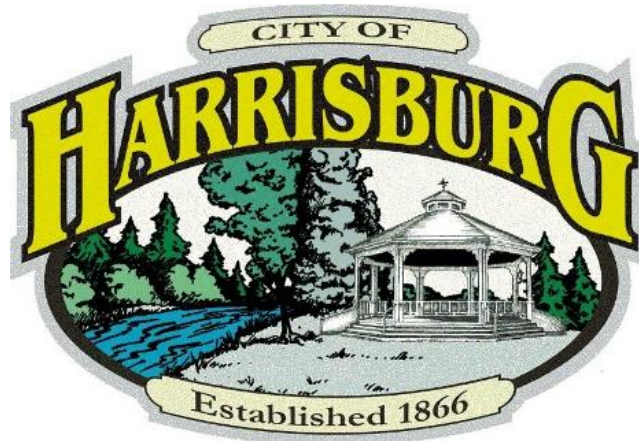


This document is supplemented by agenda packet materials, meeting materials distributed and audio recordings of the meeting and may be reviewed upon request to the City Recorder.



City Council Minutes
April 14, 2026

Mayor: Robert Duncan, Presiding
Council President: Mike Caughey, Present
Councilors Present: Kimberly Downey, Randy Klemm, Charlotte Thomas, Cindy Knox,
and Dana Henry
Staff Present: City Administrator Michele Eldridge, Public Works Director Chuck
Scholz, Finance Director/Deputy City Recorder Cathy Nelson and
City Recorder/Municipal Court Administrator Lori Ross
Meeting Location: Harrisburg Municipal Center Located at 354 Smith St

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Robert Duncan.

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL by Mayor, Robert Duncan at the hour of 6:34pm

CONCERNED CITIZEN(S) IN THE AUDIENCE: All in attendance were there for items on the agenda.

THE MATTER OF THE MAYOR PROCLAIMING APRIL AS CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION AND AWARENESS MONTH: Ross informed Council the City was not provided with updated stats for the proclamation. Council President Caughey read the proclamation aloud on behalf of Mayor Duncan. Mayor Duncan then referred to **Addendum 1** adding that of the over 130,000 people sharing sexual abuse materials, a huge percentage are known family/friends. Mayor Duncan urged the Council, the audience and staff, not to remain silent.

THE MATTER OF A REQUEST FROM THE EDITOR OF THE BROWNSVILLE TIMES TO PRESENT INFORMATION ABOUT THE NEWSPAPER TO THE CITY COUNCIL: Sharon Banks, Chair for The Brownsville Times Board, presented **Addendum 2**. Some of the presentation highlights included:

- Harrisburg's local representative is Caitlyn Walden, who was also present this evening.
- A digital version is available and accounts for only 20% of their subscribers.
- The paper is non-partisan and covers both sides of politics.
- The paper is available every Thursday and costs \$96 per year.
- The paper is currently not available for legal notices until they are re-established for 1 year.
- Eldridge to reach out to Banks or Walden with information about our Sister City relationship with Breal-sous Montfort and the anniversary celebration.

THE MATTER OF A REQUEST FOR AN INCREASE IN OPERATIONAL FEES PAID TO THE TRI-COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FOR OPERATING THE SUMMER SOUNDS CONCERT SERIES PROGRAM: Eldridge referred to page 9 of the agenda and noted the suggested changes to the MOU (Memorandum of Understand) which include the City receiving a copy of the vendor Liability Insurance, the change in sponsorship fee and the notation that the MOU was amended to reflect the new fee.

- Rhonda Giles, the Tri-County Chambers of Commerce Director, approached Council. Giles commented on the increase in attendance for the Summer Concert Program due to more time involved in marketing and promoting. She added the ASCAP (American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers) fees are based on attendance which have increased to \$400, leaving the remaining funds for bands.
- Klemm asked if the food vendors pay for permits to assist with the cost. Giles replied that most vendors in attendance take a loss compared to their normal locations and are here to reach new customers.
 - Klemm **motioned to approve the request for an additional \$500 to be paid for the Summer Sounds Program and was seconded by Downey. The motion passed unanimously by a vote of 6-0.** (Yes: Klemm, Downey, Caughey, Thomas, Knox, and Henry. No: None.)

