



Did you know Lucas is the home to the Blackland Prairie Raptor Center (BPRC). Located on Brockdale Park Road, the BPRC is a non-profit organization dedicated to

environmental preservation through public education and conservation of birds of prey and other wildlife. The BPRC is a great place to learn, experience and appreciate birds of prey and gain an understanding of their importance to the environment. Raptors include eagles, hawks, falcons, owls, osprey, and others. Don't miss these upcoming events.

Raptors in Winter | March 7 | 10 am to 2 pm

Gates open at 10 a.m. with a variety of activities throughout the day including strolling through the Blackland Prairie, cookie decorating, and birds on display. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$3 for children, and children under age 3 free.

Rods & Raptors Kids Fishing Derby | May 9 | 8 am to 11 am

This annual event is open to the public and no pre-registration is required. It's a catch and release event with prizes in many of the categories. A limited number of fishing poles are available on a first-come first-serve basis and bait will be supplied. Admission is \$5 per participant

Raptor Photo Day | May 16 | 7:30 am to 11 am

Raptor Photo Day is a great opportunity to take photographs of our beautiful education ambassadors, the Raptors and other wildlife in their natural setting. BPRC sets up perching locations throughout the park and photographers are free to photograph the wildlife in a variety of settings and natural lighting. This event is open to all ages and photography skills. The fee is \$20 pre-registered and \$25 at the door.

For more information on the BPRC and on the events and activities mentioned, as well as volunteer opportunities visit www.bpraptorcenter.org or call 469.964.9696.

Lucas is a Firewise Community

In 2013, Lucas was designated a Firewise community. But, what does that designation mean to homeowners? The purpose of Firewise is to promote fire safety in areas that have a combination of homes and wildland. Wildfires can move at speeds of nine to 12.5 miles per hour or faster, which is why Firewise communities strive to educate homeowners on how to make their immediate area around their home a non-combustible area. As part of a Firewise community, the City of Lucas would like to track how much time our community spends cleaning debris from around their home. You can report your Firewise activity at www.lucas.texas.us/firewise-form. For more information contact Lucas Fire-Rescue at 972.727.1242.

No Vehicles Allowed on Trinity Trail

The Trinity Trail is 25 miles of equestrian and hiking trails along Lavon Lake on U.S. Army Corp of Engineers land with trailheads located at Brockdale Park Road, Winningkoff Road, and Highland Park. The Trinity Trail is managed by a non-profit volunteer organization, the Trinity Trail Preservation Association, whose main goal is to preserve the trail and encourage hikers, joggers, nature lovers, and trail riders to use the scenic trail.

The U.S. Army Corp of Engineers does not allow for vehicle traffic on the trail including, dirt bikes and four-wheelers. When this occurs, it can cause a tremendous amount of damage and additional volunteer hours to maintain the trail to its original condition. Should you notice any vehicle traffic on the trail or accessing the trail from one of the trailheads, please contact the Collin County Sheriff's office at 972.547.5100.



The *Don't mess with Texas Trash-off* cleanup event will be held on Saturday, April 4, 2020 from 8 am to 12 pm. This annual spring cleanup event is part of the Keep Lucas Beautiful program to support efforts in clearing roadsides of trash. We strongly encourage the community to participate as a volunteer in the *Don't mess with Texas Trash-Off* as we continue to promote the beautification of the City, litter abatement, and sustainable practices.

To register online as a cleanup volunteer, visit www.lucastexas.us/dont-mess-with-texas-trash-off. Volunteers must also submit the adult or minor volunteer release form found on the above mentioned website. The volunteer release forms must be submitted to Assistant to the City Manager Kent Souriyasak via email at kent@lucastexas.us or dropped off at City Hall.

We strongly recommend that volunteers register prior to the cleanup event. However, you may also register onsite at the event. Volunteer check-in will begin at 8 am at the pavilion of the Lucas Community Park located at 665 Country Club Road. Volunteers will be divided into cleanup groups, supervised by City staff and transported to the cleanup sites. Supplies, beverages and lunch will be provided to all volunteers.

The cleanup sites will take place along the following roadsides: East Lucas Road, East Winningkoff Road, Estates Parkway, Estelle Lane, Forest Grove Road, Ingram Lane, Orr Road, Snider Lane, Stinson Road, West Lucas Road (between Angel Parkway and Country Club Road), and Winningkoff Road (between south of Christian Lane and north of Snider Lane). Road closures will include Snider Lane and Stinson Road during the hours of the cleanup event to ensure the safety of volunteers.

Lucas Broadband Study

In 2019, the Technology Committee was formed to research possible internet solutions to resolve issues related to internet service in Lucas. During their research, the Technology Committee identified that a broadband study would help determine which broadband options could resolve internet problems, and the City Council approved the recommendation to acquire the services of Magellan Advisors to conduct the broadband study.

