

# CASTLE HILLS REPORTER



**Editors Note:** I am deferring my message for the **Fiesta** event **April 17, 2010.**



**Mayor Marcy Harper**  
**Grand Marshal**

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## VIVA FIESTA CASTLE HILLS!

APRIL 17, 2010

Fiesta is coming to our city on **Saturday, April 17, 2010**. The Fiesta theme is *Uniting Our Castle Hills Community*. We will kick off the day with a fabulous **1<sup>st</sup> Annual Fiesta Parade**, with over 60 entries. Parade entries includes area bands, schools, churches, local businesses and officials of our city government. We will have our own Fiesta Queen, her court, and other Fiesta Royalty. The parade will start in front of the Commons at 8:30 am. The route of the parade is Lemonwood to Krameria to West Avenue, NW Military Hwy., and back to Lemonwood. So bring your lawn chairs and pick your favorite spot under a shady tree to view the parade.

Following the big parade, there is the **1<sup>st</sup> Annual Castle Hills Pooch Parade**. The Pooch Parade is scheduled to start at 11:30 am. All pooches will gather in the parking lot next to the Public Works building on Persimmon. They will go around the block and return to the Commons area. Pooches will then be judged on best costume, cutest pooch, biggest pooch, smallest pooch, and various other categories. Awards will be presented after the parades.

The Castle Hills Festival will start at 11 am at the Commons. There will be food, live music, arts and crafts, games and many other booths for your to enjoy. Bring your picnic blankets and umbrellas and enjoy the festivities.

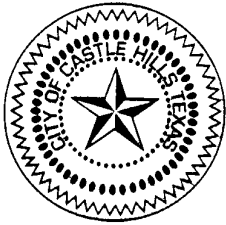
Jackson Middle School and Nimitz Middle School will start off the festivities with music, followed by local bands. Enjoy food from local Castle Hills restaurants! Zorbas Mediterranean Grill will be the official Pita of Castle Hills, just as Lucky Burger will be the official Burger of Castle Hills. Rene's Salon, Penaloza Jewelry, Monarch Trophy Studio, and International Bank of Commerce (IBC) will be some of the official retail Businesses of Castle Hills. Be first in line to take your picture with Miss Fiesta Castle Hills, Naomi Huizar!

IBC will be providing activities for the young and young at heart. Such activities will include Moon Bounces, Balloon Animals, Caricatures, Snow Cones, Paletas and lots more. If you drive to the event, there will be parking available at Castle Hills Elementary, Castle Hills Christian Church and Aggie Park. If you come after the parade, parking will also be available at Wayside Chapel and Covenant Presbyterian Church.

Food and activities in the Commons will run until 6 p.m. Many refreshments available, but no alcohol will be served at this event. Come join your neighbors at the **1<sup>st</sup> Annual Fiesta Castle Hills**. This event is made possible by residents, businesses, churches and the City of Castle Hills. So, don't fight the crowd downtown, just walk over to the Commons and celebrate Fiesta in our own backyard!

Many thanks to our sponsors and supporters: Castle Hills Homeowners Association, Castle Hills Woman's Club, Castle Hills Garden Club, Aggie Park, Castle Hills Christian Church, Wayside Chapel, Covenant Presbyterian Church, Rene's Salon, Penaloza Jewelry, IBC, Lucky Burger, Zorba's Woodmen of the World Fraternal Society, Kaliff Insurance and many more. **See you April 17th!**

*Richard and Marianne Huizar*

**NEW  
ORDINANCES****ORDINANCE #1037**

*Establishing new rules for garbage containers and regulations.*

**ORDINANCE #1038**

*Declaring the drainage of Castle Hills to be a public utility, creating a stormwater fund, stormwater development fee, prohibiting certain discharges in the municipal storm drainage system, and establishing stormwater compliance for construction activity.*

**ORDINANCE #1039**

*Establishing stormwater fees.*

**ORDINANCE #1036**

*Authorizing Interim City Manager to execute an Interlocal agreement between SAWS and the City for stormwater collection fees and technical services.*

**ORDINANCE #1040**

*Establishing illicit discharge restrictions, providing a penalty.*

**ORDINANCE #1041**

*Repealing existing Chapter 16 Municipal Court and adopting new Chapter 16 Municipal Court of the Code of Ordinances.  
(PASSED 12/8/09)*

## COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

**DECEMBER 8, 2009**

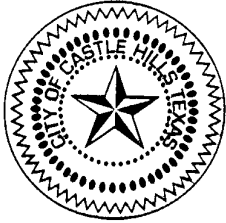
Consider:

