

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT



MAY 13, 2025

Upcoming City Events, Activities, and Updates

HUMAN RESOURCES

- ❖ **Richard Hatfield** retired from on April 21st after 9 years of service to the City. Congratulations to **Richard Hatfield!**

The **Parks Department** welcomed new employees.

- ❖ **Caden Reese** was hired for the position of **Light Equipment Operator** on April 28th.
- ❖ **Heather Hollis** was hired for the position of **Aquatics Cashier** on May 5th.
- ❖ **Amy Pafford** was hired for the position of **Water Safety Instructor** on May 5th.
- ❖ **Matthew Burns** was hired for the position of **Lifeguard** on May 6th.

The **Public Works Department** welcomed a new employee on May 5th.

- ❖ **Kage Carmichael** was hired for the position of **Water Service Worker**.

The **Police Department** welcomed a new employee on May 12th.

- ❖ **Joshua Hidalgo** was hired for the position of Telecommunicator.

The **Library Department** will be welcoming a new employee on May 27th.

- ❖ **Sofia Ramirez** will be hired for the position of **Student Library Page**.

The City is currently taking applications for the following positions:

Fire Chief
Firefighter/EMT (Paramedic Preferred)
Heavy Equipment Operator Maintenance
Technicians Seasonal Lifeguards
Seasonal Water Safety Instructor

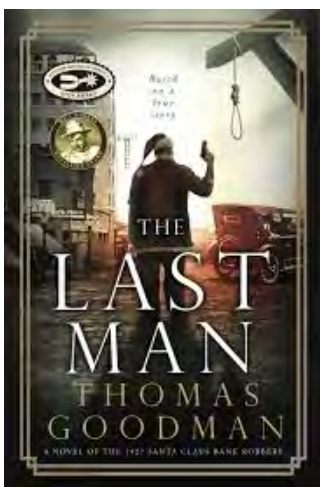


THE STEWART C. MEYERS HARKER HEIGHTS LIBRARY

The Library's Summer Reading Club is coming this June 2025! Everyone of all ages can join this free **"Level Up -- READ" summer reading club!** Read on your own and/or attend one or more of our many upcoming programs! From special presenters, to book discussions, to World Music Day, to a Night at Hogwarts, the Library will have something for everyone. We will send our Summer Reading Club program booklets to elementary aged children in Harker Heights area schools. The booklets are also available at the Library and online at <https://harkerheights.gov/libraryspecialevents>. Get an early start signing up for the virtual part of our club at our Readsquared website at <https://harkerheights.readsquared.com>. There you can sign up for the club, log your books and/or hours, earn virtual badges, complete missions, and see booklists!

Do you want to give back to the community? **Volunteer for the Library!** The Library offers an array of opportunities including virtual volunteering, volunteering on a regular schedule, volunteering for special events, and a little of all of these. Volunteering is a great way serve your town while you build your resume, experiences, and contact lists. E-mail Lisa at lyoungblood@harkerheight.gov for more information. In most cases Library volunteer hours count towards service time needed to fulfill class, club, and other requirements.

Adults join us each month for our **Book Discussion Club** on the third Thursday of each month at 6:30pm both in-person and online. **May's book is "The Last Man: A Novel of the 1927 Santa Claus Bank Robbery" by Thomas Goodman!** This month we will enjoy an online visit from the author! Thomas Goodman will give us some insight into his novel before discuss the book with our members! On December 23, 1927, Santa Claus walked into the First National Bank in Cisco, TX. Marshall Ratliff, dressed as **Santa Claus**, along with ex-cons Henry Helms and Robert Hill, and Louis Davis, a relative of Helms, held up the bank. Supposed to be just one in a long string of crimes against banks in the early 20th century, this robbery soon ballooned into a hostage situation, a car chase, and murder and resulted in one of the largest manhunts in the State and culminated into one of the most famous crimes in Texas. If you would like an invitation to the virtual meeting please e-mail lyoungblood@harkerheights.gov. If you would like to join us in-person, just drop in!



The Stewart C. Meyer Harker Heights Public Library

School's almost out! Join us on Thursday, May 22, 2025, for a **Last Day of School Game Day** from 1:30 – 6:30 pm. Enjoy board games, crafts in the Maker Space, and a GAME TRUCK with virtual games! You can even sign up for the reading club online or in-person!

Abracadabra! Bring the whole family to the Library for a **Magic Show** at 2:00 pm on Saturday, May 24, 2025! Volunteer Stew wows you with illusions! No registration is necessary. Seating is on a first come/first serve basis!