THE MATTER OF APPROVING THE CONSENT LIST: No comments or concerns.

- Thomas **motioned to approve the consent list and was seconded by Downey. The motion passed unanimously by a vote of 6-0.** (Yes: Thomas, Downey, Caughey, Klemm, Knox and Henry. No: None.) A motion to approve the consent list will approve the following:
 - **The City Council Minutes for February 10, 2026, and March 10, 2026**
 - **The Payment Approval Report for March 2026**

CITY ADMINISTRATOR VERBAL REPORT:

- Eldridge referred to **Addendum 3**, the annual donation request from Meals on Wheels, adding that 100% of the contribution goes to helping Harrisburg's residents.
- Eldridge then referred to **Addendum 4**; Mayfest presented by the HART Community Center.
- An Open House at The Gallery, will be held April 18th from 11am to 4pm.
- Eldridge will be meeting with Junction City Interim City Administrator, Spencer Nebel, to go over the transition schedule for taking over solid wastes services.
- On June 13th, a Veteran's Memorial Service will be held at the Harrisburg Museum at 2pm. The event includes attendance by Russ Hayworth, Marilyn Smith, the American Legion and the handing out of both American and French flags. The event will be video taped in order to share with our Sister City, Breal-sous Montfort. This will be an annual event moving forward.

- Eldridge added the Veteran’s Monument is scheduled to be delivered by the 4th of July and an event will be scheduled for July 2nd if it arrives on time.
- At the next SMAC meeting, they will discuss whether they want to pursue a policy team. Eldridge stated the date is not yet set for the meeting.

OTHERS:

- The City received a \$1,800 Risk Management Grant that will be used for the installation and service of a panic button system.
- Eldridge informed Council she heard from Congresswomen Bynum and the City was not the recipient of the \$2.2M Grant request for Eagle Park.
- Eldridge informed Council the City had a resident inquired about renting BN Park for a private birthday party which included the use of an inflatable bounce house. After discussion, the consensus was to keep BN Park, a first come first serve park and to not allow the use of a bounce house as per the recommendation of CIS, the City’s insurer.
- Ross thanked Council for submitting their Statement of Economic Interest (SEI) before the deadline.

THE MATTER OF HOLDING AN EXECUTIVE SESSION UNDER ORS 192.660(2)(H) TO CONSULT WITH COUNSEL CONCERNING THE LEGAL RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF A PUBLIC BODY WITH REGARD TO CURRENT LITIGATION OR LITIGATION LIKELY TO BE FILED: The Executive Session was canceled for this meeting.

With no further business, the City Council Meeting adjourned at the hour 7:48pm.

