

## Fall Parade Highlights



The City of Lucas Fall Parade was held on Saturday, October 19 at Hart Elementary School. The event included a children and pet costume parade and a main parade. The children and pet costume parade took place at 10 am around the playground of Hart Elementary School. Judges for the children and pet costume parade included Representative Candy Noble and Councilmembers Debbie Fisher, Tim Baney, Philip Lawrence and Steve Duke. The judges awarded ribbons to all participants in the children and pet costume parade. The main parade started at 11am being led by Councilmember Phillip Lawrence on his motorcycle. Some of the organizations that participated in the parade included Collin County Animal Services, Trinity Trail Preservation Association, Legacy 4-H Club, Lone Star 4-H Club, Lone Star Ranch and Rescue, and the North Texas Jeep Club. The City would like to thank the event volunteers for their help, the Lucas Veterinary Hospital for allowing horse trailer parking, the Collin County Sheriff's Office for assisting with traffic and public safety, and Lovejoy ISD for accommodating the event at Hart Elementary School. Participants and attendees enjoyed a beautiful day watching the parade and

### Adopt-a-Pet from Collin County Animal Services



Collin County Animal Services participated in the City's Fall Parade on October 19 by dressing up their adoptable dogs in costumes as part of the children and pet parade as well as driving their Adopt-a-Pet trailer in the main parade. Collin County Animal Services is still looking for homes for the following dogs: Venetia, Thunder, Roxie, and Bella. If you are interested in adopting one of the dogs or learning more about the Adopt-a-Pet program, visit the Collin County Animal Services' shelter located at 4750 Community Avenue in McKinney. The animal shelter is open Tuesday through Friday from 9 am to 6 pm and Saturday and Sunday 12 pm to 5 pm.

### Scarecrow Contest Winners



1st Place  
Legacy 4-H

2nd Place  
Camden Eckel

3rd Place  
Vanessa Bailey

Thank you to the ten families and groups that decorated the Community Park at City Hall with scarecrows this October. The scarecrows were enjoyed by the large crowds at the Lucas Farmers Market as well as those that came to the park to use the playground, walking track, and field for athletic practices. First place in the Scarecrow Contest went to Legacy 4-H, second place to Camden Eckel, and third place to Vanessa Bailey.

### Accepting Nominations for Service Tree Awards

The City of Lucas has established a Service Tree Award Program that allows for annual recognition of an individual, business, youth or civic group who has contributed a significant and useful service to the community. The award consists of planting and dedicating a living tree at the Lucas Community Park in the recipients honor. All nominees will be reviewed, and finalists selected by the Lucas City Council, with Service Tree Awards presented to the recipients during the Lucas Founders Day event on May 9, 2020. Nominations must be submitted no later than **January 10, 2020** to City Secretary Stacy Henderson at shenderson@lucastexas.us. To learn more or submit a nomination, online applications can be found at <https://www.lucastexas.us/service-tree-program/>.



# LUCAS LEADER

A publication of the City of Lucas

[www.lucastexas.us](http://www.lucastexas.us)

December 2019



### Mayor's Message

By Jim Olk

I may be a little early, but I want to wish each of you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We have had a busy year and next month I will be writing about the City's year in review, but this month I just want to encourage you to come by Country Christmas held at the Lucas Community Park next to City Hall

on Friday, December 6. It should be a fun time and you can find more information about the planned activities inside this newsletter.

Also, if you are at all interested in volunteering your time to make a difference in Lucas, please consider attending the Boards and Commission Open House. We plan to provide information about the City's Boards, Commissions and Committees that provide guidance and advise the City Council, as well as listen to suggestions for areas that we might want to have some further study. The Open House will be held at Lucas City Hall on January 16. Once again, there is more information about the Open House in this newsletter.

As the weather gets a little chillier, please remember to check on your outside animals and frost proof your outside plumbing pipes. Water pipe breaks are no fun anytime, but they are especially frustrating during the cold weather.

So, as you prepare for the upcoming year, we want you to have a safe and pleasant holiday season.



Happy Holidays from the City of Lucas City Council

Mayor Jim Olk  
Mayor Pro Tem Kathleen Peele  
Councilmember Wayne Millsap  
Councilmember Tim Baney  
Councilmember Steve Duke  
Councilmember Phil Lawrence  
Councilmember Debbie Fisher

### Open House Board and Commission January 16, 2020 @ 6 pm

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. Come to the Board and Commission Open House on Thursday, January 16, 2020 to learn more about how you can serve your community. This is a great opportunity to get to know your elected officials and City staff.

Besides learning more about Boards and Commissions, the Open House will have information available for other volunteer opportunities that include taking part in upcoming City-wide cleanup events, trail cleanup events, and the City's Founders Day event.

