



Branch REVIEW

www.farmersbranchtx.gov

Lee Ann Womack

Country crooner hopes you dance down to the annual Bloomin' Bluegrass Festival & Chili Cookoff

FARMERS BRANCH ~ With strong ties to country music but an enduring love for the uniquely American genre of bluegrass, Grammy-winning vocalist Lee Ann Womack comes to the 2015 edition of the Bloomin' Bluegrass Festival and Chili Cookoff, set Friday and Saturday, October 16 & 17 at the Farmers Branch Historical Park. Admission and parking are free.

Ms. Womack will join the best the Bluegrass world has to offer in performances on stage throughout the festival. Scheduled to appear are the Del McCoury Band, Hot Rize featuring Red Knuckles & the Trailblazers, Balsam Range and more.

In addition to the talent on stage, music will be in the air from all corners of the park as musicians from far and near get to-



gether for informal jam sessions on the porches of historic buildings and in the shade of hundred-year-old trees.

Shopping at the arts and crafts marketplace will be another returning feature of the festival with all manner of items available for purchase.



The KidZone will have plenty for the little ones to do with myriad activities including a petting zoo and inflatable play areas.

Be sure to preserve appetites for Saturday's Chili Cookoff where chili cooks of all levels of talent and experience will show their stuff to both professional and public judges with tasting available from 12 noon til the chili is gone.

The Farmers Branch Historical Park is located at 2540 Farmers Branch Lane, between Denton Drive and Ford Road and a five minute walk from the Farmers Branch DART Light Rail 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. www.bloominbluegrass.com

National Night Out block parties planned October 6

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 6.

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.

City Council moves meeting

In order to encourage as many neighborhoods as possible to participate in National Night Out on Tuesday, October 6, Mayor Bob Phelps and the Farmers Branch City Council have opted to move their regular meeting, scheduled for the same night, to Monday, October 5.



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

Craft Fair returns to Senior Center October 17

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.



Dozens of local artisans will be on hand to offer their holiday-themed wares to the crowds in attendance. For more information, call 972.919.8740.

'New' LBJ opens ahead of year-end schedule

A little more than three months ahead of the December 31 deadline, LBJ Express project officials announced that the \$2.4 billion overhaul of Interstate 635 would open in mid-September.

The combination of reconstructed main lanes, service roads and center tolled lanes runs from Greenville Avenue in Dallas to Luna Road in Farmers Branch and includes sections of I-35E north and south of LBJ. For more information, visit lbjexpress.com.



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HALLOWEEN IN THE PARK

Annual costume caper falls on Halloween night, Oct 31

FARMERS BRANCH ~ Festive and fun frights will fill the air on Halloween night, Saturday, October 31 for "Halloween in the Park," set from 5 until 10 p.m. under the starry sky of the Farmers Branch Historical Park.

Admission and parking are free. Concessions will be available for purchase.

Once again, people will line up for the experience of the "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.



Celebration of Roses to provide tours, lectures

Farmers Branch will celebrate the roses in the gardens with an exceptional day of activities on Saturday, October 17, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Admission is free.



After registering in the Gussie Field Watterworth Pavilion at 13000 William Dodson Parkway, the day will begin with picking in the garden where Bluegrass music will serenade participants as they select blooms for the

hands on floral design workshop.

Presentations on daylilies, irises and, of course, roses will assist gardeners in the creation of a lovely garden.

The Garden Passport to all corners of the rose gardens promises to be fun for all ages.

The Farmers Branch Rose Show will be held in City Hall during the celebration which will also feature a complementary grilled hot-dog lunch by Rawhide Creek. Shuttles will provide easy access to the rose gardens and the Bluegrass music at the Historical Park.

www.fbroses.com

October shredding event set

In an effort to provide CityWide CleanUp services throughout the year, the City of Farmers Branch has scheduled a document destruction event for Saturday, October 24, from 9 a.m. until 12 noon at City Hall.

Farmers Branch residents may bring old documents, financial records and other assorted paper to City Hall to be shredded on site by a large shredding truck. 972.919.2597.

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:

- Oct 5 Swingin' Country
- Oct 12 Blue Champagne
- Oct 19 JC Tippett
- Oct 26 Dave Alexander

Firefighter Combat Challenge to hold U.S. Nationals in Farmers Branch



FARMERS BRANCH ~ Putting firefighters through the grueling paces of everyday activity, in the form of timed competition, is the heart of the Scott Firefighter Combat Challenge, which will be holding the U.S. National competition in Farmers Branch October 2, 3 & 4.

Set for the parking lot of the Doubletree by Hilton Hotel Dallas Near the Galleria, the Combat Challenge showcases the talents, skills and athleticism of America's firefighter heroes in an exciting, fast-paced competition.

Simulating the essential skills of firefighting, the events include climbing a five-story tower in full bunker gear, dragging and hoisting a fire hose, simulating forcible entry and racing around obstacles.

There will also be a Kid's Firefighter Challenge, a miniaturized version of the adult course. www.firefighterchallenge.com

Sister Cities to observe anniversaries

FARMERS BRANCH ~ It was 35 years ago that Farmers Branch embarked on its Sister City program, creating a cultural and educational exchange that has withstood the test of time.

In 2015, the City is celebrating the 35th anniversary of its relationship with the District of Bassetlaw in Nottinghamshire, England and 25th anniversary of its twinning with Garbsen, Germany. Additionally, this year marks 20 years since forming a "friendship city" relationship with Schonebeck, Germany.

From October 15 through 21, 34 visitors from our Sister Cities will be in Farmers Branch to renew old acquaintances and create fresh relationships with a new generation of City and community leaders. Twenty host families in Farmers Branch have been arranged to accommodate the City's guests.

Among their activities will be to tour the City and attend the Bloomin' Bluegrass Festival while sampling some of Texas' best in the Chili Cookoff.

Likewise, during this time the Carrollton-Farmers Branch ISD will be hosting 26 German exchange students who will join us at the City Council meeting on October 20, for formal recognition with honorary citizenship certificates.



A lone vehicle travels down the roadway named for Farmers Branch in Worksop, District of Bassetlaw, England.

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