

= Lewisville , Texas =

Lewisville / ˈlɪjuː.s.vəl / is a city in Denton County , Texas , United States . It is a northwestern suburb of Dallas . The 2000 United States Census placed the city 's population at 77 @, @ 737 and the 2010 Census placed it at 95 @, @ 290 , making it one of the fastest @-@ growing city populations in the United States and the 33rd most populous in Texas . It occupies 36 @. @ 4 square miles ( 94 km2 ) of land and includes 6 @. @ 07 square miles ( 15 @. @ 7 km2 ) of Lewisville Lake .

Originally called Holford 's Prairie , the origins of Lewisville date back to the early 1840s . The arrival of the town 's first railroad in 1881 engendered its initial growth , and the expansion of the area 's transportation infrastructure spurred further development in the early part of the 20th century . Lewisville incorporated in 1925 , and when construction of Lewisville Lake was completed in the 1950s , the city began to expand rapidly .

Lewisville 's consistently warm climate and proximity to Lewisville Lake has made it a recreational hub of the Dallas ? Fort Worth metroplex . The city 's municipal government , led by a nonpartisan city council , focuses its recreational and cultural investments on facilities such as Toyota of Lewisville Park and the MCL Grand Theater . The area 's transportation infrastructure has evolved around the I @-@ 35 Corridor along Interstate 35E . The diversity of its population and industry has created a stable economic climate . Lewisville Independent School District provides most of the area 's public education programs .

= = History = =

= = = Settlement = = =

In 1841 , the Republic of Texas chartered the Peters Colony Land Grant Company ( named for William Smalling Peters , publisher of the song " Oh ! Susanna " ) to settle the North Texas area . In 1844 , John W. King and his wife settled on the east side of the prairie , where the city now lies . Baptist settlers from Platte County , Missouri , settled on the west side ; among them were John and James Holford , who named the area Holford 's Prairie . Further south , Presbyterians established a church and called it Flower Mound . In the confusion over land ownership after the Hedgcoxe War , Basdeal Lewis purchased Holford 's Prairie in 1853 and renamed it after himself .

In 1845 , the Fox family , which owned about a dozen slaves , buried a slave child called Melinda on the family farm , which eventually became the town 's cemetery for black residents . Named Fox ? Hembry Cemetery , the plot still exists today . After it had fallen into disrepair , local residents and businesses gathered to restore it in 2011 . Though Abraham Lincoln was not on the ballot in the area for the 1860 Presidential election , residents of Lewisville ( listed as " Hollforts " on election results ) still gave John C. Breckinridge only a 44 ? 31 majority over an electoral fusion option .

During Reconstruction , Lewisville became home to Denton County 's first cotton gin . Built in 1867 , it could produce up to three bales per day . The Thirteenth Texas Legislature chartered the Dallas and Wichita Railroad ( later the Missouri ? Kansas ? Texas ) on terms requiring 20 miles of track to be in running order by July 1 , 1875 . Lewisville paid the company \$ 15 @, @ 000 to come to the city , with a promise of another \$ 5 @, @ 000 on completion . The company fulfilled the deal by completing the railroad tracks to a point just south of Lewisville on the morning of the deadline , and the line began running full @-@ time in 1881 . Republicans in the Fourteenth Texas Legislature passed a law on April 30 , 1874 , prohibiting alcohol within two miles of the town . Many residents ignored the law , however , and the city retained as many as 17 saloons at one point . The population of the unincorporated town was 500 in 1888 .

= = = Progress = = =

On January 15 , 1925 , residents voted by a margin of 17 votes to incorporate Lewisville , which

established its official boundaries as a city . By 1930 , Lewisville 's population had increased to 853 , making it the fourth most populous municipality in Denton County ( behind Denton , Sanger , and Pilot Point ) .

