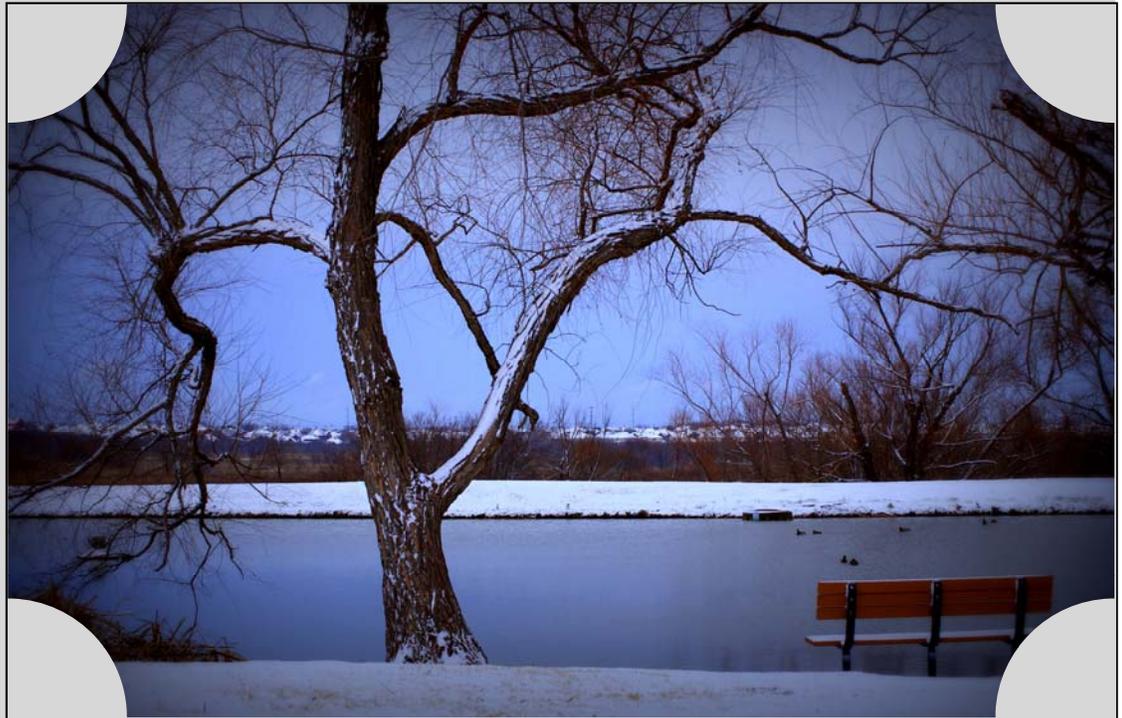




Dec. 8, 2014

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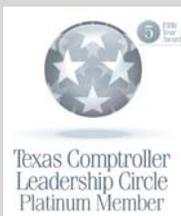


*“December is here before its June. My goodness how the time has flown.  
How did it get so late so soon?”*

— Dr. Suess

*“A [person] who dares to waste one hour of time has not discovered  
the value of life.”*

— Charles Darwin



The Colony

2013

All-America City Finalist

## 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.

## 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

## January 2015

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

### The Colony Christmas Spectacular

Date: Saturday, Dec. 6 – Friday, Jan. 2

Time: Sunset to 10 p.m.

Location: Central Fire Station, 4900 Blair Oaks Drive

Cost: Free

### 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).*

Christmas schedule:

Dec. 22 — Peter Piper Pizza, \$30

Dec. 23 — Going Bonkers, \$30

Dec. 26 — Movies, \$30

Dec. 29 — Legoland, \$35

Dec. 30 — Polar Bear Swim, \$30

Dec. 31 — Jump Street, \$30

Jan. 2 — Dallas Zoo, \$30

### Polar Open Disc Golf Tournament

Date: Saturday, Jan. 24

Time: 7 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Location: Bill Allen Memorial Park, 5900 Carroll Drive

Cost: TBD

## The Colony Public Library

### SciGirls Club: Dough Creatures

*For girls in grade 5-8*

Date: Wednesday, Dec. 10

Time: 4:30 p.m.

