



Branch REVIEW

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Daddies & Daughters Annual Valentine's season dance set February 6

FARMERS BRANCH ~ Under the mystique of a masquerade ball, daddies and daughters from across Farmers Branch will kick up their heels at the annual dance held in their honor, Saturday, February 6, from 6 until 8 p.m. at the Community Recreation Center.

There will be dancing, a live DJ, keepsake photos, refreshments and more. Advance tickets are \$5 per person for Farmers Branch residents and \$8 for non-residents. Tickets at the door are \$10 per person.

The event is limited to Daddies and Daughters only. For more information, call 972.247.4607.



Amy Cooper Fuller

Elections 2016

Council candidate filing open through February 19

FARMERS BRANCH ~ Candidate filing for a place on the Farmers Branch City Council ballot in the May 7 General Election opens January 20 and closes February 19, according to City Secretary Amy Piukana.

The City Council is made up of a Mayor, elected at-large, and five Council positions, elected from five geographically-defined single member districts. The Mayor and members of the City Council are elected to three-year terms, staggered so that two positions are up for election each year.

In 2016, the Council seats for Districts 1 and 4 are on the ballot.

To vote in the May 7 General Election, citizens must be registered to vote no later than April 7. Voters are required to present an approved form of photo identification in order to vote in all Texas Elections.

Early voting for the election will be held April 25 through May 3 at Dallas County early voting locations, including Farmers Branch City Hall.

For more information, call 972.919.2503, visit farmersbranchtx.gov/elections or the Dallas County Elections website at dalcoelections.org.

Curbside recycling to return this Spring

FBTX ~ Curbside recycling is coming back to Farmers Branch in a new program slated to kick off this Spring.

In December, the City Council directed that the new solid waste collection contract for Farmers Branch include curbside recycling in rolling containers and continued twice a week garbage collection in either plastic or paper bags. Residents would be responsible for purchasing their own trash bags. Beyond that, there will be no additional cost to citizens.



The current drop-off recycling locations at Oran Good Park and at the Community Recreation Center will both close when the new system is inaugurated. However, those wishing to drop off recyclables will still be able to do so at the Citizen Collection Center, 1399 Valley View Lane, during their limited hours of 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

Additional information, including instructions for opting out of recycling service, will be made available to citizens later in January.

Tour of Lights posts record traffic in 2015 run

FBTX ~ According to statistics released by the Parks and Recreation Department, nearly 14,000 vehicles took in the Farmers Branch Christmas Tour of Lights during its 2015 run - more than ever before.

Derrick Birdsall

A total of 13,961 cars, trucks, buses and vans pulled through the half-million synchronized, dancing lights on the tour, that concluded its run December 30. In 2014, traffic saw 13,764 vehicles, which was also a record at that time.



Toy donations to Metrocrest Services were up to 104, from 75 last year. The non-profit organizations working the tour brought in a total of \$35,534 in donations, compared to \$39,421 in 2014.

The 2016 edition of the Tour of Lights kicks off Friday, November 25.



Valentine's Day to be celebrated at Senior Center

FBTX ~ Seniors will be celebrating the season of love with a Valentine's Tea on February 12 at 1 p.m. at the Farmers Branch Senior Center.

For \$5, seniors will enjoy canapes and fine tea. Seniors are asked to wear red or pink for the occasion. Resident ticket sales begin Friday, January 15.

Call 972.919.8740.

Aquatics Center plans 'Dive In' movie for February 20

FBTX ~ Want something different when its really cold outside, come by the Margaret Young Natatorium at the Farmers Branch Aquatics Center for a 'Dive In' movie, set for February 20.

Doors open at 6 p.m. with the feature film starting at 6:30. For titles and more information, contact the Aquatics Center at 972.919.8720 or visit

fbh2o.com.

Reservations for 'Camping' open February 1

FBTX ~ The early spring edition of Camping Under the Stars at the Farmers Branch Historical Park will open reservations at 8 a.m. on February 1.

Set for Saturday night into Sunday morning, March 12 & 13, the event is designed for the whole family and includes star viewing, a community campfire, s'mores and entertainment.

Reservations are \$50 per family campsite. Pre-registration is required and is non-refundable.

Call 972.406.0184 or visit the park online at fbhistoricalpark.com.

Senior Dances set Mondays

The Senior Dance Club hosts dances most Monday nights at the Farmers Branch Senior Center. Free dance lessons are offered from 6 until 7 p.m. with paid admission. Dancing begins at 7. Admission is \$5.

- Feb 1 Swinging Country
- Feb 8 Jim Baker (Country/Ballroom)
- Feb 15 JC Tippett (Country/Ballroom)
- Feb 22 Dave Alexander (Country/Ballroom)
- Feb 29 Southern Pride (Country)

The Senior Center is located at 14055 Dennis Lane. For more information, call 972.919.8740.

City Manager renews credentials with management authority

WASHINGTON, D.C. ~ Recognizing his record of success and continuing professional development, the International City/County Management Association has renewed the professional credentials of Farmers Branch City Manager Gary D. Greer.

ICMA established the credentialing program in 2001 to define and recognize local government managers and to promote lifelong learning. To maintain credentials, members must submit an annual report, describing 40 hours of professional development during the previous year. Additionally, ICMA recognized Mr. Greer earlier this year for 25 years of service to the City Management profession.

Serving as City Manager in Farmers Branch since 2007, Mr. Greer is among more than 80 credentialed managers in Texas, out of more than 1,800 municipalities.

According to ICMA, in 2014, there were 1,342 credentialed managers across the United States.



Gary D. Greer

FBPD wants citizens informed on new 'Open Carry' law in Texas

FBTX ~ Farmers Branch Police Chief Sid Fuller wants to be sure everyone is informed on the new law where on January 1, 2016, Texas became the latest state to permit the open carrying of handguns by licensed individuals.



"The new law is complex and it's important for our residents and businesses to be informed." Chief Fuller explained. "The law permits concealed handgun license holders, thereafter to be called a handgun license, to carry their weapon openly in a belt or shoulder holster or concealed."

He said those individuals must have their license on their person at all times and must show it to law enforcement officers upon request.

There are some restrictions as to where a license holder can carry a firearm, for a list of those and other frequently asked questions please go to the FAQ posted online at farmersbranchtx.gov/opencarry. For questions or for more information, call 972.484.3620.

Lewisville Dam info released after media report

FBTX ~ Following release of a December news media report that calls into question the safety of the Lake Lewisville Dam, the City of Farmers Branch, along with other downstream cities, released information from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to answer questions raised by *The Dallas Morning News* article.

As the agency responsible for the Lake Lewisville Dam, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers says the dam is under "no immediate threat of failure or is it likely." They released a statement to stakeholders:

"The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Fort Worth District continues to operate the Lewisville Dam, part of the Trinity River flood risk management system, as designed with no imminent danger of failure."

The City has provided additional information online at farmersbranchtx.gov/dam.

