

TOWN OF HIGHLAND PARK MONARCH HERALD

Monthly Newsletter for the Residents of the Town of Highland Park



IN A PECAN SHELL:

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This newsletter is a service to the residents of the Town of Highland Park to keep you informed of new services, events, activities, and other important information. If there is anything you would like to see covered in the newsletter, please let us know! Contact Holly Russell, Management Assistant at [hrussell@hptx.org](mailto:h russell@hptx.org), or call (214) 559-9308 with your recommendations.



Tales and Tails

The Highland Park Harvey R. "Bum" Bright Library is hosting the 2021 Children's Summer Reading Club again, and this summer is all about Tales and Tails. Get your children excited about reading this summer, and let their imaginations run wild. Register and participate online at hptx.beanstack.org. Programs are available for ages 0 - 5, and readers in 1st - 6th grades. Earn points, badges, and certificates by logging minutes read, activities completed, and virtual events attended. Youth may also pick up a print Summer Reading Log at the HP Library to keep track of their summer reading activities.

Earn 150 points to receive a prize, and earn a total of 300 points to receive a prize and a certificate of completion. Complete the program and HP Library staff will choose a book to donate in the participant's name to Children's Health, the leading pediatric hospital in North Texas dedicated exclusively to the comprehensive care of children from birth to age 18.

Thank you to **Christine McKenny of Allie Beth Allman & Associates** for sponsoring summer reading. Thank you to **the Friends of the Highland Park Library** for funding the Sharing Literacy book donation program.

The 2021 Teen Summer Reading Program is for students in 7th - 12th grades, and they may register and participate online at READSquared, <http://universityparkpubliclibrary.readsquared.com/>, then log their reading points. After logging points, readers will be entered to win gift cards from a local business. Complete the program and readers will be entered to win a grand prize!

This program is a partnership between the University Park Public Library and the Highland Park Library. Thank you to our Teen Summer Reading Sponsors, **Christine McKenny and Allie Beth Allman and Associates.**



COVID Update

In accordance with Governor Abbott's Executive Order 36 *Prohibiting Government Entities from Mandating Masks*, members of the public are not required to wear masks when inside of Town Hall. Visitors may voluntarily continue to wear masks/ facial coverings. The Town of Highland Park cares for the public and residents that visit our Town facilities, and ask that everyone continue to practice social distancing, proper hand-washing, and consider getting vaccinated if not done so already. It is only with diligence that we can beat this virus.

Certain COVID guidelines that were set in place for the HP Pool will also be removed. Visitors will not have to wear masks when visiting the Pool, but are still requested to social distance from those that are not in their family-group. Large pool parties will still not be permitted until further notice. Flippen Gazebo is once again available to reserve for weddings. Contact Holly Russell at hrussell@hptx.org for more information.

The HP Library has reopened the second floor to visitors for reading and studying. More computer consoles are also available for use. Library hours are now 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Tuesdays to Saturdays. All materials that are returned to the Library will no longer have a quarantine hold before they become available again. If you have any questions about Library services, please call (214) 559-9400 during business hours, or email hplibrary@hplibrary.info.

If you have any questions about what the Town is doing to help prevent the spread of COVID, in compliance with state and federal laws, please do not hesitate to contact Town Hall during normal business hours, (214) 521-4161.

Make Time To Be Well

Mindful Meditation and Mindful Movement will be offered again, but this time will be online. For June, July, and early August, the Mindful Meditation and Mindful Movement classes will be offered virtually on Zoom. Janet Sandman of The Noble Dragonfly will lead the meditation sessions. Janna Whitton of Tai Chi with Janna will lead participants in low impact, meditative movements.

- **Mindful Meditation** - Tuesdays
11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
June 1 - August 3
- **Mindful Movement** - Thursdays
11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
June 3 - August 5



To register for these free programs, please email Holly Russell at hrussell@hptx.org for the program links.

Water Conservation During Summer

Watering efficiently can be stressful in the summer months. Beautiful landscaping is a benefit to everyone in the community and so is watering responsibly.

When is watering allowed?

- Even numbered addresses can water on Sundays and Thursdays, before 10:00 a.m. and after 6:00 p.m.
- Odd numbered addresses can water on Saturdays and Wednesdays, before 10:00 a.m. and after 6:00 p.m.
- Hand-watering and soaker hoses are allowed any time of day.

It is important to not allow your irrigation system to run in such a way that causes excess water to run off the property more than 20 feet.

How do you know if you are watering too much or too little?