Below is an overview of the City's Boards and Commissions:

#### Planning and Zoning Commission - 2-year term

2nd Thursday of each month - Meetings begin at 7 pm  
Makes recommendations to the City Council on matters relating to rezoning applications, site plans, plats, and development projects for the City.

#### Parks and Open Space Board - 2-year term

4th Tuesday, meets every other month - Meetings begin at 7 pm  
Serves in an advisory capacity to the City Council and staff in matters relating to the parks and open space of the City and implementing beautification projects.

#### Board of Adjustment - 2-year term

Meets as needed  
Responsible for reviewing application requests for special exceptions to the City's Zoning Ordinances and determining if variances are needed related to items such as fencing, lot coverage, and signage.

To serve on a City Board candidates must meet the following criteria:

- Be a citizen of the City for twelve continuous months prior to appointment
- Be eighteen years old prior to the date of appointment
- Have not been convicted 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

To learn more about each of the City of Lucas boards and commissions visit <https://www.lucastexas.us/departments/boards-commissions/>.

# December Events



## December/January

December 5	City Council Meeting City Hall   7 pm
December 10	Technology Committee City Hall   7 pm
December 12	Planning and Zoning Meeting City Hall   7 pm
December 19	City Council Meeting City Hall   7 pm
December 24 December 25	City offices closed for Christmas holiday
January 1	City offices closed for New Years Day holiday
January 2	City Council Meeting Cancelled

## LIGHT UP LUCAS

Let's brighten the holiday season by decorating your neighborhood with festive lights for the entire City to enjoy. A neighborhood can be one house, a group of homes, or a subdivision.

### What do I need to do to participate?

- Once you have your "neighborhood" defined, visit the City's website at [www.lucastexas.us](http://www.lucastexas.us) to register your neighborhood. Registration for this fun event will be from **November 22 through December 12**.
- Once decorating is complete, take some pictures (a maximum of three is allowed) and submit to City Secretary Stacy Henderson at [shenderson@lucastexas.us](mailto:shenderson@lucastexas.us) who will post it on the City's website.
- The Parks and Open Space Board will judge the submitted pictures and select a winner.

### What does the winner receive?

A special delivery from Santa Claus himself!!! Santa Claus and the Grinch will deliver delicious hot chocolate to the "Light Up Lucas" winning neighborhood on Friday, December 20 in the early evening.

## Holiday Donation Drive

November 11 - December 6

The holiday season is upon us and there are several opportunities to give back to your community. This year, the City will hold a holiday donation drive beginning **November 11 through December 6** to support Collin County's Toys for Tots, Allen Community Outreach, Agape Care Home and Loving Care Home. All donations can be dropped off at City Hall during the donation period and at Country Christmas.



### Toy Drive for Toys for Tots

You can help support the local Toys for Tots campaign by donating gifts for children up to 12 years old and teenagers up to 16 years old. Toys for Tots does not publish a list of appropriate toys to donate in order to avoid a limited selection of items to distribute throughout the community. Toys for Tots encourages donors to consider what might be an appropriate gift for their own child or relative, purchase the item, and donate to Toys for Tots. Toys for Tots will not accept realistic looking weapons, gifts with food or used merchandise. Suggested donation items for older children and teenagers include sporting equipment, bags, backpacks, books, cosmetics, purses, watches, wallets, bath gift sets, board games, radio control cars and trucks, hand-held electronics, skateboards, helmets, curling irons, hair straighteners, and hair dryers.

### Food Drive for Allen Community Outreach

This is your opportunity to help feed families in the community throughout the holiday season. Allen Community Outreach (ACO) was founded in 1985 by a group of caring community members who offer essential human and social services such as food and case management for families in crisis located within Lucas, Allen, and Fairview. This year's suggested donation items are stuffing mix, salad dressings, instant potatoes, gravy (canned/dry packet), canned fruit, canned milk (evaporated/condensed), cranberry sauce, canned corn, flour (up to five pounds), sugar (up to five pounds), cream of mushroom or chicken soup, cooking oil (small bottles), cake mix, cornbread mix, Bisquick baking mix, and canned mixed vegetables.

### Senior Angel Tree

Agape Care Home and Loving Care Home are residential assisted living facilities for senior citizens, both are located in Lucas. Each year, the City of Lucas sponsors a Senior Angel Tree to show our senior citizens who reside at these homes some "Lucas Love" over the holidays. If you would like to donate a gift to one of our beloved seniors, stop by City Hall beginning November 11 to get started. Donors may select an angel from the Senior Angel Tree to help guide the gift purchase. Please drop off all new and wrapped gifts at City Hall during the donation period. Santa will be personally delivering the gifts to our seniors just in time for Christmas.

