

Harker Heights Herald

Vol. 11, No. 44



SPOOKTACULAR
Heights library offers
virtual Halloween fun

P3

harkerheightsherald.com

Heights council OKs relief fund grants for 30 small businesses

BY BOB MASSEY
HERALD CORRESPONDENT

The Harker Heights City Council on Tuesday unanimously approved the Coronavirus Relief Fund small-business grant awards for 30 local businesses that applied for grant funding totaling \$89,468.50.

The grant awarded 30 businesses with \$2,982.28 each.

The fund was established to make payments for specified uses to state and local governments. The application period for the grant program closed on Oct. 16.

The city received 20% of the

overall allocation in late September and has collaborated with Central Texas Council of Governments to administer the program. CTCOG has also administered the Bell County's Business grant program and the City of Belton's program.

The next item of business was the second part of the Lynn Drive demolition project.

The project will include demolishing 21 units, removal of debris, sidewalks, slabs and capping utilities, grading and vegetating the surfaces to ensure they are ready to be mowed.

Planning and Development



Director Joseph Molis said, "A couple of weeks ago, there was a resolution passed for the asbestos abatement and now we have arrived at the

demolition part of the project." The bidding process has been completed for the demolition with the bid being awarded to Sierra Contracting Corporation, DBA Sierra Demolition in Round Rock, Texas at a cost of \$65,250.

Funds have been included in the Code Enforcement Nui-

sance Abatement Budget in the 2020-2021 Fiscal Year General Fund.

Public Works Director Mark Hyde reported that the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality requires that Drought Contingency and Water Conservation Plans be updated at least once every five years. Hyde stated that there are no proposed revisions to the Drought Plan.

Proposed revisions to the Water Conservation Plan included the changing of the water loss five-year goal, the base per

PLEASE SEE COUNCIL, 2

Friday
October 30, 2020

DRESSING UP



Heights library offers video showing how to make costumes for Halloween. P2

MAKING MUSIC



Harker Heights High School band takes part in district's Marching Band Showcase. P3

STAYING SAFE



Harker Heights library video focuses on kitchen and fire safety. P4

CARVING UP FUN



Instructional video offers tips on decorating pumpkins. P5

YOUR NEWS TEAM



For Harker Heights area news, contact **Bob Massey** or **Dave Miller** at dmillier@kdhnews.com or 254-501-7543. Like us on Facebook at Facebook.com/HarkerHeightsHerald

INDEX

Classified	6
Community	3
Community Voices	3
Crossword	4
On the Bookshelf	4
Pets of the Week	2
Spotlight	3

WE SUPPORT OUR SOLDIERS

Three people wait in line to vote Thursday morning outside the Harker Heights Parks and Recreation Center. The small crowd was a stark contrast from the hours-long lines of people who waited to cast their ballot during the first few days of early voting. Early voting concludes today, with polls open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. countywide.

Election Day nears

Turnout strong in Harker Heights as early voting ends today

BY DAVE MILLER
HARKER HEIGHTS HERALD

Harker Heights-area voters continued to go show up at the polls in record numbers this week, as the early-voting period for the Nov. 3 election winds down.

As of Wednesday evening, 13,056 voters had cast ballots in 16 days of early voting at the Harker Heights polling site, located in the Parks and Recreation Center.

The long lines that characterized the first few days of early voting have dissipated, but the turnout numbers have remained strong as the state moved into its third week of early balloting this week.

Statewide, more than 8 million voters had cast their ballots as of Wednesday evening, nearly the total number

of votes cast in Texas in the 2016 election. The three-week early-voting period concludes today.

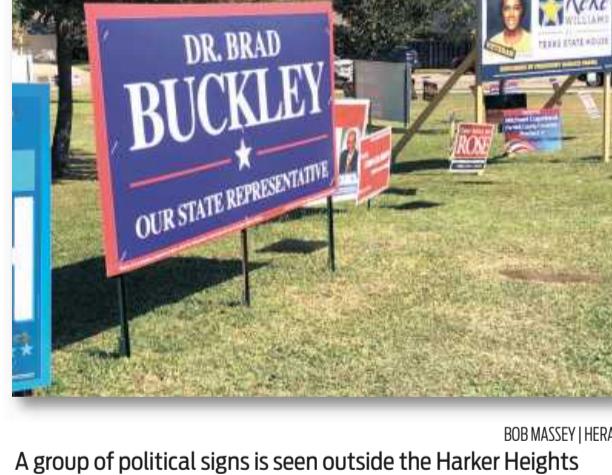
In addition to the Harker Heights location, early voting will be available from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. today at five other sites across Bell County, including two in Killeen — the Rosa Herford Community Center on Veterans Memorial Boulevard and the Bell County Annex on Priest Drive.

On Election Day, Harker Heights voters will be able to cast their ballots at any of 41 polling sites in the county.

Harker Heights has three locations:

- VFW Post 3892, 201 VFW Drive
- Harker Heights Parks & Recreation Center, 307 Millers Crossing
- St. Paul Chong Hasang Catholic Church 1000 E. FM 2410

PLEASE SEE VOTING, 2



A group of political signs is seen outside the Harker Heights Parks and Recreation Center polling site earlier this month. The lawn outside the building is virtually covered with campaign signs this week as the Nov. 3 election approaches.

City of Harker Heights to host Texas Arbor Day activities on Nov. 6

BY STEPHANIE RATTIS GRISSOM
HERALD CORRESPONDENT

While National Arbor Day is typically held in April, Texas holds its Arbor Day in November because of the high temperatures the state typically sees in the spring.

Texas State Arbor Day is held on the first Friday of November every year and is held in a

different city each time. This year, the holiday will be hosted by the city of Harker Heights, and will include many virtual programs in celebration.

Harker Heights Activities Center specialist Adam Trujillo filled out the application and put together a proposal last year for the chance to be the city that hosts the event. "We were announced at last year's

ceremony," he said.

This year's theme is "Growing Texas Traditions."

The celebration will begin live-streaming on Friday, Nov. 6, at 9:30 a.m. with the official celebration beginning at 10 a.m. at Carl Levin Park, with a tree planting to follow.

A representative of the governor will be reading a proclamation, and the city proclamation

will be read, as well, as part of the official ceremony.

And though COVID-19 has caused those involved to modify the celebration, there will still be plenty to see and watch.

Lisa Youngblood, Stewart C. Meyer Harker Heights Public Library director, said, "We worked with different orga-

PLEASE SEE ARBOR, 2