

Skate Park closes during move to new location

Grinding, sliding, all manner of flipping and air-catching should be back underway by October 1 as the Farmers Branch Skate Park undergoes a move from its old location south of the Community Recreation Center to its new home on the west side of the facility.

Branch Briefs

The popular Skate Park, first opened in 2010, is being moved to make way for the new Farmers Branch Aquatics Park, replacing the 50+ year-old Don Showman Pool.

Council meeting rescheduled for NNO

The first City Council meeting in October has been rescheduled in order to accommodate the annual observance of National Night Out on October 1.

Normally scheduled for the first and third Tuesdays of the month, the first October meeting will now be held on Wednesday, October 2 at 6:30 p.m. at Farmers Branch City Hall.

America's night out against crime will be observed as part of National Night Out with neighborhood gatherings held to promote a united front against crime in residential areas. Registered NNO parties will be visited by as many police, fire and City officials as possible. For more information or to register a party, call 972.919.9304.

Fire Department honors resident for life saving

Calling her action part of the Four-Step Chain of Survival, Farmers Branch Fire Chief Steve Parker took time at a September City Council meeting to bestow a life saving award upon local resident, Carolyn Halliburton.

Earlier this summer, Mrs. Halliburton learned that her neighbor had collapsed after suffering what appeared to be a heart attack. She responded to the scene and began CPR which she continued until paramedics arrived.

Chief Parker said because of her action, her neighbor is alive today.

October 2013

Branch FOCUS



Chili forecast

Red-hot recipes return for new year of competition at Bloomin' Bluegrass

FARMERS BRANCH ~ With hot chili and cool music, the annual-Bloomin' Bluegrass free music festival and Chili Cookoff is set for Friday and Saturday, October 18 and 19 at the Farmers Branch Historical Park.

A big family hit from last year's event, the Chili Cookoff returns this year and opens at 11:30 a.m. on Saturday with tasting beginning at 12 noon.

More than 30 chili cooks showcased their recipes last year with another big turnout expected for 2013. Tasting cups are \$3. Last year, more than 300 tasting cups were sold and chili ran out fast. Organizers said this year's chefs are being advised to cook more.

In addition to public balloting there will be a panel of judges which will decide which of the chili recipes will win prizes as the best of the event for this year. Anyone wishing to be an official judge can sign up at www.bloominbluegrass.com.

Bluegrass music is, of course, on center stage with Suzy Boggus headlining Friday night's talent and the Traveling McCourys highlighting Saturday's performances. Also scheduled to perform are Sierra Hull, The Boxcars, Russell Moore & Illrd Tyme Out, Rambling Rooks, The Spinney Brothers, Gold Heart, The Herrins and more.

Admission to this family-friendly festival is free with no ticket required. The Farmers Branch Historical Park is located at 2540 Farmers Branch Lane, between Denton Drive and Ford Road, a 10-minute walk south from the Farmers Branch DART Green Line Station. Free parking will be available at the Metrosquare Business Park, two blocks south of the Historical Park on Ford Road with a free shuttle to the gate.

www.bloominbluegrass.com



VIDEO  EXTRA



Bloomin' Bluegrass Preview with Alan Tompkins

Scan the Code with a Smartphone



www.farmersbranchtx.gov

Annual Craft Fair returns to Senior Center

More than 100 crafters and artisans will be on site, selling their handmade items during

this year's Craft Fair, set Saturday, October 19 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Farmers Branch Senior Center, 14055 Dennis.

Admission is free with concessions available for sale. For more information: 972.919.8740.

Garden Party planned for local rose growers

As part of City Manager Gary Greer's ongoing program for rose beautification of Farmers Branch through individual, residential gardens, an informal Rose Show and Garden Party is planned for October.

Participants in the program will celebrate prime rose blooming season with the annual event. All participants receive an engraved bud vase and a rose plant while new members also get a Farmers Branch Rose Garden Crest to display at home. To sign up or for more information about the Rose Gardeners of Farmers Branch, call 972.919.2625 or visit www.fbroses.com.

Star Party set Oct 8

Gazing at distant astronomical phenomena is planned for a Star Party, Tuesday, October 8 from dusk until about 9 p.m. at the Farmers Branch Historical Park. Volunteers will be on hand to assist with telescope viewing. Admission is free. 972.406.0184.

