

# MAYOR'S MESSAGE
## HAPPY THANKSGIVING



My hope is that this message finds you preparing to count and celebrate your blessings with good food and cherished family and friends around a festive table. I personally want to share my own gratitude to the many citizens who are working hard to make great things happen in our community.

From my fellow City Council Members and the City staff to board and commission volunteers, there has been a united effort to address Heath's challenges and embrace new opportunities.

And we are winning—with 52 strategic key accomplishments during the past 18 months including:

- Launching the Water Bridge Plan to increase the City's supply and storage capabilities.
- Settling lawsuits and restoring friendships with neighbors.
- Renovating Towne Center Park.
- Building the new Public Works facility.
- Building TWO new Public Safety Stations with a budget originally intended for just one.
- Retaining a new City Manager and Assistant City Manager from the Town of Highland Park, Texas. (Welcome Steven Alexander and Chelsey Gordon)
- Budgeting to hire an in-house City engineer and street repair program manager to oversee the many capital improvement projects underway, including the FINAL phase of Hubbard Drive and launch of Terry Lane improvements.
- Becoming a Key Performance Indicator organization with a new internal customer service-focused culture, The Heath Way.
- Expanding our force of Department of Public Safety officers.

The list goes on—but every effort is centered on one goal: making Heath the kind of community where everyone is grateful to live, work and visit.

Let's celebrate these wins together at the City's annual Christmas event on Friday, December 5, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Standard Service Heath. Heath resident and Standard Service owner, Elias Pope, is sharing his fantastic venue for this year's celebration while Towne Center Park undergoes its final renovation phases, and we are so grateful.

Finally, please consider sharing your blessings by supporting the Rockwall Toys for Tots campaign. Our Heath Department of Public Safety Officers are once again competing in the countywide Battle of the Badges to collect the most donations—especially $25 gift cards to help ensure older kids have a special Christmas morning.

Donations can be dropped off at City Hall or the DPS Station at 200 Laurence Drive during normal business hours. Help our officers retain the Battle of the Badges title to close out the year with one more community win!

Wishing you and your family a safe and happy Thanksgiving and I hope to see you at Christmas in Heath on December 5!

Jeremiah McClure
City of Heath Mayor

# WELCOME CHELSEY GORDON AS ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER



Chelsey Gordon brings over 12 years of local government experience — most recently serving as Director of Policy Development and Strategic Initiatives for the Town of Highland Park, Texas.

Prior to that, Ms. Gordon held roles including Assistant (and Interim) Director of Development Services in Highland Park; Assistant Director of Public Works and Engineering for the City of Waxahachie, Texas; and Management Analyst for the Town of Belleair, Florida. She began her career in local government working in the City Manager's Office for the City of Overland Park, Kansas.

"We are fortunate to add Chelsey to our team as we strive for continued progress as a premier outdoor lifestyle community," said City Manager Steven Alexander. "She is a passionate public servant who has helped create great cities through budgeting and strategic planning, community engagement and communication, and process improvement."

"Heath is a beautiful and growing community," said Ms. Gordon. "I am excited about joining the momentum the Council and community have created and look forward to using innovation and data driven decision making to advance key projects such as the development of critical water infrastructure, parks, and new city facilities."

Ms. Gordon holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and a Master of Public Administration from the University of Kansas, which has consistently ranked #1 in local government management by U.S. News & World Report since 1998. She completed the Senior Executives in State and Local Government Program at the Harvard Kennedy School and participated in the Alpha class of the Texas Women's Leadership Institute, an executive leadership program.

She is a member of the International City/County Management Association, Texas City Management Association, and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority.

# CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROJECTS UPDATE

CONSTRUCTION

Follow the progress at heathtx.com on the Construction Updates page.

## WATER BRIDGE PLAN

- Council approved a Professional Services Agreement for the design of Wells #2 through #4 at its October 28 meeting.
- Water Well #1 is under construction, with the drilling rig now onsite in Towne Center Park
- The design for the new 1.5-million-gallon elevated storage tank and 3-million-gallon ground storage tank is currently underway. The two facilities and Water Well #1 should be operational in 2027.

## STREET REPAIR PROJECTS

- A construction bid for the fourth and final phase of Hubbard Drive was awarded by Council at a specially called meeting to accelerate the project. Construction is expected to begin this December and is estimated to be completed within 12 months. Extensive communication regarding progress and detours will include direct mail to residents in the area and road signage.
- The rehabilitation of Terry Lane is a much-anticipated improvement for the community. It is funded through an Interlocal Agreement with Rockwall County for $2 million. Staff is coordinating with the County Commissioner and County Engineer on the scope, including adding a trail portion to the project.
- A contract for the repair of Racheal Drive and Kings Pass from FM 549 to Waters Edge Court was awarded by Council at its October 28 meeting.
- A contract for the Meadowview Road Culvert replacement was awarded by City Council at its September 24 meeting. The project is expected to take six months to complete. The start date will soon be determined with the contractor and published. Re-opening the road as quickly and safely as possible is a high priority.

## PARKS & TRAILS

- Council approved updates to the City of Heath Master Trail Plan that were recommended by the Park Board to expand future bike and pedestrian connectivity at its October 28 meeting.
- Renovation of Towne Center Park should be completed by March 2026.