A kick-off meeting and work session will be scheduled with the City, the Technology Committee, and Magellan Advisors to discuss goals, review the planning process, and provide any information needed to conduct the broadband study. The proposed timeline to complete the broadband study is four months. We look forward to reviewing the recommendations in the broadband study to improve internet service in Lucas.



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April 2020



Mayor's Message

By Jim Olk

When I initially thought about this article, I had decided to write about outdoor burning, but now with COVID-19 I thought I should give you an update on what the City is looking at. (I'll let outdoor burning smolder for another month.)

To start off I want you to know that the City of Lucas does have a Continuity of Operation Plan as part of our Emergency Operations Plan. The Continuity of Operations Plan is intended to provide guidance as to how we continue to deliver City services in the event of catastrophic damage to City facilities or to loss of staffing due to a pandemic. The City understands that emergency services like fire and EMS are critical and must be operational at all times. Water service is also a necessity for sanitary living conditions. It is important that these functions along with others that the City delivers continue in spite of the events that can happen. As to COVID-19. The City of Lucas partners with Collin County and the County Health Department to stay abreast of the latest conditions and spread of this virus. We along with other Collin County cities and school districts attended a briefing with the County on March 11 to get the latest update, as well as how we will have near constant contact with the Health Department as we move forward.

As to where we are right now. The CDC along with the County Health Department feel that the "risk of transmission is low" in Collin County. Those most at risk are the elderly and those with underlying health conditions that may compromise their ability to fight off the virus. They reiterated that all of us should practice good hygiene by washing our hands and keep an adequate "social distance" in crowded or populated areas.

As I watch what is happening around the nation, I want the residents of Lucas to know that City staff and City Council have your well-being at the forefront of our thoughts and decisions as we move forward. This is a very fluid event and we will adjust our response as things change. It will be our intent to continue with governmental meetings that are essential for maintaining City services. Other social events will be addressed as conditions warrant. As decisions are made, we will let you know via our website and our social media outlets. Please stay safe and well.

The best place to receive accurate information on the COVID-19 virus is the CDC website at www.cdc.gov.



City Elections-What's on the Ballot

The 2020 General and Special City elections will take place on Saturday, May 2 at the Lucas Community Center at 665 Country Club Road. Early voting will be held April 20 through April 28. The General Election ballot will include City Council Seat 1 and City Council Seat 2, and the Special Election ballot will include updates to the City's Home Rule Charter and renewal of the street maintenance tax allocation. The City of Lucas is a Home Rule City that operates under a Home Rule Charter. City charters define the structure, duties and authority of their local government. The City of Lucas voted to become a Home Rule Charter city in May 2008 and the charter requires a review every five years. Any amendments to the City Charter are presented to the voters for consideration. To view all the charter amendments before you vote, go to www.lucastexas.us/elections.

Renewal of the City's 0.50% street maintenance sales tax dedication will also be on the ballot. Sales tax is levied by the City on all goods sold within the city limits. The City has adopted a dedicated purpose sales tax that allocates 0.50% of the 2% sales tax collected for street maintenance. These dedicated funds will be spent to repair and maintain existing city streets. This dedicated revenue source for street maintenance will discontinue in September 2020 unless voters approve its continuation. This represents approximately \$387,000 annually.

Service Tree Award Winners Announced

Congratulations to David Rhoads and Craig Zale, 2020 recipients of the City of Lucas Service Tree Award. The Service Tree Award program was established in 2015 to recognize individuals or groups who have contributed significant and useful service to the community.

David Rhoads was honored for his work as a dedicated volunteer and community servant. In addition to his emergency and non-emergency work with Lucas Fire-Rescue, he has consistently served on multiple Boards and Commissions including the Parks and Open Space Board since 2013 and as the Board Chair since 2016. David has worked tirelessly to maintain the integrity of the community and was voted City of Lucas Civilian of the Year in 2019 by Lucas Fire-Rescue.

Craig Zale was honored for his work as an exemplary first responder and emergency services volunteer. Craig has volunteered with Lucas Fire-Rescue for more than 23 years in multiple capacities, rising to his current rank of Operations Chief. He has dedicated countless hours and personal resources to the activities and betterment of Lucas Fire-Rescue. He was instrumental in bringing emergency medical services to the City of Lucas and improving the quality of life for all citizens and visitors. Both recipients will be presented with a plaque during Founders Day festivities on Saturday, May 9 with trees dedicated and planted at the Lucas Community Park in their honor.

