

# CITY MANAGER'S REPORT



## JANUARY 23, 2024

*Upcoming City Events, Activities, and Updates*

### Human Resources Department

Welcome to all the new hires:

- The Parks Department will be welcoming a new employee on January 26th. Jeremiah Quiroz was selected for the position of Light Equipment Operator.
- The Municipal Court will be welcoming a new employee on February 3rd. Public Works' employee James Williams will be promoting to the position of Juvenile Case Manager/Teen Court Coordinator. Congratulations, James!

The City is currently taking applications for the following position:

- Maintenance Technicians
- Police Officer Trainee
- Telecommunicators
- Part Time Aquatics Cashiers
- Part Time Aquatics Supervisors
- Part Time Lifeguards
- Part Time Water Safety Instructors



# Stewart C. Meyer Harker Heights Public Library

**The Library is pleased to invite everyone to work on those new years resolutions at the Library! Do you want to read more?**

**Join our 2024 Reading Challenge! This just for fun challenges you to read and/or listen to 50 books this year in certain categories. This is a great opportunity to stretch your reading prowess and investigate new genres! Just drop by the Library, check our Facebook Page, or e-mail [reference@harkerheights.gov](mailto:reference@harkerheights.gov) to get your reading challenge flier!**



**Do you want to spend more quality time with your family? Drop in for one of our family-oriented programs. Do you want to be more creative? Spend some time in our Maker Space open Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 10am -3pm and Saturdays from 10am-1pm! We put out new materials each week!**

**Preschoolers love to get up and move! They also love listening to great books, songs, and more!**

**Join us for Baby-time for babies ages 0-18 months on Tuesdays at 10am. Story-time for ages 3-6 years and their families are on Wednesdays at 10am and Thursdays at 9am. Toddler Time for ages 0-3 years and their families is on Thursdays at 10am.**

**The theme of the week of January 22 – 27, 2024, is “Dance Party.” Get ready to move and groove in these early literacy programs.**

**Kids ages 8-14 years join our Kids Astronomy Club.**

**Learn about science and technology used to look at the sky! Take a look at hardware, software, and methods for becoming citizen scientists. Enjoy hands on practice with equipment and presentations by MECA and science experts! Attend three free monthly sessions! Come to one or come to all! Both hearing and visual aids are available.**



**Saturday, January 27 at the Harker Heights Library and Activities Center  
(400 Indian Trail) 11:00am -12:30pm**

**Saturday, February 10 at the Harker Heights Recreation Center  
(307 Millers Crossing) all ages come and go from 9am-1pm**

**Saturday, March 9 at the Harker Heights Library and Activities Center  
(400 Indian Trail) 11:00am - 12:30pm**

## Adults and teens join our 2024 Total Eclipse Training sessions:

Learn about science and technology used during the Solar Eclipse! Take a look at hardware, software, and methods for becoming citizen scientists. Enjoy hands on practice with equipment and presentations by MECA and science experts! Attend three free monthly sessions for teens and adults! Come to one or come to all! Both hearing and visual aids are available.



**Saturday, January 27 at the Harker Heights Library and Activities Center  
(400 Indian Trail) adults and teens ages 13 and up 1pm-2:30pm**

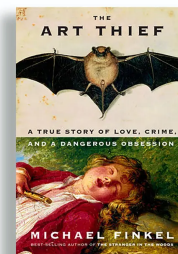
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## Save the Date for an Eclipse Open House !

The City of Harker Heights will offer an Eclipse Open House on Saturday, February 10, 2024, from 9:00 am – 1:00 pm at the Harker Heights Recreation Center (307 Millers Crossing, Harker Heights, TX). Come and go to will discuss the total eclipse coming on Monday, April 8, 2024, the Eclipse themed Harker Heights Arts Festival on Saturday and Sunday, April 6 and 7, 2024, and increased traffic and tourism expected that weekend, safe choices for enjoying this incredible event, and possibilities for capitalizing on the festivities. Attend the Outdoor and Science Expo in the Gym to learn more about the science of the eclipse and how you can be a citizen scientist!

Let's get together to discuss "The Art Thief" by Michael Finkel on Thursday, February 15 at 6:30 pm. In this spellbinding portrait of obsession and flawed genius, the best-selling author brings us into Breitwieser's strange world—unlike most thieves, he never stole for money, keeping all his treasures in a single room where he could admire them.



The Library offers a variety of newspapers and magazines available to you 24/7. Take a look at our PressReader online service! All you need is your Library Card! Visit the Library's website at [harkerheights.gov/library](http://harkerheights.gov/library)! Under the Library's quick links, choose "Find Books and More." Then choose "Online Magazines and Newspapers." Here you will find magazines and newspapers from around the world and in many languages.

# Parks & Recreation Department

## RECREATION CENTER & ACTIVITIES CENTER

### Open Gym Hours are:

Mondays, Tuesdays, & Wednesdays 2:00 pm – 4:45 pm: Basketball

Thursdays 2:00 pm – 4:45 pm: 12U Open Gym

Fridays 2:00 pm – 4:45 pm: Wheelchair Basketball

### ATHLETICS

- The **Youth Basketball** program is officially full and will run from December 2023 to February 2024.