Location: The Colony Public Library, 6800 Main St.

Cost: Free

### Read to Rover

*For grades 1-5*

Date: Saturday, Dec. 13

Time: 11 a.m. to noon

Location: The Colony Public Library, 6800 Main St.

Cost: Free

### Holiday Story Time for the whole family

Date: Wednesday, Dec. 17

Time: 7 p.m.

Location: The Colony Public Library, 6800 Main St.

Cost: Free

### Early Dismissal Movie

*Children under the age of 9 must be accompanied at all times by a caregiver age 12 or older.*

Date: Friday, Dec. 19

Time: 2 p.m.

Location: The Colony Public Library, 6800 Main St.

Cost: Free

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 remain open during peak times and weekends when at all possible. As always, motorists are advised to prepare for delays and seek alternate routes where possible.

### Lane Closures

The following closures are scheduled for Wednesday, Dec. 3, through Friday, Dec. 5:

- northbound right lane of FM 423 between Stewarts Creek Road and Lone Star Parkway for traffic barrier installation.

The following closures are scheduled for Thursday, Dec. 4, through Friday, Dec. 5:

- alternative lane closures in the left lanes of northbound and southbound FM 423 from south of Cougar Alley/Ridgepointe to North Colony Boulevard for median earthwork.
- southbound right lane of FM 423 between Stewarts Creek Road and Lone Star Parkway for shoulder earthwork.

During construction, the Engineering Department will post updates and information regarding the progress of this project at <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.

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 children home from school or daycare.
- **Try to avoid close contact with sick people** – Also 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.

## **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 TFVC 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](#)



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



## 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 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 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](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.



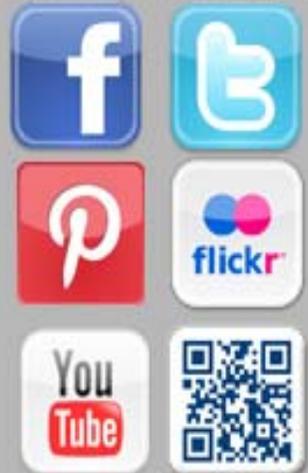
- About the CVB
- Anticipate
- About The Colony
- Traveling Around Texas
- Request a Visitors Guide
- Sign Up for E-News
- Contact Us

### 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 Memorial Day season. #VisitTheColony #MemorialDay
- VisitTheColonyTx.com (@VisitTheColony) Celebrate National 2 Hours Day at Stewart Creek Park, Hidden Cove Park & Marina or on the Family Grill. #VisitTheColonyTx.com/visitthe-site
- VisitTheColonyTx.com (@VisitTheColony) If the 8pm show isn't 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 CVB and Communications department participated in another morning of Adopt-A-Street cleanup along Paige Road between North Colony Boulevard and Nash Drive, collecting a total of three bags of trash and debris. As part of the on-going program, the CVB is required to maintain the area six times a year or every two months.
- The Colony CVB was contacted by the West Texas city of Big Springs requesting copies of our official visitors guide to be put on display in their newly renovated visitor center. Having our information available at this location makes us visible to travelers along the I-20 corridor who stop in on their way into the DFW Metroplex.
- The Colony CVB participated in the American Heroes festival by setting up a booth in the vendor expo. With help from Amanda Garcia, the CVB engaged with hundreds of festival goers throughout the day. The CVB provided copies of some of the literature found at the CVB building, gave visitors a chance to sign up for the eNewsletter, answered questions about The Colony and provided prizes for participants who took a spin on the prize wheel. The CVB awarded patriotic prizes such as flag pins, flag window clings, stickers, magnets, a AAA emergency kit and more!



- Members of the CVB began filming for their upcoming holiday card. The electronic card will not only send holiday greetings but provides recipients a glimpse of what's happening in The Colony throughout the year. The card was created using multiple types of technology, some of which was featured during the annual educational conference in Bay Area Houston earlier this year. The card will make its premier in December.

