



Branch REVIEW

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Fireworks!

Community comes together for annual Independence Day Celebration

FARMERS BRANCH ~ Hometown parties don't get any better than the Annual Farmers Branch Independence Day Celebration, coming Friday, July 3 at the Farmers Branch Historical Park.

Gates open at 6:30 p.m. and admission is free.

There will be a concert from the band, "Inside Out," along with a free KidZone area, historical structure tours, concessionaires selling festival favorites and more.

By popular demand, Uncle Willie's Pie Eating Contest will return. There will be two rounds for adults and one for children, top three places of each round will be awarded prizes. The proceeds from the \$10 entry fee will go to a local hero.

The Farmers Branch Historical Park is located at 2540 Farmers Branch Lane, between Denton Drive and Ford Road, and a short walk from the DART Green Line Station. Free parking is available at the Metrosquare Business Park, two blocks south of the Historical park on Ford Road with a free shuttle to the gate.

For more information, visit www.farmersbranchtx.gov or call the Special Events Hotline at 972.919.1433.



New Council members sworn into office

FARMERS BRANCH ~ New City Council Members John Norwood and Mike Bomgardner were sworn into office in May, following their election earlier in the month.

According to the Dallas County Elections Department results from the May 9 City Council election were:

In District 3, candidates (listed in ballot order) received the following votes: Andy Olivo 164 (23.56 percent), Brenda Brodrick 124 (17.82 percent), John Norwood 408 (58.62 percent).

In District 5, candidates (listed in ballot order) received the following votes: David Merritt 199 (38.2 percent), Mike Bomgardner 323 (61.88 percent).



District 3
City Council
Member
John Norwood



District 5
City Council
Member
Mike Bomgardner

Tastes & Tunes events set July 16 & August 14

Food trucks have been so popular at other events, they're getting one of their own. The Parks and Recreation Department has announced that "Tastes & Tunes" will be featured one night per month in June, July and August at The Grove @ Mustang Station, adjacent to the Farmers Branch DART station at Bill Moses Parkway and Denton Drive.



Admission will be free to the food truck area where live music will be played each evening, from 5 until 8 p.m.

Remaining dates and bands will include: July 16 - The Bad Monkeys and August 14 - Live 80. For more information, call 972.919.2620 or visit fbspecialevents.com.

Single City Council meeting scheduled for July

In order to accommodate summertime and holiday schedules, the Farmers Branch City Council has announced they will meet one time in regular session in July, on Tuesday, July 14.

The City Council will resume its regular first and third Tuesday schedule in August.

Regular meetings begin at 6 p.m. at Farmers Branch City Hall. All meetings are subject to change, call 972.247.3131.

Farmers Branch ranked in top dozen DFW suburbs

The statistical analysis site, niche.com, has listed Farmers Branch as number 11 in its 2015 preference rankings of Dallas-Fort Worth area suburbs.

A total of 77 DFW-area suburbs were rated for 2015, based on livability using grades for weather, safety, schools and access to activities, jobs, housing and transportation.

Farmers Branch was given an "A" rating in the 2015 list, noting that median household, individual income and high school graduation rates were all above national averages. Additionally, public safety scored high with the rate of violent crime far below the national average.

According to their website, Niche.com is "obsessed with providing students, families and professionals with deep insight into big life decisions."



Check Out the New Aquatics Center @ fbh2o.com

City offices to close for the Fourth of July

As the national holiday falls on a Saturday this year, most City offices and facilities will close to observe the Independence Day holiday on Friday, July 3. **There will be no garbage collection and the Citizen Collection Center will be closed.**

Some facilities will be open limited hours through the holiday weekend.

Friday, July 3: Community Recreation Center open from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m., Margaret Young Natatorium open 6 a.m. to 5 p.m., Frog Pond open 12 to 6 p.m., Historical Park closed.

Saturday, July 4: Community Recreation Center open 8 a.m. until 5 p.m.; Margaret Young Natatorium open 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Historical Park and Frog Pond both open 12 to 6 p.m.

Firehouse Theatre to feature Rodgers & Hammerstein's original collaboration

The first effort of a fruitful partnership will be featured in Farmers Branch as the Firehouse Theatre presents the Rodgers and Hammerstein classic, "Oklahoma" on select nights July 16 through August 2.

