

Nov. 3, 2014

Inside this issue:

Board Calendar	2
Events	3
Main Street Update	4
Ebola Update	5-9
West Nile Update	10
CVB	11-14
Communications	15-17
Information Technology	18
Technology Board	18

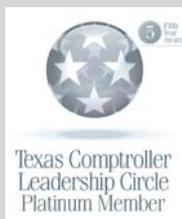


*“What one thing would you dare to dream if you knew you could not fail?”*

— Brian Tracy

*“Do the work others aren’t willing to do, and you’ll get the things others will never have.”*

— Unknown



## 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.

## November 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	H	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	H	H	29
30						

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

## December 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	H	H	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

### Holiday Break Kidz Kamp

*For more information or to register, please contact the Parks & Recreation Department at 972-625-1106 or email [play@tcpard.com](mailto:play@tcpard.com).*

### American Heroes: A Salute to Veterans

[www.saluteamericanheroes.com](http://www.saluteamericanheroes.com)

Date: Saturday, Nov. 8

Time: Dependent upon activity

Location: Five Star Complex, 4100 Blair Oaks Drive

Cost: Free

### Day Trip to Texas Civil War Museum

Date: Wednesday, Nov. 12

Time: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Cost: \$15 for members

### Holiday in the Park: Parade of Lights & Baking Contest

Date: Saturday, Dec. 6

Time: Dependent upon activity

Location: Dependent upon activity

Cost: Dependent upon activity

### The Colony Christmas Spectacular

Date: Saturday, Dec. 6 – Saturday, Jan. 3

Time: Sunset to 10 p.m.

Location: Central Fire Station, 4900 Blair Oaks Drive

Cost: Free

## The Colony Public Library

### eReader Office Hours

Date: Tuesday, Nov. 4

Time: 7 p.m.

Location: The Colony Public Library, 6800 Main St.

### Home Buyer's Seminar

Date: Wednesday, Nov. 5

Time: 7 p.m.

Location: The Colony Public Library, 6800 Main St.

### Bridges Cemetery Open House

*Members of The Colony Public Library Local History Committee will open Bridges Cemetery to the public and answer questions about The Colony's history.*

Date: Saturday, Nov. 8

Time: Noon to 3 p.m.

Location: Bridges Cemetery is located at the northwest corner of Morning Star and Chesapeake.

### Teen Anime Club

Date: Wednesday, Nov. 19

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Location: The Colony Public Library, 6800 Main St.

### Family LEGOmania

*Ages 4 and up welcome, but children under the age of 9 must be accompanied at all times by a caregiver age 12 or older.*

Date: Saturday, Nov. 22

Time: 2 p.m.

Location: The Colony Public Library, 6800 Main St.

As part of an effort to keep residents informed, officials with the City of The Colony are in continuous contact with representatives from the Texas Department of Transportation regarding the progress of the Main Street Widening Project.

Current or upcoming lane closures are listed below. **All closures are limited to 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Two lanes in both directions will always remain open during peak times and weekends.** As always, motorists are advised to prepare for delays and seek alternate routes where possible.

### Lane Closures

Beginning Monday, Oct. 20, and continuing through Friday, Nov. 7, the following closures are scheduled:

- The northbound right lane of FM 423 from Memorial to Lake Ridge Drive will be closed for utilities work.
- The southbound right lane of FM 423 from Ridgepointe Drive to Memorial Drive will be closed for utilities work.
- Alternative lane closures in the left lanes of northbound and southbound FM 423 from State Highway 121 to South Colony Boulevard will occur for the purpose of median earthwork.

During construction, the Engineering Department will post updates and information regarding the progress of this project at [www.thecolonytx.gov/Resident/RoadRepairs](http://www.thecolonytx.gov/Resident/RoadRepairs), including when and where specific work will take place. In addition, updates can be found on the city's social media and in the weekly City Manager's Update. If you have additional questions, you may email Director of Government Relations Brant Shallenburger at [bshallenburger@thecolonytx.gov](mailto:bshallenburger@thecolonytx.gov) or call 972-624-3108.

## City of The Colony response to Ebola virus

In response to reports of the Ebola virus in the City of Dallas, the City of The Colony began taking steps to protect residents and first responders. Immediate actions taken include:

- implementing the Centers for Disease Control's Interim Guidelines for Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and 9-1-1 Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) for Management of Patients with Known or Suspected Ebola Virus Diseases in the United States;
- review of applicable emergency management plans and annexes;
- assigning a chief officer to review best practices for first responders and for assuring the purchase of essential supplies and equipment;
- maintaining open communications with TCFD medical control and local health care facilities;
- training first responders and communications personnel; and,
- updating the public on issues relevant to the City of The Colony.