- Throughout November the CVB contracted ad space with multiple media outlets to round out its 2014/2015 marketing plan. FY14/15 media will include: TourTexas.com, Texas Events Calendar, Texas Highways, Home & Away-Oklahoma, Southern Traveler, Texas Bound for Golf and Texas Meetings & Events. As other opportunities become available, they will be considered on a case-by-case basis and the CVB will actively seek out deeply discounted offers in order to stretch marketing dollars as far as possible. The CVB continues to promote the message of “THE Lake, THE Golf, THE Fun – THE Colony” along with the tagline, “Where you go to play” to bring awareness to viewers that there are many great attractions and events in The Colony suitable for all ages and interests.
- The CVB continues to list annual city events on free event listing sites to increase awareness and potential audience base. Several of these sites allow listings to include web links which then lead back to the recently redesigned CVB website: VisitTheColonyTX.com in the hopes that viewers will click through and browse the website for further information before ultimately planning a visit to The Colony.
- Several publications the CVB advertises with offer added value in the form of advertorials or editorial. This gives the CVB another opportunity within the publication to capture the reader’s attention and go into more detail than the tradition print ad would allow. In November the CVB took advantage of two such opportunities within Texas Bound for Golf and Texas Meetings & Events magazines.

## **Texas Bound for Golf editorial:**

When you think of golf, think of The Colony. Home to three types of golf and three outstanding lakeside courses, The Colony is where you go to play!

All three of our courses feature outstanding lake views and challenging play. Plan a golf getaway and stay at The Tribute Golf Links and Guest House or the nearby Fairfield Inn & Suites by Marriott or the Comfort Suites, both located conveniently along the Sam Rayburn Tollway.

Don't stop playing when the sun goes down. Head to Topgolf for dinner, drinks and a challenging game of interactive golf where the highest score wins.

During your visit to The Colony be sure to check out our other local attractions or plan your visit to correspond with one of our annual events such as Liberty by the Lake in July or American Heroes: A Salute to Veterans Festival and Fireworks in November.

The Colony will celebrate the grand opening of North America’s largest home furnishings store, Nebraska Furniture Mart of Texas (NFM) in spring 2015. NFM will feature over 1.8 million square feet of showroom and warehouse as part of the 433-acre Grand-scape development. Grandscape will be home to unique attractions, retail and dining such as Rock and Brews and Hard Eight BBQ. Recharge at this must-see destination after your round on the fairways. <http://visitthecolonytx.com/>

The Old American Golf Club

<http://www.theoldamericangolfclub.com/>

The Old American Golf Club was recently ranked No. 5 in *GOLF Magazine's* 2014 "Best Courses Near You" in Texas. This latest honor makes the Old American the highest-ranked course in the DFW area and positions it in the upper tier of Texas public golf facilities. Designed by Tripp Davis and PGA Tour star Justin Leonard, The Old American Golf Club features natural contours, hazard styles, native grasses and green shapes that were influenced by America's most storied golf course masterpieces.

## The Tribute Golf Links and Guest House

<http://www.thetributegc.com/>

The Tribute Golf Links and Guest House is another top-ranked course receiving accolades such as being named one of the top Public Golf Courses in the Dallas area, one of America's 100 Greatest Public Courses by Golf Digest and one of the top five golf courses in Texas by Golf Magazine. This Scottish-inspired course, located just minutes away from The Old American, features a beautiful clubhouse with guest suites, banquet and meeting spaces, a restaurant and pro-shop.

## Stewart Peninsula Golf Course

<http://www.stewartpeninsulagolf.com/>

Another Trip Davis designed course, Stewart Peninsula Golf Course, was inspired by both Scotland's classic links architecture courses and California's Monterey Peninsula coastal courses. Located along the shores of Lewisville Lake, this nine-hole course is a favorite among locals.

## Topgolf

<http://topgolf.com/us/>

Tee off year-round at Topgolf, the premier golf entertainment complex where the competition of sport meets your favorite local hangout. Challenge friends and family to addictive point-scoring golf games perfect for any age or skill level. The closer you hit your microchipped balls to the targets, the more points you receive. With heated bays, food service and over 200 HDTV's throughout, Topgolf takes your game to the next level.

