

Message from the Manager:

You all write the best messages with your good works! I greatly enjoyed honoring you at Employee Recognition and I look forward to honoring you again in December. Highlights of the past six months:

Employee of the Quarter (1st Quarter) – Trevor Jorgenson

As a result of the recent Employee of the Quarter meeting held on February 24, 2026, I am privileged to provide this memorandum recognizing Trevor Jorgensen, who was selected as the Employee of the Quarter for Quarter 1 of the 2026 Calendar year. As a Code Enforcement Officer, Trevor exemplifies reliability, professionalism, and dependability. He consistently demonstrates a strong work ethic and an unwavering commitment to serving the community. A true self-starter, Trevor does not wait to be directed – he proactively identifies concerns, takes initiative, and ensures projects are seen through to completion. He is continually engaged in efforts to improve the safety, appearance, and overall quality of life in Harker Heights. Even with a demanding workload, Trevor readily sets aside his current task to assist citizens or support his colleagues. Whether addressing community concerns, providing guidance, or helping a teammate resolve an issue, he approaches every interaction with respect, professionalism, and a genuine willingness to help. Trevor's work directly reflects the City's vision of *"Providing public services that empower people to focus on what matters most: their goals, hopes, and dreams."* By maintaining high standards, fostering positive relationships, and ensuring a safe and well-kept community, he helps create an environment where residents can thrive.

Through his dedication, leadership by example, and commitment to excellence, Trevor represents the very best of the City of Harker Heights.

Employee of the Quarter (2nd Quarter) – Jim Miller

Jim has consistently demonstrated outstanding dedication, professionalism, and a genuine willingness to support others throughout the City. He is always ready to lend a helping hand, answer questions, and assist coworkers with patience and positivity. His approachable attitude, strong work ethic, and commitment to helping others succeed have

made a meaningful impact across the organization. Jim consistently goes above and beyond to ensure employees feel supported and valued, no matter the situation. His reliability, teamwork, and exceptional customer service make them truly deserving of Employee of the Quarter recognition. It is without reservation that we selected James (Jim) Miller, for Employee of the Quarter.

Service Pins:

Donavan Martinez – 5 Years

Stephanie Hall - 10 years

Lonnie Clark - 10 Years

Dennis McAfee - 10 Years

Michael O'Hala- 10 Years

Sara Brockman - 10 Years

Nathan Nesbit - 10 Years

Maurice Henderson – 15 Years

Johnny King - 15 Years

Lyndsey Amundson – 20 Years

Achievements:

Stephanie Hall graduated from Vision 21

Orlando Calderon obtained Code Enforcement Officer Certification

Michael Beard obtained TDLR Registered Accessibility Specialist Certification

Ayesha Lealiiee completed New and Emerging Finance Directors program at North Central Texas Council of Governments.

Nathan Elliott and Sean Kampmeier earned Instructor certification

Joshua Larremore recognized through Bubba's 33 First Responders Recognition Program for his outstanding service and contributions

Isaac Perez received the 2025 Firefighter of the Year Award

William (Jake) Greenwood received the 2025 Police Officer of the Year Award

PD's Healthy Homes was announced as the Organization of the Year by the National Association of Social Workers Central Texas Branch. This is just additional confirmation of the great work and positive impact that Ms. Erica Santoyo Gutierrez and the Healthy Homes Program has been doing in our community

Roxanne Harrill recognized by Bubba's 33's First Responders Recognition Program for her outstanding contributions to the community.

MTSI Traffic Safety Award

Library received the 2025 Achievement of Excellence Award

Library team received accreditation from the Texas State Library and Archives Commission for 2026-2027 Fiscal Year

We Hire Vets program with the Texas Workforce Commission

Promotions:

Orlando Calderon De La Rosa promoted to Code Enforcement Officer

Stuart Kiefer - Captain

Norris Lockett - Crew Leader

Angel Rodriguez - Crew Leader

Erica Santoyo Gutierrez - Healthy Homes Coordinator

Massoud Howayeck - Sergeant

Brianna Daniel - Sergeant

Cory Bates - Sergeant

Samirah Williams - Deputy Court Clerk

Christian Batista - Deputy Court Clerk

Ashlyn Brooks - Assistant Library Administrator

Haley Mae Alcorn - Executive Assistant

Nichole Ratliff - Human Resources Specialist

Remedios Duenas - Executive Assistant

Angela Sabino – Office Manager

Trevor Jorgensen – Project Manager

Tyrin Godfrey - Heavy Equipment Operator

Transfers:

