

WINTER EDITION

JAN
FEB 2023

News, Information, Activities and Program Opportunities from The Branch Connection



Valentine Show

Members: Free; Non-members: \$5 | Friday | February 10 | 1 - 4 p.m.

Valentine's Day is a time to celebrate all the people you care about in your life. Bring your special someone to The Branch Connection to enjoy great entertainment and dine on delectable delights. Remember to bring your favorite teacup and saucer!

Renovation and Registration FYI

To see the current renovation plans and FAQs for The Branch Connection, please visit **FarmersBranchTX.gov/TBCReno**

You must register for all classes and programs one month in advance. Fitness class and special event registration for residents begins the first Monday of each month. Open Registration for non-residents begins the second Monday of each month. For example, patrons will register for February classes in January.

To register for activities, programs, trips and all fun things The Branch Connection has to offer, you can choose any of these options:

1. Online at:

Register online at **FarmersBranchLiving.com** (Select "Activities" and search TBC.)

2. In Person, at the front desk:

Please stop by the front desk and speak with a staff member to register for activities, programs, trips, etc.

3. Over the phone:

Call 972-919-8740 and speak with a staff member to register for activities, programs, trips, etc. You will need to remain on the phone with the staff member until your registration is complete.

TRIPS

Registration required by calling 972-919-8740

DAY TRIP:

Fort Worth Stock Show Walk-Around

Friday | January 20

11 a.m. (Bus Departure)

General Admission Included with Registration - Bring money for lunch & shopping

Saddle up and spend some time with friends at the Fort Worth Stock Show & Rodeo – the most authentic western lifestyle experience anywhere. Make sure to wear comfortable shoes for lots of walking and dress for the weather.

CRUISIN CUISINE:

Catahoula's Louisiana Kitchen

Friday | February 24

11 a.m. (Bus Departure)

Free + Bring money for lunch

A casual Louisiana kitchen featuring cajun and creole favorites.

Super Bowl LIVE Party

**Members: Free; Non-members: \$5
Sunday, February 12 | 6 p.m.**

Party with The Branch Connection for the Big Game! Bring your friends for some camaraderie and lighthearted competitiveness as we watch the game on the big screen. Game Day treats, games and prizes.



14055 Dennis Lane | Farmers Branch, Texas 75234 | 972-919-8740



www.thebranchconnection.com



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ARTS AND CRAFTS

Registration is required for all craft classes: 972-919-8740.

Free Arts and Crafts Groups

Quilting Group Fridays | 10 a.m.
Instructional Quilting Thursdays | 1 - 3 p.m.
Evening Crafts Mondays | 5 - 8 p.m.

Watercolor Painting 1

Starting in February - Tuesdays | 2 - 3:15 p.m.

Free | Instructor: Dr. Marsha Blount

Paint, brush and paper provided. Enjoy painting with others in this fun class as we talk about art. You will be guided in painting washes, color layering, critiquing, and how to finish your piece for displaying.

Watercolor Painting 2

Starting in February - Tuesdays | 3:15 - 4 p.m.

Free | Instructor: Dr. Marsha Blount

Learn color theory through independent and guided instruction in a studio format. Feel free to bring your supplies. If you want to paint in acrylic, you will need acrylic paints, canvases and brushes. Supply recommendations are available from the instructor.

Advanced Greeting Card Class

Tuesday | January 10 and February 14 | 1 - 3:30 p.m.

Supply Fee: \$10 | Instructors: Jan McCord & Carmel Mosley

Learn various card-making techniques and create four beautiful cards.

DIY Painting Party

Monday | January 9 and February 13 | 6 - 8 p.m.

Supply Fee: \$25 | Instructor: Calinda Locklear

We provide all the supplies; you just come and enjoy an evening of painting fun with friends and take home your very own completed home décor for a seasonal project. From beginner to advanced, all are welcome!

Chalk Contour

Monday | January 16 | 6:30 p.m.

Free | Instructor: Jennifer Stone

Oh, happy day painting with chalk paint and stencils. This month learn an easy screen-printing process on the fabric. Bring a plain cotton white shirt and leave with a decorative design. Registration is required by Friday, January 13. Limited seats are available.

NEW!!!! SEWING

Jellyroll Bag | Quilt As You Go

Wednesday | February 22 | 12:30 p.m.

