

Lucas Firefighters Receive Awards for Outstanding Service



Firefighter/Paramedic Ian Evans
Firefighter of the Year Award
Meritorious Service Award

On Sunday, December 8, 2019, members of the City of Lucas Fire-Rescue, their families, City Council, Staff, Retired Fire Chiefs Ron Grotti and Tuck Minnett, and members of Lucas Fire-Rescue Rehab team attended the annual awards banquet held at the fire station.

A total of 12,618 hours were documented by volunteer emergency responders from December 2018 through November 2019. Awards given to members for volunteering the most hours in 2019 included:

- Craig Zale (1,654 hours)
- Denise Fick (1,508 hours)
- Russell Chandler (1,048 hours)
- Matt Malik (1,000 hours)
- Anthony Aguinaga (898 hours)
- Alejandro Contreras (890 hours)
- Brandon McVean (828 hours)
- Brayden Jackson (816 hours)

Years of Service Awards Received:

- Captain John Ricker (10)
- Firefighter Gerald Reining (10)
- Firefighter/EMT Alejandro Contreras (5)
- Firefighter/Paramedic Michael Dunnam (5)



Civilian of the Year David Rhoads

Outstanding Achievement Awards were also given to the following members:

- Officer of the Year Award - EMS Officer Aaron Alderdice
- Emergency Medical Services Member of the Year Award - Firefighter/Paramedic Sean Peterson
- Firefighter of the Year Award - Firefighter/Paramedic Ian Evans
- Civilian of the Year Award - David Rhoads who is a Lucas Fire-Rescue Rehab member, Friends of Lucas Fire-Rescue board treasurer, and is the Chairman of the City of Lucas Parks and Open Space Board.
- Chief's Coin Award - Administrative Assistant Devanie Stevens
- Meritorious Service Award Winner - Firefighter/Paramedic Ian Evans

Congratulations to all the members that received awards at this year's annual awards banquet! We are so thankful for the hard work and dedication each member contributes to the citizens of Lucas.

Thank You Lucas! Holiday Donation Drive Huge Success



This year's Holiday Donation Drive was held from November 11 through December 6 to help support the United States Marine Corps Reserves Toys for Tots, Allen Community Outreach, Agape Care Home and Loving Care Home, and in conjunction with the Lucas Veterinary Hospital, pet food was collected for local animal shelters.

We received enormous amounts of food donations for families, toys for children, gifts for teenagers and seniors, and food for pets. We are grateful to have thoughtful and supportive residents that give back to those in need within our community. Santa will be making a special delivery to the senior angels at Agape Care and Loving Care Homes to personally give them their gifts. Thank you for supporting the Holiday Donation Drive and making it a special time of year for those in need.



Country Christmas

This year's Country Christmas was held at the Community Park on December 6 from 6 pm to 9 pm. The event included the holiday tree lighting, Santa's workshop, an ice skating rink, train rides, and a holiday market.

In-N-Out Burger provided free hamburgers, chips and soft drinks to the community. Santa, Elf, and the Grinch made a special appearance for the night to take Christmas wishes from all the children. The City is very thankful for In-N-Out Burger for their in-kind donation and the holiday market vendors for participating at Country Christmas. We love seeing the community come together and enjoying the holiday season. Happy Holidays!

LUCAS LEADER

A publication of the City of Lucas

www.lucastexas.us

January 2020



Mayor's Message

By Jim Olk

As the year comes to an end, I couldn't help but think about all we have accomplished. I can tell you... our 60th year as the City of Lucas was very eventful and all in a good way!

I hope you made it out to see Santa at Country Christmas. I believe that we had over 1,000 people attend and enjoy hot chocolate, cookies, ice skating, In & Out Burger, train rides and a Holiday Farmers Market. The weather was great and the kids didn't want to leave. This event always seems to culminate the year and brings it all together. We were able pause and think about all of

the other events throughout the year, such as Founders Day, the City of Lucas 60th Anniversary, the Spring Clean-up event, Trail Clean-up, two Farmers Markets, Arbor Day, Scarecrow Contest and the Equine Parade.

Your tax dollars were put to work with the issuance of Certificates of Obligation for road maintenance and reconstruction as well as utility maintenance. A new fire engine was purchased and delivered and is now serving the community. A new ambulance was purchased and we are waiting on delivery of that vehicle. The residents continue to support a portion of the sales tax collected to fund the Lucas Fire, Control, Prevention and EMS District.

The City Council continues to focus on those things that impact all of us. The City Council funded the first drainage study for a portion of a watershed area that has seen recent increase in flooding. Council expects that this will serve as a model for other areas in the community. The City Council also created an ad-hoc committee to look at our access (or lack thereof) to high speed internet. This Committee is currently developing an RFP for a firm to study the feasibility to bring fiber to the City.

There is more to come next year. Please keep an eye on this newsletter as the year unfolds. Not only will Founders Day be right around the corner, but in April we will start with the first of over a dozen Farmers Market events. These have proven to be very popular with the community and are creating quite the buzz.

I do want to close with wishing each of you and your family's a Merry Christmas and a safe and happy New Year. And I think I can say from all of your City Council, thank you for allowing us to serve you as a resident of this great community.





January 1	City offices closed for New Years Day holiday
January 2	City Council Meeting CANCELLED
January 9	Planning and Zoning Meeting City Hall 7 pm
January 14	Technology Committee City Hall 7 pm
January 16	Board/Commission Open House City Hall 6 pm
January 16	City Council Meeting City Hall 7 pm
January 28	Parks Board Meeting City Hall 7 pm

Barnes Will Pick Up Your Christmas Tree



Barnes Waste Disposal will pickup your Christmas tree as part of their waste disposal service. Be sure your tree or sections of your tree are smaller than 5 feet in length for pickup. For more information call Barnes Waste Disposal at 972.734.3333 or visit their website at www.barneswds.com.



