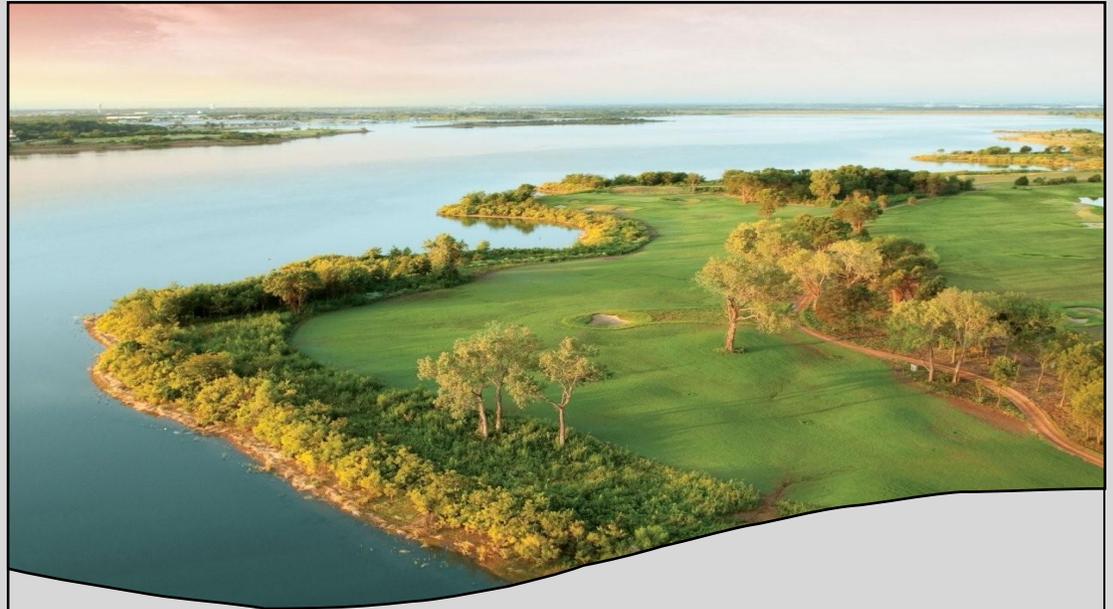


February 10th, 2014

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The Colony

2013

All-America City Finalist



Texas Comptroller
Leadership Circle
Silver Member



TREE CITY USA



“Getting an inch of snow is like winning 10 cents in the lottery.”

Bill Watterson

“Snow and adolescence are the only problems that disappear if you ignore them long enough.”

Earl Wilson



From City Manager Troy Powell

Under the direction of The Colony City Council, my office oversees all of the city's day-to-day operations and services, including management of the city's budget. These tasks are accomplished in partnership with a team of dedicated and professional departmental directors with whom I am proud to serve alongside for the betterment of this wonderful community and its residents.

It is also my responsibility to ensure the vision for the future of the city is realized, as determined by the council and the constituents they represent. It is my belief that The Colony is now and will continue to be a vibrant, evolving community that attracts new residents, visitors and businesses eager to become a part of that future.

February 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	

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

March 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	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

Parks and Recreation Events

Movies in the Park Monsters University

Date: Friday, April 4th

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

Location: Five Star Complex, 4100 Blair Oaks

Cost: None

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

May:

Movies in the Park –Despicable Me 2

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

Summer Cinema Clubhouse – “TBD”

Date: Thursday, June 19th

Time: 12:00 p.m. doors / 2:00 p.m. movie

Location: The Colony Recreation Center, 5151 N Colony

Blvd

Cost: None

The Colony Public Library Events

A.A.R.P. Tax Help

Dates: Wednesdays, February 5th – April 9th

Time: 4:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Location: The Colony Public Library 6800 Main Street

Cost: Free; call 972-625-1900 ext. 3 to schedule an appointment.

Spanish/English Bilingual Story Time

Hora de Cuentos Bilingüe Español / Inglés

Sponsored in part by Target

Dates: Sundays, February 9th, 23rd

Time: 2:00 p.m.

Location: The Colony Public Library 6800 Main Street

Cost: Free

Continuing Education Class For Daycare Providers

Date: Thursday, February 20th

Time: 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Location: The Colony Public Library 6800 Main Street

Cost: \$5 registration fee, refundable upon completion of class

eReader Office Hours

Dates & Times:

Thursday, February 20th at 7:00 p.m.

