

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT



JULY 11, 2023

Upcoming City Events, Activities, and Updates

Human Resources Department

The Library welcomed a new employee on July 8th. Patrick Morris promoted from Part Time Recreation Aide to Part Time Library Clerk.

The Parks Department welcomed a new employee on July 3rd. Ileona Alexander was hired for the position of Lifeguard.

The Municipal Court promoted Angela Lloyd to full time Juvenile Case Manager on July 8th.

The Fire Department welcomed a new employee on July 10th. Joshuah Larremore was hired for the position of Firefighter/EMT.

The City is currently taking applications for the following positions:

- Part Time Receptionist
- Part Time Recreation Aide
- Light Equipment Operator
- Maintenance Technician
- Maintenance Technician II
- Mechanic
- Senior Equipment Operator
- BPAT/CSI and Water Distribution Flushing Technician
- Collections Operator
- Inventory/Line Locator
- Firefighter/Paramedic



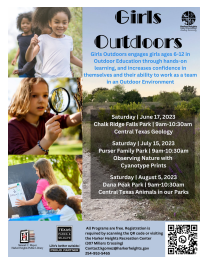
The Stewart C. Meyer Harker Heights Public Library started the year off right with new programs and initiatives, and we are happy to keep going!

It's Creature Teacher on Wednesday, July 12, 2023, at 9:30 am, 11:00 am, and 2:00 pm! Sign up for the reading club and take a look at LIVE animals! Learn a little about the natural world around us! Bring the whole family for this STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics) themed event!

The Library will offer a Summer Music Time series for children on Mondays in July! Enjoy songs, rhymes, dance, and more! Work on concepts such as loud and soft, fast and slow, and high and low! Babies ages 0-18 months and their families come at 9:00 am. Children ages 19 months through 6 years and their families come at 10:00 am. Registration is not necessary, but space is limited. Seating will be on a first comes/first served basis.

Let's Cosplay at the Library's family Cosplay Night on Friday, July 14, 2023, from 6:30 – 8:30 pm. Enjoy showing off your costume, geeky t-shirt, or other fan favorites! Come ready to move to energizing music, play games, and make crafts.

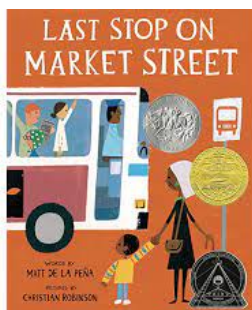
The Library is partnering with the Activities Center to offer a Girls Outdoors program series. Join us July 15 and/or August 5 at 9:00 am for a fun time focusing on topics such as cyanotype prints and water quality! Girls ages 6-12 years and their families enjoy outdoor education and hands-on learning! Each program will take place at a different park and contain a separate educational component in addition to a hike! Please call the Activities Center at 254-953-5467 for details and registration.



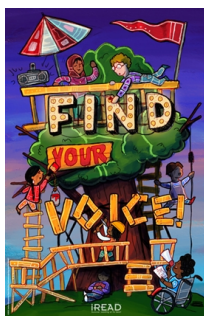
The Library just coordinated with Ms. Kay from Kay4Kinder to have a Teddy Bears' Picnic on Monday, July 10, 2023 – National Teddy Bear Picnic Day! Kids brought their special stuffed animal or toy friend for music, stories, crafts, and more!



Celebrate authors and illustrators with our storytime series! Visit the Library Thursdays at 9:00 am for Storytime for children ages 3-6 and their families or at 10:00 am for Toddler Time for ages 0-3 and their families. Each week we will enjoy books, crafts, activities and more while focusing on a particular author! Thursday, July 13, 2023, will celebrate Matt de la Peña, author of “Last Stop on Market Street” and other picture books. This energetic ride through a bustling city highlights the wonderful perspective only grandparent and grandchild can share and comes to life through Matt de la Peña’s vibrant text and Christian Robinson’s radiant illustrations.



