

Hello Hideaway! Summer has definitely made itself known since my last article. Fortunately, we have had rain and cooler than normal high temperatures each day, making it bearable. We have returned to the school year (Go Eagles!) and the return of Friday Night Lights in East Texas and school related activities to keep families busy.

August the 21<sup>st</sup> we had a visit to our community by our US Congressman Nathaniel Moran at the Lodge for a Greet & Meet and he took some questions. Shout out to Stephen Self for the sound set up, Keith Lory and Renee' Graham and Ragayla Thomas for the cookies & water. I realize people are on various points of the political spectrum and that was reflected in the attendance. Unlike many of these events in other places, we had a very respectful group with really good questions and a conversation. Exactly what I expected from our community. One of the many things I have always admired about Hideaway is its unique, eclectic diversity. Different types of houses, clubs, diversity of social events, landscape, and people from all walks of life calling Hideaway Texas home. The founder of Methodism, John Wesley, is credited with the following quote: "Though we cannot think alike, may we not love alike? May we not be of one heart, though we are not of one opinion? Without all doubt, we may." I see this sentiment daily in our community.

You may have noticed that some tree crews are trimming back along our roads. This is ONCOR preparing to upgrade our lines as I mentioned in last month's article. This will continue for many months to come. Also, the road construction on state road FM 16 is on target for completion in 2017. If you are a CenterPoint customer, you may notice an extra charge on your bill. I called and spoke with them, and they are, in their words, recouping some costs they incurred. So, your rates didn't go up, they just added a charge to your bill for the year.

We are progressing with our Emergency Management team and working on a hazard mitigation plan with the county. This involves coordination between the city and the club in order to effectively implement. It is necessary to have this in place as it opens up opportunities for us as a city to claim federal and state funds in certain instances. Thanks to Joann Messina for taking the reins in moving us forward.

Stay cool Hideaway!

Chet Thomas, Mayor