

WINTER EDITION

NOV
DEC 2022

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



Veterans Day Celebration 2022

Friday | November 11 | 4 - 7 p.m.

Liberty Plaza, Farmers Branch

This year's event will include a patriotic celebration to remember, including keynote speakers, a patriotic ceremony, recognition of the Mayor's Veterans Day Art Challenge winners and a laser light show that will illuminate the night sky.

Remember to bring lawn chairs and blankets for seating! For more information, please visit fbspecialevents.com



Ballroom Classes

Cancelled November 8th

The Branch Connection will be hosting elections on November 8. All activities scheduled in the Ballroom will be canceled for the day.

TRIPS

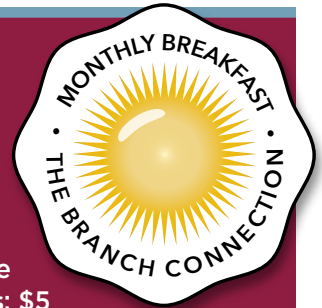
**Registration required by
calling 972-919-8740**

CRUISIN CUISINE:

**Fortune House Shanghai Kitchen
and Quick Holiday Shopping Trip
to Hallmark**

Thursday | November 17 | 11 a.m.
(Bus Departure)

Free + Bring money for lunch & shopping
Enjoy some authentic Shanghai cuisine for lunch, then walk it off at Hallmark and some of the other shops in the MacArthur Park Shopping strip to do some light holiday shopping.



Monthly Breakfast

Members: Free

Non-members: \$5

Mondays

November 7, December 5

8:15 - 9 a.m.

Come enjoy a free breakfast and meet up with old friends and make new ones at the monthly breakfast. The Senior Advisory Board hosts the event and provides a fun atmosphere to start the month off!

November & December Holiday Meals

Members: Free

Non-Members: \$5

**November - We're Thankful
for Our Members Lunch**
Wednesday | November 16
11:30 a.m.

Ticket required upon arrival.
Registration is required.
Limited seating available.
Join us for a pre-Thanksgiving
lunch with turkey and all fixins'!

**December - Christmas Lunch
at The Branch Connection**
Friday | December 16 | 11:30 a.m.
Ticket required upon arrival.
Registration is required.
Limited seating available.
Enjoy a delicious holiday meals
with your TBC friends.



14055 Dennis Lane | Farmers Branch, Texas 75234 | 972.919.8740



www.thebranchconnection.com



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ARTS AND CRAFTS

Pre-registration required for all craft classes by calling 972-919-8740

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

Tuesday | November 1, 15, 22 & 29 | 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 and critiquing, and how to finish your piece for displaying.

Watercolor Painting 2

Tuesday | November 1, 15, 22 & 29 | 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 | November 15, December 13 | 1 p.m.

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

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

DIY Painting Party

Monday | November 14, December 12 | 6 - 7:30 p.m.

\$25, supplies included | 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!

NEW>> Floral Pumpkins

Tuesday | November 1 | 6:30 p.m.

Free | Instructor: Cathy Kuntz

Add your personal touch to a Fall pumpkin using flowers and other items.

NEW Christmas Decoupage Decorations

Tuesday | December 6 | 6:30 p.m.

Free | Instructor: Cathy Kuntz

Create a Christmas sign to greet family and friends using decoupage techniques.

Basic Drawing Techniques

Guest Artist: Franke Gill and Bruce Johnson

Tuesday | November 15 | 10 a.m. to Noon

Free (Artist Demonstration)

Tuesday | November 15 | 1 - 3 p.m. | \$10 (Workshop)

Exploring drawing/sketching techniques, including the latest art technology such as smartphone apps for portraits and landscapes.

NEW>> Crochet for Beginners

Monday | November 7 | 6 - 8 p.m.

Thursday | November 14 | 2 - 4 p.m.

