

Nov. 10, 2014

Inside this issue:

Board Calendar	2
Events	3
Main Street Update	4
West Nile Update	5
Utility Billing	6
Community Image	7-11
KTCB	12-13
Fire	14-17

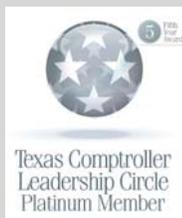


“Believe in yourself, and the rest will fall into place. Have faith in your own abilities, work hard, and there is nothing you cannot accomplish.”

— Brad Henry

“When solving problems, dig at the roots instead of just hacking at the leaves.”

— Anthony J. D'Angelo



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

Day Trip to Texas Civil War Museum

Date: Wednesday, Nov 12

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

Cost: \$15 for members

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.

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

SciGirls Club: Take it in Stride

Girls in grades 5-8 are invited to create, design, and investigate during TCPL's all new SciGirls Club monthly meetings.

Date: Wednesday, Nov. 12

Time: 4:30 p.m.

Location: The Colony Public Library, 6800 Main St.

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: 2:00 p.m.

Location: The Colony Public Library, 6800 Main St.

eReader Office Hours

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

Date: Saturday, Nov. 15

Time: 11 a.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

The following closures are scheduled for Nov. 10-11:

- The northbound left lane of FM 423 from South Colony Boulevard to North Colony Boulevard will be closed for median earthwork.

The following closures are scheduled through Nov. 14:

- 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 Ridgpointe 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 median earthwork.

During construction, the Engineering Department will post updates and information regarding the progress of this project at 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 or call 972-624-3108.



Mosquito season continues

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 D's 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 5 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, or visit 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.

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): 972-625-4471

If No Answer please call: 469-628-5452

Fax: 972-624-2286

Email: utilityadmin@thecolonytx.gov

Automated Bill payment/information: 972-625-2741 opt. 4

Hours

Office: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday

Drive-thru: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; the after hours night depository is 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 (could vary based on prior service)

Renter's Deposit - \$150 (could vary based on prior service)

Application Fee - \$20

Commercial Domestic/Irrigation Application***

Commercial Deposit - Dependent on service

Application Fee - \$20

*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.

Health Inspections – October 2014

<i>Type of Inspections</i>	<i>Number of Inspections</i>
Annual 01	6
Annual 02	18
Annual 03	8
Change of Owner	1
Complaint	3
Courtesy	2
Complaint	3
Follow Up	4
Follow Up 01	14
<i>Total Inspections</i>	59

<i>Type of Case</i>	<i>Number of Cases</i>
Fence	29
House Numbers	3
Junked Vehicle	1
Minimum Standards	12
Miscellaneous	3
Parking	5
Sign	2
Stagnant Water	3
Trash and Debris	107
Trash Container	2
Tree and Shrub	27
Weeds and Grass	207
Work Without Permit	6
Zoning	1
<i>Total Cases Opened</i>	408

(Approx. 11,440 Residential parcels & 1,052 Commercial)

<i>Miscellaneous Information</i>	
Citations Written	6
Pro Active Cases	329
Reactive Cases (Complaints)	79
Properties Abated by Contractor	42
Extensions Given	15

The Flu just rolled in

Oct. 1 was Texas Influenza Awareness Day and the official start to the flu season, which runs October through May. Get your flu shot NOW to protect yourself, your loved ones, and those who cannot be immunized. Everyone 6 months and older should get vaccinated. It takes about two weeks for the flu shot to take full effect, so don't wait – vaccinate!

Getting vaccinated means you will not only protect yourself, but also family and friends. Vaccinating helps safeguard those who are at highest risk of complications or death from the flu, including these groups:

- Children younger than 5, but especially children younger than 2 (note: babies younger than 6 months are too young for the vaccine, and therefore are especially vulnerable.)
- Pregnant women
- Seniors
- People with disabilities
- People with chronic health conditions, such as asthma, COPD, heart disease, diabetes, HIV/AIDS, kidney and liver disorders, cancer, and morbid obesity
- Travelers, and those living abroad

Denton County Health Department Flu Shots

Children are eligible for free flu vaccines if they are enrolled in Children's Medicaid or CHIP, are uninsured, or have private insurance that does not cover the flu shot. Adults are eligible for free flu vaccines if they are uninsured and low-income. All others will be charged \$20 (cash only).