The City of The Colony Fire Department and Emergency Management team will continue to monitor the situation and provide updates as necessary.

**\*\*\*Further questions or concerns regarding the Ebola virus in the area should be directed to:**

- **Denton County Health Department: 940-349-2909**
- **<http://dentoncounty.com/Departments/Health-Services/Health-Department/Ebola-Information.aspx>**

Ebola, previously known as Ebola hemorrhagic fever, is a severe, often fatal disease in humans and nonhuman primates (such as monkeys, gorillas, and chimpanzees).

Ebola is a rare and deadly disease caused by infection with a virus of the family Filoviridae, genus Ebolavirus. There are five identified Ebolavirus species, four of which have caused disease in humans: Zaire ebolavirus; Sudan ebolavirus; Taï Forest ebolavirus, formerly Côte d'Ivoire ebolavirus; and Bundibugyo ebolavirus. The fifth, Reston ebolavirus, has caused disease in non-human primates but not in humans.

Ebola is found in several African countries. The first Ebola species was discovered in 1976 near the Ebola River in what is now the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Since then, outbreaks have appeared sporadically in Africa.

The natural reservoir host of Ebola remains unknown. However, on the basis of available evidence and the nature of similar viruses, researchers believe that the virus is animal-borne with bats being the most likely reservoir. Four of the five subtypes occur in an animal host native to Africa.

## Transmission

Because the natural reservoir host of Ebola has not yet been identified, the manner by which the virus first appears in a human at the start of an outbreak is unknown. However, researchers believe that the first patient becomes infected through contact with an infected animal. When an infection does occur in humans, there are several ways the virus can be spread to others. These include:

- direct contact with the blood or body fluids (including but not limited to feces, saliva, urine, vomit and semen) of a person who is sick with Ebola; and,
- contact with objects (like needles and syringes) that have been contaminated with the blood or body fluids of an infected person or with infected animals.

The virus in the blood and body fluids can enter another person's body through broken skin or unprotected mucous membranes in, for example, the eyes, nose, or mouth. The viruses that cause Ebola are often spread among families and friends, because they come in close contact with blood or body fluids when caring for ill persons.

During outbreaks of Ebola, the disease can spread quickly within healthcare settings, such as clinics or hospitals. Exposure to Ebola can occur in healthcare settings where hospital staff are not wearing appropriate protective clothing including masks, gowns, gloves, and eye protection. Dedicated medical equipment (preferably disposable, when possible) should be used by healthcare personnel providing care for someone sick with Ebola. Proper cleaning and disposal of instruments, such as needles and syringes, is also important. If instruments are not disposable, they must be sterilized before being used again. Without adequate instrument sterilization, virus transmission can continue and amplify an outbreak.

## Signs and Symptoms

A person infected with Ebola is not contagious until symptoms appear. Signs and symptoms of Ebola typically include:

- Fever (greater than 38.6°C or 101.5°F)
- Severe headache
- Muscle pain
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Stomach pain
- Unexplained bleeding or bruising

Symptoms may appear anywhere from two to 21 days after exposure to Ebola but the average is eight to 10 days. Recovery from Ebola depends on the patient's immune response. People who recover from Ebola infection develop antibodies that last for at least 10 years.

## Risk of Exposure

Ebola is found in several African countries. Since 1976, Ebola outbreaks have occurred in the following countries:

- Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)
- Gabon
- South Sudan
- Ivory Coast
- Uganda
- Republic of the Congo (ROC)
- South Africa (imported)
- Guinea
- Liberia
- Sierra Leone
- Senegal
- Nigeria

Because the natural reservoir host of Ebola, and the manner in which transmission of the virus to humans remain unknown, risk assessment in endemic areas is difficult.

During outbreaks of Ebola, those at highest risk include healthcare workers and the family and friends of a person infected with Ebola. Healthcare workers in Africa should consult the Infection Control for Viral Hemorrhagic Fevers In the African Health Care Setting to learn how to prevent and control infections in these settings. Medical professionals in the United States should consult the Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations for Hospitalized Patients with Known or Suspected Ebola Hemorrhagic Fever in U.S. Hospitals.