Are you looking for an extra challenge? Did you know that you can work on personal reading missions on our Find Your Voice Summer Reading Club Page? Just visit harkerheights.readsquared.com/missionspublic.aspx for ideas for what to read next! Sign up for the 2023 Find Your Voice Summer Reading Club for kids, teens, and adults! Our theme encourages patrons to find positive ways to express themselves.



Sign up NOW for the reading club either at the Library or online at harkerheights.readsquared.com. Our Library will offer an array of book discussions, performers, science times, caregiver workshops, and more! Check out our full summer program booklet at <https://harkerheights.gov/libraryspecialevents>.

Parks & Recreation Department

ACTIVITIES CENTER

- **Operation E.A.T. (Everybody Ate Today) is a community youth feeding initiative that will be providing free meals for all kids 18 years old or younger at the Harker Heights Public Library and Activities Center on 400 Indian Trail. To register, visit <https://monarch-education.org/operationeat> to get your free meal. Meal availability times are Monday through Friday 3:30 pm – 5:30 pm.**

| OPERATION E.A.T. | |
|---|---|
| Week 1 | Week 3 |
| Chicken & Cheese Sub Jul 5 | Whole Wheat Spaghetti & Meatballs w/Buttered Corn Jul 17 |
| w/Veggie Chips & Fruit Juice Jul 5 | Beef & Broccoli Balls w/ Mandarin Oranges Jul 18 |
| Pepperoni & Cheese Pizza Jul 6 | Twisted Mac w/Scotch Cheese Sauce, Peppers & Green Beans Jul 19 |
| Chocolate Chip Waffles w/ Fudgy Bananas Jul 6 | Chicken & Waffles w/ Berry Honey & Berry Compote Jul 20 |
| Pepperoni & Cheese Pizza Jul 7 | Pepperoni & Cheese Pizza w/Meat Salad & Fruit Juice Jul 21 |
| Week 2 | Week 4 |
| Beef & Chicken Tostitos w/Spinach & Orange Jul 10 | Lemony Antipasto Pasta w/Lean Meats & Beans Jul 24 |
| Chicken Caesar Wraps w/Fragrant Chips & Orange Jul 11 | Sweet & Sour Chicken w/ Stir Fry Veggies & Apple Sauce Jul 25 |
| Orange Chicken Bowls w/Broccoli & Potatoes Jul 12 | Hot & Cheese Wraps w/Veggie Chips & Fruit Juice Jul 26 |
| Beef & Broccoli w/Instant Noodles, Lemony Honey & Corn Jul 13 | Apple Cinnamon French Toast w/ Fudgy Bananas & Corn Jul 27 |
| Pepperoni & Cheese Pizza w/Meat Salad & Applesauce Jul 14 | No service due to event Jul 28 |

ATHLETICS

- The Parks and Recreation Department will host Peaceable Kingdom and the iCanShine Bike Camp for children with special needs all week next week at the Recreation Center!
- Flag Football kicked off on Saturday, July 8.
- Volleyball will start on Saturday, July 15.



- Registration for Fall Youth Soccer is open until August 2!
- Ability Sports Pickleball for children with special needs begins next week at Heights Athletic Club!



AQUATICS

- The Carl Levin Park Pool opens Wednesday-Sunday starting June 12 for Open Swim!
 - Wednesdays-Fridays from 1:30 pm to 7:00 pm
 - Saturdays and Sundays from 11:00 am to 7:00 pm
 - Swim Lessons few spots are still open, register at the Harker Heights Recreation Center. **PARTICIPANTS MUST REGISTER IN PERSON.**
- Ability Pool Party will be Tuesday, August 8, 5:30p-7:30p.