- Ordinance amending Chapter 13, Garbage & Refuse, addressing waste containers and regulations—passed unanimously.
- Resolution honoring Mark Finch on 15 years of loyal employment as firefighter of the Castle Hills Fire Department and honoring Mark Finch for 15 years of faithful and dedicated service to the residents of the City of Castle Hills—passed unanimously.
- Ordinance establishing a Drainage Utility—passed unanimously.
- Ordinance establishing stormwater fees—passed unanimously.
- Ordinance authorizing the Interim City Manager to execute an Interlocal Agreement between SAWS and the City of Castle Hills for stormwater collection fees and technical services and approving the agreement—passed unanimously.
- Recommendations of the Zoning Commission on a request to amend 31.703 to add the use “Special Event Facility.” - Recommendation from the Zoning Commission was to deny the addition of “Special Event Facility” - passed unanimously.
- Recommendations of the Zoning Commission on a request for a Special Use Permit to utilize the property at 212 Lemonwood Drive for fashion shows, training center and seminars—applicant withdrew application; no action taken.
- Ordinance establishing illicit discharge restrictions—passed unanimously.
- Ordinance repealing Chapter 16 Municipal Court and adopting a new Chapter 16—passed unanimously.
- Ordinance amending Chapter 25 Traffic & Parking to add a yield sign at the intersection of Oak Royal and Wickford Way—died for lack of a motion.
- Ordinance amending Chapter 2 Administration by adopting a new section titled Indemnification of City Officers and Employees—passed unanimously.
- Ordinance approving the City of Castle Hills Certified Tax Roll for the year 2009—passed unanimously.
- Amendments to the Crime Control and Prevention District FY2010 Budget—passed unanimously.
- Casting a vote for a VIA board of trustees member to serve for the period of January 2010 through December 2011 to represent the VIA suburban cities; vote for Steve Allison passed 3 to 1; Councilman Smiley-Kaliff opposed, Councilman McGuire abstained.
- Resolution casting five votes in the Bexar Appraisal District Board of Directors Election; votes cast for Helen Dutmer passed 4 to 1; Councilman Gregory opposed.

**JANUARY 12, 2010**

Consider:

- Resolution honoring Bret Wosnig upon his retirement—passed unanimously.
- Resolution commending Beau Obregon on 11 years of loyal employment.
- Approval of a replat for Castle Heights Block 8, Lots 11 & 12—passed 4-0; Mayor Pro Tem Huff did not vote.
- Accepting the resignation of alternate Judge Antonio Cantu—passed unanimously.
- Ordinance appointing an alternate municipal court judge; Alvaro Briseno appointed—passed unanimously.
- Ordinance calling an election to be held on May 8, 2010 to elect three aldermen and addressing matters related to the election—passed unanimously.
- Ordinance calling an election be held on May 8, 2010 regarding the reauthorization of the local sales and use tax in the City of Castle Hills at the rate of one-fourth of one percent to continue providing revenue for maintenance and repair of municipal streets and addressing matters related to the election—passed unanimously.
- Ordinance amending Chapter 25 correcting fines for yield sign intersection, no right turns, and parking on expressways—passed unanimously.
- Discussion to determine which lot is to be used for storage of materials used by Castle Hills Public Works Department—no action taken.



## NEW RESOLUTIONS

### RESOLUTION #0912-01

Recognizing Mark Finch on 15 years of employment and faithful service to residents of Castle Hills as firefighter.

### RESOLUTION #0912-03

Casting five votes in the Bexar Appraisal District Board of Directors Election.

(PASSED 12/8/09)

### RESOLUTION #1001-01

Commending Bret Wosnig on 20 years of loyal employment and dedicated service to residents of Castle Hills.

### RESOLUTION #1001-01

Commending Beau Obregon on 11 years of loyal employments and faithful service to residents of Castle Hills.

(PASSED 11/12/10)

## NEW ORDNANCES (cont'd from page 3)

### ORDINANCE #1042

Providing for indemnification and legal defense of officers and employees.

### ORDINANCE #1043

Approving the Tax Roll for the Year 2009.

(PASSED 12/8/09)

## COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

### **FEBRUARY 9, 2010**

Consider:

- Accepting a proposal for audit services from Armstrong, Vaughan, & Associates, P.C. to conduct a FY2009 annual city audit and authorizing the interim city manager to sign an engagement letter. Councilman Smiley-Kaliff recused himself—passed unanimously.
- Ordinance approving Municipal Maintenance Agreement between the State of Texas (TxDot) and City of Castle Hills for the maintenance, control, supervision, and regulations of certain highways and/or portions of State Highways in the City of Castle Hills and authorization for the interim City Manager to execute an agreement with the State of Texas on behalf of the City of Castle Hills—passed 4 to 1; Councilman Gregory opposed.
- Approval of replat for 104 N. Manton Lane, Block 10, Lots 11 & 12 (postponed until March council meeting).
- Discussion on changing the beginning time of regularly scheduled city council meetings—no action taken.

### **MARCH 9, 2010**

Consider:

- Replat of CHCB 207, Block 10, Lot N. 259.6' of 9 (104 N. Manton Lane submitted by Richard Polendo—passed unanimously.
- Request from Carina Gors of Gallery Nord located at 2009 NW Military Highway to construct and utilize a concrete pad to display sculptures that will be visible from a public right-of-way—passed 4 to 1; Councilman Gregory abstained.
- Recommendations from the Zoning Commission on a request to operate a church at 2161 NW Loop 410—passed unanimously.
- Renewing the Depository Agreement with International Bank of Commerce for a period of one year beginning April 1, 2010 through March 31, 2011—passed unanimously.
- Amending FY2010 Budget for roof and interior repairs to the fire station—passed unanimously.
- Imposing procedures on filling the vacant position of the City Manager—no action taken.
- Ordinance changing the start time of regularly scheduled City Council meetings—motion to begin meetings at 6:30 pm—passed unanimously.

### ORDINANCE #1044

Appointing alternate municipal court judge.

### ORDINANCE #1045

Calling election to be held May 8, 2010 to elect three alderman.

