



Branch Review



SEPTEMBER 2016



Date Night

Autumn edition to feature food trucks, live music, outdoor movie and (maybe) cooler weather

FBTX ~ In what is becoming a semi-annual rite of the passing seasons, Date Night in the Park is set for the second full day of fall, Saturday, September 24 at the Farmers Branch Historical Park.

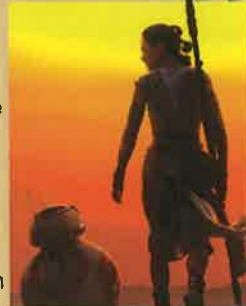
Those attending will be able to take advantage of up to 15 different food trucks along with a bar and snack vendors when the gates open at 5:30 p.m. A concert from Statesboro Revue will follow, before the outdoor movie at dusk. Everyone is invited and admission is free. Call 972.247.4607 for more information about childcare at the Rec Center for kids, ages 3-12.

Visit fbspecialevents.com for more info and movie titles.



'The Force' is with Manske Movies in September

FBTX~ Martial arts and lightsabers will dominate the special slate of Manske Movies set for the Library's outdoor amphitheater on certain September Saturdays.



First, the 1984 fan favorite 'The Karate Kid' will kick off Labor Day weekend on September 3.

Then, two weeks later, on September 17, fans are invited to travel to a 'galaxy far, far away' for 2015's "Star Wars: The Force Awakens." Showtimes are at dusk.

Both movies are free and open to the public. Blankets and lawn chairs are recommended for the tiered, grassy levels of the amphitheater.

History comes alive at 'Encounters from the Past'

FBTX~ Participants can 'meet' long-gone Farmers Branch residents and hear stories of how this community came to be at guided tours of historic Keenan Cemetery at 'Encounters from the Past' September 16-17, beginning at 7 p.m. each evening. Tours begin every 15 minutes through 9 p.m. Tickets are \$5 per person with kids 6 and under admitted free. Call 972.406.0184.

Aerial spraying approved, if necessary

FBTX~ In order to combat mosquito-borne illnesses, the Farmers Branch City Council, August 2, gave Dallas County Health and Human Services authorization for aerial spraying if there is a significant threat to public health. As of that meeting, no aerial spraying had been scheduled. Updates and more info are at farmersbranchtx.gov/mosquito.

Valley View reconstruction to roll through winter months

FBTX ~ The largest project to-date from the 2015 voter-approved, \$23.5 million street bond is now underway with the reconstruction of Valley View Lane between Josey and Webb Chapel.

Public Works Director Randy Walhood said the roadway will feature 10-inch thick concrete paving and will have seven-foot-wide sidewalks to better accommodate pedestrians. A new 8-inch waterline will replace the existing cast-iron water line that is more than 50 years old. In addition, the current aerial wiring that connects street lights on Valley View will be placed underground.

The work is expected to take 10 months to complete. Mr. Walhood said the eastbound side will be the first to be paved. The first stage of the project will be the water main replacement on the eastbound side that is expected to reduce traffic to at least one lane for the first six to eight weeks.

Cost of the project is \$3.1 million, funded by the 2015 bond issue. Completion is expected in May of 2017. Mr. Walhood said adjacent, affected property owners will be updated as the various stages of the project advance.



Traffic rolls slowly through the construction area on Valley View between Josey and Webb Chapel during peak hours.

Most City offices to close for Labor Day holiday; garbage **WILL** be collected

FBTX~ Most City of Farmers Branch offices and facilities will be close on Monday, September 5 in observance of the Labor Day holiday, with a few notable exceptions.

Both the Community Recreation Center and Margaret Young Natatorium will be open from 6 a.m. until 5 p.m. Next door, the Frog Pond will celebrate its last day of summer season operation by opening from 12 noon through 6 p.m. In addition, the Farmers Branch Historical Park will be open from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. **There will be regular garbage and recycling collection on Labor Day.**

Senior Center plans 'Classic Hollywood' game night

FBTX~ Continuing as one of the most popular events of their annual calendar, the Farmers Branch Senior Center has planned the 2016 edition of 'Game Night' for September 17 at the Center.

This year's theme is "Classic Hollywood: Shine Like the Stars." Resident ticket sales, \$10 each, begin August 15. Call 972.919.8740.

Firehouse Theatre offers "To Kill a Mockingbird"

FBTX~ With ambitious offerings no stranger to their stage, The Firehouse Theatre will present Harper Lee's immortal classic "To Kill a Mockingbird," directed by Tyler Jeffrey Adams, on select nights September 8 thru 25.

The Firehouse Theatre is at 2535 Valley View. Call 972.620.3747 or go to thefirehousetheatre.com.

Household Hazardous Waste collection event scheduled

FBTX~ Dallas County will conduct a Household Hazardous Waste collection event in Farmers Branch on October 8.

Residents will be able to pick up a voucher for participation in the event on a first-come, first-served basis at Farmers Branch City Hall, beginning September 15. Participation is limited to the first 100 Farmers Branch residents who pick up a voucher (one per household). Call 972.919.2597 for more information.