SENIOR RECREATION

- Senior recreation members can swim for free every Friday (now – August 11) during Senior Swim from 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm at Carl Levin Park outdoor pool. Senior swim will not meet on days when swim lessons has a makeup or when the pool is closed due to maintenance or weather. Members will need to have current membership check in cards with current expiration dates.
- July's BINGO will be Thursday, July 20 from 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm at the Recreation Center.
- Ladies Night Out is on Thursday, July 20 at 5:00 pm. The ladies will be visiting Panera Bread this month. Each attendee is responsible for purchasing their own supper. Registration is required and can be done over the phone by calling 254-953-5683 or in person at the Recreation Center.
- Learn some helpful info from Dr. Joseph Cohn, M.D. at the next Lunch & Learn on Friday, July 21, 2023 from 11:30 am – 1 pm. The topic will be on arthritis. Dr. Cohn is FAAOS board-certified orthopedic surgeon at Wellstone Health Partners in Harker Heights. He specializes in general orthopedics with a focus in the management of shoulder, hip, knee, and ankle disorders. There is limited space and registration is required. Register in person at the Harker Heights Recreation Center.
- The Recreation Center will be a location for the upcoming Variety's iCanShine Bike Camp from July 17 – 21, 2023. The camp is utilizing adaptive bicycles and a specialized instructional program. Variety of Texas and iCanShine help local children with special needs become lifelong independent riders.



Parks & Recreation Department

RECREATION CENTER

- Registration for Folklorico Dance for the Fall Session is open. The class will be on Mondays August 7 – October 23, 2023 with a recital on Wednesday, October 25, 2023. Class times are 6 pm – 7:15 pm for ages 6 -11 and 7:25 pm – 8:35 pm for ages 12 – Adults. The session cost \$45.00 per student. You are able to register online or in person at the Recreation Center.



- Open Gym Summer Hours will start June 20, 2023 and will be:



- Mondays & Tuesdays 2:00 pm – 4:45 pm: Basketball
- Wednesdays 2:00 pm – 4:45 pm: 12U Open Gym
- Thursdays 2:00 pm – 4:45 pm: Volleyball
- Fridays 2:00 pm – 4:45 pm: Wheelchair Basketball



SPECIAL EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

- The Harker Heights Farmers Market season continues through October from 9:00 am – 1:00 pm. We are always looking for new vendors. For more information, contact Sara Gibbs at 254-953-5493.



- “Popsicles in the Park” is a pop-up program with our On the GO program trailer and popsicles. Join us on July 11th at Carl Levin Park, July 18th at Purser Park, and July 25th at Community at Community Park from 10am – 12pm.



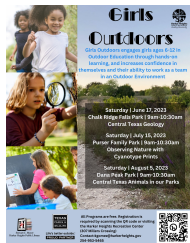
- July 29th from 10am – 1pm is Splash Bash at Purser Park. Join the Harker Heights Parks and Recreation staff along side of the Public Library staff for a fun day of water, water balloon fight and more. Feel free to bring your own water gun if you have one.



Parks & Recreation Department

GET OUTDOORS (GO) HEIGHTS

- **This Saturday is our July Girls Outdoors Program at Purser Family Park from 9am-10:30am. This free program is in partnership with the Harker Heights Public Library and Texas Parks and Wildlife as a part of the TPWD CO-OP grant we received. The Girls Outdoors program engages girls ages 6-12 in Outdoor Education and hands-on learning. Pre-Registration Required. Girls Outdoors is a program paid for through a grant received through Texas Parks and Wildlife that targets underserved youth in our community. These programs will engage girls ages 6-12 in Outdoor Education and hands-on learning. Each program will take place in a different park near Harker Heights and will have a separate educational component in addition to a hike. Pre-Registration Required. bit.ly/3AdsbdI Parents/Guardians are not required to attend but are welcome to join in on the fun!**



- **Join us for a hike up Dana Peak this Friday morning from 7:30am-8:30am! This hike is about a 1/2 mile in length, and is very steep. Participants should expect loose gravel, uneven surfaces, and brief climbing to reach the top of the peak. Pre-Registration Required. Ages 12+ <https://secure.rec1.com/TX/harker-heights-tx/catalog?filter=c2VhcmNoPTI1OTA0MTQ=> Please wear comfortable clothing, tennis shoes (ideally with traction) and bring plenty of water. Location: Dana Peak Park 3800 Comanche Gap Rd, Harker Heights, TX 76548. We will meet at the 90 degree turn before the gatehouse. Time: 7:30am-8:30am Questions? Contact: kgomez@harkerheights.gov**



