



November 2009

Inside College Station

From the City of College Station Public Communications Department • College Station, Texas



A Holiday Family Tradition

Christmas in the Park is a month-long holiday celebration that includes more than 1 million lights decorating the beautiful 47-acre Stephen C. Beachy Central Park. The event begins on Thanksgiving Day and continues throughout the month of December.

In its 26-year history, Christmas in the Park has hosted more than 2 million visitors, many of whom have been coming back year after year—making Christmas in the Park a holiday family tradition.

The event is also a College Station Parks and Recreation family tradition! All of the displays are handmade by Parks and Recreation staff, many of whom are second-generation parks employees.

“Christmas in the Park is everything you want in a holiday happening,” said Sheila Walker, Parks and Recreation Supervisor. “If you’re looking for

entertainment, we’ve got that! If you’re looking for great cookies and hot cocoa, we’ve got the best, and it’s free! If you just want some peace and quiet time to reflect, come out on a Tuesday evening for a walk or a picnic. Christmas in the Park reflects the spirit of the season!”

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“Christmas in the Park is everything you want in a holiday happening ...”

SHEILA WALKER
Parks and Recreation Supervisor

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Visitors can also take a tour of the park on an old-fashioned hay ride, or sit on Santa’s lap in a beautiful holiday setting inside the Central Park Administrative Offices. Visitors are even welcome to take their own photos.

Lights are on November 25 through January 1 from 6 p.m. to 11 p.m., and holiday celebrations are December 4, 5, 11 and 12 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Christmas in the Park has grown into a Brazos Valley tradition through the generous sponsorship of College Station Utilities, Waltman and Grisham, Attorneys at Law, and Kroger.

For more information on this event, visit cstx.gov/christmas or call 979.764.3486.

Christmas
in the
Park

You're invited to meet Santa, enjoy hayrides, cookies, hot cocoa and live entertainment for **FREE!**

HOLIDAY LIGHTS
Nov. 25 thru Jan. 1
6 p.m. - 11 p.m.

HOLIDAY CELEBRATIONS
Dec. 4, 5, 11, 12
6 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Stephen C. Beachy
Central Park
Hwy 6 and Krenek Tap Rd

Sponsored by:
College Station Utilities • Kroger
Waltman & Grisham, Attorneys at Law



Borrow A Bin for Your Holiday Events -----



The City of College Station Recycling Division would like to help you recycle at your large family and friend gatherings this holiday season by lending you a large recycling container for free. Participants can borrow up to 10 bins at a time and only College Station residents are eligible for the program. College Station Recycling will provide the bags and deliver the bins to the requested location. This will make recycling fun and easy for you, your family, and friends!

To request bins, visit cstx.gov/recycle and click on the "Borrow a Bin" link or call 979.764.6228.

Northgate District Improvements -----

Some Northgate District improvements have recently been completed. These projects exemplify how the City continues to reinvest in one of the fastest re-developing areas of College Station.

Public Restrooms

Foot traffic on Northgate has increased substantially with the return of Aggie football, and the new restroom facilities are proving to be a popular addition. The restrooms are located adjacent to the recently reconfigured Northgate Promenade parking lot in front of the redesigned handicap parking area.

Pay-By-Pay Parking

Another noticeable change to Northgate is the recent removal of 120 individual parking meters in favor of a brand new digital parking system. The system allows users to pay with cash, debit or credit cards, as well as through an online account accessed by a cell phone.

Users can set up an account by visiting mparkusa.com.

Northgate Beautification

If you take a stroll along the Patricia Street Promenade, you will undoubtedly notice the redesigned and enhanced tree well enclosures. The new tree wells offer increased seating and provide more manageable bed enclosures. This project is part of a larger beautification effort which will provide increased sanitation, improved maintenance and eventually additional bike parking facilities.

For more on these projects, contact David Gwin, Economic Development Director, at 979.764.3778 or dgwin@cstx.gov.

Brazos County Hispanic Culture Exhibit -----



College Station Heritage Programs, Amigos del Valle de Brazos, and the Brazos County Historical Commission are proud to present an exhibit celebrating Hispanic culture in Brazos County with an encore from the award-winning Texas A&M University ¡Siempre! exhibit.

"¡Siempre! Otra Vez" opened in early October at the College Station Conference Center, 1300 George Bush Drive. The exhibit will be on display through spring 2010, along with photos and memorabilia from local Hispanic families.

"The Hispanic history in Brazos County is very rich, yet very elusive," said Anne Boykin, College Station Heritage Programs Coordinator. "This exhibit will be a perfect opportunity to acquaint our community with the many contributions that have been made by local Hispanic families."

For more information about this exhibit, contact Anne Boykin at 979.764.3491 or aboykin@cstx.gov.

Computer Club for Seniors -

Did you know that College Station has a Computer Club for seniors? The club began in 2001 with a group of interested older adults, and has grown to nearly 200 registered participants.

The Computer Club holds regular meetings to discuss problems faced by those in the group. Occasionally, professionals in the community come to speak on a range of topics, as well. The Club has been very fortunate in attracting speakers and instructors from Texas A&M University, Blinn College, local businesses and retail outlets.

One member writes, "This is an inexpensive way to learn from professionals and also from users just like me. With all the new technology coming out all the time, I don't want to be left behind. I recommend it to every senior citizen."

The Computer Club is free to all seniors and meets on the first Wednesday of each month from 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Meetings are held at the Carter Creek Waste Water Treatment Plant Training Room, located at 2200 North Forest Parkway.

For additional information, contact Marci Rodgers, Senior Services Coordinator, at 979.764.6371 or mrodgers@cstx.gov.

Holiday Waste Collection
Thanksgiving Holiday <i>November 26-27, 2009</i>
Residential Garbage & Brush/Rubbish
- Off Thursday
- Thursday route collected Friday
- Friday route collected Saturday
Commercial Collection
- Off Thursday
- Thursday route collected Friday
Recycling Collection (Texas Commercial Waste)
- Off Thursday, no make up