

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT



JULY 23, 2024

Upcoming City Events, Activities, and Updates

Human Resources Department

Library's Jazmyne Lee was promoted to the position of Police Records Clerk on July 13th.

Police Department's Darlene Prechtel was promoted to the position of Juvenile Case Manager on July 22nd.

Congratulations to each of them!

The Fire Department welcomed a new employee on July 9th. Daniel Regan was rehired for the position of Firefighter/Paramedic.

The Police Department welcomed a new employee on July 15th. Rebekah Scottini was hired for the position of Telecommunicator.

The Human Resources Department and Police Department attended the Copperas Cove Regional Job Fair on July 17th and received 15 applications for various positions.

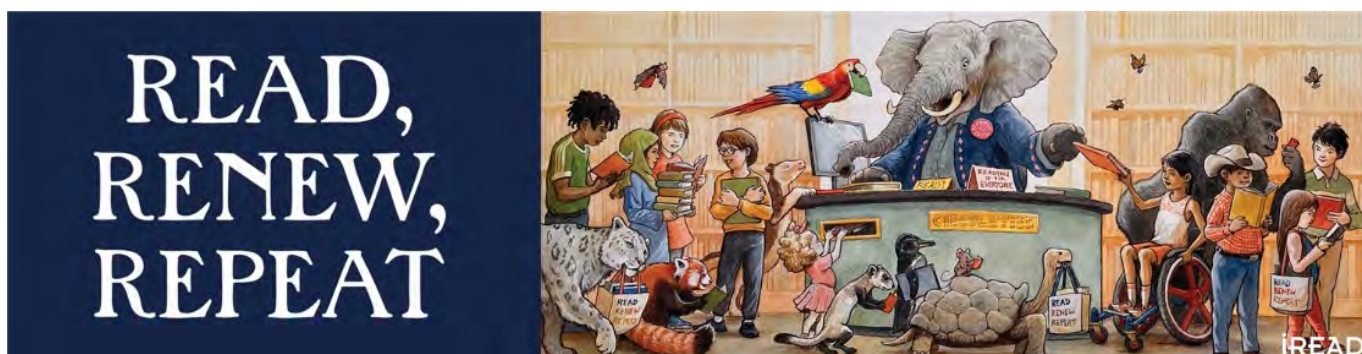
The Carter Blood Care Blood Drive hosted by the City on July 19th was great success.

The City is currently taking applications for the following positions:

Animal Services Officer
Light Equipment Operators
Maintenance Technicians
Library Clerk
Police Officer Trainee



Remember to log the books and/or hours that you read, listen, or write in the Library's free "Read, Renew, Repeat" Summer Reading Club and Program Series for all ages! The summer reading club booklets are available at the Library and online at <https://harkerheights.gov/libraryspecialevents>. Visit the reading club 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! You can count ALL THE BOOKS AND AUDIOBOOKS that you have read since the beginning of summer even if you sign up now! Our plank creations are GROWING! Add a plank for every book or hour that you read, listen, or write!



Stop by the Library now through the end of August 2024 to take a look at the Central Texas College for Kids **Recycled Art Exhibition!** See artworks created with paint, fabric, found objects, recycled materials, and more! Inspired by the need to reduce, reuse, and recycle, these artists have a lot to "say" through their works!

Our early literacy programs for our younger patrons this summer are all about taking care of our Earth, our community, our families, and ourselves! Each week we explore a new way to make the world a better place! Babies ages 0-18 months and their families come for BabyTime on Tuesdays at 10 a.m. Children ages 3-6 years and their families come for Storytime on Thursdays at 9 a.m. Toddlers ages 0-3 and their families come on Thursdays at 10 a.m. Registration is not required for these programs.

Join us each Wednesday through the summer for performers and special presentations! Times vary depending upon the program!

Lucas Miller the Singing Zoologist

Wednesday, July 24, 2024 at 9:30 a.m. or 11:00 a.m.

Sing, dance, and learn with Lucas Miller the Singing Zoologist! Registration is not required



Ramblin' Rita's Texas Tales: Seaside Stories

Wednesday, July 31, 2024 at 9:30 a.m. or 11:00 a.m. Discover stories about buried treasure and Texas Gulf Coast sea turtles! Registration is not required for this event.



