



# CITY OF HEATH UPDATE

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NOVEMBER

2019



### TOM THUMB IS OPEN

AND SEVERAL NEW BUSINESSES ARE COMING TO OUR COMMUNITY

September 27 was a Red Letter Day in Heath as many years of work by past and present leaders culminated in the Grand Opening of Tom Thumb. This achievement brings quality and convenience to Heath citizens, and keeps sales tax dollars in Heath that have been leaking to surrounding cities. Also coming to the new retail center are Gianni's Italian Bistro, Manny's Uptown Tex-Mex Restaurant and The UPS Store.

The Rockwall-Heath High School band, drill team and cheerleaders welcomed the huge crowd that came out to be among the first shoppers and attend the ribbon cutting. During the ceremony, Tom Thumb and the retail center's developer, Malouf Interests, demonstrated their commitment to the community with the following generous donations:

- The Rockwall-Heath High School band, drill team and cheerleading program each received \$1,000, with an additional \$3,000 provided for campus improvements.
- Tom Thumb donated \$6,000 to help the City of Heath continue to present community gatherings that include Holiday in the Park on December 6.
- The City's Park Board received \$1,000 to launch the marketing of its new Parks And Trails of Heath (P.A.T.H.) program, created to unite the community in growing a great parks and trails system together. Watch for details on how you can get involved in next month's newsletter.
- The Heath Department of Public Safety received a \$3,000 donation.

Thank you and welcome to Heath, Tom Thumb! You can see more photos from the Grand Opening on the City's Facebook page and online at heathtx.com.



Chief Terry Garrett and his officers serve Heath 24/7 as our first responders.



Shanna Shults Brewer was excited to fill her cart as one of the first customers.



## HEATH FARMERS MARKET CONTINUES THROUGH NOVEMBER 30

The new Heath Farmers Market presented by Heath Golf & Yacht Club and Whittle Development is getting rave reviews as wonderful vendors present an array of produce and goodies in a festive fall setting.

The entertainment has been equally fabulous, so be sure to make this community gathering in Towne Center Park a part of your remaining fall weekends. The market is open every Saturday through November 30 from 2 to 6 p.m. with a free outdoor concert at 6 p.m. Just bring your lawn chairs, blankets and market goodies to enjoy with the great music.

## HEATH BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT:

WELCOMING DR. LUKE BARLOW OF RESTORE CHIROPRACTIC



Heath has always been a special place to Dr. Barlow and his wife, Madison. They both grew up in the area, met at Lake Pointe Church, and began

dating during their sophomore year of high school. That meant attending all of the Heath football games, dances and more together. "We are so excited to be back and look forward to serving the Heath community," said Dr. Barlow, whose clinic offers an effective and safe alternative to medication and surgery in treating musculoskeletal conditions, general pain relief, and athletic-injury rehabilitation for the whole family.

Dr. Barlow and Madison are active members of Lake Pointe Church, where they served as Youth Leaders while he attended chiropractic school and are now on the Welcome Team. Dr. Barlow was also appointed as an ambassador for the Rockwall Chamber of Commerce and is involved in the Young Professionals of Rockwall group. Restore Chiropractic is located at 110 Smirl Dr. Contact Dr. Barlow at 469-264-7333.

## MIRROR LAKE DENTISTRY HOSTS ITS GRAND OPENING OCTOBER 5

Dr. Cassie Lawson and Dr. Eric Francom of Mirror Lake Dentistry introduced themselves to the community at a festive Grand Opening on October 5 with food, games, prizes and music. Their practice is located in the CoCreate office building at 1629 Smirl Dr.

## FRIENDLY REMINDERS FROM CUSTOMER SERVICE

### CREDIT CARD TRANSACTIONS

Beginning December 1, 2019, the City of Heath will charge a 3% convenience fee for credit card transactions.

### ONLINE UTILITY BILL PAYMENTS

As of December 1, 2018, the \$1.25 processing fee for paying utility bills online with a credit card will be charged to the customer.

### ONLINE COURT PAYMENTS

As of December 1, 2018, the \$1.50 processing fee for paying court fees online with a credit card will be charged to the customer.

### ALARM PERMITS EXPIRE DECEMBER 31

Any one responsible for the operation of or in possession of an alarm system in the City of Heath is required to obtain an annual permit for operation of such system. The permit is good for a calendar year and a penalty of \$200 may be assessed if an alarm system permit is not current. The fee for a residential permit is \$35 per year. For your convenience, the renewal form will be included in next month's utility bill and newsletter mailing. You can also register or renew your residential or commercial alarm permit online at [www.heathtx.com](http://www.heathtx.com) under the Department of Public Safety page.

### DOG REGISTRATION

Dog registrations also expire December 31 each year. Please bring current rabies certification to City Hall to update or obtain your dog's registration tag. The annual cost is \$10 for intact dogs and \$5 for those that have been spayed or neutered.



## WHAT'S IN A PROCLAMATION?

This ceremonial document dedicates a day, week or month in the City of Heath to raise public awareness of an important cause or purpose, or to honor a special event, achievement or person.

