

Hello Hideaway. It is said that the difference between a politician and a statesman is that a statesman is a politician who has been dead for about 50 years. Roman statesman, lawyer, scholar, and writer Cicero wrote that a great statesman must have virtus (virtue), iustitia (a sense of justice) and wisdom. He must also have dignitas (roughly translated as dignity), temperance and must show generosity and be magnanimous. These are things we should strive for in selecting our leaders on all levels.

Speaking of, we swore in our alderman places May 12, 2026, and got busy working on a lengthy agenda. One that included approval of a resolution adopting the Smith County 2026 Hazard Mitigation Plan. The county included our city, as well as others, in the plan, to put us in good position to be able to obtain grant funding in cases of disasters. They worked on the plan for three years with FEMA and State Officials and it was adopted by the commissioner's court. A link to that document should be posted on our city webpage.

We also received a presentation from a fiber optics company on bringing fiber optics to Hideaway at no charge to the residents or the club. We are just beginning these talks and will include the club as well, but I believe some more options for our community would be welcomed.

If you watch NETFLIX, there is a series called "Live to 100: The Secret of the Blue Zones" documentary on areas of the world where people live to be 100 at greater rates than anywhere else and are healthy in the process. This group now tries to replicate this in other parts of the world. A group I am loosely affiliated with has brought this group to Tyler and we have had discussions about creating Blue Zones in this area. I was telling them about Hideaway and they seemed interested as a prospective community to look at. Should be interesting and I encourage you to watch the documentary and give me some feedback.

So school is out and summer activities are starting. Enjoy time with your families and be safe in your travels. Carpe Diem!