



CITY OF HEATH UPDATE

**THIS SEASON
SHOP LOCAL
IN HEATH**
IN STORES & ONLINE

**DECEMBER
2022**



DECEMBER CELEBRATIONS

December 7 National Pearl Harbor Day of Remembrance
December 18-26 Hanukkah
December 25 Christmas Day
December 26 Boxing Day

Happy Holidays

From The City of Heath



City Manager
Aretha Adams with
her children at
Independence Day
in Heath

HOLIDAY MESSAGE FROM THE CITY MANAGER

And just that
like, the year is
coming to an

end! Before we countdown to the New Year, let's take a look back at all that we accomplished together during 2022:

1. A balanced budget with funding that will increase quality of life and the number of Department of Public Safety (DPS) officers in our schools, while also cutting property taxes more than 14%.
2. The completion of the Towne Center Master Plan, which will result in a deliberately and thoughtfully designed downtown center.
3. The completion of a Towne Center Park Master Plan that includes significant enhancements and renovations to that will soon be underway.
4. Infrastructure upgrades including roads and water lines.
5. A full return of our Hometown Heath Events including The Heart of Heath 5k and Family Run, the Independence Day Parade, and Christmas in Heath on December 2. (See page 3)
6. PLUS the addition of the inaugural and successful National Night Out in Heath, hosted by Heath DPS.
7. An ongoing educational campaign to encourage citizens to keep their sales tax dollars at work in Heath by shopping "local" online and in stores.
8. The presentation of the third Heath Farmers Market season with a fireworks finale.
9. An ongoing expansion of our trail system, including land donated by private citizens for a future trailhead/plaza at Hubbard Drive/FM 740.
10. Approval to obtain a design for the Towne Center Village Gateway "passive park" in front of the Heath Towne Center/Tom Thumb.
11. A new Director of Public Works, Matthew Holzapfel, who is an accomplished engineer and professional with extensive experience in municipal engineering and public works.
12. A new Manager of Capital Improvement Projects, Michael Shook, who is equally skilled with experience in other cities.
13. Approval of the Parks And Trails of Heath (PATH) program's second project, which is the renovation and expansion the swing and play equipment at Terry Park. (See page 4)
14. The launch of a QR code-based emergency communication program called SCAN: Safe Citizens Action Network that can be quickly activated to distribute emergency information specific to Heath citizens without reliance upon third party sources.
15. The addition of a Skeeter Brush Fire Truck to the DPS fleet that goes where a full-size fire truck cannot (and was put to use its first week fighting summer brush fires).

Continued on back page...



HEATH FARMERS MARKET TO GOES OUT WITH A BANG

A successful 2022 Heath Farmers Market season concluded on October 29 with a Halloween In Heath celebration featuring shopping, food, costume contests, fortune tellers and more. The free evening concert was topped off by a fireworks show sponsored by the Heath Economic Development and Municipal Benefits Corporations. Find more photos on Facebook: @HeathFarmersMarket.

KEEP HEATH SAFE AND BEAUTIFUL:

DO YOUR PART TO HELP PREVENT STORMWATER POLLUTION

Stormwater runoff is rain that falls on streets, parking areas, sports fields, gravel lots, rooftops or other developed land and flows directly into our lakes and streams. The drizzling or pounding rain picks up and mixes with pollutants on the ground such as vehicle oil, grease and coolants; fertilizers and pesticides; pet waste; soaps from vehicle or equipment washing...even tobacco debris! This polluted runoff then rushes into nearby gutters and storm drains and into natural bodies of water. It's a problem that everyone plays a part in, and one that everyone can help solve.

One simple way to prevent stormwater runoff is to take advantage of the City's Weekly Household Hazardous Waste Collection Service, which offers utility customers a free weekly "front porch pickup" of household hazardous wastes items. Items collected include paint, motor oil, batteries, insecticides, fertilizers, pool chemicals and other household materials. These items are not accepted by regular trash collection services.

TO SCHEDULE A FRONT PORCH PICKUP:

BY 8 P.M. MONDAY

Call 972-440-2040 or go online to HHSolutions.com to request a pickup. There will be a City of Heath tab on the website.

