

# LUTZ CIVIC REVIEW

Monthly Newsletter of the Lutz Civic Association (LCA).



## Happy New Year



By Steve Polzin, President, LCA

As we leave 2007 behind, the Lutz Civic Association (LCA) hopes you too have had a memorable and productive year.

### Year in review

The LCA has had a number of accomplishments, including:

- the launching of our web site,
- a record year for fun and funds in our Guv'na campaign allowing us to provide generous support to numerous worthy causes in Lutz,
- continued high activity levels and several successes in working with developers and the Hillsborough County staff to help ensure new development is consistent with the Lutz Community Plan and relevant land-use regulations.

Our regular calendar of activities continues to support a strong sense of community in Lutz and provides opportunities for folks to enjoy and support the community. It is rewarding to see the neighbors enjoying the events in the community from the various markets and activities at the Community Center to the generous support and appreciative recipients of the Guv'na race fundraising activities.

### Inside This Issue

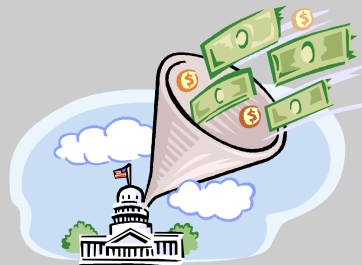
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### Our challenge

One area where we continue to struggle is in attracting new energy and participation in the governance of LCA. If you or someone you

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## January Community Meeting Everyone's Welcome



Learn more about the January 29 referendum on property taxes.

7 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 17, 2008  
 Lutz Community Center  
 98 - 1st Avenue Northwest  
 Just off Lutz Lake Fern Road, across from Lutz Branch Library

# Hot Community News

**TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP.** The Lutz Civic Association, this newsletter and our new web site, along with many other obligations of the organization, depend upon you renewing your membership each year. And, January is the time to do so.

To renew, simply complete the Lutz Civic Association Membership Application form found on the insert of this newsletter, make your check payable to the organization for the type of membership you prefer and mail the application and check to the address noted on the application.

**CHECK OUT THE LUTZ CIVIC ASSOCIATION WEB SITE** located at [www.lutzcivicassociation.org](http://www.lutzcivicassociation.org)



The LCA web site had a soft launch a few months ago and now it is time to get out the word and let your friends and neighbors know.

Over the next several months we will look for your feedback as we fine tune the layout and add to the content to help busy folks keep up with the work of the association.

The site is a handy source for membership forms, copies of newsletters, photos of past events, bylaws, the budget and numerous other items.

We anticipate regular updates and additions and hope that the site can become

a handy bookmark for many of the activities in Lutz.

Please spend some time on the site and drop us a note on any ideas. We can always use some more help if you have an inkling to get involved in web site support.

We want to thank the Hillsborough County Neighborhood Relations Office for the mini-grant support that enabled us to design and kick off the site.

**LUTZ GOES TO THE DOGS.** Thanks to the persistence of Judy Alvarez's Lutz Elementary 5<sup>th</sup> grade class from two years ago and the support of Commissioner Ken Hagan, downtown Lutz is now the location of one of Hillsborough County's newest dog parks.

Commissioner Hagan was on hand for the October 29<sup>th</sup> ribbon cutting and gave all the credit to Judy Alvarez's class who 17 months ago had gone before the Board of County Commissioners to ask for a dog park.

Mr. Hagan convinced the other County Commissioners to support the project and received the needed \$150,000 for the facility located in the Carolyn Meeker Park one block south of the Lutz Library off Lutz Lake Fern Road.

The Dog Park has a small dog run and a large dog run. Plastic bags are strategically located in both runs and owners are asked to always clean up after their dogs.

The ribbon cutting was attended by approximately 30 to 40 people including a group of 7<sup>th</sup> grade students from Martinez Middle School who were part of the 5<sup>th</sup> grade class originally requesting the dog park. A number of attendees also brought their pets who gladly inaugurated the park after the ribbon cutting. Lutz Guv'na Michele Northrup, wearing her Guv'na sash, assisted in the festivities bringing up the former Lutz 5<sup>th</sup> graders and congratulating them on their hard work. ▼

## LCA Mission Statement

The Mission of the Lutz Civic Association, Inc. (LCA) is to provide leadership and support which enhances the quality of life in the community of Lutz.

## LCA Vision Statement

The objectives and purposes of the LCA shall be to preserve and promote the heritage, natural systems and quality of life in Lutz; and, to promote community cohesiveness while respecting the independence and individuality of all residents and businesses.

