residents of exclusive communities all across the nation. Our objective is to turn neighborhoods into communities with our monthly neighborhood magazines. I have had the privilege of working with the residents of Fairview since November '15, where we have a sister publication *Estate Life Fairview*.

I am looking forward to getting to know the residents of the community, sharing your stories, planning events and seeing it all come to life in a gorgeous magazine. I am so excited to be working with the residents of Lucas!

This magazine is a social newsletter and is designed to reflect the social activities and interests within Lucas. We are not associated with any specific HOA, therefore, we do not reflect the "voice" of your HOA, Property Manager, or Developer. If you have

questions regarding anything that involves the HOA, please contact them directly.

N2 Publishing is responsible for the layout of the magazine, as well as selling ad space to local businesses to cover the costs of printing and mailing. This publication is being provided free of charge to you as a homeowner as the cost of producing, printing, and mailing each newsletter is covered by the advertising partners that you see in each issue. We try our best to screen our advertisers to ensure that they can provide the types of services that you may need or want as a homeowner.

If you currently utilize a business that does excellent work, please let us know as they may want to reach out to your neighbors as well. Also, if you own or run a business and would like information on reaching your neighbors each month, contact me for advertising information or to simply list your business for free in the Resident Business Guide.

Each publication you will see is unique to your neighborhood, and the publication will reflect who you are as a community. A typical publication will include pictures and personal stories, articles (mostly written and photographed by your neighbors), fun and free social events put on by N2, city issues and ideas, activities and club information, business information, along with other information specifically tailored to your community.

In addition to the magazine, we will host various free, social events just to bring your community together (like free dinners out at top/new restaurants, salon reviews, wine tastings, and more). All upcoming events will be listed in our Save the Date section, plus we can communicate by email, too. If you wish to be included on invites, please email me at Jonathan.Price@n2pub.com.

The events and publication are designed to increase social connections between residents and to develop a true sense of community. By providing a well-designed publication full of stories and photos, we have seen N2 neighborhoods increase attendance at social events and allow residents to widen their circle of friends.

I'd like to personally thank all of our business sponsors who partnered with us making the magazine free to all residents, as well as the many residents who contributed to the first issue. Just know that Estate Life Lucas would not exist without you!

I look forward to meeting each of you at our upcoming neighborhood events!

**Jonathan Price**  
Area Director/Publisher,  
*Estate Life Lucas*  
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Jonathan.Price@n2pub.com



Since this magazine is about you and your neighbors, we want and need your involvement. Whether you're a neighbor wanting to nominate another neighbor/friend or even your own family to be spotlighted, a proud parent that wants to dote on your kids for doing something great or simply just because, or you have an idea for a story that you think residents would love to learn more about, WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU. Email us at [Jonathan.Price@n2pub.com](mailto:Jonathan.Price@n2pub.com).

## save the date

### Restaurant "Picnic" Review - Kelly Family Farms

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23 @ 6PM,  
1989 W LUCAS RD, LUCAS, TX 75002

#### Did someone say PICNIC?!

Kelly Family Farms is pleased to host a picnic, exclusively for *Estate Life Lucas* residents.

Join us on Wednesday, August 23, from 6 to 8pm as we enjoy southern hospitality and family-friendly fare, made possible by Lucas' own Kelly family, at their local pop-up restaurant and burger stand on Lucas Road.

"Our family works together on a daily basis to care for the land and cattle that God has given us," said the Kelly family. "We strive to provide other families with the healthiest, quality beef possible. Family is important to us, and we pray that our farm will be a small part of bringing other families together around the dinner table. Allow our family to serve yours!"



With only enough to accommodate 30 guests, space is limited. Please RSVP ASAP directly to Jonathan Price at [jonathan.price@n2pub.com](mailto:jonathan.price@n2pub.com) to reserve your spot. The cost is **free**. Bring the whole family, kiddos welcome!

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# Mayor's MESSAGE

By **Jim Olk**, Mayor and Lucas resident

The City of Lucas is truly a gem in Collin County, which quietly protects the tranquil rural/bedroom community desired by its residents. As other Collin County communities seek to build thoroughfares, shopping centers, and business centers, the City of Lucas holds to the fact that people still desire a community where there is minimal intrusion into a quality lifestyle. The residents of Lucas continue to provide input as to the type of community they want. They do not want commercial shopping centers near the quiet residential areas. They want large lots where they can stretch out, see the stars, have a barn, plant a garden, house their large and/or small animals and have enough room for their children or grandchildren to run, play and learn.

The City of Lucas has a population right around 7000 residents and is a Home Rule municipality that is run by a Council/Manager form of government. This means that the residents elect a seven-member City Council that establishes plans for the future of the community and sets policy for city staff to follow and implement. A qualified and professional City Manager is directly responsible to the City Council and provides direction to the city staff to ensure that the Council policies and plans are moving forward. The residents of Lucas are very lucky to have a group of dedicated, quality employees that provide excellent customer service to the community.

Although the City of Lucas is focused on the quality of life here at home, residents are close to excellent shopping opportunities to the north, south or west. (If you go east you get wet in Lake Lavon.) Employment centers are all around us, too. When you combine all this with all the top tier school districts, it absolutely makes the City of Lucas a polished jewel.

