

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT



JUNE 27, 2023

Upcoming City Events, Activities, and Updates

Human Resources Department

The Library welcomed a new employee on June 12th and will be welcoming an employee on July 1st. Peyton Cooper was hired for the position of Student Library Page. Tamara Williams will be promoting from Part Time Recreation Aide to the position of Part Time Library Clerk.

The Municipal Court welcomed a new employee on June 12th. Angela Lloyd was hired for the position of Part Time Juvenile Case Manager.

The Parks Department welcomed a new employee on June 22nd. Bianca Alexander was hired for the position of Lifeguard.

The Planning Department welcomed a new employee on June 27th. Richelle Otero was hired for the position of Administrative Assistant.

The Police Department will be welcoming Thomas Davis, Jr. to the position of Police Officer Trainee on July 3rd.

The Fire Department will be welcoming Shannon Stephens to the position of Fire Chief on July 10th.

The City is currently taking applications for the following positions:

- Part Time Recreation Aide
- Light Equipment Operator
- Maintenance Technician
- Mechanic
- Senior Equipment Operator
- Police Officer Trainee



The Stewart C. Meyer Harker Heights Public Library started the year off right with new programs and initiatives, and we are happy to keep going!

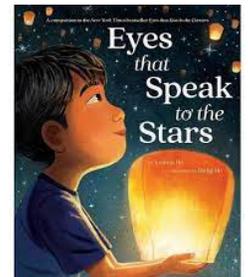
It's Science Expo on Wednesday, June 28, 2023, from 9:30- 11:30 am! Sign up for the reading club and explore science! Perform small experiments, see UV light, learn some outdoor survival, and more! Bring the whole family for this STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics) themed event!



The Library, Activities Center, and Healthy Homes are pleased to announce that Operation E.A.T. program has been extended through Friday, July 28, 2023! This program provides free meals for kids ages 17 and younger Monday through Friday except for Tuesday, July 4, 2023, from 3:30 – 5:30 pm. This program has been feeding 40 to 50 kids each day!



Celebrate authors and illustrators with our storytime series! Visit the Library Thursdays at 9:00 am for Storytime for children ages 3-6 and their families or at 10:00 am for Toddler Time for ages 0-3 and their families. Each week we will enjoy books, crafts, activities and more while focusing on a particular author! Thursday, June 29 features Joanna Ho, author of “Eyes That Speak to the Stars” and other picture books. We will explore being ourselves and celebrating our differences.



The Library will offer a Summer Music Time series for children on Mondays in July! Enjoy songs, rhymes, dance, and more! Work on concepts such as loud and soft, fast and slow, and high and low! Babies ages 0-18 months and their families come at 9:00 am. Children ages 19 months through 6 years and their families come at 10:00 am. Registration is not necessary, but space is limited. Seating will be on a first comes/first served basis.

Let's dance! Enjoy FREE Swing Lessons taught by Library volunteers! You don't need to bring a partner. Come ready to move to the uplifting beat. Call 254-953-5491 to register for this series. Lessons will be taught Friday, June 30 and July 7, 2023, from 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm. Our series will culminate in a swing dance at the Library on Friday, August 25, 2023, from 6:30 pm- 8:30 pm.



The Library is partnering with the Activities Center to offer a Girls Outdoors program series. Join us July 5 and/or July 15 at 9:00 am for a fun time focusing on topics such as cyanotype prints and water quality! Girls ages 6-12 years and their families enjoy outdoor education and hands-on learning! Each program will take place at a different park and contain a separate educational component in addition to a hike! Please call the Activities Center at 254-953-5467 for details and registration.



School readiness is in demand! Caregivers and their children ages 3-6 years old are invited to join the Library for a program series aimed at school readiness! This summer series will take place Saturdays, July 8 and July 22, 2023. Registration is not required and attendees are welcome to come to as many programs as they can! Work with Ms. Kay on fine motor skills, large motor skills, and literacy skills needed for school

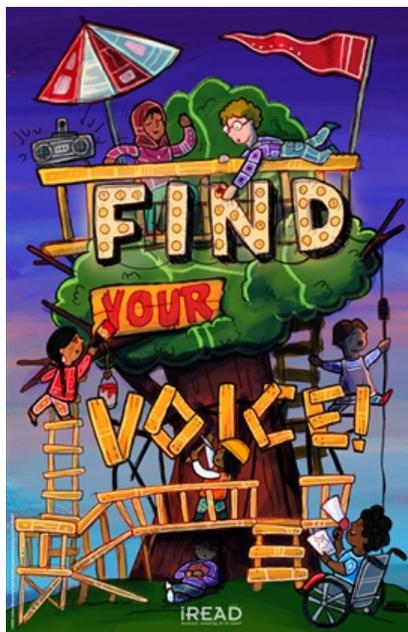


Are you looking for a good book? Did you know that you can view booklists on our Find Your Voice Summer Reading Club Page?

Just visit: harkerheights.readsquared.com/readinglistpublic.aspx for ideas for what to read next!

