

JANUARY 2013

The Castle Hills

# Reporter

*Happy New Year!*

*May 2013 bring you happiness and prosperity!*

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# Message From the Mayor

## A NEW YEAR, A RENEWED COMMITMENT TO PROGRESS

A city of beautiful homes is a phrase that often is used to describe Castle Hills inspiring images of tree-lined streets, manicured lawns and well-maintained homes.

Unfortunately, our city is beginning to look more like an old photograph, faded, frayed around the edges, covered with spilled coffee stains, and tearing down the middle.

This old-photograph image is far from being an accurate description of the entire area of Castle Hills, but there are places which are beginning to get away from us. Just as we would take care to preserve a precious photograph before it became marred, we should act to preserve our city before it becomes described as a city of beautiful homes with overgrown lots, untrimmed trees, abandoned cars or neglected neighborhoods.

To ensure that Castle Hills continues to be known as the city of beautiful homes, and to protect both residential and commercial property values, residents must comply with codes, which were adopted to keep our city beautiful. Without code compliance, areas of our city could become neglected and rundown. I believe you will agree that is unacceptable.

Compliance codes need to be enforced immediately, not 10 days, two months or five years from now when the damage has been done. To initiate the process, the city council budgeted for, and has hired, an experienced code-compliance officer. She has been added to the city staff, and she has been empowered to enforce compliance codes, consistently and without prejudice.

Many residents have already received letters citing possible violations on their properties. If you have questions about your letter or need information about code compliance, please call 342-2341 extn:221 and ask for clarification. Copies of the codes are available on [www.cityofcastlehills.com](http://www.cityofcastlehills.com).

There are residents, some friends of mine and of yours, who have lived in their homes for years, without thinking about the boat in the backyard or the camper in the driveway. If, however, the property down the street has a utility trailer in the yard or an abandoned car in the driveway, we all get upset. Guess what? According to the code, that abandoned car and our camper are the same. It is the responsibility of each of us to prevent the runaway neglect of our neighborhoods. By complying with the code, we have the right to ask that our neighbors comply as well. In doing so, we all can remain a part of the effort to save and beautify our city, and improve our property values.

Castle Hills is at a crossroads. It can retain its charm while moving forward in a modern and efficient manner or it may rest on its laurels, and one day be stunned when the laurel wreath is no longer beautiful. Code compliance is a good cost effective way both to keep and to improve our quality of life.

As your mayor, and your neighbor, I am deeply concerned about the condition of our streets. Many of them are so bad they are not only embarrassing, but are safety hazards. This year we must address our streets, which have long been neglected. Unfortunately, streets cannot



*Bruce Smiley-Kaliff*

## CITY COUNCIL

Bruce Smiley-Kaliff  
Mayor

Michael Catalani  
Place 1

Douglas Gregory  
Place 2

Steve McGuire  
Place 3, Treasurer

Tim Howell  
Place 4

Tom Davis  
Place 5, Mayor Pro Tem

CITY STAFF  
(210) 342-2341

Rita Hoyl  
City Manager, ext. 214

Linda Gill  
City Secretary, ext. 216

Chief Jerry Riedel  
Fire Department Chief, ext. 217

Chief Donald Davis  
Police Department Chief, ext. 210

Rick Harada  
Public Works & Animal Control  
Department Director, ext. 206

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 Tuesday, 6:30pm

Architectural Review Committee  
3rd Monday, 7:00pm  
Upon Request

Board of Adjustment  
3rd Wednesday, 7:00pm  
Upon Request

Zoning Commission  
1st Tuesday, 7:00pm  
Upon Request

Crime Control & Prevention District  
3rd Monday, 6:30pm  
As Needed

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be repaired by hiring a street-repair officer. It is going to be a big and expensive project. By not committing to restore our streets to good repair, elected officials will have failed to act in your best interests. Neglected streets, like neglected lots, untrimmed trees and unkempt lawns lower property values. It will be up to you and to me, as residents of Castle Hills, to acknowledge that streets, like houses, yards, lots and yes, even photographs, must be cared for properly if they are to maintain their usefulness.