Because the city 's economy had become diversified before the Wall Street Crash of 1929 , Lewisville was relatively well insulated from the Great Depression . Many residents , including business leaders , nevertheless supported the New Deal programs of Franklin D. Roosevelt . By 1936 , the Works Progress Administration operated a cannery in the city to provide temporary jobs for unemployed residents . As an extension of the Good Roads Movement , which had been prominent in Denton County since the early 1910s , residents formed the Good Roads Committee of Lewisville to lobby state and federal officials for funding to create better streets . Lewisville celebrated the paving of the U.S. Route 77 between Denton and Dallas in 1931 with a " Coming Out of the Mud " ceremony . The new pavement closed the " Lewisville Gap " between the two cities , a stretch of dirt road through the city that often became too muddy for travel .

The new road also led indirectly to the downfall of the area 's public transportation system . Between 1925 and 1932 , the Texas Interurban Railway , an electric commuter rail service that ran from Dallas to Denton , operated a station in Lewisville . Business leaders in the Lewisville Chamber of Commerce welcomed the service at the time , proudly citing the city 's progressive citizenship . The area 's low population density could not sustain the venture , however , and in 1932 , the line went out of business and immediately halted service .

On April 25 , 1934 , Raymond Hamilton of the Barrow Gang robbed the First National Bank of Lewisville . Residents chased him to Howe , Texas , where he was captured at a roadblock and transferred to Dallas County Jail .

== Growth ==

Lewisville 's rapid growth began when construction of the Garza ? Little Elm Dam finished in 1954 , expanding the Garza ? Little Elm Reservoir into the what is now Lewisville Lake . The city adopted a home rule charter for a council ? manager style of municipal government in 1963 , becoming one of only a few home rule cities in Texas with a population of less than 5 @, @ 000 . In September 1969 , 13 days after Woodstock , the city hosted the Texas International Pop Festival , which drew over 150 @, @ 000 spectators and featured performances by Janis Joplin , B.B. King and Led Zeppelin . In 2011 , the Texas Historical Commission dedicated a historical event marker at the Hebron A @-@ train station in Lewisville to commemorate the event .

When Dallas / Fort Worth International Airport opened to the south of the city in 1974 and Vista Ridge Mall opened at the intersection of Interstate 35E and Round Grove Road in 1989 , Lewisville began to undergo rapid suburban growth . Its population increased from 24 @, @ 273 in 1980 to 46 @, @ 521 in 1990 , making it the 40th most populous city in Texas . In the early 1990s , the Lewisville Chamber of Commerce marketed the city with the slogan " City of Expanding Horizons " . The population reached 77 @, @ 737 in 2000 and 95 @, @ 290 in 2010 .

== Geography ==

Lewisville is located at 33 ° 2 ? 18 ? N 97 ° 0 ? 22 ? W ( 33 @. @ 038316 , ? 97 @. @ 006232 ) at an elevation of about 550 feet ( 170 m ) . It has a total area of 42 @. @ 47 square miles ( 110 @. @ 0 km2 ) , of which 36 @. @ 4 sq mi ( 94 km2 ) is land . It lies at the southern end of Denton County and the northern end of the Dallas ? Fort Worth metroplex , in the eastern part of the Cross Timbers region of Texas between the Texas Blackland Prairies and the Grand Prairie . Vista Ridge , a small plateau , is in the southeast corner of Lewisville , and the lowest part of Denton County , at 484 feet ( 148 m ) , is found in the city . Lewisville sits above the Barnett Shale , a geological formation containing a large quantity of natural shale gas .

Water constitutes 6 @. @ 072 sq mi ( 15 @. @ 73 km2 ) of the city 's total area , including Lewisville Lake , the Elm Fork of the Trinity River , and two local tributaries of the Elm Fork , Prairie Creek and Timber Creek . A riparian zone encompasses a portion of the city in the southeast . The intersection

of the Elm Fork and Lake Lewisville has given rise to a delta at the southern end of the lake , extending 6 @. @ 9 miles ( 11 @. @ 1 km ) south . The Federal Emergency Management Agency has labeled much of the area surrounding the delta as " Zone AE " , meaning that the area is subject to 100 @- @ year flood precautions .