Clinic Locations:

Denton:
535 S. Loop 288, Suite 1003
940-349-2900

Lewisville:
190 N. Valley Pkwy., Suite 203
972-434-4700

Immunizations Hours:

Monday - Thursday
7 to 11:30 a.m. and 1 to 5:30 p.m.

Friday
7 to 11:30 a.m. and 1 to 4:30 p.m.

What to Bring:

- Immunization record for children
- Cards for CHIP, Children's Medicaid, Medicare, and/or private insurance
- Cash if applicable

**Images and content courtesy of the Denton County Health Department*

Flu Prevention

Getting a flu shot every year is the best way to prevent the flu, but here are some additional ways you and your family can stay healthy this flu season:

- **Wash your hands often** – This is the easiest way to stop the spread of germs. Use soap and water, or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer as a back-up, if soap and water aren't available.
- **Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth** – Some germs can live for several hours on surfaces like door knobs, desks, and tables.
- **Cover your mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing** – Always cough or sneeze into a tissue and throw it away to prevent the spread of the germs. If you don't have a tissue, cover your cough or sneeze into the crease of your elbow.
- **Stay home when you feel sick** – Stay home from work, stores, and public places, and keep sick kids home from school or daycare.
- **Try to avoid close contact with sick people** – and try to avoid contact with others when you are sick.
- **Practice good health habits** – Get plenty of sleep and exercise, manage your stress, drink plenty of fluids, and eat healthy food.

Flu Information for Pregnant Women:

Did you know that pregnant women are among the highest at risk for complications from the flu? Avoid the unnecessary medical care and the possibility of putting yourself and your baby in harm's way; get your flu shot today to "Protect 2 from the Flu." It's safe to get anytime during pregnancy, and it keeps protecting your baby up to 6 months after birth.

ImmTrac:

ImmTrac is a secure and confidential registry available to all Texans. ImmTrac safely consolidates and stores immunization information electronically in one centralized system. Texas law requires written consent for ImmTrac participation and limits access to the Registry to only those individuals who have been authorized by law. ImmTrac contains several million immunization records and continues to rapidly grow with increase participation.

How does ImmTrac help me and my family?

Providers authorized to use ImmTrac can see what immunizations your child has already had, even if they were given in another city or county. So when you come in for shots, your child gets only those that he or she needs.

This means that your child won't be under-vaccinated and more susceptible to diseases. Your child won't be over-vaccinated either, so he or she does not have to go through any more discomfort than is necessary. ImmTrac can also print out a shot record you can use to get your child into school or childcare. Using ImmTrac, immunization providers can remind you to bring your child in for shots that are due, or to notify you about shots that are overdue.

How does ImmTrac work?

When a health-care provider gives your child an immunization, and you consent to registering this information, the statewide immunization registry, known as ImmTrac, is notified. ImmTrac will keep an electronic immunization record on your child. Some information contained in the registry is the child's name, date-of-birth, address, the name of the parent or guardian, information on the shots given, and who gave them. Optional (but very helpful) information stored in ImmTrac is the child's Social Security number and mother's maiden name. This optional information helps prevent duplicate records from being created.

**Images and content courtesy of the Denton County Health Department*

Texas Vaccines for Children Program:

Since its inception in 1994, Texas has participated in the Federal Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program. Our version is called the **Texas Vaccines for Children Program**, or TVFC. This program guarantees that vaccines would be available at no cost to providers, in order to immunize children who meet the eligibility requirements.

Today there are more than 6,500 Texas providers enrolled in TVFC. Texas leads the nation in the number of uninsured and underinsured children. We also have over 3 million Texas children, 0-18 years, on Medicaid (FFY 2009). Many of these children are not receiving the complete series of immunizations required to protect them from vaccine-preventable diseases. Under the TVFC Program, the following groups of children should be receiving their vaccines for free:

- Uninsured or underinsured children;
- children who are covered by CHIP;
- children who are of Native American or Native Alaskan heritage; and,
- children on Medicaid.