## LCA Membership Benefits

1. A monthly newsletter detailing community related news and events
2. Meetings with informative guest speakers
3. Continuation of the Lutz Civic Association-sponsored events such as the Lutz Guy'na Race fundraiser, Market in the Park, events at the Train Depot and much more



### Lutz Civic Association (LCA) Membership Application

Membership is open to anyone living in or owning a business in the Lutz Civic Association (LCA) defined boundaries of Lutz as a voting member. All Others are invited as an “Associate” member. Membership is subject to approve and includes this monthly newsletter.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_ HM. PH. \_\_\_\_\_ BUS. PH. \_\_\_\_\_

FAX: \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_ SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

**Type of Membership (check one):**

Single - \$15     Family - \$20\*     Business - \$20     Civic - \$10\*\*     Associate - \$15\*\*\*

\*Family membership entitled two members in the same home, but only one vote.

\*\* Civic membership is a non-profit organization membership that entitles the organization to one vote.

\*\*\*Associate membership is a non-voting membership for those not living or owning a business within the Lutz boundaries.

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## 2007 LCA Business & Non-Profit Members

Bay Cities Bank  
 Body & Soul  
 Boy Scout Troop 12  
 Britten Dental Associates, P.A.  
 C&S Enterprises  
 Thomas Cone, Jr.  
 Cordoba Ranch Development, LLC  
 Donovan's Service  
 Great Gardens & Gifts  
 Fisher's Law Office, P.A.  
 Florida Organ Works  
 Hand in Hand Academy  
 King of Copy  
 Lake Brant Tax District  
 Lutz Learning Center  
 Lutz - Land 'O Lakes Woman's Club  
 Maniscalco Elementary School  
 McClain Realty  
 Mrs. Tea Garden  
 New Tampa Animal Hospital, P.A.  
 New Tampa Pet Resort  
 Orange Blossom Women's Club  
 Patio Land  
 Seal Swim School  
 Sunset Point Center, LLC  
 Tims Memorial Presbyterian Church  
 Versatech Business Solutions

## 2008 LCA General Meetings

**January 17** - Tax Referendum

**March 20** - Board member nominations, Lutz Business Showcase

**April 17** - Board Member Elections, Lutz Real Estate

**May 15** - Guv'na Debate

**August 21** - Guv'na funds distribution

**September 18** - 2008 Election Candidate introductions and statements

**October 16**, 2008 election candidate introductions and statements

**November 20** - TBD

Board meetings are typically scheduled the fourth Tuesday evening of each month.

## Other Scheduled Events

**February 29 and March 1** - Woman's Club Flea Market

**April 25, 26** - Relay for Life

**May** - Guv'na kick-off TBD

**June** - Guv'na Flea Market TBD

**July 4** - Guv'na swearing in, parade and related festivities

**November 8** - Market in the Park

**December 9** - Christmas in the Park

**Lutz Civic Association**

P.O. Box 1  
Lutz, FL 33548

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know has a desire to step up and help us maintain the activities we carryout in the community, please let myself or one of our board members know.

**On the horizon**

We had developed a tentative calendar of events for 2008 as noted in the calendar inside this newsletter. With 2008 being an election year, we hope the LCA can provide one forum for you to be introduced to some of the candidates running for local, state and national offices.

We start off this busy election year with January meeting program to discuss the January 29 referendum on property taxes.

We expect several candidates to participate in our July 4<sup>th</sup> parade and plan some occasions for you to get to candidates in our fall general meetings.

While the news is full of stories of slowing development, our mailbox is still full of notifications of rezoning and variance requests. We continue to spend a great deal of time working with all parties to enable continued development that is responsive to community needs and consistent with community and County guidelines.

Our tentative plan for General meetings for 2008 is noted below. As time progresses we will be adding detail to the programs. ▼

## Budget Update

The LCA Board and officers reviewed the 2007 budget report and draft 2008 budget at our last board meeting.

This past year is wrapping up to be a very positive year with revenues from all activities (membership, events, Guv'na fundraising) exceeding planned levels while expenses were in line with plans.

We anticipate a similar budget for 2008 and will be considering some financial support for some community improvements.

If anyone would like a copy of our budget or financial statements, please let me know. ▼



## How to Build Community

Turn off your TV. Leave your house. Know your neighbors. Look up when you are walking. Greet people. Sit on your stoop. Plant flowers. Use your library. Play together. Buy from local merchants. Share what you have. Help a lost dog. Take children to the park. Garden together. Support neighborhood schools. Fix it even if you didn't break it. Have pot lucks. Honor elders. Pick up litter. Read stories aloud. Dance in the street. Talk to the mail carrier. Listen to the birds. Put up a swing. Help carry something heavy. Barter for your goods. Start a tradition. Ask a question. Hire young people for odd jobs. Organize a block party. Bake extra and share. Ask for help when you need it. Open your shades. Sing together. Share your skills. Take back the night. Turn up the music. Turn down the music. Listen before you react to anger. Mediate a conflict. Seek to understand. Learn from new and uncomfortable angles. Know that no one is silent although many are not heard. Work to change this.

Lutz Civic Association  
P.O. Box 1  
Lutz, FL 33548



**Member Name**  
**Street Address**  
**City, ST ZIP Code**