

### MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR





Happy Spring Neighbors,

As always, there is a lot of great information to share with you all.

#### Castle Hills Fire Department

When we first hired Fire Chief Jim Ladewig nearly 4 years ago, my one question was what he knew about ISO ratings. For those of you unfamiliar, ISO ratings are a scoring system to rate a fire department's level of service, done by the Insurance Services Organization. Think the equivalent of personal credit scores for individuals. There are many factors that are variables in the score, but it effectively looks at everything from fire prevention, to training, to dispatch, and ultimately response. All of this information is plugged in and results in a score that insurance companies use as a variable in home and business insurance rates. It effectively tells insurers how well your home is protected.

When Chief Ladewig started, I shared my goal of continuing to offer our residents improved service across all City departments. Since his hiring I have regularly (and maybe annoyingly) been asking Chief Ladewig about our updates. In the last 4 years, we have made substantial improvements to our community fire prevention program, our training for firefighters, and the dispatch protocols.

In February, we received the excellent news that we had been upgraded from an ISO 3 to an ISO 2. This scale of rating is from 1 to 10. This new rating now puts Castle Hills Fire Department in the top 16% in the country! Aside from offering improved service, this means that you may qualify for a reduced rate on your homeowners insurance when it comes time for your renewal. It would be a good idea for you to let them know in the event that the information isn't automatically reflected in their system.

#### **Elections**

For the first time in many years, Castle Hills does not need to host a municipal election. As a local official said "that means Castle Hills residents are happy." We sure hope so! Aside from not having to hold an election, all sitting councilmembers can continue to focus on their individual projects and service to City. Elections are a great way for you the voter to make your voice heard and unopposed elections are no different. It is a powerful way of telling your local elected officials to keep up the good work!

Aside from the positive message, there is also a financial benefit. Each time that Castle Hills is on the ballot, it costs the City about \$7,000. The plan is to earmark those dollars so that we can invest our savings back into the City through additional investments in the Commons!

#### Infrastructure

While you may be tired of hearing about improvements and you may be tired of the construction mess, you CERTAINLY are not sad to see the new roads. As you are receiving this article, we will be wrapping up our latest round of street improvements, but we aren't done yet! Before Spring is over, we are expecting to start construction on the phase which will consist of North Manton, Glentower, and the remainder of Carolwood. Please keep in mind that we may need to move these around to ensure the best possible prices but those are our next projects.

(Continued on page 3)

#### **CITY COUNCIL**

JR Trevino Mayor

**Jason Smith** 

Place 1

Denise Haley Place 2

**Kurt May** 

Place 3

Jack Joyce Mayor Pro Tem, Place 4

> Beth Daines Place 5

#### **CITY STAFF**

Ryan Rapelye

City Manager, (210) 293-9673

Nichole Heinrich City Secretary, (210)293-9681

**Nora Davis** 

Finance, (210) 293-9674

James "Jim" Ladewig

Fire Chief

(210) 342-2341, ext. 217

Steven Zuniga

Police Chief (210) 342-2341

**Rick Harada** 

Public Works & Animal Control Department Director (210) 293-9676

## ALL EMERGENCIES, EMT, FIRE & POLICE CALL 911

Non-emergency (210) 342-2341

#### **Monthly Meetings**

All meetings are held at City Hall unless otherwise posted.

City Council

2nd Tuesdays, 6:30 p.m.

## Architectural Review Committee

1st Wednesday, 7:00 p.m. Upon Request

**Board of Adjustment** 

4th Monday, 5:30 p.m. Upon Request

#### **Zoning Commission**

1st Tuesday, 6:30 p.m. Upon Request

### Crime Control & Prevention District

3rd Monday, 5:30 p.m. Quarterly or as needed

(Continued from page 2)

#### **Public Servant Saviors**

In the last month our Fire and Police Departments have had what are considered normal situations to them but what most would consider exceptional displays of public service. The first situation was with Castle Hills Police C Shift or "Dogwatch" as it is commonly called. Officers were dispatched to a residence for a disturbance, while at the disturbance they encountered a situation that required quick thinking and resulted in them having to administer first aid, then ended up saving a young person's life.

In many occasions our first responders go to your home and business to administer life saving service but that isn't always the case. At the end of February, a group of people showed up to the Castle Hills Fire Department where one of them was having a medical episode. They were greeted by Castle Hills Fire Department B Shift. Our Fire personnel immediately began administering first aid while other team members contacted our ambulance service, Acadian. If all that wasn't enough, one of our finest, Firefighter Lehman, assisted Acadian in the transport to the hospital riding in the back of the ambulance. I was later told that "Castle Hills Fire Department saved their life".

