

CITY OF LUCAS GENERAL AND SPECIAL ELECTIONS

MAY 1, 2021

The City of Lucas will hold their general and special elections on May 1, 2021. There will be two City Council seats on the ballot in the general election, Seat 3 and Seat 4, and the seat for Mayor. The following candidates have filed for a place on the ballot:

<u>Mayor</u> Leslie Wizner Jim Olk	<u>City Council Seat 3</u> David Keer Evelyn Molina	<u>City Council Seat 4</u> Phil Lawrence (<i>running unopposed</i>)
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The special election ballot will include amendments to the City's Home Rule Charter. A home rule charter is created to provide a city with local controls, sets up government structure, and outlines its authority and its limitations. The City is required to review the Home Rule Charter every five years and any changes proposed to the Charter requires voter approval through an election. The City's current charter and proposed amendments that include strike-throughs to identify what amendments are being made can be found at www.lucastexas.us/elections/.

Early voting will be held at the Lucas Community Center, located at 665 Country Club Road, as well as all other Collin County voting locations beginning April 19 through April 27 at the following times:

Monday, April 19 through Friday, April 23	8 am to 5 pm
Saturday, April 24	8 am to 5 pm
Monday, April 26 through Tuesday, April 27	7 am to 7 pm
Saturday, May 1 - Election Day	7 am to 7 pm

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



The Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) is encouraging Texans to complete the Individual State of Texas Assessment Tool (iSTAT) to help the state identify damages across Texas and help emergency management officials gain an understanding of damages that occurred during the recent winter weather. If you have experienced any damage or have been adversely impacted, we encourage you to visit the link below to report your damage.

Please submit one survey per impacted address. Reporting damage to Emergency Management is a voluntary activity, is not a substitute for reporting damage to your insurance agency, and does not guarantee disaster relief assistance. To fill out the online survey, go to <http://damage.tdem.texas.gov>.

EASTER SERVICES ST. STEPHEN'S ANGLICAN CATHOLIC CHURCH 11 Horseman Drive, Lucas

Join St. Stephens for Holy Week Services. The Parish is a vibrant part of Lucas and the North Texas community, and the Parish states that "Finding St. Stephens was like finding home for all of us."

Thursday, April 1:	Maundy Thursday, 6:30 pm
Friday, April 2:	Good Friday Service, 6:30 pm
Saturday, April 3:	Holy Saturday Mass, 11:00 am
Sunday, April 4:	Easter Mass, 10:30 am

For more information, go to www.ststephensacc.com.

WATER LOSS ADJUSTMENT REQUESTS

In certain situations, the City of Lucas may provide a water loss adjustment in the form of a credit on your water bill when you experience an event that causes a substantial water loss. A substantial water loss is defined as water use more than three times the average monthly usage which is calculated by using the most recent twelve-month billing period. This credit applies the wholesale water rate to the amount of water loss due to qualifying circumstances (such as a water line break) to create a reduced amount owed on the water. The cost associated with repairs and reduced rate on the water loss are still the water customer's financial responsibility.

Please note that completing this request does not guarantee a water loss adjustment. To request a water loss adjustment, water customers may submit a completed Water Loss Adjustment Request with supporting documentation in the following ways:

- Fill out the online form at www.lucastexas.us/water-loss-adjustments/ that will be submitted to the Utility Billing Department
- By Mail: Download and fill out the form at www.lucastexas.us/documents/water-loss-adjustment-form/ and mail to City of Lucas, Attention Utility Billing, 665 Country Club Road, Lucas, Texas 75002
- In Person: Download and fill out the Water Loss Adjustment Form at www.lucastexas.us/documents/water-loss-adjustment-form/ and deliver to Utility Billing or place it in the drop box at City Hall.

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Winningkoff Road - Phase 2

Progress continues to be made as the contractor has been approved to use a different base material to be placed under the concrete pavement. The benefit of the different material will accelerate the construction schedule. The large culvert work north of Manor Lane was delayed due to the delivery of culvert boxes and review is underway of the ditch side slopes to determine if any can be steepened to reduce impacts to existing trees. Reopening of Winningkoff Road to northbound traffic only is planned for May.

