

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

MARCH 23, 2021

ACTIVITY CENTER

The Activities Center had a great turn out on the March 6, 2021 for the **GO Heights Adventure Club** Hike. We always welcome new hikers, including Harker Heights Staff. So, grab comfortable shoes and join us on one of our fun upcoming hikes.

Bring your furry friends to **Paws in the Park** on Saturday, March 27, 2021 from 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm at Purser Family Park, 100 W. Mountain Lion. This free, fun, and dog-friendly event for all ages will include activities such as an agility course, pet adoptions, contests, pet services/products, and more. Dog friendly vendors with items available for purchase. Social distancing and face coverings are recommended. Please have dogs on a leash outside the dog park fence area and current on vaccinations. For more information and schedule, visit <https://harkerheights.gov/index.php/programs-events/special-events> call 254-953-5493.

Due to an abundance of caution, the AARP Foundation **will not be offering in person tax aide**. For further information or updates, visit www.aarpfoundation.org/taxaide.

The Stewart C. Meyer Harker Heights Public Library, in partnership with the Harker Heights Activities Center, now offers a **Seed Library**. Come by to “checkout” your free seeds today next to the circulation desk. All you would have to do is fill out a form and select. (Limit up to four seed packets for each month). If you are able, “return” a selection of new seeds to the library during the season.

PARKS AND RECREATION

The Parks and Recreation Department awarded the **Excellence in Youth Sports Coaching** award to *Coach David Mull* and the **Park Volunteer of the Year** award to *Troop 287 and Leader Ben Ortiz!* We thank them for the dedication to our parks and programs!

The Parks and Recreation Department held it's first **“I Love My Parks Day”** of 2021 last Saturday. Volunteers assisted with the beautification of the new **Kern Park Community Garden** before the facility opens to the public

Youth Soccer is ongoing with over 350 participants. COVID-19 Policies and Procedures from the Fall Season will apply.

Youth Tee Ball, Softball, and Baseball registration is open now.

Applications are currently being taking for the **2021 Pool Season. Pool Managers, Water Safety Instructors, Lifeguards, and Cashiers** are all needed.

Visit our **Virtual Recreation Center** for tips on getting outdoors while social distancing, at-home sports drills, ways to stay active, craft projects, virtual tours of parks and museums, and MUCH MORE

LIBRARY

Easter is on its way! Enjoy Spring themed programs throughout March and April. Check out the **Library's 3-D Easter Egg Hunt**. Find eggs hidden throughout the Library on this fun and interactive picture. Follow the Library's Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/harkerheightspubliclibrary> for the most up to date information about this and other Spring activities.

It's a "Hippity, Hoppity Storytime" in-person at the Library. Register at <https://apm.activecommunities.com/harkerheightspr/Home> for one of these two small group story-times and egg hunts. We will do two story-times: one for 24 months and younger only at 9:30 a.m. and one for 2-6 years old (siblings welcome to sign up) at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, March 27th. Space is limited.

April 10th – 16th is the **50th Anniversary Celebration for the Week of the Young Child**. Join the Library for a fun-filled week celebrating early learning, young children, their teachers, families, and communities. #WOYC21 Check out our Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/harkerheightspubliclibrary> for an activities schedule, booklists, and more!

We have one week of March left, and you can **Read Across Central Texas!** The Stewart C. Meyer Harker Heights Public Library is working with other area libraries and museums to bring the annual **Read Across Central Texas event** throughout the month of March 2021. This year the event will encourage patrons and children to visit libraries and museums through a virtual tour to be made available throughout March. Tourists can complete a scavenger hunt for a certificate, a change to win a prize basket comprised of items from participating institutions, and glory! The Library kicked off the event with "Read Across Central Texas" Celebration on our Facebook page on Saturday, March 6th. For more information visit the website hosted by the Library at <https://harkerheights.gov/readacrosscentraltexas>.

There is still time to **get caught reading in Central Texas!** Take photos of you or your family reading in unusual and safe places! Read at the park! Listen to an audiobook while you walk! Post your picture or pictures with the **#caughtreadingincentraltexas** throughout the month of March!

Do you need to use a computer, make copies, or use a wireless internet connection? The Library facility is currently open for walk-in service, contactless curbside service, and wi-fi usage. Please call 254-953-5491 to reserve a time to use our computers.

HUMAN RESOURCES:

The City is currently accepting applications for the position of **Part Time Telecommunicator, Part Time Athletic Aide, Full Time Maintenance Technician** and **Full Time Water Service Worker**.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Firefighters **Tyler Pavelka** and **Zach Gauthier** were thanked by a patient for the care she received from them.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Sergeant William Greenwood was thanked for going above and beyond during the recent winter storm. A citizen who needed groceries from the store called the Police Department because he did not have a safe method of transportation. Sergeant Greenwood picked the citizen up from his home, took him to the grocery store, and returned him home. The citizen thanked Sergeant Greenwood for his commitment to serving the community and citizens of Harker Heights.

Lieutenant Jay Leach received a Thank You Letter from a citizen whose alarm was set off. Lieutenant Leach responded to the alarm call and the citizen thanked him for checking on her and for the service he provides to the citizens of Harker Heights.