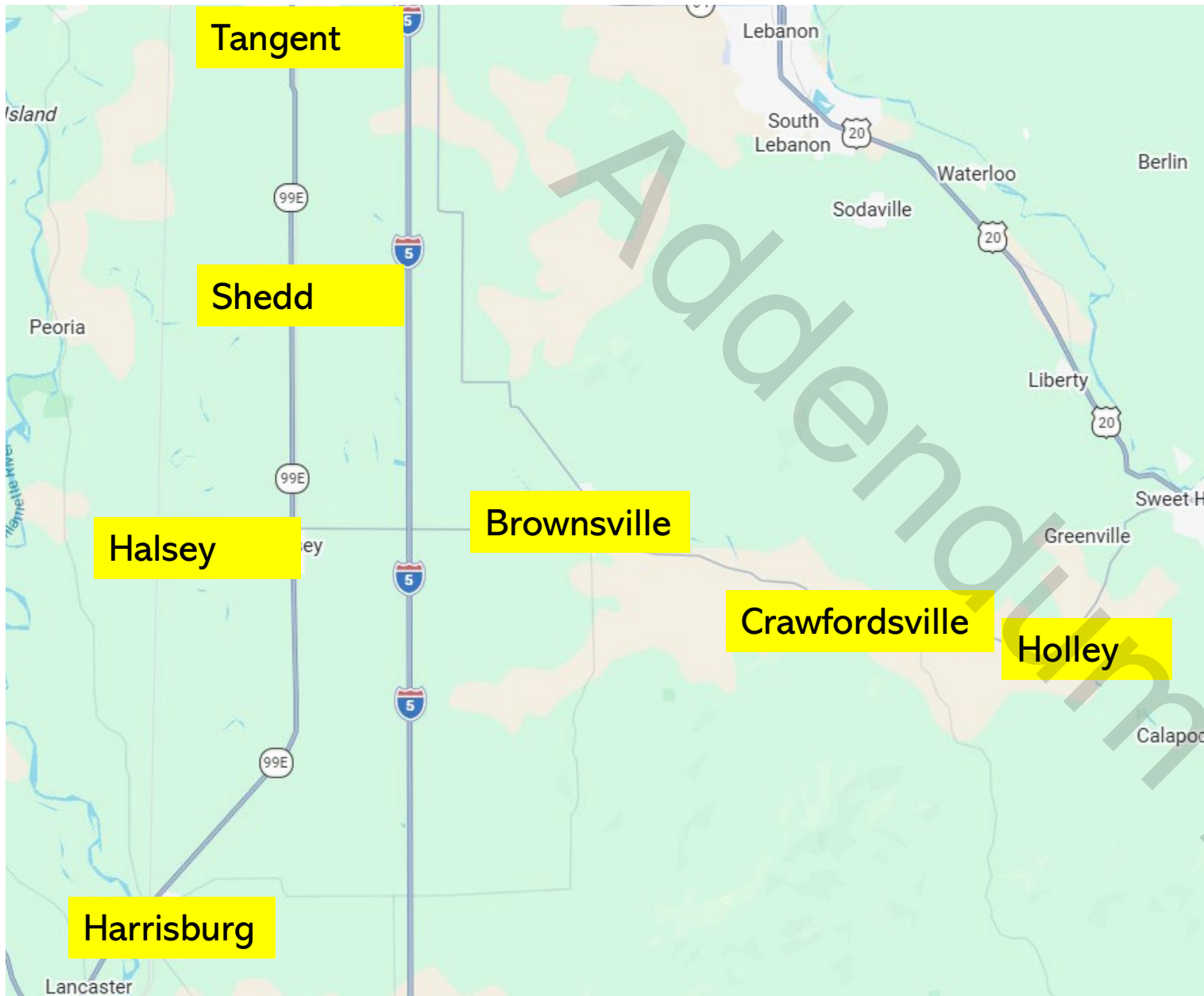
Mayor

City Recorder



📍 340,000 offender IP addresses viewed child sexual abuse material in the last 6 months

**BEHIND THE RED DOTS
ARE CHILDREN WAITING
TO BE PROTECTED**



**A Regional
Community
Newspaper**



About us

We are local residents bringing back our community newspaper with a new business model.

We are a nonprofit organization operating with 50 volunteers and 1 paid editor.

<https://brownsvilletimes.org/writers/>

We have grown to 743 subscribers in less than a year.

Expansion to Harrisburg

WHY?

- Local news desert
- Part of our community

HOW?

- Direct mail outreach
- Participate in Local Events
- Include Harrisburg news in the paper

GOAL?

- Add 400 more subscribers

Note from Harrisburg Subscriber

3/27/2026

Thank you for the
Residential Customer card.

3/26/2026.

I have been lost
since the Tri County
paper stopped home
delivery several years
ago. I

again - Thank you.

Norma Martinka

How We Operate

1. Correspondent reports news to editor or board chair;
2. News is assigned to a writer – immediately if breaking news or through our editorial board process if not time sensitive;
3. Writer develops a story;
4. Writer presents the story to their editor;
5. Editor makes corrections and formats article for publication;
6. Article is published.