While these stories are impactful to us, these are regular occurrences for all first responders not just Castle Hills. Most importantly it serves as an excellent reminder that Castle Hills has some of the best first responders around! Next time you see a Castle Hills team member, please thank them for providing unrivaled service!

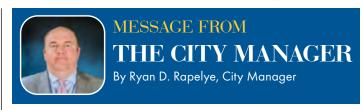
We look forward to seeing you all at Fiesta Castle Hills, April 20th. The parade starts at 10 AM!

Yours in service,

JR Treviño Mayor JTrevino@CastleHills-TX.Gov 210-559-5940







The establishment of goals and the importance of setting those goals allows you, a team and/or a community to work together to achieve a goal. Setting goals allows for the development of an objective with an identified plan, it provides clarity and the ability to measure progress leading to final implementation. Over the last few years, our goal has been to address street infrastructure (reconstruction) throughout the City of Castle Hills.



As we finalize the third phase of the Street Reconstruction Project this month, the City will have completed twenty-five reconstructed streets in three years, with a final phase to address three more streets. Once we finish the final phase, we can check that box and close out this goal. For years, the streets have been in a state of decay, and/or falling apart due to a lack of maintenance with little or no plan on how to address them. This goal has been done as a team, "we" collectively by the Mayor & Council, city staff, our engineers and the residents who approved the certificates of obligations back in November 2022.

(Continued on page 4)



(Continued from page 3)

We are targeting to start work on Glentower in May and Carolwood/Lockhill-Selma and North Manton this summer. Once complete, the goal to **fix our streets** will have been achieved in just a few years!

The City of Castle Hills has been working on several internal and external improvements over the last year, this will continue throughout this year, as further goals for the successes of the organization and the community as a whole. We are looking for ways to enhance our public safety, emergency management process and reviewing best practices for service delivery in Castle Hills.

As I had mentioned in a previous article, we were able to obtain funding from Bexar County and the City of San Antonio to address drainage problems at Lockhill-Selma and Carolwood. Last month, the City Council approved an interlocal agreement with Bexar County to receive \$1 Million in funds to assist with this project. The City of San Antonio would be responsible for this section of Lockhhill-Selma, and we will be finalizing the interlocal agreement with the City of San Antonio for \$850,000 towards this project. Last year, the goal was to see if these entities would partner with the City of Castle Hills through intergovernmental cooperation, I am delighted to report this goal was achieved!

It is paramount for us as a City to have these existing relationships with various agencies, the City of San Antonio and Bexar County, not only for assistance with infrastructure and maintenance needs, but mutual aid in the public safety arena. If you ever need assistance with agencies such as TxDOT, SAWS and CPS Energy, please contact us and we would be happy to connect you with the appropriate representatives from these entities.

As always, I would like to send a THANK YOU to all our employees who make up "Team Castle Hills" for their commitment to the City. I appreciate all they do for the city and our organization on a daily basis.

Please contact me at <u>rrapelye@castlehills-tx.gov</u> or at the office at 210.293.9673 if you have any questions on projects or need assistance with services from the City of Castle Hills.







## JASON SMITH

I am pleased and proud to report that all three incumbents whose City Council

seats are up for election this year are running unopposed, including myself. On behalf of Jack Joyce and Beth Daines, we are honored and humbled by the trust you have placed in us and thank you for your commitment to maintaining a stable city government. Without the pressures of a formal campaign to worry about, my colleagues and I will be able to dedicate more time to our work for the City Council making Castle Hills a better place for all of us.

The campaign to gather your suggestions of the most pressing priorities continues, however. As the city moves forward working with the county and the City of San Antonio to construct drainage improvements on Lockhill Selma Road and Carolwood Drive, we need to start implementing new ideas and new projects. As always, I welcome your input on the priorities you feel are most important, or any thoughts you have on improving the city and city government. Please feel free to reach out to me at the email address or phone number below to discuss your thoughts – I'm happy to hear from you.

Lastly, congratulations also go out to Emily Calderon Galdeano and Jack Joyce for the townhall meetings that they put on for the Economic Development Committee in February. The meeting I went to was well-attended, with input from several citizens about the development you'd like to see and how it can benefit the city. One of our goals as a council is to do what we can to make your visions into reality.

