

# CITY MANAGER'S REPORT



## JANUARY 24, 2023

*Upcoming City Events, Activities, and Updates*

### Human Resources Department

- The Parks Department will be welcoming two new employees. Part Time Recreation Aide Karina Bueno will begin working on January 23rd and Athletics Coordinator Kiarrah Carlisle will begin working for the City on January 31st.
- The Court Department will be welcoming a new employee. Deputy Court Clerk Tracy Zynda will begin working for the City on February 6th.
- The Human Resources Department attended the MEGA Career Fair on January 10th. They handed out around 40 applications and received back eleven possible candidates.

The City is currently taking applications for the following positions:

- Parks Recreation Superintendent
- Police Officer Trainee (Certified Only)
- HR Support Clerk
- Veterinarian Technician
- Telecommunicator
- Parks Light Equipment Operator
- Drainage Light Equipment Operator
- Water Maintenance Technician
- Water Service Worker
- Wastewater Maintenance Technician
- Part Time Parts Clerk



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!



New to the Library is our Therapeutic Art series for adults! Begin with an Envision Board on Thursday, January 26 from 6 - 7:30pm. Join Fatimah Olds in making your own creative board. Explore the process of envisioning a new year. Capture the energy and excitement of a fresh start as we intentionally step into our own lives. Adults please call 254-953-5491 to register for this free class. All materials are provided.

**YES! WE'RE  
OPEN**

The Library and Activities Center have reopened the popular Maker Space. Thanks to generous donations of supplies from our community, families can drop by Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 10am-2pm and Saturdays from 3-5pm! You never know what you will find. If you have craft materials sitting around your house, and you would like to see those materials put to good use, just drop them off at the Library anytime that the Library is open!

**It's Your Birthday! Families are invited to join Ms. Erica for a Family Birthday Party on Saturday, January 28 from 2-4pm. Enjoy stories, games, snacks, and even a present from the Friends of the Library!**

**Join Singing Zoologist Lucas Miller on our Library's Facebook on Saturday, January 28 at 2:00 pm for his ON LOCATION video of the Monarch Butterfly migration spot in Mexico! Learn about this amazing journey through music and more!**



Preschool programs are in full swing at the Library! Join us each Tuesday at 10am for Babytime, a lapsit program for babies ages 0-18 months and their special adult! Children ages 3-6 and their families enjoy stories, songs, and more at Storytimes on Wednesdays at 10am and Thursdays at 9am! Toddler Time for children ages 0-3 and their families combines music, rhymes, and books for a bonding experience!

- Wednesday, January 25 at 10am – Birthday Storytime (ages 3-6 and their families) – Enjoy an early literacy treat with music and more at the Library!
- Thursday, January 26 at 9am – Chinese New Year Storytime (ages 3-6 and their families) – Enjoy songs, rhymes, vocabulary, and age-appropriate activities for education and fun!
- Thursday, January 26 at 10am – Chinese New Year Toddler Time (ages 0-3 and their families) – Enjoy songs, rhymes, vocabulary, and age-appropriate activities for education and fun!
- Tuesday, January 31 at 10 am – BabyTime (lapsit) – Bring your baby ages 0-18 for a special time filled with rhymes and songs!
- Wednesday, February 1 at 10am – Yay Stories! Storytime music and more to the Library!
- Thursday, February 2 at 9am – It's Groundhog Day! Storytime for ages 3-6 and their families – Enjoy songs, rhymes, and age-appropriate activities for education and fun!
- Thursday, February 2 at 10am – It's Groundhog Day! Time Toddler Time for ages 0-3 and their families – Enjoy songs, rhymes, and age-appropriate activities for education and fun!



- No one will be surprised to hear that the Library is prepared to GEEK OUT! We have been invited to share our fantastic fandom programs at the Temple Train and Heritage Museums “Geek Out” Family Day on Saturday, February 4, 2023. Families from all over Central Texas gather to make cool crafts, enjoy costumed characters, and learn about other programs in the area. From Star Wars to Dungeons and Dragons to Pokemon Card games, the Library definitely has a lot to offer!



