

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT



APRIL 8, 2025

Upcoming City Events, Activities, and Updates

HUMAN RESOURCES

Congratulations to Nichole Ratliff and Steven McClain!

- ❖ **Nichole Ratliff** has been promoted to the position of **Accounts Payable Coordinator**.
- ❖ **Sgt. Steven McClain** retired from the City on March 31st.

The **Parks Department** will be welcoming the following **Aquatics** staff in May:

- ❖ **Luz Barreto Gonzalez** will begin her role as **Aquatics Supervisor** on May 5th.
- ❖ **Diego Plata** will begin his role as **Lifeguard** on May 5th.
- ❖ **Grace Gower** will begin her role as **Lifeguard** on May 5th.
- ❖ **Ileana Alexander** will begin her role as **Lifeguard** on May 17th.
- ❖ **Nathan Cassidy** will begin his role as **Lifeguard** on May 17th.

Finally, the **Library** will be welcoming the following **Summer Library Page**:

- ❖ **Rachel Yancy** will begin her role as **Summer Library Page** on May 27th.

The City is currently taking applications for the following positions:

Police Officer Trainee
Heavy Equipment Operator
Water Service Worker
Maintenance Technicians
Light Equipment Operator
Firefighter/EMT (Paramedic Preferred)
Summer Student Library Page
Seasonal Lifeguards
Seasonal Water Safety Instructor
Seasonal Aquatics Cashiers
Seasonal Aquatics Supervisor



THE STEWART C. MEYERS HARKER HEIGHTS LIBRARY

The Library is celebrating **National Library Week April 6-12, 2025!** Drop by the Library and check our Facebook page for booklists, displays, and more! National Library Workers Day, a day for library staff, users, administrators, and Friends groups to recognize the valuable contributions made by all library workers. Thank you, Library staff for your incredible work! What draws people to the library?

Everything! From books and digital resources to job assistance and creative programming, libraries are essential to thriving communities. National Library Week, April 6–12, 2025, is a time to celebrate the many ways libraries bring people together, spark imagination, and support lifelong learning. We invite the community to join the celebration! Whether you're a longtime patron or haven't visited in a while, now is the perfect time to explore all the library has to offer. Our library provides free Wi-Fi, digital collections, resume workshops, makerspaces, STEAM programs, and more, to ensure that everyone has access to resources that educate, inspire, and connect



Tuesday, April 8, 2025, is **National Library Workers Day**, a day for library staff, users, administrators, and Friends groups to recognize the valuable contributions made by all library workers. Thank you, Library staff for your incredible work!



The Library started its celebration of the **Week of the Young Child on Saturday, April 5, 2025**, with arts and crafts at the Harker Heights Arts Festival! Thank you, Harker Heights Arts Commission for providing arts kits for kids of all ages! Thank you Central Texas Association for the Education of young Children, Workforce Solutions, Central Texas College Child Development Center and Department, and Headstart for bringing out activities, education, and fun! Check out website through April 11, 2025 for activities and ideas for working with young children!

Drop by the Library later this week to see our **Tiny Art** on display! The Library offered Tiny Art Kits in the Library and a Tiny Art Experience at the Harker Heights Arts Festival. Let's see the gorgeous art that was made on wooden disks!

April is Jazz Month! Get in the groove with books, videos, audiobooks, and programs from the Library! Look for online booklists, in-library displays, and a compliment of online and in-person programs.

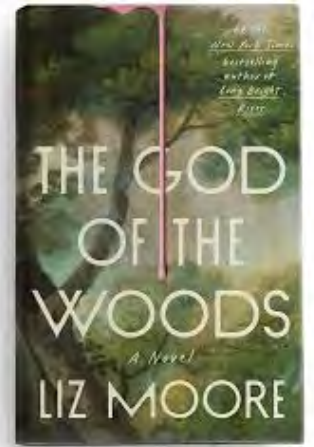
The Library staff firmly believe in the importance of early literacy for our children. Visit up for one or more of our preschool programs. Upcoming In-Person Preschool Programs at the Library:



The Library staff firmly believe in the importance of early literacy for our children. Visit up for one or more of our preschool programs. **Upcoming In-Person Preschool Programs at the Library:**

- ❖ Wednesday, April 9 at 10am – Jazz Baby Storytime (ages 3-6 and their families) – Enjoy an early literacy treat with music and more at the Library!
- ❖ Thursday, April 10 at 9am – Jazz Baby Storytime (ages 3-6 and their families) – Enjoy songs, rhymes, vocabulary, and age-appropriate activities for education and fun!
- ❖ Thursday, April at 10am – Jazz Baby Artists Toddler Time (ages 0-3 and their families) – Enjoy songs, rhymes, vocabulary, and age-appropriate activities for education and fun!