## Diagnosis

Diagnosing Ebola in a person who has been infected for only a few days is difficult because the early symptoms, such as fever, are not specific to Ebola infection and are seen often in patients with more commonly occurring diseases, such as malaria and typhoid fever.

However, if a person has symptoms of Ebola and had contact with blood or body fluids of a person sick with Ebola, contact with objects that have been contaminated with blood or body fluids of a person sick with Ebola or contact with infected animals, the patient should be isolated and public health professionals notified. Samples from the patient can then be collected and tested to confirm infection. Laboratory tests used in diagnosis include:

Timeline of Infection	Diagnostic tests available
Within a few days after symptoms begin	- Antigen-capture enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA) testing - IgM ELISA - Polymerase chain reaction (PCR) - Virus isolation
Later in disease course or after recovery	- IgM and IgG antibodies
Retrospectively in deceased patients	- Immunohistochemistry testing - PCR - Virus isolation

## Treatment

Currently there are no specific vaccines or medicines (such as antiviral drug) that have been proven to be effective against Ebola.

Symptoms of Ebola are treated as they appear. The following basic interventions, when used early, can significantly improve the chances of survival:

- providing intravenous(IV) fluids and balancing electrolytes (body salts);
- maintaining oxygen status and blood pressure; and,
- treating other infections if they occur.

Timely treatment of Ebola is important but challenging since the disease is difficult to diagnose clinically in the early stages of infection. Because early symptoms such as headache and fever are not specific to Ebolaviruses, cases of Ebola may be initially misdiagnosed.

However, if a person has symptoms of Ebola and had contact with blood or body fluids of a person sick with Ebola, contact with objects that have been contaminated with blood or body fluids of a person sick with Ebola, or contact with an infected animal, the patient should be isolated and public health professionals notified. Supportive therapy can continue with proper protective clothing until samples from the patient are tested to confirm infection.

Experimental treatment has been tested and proven effective in some animals but has not yet been evaluated in humans.

## Prevention

When cases of the disease do appear, there is increased risk of transmission within healthcare settings. Therefore, healthcare workers must be able to recognize a case of Ebola and be ready to use appropriate infection control measures. The aim of these techniques is to avoid contact with the blood or body fluids of an infected patient.

Appropriate procedures include:

- isolation of patients with Ebola from contact with unprotected persons;
- wearing of protective clothing (including masks, gloves, impermeable gowns, and goggles or face shields) by persons caring for Ebola patients;
- the use of other infection-control measures (such as complete equipment sterilization and routine use of disinfectant); and,
- avoid touching the bodies of patients who have died from Ebola.

Healthcare workers should also have the capability to request diagnostic tests or prepare samples for shipping and testing elsewhere.

CDC, in conjunction with the World Health Organization, has developed a set of guidelines to help prevent and control the spread of Ebola. Entitled Infection Control for Viral Hemorrhagic Fevers In the African Health Care Setting, the manual describes how to:

- recognize cases of viral hemorrhagic fever; and,
- prevent further transmission in health care setting by using locally available materials and minimal financial resources.

*\*The preceding information has been provided by the CDC's National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases Division of High-Consequence Pathogens and Pathology (DHCPP).*



The Water Environment Research Foundation has received several inquiries in the past several days from our subscribers in Texas and other areas of the United States regarding the fate and removal of the Ebola virus in the wastewater treatment process. We have reached out to colleagues at the Centers for Disease Control, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and partner organizations (WEF and NACWA). As you may have learned from another partner, the Water Research Foundation, Ebola is not a waterborne illness.

Wastewater treatment processes (e.g., anaerobic digestion, composting, and disinfection) in the United States are designed to inactivate infectious agents. However, there is very limited data specifically about survival of the Ebola virus in wastewater at this time. The CDC guidance to hospitals in the United States basically states that no additional treatment of wastewater from Ebola patients is needed prior to discharge to the sanitary sewers.

From an operational standpoint, it has been noted that properly dosing a system immediately downstream from a contaminated household could reduce risk. Having sewer crews avoid pipe cleaning operations, such as vactoring, the sewer downstream from current Ebola contamination may also reduce worker risk. The U.S. EPA is working to make additional information available in the near future in the form of a factsheet. In the meantime, all wastewater treatment personnel should follow appropriate procedures for Personal Protective Equipment and proper sanitation.