\$10, supplies included | Instructor: Betty Smith

Give as a special gift with a beautiful handmade easy-to-crochet kitchen hand towel! Bring a bag (grocery bag is okay) for the project. Three towel choices for one finished project.

COMPUTER CLASSES

Registration is required by calling 972-919-8740

Photoshop Elements Part II

Mondays & Thursdays | November 7 - 11 | 1 - 3 p.m.

Free | Instructor: Linda Eakle

Buying A New PC

Thursday | December 8 | 1 - 3 p.m.

Free | Instructor: Linda Eakle

Windows Tips & Tricks

Monday | December 12 | 1 - 3 p.m.

Free | Instructor: Linda Eakle

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

Zumba Gold

Wednesdays | 7 - 7:45 p.m.

Free | Instructor: Giselle Huet

Power Walking

Wednesdays | 1 - 1:45 p.m.

Fridays | 9 - 9:45 a.m.

(No class 11/4, 11/16, 11/18 & 12/2 for both classes)

Free | Instructor: Laura Franklin

Registration required by calling 972-919-8740



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	BAND
November 7	Mark Ripley
November 14	Mitch N Stick
November 21	Pete & Patti
November 28	John White & TX Borderline
December 5	Justin Hunter Band
December 12	Swinganova
December 19	DFW Musicmakers
December 26	No Dance / TBC Closed

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.

TEXAS 2-STEP

Mondays | November 7, 14 & 28 | 6 - 6:45 p.m.

WEST COAST SWING LESSONS

Mondays | December 5, 12 & 19 | 6 - 6:45 p.m.
(No Dance Lessons or Dance Monday, December 26)

BEGINNER DANCE LESSONS COMING SOON!

Bingo

Wednesday | November 2 & 16, December 7 & 21
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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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 and dominos. ACTIVITIES ARE FREE TO MEMBERS UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.

Open Mah-Jongg

Wednesdays | 1 p.m.

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 | November 14, 21 & 28 & December 12 & 19
5 p.m. | Instructor: Bill Slaughter**

Fly Casting

Tuesdays | 5 p.m.

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.

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.

Instructor: Anna Abner

Our Thinkabilities program provides brain-challenging worksheets. We can meet in person, or you can call 972-919-8740 and give us your email address. We'll send some fun challenges to you regularly. Don't have an email? Let us know, and we will make arrangements for you to pick it up at The Branch Connection.

Shared Moments

Monday | November 7 & 21, December 5 & 19 | 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!

Shared Movies

Monday | November 14 & 21, December 12 | 10:15 a.m.

Watch movie favorites with others who love them too! Sign-up to bring your favorite movie on the sign-up sheet. All are welcome!

November 14: Guys & Dolls

November 21: Chicago

December 12: Santa Clause 2

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

Photo Club

Wednesday | November 8 & 23, December 7 & 21 | 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 through a group email, which is excellent for those who don't feel safe coming out and joining the small group meetings. Anyone with a camera or smartphone camera is welcome!

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 will make sure they get to each month's charity. Thank you for your kindness!

Metrocrest Holiday Gifts for Kids and Teens

Thursday | December 8 | 11 a.m.

We will be collecting unwrapped Christmas items or gift cards for kids 0-18 years of age for Metrocrest Services. Stop by the front desk for a "wish list" for the various age groups. All gifts, toys and items need to be dropped off at The Branch Connection no later than 5 p.m. Wednesday, December 7.

Registration required by calling 972-919-8740

Line Dancing

Instructor: Karen Aubrey

Line Dancing Christmas Party is December 13th

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

ABSOLUTE BEGINNER

(CLASS ENDS NOVEMBER 15)

Tuesdays | 11:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

September 6, 13, 20 & 27

October 4, 11, 18 & 25

November 1, 8 & 15

Fee: \$28.00 Due upon signup

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 11 weeks (September 6 through November 15). Due to the detailed instruction of this course, attendance for the full 11 weeks is important.

