

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT



JANUARY 28, 2025

Upcoming City Events, Activities, and Updates

HUMAN RESOURCES

- ❖ The Fire Department welcomed a new employee on January 16th. Vicente Fernandez was hired for the position of Firefighter/Paramedic Trainee.
- ❖ The Public Works Department promoted an employee on January 18th. Rodney Trantham was promoted to the position of Senior Equipment Operator.
- ❖ The Parks Department welcomed a new employee on January 28th. Kai-Tano Concepcion Duenas was hired for the position of Light Equipment Operator.

The City is currently taking applications for the following positions:

- ❖ Police Officer Trainee
- ❖ BPAT/CSI and Water Distribution Flushing Technician
- ❖ Heavy Equipment Operator
- ❖ Water Service Worker
- ❖ Maintenance Technicians
- ❖ Light Equipment Operator
- ❖ Summer Student Library Page
- ❖ Seasonal Lifeguards
- ❖ Seasonal Water Safety Instructor
- ❖ Seasonal Aquatics Cashiers
- ❖ Seasonal Aquatics Supervisors



THE STEWART C. MEYERS HARKER HEIGHTS LIBRARY

Happy New Year! **Homeschoolers meet up in the Maker Space** to make and decorate their own calendars! See what you can make with the supplies that are there! Come and go 1-3pm on Wednesday, January 29. Homeschool teens are also invited to a board game time at the same time on the same day



Preschoolers and their parents are invited to celebrate **EVERYBODY'S BIRTHDAY!** Our storytellers use these little parties to work on vocabulary such as the days of the week and the months of the year.

- ❖ **Wednesday, January 29 at 10am – Happy Birthday Storytime** (ages 3-6 and their families) – Enjoy an early literacy treat with music and more at the Library!
- ❖ **Thursday, January 30 at 9am – Happy Birthday Storytime** (ages 3-6 and their families) – Enjoy songs, rhymes, vocabulary, and age-appropriate activities for education and fun!
- ❖ **Thursday, January 30 at 10am – Happy Birthday Toddler Time** (ages 0-3 and their families) – Enjoy songs, rhymes, vocabulary, and age-appropriate activities for education and fun!

The Library continues to provide virtual programs on our Facebook page!

- ❖ **Each Wednesday at 2pm – Science Time with Ms. Heather** – Learn a little about science in this bite-sized educational minute!



Each Thursday at 6pm – Family Night – Ms. Lisa shares songs, stories, and more!



The Stewart C. Meyer Harker Heights Public Library

The Library's Maker Space is filled with materials, markers, stickers, and more! Come in to see what you can make out of what is there! **Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays 10am – 3:00pm and Saturdays from 10am - 1pm** – We learn best when we play! Imagine what you can create with whatever is in the room! Drop in to be a maker.



- ❖ Are you doing some spring cleaning? **Do you have art supplies or unusual items that you would like to donate?** The Library can use them to stock our popular Maker Space. Just drop them off anytime that the Library is open. The Friends of the Library is also accepting donations for the annual booksale. Bring in books, audiobooks, music, and more anytime that the Library is open.



- ❖ Did you know that you can view find job getting information through our **Texas Share Databases 24/7**? Just visit harkerheights.gov/index.php/departments/library. Click on "Find Information" in the Quick Links menu. Then click on "TexShare." You will need your library card number to access the "Learning Express" database which provides resume assistance, preparation tests for SATs, GEDs, and other entrance exams, job forecasts, and more!



- ❖ **The Library celebrates a month of kindness in February!** Filled with displays, Facebook posts, programs, and more, the Library's offerings encourage others to commit Random Acts of Kindness. The Library has offered patrons options for spreading kindness to others through reminders for small acts of kindness, calendars, videos regarding the science of kindness, and more.

**NO ACT OF
KINDNESS,
NO MATTER HOW
small
IS EVER
WASTED**

Parks & Recreation Department

RECREATION CENTER

The hours of operation for the Recreation Center will change on Saturday, February 8, 2025, to 8:00 am – 1:00 pm. **The center will be closed on Saturday, February 8, 2025, at 1:00 pm – Sunday, February 16, 2025, for painting, floor maintenance, and deep cleaning of the center.** The center will return to normal business hours on Tuesday, February 18, 2025. Granny Basketball, Pickleball, Wheelchair Basketball, and Open Gym activities will be cancelled during the week.