Our youngest patrons and their families are invited for our **early literacy programs!**

- ❖ **Babytime Lapsit Program | Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m.**
 - Babies and their adults will sing songs, rhymes, and learn fingerplays! Classes will fill on a first come, first serve basis. For children ages 0-18 months. No older siblings, please.
- ❖ **Storytime for Preschoolers | Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. (through May) and Thursdays at 9:00 a.m. (year-round)**
 - Visit the Library each week for a variety of stories, songs and more! Registration is not required. Classes will fill on a first come, first serve basis. For children ages 3-6 years old and their families.
- ❖ **Toddler Time Stories | Thursdays at 10:00 a.m.**
 - Visit the Library each week for a variety of stories, songs and more! Registration is not required. Classes will fill on a first come, first serve basis. For children ages 0-3 years old and their families.
- ❖ **Family Storytime | 2nd Thursday of Each Month at 6:30 p.m.**
 - The entire family is invited to visit the Library for stories and songs! Registration is not required. Classes will fill on a first come, first serve basis.

The Stewart C. Meyer Harker Heights Public Library

Ms. Kay will be back and providing **school readiness programs** for parents and children ages 3-6 years old each Tuesday July at 10 am. Children ages 3-6 and their families enjoy stories, songs, crafts, and work on literacy skills, fine and gross motor skills, and social emotional learning. Registration is required for this program each week. Call 254-953-5491 to register beginning June 16th, 2025.

Seniors ages 50 and up enjoyed our **“Mystery Masquerade” Senior Prom** on Saturday, May 10 from 4-7pm! The Harker Heights Senior Recreation program, the Library, and Chaparral High School are worked together to present a night to remember! Seniors ages 50 years and up came in party wear, dressed to the nines, or just as they were. We had light snacks, music, photo ops, and more! Thank you to all of our partners and volunteers!



Star Wars provided many fun opportunities for the Library! The Library visited Mountain View Elementary for Friday Friends dressed as a Jedi. Even the teachers were excited! On Saturday, our Library made an appearance at Temple Public Library for their “Free Comic Book Day.” The biggest event, though, was **Star Wars Day at the Library**. From light saber training, to fencing, to crafts, games, and more, attendees had a great time! Thank you to our volunteers and partners:

Jo Tye from Recreational Fencing, Bell County Cosplayers, Texas A & M University Central Texas Library, Mandalorian Mercs Costume Club Kar’ta Beskar Clan, and of course our incredible Library Volunteers! New this year was a Star Wars Maker Space galactic craft room!



The Library offers a variety of ebooks and electronic audiobook resources **available to you 24/7**. Take a look at the Library’s collections of teen and children’s materials from **TumbleBooks** and **TumbleMath**. Use your library card number to access these resources. For TumbleBook Library is a collection of over 11,000 titles for grades K-6 and includes talking picture books, chapter books, videos, graphic novels, and non-fiction. For access, go to tumblebooklibrary.com. Use username: harkerheightspl and password: books. TumbleMath is a comprehensive collection of math picture books with animation and narration. For access, go to tumblemath.com and use username: harkerheightspl and password: math.

Parks & Recreation Department

RECREATION CENTER

ABILITY SPORTS

Ability pickleball & tennis registration will begin June 2.
The session will run from July 7 -August 4.



SPORTS

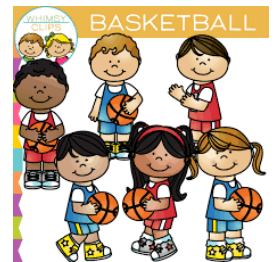
Volleyball games will begin Saturday May 31st, 2025,
with over 180 participants.



Youth soccer registration will begin May 27th.
The season will start in September 2025.



Youth Basketball Camp (June 9-11, June 16-18, July 7-9, July 14-16)
registration is open with limit availability.



AQUATICS

Swim Lessons signup begins May 17th at 9am. New this year
ONLINE registration.

Dive into Summer Safety event will take place on May 17th
10am-2pm at Carl Levin Pool. There will be several vendors
and businesses participating in the event.



SENIOR RECREATION

- ❖ **Active Seniors (50+)** are invited to **PLAY** a variety of recreational activities and games on Thursdays from 11:00 am – 12:45 pm at the Recreation Center. May's activity is volleyball.



