



# A Hometown Holiday Celebration!

Friday, December 5, 5:30-9 p.m.

Towne Center Park | Rain or Shine!

**FOOD | FUN | SANTA**

CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING & MUSICAL PERFORMANCES  
WINTER VILLAGE WITH FESTIVE FOOD TRUCKS, MINIATURE TRAIN RIDE, KIDS' ACTIVITIES  
COMPLIMENTARY CHRISTMAS COOKIES AND HOT COCOA  
PHOTOS WITH SANTA IN HIS SLEIGH

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## HOLIDAY IN THE PARK DETAILS

### City Council Adopts Budget for 2014-2015 Fiscal Year

The Heath City Council unanimously adopted a budget for the Fiscal Year 2014-2015 at the September 23 City Council meeting. The budget includes an Ad Valorem property tax rate increase of 8.33-cents, which is the first increase in 22 years. The 8.33 cents is distributed as follows:

- 1 cent is to fund maintenance and operations (M&O), which includes Public Safety, Public Works and Administration. Numerous additions to the budget were responsive to the City's growth and include two new part-time Public Safety Officers, a Permit Clerk and a Construction Inspector. The budget also included an increase in funding for street repairs and maintenance.
- 7.33 cents will fund debt service (I&S). The proceeds from the debt are used to fund more than \$20 million in capital improvement projects that benefit the entire City including street, trail and park projects. You can view the project list in a table on the next page, or via an online map at [www.heathtx.com](http://www.heathtx.com) under the Government menu.
- The average taxable value of a home in Heath is \$406,450. The new tax rate will increase taxes \$338.57 annually. Of that increase, \$40.65 will go to M&O, and \$297.92 will fund the debt service.

The budget also includes a water rate increase due to a rate increase charged by the City's water supplier. The City of Heath's water supplier is the City of Rockwall, which is a member city of the North Texas Municipal Water District (NTMWD). The rate increase in the 2014-2015 budget is 19 cents per 1,000 gallons of water used.

For FAQs about the budget and water service, view or download the September 2014 issue of the City's newsletter at [www.heathtx.com](http://www.heathtx.com). You will also find a copy of the final budget for 2014-2015 and an updated fee schedule.

New treats and some special surprises await at this year's City of Heath Holiday in the Park, hosted in Towne Center Park, December 5, 5:30-9 p.m. Rain or shine!

Annual favorites like the sweet sounds of the Amy Parks and Dorothy Pullen Elementary School choirs will charm as always, with a few fun twists added to the musical performances.

Plan to have dinner in the new Winter Village, where some of Dallas' most popular food trucks will roll in, including **Ruthie's Rolling Café**, **Easy Slider** and **Sorelle's Wood Fired Pizza**. There will be a cozy outdoor dining area warmed by holiday lights, plus a miniature train ride, and fun activity booths for the kids.

Atmos Energy will warm everyone up with plenty of complimentary hot cocoa, while Mrs. Claus and her elves serve complimentary Christmas cookies, home baked and donated by the National Charity League and Rockwall Women's League.

Of course, the star of the evening is Santa. After his grand arrival, he will visit, share stories and take photos with the children in his vintage sleigh, nestled in a picture perfect scene. Be sure to bring the cameras and dress for the weather!

Holiday in the Park is presented by the City of Heath Special Events Board with the support of community volunteers and sponsors.

**Watch for more details:**

[www.heathtx.com](http://www.heathtx.com)

[www.facebook.com/HeathTX](http://www.facebook.com/HeathTX)

## Antigua Bay HOA National Night Out



From left, Allison Barber, Cassidy Howe, Seely Huggins, Lauren Robertson, Heath DPS Officer Joe Soto; and Shaylie Moore.

It was a great National Night Out in Antigua Bay, where the Homeowner's Association coordinated a celebration full of fun, food and festivities for neighbors of all ages to enjoy. The Heath Department of Public Safety officers participated, bringing out a fire truck and police car for children to explore. Officers also passed out safety-related items and information.

