



Spring Issue
2008

www.lancaster-tx.com



The

Lancaster Connection

Vision 2022: Lancaster is a proud vibrant city. We Celebrate Our Diversity and History, Preserve Our Natural Beauty and are the Economic Hub of South DFW Metroplex. Our Citizens Take Pride in Our City. The Lancaster Community is the Best Place to Live with Excellent Schools and Educational Opportunities and Attractive Corridors and Neighborhoods. Our Citizens Enjoy Convenient Living.

Election Day is Upon Us

The citizens of Lancaster will get the opportunity to exercise their right to vote on May 10, 2008 in the city's municipal elections. For the seats of Mayor, and councilmembers for Districts 2, 4, 5 and 6. Only legally qualified voters of those Districts will be able to vote for the councilmember in their district and all legally qualified citizens will be able to vote for Mayor. Early Voting and Election Day voting information is listed below along with a list of the candidates in their respective districts. The last day to register to vote in the May 10, 2008 municipal election is April 10, 2008.

Early Voting

Will be conducted in Lancaster at the Lancaster Recreation Center at 1700 Veterans Memorial Parkway, the LISD Administration Building at 422 S. Centre Avenue on the dates and times below:

Monday, April 28, 2008 through Friday, May 2, 2008, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
 Saturday, May 3, 2008, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
 Sunday, May 4, 2008, 1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
 Monday, May 5, 2008 through Tuesday, May 6, 2008, 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

During the early voting period, registered voters may vote at any Dallas County early voting location. A complete list of Dallas County early voting locations is available at www.dalcoelections.org

May 10, 2008 Election Day

On Election Day, voting will be conducted at 2 polling locations by precinct number from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. as noted below:

Precinct Number

3800, 3801, 3802, 3803, 3804, 3805	3806, 3807, 3808, 3809, 3810
Lancaster Recreation Center, 1700 Veterans Memorial Pkwy	Elsie Robertson Middle School, 822 W. Pleasant Run Road

Municipal Election Candidates

Mayor

Marcus Knight
 Clyde C. Hairston
 Morris Mosley

Councilmember, District 5

Sue Wyrick
 Audley Logan Sr.

Councilmember, District 2

Edgar Todd Love

Councilmember, District 6

Gigi White, Incumbent
 Nina Morris

Councilmember, District 4

Shawana Harris
 Lisa Bacon
 James Daniels, Incumbent



Connecting with residents, neighborhoods and businesses.

Page 2
Capital
Improvements

Page 3
Library
Holiday Info

Page 4
Parks & Rec

Page 5
Bulk Trash

Page 6
Water/ Wastewater

Page 7
Code Compliance

Page 8
Calendar

City holiday
closings

May 26
July 4

City of Lancaster
 PO Box 940
 Lancaster, TX 75146

PRSR STD
 U.S. Postage
 PAID
 LANCASTER, TX
 Permit No. 4

Postal Customer



Lancaster Connection | Capital Improvement Projects

Many exciting things are occurring with the construction of our capital improvement projects. Below are pictures and updates of those projects. Stay tuned for more information regarding these developments!



Senior Center

- Foundation has been laid for Senior Center.
- Seniors expected to move in Summer 2008.



Public Safety

- Laborers progressing on excavating the site.
- Estimated completion time set for Spring 2009.



Municipal Court

- Interior renovation is on schedule and nearly completed.
- Staff looking to move into the facility Summer 2008.



Fire Station # 2

- Redesign has been completed.
- Project set to bid in April and to be awarded in May.

NEED ASSISTANCE?

DO YOU KNOW WHERE TO CALL?