Jason Smith, Alderman Place 1 jsmith@castlehills-tx.gov (210)643-9214

# Poison Control is a Phone Call Away

ray Here's 1-800-222-1222

Emergency is 911, but there's another number you should post by the phone: Poison Control is

800-222-1222. If you have pets or know someone who does, don't forget Animal Poison Control at 888-426-4435. Having these numbers by the phone can save valuable time in an emergency.



## DENISE HALEY PLACE 2

Dear Neighbors,

The recent Young Family Meet-Up at The Commons sponsored by the Castle Hills Community Association was a great success. Families came from all around town with their children and grandchildren, and the weather was perfect for children to play and family members to become better acquainted. It's been said that children are 100 percent of our future. With the Baby Boom we've been having in Castle Hills, along with all the toddlers, kindergartners, and school-age children, that future is getting brighter by the day.

While we celebrate having a Baby Boom and many new families moving into our city, we also celebrate the "Beyond Boomers" Boom of residents in their late 70's, 80's, 90's, and maybe even some centenarians. That group grows as the years we live increase. Many of these "Beyond Boomers" have surely listened to the song that says "How old would you be if you didn't know the day you were born?" because they continue to share their energy, wisdom and life experiences, even though they might have physical limitations. Our multigenerational diversity is a big part of what makes our community special.

We have much to celebrate, that's for sure. Some of us, though, have become lonely because of a lack of social connections. Growing social circles, even in a casual way, can help us feel less isolated. Simply knowing that we're not alone is a start. Building meaningful connections with others can help reduce the detrimental effects isolation and loneliness have on our health, as the Surgeon General has outlined.

Neighborhoods have built-in social connections — down the block, across the street or across the alley are close-to-home places to meet our neighbors and make those connections. A front-yard seating area is a perfect place to enjoy being outside and inviting conversations with neighbors or people walking by. Or/and your neighborhood could have a Spring gettogether. After having an informal Holiday Happy Hour in December and a casual Valentine Chili Cook-Off in February, one neighborhood is planning a "NIOCH" (Night in Old Castle Hills) sometime around Fiesta. What a great name for a neighborhood gathering! Maybe you want to host one in your neighborhood and help build those meaningful connections and strengthen our community.

One last thing. Several City officials and Council Members recently attended the Open House for the Generations Federal Credit Union headquarters on Loop 410 at Blanco. Hearing from several GFCU people about how much they enjoy being in Castle Hills and their positive experiences with City staff

during their move-in was a great reminder of what a special community we call home. There are always opportunities to improve, of course, and hearing from people new to Castle Hills that this is a great place to invest and work in shows that we're doing a lot of things right. Welcome, GFCU, and here's to many years of success in our city.

As always, you're welcome, and encouraged, to attend the City Council meetings on the 2nd Tuesday at 6:30pm at City Hall, or watch it via LiveStream or on the City's YouTube channel. You can also always reach out to your Councilmembers and City staff with ideas or questions. Because now more than ever, Community Matters.

Denise Haley, Council Member Place 2 (210) 596-9686 dhaley@castlehills-tx.gov

### Advice from a Sunflower

Know your roots.

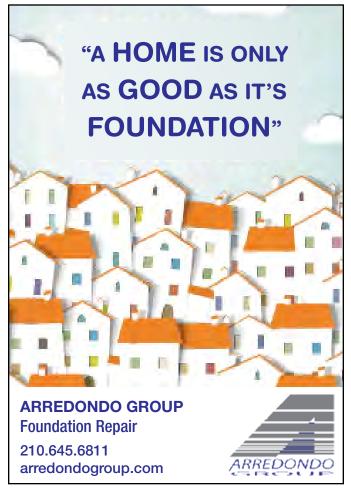
Spread seeds of happiness.

Rise, shine, and hold your head up high.

Keep your face to the sunshine.

Keep growing.

—Nicole Basque





## KURT MAY

Our community planned events to commemorate our 70th Founding

Anniversary in 2021. During that research, we discovered some remarkable facts about our history and the people who have called Castle Hills home. The Historical Society is working on the next phase of research to compile a written history, ready for publication for our 75th Founding Anniversary in the year 2026. We will have more details in the future related to the events leading up to our 75th Founding Anniversary.

Next month is our Fiesta Castle Hills, April 20th from 10:00 a.m. to 5 p.m. We will have a parade and festival as part of the festivities.

We hope to see everyone out there for this annual event to showcase our Fiesta Castle Hills!