As always, I encourage you to be involved in our city and look forward to speaking with you anytime.

Your Mayor,

Bruce Smiley- Kaliff  
mayor@cityofcastlehills.com  
210-342-5954



# Thank You



## FOR THE HOLIDAY TURKEYS FROM CASTLE HILLS CITY EMPLOYEES

The Castle Hills Homeowners Association donated turkeys to 60+ full time and part time city employees. Nancy Batchelder, President of the Homeowners Association said, "We appreciate all of the city employees very much. They contribute so much to the city and citizens and that is why we all are so happy to call Castle Hills home."



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# COUNCIL MEETING

## HIGHLIGHTS



### OCTOBER 9, 2012

#### Announcements & Presentations

- Officers Steve Zuniga and Chastity Park were recognized for their superior commitment to DWI prevention and enforcement by Mother Against Drunk Drivers (MADD).
- Mayor presented a proclamation to the Castle Hills Woman's Club in celebration of the club's 60th anniversary.

#### Consider:

#### Consent Agenda

- Cancelling the December council meeting
- An amended contract between the City of Castle Hills and the Texas Department of Public Safety for the Failure to Appear Program.
- Request from Comet Signs requesting to reface the existing gasoline price sign with an LED display at the HEB fuel station located at 6000 West Ave.
- Ordinance amending Chapter 16 Municipal Court of the Code of Ordinances.
- Repealing Ordinance 920, passed August 13, 2002, establishing the position of Assistant City Manager.
- Resolution directing the city manager to perform a comparative analysis for continuation of dispatch services versus transferring dispatch to Bexar County.

#### Above items under Consent Agenda – passed four to 0. Councilman Gregory abstained.

- Request from Jim Chaney, requesting to utilize a freestanding sign at 8055 West Avenue, in the grassy area adjacent to the west side of Lockhill Selma – passed unanimously.

### NOVEMBER 13, 2012

#### Announcements & Presentations

- Mayor Smiley-Kaliff recognized city dispatchers, along with Police officers Steve Zuniga and Jose Davila for capturing a serial burglar in action.
- San Antonio Magazine's reader's choice award for the best store to buy gifts goes to Mufungo, a Castle Hills gift shop.
- Jimmy's Egg opens at 8055 West Ave. A ribbon cutting ceremony was scheduled for November 14 at 10:00 a.m.
- Three stray dogs in the city, around the West Avenue corridor, on the Fox Hall side, and as far as Zornia and Krameria. Dogs are dangerous and have attacked other animals and pets belonging to residents. If seen, residents should call Dispatch; they will send the police. Some residents run/walk their pet without a leash. Castle Hills has a leash law.
- Castle Hills resident Luis Jimenez was recognized for a book he wrote called Moyeboy-51, which is about his life growing up and in the military. Councilman Howell also recognized other servicemen and veterans on this Veteran's Day.
- New restaurant, Azro Moroccan Mediterranean Bistro opened near Mufungo at 2211 NW Military Hwy.

#### Consider:

#### Consent Agenda

- Consider and act upon a proposal for audit services from Armstrong, Vaughan, & Associates, PC, to conduct the FY 2012 annual city audit and authorizing the city manager to sign an engagement letter.
- Consider and act upon an Inter-Local Agreement from Bexar County for designation of a health authority to provide emergency assistance.
- Consider and act upon the recommendation of the Architectural Review Committee for a request to remove six trees on the property located at 1746 Lockhill Selma.

#### Above items under Consent Agenda – passed unanimously.

- Consider and act upon a comparative analysis for continuation of dispatch services versus transferring dispatch services to Bexar County - resolution acknowledging the recommendation of the city manager to maintain the consistency of the City of Castle Hills Dispatch Service and acknowledging the practice of excellent business practices – passed unanimously.
- Proposal/resolution to engage a geologist or hydrologist to advise the council on possible solutions to flooding caused by the creek flowing through Castle Hills from the East Castle Lane Street overpass through Krameria Street – no action taken.
- Proposal/resolution to promote traffic safety in the City by requiring the owner of residential property to direct invitees, guests and service providers to park their vehicles on designated parking spots at city owned parking areas if onsite parking and street parking in front of the owner's residential property is insufficient and overflows to street areas in front of the residential property of others. Special events, such as social gatherings, shall be exempt from the overflow parking requirement – no action taken.



