

# CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

## June 22, 2021

### HUMAN RESOURCES:

The **Library** welcomed a new employee on June 5<sup>th</sup>. **Sebastian Reyes-Ortiz** was hired for the position of Part Time Library Clerk.

The **Parks and Recreation Department** welcomed new employees. **Joshua Bruton** was hired for the position of Athletics Coordinator on June 7<sup>th</sup>. **Bailey Greene** was hired for the position of Water Safety Instructor on June 18<sup>th</sup>. **Deuce McKnight** and **Donavan Martinez** were hired for the positions of Light Equipment Operator on June 21<sup>st</sup>.

The **Fire Department** promotes six employees on June 12<sup>th</sup>. **Lt. Michael Dunnam** and **Lt. Matthew Truitt** were promoted to the rank of Battalion Chief. Driver/Pump Operators **Clint Chudej** and **Anthony Combs** were promoted to the rank of Lieutenant. Firefighter/Paramedics **Rene Fernandez** and **Charles Brummett** were promoted to the rank of Driver/Pump Operator.

The **Human Resources Department** welcomed a new employee on June 18<sup>th</sup>. **Raelin Fiscus** was hired for the position of Part Time Student Clerical Assistant.

The **Municipal Court** will be welcoming a new employee on June 28<sup>th</sup>. Telecommunicator **Aaliyah Giadoo** was promoted to the position of Deputy Court Clerk.

The City is currently accepting applications for the positions of **Telecommunicator** and **Part Time Records Clerk in the Police Department**.

### PARKS AND RECREATION:

The **Carl Levin Park Outdoor Pool** is open for reduced Open Swim hours from Friday - Saturday. Applications are currently being taken for pool staff. **Lifeguards** are still needed.

**Youth Tee Ball, Softball, and Baseball** games are ongoing and will end by July 4 (weather permitting)! The City of Harker Heights is once again partnering with the City of Killeen to crown a 'Central Texas Youth Sports League' Champion in each division.

**Youth Volleyball** is ongoing with almost 150 participants!

The **Kern Park Community Garden** is up and running with renters and a communal planting area. Stop by to see what our community is growing!

**July is Parks and Recreation Month!** Stay tuned for a calendar full of events throughout the month to celebrate.

The **Carl Levin Park Native Pocket Prairie** is in full bloom! Stop by to see native pollinator species that are helping to keep the Monarch and Bee populations thriving in our area.

**Open Gym times for Basketball and Pickleball** have reopened. Occupancy is limited. For details, visit the Parks website or call the Rec Center at 254-953-5657.

## LIBRARY:

**Arhhh! Pirates!** Avast, me hearties! The Library hosts a pirate extravaganza on Wednesday, July 7, 2021! Enjoy activities, crafts, and registering for upcoming in-person programs. Meet pirates and complete a treasure hunt 10am-12pm, 1:30pm – 3:30pm, and 5:30pm-7pm. Become a pirate yourself with a do it yourself costume. This fun event is come-and-go and does not require registration!

Check out the **NEW Writing Workshops!** Professor Heather Chandler from Temple College will help encourage the fun in writing. The workshops will be held on Thursdays, July 15, 22, and 29, 2021. Children ages 8-10 meet at 2:00 – 3:30pm. Teens ages 12-14 meet 4:00 -5:30 pm. Space is limited. Please call 254-953-5491 to register!

Saturday, June 19, 2021, parents and child care providers enjoyed the “**Healthy Hearts, Bodies, and Minds**” **Parent and child Care Provider Workshop**. This FREE virtual workshop took place on the Library’s Facebook page. Attendees commented throughout the morning as they learned about encouraging healthy habits for children. The Library shared strategies for providing health information, modeling, and practice in everyday activities. Play, sing, and laugh your way to a healthier family and classroom environment! Child care providers received three much needed instructor-led contact hours credit by attending the session and commenting during the live session. Attendees will receive a free packet of resources that they will pick up at the Library this week. The program ended with a “Get Up and Move” Storytime on Facebook. Everyone was invited to see how healthy habits can be encouraged in a traditional storytime.

**Choose Your Own Adventure!** It’s up to you. Ms. Heather reads a chapter of a popular book every Saturday at 4:00 pm. Everyone votes to make a decision for our next move. The next week, Ms. Heather will read the winning chapter!

**What makes a great mystery? Adults and older teens read and discuss “The Magpie Murders”** by Anthony Horowitz. Enjoy this bestseller as a book, audiobook, e-book, or e-audiobook! Meet on Thursday, July 22, 2021 with a lively group of fellow readers. The Book Discussion Club meets every third Thursday of each month in-person at the Library. Registration is not necessary.

If you would like to attend virtually, please e-mail [lyoungblood@harkerheights.gov](mailto:lyoungblood@harkerheights.gov) to join via your internet connection.

The Stewart C. Meyer Harker Heights Public Library plans programs throughout the summer, and we want to celebrate with a **full slate of in-person programs, reading clubs, performers, and more!** *Most in-person programs will require registration!* Adults, teens, and children enjoy a variety of in-person and virtual programs!

Check out a full list of program at <https://harkerheights.gov/librarispecialevents> . Check our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/harkerheightspubliclibrary> or our website at <https://harkerheights.gov/index.php/departments/library> for special programs and new additions! We add programs, so check back often.

## ACTIVITY CENTER:

We invite you to visit our Harker Heights Farmers Market each Saturday now through the end of October. The Market takes place at City Hall, 305 Millers Crossing, from 9am-12pm! Drop by for fresh produce, handcrafted items, flowers, and more! Saturday, June 26, 2021, is Dog Days! Celebrate your furry friend! Bring your pet with you! Donate to the Harker Heights Pet Adoption Center, take a look at items made for pets, and more!

Our Senior Recreation Program is adding more programs! Thursday, June 24, 2021, marks the first session of our Lifelong Learning series. Bingo also moves inside the Activities Center on Thursday, June 24, 2024 at 1:00 pm. Learn about the wonders of space! Returning in July will be the Watercolor Class on Wednesdays from 10am-12pm and the Papercrafts class on the third Thursday of each month from 9:00 – 10:00am. Space is limited. Please call 254-953-5493 to register! Keep watching for new programs, special events, and more!

July is Parks and Rec Month. Celebrate with us all month long with these and other fun events. Check for updates and schedule at our special events website at <https://harkerheights.gov/index.php/special-events-2> and on our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/harkerheightspr/>.

- Parks and Rec Fest: July 8 from 6:00pm – 9:30pm in Carl Levin Park – Celebrate with fun and games!
- Movie in the Park: July 29 at 8:00pm at Community Park -- Bring your lawn chairs, blankets, snacks, and more for a FREE movie.
- Splash Bash at Kern Park: July 31 at 5:30pm – 8:30pm – Everybody get ready to get wet!

## POLICE DEPARTMENT:

**Officer Simmons** was thanked for being helpful during an incident at H-E-B where the citizen's vehicle was hit while she was in the store. The citizen said Officer Simmons calmed her down and was very kind and considerate.

**Officer Hicks** was thanked for his professionalism and courtesy during a traffic stop. The citizen who was stopped was issued a warning for speeding and said that Officer Hicks was very polite and courteous during the encounter.

**Lieutenant Randy Stefek** was thanked by a traffic violator who he had pulled over for speeding. She said Lieutenant Stefek was very kind, thorough, and made her feel comfortable during the encounter.