

# CITY OF HEATH UPDATE







Above- 2020 City of Heath Employee of the Year, IT Director Carter Smith (right), with supervisor, Assistant City Manager Kevin Lasher.

# IT DIRECTOR CARTER SMITH NAMED 2020 CITY EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

In a year of online meetings and re-imagined celebrations and events, it was only fitting that IT Director Carter Smith was named the 2020 Citywide Employee of the Year during the virtual staff Christmas party on December 18.

### DIRECT CREDIT CARD Draft Services No Longer Available

As of February 1, the City of Heath will no longer have the ability to offer recurring direct credit card draft services.

If this is how you pay your monthly utility bill, please take a few minutes now to avoid problems later by ensuring an alternative form of payment is in place.

You can find those options and how to make the change under the Utilities Department page at heathtx.com.

"Every staff member did a remarkable job of adapting and pivoting to the unforeseen and unprecedented challenges we faced this year, including our DPS Officers and Public Works team who put themselves at increased risk to serve the public," said City Manager Aretha Adams. "We did not skip many beats, thanks to our employees' dedication."

"One person in particular kept us moving forward online through his skill and natural knack for technology, and that was IT Director Carter Smith," said Adams. "He has kept us ZOOMING through 10 months of City Council meetings, Board and Commission meetings, weekly executive staff meetings, and a



myriad of other online interactions necessary to conduct City business. And he has done it with a calm, caring and professional manner that has helped put everyone at ease with technology."

Picturerd from top left, clockwise: *City Manager Aretha Adams also named 2020 Departmental Employees of the Year as:* 

Detective Eric Wiedeman, Department of Public Safety; Equipment Operator Johnny Driggers, Public Works; Purchasing Agent-Payroll Clerk Jennifer Colombo, Finance; Code Enforcement Officer Javier Falcon, Community Development; and Assistant to the City Manager/HR Coordinator Kristi Smith, Administrative Services.



## **COVID-19 VACCINE UPDATES FOR ROCKWALL COUNTY**

The Rockwall County Office of Emergency Management has a website page dedicated to providing current information about the COVID-19 vaccine in Rockwall County, including who is eligible to receive the vaccine at this time and provider locations. The supply remains very limited, but you can follow the progress at:

rockwallcountytexas.com/1065/COVID-19-Vaccine-in-Rockwall-County

### HELP KEEP HEATH BEAUTIFUL!

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF YOUR BULKY AND UNBUNDLED BRUSH SERVICES

Waste Collection Service Provides City of Heath Customers the following Waste and Recycling Services:

- Weekly trash and bulky item collection
- Monthly bulky item and brush pick up on the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month
- One 95-gallon rolling polycart with a lid provided for trash collection
- One 95-gallon rolling polycart with a lid provided for recyclables

Your Weekly Trash Collection includes:

- Emptying of the trash and recyclables poly carts
- Pick up of any other bags or bins set out
- Bulky items such as furniture
- Pick up of bundled brush or limbs (not to exceed 4 feet in length)

Weekly Bulky Waste Collection | Items Accepted:

- Brush Bundled in no more than 4 feet in length
- Furniture couch, chair, mattress, box springs, etc.
- Appliances (Freon must be removed & certified)
- Swing Sets (disassembled)
- Debris from minor home improvement projects (no more than 1 cubic yard)
- Cardboard Boxes (broken down)

Weekly Bulky Waste Collection | Items Not Accepted:

- Roofing materials
- Debris from construction, demolition or remodeling by a contractor
- Dirt, rocks or concrete
- Hazardous materials herbicides, pesticides, fertilizers, pool chemicals, etc.
- Tires, batteries and automobile parts
- Liquids paints, motor oil, solvents
- Electronics
- Wooden pallets

## MONTHLY UNBUNDLED BRUSH COLLECTION

Brush and limbs that are not bundled or exceed the weekly size limit of 4 feet in length will be collected during the week of the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month.

- Items should be placed curbside by 7 a.m. on the 1st and 3rd Mondays.
- Unbundled brush should not be placed curbside more than three days prior to scheduled collection.
- You will be billed \$10 per cubic yard over 3 cubic yards.
- Size Example: 1 cubic yard = 7x 30-gallon trash bags, or a box that is 3 feet in length, height and width.

#### For More Information, Contact:

Waste Connection Customer Service - 972-289-6714 City of Heath Customer Service - 972-961-4892

## HOW TO BE MORE WILEY THAN THE COYOTE

The City of Heath and Heath DPS are aware of coyote sightings in various Heath neighborhoods and have consulted the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and Rockwall County Animal Control. Representatives with both entities note that the combination of Heath being a semi-rural community with cold weather and construction such as the new White Road results in more activity as wildlife seek shelter and food. This increase is becoming more common, even in suburban areas and cities.

The following tips were offered to help protect your household and pets:

- Remove anything that attracts pests and predator animals to your property, such as pet and livestock food dishes that are out in the open
- Mow down tall grass
- Keep pets indoors, or supervise them during the night when they go outside
- Enclose your compost piles
- Seal up any openings under your deck, porch, or shed

#### **INSTALL FENCING**

Fencing is the best way to keep your pets in, and coyotes out. Coyotes can jump high, and will dig as well, so fencing should be at least 6 feet tall, and buried a few inches into the ground. Some people also opt for electric fencing.