- **Community Gardens: Plots are available at Carl Levin Park Community Garden & Kern Park Community Garden. Rentals are for six months or one year. To pay and register for your plot, please go to the Harker Heights Rec Center, 307 Miller's Crossing.**



POLICE DEPARTMENT

Three police cadets graduated from the Temple Police Academy on June 29th, were sworn-in on July 3rd, and are currently in field training.

Two police cadets started the Temple Police Academy on July 10th.

We are beginning a new round of applicant testing to fill 3 Police Officer Trainee positions.

Healthy Homes will be hosting a Cuts with Cops event on August 6th for KISD students headed back to school.

Healthy Homes is currently collecting donations of Back-to-School supplies for KISD students who are in need of supplies for the upcoming school year.

Community Services will be hosting a Coffee with a Cop event at Euns Cafe on July 20th at 9am.



Finance Department



ONLINE UTILITY BILL PAYMENTS

| | <u>2023</u> | <u>2022</u> | <u>2021</u> | <u>2020</u> | <u>2019</u> |
|-----------|--------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|
| January | \$425,468.44 | \$431,215.89 | \$347,598.93 | \$294,404.59 | \$246,908.71 |
| February | \$473,232.50 | \$447,458.01 | \$259,558.94 | \$259,685.74 | \$239,620.03 |
| March | \$457,827.45 | \$427,327.54 | \$337,154.90 | \$260,569.11 | \$267,408.59 |
| April | \$404,428.51 | \$450,611.99 | \$341,911.77 | \$297,973.05 | \$214,513.90 |
| May | \$577,032.32 | \$457,447.36 | \$455,951.18* | \$337,662.28 | \$311,719.63 |
| June | \$508,923.56 | \$559,624.69 | \$457,853.17 | \$291,251.93 | \$271,114.94 |
| July | | \$593,523.31 | \$474,837.86 | \$433,747.64 | \$285,381.75 |
| August | | \$626,576.19 | \$473,342.17 | \$380,976.99 | \$356,562.37 |
| September | | \$733,557.95 | \$575,867.17 | \$466,173.61 | \$320,090.38 |
| October | | \$550,329.57 | \$615,499.23 | \$433,650.72 | \$399,497.35 |
| November | | \$597,938.12 | \$488,924.69 | \$305,732.61 | \$358,146.37 |
| December | | \$529,760.67 | \$540,030.51 | \$380,537.34 | \$275,957.76 |

*As of April 26, 2021, automatic credit card drafts are now part of the online utility bill payment totals.

AUTOMATED PHONE PAYMENTS



| | <u>2023</u> | <u>2022</u> | <u>2021</u> | <u>2020</u> | <u>2019</u> |
|-----------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| January | \$104,768.73 | \$110,804.07 | \$122,588.54 | \$114,100.16 | \$85,442.31 |
| February | \$120,067.52 | \$107,542.69 | \$90,974.33 | \$86,917.11 | \$73,765.91 |
| March | \$114,106.26 | \$112,330.20 | \$143,922.62 | \$93,411.41 | \$71,751.84 |
| April | \$98,130.13 | \$110,142.69 | \$126,015.15 | \$95,350.65 | \$65,920.26 |
| May | \$128,587.47 | \$111,214.36 | \$114,615.29 | \$88,860.54 | \$88,378.47 |
| June | \$117,678.21 | \$126,583.78 | \$117,093.13 | \$88,539.21 | \$74,513.43 |
| July | | \$127,979.57 | \$114,493.61 | \$121,025.84 | \$93,483.23 |
| August | | \$136,631.66 | \$121,311.92 | \$113,130.64 | \$107,866.92 |
| September | | \$153,943.37 | \$128,969.57 | \$137,771.86 | \$106,122.80 |
| October | | \$120,331.11 | \$133,559.38 | \$123,306.75 | \$120,968.81 |
| November | | \$131,364.63 | \$109,105.34 | \$94,961.20 | \$97,515.15 |
| December | | \$114,240.31 | \$115,096.07 | \$116,508.98 | \$99,255.97 |