This was just a little introductory article about the City of Lucas. I know that it is a little boastful, but I am certainly proud of this community and those who participate in making it what it is. I am looking forward to keeping in touch with you through this new communication tool of Estate Life Lucas. I do want to thank the publisher, Jonathan Price, for allowing us to submit articles and am looking forward to what the future may bring to the City of Lucas.

**Jim Olk** - Mayor and Lucas resident



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**history of lucas**  
By **Debbie Fisher**, Lucas resident

## intro to a *Six-Part Series*

Over the next several months, I hope you will explore with me the Lucas of yesteryear. Original settlers of Collin County came here from a variety of places and for different reasons including the opportunity of owning the rich prairie lands that were abundant. The names of streets and roads in the area will have new meaning when you discover the people behind them.

Several subjects will be covered including:

**Gabriel Lucas, the Man Behind the Name**

**Early Lucas Schools**

**Lucas Communities and the People who Lived There**

**Founders' Day**

**The Incorporation of the Town of Lucas**

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Our namesake was a noted humorist of the area. He described our area as follows:



**"In presenting to you the trials of a country boy, I will ask you older ones to go back with me to your boyhood days. No doubt, many of you will let your minds wander back to the mountains of old Virginia and Tennessee, others, to the blue grass regions of Kentucky, and still, others will want to go back to the red hills of Alabama and Georgia. Perhaps others to the lands of the big red apple of the farther-north; but I will ask you to stay with me down south of McKinney, to a neighborhood called "Lazy Neck," about the sixty's. That was before we had any railroads in Texas, when our beautiful county site was only a small village, when these prairie lands were covered with nature's grass, when flowers were growing on every side and valley; the tall flowers looked like soldiers on dress parade..."**

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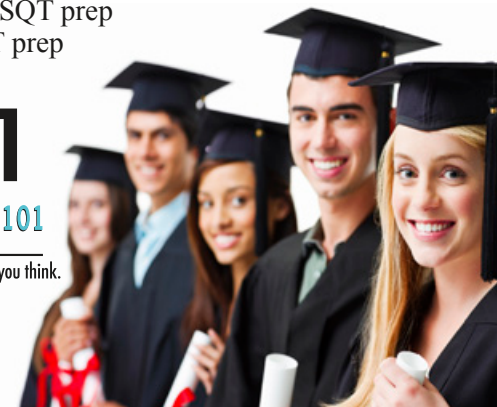
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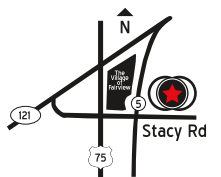
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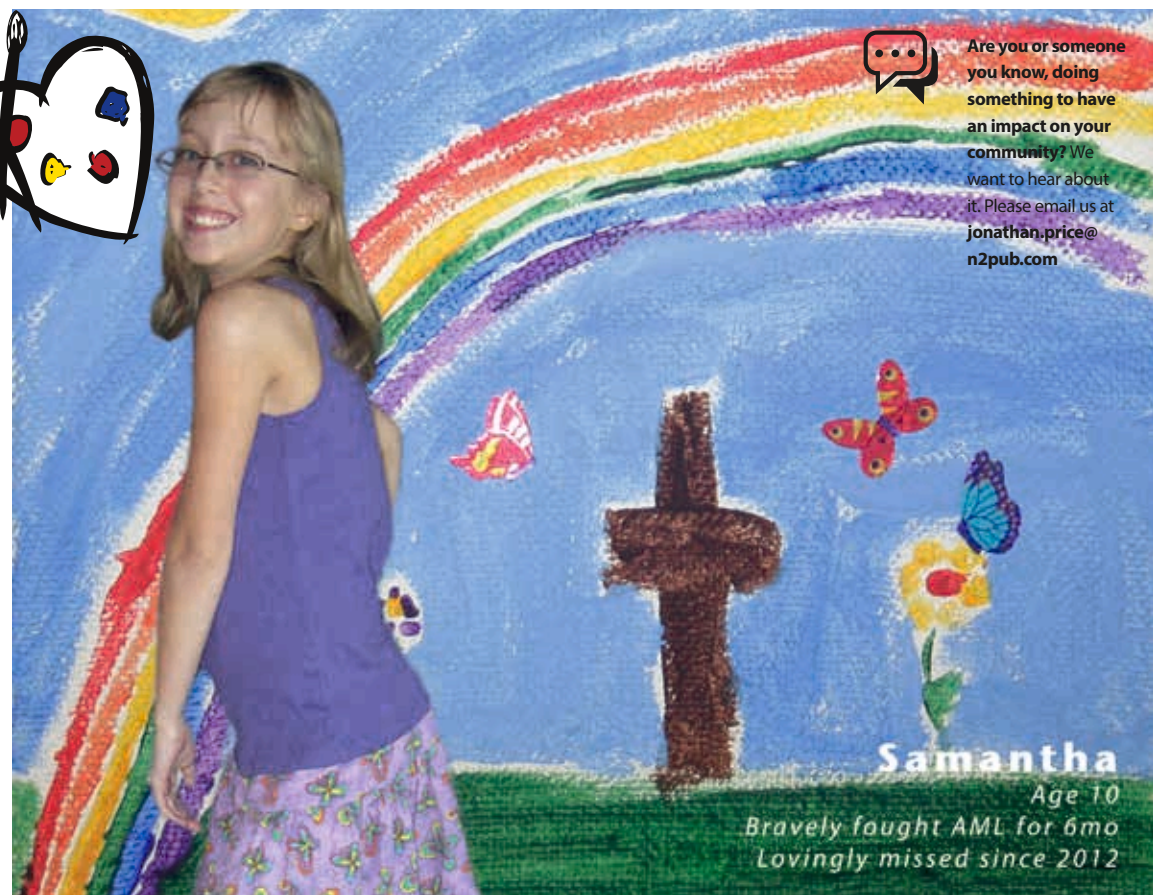