### ORDINANCE #1046

Calling election to be held May 8, 2010 regarding reauthorization of the 1/4 of one percent for maintenance and repair of municipal streets. (PASSED 11/12/10)

### ORDINANCE #1047

Amending Chapter 25 to correct fines.  
(PASSED 11/12/10)

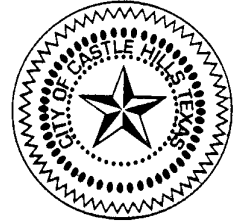
### ORDINANCE #1048

Approving Municipal Maintenance Agreement between TxDot and City of Castle Hills.  
(PASSED 2/9/10)





## COUNCIL COMMENTS



### MARCELLA HUFF, PLACE 1, MAYOR PRO TEM



The search for a new city manager is underway. For those of you who were unable to attend the council meeting in March here is an update of the search.

The search committee comprised of me, Mayor Marcy Harper, and Councilman Douglas Gregory met Monday, March 8 in the community room. A public meeting was not required by the Open Meetings Act. However, with the interest of residents in the search I felt a public meeting was appropriate. Thank you to all those who were able to attend.

The first order of business was to consider the content and placement of the job advertisement. Using a previous ad as a starting point we discussed the need to focus the search for a city manager who could lead the city into the future. Included in the ad was the desirability for experience in areas such as bond issues, government grants, and utility districts.

The committee decided against placing the ad in the Express-News. Cost of the ad and the ability to reach our target group were key components on the decision-making process. The ad has been placed on the websites of the *Texas Municipal League (TML)*, *govtjobs.com*, and the *City of Castle Hills website*.

A 30 day deadline was set for applications and resumes to be sent to the city. After this time, the committee will evaluate the quality and quantity of the resumes that have been received. If necessary, we will run the ad on the above mentioned websites for another 30 days.

A list of colleges and universities in Texas with schools of public administration or urban planning is also being compiled. Their alumni associations may be another source of applicants and the committee wants to be ready to pursue this source should the need arise. At the same time, Mr. William Schluter, who is coordinating the project of writing job descriptions for the city, will update the current city manager job description. This revised version will be presented to the full city council at the April council meeting.

The input from the people who attended the committee meeting was extremely helpful. If anyone knows of qualified applicants for the city manager position please have them submit their resumes to city hall.

I look forward to seeing you at the next council meeting. As always, I can be reached at 349-6857.

### DOUGLAS GREGORY, PLACE 2, CITY TREASURER



**Happy Fiesta!** Yes, it is that time of year and Castle Hills will have our first Fiesta Parade and Celebration on Saturday, the 17<sup>th</sup> of April beginning at 8:30 a.m. Enjoy the fun and festivities because sometimes it is great just to enjoy!

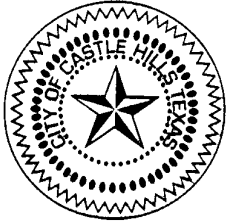


While the Great Recession seems to have ended, a flat economy with little real job growth appears to be the outlook for the next several quarters. Consumer spending which is critical in generating revenues for Castle Hills remains flat and until real growth is the norm and not the exception, fiscal pressure will continue to impact our City. Recent governmental unfunded mandates will make it difficult, but hopefully not impossible, for Castle Hills to balance the next budget; time will tell.

Despite the current economic environment your City representatives will do their best to use common sense with your tax dollars.

Be of good cheer, better times are ahead and remember.....celebrate Fiesta, cheer on our parade and crack a cascarron on someone!

Please feel free to call me on this or any other concern at 378-4481.



## COUNCIL COMMENTS

### STEVE McGUIRE, PLACE 3



As you read this, we are all enjoying Fiesta and our first Castle Hills Fiesta event. But also remember the underlying message – Fiesta celebrates the formation of this great state of ours. As you enjoy the festivities, also keep in mind what it means to be a Texan. This is also the time to prepare for deliberations on our City's 2011 budget. And it's time as Texans and residents of Castle Hills to decide very fundamental questions. Our City has been living beyond its means for the last five years. Last year all the fluff was squeezed from our budget – yet despite a tax increase we remained in the red. This year promises to be even more difficult. Property tax is the only means we have to increase revenue – sales taxes and

court levies are limited. We increased our property tax levy from 0.425801 to 0.458668 in 2009 – do we increase it again? We already know our health insurance and retirement costs for our City employees will increase substantially – we have no control over the retirement and limited control over health. Our employees did not receive a raise last year – what should our position be this year? Our employees are working very hard for our benefit – we cannot expect them to do more with less. The only way to decrease personnel costs (which represents over 70% of our budget) is to decrease services – but what services are we willing to sacrifice? Finally we have significant infrastructure needs – our roads need repair but that can only happen through a November bond election with a significant increase in our property taxes. It's time as a City that we openly discuss these issues, establishing our priorities for the future. Take time to discuss this with your Councilmen and Mayor. Come join us in the budget workshops. Engage in making our wonderful City an even better place to live. Castle Hills is without a doubt the best place to live – together let's take it to even new heights.

### BRUCE SMILEY-KALIFF, PLACE 4



#### *Nonpartisan*

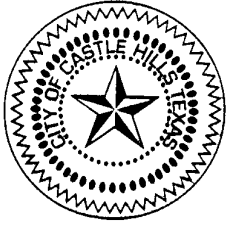
"In political science, **nonpartisan** denotes organizations that do not have formal alignment with a political party." *The American Heritage® Dictionary of the English Language*

I am very pleased that our city government is nonpartisan. It gives our citizens a council that can introduce and debate issues in a way that is not influenced by the daily rhetoric that we hear from other political bodies. Many years ago a national political figure stated that "all politics are local."