- ❖ We continue to celebrate **Older Americans Month** during the month of May at the Harker Heights Recreation Center.
 - **Lunch & Learn** – Friday, May 16, 2025, from 11:45 am – 1:30 pm; Recreation Center, 307 Miller's Crossing; space is limited; pre-registration required.
 - **Ice Cream Social** – Wednesday, May 21, 2025, from 2:00 pm – 3:30 pm; Recreation Center, 307 Miller's Crossing; registration not required.
 - **Games Galore** – Tuesday, May 27, 2025, from 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm; Recreation Center, 307 Miller's Crossing; registration not required.
- ❖ **The Senior (50+) Prom** hosted by Harker Heights Parks & Recreation, Stewart C. Meyer Harker Heights Public Library, and Chaparral High School Chick-fil-A Leader Academy Students was a great success and so much fun. Participants enjoyed a Masquerade ball, and celebrated with music, dancing, photos, and light refreshments.



- ❖ **BINGO** will be on Thursday, May 16, 2025, from 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm at the Recreation Center



- ❖ **Ladies Night Out** will be on Thursday, May 16, 2025, at 5:00 pm. The seniors will visit the new restaurant Smokey Mo's Texas BBQ. Each attendee is responsible for purchasing their own meal. Registration is preferred and can be done in person at the Recreation Center.



Parks & Recreation Department

SPECIAL EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

The Harker Heights Farmers Market is open. The market will be held on Saturdays, through July 26. There will be a break during the summer then continue Saturdays from October 4 - December 6, 2025. The market will be held at the Harker Heights City Hall parking lot at 305 Miller's Crossing.

For those interested in being a vendor at the Farmers Market, please follow the link below to the Farmers Market webpage on the City of Harker Heights website.

Link to Farmers Market Webpage: <https://www.harkerheights.gov/index.php/programs/farmers-market-2>

For updates or more information, please visit the **Harker Heights Farmers Market** Facebook page or email farmersmarket@harkerheights.gov.



The City of Harker Heights and the Harker Heights Veterans Council will host a Memorial Ceremony and Remembrance Walk on Saturday, May 24, 2025, at 9:00 am Carl Levin Park Amphitheater, 400 Miller's Crossing. The walk will be around the park trail following the ceremony. The ceremony will feature a traditional wreath laying to honor those who gave their lives. In case of inclement weather, the ceremony will move indoors to the Harker Heights Recreation Center, 307 Miller's Crossing.



The First Fridays Music Series concert series will be held on the First Friday at the Carl Levin Park Amphitheater. Four additional concerts are scheduled for Friday, June 6, Friday September 5, Friday October 3 and Friday November 7. The events will be held from 7:00pm- 9:00pm. The First Calvary Division Pop Band from Fort Cavazos will perform on June 6. This family-friendly event is free and open to the public. Families and friends are invited to the park for free music, food vendors, and more. Attendees are encouraged to bring their lawn chairs or blankets and enjoy a picnic on the amphitheater lawn.

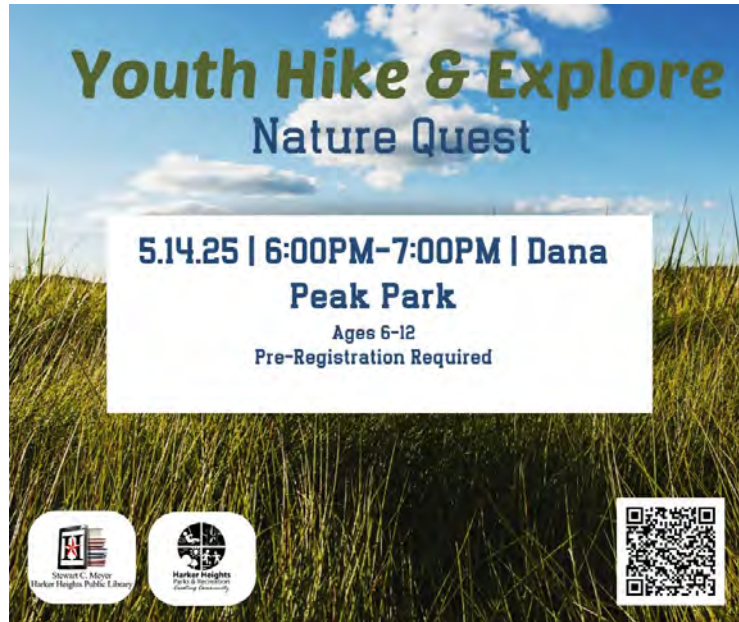
- ❖ Friday, June 6- First Calvary Division Pop Band from Fort Cavazos
- ❖ Friday, September 5- Purple Hull
- ❖ Friday, October 3- Lucas Miller
- ❖ Friday, November 7- Glen Meloy



Parks & Recreation Department

GO Heights!

On May 14th from 6pm-7pm there will be a **Youth Hike and Nature Quest** at Dana Peak Park. The class is for ages 6-12 and pre-registration is required.