Airport	972-227-5721
Animal Control	972-218-1200
Atmos Energy (Gas)	800-460-3030
Building Inspections	972-218-1200
Cable (Time Warner)	972-445-5555
Chamber of Commerce	972-227-2579
City Hall	972-218-1300
Neighborhood Services (Code Compliance)	972-218-1200
Community House (Seniors)	972-227-2650
Constable Derick Evans	972-228-0006
Country View Golf Course	972-227-0995
County Health Department (Immun.)	214-819-2100
County Tax	214-653-7811
Dallas County Precinct 1	972-228-2272
Development Services	972-275-1701
Driver's License	469-272-9301
Economic Development Corporation	972-218-7036
Employment-City Job Line	972-218-1313
Fire (Non-emergency)	972-218-2600
Focus Daily (Newspaper)	972-223-9175
Police (Non-emergency)	972-218-2700
Housing	972-275-1750
Library	972-227-1080
LISD Administration	972-218-1400
Motor Vehicle Registration	214-653-7811
Municipal Court	972-218-1334
Outreach Center	972-227-0138
Parks & Recreation Center	972-218-3700
Planning & Zoning	972-275-1720
Post Office	800-275-8777
Public Works	972-275-1700
AT&T (Telephone Service)	800-464-7928
Today Newspaper	972-298-4211
TXU (Customer Service)	800-242-9113
Water Billing	972-218-1328



Visitor Center

- Bid for asbestos abatement plan has been awarded.
- Remodel plans up for final review and approval with the Texas Department of Transportation.



Transportation Infrastructure Bond 2007

- Street bond package is underway.
- Debt issuance to pay for project is scheduled to be issued Summer 2008.



Fellow Citizen:

The holidays will be here before you know it and a committee has been formed to arrange for city yuletide decorations. The committee will be concentrating on the metal street lights that are in the Right of Way along Dallas Avenue from Wintergreen Road to 8th Street. The committee has agreed to purchase seven foot holiday greeting banners for the season with a 12"X30" sponsor banner. The sponsor banners will include the name of the purchaser and will be limited to 30 characters or less including spaces.



We are excited about the opportunity to showcase our community during the holiday season and your participation is important to the success of this project. To ensure the success of the holiday committee we ask for participation and support from individuals, families, schools, civic organizations, churches and businesses.

The City of Lancaster has agreed to match the funds raised by the committee so that decorations can be placed on Dallas Avenue. Those of you interested in being a sponsor of the holiday committee may do so by purchasing an entire banner display to include the seven foot banner as well as the 12"X30" banner for \$150. **All Orders Must Be Received by 5:00 PM June 30, 2008!** If you are interested in ordering a banner, please contact City Hall at 972-218-1300. Join us in decorating Lancaster for the holidays.

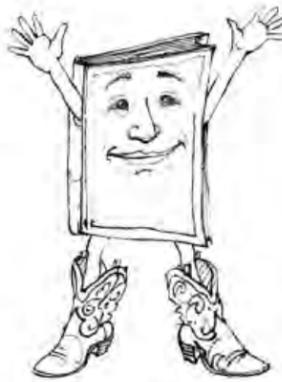
The Lancaster Veterans Memorial Library Presents

The Texas Summer Reading Club's 2008 Jubilee

Programs for Preschoolers - 1st Graders

Tuesdays at 10 am

- June 3 Puppeteer Brett Roberts
June 10 Animals with Zooniversity
June 17 Songs and Stories with Miss Jo
June 24 Tako the Clown
July 1 Patriotic Patty
July 8 Storyteller Esther Malone
July 15 Stories and Songs with Miss Jo
July 22 Jubilee Jamboree with Debbie Day
July 29 Wrap up Party!



© 2007 Janet Stevens

Programs for 2nd - 6th Graders

Thursdays at 2 pm

- June 5 Science of Spin Yo-Yo Show
June 12 Logan the Juggler
June 19 African Stories and Music with Melody Bell
June 26 Sunflower Hullabaloo with Jaye Feathers
July 3 No Program
July 10 Storyteller Elizabeth Ellis
July 17 Jubilee Jamboree with Debbie Day
July 24 Banjo Music and Stories with Dan Gibson
July 30 Wrap up Party!



