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“What counts is not necessarily the size of the dog in the fight—it’s the size of the fight in the dog.”

Dwight D. Eisenhower

“The only thing worse than being blind is having sight but no vision.”

Helen Keller

BOARD MEETINGS

DECEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	H	H	26	27	28
29	30	31				

JANUARY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			H	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	H	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

-  City Council
-  Planning and Zoning
-  Economic Development Corporation
-  Community Development Corporation
-  Board of Adjustment
-  Technology Board
-  Library Board
-  Community Image Advisory Board

UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS

Upcoming Parks and Rec Events

The Colony Christmas Spectacular

Date: Saturday, December 7th – January 4th

Time: Sunset – 10:00 p.m.

Location: Central Fire Station
(4900 Blair Oaks The Colony, TX 75056)

Cost: FREE

Polar Open Disc Golf Tournament

Date: Saturday, January 25th

Time: 7:00a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Location: Bill Allen Memorial Park, 5900 Carroll

Cost: Varies by division

Daddy & Daughter Dance

Date: Saturday, February 1st

Time: 3:00pm / 5:00pm / 7:00pm

Location: Cascades Event Center, 5909 Stone Creek Dr.

Cost: \$35 per couple; \$10 for each additional child; \$12 corsage; \$4 boutonniere; \$14 corsage / boutonniere combo

Kids Chase By The Lake

Date: Saturday, April 12th

Time: 8:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Location: Stewart Creek Park, 3700 Sparks Rd

Cost: TBD

Spring Eggstravaganza

Date: Thursday, April 17th

Time: 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Location: The Colony Five Star Complex, 4100 Blair Oaks

Cost: \$3 per child in advance; \$5 per child on event day

Movies in the Park – “TBD”

Date: Friday, May 9th

Time: 7:00 p.m. gates / 8:00 p.m. movie

Location: Five Star Complex, 4100 Blair Oaks

Cost: None

Mother Son Luau

Date: Saturday, May 31st

Time: 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Location: The Colony Aquatic Park, 5580 N. Colony Blvd

Cost: \$25 per couple, \$10 each additional child

Upcoming Library Events

eReader Office Hours

Dates & times:

Wednesday, December 11th at 7:00 p.m.

Friday, December 20th at 10:00 a.m.

Location: The Colony Public Library 6800 Main Street

Cost: Free

Holiday Story Time with Ms. Amanda & Ms. Julie For the whole family!

Date: Wednesday, December 18th

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Location: The Colony Public Library 6800 Main Street

Cost: Free

Spanish/English Bilingual Story Time

Hora de Cuentos Bilingüe Español / Inglés

Sponsored in part by Target

Date: Sundays, January 5th, 12th, & 26th

Time: 2:00 p.m.

Location: The Colony Public Library 6800 Main Street

Cost: Free

Early Dismissal Family Movie

Date: Friday, January 17th

Time: 1:30 p.m.

Location: The Colony Public Library 6800 Main Street

Cost: Free

PARKS AND RECREATION

Special Events:



The Colony Christmas Spectacular

Don't miss The Colony Christmas Spectacular light show with over 130,000 lights set to your favorite Christmas music. The holiday light show will run throughout the month of December through January 4th at Central Fire Station, 4900 Blair Oaks (corner of Blair Oaks and South Colony, across from Perryman Park), and is shown each evening from sunset to 10pm. The music to the show can be found by tuning your radio to 99.9fm. Happy holidays!



2014 Special Event Dates

Mark your calendars for a year of fun in 2014 with the following special events, hosted by The Colony Parks & Recreation Department. Visit www.PlayTC.com for updated event information and registration details for these events.

- Daddy & Daughter Dance – **February 1**
- Movies In The Park “Monsters University” – **April 4**
- Kids Chase By The Lake – **April 12**
- Spring Eggstravaganza – **April 17**
- Movies In The Park “Despicable Me 2” – **May 9**
- Mother & Son Luau – **May 31**
- Summer Cinema Clubhouse “Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs 2” – **June 19**
- Liberty By The Lake – **July 4**
- Summer Cinema Clubhouse “Muppets Most Wanted” – **July 10**
- Sunset Concert Series – **July 11**
- Summer Cinema Clubhouse “The Lego Movie” – **August 14**
- Sunset Concert Series – **August 15**
- Back 2 School Bash – **August 19**
- Movies In The Park “Free Birds” – **September 5**
- Bow-Wow Luau – **September TBD**
- Sunset Concert Series – **September 12**