Join the Library's Book Discussion Club for Adults! We meet each third Thursday of the month at 6:30 pm. This month's book is "The God of the Woods" by Liz Moore. Early morning, August 1975: a camp counselor discovers an empty bunk. Its occupant, Barbara Van Laar, has gone missing. Barbara isn't just any thirteen-year-old: she's the daughter of the family that owns the summer camp and employs most of the region's residents. And this isn't the first time a Van Laar child has disappeared. Barbara's older brother similarly vanished fourteen years ago, never to be found.



It's Music Time at the Library Mondays in April! Babies ages 0-18 months and their special adults come at 9am. Children ages 18 months – 6 years come at 10am! Get ready for melodies, rhymes, and instruments! No registration is necessary.

Are you hungry and looking for something different to prepare? Do you want to explore world cultures through recipes? Take a look at the Library's NEW A to Z Food America database at <https://www.atozfoodamerica.com/home.html> and the NEW A to Z World Food database at <https://www.atozworldfood.com/home.html>! Take this chance to explore culinary delights!

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AtoZ World Food is also the only database that covers food culture for 174 countries of the world in six categories: National Cuisine, Regional Cuisine, Daily Meals, Dining Etiquette, Special Occasion Foods, and Food Trivia.

FEATURES

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- Personal Recipe Book

BENEFITS

- Libraries benefit from AtoZ World Food's relevance and appeal to diverse library populations
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- Members of international food clubs have access to classic recipes for every country
- Culinary schools use AtoZ World Food as a research tool for both recipes and food culture

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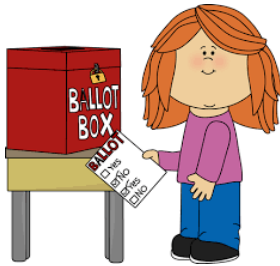
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Parks & Recreation Department

RECREATION CENTER

The Recreation Center and Activities Center will be CLOSED Friday, April 18, 2025, in observance of Good Friday. The Recreation Center will resume normal business hours on Saturday, April 19, 2025.

The Recreation Center will be an Early Voting site for the City and Schools Election Starting April 22-25, 2025, from 8:00 am – 5:00 pm, and April 28 & 29, 2025 from 7:00 am – 7:00 pm Election Day is Saturday, May 3, 2025, from 7:00 am – 7:00 pm.



Swordplay: Recreational Fencing will be hosting a Spring tournament for the Harker Heights & Belton students on Saturday, April 26, 2025, starting 12:30 pm at the Recreation Center, 307 Miller's Crossing.



ABILITY SPORTS

Ability Pickleball & Tennis registration will begin June 2

SPORTS

- ❖ Youth soccer registration will begin May 27th
- ❖ Youth Basketball Camp (June 9-11, June 16-18, July 7-9, July 14-16) registration is open with limit availability.
- ❖ The t-ball season will begin on April 12th with baseball, softball, beginning play on April 21st.



AQUATICS

- ❖ Staff are busy hiring part-time Lifeguards, Aquatics Cashiers, Aquatics Supervisors, and Water Safety Instructors (WSI)
- ❖ Swim Lessons sign-up will begin May 17th in conjunction with the Dive into Summer Safety event being held at Carl Levin park.



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. Each month will be a new activity to keep you moving and having fun. April's activity walks and games at Carl Levin Park with weather permitting. If the weather is bad, the group will meet at the Recreation Center.



- ❖ Come out and support the Granny Basketball Team, the **Texas Old Glories**, at Raising Cane's in Harker Heights on Monday, April 14, 2025, from 5:00 pm - 7:30 pm. Mention the fundraiser at the register, and Cane's will donate 15% of net sales to the team. The Texas Old Glories are gearing up to represent Harker Heights at the July Nationals, competing against teams from all over Texas and beyond. Let's show them our support. Also, don't miss their next home game on Friday, April 11, at the Recreation Center from 12:00 pm – 1:30 pm. Come out, enjoy some chicken, and cheer on our local team.