We have ways to help! The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension's *Water My Yard* program is available to HP residents. The site collects local weather data through an extensive network of weather stations and rain gauges in sponsored areas across the County. The *Water My Yard* website was created by the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension and designed to provide homeowners guidance on when and how much water to use for their landscaping.

Residents and business owners who do not know the precipitation rate can calculate it by answering a few questions about their type of sprinkler system or conducting a catch-can test. If that test cannot be completed to achieve the greatest accuracy, use the number 0.75, which was determined using an oscillating sprinkler. Then, click on "Sign Up for Weekly Email" to begin receiving an email with watering recommendations.

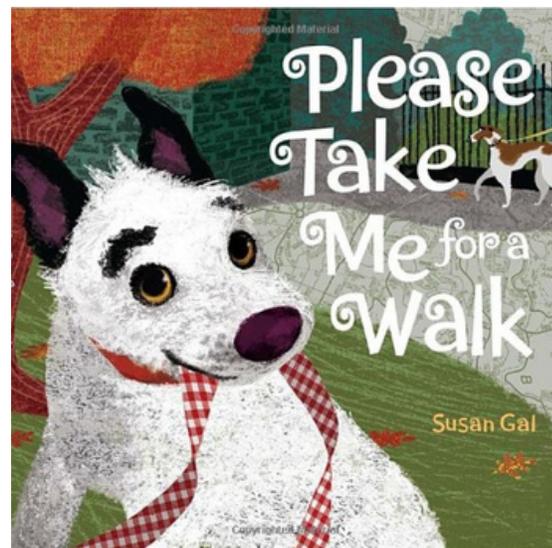
Learn more here: <https://WaterMyYard.org/>

Stay tuned for more watering tips and services next month. If you cannot wait for more exciting information, visit our website: www.hptx.org/WaterConservation.

Please Take Me For A Walk

In June, explore Prather Park and enjoy a StoryWalk® featuring the book *Please Take Me for a Walk* by Susan Gal. Follow the story, page-by-page, as you make your way through the park! Don't forget to bring your furry four-legged friend with you. Dogs love to explore parks too. Please note, all dogs must be on a leash and their messes picked up. Be sure to visit the HP Library after your story walk together to grab a little gift for your pet!

This project is a partnership between the Town's Parks and Recreation Department and the HP Library. Prather Park is located across Euclid Avenue from Town Hall at 4500 Drexel Avenue. StoryWalk® is a registered trademark of Anne Ferguson.



Your Connection to Lifelong Learning

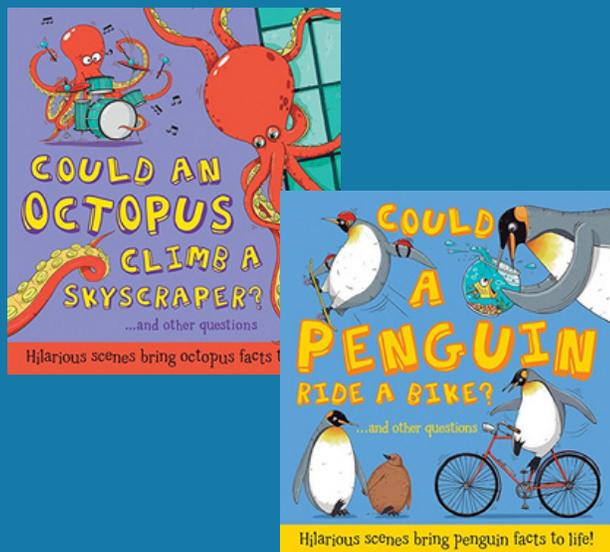
Connect to Lifelong Learning with the Highland Park Harvey R. "Bum" Bright Library. The HP Library has a new service, **ArtistWorks**. This online service offers library cardholders world-class instruction for the most popular string and band instruments through self-paced video lessons from professional musicians. All levels of player are welcome! Instruments include cello, clarinet, French horn, guitar, piano, ukulele, and more. Users can also access downloadable written materials, tablature, and sheet music.

This service, like The Great Courses Library Collection, is available in the Extras section of the Libby app from OverDrive, <https://www.hptx.org/170/eBooks-More>. Visit the Library's website, www.hptx.org/106/Library, to access online resources or use the Library's Book Coach service, or to place holds on materials.

The Highland Park Harvey R. "Bum" Bright Library is open to the public **Tuesdays to Saturdays, 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.** To reach HP Library staff, please call (214) 559-9400, or email hplibrary@hplibrary.info.



