

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

JUNE 28, 2022

HUMAN RESOURCES:

The **Parks Department** welcomed three (3) new seasonal employees. **Zoe Johnson** was hired for the position of Lifeguard on June 7th. On June 22nd, **Bailey Greene** was hired for the position of Aquatics Supervisor and **Dylan Plake** was hired for the position of Lifeguard.

Fire Battalion Chief David Ayer announces retirement effective July 29th. Congratulations David Ayer!

The City is currently accepting applications for the position of **Deputy Court Clerk**.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

A citizen called to thank **Tanner Read** and **Joe Byrne** for a job well done. He said he called emergency services for his son who was not feeling well. He states that after his son denied transport to a hospital, he was encouraged by paramedics to agree to transport and it saved his life. He is very thankful to our crew for doing such an awesome job.

A-Shift was thanked with a card from a patient that wanted to express her gratitude to the service they provided.

PARKS AND RECREATION

*Visit the **Harker Heights Farmers Market** this Saturday from 9a-1p at the City Hall Parking Lot!*

ACTIVITIES CENTER

The Stewart C. Myer Public Library and Activities back garden is in the process of beautification and converting to a native plant garden. This is a joint effort between Kailie Gomez, the Outdoor Programs Coordinator, and the Tonkawa Chapter of the Native Plant Society. Volunteers have been hard at work getting the grounds ready for planting more native species. Stop by to see the ongoing progress.

The NEW **Game Room** at the Activities Center is open Mondays and Fridays from 9 – 6pm. This room includes fun board games, ping pong, and video games. Take a break from the summer heat with your family before heading over to the Public Library to check out a new book.

'GO Heights' Program

- Join us for **Nature Discoveries** for children ages 3-6 at Carl Levin Park on Monday, June 27th from 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
- The Outdoor Adventure Group will be doing a hike on Wednesday, July 6th starting at 6:00 p.m. at Dana Peak. Contact kgomez@harkerheights.gov for more details.

ATHLETICS

The **Youth Volleyball** is ongoing at the Harker Heights Recreation Center. Thank you to our many coaches who are volunteering.

Registration for **Youth Soccer** is open until July 21st.

Registration is ongoing for **Ability Bowling**, a program designed for those aged 5-22 with special needs or disabilities.

Registration is open for our **Adult Softball and Kickball League** until July 1st. Register your team today!

AQUATICS

You can purchase your 2022 Carl Levin Park Outdoor **Pool Pass** now at the Harker Heights Recreation Center.

We are still hiring **Lifeguards** for the summer season. Apply by visiting the Harker Heights Recreation Center.

SENIOR RECREATION

Wednesday Wellness Walks on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month from 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. at Carl Levin Park, 400 Miller's Crossing. Participants will meet by the pool.

Senior Swim on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. free for Seniors 50+. Must have with a Harker Heights Senior Recreation Check In card.

New class addition **Spades** on Tuesdays (starting July 12th) from 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. at the Recreation Center.

Senior **BINGO** on Thursday, July 21st at 1:00 p.m. at the Recreation Center.

Come out to **Ladies Night Out** on Thursday, July 21st at 5:00 p.m. The ladies are meeting at **Papa's Cafe** in Harker Heights. Each attendee is responsible for purchasing their own supper. Registration is required. Call 254-953-5683 or sign up in person at the Rec Center to register.

Join us for an afternoon of board and card games at **Game Time** on Tuesday, July 26th from 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

RECREATION CENTER

Open Gym Pickleball, Basketball, and Volleyball hours for the summer can be found on the Parks and Rec website!

Tae Kwon Do & Hapkido classes are temporary being held at the Activities Center for July and part of August during our Volleyball season. Register online or in person at the Recreation Center for July and August classes prior to arriving at the Activities Center.

New class addition: **Adaptive Chair Yoga** on Mondays from 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Adaptive Chair Yoga centers around using a chair, wheelchair, or other mobility device and is one of the gentlest forms of yoga. The class is offered to ages 18 years old and up with a fee of \$12 per class (\$10 per class - 55+ Senior). The class will not meet on July 4th, July 11th and Sept. 5th.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Parks and Recreation Month is right around the corner in July. Be sure to mark our big events so you don't miss any of the excitement.

Parks and Rec Fest is on July 7th from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Come on out and celebrate our Parks with a fun day out at the park.

Splash Bash will be held on July 30th in Kern Park (400 S. Ann Blvd) from 4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Join in on water slides, fun activities, and the largest water balloon fight of the season!

LIBRARY

Families take a break with a week of "**Gone Fishin'**" programs at the Library! **Celebrate Family Camp Read Summer Reading** with pretend trips to beautiful lakes, streams, and oceans at these in-person programs! Registration is not required, but space is limited.