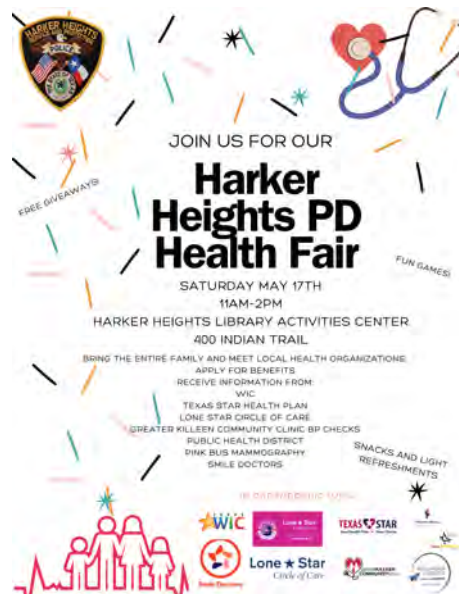
Join us June 13th and July 11th for **Wild Ones Nature Play Program**. Tailored to ages 4yrs-7yrs participants will explore nature materials that promote creativity, imagination, and critical thinking. The program will meet from 9a-10a at Carl Levin Park Community Garden. Pre-registration is required.



- ❖ The Bell County Police Memorial will be held on May 15, 2025 at 10am at the Killeen Police Department (3304 Community Blvd).



- ❖ Harker Heights Police Department Health Fair: Saturday, May 17th from 11am to 2pm at the Activities Center.



Harker Heights Police Department Youth Academy will be June 25th and June 26th for children ages 10 years to 13 years old.

APRIL 2025

CODE ENFORCEMENT SUMMARY

Monthly Summary

April 1, 2025 - April 30, 2025

Violation Type	Quantity	Percentage
Grass	76	58.02%
Grass Parking	18	13.74%
Other*	11	8.40%
Bulk Items	10	7.63%
Outside Storage	7	5.34%
Brush	3	2.29%
Heavy Vehicle Parking	2	1.53%
Maintenance	2	1.53%
Building Inspection	1	0.76%
Fencing	1	0.76%
Basketball Goal	0	0.00%
Boat	0	0.00%
Junk Vehicle	0	0.00%
Rubbish & Trash Containers	0	0.00%
Skirting	0	0.00%
Tires	0	0.00%
Trailer	0	0.00%
Trash	0	0.00%
Tree limbs	0	0.00%
Total	131	100.00%

Fiscal Year Summary

October 1, 2024 - April 30, 2025

Violation Type	Quantity	Percentage
Grass	197	24.84%
Grass Parking	188	23.71%
Other*	125	15.76%
Outside Storage	122	15.38%
Bulk Items	59	7.44%
Brush	37	4.67%
Basketball Goal	11	1.39%
Trailer	11	1.39%
Fencing	10	1.26%
Heavy Vehicle Parking	10	1.26%
Maintenance	7	0.88%
Tree limbs	5	0.63%
Tires	4	0.50%
Building Inspection	2	0.25%
Junk Vehicle	2	0.25%
Skirting	2	0.25%
Trash	1	0.13%
Boat	0	0.00%
Rubbish & Trash Containers	0	0.00%
Total	793	100.00%



254-953-5600



planning@harkerheights.gov

*The Bright Star Of
Central Texas*

Harker Heights





City of Harker Heights
Planning & Development
305 Miller's Crossing
Harker Heights, TX 76548
planning@harkerheights.gov

Economic Development Report

APRIL 2025 DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITY REPORT

COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT

The City issued **zero (0)** new commercial permits within the month of April.

The City issued **two (2)** commercial remodeling permits within the month of April.

- 725 S. Ann Blvd. (Health Body Mind)
 - Valued at \$48,546.00
- 2101 Memory Ln. Ste. 106 (Ledger Foot & Ankle)
 - Valued at \$48,000.00

RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT

The City issued a total of **eight (8)** permits for single-family residential construction within the month of April.

- One (1) new permit issued for Cedar Trails Subdivision
 - Valued at \$144,621.00
- Six (6) new permits issued for The Village at Nolan Heights Subdivision
 - Valued at \$1,212,560.00 total
- One (1) new permit issued for 1909 Fall Creek Dr.
 - Valued at \$350,000.00

The City issued **zero (0)** permits for two-family (duplex) residential construction within the month of April.

To date in calendar year 2025 (January 1, 2025 - December 31, 2025) the City has issued a total of forty-six (46) residential permits: twenty-one (29) new single-family permits, seventeen (17) new two-family permits, and zero (0) new multi-family permits.