In Castle Hills they truly are! The council that I have served on for the last two years makes decisions that are based on what we think matters to you. We listen, we deliberate and eventually according to some citizens, sometimes later than sooner, we act. Issues come and go according to priority, but the council considers each one very diligently with the end result always in mind. We are aware that all of our final decisions will not please everyone, but we try to make our decisions **honest, open, and with balanced transparency and focus**. We debate with spirit and lively energy with personal respect for each other's views, while sometimes vehemently disagreeing on the subject. Our continued ability to function is based on the fact that we all realize this respect for each other also must resonate with all of our citizens. This may sound like a lofty and unrealistic goal, but I as do the other members of council try every day to achieve it. We have so much to do. Our city continues to change and evolve. Sometimes this change is unsettling. However, as we all have learned in life, "what choice do we have?"

We must continue to keep moving forward with the combined determination that has made Castle Hills such a wonderful place to live and continue to believe in our city and our citizens. It may sound "old fashion," but I believe that we can achieve this with a combination of "grace and charm" coupled with **positive** tenacity and hard work.

**Together we are stronger! Let's be stronger together!**



## COUNCIL COMMENTS

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### TOM DAVIS, PLACE 5



### Foxes, Coyotes and Deer, Oh my!

As promised in the last city newsletter where I wrote about the deer overpopulation problem, this article focuses on the fox and coyote problem facing our fair city. Foxes mate during the winter and will deliver a litter of 4 to 6 pups in early spring. Foxes can live up to 10 years, but most foxes only live 2 or 3 years due to hunting, road accidents and diseases. Coyotes mate from January to March. The gestation period lasts from 60 to 63 days. The litter will range from 1 to 19 pups, but the average litter is 9 pups. The large litter acts as a compensatory measure against the high juvenile mortality rate. 50 – 70% of the coyote pups will not survive to adulthood. The adult coyote will live about 10 years. So as spring arrives, so do more foxes and coyotes.

Fox is the common name for many species of carnivorous mammals belonging to the Canidae family. They are small to medium sized and characterized by possessing a long narrow snout and a bushy tail (or brush). Foxes do great damage to native wildlife and are known to feed on birds and small mammals, as well as, being opportunistic feeders scavenging for left out pet food and refuse left in open garbage cans. Fox attacks on humans are not common, but have been reported. Most reports involve joggers and hikers being attacked and bitten by rabid foxes. Foxes can transmit mange (*Sarcoptes scabiei*) to domesticated animals, rarely cats, usually dogs, but humans as well. Dogs must be taken to your local veterinarian for treatment; however, humans will develop a rash that usually dies away in a few weeks. Foxes also carry many parasites and other pathologies transmittable to humans.

Coyote (*Canis latrans*), also known as the American jackal, is the common name for another of the species of Canidae family. Coyotes are distinguished from domesticated dogs by their pointed, erect ears and drooping tail, which they hold below their back when running. Their long tail is half the body length and bottle shaped with a black tip. Coyotes are opportunistic, versatile carnivores with a 90% mammalian diet depending on the season. Urban coyotes tend to live longer than their rural counterparts and will kill and eat small pets. Like the fox, they will feed on left out pet food and refuse left in garbage cans. Coyote attacks on humans, though uncommon, have increased in recent years. Due to the absence of harassment of humans, urban coyotes lose their natural fear of humans. This is worsened by people intentionally feed coyotes. In such situations, coyotes become more aggressive toward humans. Most incidents involve chasing joggers and bicyclists, confronting people walking their dogs, and stalking small children. Non-rabid coyotes usually target small children under the age of 10, though some adults have been bitten. Many of the same diseases suffered by domesticated dogs are contracted by wild coyotes. These include canine hepatitis, canine distemper, parvovirus, rabies, and salmonella poisoning. Coyotes also suffer from internal parasites such as coccidiosis, giardiasis, heartworms, lungworms, roundworms and tapeworms. External parasites infesting coyotes include lice, ear mites, fleas, and sarcoptic mange. Many of these parasites and pathologies can be transmitted to you and your family.

As with the previous article, this information was collected by discussions and research information provided by Dr. Don Davis professor in the Texas A&M University Wildlife Department. Be safe and stay healthy.

Do not hesitate to call me with any questions or concerns at 342-2341.

## STAFF COMMENTS

### PUBLIC WORKS, Rick Harada, Public Works Director



#### **NEW GARBAGE CONTAINER RULES & REGULATIONS** (Bag it & put a lid on it!)

#### **New Regulations effective March 1, 2010**

Hello Castle Hills.

I'd like to expand on an ordinance that was passed by City Council December 2009. We've been printing a reminder on the postcards you receive each month that announce the upcoming meeting agenda, and, we published a full page article on the new regulations in the last newsletter. New garbage and trash regulations went into effect March 1, 2010.

I will highlight the changes to the regulations. All household generated garbage (usually kitchen & bathroom) must be placed in bags and then placed **inside** a garbage container with a tight fitting lid. You may no longer place this type of garbage outside of the garbage container.

- *Curbside and alley pick-up locations does not change.*
- *Not more than the equivalent of three (3) 32-gallons cans will be serviced during any one call.*
- *Combined weight of container and contents shall not exceed 40 lbs.*
- *If you have alley collections containers may be placed or stored in the alley abutting the property in an orderly manner so as to not block the alley.*

What is the difference between garbage and trash?

Definitions:

Garbage. Includes refuse, kitchen and household waste of all kinds, food scraps, food containers, ashes, tin cans, glass, paper, trash; all other substances capable of causing noxious odors.

Trash. Includes, anything other than household garbage and landscape debris. Does not include building materials, debris resulting from building or repair activities, motor oil, or hazardous chemicals.