KIOSK PAYMENTS

| | <u>2023</u> | <u>2022</u> | <u>2021</u> | <u>2020</u> | <u>2019</u> |
|-----------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| January | \$14,230.92 | \$9,974.61 | \$13,714.61 | \$18,735.25 | \$16,084.10 |
| February | \$17,296.49 | \$12,965.79 | \$11,058.25 | \$15,342.02 | \$16,019.68 |
| March | \$13,010.92 | \$13,519.99 | \$16,168.18 | \$14,213.01 | \$12,078.00 |
| April | \$12,552.09 | \$13,777.77 | \$14,514.82 | \$14,165.99 | \$11,636.59 |
| May | \$16,807.66 | \$14,264.27 | \$12,642.08 | \$16,670.43 | \$15,446.69 |
| June | \$16,308.52 | \$17,616.84 | \$13,961.69 | \$13,795.19 | \$14,092.62 |
| July | | \$19,794.27 | \$13,973.86 | \$21,778.38 | \$18,147.78 |
| August | | \$17,131.77 | \$13,053.66 | \$17,566.80 | \$20,613.07 |
| September | | \$21,855.49 | \$15,046.80 | \$24,119.28 | \$18,407.61 |
| October | | \$17,549.59 | \$19,801.71 | \$18,037.50 | \$19,399.15 |
| November | | \$17,225.45 | \$14,707.98 | \$15,206.33 | \$20,304.92 |
| December | | \$19,102.03 | \$14,030.94 | \$14,953.30 | \$15,822.59 |

NUMBER OF E-BILLS SENT OUT



| | <u>2023</u> | <u>2022</u> | <u>2021</u> | <u>2020</u> | <u>2019</u> |
|-----------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| January | 3,798 | 3,565 | 3,245 | 2,719 | 2,406 |
| February | 3,811 | 3,566 | 3,290 | 2,759 | 2,471 |
| March | 3,852 | 3,555 | 3,293 | 2,880 | 2,519 |
| April | 3,922 | 3,603 | 3,321 | 2,819 | 2,552 |
| May | 3,927 | 3,654 | 3,364 | 2,847 | 2,533 |
| June | 3,960 | 3,698 | 3,396 | 2,931 | 2,588 |
| July | | 3,695 | 3,461 | 2,976 | 2,582 |
| August | | 3,747 | 3,505 | 3,069 | 2,622 |
| September | | 3,746 | 3,523 | 3,072 | 2,669 |
| October | | 3,789 | 3,536 | 3,127 | 2,664 |
| November | | 3,757 | 3,548 | 3,186 | 2,695 |
| December | | 3,749 | 3,533 | 3,201 | 2,715 |

ASSESSMENT BALANCES AS OF JUNE 30, 2023

PAVING ASSESSMENT:

Balance

Polk, Billy (deceased)/Phillip Sueoka 242 E Cardinal \$20,208.69

No payments were made for the Paving Assessments.

WILDEWOOD ASSESSMENT:

Balance

Rickets, Tommie 936/940 Lemonwood \$12,116.63

No payments were made for the Wildewood Assessment.

DEMAND DEPOSITS RETURNED JUNE 2023

Total Number of Accounts

778

Total Amount

\$ 42,790.00



City of Harker Heights
Planning & Development
305 Miller's Crossing
Harker Heights, TX 76548
planning@harkerheights.gov

Economic Development Report

JUNE 2023 DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITY REPORT

COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT

The City issued three (3) commercial construction permits within the month of June.