## Mosquito season continues

The most recent positive pool test for WNV in mosquitoes occurred the week of Oct. 13. Truck-mounted treatments took place the weekend of Oct. 18-19 in the area around Augusta Park. As the City continues its proactive approach in prevention of mosquito-borne disease sources on public property, we want to remind everyone that the best prevention for everyone is through education and personal protection, especially for the elderly and those with health issues, by following the “4 Ds” listed below:

- **Dress to protect:** Wear long sleeves and long pants.
- **Dusk and Dawn:** Avoid being outside at these times if possible.
- **Defend:** Wear insect repellent with DEET or an effective alternative.
- **Drain standing water:** Eliminate any water that stands for longer than five days or treat water with larvicide according to the label.

Residents may go to the following websites for more information about West Nile virus:

**City of The Colony:** <http://www.thecolonytx.gov/Depts/PARD/mosquitocontrol.html>

**Texas Department of State Health Services:** <http://bit.ly/NDuEtq>

**Denton County Health Department:** <http://tinyurl.com/ng23knj>

For additional information regarding mosquitoes and the City’s mosquito treatment plan, contact Community Services Director Pam Nelson at 972-624-3958, via email at [pnelson@thecolonytx.gov](mailto:pnelson@thecolonytx.gov), or visit [www.thecolonytx.gov/Depts/PARD/mosquitocontrol.html](http://www.thecolonytx.gov/Depts/PARD/mosquitocontrol.html). If you notice standing water on private property, please contact The Colony Community Image Department at 972-624-3160.



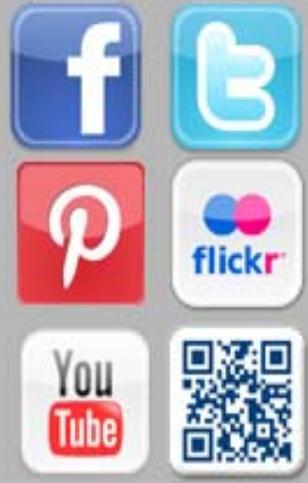
- About the CVB
- Anticipate
- About The Colony
- Traveling Around Texas
- Request a Visitors Guide
- Sign Up for E-News
- Contact Us

### Our Latest CVB Twitter Posts

Tweets

- VisitTheColonyTx.com (@VisitTheColony) All good things must come to an end. Less than a month left to enjoy the 2014 Transition Fall season. #VisitTheColony #Transition
- VisitTheColonyTx.com (@VisitTheColony) Celebrate National 2 Hours Day at Stewart Creek Park, Mission Creek Park & Marina or on the Family Grill. #VisitTheColonyTx.com/visitthe-site
- VisitTheColonyTx.com (@VisitTheColony) If the 8pm show runs past your bedtime, today's 2 pm performance of "The Sassy Normal Show" is for you. #VisitTheColony
- VisitTheColonyTx.com (@VisitTheColony) Bookworms and bibliophiles unite - today's Book Lovers Day. #VisitTheColony #BookLoversDay

The Colony, TX  
84°F  
WU

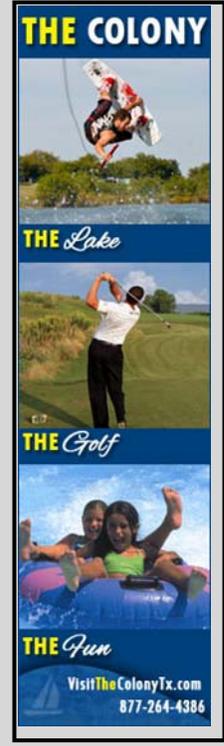
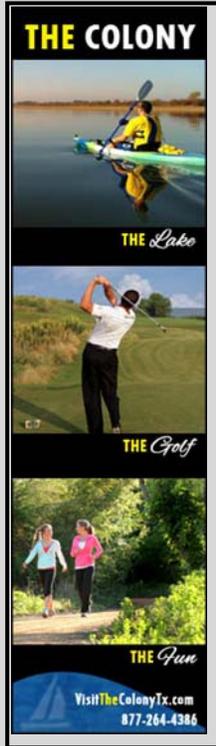


Here's a brief look at what's been happening the past month in the city's Convention & Visitors Bureau:

- Members of The Colony CVB were among city officials who made a site visit to Nebraska Furniture Mart in Kansas City. The trip helped materialize the expectations surrounding Nebraska Furniture Mart and answered many questions. Along with touring the store's showrooms, we learned more about the thinking behind the store's layout, expectations for customer service, how electronic pricing works and overall logistics from point of purchase through delivery. We witnessed the streamlined and efficient warehouse processes firsthand and learned how employees pride themselves in being able to load product into vehicles within 10 minutes of purchase. Experiencing Nebraska Furniture Mart directly will help us market the store and Grand-scape as well through our advertising and through our interaction with visitors.
- The Colony CVB helped fill bags with information and giveaways for The Colony Clean Up which took place Saturday, October 18. We included a discount flyer coupon containing offers for several local restaurants including Angelina's, Maza Bar & Grill, Amore Pasta & Pizza, Golden Corral, China Star, Mr. Jim's Pizza, Papa John's and Texas Roadhouse. Anyone interested in taking advantage of these offers can find them on the CVB website discount page: <http://visitthecolonytx.com/discounts>.
- The Waskom Texas Travel Information Center contacted The Colony CVB requesting 500 copies of our official visitor guides. Travel Information Centers are staffed by professional travel counselors who welcome visitors to Texas, help with routings and provide information on points of interest, events and road conditions. They are often the first stop visitors make when entering Texas.
- Visitors and residents are encouraged to stop by our office for discount passes to local attractions as well as DFW attractions. We're currently featuring discount offers for Lone Star Hot Yoga, Texas Family Fitness and the American Heroes Carnival in addition to our standard discount flyer. Stop by Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., 6900 Main Street, The Colony, TX 75056.
- The Colony CVB sent out a special edition email blast featuring American Heroes and the various activities taking place throughout the day. The email also features a schedule of events and link to register for the American Hero Run. To receive future updates from The Colony CVB by email, please sign up for our monthly newsletter: <http://visitthecolonytx.com/sign-up-for-e-news>.



- October marked the final month of The Colony CVB running banner ads on TourTexas.com in 2014. A total of five banners ran over the course of April, May, June, July and October. TourTexas.com serves as a major source of visitor leads for The Colony CVB and banners ads are just one of several forms of advertising we take part in with this Texas based travel site.



- During the month of October the CVB sent advertising materials to Tour Texas, Texas State Travel Guide and Constant Contact in the form of an electronic newsletter and supplied local hotels with an updated events flyer.



- The Colony CVB promoted the following topics through social media in October: The Colony Public Library “Back to Hogwarts Bash”, Lakeside Community Theatre “Plaza Suite”, Saturday Night Out-Giant Gladiator Joust, First United Methodist Church Harvest Craft Bazaar, World Pasta Day, Stewart Creek Park, American heroes-Live Music, Jo Dee Messina, Cascades Events Center, Saturday Night Out-Halloween Party, American Heroes-Carnival, Heroes in Action Golf Tournament, The Tribute Golf Links and Guest House, Haunted Shadows Lake Trail, American Heroes-Food, The Colony Half Marathon, Stewart Peninsula Golf Club, Stewart Peninsula Golf Club-Santa Fe Neighborhood Grill, Courtyard by Marriott, Old American Golf Club Craft Bazaar, Saturday Night Out-Photo Booth Night, Survivor Joe Gobble Gallup, Human Sun Dial at Shoreline Trail, The Colony Public Library-Historic Yours, American Heroes-Heroes and Memorial Ceremonies, Family Fight Night, Columbus Day, American Hero Run, American Heroes-Car/Truck/Bike Show, Art Quest, Drive-In, The Colony Half Marathon Promo Code, Texas Roadhouse, The Colony Public Library-Star Wars Read Day, National Taco Day, TyBryt Baker Invitational Men’s and Women’s Collegiate Bowling Tournament, Movies in the Park-Frozen, Saturday Night Out-Bounce House Night, Halloween Safety Tips and Happy Halloween.



Calendar - News - Employment - Codes & Documents - Contact Us

Home Government Departments News/Information Online Services City Related Websites

- Construction Updates
- Residents
- Businesses
- Email Updates
- Citizen Action Center
- Community TV
- Online Bill Pay
- Event Information

## Be water wise! The Colony is in Phase 2 of its Drought Contingency Plan. Click here for more details.



### The Colony News

#### Donation to enhance library's technology services

Marine Quest has donated \$5,000 to The Colony Public Library in support of STEM education, technological literacy, and creativity. [Read More](#)

[View All](#)

### City Calendar

#### 10/06/14 - Voter registration deadline

[View Calendar](#)

### Community Update

#### City Manager Weekly Report



**City of The Colony - Texas Government**  
Government Organization

2,497 likes, 1,113 visits

Reach People Nearby

Timeline About Photos Reviews More

Status Photo / Video Offer, Event +

What have you been up to?