Performances will be offered at the Firehouse Theatre, 2535 Valley View Lane. For reservations and ticket information visit www.thefirehousetheatre.com or call 972.620.3747.

Family Star Party planned

A Family Star Party will mix family activities with celestial viewing on Friday, July 10 at the Farmers Branch Historical Park.

From 7 until 9 p.m. families are encouraged to bring their own dinner for a family picnic and solar observation. Then, at 9, members of the Texas Astronomical Society will be on hand to help guests with viewing deep space objects through a variety of high powered telescopes.

Objects expected to be available for viewing include Venus, the Cat's Eye and Ring Nebulae as well as open clusters and globular clusters of stars and more.

The event is free and open to the public.

Senior Dances set Mondays

The Senior Dance Club hosts dances most Monday nights at the Farmers Branch Senior Center, 14055 Dennis Lane, between Josey and Valwood. Admission is \$5. Featured entertainment for upcoming dances include:

July 6	J.C. Tippett
July 13	Blue Champagne
July 20	Southern Pride
July 27	Dave Alexander

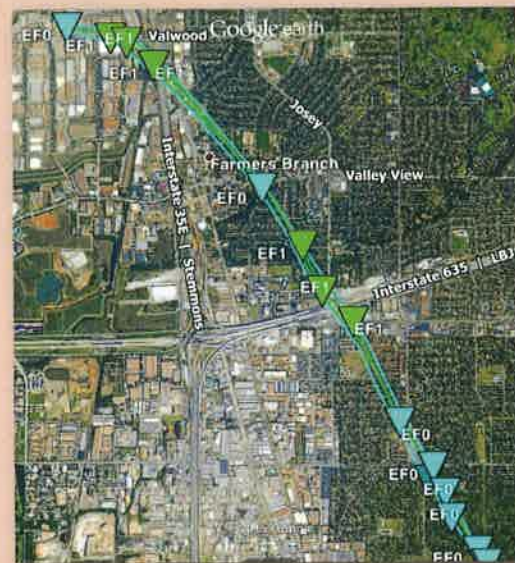
Tornado skips across Farmers Branch during May series of storm systems

FARMERS BRANCH ~ After an on-site damage assessment, officials from the National Weather Service confirmed the storm that hit Farmers Branch at about 2:35 a.m. Sunday, May 24 included an EF-1 tornado.

The large storm cell swept across the Metroplex from south to north between about 2:30 and 3 a.m. that morning as one of the continuing series of storms that hit the area in May.

Farmers Branch Police reported damage across the City, from the area of Josey Lane and LBJ, across Valley View to Pepper Park where several trees were downed, to Distribution Way and Denton where railroad arms were snapped, across I-35E where several commercial businesses had blown out windows, trees uprooted and roofs either ripped off or collapsed. Officials estimate from the time the tornado entered the City to the time it skipped across Valwood Parkway into Carrollton was about three minutes.

No injuries were reported and no residents were known to have been displaced by the storm.



Record rainfall raises concerns about mosquito breeding areas

FARMERS BRANCH ~ With the recent record rainfall, Farmers Branch employees are working harder than ever to treat standing water and eliminate mosquito breeding sites in public rights-of-way.

In places where standing water cannot be drained, staff is using larvicide to prevent mosquito growth. Additionally, traps are being set out weekly to monitor for West Nile Virus.

Farmers Branch residents can help control mosquito populations by draining standing water on their property and using "mosquito dunks" when necessary.

Mosquito dunks are available to residents free of charge at City Hall and the Senior Center, however there is a limit of one pack per resident, as supplies are limited.

Additional dunks can be purchased at your local hardware store.

"As always, we remind residents to protect themselves by wearing insect repellent with DEET," said Farmers Branch Environmental Health Manager Katy Evans, "Covering up with long sleeves and long pants, is also advised and limiting activity at dusk and dawn, when mosquitoes are most active."



Ashleigh Feryan

Far-reaching flooding

This aerial photo, taken June 1, shows flooding from the Elm Fork of the Trinity River inundating the area along the Farmers Branch / Carrollton border on the far west side of Farmers Branch, along the President George Bush Turnpike. The upper half of the frame (to the right of the roadway) is the John F. Burke Nature Preserve, which was almost completely submerged by the flooding and was expected to remain closed for a number of weeks.

Check Out the New Aquatics Center @ fbh2o.com