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# The heARTS For ART Benefit: TOAST & TOSS FOR A CURE TO LEUKEMIA

By Peggy Schmidt, Lucas resident



Are you or someone you know, doing something to have an impact on your community? We want to hear about it. Please email us at [jonathan.price@n2pub.com](mailto:jonathan.price@n2pub.com)

Come join us for a night of music, drinks and a cornhole tournament "so other kids don't get sick"!

heARTs for ART was created in 2012 to honor the memory of our daughter, Samantha Schmidt, who bravely fought pediatric leukemia. A resident in the Allen/Lucas area, Samantha started cancer treatment in August 2011 and discovered a refuge in art therapy.

During her time at home, the community walked alongside her in encouragement and love and suggested the heARTS for ART event to honor her love of art. Samantha named the event herself, and when asked where to send the proceeds, she responded without hesitation that they should go towards "leukemia, so other kids don't get sick."

Samantha's legacy of love continues to touch hearts and heal patients through annual heARTS for ART events that fund pediatric leukemia research. heARTS for ART has now expanded to include transportation assistance for families currently battling leukemia.

When fighting childhood cancer families drive many miles to and from the hospital and clinic several times a week for months on end. Often times a parent has to take time off from work to care for their child, so there is also a loss of income on top of very expensive medical bills.

The Schmidt family has firsthand knowledge of how quickly those miles add up as Samantha received treatment for leukemia in Fort Worth at Cook Children's hospital. Samantha was inpatient for 6 months during her treatment and we drove many miles between home and the hospital. We had amazing support from our friends,

family and communities and often times people would send us gift cards for gas. While we were so thankful for all the support, those gas gift cards were extremely helpful and very much appreciated.

heARTs for ART can now begin supporting families in their daily battle against leukemia. We hope to relieve a little of their financial burden by providing convenient gas gift cards.

Childhood leukemia hasn't gone away and children are diagnosed every day. This is about reaching out to support families as people reached out to us.

Toast and Toss will be a new event for heARTs for ART. Your ticket includes live entertainment, food and drink. Additionally, you can register a team for the cornhole tournament where the winner takes home a cash prize. Toast and Toss will be held at Nine Band Brewing in Allen and the proceeds will go toward heARTs for ART Transportation Assistance Program. This is an exciting time for us!

Sometimes a little help can make a big difference!

Purchase tickets and register for the cornhole tournament at [www.hearts-for-art.org](http://www.hearts-for-art.org). We also have sponsorships available for this event. If you would like to be a sponsor, please contact us at [info@hearts-for-art.org](mailto:info@hearts-for-art.org). Come join us for a night of music, drinks and a cornhole tournament in support of a great cause!

heARTS for ART Benefit: Toast & Toss for a Cure to Leukemia  
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## family spotlight



You might think you know Rick and Robbin Wells and their kids Grady and Mary Catherine, but you don't really know them until you see them in the shade of their home's big trees, leaning on the fence surrounding their Water Boy Farms field, or lovingly kidding around with each other.

Rick is famous for being the entrepreneur behind Rick's Chophouse, Harvest Seasonal Kitchen, and Rick's Grand Ballroom. He has also started Waterboy Farms, an all-organic mini-farm on his six acres in Lucas, where he is cultivating food and decorative plants for his various businesses. More on that later!

Robbin is a dynamo too. She was a professional public relations director for the Dallas Market Center and executive vice president of leasing, wrapping up that job and the accompanying commute in 2015. She worked in New York and Washington, D.C., in public relations and marketing. More recently, she was searching for a way to harness her desire to teach and support education.

"I saw a friend who had her own preschool, and I had been working with families at the Samaritan Inn (Collin County's only homeless shelter)." Those two seemingly unrelated experiences clicked with Robbin, who decided if she could reach the youngest kids and their families, she could make a difference in many lives. She opened and is running the first of her two Goddard Schools in McKinney. She and "Farmer Rick," as the kids call him, teach the children and their parents nutrition, sustainability, organic gardening, and cooking via large garden boxes at the schools.

Grady is a 19-year-old incoming sophomore at the University of Oklahoma. He has the honor of being Thomas Grady Wells II, named after his grandfather; and he wears the name well. He's a member of the Delta Upsilon fraternity and has taken on the role of rush chair (he might be able to get some good ideas from his father). "It's fun," he says modestly.