City of The Colony - Texas Government shared a link.  
Posted by socialmedia@thecolonytx.gov (1) · about an hour ago · #h

The agenda for next week's meeting of The Colony Planning & Zoning Commission is now available online.

Planning & Zoning Commission agenda archive  
thecolonytx.gov



**City of The Colony**

City by the Lake with an excellent view.

2,376 followers, 19 retweets, 81 replies, 969 tweets, 32 mentions

Tweets Tweets & replies

City of The Colony (@thecolonytx) · 2014-10-06  
The agenda for next week's meeting of the Colony P&Z is now available online. [Go to P&Z](#)

City of The Colony (@thecolonytx) · 2014-10-06  
City of the Lake looks to create unique festival during show, any special requests for library on that 8:00-3 a.m. #TCFL #Drought

City of The Colony (@thecolonytx) · 2014-10-06  
Frisco tech firm, Sanyo, moving headquarters to Austin Ranch. [tryurf.com](#) [/ppq45d](#)



### Proactive approach

Community Resource Office provides link between parent, prevention

The City of The Colony has one of the best views in the DFW area while many other areas provide a view of the city. There are many great parks, beautiful views, and scenic views from parks and the water and other city offices.

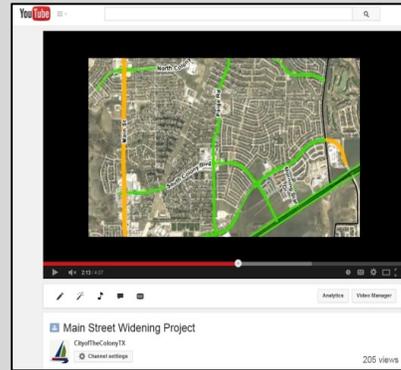
Community Resource Office has just announced The Colony Police Department's arrest of a suspect. It is a great example of the police's role in the city's commitment to the annual festival. The 2014 event is scheduled for 7 to 9 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 5, in our new neighborhood (previously used as a park and outdoor area from parks and the water and other city offices).

In the past, M&T is designed to not only provide a view of the city, but also to provide a view of the city's history. The goal is to provide a view of the city's history, and also to provide a view of the city's future. The goal is to provide a view of the city's history, and also to provide a view of the city's future.



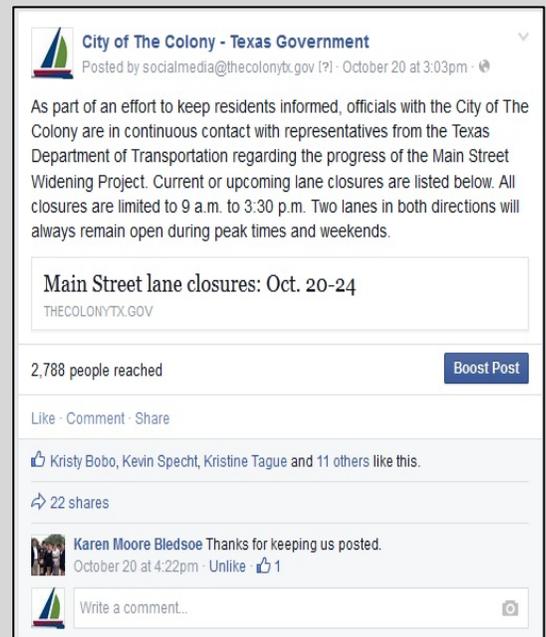
YouTube

- Post-production of the new Main Street Widening Project PSA video concluded. The project culminated with presentation of the finished product to the city council on Oct. 21. The video has now been distributed through all our communication mediums. While aiming to provide residents and area motorists with an overview of the project, its primary purpose is to demonstrate the city’s empathy for drivers experiencing delays and to ask for patience and understanding as the project progresses. The department wishes to thank City Manager Troy Powell, our Police and Fire departments, Public Works, and Christopher Schlumpf with Everybody’s a Story Productions for their help with this important project. The video can be found on the city’s [website](#) and [YouTube channel](#).