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# Council Comments



*Michael Catalani*  
**Place 1**

## **Excellent Dispatch Service Will Continue**

As you may already be aware of, the Castle Hills City Council recently voted to continue our in-house dispatch service. An analysis comparing our dispatch service as opposed to transferring those services to Bexar County was requested by a council member. The study was to include benefits, services and deficiencies of each service relating to our city, cost of personnel and support costs, as compared to the costs associated with transferring dispatch services to Bexar County.

A comprehensive and objective comparative analysis was performed by city staff. The relative merits of maintaining our dispatch service as well as those of Bexar County were presented to the city council. Some of the major factors in favor of maintaining our own dispatch services are listed below:

- We offer a faster response time; time saves lives.
- We offer an abundance of other services that cannot be compared to Bexar County.
- Crime Control invested \$250,000 in state of the art equipment for our public safety and budgeted \$60,000 in 2012 and 2013 for a full CAD system.
- There was a concern that price increases from Bexar County would occur over time.
- Bexar County charges for each call for service.
- Castle Hills dispatch receives on the average 453 calls per day and 152,000 per year.

In my opinion, the most important factor concerning this issue was response time. We dispatch in less than 60 seconds. Time saves lives and property. This message came across loud and clear by many of the citizens that spoke on the dispatch issue.

I thought it was important to give you, our citizens, a little more insight into this dispatch issue that took place by your city council. Excellent business practices and services such as our dispatch, police, fire and public works are easy to support.

## **As An Elected Official**

During my first few months as your elected official, I have tried to remain positive and enthusiastic about public service. I try not to be negative about an issue. I try to see the total picture on issues taking into account the economic and social well-being of our city. Regarding issues brought to the council, I have and will continue to assess what is in the best long term public interest of our city as a whole and for our individual citizens.



*Douglas Gregory*  
**Place 2**

Since the last newsletter the Presidential election was held and Castle Hills voted overwhelmingly for Governor Romney, the budget was settled and now we look to 2013. Please make an effort to attend the early months Council meetings. There will be several major issues decided on; the biggest dollar item will be how to spend over \$800,000 returned to us from CPS. Do not allow your Alderman to fritter away this money...it represents your hard earned after tax dollars.

Who can tell when this newsletter will eventually reach you but for the 10th Christmas I have the honor and pleasure to wish one and all a very Merry Christmas and the Happiest of New Years.



*Steve McGuire,*  
**PLACE 3, City Treasurer**

In this one of my last newsletter contributions I wish to call attention to what I believe is our most fundamental question. Government services are like buying a new car – there is

always one more option, luxury, or upgrade you can add until eventually you decide you have reached the maximum you can afford. Our Federal and State governments are doing just this as they attempt to define the appropriate scope or size of government; Castle Hills is facing the same challenge. And like with the Federal and State, there are very deep, fundamental differences in philosophy among your elected officials – when have we reached the point that we have all the options we can reasonably afford? Castle Hills has a stable population and service demand and yet in the past year the net number of employee positions increased by 3%. Castle Hills alone among our sister small cities the past two years had budgetary proposals from management and mayor for property tax rate increases, even though we already have one of the highest small city rates; by the narrowest of margins after vigorous debate these increases were defeated – but should we be holding the line on tax increases? Every service our city delivers is more expensive than that of our sister small cities – but are we receiving more value for our higher costs? The position of your elected officials on taxes is well known – and I am the only one not running for any elected office. This provides an ideal opportunity for our voters to chart our direction over the next decade. Do we continue to expand government and increase taxes or do we demand management efficiencies, limited government growth, and just say no to tax rate increases? As you discuss this issue I

encourage you to look at the facts, not the emotions – there will always be one more option, one more service, one more “critical” need advocated by management – but knowing we cannot afford everything, when is enough, enough? Demand answers from all of your candidates this year and next – and then hold them accountable for the answers they provide. It is time the voters, not the special interests, define the character of our city.



