

# Branch Review



November 2016



## Annual Veterans Day salute planned Nov 11

SENIOR CENTER ~ Making a return to Farmers Branch from the World War II Museum in New Orleans, the "Victory Belles" will entertain the crowd with military-era song and dance at the 2016 Farmers Branch Veterans Day Celebration, set for Friday, November 11 at 10:30 a.m. at the Farmers Branch Senior Center.



Everyone is invited to the annual celebration of those who have worn the uniform of the U.S. military and admission is free. The traditional hot dog lunch, also free, will follow the proceedings at about 12 noon.

The Farmers Branch Senior Center is located at 14055 Dennis Lane, between Josey Lane and Valwood Parkway. Call 972.919.2620 for more information on the event.

## 'Winter Wonderland' comes to life on tour of lights, premiering Thanksgiving weekend

FARMERS BRANCH ~ Featuring more animated lights than ever in this year's edition, the Farmers Branch Christmas Tour of Lights flips the switch on the half million lights of the 2016 season on the day after Thanksgiving, Friday, November 25.

Starting at the intersection of I-35E and Valley View, the tour continues down Denton Drive, now featuring animation synced to music, to the Farmers Branch Historical Park where 'Winter Wonderland' will be presented in a bigger-than-ever show will have more twinkling lights, holiday music and Christmas displays.

The 500,000 lights along the tour will be on each evening from November 25 through December 30, with the Historical Park portion closed two nights only, December 3 and 25.

Admission is a suggested \$5 donation per vehicle to the various non-profit groups working the Tour each night. Weather updates and other information can be had by following [fbspecialevents](#) on Facebook or by visiting [fblights.com](#).



## Autumn shredding event set Nov 5 at City Hall

FBTX~ Residents can have old household documents destroyed at a shredding event planned for Saturday, November 5 from 9 a.m. to 12 noon at Farmers Branch City Hall.

Set twice annually, in the spring and the fall, the event offers residents the opportunity for document destruction at no cost to them.

The service is offered for residents and residential documents only and proof of Farmers Branch residence may be required. Call 972.919.2597.

## City facilities to close for Thanksgiving holidays

FBTX~ All City offices and facilities will be closed on Thursday, November 24 in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday.

**There will be NO garbage collection.**

Most City offices remain closed on Friday, November 25 with the exception of: the Farmers Branch Community Recreation Center and Margaret Young Natatorium, both open from 6 a.m. to 5 p.m., and the Farmers Branch Historical Park, open 8 a.m. until 5 p.m.

## Early voting dates defined for national election

FBTX~ Registered voters may vote early for the November 8 national election at any Dallas county early voting location, including Farmers Branch City Hall.

Early voting will take place Monday, thru Saturday, October 24 to 29 from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Sunday, October 30 from 1 until 6 p.m.; and Monday thru Friday, October 31 to November 4 from 7 a.m. til 7 p.m.

On Election Day, Tuesday, November 8, voters must cast ballots at their designated polling place.

Voters should see their registration card for their precinct number or visit [dallascountyvotes.org](#).

## City Council to meet November 1 & 15

FBTX~ Mayor Bob Phelps and the members of the Farmers Branch City Council will meet in regular session on Tuesdays, November 1 and 15 at 6 p.m. at Farmers Branch City Hall.

City Council study session typically start at 3 p.m. each day in the upstairs conference room at City Hall. Meetings are broadcast live on FBTV, cable channel 16 in Farmers Branch, AT&T Uverse Channel 99 throughout the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex and online at [farmersbranchtx.gov](http://farmersbranchtx.gov).

## 'Tell it to the Mayor' sessions limited during holidays

FBTX~ Farmers Branch Mayor Bob Phelps traditionally holds open office hours 'Tell it to the Mayor' sessions at City Hall on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month. However, as the fourth Wednesdays in November and December are the weeks of national holidays, those sessions will be limited during those months only to the second Wednesdays, November 9 and December 14 from 3 to 6 p.m. each day. Call 972.247.3131.

## Sister City plans excursion to Germany next summer

FBTX ~ The Farmers Branch Sister City committee is planning a trip to the Sister City of Garbsen, Germany next summer.

Organizers in Garbsen are planning a celebration in honor of their Sister City anniversaries with towns in France and England.