Joshua Hidalgo transferred to the position of Water Service Worker

New Hires:

Amy Schutz -Information Services Administrator

Lesli Owens - GIS Coordinator

Christina Cassidy – Assistant Finance Director

Sarah Youngberg - Accounts Payable Clerk

Jordan White – Customer Service Clerk

Jackson Allen - Firefighter/Paramedic

Sergio Hernandez - Firefighter/EMT

Coletyn Brownlee - Firefighter/Paramedic

Jeffery Castillo – Light Equipment Operator

Stephanie O’Brien- Special Events Manager

Marcos Chico - Light Equipment Operator

Regan Wells - Telecommunicator

Jared Tipton – Police Officer

Jayla Tyner – Police Officer

Jeffrey Jordan – Police Officer

Corbin Gillman – Police Officer

Greg Geist – Police Officer

Kevin Cruz Pachecho – Police Officer

Kage Carmichael – Police Officer

David Henderson - Police Officer

Jade Garcia – Library Clerk

Matthew Knight - Water Service Worker

Corey Johnson - Wastewater Maintenance Technician

Jeffrey Deleon - Water and Wastewater Utility Maintenance Supervisor

Superlative Awards:

Kia Concepcion Duenas – The Chalk It Like It’s Hot Award, for laying lines so straight they deserve their own trophy.

Donavan Martinez – The Diamond Whisperer Award, for using mysterious groundskeeping sorcery to turn mud into “we’re still playing.”

Samirah Williams – Chief Fashion Officer Award, we’re all just trying to figure out if your wardrobe is department-issued or independently sponsored.

Houston Johnson – The Widow Catcher Award, goes to the person who is taller than they sound on the phone.

Kayla Seymour – The Tiny but Mighty Award, for turning “fragile and squishy chaos” into “healthy, thriving fuzz missiles.”

Trevor Jorgensen – Silent but Deadly Award, most likely to deliver a hall of fame zinger then continue working like nothing happened.

Rene Fernandez – Sir Clicks a Lot Award, The Fire Department photographer extraordinaire and most likely to capture the moment.

Kellie Mozek – Multi-task Hero Award, most likely to save lives with one hand and lock the supply closet with the other.

Jackson Allen – Chattahoochee’s Distant Cousin Award, frequently mistaken for Alan Jackson but much more likely to show up on a call than on a stage.

Elexus Zaragosa – This Desk has Never Known Joy Award, not a paperclip out of place since her hire date.

Andrew Barnstable – Da Bears Superfan Award, most likely to know the roster better than his family tree.

Ray Gandara – Login Attempts – 37 Award, most likely to turn a 30 second login into a team event.

Crystal Thomas - The Human Trip Advisor Lifetime Achievement Award, is awarded to the person recognized for giving trip advice so confidently that Google Maps briefly questions itself.

General Updates

New Hires:

Jordan White hired for the position of Customer Service Clerk on June 2nd

Brayden Sinclair hired for the position of Lifeguard on June 9th

Thais Luiz hired for the position of Water Safety Instructor on June 24th

Danika Erickson hired for the position of Part Time Recreation Aide on June 24th

Anthony Ferguson hired for the position of Lifeguard on June 24th

Audrey Acosta hired for the position of Telecommunicator on June 29th

Kaycee McDowell hired for the position of Aquatics Supervisor on June 30th

Accomplishments:

Fire Department was awarded the 2026 Mission: Lifeline Silver Recognition for their commitment to providing high quality, evidence-based cardiac care.

June Kudos Award Winners: You all do such great work serving our public and each other! Congratulations to Casey Brazzil – Parks and Zully Reyes – Finance who were our June kudos winners! Many more to come!

Clyde's Crossword Challenge: This month's Clyde's Crossword Challenge winners were 1st Place – Andrea Contreras; 2nd Place – Kristina Roach; and 3rd Place Richelle Otero.

Sudoku Winner: This month's winner of the Sudoku Challenge was Lorissa Byse!

Mindful Miles May Wellness Challenge: The winners of the Mindful Miles May Wellness Challenge were 1st Place – Betty Delong and 2nd Place – Julie Helsham.

HH-N-GO: A new HH-N-GO bingo challenge began with the start of 2026! A new letter/number will be pulled each week and there are specific things to do for that letter/number if you have it on your card. There is a game card for employees and one for citizens. The game helps us to get to know our organization better and for our citizens it helps them get to know the City better. Contact HR for your bingo card! It's never too late to get a card and play!