EVENTS

STANDARD SERVICE

# Christmas in Heath at Standard Service is December 5

Towne Center Park remains closed for the final phases of renovation, but Santa is still coming to town to kick off the season on Friday, December 5, 5:30-8:30 p.m. at Standard Service, 4240 Ridge Road, Heath. “We are grateful to Heath resident and Standard Service owner, Elias Pope, for making his amazing venue available for our traditional community Christmas celebration,” said Jenni Knox, Chairwoman of the Special Events Board. “Attendees can expect all of the favorite traditions, plus the outstanding food and beverages from Standard Service and a Culpepper’s Cattle Co. live fire,” she added.

## EVENT SCHEDULE

**CHRISTMAS CAROLING TROLLEY BUS SHUTTLES**
5:00 – 10:00 p.m.
Start your festivities caroling “all the way” to and from Standard Service

Pick Up/Drop Off Locations:
Tom Thumb Grocery Store, 551 Laurence Drive
Holy Trinity by the Lake Episcopal Church, 1524 Smirl Drive
First Baptist Church Heath, 224 Smirl Drive
Heath First United Methodist Church, 140 Smirl Drive

Or...Uber to Standard Service and take a free Uber home, courtesy of the Heath Police & Fire Association.

**LIVE MUSIC**
5:30 – 6:00 p.m.
ROCKWALL HEATH HIGH SCHOOL JAZZ BAND ON STAGE & DRUMLINE WELCOME
- Featuring Our UIL Marching Band State Finalists

6:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
MEMPHIS SOUL
DFW’s Premier Motown Band, also Playing Christmas Favorites and Crowd Pleasers

**FOOD & BEVERAGES**
5:30-10:00 p.m.
- Culpepper’s Live Fire
- Select Food Trucks
- Standard Service Menu

**ACTIVITIES**
5:30-8:30 p.m.
- Photos with Santa
- Live Reindeer
- Letters to Santa
- Glow with Rudolph
- Miniature Train Rides
- Home Baked Christmas Cookies - Compliments of the Lone Star and Pearl NCL Chapters & boys team charity Lakeside League
- Santa’s Souvenir Shoppe - Get your Heath TX merch!

WATCH FOR UPDATES: heathtx.com and City socials

**PRESENTED BY THE SPECIAL EVENTS BOARD AND SPONSORS** (see back page)
- Jenni Knox, Chairwoman
- Amanda Rosander, Vice Chairwoman
- Tami Hogan
- Karen Myers
- Sandra Ownby

# HOLIDAY TRASH & RECYCLING SCHEDULE

TRASH

## THANKSGIVING WEEK

Thursday Service (11/27) Rolls to Friday (11/28)
Friday Service (11/28) Rolls to Saturday (11/29)

## CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEARS WEEKS

Wednesday Service (12/25 & 01/01) Rolls to Thursday (12/26 & 01/02)
Thursday Service (12/25 & 01/01) Rolls to Friday (12/26 & 01/02)
Friday Service (12/26 & 01/02) Rolls to Saturday (12/27 & 01/03)

## LIVE CHRISTMAS TREE DISPOSAL

Waste Connections will begin picking up undecorated Christmas Trees the week of January 12, 2026.

## BRUSH PICK UP

City of Heath utility customers may have up to three cubic yards of brush hauled away free of charge on the first and third week of the month. Anything over three cubic yards is billed at $ $12.58 per yard. Brush should be placed curbside by 7 a.m. on Monday of the collection week.

## BULKY WASTE PICK UP

Bulky items such as furniture and appliances will be picked up free of charge once a week. Place curbside by 7 a.m. on Mondays.

## HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE

Weekly "front porch pickup" of household hazardous waste items is available to residential utility customers through HHW Solutions.

Call 972-440-2040 or go online to HHWSolutions.com to request a pickup by 8 p.m., Mondays. Place items to be collected on your front porch by 7 a.m. Wednesdays. If you have a gated property, please place your items at the curb.

# ALARM AND DOG PERMITS EXPIRE JANUARY 1, 2026

LICENSE

Annual dog and alarm permits expire on January 1, 2026. You will receive email notification in December with instructions on how to update your information and make the payment online.

Anyone responsible for the operation of or in possession of an alarm system in the City of Heath is required to obtain an annual permit for operation of such system. The permit is good for a calendar year and a penalty of $200 may be assessed if an alarm system permit is not current. The fee for a residential permit is $35 per year.

The annual cost for dog registration is $10 for intact dogs and $5 for those that have been spayed or neutered.

## CITY HALL HOLIDAY CLOSURES:

Thanksgiving: Thursday, Nov. 27 - Friday, Nov. 28
Christmas: Wednesday, Dec. 24 - Thursday, Dec 25
New Years Day: Thursday, January 1

## PLEASE SHOW YOUR SUPPORT TO OUR 2025 SPECIAL EVENT SPONSORS:

LiechtyMcGinnis BerrymanBowen Attorneys & Counselors
American National Bank of Texas Your Bank. For Life.
Tom Thumb
Lane-Link Group
Heath Municipal HMBC Benefits Corporation
Heath Economic HEDC Development Corporation
Heath Hair Salon & Spa
Horton & Archibald A Professional Corporation
Spine Team Texas
Atmos Energy
PlayTri Swim·Bike·Run
The UPS Store
Heath Town Center by Younger Partners
Rush Creek Yacht Club 1969
Allegiance Title Company
Villa 306
Blue Ribbon News | Keeper's Press | Oncor | Karen Wydra/Ebby Halliday, Realtors



QUESTIONS

TEXT ONE OR TWO KEYWORDS TO 972.961.1997 | CALL EMERGENCY: 911 | NON-EMERGENCY UTILITY/AFTER HOURS: 972.771.7724