Vintage Base Ball game coming October 5

Playing the great game by 1860s rules, members of the Farmers Branch Mustangs Vintage Base Ball team invite the public to join them for a day of play at the Farmers Branch Historical Park. All equipment and uniform jerseys are provided. Please call 972.406.0184.

October Senior Dance schedule set

Oct 7 - Southern Pride Country
Oct 14 - Bill G Ballroom
Oct 21 - Will Taylor Country
Oct 28 - Dave Alexander Ballroom

BranchBriefs

Cute costumed kids and spooky spectres expected at Halloween in the Park

FARMERS BRANCH ~ Both thrills and chills are in the works for the 2013 edition of Halloween in the Park, set for Saturday evening, October 26, from 5 until 10 p.m. at the Farmers Branch Historical Park.

Admission is free with canned food donations accepted to benefit Metrocrest Social Services.

Highlighting the event again this year will be the "Haunted Hedge," opening at 7:30 p.m. which takes brave adventurers deep into the recesses of the Historical Park's dark and mysterious shrubbery.

Additionally, there will be trick-or-treat row, carnival games, pony rides, a petting zoo, state fair-style food vendors, photo buttons, and more.

Call 972.247.4607 or visit www.farmersbranchtx.gov.



Albert Gonzales

Big Blooming Event Celebration of Roses is a time to show & learn

FARMERS BRANCH ~ With emphasis on the changing nature of the City's gardens, the City of Farmers Branch presents the **Celebration of Roses**, Saturday, October 19 with activities in the Rose Gardens of Farmers Branch and a slate of expert speakers at Farmers Branch City Hall.

Free onsite registration will be held at the Gussie Field Watterworth Park Pavilion, near City Hall, beginning at 10:30 a.m. Shuttles will be available to transport participants through the various Rose Gardens of Farmers Branch. The bluegrass band, Copper Canyon, will serenade a complimentary lunch.

Then, City Hall will open at 12 p.m. for the Dallas Rose Society's Fall Show, Farmers Branch Rose Show, and a slate of expert presenters. Farmers Branch Landscape Manager Pam Smith said the beautiful display of blooms provides great insight to which roses perform best in the Metroplex. Rose plants will be available for purchase and consulting rosarians will be on hand to answer rose questions including information on Rose Rosette Disease.

Speakers include Pat Shanley with "A Vision of Roses - A Vision of ARS" at 12:30 p.m.; Tom Carruth with "Just for the Smell of It" at 1:45 p.m.; and Stephen Scanniello with "The Truth about Climbing Roses: Myths, Lore, Legends and Some Facts" at 3 p.m.

For more information, visit www.fbroses.com or call 972.919.2625.



Neighbors to gather for National Night Out 2013

FARMERS BRANCH ~ Local neighbors will be out in force as America's night out against crime will be observed in Farmers Branch on Tuesday, October 1, beginning at 6 p.m.

Neighborhood gatherings are encouraged to promote a united front against crime in residential areas.

Registered NNO parties will be visited

by as many police, fire and City officials as possible.

For more information or to register a party, call 972.919.9304.

The regular Farmers Branch City Council Meeting, scheduled for that evening, has been postponed until Wednesday, October 2 at 6:30 p.m. at Farmers Branch City Hall.

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Gussie garden undergoing phased changes for life after research

FARMERS BRANCH ~ After four years of making an impact on American rose culture with planet-friendly roses that require little care, the former National EarthKind Rose Trial Garden in Farmers Branch is undergoing a steady transition into a special showplace that will attract visitors from all over.

A three-year transition plan is underway to turn the former rose research center into a permanent display garden to attract visitors, weddings and other special events.

Parks and Recreation Landscape Manager Pam Smith said the first phase is substantially complete and involved removal of some of the trial roses, plantings of new roses, modified irrigation to meet the needs of the new garden, installation of electrical service and natural cedar fencing and teepees as rose support. Most notably, Phase 1 included the creation of an outdoor 'garden room' that will be suitable as a rental venue for weddings and other activities.

Plans for Phase 2 of the project will be executed during next year's winter months and will include pavestone borders around the French roses, water features in the Garden Room, seating and benches and arches to train roses. Lighting will be added the year after.

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