

# Community Connection

March, 2012  
Volume 8, Issue No. 3

## Taylor Regional Park & Sports Complex

Since the opening of the Taylor Regional Park (TRP) in March 2010, estimated attendance reached 171,835 by January 2012. More than 51,500 are attributed to local attendance. The park is generally reserved during the week by Taylor Little League, Taylor Youth Baseball, Pop Warner Football and YMCA Soccer. These activities draw large local crowds.

Weekend tournaments brought visitors from across Texas for Select Girls softball and Little League baseball. As of January, 65 tournaments had been held. This year the popularity of the Regional

Park has grown in recreation circles. Nearly every weekend for 2012 is reserved for tournament play.

### GOOD FOR BUSINESS

Park visitors contribute to retail sales in the city. Many local businesses have experienced a positive impact on sales even during a relatively slow economy that can be attributed in part to visitors at park events.

### GOOD FOR COMMUNITY

On any given day, visitors to the park may be found walking for fitness and pure enjoyment of the nature aspect, fishing in the fully stocked lake and visits by community daycare facilities at the play areas. Plans are being made for an Abilities Field and play area for special needs youth.



### City Manager's Message

The Taylor Regional Park and Sports Complex is meeting cost expectations following its first fiscal year of operations.

Operational expenses were recovered at 29.8 percent compared to a recovery goal of 30 percent with revenues of \$112,747 against expenses of \$387,728.

These expenses cover five staff members and maintenance for not only the TRP but supports two swimming pools and two pavilions at Murphy and Robinson parks and eight playing fields throughout the city. Continuing improvements to TRP make it a desirable destination for the Taylor community and across the region. We look forward to another successful year.

**JIM D. DUNAWAY**

**Community Connection** is a monthly publication of the City of Taylor

400 Porter Street Taylor, TX 76574 512.352.3675 [www.taylor.tx.gov](http://www.taylor.tx.gov)



## Taylor's Active Seniors

There are plenty of volunteer opportunities and activities for Senior Citizens. The Taylor Resource Center houses the Switzer Senior Center, the Meals on Wheels program, a clothing bank offered by the Taylor Independent School District and Shepherd's Heart Food Pantry.



Seniors Karen Keen and Victoria McCallie enjoy Wii Bowling.

The resource center offers instructional classes, health and wellness programs, educational seminars, workshops, trips, support groups and a variety of special events for persons 50 years or older.

Nutritional lunches are served every week day for Seniors who sign up.

Other activities include bingo, dominoes, line dancing, cards, crafts and most recently, Wii Bowling at the Taylor Public Library.

Contact Tricia van Til at 352-3889 between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. for more information.

## Newest Park Improvements

The five acre park located at the entrance to the Taylor Regional Park and Sports Complex is receiving final touches that were made possible from a 2010 Small Parks Grant funded by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission in the amount of \$75,000.



New amenities include a concrete trail and fishing platform, a climbing wall (pictured on front page) an angle exercise platform complete with instructions, a feeding station for the ducks and a park bench.

Children from the Taylor Middle School have been enjoying the fishing lake in the park for several years as part of their educational curriculum. While the park was under construction, Project Coordinator Casey Sledge, Sledge Engineering and City Inspector Dennis Kleppe demonstrated the planning and engineering that went into the project for several classes at the school to give students a hands-on learning experience. Then they were given their own project to design a bird nesting box.

## Coming Events



**Save the Date: April 14, 2012**

*East Wilco Challenger Sports is hosting a benefit concert to raise funds for the Cal Ripken, Sr. Ability Baseball Field at the Taylor Regional Park. Four artists are donating their time and talents for Special Needs Children.*

*The event will be held April 14 at the East Williamson County Event Center and all proceeds will go towards the construction of the field.*

*For additional information, contact John Lorek at 512-212-1259 or [jslorek@imatexan.com](mailto:jslorek@imatexan.com).*

### Free Tax Preparation Services

*Taylor City Hall*

Mondays & Wednesdays  
4:30 pm – 8:30 pm

Saturdays  
9 am – 3 pm  
Through April 16

*Taylor Public Library*

Mondays & Wednesdays  
12 pm – 4 pm  
Until February 28

Wednesdays  
12 pm – 4 pm  
Until April 11

Contact 512-255-6799  
[www.wilcofreetaxprep.org](http://www.wilcofreetaxprep.org)

### City Services

**All City of Taylor offices and Taylor Public Library will be closed for President's Day February 20, 2012. Garbage service will not be affected.**