

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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- Reporting Coyote Sightings
- Updated Annual Drinking Water Quality Report
- Thank You Summer Readers
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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 Kortney Nelson, Town Librarian at knelson@hptx.org, or call (214) 559-9404 with your recommendations.



Request a House Watch

Ensure your home is safe while you're away by requesting House Watch services.

HPDPS has updated the Vacation House Watch system, making it easier and more efficient for residents to request a vacation house watch. Now you can request a Vacation House Watch from the same website that stores the Blue Zone News posts.

To request a Vacation House Watch:

1. Go to www.hpcrimewatch.org.
2. If you receive the Blue Zone News, you already have a login and password. Click on "Login" under RESIDENTS (left side of the page). If you do not remember your password, click on "Click here to create or reset our login password," located at the top of the page.
3. If you do not receive the Blue Zone News, register under RESIDENTS and "click here to Register." Wait to receive an email approving your registration before requesting a vacation house watch.
4. Click on the house icon to go directly to the Vacation House Watch registration form. You can also get to this page by clicking "login." This form should pre-fill your basic information, so you only need to update information regarding your vacation. You will receive a verification email once your request has been reviewed.

The HPDPS will do their best to conduct the vacation house watches daily, but we cannot guarantee that the call load will always allow this to occur.

Learn more about our [House Watch service](#). If you need any assistance with Blue Zone News, please reach out to Lt. Lance Koppa at lkoppa@hpdps.org.

HP Department of Public Safety



Reporting Coyote Sightings

Highland Park DPS was recently notified of three missing cats which appear to be related to a coyote – pet encounter. In response, our overnight patrol staff have been checking areas where coyote activity has been reported to us and, if any are sighted, the officer will document their appearance and behavior. Coyotes are skittish by nature. In our experience, simply illuminating a coyote with a spotlight has been enough to make it immediately run away.

Those with indoor/outdoor cats should consider keeping their cats and any pet food indoors during the overnight hours. Those with smaller breeds of dogs may want to remain nearby and supervise their pet during bathroom breaks at nighttime. Coyotes are naturally fearful of humans and should vacate an area by our mere presence.

If you observe a coyote on your property, “hazing” (e.g., yelling, making noise) is an effective technique to shoo the coyote away. That said, call Highland Park DPS right away if you notice a coyote that demonstrates bold, aggressive behavior, or if the coyote appears to be sick and/or injured.

For monitoring purposes, you may report coyote sightings in Highland Park online via the Department's website.

URL: <https://www.hptx.org/FormCenter/Department-of-Public-Safety-4/Report-a-Coyote-Sighting-Note-dial-911-i-121>

Updated Annual Drinking Water Quality Report



Additional results have been added to the 2023 Drinking Water Quality Report. The report is available at www.hptx.org/WaterQualityReport. The information in this report is based on tests conducted in 2023. This consumer confidence report was updated in July 2024.

The Town of Highland Park Public Works Department is responsible for providing safe and reliable drinking water to all residents. The Town of Highland Park is a Superior rated water system by the TCEQ and meets or exceeds all state and federal requirements for water quality, and safe drinking water.

HP Library

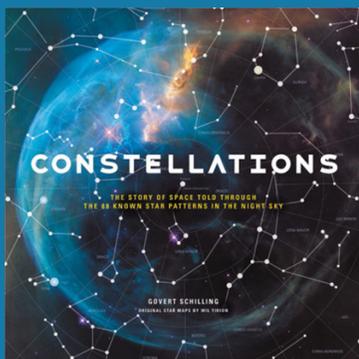
Thank you to everyone who participated in the Library's Adult, Teen, and Children's Summer Reading programs. Children can log their reading for July and pick-up prizes through the end of August. We look forward to all the summer reading fun ahead for 2025.

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

Thank you!



What to Read Next



Did you know the phrase the “dog days of summer” has more to do with the stars than man’s best friend? According to The Farmer’s Almanac:

The phrase is a reference to Sirius, the Dog Star. During the “Dog Days” period, the Sun occupies the same region of the sky as Sirius, the brightest star visible from any part of Earth. Sirius is a part of the constellation Canis Major, the Greater Dog.

Learn more about Canis Major with *Constellations: The Story of Space Told Through the 88 Known Star Patterns in the Night Sky* by Govert Schilling.

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.

HP Library: Your Connection to Lifelong Learning

Japan-In-A-Suitcase – Thursday, August 1, 1:00 p.m., Town Hall, 2nd Floor - Experience an authentic piece of Japan at the Highland Park Library! Japan-In-A-Suitcase, presented by the Japan America Society of DFW, will introduce Japanese Storytelling, also called Kamishibai. Attendees will see an engaging Japanese folktale told through the use of colorful imagery, practice common Japanese words and phrases, and learn how to properly wear traditional Japanese clothing. After the storytelling, each child will have the chance to create origami art. Suitable for ages 6 and up. [Registration required.](#)

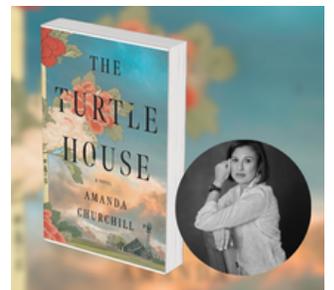


Family Saturday at the Meadows Museum - Saturday, August 3, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. - Families come in all shapes and sizes and so does creativity. The Meadows Museum, located at 5900 Bishop Blvd., invites kids and their grown-ups to visit the first Saturday of the month to get creative together.



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.

Visiting Author: Amanda Churchill – Saturday, August 10, 11:00 a.m., Town Hall, 2nd Floor - Amanda Churchill visits the Highland Park Library, as part of her national book tour, to discuss her debut novel, *The Turtle House*. Moving between late 1990s small-town Texas to pre-World War II Japan and occupied Tokyo, an emotionally engaging literary debut about a grandmother and granddaughter who connect over a beloved lost place and the secrets they both carry. Adults 18 and up. [Registration required.](#)



Tall Tails - Wednesday, August 28, 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 required.](#)



AUGUST CALENDAR



Every Tuesday at 11:45 AM: Mindful Meditation. Class meets in the DPS Training Room, Third Floor.

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

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Third Thursday at 12:00 PM: Mindful Movement - Yoga in the Park, meets in Prather Park.

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.

August 1, Thursday **Japan In A Suitcase** - Library
1:00 p.m. Suitable for ages 6 and up. This event will be held in place of Story Times. [Register required.](#)

August 3, Saturday **Family Saturday at the Meadows Museum** - 5900 Bishop Blvd, Dallas
10:30 a.m. 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.

August 6, Tuesday **Town Council Meeting & Study Session**
8:00 a.m. Meeting & Study Session will be on the second floor of Town Hall. Agendas are made available online by the Friday afternoon before the meeting at <https://www.hptx.org/895/Town-Council-Agendas>.

August 10, Saturday **Visiting Author: Amanda Churchill** – Library
11:00 a.m. Suitable of ages 18 and up. [Registration required.](#)

August 20, Tuesday **Town Council Meeting & Study Session**
8:00 a.m. Meeting & Study Session will be on the second floor of Town Hall. Agendas are made available online by the Friday afternoon before the meeting at <https://www.hptx.org/895/Town-Council-Agendas>.

August 28, Wednesday **Tall Tails** - Library
4:30 p.m. Tall Tails will be offered on the last Wednesday of every month. Registration is required. <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/tall-tails-tickets-499628601597?aff=ebdsoporgprofile>.



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