North Pump Station

The new pump station should be operational by the end of March. Completion of a hydraulic study that creates a mathematical model of the Lucas waterpipe system is scheduled to be completed by May. The goals of the study are to determine 1) the most efficient location of the new water tower and 2) best management practices to regulate pressure within waterpipe system. Construction of the new water tower is anticipated to begin at the end of this year.

West Lucas Road

On March 4, 2021, the Lucas City Council awarded a design contract to BCC Engineering for West Lucas Road. The design is scheduled to be completed in April of 2022. City Staff has been meeting regularly with BCC regarding right-of-way needs of the project as well as the complexities of the drainage issues that are part of the project. Please contact City Engineer Stanton Foerster at 972.912.1208 or stanton@lucastexas.us if you have any questions about the West Lucas Road project.

LUCAS LEADER

A publication of the City of Lucas

www.lucastexas.us

April 2021



MAYOR'S MESSAGE

Things may be looking up on the pandemic front. With Judge Hill removing all County restrictions and Governor Abbott removing all State restrictions we have canceled the City of Lucas declaration. In addition to the slow infection rate that we are seeing are all good signs. I am truly hopeful that we are working our way through this time and will find our new normal very soon. I do want to encourage everyone

to continue to take any necessary precautions that you may feel will protect you and your family.

With that good news, the City is moving forward with upcoming Founders Day, Farmers Markets and several Keep Lucas Beautiful events. You can find out more about those and other events in this and upcoming newsletters.

I do want to wish Dr. Michael Goddard, former Lovejoy Superintendent, all of our best wishes on his new adventure. Dr. Goddard tendered his resignation from Lovejoy ISD to take a

position with Prestonwood Christian Academy. Dr. Goddard will be missed, but I am certain that the Lovejoy School Board will select another qualified person to help lead the school district. I am looking forward to continuing with the relationship between the City of Lucas and Lovejoy ISD as it only improves our quality of life here in Lucas.

I know that we just made our way through the worst winter weather that I can remember here in Texas. Joy and I fared pretty well with just a few frozen pipes and some busted pool equipment, but I know others had significant damage. Just to let those folks know, the City does have a "Water Loss Adjustment" program. So if you had some busted pipes and had a significant water loss, please check out that program at www.lucastexas.us/water-loss-adjustments/. Even with this program the City Council will be considering some additional relief at our March 18 City Council meeting. We will post any action on our website as the information becomes available.

As I close for this month, I do want to remind everyone to stay safe by preparing our homes and properties for what Mother Nature may throw at us and by keeping ourselves safe with safety measures that you are comfortable with. As always, thank you for allowing me to serve y'all.



ONWARD TO THE MOVIE IN THE PARK

featuring Disney Pixar's *Onward*

The first ever Lucas Movie in the Park event is coming to the Community Park on Friday, April 9, 2021 featuring Disney Pixar's *Onward*. *Onward* follows the adventures of two brothers as they embark on a magical journey to bring their family back together. So, come and join us for this incredible family-friendly event as our first movie in the park in the City. **Did I mention there will be free snacks and drinks, a free movie, free parking, it's all FREE!**

The Community Park is located at 665 Country Club Road. Parking for the event will open at 7 pm and the movie will begin at 8 pm following sunset. Bring your lawn chairs and blankets and enjoy the spring weather with your family. The City cares about the health of its citizens, so you are encouraged to follow CDC guidelines.



City meetings are open to the public and to protect the health of others, masks are encouraged. The City will continue with Zoom meetings to allow for public participation remotely. To download a video conferencing link, go to <https://www.lucastexas.us/zoom-link-for-city-council-board-meetings/>.

- April 1 City Council Meeting
City Hall | 7 pm
- April 2 City offices closed for Good Friday holiday
- April 8 Planning and Zoning Meeting
City Hall | 7 pm
- April 15 City Council Meeting
City Hall | 7 pm
- April 28 Board of Adjustment
City Hall | 6:30 pm

UPCOMING EVENTS

- April 3 Keep Lucas Beautiful Spring Cleanup and Electronic Recycling/Paper Shredding Event
Community Park | 8 am - Noon
- April 9 Movie in the Park
Community Park | 7 pm
- April 19 - April 27 Early Voting
Community Center (See specific times in the newsletter article)
- April 24 Lucas Farmers Market
Community Park | 8 am - Noon
- May 1 City of Lucas Election
Community Center | 7 am - 7 pm
- May 8 Founders Day & Farmers Market
Community Park
Farmers Market | 8 am - Noon
Founders Day | 9 am - 1 pm
- May 22 Lucas Farmers Market
Community Park | 8 am - Noon