Free | Instructor: Jennifer Stone

This is an easy pattern and class for those new to patchwork and have some stitching experience. Pre-registration is required by Wednesday, February 15. All supplies are furnished, but bring your jellyroll and/or machine if you prefer to sew with your equipment.



FITNESS CLASSES

Registration required by calling 972-919-8740

Silver Sneakers Classic - Posture Renewal

Mondays | 11 - 11:45 a.m.

Free | Instructor: Rotha Crump

Mindful Yoga

Tuesdays & Thursdays | 10 - 10:45 a.m.

Free | Instructor: Rotha Crump

Balanced Bodies Classic

Tuesdays & Thursdays | 9 - 9:45 a.m.

Free | Instructor: Rotha Crump

Tai Chi

Mondays & Wednesdays | 10 - 10:45 a.m.

Free | Instructor: Susan Davis

NEW TIME Zumba Gold

Wednesdays | 6 - 6:45 p.m.

Free | Instructor: Giselle Huet

Power Walking

Wednesdays | 1 - 1:45 p.m.

Fridays | 9 - 9:45 a.m.

Free | Instructor: Laura Franklin

EDUCATIONAL TALKS

Registration required.

Hearing, Hearing Loss and Hearing Aids

Wednesday | January 25 | 11 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Free | Presented by Dr. Brad Gold

Learn about how hearing works, the causes and effects of hearing loss, hearing aids, and the impact that hearing can have on you. Complimentary snacks will be provided.

Depression - Dealing with "The Blues"

Tuesday | January 17 | 1 p.m.

Free | Presented by Oak Street Health

Feeling depressed is nothing to be ashamed of or ignore. Learn the signs of depression and some coping mechanisms to help you deal with "The Blues".

ACTIVITIES

Registration required by calling 972-919-8740

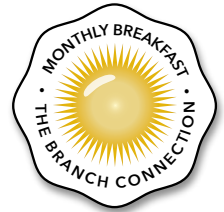
Monthly Breakfast

Members: Free; Non-members: \$5

Mondays | January 2, February 6

8:15 - 9 a.m.

Enjoy breakfast and meet up with old friends as well as new at our monthly breakfast. The Senior Advisory Board hosts the event and provides a fun atmosphere to start the month off!



COMPUTER CLASSES

Registration is required by calling 972-919-8740 or at front desk.

Computer Basics I

Mondays & Thursdays

January 9 - February 2

1 - 3 p.m.

Free

Instructor: Linda Eakle

Computer Basics II

Mondays & Thursdays |

February 6 - February 23

1 - 3 p.m.

Free

Instructor: Linda Eakle

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City Of Farmers Branch, Farmers Branch, TX

A 4C 05-1243

ACTIVITIES

Registration required by calling 972-919-8740

DROP-IN RECREATION: During facility hours, the game room is open for drop-in recreation such as cards, billiards, dominos and Mah Jongg. We welcome players of all levels to the game for casual, non-competitive play.

Open Mah-Jongg

Mondays & Wednesdays | 1 p.m. | Free

Join us for a friendly game of American Mah-Jongg. We welcome experienced players and those newer to the game for casual, non-competitive play.

Fly Tying Group

**Mondays | January 9, 16, & 23 | February 13, 20 & 27
5 p.m. | Free | Instructor: Bill Slaughter**

Everything you need to know to tie flies like a pro!

Fly Casting

Tuesdays | 5 p.m.

Free | Instructor: Bill Slaughter

Learn the fine art of casting flies and using fly rods to better your fly fishing skills.

Texas 42 (using Dominos)

Wednesdays | 1 p.m.

Free | Instructor: Bill Slaughter

Have you ever wondered how to "get your game on" with Texas 42? Join Bill Slaughter for lessons from beginners and beyond to learn the game.

Thinkabilities!

Mondays | 9:15 a.m.

Free | Instructor: Anna Abner

Our Thinkabilities program provides brain-challenging worksheets. We meet in person, but members may also have some fun challenges emailed to them or made available for pick up as The Branch Connection. Contact staff at 972-919-8740 for details.

Shared Moments

Monday | January 2 & 16, February 6 & 20 | 10:15 a.m.

What's your story? In this small group, you will have the opportunity to hear others recall and share life memories as well as share your own stories. All are welcome!

Mountain Dulcimer

Bring your instrument and learn to play this beautiful-sounding instrument better by practicing in a small group weekly.