At the October 8 City Council meeting, Mayor Kelson Elam joined cities across the nation in proclaiming October as Crime Prevention Month and October 6-12 as Fire Prevention Week. Chief Terry Garrett accepted both proclamations. DPS officers are conducting crime and fire safety education programs at each Heath Elementary School this month. Also at the October 8 City Council meeting, Mayor Elam proclaimed



October as National Chiropractic Health Month, which promotes the use of non-invasive, non-drug approaches combined with an active lifestyle, good nutrition and healthy habits to prevent and rehabilitate muscular injuries. With low back pain being the most common condition for which addictive opioids are prescribed, this is a very worthy cause. Accepting the proclamation from Mayor Kelson Elam (right) were Doctors Paul Liechty (middle) and Luke Barlow (left). Dr. Barlow has just opened a new office in Heath (see Business Spotlight).

## KEEPING HEATH BEAUTIFUL

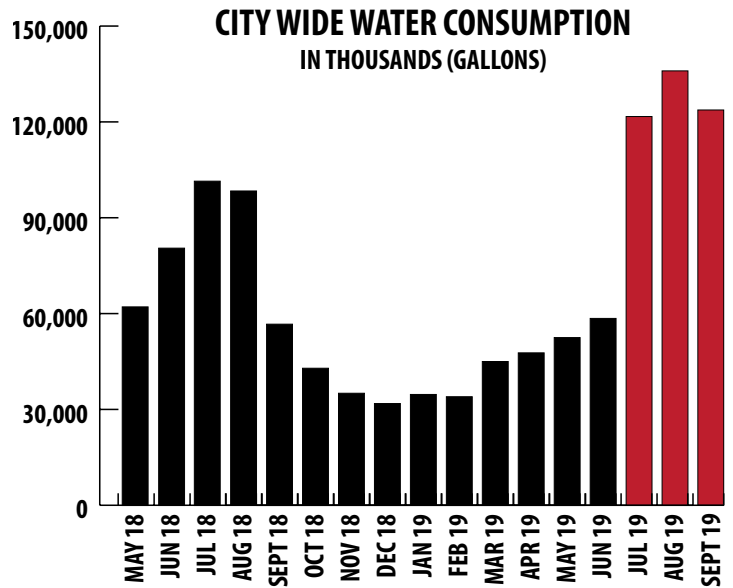
Thank you to Craig Stevenson and his team at Custom Outdoor Trends, who did their Fall Quarterly Clean Up along Heath Crossing Trail as Adopt-A-Park/Trail participants on October 2! If your civic organization or business would like to participate, email [sbrooke@heathtx.com](mailto:sbrooke@heathtx.com).



## HOT TOPICS IN HEATH: WATER!

### WATER DEMAND RISES WITH THE TEMPERATURES

Summer and early fall water bills have been a topic of concern among the City's utility customers, and we hear you! Water consumption citywide, doubled from June to July...and increased again in August and September. While the summer and early fall were drier than 2018, you still want to compare your current month's bill to the same time a year ago to determine if there might be an issue.



If you continue to have concerns, please contact the City at 972-771-6228 for a possible re-read of your meter.

## PUBLIC WORKS STAFF SAVES THE DAY!

Monday, October 7, got off to a bumpy start for many Heath residents as multiple areas in the City experienced low water pressure. The issue was caused by an electrical surge at the south water tower (behind City Hall) and at the Public Works facility on FM 740 that disrupted the main communication system as well as the secondary back-up alarm system.

The electrical surge caused the water towers to stop communicating to the pump station, as well as not send water level alarms to the Utility Operations Manager. Water was going out of the towers, but the pumps were not getting the command to start pumping to replace the water.

The City's Public Works staff worked quickly to manually start the first pump at 6:30 a.m., and an increase in water pressure returned. City staff then turned on a second pump, which began to re-fill the water towers. By 11:30 a.m., the towers were above their normal operating water levels. The cause for the electrical surge was then identified and repaired.

At no time was water quality ever compromised. The water is and has been safe to drink, thanks to our highly-skilled and well-trained Public Works staff who remain on call 24/7 to serve the City.



**DECEMBER 6**  
**FOOD! FUN! SANTA!!**  
 25TH ANNUAL HOLIDAY IN THE PARK  
 IS FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6

Get ready for a joyful time as the community gathers to kick-off the season at the 25th Annual Holiday in the Park in Towne

Center Park on Friday, December 6 from 5:30-8:30 p.m. Festivities will include the lighting of the Christmas Tree at 6:30 p.m. with performances by the Rockwall-Heath High School Jazz Band, and the Amy Parks, Dorothy Pullen and Linda Lyon Elementary School Honor Choirs. Special "pre-show" entertainment will feature the Cain Middle School Band and Orchestras beginning at 6 p.m.

There will also be a Winter Village with food trucks, a dining area warmed by holiday lights, rides on two miniature trains, kids' activities, complimentary hot cocoa and Christmas cookies, home baked and donated by the National Charity League and Rockwall Women's League.

As always, the star of the evening is Santa, and he will be in his picture-perfect scene until 8:30 p.m. after helping light up the Christmas Tree. To make parking easier, there will be a new Trolley Shuttle sponsored by Tom Thumb running from the shopping center to Towne Center Park from 5 to 9 p.m.

The Heath Holiday Shoppe will offer the Fifth Edition 2019 Hometown Heath Christmas Ornament and spirit wear t-shirts. The long sleeve Comfort Color t-shirts are \$20 at the event. Or, buy them now online from All Sports, etc. for in-store pick up and save \$2.



Go to [online.allsportsetc.com](http://online.allsportsetc.com) and search for "City of Heath". For more event details visit the City website and Facebook page.



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