THE GOOD NEIGHBOR
by Councilmember Steve Duke



Well, we are on the downhill side of possibly one of the worst weeks of winter seen in the modern recorded weather history of Texas. I hope that everyone with property damage can get it all back to new in short order. My family and I were some of the lucky ones, but so many others were not. Many were out of power for several days, pipes froze and burst, and I know many had to stay with family and friends. We have heard all the

negatives and bad stories, but I would like to share some of the really good stuff that matters most and touches our hearts in the most profound ways. This story harkens me back to the kind of Texas I grew up in; where neighbors help each other because that's what being a neighbor meant.

I have known this elderly couple for at least 15 years and have become very dear to me over the years. The husband (which I will call "Harry") is on full time supplemental oxygen and is essentially confined to his chair in his living room. As you can imagine, Harry has become quite feeble in the last few years. The wife (I will call "Sharon") is an incredibly sweet woman who takes care of Harry the best she can. Time has not been easy on her either, but she still manages to get around and do what is necessary to maintain her household. It is clearly wearing on her.

Fast forward to the "Snowmegedon" or "Icetastrorphy" as the historic Texas weather event unfolded. Well, as many of you know all too well, the power went out for many residents including for this elderly couple. Because Harry is on supplemental oxygen, an emergency generator was dropped off. There it sat until, out of desperation, Sharon asked her neighbor for help and he came over promptly got it running and maintained it every two hours. He was up as late as 1:00 am, making sure the life-sustaining oxygen for "Harry" was flowing. He kept this up until their power was restored. His family moved in about a year ago and they have "seven perfect children" as described by "Sharon." Well, sometime after they moved in, the mom of this baseball-team-sized brood volunteered their services to come over and help get the groceries into the house. Once in the home, these children brought their life and their energy that only kids can bring. As you can imagine, being stuck in a chair hooked to an oxygen tube has a way of lowering spirits. "Sharon" confided that this interaction has touched "Harry" profoundly, this family coming over to help on occasion and taking an interest has really had a wonderful, positive lasting effect on Harry.

I wrote this to share with our residents the good stuff that happens that we never hear about. This true story reminds us about what God's love is all about. This wonderful family are setting the example and God is blessing them for it. They really are making difference in the lives of their neighbors and people they do not even know. Possibly the next time you see your neighbor, don't be too busy to strike up a conversation and take an interest in what's going on in their lives and share what is up in yours. If you take anything out of this little story remember that little acts of kindness can make a huge difference in other people's lives.

God Bless Lucas!

RATE CHANGES FOR CURBSIDE RECYCLING

The City of Lucas has been notified that Republic Services will be increasing the curbside recycling rate effective April 1, 2021 to \$8.44 per month and the cost for an extra polycart will be \$3.28 per month if you are not a current subscriber. These new rates include sales tax and customers will continue to be billed quarterly.

If you have not yet signed up for curbside recycling and are interested in this subscription based program, call Republic Services at 972.422.2341.

LUCAS FARMERS MARKET LAUNCHES DONATION TABLE



Spring has sprung and the growing season is upon us with local gardeners, farmers and ranchers planting rows and counting chicks! As many of you may have heard or read in the last newsletter, the Lucas Farmers Market is launching a donation table in partnership with local food pantries and charities so that you can easily share your bounty with those in need.

The continuing pandemic, exacerbated by last month's snow, freezing temperatures, enormous energy bills and repair costs have pushed even more local families to the brink. With the Feeding America organization reporting 15% of the population or 132,720 people in affluent Collin County as food insecure, your food donations will really make a difference. We have already partnered with several local food pantries and shelters for the program and they are thrilled to have access to fresh produce to incorporate into their menus and make available with their outreach to those in need.

Look for announcements on the Farmers Market website for the organizations we are supporting at www.lucasfarmersmarket.com so that you can plan your donations. Don't worry if you do not have a green thumb. You can always purchase items for donation from our vendors and/or bring shelf-stable goods from home as all donations will be welcome from our partnered charities. We will pack all of the donations and deliver to the local charity!

Plan to bring your garden's bounty and your gifts starting on the May 8th market! Fruits, vegetables, eggs, honey, meat, packaged baked goods, canned goods, pasta, grains, etc. are in high demand and will be accepted at the donation table.