## City Sponsors Free E-Waste Collection Offered November 15

Recycle your E-Waste by dropping your items at the Free Electronic Waste Collection Event co-sponsored by the City of Heath on Saturday, November 15, 9 a.m. to noon at the Cain Middle School parking lot.

E-waste is any electronic equipment that has reached end-of-life or end-of-usage in your home or office. Items accepted free of charge include: computer hardware, TV's, printers, copiers, scanners, faxes, servers, cell phones, corded phones, stereos, DVD players, small household appliances, ink and toner cartridges, and batteries. Also, document shredding will be available.

For more information: 972-524-0007 or [eco@trashbusters.org](mailto:eco@trashbusters.org).

## Annual Registration Reminders

### RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL ALARM PERMITS EXPIRE DECEMBER 31

All commercial/residential alarm systems in the City of Heath require an annual permit for operation. All systems should be registered or renewed by January 1, 2015. The permit is good for a calendar year. A penalty of \$200.00 may be assessed if an alarm system permit is not current. **A renewal form is included with this month's utility bill/newsletter.** If you have questions, please contact Customer Service at 972-771-6228.

**Dog registrations also expire December 31 each year.** Please bring current rabies certification to City Hall to update or obtain your dog's registration tag. The annual cost is \$10 for intact dogs and \$5 for those that have been spayed or neutered.

## Capital Improvement Updates

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT	ENGINEERING/DESIGN	ANTICIPATED START	ANTICIPATED END
Buffalo Creek Trail Repair	Complete	Complete	Complete
Country Club Paving	Complete	Complete	Complete
Jeff Boyd 12-Inch Water Line	July 2014	January 2015	May 2015
Shepherds Glen Force Main & Gravity Sewer	Complete	June 2014	October 2014
FM 740 Phase 2 Utility Relocations	Complete	Phase 1- June 2014 Phase 2- December 2014	Phase 1- October 2014 Phase 2- March 2015
Towne Center Park Driveway (Amy Parks Driveway)	Complete	Complete	Complete (except FM 740 turn lane)
Rabbit Ridge Road Paving	July 2014	April 2015	February 2016
Crisp Lane / Myers Road Paving	September 2014	May 2015	January 2016
McDonald Road Paving	February 2015	December 2015	October 2016
Myers Road / Yankee Creek Road Paving	February 2015	October 2015	April 2016
Terry Park Wall Repair	Complete	Underway	November 2014

## Business Spotlight:

**A SHOUT OUT TO A HOMETOWN BUSINESS!**

**TEXAS TOFFEE QUEEN – H-E-B TEXAS BEST FINALIST!**



Heath-based Texas Toffee Queen will soon be featured on the aisles of H-E-B grocery stores, thanks to its recent ranking in the Top 25 out of 600 products in the grocer's Texas Best contest!

Founded by Nancy LaBarba-Lalumia, Texas Toffee Queen offers 10 exciting flavors of English Toffee, including spicy creations that recently took 1st, 2nd and 3rd place at the Chili Extravaganza in New Orleans.

"HEATH and TOFFEE. It's kind of ironic that we live and run our business here!" laughs Nancy. But it's clearly been a winning combination, as this local entrepreneur continues to rack up culinary awards and grocery store space.

"We attribute our success to using only the finest ingredients," said Nancy. That includes Callebaut Belgian chocolate and pure Borden butter in recipes like White Chocolate Cranberry Toffee, Dark Chocolate Espresso Toffee, and Sicilian Sea Salted Toffees. As you would expect for Texas, one even has a jalapeño kick!

If you want a unique Heath-Texas-Themed gift for clients, friends and family this holiday season, support our own hometown Texas Toffee! Products are now available at Rockwall Kroger's, Central Markets and online at [www.texastoffeequeen.com](http://www.texastoffeequeen.com). For additional information, contact Nancy direct at 214-500-5766.