- In addition to concluding production of the Main Street video, Communication staff has been working with other departments to coordinate distribution of information related to the beginning of construction and related lane closures. We are in contact with Government Relations and the Texas Department of Transportation to keep abreast of closures and timelines in order to facilitate sharing that information with residents in a timely manner. Primary methods of communication include:

- ◇ prominent links to updated documents on the city’s website, both on the main homepage and the “Construction Updates” page;
- ◇ placement of the new video on the homepage;
- ◇ social media posts on Facebook and Twitter;
- ◇ weekly city manager’s update;
- ◇ email blasts to newsletter subscribers;
- ◇ television and print media engagements;
- ◇ direct emails to HOA representatives;
- ◇ cable slides on the cable broadcast;
- ◇ scrolling news ticket on the cable broadcast;
- ◇ scrolling message on the marquee at the Community Center directing residents to the website for more information;
- ◇ posted releases on the bulletin boards outside city hall; and,
- ◇ mayoral announcements at city council meetings.



**\*Note: We encourage all who travel in and about our city to please take time to visit, sign up for, or monitor these communication sites for updated information.**

- The Communications Department was called in to immediate action the afternoon of Oct. 8 upon reports of a possible Ebola case connected to a resident of The Colony who was seeking medical treatment at an urgent care center in neighboring Frisco. Staff members monitored the situation and stayed in contact with the city manager's team and the city's emergency services leadership to craft and distribute timely information regarding the city's response to the incident.
- 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 the media, have resulted in coverage of:
  - ◇ the beginning of construction for the Main Street Widening Project, in both *neighborsgo* and *The Colony Courier-Leader*;
  - ◇ The Colony Firefighters Association's recognition of Breast Cancer Awareness Month by designing, wearing, and selling custom pink t-shirts to raise funds for the National Cancer Society;
  - ◇ the city's Make A Difference Day preparations in a community leader's column by Neighborhood Enhancement Officer Prakash Abraham, published online by the *Denton Record Chronicle*;
  - ◇ preview story with photos for the annual Fright Night at Stewart Creek Park, *The Colony Courier-Leader*;
  - ◇ ongoing programs and activities at The Colony Public Library, including preview story with photos for the Back to Hogwarts Bash, and preview story with photos for the History Progressive tours, *The Colony Courier-Leader*;
  - ◇ Keep The Colony Beautiful's upcoming Owl & Howl Prowl event on the Shoreline Trail;
  - ◇ advance notifications of the city's annual Fall Clean-Up;
  - ◇ the upcoming Nov. 4 City Council Election, specifically early voting times, which are Oct. 20-31; and,
  - ◇ city council candidate forum hosted by The Colony Community Center.
- Since Sept. 25, the city's official Twitter account, @TheColonyTexas, has seen a net increase of 38 new followers, bringing the total to 911. Since the previous count, social media moderators have sent out 60 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 80 new "Likes," or followers since the last update, bringing the total to 2,586. Facebook metrics indicated followers were particularly interested in: the announcement of construction beginning on the Main Street Widening Project, *which reached a record-setting 15,360 users*; an update regarding the city's response to a possible Ebola case involving a resident at an urgent care clinic in neighboring Frisco; photos from the Keith Helms Memorial dedication ceremony; and publication of a new PSA video regarding Main Street construction.
- As matter of routine, the Communications Department provides assistance with broadcasting and recording public meetings, and also promotes the following via social media and other methods of communication: weekly updates from the city manager's office to the city council; job opportunities available with the city; notification of agenda postings for the City Council and the Planning and Zoning Commission; ongoing progress of construction at Grandscape; lane closures related to Main Street construction; and regional weather and traffic alerts.

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](https://twitter.com/thecolonytexas) . You can also sign up to receive information via email at: [Citizen Action Center](#)



TheColonyTexas



TheColonyTexas



CityofTheColonyTX

For the month of October, the department closed 52 helpdesk tickets. We currently have 24 open tickets with the oldest ticket being open since May 2014. All city employee desktops have now been replaced.

The updated video on-demand function on the city website is completed and is operational again. We will continue looking at ways to improve these functions as time and staff is available.

The new laptops for the police department have been retro-fitted allowing them to be mounted in the SUV docking stations. New mounting hardware has been purchased to allow mounting of the new laptops in the Crown Victorias. The hardware for multi-factor authentication which is required for CJIS (Criminal Justice Information Systems) compliance is in house. The server side software for this project is scheduled for Monday, Oct. 27, 2014. Field implementation will begin the first week in November.