Other Flu Resources:

Please visit the following links for the latest information on flu in Texas, symptoms, treatment, and prevention.



[Follow @FluGov](#)

Vaccine Resources:

[The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#)



[Department of State Health Services Immunization Branch](#)



President: Linda Van Vranken

Vice President: Roger Morehouse

Secretary: Jatun Thompson

Member: Mary Ann Evans

Member: Janece Pool

Member: Wm. Dale Brewer

Member: Debra Pickett

Keep The Colony Beautiful – Owl & Howl Prowl held Oct. 30, 2014

Keep the Colony Beautiful hosted the first “Owl & Howl Prowl” nature walk on Thursday, Oct. 30, 2014, along the Shoreline Trail. There were between 50–60 participants who showed up for the event. The leisurely, guided walk was led by Donna Cole, Texas Master Naturalist and The Colony residents. During the walk, participants were able to listen and learn how to identify sounds from local nocturnal animals, identify different plants along the trail as well as identify different types of animal tracks.



Make A Difference Day 2014

Projects for Make a Difference Day 2014 in The Colony included painting and cleanup of the drainage easement, bridge and wall at Memorial Drive and Paige Road; cleanup and painting of the bridge on Turner Street behind Bill Allen Memorial Park; painting of the wall on Memorial Drive between Paige Road and Blair Oaks Drive; and cleanup of the Shoreline Trail at Stewart Creek Park. All of these projects consisted of picking up trash, graffiti removal and painting.







Update from the Chief



Chief Scott Thompson

Fall/Winter Preparedness



HOME PREPAREDNESS

Freezing Pipes

- 20°F and below can cause pipes to freeze
- Open cabinets underneath sinks to allow warm air circulation
- Drip faucets overnight with both hot and cold knobs open
- Only use electric blow dryers to attempt to thaw a frozen pipe and always keep the faucet open to allow pressure to escape
- Cover or wrap exposed out- door pipes during freezing weather

Supply Kit (Car and Home)

- 3-Day Water Supply (one gallon per person per day)
- Battery powered hand crank radio
- First-Aid Kit
- 3-Day food supply (dry food/non-perishable)
- Flashlights & extra batteries
- Extra blankets and warm clothing to stay warm, dry, and hydrated
- Alternate heat source
- Multipurpose knife
- Fire Extinguisher
- Whistle
- Hand Sanitizer



CARBON MONOXIDE AWARENESS

Symptoms of Poisoning

Nausea, Dizziness, Fatigue, Headache, Vomiting, Mental confusion, loss of consciousness

Detectors

- Digital, or dual sensing smoke detectors are best
- Check batteries in all detectors during daylight savings
- Test all detectors once a month

Prevention

- Never use a gas oven to heat your home
- Never use generators indoors
- Generators should be placed 20ft away from any doors or windows
- Check all gas/oil burning appliances for proper ventilation
- Buy battery operated CO detectors





WINTER FIRE PREVENTION

SPACE HEATERS

- Maintain 3ft open space around portable heaters
- Turn unattended heaters off
- Plug heaters directly into wall outlets
- Use space heaters with an automatic shut-off
- Never use flammable liquids to start a fire
- Always put out fires when going to bed

FIREPLACES

- Clear vent of all snow, ice and debris
- Keep fireplace clean and clear of any flammable substances
- Metal/Glass screens should be used at all times

PROPANE TANKS

- Know what propane smells like and where/how to shut off valve
- Keep propane tank filled for winter storms
- Clear all outdoor vents and flues for CO release
- Always keep snow and ice away from propane tank to prevent freezing and cracked pipes



CHRISTMAS TREE SAFETY

- Keep trees away from fire places and open door ways
- Use flame retardant decorations
- Water trees everyday to prevent them from drying out

WINTER STORM

Winter storms are often accompanied by freezing temperatures, freezing rains, strong winds snow and ice. When exposed to such cold elements the affects can be seriously life threatening.