SENIOR RECREATION

❖ **BINGO** will be on Thursday, April 17, 2025, from 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm at the Recreation Center.



❖ **Ladies Night Out** will be on Thursday, April 17, 2025, at 5:00 pm. The local restaurant is to be determined. Each attendee is responsible for purchasing their own meal. Registration is preferred and can be done in person at the Recreation Center.

❖ **Crafty Connection** will be on Monday, April 28, 2025, from 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm. The craft project is a decorative pot for plants. Space is limited; registration is required and can be done in person at the Recreation Center.



Parks & Recreation Department

SPECIAL EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

The Parks and Recreation Department is excited to announce the 2025 Season of the Harker Heights Farmers Market. The market will be held on Saturdays, May 3 - July 26, break from August 2 - September 27, then continue to run on 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 web page 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 sgibbs@harkerheights.gov.



The City of Harker Heights is excited to announce the **First Fridays Music Series** a concert series that will be held on the First Friday starting on April 4 at the Carl Levin Park Amphitheater. Five additional concerts are scheduled for Friday, May 2, 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 Friday's series will showcase talented musical performing groups. The G-Samuels Band will be the featured act for the inaugural concert on April 4. 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, May 2- Glen Meloy
- ❖ Friday, June 6- First Calvary Division Pop Band from Fort Cavazos
- ❖ Friday, September 5- Purple Hull
- ❖ Friday, October 3- Lucas Miller
- ❖ Friday, November 7- Harker Heights High School



Parks & Recreation Department

GO Heights!

- ❖ **Make your own sun print using cyanotype paper. Texas Master Naturalists will be leading this hands-on class in the pollinator garden at the back of the Activities Center/ Library on Saturday April 12th from 11am-12pm. Ages 6+ Pre-Registration Required. Register online through Civic Rec or visit the Recreation Center.**
- ❖ **Participate in a free Zumba in the Park. Beginners welcome; ages 13+ Class will be held at Carl Levin Park amphitheater Friday April 11th from 6pm-8pm. Pre-Registration preferred. Register online through Civic Rec or visit the Recreation Center.**



- ❖ **Celebrate Arbor Day by planting trees at Carl Levin Park! Wednesday April 16th from 10am-10:30am. All ages welcome. Pre-Registration Required. Register online through Civic Rec or visit the Recreation Center.**



❖ **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.

