



## ***Mayor's Letter***

March 15, 2024

**WELL UPDATE.** As many of you have seen, the electrical subcontractors were on site this past month installing the control panels, telemetry, and variable frequency drive which operates the well motors. Our town engineers from EH-T performed a preliminary electrical inspection about two weeks ago. The report I received from the inspectors noted that the subcontractors were not following the approved designs, had used improper materials, and their work did not follow the national electrical code. However, the worst issue was that the contractors had drilled holes and run the **wiring out the TOP of the control panels**. You never, never, ever, put holes in the top of outdoor electrical panels, because, it **RAINS**. And we all know what happens when water comes in contact with high voltage. So, more incompetence and more delays. For those keeping score, on March 17<sup>th</sup>, Hydro will be 300 days late.

As of today, the wiring has mostly been fixed and brought into code compliance. However, I rejected their proposal to put sealant around the holes in the top of the panel. The best way to eliminate the possibility of having rain enter through the holes is to not have holes. However, to reorder new control panels and new equipment would delay the project further into the peak summer period. This is not acceptable. **We will NOT be on water restrictions again this Summer.** So, the solution which I have approved is that they will seal the holes and erect a roof over the entire facility, **at their expense**. This will only delay the final completion until late April. I don't like accepting second-best solutions, but we have to end this clown show at some point.

**EASTER EGG HUNT & GAMES** will be on Saturday March 30<sup>th</sup> at 10 am at Town Hall. The Easter Bunny will take time out of his busy schedule to attend the event in person and pose for photos.

**TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE ON APRIL 8<sup>TH</sup>** Lakewood Village will experience totality for 2 minutes and 3 seconds, the entire eclipse cycle will take 2 hours and 39 minutes. The LWV Municipal Development District in partnership with the LWV Dark Sky Association have purchased 500 pairs of ISO certified eclipse glasses for safe viewing of this rare event. **You can pick up a free pair** at Town Hall or text Sheryl France @ 214-729-6977 or Lynn Burkhardt @ 936-499-7766 to obtain a free pair.

The beginning of the eclipse will start at 12:23 pm. The main event - **Totality begins at 1:41 pm**. Suddenly the sky will go dark, and the temperature will drop approximately 10 degrees. **Totality will end at 1:43 pm** and the partial eclipse will continue until 3:02.

**CRAWFISH BOIL.** Our annual Crawfish Boil is scheduled for April 20. **As they do each year, the event is sponsored by Chris Cox and Touchstone Roofing.** We provide the food; this year we may have a change in the menu due to a shortage of crawfish. You can help and bring a side dish or dessert. It's a nice casual event, where people just drop in to reconnect with friends and neighbors after the winter. It's a fun time.

**LEISD** The Board of Trustees unanimously voted to make it official: Elementary School #7 will be called Lakewood Village Elementary. It is scheduled to open Fall 2025.

**Spring is here. There's never been a better time to invest, live, and raise a family in Lakewood Village**

**Dr. Mark E. Vargus**  
**Mayor**