## **Texas Meetings & Events editorial:**

THE Lake, THE Golf, THE Fun - THE Colony offers over 31,000 square feet of diverse meeting space surrounded by breathtaking lake views, perfectly manicured landscapes, elegant backdrops and trendy entertainment.

“Our ideal location provides planners an additional benefit of being just minutes from the excitement of Dallas/Fort Worth, while still providing a cozy, lake atmosphere with plenty of entertainment options. Their visit to The Colony can be an adventurous experience or a relaxing stay. It's whatever they want it to be, and The Colony CVB is here to help make it happen.” – Diane Baxter, Director of Tourism.

Enjoy year-round activities on Lewisville Lake or hit the fairways at one of three picturesque lakeside golf clubs; Old American, The Tribute and Stewart Peninsula.

Meet and compete at the new Topgolf facility featuring state-of-the-art meeting space and challenging interactive point-scoring golf games.

Plan your visit to coincide with one of The Colony's annual events such as Liberty by the Lake in July or American Heroes in November. Both free family-friendly events conclude with an amazing fireworks display.

Nebraska Furniture Mart of Texas, the 1.8 million square foot anchor store in the 433-acre Grandscape development opens its doors in Spring 2015. Along with the home furnishings superstore, Grandscape will feature unique dining, attraction, retail and hotel options.

The Colony CVB looks forward to working with you to customize your meeting and travel needs and creating the perfect package that's the best fit for you and your group.

- During the month of November The CVB created advertising material for: Texas Town and Cities (Best of the Fests event listing), Southern Denton County Visitor Guide, Texas Meetings and Events, Texas Bound for Golf, Texas Event Calendar, November hotel flyer and November eBlast.

**THE COLONY** *Where you go to play!*

**THE Lake** **THE Golf**  
**THE Fun** **THE Future**

Located only 20 minutes north of Dallas, The Colony is home to many family-friendly attractions and annual events. We invite you to spend the day exploring the largest home furnishings store in North America, Nebraska Furniture Mart of Texas - opening Spring 2015! While you're in town, hit the fairways at one of our top-ranked lakeside golf courses or take on an interactive challenge at our new Topgolf facility. If you prefer fresh air and sunshine, check out one of our lakeside parks along the shores of Lewisville Lake featuring a marina, cabin rentals and designated swimming area or blast through twists and turns at Hawaiian Falls Waterpark.

Nebraska Furniture Mart of Texas opening Spring 2015!

VisitTheColonyTx.com | 877-264-4386

Experience our latest tourism video

Facebook: TCCVB, CityOfTheColonyTx, VisitTheColony, flickr.com/photos/TCCVB

**THE COLONY** VisitTheColonyTx.com | 877-264-4386

The Tribute

The Colony, only 20 miles north of Dallas, offers over 31,000 square feet of modern meeting and event facilities as well as first-class service, restful accommodations and year-round entertainment.

**Topgolf**

- Meet / Play / Eat
- Private Bar
- Rooftop Terrace
- On-site Catering

**Cascades Events Center**

- Adjacent to Marriott Properties
- Meeting & Event Packages
- On-site Catering
- Outdoor gazebo with lighting/sound

**The Tribute**

- Eight Guest Suites
- Top-ranked Golf Course
- On-site Catering
- Wireless Internet

Topgolf Cascades Events Center

The Colony CVB Newsletter November 2014

**In This Issue**

**American Heroes Festival and Fireworks** shows to a free family friendly event coming up this Saturday, November 8.

**Spotlight**

**REVEAL OUR EXHIBITING PLAN**

**Survivor Joe Gobbie Gallup**

**Quick Links**

**Upcoming Events**

- American Heroes Fest: November 8
- American Heroes Festival and Fireworks: November 8
- Survivor Joe Gobbie Gallup: November 27
- Holiday in the Park: December 6
- The Colony Christmas Spectacular: December 6-January 3

**About Us**

The Colony Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB) is a department of the City of The Colony and is funded by the local taxpayers here. The CVB is here to help you plan your visit, find the perfect event venue, discover the best deals and discounts and much more. Visitors and residents are encouraged to stop by monthly through Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. and pick up tourism brochures, maps, coupons and other free information.