September is National Preparedness Month

FBTX~ National Preparedness Month serves as a reminder that residents must take action to prepare throughout the year for the types of emergencies the could affect the places where we live, work and learn.

Farmers Branch Emergency Management Coordinator Ashleigh Feryan will be at the Manske Library September 20 at 7 p.m. to discuss creating a "Go Bag."

Pickups-n-Panels are coming

FBTX~ The Pickups-n-Panels Classic Car and Truck Show returns to the Farmers Branch Historical Park on Saturday, September 10, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Admission is free. For more info, visit pickupsnpanels.com.

Senior Dances set Mondays

FBTX~ Live music and friendly people Senior Dance night one of the best in the Metroplex. Tickets are \$5 at the door for dances from 7 to 9:20 p.m. Bands are:

SEP 05 Labor Day (no dance)

SEP 12 Jim Baker (Ballroom)

SEP 19 J.C. Tippett (Country)

SEP 26 Dave Alexander (Ballroom)

John Land becomes Deputy City Manager

FBTX ~ Recognizing his leadership capabilities along with his intricate knowledge of city government, City Manager Charles S. Cox has promoted Managing Director John Land to Deputy City Manager.



"I can think of no one better suited to help keep this organization moving in the right direction," Mr. Cox said. "You all know that John has deep roots in Farmers Branch and cares deeply about this community."

Returning to Farmers Branch in 2009, Mr. Land most recently served the Frisco Chamber of Commerce as President since 2007. Prior to that he was Vice President of Community Development for the Midland Chamber of Commerce, from 2002 to 2007, and President of the Farmers Branch Chamber from 1994 to 2002.

Mr. Land was previously employed by the City of Farmers Branch as Special Projects Manager in the Parks and Recreation Department.

He received Institute of Organizational Management designation from the U.S. Chamber of Commerce in 2005 and graduated from the University of Oklahoma's Economic Development Institute in 2006. Mr. Land is currently serving on the Farmers Branch Local Government Corporation and is the newly elected president of the Farmers Branch Rotary Club.

Farmers Branch property values on the rise

DALLAS ~ Certified property values in Farmers Branch for the 2016 tax year stand at \$4.85 billion, up from last year's total of \$4.5 billion, according to figures released recently by the Dallas Central Appraisal District.

The report shows Farmers Branch overall taxable values are up 6.9 percent. Commercial is up 8.2 percent while Business Personal Property is up 1.5 percent. Residential values continue to surge with a 2016 increase of 9.6 percent, up from last year's increase of 6 percent.

Additionally, average market value of homes in Farmers Branch jumped 9.8 percent from \$163,736 last year to \$179,764 in 2016. The total taxable value increase of \$313.2 million includes \$102.1 million in new construction, of which residential accounts for \$7.4 million while commercial totals \$94.7 million.

'Sharrows' point cyclists in right direction

FARMERS BRANCH ~ The artwork appearing on roadways in Farmers Branch is a precursor of more pedal power to come as new "sharrows" signify the most visible signs, to date, of the implementation of the Trail Master Plan.

Crews started putting down sharrows, or shared lane markings, recently. Each marking consists of a stencil of a bicycle with two arrows above it, indicating that motor vehicles should "share" the lane with bicycles. The markings, approved by the Federal Highway Administration, are being installed as part of the City Council-adopted Citywide Trail Master Plan.

Sharrows are being installed on the outside lanes of Valley View from the DART Green Line to Midway, except for the stretch between Josey and Webb Chapel. Public Works is in the process of reconstructing Valley View through that area. Sharrows will be added when the project is complete. For more info on the project, call 972.919.2620 or visit farmersbranchtx.gov/trails.



Code Enforcement Corner

Trash & Recycling Collection | Screening Containers

In an effort to maintain neighborhood appearance, the City Code specifies certain time frames that material can be placed out for trash or recycling collection. Whether it be trash, recycling, brush or bulk, items **SHOULD NOT** be placed out for collection earlier than 6 p.m. the day **BEFORE** designated collection. Likewise, recycling containers **SHOULD BE** returned to their storage locations no later than 9 a.m. the day **AFTER** scheduled service.

Materials and containers out too early or left out too late is a violation of City Code and may result in a court citation. Additionally, recycling containers **should be shielded from street view** when not placed out for collection. This could be in the back yard, in the garage or behind a screening fence if stored beside the house.

RECYCLING CONTAINERS SHOULD BE SHIELDED FROM VIEW AS OF OCTOBER 1

Code Enforcement has provided a helpful video tutorial of how to construct a simple screening fence at youtube.com/fbtv16. A sample screening fence and recycling container can be seen in the lobby at City Hall. If any resident is unable to construct, or afford to construct, a screening fence, there may be assistance available from local civic agencies (as resources are available).

For more info, all Code Enforcement at 972.919.1414.

FARMERS  BRANCH

