

TOWN OF HIGHLAND PARK MONARCH HERALD

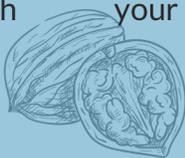


Monthly Newsletter for the Residents of the Town of Highland Park

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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.



Upcoming Public Hearings

The Town Council of the Town of Highland Park will conduct public hearings at 8:00 a.m., on Tuesday, September 5, 2023, for the purpose of discussing the **proposed combined operating and capital budget for the 2023-24 fiscal year** and for the purpose of discussing **the proposed tax rate**. The public hearings will be conducted at the Town of Highland Park Town Hall - Council Chambers, 4700 Drexel Drive, Highland Park, TX 75205. Any person may attend and may participate in these hearings.

The proposed budget will raise more total property taxes than last year's budget by \$1,461,197 (8.6%), and of that amount \$267,590 is tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year.

A copy of the proposed Fiscal Year 2023-24 Combined Budget was filed with the Town Secretary on July 31, 2023, and is available for inspection. The proposed Fiscal Year 2023-24 Combined Budget is also available for inspection on the Town's website at <https://www.hptx.org/218/Annual-Budget>.

The proposed tax rate is not greater than the voter-approval tax rate. As a result, the Town of Highland Park is not required to hold an election at which voters may accept or reject the proposed tax rate. However, you may express your support for or opposition to the proposed tax rate by contacting the members of the Town Council of the Town of Highland Park at their offices or by attending the public hearing mentioned above.

For information on the proposed tax rate, please view the official [NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON TAX INCREASE \(PDF\)](#).

HP Department of Public Safety



R.A.D. Class for Adults Age 55+

We have a new RAD self-defense course designed for males and females ages 55 and up. The course will be held at the Moody Family YMCA and consists of four, 2-hour classes. Each session will consist of classroom instruction and hands-on application. The class dates are September 27, October 4, 11, and 25, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. To register, please email Lt. Jessa Russell, Public Information Officer, at jrussell@hpdps.org for the registration forms. You can return the completed registration forms back to Lt. Russell, drop them off at the DPS Lobby located at 4700 Drexel Drive to Lt. Russell's attention, or turn them in at the Moody YMCA with attention to Mona Callaghan.

Mark Your Calendar These Great Events

We are excited to see everyone again at the **Highland Park Night Out** on Tuesday, October 3, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. The event will be held near the Highland Park Pool, located at 3801 Lexington Avenue. Come meet Town employees and enjoy fun activities. Kids and kids at heart can climb on all sorts of construction and first responder vehicles. We will also have bounce houses, a face painter, giveaways, and sandwiches.

Pumpkins with Pizzazz – On Saturday, October 7 at Town Hall, create a beautiful fall centerpiece using pumpkins and succulents. Presented by the Dallas County Master Gardener Association. Registration opens soon, <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/pumpkins-with-pizzazz-tickets-706061929237?aff=HPL>.

HPCAN Blood Drive will be Wednesday, October 18! Walk-ins are welcome, and will be taken if there is space available. You can also preregister online using the Carter Blood Care website. More information to come soon.

A Reminder from the Parks Department

Please remember to pick up all fishing line and other supplies before you leave our waterways after fishing. Our Engineering and Parks Maintenance staff have been finding and rescuing some of the ducks and geese that get tangled in the lines that are left behind. Please dispose of any unwanted lines in trash receptacles or take it with you. We encourage everyone to be kind stewards of the environment!



HP Library: Your Connection to Lifelong Learning

Family Saturday at the Meadows Museum - Saturday, September 9, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Families come in all shapes and sizes and so does creativity. The Meadows Museum, located at 5900 Bishop Blvd., invites kids and their grown-ups to visit the museum to get creative together.

This program is presented in collaboration with the Highland Park Library, and designed and facilitated in part by the Meadows Museum Student Collective. This program is free with regular museum admission and designed for children ages four to nine, but all are welcome. See the Meadows Museum website, <https://meadowsmuseumdallas.org/>, for information about each unique session, which will include browsing artwork with museum staff, a craft activity, and a story time.

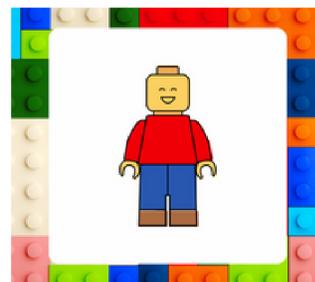
LEGO Lab - On Saturday, September 2, at 2:00 p.m. at the HP Library, join in this interactive challenge in which participants will go on a pirate and mermaid themed adventure. This program is designed to touch on STEM educational standards, such as crosscutting concepts, science and engineering practices, vocabulary, and more! Suited for ages 6 and up. Registration required, <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/lego-lab-tickets-693156990217?aff=register>.