DULCIMER LESSONS FOR BEGINNERS

Tuesdays | 8:30 - 9:30 a.m.

Free | Instructor: Donna Shelton

No prior experience is necessary! Learn how to play the instrument, read standard and tablature notation, and learn music theory.

SOUTHWIND DULCIMER

Tuesdays | 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Free | Instructor: Donna Shelton

This group preserves and promotes the historic dulcimer instrument by playing together weekly.

INTERMEDIATE MOUNTAIN DULCIMER GROUP

Wednesdays | 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Free | Instructor: Marcella Houston

Line Dancing

Instructor: Karen Aubrey

Whatever your level may be, learn Line Dancing step-by-step at a comfortable pace with:

ABSOLUTE BEGINNER

Tuesdays | January 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31 | 11:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

Fee: \$12.50 (Due upon registration. No new students after the second session.)

Designed for students who want to learn the basic steps of Line Dance, and a few easy fun dances. This class will run for 5 weeks in January only. *Due to the detailed instruction of this course, attendance for the full 5 weeks, as shown, is important.*

LOW BEGINNER

Tuesdays | 12:30 - 1:45 p.m.

(Cost per class: \$2.50)

January: 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31

February: 7, 14, 21 & 28

Learn easy beginner dances. Mastery of basic beginner line dance steps required for this class.

HIGH BEGINNER

Tuesdays | 2 - 3:15 p.m.

(Cost per class: \$2.50)

January: 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31

February: 7, 14, 21 & 28

IMPROVER/INTERMEDIATE

Wednesdays | 10 - 11:30 a.m.

(Cost per class: \$3.00)

January: 4, 11, 18 & 25

February: 1, 8, 15 & 22

Photo Club

Wednesday | January 4 & 18, February 1 & 15 | 1 p.m.

Free | Instructor: Linda Eakle

Share your experience and learn from others to make your pictures better. Members regularly challenge each other to capture certain subjects and share those pictures with the group and through monthly contests. Anyone with a camera or smartphone camera is welcome!

ACTIVITIES

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Random Acts of Kindness

The Random Acts of Kindness Group does many amazing things like collecting and giving food and supplies to those in need. You can get involved monthly by dropping off the needed items, and we make sure they get to that month's charity. Thank you for your kindness.

Farmers Branch Animal Adoption Center

Thursday | February 9 | 11 a.m. | Free

Collecting donations of dog food, cat food, kitty litter, towels, blankets, bedding, treats and toys at The Branch Connection. All donated items will be delivered to the Farmers Branch Animal Adoption Center. Save your scrap pieces of fabric for dog beds made by the crafting group throughout the year.



Book Club

Meet kindred book lovers as they discuss reading a different book each month.

Billy Summers by Stephen King

Genre: Suspense/Thriller

Monday | January 9 | 1 p.m.

Movie on January 16 at 1 p.m.

All the Light We Cannot See by Anthony Doser

Genre: Historical Fiction

Monday | February 13 | 1 p.m.

Performance date February 20 at 1 p.m.

Bingo

Wednesdays | January 4 & 18, February 1 & 15 | 1 - 3 p.m.

\$1 per Bingo card must purchase cards by 12:45 p.m.

Enjoy BINGO and bring a friend. Good luck!

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SPECIAL INTERESTS

Registration required by calling 972-919-8740

SPECIAL INTEREST ACTIVITIES ARE FREE TO MEMBERS.
Join today to take advantage of all The Branch Connection has to offer.

B12 Shots

Thursday | January 5, February 2 | 9 - 9:30 a.m.
Fee \$20 | ProSalutem

Notary Public

Monday | January 2, February 6 | 11 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Free | Maxine Pride

Bridge

One of the greatest card games of all and can provide an immense challenge and enjoyment in a fun group setting. Grab a friend and join us!
Free | Instructor: Diane Royer

Party Bridge
Fridays | 1 p.m.

Duplicate Bridge
Mondays | 9:30 a.m.

Cookin' Club

January: Panamanian Cuisine
Wednesday | January 11 | 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Learn what makes Panamanian cuisine unique.
Registration required.

February: Mardi Gras
Wednesday | February 8 | 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.
New Orleans and Mardi Gras are proud of their world-famous cuisine. Learn how to make beignets.
Registration required.