BY 7 A.M. WEDNESDAY

Place items to be collected on your front porch. If you have a gated property, please place your items at the curb/

Customers can also set out up to 50 pounds of electronic items to be recycled. You do not have to be home to have items collected.



CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS IN HEATH ON DECEMBER 2

Santa Claus is coming to town for Christmas in Heath on Friday, December 2, 5:30-8:30 p.m. in Towne Center Park. Expect all of the beloved traditions as you stroll the lighted trails enjoying the sights, sounds and treats of the season.

The Christmas Tree lighting ceremony is at 6 p.m. featuring the Rockwall Heath High School Jazz Band, followed by performances by the Amy Parks, Pullen and Linda Lyon Honor choirs throughout the evening.

There will also be complimentary cocoa, fresh-made donuts and homemade cookies baked and wrapped by the United Methodist Church of Heath, National Charity League and Lakeside League boys team charity members; an array of food trucks; miniature train rides; children's activities; and of course, visits and photos with Santa and his trusty reindeers.

Plan to purchase the 2022 Heath Christmas ornament (\$12) and festive long sleeve Heath t-shirts (\$20) at Santa's Souvenir Shoppe.

Make parking easy by hopping on the Christmas red and white trolley buses providing free shuttles to and from Tom Thumb between 5:00-9 p.m. Find a map of the event at heathtx.com or scan the QR code above.

You can purchase your Heath Christmas Merchandise at Christmas In The Park. Above L-R: Festive long sleeve Tee front/back and Holiday Christmas ornament.

FRIENDLY REMINDER FROM THE HEATH DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY:



GOLF CARTS ARE PROHIBITED ON CITY TRAILS AND SIDEWALKS...

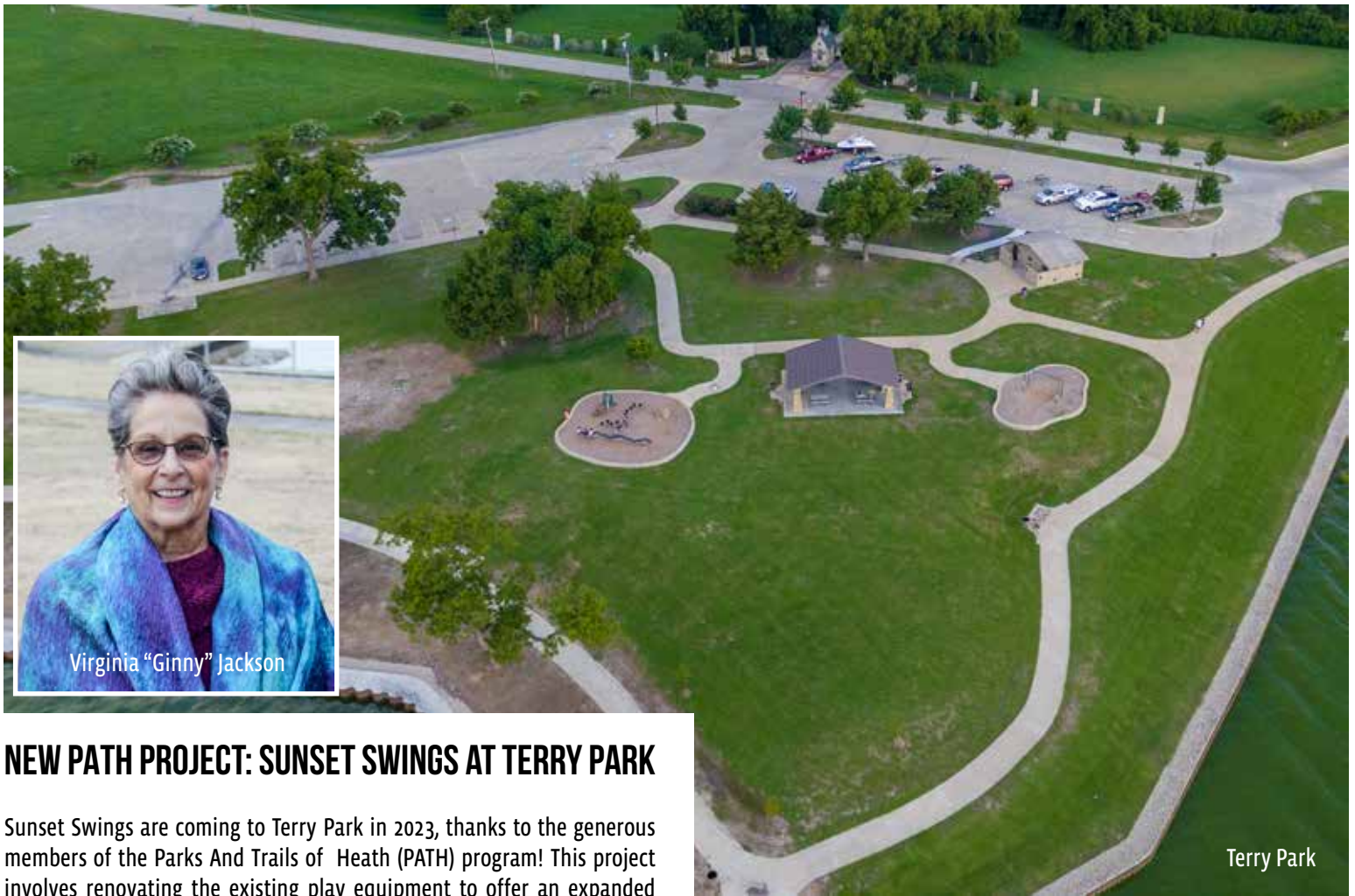
Citations May be Issued for Violations. Learn more about the use of golf carts around town by scanning the QR code.

