

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT



OCTOBER 25, 2022

Upcoming City Events, Activities, and Updates



Congrats!

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT



Melonie Matthewson
Assistant Director of Human Resources

Your City employees do great work that often go unnoticed to the majority of the public. The KUDOS CELEBRATION is an employee recognition event that simply says "thanks".

It's about giving Kudos to employees for their hard work and achievements. The celebrations are triggered by the number of KUDOS an employee received over a certain amount of time.

When an employee is celebrated, the department gets to celebrate with them - Team Heights!

Human Resources Department

- The Parks and Recreation Department welcomed two new employees on October 13th. Patrick Morris and William Delin were hired for the position of Part Time Recreation Aide.
- The Fire Department promoted an employee on October 15th and welcomed two new employees on October 24th. Justin Lewis was promoted to the position of Lieutenant. Roman Hernandez was hired for the position of Firefighter/Paramedic and Ernesto Rodarte was hired for the position of Firefighter/EMT.
- The Library promoted an employee on October 15th and will be welcoming a new employee on October 29th. Aaliyah Smith was promoted to the position of Full Time Library Clerk. Bridgette Chihuahua-Franco will be transferring to the position of Part Time Library Clerk.
- The Human Resources Department will be welcoming a new employee on October 29th. Clyde Hicks will be transferring to the position of Building Security Officer.
- The Finance Department will be promoting an employee on October 31st. Eve Vazquez will be promoted to the position of Utility Billing Clerk.

The City is currently taking applications for the following positions:

**NOW
HIRING**

Telecommunicator
Parks Light Equipment Operator
Drainage Light Equipment Operator
Streets Light Equipment Operator
Wastewater Maintenance Technician
Water Maintenance Technician
Senior Equipment Operator
Water Service Worker



Library Department

The Stewart C. Meyer Harker Heights Public Library invites you to the
Bob and Sue Dunlap Serenity Garden
and the



Stew and Mari Meyer Story Walk



Dedication Ceremony on Friday, October 28, 2022, at 9:00 am

A short ceremony in the Library's back garden area with light refreshments will be followed by a 9:30 am garden story time for all ages. In the case of rain, the ceremony and story time will be held inside the Library.

The Friends of the Library held their Fall Book Sale with extended Friday hours this past weekend! Visitors were able to pick up books, CDs, audiobooks, DVDs, and more at low prices! The Library is still accepting donations of books, audiobooks, toys, etc. Please feel free to drop them off at the Library during normal operating hours. We are unable to accept magazines, encyclopedias, pamphlets, loose papers, and textbooks.



The Stewart C. Meyer Harker Heights Public Library still has
SPOOKY events left in October!



Story times, decorations, and displays provide a chilling visit to the Library! From Haunted Heights Kids' fun, to a discussion with a cryptozoologist, there is something for everyone! For a full list of the Library's programs for fall, visit the website at www.harkerheights.gov/library/

Wednesday, October 26, 2022, at 10am:

Let's get ready for a Not-So-Scary Storytime! No registration is necessary, but space is limited. Seating us in a first come, first serve basis.

Thursday, October 27, 2022 at 10am:

Let's get ready for a Not-So-Scary Toddler Time! No registration is necessary, but space is limited. Seating us in a first come, first serve basis. Wear family friendly costumes if you like!

Saturday, October 29, 2022, from 9am -1pm: The Library is bringing pirates to Haunted Heights in Carl Levin Park. Children bring your families for games, face painting, big trucks, a treasure hunt, and more! The Friends of the Library will be giving FREE books to those children who complete the treasure hunt!



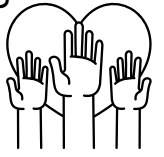
You can check the Library's catalog and your own Library account from your phone. Just download the Librista app, search for our Library, and use your Library card to access your account! Use your last name in all lower caps plus the last four digits of your library card number OR just the last four digits of your library card number as your PIN.

The huge tree has returned to the Library and Activities Center. Stop by the lobby to see a beautiful 12 ft. tree decorated for fall! This is a great photo spot.

Library Department

Do you need volunteer hours for work, school, or clubs? Do you want to give back to the community? The Library accepts volunteers ages 12 and up all year long!

Email: Lyoungblood@harkerheights.gov.



Parks and Recreation Department



I Love My Parks Day and Kern Community Garden Grand Opening!

Saturday, November 5th, 8am-11am at Kern Community Garden we will be planting trees for Texas Arbor Day, installing a Free Seed Library and Free Book Library in preparation for the ribbon cutting and Texas Arbor Day ceremony at 11am.



ATHLETICS

- We have 14 individuals between the ages of 5-22 with special needs participating in the 2022 Ability Soccer that is hosted at the Summit Soccer Complex.
- Youth Basketball starts this week!

ACTIVITIES CENTER

- The Maker Space continues it's open times into the school year. (Wednesdays and Thursdays 3:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. and Saturdays 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.) 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.
- Community Gardens: Don't forget that the Kern Park Community Garden is a FREE garden open to the public. Rentals are for six months or one year. Stop by the Recreation Center on 307 Miller's Crossing or the Activities Center on 400 Indian Trail to sign up. For more information, contact Kailie Gomez at kgomez@harkerheights.gov or call 254-953-5465.

