



News and Views

A Monthly Publication
September 2013
www.cityofforney.org

From the Mayor

The Spellman Amphitheater is named for life-long Forney resident, Mick Spellman. Mick was born in 1913, and passed away in the summer of 2006. He graduated from Forney's Lewis High School in 1931, and from the University of Texas in 1935, with a Bachelor of Business Administration.

After graduation, Mick worked as an accountant for Southern Gas Company. During World War II, he enlisted in the Army Air Corps, and served from October of 1942, to September of 1945. After the war, he returned to Southern Gas Company, and retired in January of 1977, after 42 years with the company.

Mick Spellman was a kind gentleman, who cared greatly about Forney, its history, and his church home, Forney Presbyterian Church. He cared so much, that he left a portion of his estate to the City of Forney, the Forney Historic Preservation League, and the Forney Presbyterian Church. In the case of the City of Forney, his bequeathment had the stipulation that the funds be used for parks, and parks related projects, only.

A portion of his gift was used to purchase the adjacent 43 acres to the south of Community Park, bringing the total park size to 170 acres. Another portion, combined with some project savings from the construction of Community Park, allowed us to build not only the amphitheater, but also two lighted, multi-purpose fields, and an extension to the walking trails.

The Spellman Amphitheater is a beautiful venue, in a perfect setting, and will hold a little over 5,000 people, in a lawn-seating environment. Its presentation, size, and technical specifications surpass most performance venues in the Metroplex, and rival many in the nation.

We have held several movies in the amphitheater, and hosted a few, lightly attended concerts. A performance venue such as this is an asset to Forney, and needs to be better utilized. If you haven't seen the Spellman, please drive out to Community Park and see it for yourself. Then, take a few minutes, and let us know who you'd like to see, and what would get you to come to the Spellman. specialevents@cityofforney.org.

School has Started -- Don't Call or Text and Drive Texting is a Major Distracter

Driving while using a cell phone incurs a four times greater risk of crashing, which is equivalent to driving while drunk (with 0.08 blood-alcohol level). Talking on a cell phone while driving slows down the reaction time of even the most experienced driver. **FOR TEXTERS, THE RISK IS EIGHT TIMES GREATER.** All drivers must be committed to reducing serious injuries and deaths on our roadways. This starts with your commitment to NOT BECOME A DISTRACTED DRIVER!

Use of a cell phone in a school zone is illegal.

Downtown Corner

2nd Saturdays Downtown Forney



On the 2nd Saturday of every month the Forney Arts Council hosts a free event for the entire family. Shop unique artisan vendors, experience the rhythm of drum circle, and enjoy an acoustic jam session with live music. Located in Historic Downtown Forney, this is an event you do not want to miss. There is something for all ages. For more information, please contact:

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

The September event date is Saturday, September 14th
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.

Coming Soon!!

The Trail of Treats @ Community Park

To be a sponsor or for more information contact, Dodie Witt at [dwitt@cityofforney.org](mailto:d Witt@cityofforney.org) and/or Alexa Tiesman at atiesman@cityofforney.org or [972-564-7329](tel:972-564-7329).

Upcoming Events and Things to Do

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

Monday, September 2, 2013

Labor Day

City offices will be closed



Saturday/Sunday, September 14-15, 2013

Forney Arts Festival

Time: 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Downtown



Friday, September 20, 2013

MOVIES IN THE PARK -- The Avengers

Time: Sunset
Spellman Amphitheater

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

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

TBD
Forney Community Park

Friday, November 1, 2013

MOVIES IN THE PARK -- Open Season

Sunset
Spellman Amphitheater

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.

Take Care of Your Pets!!

Last year our shelter had to euthanize 267 animals because no one wanted them. Euthanizing an animal is far more humane than leaving them to starve to death, or to be injured or killed by a vehicle. People think that an animal can fend for itself, but most domesticated dogs and cats do not have this ability. **Did you know that it is a felony offense to abandon an animal?**

The most important action you can take is to have your dog or cat spayed or neutered. Please don't wait until it has a litter of unwanted puppies or kittens – do it now. There are programs available to help defray the cost. One of those programs is the Kaufman County Animal Awareness Project (KCAAP) in Crandall. Their telephone number is 972-472-3500. An appointment is necessary for surgery, but they have walk-in shot clinics during the week and one Saturday a month. Forney Animal Hospital also provides low-cost vaccination clinics for dogs and cats on the first Saturday of every month (unless it is a holiday weekend) from 2 p.m. until 4 p.m. The telephone number for Forney Animal Hospital is 972-564-1015. Check with your veterinarian – he/she may have low cost clinics, too.

The Forney Animal Control Department works tirelessly to unite owners with their lost pets and to promote the adoption of unclaimed, unwanted, stray, and abandoned pets within the Forney city limits. A couple of ways to be sure that your pet is returned to you are to either have it chipped, or use a collar with a tag on it that has your name and telephone number or address.

If you are unable to continue caring for your pet, please contact our Animal Shelter. We have numbers for rescue groups and other information that will help you make what we know is a difficult decision.

The Animal Shelter is located at Holly Leaf Trail at Centenary Drive and the telephone number is 972-564-7397. It is open from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday and Saturday by appointment. Please call ahead since personnel may be out on a call.

Excerpt from Ordinance #08-1288

Pooper Scooper Law

Animal waste can carry disease transmitting bacteria and parasites. It is the responsibility of the pet owner to clean up after their pet. Any person having custody or control of any domestic pet must pick up and dispose of any feces left by that pet on any public place, including parks, streets, rights-of-way, sidewalks, or any other person's lawn or property.

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 7:00 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