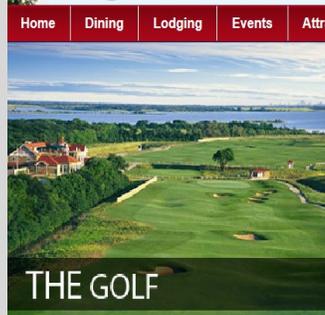
Friday, February 28th at 11:00 a.m.

Location: The Colony Public Library 6800 Main Street

Cost: Free



Home Dining Lodging Events Attractions Plan a Meeting or Event Media Visitor Guide The Playbook CVB



THE GOLF

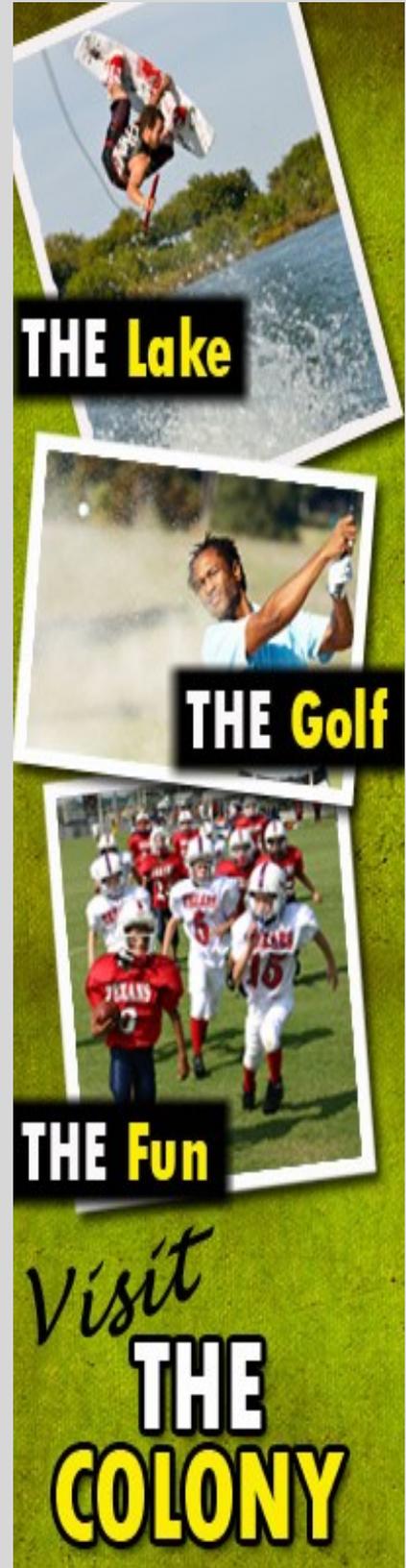


- About the CVB
- Get Here
- Discounts
- DFW Attractions
- About The Colony
- Travelling Around Texas

[REQUEST A VISITORS GUIDE](#)

[nybx.com/index.php](#)

EAT	PLAY	MEET	STAY
			
From casual to elegant, Mexican to Italian, lakeside to fireside, The Colony has a full	Explore a vast range of outdoor adventures. Spend your day fishing, boating,	The Colony offers a variety of unique meeting space from a 33,000 square foot Tudor-	Whether a weekend get-away or an extended stay, The Colony hotels offer the



THE Lake

THE Golf

THE Fun

Visit **THE COLONY**



THE COLONY
City by the Lake

View from the Shoreline Trail



City of The Colony - Texas Government

★★★★★

2,053 likes · 121 talking about this · 1,398 were here

Government Organization
Please visit www.TheColonyTx.gov
Follow us on twitter: @TheColonyTexas

Photos Likes Map Events



2,053



Here's a brief look at what's been happening the past month in the city's Convention & Visitors Bureau:

January Recap :

In the month of January the CVB sent out 297 visitor guides electronically and 52 by mail.