- *Bags not containing garbage, i.e, leaf bags can be placed next to the container(s). All bags must be tied.*
- *All boxes and cartons shall be broken down and may not exceed 40 lbs. in weight.*

Why, you wonder, change the rules after 40 years ?

Families shop for convenience, so we buy in larger size containers, .....so much more garbage is being generated, i.e, packaged foods, pizza boxes, take-out food containers, cereal boxes, pet food containers, etc. Gone are the days of having one small garbage bag or can. So, requiring the garbage to be *contained*, will eliminate the possibility of wild animals tearing into loose bags looking for food, thereby eliminating loose trash in your yard or trashing spilling over into the street or alley.

You may place your garbage container(s) out for collection not earlier than 6 pm the day before your collection day. After the container(s) has been collected please remove the containers as soon as possible, on the same day, to a place not easily visible from the street. In other words, do not leave your cans out by the street curb overnight. If you have alley pick up, the containers can remain in the alley, placed upright neatly in the alley. You don't want someone to accidentally crush your container that fell over into the street or alley.

Because notification was provided to our residents during the last three months, we do not find the need to issue a courtesy notice to violators for not complying the with the code, instead a summons will be issued for your appearance in municipal court.

A small change like this is one step closer to keeping Castle Hills a beautiful place to live.

We are here to serve the citizens of Castle Hills. Please call me with questions or concerns, at 210-342-2341, ext. 206.

YES	NO	YES	NO



## STAFF COMMENTS



### FIRE DEPARTMENT, Jerry Riedel, Fire Chief

Fires and burns are a leading cause of home injuries and deaths. Using a fire extinguisher to put out a small fire can save lives and property, but you have to know exactly what to do. If you are not sure or have never used an extinguisher, your safest choice is to get everyone out and call the fire department.

If you want to use a fire extinguisher on a small fire, here are some tips to know: Before the fire: Only adults should use a fire extinguisher. Choose an extinguisher that will work on all types of fire. These are usually called “ABC” type extinguishers. Choose the

largest extinguisher you can safely handle. Read all directions and know how to use the extinguisher. If possible, get training from your local fire department. Keep the instructions and review them from time to time. Mount the extinguisher near an exit door, out of the reach of children

Fighting a small fire: Make sure everyone is leaving the home. Ask someone to call 9-1-1 from outside. If the fire is small and not spreading, quickly get your extinguisher. Start with your back to the exit, making sure that the fire does not block your escape route. Stand 6 – 8 feet away from the fire. Then remember the word PASS. **PULL** the pin to unlock the operating lever. **AIM** low, point the extinguisher nozzle at the base of the fire. **SQUEEZE** the handle to release the extinguishing agent. Be prepared as it will come out with force. **SWEEP** from side to side, moving carefully toward the fire. Keep the extinguisher aimed at the base of the fire, sweeping back and forth until the flames are out. Watch the area, if flames reignite, repeat the process.

**Important:** If the fire does not go out quickly, or if you feel at risk in any way, leave immediately and let the fire department handle it. Fighting a fire can be dangerous. Only adults who know how and when to use an extinguisher, should ever try to put out a fire. Children should not be allowed to use an extinguisher. This information is taken directly from the Home Safety Council. For more information on fire extinguishers and other home fire safety tips go to: [www.homesafetycouncil.org](http://www.homesafetycouncil.org)



### POLICE DEPARTMENT, Donny Davis, Police Chief

In just a few short months school will be out for the summer again. This means that our children will be out and about at various times of the day enjoying their time off. This is just a friendly reminder to watch out for them and the walkers on our streets. I have been receiving reports from our night shift officers of sporadic coyote sightings on the north side of the Loop. As a suggestion, feed your pets, then pick up any remaining food, do not leave pet food out and secure your trash cans. You may also want to consider bringing in smaller pets at night as the coyote is not above trying to make a meal out of them. If there's nothing for them to eat, these animals will move on.

During summer months families will be out on vacation and homes will be unoccupied. Be a good neighbor and keep an eye out for any unusual activities and CALL! I have also received calls and questions from citizens regarding “high crime rates” in the City. There was mention of multiple shootings, robberies etc. This is not exactly true. To get an accurate report of crime in the City I would encourage all citizens to visit the City website and check under Police. There you will find the most recent and accurate information regarding crime in the City. The web site to do this is [www.cityofcastlehills.com](http://www.cityofcastlehills.com) Remember that the Police Department provides free home surveys that once completed will qualify you for a reduction in your homeowner's insurance rates. To schedule a survey please call the office and ask for Sgt. Mark Pardaen.

If the Police Department can be of service to you, please do not hesitate to call. Until next time, take care of each other and be safe.

*“During summer months families will be out on vacation and homes will be unoccupied. Be a good neighbor and keep an eye out for any unusual activities and CALL!”*



# YOUR COMMUNITY



**MARK YOUR CALENDARS! IT'S HERE!**

**ATTENTION! Residents and Businesses of Castle Hills!**

**APRIL 17, 2010!**



## FIESTA CASTLE HILLS



**“Fiesta Castle Hills”** is coming to your own backyard. Fiesta fun / family fun right here in our own community at the Commons. Come celebrate with neighbors and friends **April 17th.**

What's happening? Two (2) parades, food, music, games and more! At 8:30 am a motor parade commences at Commons on Lemonwood next to City Hall; then travels onto Krameria, West Avenue, NW Military, and back to the Commons. Bring your folding chairs and start practicing your *parade wave*!