Move and Groove Dance Party

Wednesday, August 7, 2024 from 9:30 a.m. -- 11:30 a.m.

Put your dancing shoes on! get ready to move with cool tunes. Library teen volunteers will teach attendees some of the hottest moves!



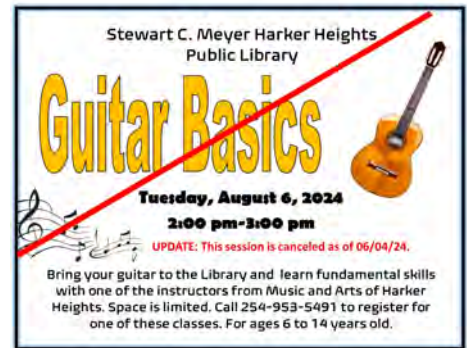
The Stewart C. Meyer Harker Heights Public Library

The Library offers a variety of STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics) programs as well.

Guitar Basics

Tuesday, August 6 from 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

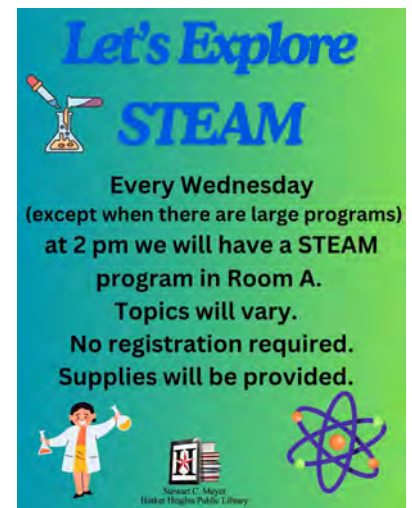
Bring your guitar to the Library and learn fundamental skills with one of the instructors from Music and Arts of Harker Heights. Space is limited. Call 254-953-5491 to register! For ages 6 to 14 years old!



Science Club for school age kids

Wednesdays at 2:00pm through the summer

Science rocks! Investigate ecology, astronomy, and more each week. Enjoy special presenters and experiments! Registration is not required for these programs, though seating is on a first come basis.



Science Expo for school age kids

Wednesday, July 31 from 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

School age kids and their families visit with a variety of science presenters and interact with fun science experiments. Registration is not required for these programs, though seating is on a first come basis.



Take a look at some of these upcoming programs designed for teens and adults!

Art with Miss Heather

Wednesday July 24 & 31 at 6:00 p.m.

Ages 14 & up

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.



Local Author Fair

Saturday, August 17, 2024 from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Come support local authors of all ages and genres! See their books, and ask about the writing process!

Local authors and illustrators, if you are interested in being involved in the program, please e-mail hheilman@harkerheights.gov for more information!

Check out books virtually 24/7 from SimplyE through the rest of the summer! Patrons can now use the SimplyE app, which combines titles from multiple ebook and audiobook providers into a single, easy-to-use list! Browsing, searching, and downloading is simple. Just download the SimplyE app from the Apple App Store or Google Play, log in with your library card number and PIN (your last name in all lowercase letters plus the last 4 digits of your library card number OR just the last 4 digits of your library card number), and start reading! This app is provided by the Texas State Library and Archives Commission.

RECREATION CENTER

The Recreation Center hosted **Variety's "iCan Shine" Bike Camp** last week (July 15 – 19, 2024). The camp utilized adaptive bicycles and a specialized instructional program. The camp helped 15 local children with special needs and their families become lifelong independent riders.



Open Gym Summer Hours from June 10 – August 16, 2024

- **Mondays**
 - ❖ 9:00 am – 11:45 am: Pickleball (all ages)
 - ❖ 2:00 pm – 4:45 pm: Basketball (all ages)
- **Tuesdays**
 - ❖ 2:00 pm – 4:45 pm: Volleyball (ages 10 & under)
- **Wednesdays**
 - ❖ 9:00 am – 12:45 pm: Basketball (all ages 15 & under)
 - ❖ 2:00 pm – 4:45 pm: Basketball (all ages)
- **Thursdays**
 - ❖ 2:00 pm – 4:45 pm: Volleyball (ages 11+)
- **Fridays**
 - ❖ 9:00 am – 11:45 am: Pickleball (all ages)
 - ❖ 2:00 pm – 4:45 pm: Wheelchair Basketball

Parks & Recreation Department

ATHLETICS



Volleyball is going great! Playoffs begin on August 2nd

Soccer registration ended July 17th. There is a waitlist for those who missed regular registration.