- The following topics were promoted through social media in January: The Nutrition Hut, State Representative Pat Falon, Bill Allen Memorial Park, Whimsey & Grace Ladies Night, Grandscape, NFM job postings, Sons of the American Legion DVD Swap, Fro Yo & Mo, The Colony Animal Shelter adopt a cat day, The Colony 2014 events calendar, Sky High Sports Center, The Colony Recreation Center, National Dress Your Pet Day, The Colony restaurant guide, Daddy Daughter Dance, Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Lone Star Hot Yoga, Uptown Yoga, Golden Corral, Angelina's, Roma's, Braum's, Texas Roadhouse, National Pie Day, Fun Time Magazine, Whimsey & Grace classes, Wynnwood Peninsula, The Colony community parks, North Texas Soup N Bowl, Metro Relief, Polar Open Disc Tournament, The Colony martial arts facilities, The Colony trails system, Saturday Night Out, TopGolf, KaBoom! America's Most Playful Family, The Colony massage facilities, Blue Sky Sports Center, Texas Parks and Wildlife, Zebra Mussel guide, Whimsey & Grace grand opening, Mayor Joe McCourry on KRLD.
- The CVB submitted Liberty By The Lake event details for consideration in the May/June Events Calendar of Texas Journey Magazine. This is one of the many free marketing opportunities the CVB takes advantage of in order to promote its marketing message and local events.
- The CVB sent out a January eBlast announcing all 2014 annual city events with a brief recap of 2013 highlights including the completion of the Tribute Shoreline Trail and TopGolf grand opening. We also featured a section entitled "THE Lake, THE Golf, THE Fun" in order to reinforce and tie in our marketing message.
- Diane and Mariko attended Party Fest 2014 at Dallas Market Hall. The CVB staff maintains relationships with vendors who may be requested by visitors and corporations who reserve meeting facilities within The Colony. The CVB staff help to find appropriate meeting venues and provide resources upon request to create the best meeting environment possible. We were happy to see two businesses from The Colony represented at Party Fest, TopGolf and The Tribute Golf Links and Guest House.
-
- Diane and Mariko attended the 2014 Texas Association of Convention and Visitors Bureaus (TACVB) Mid-Winter Conference in Farmers Branch. Along with representatives from CVB's all across Texas and Oklahoma, we met to discuss industry trends, learn about creative destination marketing strategies and share concerns and ideas. The mission of TACVB is to support and help develop the convention and tourism industry in Texas through education and sharing of ideas.



- In January we began to receive new 2014 rack cards and brochures and continued to request others. We provide visitors with not only local information but DFW attraction information, state wide resources such as the Texas State Travel Guide and official Texas Travel Map just to name a couple and discounts to local and area restaurants and attractions. The Colony Convention and Visitors Bureau Office is open Monday-Friday 8am – 5pm and we encourage visitors and locals to stop by and discover what there is to see, do and eat in the area.



- January social media updates provided an opportunity to highlight The Colony’s healthier side. Using the popular “get in shape” New Year’s Resolution as a tie in, the CVB created the hashtag #2014Resolution and featured everything from healthy dining options, fitness classes, martial arts and gymnastics to outdoor adventures for all ages and our latest yoga studio. The idea was to keep our readers motivated and give them new fitness considerations to help diversify their workouts. The Colony boasts many fitness considerations, both free and at cost, indoor and out which help make us a year-round playcation destination.

The screenshot shows the City of The Colony website homepage. At the top left is the logo for 'THE COLONY City by the Lake' featuring a sailboat. To the right of the logo is a navigation bar with links for 'Calendar - News - Employment - Codes & Documents - Contact Us'. Further right are social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube. Below this is a dark red navigation menu with items: 'Home', 'Government', 'Departments', 'News/Information', 'Online Services', and 'City Related Websites'. On the left side, there is a vertical menu with icons and text for: 'Construction Updates', 'Residents', 'Businesses', 'Email Updates', 'Citizen Action Center', 'Community TV', 'Online Bill Pay', and 'Event Information'. The main content area features a large banner image of a sunset over a lake with a boat and a person. Below the banner are three columns of content: 'The Colony News' with a headline 'Firefighters battle four-alarm fire' and a 'View All' link; 'City Calendar' with a headline '12/11/13 - Economic Development Corporation Mtg.' and a 'View Calendar' link; and 'Community Update' with a 'City Manager Weekly Report' and a video player showing a scene by a lake.

This is a Twitter profile card for the City of The Colony. It features the city's logo (a sailboat) at the top. Below the logo, the text reads: 'City of The Colony', '@TheColonyTexas', 'City by the Lake (RTs are not endorsements)', and 'The Colony, TX · TheColonyTx.gov'. At the bottom left, there are statistics: '1,670 TWEETS', '78 FOLLOWING', and '572 FOLLOWERS'. An 'Edit profile' button is located at the bottom right.