Family Movie Nights
Enjoy a recent movie and popcorn
Sponsored by the
Friends of the Lancaster Library
Tuesday June, 24th at 7 pm
and
Tuesday July, 22nd at 7pm

Family Night Programs
Thursday June, 12th at 7 pm
Bonkers the Clown
and
Thursday, July 10th
Learn about animals with the
Zooniversity

Family Story Time on Saturday
June 7th and 21st
July 5th and 19th
at 2 pm
Join us for stories,
songs, and crafts



© 2007 Janet Stevens

All Programs will be held at the Lancaster Veterans Memorial Library
1600 Veterans Memorial Parkway, Lancaster TX
If you have any questions, please call 972-227-1080



© 2007 Janet Stevens



www.lancaster-tx.com

Lancaster Connection

Parks & Recreation

The Cities of Lancaster and DeSoto present
Old Fashion 4th of July Celebration
 Friday July 4th, 2008
 6:30 p.m.- 8:30 p.m.
 Lancaster Community Park
 Activities include Free Hot Air
 Ballon rides, food, clowns, magicians,
 a live band, and a spectacular
 fireworks show!

ACCESS YOUR VIP PASS Admit One

Membership Prices

	Quarterly	Annually
Child	\$40.00	\$150.00
Adult (16-54)	\$60.00	\$180.00
Seniors (55+)	\$40.00	\$150.00
Seniors	\$12.00	\$40.00
Walkers Club		
Couples Pass	\$100.00	\$300.00
Family of Four	\$125.00	\$360.00
Additional	\$25.00	\$50.00
Family Member		
Daily Admission	\$5.00	

Corporate Membership

	Agency	Individual
Corporate A (5-9)	\$125.00	\$100.00
Corporate B (10+)	\$300.00	\$100.00

CORRECTION
 The membership prices in the Winter 2008 newsletter were incorrect and the correct prices have been posted. If you have any questions, please contact the Parks and Recreation Department at 972-218-3700.

**Arbor Day Music Fest
 Concert & Festival**

Concert Featuring:

Mighty Marvelous Four
 American Idol Contestant
Jimmy McNeal

Jennifer Fielder

Free food, drinks, Hot Air Ballon Rides from
 6 p.m.- 8 p.m., and live music
 May 16th
 6:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.
 Lancaster Community Park
 located behind the Lancaster Recreation Center



A Celebration of Freedom

L. Moseley Park
1300 Honor Drive
DeSoto, Texas 75115

“A Celebration of Freedom” is the theme of the 2008 Best Southwest (BSW) Juneteenth Celebration, June 14, 2008, 4:00-10:00 pm at Moseley Park, in DeSoto. The celebration, co-sponsored by the BSW cities of DeSoto, Cedar Hill, Duncanville, and Lancaster, will be showcased on the WFAA Channel 8 News Show “Family First.” In addition, Channel 8 will broadcast live from the celebration and T.V. personalities will be at Moseley Park to meet the public.



- Parade
- Toddler Pageant
- Potato Pie & Tea Cake Competition
- Rock Climbing Wall
- Art Competition
- 3 on 3 basketball



Softball - Moseley Pool - Bounce House - Fire Department Safety House - Musical and Performing Groups - Juneteenth Essay Competition

Juneteenth, also know as Freedom Day or Emancipation Day, is the oldest nationally celebrated commemoration of the ending of slavery, usually held on or around June 19th. Today Juneteenth commemorates freedom and emphasizes education and achievement.

