

Registration opens for Parks and Recreation winter camps

When school's out, camp's in! Register now for Sarasota County Parks and Recreation's Winter Vacation in the Parks at Colonial Oaks Park, 5300 Colonial Oaks Blvd., Sarasota, and a specialty Chef's Camp at Mattison's 41, 7275 South Tamiami Trail, Sarasota.

Winter Vacation in the Park camp offers caring, attentive staff to entertain children during the winter school break. This year's camp theme is the seven continents. Children in kindergarten through Grade 5 learn about each continent as they participate in various activities and make crafts to take home. Snacks are included. Continent-based activities include:

- Monday, Dec. 20, is Australia: Enjoy games, activities and crafts with an Australian flair.
- Tuesday, Dec. 21, is South America: Come dressed for a tropical holiday celebration and feel like you're on vacation.
- Wednesday, Dec. 22, is Europe: Experience old-world holiday traditions like carols and crackers with a new twist, and design your own family crest.
- Monday, Dec. 27, is Asia: Enjoy Japanese favorites including karaoke, fish mobiles and Wii games based on Japanese game shows.
- Tuesday, Dec. 28, is Antarctica: Wacky winter activities and treats are guaranteed to warm up campers.
- Wednesday, Dec. 29, is Africa: Experience wild adventures with outdoor games, exotic animals, crafts and more.
- Thursday, Dec. 30, is North America: Celebrate the New Year early with carnival games, tie-dye activities and rock 'n' roll.

There is no camp on Dec. 23, 24 or 31 and the Christmas weekend.

Two half-day sessions are available each day 7:30 a.m.-noon and 1-5:30 p.m. A supervised lunch hour is provided for children attending both sessions on Dec. 20, 21, 22, 27, 28, 29 and 30. The cost is \$8.50 per session. Parents are responsible for supplying lunch and beverages. A minimum number of registrants are required and spaces are limited at Winter Vacation in the Parks at Colonial Oaks Park.

Chef Camp is a continuation of the popular summer camp. Join chefs in the kitchen at Mattison's 41. This three-day camp for ages 11-15 is offered Dec. 20-22 and Dec. 27-29. The fee is \$125 per session. Registration is limited to 20.

Register for camps online at www.parksonline.scgov.net or by calling 941-861-9870. Participants are urged to register early for the winter camps.

For more information about Sarasota County winter camps or other Parks and Recreation programs, contact the Sarasota County Call Center 941-861-5000.

Unattended cooking is cause of most kitchen fires

More fires start in the kitchen than any other room in the house and unattended cooking is the No. 1 cause of residential fires, according to Sarasota County Fire Chief Kenneth Ellerbe. He adds that young children and older adults are at the highest risk for burn injuries.

Ellerbe offers the following tips to keep your home and family safe during the upcoming holiday meal preparations:

- If a pan or skillet catches on fire, put a lid on it by sliding the lid or a larger pan on top and turning the stove off. Leave the lid on until the pan is cool.
- Never use water or cooking items such as flour, baking soda or baking powder to put out a grease fire. Water can splash the grease and spread the fire.
- Never carry a burning pan to the kitchen sink or outdoors.
- The contents can spill, burning you and spreading the fire.
- Wear short sleeves or tight-fitting sleeves when cooking.
- If your clothing catches on fire, stop, drop, cover your face with both hands and roll, or use a towel or blanket to smother the flames.
- Keep an ABC fire extinguisher within reach, and know how to use it.
- Avoid cooking when you have taken medicine that makes you drowsy.
- Do not cook and drink alcohol at the same time.
- If you leave the kitchen while cooking, turn off the stove.
- Use a kitchen timer as a reminder when the food is finished.
- Turn pot and pan handles toward the center of the stove.
- Keep hot pans and dishes away from the edge of the stovetop burners.
- Keep the stovetops and toasters free from grease, leftover or spilled food.
- Keep napkins, towels, curtains and other flammable items away from heat sources.
- Use only appliances that have the Underwriters Laboratories Inc. (UL) mark or Factory Mutual (FM) approval symbol on the appliance or box.
- When using a microwave oven, use only containers designed for microwave use.

In addition:

- If a fire starts in the microwave, close the door and unplug the cord.
- Stir food while cooking and allow food to cool for a few minutes when finished to prevent burns.
- When removing a lid, lift it away from your face to prevent steam burns.
- If you get burned, Ellerbe says to use cool or cold water to cool the burn.
- If the burn is serious, seek medical attention.

For more information about preventing kitchen fires, contact the Sarasota County Call Center at 941-861-5000 and ask for the Fire Prevention Office.

Our community website was developed to serve as an information portal for our neighborhood and our local community.

www.colonialgablesnews.net

Have you visited the new Colonial Gables website. Please let someone know your ideas of the website. If you have input for the website, please email them to colonialgables@yahoo.com

Newsletter Submissions

All articles, ads, and payments must be submitted by the 15th of each month. You can submit articles through the website or email rinkld@aol.com

Volunteering

Currently there is a need for newsletter delivery for the following areas, Hayden Blvd; Laurelwood Place; Winderwood and Sharondale Drive area. This is a once a month volunteer duty and requires about 45 minutes of your time each month. For a high school student, this could serve as required community service hours. Contact Lori Rinker.




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A Colonial Gables resident since 1978. Realtor since 1987
The only Realtor you will ever need.

Newsletter Editor

Do you have an interest in working the Colonial Gables Homeowners Association Board to assist in creating the monthly newsletter?

This is a way for you to provide community service, working in the comfort of your own home. Contact Lori Rinker or any of the board members.



Security Patrol Update



Don't give the bad guys the chance! Unfortunately, at this time of year, and with current economic times, we can expect some problems. Every year, we heard stories of Christmas gifts being stolen.

Don't be a victim, put bikes and toys in the garage, lock all doors and windows.

We're looking for new volunteers that can give the patrol two hours one night a month to help keep the neighborhood safe. This would be a nice gift to the community. Please think how little time that is for your families' safety and peace of mind at night. Call 371-3275 to join the Security Patrol.

I would like to extend a special thank you to all of the patrol members for their help and time patrolling our community. Wishing everyone a very safe and Happy Holiday!

Wayne D.

Colonial Gables News

December 2010 Edition



Holiday Party



- Our annual Neighborhood Winter Holiday Party will be on December 7, 2010, from 6:30 to 8:30 at Colonial Oaks Park, Room A.

- The party is open to all residents of the Colonial Gables. You do not have to be a member of the association to attend the party. We ask that each family attending to bring a covered dish (casseroles, scalloped potatoes, vegetables, salad, etc.) or a dessert to share at the "Pot Luck Dinner".

- The Association will provide some food, drinks, plates, eating utensils, cups and napkins. If you have any questions, call Carol Daniels at 371-3275.

Holiday Closings

SCAT – Sarasota County Bus

There is no SCAT bus service on Christmas Day (Dec. 25) & New Year's Day (Jan. 1, 2011)

County Offices Closed For Holiday(s)

City of Sarasota offices will be closed in observance of Christmas Eve, Christmas Day (Dec 23-25) and New Year's Day (Dec 31 & Jan 1st). This will include all Sarasota County Libraries

Sarasota County Schools

Winter Break December 20, 2010 thru December 30, 2010. No school for Sarasota County School.

Colonial Gables Homeowners Association
Founded 1980

GENERAL MEETINGS

Colonial Oaks Park –
5300 Colonial Oaks Blvd
Sarasota 34232
Room A

Holiday Party
Dec 7, 2010

6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

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Needs a new volunteer

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