### Pet Food Drive for Local Shelters Lucas Veterinary Hospital

The City is also supporting Lucas Veterinary Hospital in their annual pet food drive to benefit local animal shelters. Please donate any unopened bags or cans of pet food at City Hall and help Lucas Veterinary Hospital ease the stress our local shelters feel in keeping a consistent food supply for all of the animals who need it. The City will be accepting donations **November 11 through December 6**. The Lucas Veterinary Hospital will also be accepting donations during this time and through the end of December. Donations can also be dropped off at Lucas Veterinary Hospital located at 800 Country Club Road.

### Christmas Service and Carols

St. Stephen's Anglican Catholic Church  
Saturday, December 15 at 5:00  
11 Horseman Drive, Lucas  
[www.ststephensacc.com](http://www.ststephensacc.com)  
Refreshments served after the service



## Country Christmas

December 6 @ 6 pm

The City of Lucas will be holding its annual Country Christmas event on Friday, December 6 from 6 pm to 9 pm at the Community Park located at 665 Country Club Road. Country Christmas will feature the Christmas tree lighting, ice-skating for all ages, pictures at Santa's workshop, train rides, and holiday music. In-N-Out Burger will also be providing free food. In addition to this, the Lucas Farmers Market will be holding a special holiday themed market inside the Community Center during Country Christmas. Please note that the holiday market has been moved from the Council Chambers at City Hall to the Community Center. Event and handicap parking will be available at the Lucas Community Park on a first-come, first-serve basis. Additional parking and shuttle services will be available at Hart Elementary School (450 Country Club Road) and Willow Springs Middle School (1101 West Lucas Road). Shuttle buses will provide pick up and drop off at both schools to and from Country Christmas. Parking and shuttle service maps are available at [www.lucastexas.us/country-christmas](http://www.lucastexas.us/country-christmas). Bring out the entire family for an evening with your neighbors as we light the holiday tree and await the arrival of Santa, The Grinch, and Elf. Come celebrate a joyful holiday season with the Lucas community.

## Country Christmas Adds Holiday Farmers Market



A Holiday Farmers Market will join the festive line up of popular attractions for the 2019 Lucas Country Christmas. Along with traditional activities like the tree lighting, Santa's workshop, ice skating, train rides and holiday music, festival goers can shop 30 of the most popular vendors featured during the highly acclaimed fall Farmers Market. Don't worry. You won't have to brave the cold outdoors. The Holiday Farmers Market will be held in the warm Community Center. Expect yummy pies, dips, cakes, jams, coffees and teas, along with a few late harvested or hydroponically grown vegetables, all great for holiday giving. A special thanks to all who came out and made our "test" markets an overwhelming success. Watch this newsletter and the Lucas City website for upcoming announcements in 2020.

### Honor a Loved One with a Personalized Brick at the Fire Station



The Friends of Lucas Fire-Rescue will be selling personalized bricks to honor or memorialize a loved one that will be installed prominently under the flag poles at the Fire Station. The memorial bricks are a wonderful way to remember a loved one, mark an individual's achievement or honor someone special. All proceeds

from the memorial bricks will be contributed to the restoration efforts of Lucas Fire-Rescue's first ever fire engine, a 1949 Ford fire engine affectionally named "Ole' Streaker". The Friends of Lucas Fire-Rescue would like to bring Ole Streaker back to life so it can once again be an active part of our community and preserve a part of the Lucas history.

Each engraved brick can be purchased for \$75 and can be ordered in several different ways. The Friends will have a booth set up at the Lucas Country Christmas event on December 6 and will be taking orders at that time. Order forms can be found online at [www.LucasFireEngine.com](http://www.LucasFireEngine.com) or can be picked up at your Lucas AT&T authorized retail store located at 491 Angel Parkway, Suite 100 in Lucas. Installation will begin after the first 50 bricks have been sold. The Friends of Lucas Fire-Rescue, is a non-profit 501C3 organization, dedicated to supporting the Lucas Fire-Rescue Department.

### Space Heater Safety

As soon as the temperature drops, we turn on the heat in our homes and may even want to use a space heater. Before you plug in your space heater this winter, be sure to never plug a heater into an extension cord or power strip. Neither one is designed to handle the high current flow needed for a space heater and can overheat or even catch fire due to the added energy. If you're planning on using a space heater this winter, follow these five safety tips:

- Turn space heaters off and unplug them when you go to bed or leave the room.
- Keep space heaters three feet away from anything that can burn.
- Plug space heaters directly into a wall outlet. Do not use an extension cord or a power strip, which could overheat and result in a fire, and do not plug any other electrical devices into the same outlet as the heater.
- Install smoke alarms on every floor of your home and outside all sleeping areas and test them once a month.
- Place space heaters on level, flat surfaces. Never place heaters on cabinets, tables, furniture, or carpet, which can overheat and start a fire.