Not to be outdone by her busy family, 17-year-old Mary Catherine is entering her senior year at Lovejoy High School as one of the editors of the school's award-winning newspaper, The Red Ledger. She is also a cheerleader with fearless flying ability. She loves having as much space around her as Lucas accommodates and yet loves all the proximity of friends and retail. "My friends literally all live in one or two neighborhoods," she says. "I come here and just breathe."

Rick and Robbin are small town folks. Robbin grew up in Denison and earned her bachelor's in business at Southeastern State University. She went on to graduate school and a master's degree in journalism at the University of North Texas. While visiting a friend in Denison, she met their next-door neighbor: a nice guy who was originally from Antlers, Oklahoma. His name was Rick Wells, and it was the beginning of Robbin's next phase of life.

The couple settled in East Dallas while both were busy with their professional work. Both Mary Catherine and Grady remember mostly their Lucas home. They moved from Dallas when they were 3 and 5 years old, respectively. "I knew Rick always wanted space," relates Robbin. "We also had both gone to one-high-

school towns, and I knew if we stayed in Dallas, we'd be sending our kids to private secondary schools." The family came to Lucas in 2003, just before school started and on Robbin's birthday.

Everyone in the family has made this small town a true home. Rick and Robbin have been very active in the Foundation for Lovejoy Schools and continue to support the fundraising efforts. "The school district is very special," says Rick. The couple continue to offer private, amazing, gourmet dinners on their property as auction items for the annual foundation fundraiser. It's a cause close to Robbin's heart, as she serves as secretary on the Lovejoy ISD board of trustees.

A chip off the old block, Mary Catherine loves to give her father a hard time. She always teased him when he'd say he had a farm. "We had like two steers and a pig," she laughs. "The front area was only grass. Just last week, I was looking at the field and the beehives, and I thought, 'When did this happen?' I finally told my dad he really had a farm. He was so happy!"

Today's Water Boy Farms is the realization of an entrepreneurial dream Rick started when he was in 7th grade in Antlers, Oklahoma. His parents loaned him enough money to buy a few pigs. Rick parlayed that investment into paying off his debt and purchasing, then selling, more pigs. By the time he was in high school, he had 47 pigs and showed them through Future Farmers of America and 4H. As someone who serves food to the public and has employed homeless

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shelter residents at his restaurants, Rick wanted to go back to those roots of being intimately involved, educational and hyper-local with every aspect of food service. Water Boy Farms is a key part of that effort.

On Rick's 6-acre tract, he has cultivated herbs, vegetables, a few fruits and elements to use in floral décor. He has beehives producing honey that is local, pure, raw and sweet. The general manager of Harvest Seasonal Kitchen is trained as a master naturalist, and the chef is a master gardener. The sous chef even brings his kids out to harvest green beans for the restaurants.

It's all part of the Wells family approach to life – to make things better, especially locally, for everyone. When asked what community meant to him, Grady said, "Progress. The community strives for better, and many hands make light work."

### What's in a Name? Water Boy Farms

Thomas Grady Wells, known as "Pappy" to Grady and Mary Catherine and father to Rick, inspired the name Water Boy Farms. He was a coach in Colorado, then Anadarko, Oklahoma, and finally at his hometown of Antlers, Oklahoma. He dreamed of winning the triple crown as coach of football, basketball and baseball the same year that Secretariat won his famed horse racing triple crown. Pappy got two out of three, definitely not bad! The biggest lesson he imparted to his family was the waterboy is just as important to the team as the quarterback. "Everyone is important, everyone matters, everyone is part of the team," he would say. That holistic, compassionate, inclusive approach is exactly what the Wells family hopes to achieve through Water Boy Farms.



### The Seed Project Foundation

The Seed Project Foundation is an initiative created by Rick and Robbin Wells to fund educational, agricultural and community initiatives that support sustainability. Sustainability is a social challenge that improves the current quality of life without compromising future generations.

The Foundation was established on the premise that funding sustainable ideas today will support ecological and social balance in the future. Providing seed money for causes that enhance the principles of sustainability is our mission.

<http://theseedprojectfoundation.com/>



## Sponsor Spotlight



Brian Dale and his family have called Lucas home for years. As North Texas Market President of Commercial Bank of Texas (CBTx), he has enjoyed the opportunity to do business and build long-standing relationships with fellow Lucas and Allen residents.

Dale's approach to banking is as much a testament to his small-town upbringing as it is a reflection of CBTx's culture. As a full-service financial institution with more than 115 years of history serving Texas communities, CBTx is all about getting to know the person. "Some of the big banks just look at credit scores and debt income, and that's it," Dale said. "We want to understand what you need, as an individual or a business, and we work hard to help you get there."

Dale feels a strong connection to Lucas and attributes it to the similarities to his small hometown. He grew up on his family's ranch in Atoka, Oklahoma. He attended Oklahoma State University and put himself through college by buying and selling roughly 30 head of cattle. After graduating with a Bachelor of Science in Business and Finance, he stayed close to his family by taking a job in Durant, Oklahoma.

In 2005, he accepted a job at a newly opened bank in McKinney. That same year, Dale married his wife, Robin. Lucas was a natural fit for the young couple. The school districts are small, it's not a high-traffic area, and the neighbors don't hesitate to chat about community happenings, kids, work or the weather.