Kurt May Alderman, Place 3 City of Castle Hills Kurtmay1961@gmail.com 210-273-8134



- 1) Visit www.NeighborhoodNews.com
- Click on: "Let's do our part" and follow the instructions.

#### WHAT WILL CHANGE?

NOTHING! You will begin receiving your newsletter by email on the next publication. We'll be sure to remove your address from the mailing list while you enjoy your digital copy.

Neighborhood News is pleased to be offering this free service!

Questions: Feel free to contact us at (210) 558-3160 or info@neighborhoodnews.com





## JACK JOYCE PLACE 4, Mayor Pro Team

Friends and Neighbors,

You may recall that in the last edition of The Reporter, I noted that 2023 was a terrific year for Castle Hills, listing more than a dozen important developments in our City. It would seem fair to say that citizens endorse this city leadership and applaud our hard work. Thank you for allowing yours truly to run unopposed and serve a third term as Alderman Place 4 and Mayor Pro Tem. Councilwoman Daines and Councilman Smith are also running unopposed for another term. Thank you, Castle Hills for that vote of confidence. What a privilege it is to continue in your service, and to be able to do so without running a campaign. We would all much rather spend our time and resources working on your behalf. The city budget had allocated approximately \$7,000 for the election. Now those funds can be used for something else that will benefit the city and its citizens.

As to some updates, the Commons planning is coming along nicely. We now have a solid plan showing a new stage, two shade structures, seven sculpture pedestals, and a restroom. We at the Parks and Projects Commission (P and P), with a ton of help from Ryan Rapelye, are gathering costs now and hope to present to Council in the next few months. In the meantime, public artist and Castle Hills resident Bill Fitzgibbons has brought to our attention a potential grant from the AARP. Known as the AARP Community Challenge, it offers the potential for a grant for just this kind of project. We plan to focus on the artistic elements of the plan, the stage and the sculpture pedestals. Average grants are in the \$12,000 range, but they have given up to \$50,000. Councilwoman Daines and I are working on the application, with much help from Mr. Rapelye and P and P member Vic Sylvia. The application will have been submitted by the time you read this, so fingers crossed.



The Economic Development Committee is in the midst of our town hall meetings, and all seem pleased with the effort so far. Many thanks to residents, council members, and staff who took the time to participate and offer their thoughts. Our economic development plan will be the richer for all this input. Committee goals include:

- § Create a strategic marketing plan for the City.
- § Promote business attraction, retention, and expansion.
- § Support local education and workforce development.

We will spend most of this year gathering information, analyzing findings and developing recommendations. At that point we will pause and once again solicit community input. From there we'll develop a draft document and again seek input. We hope to present the final version of our Economic Development Plan to Council in mid-2025. Please keep an eye on the City's website for updates.

My very best wishes to you all for a wonderful spring season.

Comments and thoughts welcome as always.

Jack Joyce jjoyce@castlehills-tx.gov 210-827-7222

#### When the Air Won't Blow, Call HEATING . COOLING . AIR QUALITY Services: ✓ Free Replacement Consultations ✓ System Maintenance ✓ Diagnostics & Repairs ✓ Duct Cleaning/Repairs ✓ Blown-in Insulation ✓ Air Quality - UV / Filtration DAIKIN **Daikin & Trane Factory Certified** AC • Heat Pumps • Furnaces **Free Diagnostic Service Call** \$89 Value (Must present ad to tech) www.TemperatureProSA.com 1-866-566-TPRO Familyoperated **TACLA 116376**



## BETH DAINES

Hello, Castle Hills neighbors! As spring approaches, it's a perfect time

to get involved in our vibrant community. Whether you're passionate about economic development, The Commons, Fiesta, or public art, there are plenty of opportunities to make a difference right here in our city.

The Economic Development Committee (EDC) has been hard at work shaping the future of Castle Hills. They recently hosted three interactive town halls in February, discussing strategies and priorities to support economic development in Castle Hills. If you have ideas for fostering economic growth or want to get involved in shaping our local economy, the EDC is a great place to start. You can reach out to the EDC Chairperson, Dr. Emily Calderon, or Councilman Joyce.