If you would like to participate in any of the competitions or become a vendor, visit our website at www.ci.desoto.tx.us to download vendor applications or call Carolyn Campbell at 972-230-9651 or email ccampbell@ci.desoto.tx.us for more information





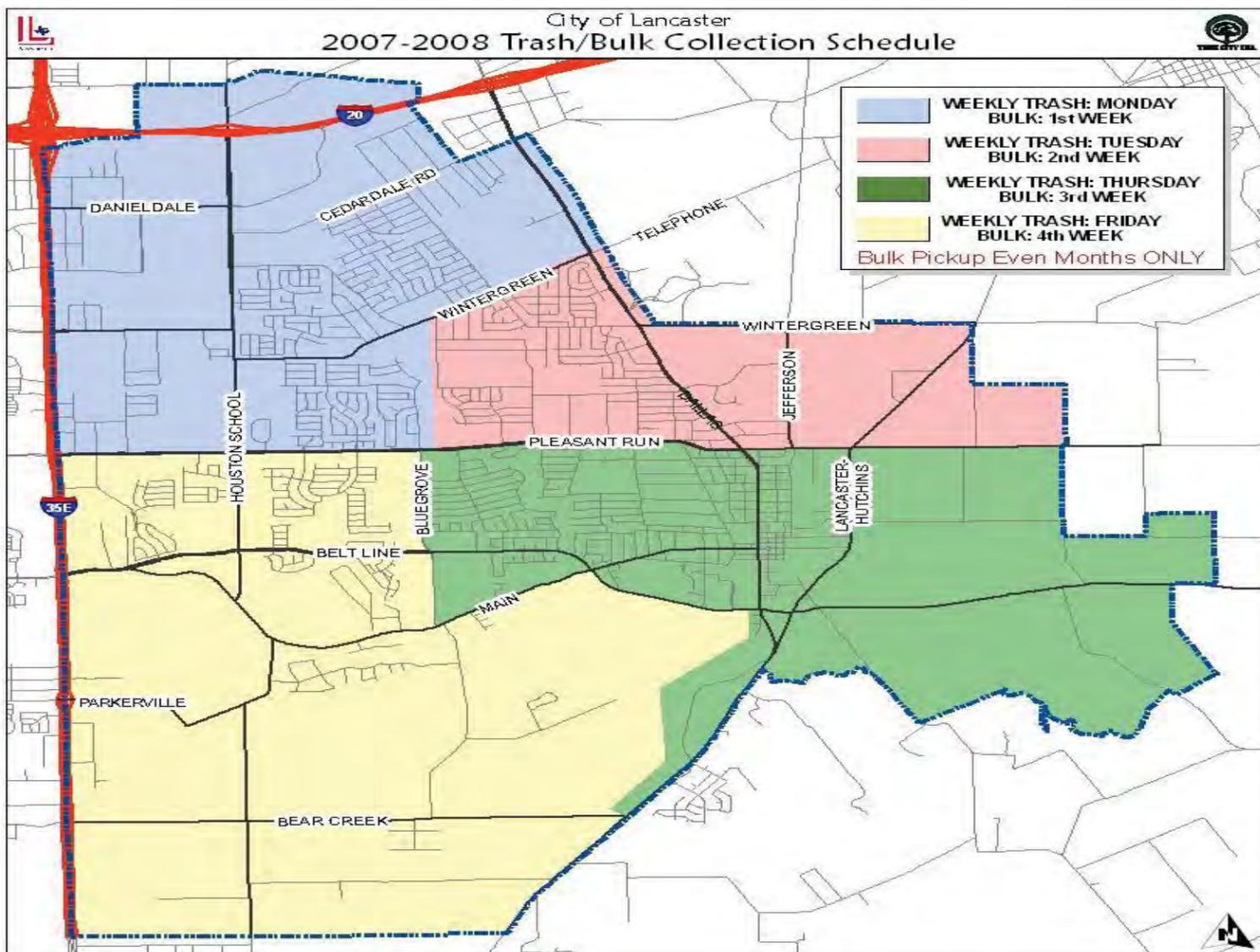
Brush/Bulk Trash

In an effort to maintain voluntary compliance with keeping our community clean, we would like to remind residents of the brush/bulk collection rules:

Brush/bulk will be collected during the following months only: February, April, June, August, October, and December.