CBTx ended up being a natural fit for Dale, too. He began his career at CBTx in 2012 as Vice President of Commercial Lending at the Allen Banking Center. Two years later he was promoted to North Texas Market President. In this position, he oversees the CBTx



banking centers in Allen, Bedford and Lewisville, and he participates in decision-making as a member of the bank's executive team.

CBTx was founded in Nacogdoches in 1901 as a cornerstone of the community, and the bank's leaders have kept that guiding principle in mind as they have expanded across Texas. The ability to serve clients in a way that is personal and accommodating sets them apart from other community banks.

"We bring our customers the latest technology and tools backed by expert advice and old-fashioned customer service," Dale said. "That's Banking Texas Style."

While the "Commercial" in the name contributes to the common misconception that the bank is only focused on business loans, CBTx offers a wide range of services. CBTx is very competitive in the residential loan market, and they handle everything from personal checking and saving accounts to many types of investment services and insurance.

The Commercial National Bank of Nacogdoches, as it was originally called, had an initial capital of \$50,000. Now CBTx has \$680 million in assets and focused on the future, looking to open up new branches, especially in the Collin County area. Many of the bank's clients are local, with approximately 70% of their clients from the McKinney, Lucas and Allen area. Out of the four branches in the North Texas market, 60% of the bank's business comes from Collin County.

Dale is an active member in the Collin County area by serving on the Board of Directors for Foundation of Lovejoy Schools District (LISD), Collin County Boards and Commission Park Advisory Board and the Collin County Boards and Commission Health Advisory Board. Outside of work, he loves baseball and is an avid Oklahoma State and Rangers fan. Brian and Robin Dale reside in Lucas with their two young children, Nolan and Ella.

Commercial Bank of Texas (CBTx) is a nationally chartered community-oriented financial institution that provides a range of banking, trust, and insurance services to individuals, businesses, and nonprofit organizations. They currently have 18 locations in 13 communities including a banking center in Allen. To find more information about CBTx, visit [cbtx.com](http://cbtx.com).

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# THREE CHEERS for Alexis Everett

In the words of Alexis Everett,  
Lucas resident



### INTRODUCING ALEXIS EVERETT:

“My family and I moved from McKinney to Lucas when I was 7 years old. I have loved living in Lucas for the past 10 years for several reasons. It has been fun to enjoy a country living experience but yet only being minutes away from the actual city and shopping. I have been able to appreciate the wide-open space and the residents, and our neighbors are friendly. Lucas has provided me with a feeling of a secure and close community.

**AGE:** 17

**GRADE:** Just graduated High School, May 2017 – College Freshman, August 2017

**HIGH SCHOOL:** Trinity Christian Academy

**COLLEGE:** The University of Mary Hardin-Baylor

**BROTHERS OR SISTERS:** none

**SPORTS I PLAY:** Competitive and High School Cheer (Alexis will be cheering in college for fall 2017)

**MUSICAL INSTRUMENT I PLAY:** Piano (kinder – 11th grade)

**SOMETHING UNIQUE ABOUT ME:** I have a nut allergy and I am the youngest of 11 grandchildren on my dad’s side of the family

**WHAT CAREER PATH AM I PLANNING TO PURSUE:** Physical Therapy

**WHAT I ENJOYED MOST ABOUT HIGH SCHOOL:** Cheer and friends

**WHAT I AM LOOKING FORWARD TO MOST ABOUT COLLEGE:** Cheering on the collegiate level for a defending Division III National Championship team and meeting new friends

**Q:** Who are your heroes?

**A:** My heroes are definitely my parents. Some would say that this answer is basic and typical, but my parents have made a huge impact in my life. Having been my mentors throughout my life, they are solid in their faith, which has been an example for me. My parents model the behavior that I hope to emulate with my own family one day. I am a more confident and secure person because of their encouragement. My parents have always inspired me to do the best in anything that I have attempted in life. I am reminded often by them that everyone does not have my best interest at heart and to choose my friends wisely. They have taught me to be confident and secure in my own skin. I know that they want the best for me, and that is why I look up to them as not only my mentors but also as my heroes.

**Q:** One quote that you try to live by?

**A:** One quote, is actually a bible verse, Lamentations 3:25. It states, “The Lord is good to those that wait for Him, to the soul that seeks Him.” I really find this verse inspiring because it has taught me to never rush into anything because God always has a plan rather it be two days from now or two years.

**Q:** Please describe any/all achievements, awards, etc. you have received and why?

**A:** I have a love for cheer. I began cheering in the 5th grade with The Pride All-Star Cheer Squad and moved to Cheer Athletics my 8th-grade year, where I currently take private lessons. Having cheered both competitively and for my school has been reward-

ing. I have been recognized by my high school cheer teammates over the past four years as a “leader with a humble spirit.” This is a characteristic that I have tried to govern my life by. I try to respect and get along with everyone. Additional awards and accolades that I have been honored to receive are being named as an NCA All-American Cheerleader, Recipient of the Best Tumbler Award, Recipient of the Most Valuable Cheerleader Award, TAPPS State Cheer Team Award, TAPPS 2nd Team All-State Individual Cheerleader Award, Selected as a Rebel Athletic Cheer Model, served as the Captain of my JV high school cheer team, and most recently served as Co-Captain this past high school year of the Varsity cheer squad. I am also proud to be attending university with both academic and cheer scholarship funds.