Movies In The Park “Frozen” – **October 3**
 Family Fright Night – **October 25 - 26**
 American Heroes: A Salute to Veterans – **November 8**
 Holiday In The Park / Parade of Lights – **December 6**
 The Colony Christmas Spectacular – **December 6 – January 3**

Recreation:



Spring Fun Times

The Spring issue of the Fun Times catalog should be arriving in your mailbox any day now, so be on the lookout! Be sure to look through this issue and find out about all the fun and exciting activities that are planned for the community over the next several months. You can also check out the digital flipbook version of the Fun Times by going online to <http://www.thecolonytx.org/Depts/PARD/FunTimes.html>. We hope to see you at one of our upcoming activities!



Winter Kidz Kamp

Winter Kidz Kamp registration is now under way. Register now to ensure you claim your spot! Winter Kidz Kamp is for girls and boys ages 6-12 years old. Parents and kids love this program designed to make school holidays more fun and exciting. Campers go on a different field trip each day. Each camp is priced individually to work around your holiday vacation plans. Pick and choose what works for you! Winter field trips include Movie Day, Kid Mania, Chuck E. Cheese, Pump it Up, Polar Bear Swim, Interskate and the Dallas Zoo! For more information or to register, please contact the Parks & Recreation Department at (972)625-1106 or email play@tcpard.com.

Athletics:



Mini-Ball

Registration: September 8 – December 14 @ The Colony Recreation Center

Cost: \$50/residents, \$60/non-residents

Ages: 3 – 4

This program is designed to serve as an introduction to youth basketball for 3 and 4 year old boys and girls. Participants will work with an instructor who has been coaching kids for more than 10 years. Learning objectives will be dribbling, passing, basic defense, and introductory game situations. This program will run on Saturday mornings, for eight weeks. Classes will be approximately 1 hour, and each participant will receive a t-shirt and ball. Space is limited, so register early!



Polar Open Disc Golf Tournament

Date: Saturday, January 25

Time: 7:00AM – 6:00PM

Location: Bill Allen Memorial Park, 5900 Carroll

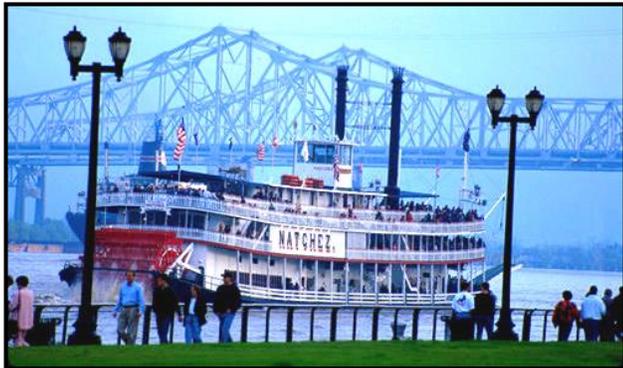
Cost: Varies by division

The Colony Parks and Recreation Department will be hosting the 4th Annual Polar Open Disc Golf Tournament. Registration will open December 9th through the day of the tournament or until sold out. Space is limited so register as soon as possible. Come see some of the best disc golf talent around! For more information contact The Colony Recreation Center (972) 625-1106.

Youth Sport Associations

Registration is currently underway for the spring youth soccer and spring baseball. Registrations for all associations can be completed online by visiting each association's website www.tcysa.net, or www.tcyba.net. You can also register at the Recreation Center. Please visit each association's website for additional details.

Community Center:



Trip Info & Sign-up Meeting – New Orleans

Wednesday, December 18 at 10:00am

Learn more about the tour and meet other seniors going on the trip. Make your deposit by Dec 20. Meeting will be held at The Colony Community Center, 5151 North Colony Blvd.

New Orleans Trip by Diamond Tours

May 5-9, 2014

\$495/person double occupancy, \$35 Insurance

\$645/person single occupancy, \$59 Insurance

\$75 Deposit and Insurance due upon signing

Tour includes: motorcoach transportation, 4 nights lodging, 8 meals: 4 breakfasts & 4 dinners, tour of a Louisiana plantation, riverboat cruise on the Mississippi River, partial day gaming at Harrah's Casino, visit to the National World War II Museum and a guided tour of New Orleans.