POPULATION ESTIMATES

As of April 30, 2025, the estimated population for the City of Harker Heights is **36,067** residents. According to the US Census, the population as of April 1, 2020, was 33,097 residents. Since that time, we have added 1,000 new water accounts with an average household size of 2.97.



Finance Department



ONLINE UTILITY BILL PAYMENTS

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
January	\$601,807.73	\$458,586.58	\$425,468.44	\$431,215.89	\$347,598.93
February	\$500,095.41	\$534,106.66	\$473,232.50	\$447,458.01	\$259,558.94
March	\$594,505.36	\$505,890.78	\$457,827.45	\$427,327.54	\$337,154.90
April	\$568,865.23	\$449,213.99	\$404,428.51	\$450,611.99	\$341,911.77
May		\$470,065.16	\$577,032.32	\$457,447.36	\$455,951.18*
June		\$455,755.87	\$508,923.56	\$559,624.69	\$457,853.17
July		\$632,588.50	\$549,266.57	\$593,523.31	\$474,837.86
August		\$648,863.93	\$700,084.97	\$626,576.19	\$473,342.17
September		\$623,481.36	\$732,809.66	\$733,557.95	\$575,867.17
October		\$741,027.48	\$640,193.47	\$550,329.57	\$615,499.23
November		\$698,851.87	\$644,238.19	\$597,938.12	\$488,924.69
December		\$626,161.64	\$560,893.99	\$529,760.67	\$540,030.51

*As of April 26, 2021, automatic credit card drafts are now part of the online utility bill payment totals.

AUTOMATED PHONE PAYMENTS



	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
January	\$153,706.27	\$111,335.93	\$104,768.73	\$110,804.07	\$122,588.54
February	\$120,398.04	\$122,733.86	\$120,067.52	\$107,542.69	\$90,974.33
March	\$127,692.41	\$113,274.41	\$114,106.26	\$112,330.20	\$143,922.62
April	\$125,990.29	\$97,246.60	\$98,130.13	\$110,142.69	\$126,015.15
May		\$109,383.84	\$128,587.47	\$111,214.36	\$114,615.29
June		\$103,002.72	\$117,678.21	\$126,583.78	\$117,093.13
July		\$128,211.92	\$116,990.27	\$127,979.57	\$114,493.61
August		\$140,993.30	\$160,801.83	\$136,631.66	\$121,311.92
September		\$133,158.99	\$149,676.66	\$153,943.37	\$128,969.57
October		\$163,763.26	\$140,226.20	\$120,331.11	\$133,559.38
November		\$133,455.63	\$141,456.45	\$131,364.63	\$109,105.34
December		\$137,429.14	\$117,512.11	\$114,240.31	\$115,096.07



KIOSK PAYMENTS

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
January	\$17,951.79	\$15,526.79	\$14,230.92	\$9,974.61	\$13,714.61
February	\$13,417.71	\$14,866.27	\$17,296.49	\$12,965.79	\$11,058.25
March	\$14,914.95	\$16,016.08	\$13,010.92	\$13,519.99	\$16,168.18
April	\$16,105.78	\$13,150.82	\$12,552.09	\$13,777.77	\$14,514.82
May		\$11,855.53	\$16,807.66	\$14,264.27	\$12,642.08
June		\$16,060.62	\$16,308.52	\$17,616.84	\$13,961.69
July		\$16,487.65	\$16,201.62	\$19,794.27	\$13,973.86
August		\$19,529.80	\$21,416.32	\$17,131.77	\$13,053.66
September		\$15,348.97	\$21,162.07	\$21,855.49	\$15,046.80
October		\$22,682.46	\$16,367.61	\$17,549.59	\$19,801.71
November		\$18,150.19	\$20,801.21	\$17,225.45	\$14,707.98
December		\$15,997.56	\$15,884.88	\$19,102.03	\$14,030.94

NUMBER OF E-BILLS SENT OUT



	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
January	4,452	4,165	3,798	3,565	3,245
February	4,481	4,192	3,811	3,566	3,290
March	4,511	4,222	3,852	3,555	3,293
April	4,536	4,264	3,922	3,603	3,321
May		4,256	3,927	3,654	3,364
June		4,307	3,960	3,698	3,396
July		4,318	4,061	3,695	3,461
August		4,369	4,021	3,747	3,505
September		4,372	4,054	3,746	3,523
October		4,382	4,092	3,789	3,536
November		4,404	4,105	3,757	3,548
December		4,435	4,128	3,749	3,533