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 1 pm 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 enjoying the event at Hart Elementary School. Participants and attendees enjoyed a beautiful day watching the parade and event at Hart Elementary School.

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

Venetia
Thunder
Roxie
Bella

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, 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/.

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 all at 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 from 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 wish 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 Millspaugh
Councilmember Tim Baney
Councilmember Steve Duke
Councilmember Phil Lawrence
Councilmember Debbie Fisher

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, plans, 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/.
The holiday season is upon us and there are several opportunities to give back to your community. This year, the City will be hosting a holiday donation drive beginning November 11 through December 6 to support Collin County’s Toys for Tots, Affordable 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 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) has been in existence since 1985 by a group of caring community members who offer essential human and social services such as food and care 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), cornbread mix, creamed corn, chicken, canned soup, cooking oil (small bottles), cake mix, creamed bread, 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 love as the holidays approach. If you would like to give 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 once a month. 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 Lucas Veterinary Hospital. The goal is to get local shelters fed 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.

**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 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 a 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 where you will be taking orders at that time. Order forms can be found online at 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.