

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT



MAY 28, 2024

Upcoming City Events, Activities, and Updates

Human Resources Department

The Fire Department promoted an employee. On May 11th, Anthony Combs was promoted to the position of Battalion Chief. Congratulations Anthony!

The Pet Adoption Center promoted an employee on May 25th. Miranda Jones was promoted to the position of Kennel Technician. Congratulations Miranda!

The Parks Department welcomed two lifeguards and an aquatics cashier. A'honesty Lawrence was hired for the position of Aquatics Cashier on May 15th. Gabrielle Batts was hired for the position of Lifeguard on May 16th and Kasi Yonkey was hired for the position of Lifeguard on May 23rd.

The Library welcomed a seasonal employee on May 16th. Isabel Ramon was hired for the position of Summer Library Page.

The Police Department will be welcoming new employees. Antavious Collins will be promoting to the position of Police Officer Trainee on June 8th and Jesus Hernandez will be hired for the position of Police Officer Trainee on June 10th.

The City is currently taking applications for the following position:

- Healthy Homes Youth Specialist
- Part Time Pet Adoption Center Receptionist
- Planner
- Certified Police Officer Trainees
- Firefighter/Paramedics
- BPAT/CSI and Water Distribution System Flushing Technician
- Collections Operator
- FOG Collections/Field Supervisor
- Water Maintenance Technician
- Senior Equipment Operator



The Library's Summer Reading Club is open! Everyone of all ages can join this free "Read, Renew, Repeat" summer reading club! Read on your own and/or attend one or more of our many upcoming programs! From special presenters, to 3D printing, to Bridgerton garden party, to cosplay night, the Library will have something for everyone. We will send our Summer Reading Club program booklets to elementary aged children in Harker Heights area schools. The booklets are also available at the Library and online at <https://harkerheights.gov/libraryspecialevents>. Get an early start signing up for the virtual part of our club at our Readsquared website at <https://harkerheights.readsquared.com>. There you can sign up for the club, log your books and/or hours, earn virtual badges, complete missions, and see booklists! Take a look at the Library's Summer Reading Club video at <https://fb.watch/sflqR3tahC/>!



Wednesdays in June, July, and the first part of August is the day for our special guests, science programs and more! Join us each Wednesday morning for performances, exhibitions, crafts, and more! Times change depending on the program or performer. Join us each afternoon at 2:00 pm for some ecology science. Registration is not required for these programs, though seating is on a first come basis.

Big Truck Day! Summer Kick Off Party!

Wednesday, June 5, 2024 from 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Sensory-friendly with less loud noises 9:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

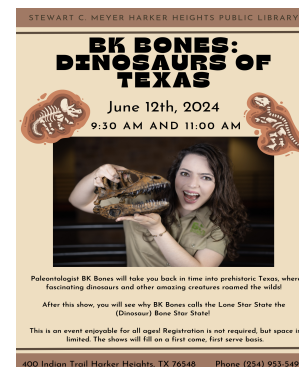


Stop by the Library for BIG TRUCKS. See fire engines, police vehicles, street machines, and more! Register for the Library's Summer Reading Club and enjoy indoor and outdoor activities! Be sure to bring water and utilize sunscreen! Don't miss our sensory-friendly half hour from 9:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. for patrons who would rather avoid some of the noise!

BK Bones: Paleontology Fun for Everyone!

Wednesday, June 12, 2024 at 9:30 a.m. or 11:00 a.m.

BK bones is bringing a bit of the prehistoric to you and the Library! A big proponent of STEAM education, this paleontology presenter makes questioning, exploration, and creativity the heart of her approach. Expect eye-catching images, fossils (and fossil replicas) and lots of high-energy interaction! Registration is not required. The program will fill on a first come, first serve basis.



Our early literacy programs for our younger patrons have changes slightly for June and July 2024!

Babytime Lapsit Program | Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m.

- Babies and their adults will sing songs, rhymes, and learn fingerplays! Classes will fill on a first come, first serve basis. For children ages 0-18 months. No older siblings, please.

Storytime for Preschoolers | Thursdays at 9:00 a.m.

- Visit the Library each week for a variety of stories, songs and more! Registration is not required. Classes will fill on a first come, first serve basis. For children ages 3-6 years old and their families.

Toddler Time Stories | Thursdays at 10:00 a.m.

- Visit the Library each week for a variety of stories, songs and more! Registration is not required. Classes will fill on a first come, first serve basis. For children ages 0-3 years old and their families.