#### INSTALL SOLAR LED DETERRENT OR MOTION DETECTOR LIGHTS

LED predator deterrent lights are available and can help scare coyotes (and other nocturnal predators and pest animals) away from your property. The coyotes will mistake the twin LED lights for the flickering eyes of another unknown predator. To find this product online, search "predator deterrent lighting".



### **#WTD: IT'S A COMMUNITY THING!**

From left, Heath DPS Officer Casey Northcutt, Chief Brandon Seery and Officer Matt Mayo prepare to escort the Mighty Hawks Football Team out of town to Waco and deep into the playoffs for the first time in 12 years. The City congratulates the football team on its success and wishes all Heath Hawk teams, clubs, students and faculty a winning 2021.



### **CHRISTMAS IN THE PARK 2020**

Heath DPS officers also took time from their busy schedules to safely escort the horses and drivers of Four Winds Carriage Co. to and from Towne Center Park to provide rides and enjoy the expanded Christmas lights throughout the very different holiday season. The City thanks our officers along with the owners of McCutcheon Farms for providing a "home away from home" for the beautiful horses in December.

#### CITY OF HEATH GENERAL ELECTION INFORMATION

The City of Heath is scheduled to hold a General Election on May 1, to elect four Council Members for Places 1, 2, 4, and 6 for two-year terms each. Informational candidate packets and applications for a place on the ballot are available at heathtx.com or you may contact the City Secretary's office at 972-961-4876 or nduncan@heathtx.com for a hard or digital copy. The first day to file an application for a place on the ballot was Wednesday, January 13. The last day to file is Friday, February 12 by 5 p.m.

# **THANK YOU 2020 CHARTER PATH MEMBERS**

HEAT

Thank you to all of the Heath residents and businesses who supported the new Parks And Trails of Heath (PATH) fund raising program its inaugural year. Through your support as Charter Members, the first PATH project of increasing shade in Towne Center Park with 25 new trees, plus new park benches and a water bottle filler and pet bowl was completed in 2020. The Park Board will soon announce the next PATH project. Be a part of this progress in 2021 by signing up at heathtx.com/path!

### CHARTER PATH DONORS AS OF JANUARY 14, 2021

**PATH PATRON** \$10,000 Donation





PATH FUNDER \$1,000 Donation Tom Thus

# M Malouf

PATH PAVER \$500 Donation Larry & Mary Bush

Ernie & Becky Burkett Chris & Angela Cass **Russell & Patricia Clark** Dennis Close Renee & Scott Clover **Colley Family** Tom & Margaret Davidson Dennis Jon-Paul & Crystal Dixon **Kathy Farrington** Neal & Mary Fondren Grinnan Family Mike & Amanda Karner Rich Koepke Mark & Lisa Misheck McCutcheon Farms, LLC Kevin & Susan Smart Family **Rick & Kathy Spletter** 

SPECIAL CONTRIBUTION Tom & Charlene Norris (\$250) Gary & Tracy Allen (\$100)

#### PATH FINDER - Recurring \$10 per Month

Gary & Tracy Allen Councilmember John Beaman Anthony & Julie Berg Dean & Christine Brand Mark & Suzanne Brooke Ernie & Becky Burkett Jim & Beatrice Chester Patrick & Lindsey Cummins John & Janie Curtis Ralph & Mary DeMott Family John & Katie Dyer Mayor Kelson & Brenda Elam Kevin and Tracy Enoch Ryan & Ashley Farha Family David & Laura Gartling Mark & Toni George John & Sherry Gillespie Ken & Lorrie Gray Shawn & Misty Helms Robert & Dana Hensley

Ken & Ginny Jackson Lorrie Kasper Wes & Sarah Keith Brian & Lea Lashley Mike & Ruth Miller **Troy Parker** Bob Petka Bryan Ramey John & Janet Reed David Roe The Farha Family Charles & Malette Reed Tony & Councilmember Donna Rolater Gini Seely Tom & Diane Smith **Cameron & Michelle Slocum** Justin & Jennifer Saunders Councilmember Brent Weaver & Lillian Weaver William & Wendy Wilbanks Jeff & Cathy Wicker Brian Wiley



**HEATH FLAG SERVICE/ BURROW FAMILY** 

**VICKI WALLACE** 

Steve & Stacy Wingard Michaela Wood Craig & Julie Zurek

#### PATH MAKER - Recurring \$5 per Month

Iames Albrecht Gary & Kellie Anderson Randy & Lana Dodge Calvin and Linda O'Glee Jeff & Claudette Overfield R.E. (Bob) Shaw, Sr. **Candee Smith** 

If you would like to participate anonymously, please indicate that under publicity, when signing up.



The UPS Store 😎

VISIT HEATHTX.COM/PATH TO FIND CHARTER MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS AND SIGN UP ONLINE. OR SCAN THE QR CODE ABOVE.