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 is included with this utility bill and newsletter mailing. You can also register or renew your residential or commercial alarm permit online at 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.



Terry Park

Virginia "Ginny" Jackson

NEW PATH PROJECT: SUNSET SWINGS AT TERRY PARK

Sunset Swings are coming to Terry Park in 2023, thanks to the generous members of the Parks And Trails of Heath (PATH) program! This project involves renovating the existing play equipment to offer an expanded array of swings for all ages and abilities.

Additionally, new bench swings will be installed along the path overlooking the lake to give visitors a place to gently sway to lake and sunset views. These swinging benches offer a place to mount a bronze memorial plaque. The first memorial swing will honor the life and service of Heath resident Virginia "Ginny" Jackson, a beloved member of the community who served on the Park Board for eight years during which she spurred the 2007 renovation of Terry Park.

Mrs. Jackson was also the spark behind Marsha's Happy Haven, the all-abilities park designated for a site within Terry Park dedicated by City Council in 2018 for this use. Private fund raising for construction continues under the leadership of her dear friend and fellow citizen, Gini Seely. Learn more at: marshashappyhaven.com.

HOLIDAY MESSAGE FROM THE CITY MANAGER *CONTINUED*

As great as the year has been, I'm even more excited about 2023 and all that it will bring. Please stay in the loop of what is happening by following the City on social media, visiting our website (where you can also request notifications regarding city council agendas), reading this newsletter, and attending City events and meetings to get to know the Council and staff who are working hard to maintain Heath's incredible hometown charm and character.

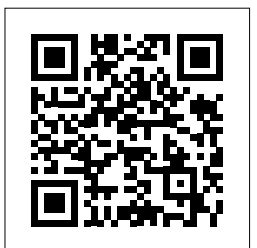
I hope you enjoy the final weeks of the 2022 with family, friends, and loved ones partaking in all of the festivities this time of the year has to offer!

Happy Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas! - Aretha Adams, City Manager.



BE A PART OF THE PROGRESS — JOIN PATH TODAY!

PATH was created to unite the community in helping grow a great parks and trails system by offering citizens and local businesses the opportunity to participate by making a recurring \$5 or \$10 donation with their monthly utility bill or a one-time contribution. Everyone benefits because great parks, trails and green spaces increase the quality of life, promotes community connection and generates economic benefits, including stronger home values. Learn how you can become a PATH member: heathtx.com/path or scan the QR code..



FOR THE LATEST CITY OF HEATH NEWS AND INFORMATION VISIT HEATHTX.COM