

Elections 2015

Early voting continues in advance of Election Day on Saturday, May 9

FARMERS BRANCH ~ Having begun on Monday, April 27, Early Voting for the upcoming City elections continues through May 5.

Election Day is scheduled for Saturday, May 9, from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m. at Dallas County polling precincts.

Farmers Branch City Council members and Mayor are elected to three year terms in staggered order with two seats coming up each year. This year features races for the Districts 3 and 5 City Council positions.

Filed to run for the District 3 City Council seat - (in ballot order) are Andy Olivo, Brenda Brodrick and John Norwood. In District 5, David Merritt is running against Mike Bomgardner for that position.

Early voting will be held at Dallas County early voting locations, including Farmers Branch City Hall: **Monday, April 27 through Saturday, May 2, from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m.; Sunday, May 3, from 1 until 6 p.m.; and, Monday & Tuesday, May 4 & 5, from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m.**

Additional information for voters can be found at farmersbranchtx.gov/elections, including a Council District Map, facts about the Texas Voter ID law and a lookup tool for determining Council districts according to address.



Applause!

Long awaited Farmers Branch mobile App debuts on multiple platforms



CYBERSPACE ~ Helping to put City

of Farmers Branch information and resources at the fingertips of citizens, the Farmers Branch Mobile App for smartphones and tablets has debuted in Apple's App Store and on the Android Marketplace.

Entitled "MyFBTX" the mobile application is free and gives users immediate access to City news, special event information, a list of facilities and their locations, an update on street projects happening under the 2014 bond issue and a current listing of adoptable cats and dogs, with pictures, from the Farmers Branch Animal Adoption Center.

Additionally, the App seamlessly integrates with the City's social media sites on Facebook, YouTube, Instagram and Twitter. There is access to a page of Frequently Asked Questions along with access to the City's full website and a list of current job openings with the City of Farmers Branch.

One of the most requested items is under "Report It," where users can access the same Code Enforcement online reporting form that can be found on the full website.

The "MyFBTX" App was developed by the City's Communications office, working with a committee of other departments and was built by the City's website vendor, Civic Plus, allowing reasonably seamless interaction with sections of the full website.

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Branch REVIEW



www.farmersbranchtx.gov

Stars & Strings to feature Fort Worth Symphony Memorial Day Weekend

HISTORICAL PARK ~ The sounds from the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra will be filling the Historical Park at this year's edition of Liberty Fest presents Stars & Strings during Memorial Day Weekend.

The Park will open its gates at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday, May 23 with activities for the young and the young at heart including the all-time favorite low level fireworks show that helps cap off the event. Admission and parking are free with no ticket required.

Activities leading up to the fireworks include tours of historical structures in the park, bounce houses, face paintings and more free activities in the Kidzone. Select concessionaires will be onsite selling a variety of festival fare, beer, wine, and snacks. Festival-goers can also pre-order one of the many picnic baskets prepared by Central Market. Their menu and ordering details will soon be available online.

New at this year's event is "Uncorked," a private wine tasting area for those wishing to expand their palate. A total of eight wines will be accompanied with the perfect pairing for the full tasting experience. The area will have an exclusive performance at the gazebo for those in attendance. Tickets for the wine tasting are limited and will be available online beginning April 13 at www.fbspecialevents.com.

Parking will be at the Metrosquare Business Park, two blocks south of the Historical Park at 1200 Ford Road with a free shuttle to the gate. For more information, call 972.919.2620 or visit www.fbspecialevents.com.



Fishin' Fun readies one ton of fish for May 2 event

RAWHIDE CREEK ~ An annual rite of spring in Farmers Branch, the annual Fishin' Fun event returns to the banks of Rawhide Creek, near City Hall, on Saturday, May 2 from 8 a.m. til 12 p.m.

Rawhide Creek will be stocked with a ton of fish waiting for young anglers (16 and under). The event is free of charge and no registration is required. Additionally, there will be a kayaking area further downstream that has proved to be very popular. Fishing will take place between 8 and 10 a.m. with an awards ceremony at

10:30. The free KidZone, and kayaking, will continue until 12 noon.

Kids are welcome to bring their own gear or to borrow from the inventory of rods and reels on hand.

For more information, call 972.919.1444.