The second parade of the day is the **Pooch Parade** which will begin right after the motor parade! Kids, dress up the furry ones in Fiesta gear and join in on the parade! Pooch parade route begins at the Commons on Lemonwood, then onto Krameria, Caladium, Persimmon and ends back at the Commons.

FIESTA MEDALS are still available! Give Richard a call to offer your assistance!

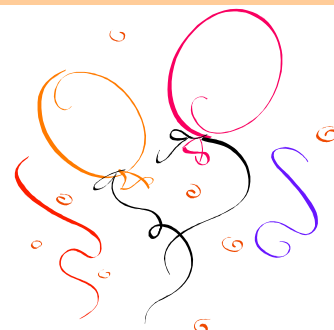


**For more info contact**

**Richard Huizar**

**210-344-9507**

**[richardhuizar@sbcglobal.net](mailto:richardhuizar@sbcglobal.net)**



## REDUCE STORM WATER POLLUTION

### *Pet Waste*

- Pet waste can be a major source of bacteria and excess nutrients in local waters. When walking your pet, remember to pick up the waste and dispose of it properly. Flushing pet waste is the best disposal method. Leaving pet waste on the ground increases public health risks by allowing harmful bacteria and nutrients to wash into the storm drain and eventually into local water bodies.

### *Septic Systems*

Leaking and poorly maintained septic systems release nutrients and pathogens (bacteria and viruses) that can be picked up by storm water and discharged into nearby water bodies. Pathogens can cause public health problems and environmental concerns.

- Inspect conventional septic systems every 3 years.
- Inspect aerobic septic systems every 4 months.
- Pump septic tanks for any type of system at least every 3 to 5 years.
- Do not dispose of household hazardous waste in sinks or toilets.

For more information on reducing storm water pollution in Castle Hills

Please contact:

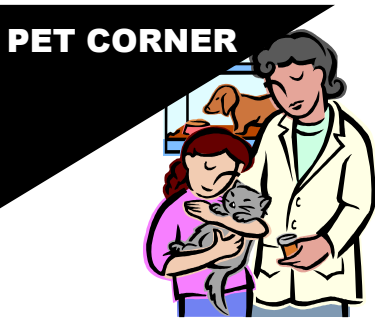
City Manager  
City of Castle Hills  
210-342-2341

This tip is based on information from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and was adapted by

Givler Engineering, Inc.  
2161 NW Military Dr.,  
Suite 114  
San Antonio, Texas 78213



## PET CORNER



### Registration Required

#### Leash Law

Please be reminded that a dog must be under proper restraint 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.

Dear Castle Hills Pet Owners,

Many of us that own pets think the world of them and love unconditionally. We do everything we can to make them and us happy. We give them cutesy nicknames, we brag about them, we enjoy their company, they follow us around the house or lay by our side or on our lap when we watch TV. They are the best behaved and most perfect pets when around their owners. But what happens if they leave the property and we don't know that they are gone? Many things can happen, they can get hurt or hurt someone else or someone else's loving pet. I tell you this up due to a couple of recent incidents involving attacks to another animal and person. Animals that get loose and leave the property, take off running and may get disoriented; they become defensive when approached or if they come upon another animal or person. Please make sure that your property is secure to prevent your pet from the leaving the property. Gates should be secured and locked. If your pet does hurt another animal or person, the police are called out, your pet is removed from your property and quarantined for 10 days. It is then your responsibility to pay for the quarantine costs and these incidents will usually end up in a court hearing to determine if you pet is vicious or dangerous. Depending on the judgment you may be required to follow certain orders from the judge or may lead to more severe penalties and actions. So, keep your pets safe from harm and harming others. Check your property, cover any openings in the fence, lock the gate and most of all, be good to your pets.

Other animal control challenges; constant barking nuisances, harboring more than four domestic animals, neglect or inhumane acts towards pets. Be a responsible pet owner.

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.



## COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

Mayor Harper meets with Cub Scouts December 3 to discuss duties of Mayor and City Council



Homeowners Association Sponsors December Snow Day



### Castle Hills Kitchens Score High in 2009!

- Antonian High School—**100%**
- Cakes & More—**100%**
- Castle Hills Baptist Church—**100%**
- Castle Hills Elementary School—**100%**
- CVS Pharmacy—**100%**
- Dough Pizzeria Napoletana—96%
- HEB Grocery—**100%**
- Homewood Residence—**100%**
- H2 Go—98%
- I HOP Café—97%
- Jack In The Box—**100%**
- Jackson Keller Elementary—**100%**
- Kupz—**100%**
- La Hacienda Products—**100%**
- McGimsey Boy Scouts—97%
- Sawasdee Thai Cuisine—97%
- Smile Food Mart—**100%**

*(kitchen scores continued)*

- Sonic Drive Inn—**100%**
- St. George School—**100%**
- Subway—98%
- Sun Stop Market—**100%**
- Sushihana—95%
- Too Good Tea—98%