Mark your Calendars 2020 Farmers Market Season

At the December 5, 2019 City Council meeting, the City Council discussed establishing a schedule for the Farmers Markets to be held in 2020.

The Farmers Market schedule that was approved by the City Council includes the following dates:

- First Market of the 2020 Season on April 25 (Fourth Saturday in April)
- May 9 (Second Saturday in conjunction with Founders Day) and May 23 (Fourth Saturday)
- June 13 (Second Saturday) and June 27 (Fourth Saturday)
- July 11 (Second Saturday) and July 25 (Fourth Saturday)
- August 8 (Second Saturday) and August 22 (Fourth Saturday)
- September 12 (Second Saturday) and September 26 (Fourth Saturday)
- October 10 (Second Saturday)
- November (no market scheduled)
- December 4 (First Friday indoor Holiday Farmers Market at Country Christmas)

The mission statement of the Lucas Farmers Market is to create a safe and pleasant social experience for our community and visitors by providing access to local farmers, food producers and artists. The Lucas Farmers Market Committee will hold their first planning meeting for the 2020 season on Tuesday, January 7 at 5:30 pm in the Council Chambers at City Hall. The goal of the Lucas Farmers Market Committee was to maintain a vendor mix that included 50% agricultural producers, 30% value added/cottage food vendors and 20% artisan vendors. Review and updates to the rules will be discussed at the planning meeting along with updates to the application process and the implementation of vendor fees to cover the cost associated with the market.



Deadline Approaching for Service Tree Nominations

January 10 is the deadline to submit nominations for a Service Tree Award. 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 and Service Tree Awards presented to the recipients during the Lucas Founders Day event on May 9, 2020. To submit a nomination, go to <https://www.lucastexas.us/service-tree-program/>. Nominations must be submitted no later than **January 10, 2020** to City Secretary Stacy Henderson at shenderson@lucastexas.us. Nominees should meet the following criteria:

- Actions should benefit the City/residents in a significant way.
- Nominee may be individual, youth, church group, civic or neighborhood group (ex: HOA, garden club), youth group (ex: Boy or Girl Scout troop, 4-H Club), local business, local charity.
- The individual must live in the City of Lucas or have lived in the City of Lucas corporate limits during the time the service was performed. If a business or church, they must be located within the City of Lucas.



The next phase of the Winningkoff Road work is north of the reverse curve project. This next phase will extend to and include the Snider Lane/Winningkoff Road intersection. This project was awarded to McMahon Contracting along with the Blondy Jhune Road and Stinson Road projects. McMahon cannot start the Winningkoff project until Blondy Jhune is open to two-way traffic, which is anticipated in January. Stinson Road as well should be open two-way traffic in January.

There is a maintenance project associated with the Winningkoff reverse curve. Almost immediately after the completion, several panels of the southbound lane near the southern end of the project began to crack. The cause of the cracking has been determined to be a lack of lime stabilization under the concrete. G-Rod Contractors, the reverse curve contractor, will be replacing these panel sections soon. Most likely prior to the beginning of McMahon's work on Winningkoff north of the reverse curve. The schedule and traffic control plan have not been finalized at this time.

The North Pump Station project is on schedule for completion in late summer or early fall. The existing antiquated three-pump station is being replaced with a new five-pump station to improve water delivery and fire protection. Once the exiting pump station is demolished, there will be room to construct the new water tower at the North Pump Station located at 915 Country Club Road.

If you are interested in receiving email construction updates from the City, please email City Engineer Stanton Foerster at stanton@lucastexas.us requesting to be added to the email list.

Candidate Filing Begins City of Lucas General Election

City elections will be held on May 2, 2020. There will be two seats on the ballot during the City's General Election that include the seats for City Council Seat 1 and City Council Seat 2 each serving three year terms. Applications for a place on the ballot in the General Election will be available from the City Secretary's office beginning January 2. Prospective candidates may file an application with the City Secretary beginning Wednesday, January 15 through Friday, February 14, 2020 from 8 am to 5 pm. Please note that electronic candidate application submittals will not be accepted.

To be eligible to be a candidate for office, the City Charter states the following criteria must be met:

- Has been a resident of the City of Lucas for twelve (12) continuous months
- Qualified voter of the city
- Has never been convicted of and is not currently charged with a felony or a crime involving moral turpitude
- Is 18 years of age
- Is not delinquent on any ad valorem tax due to the City of Lucas

For any election questions, contact City Secretary Stacy Henderson at 972.912.1211.

Board and Commission Open House 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/>.

Welcome Returning Board Members

On December 5, the City Council reappointed board members to the Planning and Zoning Commission, Board of Adjustment and Parks and Open Space Board. Each appointment begins in January 2020 serving two year terms. The City of Lucas is happy to welcome the following returning board members:

Planning and Zoning Commission:
Peggy Rusterholtz, David Keer and Tim Johnson

Board of Adjustment:
Chris Bierman, Tom Redman, James Foster and Michael Dunn

Parks and Open Space Board:
Kenneth Patterson, Bill Esposito and Debra Guillemaud

SAVE THE DATE

March 3, 2020	Presidential Primary Election Community Center
April 4	Don't Mess with Texas Trash-Off Cleanup Event Community Park 8 am - Noon
April 17	Movie in the Park Community Park 8 pm
April 25	Farmers Market Community Park 8 am - Noon
May 2	Lucas General and Special Election Community Center
May 9	Founders Day Event <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farmers Market • Lucas Car Show • Mini Golf • Activities for the kids • Entertainment