

## Happy Thanksgiving

The Thanksgiving holiday means different things to people who celebrate it. Many people look forward to this particular holiday simply because the majority, if not all, of their family members will be together for the first time this year. It is a time of happiness and catching up on the lives of the others. That is a true Thanksgiving tradition that never goes out of style. It is a holiday of simply being grateful and giving thanks for what we have received during the year.

Since this holiday usually provides a four day weekend, for a lot of people it is a holiday that is highly anticipated as a small vacation from work or school. This has thrilled children for years to know that they not only get a huge meal with all the family members but they also get four days of cartoons, sleeping late, and playing. So it is easy to see why the children enjoy this special holiday. For adults, there is always a football game to watch on "Turkey Day" and the busiest shopping day of the year is the day after – a great way to walk off all that yummy food! (Don't forget to Shop Forney First)

*The City Council and employees of the City of Forney wish you and your family a wonderful holiday.*



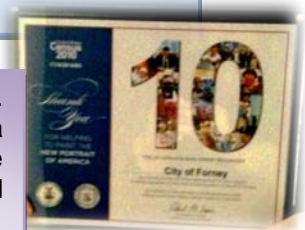
L-R: Charity VanKirk, Cara Stafford, Brian Brooks

### Kudos

Finance Director, Cara Stafford, and Budget Analyst, Charity VanKirk, were presented with the GFOA award for the 2009-2010 budget. This is the second year we have been given this award. In order to receive this award, a governmental unit must publish a budget document that meets program criteria as a policy document, as an operations guide, as a financial plan, and as a communications device. Charity and Cara put a lot of hard work into this budget in order to receive this award. We are very proud of them.



Forney received a plaque from the U.S. Census Bureau recognizing Forney as a valued partner and as appreciation for the City's support in raising awareness of and inspiring participation in the 2010 Census.



### IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR YOU

The recycling scheduled for Thursday (Thanksgiving) will be serviced on Saturday November 27, 2010. Fridays will be serviced on their regular scheduled day November 26, 2010.



Lt. Mike Williams received a special award for his 20 years of service with the City.  
 L-R: Lt. Mike Williams; Police Chief Rick Barnes.



### 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Turkey Trax Autorama

This event, which is hosted by the Forney Economic Development Corporation, will be held on Sunday, November 7, 2010 from 12:00 Noon to 5:00 p.m. on Main Street in downtown Forney. For more information contact City of Forney EDC @ 972-564-5808.



## Please Vote!

### Election Day is Tuesday, November 2, 2010

The 2010 mid-term election will be held on Tuesday, November 2 with at least 36 of the 100 seats in the Senate being contested and all House seats coming up for election.

This year's winners of state legislatures and governorships will have the chance to redraw congressional districts based on the new census data. It sounds technical, but the bottom line is that the consequences of these races will be long-lasting and far-reaching.



### Water Rate Increase

You will notice a rate increase for your water and wastewater services this month. The rate increase was effective October 1, 2010. This increase is due to the increase in cost to the City by the North Texas Municipal Water District, which provides the City's water.

### Blackboard Connect – Reverse 9-1-1

When presented with a time-sensitive situation, we provide our entire community with reassurance and timely information by communicating with Blackboard Connect. If you have a land line, then it is automatically registered with the Blackboard Connect, because it uses a reverse 9-1-1 phone list. However, you can log into the system and add information such as cell phone numbers, e-mail addresses, etc. To do so, go to our website at [www.cityofforey.org](http://www.cityofforey.org) and at the bottom of the main page click on GET CONNECTED, and then follow the link "SIGN UP NOW." We like to keep this information as current as possible to ensure we have a line of communication with our citizens. If you have any questions in reference to the information entered for your address, please contact Tiffany at the Forney Police Department at 972-564-7611.

City Offices will be closed on Thursday and Friday, November 25-26, 2010, for the Thanksgiving Holidays

*Pumpkin Pie – Yum Yum*



Please join us for the lighting of the Downtown Christmas Tree Tuesday, November 30, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.



### Attention: Utility Billing Customers

Did you know that when you turn 65 you are eligible for a "senior rate" for your water and wastewater services? If you are 65 or older and have not requested to be put on the "senior rate," please contact our Utility Billing Department at 972-564-7304.



### Bad Weather Threats

Forney Dispatch Center works with the Fort Worth NOAA National Weather Service when bad weather hits our area, along with local storm chasers. Between the two, it helps us determine how severe the weather is, the direction it is moving, and how fast it is moving.

If the severity of the weather calls for it, the tones to the Forney Outdoor Warning Sirens are sounded. Please note that those sirens are meant for people who are outside and need to take cover from the bad weather. We suggest that if there is a possibility of bad weather, or it appears to be close, that you watch local weather channels or monitor a weather radio. Unless you live directly near the one of the three sirens in the city, you will not hear it inside your home.

When bad weather does hit your area, please take cover to ensure that the people you are with are safe. Please limit the usage on cell phones, during bad weather high cell phone usage will congest cell phone provider services and emergency calls cannot be made.

#### Terms to know

**Watch:** Likely to occur.

**Warning:** Has been spotted in the area and people in the path are in danger. Take cover if it is a Tornado or Hurricane Warning.

### Atmos Energy – Mid-Tex Division Rate Increase

Atmos Energy began a rate review mechanism (RRM) in 2008 as a part of a three year pilot program. The RRM is an agreement between Atmos Energy and the cities to provide an annual transparent review of company expenses and investment. The RRM has been extended for two more years and the extension includes an accelerated replacement program for steel-services lines. With the extension of the RRM is an increase to customers. The overall impact to average residential customers (using 4.5 Mcf a month) will be an increase of \$1.40 per month and to the average commercial customer will be an increase of \$3.82 per month.

### Important Dates

City Council Meetings @ City Hall  
101 E. Main Street

Monday, November 1, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.  
Tuesday, November 16, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.  
Tuesday, November 30, 2010 at 5:30 p.m.



### UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, December 4, 2010  
Hometown Christmas in  
Downtown Forney

For more information contact Denise Bell  
@ FHTC2010@hotmail.com