APRIL



April 2	City Council Meeting City Hall 7 pm
April 9	Planning and Zoning Meeting City Hall 7 pm
April 16	City Council Meeting City Hall 7 pm

SAVE THE DATE

April 4	Don't Mess with Texas Trash-Off Cleanup Event Community Park 8 am - Noon
April 4	Free CPR Class Lucas Fire Station 9 am - 3 pm
April 17	Movie in the Park Community Park 7 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



Lucas Fire-Rescue will be holding a free community CPR class on Saturday, April 4, 2020. This is a wonderful opportunity to learn a life-saving skill and become certified in CPR at no cost. The class will be held at the Lucas Fire Station at 165 Country Club Road from 9 am to 3 pm. There will be an hour break from 12 - 1 pm for you to grab lunch or pack a lunch to eat in the classroom. Limited spots are available. To sign up or for additional information on the class, email CPR@lucastexas.us or call 972.727.1242.

Founders Day Celebration

The City's Founders Day Celebration is set for **Saturday, May 9, 2020**. Founders Day will take place at the Lucas Community Park at 665 Country Club Road. Food, beverages and snow cones will be available free to the public. This year's celebration will feature the Lucas Farmers Market at the park from 8 am to 12 pm and the Lucas Car Show at Hart Elementary School (450 Country Club Road). In addition to this, the Legacy 4-H Club will be holding their silent auction inside the Council Chambers at City Hall and the City's historical displays will be available for viewing in the Community Center. There will also be family-friendly activities such as mini-golf, a petting zoo, live music, face painting, balloon artistry, photo booth pictures, pet adoption, raptors display, stick horse rodeo and the pony hop derby.

All public parking will be available at Lovejoy High School where shuttle buses will transport visitors between the high school, Lucas Community Park and Hart Elementary School. There will be no available public parking at the Lucas Community Park or Hart Elementary School. Onsite parking at the Lucas Community Park is reserved for vendors, volunteers and handicap parking. If you or your business/organization is located within the City of Lucas and would like to participate as a Founders Day booth vendor, download the application at www.lucastexas.us/founders-day-celebration and submit to foundersday@lucastexas.us. Booth vendor space is very limited and applicants will be notified if selected to participate at Founders Day.

Below is a list of activities for the day.

8 am – 12 pm	Lucas Farmers Market (Community Park)
9 am – 1 pm	Mini-Golf, Petting Zoo, Photo Booth, Face Painting, Balloon Artistry (Community Park) Legacy 4-H Club Auction (Council Chambers) Historical Display (Community Center)
10 am – 1 pm	Lucas Car Show (Hart Elementary School Parking Lot)
11 am – 12 pm	Stick Horse Rodeo, Pony Hop Derby (Community Park)
11 am – 1 pm	Lunch (Community Park Pavilion)
12 pm	Service Tree Awards (Community Park)
1 pm – 2 pm	Lucas Car Show Awards Ceremony (Hart Elementary School Parking Lot)



“Market” on your Calendars!

The Lucas Farmers Market Committee (LFMC), in conjunction with the City of Lucas, is pleased to announce thirteen market dates for the upcoming season. The Lucas Farmers Market will run twice per month beginning April 25 and ending September 26. The May 9 market will run in conjunction with the Founders Day celebration. No market is scheduled for November. The December market will be a small, indoor event held in conjunction with

Country Christmas. Markets will operate rain or shine. Visit lucasfarmersmarket.com/ for a list of all dates, vendor commitments, and vendor application. The focus will continue to be on agricultural vendors. Because many will rotate throughout the season based on crop yields, the farmers market will continue to accept agricultural applications throughout the season.

The Lucas Farmers Market has 60 vendors committed for the upcoming April 25 market, here are just a few vendors customers can expect to see this season:

Canticle Farms	Lettuce Indulge and Gentlesoil Farm
Fairview Farms	Fieldsong Farms
Bare Naked Bee Company	Spice and Tea Merchants
Buttermilk Sky Pie Shop	CF Sharpening Services

Returning customers may remember that a new parking area to accommodate an additional 80 cars was constructed in November to ease traffic congestion, bringing the total parking capacity to 150 cars.

Welcome Lucas' Newest Firefighter/Paramedic Thomasz Wood



Lucas Fire-Rescue would like to introduce its newest member, FF/Paramedic Thomasz Wood. Yes, that's Thomasz with a "z"! He brings with him over five years of experience in emergency medical services with many certifications and trainings that make him a great asset to this department. Thomasz was born in London, England; however, he spent most of his life in the northeast, and then moved to Dallas and graduated with honors from Lakehill Preparatory School in 2012. Thomasz attended the University of Houston where he was trained in critical care medicine, and then attended Brookhaven College graduating with an associate degree in science and is continuing on to get his bachelor's degree.