Chair Volleyball

Mondays, Thursdays & Fridays | 1 p.m.
Free
Chair Volleyball involves physical activity, social interaction, competition, and lots of laughs!

Wii Bowling

Grab your team of two or more players and compete together against other teams. Register your team at the front desk or let us know, and we'll put a team together for you.
Season I | January 3 - February 24
Season I Party | March 3 | 2 p.m.
Season II | March 6 - April 28

Texas Hold 'Em

Thursday | January 19, February 16 | 1 p.m. | Free
Know when to hold 'em; know when to fold 'em. Join us each month for this competitive poker game. Snacks sponsored by Oak Street Health.

Clogging

Easy to High Intermediate Skill
Saturdays | 1:30 - 4:30 p.m.
Instructor: Libby Smith
American Folk Dance is performed with double-tap shoes by striking the heel, the toe, or both against a floor to create audible rhythms.

Intermediate / Advanced Table Tennis

Wednesdays & Fridays | 2:30 p.m. | Free
Improve your skills with members who range from recreational players to elite players who compete in local and national tournaments year-round. This program promotes excellence and sportsmanship in a safe and friendly environment.

An Exercise in Critical Thinking; Conversations in Neglected History		
Fridays 9:30 a.m. Special Guest Speakers on 1/27 and 2/24		
DATE	TOPIC	PRESENTER
January 6	This Day in History	Jesse Spurway
January 13	The Evolution of Railroads	Tommy Thompson
January 20	Wiley Post	Dick Royer
January 27	Old Fort Parker History	Old Fort Parker Representative
February 3	This Day in History	Jesse Spurway
February 10	The Agriculture Revolution the Downside	Larry Russell
February 17	Unity through Mythology	Larry Russell
February 24	History of Mansfield	Mansfield Historical Museum Representative

ACTIVITIES

Registration required by calling 972-919-8740

Tuesday Trivia Night

I Know the Lyrics

January 31 | 6 p.m. | Free

See if you can name a song just by hearing the spoken lyrics without the melody!

Mardi Gras

February 28 | 6 p.m. | Free

Brush up on your knowledge of all things Mardi Gras to prepare for this Trivia Night.

Let's Learn to Dance!

Members: Free | Non-members: \$5 (includes entry to The Mixer)

Lessons for active adults, age 50 and better. Stay for The Mixer; watch and practice what you learn.

TANGO LESSONS

Mondays | January 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30 | 6 - 6:45 p.m.

PROGRESSIVE DOUBLE TWO STEP LESSONS

Mondays | February 6, 13, 20 & 27 | 6 - 6:45 p.m.

THE MIXER



MONDAY
7 - 9 P.M.
BYOB



THE MIXER

Best 50 and Better Dance in the Metroplex!

Mondays | 7 - 9 p.m. | BYOB Permitted

Members: FREE | Non-members: \$5

(Don't forget to check out our dance lessons!)

DATE

January 2

January 9

January 16

January 23

January 30

February 6

February 13

February 20

February 27

BAND

Justin Hunter Band

Mitch N Stick

High Caliber

Pete & Patti

City Lights

Tye & Noot

High Caliber

Mitch N Stick

Justin Hunter Band

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MEMBERSHIP

The Branch Connection is open to anyone 50 years of age or better. We offer a variety of activities and special events to promote fun, fellowship and health.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEES

Residents: **\$25**
Non-residents: **\$50**

\$5 Day Pass available for non-members

\$5 ID Card replacement fee

Options to pay in full or pay by an electronic check or credit card draft of \$2.50 or \$5 each month.

Our program calendars are available at:

thebranchconnection.com

You may qualify for a FREE Membership

Most health insurance plans offer programs to help you maintain a healthy lifestyle as an active adult through physical and social activity. Bring in your insurance card or call us at 972-919-8740, and our staff will check if you qualify. The plans we partner with are Silver Sneakers, Silver & Fit and Renew Active.

FACILITY HOURS

Monday - Wednesday	8 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Thursday & Friday	8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Saturday	1 - 5 p.m.

To see the current renovation plans and FAQs for The Branch Connection, please visit

FarmersBranchTX.gov/TBCReno



THE BRANCH CONNECTION STAFF

Jackie Byles, Manager
Lynnette Hill, Assistant Manager
Jennifer Stone, Recreation Supervisor

TO VOLUNTEER

Contact Jennifer Stone
jennifer.stone@farmersbranchtx.gov
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