Final payment is due by Monday, February 24, 2014.

Aquatics:

Float Yoga

Melding the worlds of Yoga and Stand Up Paddleboard, Janan Siam will offer Saturday morning classes for both beginner and advanced Yoga students. Although it presents a new challenge, Siam says that the balance factor should greatly increase both the core workout and the fun. For more information contact (972)427-4082, extension 1.



Middle School Swim Meet

On November 22 the Aquatic Park and Prestonwood Christian Academy hosted a swim meet for area middle schools. Eleven schools were represented by 84 swimmers.



Lifeguard Class

Christmas Break is the perfect time to start thinking about summer jobs for teens and adults. Lifeguard Training will be offered at \$230 between Christmas and New Year's Eve. Call (972)624-2225 for more information.



Upgraded Chemical Storage

The Colony Aquatic Park Maintenance Staff Joe Bustos and Josh Nath designed and built a new chemical storage area to contain pool supplies. The small attachment separates the chemical barrels from the fragile electronic pool feeders and wall outlets. Containers will be shielded in the manner that newer facilities are now showing in their pump pad designs. The protected area will be more convenient to our delivery company and will prevent chemical supplies from being carried through a public area.



Certified Pool Operator

Joe Bustos, Aquatic Park Maintenance Worker, recently became a Certified Pool Operator after passing a two-day course with the National Spa-Pool Foundation. Congratulations, Joe!



Tribute Shoreline Nature Trail Grand Opening

SUP Fitness, SUP Warrior and Kayaking were all represented at the TributeShoreline Nature Trail grand opening celebration in October. Equipment was available for guests of all sizes, as well as information about the Aquatic Park Paddle Programs. For more information about these programs please visit www.PlayTC.com.



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

BOARD MEMBERS

Open, President

Steve Sohn, Vice President

Lisa Leary, Secretary

Kathy Braby, Treasurer

Don Beckel, Member

Donna Cole, Member

Susana Perez, Member

Council Liaison: Richard Boyer
Staff Liaison: Pam Nelson and Eve Morgan

Arbor Day Celebration

Did you know that the State of Texas now celebrates Arbor Day on the first Friday of November? November to February is the best time to plant new trees in Texas, so the new Arbor Day date is fitting. Fifth grade students from Ethridge Elementary helped the Parks Department celebrate Arbor Day this November at Scout Park. Five new trees were planted and the students participated in a variety of games and exercises to team them all about trees and their importance to the environment and our community. Thanks to all the staff and 5th grade students from Ethridge Elementary for making the 2013 Arbor Day celebration a big success! If you plant a tree, be sure to register your tree at <http://www.texas-trees.org/news-events/tree-north-texas/treetracker> in order to help The Colony meet its goal of planting 7,000 trees by 2021!



LIBRARY

Holiday Programs at TCPL:



FOTCPL PRESENTS!

***Photos with Santa
Holiday Music by
Fiddle Rascals***

Visit with Santa! Saturday, December 7, 12:00—2:00 p.m.

Photos available same day; free photo mailing card included. \$2 fee per photo (cash or check) to: Friends of The Colony Public Library.

Holiday Story Time with Ms. Amanda & Ms. Julie: Wednesday, December 18, 7 p.m.

Join us in the Story Corner to celebrate the holiday season with a special Family Story Time!

School of the Month: Griffin Middle School

During the month of November, any Griffin Middle School student who checks out materials or gets a new library card may pick up a free gift at the library Circulation Desk.

Online Resources of the Month at thecolonypl.org:

Fill your holidays with good books, good music and good cheer!



Novelist® can help you find your next great book to read—or to give! With over 155,000 fiction titles for readers of all ages, Novelist® lets you use your favorite author, genre or subject to find a book you will love.

Novelist® also has lists of award-winning books and recommendations that will make it easy to find just the right gift for your favorite book lover.

What are the holidays without music? **Freegal Music Service** gives you 3 free MP3 song downloads a week that you can save to your computer, transfer to your MP3 player or burn to CD. Freegal even has an app available from the Apple App Store or Google Play. Freegal Music includes over 7 million songs, including Sony Music's catalog of legendary artists!



December events:**ESL Classes: Saturdays, December 7 & 21, 10:30 - noon**

Join the conversation with other adults as you learn and practice speaking English at these free volunteer-led classes.

