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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Moonlight Movies return to Murphy's Central Park

MURPHY (March 21, 2016) The ever-popular Moonlight Movies return to Murphy this year as the last three Fridays in April and the first Friday of May will make the Central Park amphitheater the area's center of entertainment, says Special Event Coordinator Kayla McFarland.

"This year's lineup is evenly split between animation and science fiction thrillers," she said. "The first two movies in our series this year appeal to the younger set, while the last two movies are geared more toward the young adult and adult audiences."

On Friday, April 15, the series begins with "Inside Out," an animated feature in which the main character Riley, is uprooted from her Midwest life when her father starts a new job in San Francisco. Riley's emotions - joy, fear, anger, disgust and sadness - live in Headquarters, the control center inside Riley's mind. Although joy tries to keep things positive, Riley's emotions conflict on how best to navigate a new city, house and school.

On Friday, April 22, the "Minions" movie hits the screen. The Minions have always served the most despicable of masters. Now, protective leader Kevin, teenage rebel Stuart and lovable little Bob embark on a global road trip where they'll earn a shot to work for a new boss-the world's first female super-villain-and try to save all of Minionkind from annihilation.

The series concludes with "The Hunger Games: Mocking Jay Part 1" on April 29, and "The Hunger Games: Mocking Jay Part 2" on May 6. Written by Suzanne Collins, the science fiction adventure tells the story of Katniss Everdeen, played by Jennifer Lawrence, and her adventures in District 13.

For the two final movies, through a partnership with Challenge Island, a safe, secure class for children at the Murphy Activity Center will be provided. While parents enjoy The Hunger Games movies, kids will be treated to pizza, games, and crafts in a safe, supervised environment. Cost is \$25 for Murphy residents and \$30 for non-residents. The Murphy Activity Center is directly across North Murphy Road from the site of the movies.

"We'll need parents to sign up for these two kid classes very soon," said McFarland. "If we don't get the minimum number of participants, the classes won't be held." Sign-ups are available at www.murphytx.org. Tickets for the movies, while not mandatory but highly encouraged, can be picked up for free from the Murphy Community Center. The tickets include a number that will qualify the holder for valuable prizes.

Parking at the Central Park amphitheater, 550 North Murphy Road, is plentiful. Activities begin at 7:15 p.m. each evening, and the movies will begin at dusk between 8 p.m. and 8:15 p.m. "We encourage everyone to bring their own chairs and blankets, and a picnic dinner. We will provide refreshments and popcorn for free," she said.

Volunteers are welcome, and sponsors are being sought. Call 972-468-4444 or send an email message to events@murphytx.org to get more information on volunteering or sponsoring.

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ABOUT MURPHY -- Murphy is a fast-growing community located in Collin County. The population is approximately 18,020, generally characterized as highly educated with a median household income above the state average. With more than 70 percent of the land developed, the community is dominated by single-family residences. City planners strive to preserve a country feel while exhibiting an aggressive economic development stance. Money Magazine has dubbed Murphy as the 27th Best Place to Live in America for small cities, and D Magazine placed Murphy as the fifth best suburb in the 2014 list, where it has consistently ranked in the top 10.