HYPOTHERMIA

- Body temperature falls below 95°F and can cause death or serious long lasting health issues
- Symptoms: uncontrollable shivering, memory loss, disorientation, incoherence, drowsiness, apparent exhaustion

OUTLOOK: Winter storm conditions are possible in the next 2-5 days. Stay tuned to local media for updates.

WATCH: Winter storm conditions are possible within the next 36-48 hours. Prepare now!

WARNING: Life-threatening severe winter conditions have begun or will begin within 24 hours. Act now!

ADVISORY: Winter weather conditions are expected to cause significant inconveniences and may be hazardous. If you are cautious, these situations should not be life threatening.

STAY INFORMED!

- Listen to NOAA radio, commercial radio and television for the latest information on winter storms.
- Keep battery powered radios and/or hand crank radios with extra batteries



PREPARE

- Keep an Emergency Kit for your family including your animals
- Rock salt walkways and driveways
- Stay indoors and minimize travel

The Colony Fire Department
4900 Blair Oaks
The Colony, TX 75056
972-625-3944



SPECIAL NEEDS ASSISTANT PROGRAM

- For residents with special needs that require assistance before, during or after an emergency
- Anyone, including family and friends can register on behalf of an individual with a special need
- Registration is free
- Information is confidential
- Allows first responders to track down special needs residents to provide assistance
- Registration renewal required every year
- Sign up by visiting:

[https:// www.fortworthtexas.gov/ applications/SNAP_Login.spx ?](https://www.fortworthtexas.gov/applications/SNAP_Login.spx?)



Department contact information

Fire Chief
Scott Thompson
972-625-3944
sthompson@thecolonytx.gov

Assistant Chief
Van Weese
972-625-3944
vweese@thecolonytx.gov

Assistant Chief/Fire Marshal
Carl McMurphy
972-624-2269
cmmurphy@thecolonytx.gov



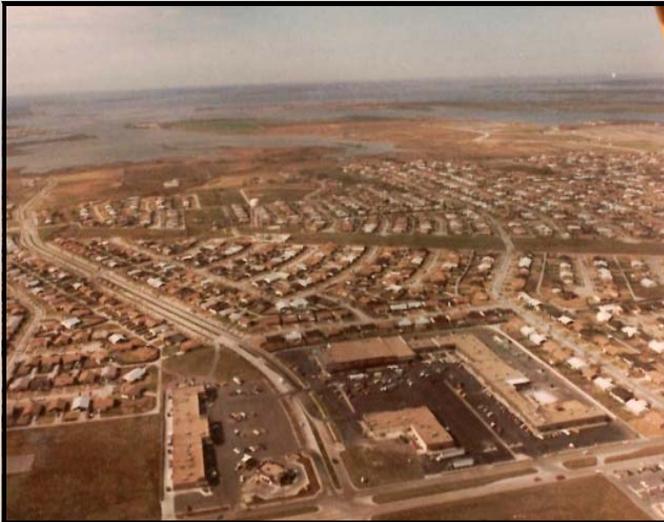
Fire station locations

Fire Station 1
4900 Blair Oaks Drive
The Colony TX 75056
972-625-3944

Fire Station 2
5571 North Colony Blvd.
The Colony TX 75056
972-624-2235

Fire Station 3
4691 North Colony Blvd.
The Colony TX 75056
972-624-2293

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.

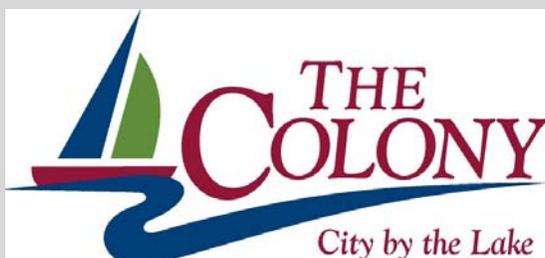
Fox and Jacobs built and donated a fire station in 1975; the first business was a Stop 'n Go convenience store, opened in 1976; the first churches to open were the Methodist and Baptist churches; the first public school, Camey Elementary, opened in 1977; and The Colony Public Library opened in 1982.

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.



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

Email: info@thecolonytx.gov