Decorating for the Holidays with Courtney Warren - On Saturday, September 16, at 11:00 a.m. at Town Hall, learn from a local design expert and discover how you can use fall decor to create a warm, festive environment in the home. You already have what you need to decorate for the holidays - you just don't know it! Courtney Warren is a Texas-based interior designer whose work has been featured in Real Simple, Better Homes & Gardens, Good Housekeeping, Apartment Therapy, and Today.com. Suitable for ages 18 and up. Registration required, <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/decorating-for-the-holidays-with-courtney-warren-tickets-699739087447?aff=HPL>.

Tall Tails - Wednesday, September 27, 4:30 p.m. - Children of all reading levels are encouraged to get to know one of Canine Companion's future service dogs. Each child will get 15 minutes of reading time with their paw-some audience to practice their literacy skills. Tall Tails is offered on the last Wednesday of every month at 4:30 p.m. at the Highland Park Library. Registration is required, <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/tall-tails-tickets-499628601597?aff=ebdsoporgprofile>.

Animal Adventures - On Saturday, September 30, at 2:00 p.m. in Prather Park, take a walk on the wild side with the HP Parks Department, the HP Library, and the Dallas Zoo. This educational program allows audience members to get up close and personal with 6-7 ambassador animals from around the world. Prather Park is located at the corner of Drexel and Euclid. Touching of animals is not guaranteed, and, for the safety and comfort of audience members and animals, food is not permitted. In the event of inclement weather, the program will be canceled. Registration not required, but appreciated, <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/animal-adventures-tickets-693159267027?aff=register>.

Save the date for Pumpkins with Pizzazz - On Saturday, October 7, at Town Hall, create a beautiful fall centerpiece using pumpkins and succulents. Presented by the Dallas County Master Gardener Association. Registration opens soon, <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/pumpkins-with-pizzazz-tickets-706061929237?aff=HPL>.



HP Harvey R. "Bum" Bright Library

So Many Books So Little Time - Answer the age-old question, "What do I read next?" Search and match reading interests to books, authors, genres, or topics with online resources from the Library, such as:

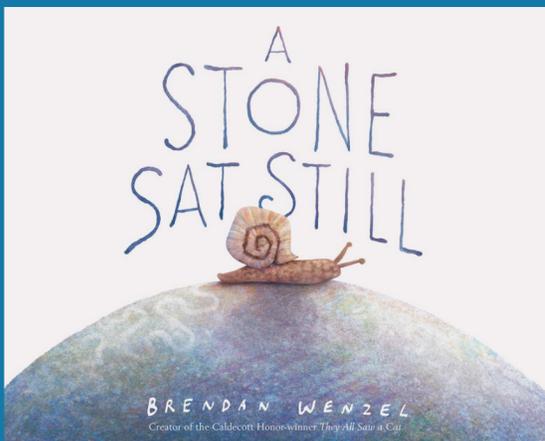
- Gale Books and Authors
- NoveList Plus
- NoveList K-8 Plus

Explore these and other reading recommendation resources on the Library's website, <https://www.hptx.org/866/What-to-Read-Next>. Be sure to check out the Book Coach service, <https://www.hptx.org/FormCenter/Library-3/Book-Coach-112>. Complete an online form, and Library staff will create a personalized list of books especially for you.

Homework Help for Back to School - The Highland Park Library has physical and digital homework help resources for students of all ages. Find the books you need to help supplement learning skills and complex concepts. Access online databases and reference materials 24 hours, 7 days a week with your HP Library card number and PIN.

Students in kindergarten through introductory college can receive assistance from live, online tutors using an interactive, virtual whiteboard to chat, write, draw, and copy/paste. Tutors are available online through HelpNow Monday through Sunday, from 2:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. Visit the Library's website, <https://www.hptx.org/864/Homework-Help>, to learn more about HelpNow and other online homework help resources available to Library cardholders.

What to Read Next



Find your creative element with this picture book about perspective, nature, and how a seemingly ordinary stone is really a site for infinite possibilities. [A Stone Sat Still](#) by Brendan Wenzel shows how a stone can be a home, a kitchen, a throne, a map, a maze, a stage, and much more just by how different animals, insects, and even seasons interact with the stone over time. You will never look at a stone or any part of nature the same way again.