HP Library: What to Read Next



Could an Octopus Climb a Skyscraper? Could a Whale Swim to the Moon? Could a Shark do Gymnastics? Could a Penguin Ride a Bike?

This humorous book series by Camilla de la Bedoyere and illustrated by Aleksei Bitskoff teaches animal facts through a question-and-answer format. Learn about the camouflage abilities of an octopus, the eating habits of penguin chicks, the teeth of great white sharks, and more!

The Parks Planter: Mike Rangel, Parks Superintendent

Let's talk about deadheading. No, that is not a reference to the many fans of The Grateful Dead, for those of us old enough to know that phrase. In horticulture, we deadhead our spring bulbs and flowers when the blooms have wilted. By removing the dead bloom, the plant can direct its food reserves to creating another bloom, or begin storing up reserves for the next bloom season. If the bloom is allowed to remain on the stem, it may begin to produce seeds, and there will be no other blooms produced that season.

When a flower that has stalk that produces a single bloom, simply remove the bloom. This will also encourage additional blooms to produce. For the stalks that produce multiple flowers on a stem, wait until all of the blooms have wilted before deadheading the stem. Simply cut the stalk back to the foliage.

Perennials need this type of care even when annuals do not. Deadheading allows the perennial to build up food reserves for the following year, rather than having them consumed by a bloom that is

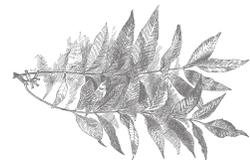


*Mike Rangel,
HP Parks Superintendent*

going to seed. Cutting back the stems or blooms will also allow your garden to look clean and kept during the summer.

Flowering bulbs need to be deadheaded only when the entire foliage has wilted, or if you see that the bloom has been pollinated and producing a seed. You can remove the bloom if the foliage is still green and hardy. Only when it has wilted should it then be cut back. It is only through the foliage that the bulb can create enough food reserves to re-bloom for the next season. Cutting foliage too soon, before it has wilted, could prevent a bloom from appearing the next season.

Be sure to talk to your local nursery or visit the HP Library to research what type of blooms you have. Not all flowering plants need to be deadheaded, but need to go to seed in order to produce more blooms. Once you know which plants can be deadheaded, feel free to do so on perennials and annuals. However, it is not a necessary practice for the health of the plant but is more for the aesthetics of your garden. We do recommend that you leave fall blooms so that birds and other local wildlife will have the seeds to eat during the colder months.



New Public Information Officer Named

Beginning June 1, Lt. Lance Koppa will join C-Shift as Assistant Commander and Lt. Jessa Russell will move into the HPDPS's Community Relations/PIO position. Both Lt. Russell and Lt. Koppa display a level of enthusiasm that is contagious, and we are excited to watch them apply their experience and talents to their new positions. The Town would like to thank Lt. Koppa for his nine years of outstanding service as Public Information Officer, and look forward to seeing him continue to serve the residents of Highland Park in his new role as an Assistant Commander.

Lieutenant Jessa Russell began her career at Highland Park in 2008, after graduating from The University of North Texas with a B.S. in kinesiology. Lt. Russell has served HPDPS as a Field Training Officer, Defensive Tactics Coordinator, and R.A.D. self-defense course instructor. She is a graduate of Texas Christian University's Leadership, Executive, Administration, Development (LEAD) Program, and is one year away from earning her Master of Science degree in Criminal Justice from TCU. Lt. Russell has completed coursework from the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, Maryland. She currently holds a Master Peace Officer License and Advance Fire Certification. As a certified police and fire instructor, Lt. Russell has assisted with the development of training programs for departmental employees as well local Police Academies. Lt. Russell was awarded public safety officer of the year in 2016, and was voted supervisor of the year in 2019.



Lt. Lance Koppa Lt. Jessa Russell

Traffic Advisory

Beginning Monday, May 24, 2021, the Town's contractor will begin roadway construction in the 3100 through 3300 Blocks of Mockingbird Lane. Traffic lanes will be reduced to one lane each direction. Weather permitting; the construction is anticipated to be completed in 60 days. Work hours will be Monday through Friday between 7:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Independence Day 2021

The Park Cities Rotary Club, City of University Park, and Town of Highland Park are finalizing plans for this year's Independence Day celebrations. This year's theme is *United We Stand*; and is dedicated to all of the front line municipal workers and healthcare providers who served the Park Cities during COVID-19 and the bad weather challenges of the past year. The parade will be held on **Saturday, July 3**. Line up will take place at the Highland Park Town Hall beginning at 7:30 a.m. The parade will proceed at 9:00 a.m., lead by Grand Marshals **Laurie and Jim Hitzelberger**. The parade will end at Goar Park in University Park. If you would like to follow up-to-date information or participate in the parade, please contact the Park Cities Rotary Club at parkcitiesparade@gmail.com, or follow the Facebook page [@ParkCities4thofJulyParade](https://www.facebook.com/ParkCities4thofJulyParade).