*Tim Howell,*  
**PLACE 4**

This is the time of year when we put aside our differences and come together as a community. We have a very strong, spirited city, and I for one am proud to be a part of it.

The members of the Castle Hills Woman's Club has once again showed their spirit and welcomed two more businesses into our fold – Jimmy's Egg and Azro Mediterranean Bistro are now in the books and off and running. These ladies do a remarkable job of rolling out the welcome mat, and we are grateful for their generosity.

Thanks also go out to everyone who attended the tree lighting on Dec 11th. This is just another example of our community support and togetherness during the holidays.

Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Timothy A Howell  
210-535-9094  
City of Castle Hills  
Alderman Place 4  
timothyallanhowell@yahoo.com  
timothyallanhowell@gmail.com



*Tom Davis,*  
**PLACE 5, Mayor Pro Tem**

Happy New Year or Prospero Ano  
(In My Opinion)

Most of us have taken down our holiday decorations and stored them away for safe keeping until next year. With the passing of 2012, we celebrate the joys and sadly remember the losses of loved ones and family. Contemplating what 2013 may bring for the future of Castle Hills, we are thankful for a city that has maintained its financial security and is economically well positioned. However, much like the unfulfilled Mayan doomsday prediction of world collapse on December 21, 2012, some of our local doom and gloom prognosticators have yet to see the sky falling in or the economic devastation of our city that they had predicted. An incorrect economic catastrophe they have been predicting for the last four budget years. With optimism and commitment, most of our residents view the future of Castle Hills as one of growth and prosperity.

After a tied vote and some coercion, your City Council on a second vote approved retaining the tax rate for 2013 the same as the tax rate for 2012 despite the decline in the majority of property appraisals within our city. The outcome: low tax rate, declining property appraisals, less revenue for the City, tighter budget. Simple math and simple minded. Over eighty percent of our City budget is for personnel. Substantial budget cuts usual mean trimming departments or outsourcing services. Either one actually means cutting positions. If you didn't catch that, cutting positions translates to terminating people who deliver the services you have enjoyed and people you know.

Captain Davis and the staff are to be commended for the excellent study presented at the November 12th Council meeting regarding the cost of retaining our dispatch services or the cost of outsourcing the calls to the Bexar County dispatch system. Our previous City Manager had

*Council Comments Continued on Page 8»*

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been asked to look into this idea about a year ago and after ascertaining the pros and cons pronounced it unwise and economically unsound. Like a phoenix rising from the ashes, this ill thought-out plan surfaced again and a formal study was requested. Despite a concise and unambiguous explanation of the data presented by Captain Davis and a power point presentation, the veracity of the presentation and the data was questioned. Rational sense prevailed and the Council voted to retain our own dispatch, the hub of our city services. As a side note, KENS television coincidentally aired a segment two days later detailing the inability of the Bexar County dispatch to answer emergency calls within the national average of 10 seconds. With less than a third of the needed dispatchers, some callers are put on hold for 2 minutes or longer delaying the notification to the appropriate department to respond to the emergency. An inability to expand services and fill the unfunded positions was cited as the reason for the delays.

Fortunately, the attempts to save money by dispensing with our dispatch services have hopefully been put to rest forever. What's next from some members of City Council? Rehashing an investigation into whether to outsource our garbage collection or keep our own city service? Maybe considering outsourcing the Animal Shelter, Fire Department and EMT Services, Police Department, or Municipal Court could be the next money saving target. As with Occam's Razor, sometimes the most obvious solution to the most casual observer is the correct course of action. Finally to our glum soothsayers, I say whether doomsday is around the corner or in the next millennium let's pay for and keep the excellent services that make Castle Hills the city where we all chose to live.

Agree or disagree, you can always contact me at [jtdsa@grandecom.net](mailto:jtdsa@grandecom.net)

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## Bicycle Safety

Following are excerpts from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

Bicycle riding is fun, healthy, and has become increasingly popular!

Below are some basic safety tips when you ride.