The City will be holding their Founders Day event on Saturday, May 8 at the Community Park located at 665 Country Club Road.

This year's Founders Day will feature a parade, mini golf, stick horse rodeo, pony hop derby, historical displays, photobooth, silent auction by Legacy 4-H Club, interactive raptor experience by Blackland Prairie Raptor Center, and the Lucas Farmers Market featuring "Lucas Local" vendors. In-N-Out Burger and Kona Ice will be providing burgers and snow cones to the public.

- **Parade** – If you and/or your group are interested in participating in the parade, submit an online application at: www.lucastexas.us/2021-founders-day-parade-application.
- **Volunteer Opportunities** – If you are interested in volunteering at Founders Day, submit an online volunteer registration form at: www.lucastexas.us/volunteer-registration-form.
- **Public Parking & Shuttle Service** – Public parking will be available at Willow Springs Middle School where shuttle buses will transport visitors to and from the event. There will not be parking available at City Hall. The parade will be staged at Hart Elementary School. After the parade ends, public parking will be available at Hart Elementary School.

Founders Day Event Schedule

- 8 am Lucas Farmers Market Opens
- 9 am Founders Day Begins
- 10 am Parade
- 11 am Lunch
- 12 pm Lucas Farmers Market Closes
- 1 pm Founders Day Ends

KEEP LUCAS BEAUTIFUL SPRING CLEANUP EVENT

The Keep Lucas Beautiful Spring Cleanup will be held on Saturday, April 3 from 8 am to 12 pm. This event is in support of the City's Keep Lucas Beautiful program to promote the beautification of the community.

Cleanup volunteers are encouraged to register online to clean up neighborhoods, parks, trail heads, or other areas around the City. After registering online, volunteers will be contacted to pick up cleanup supplies such as gloves and trash bags at City Hall. At the end of the event, City staff will pick up any cleanup trash bags from the registered cleanup areas. The spring cleanup is a perfect time to support environmental sustainability and the beautification of Lucas. To register online for the spring cleanup, please go to: www.lucastexas.us/keep-lucas-beautiful-spring-cleanup.

ELECTRONIC RECYCLING & PAPER SHREDDING EVENT

The City will be holding the Electronic Recycling and Paper Shredding Event in conjunction with the Keep Lucas Beautiful Spring Cleanup on Saturday, April 3 from 8 am to 12 pm. The event will be held in the parking lot between City Hall and the Community Park located at 665 Country Club Road. This will be a drive-through only event where the public can easily drop off their electronics and paper documents to be properly disposed. The paper shredding event will be a free service offered to the community at the event.

United Electronic Recycling require fees for disposing the following electronic items: televisions (\$25), loose hard drives (\$10), CRT monitors (\$5), printers (\$5), and fax machines (\$5). To view the complete list of electronic items accepted by United Electronic Recycling, call 855.837.8326 or go to www.unitedelectronicrecycling.com/items-we-accept.

WE WELCOME VOLUNTEERS

Recognizing that volunteers are the heart of our city and our community, the Lucas City Council has asked the Parks and Open Space Board to facilitate the creation of a volunteer master list. The volunteer master list will be an index of individuals, families, civic organizations, schools, churches, clubs, and business corporations that are interested in offering their time and service to create special events that generate a sense of community. If you are interested in volunteering your skills and talents, please review the opportunities below and then fill out the volunteer sign-up form located online at www.lucastexas.us/volunteer-registration-form or available at Lucas City Hall. Whether you would like to work with existing opportunities or brand-new endeavors, there is something for everyone in our volunteer program!

Lucas Farmers Market – Help the Lucas Farmers Market Committee by assisting vendors with setting up their booths, provide customer information, and maintenance activities such as trash removal.

Founders Day – One of the City's premier events, assistance is needed with the stick horse rodeo, pony hop derby, parade, and logistics.

History of Lucas – Share existing skills and knowledge by joining Councilmember Debbie Fisher to explore and document the history of Lucas. Photography skills are needed for all special event projects.

City Wide Cleanup Days – The City's Keep Lucas Beautiful program is focused on the removal of litter and holds two clean up events annually. The fall event is held in conjunction with National Public Lands Day and removes debris and litter on the Trinity Trail at Lavon Lake.