Family Storytime | 2nd Thursday of Each Month at 6:30 p.m.

- The entire family is invited to visit the Library for stories and songs! Registration is not required. Classes will fill on a first come, first serve basis.

The Library won't leave out teens and adults during its summer programs!
Take a look at some of these upcoming programs designed for them!

Art with Miss Heather for Adults and Teens ages 14 and Up

Wednesday, June 5, 26 | July 3, 17, 24, 31 at 6:00 p.m.

Join us as we make crafts using items that can easily be upcycled. Each class will be a different project and supplies will be provided.

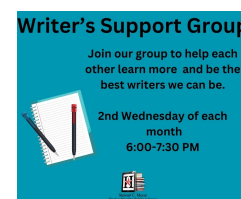
Registration required for each class. Please inquire.



Writers' Support Group for Adults

Wednesdays | June 12 | July 10 | August 14 at 6:00 p.m. Get

writing ideas and tips on your own work. Discuss plot twists, cliffhangers, and more! This program is for patrons ages 18 and up. Registration is not required.



Crochet for Adult and Teens ages 14 and up Beginners

Tuesday, June 11th at 6:00 p.m.

Learn the basic stitches of crochet and how to get started on a project. No experience is necessary, and materials will be provided.

This class is for teens and adults, ages 14 and up. Space is limited. Please register by calling 254-953-5491



3D Printing Workshop for Teens and Adults

Saturday, June 1st from 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Saturday, July 20th from 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Learn the basics of 3-D Printing, the parts of the machine, and more. Registration for June 1st opens May 8th. Registration for July 20th opens July 6th. Please call 254-953-5491. For ages 14 and up.

Bridgerton Regency Tea Party

Saturday, June 15 from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Celebrate the return of the popular "Bridgerton" television series! Dress in your best cosplay, your favorite frock or suit, or just come as you are. Enjoy sipping high tea, playing dice and card games such as "hazard" and "whist," learning a few dances, and more! This is a family-friendly event.



Through Partners Library Action Network, previously known at Central Texas Library System, Library Director Lisa Youngblood presented two virtual workshops for Librarians across the state. The first was entitled “Geek Your Library” and covered strategies for making libraries fun, exciting places that appeal to diverse communities, patrons with special needs, and people who need opportunities for safe socialization. The second workshop, “Your Volunteer Corps: A Core Piece of your Library Service Strategy,” focused on looking at your volunteer programs as services to those volunteers rather than methods for getting service from volunteers. The latter will come once you have determined what volunteers want and need from their communications with libraries.

Do you want to give back to the community? Volunteer for the Library! The Library offers an array of opportunities including virtual volunteering, volunteering on a regular schedule, volunteering for special events, and a little of all of these. Volunteering is a great way to serve your town while you build your resume, experiences, and contact lists. E-mail Lisa at lyoungblood@harkerheight.gov for more information. In most cases Library volunteer hours count towards service time needed to fulfill class, club, and other requirements.



The Library offers a variety of magazine, newspaper, and journal resources available to you 24/7. The Library has 24/7 access to e-magazines through PressReader. Get access to more than 7,000 of the world’s top newspapers and magazines as soon as they’re available on shelves. There are no limits on downloads. They are yours to keep forever. To access PressReader, download the app or go to <https://pressreader.com/catalog>. Select "Library or Group" and then search for Harker Heights Public Library. Use your library card number and pin to log in. Due to a system upgrade, your pin will be either your last name + the last four digits of your library card, OR it may be your last name only. You can then set up a personalized account with your email and create a password.



Parks & Recreation Department

RECREATION CENTER

The Recreation Center is an **Election Day** location for the Primary Runoff Election Tuesday, May 28, 2024, from 7:00 am. 7:00 pm.



The Recreation Center will be **CLOSED** on Wednesday, June 19, 2024, in observance of **Juneteenth**.



ATHLETICS

Youth Baseball and softball games are wrapping up the last week in May.



Youth Volleyball practices have started. Games will begin on July 1.



Youth Soccer registration opens June 3rd-July 17 for the Fall Season.

Ability Bowling will start Monday, June 3, at Hallmark Lanes.



Ability Pickleball registration is still open and will begin in July at the Heights Athletic Club.