Sign up for the 2023 Find Your Voice Summer Reading Club for kids, teens, and adults! Our theme encourages patrons to find positive ways to express themselves. Sign up NOW for the reading club either at the Library or on-line at harkerheights.readsquared.com. Our Library will offers an array of book discussions, performers, science times, caregiver workshops, and more!

Be sure to check out our full summer program booklet at: <https://harkerheights.gov/librarispeialevents>.



Parks & Recreation Department

ACTIVITIES CENTER

- The Maker Space continues to be open at the Activities Center with fun craft materials for all to enjoy! Visit Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays 10 am – 3 pm and Saturdays 3 pm – 5 pm. Have any craft items that you no longer need? Feel free to donate them to the Maker Space.
- Operation E.A.T. (Everybody Ate Today) is a community youth feeding initiative that will be providing free meals for all kids 18 years old or younger at the Harker Heights Public Library and Activities Center on 400 Indian Trail. To register, visit <https://monarch-education.org/operationeat> to get your free meal. Meal availability times are Monday through Friday 3:30 pm – 5:30 pm.

ATHLETICS

- Ability Bowling began on June 5th at Hallmark Lanes and will continue every Monday until July 10!



- Youth Flag Football and Volleyball are ongoing through the Summer!



- Registration for Fall Youth Soccer is open until August 2!



AQUATICS

- The Carl Levin Park Pool is open for Open Swim! Will operate on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays until staffing allows for additional days of the week
 - Fridays from 1:30 pm to 7:00 pm
 - Saturdays and Sundays from 11:00 am to 7:00 pm



- Swim Lessons spaces are still open, register at the Harker Heights Recreation Center. PARTICIPANTS MUST REGISTER IN PERSON.

Parks & Recreation Department

SENIOR RECREATION

- Senior recreation members are invited to join the Senior Garden Club. The club meets on the first Tuesday of the month from 9:00 am – 10:00 am at Carl Levin Park Community Garden. Interested in joining contact Jo Tye at 254-681-9009 or email Kailie Gomez at kgomez@harkerheights.gov.



- Senior Swim will not meet on July 7. Senior recreation members can swim for free every Friday (now – August 11) from 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm at Carl Levin Park outdoor pool. Senior swim will not meet on days when swim lessons has a makeup or when the pool is closed due to maintenance or weather. Members will need to have current membership check in cards with current expiration dates.



- July's BINGO will be Thursday, July 20 from 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm at the Recreation Center.



- Ladies Night Out is on Thursday, July 20 at 5:00 pm. The restaurant is to be determined. Each attendee is responsible for purchasing their own supper. Registration is required and can be done over the phone by calling 254-953-5683 or in person at the Recreation Center.

Parks & Recreation Department

RECREATION CENTER

- Registration for Folklorico Dance for the Fall Session is open. The class will be on Mondays August 7 – October 23, 2023 with a recital on Wednesday, October 25, 2023. Class times are 6 pm – 7:15 pm for ages 6 -11 and 7:25 pm – 8:35 pm for ages 12 – Adults. The session cost \$45.00 per student. You are able to register online or in person at the Recreation Center.



- Open Gym Summer Hours will start June 20, 2023 and will be:
 - Mondays & Tuesdays 2:00 pm – 4:45 pm: Basketball
 - Wednesdays 2:00 pm – 4:45 pm: 12U Open Gym
 - Thursdays 2:00 pm – 4:45 pm: Volleyball
 - Fridays 2:00 pm – 4:45 pm: Wheelchair Basketball



SPECIAL EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

- The Activities Center is partnering with the Harker Heights Police Department Healthy Homes Division for a Food Drive. Please help us collect non-perishable foods that will be served to families in need within our community. Drop off boxes are located at the Activities Center and at the Rec Center. Items needed are rice, beans, pasta, pasta sauce, and cereal. The drive will continue to accept donations from now through July 17



- The Harker Heights Farmers Market season has begun! The market will be held every Saturday from May to October from 9:00 am – 1:00 pm. We are always looking for new vendors. For more information, contact Sara Gibbs at 254-953-5493.



Parks & Recreation Department

GET OUTDOORS (GO) HEIGHTS

- **Girls Outdoors** is a program paid for through a grant received through Texas Parks and Wildlife that targets under-served youth in our community.

These programs will engage girls ages 6-12 in Outdoor Education and hands-on learning. Each program will take place in a different park near Harker Heights and will have a separate educational component in addition to a hike. Pre-Registration Required at bit.ly/3AdsbdI



- **Community Gardens:** Now is the time to get started with your spring gardening! Plots are available at Carl Levin Park Community Garden & Kern Park Community Garden. Rentals are for six months or one year. To pay and register for your plot, please go to the Harker Heights Rec Center, 307 Miller's Crossing.



POLICE DEPARTMENT

Three police cadets will be graduating from the Temple Police Academy on June 29th.

Two police cadets will be starting at the Temple Police Academy on July 10th. We are currently accepting applications for Police Officer Trainee for the Temple Police Academy class that begins on October 2nd.