This is a Facebook profile card for 'City of The Colony - Texas Government'. The header image shows a scenic view of a lake and a field of flowers, with the city logo in the top right corner. The profile picture is the same sailboat logo. The name 'City of The Colony - Texas Government' is displayed with a star rating of four stars. Below the name, it says '2,053 likes · 121 talking about this · 1,398 were here'. There are buttons for 'Liked', 'Message', and a dropdown menu. At the bottom, there are tabs for 'About - Suggest an Edit', 'Photos', 'Likes', 'Map', and 'Events'. A small map shows the location of The Colony, Texas, near Frisco and Carrollton.

Here's a brief look at what's been happening the past month in the city's Communications Department:

- Director of Communications Diane Baxter accompanied Mayor Joe McCourry on Jan. 31 to a location in Frisco for a live, on-air interview with KRLD 1080 radio. The interview provided the mayor an opportunity to share the city's perspective on its recent development accomplishments with the station's greater Dallas-Fort Worth listening audience.
- Enhancing and maintaining the city's official website is an active project for Communications staff members year round, but this past month saw some notable updates. The "welcome" message on the main page was rewritten to account for new developments around the city in recent years and now includes links to additional information about those developments as well as links to information about how residents may get involved in their community through the Volunteer Assistance Program and the Friends of The Colony Volunteer Program. Other recent enhancements and/or maintenance include updated photos and welcome messages for a handful of department directors and an assessment/rewrite of content found within the "News and Information" tab.
- In conjunction with the city manager's office, Communications staff members have been drafting a four-page marketing publication intended to provide our residents with an informative, reader-friendly recap of noteworthy city achievements in 2013. The process has thus far involved pairing down, prioritizing, and rewriting items from all of last year's departmental reports into a list of highlights and laying out that content into first-draft form for review by the city manager.
- Highlighting the city's partnership with Lewisville ISD, Communication staff members joined City Council members Joe McCourry, Kirk Mikulec, Perry Schrag, and David Terre and representatives of the city manager's office at a groundbreaking ceremony on Jan. 16 for the new Griffin Middle School on North Colony Boulevard. Following the ceremony, the city engaged with LISD colleagues and Superintendent Dr. Stephen F. Waddell on social media, sharing each other's pictures from the event and fostering good relations.



Communications staff members continually work closely with other departments to edit, draft, and/or distribute a variety of press releases relating to city operations and events. Those efforts, among other engagements with local media, have resulted in coverage of:

- front-page feature about how the city's creation of TIRZ No. 2 on Wynnwood Peninsula will spur infrastructure and upscale development in *The Tribute*, published in the Jan. 24 edition of *neighborsgo*;
- front-page feature about TCFD's efforts to stay on the cutting edge of firefighting methodology, published in the Feb. 2 edition of *The Colony Courier-Leader*;
- front-page feature about TCPD's annual police report, with emphasis on the city's ever-downward trending crime rate and including an interview with Police Chief Joe Clark, published in the Feb. 2 edition of *The Colony Courier-Leader*;
- front-page Q&A with Mayor Joe McCourry highlighting what's ahead for the city in the year 2014, as well as a look back on 2013, published in the Jan. 12 edition of *The Colony Courier-Leader*;
- new payment services and winter utility bill re-averaging in an engaging column by Customer Services Director Molly Owczar published Jan. 27 in *neighborsgo*;
- Council member David Terre's election to the Denton Central Appraisal District's board of directors, providing the city its first-ever member of that board;
- deliberations of the city council, specifically discussion regarding the possibility of a retreat, the need for an upcoming joint session with the CDC, and the election of David Terre as mayor pro tem and Jeff Connelly as deputy mayor pro tem;
- feature and news-brief advance notice publication of the city's annual Daddy and Daughter Dance; and,
- ongoing events and activities taking place at The Colony Public Library, specifically expansion of its children's programs to include new book kits and backpacks, and the hosting of a natural history program in conjunction with the Local History Committee.

- Since Jan. 7, the city's official Twitter account, @TheColonyTexas, has seen a net increase of 29 new followers, bringing the total to 614. Since the previous count, social media moderators have sent out 50 unique Tweets promoting city news, events and other information relevant to the city's residents.

- The city's official Facebook page has accumulated a net total of 30 new "Likes," or followers since the last update, bringing the total to 2,110. Facebook metrics indicated followers were particularly interested in: information regarding efforts to preserve historic Bridges Cemetery; media coverage of the development associated with the city's creation of TIRZ No.2; and announcements regarding road construction and traffic issues along the SH121 corridor.

If you are not already following us on social media sites, we'd love for you to keep up with at what's happening in the city at: [facebook.com/thecolonytexas](https://www.facebook.com/thecolonytexas) and twitter.com/thecolonytexas . You can also sign up to receive information via email at: [Citi-zen Action Center](#)



TheColonyTexas



TheColonyTexas



CityofTheColonyTX

For the month of January the department closed 60 helpdesk tickets and deployed no new computers.

