



Mayor’s Message – December 2020

Ho, Ho, Ho indeed! 2020 made it easy to consider a ‘bah humbug’ holiday attitude....but HSBayers end this challenging year **HO, Ho, hopeful** for better days ahead. YOUR business community kicked this holiday season off with a tremendous **HOLIDAZE** event last week – showcasing our excellent Business Community commitment to service and partnership under a sunset/starry cool evening of laughter, connecting, and sharing. Be sure to return the THANKS and shop locally) - here AND with our retail partners in Cottonwood Shores/Marble Falls). LOVE having new restaurants emerge just up the road in Cottonwood... without the traffic flow to our limited road pathway. (**Gift cards to local shops are a win-win at holiday time**).

CoVid Update

I am also *hohohopeful* that 2021 will not need these updates, but for now be reassured that Horseshoe Bay continues to do well. As of 11/23, there are 9 HSBay confirmed cases – all out of quarantine in time for Thanksgiving. Thankful for sure! Hospitals ready to serve if needed.

LLANO COUNTY COVID-19 CASE STATISTICS 11/20/2020					
CASES	ACTIVE	RECOVERED	DEATHS	HOSPITALIZED	TESTS
398	76	316	6	24	5370

The City Fire Station will begin weekly **Drive Thru Testing** (by reservation ONLY via www.covid@hillcountrydirectcare.com or 325-216-9641) each Friday from 9-11 AM beginning December 4. This is to assist in rapid turnaround contact tracing to have immediate health information. With the holidays bringing families from larger communities – and an increase in social interactions – all need to continue to follow the Governor’s Orders for safe protocol to have quality experiences and low viral impact throughout the holiday season.

City Update

The City has a great opportunity for shared celebration – come to the **December 10th Christmas Tree Lighting**. Our tree is small, but big in heart. Bring an ornament to spruce it up ..stay for caroling, cocoa/brownies, consider offering a toy to the drive, and grab a picture with George (um...I mean Santa!). **Bring a chair or nab a haystack** and connect with neighbors and new friends....and take advantage of the chance to thank city staff members for their work. **Brrrrrr** weather arriving this week – it may make for a truly brisk (though not white) Christmas event.

Speaking of city staff work – click onto www.horseshoe-bay-tx.gov to read the **2020 State of Your City** report. Get statistics of your taxpayer dollars truly at work for you from each department. It will also give you a moment to reflect on the quality of life maintained on our

behalf every day...safe, clean, active, and planning for our future. While on the city website – be sure you are signed up for CivicReady and other notification opportunities.

Lots of data in the State of the City report – but we often forget about the heavy lifting of our **Municipal Court** Judge who holds accountable those who make reckless choices. This holiday season enjoy a toast and good meal/drink – but please remember to have a designated driver as needed. DWIs will be closely monitored and taken seriously for the safety of all.

With the fun of present swapping comes lots of trash. Remember **we recycle** paper, cardboard, plastic, glass, and cans (and used oil) at the **Recycling Center**. Just bring it by and they will help direct you to the bins! Details about the center are on the City Website.

Yikes! We **tripled our car accidents** in Oct/Nov (almost entirely due to the construction on Hwy 2147). Please be careful and pay attention to the new lane determinations. We should have this work finished within the week, but new road work begins within the community in the Spring.

Last month I asked...**Where is Waldo (YOU)?** The City is **asking all residents to update their email/phone contact** information. We have found we have only about 60% accurate information needed to reach citizens for emergencies, (road closure, water outages, pending bad weather, etc.) and for customer service assistance (customer water leaks, holiday trash schedule, brush site closures). Call (830) 598-8741/choose 1, or email ub@horseshoe-bay-tx.gov or go online to airtable.com/shr1CTTNrqrEbER7V . **Get connected!** ! (Note: Forward to friends/neighbors who may not be receiving these newsletters because of incorrect emails).

Community Shout Outs

“They” say a [community] divided will not stand. Fortunately, we moved through the election cycle with all able to support their perspective with mutual respect and continue to stand tall. Horseshoe Bay has State aligned and local sign ordinances that allowed us to post political pride signs for 90 days before and 10 days after Election Day. That ended on November 20th, but many have been out of town, tending to ill family members, or focused on a million other things. Still – **time for signs to come down** (and avoid sign ordinance citations). Don’t shoot the messenger (Officers Ray or Mac)...just doing their jobs!

Christmas tree fire safety: Christmas trees alone result in 13 million dollars, annually, in property damage. A few safety tips (seems like **common sense, but we all forget**):

- If you choose a real tree, look for one with vibrant needles The tree shouldn’t be shedding needles readily. Keep the base filled with water to tree keep from drying out.
- Always place your tree away from any heat source such as fireplaces, candles, etc.
- Make sure to use fully intact Christmas lights (no broken bulbs).
- Turn off Christmas tree lights each night before bed and before leaving.
- Live **Christmas trees can be discarded at the Reclamation Center** after Christmas or request of a curb-side bulk pickup option one Friday each month. Call (830) 598- 8741.

- Be careful! Nothing so good as a **deep fried Turkey**, but nothing so dangerous either. Keep the kids/pets away and dispose of oil safely.
- Always feel free to call the police/fire/city staff if you need assistance.

I know we are all missing the many wonderful celebrations of the season – and the times we come together to help others during this season of giving. I hope you each are able to find a way to help those still in need – more so than ever – and receive the blessing of your giving come back to you threefold in other ways. I look forward to seeing you at the tree lighting – but if not **Merry Christmas to you all**....see you 'next year' in '21 in our beautiful HSBay!



Cynthia Clinesmith, Mayor

City Website - www.horseshoe-bay-tx.gov