Basketball Registration opens September 2nd.

Ability Pickleball is ongoing at Harker Heights Athletic Club every Wednesday. There are still opportunities to register.



Ability Soccer registration is open.



AQUATICS

Open Swim Hours:

- ❖ Wednesday-Friday: 1:30pm-7:00pm
- ❖ Saturday & Sunday: 11:00am-7:00pm
- ❖ **Pool Season ends August 11th**

A poster for Open Swim Hours at Carl Levin Park Outdoor Pool. The text includes: "OPENING DAY: MAY 29, 2024", "OPEN SWIM HOURS", "Carl Levin Park Outdoor Pool: 400 Miller's Crossing", "Wednesday-Friday: 1:30 pm-7:00 pm", "Saturday & Sunday: 11:00 am-7:00 pm", "Gate Admission: Cash Only", "Pool Passes will go on sale June 3rd at the HH Rec Center.", and the Harker Heights Parks & Recreation logo.

OPENING DAY: MAY 29, 2024

OPEN SWIM HOURS

Carl Levin Park Outdoor Pool: 400 Miller's Crossing

Wednesday-Friday: 1:30 pm-7:00 pm

Saturday & Sunday: 11:00 am-7:00 pm

Gate Admission: Cash Only

Pool Passes will go on sale June 3rd at the HH Rec Center.

Harker Heights Parks & Recreation

Swim Lessons

Session 4 for Swim Lessons has begun

Session 5 for Swim Lessons begins July 29th

There is still room.

Senior Swim will be on Fridays from 12:00pm-1:00pm.

Might be cancelled due to make ups for swim lessons.

A poster for Senior Swim at Carl Levin Pool. The text includes: "SENIOR SWIM", "CARL LEVIN POOL", "55 PERSON MAX", "FREE", "SENIOR PROGRAM MEMBERSHIP REQUIRED", "EVERY FRIDAY", "12-1PM", "AGES 50+".

SENIOR SWIM

CARL LEVIN POOL

55 PERSON MAX

FREE

SENIOR PROGRAM MEMBERSHIP REQUIRED

EVERY FRIDAY

12-1PM

AGES 50+

SENIOR RECREATION



- **Active Seniors** (50+) are invited to **PLAY** a variety of recreational activities and games on **Thursdays** from **12:00 pm – 1:45 pm** at the **Recreation Center**. Each month will be a new activity to keep you moving and having fun. July's activity is **Volleyball** and **Badminton**.



- ❖ **Senior Swim** is offered free for Seniors (50+) every **Friday** from **12:00 pm – 1:00 pm** (except on days swim lesson has a makeup or pool is closed). Participants need to have a current senior program membership card to enter. Visit the **Harker Heights Recreation Center** to receive your free senior program membership card. The last day for senior swim is **August 9**.



- ❖ July's **BINGO** will be **Thursday, July 25, 2024**, from **1:00 pm – 2:30 pm** at the **Recreation Center**.



SPECIAL EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

The **Harker Heights Farmers Market** has one Saturday left in July before the mid-season break! Be sure to visit the market on July 27 at 305 Miller's Crossing between 9:00 am – 1:00 pm to stock up on goodies! The market offers a variety of treats such as fresh produce, meat, eggs, jams, jellies, pickles, baked goods, hand crafted items, and more. Keep in mind that July 27 is the last market before the two-month break.

The Farmers Market will continue its 2024 season starting on October 5 and run every Saturday through December from 9:00 am – 1:00 pm. Vendor application are still being accepted. For more information, visit <https://www.harkerheights.gov/index.php/programs/farmers-market-2> or follow the Harker Heights Farmers Market on Facebook on <https://facebook.com/heightsFM>.



The final **Popsicles in the Park** will be held July 30 from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm at Harker Heights Community Park! Visit 1501 East FM 2410 and pick up a FREE cool popsicle to beat the summer heat. Enjoy popsicles while playing yard games and other activities from the Pop-Up Recreation Activity Center. For more information, email sgibbs@harkerheights.gov or visit <https://harkerheights.gov/parksandrec>.