AQUATICS



- Swim lessons sessions will be offered June 3- and August 8. Register in person at the Rec Center.
- The Carl Levin Pool will open for the summer swim season Wednesday, May 29 1:30 pm.



SENIOR RECREATION

- We will wrap up Older Americans Month with a Games Galore day on Thursday, May 30, 2024, from 1:00 to 3:00 pm at the Harker Heights Recreation Center, 307 Miller's Crossing. Senior citizens can come by to play a variety of games and enjoy snacks.



- ❖ Active Seniors (50+) are invited to play a variety of recreational activities and games on Thursdays from 12:00 pm to 1:45 pm and 5 pm at the Recreation Center. Each month, a new activity will keep you moving and having fun. June's activity is Ping-Pong.



- ❖ June's BINGO will be at the Recreation Center on Thursday, June 20, at 1:00 pm-2:30 pm.



- ❖ Ladies Night Out is on Thursday, June 2 at 5:00 pm. The restaurant will be determined. Each attendee is responsible for purchasing their own dinner. Registration is required and can be done over the phone by calling 254-953-5683 or in person at the Recreation Center.
- ❖ Join us for Crafty Connection on Monday, June 24 at 2:00 pm and 4:00 pm. Seniors can bring a craft project they are working on at home to socialize and show other crafters. If participants don't have a craft project, a craft will be available for them at the Recreation Center.



SPECIAL EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

The Harker Heights Farmers Market is back in season. Visit the Harker Heights City Hall parking lot on 305 Miller's Crossing on Saturdays in May, June, and July between 9:00 am and 1:00 pm. The market offers fresh produce, meat, eggs, jams, jellies, pickles, baked goods, hand-crafted items, and other delicious treats. Vendors pick and choose the weekends they wish to be at the market so that some weekends may have different vendors from previous weekends. The market will take a break from August and September but will resume the season in October and run through December to enjoy the fall and winter months. Follow the Harker Heights Farmers Market on Facebook for updates on the 2024 season on facebook.com/heightsFM.

For more information or vendor applications, email sgibbs@harkerheights.gov or visit <https://harkerheights.gov/parksandrec>.



2024 Season!

Harker Heights Farmers Market

SATURDAYS 9 AM - 1 PM

MAY - JULY | OCT - DEC
305 MILLER'S CROSSING



254-953-5493

GET OUTDOORS (GO) HEIGHTS

- A family hike will be at Mother Neff State Park on June 8.
- The family campout will be June 15-16 at McKinney Falls State Park.

FAMILY HIKE AT MOTHER NEFF STATE PARK



Families will explore Mother Neff State Park with a 2-mile hike while stopping to climb a rock tower, see a cave, and try geocaching!

Space is limited, Pre-Registration Required. Transportation provided for up to 10 participants.
Ages 8+
Cost: Free (Families must qualify for Free & Reduced Lunch).
To register scan the QR code or visit us at the HH Recreation Center



JUNE 8, 2024

CONTACT: KGOMEZ@HARKERHEIGHTS.GOV OR CALL 254-953-5465

HARKER HEIGHTS PARKS AND RECREATION STATE PARK CAMPOUT

June 15th-June 16th 2024

McKinney Falls State Park

Enjoy an overnight camping trip to McKinney Falls State Park! Learn the basics of how to camp, explore the park, and enjoy the great outdoors with Harker Heights Parks and Recreation.

Pre-Registration Required. Scan the QR code or visit us at the HH Recreation Center (307 Millers Crossing) to register.

FREE Camping Supplies & Limited Transportation Provided



This program is in partnership with Texas Parks & Wildlife as a part of the Community Outdoor Outreach Program Grant. The program is for families with youth ages 9+ and who qualify for Free & Reduced Lunch.
Contact: kgomez@harkerheights.gov or call 254-953-5465



FIRE DEPARTMENT



FIRE AND ICE

CREAM SOCIAL

Come meet the
Harker Heights
Fire Department,
June 21 at
Sprinkles on Top
Ice Cream Shop!

Friday, June 21, 2024
5:00 PM



on top
Sprinkles

302 Millers Crossing, Suite 1



POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Community Services Division hosted a fundraiser event at Raising Cane's on May 17th to help raise funds for their Summer Youth Police Academy.



The Summer Youth Police Academy will be on June 20-21, 2024.



The Community Services Division hosted a successful Coffee with a Cop event on May 16th.

Six Police Officer applicants are on-track to attend the Temple Police Academy beginning on June 17th.