The Colony, where you go to play!

VisitTheColonyTx.com

The Colony Convention & Visitors Bureau • 6900 Main Street • The Colony, Texas 75056 • 877-264-4386

**NOVEMBER EVENTS IN THE COLONY**

**Visit THE COLONY** City by the Lake

**American Heroes Festival and Fireworks**  
Date: Saturday, November 8 / Time: Dependent on activity  
Location: The Colony Five Star Complex (4100 Blair Oaks Dr., The Colony, TX 75056)

Celebrate the men and women who serve or have served our country at a FREE all-day family-friendly festival. Activities include performance by country superstar 3D-Eve Menza, fun raffle, cash raffle, silent auction, patriotic Veterans ceremonies and an incredible fireworks show. For more information and specific activity start times, please visit [www.SaboteAmericanHeroes.com](http://www.SaboteAmericanHeroes.com) #AmericanHeroes

**American Hero Run**  
Date: Saturday, November 8 / Time: 8:00 a.m.  
Location: Stewart Creek Park (3700 Sparks Rd., The Colony, TX 75056)

**Survivor Joe Gobbie Gallup**  
Date: Thursday, November 27 (Thanksgiving Day) / 9:00 a.m.  
Location: Stewart Creek Park (3700 Sparks Rd., The Colony, TX 75056)

**Coming in December!**

**Holiday in the Park | Parade of Lights**  
Date: Saturday, December 6 / Time: Dependent on activity  
Location: Dependent on activity  
All-day activities include pictures with Santa, Parade of Lights and Holiday In The Park featuring festive holiday music and performances, a holiday craft station and a holiday baking contest.

**The Colony Christmas Spectacular**  
Date: Saturday, December 6 - January 3 / Time: Sunset - 10:00 p.m.  
Location: Central Fire Station (4900 Blair Oaks Dr., The Colony, TX 75056)  
Tune your radio to 99.9FM to enjoy festive holiday music synced to an impressive light show offered nightly throughout December.

VisitTheColonyTx.com

The Colony Convention and Visitors Bureau • 6900 Main Street • The Colony, TX 75056 • 972-624-LAKE (5253)

**The Colony** *Where you go to play!*

The Old American Golf Course  
• Golf Magazine's No. 5 Best Public Golf Course in Texas

Multiple lakeside courses and only 20 minutes north of Dallas!

**The Tribute Golf Links**

- Top five golf courses in Texas by Golf Magazine
- Scottish-inspired
- Tudor-style clubhouse and restaurant

**Stewart Peninsula Golf Course**

- Local favorite
- Santa Fe neighborhood grill
- Live music on Saturday evenings

**Topgolf**

- Perfect for year-round and late-night play!
- Rooftop Terrace
- Multiple bars and an extensive menu

VisitTheColonyTx.com | 877-264-4386

- The Colony CVB promoted the following topics through social media in November: American Heroes: Fireworks, local shopping ideas, local golf courses, sign up for eNews, Saturday Night Out, American Heroes: CVB Booth, American Heroes: discount coupons, Bridges Cemetery: Veteran Memorial, American Heroes: general FAQ's, American Heroes: Run, American Heroes: memorial ceremony, American Heroes: carnival, American Heroes: car/truck/bike show, American Heroes: Tyler and the Tribe, American Heroes: vendor expo, American Heroes: Heroes Hut, American Heroes: Thieving Birds, American Heroes: Zane Williams, American Heroes: Jo Dee Messina, American Heroes: fireworks, Texas Roadhouse custom gift cards, Veteran's Day, Thanksgiving to go at Old American, Chapel at Ana Villa, golf lessons at Stewart Peninsula Golf Course, Saturday Night Out: Alien Night, Family LegoMania, TC Tex, Hidden Cove Park and Marina, Nebraska Furniture Mart, annual park passes, Peter Piper Pizza, A Royal Touch, Holiday in the Park, Angelina's new bar, Nebraska Furniture Mart: children's furniture, Topgolf: gift cards, Topgolf: Ugly Sweater Party, Café Mila, Kids Colony 2, events at Stewart Peninsula Golf Course, Lakeside Community Theatre, Survivor Joe Gobble Gallup, Nebraska Furniture Mart: lighting, Whimsey and Grace, #ShopTC, The Old American: gift cards and Thanksgiving.