Anyone interested in participating in the trip should contact the Sister City committee as soon as possible at 214.883.5075. Individuals must have a current passport and are responsible for their own travel costs.

## Fats, oils and grease can hamper residential plumbing

FBTX ~ As the holiday season approaches, the Farmers Branch Public Works Department reminds residents to properly dispose of cooking remnants like fats, oils and grease.

Improper disposal can clog residential plumbing and cause extensive problems in the City's sewer system. Call 972.919.2597.

## 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:  
NOV 07 Jim Baker (Ballroom)  
NOV 14 J.C. Tippett (Country)  
NOV 21 Swingin' Country (Country)  
NOV 28 Dave Alexander (Ballroom)

# Habel, Lee promoted at Police Department

FBTX ~ In one of his first acts of his new office, Farmers Branch Police Chief David Hale has announced that Dean Habel has been promoted to Deputy Chief while Jimmy Lee will assume the rank of Lieutenant.



Lieutenant Jimmy Lee (left) and Deputy Chief Dean Habel

Deputy Chief Habel has served the Farmers Branch Police Department for 21 years rising through the ranks to Corporal in 1999, Sergeant in 2001 and Lieutenant in 2005. He has served in patrol, administration and Special Investigations. He has been an operator, team leader and Commander of the SWAT Team, Internal Affairs and the custodian of records.

He holds a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice from the University of Texas at San Antonio and a master's degree in Behavioral Studies from Southern Methodist University. Additionally, Deputy Chief Habel is a graduate of the FBI National Academy (2011), the Bill Blackwood Law Enforcement Management Institute of Texas (2005) and the Institute for Law Enforcement Administration at the Center for American and International Law (2005).

Lieutenant Jimmy Lee first joined the Farmers Branch Police Department in 1996 following five years of police service in Royse City. He was promoted to Corporal in 2001 and Sergeant in 2007. Lieutenant Lee is currently the Intoxylizer program coordinator, video system coordinator, fitness instructor and a member of the hiring board.

He is also a graduate of the Bill Blackwood Law Enforcement Management Institute of Texas and the Institute for Law Enforcement Administration at the Center for American and International Law. Lieutenant Lee is a Master Peace Officer and a 1985 graduate of Fountain Gate College where he received a bachelor's degree in Theology.

## Historical Park Happenings

### Owl Prowl

Critterman will be on hand after dark for a special "Owl Prowl" with Audubon Texas, Tuesday, November 8 at 7 p.m.

Kids and families are invited and admission is free. Participants should plan to meet at the Farmers Branch Historical Park. Call 972.406.0184.

### Vintage Base Ball

The Farmers Branch Mustangs, the Topeka Westerns and a North Texas Vintage Base Ball Team will play a triple-header of 1860s base ball on Saturday, November 12. Admission is free.

Guests are invited to bring chairs, quilts, have a picnic and enjoy base ball played by rules of the Civil War era. Visit [fbvintagebaseball.com](http://fbvintagebaseball.com).

### Step back in time on Sunday

Three events on Sunday, November 13 offer a glimpse into different aspects of Farmers Branch in the past. All events are from 1 until 4 p.m.

Families can visit the Texaco gas station and lend a hand to a mechanic working on the Glad Acres truck. The Log House will also be open for tours, complete with costumed guides. Finally, the blacksmith will be working in the log barn's forge, explaining his timeless art. 972.406.0184.

## Code Enforcement Corner

### Holiday Decorations

With the holidays quickly approaching, the Farmers Branch Code Enforcement staff would like to remind residents that holiday decorations may be displayed beginning on November 1st and must be removed no later than February 1st.

For any other national holidays, appropriate decorations may be displayed beginning two weeks prior to the holiday and must be removed by the first Monday following the holiday.

### RECYCLING CONTAINER SCREENING REMINDER

Code Enforcement staff reminds residents that blue recycling containers must now be stored out of sight from the street - either in a fenced back yard, inside a garage or behind a screening fence if stored beside the house. Code Enforcement has provided a helpful video tutorial of how to construct a simple screening fence at [youtube.com/fbtv16](http://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

### To Report a Code Violation:

- ☐ Call 972.919.1414
- ☐ Log on at [farmersbranchtx.gov/code](http://farmersbranchtx.gov/code)
- ☐ Download the MyFBTX app