- * Place your brush/bulk items on the curb (not the alley)
- * Brush/bulk cannot exceed 12 cubic yard max (6'x4'x16')
- * Waste must be placed at the curb or roadway by 7:00 a.m. on the Monday of your pick-up week. You may set your trash out the Saturday or Sunday before your pick-up week. If you are unsure of your pick-up week, please call 972-218-1328 for your schedule.
- * No hazardous wastes (such as paint, batteries or chemicals) will be collected.
- * No tires will be collected.

If brush/bulk is present at any time other than your designated pick-up week, the waste will be tagged for removal. If not removed within three days, the waste will be removed and a charge will appear on your utility bill.



Month	1st Week	2nd Week	3rd Week	4th Week
May-08	No brush/Bulk collection in May.			
Jun-08	Jun 2-6	Jun 9-13	Jun 16-20	Jun 23-27
Jul-08	No brush/Bulk collection in July.			
Aug-08	Aug 4-8	Aug 11-15	Aug 18-22	Aug 25-29
Sep-08	No brush/Bulk collection in September.			
Oct-08	Oct 6-10	Oct 13-17	Oct 20-24	Oct 27-31
Nov-08	No brush/Bulk collection in November.			
Dec-08	Dec 1-5	Dec 8-12	Dec 15-19	Dec 22-26

Brush/bulk is to be placed at the street no earlier than the weekend before your pick-up week and no later than 7:00 a.m. Monday of your pickup week. Early or late setouts will be tagged for your immediate removal and are subject to citation. For pickup information contact the Water Division at 972-218-1328.



Fats, Oil and Grease CLOG THE SEWERS

Sewage back ups and overflows are typically the result of grease build up which can cause property damage, environmental problems and other health hazards. Fats, Oil and Grease can enter into the sewer system from commercial food preparation establishments and also private residences.

Most grease is a by product of cooking and is usually found in such things as;

- Food Scraps
- Meat Fats
- Lard
- Cooking Oil
- Butter or Margarine
- Baking Goods
- Sauces
- Dairy Products

All too often, fats, oils and grease are washed into the plumbing system and stick to the insides of sewer pipes both on private property and in the streets.

Over time, oil and grease builds up and eventually **blocks the entire pipe** causing sewer back ups and overflows.

Costs to You:

As your sewer pipes back up, sewage and food particles that accumulate can attract insects and other vermin and may create a potential health hazard.

Property damage can result from sewage back ups leading to expensive clean up and plumbing repairs that may have to be paid by the customer.

To the Environment:

Clogged sewers can lead to over flows. As sewage over flows onto the streets, it enters the storm drain system....where it is then carried into our local streams.

To the City of Lancaster:

Increased sewer stoppages and over flows lead to excessive and costly maintenance and could result in severe fines from State and Federal regulatory agencies.

These costs result in increases to the customers sewer bill.

Proper Disposal Methods:

- Scrape grease and food scraps from plates, pots, pans, into a trash can for disposal.
- Do not put grease and scraps down the garbage disposal. Pour grease into a container and dispose of it in the trash.
- Do not pour grease into kitchen sinks, floor drains or toilets.
- Be cautious of chemicals or additives that claim to dissolve grease. Some simply pass grease down pipes where it can clog lines further down stream.

Report Sewer Problems to the City of Lancaster Water and Wastewater Division at 972-218-2324 Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. After hours and weekends 972-218-2700.



Where Does All the Dirty Water Go?

Protect the Environment in Our Community

What You Flush or Pour Down Your Drain Affects the Rivers, Lakes, and Coastal Waters in Our Community

Where does the water go after you flush the toilet or drain the sinks in your home?

When the wastewater flushed from your toilet or drained from your household sinks, washing machine, or dishwasher leaves your home, it flows through your community's sanitary sewer system to a wastewater treatment facility. The wastewater from homes, along with wastewater from businesses, industries, and other facilities, is treated by a variety of processes (see inside for more information) to reduce or remove pollutants.

