



News and Views

A Monthly Publication
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www.cityofforney.org

From the Mayor

Who's Running this City?

It may not be who you think. First, it's not the Mayor. Second, it's not the City Council. We don't get involved in, or manage the day-to-day operations of the city departments. That task belongs to the City Manager. That's not to say that the Council does not have some responsibility. Let me explain.

In Forney, as in many cities across the nation, we operate under a Council/Manager form of government. Under this format, the Mayor and Councilmembers function as more of a legislative body. We establish policy, pass local ordinances, and most importantly, create a vision for who we are and where we are going. Staff then uses this framework to guide them in the management of our city departments.

Think of the City of Forney as a corporation. The City Manager is the Chief Executive Officer. Obviously, the CEO doesn't do all the work. He is the one responsible for the various managers, and seeing the work gets done and everyone is staying in tune with the vision.

Carrying the analogy further, think of the Council as the Board of Directors, and the Mayor as Chairman of the Board. The Directors are responsible for not only setting the vision, but also making sure the CEO is holding to it. If at any time they feel he is not, it's their responsibility to take corrective steps. Also, the Directors can't take any action without a majority decision.

The final step in the analogy is to you, the Shareholders. Those of you who live within the city limits, are registered to vote, and actually do vote. As with any corporation, if the Shareholders are dissatisfied with the direction of the corporation, and no longer have confidence in the Directors, they can vote in new ones and make a change. If they believe in the value and vision of the current Directors, they can make that known, and vote to keep them in place and on the right path. Again, majority rules.

So, who's running this city? The answer is ... we all are. The Managers. The Directors. The Shareholders. We all have a role and a responsibility. We will only be as good and as strong as we can be, if everyone is doing their part.

Downtown Corner

2nd Saturdays Downtown Forney



On the 2nd Saturday of every month [from March to November] 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. For more information on the Forney Arts Council, visit

their website at www.forneyarts.org.

Downtown Business Association

Find out more at
www.fdba-tx.com



Smoke Detectors

If you did not change the batteries in your smoke detectors when you moved your clocks up for daylight savings time in March, now is the time to do it. The Forney Fire Department encourages you to change smoke detector batteries at least once each year. Replace old batteries with fresh, high-quality batteries to keep your smoke detectors ready to protect you and your family all year long.

After inserting fresh batteries into your smoke detectors, test to make sure it works by pressing the test button until you hear it beep; this should be done at least once a month. If you have a smoke detector that you think isn't working properly, replace it immediately.

City Council Meetings
City Hall, Council Chambers
101 E. Main Street

Tuesday, May 6, 2014, 6:00 p.m.
Tuesday, May 20, 2014, 6:30 p.m.

Upcoming Events and Things to Do

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

GOOD FRIDAY

April 18, 2014

City offices are closed

EASTER DAY

Sunday, April 20, 2014

MOVIES IN THE PARK -- THE WIZARD OF OZ

May 9, 2014 -- 8:30 p.m.

Location: Community Park -- Spellman Amphitheater

GENERAL ELECTION DATE

Saturday, May 10, 2014

Polls are open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

You must vote at your regular polling place

FORNEY LIBERTY FEST

May 23-25, 2014

MAIN STREET 5K

May 24, 2014



MEMORIAL DAY

Monday, May 26, 2014

City offices are closed

Memorial Day is a day of remembrance for those who have died in our nation's service.

MOVIES IN THE PARK – THE AVENGERS

June 6, 2014 -- 8:30 p.m.

Location: Community Park -- Spellman Amphitheater

X-TREME GREEN EVENT

Saturday, June 7, 2014

From 8:30 a.m. to Noon

Location: Community Park

MOVIES IN THE PARK – WRECK-IT RALPH

June 13, 2014 -- 8:30 p.m.

Location: Community Park -- Spellman Amphitheater

MOVIES IN THE PARK -- THE GOONIES

June 20, 2014 -- 8:30 p.m.

Location: Community Park -- Spellman Amphitheater

INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION

June 28, 2014

From 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Location: Community Park



**The Splash Pad opens at Community Park on
Memorial Day Weekend
May 23-26, 2014**



General Election

The City's General Election is scheduled for Saturday, May 10, 2014. Election Day polling locations are:

Entity	Precinct #	Polling Location/Address
Forney ISD Forney City	3, 4, 13, 27, 29	First Baptist Church 1003 FM 741 Forney, Texas 75126
Forney ISD Forney City	7, 11, 14, 25	Forney Sub Courthouse 200 E. Main Street Forney, Texas 75126

Since the City contracts with the County for election services, please call the Kaufman County Election Administrator at 972-932-0298 for further information

The Drought Continues

As of the writing of this newsletter, North Texas is still way below normal on rainfall. All of our area lakes are drying up. The major source of our water supply is Lake Lavon and its levels are at only 47% full. As water users, everyone has a responsibility to use



our resources wisely. Currently, watering in Forney is only allowed once every two weeks on your specific watering day. Additionally, there is absolutely no watering allowed between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. – even on your watering day. Watering of your foundation is allowed – but not between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. The goal of watering your home's foundation is to keep the soil near and under the slab at a consistent moisture level that is neither wet and muddy nor dry and cracked. Ideally, this level of moisture should be maintained to a depth of several feet. To water your foundation, use soaker hoses or drip irrigation lines placed 6 to 18 inches from the foundation, not against it. Run the soaker hoses or drip irrigation at a rate that allows the water to trickle into the soil. Don't allow the water to pool or run off. For more information about conserving this precious resource, visit the North Texas Municipal Water District website at www.ntmwd.com.



*Meals on Wheels
Volunteers Wanted
Call 972-564-7348*

**Think SHOP Live
FORNEY**