- Wear a Properly Fitted Bicycle Helmet.
- See and Be Seen. Whether daytime, dawn, dusk, foul weather, or at night, you need to be seen by others. Wearing white has not been shown to make you more visible. Rather, always wear neon, fluorescent, or other bright colors when riding day or night. Also wear something that reflects light, such as reflective tape or markings, or flashing lights. Remember, just because you can see a driver doesn't mean the driver can see you.
- Control Your Bicycle. Always ride with at least one hand on the handlebars. Carry books and other items in a bicycle carrier or backpack.
- Watch for and Avoid Road Hazards. Be on the lookout for hazards such as potholes, broken glass, gravel, puddles, leaves, and dogs.
- Avoid Riding at Night. It is far more dangerous to ride at night than during the day because you are harder for others to see. If you have to ride at night, wear something that makes you more easily seen by others. Make sure you have reflectors on the front and rear of your bicycle (white lights on the front and red rear reflectors are required by law in many States), in addition to reflectors on your tires, so others can see you.

Before using your bicycle, make sure it is ready to ride. You should always inspect your bike to make sure all parts are secure and working properly. To maximize your safety, always wear a helmet AND follow the rules of the road.

For more information on bicycle safety, visit the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) Web site at: [www.nhtsa.dot.gov](http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov)

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## STAFF COMMENTS

### City Manager – Rita Hoyl

I hope that everyone had a magnificent holiday season.

2012 was an eventful year here at City Hall. As we enter 2013, I look forward to another eventful year as Castle Hills flourishes both economically and aesthetically.

As you read further in this issue, we have many wonderful shops and restaurants that recently opened. We have existing businesses that were recognized as the “Best of San Antonio”. There are businesses that moved or are moving within the city limits to larger spaces. This is great news for City.

During the month of November, with over 200 violations observed or reported, our new code compliance officer mailed 150 letters to residences and businesses, and made nearly 50 contacts by phone or in person to address these violations. I have no doubt that we will soon see the result of her hard work. This is the beginning of Castle Hills blossoming aesthetically. This is also great news.

With that said, we desperately need to address our alleys. Since alleyways are not readily visible from the street, you might have a tendency not to maintain them like you would your front yard. If your trash or recycle is picked up in the alley, we ask that you please take a few minutes to step into the alleyway and take a look at the vegetation along your fence line. If there is grass, weeds, or other vegetation growing from your property line to the centerline of the alley greater than 5”, please cut, trim, and remove. Vegetation protruding into the alley has caused injury to our employees and damage to the side view mirrors on the garbage truck. Code Compliance is currently driving through the alleyways and mailing compliance notices. Taking care of these issues in advance helps reduce the cost of mailing letters. Most importantly, you will help keep the employees safe and city property from getting damaged.

Castle Hills has amazing employees that are committed to working hard for you, the City of Castle Hills. We will all do our part to help Castle Hills flourish so you can be proud to call Castle Hills home.

Best wishes for a prosperous year in 2013.

## Castle Hills Police Department



If it sounds too good to be true...

First of all we would like to wish all of you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Many of you will be traveling, so don't forget to

contact dispatch and let them know you will be out of town and request a patrol-by. If your house is on our patrol-by list an officer will patrol by your house at least once per shift.

Recently we have been contacted regarding some possible scams, either by mail, telephone, and or internet. You should not forget what your parents told you, i.e., “if it sounds too good to be true it probably is.” I recall a recent report where a resident brought in a “certified” letter from a bank regarding a large check that was “gifted” to him. He was simply to deposit the check and in return pay the taxes of the “gifted” money. The “gifted” money was far greater than the taxes owed, so it sounded like a great deal. After visiting with the resident I suggested verifying the bank the check was written on, and if the bank was legitimate how about the account number? Needless to say you all know the findings, it was a scam.

Another one that is becoming popular is where you are contacted regarding a relative that was involved in an accident or kidnapped in another county, such as Mexico. You are being asked to wire money to aid in your relatives' attorney fees or something similar. So, if you have been contacted regarding a similar instance please do not fall victim. If you have a question regarding a possible scam simply give

### City of Castle Hills

us a call and we will help determine the validity of the incident at hand.