City of Harker Heights Fire Department

City Manager's Report

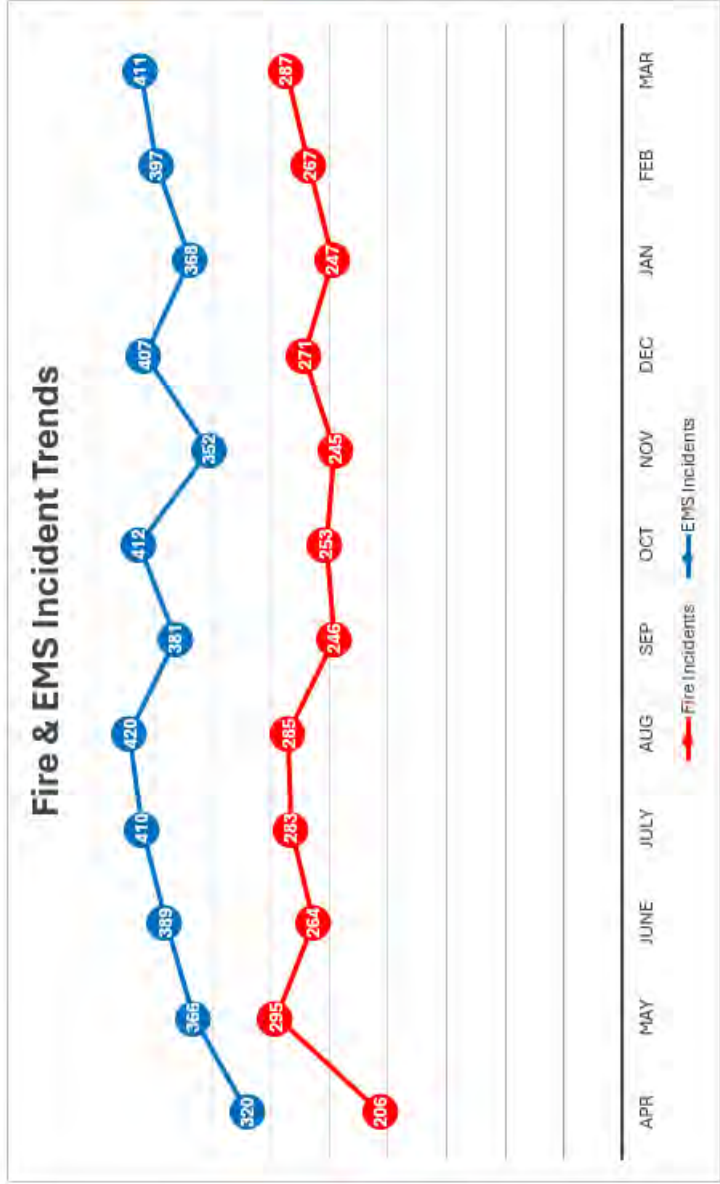
April 8, 2025

Chris Mahlstedt, Interim Fire Chief



HHFD Performance Report – 2025

Harker Heights Fire Department
Incident Trends – April 1, 2024 through March 31, 2025