**Q:** How have you contributed to your local community?

**A:** Volunteering is one area that I can say I have helped make my community a better place to live. Having been a member of National Charity League, I had an opportunity to volunteer with a variety of philanthropies from animal adoption centers, after-school programs, homeless shelters and senior communities. For the past two years, I have volunteered at my church, One Community, in the preschool ministry. This has been most rewarding as I have been able to influence 3-year-olds in assisting with leading the lesson and teaching memory verses.

**Q:** What is one of your biggest fears?

**A:** I would have to say my biggest fear would be public speaking. My parents thought by having me recite Easter speeches in front of the church congregation at a young age, I would overcome this fear. Well, I am a high school graduate, and my heart still races and my knees still knock together at the thought of speaking in front of people. Most find that surprising being that I have no problem cheering/performing in front of crowds. But, to me, they are two very different things. I want and plan to overcome my challenge of public speaking and have set a goal to continue working on this fear throughout college.

### FAVORITES

**ACTIVITIES/HOBBIES:** Cheerleading and traveling

**ANIMAL:** My two toy poodles Spanky and CoCo

**COLOR:** Purple

**FOOD:** Mexican Food

**MOVIE:** *Secret Lives of Pets*

**MUSIC:** Hip Hop

**SPORTS TEAMS:** Golden State Warriors

**SUBJECT IN SCHOOL:** Science

**TV SHOW:** *Sponge Bob* and *Family Feud*

**VACATION:** Cabo San Lucas and St. John, Virgin Islands

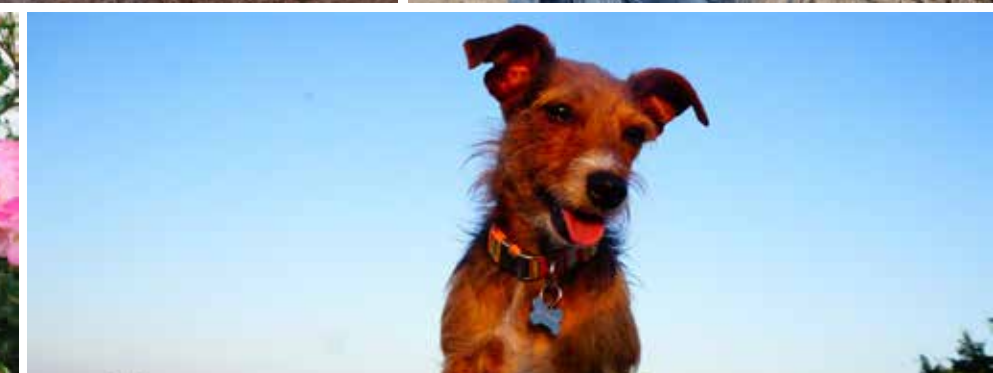


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# the MIGHTY Sampson



precious pets  
By Brenda Vega, Lucas resident



It was a nice sunny day in October when I spontaneously decided to go to the SPCA to waste some time. With no intention of getting a pet, I walked around aimlessly in the halls admiring all the adorable animals until I went around the corner and made eye contact with the cutest dog I had ever seen. He was small, very timid and curled up in a ball in the corner farthest away from me. I bent over and calmly extended my hand towards him; he sniffed and got closer. I lifted him into my arms, looked into his eyes and instantly knew I had to have him. The attendant came back and asked me if I had made a decision. I did not hesitate to say yes.

Since then, Sampson, my 9 lb. Yorkie-terrier mix has become my right-hand man. We do everything together -- from the trails at Brockdale Park to the top of Pikes Peak in Colorado, the adventures are limitless. Sampson not only likes the outdoors, but also really enjoys going to music and arts events. Music events are always so fun for Sampson because he gets to walk around the venue and get cuddled by all his friends. He is no stranger to the camera either -- pictures are his thing. With the snap of a flash, he will strike a pose.

But just like any other dog, Sam loves food. Just the crunch of a wrapper or bag, and he will be in front of you faster than you can blink, tilting his head, giving you those big sappy eyes I fell in love with in the first place. Adopting Sampson changed my life and it honestly made me a better person. I am forever thankful for randomly walking in to SPCA that day, so before you go shopping for dogs, consider adoption because you never know if your best friend could be waiting for you at your nearest shelter.

Follow Sampson on Twitter and Instagram @SampsonVega



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## resident recipe

Shannon Price, Lucas resident



# Fit To Feed An Army



When my grandfather, Alfred Paddy Rowell Sr., joined the Army in 1950, he was excited to use the skills he had learned as a journeyman electrician working for his father's sign company, Flexlume Sign Corporation. However, when he reported for duty at his job assignment, his ranking officer had other plans.

After reviewing my grandfather's application, he determined that instead of helping with the Army's communication systems by repairing and installing radio towers, he was better equipped to serve as the Mess Sergeant for an infantry company.