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

- Staff members attended the press conference at Nebraska Furniture Mart on Oct. 28 announcing several new tenants at Grandscape. Photos from the event were subsequently distributed on social media and were well-received by the community. The photos were also shared with our NFM partners and distributed to media outlets beyond our region for use alongside additional coverage of the announcement. Pictured at right is Mayor Joe McCourry visiting with NFM employees following the press conference.
- Alongside City Manager Troy Powell and Fire Chief Scott Thompson, the Communications Department recently hosted a series of meetings with Travis Calendine, assistant emergency management coordinator for the Town of Little Elm. Those efforts have resulted in a new partnership in which Mr. Calendine is assisting the city with its social media postings regarding emergency weather and traffic alerts under the guidance of Communications and The Colony Fire Department.
- Director Diane Baxter and Specialist Blaine Crimmins attended the American Heroes event on Nov. 8 to gather photo and video record of the day's events.
- Baxter and Crimmins both made presentations to Lewisville ISD students during separate LISD tours of the city. The presentations provided an opportunity to showcase the department's responsibilities and share the new Main Street Widening Project video.



- The department teamed with representatives from the Employee Health and Wellness Center in Carrollton to take and compile a sampling of city staff portraits for use on the walls at the Center.

- Communications staff members worked with Facilities Maintenance and Animal Services to draft a detailed, advance release for the Animal Shelter's groundbreaking ceremony on Nov. 19. Staff members also attended the ceremony and provided photo coverage for social media.
- 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:



- ◆ city council approval of amendments to the South Colony Overpass project and purchase of new vehicles for PD and FD during its Oct. 21 regular meeting;
  - ◆ progress of Main Street widening construction, including notice of planned lane closures and front-page photo coverage in *The Colony Courier-Leader* on Oct. 26;
  - ◆ the city's Make a Difference Day project, featuring front-page photos and story in the *Courier-Leader* on Nov. 9;
  - ◆ advance notice and follow-up of The Colony City Council Election, held Nov. 4;
  - ◆ advance notice of the upcoming City Council Place 6 runoff election;
  - ◆ the announcement on Oct. 28 of new tenants joining Grandscape, in the *Dallas Business Journal*, *The Dallas Morning News*, and the *Courier-Leader*, among other outlets;
  - ◆ the city's annual Fall Clean-Up, including follow-up story with collection totals and photos;
  - ◆ American Heroes 2014: community leader's column by Special Events Coordinator Lindsey Stansell in *neighborsgo*, featured photo coverage in the Metro section of the *Morning News* on Nov. 11, and front-page photo coverage in the *Courier-Leader* on Nov. 16;
  - ◆ TCPD's investigation of an incident at Peters Colony Elementary on Nov. 11;
  - ◆ advance notification of The Colony Animal Shelter's groundbreaking event;
  - ◆ the city's production of a public service video regarding Main Street reconstruction in the *Morning News*' Metro section on Nov. 10 as well as the *Courier-Leader*;
  - ◆ P&Z's approval of the site plan for Freddy's The Colony;
  - ◆ advance notice of KTCB's Owl & Howl Prowl;
  - ◆ existing vacancies on the Technologies Board;
  - ◆ Thanksgiving holiday closures; and,
  - ◆ ongoing programs and activities taking place at The Colony Public Library.
- Since Oct. 22, the city's official Twitter account, @TheColonyTexas, has seen a net increase of 27 new followers, bringing the total to 938. Since the previous count, social media moderators have sent out 78 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 135 new "Likes," or followers since the last update, bringing the total to 2,721. Facebook metrics indicated followers were particularly interested in: TCPD's investigation into an incident at Peters Colony Elementary on Nov. 11; TCFD's winter weather alerts; American Heroes event information; and photo coverage of newly elected city council members taking the oath of office.
  - 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 59 helpdesk tickets. We currently have 52 open tickets with the oldest ticket being open since May 2014.