New Aquatics Center opens May 23



In advance of the grand opening of the all-new Farmers Branch Aquatics Center on May 23, Farmers Branch Parks & Recreation's J.D. Arnold (left) and Kerry Phillips guide the iconic frog into its new home at the outdoor 'Frog Pond' section of the complex. The frog graced the side of the old Don Showman Pool for decades and will now find new life as a familiar frog face for the new facility.

—BranchBriefs—

City offices to close for Memorial Day

Most City of Farmers Branch offices and facilities will be closed on **Monday, May 25** in observance of Memorial Day. The only exceptions will be the Farmers Branch Community Recreation Center and Historical Park, both open from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. **There will be no garbage collection on Memorial Day.**

Farmers Branch named Tree City USA

Because of its dedication to the preservation and proliferation of trees, the City of Farmers Branch has been named a "Tree City USA" by the National Arbor Day Foundation for more than 30 years in a row. Find out more at www.arbordayfoundation.org/treecityusa

Firehouse Theatre goes 'Into the Woods'

The Firehouse Theatre continues its 2015 season with the original production of the musical "Into the Woods," from which the 2014 movie was adapted.

It will be presented at The Firehouse Theatre on select days thru May 3. Call 972.620.3747 for info.



Senior Dances

The Senior Dance Club holds dances most Monday nights at the Farmers Branch Senior Center at 7 p.m. Admission is \$5.

- May 4 JC Tippet
- May 11 Blue Champagne
- May 18 Dave Alexander
- May 25 Closed for Memorial Day

Bloomin' Bluegrass announces 2015 festival to include country great LeeAnn Womack



FARMERS BRANCH ~ The 2015 incarnation of the Bloomin' Bluegrass Festival & Chili Cookoff may still be several months away, but excitement is starting to build with the announcement of this year's slate of talent, including Grammy-winner LeeAnn Womack.

With album sales of more than 6 million worldwide, Ms. Womack will tie her passion for country music with her love for bluegrass. Joining her at this year's free music festival will be the Del McCoury Band, Hot Rize featuring Red Knuckles & the Trailblazers, Balsam Range, Helen Highwater Stringband, The Grascals, The Herrins and The Snyder Family Band.

The Chili Cookoff will again accompany the red-hot music on stage while others shop at the Arts & Crafts Marketplace, visit the KidZone, complete with a petting zoo and face painting, or stroll through the nearby Celebration of Roses at the Rose Gardens of Farmers Branch.

Bloomin' Bluegrass Festival and Chili Cookoff is coming to the Farmers Branch Historical Park October 16 & 17. Admission and parking are free. Details can be found online at www.bloominbluegrass.com.

CityWide CleanUp evolves into multiple events through year

After the overwhelming response to CityWide CleanUp Day the past few years, City officials are going to a more diversified schedule for meeting needs for the same services in 2015 and beyond.

Traditionally held in April, CityWide CleanUp Day has offered residents the chance to recycle electronics, drop off household hazardous waste, shred old documents and properly dispose of old prescription medications with the Police Department.

The CityWide CleanUp Day services may now be accessed by residents according to the following schedule:

ELECTRONICS RECYCLING is now available every week at the Citizen Collection Center, 1399 Valley View Lane, west of Luna Road. Hours are from 8 a.m. until 6 p.m. Thursday through Saturday. Check list of items accepted.

PRESCRIPTION MEDICATION TAKE-BACK is now available Monday through Friday at the Farmers Branch Justice Center from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. Items accepted include prescription patches and medications, ointments along with over-the-counter meds, vitamins, samples and pet medications. Not accepted are needles, medications from businesses or clinics, thermometers, hydrogen peroxide, inhalers, lotions or liquids and aerosol cans.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE is collected certain days from Farmers Branch residents and those of other participating cities at the Dallas County Home Chemical Collection Center, 11234 Plano Road, Dallas, Texas 75243. They are open every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday along with some Saturdays. Hours may vary. Call 214.553.1765. **There will be a LOCAL COLLECTION EVENT in Farmers Branch on Saturday, June 27.** Watch for further details. **DOCUMENT SHREDDING** is planned for two events later this year, including **Saturday, May 16.** Watch for times and locations to be announced.