Wednesday, June 29th from 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. -- "**Gone Fishin'**" fun and games for everyone! Try your hand at a variety of fishing games, duck ponds, crafts, and more at this come and go program. Childcare centers are welcome!

Wednesday, June 29th from 2:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. -- **Dive Into the Library and Activities Center's Maker Space**, a free room designed to spark your imagination and to encourage you to make your own creations.

Thursday, June 30th at 9:00 a.m. -- **Fish Fun Storytime** for ages 3-6 years and their families! Dive under the sea for a lively morning of songs, stories, and rhymes.

Thursday, June 30th at 10:00 a.m. -- **Fish Fun Toddler Time** for ages 0-3 years and their families. Dive under the sea for a lively morning of songs, stories, and rhymes!

Thursday, June 30th from 2:00 – 7:00 p.m. -- **Dive Into the Library and Activities Center's Maker Space**, a free room designed to spark your imagination and to encourage you to make your own creations.

If you can't make our in-person programs, you are welcome to join our "**Gone Fishin'**" program series by enjoying our **weekly virtual program series on our Facebook page** at <https://www.facebook.com/harkerheightspubliclibrary> for "**Gone Fishin' Storytime**" on Wednesday, June 29th at 10:15 a.m., "**You Get a Line, and I'll Get a Pole Family Night**" on Thursday, June 30th at 6:00 p.m., and a **guest reader** on Friday, July 1st at 10:15 a.m.

The **Stewart C. Meyer Harker Heights Public Library** is thrilled to announce that it has received a **Community Advancement Packages (CAPS) program grant** from the Texas State Library and Archives Commission for the Library's "Heights Heals" program initiative. **The Library was awarded grants in two categories: Trauma-Informed Libraries and Analog Outreach.** The Library will purchase with the funds items to help make some spaces in the Library more comfortable for those patrons suffering from trauma and anxiety. Included will be seating with partial sound dampening, lower lights, relaxation activities, meditation kits for circulation, information about trauma, and more. The Library will also purchase equipment that will allow for easier and more attractive transportation and presentation of in-person programs in appropriate spaces outside of the Library building. This project is made possible by a grant from the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services (Grant #LS-250239-OLS-21* to the Texas State Library and Archives Commission under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act. (2021.)

How are you doing on your **2022 Goodwill Librarian Reading Challenge**? Can you read 50 books in 50 categories throughout the year? Check out the Library's challenge on our Facebook page! You have probably already read more than you think! Remember that anything that you read June through August 2022 will also count for your Summer Reading Club if you are a member!

Get ready for a **storyteller Bernadette Nason** on Wednesday, July 6th at 9:30 a.m. or 11:00 a.m. Get ready for a joyful morning of stories, songs, and cultural education! Space is limited. Seating is on a first come/first serve basis.

The Library will offer a **“Family Hike at Miller Springs”** on Saturday, July 9th at 8:00 a.m. Start the day off right with a morning hike and exploration! E-mail lyoungblood@harkerheights.gov for more information.

The **Library Celebrates Parks and Recreation Month** with booklists, stories, outdoor programs, and more both in-person and on our Facebook page! Join us at the **Parks and Recreation Festival** on Thursday, July 7th at Carl Levin Park for music madness outdoors!

In-person preschool programs are still going strong, and will focus on outdoor fun and physical activity during the month of June! Babies ages 18 months and younger and their special adults enjoy **Babytime** each Tuesday at 10:00 a.m.! This **lapsit program** includes rhymes, songs, and more! Our **preschool story-times** for children ages 3-6 and their families has moved for June, July, and August to Thursdays at 9:00 a.m. Toddlers ages 3 and younger and their families still gather on Thursdays at 10:00 a.m.! These programs are on a first come/first serve basis. The Library works with the **Activities Center** to provide the **“Family Hike at Millers Springs”** on Saturday, July 9th at 8:00 a.m. and the **Kern Park Splash Bash** on Saturday, July 30th with a time to be announced.

Are you looking for a weekend program for your preschoolers? Join **Ms. Erica with Saturday Story-times** on July 9th and July 23rd at 10:00 a.m. Registration is not required, but space is limited. Get ready for stories, songs, and activities!

Join our **Book Discussion Group** for adults each third Thursday of the month at 6:30 p.m. in-person at the Library AND virtually. Thursday, July 21st at 6:30 p.m., we will discuss **“Black Cake”** by **Charmaine Wilkerson**. After the death of their mother, two siblings are surprised by the taped confession of their mother whose background they never really knew.