- Do you have kids interested in playing Dungeons and Dragons 5e Role-Playing? We’ve expanded our popular role-playing program to include kids ages 10 through 13! Kids’ Saturday Dungeons and Dragons meet the 2nd and 4th Saturday of each month from 1-5pm. Call 254-953-5491 to sign your child up today!



## Planning and Development Department

Michael Beard was awarded the ICC Bluebonnet Chapter's Walker, Childers, and Muns Member of the Year award at their annual banquet on Saturday, January 14, 2023. Mike's dedication to the building profession and continued efforts for education in our region set him apart from other professionals in our Chapter area. Thank you Mike for being an exemplary leader and for your protective measures to protect our community and others in our region.



Congratulations to Michael Beard, Building Official and Courtney Fye, Building Secretary on their installation as Treasurer and Secretary respectively for the Bluebonnet Chapter of the International Code Council.

## Police Department

Three Police Officer Trainees were hired on January 17th and will begin the Temple Police Academy on January 23rd.



The Healthy Homes Division has begun their Back-to-School Donation Drive and are currently accepting donations.

# Parks & Recreation Department

## ACTIVITIES CENTER

- The Maker Space continues its open times into the school year. (Wednesdays and Thursdays 3-7pm and Saturdays 1-4pm.) Stop by anytime and see the amazing community project the public is building called Cardboard City (located in the hall). This entire city is built from cardboard has so many little surprises in it. The public is encouraged to add their artistic abilities to this ever growing and changing project.

## ATHLETICS

- Visit the Harker Heights Parks and Recreation website to see the new 2023 Youth Sports Calendar.
- Registration for 2023 Youth Baseball, Softball, and Tee Ball is open until February 1, 2023. Don't miss your opportunity to volunteer to Coach or to Officiate with us!



## SENIOR RECREATION

- We had one of the largest attended Ladies Night Out this past Thursday at Black Bear Diner in Harker Heights.
- Thank you to Dr. Shane Isdale and Ursula Pritle with Corrective Chiropractic & Wellness for sharing information about living healthy and providing lunch for our Senior attendees at last week's Lunch & Learn on Friday.
- Active Seniors (50+) are invited to PLAY every Thursday for Senior P.E. from 12 pm - 1:45 pm. They will participate each week in a variety of old and new recreational activities. Come out to learn or relearn fun games played in P.E.
- If you like card games come to the Recreation Center. We offer Spades on Tuesdays from 1 pm - 3 pm, Pinochle on Mondays and Wednesdays from 12 pm - 3 pm, and Canasta on Wednesdays from 1 pm - 4 pm.

# Parks & Recreation Department

## RECREATION CENTER

- The first session of Folklorico will be offered on Monday evenings from February 6 - April 26. Ages 6 - Adults are invited to learn about the Mexican culture through a creative way to exercise. The session includes twelve classes and a recital and cost \$40 per session. Space is limited to 15 participants per age class per session.
- We have new changes to our Yoga classes. Adaptive Chair Yoga which meets on Mondays from 10 am - 11 am for ages 18 and up has lowered the price to \$8/\$5 (ages 50+) per class rate. Feel Good Yoga offered on Tuesdays for ages 10 and up with a monthly charge of \$48/\$40 (ages 50+); has a drop in rate \$14/\$12 (ages 50+) per class.



## SPECIAL EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

### Valentine Dances

King and Princess Dance: February 10th at 6:30p

Seniors Sweetheart Dance: February 11 at 1:00p

Valentines Family Dance: February 11 at 4:00p



- The second annual Outdoor and Science Expo will be Saturday February 18th from 9am-1pm at the Activities Center. The expo will include hands-on learning, Outdoor Education, gardening resources and more.

## GET OUTDOORS (GO) HEIGHTS

- Community Garden Workday at Carl Levin: Thank you to all of the volunteers that assisted staff in cleaning up the Carl Levin Park Community Garden on Saturday, January 21st!
- Garden Education Series: Bell County Master Gardener's will be teaching Spring Gardening Starts Now at the Activities Center Tuesday January 24th 6pm-7:30pm. Registration Required.