Now that we are aware of scams, how about prosecuting them? This is a very difficult task, if not impossible. Most scam artists are not in the San Antonio area, or even the United States. The investigative trail gets bogged down with phony banks, names, account numbers etc... These cases rarely end with a successful prosecution so don't fall for it.

We thank all of you for your continued support and if you ever need anything we are right around the corner.

Wayne Davis  
Captain, Castle Hills PD

## Castle Hills Fire Department

Jerry Riedel – Fire Chief



### LOWTREE LIMBS

- Very soon we will begin driving through the City streets and will be measuring trees overhanging into the street. If your trees are too low, we

will be placing a door hanger on your door instructing you to address this issue. Taking care of this in advance will eliminate damage to the city's equipment, other vehicles, and possible injury to pedestrians.

The ordinance requires that there is a 12' clearance from the street or sidewalk. Consider the clearance in all weather conditions. Homeowners and contractor must obtain a permit from City Hall before any trimming is begun. Further instructions will be given at the City regarding painting open wounds on oak trees.

We appreciate your cooperation and thank you for doing your part in keeping Castle Hills a safe and beautiful place to live.



### **Azro Moroccan Mediterranean Bistro Grand Opening & Ribbon Cutting Ceremony**

Mayor Pro Tem Tom Davis, Azro Moroccan Mediterranean Bistro owner, Kahlid Said and Castle Hills Woman's Club members celebrate the Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting ceremony November 1st.



### **Jimmy's Egg Grand Opening & Ribbon Cutting Ceremony**

Mayor Smiley-Kaliff, Councilman Howell & Castle Hills Woman's Club members with owner Jim Chaney and wife Opie, at the November 14th ceremony.

## **YOUR COMMUNITY**



### **Red Ribbon Corps, Inc. recognizes Veteran's**

A few hundred scouts, troop leaders, parents, Castle Hills residents and friends gathered at Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetery on November 10th to help place approx. 75,000 red ribbons at head stones and markers. Resident Joyce Buie founded this organization in 2007 to honor the Veterans and their families that sacrificed for our country. Thank you Joyce!



### **Gourmet Hospitality, Blue Ribbon Tires/Las Chiladas sponsor Christmas Tree Lighting**

Residents and businesses from the Castle Hills community gathered in the Commons on December 11th for the lighting of the Christmas Tree. After a brief welcoming by Mayor Smiley Kaliff & Councilman Tim Howell, the tree was lit and Mrs. Howell served gourmet hot chocolate with whip cream and cinnamon. All enjoyed tamales, bunuelos, and blinis pancakes with salmon and capers. What a treat!

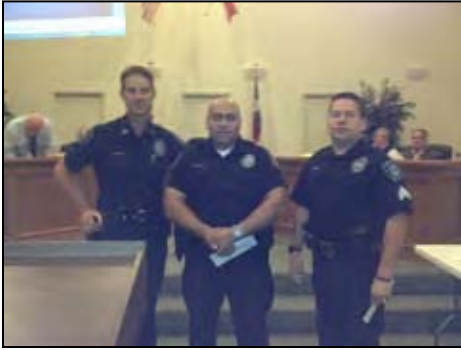


**Castle Hills Quilt Guild** donated a quilt to the Make A Wish Foundation located at 1931 N. W. Military. The quilt was comprised of blocks of a leaf pattern made by guild members, then assembled and quilted by Allison Brown-Cestero of Blue Bamboo Studio [bluebamboostudio@satx.rr.com](mailto:bluebamboostudio@satx.rr.com). The Guild has also made donations this year of quilts to Project Linus, funds given to fill Christmas stockings for Child Protective Services, donated a quilt to an east side San Antonio fire station to be donated to a burned out family, and donated tables to the Castle Hills Community room. The Castle Hills Quilt Guild meets the 1st Thursday of the month @ 7:00 pm in the Community Room. *Submitted by Pam Grunwald.*



The Daines family (top picture) and the Buehler family (bottom picture) attend the lighting of the tree in the Commons.