## **Projects Updates:**

1. The phone systems software upgrade is completed, including the system replacement at Fire Station 3. The contractor is working at his shop to preprogram as much of the new voicemail system as possible in order to minimize the system down time. Plans are to be completed by Nov. 21, 2014.
2. The increased bandwidths for the City Hall and Library public access internet connections have provided much-needed improvements. Staff, contractors and citizens have commented on the improvements.
3. The new server hardware for the city's email system is continuing to perform as expected without any excessive down time, however we are experiencing issues with malware that is generating large amounts of spoofed traffic which is congesting our servers. We are working with our contractors and Microsoft on a resolution.
4. The voice recording system at the Police Department which records all calls to each non-emergency phone line, the 911 line at each station and all radio traffic including police and fire has been replaced and is operational as of Thursday afternoon, Oct. 23, 2014.
5. The new software that allows departments to perform updates to their respective web pages has been purchased and the IT Department has started deployment to the departments.

## **Technology Board**

### **Board Members**

**Stephen Hoffman, Chairman**

**Bill Swink**

**Joye Grube, Secretary**

**Kevin Van Winkle**

**Joe Zacha, Vice Chair**

**Juan Martinez, Chair**

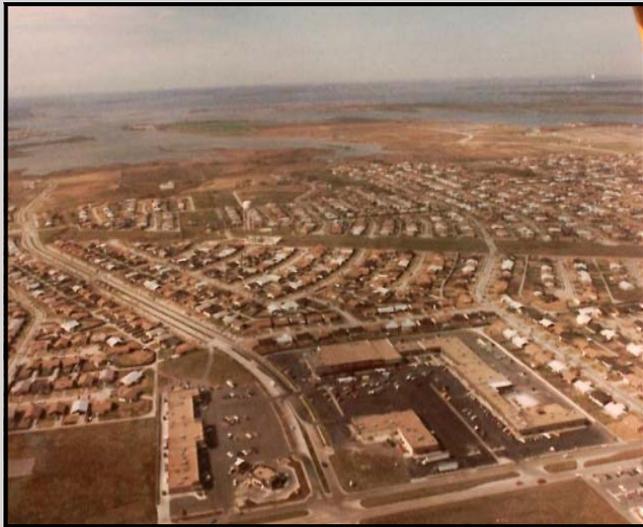
**Vacant**

**Council Liaison: Joe McCourry**

**Staff Liaison: Ted Ringener**

The Technology Board met on Monday Oct. 6, 2014. The discussion centered on the board's scheduled report to the City Council on Nov. 18.

In 1973, Fox and Jacobs (F&J), a Dallas-based residential land developer, purchased approximately 2,500 acres of land on the eastern shore of Lake Lewisville and south of Eastvale for a housing development. The name The Colony was chosen because F&J felt a strong sense of kinship with Texas' early developers and also to memorialize the spirit of Peters



Colony providing a new way of life – a goal Fox and Jacobs wanted their new development to share, as well.

A Municipal Utility District was then formed to provide public water services to the development. In 1974, streets were poured and many were named after early settlers and members of the crew working on the project. The first families moved into their homes in October 1974. By January 1977, The Colony had over 3,500 residents and voted to incorporate as a city. The Colony became a Home Rule city in 1979.

Fox and Jacobs built and donated a fire station in 1975; the first business was a Stop 'n Go convenience store, opened in 1976; the first churches to open were the Methodist and Baptist churches; the first public school, Camey Elementary, opened in 1977; and The Colony Public Library opened in 1982.

Today, substantial business and retail development is progressively changing the landscape of The Colony. The city's population is currently around 40,000, with more increases expected in the next several years. To quote a recent *D Magazine* article, "The Colony is red hot!"

## City of The Colony, Texas

6800 Main St.  
The Colony, Texas 75056

City Hall	972-624-3100
Police Department	972-625-1887
Rec Center	972-625-1106
Community Center	972-624-2246
Fire Department	972-625-3944
Public Library	972-625-1900
Utility Billing	972-625-2741 ext. 3113
After hours telephone: if no answer;	972-625-4471 469-628-5452
CVB	972-624-LAKE
EDC	972-624-3127
Adult Probation	972-434-7290
Judge James DePiazza	972-434-7200
Vehicle Reg/Tax Office	972-434-7250



If you are not already following us on social media sites, we invite you to monitor what's happening in the city at:



[facebook.com/thecolonytexas](https://www.facebook.com/thecolonytexas)



[twitter.com/thecolonytexas](https://twitter.com/thecolonytexas)



[CityofTheColonyTX](https://www.youtube.com/CityofTheColonyTX)

**Email:** [info@thecolonytx.gov](mailto:info@thecolonytx.gov)