*These are average scores compiled from annual inspections*

**WELL DONE!**





## YOUR COMMUNITY

**NEW COUNCIL  
MEETING TIME  
6:30 PM  
Beginning April 13th**

**2010  
Council Meetings**

**April 13  
May 11  
June 8  
July 13  
August 10  
September 14  
October 12  
November 9  
December 14**

**EARLY VOTING AT  
CASTLE HILLS CITY  
HALL  
209 Lemonwood Drive  
April 26—May 4th  
HOURS WILL BE:**



**ELECTION DAY  
SATURDAY, MAY 8TH  
VOTE  
7 AM—7 PM**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<i>APRIL 25th</i>	<i>26th 8am-6pm</i>	<i>27th 8am-6pm</i>	<i>28th 8am-6pm</i>	<i>29th 8am-6pm</i>	<i>30th 8am-6pm</i>	<i>MAY 1st 10am-6pm</i>
<i>2nd 12 noon-6 pm</i>	<i>3rd 8am-8pm</i>	<i>4th 8am-8pm</i>				<b>MAY 8th ELECTION DAY 7am-7pm City Hall</b>



### JURY SERVICE IN CASTLE HILLS

*Submitted by Castle Hills Municipal Court Judge Brother William Dooling*

Once each month your Court conducts Jury Trials. For some, that may seem like a very tedious and boring event to contemplate being part of. On Thursday, January 28<sup>th</sup>, our Court held a Jury Trial and a large number of our citizens either did not respond to the Jury Summons or show up for Jury Duty, or both.

A jury trial was once described by Thomas Jefferson as "...the only anchor ever yet imagined by man, by which a government can be held to the principles of its constitution." Imagine that. Once a month, your Municipal Court exercises one of the most important rights guaranteed by our Constitution – the right to trial by jury. This right is described in Article III, Section 2 of our Constitution and has been one of the cornerstones of our democratic form of government from the beginning. It should be a source of pride to participate in this important event.

Unfortunately, not everyone in our community shares in this sense of pride and citizenship. At each of these monthly jury trials, we've experienced a no-show rate of almost 30% among the citizens summoned for Jury Duty. For example, in preparation of our January 28<sup>th</sup> Jury Trial, 120 summons were mailed. Of those, 33 potential jurors responded with legal exemptions or disqualifications. Another 39 responded with confirmation that they would appear for their jury service. There remained 48 potential jurors who did not respond at all. A handful of those jurors appeared as requested. However, there were still 36 people who never responded nor showed up as required by law.

Each month, the Court is forced to call more potential jurors than are actually needed, just to be sure to end up with enough citizens to serve in this important capacity. One of the Court's most frequent nightmares plays out as a regular jury trial docket, but turns quickly to horror when it is discovered that there are no jurors in the jury room! This is a reminder of that old saw: "What if I threw a Jury Trial and no one came?" Without an adequate pool of potential jurors, our very system of justice will grind to a halt. How sad that our system of justice could be brought down by mere apathy. Do you not wonder how would our forefathers feel if they knew that so many citizens are so neglectful of the rights and privileges that they fought to the death to guarantee for us all.

Citizens of Castle Hills, please set aside the personal inconvenience, make your founding fathers proud and come down to your City Hall to take part in holding your government to the principles of its constitution. **Be a JUROR!**

# EMPLOYEE HIGHLIGHTS

## Anniversaries



### 35Years

Mike Fincke  
Assistant Fire Chief

### 10Years

Wayne Waggoner  
Police Officer

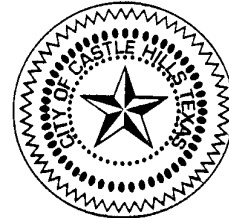
### 5 Years

Robert Sanchez  
Sanitation

Michael Burton  
Police Officer

Melvin Moreno  
Police Officer

Paul Turner  
Police Officer



## New Employees

**Garrett Barfknecht—Firefighter**  
**Dustin Vackar—Firefighter**  
**Adam Huerta—Street Department**

## January 12, 2010 City Council Meeting



Beau Obregon was presented a Resolution by Fire Chief Riedel recognizing Beau for 11 years of employment with the Castle Hills Fire Department.



Bret Wosnig was honored with a Resolution and watch upon his 20 year retirement from the Castle Hills Police Department. Joyce Wosnig accepted for Wosnig in his behalf, who was attending his children's school activities. Police Chief Davis made the presentation.

## HOLIDAY GARBAGE COLLECTION SCHEDULE

MAY/JUNE 2010	MAY 31 MONDAY	JUNE 1 TUESDAY	JUNE 2 WEDNESDAY	JUNE 3 THURSDAY	JUNE 4 FRIDAY
NORTH OF LOOP 410	MEMORIAL DAY		Garbage Collection		Garbage Collection
SOUTH OF LOOP 410	MEMORIAL DAY	Garbage Collection		Garbage Collection	
RECYCLE	MEMORIAL DAY		South of Loop	North of Loop	
BRUSH	NO BRUSH COLLECTION THIS WEEK				

JULY 2010	JULY 5 MONDAY	JULY 6 TUESDAY	JULY 7 WEDNESDAY	JULY 8 THURSDAY	JULY 9 FRIDAY
NORTH OF LOOP 410	JULY 4TH HOLIDAY OBSERVED		Garbage Collection		Garbage Collection
SOUTH OF LOOP 410	JULY 4TH HOLIDAY OBSERVED	Garbage Collection		Garbage Collection	
RECYCLE	JULY 4TH HOLIDAY OBSERVED		South of Loop	North of Loop	
BRUSH	NO BRUSH COLLECTION THIS WEEK				

### Health & Safety

#### Special Events Planning Course *Submitted by Homer Emery, R.S.*

Texas is well-known for festivals, celebrations, and other special events. Festivals are held to celebrate everything from strawberries and watermelons to wildflowers and oysters. There are even festivals to celebrate pirates, *kolaches* and mud. These events just don't happen, they take planning and a lot of it. The key to a successful event is pre-planning and being prepared to handle just about any unexpected emergency to keep the general public safe.