# EMPLOYEE HIGHLIGHTS



## Congratulations to Police Officers Davila & Zuniga.

At the November City Council meeting Mayor Smiley-Kaliff recognized the officers for capturing a serial burglar. Pictured left to right: Captain Wayne Davis, Officers Davila & Zuniga.



## Employee Highlights - St. George thanks Castle Hills Employees

St. George Episcopal Church and Castle Hills resident Ronald Wolma provided lunch for all Castle Hills employees on December 12th. Along with smoked meats that consisted of venison, pork, brisket, chicken and sausage, they also brought in desserts. Thank you St. George and Mr. Wolma!



## Police Department Christmas Party

The Police Department held their annual Christmas Party on December 6th. The department's police officers & dispatchers recognized Chief Donny Davis upcoming retirement and presented him with a Savage Model 25, 17 Hornet Bolt Action Rifle.



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**2013**

**www.NeighborhoodNews.com**

**PickMyPic**  
Community Photo Contest

**Enjoy taking Pics?**

If so, be sure to compete in the Neighborhood News PickMyPic contest for great giveaways!

**This Month's theme is HOLIDAY CHEER**

**The Winner will be announced FEBRUARY 1, 2013!**

## go green

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HELPING THE ENVIRONMENT!

**How?**

- 1 Visit [www.NeighborhoodNews.com](http://www.NeighborhoodNews.com)
- 2 Click on: "Let's do our part" and follow the instructions.



# CASTLE HILLS CHRISTMAS LIGHTS



## YOUR COMMUNITY

### Castle Hills Businesses 2012

#### "Best of the City"

### Winners in San Antonio Magazine

San Antonio Magazine names four Castle Hills businesses in its annual "Best of the City" for 2012.

**MUFUNGO UNIQUE GIFTS** – Best Shop for Gifts. Owned by Castle Hills resident Richard Williams. Williams is a leader in the Castle Hills business community and was an organizer of "Shop Castle Hills," a campaign to encourage Castle Hills residents to do business, dine and shop in Castle Hills.

**TOO GOOD TO BE THREW** – #1 in San Antonio for Consignment Stores (furniture and clothing).

**PICNIKINS PATIO CAFÉ** - Best Sandwich. Great salads and soups too! 6901 Blanco Road, 616-0954, picnikinspatiocafe.com.

**DOUGH PIZZERIA NAPOLETANA** - Best Pizza. Dough recently celebrated their 5th anniversary in Castle Hills, and is expanding next door and adding a wine bar.

***Congratulations to these  
Castle Hills businesses!  
Shop Castle Hills!***

Help us keep the City's mailing list updated. If your name is not on the mailing label of this publication, please call Rita Hoyl, 342-2341 with current information.

The Castle Hills Reporter is published by  
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Visit us at [www.cityofcastlehills.com](http://www.cityofcastlehills.com)

## JANUARY EMPLOYEE HIGHLIGHTS

### *Anniversaries*

#### 1-YEAR

Mikayla Pemberton – Dispatcher

Gilbert Padilla – Public Works Sanitation

#### 25-YEARS

Steve Hart – Police Officer

### *New Employees*

Theresa Leone – Code Compliance

### *New Arrival*

Congratulations to Tina Zelenak on the birth of her new son, Cody. Cody was born December 6th. He weighed 9 lbs. 7 oz. Cody's dad, Tim and big brother Wyatt are ecstatic! Tina is a Deputy Municipal Court Clerk.



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### Registration Required

Are your pets current on their vaccinations? All domestic pets in Castle Hills must be registered with the City. Registration is only \$10. Please bring proof of current rabies vaccination for each pet.

### Leash Law

Please be reminded that a dog must be under proper restraints at all times if not on the owner's premises. Although cats shall be exempt from the leash requirement while on the premises of the owner, any cat straying on the property of anyone except its owner shall be deemed a nuisance animal and will be subject to impoundment.

### Pooper Scooper Law

Be a responsible pet owner. When walking your dog, carry the appropriate materials to pick up and remove waste immediately.