Our Parks and Projects Committee is dedicated to enhancing The Commons, our beloved community space. They're currently working on exciting new amenities that will benefit us all. Whether you're an avid outdoorsman who loves the beauty of our neighborhood, or a visionary looking to contribute ideas, this committee welcomes your input and energy. Are you passionate about art and its ability to enrich our community? Castle Hills is looking for individuals interested in enhancing our city with local art installations. Whether you're an artist yourself or simply appreciate the value of public art, your involvement can help make Castle Hills a more vibrant and inspiring place to live. You can reach out to the Parks and Projects Chairperson, Bernard Juettemeyer, Councilwoman Daines, or Councilman Joyce.

In addition to the exciting initiatives happening in Castle Hills, our community is also focused on preserving its

(Continued on page 8)



(Continued from page 7)

rich history. The Historic Society invites anyone interested in sharing familiar or known history of our city to join their meetings. Whether you're a longtime resident with stories to tell or a newcomer eager to learn, your participation is invaluable in keeping our heritage alive. Castle Hills will be celebrating its 75th anniversary in 2026, and the Historic Society is already gearing up for this milestone event. If you're enthusiastic about event planning or have ideas on how to make this anniversary memorable, they welcome your input and assistance. You can reach out to Judy Crawford or Councilman May.

Castle Hills is gearing up for a festive celebration! Volunteers are needed to make it a success! The Castle Hills Fiesta will take place in the Commons on April 20, and your help is crucial both before and during the event. Whether you're skilled in event planning, decoration, or logistics, your expertise can help ensure that the Fiesta is a memorable experience for everyone. On the day of Fiesta, volunteers will be needed to help with various activities and tasks. From staffing booths to assisting with games and entertainment, there are plenty of ways to get involved and make a difference. If you can spare a few hours or the whole day, your participation is greatly appreciated. Let's make this Fiesta the best one yet!

Let's come together to honor our past and build an even brighter future for Castle Hills!

Getting involved is easy! Simply reach out to me or to any of the Councilmen or contact City Hall to express your interest in any of these initiatives. You can also attend committee meetings to learn more and contribute your ideas. Together, we can continue to make Castle Hills a wonderful place to live, work, and play.

Beth Daines Councilmember, Place 5 City of Castle Hills bdaines@castlehills-tx.gov



### **Can't Eclipse Our Future!**

Mark your calendars

#### **APRIL 8, 2024**

because something extraordinary is happening in the sky - a total solar eclipse. This cosmic event occurs when the moon passes between the Earth and the sun, casting a shadow



on Earth and temporarily blocking out the sun's light. During a total solar eclipse, the sky can turn dark as if it were nighttime, stars may be visible, and the sun's corona (it's outer atmosphere) may be visible as a glowing halo around the moon. It's a rare and awe-inspiring sight that you won't want to miss!

This year Castle Hills is able to witness this incredible phenomenon as we are on the southern limit of the total eclipse with the best time to view it in the early afternoon.

#### **Safety Tips:**

- 1. Use solar viewing glasses:
- 2. Make a DIY pinhole projector
- 3. Elescopes and binoculars: Never look directly at the sun through these optical devices without proper filtration
- 4. Avoid unfiltered cameras and smartphones
- 5. Supervise children closely during the eclipse and make sure they understand the importance of not looking directly at the sun without protection.

If you love stargazing, look up after dark to see the Lyrids on April 15-29, 2024. According to NASA, this annual meteor shower has been observed for over 2,700 years! For the best viewing, take your lawn chair or blanket and sit or lay with your feet facing east. Allow your eyes to adjust to the dark for about thirty minutes and look skyward. Expect to see 10-20 meteors streak across the sky per hour. Invite your neighbors to join you and enjoy nature's show together!



# **VOTE** in the 2024 ELECTIONS

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan organization that provides

the Voters Guide. It is available in public libraries and online <u>VOTE411.org</u>.

**TUESDAY, 5 MARCH** – Joint Democratic-Republican Primary Election

**SATURDAY, 4 MAY** – General Election for local political subdivisions

TUESDAY, 28 MAY – Joint Democratic-Republican Runoff Election

TUESDAY, 5 NOVEMBER - General (National) Election



### **Events and Holiday Calendar**

#### Tuesday, March 12, 2024

- City Council Meeting

#### Saturday, March 23, 2024

- Easter Egg Hunt & Easter Bunny the commons 10am to

#### Monday, March 25, 2024

- Board of Adjustment Meeting (5:30 – 6:30pm) 209 Lemonwood Drive, San Antonio, TX 78213

