

City of Hunters Creek Village Phone: 713-465-2150 www.cityofhunterscreek.com

## HO-HO-HOLY SMOKES, 2017 WENT BY FAST!!

Hard to believe it's almost year end. Aside from Hurricane Harvey, it's been a great year, and Hunters Creek has never looked better. Our esplanades and common areas are beautiful and the Lights at City Hall are magical, if you have not seen them, go check them out. Special thanks to Wayne & Sheri Gross for lighting Saddlewood Park so Beautifully!

- -Our LTC (License to Carry) class last week was sold out at 50 and our Practical Tactical security class had 30 students this week. Over 400 of our residents have gotten their licenses in the past 5 months and our next class is Jan 10<sup>th</sup> if you are looking for a last minute gift.
- -City Hall will be closed Monday and Tuesday next week, then open Wednesday for regular business.
- -Farmer's Market will be open tomorrow from 9am-1pm. The Church carolers will be performing along with some special Holiday vendors, so come out and have some Cocoa and sing some carols. The weather should be nice and cold for at least a half hour, then back to the 80's.

I want to thank all of our volunteers who serve us all on the Planning and Zoning, Board of Adjustments, and other various Committees that keep our Village great. I want to thank our wonderful City Council, all of whom who work tirelessly to keep us on budget, all our infrastructure sound, programs running and fiscally prudent down to the nickel, all while keeping our Tax rate lowest in the Region. (except for SBISD taxes....)

I want to thank our fantastic City Staff, especially Tom Fullen, our City Manager, who make every single aspect of our Governance run incredibly smooth and efficient. I want to thank our City Engineer Steve Byington and City Atty John Hightower for stellar work all year long, especially Harvey related work.

I want to thank the many residents who sent notes, emails and texts of support and encouragement over the year during a trying time, they really meant a lot.

Lastly, though Harvey devastated our City and many of our residents suffered losses, it did bring us all together in many ways. Our Police and Fire worked fantastically to

keep us all safe. The Cajun Navy, Texsar Water rescue and just plain guys with boats showed up to save those flooded. Our Churches opened their doors to house, feed and clothe the homeless. Most importantly, our residents opened their hearts and wallets and volunteered in too many ways to count. This is what makes Houston and the Memorial Villages the best place in the Nation to live and we are blessed to be a part of it.

Perhaps it's just me, but for some reason this year, the lights look brighter, everything is prettier, and the Season seems more Special. Thanks Harvey, and thanks for the privilege of being your Mayor.

"Christmas day is in our grasp, so long as we have hands to clasp Christmas day will always be, just so long as we have we. Welcome Christmas, while we stand, Heart to Heart and hand in hand" Dr. Suess

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

Jim Pappas, Mayor