= = = Climate and weather = = =

Lewisville 's climate is classified as humid subtropical . Its Köppen climate classification is Cfa , which means that it has a temperate climate , does not have a dry season , and has a hot summer . According to the United States Department of Agriculture , Lewisville is located in a hardiness zone of 8a . The city is seldom affected by extreme weather , but Hurricane Carla in 1961 brought 86 @- @ mile @- @ per @- @ hour ( 138 km / h ) winds and caused 6 @- @ foot ( 1 @. @ 8 m ) swells on Lewisville Lake . During heavy rains , Timber Creek can overflow its banks , and on rare occasion , flood some of the surrounding homes . The National Weather Service defines no official borders for Tornado Alley , but Lewisville is considered to be in it .

= = = Surrounding municipalities = = =

= = Arts and cultural life = =

= = = MCL Grand Theater = = =

The Medical Center of Lewisville Grand Theater , known informally as the MCL Grand , is located on the east side of Interstate 35E in Lewisville 's Old Town . It functions as a hub for the arts in Lewisville , able to show films , host meetings , and provide a venue for various kinds of artistic performance . The project began in 2004 and aimed to fulfill a long @- @ term goal of building an arts center to coincide with the 2011 opening of the Old Town Station . The facility opened in January 2011 with a series of performances , children 's shows , concerts , and exhibits , and the Greater Lewisville Arts Alliance presented the theater with a \$ 25 @, @ 000 contribution to begin their fundraiser to place a Steinway piano in the theater . In 2011 and 2012 , The Flower Mound Connection newspaper named the MCL Grand the best events venue in Denton County .

= = = Libraries = = =

The city government created the Lewisville Public Library in 1968 , naming Cindy Bennett as its first director . A 5 @, @ 000 sq ft ( 460 m2 ) structure was built where the city hall now stands . A new library facility was built in 1986 as part of the municipal building on Main Street . In 2001 , Lewisville voters approved a 4B tax package , part of which was dedicated to building a new library facility , the children 's wing of which was dedicated to Bennett . The \$ 11 million renovation opened in 2006 , and it received the Achievement of Excellence in Libraries Award in that year and again in 2009 . Lewisville was also the temporary home of the George W. Bush Presidential Library until 2013 .

= = = Media = = =

Lewisville is served mainly by media from the Dallas area , but a number of niche publications focus on local news . The Lewisville Enterprise merged with The Lewisville Leader in 1962 . The paper 's publisher and editor at the time , U.O. Clements , was a staunch conservative , but vociferously supported the racial integration of Lewisville Independent School District , for which he received many anonymous threats from members of the Ku Klux Klan . Clements sold the paper to Harte @- @ Hanks Community Newspapers in 1971 . Star Newspapers , which owned the Leader , was purchased by 1013 Communications in 2012 . The newspaper is based in Plano , Texas . In 2011 ,

the Lewisville City Council designated the Lewisville portion of Neighborsgo , a weekly section of The Dallas Morning News , as the city 's official newspaper of record .

= = Parks and recreation = =

The City of Lewisville operates various public recreation facilities , including parks , two recreation centers , and approximately 14 miles ( 23 km ) of trails . The \$ 20 million Railroad Park was built in 2009 using the revenue from a quarter @-@ cent sales tax increase ; it was the largest capital project in the city 's history at the time . It was renamed Toyota of Lewisville Railroad Park in 2010 in a deal worth \$ 1 @.@ 5 million . The park has a baseball / softball complex , a football complex , eight lighted soccer fields , two concession buildings , a perimeter walking / jogging trail , three man @-@ made lakes , a dog park and the Scion Skate Park . Since 2010 , the skate park has hosted the Scion Regional Amateur Tour , part an annual series of six skateboarding competitions held across the country . In 2012 , the venue hosted its first annual triathlon event benefiting the Court Appointed Special Advocates ( CASA ) of Denton County .

Lewisville Lake Park comprises 662 acres ( 268 ha ) , which the city leases from the United States Army Corps of Engineers . The park includes various amenities , including athletic fields and designated campgrounds . The Lewisville Fishing Barge , an indoor ? outdoor fishing facility that opened in 1958 , is located on the lake . The park also hosts the Rick Neill Memorial , a cross country running meet organized each year by the Lewisville High School track and field team . In February 2013 , the city began to review a development proposal to build a resort hotel and convention center on a 60 @-@ acre ( 0 @.@ 24 km2 ) parcel of land next to the lake .