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CASTLE HILLS



## New Businesses

ABBY OFFICE CENTERS (Executive suite rentals)  
 ACTIVE SPORTSWEAR OUTLET (Retail sales)  
 AN EARLY PEEK, LLC (4-D Ultrasound)  
 AZRO MOROCCAN MEDITERRANEAN BISTRO (Restaurant)  
 BENJAMIN E. BRUNTON (Clay shooting subscription)  
 BOOKER, ARCENEAU, LASKOWSKI, & MYERS, LLP (Certified Public Accountants)  
 BRAVO BALLET SCHOOL (Ballet studio)  
 BYCI SAN ANTONIO, LP (Consultant)  
 CASTLE HILLS ASC, LP (Outpatient surgery center)  
 CASTLE HILLS FAMILY PRACTICE (Physician medical office) (new location)  
 COOKE LAW FIRM (Legal services)  
 DEBLIN HEALTH CONCEPTS & ASSOCIATES (Behavioral Health Services office)  
 JIMMY'S EGG (Breakfast and lunch restaurant)  
 JUAN ANTONIO GUTIERREZ, DDS (Dentist)  
 MANDARIN GEMS (Gift shop, fine jewelry)  
 MUFUNGO UNIQUE GIFTS (Gifts and home décor) (moved to different suite)  
 NAIL FLOWER SALON, LLC (Beauty salon)  
 ONE CALL COMMUNICATION INC. (Electronics and cell phone sales)  
 PSA Healthcare (Pediatric home healthcare)  
 RAYTHEON PIKEWERKS (IT services)  
 RICHARD W. BAUER (Counseling services)  
 SMOTHER BRUNI FOUNDATION (Art, film & video production studio)  
 STIRISTA, LLC (Advertising agency)  
 SYLVIA MARTINEZ, DDS (Dentist)  
 THE BAEZ LAW FIRM P.C. (Legal services)  
 THE LIBERTY GROUP (Temporary staffing agency)  
 THE PACKARD LAW FIRM (Legal services)  
 THE ROBERTS GROUP (Marketing, Communications & Advertising)  
 WOODLANDS S.A. FINANCIAL SERVICES, INC (Financial services)

## New Businesses "Coming Soon" To Castle Hills

ARTESIAN CUSTOM POOLS INC. (Custom swimming pool design & construction)  
 DIVERSIFIED EMPLOYEE BENEFIT SERVICES (Insurance brokerage company)  
 KJC Auto Title Loan Corp. (Auto title loans)  
 SALON VALENTINO (Hair salon)  
 SAN ANTONIO GREEN LAUNDRY (Self service Laundromat)  
 SHANN M. CHAUDHRY, Esq., Attorney at Law (Legal services)  
 STUDIO ONE (Dance lessons)  
 UBREAKiFIX (Electronics)  
 YOFRUIT (Frozen yogurt, Belgian waffles) (formerly Pizazz)

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Time Dated



## HOLIDAY GARBAGE COLLECTION SCHEDULE

### JANUARY 21ST - MARTIN LUTHER KING HOLIDAY

### FEBRUARY 18TH - PRESIDENT'S DAY



JANUARY 2013	21 MONDAY	22 TUESDAY	23 WEDNESDAY	24 THURSDAY	25 FRIDAY
NORTH OF LOOP 410	MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY		GARBAGE COLLECTION		GARBAGE COLLECTION
SOUTH OF LOOP 410	MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY	GARBAGE COLLECTION		GARBAGE COLLECTION	
RECYCLE			SOUTH OF THE LOOP	NORTH OF THE LOOP	
	NO	BRUSH	COLLECTION	THIS	WEEK

FEBRUARY 2013	18 MONDAY	19 TUESDAY	20 WEDNESDAY	21 THURSDAY	22 FRIDAY
NORTH OF LOOP 410	PRESIDENT'S DAY		GARBAGE COLLECTION		GARBAGE COLLECTION
SOUTH OF LOOP 410	PRESIDENT'S DAY	GARBAGE COLLECTION		GARBAGE COLLECTION	
RECYCLE			SOUTH OF THE LOOP	NORTH OF THE LOOP	
	NO	BRUSH	COLLECTION	THIS	WEEK

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