Local News Correspondents

Tangent – Marcy Hermens

Shedd - Vacant

Halsey – Larissa Gangle

Crawfordsville – Mikayle Stole

Brownsville – Jeff Brown

Harrisburg – Caitlyn Walden

What Correspondents do

They are the eyes and ears of your community

- Report on upcoming and past events
- Let us know about historical stories in your area
- Let us know about local achievements and citizens needing recognition
- Tell us about star athletes
- Most also write articles or columns



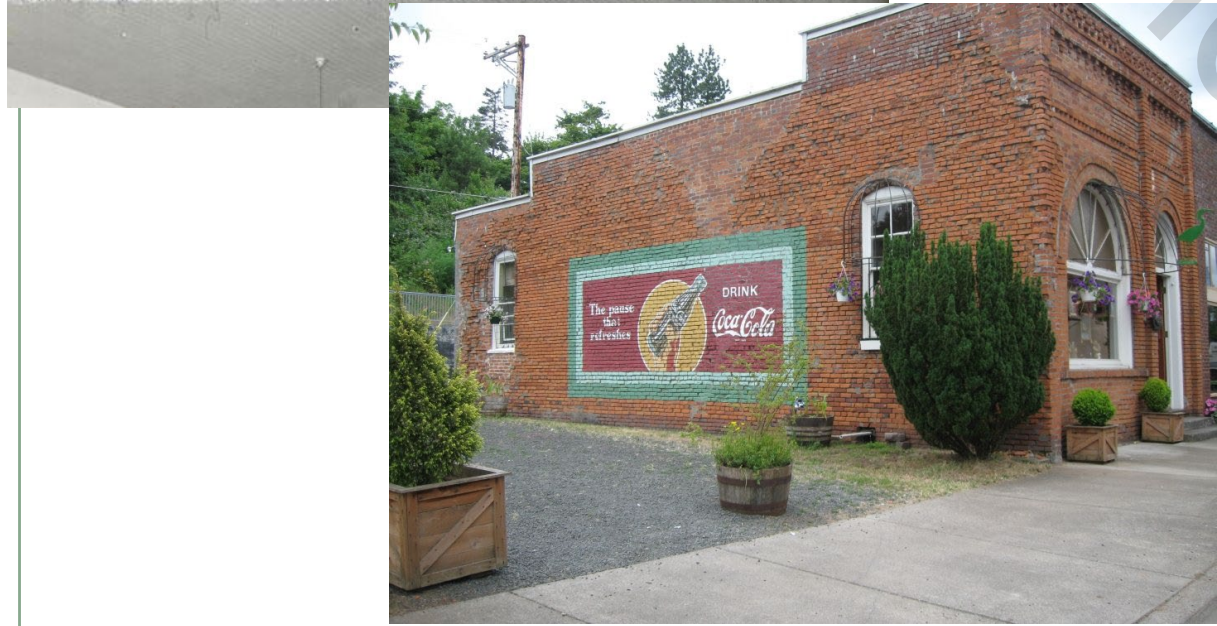
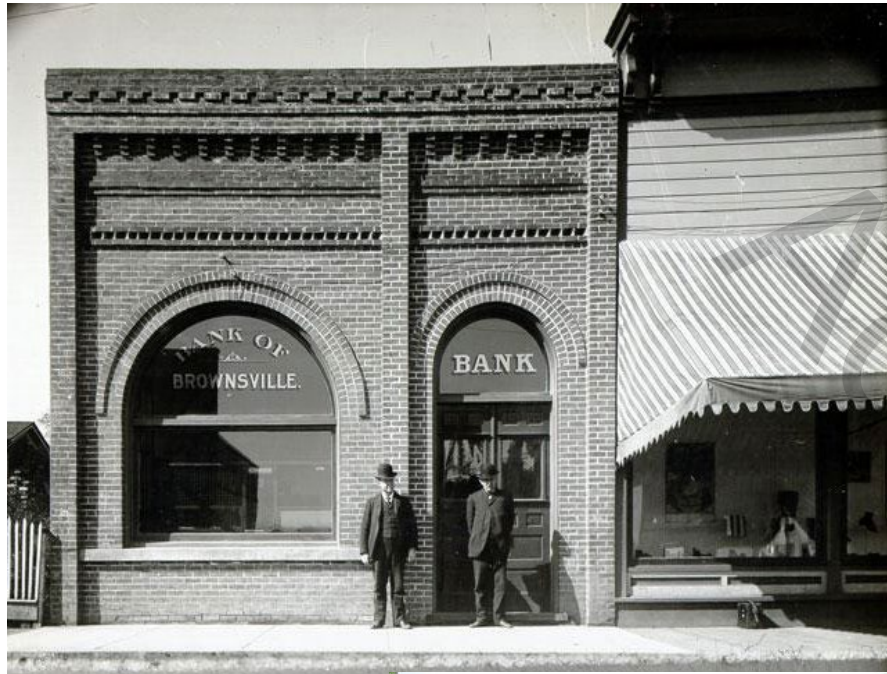
Preserving Local History & Identity

The Times has been our paper for 137 years. A newspaper with such a long history is a living archive of the community's past. It has documented generations of stories, milestones, and local achievements.

