

COUNTRY CHRISTMAS

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2023 - 6:00 PM TO 9:00 PM

The City will be holding its annual Country Christmas on Friday, December 1, 2023! The event will take place from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm and feature the annual holiday tree lighting ceremony, a visit from Santa and his elf at Santa’s workshop, ice skating rink, holiday movie in the park, and holiday market hosted by Lucas Farmers Market! There will also be an art sale by the Lovejoy High School Visual Arts students. Due to limited space at City Hall, visitors to Country Christmas will not be able to park at Lucas Community Park. **ALL PUBLIC PARKING AND SHUTTLE SERVICES WILL BE AT HART ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (450 COUNTRY CLUB ROAD) AND WILLOW SPRINGS MIDDLE SCHOOL (1101 WEST LUCAS ROAD).** Shuttle buses will pick visitors up at those locations and transport them to the event. Shuttles will begin at 5:30 pm. Last call for shuttles at City Hall will be at 9:30 pm. We would love to see you and your family at Country Christmas!

Interested in selling holiday goods or treats at the holiday market? Please submit a request via email to farmersmarket@lucastexas.us. In your email, provide a description and picture(s) of your proposed item(s). Upon submission, you will be notified if you are selected to participate as a vendor. If you are interested, please submit your request for consideration before Friday, November 17, 2023.





PRESERVING LUCAS HISTORY

The City of Lucas is on a mission to uncover the hidden treasures of our community’s history! Do you have any old photographs stashed away in albums, shoeboxes or forgotten corners of your home? Whether it’s a snapshot from a family picnic, a candid street scene or a cherished moment at a local event, every photo tells a story. Join us in celebrating the unique history of our community by sharing your photos. Your images will become part of a collective visual history!

How to contribute:

- Dig out your old photos – the older, the better.
- Scan or take clear photos of the images.
- Create a brief caption of each photo, so we know the history (year/occasion).

Submit your entries via email or in person to City Secretary Toshia Kimball at tkimball@lucastexas.us or at Lucas City Hall.

Let’s weave together the threads of time and create a vibrant tapestry of our community’s history. Your photos are more than images they are windows into our shared heritage. Together, let’s turn the pages of our community’s story and relive the moments that shaped us!

LUCAS CITY HALL 2024 HOLIDAY CLOSURES

Beginning in 2024, Lucas City Hall will be closed in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day (Monday, January 15, 2024) in addition to other City of Lucas holiday closures. Go to the City website at https://www.lucastexas.us/calendar to view all upcoming City holidays, public meetings and special events.	
New Year’s Day	Monday, January 1, 2024
Martin Luther King Jr. Day	Monday, January 15, 2024
Good Friday	Friday, March 29, 2024
Memorial Day	Monday, May 27, 2024
Independence Day	Thursday, July 4, 2024
Labor Day	Monday, September 2, 2024
Thanksgiving Day	Thursday, November 28, 2024
Day After Thanksgiving	Friday, November 29, 2024
Christmas Eve	Tuesday, December 24, 2024
Christmas Day	Wednesday, December 25, 2024

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MAYOR’S MESSAGE

By Jim Olk

I have had several folks ask or comment about some of the road projects going on around Lucas. I thought I would briefly touch on a couple big ones.

The Bait Shop Intersection (FM 1378/ FM 3286), is a Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) project that both the City of Lucas and Collin County are participating in with TxDOT to improve this intersection. I can tell you the City has been working on this project for years. After some utility relocations they are finally mobilizing to get this project going. Now the bad news... this project is expected to take more than two years to complete. Although they will keep the intersection open, I expect that the impact of construction is going to make traffic congestion worse during that construction period. To Lucas residents, I apologize in advance for any inconvenience that this may cause you. If I have to go that way, I will probably go around that intersection rather than try and navigate through there. Please note that Cedar Bend Trail and Edgefield Lane will be closed to cut through traffic.

Angel Parkway (FM 2551) construction will begin soon. It has already been a mess with the utility relocation but once roadway construction commences it will also adversely impact traffic. This project is projected to take more than two years to complete. TxDOT says they will keep two lanes open during construction. Almost all of the businesses along Angel Parkway can be accessed from West Lucas Road, so if it gets too bad on Angel Parkway, you might consider using West Lucas Road.

For information from TxDOT on the projects, contact their North Texas Public Information Officer Madison Schein by phone at 214-320-4483 or by email at madison.schein@txdot.gov.