What happens to the treated water when it leaves the wastewater treatment plant? The treated wastewater is released into local waterways where it's used again for any number of purposes, such as supplying drinking water, irrigating crops, and sustaining aquatic life.

For more information on the wastewater treatment process, please contact your local health or public works department. Please visit www.epa.gov/dwm for more information on wastewater treatment.

EPA United States Environmental Protection Agency
EPA-832-F-03-001
December 2002



!!! CAUTION CAUTION CAUTION CAUTION CAUTION !!!

It's Spring time and that means it's time to get out the lawnmowers. Be sure to maintain your alley easements as well. With more people out walking you'll need to make sure your trees and shrubs are not encroaching the sidewalks. Cut back anything overhanging your sidewalk to at least seven (7') in height. Trees overhanging the street and alley need to be cut so not to hang lower than fourteen (14') feet in height. This allows school buses, fire trucks and trash trucks to pass without scraping the top of their vehicles. Also check that your trees and shrubs are not blocking the view of street signs and stop signs. Should you have any questions please contact Code Compliance at 972-218-1200.



Sewer Cleanout Notice

Water Customer

We are performing inspections in your area in an effort to reduce rain water from entering the sanitary sewer system.

Rainwater entering the sanitary sewer systems creates a number of problems;

- Overloading of the sewer system which can cause flooding to homes;
- Sewage spills that can contaminate soils and creeks;
- Increases in sewage treatment costs that are eventually passed onto you the customer in the water bills.

Please check your sewer cleanouts near the house and sidewalks to make sure that they are capped or sealed. If you would like for us to assist you in checking your cleanout; please call 972-218-2324 to schedule a time that a Water Division employee can stop by.

Phillip Curtis
Superintendent
Water & Wastewater Division
972-218-2326





Calendar

April 2008

- 19 2:00 p.m. Puppet Show @ Library
- 21-25 3rd Bulk Week; Trash out Monday by 7:00 a.m.
- 22 10:00 a.m. Preschool Story Hour @ Library
- 22 7:00 p.m. Friends of the Library @ Library
- 23 10:00 a.m. Daycare Story Hour @ Library
- 25 7:00 p.m. Chamber Gala @ Skyline Ranch
- 25 7:00 p.m. Drill Team Spring Show @ LHS Auditorium
- 26 9:00 a.m. LISD Educator Job Fair @ LHS Food Pavilion
- 26 Early Voting Begins
- 26 9:00 p.m. Genealogy Workshop @ Library
- 26 7:00 p.m. City Council Meeting @ City Hall
- 28-May 2 4th Bulk Week: Trash out Monday by 7:00 a.m.
- 29 6:30 p.m. LISD Art Expo Reception

May 2008

- 3 2:00 p.m. Family Story Hour @ Library
- 5 Cinco De Mayo
- 5 7:00 p.m. LISD School Board Meeting
- 6 7:00 p.m. Lancaster Art Club @ Library
- 7 Early Voting Ends
- 7 7:00 p.m. Middle School and High School Theatre Review @ LHS Auditorium
- 8 8:45 a.m. Middle School Career Day
- 8 11:30 a.m. Chamber Luncheon @ Rec Center
- 8 7:00 p.m. All Choir Night @ LHS Auditorium
- 10 7:00 a.m. Local Elections
- 10 8:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday on the Square @ Town Square
- 11 Mother's Day
- 12 7:00 p.m. City Council @ City Hall
- 13 7:00 p.m. All Band Night @ LHS Auditorium
- 13 7:00 o.m. Lancaster Genealogical Society @ Library
- 15 5:00 p.m. Anime Club ages 8-14 @ Library
- 15 6:00 p.m. Anime Club ages 15+ @ Library
- 15 7:00 p.m. Teen Club Meeting @ Library
- 15 7:00 p.m. City-Wide HOA Meeting @ City Hall
- 15 7:00 p.m. All Orchestra Night @ LHS Auditorium
- 16 6:00 p.m. Arbor Day/ Music Fest @ Community Park
- 17 2:00 p.m. Family Story Hour @ Library
- 22 7:00 p.m. Stormwater Master Plan Phase 2 Open Meeting @ Rec Center
- 24 10:00 a.m. LHS Graduation @ Potter's House
- 26 Memorial Day (City Offices Closed)
- 27 7:00 p.m. Friends of Library @ Library