Mosquito Control

With the abundance of rain that has fallen recently, we encourage you to look for any standing water that may become a breeding ground for mosquitos. Areas that have the potential to collect standing water are flower pots, bowls, depressions in landscaping, or any features that proper prevent drainage of rainwater. If you find any standing water, please drain it as soon as possible. If there are any water features to your property that many not circulate properly, you can request a water additive from Utility Customer Service. Call (214) 521-4161, or drop by during business hours Monday to Friday, from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. We appreciate you assistance with minimizing ZIKA, West Nile Virus, and other diseases that are carried by mosquitos. For more information, please visit <https://www.hptx.org/303/Mosquito-Control-News-and-Information>.

Update on Fairfax and Douglas Parks

The Town's Engineering Services and Parks Department continue to stay hard at work on the improvement projects for Fairfax and Douglas Parks. Despite the much needed rain this spring, work on the parks has been going strong when weather is favorable. The newly placed sod on Fairfax Park's play field has benefited greatly from the weather, and has already had its first mowing. It is a beautiful and lush green field that families will be proud of. The Tennis Courts' foundation has been created and will be complete soon.

Douglas Park is now in the landscaping phase, and hardscape features are also beginning to be installed. The rain has made the ground soft for the removal of specific materials, and addition of new plants. As soon as the ground dries more, walkways and benches will continue to be installed. Both projects are anticipated to be completed near the end of June if the weather will grant favorable working days for the many crews that are hard at work making our parks beautiful.

JUNE CALENDAR



Every Month Every Thursday at 10 AM: Baby Bounce Story Time, Library
Every Friday at 10 AM: Pawsome Tales Story Time, Library
Watch live on the Friends of the Highland Park Library Facebook Page

June 1, Tuesday 8:00 a.m. **Town Council Meeting & Study Session and Public Hearing for FY2021-2022 Budget**
The public may participate in discussion concerning next years budget. The link will be posted at <https://www.hptx.org/914/Public-Meetings-During-COVID-19-Pandemic>.

June 2, Wednesday 3:00-4:00 p.m. **Blackland Prairie Raptor Center** - Library
Blackland Prairie Raptor Center will provide a live Zoom presentation introducing children to the world of raptors. Email lcollins@hplibrary.info by June 1 to register for the online presentation.

June 8, Tuesday 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. **Cup of Tranquility: Japanese Tea Ceremony** - Library
Explore the historical origins and modern expressions of the 400-year-old tradition of Japanese tea ceremony. Email smilberger@hplibrary.info to register for this online presentation.

June 9, Wednesday 3:00-4:00 p.m. **Mr. Will's Tales and Tails Music Show** - Library
Enjoy entertaining and educational songs about the animals and tales of Texas in this online program. Email lcollins@hplibrary.info to receive the link to this online program.

June 15, Tuesday 8:00 - 9:00 a.m. **Town Council Meeting & Study Session**
Link to watch live stream is available on Town website <https://www.hptx.org/914/Public-Meetings-During-COVID-19-Pandemic>

June 16, Wednesday 3:00 – 4:00 p.m. **James Wand: Operation Read More** - Library
Join James Wand on an exciting and hilarious adventure of magic and mystery. Email lcollins@hplibrary.info to receive the link to this online program.

June 23, Wednesday 3:00 - 4:00 p.m. **Virtual Crafternoon: Ocean Animals** - Library
Join Miss Zoe and Miss Laura for a Virtual Crafternoon. Use your imagination to craft pipe cleaner ocean animals in this live, hands-on Zoom workshop. Register at lcollins@hplibrary.info for the program link and to reserve your supplies before the program time.

June 30, Wednesday 3:00 - 4:00 p.m. **Flat or Not? With the Nasher Sculpture Center** - Library
Children ages 5 and up are invited to observe and discuss 2D and 3D works of art in this live, interactive Zoom presentation. Email lcollins@hplibrary.info to receive the link to this online program.

June 30, Wednesday 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. **No Passport Required: Tower of London** - Library
Kick-off summer reading with this fun online presentation of songs, activities, and stories! Email lcollins@hplibrary.info to register and receive the link.



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