Thomasz was able to find his true calling when he attended Texas Emergency Academy in Princeton. While attending school, Thomasz began volunteering with the Branch Volunteer Fire Department. The core values and traditions of fire service inspires Thomasz to be a fireman. We are very fortunate to have Thomasz as part of our Lucas Fire-Rescue family. He will be an asset to the department, and we look forward to working alongside him to serve this great community.



The City-sponsored Lucas Car Show will be held in conjunction with Founders Day on **Saturday, May 9, 2020**. The Lucas Car Show will open at 10 am and the awards ceremony will begin at 1 pm. The Lucas Car Show will take place in the parking lot of Hart Elementary School located at 450 Country Club Road, and is hosted by Lucas Fire-Rescue and the Friends of the Lucas Fire-Rescue, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. All proceeds from the Lucas Car Show will directly benefit the Friends of the Lucas Fire-Rescue to support the restoration of Ole' Streaker, the City's first fire engine.

All interested participants may register for the Lucas Car Show. Early registration begins March 9 through May 1 at www.lucastexas.us/lucascarshow. The minimum donation for early registration is \$25. After May 1, the minimum donation for registration will be \$35. All fees to register are nonrefundable. There is a limited number of 75 spots available to participants. The category awards for the Lucas Car Show are: Modern Car (Current – 29 years old), Classic Car (30 – 49 years old), Antique Car (50 years or older), Truck, and Custom Car (significant modification from original manufactured equipment). There will also be a Best in Show Award announced at the awards ceremony. For more information email carshow@lucastexas.us or call 972.727.1242.

Join Us For
Movie in the Park

The City of Lucas Parks and Open Space Board will be holding its first ever Movie in the Park that will feature Disney's Frozen II. Movie in the Park will be held on **Friday, April 17 at 7 pm** at the Lucas Community Park located at 665 Country Club Road. Admission is free. Bring your lawn chairs and blankets and enjoy the spring weather with your friends and family. Concessions will be provided by the Legacy 4-H Club.

April 1 – National Census Day

By Councilmember Debbie Fisher

As mandated by the US Constitution, a count of the population living in the United States is taken every 10 years. These decennial census results are necessary to ensure fair representation in the legislative process. Based on these numbers, maps are re-drawn into districts to reapportion the population so that all areas have a balanced representation in the legislatures at the federal and state levels. April 1, 2020 is National Census Day. The goal is to make sure the new maps created by the Census results are fair, right and constitutional. It is possible with new numbers reported that Collin County will qualify for its own Senate District for the first time. Important dates for the Census include:

- March 12-20 Census information mailed to households, questionnaires may be answered online, mail or by phone
- April 1 National Census Day
- May - July Census takers visit homes that haven't responded to the 2020 Census.
- December Census Bureau delivers apportionment counts to the President and Congress
- January 2021 87th Legislature convenes
- February Expected delivery of Census data to Texas
- May 31 87th Legislature adjourns
- March 2022 First elections held with new districts

To read the entire article on National Census Day go to www.lucastexas.us/national-census-day.

Electronic Recycling/Paper Shredding Event

To coincide with the *Don't mess with Texas Trash-Off* and in support of the Keep Lucas Beautiful program, the City will also be holding a recycling event on **Saturday, April 4, 2020** from 8 am to 12 pm. The City is partnering with United Electronic Recycling to provide a drop-off for residents to dispose of electronics and Proshed Security to provide a drop-off for paper shredding services. Both drop-off sites will be located in the parking lot between City Hall and the Lucas Community Park at 665 Country Club Road.

To view the complete list of electronic items accepted by United Electronic Recycling, visit www.unitedelectronicrecycling.com/items-we-accept. For any questions regarding acceptable electronic items, please contact United Electronic Recycling at 855.837.8326. United Electronic Recycling require fees for disposing of the following electronic items:

- Televisions – **Fee: \$20**
- Hard Drives (already loose) – **Fee: \$10**
- CRT Monitors – **Fee: \$5**
- Printer Copier, Fax Machines – **Fee: \$5**
- Fluorescent bulbs – **NOT ACCEPTING**

Proshed Security will be providing free onsite shredding services for residents. Residents are welcome to drop off boxes of unwanted paper, documents, newspapers, magazines, and books. For any questions regarding acceptable paper for shredding, contact Proshed Security at 972.232.7251 or visit www.proshred.com/dfw.

Parks and Trails Survey

The City Council met on March 5 to discuss trails and trail networks in Lucas. In order to gain community input of how residents envision trails for the community, or even a larger park or additional trails, a survey will be compiled and sent to residents. A hard copy of the survey will also be available at City Hall. Be looking for more information on the survey in upcoming editions of the Lucas Leader.