*The Recreation Center will be **CLOSED** Monday, February 17, 2025, in observance of Presidents' Day.*



ABILITY SPORTS

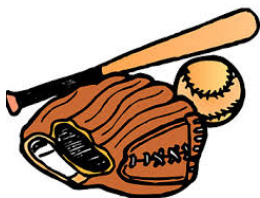
Ability Basketball registration opened on January 6. The league starts February 24.

SPORTS

Staff is participating in community engagements and job fairs to promote the department and summer job opportunities.

Youth Softball/Baseball/T-ball registration is open.

Anyone interested in being a coach should submit a coach's packet online or at the recreation center.



- ❖ Youth Volleyball registration is open, with only 4 slots left in the 14u division.
- ❖ Youth Volleyball Camp(Spring Break) registration is open and filling fast.
- ❖ Youth Volleyball Clinic (March 8th) all division are FULL with a waitlist.

- ❖ Youth Basketball season will end Saturday (Feb 8th)
- ❖ Youth Basketball Camp(June 9-11, June 16-18, July 7-9, July 14-16) registration opened January 6th.

SENIOR RECREATION

Come out and cheer on the **Granny Basketball** team Texas Old Glories at their next home game on Friday, February 7, 2025, from 12:00 pm – 1:45 pm at the Recreation Center. They will be playing against the Waco Six Shooters.



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 participants moving and having fun.

During the week of February 10 – 14, 2025, all the Senior Programs will move to the Activity Center while the Recreation Center is closed for maintenance.

Granny Basketball and Pickleball will be cancelled for the week.



February's **BINGO** will be on Thursday, February 20, 2025, from 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm at the Recreation Center.



Ladies Night Out will be on Thursday, February 20, 2025, at 5:00 pm. Each attendee is responsible for purchasing their own meal. Registration is preferred and can be done over the phone by calling 254-953-5683 or in person at the Recreation Center.

Crafty Connection will be on Monday, February 24, 2024, from 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm.

Parks & Recreation Department

SPECIAL EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

The Harker Heights Parks and Recreation Department is hosting the **"We Love Our Schools Food Drive"** to benefit the Killeen ISD H.A.R.P. (Homeless Awareness Response Program) from now to the end of March 2025. Donation boxes are located at the Activities Center lobby on 400 Indian Trail and at the Recreation Center lobby on 307 Miller's Crossing. Items that are needed include: Pasta, rice, mac and cheese, starches, non-perishable snacks, ramen noodles, can openers, and canned veggies. High needed items are peanut butter, chili, soup, pasta sauce, canned fruit, canned meat, and beans. For questions regarding the food drive, please contact Sara Gibbs at 254-953-5493 or email sgibbs@harkerheights.gov



Calling all families who are Taylor Swift fans! The Harker Heights Parks and Recreation Department is hosting the **Enchanted Dance** on Saturday, February 8, 2025. Wear your favorite Taylor Swift inspired outfits, make friendship bracelets and other fun crafts, and sing and dance your heart out to Taylor Swift songs. All ages are welcome. Pre-register here: <https://bit.ly/4hjNczu>. For more information, call 254-953-5493 or email sgibbs@harkerheights.gov



The Harker Heights Arts Festival will take place on Saturday, April 5, 2025, at Carl Levin Park. Vendor applications for local artists will be opening soon. Follow the Harker Heights Parks and Recreation Department's Facebook page on <https://www.facebook.com/harkerheightspr/> for upcoming vendor opportunities.



Parks & Recreation Department

GO Heights!

Garden plots are available at Carl Levin Park Community Garden. Winter is a great time to grow carrots, cruciferous vegetables, greens, and more. Each raised bed is 4 ft. x 8 ft.

The garden provides access to water with hoses and a shed for storage of personal gardening tools. For more information visit us at the Recreation Center (307 Miller's Crossing) or call 254-953-5465.



There are volunteer opportunities available with the **Get Outside Program**. Make new friends while sharing your passion with others. Volunteer with our hiking programs, nature education, or teaching outdoor skills to those in your community. We welcome both individuals and groups. For more information contact kgomez@harkerheights.gov or call 254-953-5465.