Grand Reopening of Kern Park: The Grand Reopening of Kern Park is scheduled for July 18 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The event will celebrate the completion of park improvements, including a new playground, splash pad, community garden, and pollinator garden. Activities include a ribbon-cutting ceremony, family games, vendors, food vendors, and the Harker Heights Farmers Market.

July is Parks and Recreation Month: Come out and celebrate with Popsicles in the Park! Popsicles will be served from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. on the following schedule: July 2 – Carl Levin Pool, July 9 – Purser Family Park, July 16 – Kern Park, July 23 – Community Park, and July 30 – Carl Levin Park.

The Singing Zoologist: Lucas Miller the Singing Zoologist brings his show to the Activities Center on Wednesday July 15 for three exciting and fun shows at 9:30 a.m., 11 a.m., and 2 p.m. Come sing, dance, and learn with Lucas Miller!

Healthy Homes Back to School Drive: Our Healthy Homes Program is seeking school supplies for the Back to School Donation Drive. Donations can be dropped off at the PD. For a list of items or more information contact Healthy Homes at 953-5439.

Harker Heights Farmers Market: It's back! The Harker Heights Farmers Market is fully operational. The Market will run every Saturday morning through July 25 for the early season and then open back up October 3 to December 5 or the late season.

Library Programs: Our Library is full of great programs for the entire family to enjoy – make sure you check out the Library's webpage for programs your family may have interest in.

Spotlight on Service:

Orlando Calderon De La Rosa and Zully Reyes Get a Shout-Out: Planning Director/Building Official Michael Beard gave a shout-out for Code Enforcement's Orlando Calderon De La Rosa and Finance's Zully Reyes. Michael wrote, *"I want to give a big shout-out and kudos to Orlando and Zully. They both noticed an elderly citizen who needed assistance getting back to her car. Orlando immediately stopped what he was doing and kindly walked her out of City Hall, making sure she got safely into her vehicle. A true class act. I'm very proud of them both."*

Eric Moree Recognized: Planning Administrator Stephanie Hall wrote to show her appreciation for the thoughtful actions of Inspection's Eric Moree. Stephanie wrote, *"I would like to recognize Building & Code Coordinator Eric Moree for providing donuts and kolaches for the Planning, Building, and Code staff yesterday. His generosity is greatly appreciated by the entire team!"*

Angie Sabino, Crystal Thomas, Casey Brazzil and Hillary Hickland Thanked: HR Director Leona Clay wrote to thank HR's Angie Sabino, Library's Crystal Thomas, Park's Casey Brazzil and State Representative Hillary Hilckland. Leona wrote, *"I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to everyone who contributed to making our Employee Recognition Ceremony such a tremendous success, including our State Representative Hillary Hickland and Northside Baptist Church. The event was a wonderful celebration of the dedication, achievements, and hard work of our employees, and it would not have been possible without the commitment and effort of the planning team, organizers, and support staff. From the thoughtful coordination and attention to detail to the seamless execution of the ceremony, your hard work was evident in every aspect of the event. Thank you for the time, energy, and passion you invested to create a memorable and meaningful experience for all. Your teamwork, professionalism, and dedication helped make the ceremony a fitting tribute to those being recognized and a proud moment for the City. We greatly appreciate your outstanding efforts and commitment to excellence. Well done, and thank you for helping make this event such a remarkable success."*

Rose Ramon is Thoughtful: HR Director Leona Clay wrote to thank Pet Adoption's Rose Ramon. Leona wrote, *"I would like to give a huge shoutout to Rose Ramon for the customized eyeglass cleaners! Your thoughtfulness in selecting designs that reflected each of our personalities was truly appreciated. Thank you so much for your kindness, generosity, and all that you do. Your efforts do not go unnoticed!"*

Alexis Jorgensen Takes Initiative: PD Commander Duiker wrote to show appreciation for the efforts of Officer Alexis Jorgensen. Commander Duiker wrote, *"On 6/15/2026 day shift officers learned that a person of interest in a murder investigation had been observed in our city. Officer Jorgenson knew the POI had active warrants and that CID was interested in speaking to him. She researched the POI, ensuring the validity of the warrants, then organized her team to search known locations of the POI. The POI was located, arrested, and interviewed by CID. While he was ultimately eliminated as a potential suspect, the event advanced the investigation of a major crime. Officer Jorgenson displayed impressive initiative and leadership through this and deserves to be recognized for her efforts."*