Now to lighten things up...

I want to wish each of you a Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year. I know there may be another newsletter in between some of these holidays. But I did want to make sure I touched on all of them. I look forward to seeing y’all at our Country Christmas on Friday, December 1st at the Community Park. See details in this newsletter.

Thanks for allowing me to serve you.

Jim Olk - Mayor

CITY OF LUCAS 2024 GENERAL ELECTION

Candidate Filing Begins January 17, 2024

The City of Lucas general election will be held on May 4, 2024. There will be three City Council seats on the ballot, City Council Seat 3, and City Council Seat 4, as well as the seat for Mayor. Each City Council seat serves a three-year term. Applications for a place on the ballot will be available from the City Secretary’s office beginning January 2, 2024. Candidates may file an application with the City Secretary beginning Wednesday, January 17, 2024, through Friday, February 16, 2024. Please note that electronic application submittals will not be accepted.

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

- Resident of the City for 12 continuous months
- Qualified voter of the City
- Have never been convicted or not currently charged with a felony or crime involving moral turpitude
- 18 years of age
- Not delinquent on ad valorem taxes due to the City

More election dates and information can be found on the City’s website at www.lucastexas.us/elections. For election questions, contact City Secretary Toshia Kimball by email at tkimball@lucastexas.us or by phone at 972-912-1211.



All meetings are held at Lucas City Hall located at 665 Country Club Road in Lucas. To watch City of Lucas public meetings via livestream, go to: <https://www.lucastexas.us/departments/public-meetings/>.

December 7	City Council Meeting City Hall 6:30 pm
December 14	Planning and Zoning Meeting City Hall 6:30 pm
December 21	City Council Meeting City Hall 6:30 pm
December 27	Board of Adjustment Meeting City Hall 6:30 pm

UPCOMING EVENTS

December 1	Country Christmas Lucas Community Park
December 25	Christmas Day (City Hall Closed)
December 26	City Hall Closed



We want your feedback!

The City of Lucas Parks and Open Space Board has created a survey to gather your opinion on public parks, trails, and open spaces!



There are multiple ways to submit the survey!
It takes less than 5 minutes!

Online
Visit the City of Lucas website at www.lucastexas.us/parks-survey/

Scan the QR code



Paper Form
Stop by Lucas City Hall and complete a copy in person!

The Parks Survey will close on December 31, 2023

For other questions regarding the survey, please contact Management Analyst Joshua Menhennett by phone at 972-912-1214 or email at jmenhennett@lucastexas.us

CITY OF LUCAS HOLIDAY DONATION DRIVE

NOVEMBER 6, 2023 - DECEMBER 8, 2023

The Holiday Donation Drive is continuing this holiday season through the end of November and into early December. There are multiple different organizations that City staff will be delivering donations to. The Collin County Toys for Tots is collecting toys for children and All Community Outreach (ACO) is holding a food drive which can include grocery gift cards, canned food, cake mix, stuffing/dressing, or other non-perishable foods. The Lucas Veterinary Hospital will take donations for pet food (*no dog toys or other items*) to deliver to local pet shelters. The Samaritan Inn will also be taking kitchen and food items. Specific items can be found online at <https://www.saminn.org/needs-list/>.

If you are hoping to donate to the Sparks Loving Care Home, stop by Lucas City Hall and pick up a wish list. The lists are located in a binder at the front desk and contain items that our senior angels at Sparks Loving Care Home are in need of this holiday season. Feel free to find a list, take it with you, and bring the items back to City Hall to be delivered by Santa.



All items can be dropped off in the front lobby of Lucas City Hall. If you have any questions about the Holiday Donation Drive, please contact Donna Bradshaw by email at dbradshaw@lucastexas.us or by phone at 972-912-1206.

ARBOR DAY AND RECYCLING EVENT RECAP

On Saturday, November 4, 2023, the City held its Arbor Day and Recycling Event at Lucas City Hall. This event is held to promote environmental sustainability through planting trees and responsibly recycling electronics and shredding paper. The Legacy 4-H Club gave away 200 tree saplings and bags of hardwood mulch for participants to plant at home. Over 110 participants stopped by to grab a tree and drop off electronics ranging from TV's, radios, keyboards and other appliances. Approximately 3,000 pounds of these electronics were safely recycled! Thank you to our partners at Legacy 4-H Club and United Electronic Recycling for helping promote beauty and sustainability in Lucas!



