



# News and Views

A Monthly Publication  
February 2014  
[www.cityofforney.org](http://www.cityofforney.org)

## City Employees Honored

Each year city employees nominate co-workers for awards in three areas: *Employee of the Year*, *Supervisor of the Year*, and the *Making a Difference Award*. For 2013, the following employees were named: **Keith Hubbard, Public Works Technician II** was named **Employee of the Year**; **David Hokett, Parks Maintenance Supervisor** was named **Supervisor of the Year**; and **Patrick Nyagaka, Building Service Worker** was given the **Making a Difference Award**. Congratulations and a huge thank you goes out to these great employees.



Keith Hubbard  
Employee of the Year



David Hokett  
Supervisor of the Year



Patrick Nyagaka  
Making a Difference Award

**Five Year Service Award Recipients:** Marquis Ivey, Dorothy Brooks, Ryan Elder, Steve Chenault, Steve Kennemer, Darren Yarborough, Gina Nash, Sabrina Payne and Michelle Jenkin.

**Ten Year Service Award Recipients:** Bradley Lewis, Steven Stewart, Brian Leathers.

The City appreciates all of our employees for their hard work and dedication.

## From the Mayor

Writing this column the week before Christmas -- knowing that it won't be read until February of 2014 -- forces me to think about the immediate future, and Forney's possibilities.

The cities who will thrive in the coming years, are those who have strong internal resources, and can capitalize on them. I firmly believe that Forney will lead and prosper in the coming year, and into the future, because of three main strengths.

Our balance sheet is strong, and our City is managed well. We have made smart financial decisions, enabling us to benefit from existing opportunities, and ensure we're in a position to capitalize on the future growth that we know will come our way. Our City Manager and finance personnel, have worked with the City Council through the recent recession, to guarantee we emerged vital and ready for when the overall economy improves.

We have a dedicated, and extremely capable staff. We are growing (there are approximately 120 city employees), and we have been very fortunate to make some strong hires that have improved the professionalism of the overall organization. Again, coming through the recent recession, forced us to do more with less, and find smarter ways to provide the same and better service.

Finally, I would put the citizens of our "City Without Limits" up against those of any other community ... anywhere .... any day. We have shown our willingness to rally and support each other -- whether it's for disaster recovery, raising funds for a dire health need, or supporting local families at Christmas.

We are strong, and we are prepared to lead into the future. We'll be even stronger, the more ways we can find to work together. As I wrote in last month's column, commit to finding your way to contribute to the strength of our community in 2014.

## Upcoming Events and Things to Do

For more information on our events, please visit our website at [www.cityofforney.org](http://www.cityofforney.org) or our Facebook page.

January 20, 2014  
Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday  
City offices will be closed

February 14, 2014  
Happy Valentine's Day



**Downtown Business Association**  
check them out at  
[www.fdba.squarespace.com](http://www.fdba.squarespace.com)

### Think, Shop, Live Forney!

#### YOUR CITY NEEDS YOU!

We have openings on the following boards and commissions. **Animal Center Advisory Committee, Historic Overlay District Architectural Review Board, Board of Adjustment, and the Planning and Zoning Commission.** As interested community leaders, citizens can provide an invaluable service to the City of Forney through board membership and participation. Board and commission members share their time and expertise, and learn more about the City through their membership. The City Council strives to have adequate representation from all geographic areas of the city to reflect the City of Forney's diversity of residents. The application can be found online on the City Secretary's webpage @ [www.cityofforney.org](http://www.cityofforney.org) under the "City Government" tab. In order to email the application, you will need to download, complete and save it and then email it to [dbrooks@cityofforney.org](mailto:dbrooks@cityofforney.org). Additionally, applications can be delivered personally, by mail, or by fax to 972-564-7349. Send yours today to our City Secretary, Dorothy Brooks.

#### Staying Warm

How do you keep warm when it's cold outside? Some people prefer to curl up in front of the fire with a cup of cocoa. Others like to brave the elements and engage in a bit of physical activity. Whatever you like to do, as winter sets in, it's important that you find ways to keep yourself and your family warm.

#### It's All About the Layers

When you're coping with the cold, wearing layers is one of the best ideas to keep warm. Layering your clothes means that the warm air is trapped around your body, keeping you warm. Ideally, if you're headed outside in cold temperatures, you should wear at least three layers, which

allow your skin to breath while absorbing sweat. Wool and silk clothing are good for layering because they naturally allow air to circulate around your body.

Even if you're staying indoors, layering your clothes is a good way to keep warm without running up the heater. Rather than simply wearing a bulky sweater, wear a tank-top, a T-shirt and a light sweater. If you get too warm, you can take off one or more of the layers.

#### 2014 City Council Meetings

Times are subject to change – Agendas are posted 72 hours in advance on our website at [www.cityofforney.org](http://www.cityofforney.org)

1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the Month Start Time 6:00 p.m. Work Session/Action Agenda	3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the Month Start Time 6:30 p.m. Regular Meeting
January 7	January 21
February 4	February 18
March 4	March 18
April 1	April 15
May 6	May 20
June 3	June 17
July 1	July 15
August 5	August 19
September 2	September 16
October 7	October 21
November 4	November 18
December 2	December 16

**REMEMBER: STAGE 3 DROUGHT CONDITIONS ONLY ALLOW WATERING ONCE EVERY TWO WEEKS. PLEASE DO YOUR PART TO CONSERVE THIS PRECIOUS RESOURCE.**



### Congratulations to Police Department Officer of the Year

The Forney Police Department has named Mike Williams as Officer of the Year. Congratulations! Thank you for a job well done.