Parks and Recreation Department

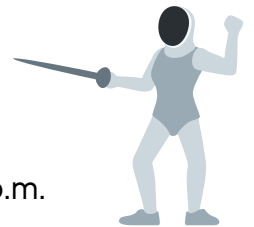


SENIOR RECREATION

- Wednesday Wellness Walks will be returning in October. Every first and third Wednesday of the month, seniors ages 50+ are invited to join us at Carl Levin Park (400 Miller's Crossing) for an outdoor walk from 8 am – 9 am.
 - Wednesday, November 2nd from 8:00 am - 9:00 am Ages 50+ at Carl Levin Park
 - Wednesday, November 16th from 8:00 am – 9:00 am Ages 50+ at Carl Levin Park
- If you enjoy playing Spades or would like to learn, join us every Tuesday from 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm at the Recreation Center, 307 Miller's Crossing.
- Come by the Recreation Center or visit www.harkerheights.gov/parksandrec click on Programs - Senior Recreation program for our upcoming November Senior Newsletter.

RECREATION CENTER

- The **youth** are invited to join in one of the two recreation classes being offered at the Recreation Center.
 - **Tae Kwon Do:** Beginners & Advance classes are on Tuesdays and Thursdays for ages 6 and up for the monthly fee of \$40 non-residents and \$35 residents.
 - **Swordplay:** Recreational Fencing classes are on Thursdays for ages 7 to adults for the monthly fee of \$50.
- **Adults** can sign up for three of our recreation classes:
 - **Adaptive Chair Yoga** on Mondays from 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.,
 - **Hapkido** on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:00 p.m. – 8:45 p.m.,
 - **Swordplay Recreational Fencing** on Thursdays from 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.



Adaptive Chair Yoga is one of the gentlest forms of yoga.

The class meets on Mondays from 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. and it is centered around using a chair, wheelchair, or other mobility device. Chair Yoga is offered to ages 18 years old and up with a fee of \$12 per class (\$10 per class 55+ Senior).

HARKER HEIGHTS DOOR-TO-DOOR TRICK OR TREAT HOURS

MONDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2022
6:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.



A few **REMINDERS** for ghouls and goblins who are participating:

- Have your **front porch light on if you are giving out candy.**
- **Don't go alone.** Trick-or-treat with your friends and family in a group setting.
- **Be safe** and do not go inside unfamiliar houses.
- With the sun setting earlier, make sure to **carry with you a glow stick, flashlight, or reflective gear.**
- Always **check both ways before crossing a street.**
- Don't forget to **check your children's candy.**



SPECIAL EVENTS AND PROGRAMS



Bring your friends and family to the **Spook-tacular Haunted Heights!**

Saturday, October 29th from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Carl Levin Park on 400 Miller's Crossing

Experience a trail full of vendors, photo ops, and activities for all ages. The Play on Swords Pirate Show will be held at 10:00 am and 11:00 am for families to learn about pirates and see incredible swordplay!

Be sure to wear a family friendly costume, and bring your trick-or-treat bags for candy! For more information, email sgibbs@harkerheights.gov or call 254-953-5493.

In conjunction with the Haunted Heights, the Farmers Market will be opened from 9:00 am – 1:00 pm at City Hall on 305 Miller's Crossing and will be having trick-or-treating in addition to a door prize giveaway! Be sure to stop by the market for candy and to stock up on your favorite items from vendors as this is the last Farmers Market of the 2022 season!

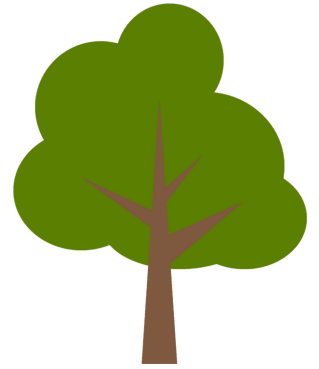
- **Interested in being a vendor at Haunted Heights?** Visit <https://bit.ly/harkerheightsevents> for an application. Applications continue to be accepted until Thursday, October 27, 2022. For more information, call 254-953-5493.
- **Check out the entries for the Haunted Heights Decorating Contest!** While registration has ended, a map will be available starting on October 25 for families who wish to drive around and view the entries. Pick up a free copy of the map at the Activities Center (400 Indian Trail), the Recreation Center (307 Miller's Crossing), or online at <https://bit.ly/harkerheightsevents>. Participants who entered in the contest should ensure that all lights and decorations are on from 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm during October 25 – October 26, with Special Guest Judging taking place on those days. For more information, call 254-953-5493.

Parks and Recreation Department

Outdoor Recreation Hikes have been seeing a lot of new participants with the cooler weather!



For more information please go to bit.ly/3CdZ8Qt
Reach out by email: kgomez@harkerheights.gov
or call 254-953-5465



Check out these upcoming programs:

- **Tuesday October 25th from 4:30pm-6:00pm.** GO Heights Kids hike & explore Bug Hunt. Reservation Required.
- **Wednesday October 26th from 6:00pm-7:30pm.** GO Heights Hike at Dana Peak Park Reservation is encouraged.
- **Wednesday November 9th from 6:00pm-7:30pm.** GO Heights Hike at Dana Peak Park Reservation is encouraged.
- **Saturday November 12th from 9:00am-10:30am.** GO Heights Introduction to Birding at Purser Park Reservation Required.

Police Department



The Community Services Division is collecting monetary donations and new bike donations for the Blue Santa program. This year's goal is to donate at least 60 bicycles to KISD students in Harker Heights.



CONGRATULATIONS

Sergeant Michael O'Hala was selected as the Police Department's Sworn Employee of the Quarter and Desiraye Torres was selected as the Police Department's Civilian Employee of the Quarter. Keep up the great work!

visit our webpage: www.harkerheights.gov