Lewisville is also a major hub of the Northern Golf Corridor of the Dallas ? Fort Worth metroplex . Golf facilities located in the city include the Hank Haney Golf Ranch at Vista Ridge and Timbercreek Golf Center . Located on the southeast edge of the city , the Lakes at Castle Hills is a Jay Morrish @-@ designed course which opened in the late 1990s ; critics have rated the course highly , praising its amenities and difficulty level . Lake Park Golf Course , located near Lewisville Lake , is noted for its beginner @-@ friendly design . The nine @-@ hole , 1 @,@ 724 @-@ yard ( 1 @,@ 576 m ) Lake Park Executive course opened in 1994 . Lewisville is also home to professional golfer Chad Campbell , winner of the 2003 Tour Championship .

In 2011 , the Lewisville Park Board proposed a new master plan for the city 's parks and recreation facilities . It specifies a major overhaul of the city 's trail system , including 51 miles ( 82 km ) of off @-@ street trails , 50 miles ( 80 km ) of enhanced sidewalks , 50 miles ( 80 km ) of bicycle routes , a 7 @.@ 4 @-@ mile ( 11 @.@ 9 km ) paddling trail down the Elm Fork of the Trinity River , and 31 major and minor trailheads throughout the area , many of which would connect to other trail networks . The plan includes numerous crossings of Interstate 35E for pedestrian and bicyclist safety . In March 2012 , the Park Board began reviewing a new master plan to address the next ten years of park development in the city .

= = Government = =

Since 1963 , the City of Lewisville has operated as a home rule city with a council ? manager style of municipal government . Residents elect six at @-@ large members to serve on the City Council , including a mayor . Council elections in Texas are nonpartisan . Members are elected to three @-@ year terms and are not term @-@ limited . The mayor does not vote on issues that come before the council except in the case of a tie . There were three different female mayors between 1985 and 2000 , but no woman has served on the City Council since 2001 . In 2011 , the Fitch Group upgraded the city 's general obligation bond rating from " AA + " to " AAA " . Lewisville has the lowest municipal property tax rate in the Dallas ? Fort Worth metroplex . In the fiscal year 2012 ? 2013 , the city government 's operating funds totaled \$ 124 @,@ 845 @,@ 436 .

The Lewisville Police Department had 27 sworn police officers in 1977 , and the number had increased to 136 by 2007 . As of 2015 , the department included 229 full @-@ time employees , four of whom were administrators . The Lewisville Fire Department included 146 full @-@ time

employees , six of whom were administrators . After the September 11 attacks , the fire department and its then chief , Rick Lasky , attracted national attention when they raised a large amount of donations for victims ' families . As a reward , John Travolta , Joaquin Phoenix , and Robert Patrick visited the department in 2004 to promote the release of the film Ladder 49 . In May 2011 , Lewisville residents approved a sales tax increase to create two public safety districts . The revenue from the increase will fund investments in the city 's police and fire departments , including new officers and vehicles , as well as a new fire station in the eastern part of the city .

Lewisville is located in the 26th Congressional district in Texas , which is represented in the United States House of Representatives by Michael C. Burgess . As of 2015 , the city is represented in District 12 of the Texas Senate by Jane Nelson . The city is split between two Texas House of Representatives districts : District 63 , represented by Tan Parker , and District 65 , represented by Ron Simmons . Lewisville is a voluntary member of the North Central Texas Council of Governments , the purpose of which is to coordinate individual and collective local governments and facilitate regional solutions , eliminate unnecessary duplication , and enable joint decisions .

## == Transportation ==

The primary freeway running through Lewisville is Interstate 35E , which runs north ? south through the city . Before it was built , US Highway 77 ( now Mill Street ) was the main through route , connecting the city with Denton to the north and Dallas to the south . In 1998 , the Texas Department of Transportation carried out a Major Investment Study to examine the possibility of expanding the section of Interstate 35E between Interstate 635 and U.S. Route 380 , the primary focus being an 8 @-@ mile ( 13 km ) stretch from Texas State Highway 121 to the bridge crossing Lewisville Lake . The project is scheduled to add one general @-@ purpose lane in each direction , in addition to a managed toll lane . The project is expected to allow the city to substantially renovate its portion of the I @-@ 35 Corridor . Construction on the first phase of the project is projected to begin in summer 2013 and finish in late 2016 .

