

Mayor's Thanksgiving Message

2012

We can be thankful for so much, particularly for the knowledge and comfort that our nation continues to be a bastion of freedom and democracy in the world. Yes, the economy is struggling, American troops are in harm's way in Iraq and Afghanistan and we have our individual worries and concerns.

But, we can also be deeply grateful for the love and affection of our families, the companionship and support of good friends, and the blessings of life. We can also be thankful that we have, above all, hope: Hope that each new day will bring us opportunities for a better life in this great land. It was in this spirit that the Pilgrims celebrated the first Thanksgiving, and it is in this spirit that we celebrate this holiday today.

We are forever grateful for the heroic service of our men and women in uniform. We can never fully repay our veterans for their service, but we must do all we can, to try.

Thanksgiving, of course, signals the start of a season of gatherings among family, friends, co-workers, neighbors. Be thankful for the things in your life that you wouldn't want to live without. It is easier at this time of year. This season also offers us the chance to remember those less fortunate among us. They are our brothers, sisters, neighbors and our fellow citizens, and we are committed to reaching out to them and to all of those in need in our community.

Take the time to thank our Creator for all of the blessings in our lives. For some, the blessings may seem sparse this year, but that just means that we need to reflect deeper to find the good in our lives.

On behalf of the members of the City Council,
have a joyous Thanksgiving!

Arthur J. Ward
Mayor