#### Friday, March 29, 2024

- No School

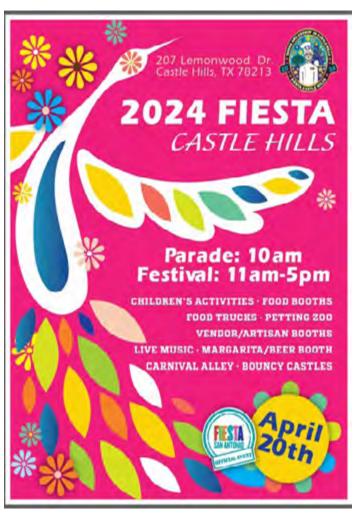
## Tuesday, April 9, 2024 - City Council Meeting

#### Saturday, April 20, 2024

- Fiesta Castle Hills and city Parade - (10am to 5pm) 209 Lemonwood Drive, San Antonio, TX 78213

#### Monday, April, 22, 2024

- Board of Adjustment Meeting (5:30 – 6:30pm) 209 Lemonwood Drive, San Antonio, TX 78213





City of Castle Hills

Chief E. Zuniga

March / April 2024



Greetings Castle Hills Residents,

Some may have not heard that Captain Wayne Waggoner retired from the Castle Hills Police Department on January 26, 2024. Captain Waggoner served the Castle Hills Police Department and the Citizens of Castle Hills for 24 years and served four years with the Helotes Police Department prior to joining CHPD.

Wayne stated that he was going to take some time off and enjoy his retirement before returning to the work force to pursue his next endeavor. We wish Wayne all the best in his retirement and next chapter in life.

On a separate note, we have been receiving an increased number of calls regarding auto burglaries in the residential areas of the city. Most of the burglaries are "non-forceable" entry meaning that the vehicles are being left unlocked and ransacked. Opportunists are walking around the neighborhoods and pulling on auto door handles. When they find one that is unlocked, they simply enter and remove what they think is an item of value including firearms that were left in the vehicle. The few that are being forcibly entered (breaking a window or punching a lock) are usually the result of an item being left in plain view such as a purse, backpack, or electronic device such as a tablet or computer. It has also been evident in some video footage that is captured and provided by residents, some of these individuals no longer lurk in the cover of darkness. Many of the videos clearly show these opportunists are now targeting driveways that are clearly lit. However, many wear some sort of hoodie or covering to conceal their identity and usually have a get-a-way vehicle waiting on the roadway.



Secure your vehicles, day or night just as you would secure your homes and remove any items of opportunity to keep from becoming a victim.

Lastly, Phone Scams. If you receive a call or an email advising you that you need to confirm information regarding a bank account or credit account, simply advise them that you will look into it and hang up. In some cases, you may receive an automated call from your banking institution advising you that your credit or debit card may be frozen due to detected fraudulent activity. In any case, the recording usually advises you to log into your account or call the phone number on the back of the card. This ensures that the log in or phone number is legit. Do not respond to an email that you received or a phone call directly as they are usually able to obtain information about you through these links. Never provide your credit/debit card numbers to anyone unless you initiated the call yourself and you trust the other person, otherwise these scam artists know how to manipulate you and can work with only the slightest bit of information you may have inadvertently provided.

Some of the most popular scams are using even well known businesses and organizations such as Amazon, PayPal and popular credit card companies. If you receive an email from someone you usually conduct business with, but the email seems suspicious, it probably is. Examine the email closely. You will find spelling or grammar errors (don't look closely for those in this article, lol) and then the use of the response email using Gmail, Yahoo or AOL are big indicators that the email is a scam. We are here to help should you have any questions. As a reminder, please report suspicious activity or suspicious person(s) to the police immediately by calling (210) 342-2341 or dialing 911 if it is an emergency. Calling the Mayor, City Manager or your Council Member first greatly reduces the possibility of Police Officers being able to locate the suspicious activity or making contact with person(s).

#### Happy Easter & Happy Spring! Chief E. Zuniga



# Castle Hills Fire Department



By Chief Jim Ladewig

## City Upgraded ISO Rating 2

On the first of February, the fire department received some good news regarding the ISO Rating for the City of Castle Hills. This news was also good for the residents and business owners of the City of Castle Hills. ISO, Insurance Services Office, rates municipalities based on the capabilities and preparedness of the fire department as well as the water supply and communication/ dispatch system. This rating is supplied to the insurance industry to assist in determining the homeowner and commercial insurance rates for that area.