The new email server still has a few issues that need to be resolved. We are continuing to work with the hardware manufacturer to determine the cause and resolution.

The I.T. department has developed a new online application process that will go live Friday February 6, 2014 on the city's website.

The I.T. and Police departments have started working on the project to upgrade the Computer Aided Dispatch system. We have added two new blade servers to the existing system at the police department.

We have started evaluating new firewall technologies for deployment at the Police department as well as future upgrades at other city facilities.

Technology Board

Board Members

Stephen Hoffman, Chairman

Lyle Snider, Vice-Chairman

Allen Harris

Juan Martinez, Secretary

Bill Swink

Joye Grube

Kevin Van Winkle

Council Liaison's: Jeff Connelly and Joe McCourry

Staff Liaison: Ted Ringener

The Technology Board met on February 3, 2014. The discussion on new website hosting vendors was tabled until the meeting in March. The board discussed the need for a digital reference library for historical purposes. Members of the Library and City Historical Committee were present to discuss their plans and to get input from the board. The board received an update on the city's plan to submit bid requirements on new laptops for the police department patrol cars. The next meeting is scheduled on March 3, 2014.

The Colony Utility Department has added a new payment feature to add ease and convenience for the residents and businesses. Credit card auto draft has become a very popular means of payment for the monthly water bill. There is no fee to use this service. The bill amount is charged to the credit card each month on the due date. Residents will continue to receive the monthly bill for review, the payment will be automatic. Enrollment is simple: email the request to enroll into credit card auto draft with a copy of your driver license and a phone number to: utilityadmin@thecolonytx.gov. A Customer Service Representative will contact the enrollee to obtain the credit card information and enter the information into a secure 'vault'. Those interested in enrolling can also visit us at City Hall, 6800 Main Street, The Colony, TX, 75056. Provide driver license and credit card (Master Card/Visa) to be drafted. As a reminder when enrolled in the credit card draft: if the card has expired or the resident receives a new card number, inform the utility department with the new information so there is no interruption in the auto draft. In addition to the credit card draft, The Colony Utility also offers payment acceptance through an IVR (automated phone payment), through the City's website, bank draft (checking/savings), night deposit as well as in-office payments and regular mail. Automated phone payments are accepted at 972-625-2741 option 4, no fee and accepted 24*7. Web payments are accepted at <https://www.municipalonlinepayments.com/thecolonytx>, fee of \$1.25 and accepted 24*7. Any resident that would like more information on any of these payment options is encouraged to visit our website at www.thecolonytx.gov or call at 972-625-2741. The Customer Services Department is continually researching additional convenient options for our residents regarding the water utility. Stay tuned for the future! Happy New Year from the Customer Services Representatives at The Colony Water Department.

Credit Card Draft now available!!

Enrollment is simple: Email utilityadmin@thecolonytx.gov with a request to enroll into credit card autodraft. Include a copy of your driver's license and phone number. A customer service representative will contact you to obtain the credit card information and enter it into a secure "vault". Those interested in enrolling may also visit City Hall, 6800 Main St. Provide driver's license and credit card to be drafted.

Contact Information

Mailing Address:

PO Box 560008, The Colony, Tx 75056

Physical Address:

6800 Main St., The Colony, Tx 75056

Telephone:

972-625-2741

After Hours Telephone: (Water/Sewer)

If No Answer please call:

972-625-4471

469-628-5452

Fax:

972-624-2286

Email

utilityadmin@thecolonytx.gov

Automated Bill payment/information

972-625-2741 opt. 4

Hours:

Office

Drive-thru

Monday - Friday

8:00AM - 5:00PM

8:00AM - 5:00PM

The after hours night depository is located on the north side of the City hall building.

New Service Requirements :

Twenty - Four (24) hour notice is required for any new service.

Service Application - English *** (Required)

Service Application - Spanish *** (Required)

Driver's License

Home Owner's Deposit - \$75.00 (could vary based on prior service)

Renter's Deposit - \$150.00 (could vary based on prior service)

Application Fee - \$20.00

Commercial Domestic/Irrigation Application***

Commercial Deposit - Dependent on service

Application Fee - \$20.00

*If buying - Need copy of Title papers.

*If renting - Need copy of your signed lease agreement.

All adults on lease or title papers must be listed on the service application.