Local Journalism Matters

Unlike social media or national outlets, a community newspaper provides reporting on local government, schools, businesses, and events. It ensures residents stay informed about local happenings and issues.





A Platform for Community Voices

The newspaper gives residents a space to share stories, celebrate achievements, and discuss issues through letters to the editor, guest columns, and community features.

Economic and Business Support

Local businesses rely on the paper for affordable, targeted advertising.

Subscribers support the businesses that advertise in the local paper

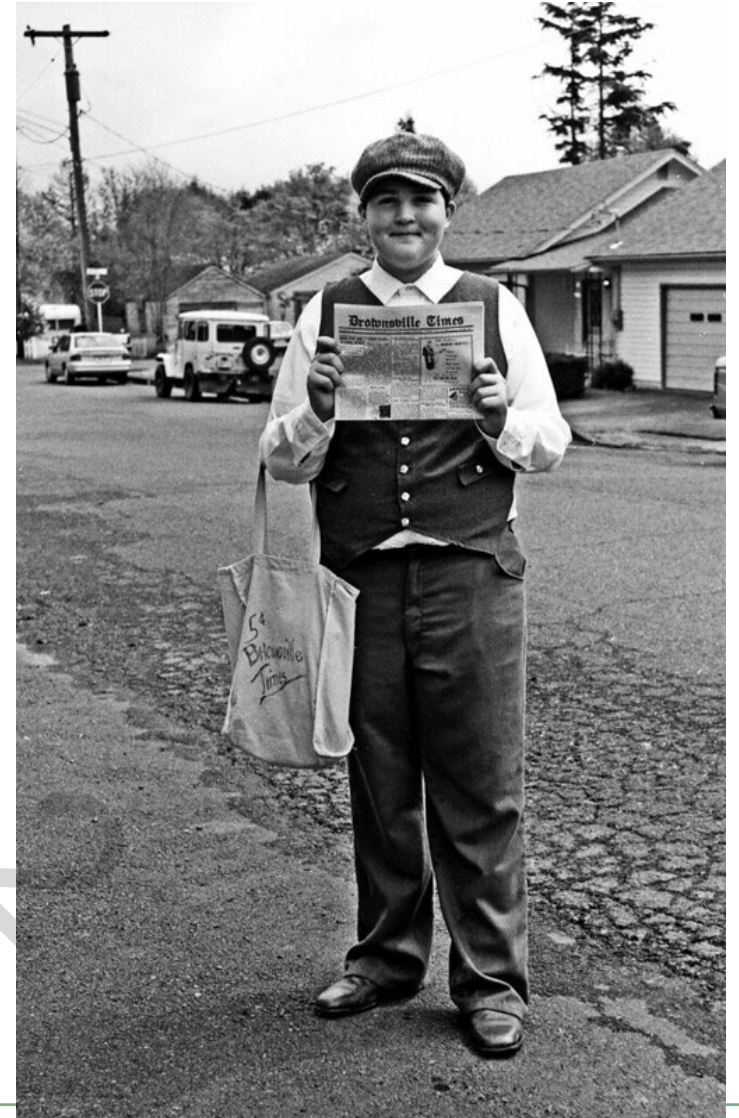


Bridging the Digital Divide

Not everyone has access to online news. Many seniors and lower-income residents still rely on print newspapers for information.

To reach the broadest audience, we offer both digital and print subscription options.

<https://brownsvilletimes.org/138-No-15/>



Encouraging Civic Engagement

Community newspapers help drive voter participation and civic involvement by covering local elections, town hall meetings, and policy changes in a way that national media does not. We are however **non-partisan**.