The Harker Heights Activities Center is hosting a free Open House event! Discover what the Activities Center has to offer. Explore a variety of exciting activities and programs, including the Maker Space, the Game Room, Parks and Recreation programs, crafts, outdoor education, and more! Bring your family and friends for an evening of fun, learning, and exploration. For more



PROGRAMS

Activities Center Maker Space

Explore your creative side at the Maker Space located in the Harker Heights Activities Center, where innovation meets community. Whether you're into arts, crafts, technology, or DIY projects, we have the resources and programs to help you bring your ideas to life. Open Tuesday-Thursday 10am – 3pm and Saturdays 10am – 1pm.

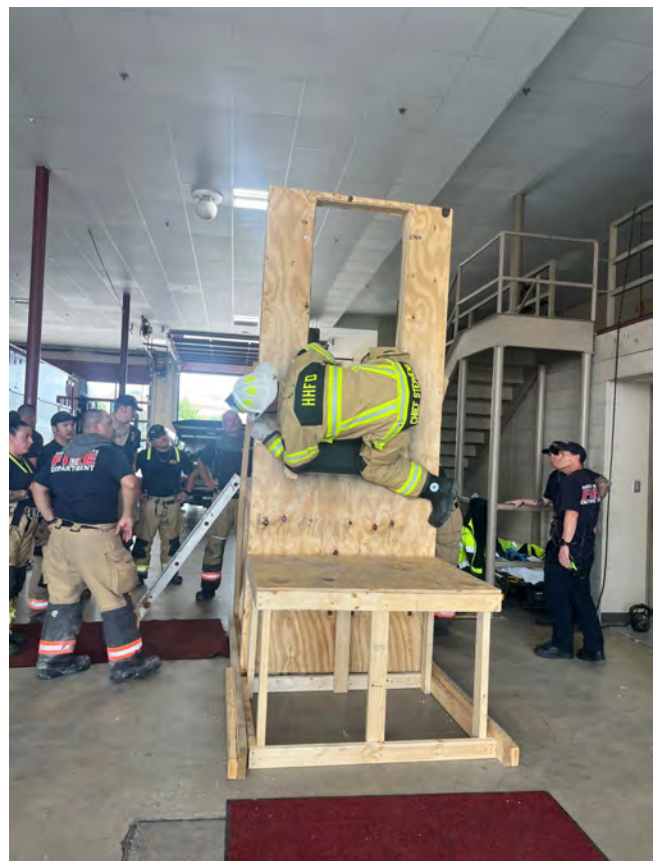
GET OUTDOORS - GO HEIGHTS!

On Wednesday, July 17 participants learned about Tilling & Soil Improvement from the Bell County Master Gardeners. These free classes are offered throughout the year and are for ages 8+

The July Girls Outdoors Program was on Saturday, July 20- Winged Discoveries. Girls ages 6-12 learned about birds found in Central Texas, how to use binoculars, and make a bird feeder to take home.



FIRE DEPARTMENT



POLICE DEPARTMENT

Officer Cory Bates was selected as the PD's Sworn Employee of the Quarter for the 1st Quarter of 2024.



Records Clerk Darlene Prechtel was selected as the PD's Civilian Employee of the Quarter for the 1st Quarter of 2024.



Sergeant Heather Jenks was selected as the PD's Sworn Employee of the Quarter for the 2nd Quarter of 2024.



Telecommunicator James Hoffman was selected as the PD's Civilian Employee of the Quarter for the 2nd Quarter of 2024.



The Healthy Homes Division is currently accepting registration applications for their Back-to-School supply program.

**Healthy Homes
Back to School
Donation Drive**

**The Following
Items Are
Appreciated:**

- Backpacks
- Highlighters
- Pencils
- Pens
- Scissors
- Loose Leaf Paper
- Glue Sticks
- Composition Notebooks
- Folders with brads
- Crayons
- Colored Pencils
- Pencil Pouches
- Erasers

**Accepting
Donations
Now Thru
July 26th**

Donations can be dropped off at the
Harker Heights Police Department
402 Indian Trail Drive
Harker Heights, TX 76548

Questions?
Please contact the Healthy
Homes Office at
254-953-5439/29