The previous rating based on the previous Public Protection Survey performed in 2015 was an ISO Rating of 3. The new Public Protection Classification rating is a Class 2. This rating was based on new results of the survey performed at the end of 2023. This classification rates your fire department in the top 11% in the state, as well as the top 5% in the country. The rating consists of a score which is 50% Fire Department, 40% Water Supply and 10% Communications/ Dispatch. The previous overall score was 75.5 in 2015, with a current score of 84.39. Dispatch received an increase of approximately 4 points, with the fire department receiving a nearly 6-point increase. The dispatch rating was based on improvements in training, upgrades in the communication system and the reliability of their capabilities to receive and dispatch emergency calls. The fire department rating included training, personnel, fire prevention/ inspections, and the ability to respond to all emergency incidents sufficiently.

The department is very pleased with this rating increase and the recognition of the hard work that was performed by the firefighters and dispatch personnel to make this rating possible. The department will continue to strive to provide exemplary services to the residents and visitors of Castle Hills and take the necessary steps to sustain and possibly increase our rating in the future.

I would also like to include that the department has also received new EMS and fire equipment to provide services to the residents of Castle Hills. A LifePak 15 Heart Monitor will be placed in service later this month after additional training is provided to the department personnel. This monitor will help provide additional advanced care to individuals suffering from a life-threatening cardiac event. Additionally, new pulse oximeters are also being put into service that can be used as our current pulse oximeters. These new units can also detect the amount of carbon monoxide, (CO), in a patient's blood. This will make it capable for EMS crews to determine if someone is possibly suffering from carbon monoxide poisoning due to a carbon monoxide alarm

activation or experiencing flu-like symptoms. The addition of a new battery/ electric ventilation fan can also assist crews with clearing out smoke or gasses from a structure without injecting carbon monoxide into the building. These new additions are part of the commitment of your department to continually improve the care and services we provide.

Jim Ladewig Fire Chief









## **CITY SNAPSHOTS**





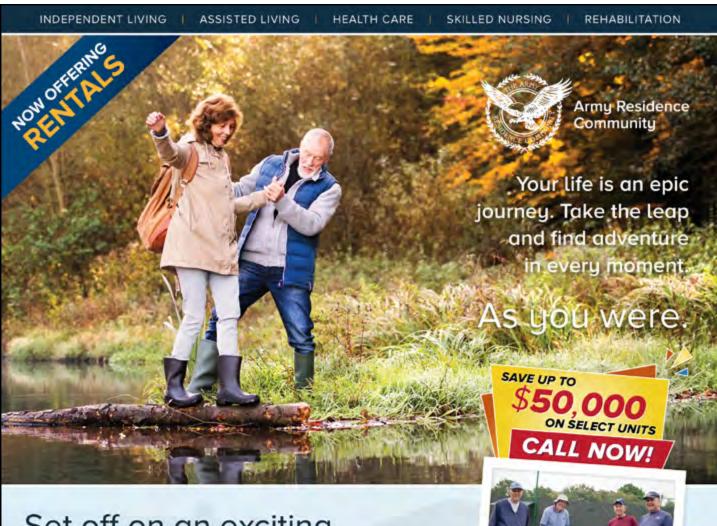












# Set off on an exciting journey alongside the ARC.

Looking for the perfect place to call home? Look no further! At the ARC, you'll find a fantastic community of friends and neighbors who share your zest for life and adventure. Together, we create lasting memories, forge meaningful connections, and support each other every step of the way.

We have gone above and beyond to ensure that every detail of your future home is carefully designed with luxury, comfort, and relaxation in mind. Don't miss out—Act now on this amazing opportunity.

ENJOY A COMPLIMENTARY 2-NIGHT STAY WITH US!

LET THE ARC BE YOUR NEXT GETAWAY-COME VISIT US SOON!

SCHEDULE A TOUR -

DISCOVER WHAT SETS US APART

(210) 646-5315

www.armyresidence.com



7400 CRESTWAY, SAN ANTONIO, TX 78239-3098

The ARC is a nonprofit life plan continuing care retirement community (CCRC) in beautiful San Antonio, Texas. We welcome all officers, retired or honorably discharged from all branches of service, warrant officers, as well as senior level GS 14 and above federal employees who are at least 62 years old, including spouses and surviving spouses.

