

City Council moves meeting for NNO

In order to encourage as many neighborhoods as possible to participate in National Night Out on Tuesday, October 7, Mayor Bob Phelps and the Farmers Branch City Council have opted to move their regular meeting, scheduled for the same night, to Monday, October 6.



The Council meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. at Farmers Branch City Hall. For more information, call 972.919.2515.

National Night Out to feature block parties October 7

Celebrating the Texas version of America's "night out against crime," National Night Out is planned in



Farmers Branch, and across the Metroplex, on Tuesday, October 7.

Farmers Branch Police Chief Sid Fuller said Community Watch members are hoping to organize a record number of block parties for neighbors to get to know each other.

For more information or to register a neighborhood party, call the Farmers Branch Police Department at 972.919.9304.

Craft Fair planned Oct 18

Everyone is invited to get a head start on holiday shopping on Saturday, October



18 as the annual Holiday Craft Fair is planned at the Farmers Branch Senior Center,

from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. For more information, call 972.241.8636.

October 2014

Branch REVIEW



www.farmersbranchtx.gov



Bluegrass Plus 5

International award nomination adds to excitement as festival celebrates five years in Farmers Branch

FARMERS BRANCH ~ Good news from Nashville has made preparing for the Bloomin' Bluegrass free music festival and Chili Cook-off even sweeter this year as the five-year-old event has snagged an International Bluegrass Music Association nomination for 'Bluegrass Event of the Year.'

Thousands are expected from across the country at the 5th Annual Bloomin' Bluegrass Festival and Chili Cook-off, planned for Friday and Saturday, October 17 and 18 at the Farmers Branch Historical Park. Once again this year, admission is free.

BLOOMIN' BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL AND CHILI COOKOFF

OCTOBER 17 & 18

Saturday, October 17 and 18 at the Farmers Branch Historical Park. Once again this year, admission is free.

The International Bluegrass Music Association awards will be given out in Raleigh, North Carolina on October 2. The Farmers Branch festival is up against hometown events from across the nation.

Sponsored by the Bluegrass Heritage Foundation and the City of Farmers Branch, the family-friendly festival will begin on Friday evening from 4:30 until 10 p.m. and continue most of the day on Saturday, from 11:30 a.m. until 10 p.m. World-class bluegrass musicians scheduled to appear include perennial favorite Rhonda Vincent and the Rage, Seldom Scene, Gibson Brothers, Joe Mullins & Radio Ramblers, Kenny & Amanda Smith Band, Rambling Rocks, Balsam Range and Flatt Lonesome.

Now entering its third year as a flavorful addition to Bloomin' Bluegrass, the Chili Cook-off is rapidly becoming a popular component of the overall experience. Sanctioned by the Chili Appreciation Society International, the event features space for 75 chili teams. Registration can be done in advance or on-site for available space, beginning at 9:30 a.m. Saturday. Registration for all teams is \$20. Awards will be given in the categories of: Chili, People's Choice, Pot of Beans and Show Team. Chili tasting cups for voting on the People's Choice will be available for \$3 per person starting at noon.

Additionally, this year's event features a KidZone with entertainment and play opportunities for children and an Arts & Crafts Marketplace. For more information, visit www.bloominbluegrass.com.



Branch Briefs

Natorium at new Aquatics Center named in honor of Parks & Recreation volunteer Margaret Young



CITY HALL ~ Citing her extensive experience and decades-long support of Parks and Recreation programs in Farmers Branch, the City Council named the new natatorium section of the under construction Aquatics Center in honor of Farmers Branch icon Margaret Young.

In doing so, the Council heeded the unanimous recommendation of the Parks and Recreation Board.

Chair of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board for more than 30 years, Ms. Young has been instrumental in steering projects during her tenure as a City volunteer, including the Community Recreation Center and the new Aquatics complex.

In other action during the same meeting, the Council approved the new logo and color scheme for the Aquatics Center.

Being built adjacent to the Community Recreation Center, the new Farmers Branch

Aquatics Center will feature two primary facilities - the Margaret Young Natatorium and an interactive outdoor water play area, dubbed the "Frog Pond."

The Margaret Young Natatorium will operate year-round and is expected to be ready for swimmers by March 2015. The Frog Pond is planned to open by next summer.



Tours and lectures set for Celebration of Roses

FARMERS BRANCH ~ The 2014 edition of the Farmers Branch Celebration of Roses will feature tours of the new David Austin Roses in the newly renovated rose gardens at Gussie Field Watterworth Park, along with lectures from renowned rosarians, hands-on demonstrations and the annual Farmers Branch Rose Show, all on Saturday, October 18 from 10:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Admission is free.

Farmers Branch Parks Landscape Manager Pam Smith said shuttles will be available to provide easy access to the rose gardens and to the Bloomin' Bluegrass festival at the Farmers Branch Historical Park, also going on that day.

Lectures and demonstrations at City Hall include presentations by Mike Shoup, of the Antique Rose Emporium, spotlighting "The Pioneer Roses" which he breeds to both enhance the garden and honor fellow Texans, Garden Designer and international lecturer, Scott Ogden, will speak on "The Moonlit Garden." Cody Hoya, General Manager of Northhaven Gardens, will share his ideas and inspirations on "Container Gardening." Additionally, there will be a hands-on demonstration on creating a shadow box arrangement.

For more information on the Celebration of Roses, call 972.919.2625 or visit www.fbroses.com.



Haunted Hedge to highlight Halloween in the Park



FARMERS BRANCH ~ Fun frights are on the schedule for the annual autumn extravaganza, simply known as Halloween in the Park, coming Saturday, October 25 to the Farmers Branch Historical Park.

The park will be open for trick-or-treaters of all ages from 5 until 10 p.m. that evening. Admission is free with canned food donations accepted to benefit the families served by Metrocrest Services. Concessions will be available for purchase.

Once again, people will flock to the infamous "Haunted Hedge," opening at 7:30 p.m. and taking brave adventurers deep into the recesses of the Historical Park's scary shrubbery.

The event will also feature "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.fbspecialevents.com.

Firehouse Theatre takes on 'Ivy Gap'

The Firehouse Theatre downshifts into southern comedy, spanning two generations and 25 years in their production of "First Baptist of Ivy Gap," by Ron Osborne, coming to the theater at the Farmers Branch Manske Library.

Directed by John Wilkerson, the show runs on select dates from September 19 through October 5.

Next month, the troupe presents "Annie Warbucks" at the Plaza Arts Theatre in Carrollton (November 7-23).

For more information, call 972.620.3747.

Vintage Base Ball plans "All Play" day, October 4

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, Saturday, October 4 from 1 until 3 p.m., at the Farmers Branch Historical Park.

All equipment is provided. Call 972.406.0184.

Star Party set October 21

With high powered telescopes trained on open star clusters, globular clusters, double stars, Neptune, Mars and planetary nebulae, volunteers from the Texas Astronomical Society of Dallas invite the public out to the meadow at the Farmers Branch Historical Park for a Star Party on Saturday, October 21.

Admission is free. Viewing starts when the sun goes down at dusk and will continue until about 9 p.m. Visit www.texasastro.org.

Senior Dances

- Oct 6 Southern Pride
- Oct 13 Bill G. Ballroom
- Oct 20 Will Taylor
- Oct 27 J.C. Tippett