LOW BEGINNER

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

(Cost per class: \$2.50)

November: 1, 8, 15, 29

December: 6, 13

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)

November: 1, 8, 15, 29

December: 6, 13

IMPROVER/INTERMEDIATE

Wednesdays | 10 - 11:30 a.m.

(Cost per class: \$3.00)

November: 2, 9, 16, 30

December: 7, 14



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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 | November 3, December 1 | 9 - 9:30 a.m.
Fee \$20 | ProSalutem

NEW TIME>> Notary Public

Monday | November 7, December 5 | 11 a.m. - 12 p.m.
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!

Party Bridge

Fridays | 1 p.m.

Instructor: Diane Royer

Duplicate Bridge

Mondays | 9:30 a.m.

Instructor: Diane Royer

Cookin' Club

Impressive No-Fail Chicken

Wednesday | November 9 | 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Get it right every time! Chef Leslie Robbins (All Events Catering) demonstrates the tips to cooking perfect chicken. Registration required.

Tex-Mex Night Spinach & Mushroom Quesadilla

Wednesday | December 14 | 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Join Chef Leslie (All Events Catering) as she demonstrates quesadillas for a delicious alternative during the holiday season. Registration required.

Chair Volleyball

Mondays, Thursdays & Fridays | 1 p.m.

(No Class 11/16, & 12/2)

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 with you.

Season V | September 26 - November 19

Season V Christmas Party | December 2 | 2 p.m.

Season I | January 3 - February 24

Texas Hold 'Em

Thursday | November 17, December 15 | 1 p.m.

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 dancers who perform 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.

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.

Tuesday Trivia Night

Classic Cartoons

November 29 | 6 p.m.

See how much you remember and flash to the good ol' cartoons of our childhood.

2022 Flashback

December 27 | 6 p.m.

2022 was a year for the books. Before we move on to 2023, let's relive a few key moments from this year.

EDUCATIONAL TALKS

Registration required.

NEW>> Fire Safety BINGO

Tuesday | November 15 | 1 - 2 p.m.

Free | Presented by Greg Lawler, Retired Fire Captain

Have fun while brushing up on your fire safety knowledge for the holiday season.

NEW>> Property Tax and Appraisal Information

Wednesday | November 30 | 1 - 3 p.m.

Free | Presented by Cheryl Jordan - Dallas Central

Appraisal District

Learn about the property tax system.

Registration required by calling 972-919-8740

An Exercise in Critical Thinking; Conversations in Neglected History

Fridays | 9:30 a.m. | *Special Guest Speaker

Date	Topic
November 4	Vicky Unplugged: Queen Victoria – the First Media Monarch. Plus, a tribute to Queen Elizabeth II.
November 11	TBD
November 18	History of Goliad/ Presidio La Bahia
December 2	People of the Pecos
December 9	This Day in History
December 16	History of Sam Houston Museum
December 30	The Legacy for the 1787 Northwest Ordinance

Presenter
Sara Reid

Tommy Thompson
Scott McMahon*

Dr. Harry Shafer*
Jesse Spurway
**Nancy Gajan -
Curator***
Dr. Mark Hahlen

Book Club

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

*The Brilliant Life of Eudora
Honeysette* by Annie Lyons

Genre: Adult Fiction
Contemporary

Monday | November 14 | 1 p.m.
Movie on November 21 at 1 p.m.

Shel Silverstein Poem Recording
Monday | December 12 | 1 p.m.

Shel Silverstein Performance
December 19 at 1 p.m.

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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:

www.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.

FACILITY CLOSURES

FOR THE BRANCH CONNECTION

November 24 & 25 for Thanksgiving

December 23 thru 26 for Christmas

January 1 for New Year's Day



THE BRANCH CONNECTION STAFF

Jackie Byles, Manager

Lynnette Hill, Assistant Manager

Jennifer Stone, Recreation Supervisor

TO VOLUNTEER

Contact Jennifer Stone

jennifer.stone@farmersbranchtx.gov

972-919-8742

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