Boosting Local Arts, Culture, and Events



The paper supports local artists, musicians, theater productions, and community events by providing coverage and promotion. Without it, many cultural activities might struggle to find an audience.

Maintaining a Sense of Connection



The newspaper fosters a sense of belonging by sharing personal stories, obituaries, school achievements, and sports updates—keeping residents connected to their neighbors and their town.

Our Goal



To develop a thriving community newspaper: a publication that will continue to stand the test of time and be a true historic treasure for our community.

How You Can Help

- Give generously.
- Round up your subscription. Amounts donated over the cost of the subscription are tax deductible.
- Sign up to be a writer or photographer. Many writers that are subject-matter experts have already signed up. The board will organize the writers into groups based on topic with multiple participants to generate robust, interesting and informative content.
- Sign up to help with administrative duties like bookkeeping, delivering papers to newsstands, or staffing the desk.

Thank you

**The Brownsville Times
Board of Directors**

Sharon Banks, Chair

Michael Humphreys, Treasurer

Dan Murphy, Secretary

Jeff Brown, Advertising Manager

Carolyn Pearce, Subscription Manager

Don Lyon, Distribution Manager

Eric Kilgore, Member at Large

Contact: Sharon Banks

Phone: 541-915-9322 call or text

Email: thebrownsvilletimes@gmail.com

March 5, 2026

Harrisburg City Council
120 Smith Street
PO Box 378
Harrisburg, OR 97446

Dear Councilors,

Meals on Wheels provides vital support to aging adults and adults with disabilities in our region by delivering fresh, nutritious meals to their homes and offering welcoming community dining opportunities. Beyond food, the program provides regular wellness checks and friendly contact that help reduce social isolation, identify emerging needs early, and support residents in remaining healthy and independent in their own homes.

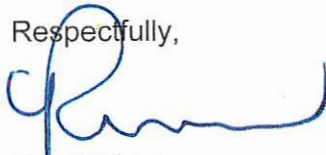
Many participants that Meals on Wheels serve often face overlapping challenges such as limited income, chronic illness, and social isolation. When basic nutrition and regular contact are missing, small health concerns can escalate into serious medical issues and costly interventions. By ensuring dependable meals and routine check-ins, Meals on Wheels helps prevent avoidable health complications and strengthens the safety net for vulnerable residents.

In 2025 Meals on Wheels delivered approximately **\$32,655** worth of services to the community of Harrisburg. During this time, **3,110** meals were delivered to homebound Harrisburg participants, offering both vital nutritional support and meaningful opportunities for connection.

To help sustain this essential service, we respectfully request a contribution of \$2,000 from the City of Harrisburg. One hundred percent of the City's investment will go directly toward meal purchases, which include daily check-ins that help protect the health and safety of some of Harrisburg's most vulnerable residents. Local partnerships like yours are critical to maintaining timely access to services, allowing the program to meet community demand and continue operating without a waiting list.

I would welcome the opportunity to share more about the program's impact and discuss how Meals on Wheels can continue supporting Harrisburg residents in the year ahead. Thank you for your time, your leadership, and your commitment to the well-being of your community.

Respectfully,



Randi Moore
Program Director
Senior, Disability, and Community Services Programs

FREE EVENT

HART COMMUNITY CENTER PRESENTS

MAYFEST

2026

Saturday, May 2nd | 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

HART COMMUNITY CENTER

▣ Activities & Fun

PLANT & TAKE HOME!

Choose your favorite flower or herb to plant in a starter pot – then take it home and watch your garden grow!

2ND ANNUAL BEARD COMPETITION

Show off your best facial hair – real or fake! Enter a category and compete for glory.

Longest

Fullest

Most Creative

Saddest

Best Fake

Judging: 3:00 PM | Winners Announced: 3:30 PM

10-MINUTE ESCAPE ROOM

Gather your team and solve the "Community Conundrum" before time runs out. Think fast!

GAMES & PRIZES

Fun games all afternoon with exciting prizes for winners. Get in on the action!

▣▣ Food & Refreshments

Food & Refreshments On-Site!

Delicious food and refreshments will be available on-site.

Details coming soon – stay tuned!

Come for the flowers, stay for the beard competition. ▣

FREE & Open to All | Saturday, May 2, 2026