Yearly Incident Totals

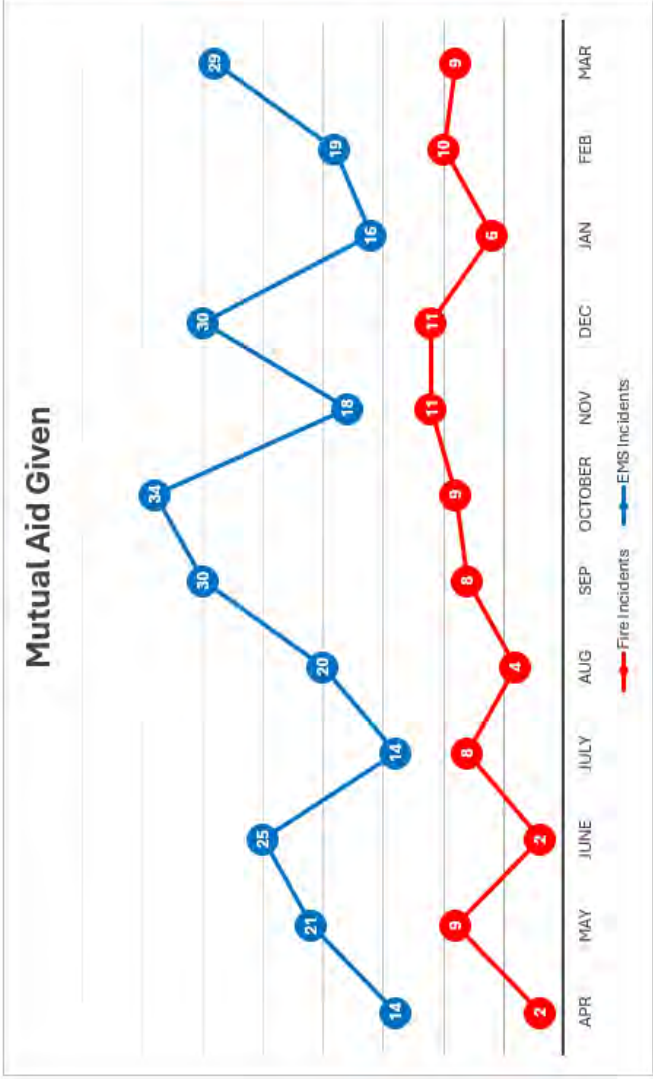
- EMS – 4,633
- Fire – 3,149

Monthly Average

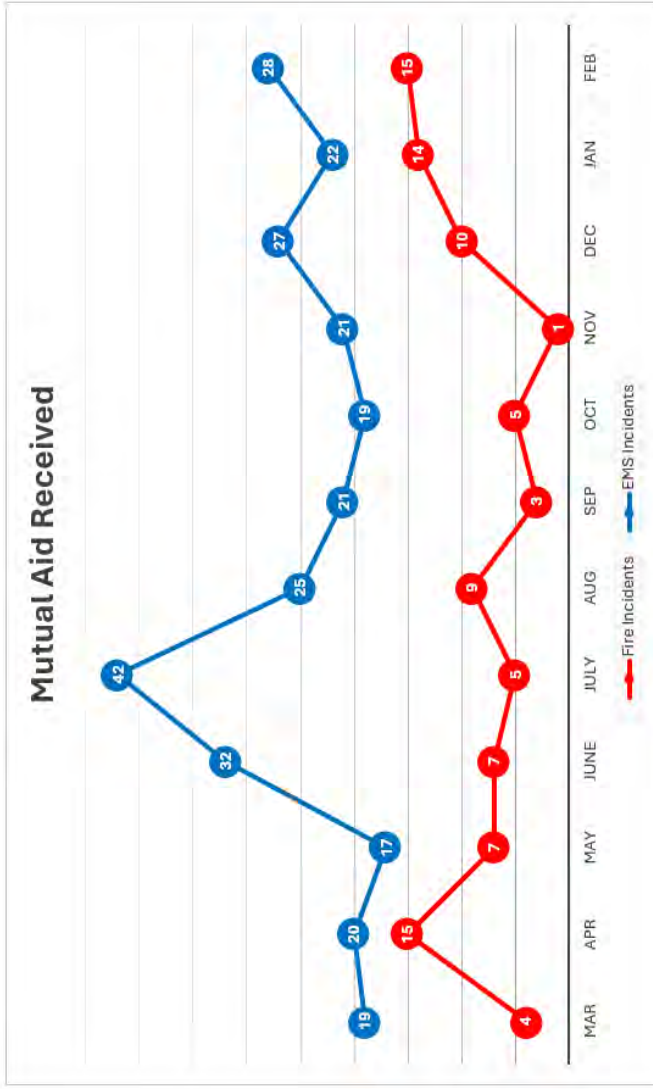
- EMS – 386
- Fire – 262

HHFD Performance Report – 2025

Harker Heights Fire Department
Incident Trends – April 1, 2024 through March 31, 2025



EMS – 270
Fire - 89



EMS – 293
Fire - 95



HHFD Performance Report – Turn Out Times

UNIT I.D.	AVG. TURN OUT TIME (SECONDS)
Engine 41	68
Truck 42	90
Battalion 41	18
Medic 41	66
Medic 42	90

- *NFPA 1710 – Standard for the Organization and Deployment of Fire Suppression, EMS, and Special Operations by Career Fire Departments*
 - Turnout Time (Fire) = 80 Seconds
 - Turnout Time (EMS) = 60 Seconds
 - Response Time (Fire) = 320 Seconds
 - Response Time (EMS) = 540 Seconds

Updates

April 3, 2025 – The Harker Heights Fire Department partnered with the Harker Heights Chamber of Commerce, Harker Heights Planning and Development and the Bell County Public Health District to conduct a workshop on the permitting of mobile food vendors.



Personnel Updates

Josh Larremore – Completed paramedic field training and has been fully credentialed by Dr. Heyratifar, HHFD Medical Director
Caleb Brown – Completed his Driver/Operator Task Book which will allow him to step up and operate as a Driver/Operator

MARCH 2025

CODE ENFORCEMENT SUMMARY

Monthly Summary

March 1, 2025 - March 31, 2025

Violation Type	Quantity	Percentage
Grass Parking	36	32.14%
Other*	28	25.00%
Outside Storage	18	16.07%
Bulk Items	8	7.14%
Brush	7	6.25%
Fencing	5	4.46%
Basketball Goal	3	2.68%
Grass	2	1.79%
Building Inspection	1	0.89%
Heavy Vehicle Parking	1	0.89%
Junk Vehicle	1	0.89%
Trash	1	0.89%
Tree limbs	1	0.89%
Boat	0	0.00%
Maintenance	0	0.00%
Rubbish & Trash Containers	0	0.00%
Skirting	0	0.00%
Tires	0	0.00%
Trailer	0	0.00%
Total	112	100.00%

Fiscal Year Summary

October 1, 2024 - March 31, 2025

Violation Type	Quantity	Percentage
Grass Parking	155	27.43%
Other*	101	17.88%
Outside Storage	98	17.35%
Grass	88	15.58%
Bulk Items	44	7.79%
Brush	24	4.25%
Basketball Goal	11	1.95%
Trailer	11	1.95%
Fencing	9	1.59%
Heavy Vehicle Parking	7	1.24%
Tree limbs	5	0.88%
Maintenance	3	0.53%
Tires	3	0.53%
Junk Vehicle	2	0.35%
Skirting	2	0.35%
Building Inspection	1	0.18%
Trash	1	0.18%
Boat	0	0.00%
Rubbish & Trash Containers	0	0.00%
Total	565	100.00%



254-953-5600



planning@harkerheights.gov

*The Bright Star Of
Central Texas*

Harker Heights

