

# CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

## May 26, 2020

### PUBLIC WORKS

#### Public Works/Parks & Recreation Employee of the Month

- Congratulations to **Joedi Rivera-Adorno** with the **Fleet Maintenance Department**. Joedi received the Public Works/Parks & Recreation employee of the month for outstanding service.

### POLICE DEPARTMENT

**Stephanie Hall, CID Office Coordinator**, earned her Associate of Applied Science – Business Management degree from Central Texas College on May 8<sup>th</sup>.

### FIRE DEPARTMENT

**Firefighter/Paramedic Zachary Gauthier** and wife Caitlin welcomed their baby boy, **Jameson**, on April 28<sup>th</sup>.

Our **Station 2 renovation** is now underway.

### ACTIVITY CENTER

Please continue to follow us on **Facebook** and our **Special Event's page** of the **Parks & Recreation website** for upcoming virtual activities and programs the community can participate from home, out in their neighborhoods, or at a park.

#### **Senior Recreation & Events**

- The Activities Center staff continues to contact our **Senior Recreation** members through weekly updates by emails and phone calls. The staff have and continues to compile resources and activities in which our Senior members can benefit and do from home.
- Starting May 27<sup>th</sup> drop off your worn flags to the Activities Center for our **2020 Flag Retirement Drive**. Last year we received over 100 flags to be properly retired. The flag drive continues till June 15<sup>th</sup> (the day after Flag Day).
- During the months of May and June, fun facts will be posted each week on social media about the Texas state insect – the **Monarch Butterfly!** Learn something new about this beautiful insect.

## PARKS AND RECREATION

The Parks and Recreation Department gave out **FREE Water Safety Month Kits** to the first 25 families that registered on May 20<sup>th</sup>. The kits included a beach ball, information from Colin's Hope, and activities for children. The kits were then distributed one-by-one (to remain properly socially distanced) on May 22<sup>nd</sup>. Thanks to all who participated!

The **Virtual Running Challenge** is officially under way and will run through the month of May! 47 runners have signed up for the inaugural running challenge!

Visit our **Virtual Recreation Center** for tips on getting outdoors while social distancing, at-home sports drills, ways to stay active, craft projects, virtual tours of parks and museums, and MUCH MORE!

**Parks are OPEN** but please remember to **#keepyourdistance** and be aware of facility closures

- Restrooms are OPEN
- Pavilions, Playgrounds, Courts, Water Fountains, and Workout Stations are CLOSED
- When using trails, observe the CDC's minimum distancing of 6' from other persons at all times

Unfortunately, the **Carl Levin Park Pool** will **not** open on **Memorial Day Weekend**, as it typically does, and a reopening date or whether the pool can open has yet to be determined. Swim lessons have been cancelled for the Summer.

**All summer sports** have been cancelled, and the Department is looking at returning to athletics programming with the **Fall Youth Soccer program**. Keep up with us on Facebook and our website as new activities are added daily

## LIBRARY

The **Stewart C. Meyer Harker Heights Public Library** is open for walk-in and contactless curbside service Mondays – Thursdays from 9:00 a.m.- 7:00 p.m. and on Fridays and Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Just call 254-953-5491 for more information, to request items to be held at our contactless curbside service, or to make a required appointment to use our patron access computers. Currently all programming is still offered online.

The Library celebrated **career week** May 16<sup>th</sup> – May 22<sup>nd</sup>! Thanks to all the **City Departments**, local business owners, and service and health industries employees who gave us some insights into their jobs and their service for our community. Our patrons have remarked that they so enjoyed meeting City employees and other residents and learning about their lives!

May 26<sup>th</sup> – May 30<sup>th</sup> is "**Let's Move Olympics**" **Week!** Tune in to our **Facebook page**, our **YouTube Channel**, and our **website** for a variety of fun challenges, story-times, **Wednesday Kite Day** with kitemaking and kite science, an online "**Little Red Running Hood**" (Social Distancing Edition) puppet show on Thursday at 6:00 p.m., **Special Guest Reader Destinee Barton** on Friday at 10:15 a.m., **Ridiculous Races** with City Staff on Friday, and **Chalk Art Hopscotch** from **Around the World** on Saturday!

**“Discover the Magic of Reading”** with the **Library’s Summer Reading Club 2020!** This year the club will focus on the wonder that can be found by reading, listening, and writing a wide variety of books, e-books, audiobooks, and more! **The Summer Program Series** will be VIRTUAL in June! All programs will be available on our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/harkerheightspubliclibrary/>. Join us online each week for story-times, special programs, performances, crafts, games, and more! **Reading is Magic Celebration** online will be June 1<sup>st</sup> – June 6<sup>th</sup>! Each week of summer will bring new and exciting programs!

**Discover the Magic of Reading** during virtual programs and come and go activities all week! Be sure to sign up for **Summer Reading Club** to keep track of books and hours at our **ReadSquared Summer Reading Club** website [harkerheights.readsquared.com](http://harkerheights.readsquared.com)! **ReadSquared** allows you and your family to register, log books, check out the event calendar, conquer reading and other challenges, and more all in one place! The **Friends of the Library** have sponsored this online service! Signing up for the Stewart C. Meyer Harker Heights Public Library Summer Reading Club online is as easy as 1, 2, 3!

1. Visit our new Virtual Summer Reading Club at [HarkerHeights.readsquared.com](http://HarkerHeights.readsquared.com) starting June 1, 2020.
2. Register each family member.
3. Start Reading and logging your books and hours to earn points in the game!

Don’t forget to download the app for iPhone and Android smart phones! Search for **ReadSquared** in your app store. Download the app. Search for “Stewart C. Meyer Harker Heights Public Library,” and get started!