Paddy was a bit confused. When asked what led to this decision, his commanding officer referenced one of the previous jobs listed on Paddy's Army application. Pickle Slicer at Red Top. (For those of you unfamiliar with one of the most infamous local eateries in Buffalo, NY, Red Top is located on the shore of Lake Erie, in the town of Hamburg, and is only open in the Spring/Summer. For all intensive purposes, it's a hot dog stand that serves simple, yet great, American fare.)

And just like that...Paddy became one of many people responsible for making sure the Army's best and brightest were not only well trained but also well fed.

For this month's recipe, we include an excerpt from Paddy's War Department Technical Manual, TM 10-412 - Warm Potato Salad. While the recipe in the book is actually geared to feed 100 hungry troops, we took the liberty of doing the math and reducing the serving size to 8. However, depending on the size of your troop, you can double or triple the recipe as required.

This different, yet delicious twist on traditional potato salad goes well at any picnic or backyard BBQ.

It wasn't until the recent passing of my grandfather that we came across his Army cookbook. For years, my grandmother Jean always made this dish, and we assumed it was a throwback to her German roots because everyone in our family knew it as Jean's German Potato Salad. Little did we know, this recipe actually came from my grandfather. "Don't worry, Gramps. Your secret is safe."

This recipe is best described as what happens when Salt and Vinegar Potato Chips meets Potato Salad.

- 5 lbs. russet potatoes**
- 1 lb. bacon**
- 1 yellow cooking onion (medium)**
- 1 c water**
- 2 c vinegar (more or less to taste)**

Boil potatoes until soft yet firm. Pull them out and, once cool, peel. Once peeled, slice into chunks.

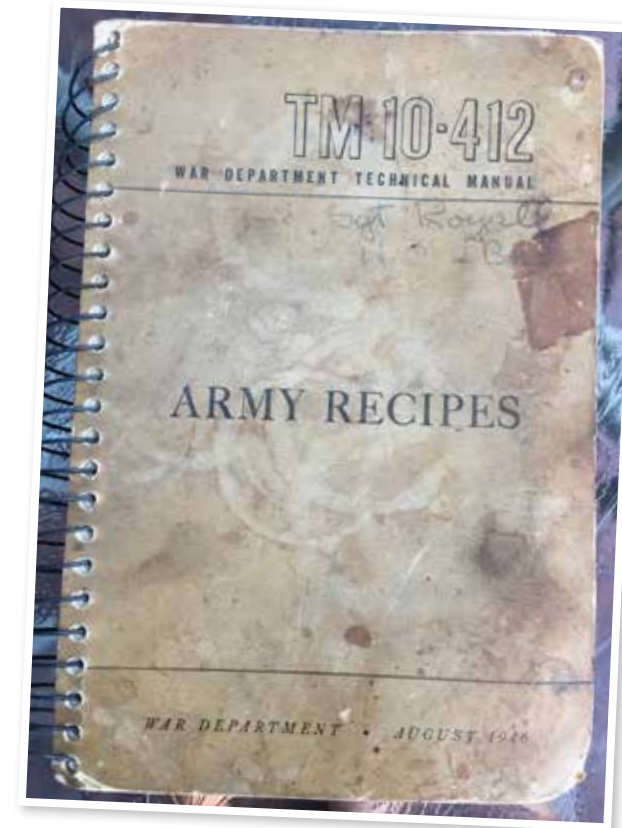
Fry bacon until crisp, then crumble bacon and add to potatoes. **Do Not Throw Away The Bacon Grease. Add it as well. \*This is arguably the most important part.**

Once mixed, add the remaining ingredients and cook on medium-low until potatoes are soft and the mixture looks like all other potato salads. Be sure to mix frequently to avoid the mixture burning and sticking to the bottom of the pot.

P.S. The vinegar breaks down the mixture, and, in most cases, it tastes even better the second day.



Would you like to have your favorite family recipe featured in the neighborhood publication? Email us at [jonathan.price@n2pub.com](mailto:jonathan.price@n2pub.com)



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## young athletes

By Misti and Craig Friesland, Lucas residents

# Lucas Lacrosse Lovejoy-Style



While driving around Lucas, you may have noticed a Lovejoy Lacrosse yard sign or window sticker. To many, lacrosse is something new, but it is by no means a new sport. The roots of lacrosse can be traced back to Native American Iroquois people. Recordings from the 1700's speak of the game as it was played by Native Americans. Over the past 100 years, lacrosse has grown in organization and popularity. While the East Coast has been the primary area for lacrosse at both the collegiate and youth levels, over the past two decades, lacrosse has seen rapid expansion across the country growing from just over 250,000 players in 2001 to over 826,000 players today - Texas is no exception.

Currently, the Texas High School Lacrosse League (THSLL) has 93 member school programs, 165 varsity and JV teams, and over 4,000 student athletes across the state of Texas. North Texas leads the state having produced multiple championship teams and numerous collegiate players across the United States.