Since the events of September 11, 2001, planning for special events has taken on new meaning. Special event sponsors and organizers now need to consider a wide range of contingencies in their planning for a successful and safe event. When public health, safety and security are overlooked in planning, that special event may become a real disaster.

A three hour workshop for organizations sponsoring these types of events or those thinking about planning a future public event is scheduled for May 13th from 9 a.m. to 12 noon in Balcones Heights. This workshop is offered at no cost for organizations and residents of Castle Hills and other local communities.

The workshop is based on FEMA's Contingency Planning for Special Events. Participants will be provided case histories of special event disasters and practical exercises related to planning for incidents ranging from a missing child to a medical emergency.

Lessons learned and participant's input during the workshop will be used for revising local ordinances for special event permits. You may register on line at: <http://lepcnews.squarespace.com/special-events-workshop/>. Early registration is recommended since spaces will be limited. Additional information will be provided upon registration.



# SHOP CASTLE HILLS

## *New Businesses*



**ALAMO E TAX FILE**—1011 JACKSON KELLER, #B (**Tax Office**)

**ALPHA 2 OMEGA INVESTIGATIONS**—1931 NW MILITARY HWY., #234 (**Security**)

**APPLE ANNIE'S RESTAURANT & BAKERY**—2177 NW MILITARY (**Home Cooking & Bakery**)

**BEQUER ACCOUNTING SERVICES**—1931 NW MILITARY HWY, #232 (**Bookkeeping Services**)

**DAN HANKE, CPA**—2161 NW MILITARY HWY, #103 (**CPA Services**)

**DENTAL STAFFING OFFICE**—1931 NW MILITARY HWY., #237 (**Dental Staffing**)

**DOUGLASS CARDENAS LAW OFFICE**—1931 NW MILITARY HWY., # 210 (**Law Office**)

**FLOWER POWER CAFÉ & BAKERY**—2211 NW MILITARY HWY #131 (**Café & Bakery**)

**GARIBALDI MEXICAN RESTAURANT**—2267 NW MILITARY HWY., #101 (**Restaurant**)

**LOS AGAVES COCINA MEXICANA**—7115 BLANCO RD., #110 (**Restaurant**)

**NEW INVESTMENT CAPITAL**—1931 NW MILITARY HWY., #235 (**Investment Services**)

**SAN ANTONIO SURGICAL ARTS**—6511 BLANCO RD (Oral Surgery Practice)

**SKYSHADE OF SAN ANTONIO**—1100 NW LOOP 410, #456 (**Patio Shades, etc.**)

**TEMPLE OF PRAISE MINISTRIES**—2161 NW LOOP 410 (**Church**)

## *New Businesses "Coming Soon" To Castle Hills*

**ARBOR GROVE APARTMENTS**—1403 JACKSON KELLER (**Apartment Building**) (under new ownership)

**GLAZER'S**—6903 BLANCO RD. (**Alcohol Distribution Office**)

**LAW FIRM OF JUAN ZAMORA**—1100 NW LOOP 410, #802 (**Law Office**)

**LOTS OF LIFE CHILDREN RESALE**—7103 Blanco Rd. (**Children's Resale**)

**MILLER & TSAKOPULOS**—1100 NW LOOP 410, #301 (**Insurance and Investment Office**)

**PICNIKINS CAFÉ**—6901 Blanco Rd. (**Deli Shop**)

**SAN ANTONIO FAMILY ALTERNATIVE**—1931 NW MILITARY HWY., #204 (**Physician Office**)

**WEST AVENUE CAFÉ**—8055 WEST AVE., #125 (**Restaurant**)

City of Castle Hills

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**CITY COUNCIL**

Mayor:.....Marcy Harper  
Place 1: .....Marcella Huff  
                                  *Mayor Pro Tem*  
Place 2: .....Douglas Gregory  
                                  *Treasurer*  
Place 3: .....Steve McGuire  
Place 4: .....Bruce A. Smiley-Kaliff  
Place 5: .....Tom Davis

**CASTLE HILLS  
CITY NEWSLETTER**

*The Castle Hills Reporter* is published by the City of Castle Hills. For questions or comments regarding the information contained herein, contact:

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**Visit us at [www.cityofcastlehills.com](http://www.cityofcastlehills.com)**

**CITY STAFF  
342-2341**

**CITY MANAGER**  
Vacant

Assistant City Manager  
Rita Hoyl, Ext. 215

City Secretary  
Linda Gill Ext. 216

**FIRE DEPARTMENT**  
Chief Jerry Riedel, Ext. 217

**POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
Chief Donald Davis, Ext. 210

**PUBLIC WORKS &  
ANIMAL CONTROL DEPARTMENT**  
Director Rick Harada, Ext. 206

**CODE COMPLIANCE/PERMITS**  
Rita Hoyl, Ext. 215

**ALL EMERGENCIES  
EMT, FIRE & POLICE**

**CALL 911  
24 Hours A Day**

**MONTHLY  
MEETINGS**

All meetings are held at City Hall unless otherwise posted

**City Council**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday – 6:30 p.m.**

Architectural Review Committee  
3<sup>rd</sup> Monday – 7:00 p.m.  
*Upon request*

Board of Adjustment  
3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday – 7:00 p.m.  
*Upon request*

Zoning Commission  
1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday – 7:00 p.m.  
*Upon request*

Crime Control &  
Prevention District  
3<sup>rd</sup> Monday – 6:30 p.m.