A review of the city's current server hardware has commenced in order to develop a plan to replace and decommission hardware that can no longer be covered by support contracts.

Upgrades of Contribute software to version 6 have been nearly completed with only one system left for deployment.

Staff was recently able to perform security updates to the majority of the city's servers. All critical patches have been applied, however there are still several non-critical updates that need to be reviewed and deployed throughout the city's network.

The department has spent significant time working with malware attacks in Finance and PD. They have also assisted the Fire Department with the setup of 12 training computers for new Aegis Fire software.

A public access WiFi network has been deployed at the Recreation Center.

GIS completed the following projects:

- Generated 22 location maps of new developments for Development Services
- Created Roadway Impact Fees map and Office Creek Drainage Area for Building Inspections
- Generated Address Master Plan map of The Tribute for Utility Billing
- Assigned addresses to Hard Eight BBQ and Raising Canes
- Continued to QC GIS Parcel Data and update Denton CAD
- Currently addressing two new subdivisions within The Tribute (Gardens, Stonehaven PH2)

## **Technology Board**

### **Board Members**

**Juan Martinez, Chair**

**Joye Grube, Secretary**

**Joe Zacha, Vice Chair**

**Stephen Hoffman**

**Bill Swink**

**Vacant**

**Vacant**

**Council Liaison's: Joe McCourry**

**Staff Liaison: Ted Ringener**

The Technology Board met on Monday, Dec. 1. The board received a presentation from Farr Systems regarding Managed Competition in the IT department. In addition the board received presentations from the Police Chief and Taser regarding Taser technology as well as future technologies that the Police Department may wish to pursue.

## Contact Information

**Mailing Address:** PO Box 560008, The Colony, TX 75056

**Physical Address:** 6800 Main St., The Colony, TX 75056

**Telephone:** 972-625-2741

**Fax:** 972-624-2286

**Email:** utilityadmin@thecolonytx.gov

**After hours number:** 972-625-4471

**If no answer, please call:** 469-628-5452

**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 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 (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

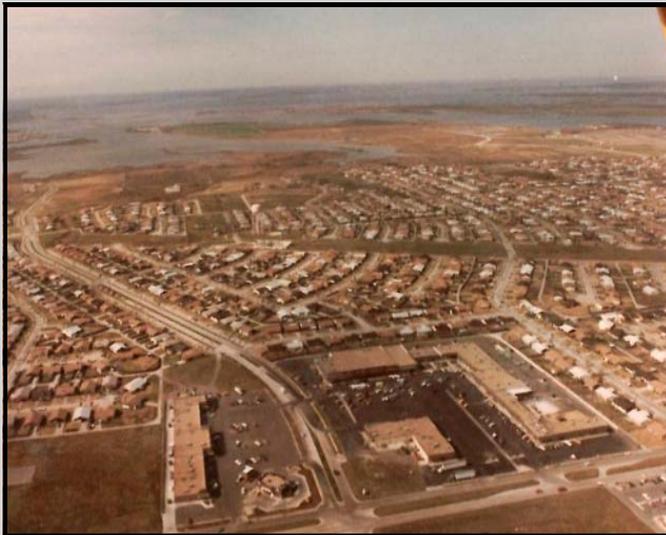
Application Fee - \$20

**\*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.\***

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.

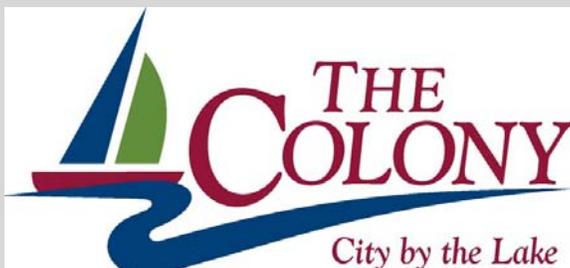
Fox and Jacobs built and donated a fire station in 1975; the first business was a Stop 'n Go convenience store, opened in 1976; the first churches to open were the Methodist and Baptist churches; the first public school, Camey Elementary, opened in 1977; and The Colony Public Library opened in 1982.

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)