The **2024 Youth Sports Schedule** has been released and can be found on the Parks & Recreation website!

Registration for **Youth Tee Ball, Softball, and Baseball** opened on January 2 and closes February 21!



**Youth Flag Football** registration opened on January 15 and will be a mini-season. Games will be on Saturdays in March.

- **Ability Sports Basketball for Children with Special Needs** opened for registration on January 22.

### AQUATICS

Lifeguard and other summer job opportunities are now available on the City website!

## SENIOR RECREATION

The **Armchair Travelers** group meets each week on Tuesdays from 11:00 am–12:30 pm as they watch videos of many destinations around the world from the comfort of their chair at the Recreation Center.

**Active Seniors** (50+) are invited to PLAY a variety of recreational activities and games on Thursdays from 12:00 pm – 1:45 pm at the Recreation Center. Each month will be a new activity to keep you moving and having fun. January's activity is Cornhole. Each week try to beat the high score from the previous week.



Come cheer the **Granny Basketball** team “Old Glories” at the next home game on February 9th at 12:00 pm the Recreation Center.

February's **BINGO** will be Thursday, February 15th from 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm at the Recreation Center.



- **Ladies Night Out** is on Thursday, February 15th at 5:00 pm. The restaurant is to be determined. Each attendee is responsible for purchasing their own supper. Registration is required and can be done over the phone by calling 254-953-5683 or in person at the Recreation Center.

- Join us for **Crafty Connection** on Monday, February 26th from 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm. Seniors can bring a craft project they are working on at home to socialize and show other crafters. If participants don't have a craft project they don't have to worry a craft will be available for them at the Recreation Center.



## SPECIAL EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

There is still time to sign up for our magical **King and Princess Dance**. Join us on **Friday, February 2, 2024**, from 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm for the City of Harker Heights' twist on a Daddy-Daughter Dance at the Harker Heights Activities Center on 400 Indian Trail. This dance is open to fathers, uncles, grandparents, or anyone else special in a little girl's life. Dress up in your finest attire and dance the night away with your little royalty to create unforgettable memories. The cost is \$5.00 per person.

Register on <https://bit.ly/487ygkj>



- On Saturday, February 3, 2024, from 3:00pm – 6:00 pm grab your dancing shoes and bring the whole family for a night of laughter and joy at our **Family Dance** at the Harker Heights Activities Center on 400 Indian Trail. This is the perfect opportunity to create lasting memories with your loved ones. The dance will be held in two sessions, so choose the time that works best for your schedule. The cost is \$5.00 per person. Register on <https://bit.ly/487ygkj>



# Parks & Recreation Department

## GET OUTDOORS (GO) HEIGHTS

- **Community Gardens:** Did you know you can grow food through winter? Plots are available at Carl Levin Park Community Garden & Kern Park (Free) Community Garden. Rentals are for six months or one year. To pay and register for your plot, please go to the Harker Heights Rec Center, 307 Miller's Crossing.



**Garden Education Series:** Learn about Drought Tolerant plants that are native to our area with a free educational class taught by the Bell County Master Gardeners.

Wednesday January 24 ,2024, 6pm-7:30pm

Ages 8+ Registration encouraged, drop-ins welcome.

Register online through Civic Rec or go to the Harker Heights Rec Center, 307 Miller's Crossing.

**GO Heights:** Celebrate the January full Wolf Moon with us on a hike! The hike will be about 1-mile round trip. Participants will stop half-way at the lake and look at the night sky through telescopes. Ages 8+. Pre-Registration Required. Register online through Civic Rec or go to the Harker Heights Rec Center (307 Miller's Crossing).



**Outdoor & Science Expo:** The Outdoor & Science Expo is a free family-friendly event! Bring seeds for a Seed Swap, visit Educational Booths, bring a helmet for a Bike Rodeo, Outdoor Activities, crafts, and more! Follow the event on Harker Heights Parks and Recreation Facebook page for more details about the expo.

Saturday February 10, 2024, 9AM-1PM

Harker Heights Rec Center, 307 Miller's Crossing



# POLICE DEPARTMENT

The HHPD Hostage Negotiations Team attended the 34th Annual Crisis Negotiations Competition January 11-13, 2024, and placed 13th in the nation.

The Public Safety Commission selected Officer Pablo Virgen as the 2023 Police Officer of the Year!



Healthy Homes will be hosting a Free Children's Pop-Up Clinic on April 27th at 9am at the Harker Heights Activities Center.

Community Services hosted a successful Hot Chocolate with a Cop event at H-E-B on January 18th.





