



NEWS RELEASE

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Citizens Gain from Prescription Drug Program

Contact: City Manager's Office
936-633-0211
kara@cityoflufkin.com

Lufkin... A Lufkin leader never dreamed an afternoon meeting at a huge conference could change his community. City Councilman R.L. Kuykendall attended the National League of Cities annual conference last year in San Antonio. He sat in on a meeting about a prescription drug discount program. Kuykendall says, "I had no idea that that meeting had the potential to save my fellow citizens thousands of dollars." Kuykendall is talking about a National League of Cities program. It offers citizens of its member cities a free prescription discount card that provides an average savings of twenty percent (20%) off the retail price of prescription medication. According to City Manager Paul Parker, "The program doesn't cost the City of Lufkin a dime. What it does do is allow residents who don't have health insurance or those who take prescriptions not covered by insurance, the opportunity to get their needed medication at a discount."

Mayor Jack Gorden stated "That's what this is about. Helping people stay on their medication monthly instead of not renewing their prescriptions because they need the money to pay their utility bill or buy groceries. We see that a lot in Lufkin. Hopefully, this savings will help people afford the medicines they need, when they need them." The Mayor and Council unanimously approved participation in the program during the January 5th Council meeting.

The majority of local pharmacies accept the NLC prescription discount card. There are no enrollment fees, no membership fees and no limit on how many times a person can use the card. According to an NLC release, nine out of ten pharmacies accept the discount card.

For more information on the national program, go to www.nlc.org/prescriptioncard or visit www.caremark.com/nlc

City staff plans to make the cards available at City Hall, Municipal Court, and at the Kurth Memorial Library, Fire Administration Building on Monday, March 16th, 2010. More locations will be announced as available.