**eReader Office Hours**

Bring in your eReader or tablet and learn how to get free ebooks and audiobooks from the Library's downloadable books services.

Tuesday, December 3 at 7 p.m.

Wednesday, December 11 at 7 p.m.

Friday, December 20 at 10 a.m.

**Home Buyers Seminar, Wednesday, December 4, 7 p.m.**

Everything you need to know about the real estate market, getting a loan, HUD and more. Home buying seminars are free of charge and are held every first Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. No registration required.

**Writers' Circle, Tuesday, December 10, 7 p.m.**

Writing can be a solitary experience, but sometimes you need interaction with other writers. The Library invites local writers to meet in the library conference room to discuss their current projects, seek suggestions from fellow writers to improve their writing skills, and share insights into getting their works published.

**Home Sellers Seminar, Wednesday, December 11, 7 p.m.**

Free seminar for those interested in selling their home - get prepared with up-to-date information, tips, and suggestions from experts on how to prepare your home to attract buyers, how to work with real estate professionals, and all the steps involved in the home selling process.



The WhoDunIt? Books Review Mystery Book Club, Wednesday, December 18, 7 p.m.

We're looking for new members! Join in the lively discussion of mystery and suspense novels; this month we are discussing *The Black Echo* by Michael Connelly.

Friends of The Colony Public Library Officers Meeting, Thursday, December 19, 7

p.m.

Meet the officers of Friends of The Colony Public Library; learn about FOTCPL's efforts in support of the Library's programs and services. New members are welcomed!

Recent events and service improvements/expansion:



Outreach to LISD students

Last month, Circulation Clerk Julie Conlee and e-Services Librarian Cary Cox instructed 76 fourth grade students at Camey Elementary School how to download free ebooks to their LISD-issued iPads.

Students set up their iPads to get free books from the Library's *North Texas Libraries on the Go* service and also learned about other useful Library-funded resources for their tablets, such as *Tutor.com*, *Muzzy Languages* and *Tumblebooks Library*.

Early Literacy Outreach

Students at Amigos Spanish Preschool are now able to participate in TCPL's early literacy activities. Youth Services Library Assistant Tina Martinez, who delivers this service to children in day care programs in The Colony, reports that the teachers are delighted that Amigos Spanish Preschool has been added to the rotation for TCPL's Early Literacy Kits. The kits provide additional resources for the teachers to use throughout the month between Tina's visits.



TCPL / FOTCPL Booth at American Heroes: A Salute to Veterans

TCPL staff, Board members, and FOTCPL members made 246 contacts, issued six new library cards, recruited one new FOTCPL member, and raised funds for library support through the sale of book bags and *Sail Away With Books* caps.

Photo Credit: Susan Petranek

NEW!**Bilingual Spanish/English Story Time Series, Sundays at 2 p.m. beginning January 5**

This new series is being developed by Youth Services Librarian Amanda Poore and Youth Services Library Assistant Tina Martinez with resources funded in part by a grant from

Target. For more information, contact Amanda Poore, 972-624-3186, apoore@thecolonypl.org.

The Colony Local History Committee Veteran Memorial at Bridges Cemetery

On November 9, 2013, members of The Colony Public Library's Local History Committee opened historic Bridges Cemetery to the general public to honor the 13 Confederate and Union soldiers buried there. Staff and volunteers answered questions about the cemetery and the history of The Colony.

American Legion Holley-Riddle Post 21 provided flags to place on veterans' graves; photos of the family (when available) were also placed at the graves.

Alyce Rufi (above left) provided service records for the soldiers buried in the cemetery; she is genealogist for the Local History Committee.

Eighty-six attendees explored the cemetery between 10 a.m. and noon and seven copies of the Local History Committee's book, *Bridges to the Future*, were sold.

Bridges Cemetery is located at the northwest corner of Morningstar and Chesapeake.

For more information about the work of the Local History Committee, contact staff liaison Megan Charters, 972-624-3187, mcharters@thecolonypl.org.



LIBRARY BOARD

BOARD MEMBERS

Frederick (Wash) Rushing, Chair

Joanna Krueger, Vice-Chair

Sandi Gehrke

Judith Hebb

Jade Kelly

Marlene Martin

Audra Preston

Council Liaison: Kirk Mikulec

Staff Liaison: Joan L. Sveinsson

The Library Board did not meet in November; the combined meeting for November and December will be held on Thursday, December 5, 2013, 7 p.m.