



News and Views

A Monthly Publication
November 2012
www.cityofforney.org

Happy Thanksgiving



Thanksgiving is a holiday about “going home.” It is about gathering together in grateful appreciation with friends and family and it is a deeply meaningful and comforting annual ritual to most Americans. The need to connect with loved ones and to express our gratitude is at the heart of all this feasting, prayerful thanks, recreation, and nostalgia for a simpler time. The City Council and the Employees of the City of Forney extend to you, our friends and family, our best wishes for a very Happy Thanksgiving.



Forney's Veterans Day Celebration Sunday, November 11, 2012 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. Main Street in Downtown Forney

A special celebration is being held in conjunction with Turkey Trax. All veterans of our armed forces are welcome. Feel free to wear your uniform or something representing your branch of the service. **EVERYONE** is invited to this ceremony. Additionally, if you know a veteran or an individual currently serving our country, please contact Kayla Bryson at 972-564-7377 so we can include them.

It's Time to make Trax for Turkey Trax November 11, 2012 Noon to 5:00 p.m.



The fifth annual Turkey Trax Auto Show is set for November 11 on Main Street in Downtown Forney! Unique Karz will once again rally hundreds of collector vehicles in many classes including 50's, 60's

and 70's favorites as well as Muscle Cars, Mustangs, Corvettes, Tricked-out Trucks and a perennial crowd pleaser: Low Riders!

Come out and shop, eat, and play! There will be kids activities, a live band, giveaways, and lots of prizes. The weather should be a perfect fall day . . . so be sure you join us to see the sights and sounds of Forney's famous "Turkey Trax Auto Show!" Remember . . . admission, parking and smiles are FREE!

For information on car registration, contact Gabby at [469-632-6993](tel:469-632-6993). To be a vendor, contact Kayla at [972-564-7377](tel:972-564-7377) or kbryson@cityofforney.org.



City Council Honors C. L. "Mac" McCuiston

Mayor Darren Rozell read a proclamation and presented C.L. "Mac" McCuiston a key to the City for his many, many years of service on the North Texas Municipal Water District Board. A collage of his service over the years was also given to Mr. McCuiston. His service and unselfish dedication to the City are greatly appreciated.

Thank you Mac!!!

Think, Shop, Live Forney

Can you believe it's time for holiday shopping?!

Please keep in mind that Forney's quality of life and local economy rely on where our residents spend their money and do their shopping. Sales tax is a direct and vital



lifeline to essential services like public safety, facilities, projects, programs and services. Shopping locally keeps businesses here, providing jobs, and benefiting community schools and non-profits. If there's one thing we can all do to make our dollars work for this community, it's to shop local. Grab dinner in Forney on your way home. You'd be surprised what a difference that can make. Shopping locally benefits the entire community. Make your tax dollars work for you and your community. Sales tax offsets property tax.

Remember: Think, Shop, Live Forney!



Employee Spotlight

John Holcomb, Fire Marshal

John joined the City of Forney in January of 2010 with approximately 15 years experience as a fire marshal. The main purpose of his job is to keep the citizens of

Forney, its employees, firefighters and visitors to Forney safe. His duties include, but are not limited to:

- Investigating all fires that occur in the City
- Performing annual inspections on all commercial businesses
- Performing inspections on all new businesses so they can obtain a Certificate of Occupancy
- Performing plan reviews on all new commercial development for fire and life safety
- Overseeing the Fire Prevention Program, which teaches our children about fire safety
- Grant writing – due his expertise, the City has received approximately \$109,000, which includes a new rescue truck that is used by our firefighters when responding to medical emergencies and accidents

Additionally, John oversees the ISO Rating for the City. The lower the ISO Rating, the better the insurance rates for businesses and homeowners. We recently had a re-evaluation and the preliminary rating went from a 4 to a 2. This rating still has to be approved by the State Fire Marshal's office before it becomes official. The rating is based on a score of 1 to 10, with 1 being the best. Currently in the United States, there are only 592 cities that are rated a 2 and 61 cities that are rated a 1. This puts Forney in the elite cities in the United States for Fire Protection.

John has also been a teacher at the Texas A&M Fire School for approximately 9 years and is the Lead Instructor for his project. He also helps teach a Basic Peace Officer Course. His certifications from the Texas Commission on Fire Protection include Advanced Firefighter, Advanced Fire Inspector, Advanced Arson Investigator and Instructor. His certifications from the State Firemen and Fire Marshal Association include Advance Firefighter and Instructor. He also has certificates as a Basic Peace Officer and Instructor and Basic EMT and EMS Instructor.

The City of Forney is very lucky to have such a qualified person on staff.

Congratulations and Good Luck to Crumbzz

Crumbzz Tasting Pavilion in downtown Forney has been named a finalist in the Best Downtown Business category of the 2012 Texas Downtown Association (TDA) Presidents Award Program. The Best Downtown Business award recognizes an exceptional downtown business that positively promotes the downtown or commercial district as a destination for locals and tourists alike, and actively participates in the revitalization efforts and supports downtown promotional events. The winner will be named later this month at the President's Award Gala to be held in Wichita Falls.



Upcoming Events and Things to Do

For more information on these events, please visit our website at www.cityofforney.org or our Facebook page.



Forney Arts Festival
Saturday/Sunday, November 3 & 4, 2012
Downtown [Updated date info!]



Election -- State Offices and Federal (Presidential) Election
Tuesday, November 6, 2012
[Early Voting: Oct. 22 – Nov. 2]



Turkey Trax
Sunday, November 11, 2012
Location: Downtown



Veterans Day – Special Celebration
Sunday, November 11, 2012
Location: Downtown Main Street
Federal Holiday Observed on Monday, November 12, 2012



Thanksgiving Holiday
Thursday & Friday, November 22-23, 2012
City offices will be closed



Christmas Tree Lighting
Tuesday, November 27, 2012
Location: Downtown



Hometown Christmas
Saturday, December 1, 2012
Location: Downtown



Christmas Holiday
Monday and Tuesday, December 24-25, 2012
City offices will be closed

Welcome

Melonie Walker, Accounting Specialist Utility Billing; Julie Lankford, Deputy Court Clerk; and Tanner Gilbert, Public Safety Officer.

Congratulations

To Marty Coursey, promoted to Assistant Finance Director, Lisa Denman, promoted to Accountant; Michelle Jenkin, promoted to HR Manager; and Leigh Corson who is now Administrative Services Director over the Human Resources Department and the Finance Department.

To Kristen Frazier, Dispatcher, for receiving her Intermediate Telecommunicator Certification and to Justin Klosterman, Police Officer for receiving his Intermediate Peace Officer Certification.

2012 City Council Meetings	
Times are subject to change – Agendas are posted 72 hours in advance on our website at www.cityofforney.org	
1 st Tuesday of the Month Start Time 6:00 p.m. Work Session/Action Agenda	3 rd Tuesday of the Month Start Time 7:00 p.m. Regular Meeting
November 6	November 20
December 4	December 18