Need a library card? There is no charge for a library card if you are a resident of the Town of Highland Park. Apply in person, online, or by phone. Visit <https://tinyurl.com/hplapply> or call (214) 559-9400 for more information.

Get in your element this September. sign up for a library card!

September is Library Card Sign-up Month, a time when the Highland Park Library joins the American Library Association (ALA) and libraries nationwide to remind one and all about the valuable resources available with a library card.

From borrowing books, eBooks, and audiobooks to getting homework help, learning new skills, or attending a story time, a library card helps everyone do more of what they enjoy. Signing up for a library card is the first step on the path to academic achievement and lifelong learning for students of all ages. Need a library card? There is no charge for a library card if you are a resident of the Town of Highland Park. Apply in person, online, or by phone. Visit <https://tinyurl.com/hplapply> or call (214) 559-9400 for more information.

The Library is open Tuesday from 9:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., and Wednesday - Saturday from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. To learn all about the HP Library, its services and programs, or to browse the catalog, please visit <https://www.hptx.org/106/Library>.

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.

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/>



Have You Signed Up For WaterSmart?

The Town of Highland Park partnered with **WaterSmart** to provide an online portal to help residents monitor water consumption through any web browser. While at home or away, avoid costly leaks, and contribute to the Town's water-saving goals.

- Choose to receive notifications via email, text, or voice message. Notifications include leak alerts, bill forecasting, and when your daily consumption surpasses a volume threshold set by you.
- Hourly meter reading data will allow you to see how much water you use when you do common water-related activities.
- The billing tab of the WaterSmart Portal provides a High Bill Explainer customized to your current circumstances.

Sign up for WaterSmart online at hptx.watersmart.com To learn more about the WaterSmart program, visit www.hptx.org/WaterSmart or call (214) 521-4161.

SEPTEMBER CALENDAR



Every Tuesday at 11:30 AM: Mindful Meditation. Class meets in the DPS Training Room, Third Floor.

Every Thursday at 11:30 AM: Mindful Movement. **On hiatus until further notice.**

Every Thursday at 10:00 AM: Baby Bounce, meets in the Council Meeting Room, Second Floor.

Every Thursday at 10:45 AM: Baby Bounce, meets in the Council Meeting Room, Second Floor.

Every Friday at 10:00 AM: Toddler Story Time, meets in the Council Meeting Room, Second Floor.

Every Friday at 10:45 AM: Preschool Story Time, meets in the Council Meeting Room, Second Floor.

- Tickets will be required for entry to Story Time on Fridays. Tickets are free and will be handed out each Friday at the Library Circulation Desk.

September 2, Saturday
10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. **Cookout at the HP Pool** - 3801 Lexington Ave.
Free burgers and hot dogs while supplies last.

September 2, Saturday
3:00 p.m. **LEGO Lab** - HP Library
Registration: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/lego-lab-tickets-693156990217?aff=register>

September 4, Monday **Labor Day Holiday** - Town Hall offices and HP Library are closed
HP Pool open 7:00 - 10:00 a.m. (Lap Swim), and 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. for Open Swim.

September 5, Tuesday
8:00 a.m. **Town Council Meeting & Study Session**
Public Hearing on the Proposed Combined Operating & capital Budget for FY24
Public Hearing on the Proposed Tax Rate
Agendas are made available online <https://www.hptx.org/895/Town-Council-Agendas>.

September 9, Saturday
10:30 a.m. **Family Saturday at the Meadows Museum** - 5900 Bishop Blvd
This program is free with regular museum admission and designed for children ages four to nine, but all are welcome.

September 12, Tuesday
8:00 a.m. **Special Town Council Meeting on Proposed Budget for FY24 and Tax Rate**
Agendas are made available online <https://www.hptx.org/895/Town-Council-Agendas>.

September 16, Saturday
11:00 a.m. **Decorating for the Holidays with Courtney Warren** - Library
Registration required, <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/decorating-for-the-holidays-with-courtney-warren-tickets-699739087447?aff=HPL>.

September 19, Tuesday
8:00 a.m. **Town Council Meeting & Study Session**
Agendas are made available online <https://www.hptx.org/895/Town-Council-Agendas>.

September 27, Wednesday
4:30 p.m. **Tall Tails** - Library
Registration is required, <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/tall-tails-tickets-499628601597?aff=ebdsoporgprofile>.

September 30, Saturday
2:00 p.m. **Animal Adventures** - Library (Prather Park)
Registration encouraged, <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/animal-adventures-tickets-693159267027?aff=register>.



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