The Lovejoy Lacrosse program got its start in 2009 with two teams and barely enough players to field each team. This coming year, the Lovejoy Lacrosse program will have over 190 families represented and will field 15 teams with over 250 players (boys and girls) from Kindergarten through 12th grade. Not only has participation in the program grown tremendously, the program has experienced success at all levels. In 2013, the Lovejoy Varsity team, which included several players from the first ever team, won the Division III state championship. In 2015, both the Lovejoy 5th/6th and 7th/8th teams placed second in the DFWL Division II championships. In 2016, the Lovejoy 7th/8th team finished the job and brought home the program's first DFWL Division II championship trophy. This past season, the Lovejoy 3rd/4th team experienced its first ever undefeated season while the Varsity team ended the year on a high note by winning the Heart of America Tournament in Durant, Oklahoma. The program is proud to have seven seniors from the past two graduating classes go on to play lacrosse at the collegiate level.

Despite lacrosse not yet being a UIL sport in Texas, Lovejoy Lacrosse receives tremendous support from LISD. Both Superintendent Ted Moore and Athletic Director Jim Bob Puckett have been big supporters of the program. While many local programs struggle to find practice locations and fields for games, LISD has been extremely generous by granting Lovejoy Lacrosse access to both the Lovejoy High School and Willow Springs facilities.

For the benefit of those that are new to the sport, lacrosse is a combination of basketball, soccer and hockey. Anyone can play lacrosse - big or small. The game requires and rewards coordination and agility, not brawn. Quickness and speed are two highly-prized qualities of the game. Lacrosse is currently the fastest growing team sport in the United States and is often referred to as the "fastest game on two feet." Being a newer sport, some tend to think lacrosse wants to take athletes away from other sports. However, the Lovejoy Lacrosse program has a very positive view of the multiple-sport athlete and encourages all athletes to use lacrosse as a complement to other sports if lacrosse is not their primary sport. Many may not know this, but NFL legend Jim Brown may have been a

better lacrosse player than he was a football player. Jim often credits the conditioning and strength gained from lacrosse as one of the reasons for his success on the football field. Jim once said, "Lacrosse is probably the best sport I ever played."

Beyond Jim Brown, there are many in the football world that have a love for the game of lacrosse. New England Patriots' head coach Bill Belichick played lacrosse in college and was the team captain of his lacrosse team at Wesleyan University. Patriots' wide receiver, Chris Hogan, was an all-conference lacrosse standout at Penn State. Denver's 2017 first round draft pick, Garrett Bolles, played lacrosse in high school and, on draft night, credited his high school lacrosse coach for turning his life around.

The Lovejoy Lacrosse program is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt, non-profit orga-

nization and is proud to say that lacrosse is the only sport in the Lovejoy school district area that provides the opportunity for its students to play a sport and be a Leopard from Kindergarten all the way through high school. Lovejoy Lacrosse finds real joy in bringing families together beginning with their time at Hart, Puster and Lovejoy elementary schools and watching the kids and families develop friendships and a sense of community that will follow those involved throughout their time at LISD.

While spring is the primary season for lacrosse, Lovejoy Lacrosse also provides a fall program that kicks off in August. Registration is now open for all levels at [www.lovejoylacrosse.com](http://www.lovejoylacrosse.com). Spring registration will open after Thanksgiving.

For those that are interested in giving lacrosse a try, the Lovejoy Lacrosse program is proud to be a part of the U.S. Lacrosse First Stick Program. As part of the program, Lovejoy Lacrosse has numerous sets of player equipment in various youth sizes that are available at no cost for loan during the season. Each set of equipment includes a helmet, shoulder pads, gloves, arm/elbow pads and a stick.

To learn more about the program, you can find additional information on the Lovejoy Lacrosse website or follow the program on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram. If you are interested in seeing some of the best lacrosse players in the world up close and personal, the Ford Center at The Star will be hosting the 2017 Major League Lacrosse Championship Game on August 19.

Finally, Lovejoy Lacrosse would like to give a shout out to all of the coaches, board members, parents and volunteers who make this experience possible for the children of LISD.

Go Leopards.



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206 Strain Lane	Cimarron #2	\$525,000	4	3	3,198	3/0/3	Yes
213 Lago Grande Trail	Seis Lagos #3	\$600,000	4	3.2	3,648	3/0/3	Yes
1650 Zilker Court	Estates At Austin Trail #2	\$608,000	4	3	4,053	3/0/3	No
262 Estelle Lane	Huntwick	\$610,000	4	3.1	3,145	3/0/3	Yes
405 Pennington Drive	Fox Glen	\$660,000	5	3.3	4,846	3/0/3	No
2705 Wolf Creek Drive	Wolf Creek	\$660,000	4	4	3,683	3/0/3	No
411 Oak Brook Drive	Forest Creek Estates	\$746,000	4	3.1	3,905	3/0/3	Yes
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660 Saddlebrook Drive	Saddlebrook Estates #1	\$755,000	5	4	4,861	3/0/3	Yes
1209 Samantha	Brockdale Estates	\$778,000	5	5.1	4,369	3/0/3	No
1226 Hicks Trail	Brockdale Estates #1	\$788,000	4	5	4,504	3/0/4	No
601 Hayden Lane	Edgewood Estates	\$962,500	5	6	5,932	4/0/4	Yes
1570 Silver Creek Circle	The Creeks of Forest Grove	\$1,200,000	5	4.1	4,726	2/3/05	Yes
2205 Lucas Creek Drive	Lucas Creek Estates	\$580,000	5	3.1	3,832	3/0/3	No

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