- 300 W. Central Texas Expressway, Suite 115 (Freedom Urgent Care)
 - Valued at \$4,000.00
- 200 Miller's Crossing, Suite 102 (Fyzical Therapy and balance)
 - Valued at \$156,000.00
- 608 S. Ann Blvd. (Bountiful Blessing Full Gospel Ministry)
 - Valued at \$97,000.00

To date (June 30, 2023) the City has issued a total of eleven (11) commercial permits totaling \$5,924,100.00 in project valuation for calendar year 2023.

RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT

The City issued a total of **seven (7)** permits for single-family residential construction within the month of June.

- 7 Single Family permits in Cedarbrook Ridge

The City issued a total of **thirteen (13)** permits for two-family (duplex) residential construction within the month of June.

- 12 Two-Family permits in The Village at Nolan Heights
- 1 Two-Family permit in Comanche Land

To date (June 30, 2023) the City has issued a total of seventy-six (76) residential permits, fifty-one (51) single-family permits, twenty-five (25) two-family permits, and zero (0) multi-family permits in calendar year 2023.

As of June 30, 2023, the estimated population for the City of Harker Heights is **35,322** residents. According to the US Census, the population as of April 1, 2020 was 33,097 residents. Since that time, we have added 749 new water accounts with an average household size of 2.97.

CODE ENFORCEMENT SUMMARY

June 1 thru June 30, 2023

| Violation Type | Quantity | Percentage |
|----------------------------|----------|------------|
| Grass | 64 | 57.66% |
| Outside Storage | 14 | 12.61% |
| Grass Parking | 9 | 8.11% |
| Brush | 7 | 6.31% |
| Bulk Items | 6 | 5.41% |
| Trailer | 3 | 2.70% |
| Basketball Goal | 2 | 1.80% |
| Boat | 1 | 0.90% |
| Building Inspection | 1 | 0.90% |
| Maintenance | 1 | 0.90% |
| Other* | 1 | 0.90% |
| Trash | 1 | 0.90% |
| Tree limbs | 1 | 0.90% |
| Fencing | 0 | 0.00% |
| Heavy Vehicle Parking | 0 | 0.00% |
| Junk Vehicle | 0 | 0.00% |
| Rubbish & Trash Containers | 0 | 0.00% |
| Skirting | 0 | 0.00% |
| Tires | 0 | 0.00% |
| Total | 111 | 100.00% |

*For Fiscal Year 22-23 the category "Other" includes the following:
Stormwater Contamination; Illegal Dumping; Storage Containers; Lack of Permit for Work; Façade Maintenance; & Unpermitted Use of Property.

CODE ENFORCEMENT SUMMARY

October 1, 2022 thru September 30, 2023

| Violation Type | Quantity | Percentage |
|----------------------------|----------|------------|
| Grass Parking | 531 | 30.96% |
| Outside Storage | 343 | 20.00% |
| Grass | 297 | 17.32% |
| Bulk Items | 172 | 10.03% |
| Brush | 102 | 5.95% |
| Tires | 69 | 4.02% |
| Trailer | 61 | 3.56% |
| Junk Vehicle | 19 | 1.11% |
| Basketball Goal | 18 | 1.05% |
| Fencing | 17 | 0.99% |
| Maintenance | 17 | 0.99% |
| Skirting | 15 | 0.87% |
| Heavy Vehicle Parking | 14 | 0.82% |
| Other* | 14 | 0.82% |
| Trash | 14 | 0.82% |
| Boat | 5 | 0.29% |
| Tree limbs | 4 | 0.23% |
| Building Inspection | 3 | 0.17% |
| Rubbish & Trash Containers | 0 | 0.00% |
| Total | 1,715 | 100.00% |

*For Fiscal Year 22-23 the category "Other" includes the following:
Stormwater Contamination; Illegal Dumping; Storage Containers; Lack of Permit for Work; Façade Maintenance; & Unpermitted Use of Property.