SERVICE TREE NOMINATIONS

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 for the recipient. All nominees will be reviewed and finalists will be chosen by the City Council. Service Tree Awards will be presented at the Lucas Founders Day event on April 13, 2024. Nominees should meet the following criteria:

- Actions should benefit the City/residents in a significant way.
- Nominee may be an 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 or charity.
- The individual must live in the City of Lucas or have lived in the City corporate limits during the time the service was performed. If a business or church, they must be located within the City of Lucas.

To submit a nomination, an online application can be found on the City website at www.lucastexas.us/service-tree-program/. Nominations must be submitted no later than **Friday, December 29, 2023 by the end of the business day.**

WOLF CREEK VILLAGE

GRAND OPENING

On November 10, 2023, Mayor Jim Olk, Councilmember Tim Johnson and Councilmember David Keer attended the grand opening of five new retail locations located at Wolf Creek Village (2720 Country Club Road) in Lucas. New businesses include Lovejoy Chiropractic and Wellness, Galactic Audio and Video, Ashton's Beauty Bar, Homes By J. Anthony, and Dolce Di Aesthetics. The City extends a big thank you to each of our new businesses for making the City of Lucas their new home and offering their services to our community.



Lovejoy Chiropractic and Wellness



Homes by J. Anthony



Ashton's Beauty Bar



Galactic Audio and Visual



Dolce Di Aesthetics

EAST WINNINGKOFF TRAILHEAD - AN OVERVIEW AND HISTORY

This month, the Lucas Leader is highlighting the history and amenities at the East Winningkoff Trailhead. This trailhead is located at 745 East Winningkoff Road in Lucas, Texas and was constructed and opened in 2017.

The current site of this trailhead was once the location of the Winningkoff School and the Blythe Chapel Methodist Church, which was later moved to the current location of Good Shepherd Methodist Church. In 2017, the City acquired the property and developed what is the modern day East Winningkoff Trailhead.



East Winningkoff Trailhead Pavilion (right), parking area and horse pen (left)

From the trailhead, equestrian riders and hikers can take the trail north (approximately three miles) to the Sycamore Loop or go south (approximately two and a half miles) to the Highland Park Trailhead and boat ramp where they can continue even further south.

Along with its convenient access to Trinity Trail, the trailhead has picnic tables, a pavilion, a bathroom, a horse pen, and ample parking for horse trailers. If you have questions about the East Winningkoff Trailhead, contact the City of Lucas Management Analyst Joshua Menhennett at 972-912-1214 or by email at jmenhennett@lucastexas.us!



Mayor Jim Olk and Lucas City Council at Grand Opening of the East Winningkoff Trailhead - October 2017

MEET YOUR NEWEST LUCAS FIREFIGHTER - KRISTIAN MILLANO

Lucas Fire-Rescue would like to introduce its newest team member, Firefighter Kristian Millano! Kristian was born in Venezuela and moved to the United States in 2016. Kristian recently attended and completed EMT school and the Fire Academy at Collin College. Before joining the Lucas Fire-Rescue team, Kristian volunteered with the Westminister Fire-Rescue department. When Kristian is not working with the Fire-Rescue team he loves to work out and play with his rescue pup, Layla! Kristian is very excited to serve the Lucas community!



WEST LUCAS ELEVATED STORAGE TANK

Lucas City Council has approved the construction of a 750 thousand-gallon water tower (elevated storage tank) at 325 West Lucas Road. The City of Lucas Water Master Plan identified this project as necessary for ensuring that the City can reliably meet water demand. The City will use a portion of funds from the 2021 American Rescue Plan Act to fund a substantial portion of the construction costs. This new tower and the East Winningkoff tower will each receive a motor operated control valve which will aid in balancing both tanks during filling operations.

Lucas operates a two pressure-plane water system, meaning that the City has two separate systems of pumps, tanks and pipes that deliver to different areas. Elevated tanks are used to store water for later use, much like a battery. This helps to level out water pressure and reduce pumping demand during peak times. This makes it far more energy efficient and reliable than pumping water at the time of use. Pump capacity has increasingly stressed as growth occurs on the east side of Country Club Road. The new tower will add enough capacity to the system to meet the demand of all current and planned development on the east side of Country Club Road.