City of Castle Hills



### CASTLE HILLS PUBLIC WORKS SERVICES SCHEDULE

#### REGULAR NON-HOLIDAY WEEK:

Pick-up Garbage, Leaf Bags, Brush Piles, Recycling - MUST be out by 7:00 AM

2024



#### MONDAY HOLIDAY: Garbage & Recycle only. No Brush or Leaves.



#### THURSDAY HOLIDAY: Garbage & Recycle only. No Brush or Leaves.

ON SECOND	MON	TUE	WED	THU FRI CLOSED HOLIDAY
OF 100F 410	MON	TUE	WED	THU FRI CLOSED HOLIDAY

#### FRIDAY HOLIDAY: Garbage & Recycle only. No Brush or Leaves.

THE OF LOOP	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
410	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
OF LOOP 410	a		00		CLOSED

#### TUESDAY HOLIDAY: Garbage & Recycle only. No Brush or Leaves.



If you have any question, please contact Public Works at 210-293-9676 of 210-293-9683

See City Website for more information: https://www.cityofcastlehills.com/2162/Garbage-Brush-Recycling-Guide



2024	City Holida	ys
JAN 1	New Year's Day	MON
JAN 15	ML King, JR. Day	MON
FEB 19	President's Day	MON
APR 26	Battle of Flowers Day	FRI
MAY 27	Memorial Day	MON
JULY 4	Independence Day	THUR
SEPT 2	Labor Day	MON
NOV 11	Veterans Day	MON
NOV 28	Thanksgiving Day	THUR
NOV 29	Thanksgiving Day After	FRI
DEC 24	Christmas Eve	TUE
DEC 25	Christmas Day	WED

### Important Note:

There is NO BRUSH OR LEAF PICKUP on a Holiday week. Do not put out brush or leaves as they will not be picked up. Regular brush and leaf pickup will resume the following non-holiday week. Thank Woul

2024

Dept of Public Works (210) 293-9676 Rev.12.2023



#### **Prevent Oak Wilt**

Friendly reminder that oak trees may **NOT be trimmed from** 

February 1 to June 30, 2024.

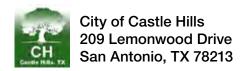
Reminder signs will be posted throughout the community.

The best time to prune trees is either in the middle of summer, when temperatures are the hottest, or in late fall/early winter months when temperatures can be the coldest.

Oak wilt is a deadly fungal disease that infects and disables the water conducting system in oak trees. It can spread both above and below ground. Fungal mats develop under the bark on the trunks and major branches of infected trees. Because oak trees have interconnected roots, the disease can be <a href="mailto:spread">spread</a> below ground through grafted root systems, <a href="eventually killing great numbers of oak trees in a community">eventually killing great numbers of oak trees in a community</a>. We are known for majestic trees — let's keep it that way.







PRST. STD. U.S. POSTAGE PAID SAN ANTONIO.TX PERMIT NO.1568

#### Time Dated



Join

#### In The Neighborhood

for a weekly dive into community matters

Scan the QR code below to sign up for insightful discussions and local highlights, landing in your inbox every Friday!





Blossoming new adventures await your loved ones in our senior living community. Bring them home to premium comfort during the season of regrowth.

- Y 24/7 response
- Housekeeping and laundry services
- Chef-prepared meals, social activities, and wellness programs
- Medication management and personal care
- 2 Alzheimer's Association-certified memory care
- Pet-friendly assisted living apartments
- Regular family events

"After looking at seven places for Mom, ask for a better place."

- Family Member, Google Review

Let your loved one embrace a fresh start in a community that values care, comfort, and camaraderie this spring. Let their new journey begin here. Call (210) 375-8132 to arrange a personalized tour.

1207 Jackson Keller Rd, San Antonio, TX 78213 Gardens Of Castle Hills.com AL #307221, ALZ #104638 🕳 &





Published and distributed by: Neighborhood News, Inc.

3740 Colony Drive Suite LL100 San Antonio, TX 78230 (210) 558-3160 \* (210) 558-3163 fax

Info@NeighborhoodNews.com • www.NeighborhoodNews.com For advertising sales and information please call or send an email to Sales@NeighborhoodNews.com

Articles that appear in the Castle Hills Reporter newsletter do not necessarily reflect the official position of Neighborhood News, Inc. and their publication does not constitute an endorsement therein. The appearance of any advertisement in the Castle Hills Reporter newsletter does not constitute an endorsement by Neighborhood News, Inc. of the goods or services advertised. Neighborhood News, Inc. is not responsible for errors beyond the cost of the actual ad space. Any publication of Neighborhood News, Inc. and cannot be reproduced or distributed in any way, whether in print or electronically, without the express written consent of Neighborhood News, Inc. @Neighborhood News, Inc.