Texas State Highway 121 , which runs along the Sam Rayburn Tollway , intersects with Interstate 35E in the southeastern edge of the city . Farm to Market Road 1171 , known in the city as Main Street , runs east ? west across the middle part of the city from Business Highway 121 to Interstate 35W . Farm to Market Road 407 runs east ? west across the northern part of the city . Lewisville also encompasses most of Farm to Market Road 3040 , which runs east ? west towards Carrollton and Flower Mound .

Lewisville residents voted in a special election held on September 13 , 2003 , to become a full member of the Denton County Transportation Authority ( DCTA ) . The authority began running a regional bus service in November 2006 . In 2011 , the Old Town and Hebron stations opened as commuter stops along the route of the DCTA 's A @-@ train . The route continues north to Denton and south to Trinity Mills Station in Carrollton , where it connects with the Dallas Area Rapid Transit ( DART ) Green Line to Dallas . DCTA also owns a Rail Operation and Maintenance Facility in Lewisville .

## == Demographics ==

The 2010 United States Census recorded a population of 95 @, @ 290 in Lewisville , up from the 77 @, @ 737 recorded for the 2000 Census , making it one of the 25 fastest @-@ growing city populations in the United States . The 2010 population was made up of 37 @, @ 496 households and 23 @, @ 417 families . Its racial makeup was 65 @. @ 3 % White , 11 @. @ 2 % African American , 0 @. @ 7 % Native American , 7 @. @ 8 % Asian , 11 @. @ 3 % from other races , and 3 @. @ 2 % from two or more races . 29 @. @ 2 % of the population was considered to be of Hispanic or Latino origin . There were children under the age of 18 in 35 @. @ 5 % of the households . The average household size was 2 @. @ 53 persons and the average family size was 3 @. @ 21 persons . The median age was 30 @. @ 9 years . Between 2007 and 2011 , the median income for a Lewisville household was \$ 56 @, @ 811 , and per capita income was \$ 28 @, @ 144 . About 9

@. @ 6 % of the population was below the poverty line , as compared to 17 % for Texas as a whole .

= = Economy = =

The city has a diverse commercial tax base . Its top employers include JPMorgan Chase , Lewisville Independent School District , and Nationstar Mortgage . Automobile dealerships have flourished there , including Huffines Auto Dealerships and Village Auto Group , which was ranked as one of the top " Powerhouses of the New Economy " by Black Enterprise magazine in 2000 . Lewisville 's lake and the city 's location in the DFW Metroplex has contributed to the largest boat sales market in the state by volume in a state that is second in the nation in overall boat sales . Because of the city 's proximity to Dallas and Fort Worth , a number of food distribution companies have branches in Lewisville , including Sysco and Meadowbrook Meat Company ( MBM ) . Fleming Companies , one of the United States ' largest food distribution companies , relocated to Lewisville in 2000 , but it filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy in 2003 after the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission announced that the company had been hiding massive losses . Responsive Education Solutions , which operates chartered schools nationwide , is also headquartered in Lewisville .

= = Education = =

Lewisville Independent School District operates the area 's public school system , including Lewisville High School . Four of the district 's middle schools feed into two high school feeder campuses ; since the 2011 ? 2012 school year , the Killough and Harmon campuses have served the city 's ninth and tenth grade students , while the main campus at the intersection of FM 1171 ( Main Street ) and Valley Parkway is used primarily for eleventh and twelfth grade students . The district also operates the Dale Jackson Career Center and conducts a night high school in Lewisville .

According to American Community Survey results from 2007 to 2011 , 86 @. @ 7 % of the city 's population aged 25 or older had graduated from high school , 29 @. @ 7 % held a bachelor 's degree or higher , and 8 @. @ 4 % held a graduate or professional degree . The survey estimated that 24 @, @ 879 Lewisville residents over the age of three were enrolled in schools .