



News and Views

A Monthly Publication
October 2013
www.cityofforney.org

From the Mayor

Happy (Fiscal) New Year!

On October 1st, the City of Forney began a new budget year. As I write this article in August, we still have a scheduled budget public hearing, but all indications are that we will not have a tax increase, so our tax rate should remain at .749020.

We appear to have weathered the economic storm well. We are in one of the best areas in one of the best states for future growth, and we are blessed to have the resources we have; a City Manager with a finance background, Finance Department personnel who understand the intricacies of municipal finance, and a City Council who several years ago was able to see the storm on the horizon and work to plan accordingly.

This past fiscal year, we experienced new commercial development and an upswing in residential construction. Additionally, our sales tax revenue is up significantly over what we projected. We seem to be experiencing a recovery, and it appears we are all doing a great job of, "Shopping Forney First."

This past budget year ... We were able to implement the purchase of a \$1.4 million state-of-the-art radio system for the safety of our fire and police departments. We absorbed 33% of the water rate increase and 50% of the sewer rate increase passed on to us by North Texas Municipal Water District. We were able to complete a \$2 million settlement with Pate Transportation so our bond road projects could move forward. The third and final one is underway and should be complete by late Spring 2014. We allocated additional state revenue (almost \$1.6 million) to paying off our road bonds early and saving over \$9 million in interest.

This current budget year ... We were able to fund pay increases to bring all city employees up to a competitive market rate. We were able to budget for three new police officers, and an additional parks employee. We were able to absorb 100% of this year's water and sewer rate increases. We were able to do all of this while maintaining a strong contingency fund AND a three-month operating reserve.

We are very fortunate in Forney. Our Council is fortunate to have the support of our Citizens. Our Staff is fortunate to have the support of a Council who wants the best for our Community. Our Community is fortunate to have City Employees who care about where they work. We literally are all in this together.

Working together, Forney is not only financially sound, we are fiscally strong.

Happy New Year!

Downtown Corner

2nd Saturdays Downtown Forney



For more information, please contact:

Courtney Mzyk
Forney Arts Council
Arts Center & Artisan Market
469-595-1659
972-388-6181

The October event date is Saturday, October 12th
Place: Bell Park in Downtown Forney
300 S. Bois D'Arc



September 14—October 30, 2013
Forney Arts Council presents Top 40
Regional Art Exhibition

Tickets: \$25.00 for FAC Members and
\$35.00 for non-members

For more information about the Forney Arts Council and their classes and events, visit the Forney Arts Council on their Facebook page or at www.forneyartscouncil.org.



Downtown Business Association

check them out at

www.fdba.squarespace.com

Everyone's Invited to the 4th Annual Trail of Treats

October 26, 2013

5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Forney Community Park



Last year's event was a scream of a good time with about 10,000 people in attendance. We are planning on another fabulously fun time again this year!

✚ The "candy stations" will be around the soccer fields.

✚ Games for the kids, stations asking for registrations, and stations with raffles will be strategically placed in the soccer complex to relieve congestion.

✚ A live DJ will spice up the night with entertainment and giveaways

✚ A costume fashion show will take place on the stage as well.



Upcoming Events and Things to Do

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

Friday, October 4, 2013

MOVIES IN THE PARK -- Cinderella

Time: Sunset
Spellman Amphitheater



Friday, October 10, 2013

MOVIES IN THE PARK -- Hitch

Time: Sunset
Spellman Amphitheater



Friday, October 26, 2012

Unity Bowl Pre-Game Concert and Party [FNHS v. FHS]

Time: 4:30 p.m.
Spellman Amphitheater

Saturday, October 26, 2013

CWD and City of Forney X-treme Green Event

Time: 8:30 a.m. to Noon
Forney Community Park

Saturday, October 26, 2013

Trail of Treats

Time: 5 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Forney Community Park



Friday, November 1, 2013

MOVIES IN THE PARK -- Open Season

Sunset
Spellman Amphitheater

Sunday, November 10, 2013

6th Annual Turkey Trax Auto Show

Noon to 5:00 p.m.
Downtown

Friday, November 15, 2013

MOVIES IN THE PARK -- Puss in Boots

Sunset
Spellman Amphitheater

For more information on our Movies in the Park visit www.spellmanamphitheater.com.

Thursday and Friday, November 28-29, 2013

Thanksgiving Holiday

City offices will be closed

Tuesday & Wednesday, December 24-25, 2013

Christmas Holiday

City offices will be closed

Stage 3 Watering Restrictions are Still in Place



Please, do your part to help conserve this important resource. You can only water once a week on your specific watering day. For more information contact the Water Hotline at 972-564-7338 or our Public Works Department at 972-564-7340.

For more information about maintaining the proper moisture around foundations, visit the Texas A&M Agrilife Research and Extension-Dallas website at <http://dallas.tamu.edu>, or NTMWD at www.ntmwd.com.

2013 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 6:30 p.m. Regular Meeting
January 8 – Date Change	January 22 – Date Change
February 5	February 19
March 5	March 19
April 2	April 16
May 7	May 21
June 4	June 18
July 2	July 16
August 6	August 20
September 3	September 17
October 1	October 15
November 5	November 19
December 3	December 17

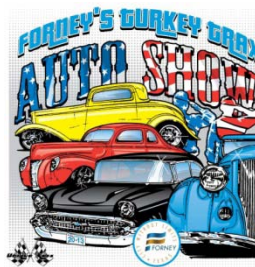
Please note the new start time for our Council meetings that are held on the third Tuesday of the month. We will now be starting at 6:30 p.m. As always, please watch our website for the agendas.



For information on local activities, call our Fire Department at 972-564-7369.

Parents you can download activity sheets for your children at www.sparky.org/parentpage/fpwkids.htm.

Coming Soon!



The sixth annual Turkey Trax Auto Show is set for Sunday, November 10 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! The show begins at noon and shuts down at 5pm. 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.

Congratulations!

To Ronny Landis, Firefighter, for receiving his Master Firefighter Certification and to Dustin Vandiver, Police Sergeant, for receiving his Advanced Peace Officer Certification.