June 2008

- 1 2:00 p.m. Family Story Hour @ Library
- 2-6 1st Bulk Week; Trash out Monday by 7:00 a.m.
- 3 10:00 a.m. Preschool-1st Summer Reading @ Library
- 2 7:00 p.m. LISD School Board Meeting
- 3 Summer Reading Club Begins
- 3 7:00 p.m. Lancaster Art Club @ Library

June 2008 Cont.

- 4 Last Day of School
- 5 2:00 p.m. 2nd-6th Summer Reading @ Library
- 9-13 2nd Bulk Week; Trash out Monday by 7:00 a.m.
- 9 7:00 p.m. City Council Meeting @ City Hall
- 10 10:00 a.m. Preschool-1st Summer Reading @ Library
- 10 7:00 p.m. Lancaster Genealogical Society @ Library
- 12 2:00 p.m. 2nd-6th Summer Reading @ Library
- 14 10:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday on the Square
- 14 Juneteenth Celebration in Desoto
- 14 2:00 p.m. Family Story Hour @ Library
- 15 Father's Day
- 16 Summer School Starts
- 16-20 3rd Bulk Week; Trash out Monday by 7:00 a.m.
- 17 10:00 a.m. PreK-1st Summer Reading @ Library
- 19 Juneteenth
- 19 2:00 p.m. 2nd-6th Summer Reading @ Library
- 19 5:00 p.m. Anime Club ages 8-14 @ Library
- 19 6:00 p.m. Anime Club ages 15+ @ Library
- 19 7:00 p.m. Teen Club Meeting @ Library
- 20 9:00 a.m. LISD Educators Job Fair
- 23 7:00 p.m. City Council Meeting @ City Hall
- 23-27 4th Bulk Week; Trash out Monday by 7:00 a.m.
- 24 10:00 a.m. PreK-1st Summer Reading @ Library
- 24 7:00 p.m. Friends of the Library @ Library
- 26 2:00 p.m. 2nd-6th Summer Reading @ Library
- 27 Lancaster Education Golf Tournament

July 2008

- 1 10:00 a.m. PreK-1st Grade Summer Reading @ Library
- 4 Independence Day-City Offices Closed
- 4 6:30 p.m. Old Fashion 4th of July Celebration-Community Park
- 5 10:00 a.m. 2nd Saturday on the Square
- 5 2:00 p.m. Family Story Time @ Library
- 8 10:00 a.m. PreK-1st Summer Reading @ Library
- 10 11:30 a.m. Chamber Luncheon
- 10 2:00 p.m. 2nd-6th Summer Reading @ Library
- 10 7:00 p.m. Family Program @ Library
- 14 7:00 p.m. City Council Meeting @ City Hall
- 15 10:00 a.m. Pre-K-1st Summer Reading @ Library
- 17 2:00 p.m. 2nd-6th Summer Reading @ Library
- 17 5:00 p.m. Anime Club ages 8-14 @ Library
- 17 6:00 p.m. Anime Club ages 15+ @ Library
- 17 7:00 p.m. Teen Library Club @ Library
- 19 2:00 p.m. Family Story Time @ Library
- 22 10:00 a.m. Pre-K-1st Summer Reading @ Library
- 22 7:00 p.m. Family Movie Night @ Library
- 24 2:00 p.m. 2nd-6th Summer Reading @ Library
- 28 7:00 p.m. City Council Meeting @ City Hall
- 29 10:00 a.m. Pre-K-1st Summer Reading Wrap-Up Party
- 30 10:00 a.m. 2nd-6th Summer Reading Wrap-Up Party