# FIRE DEPARTMENT

## Calls for Service – December 2023

Incident Type	Incident Number	Δ Last Month	Mutual Aid Received	Δ Last Month
Fire	233	8% ↑	8	50% ↑
Medical	373	15% ↑	36	33% ↑
<b>Total</b>	<b>606</b>	<b>10% ↑</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>47% ↑</b>

## Fire Marshal's Office – December 2023

Inspections	115
Permits Issued	15
Plan Reviews	11

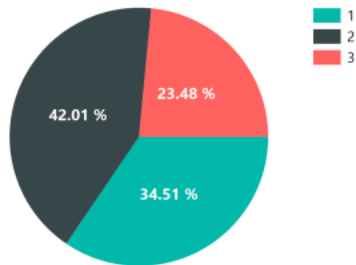
## Annual Report - HHEMS

2022



Event Priority	Event Count
1	1505
2	1832
3	1024
<b>Total</b>	<b>4361</b>

Event Priority



Event Priority	Response Time	Start To Add Time	Add To Disp Time	Disp To En Rte Time	En Rte To Arv Time	Arv To Close Time
1	379	71	30	68	316	3094
2	407	77	34	65	347	2767
3	436	90	34	65	379	2819

(Response times in seconds.)

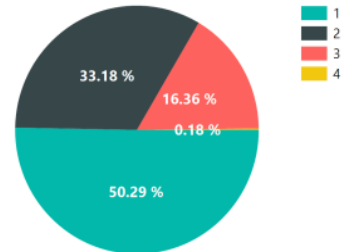
## Annual Report - HHFD

2023



Event Priority	Event Count
1	1402
2	925
3	456
4	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>2788</b>

Event Priority



Event Priority	Response Time	Start To Add Time	Add To Disp Time	Disp To En Rte Time	En Rte To Arv Time	Arv To Close Time
1	428	34	26	80	355	1489
2	413	29	28	73	351	944
3	492	40	27	77	427	911
4	2	38	279			3885

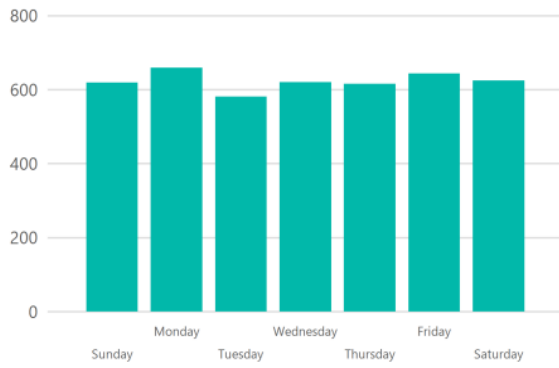
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# Annual Report - HHEMS

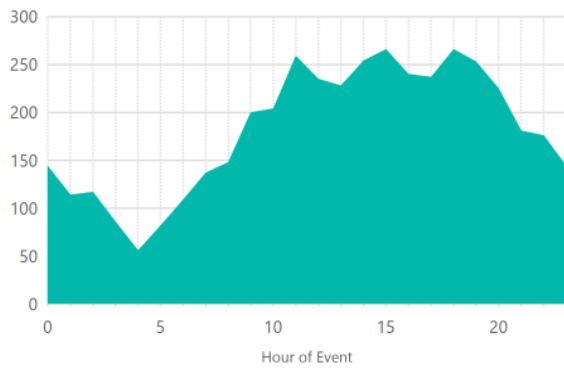
2022



Event Counts by Day of Week



Event Counts by Hour of Day (24 hour)

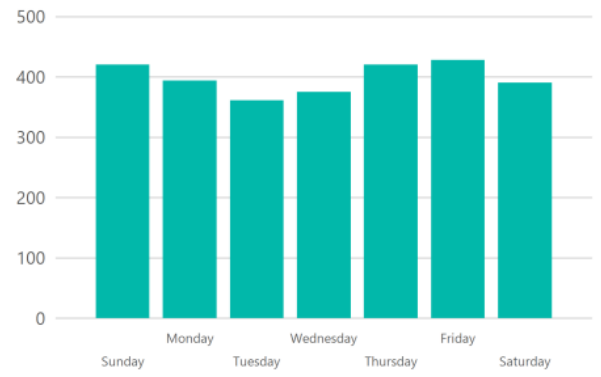


# Annual Report - HHFD

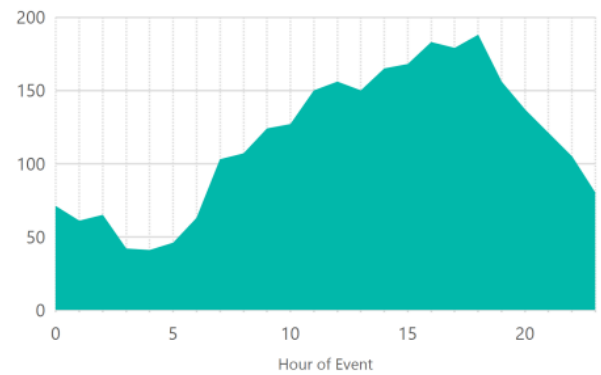
2023



Event Counts by Day of Week



Event Counts by Hour of Day (24 hour)



# PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

City of Harker Heights employees were elected to the following 2024 Director positions on the Bluebonnet

Chapter of ICC's board:

Richelle Otero: Secretary

Courtney Fye: 2nd Vice-President

Alex McCoy: Director of Social Action

Yvonne K. Spell: Treasurer



Courtney Fye was awarded the Walker, Childers & Munns Member of the Year for the Bluebonnet Chapter.

