

November 2014

The Castle Hills **Reporter**

Fiesta Castle Hills presents...

Holiday 5K 
RUN/WALK '14
Saturday Dec. 13, 2014

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Message From the Mayor



*Tim Howell
Mayor*

Hello everyone,

I hope that this article finds you all in high spirits and ready for the upcoming holiday season. I have received many emails regarding our new code compliance official Louie Zamarron. Louie comes to us with many years of law enforcement experience and I for one am happy that we have him in our arsenal to help enhance our city. I sat down with Louie and visited with him on positive productive ways to help our city through his efforts. Here are some excerpts from Louie during our conversation:

"As you know, the purpose of a Code Compliance program is to ensure the safety, security, cleanliness and overall quality of life in a community. City codes also serve many not-so-apparent functions. For instance, codes can help retain property values. No one wants to move next to a house that has a big two story garage with second-level windows peering into their backyard or into a neighborhood where graffiti is an issue. How about branches extending into an alleyway? Simple respect for the safety of the city employee on the back of the garbage truck on trash day should be enough of a reason to keep those branches trimmed back. And what of the requirement to have our street address displayed on the alleyway fence? This helps first responders find you and when you need help, seconds lost trying to figure out where you are can make all the difference in the world. Parking in one's yard may seem trivial and a homeowner's right, but that stops being a right when it intrudes into the rights of the community, as a whole. So you see, the small ways in which code compliance helps our community are hard to appreciate as an individual but easy to see in the overall quality of life, not to mention the aesthetics, of a community".

I thank Louie for his time, efforts, forward thinking thoughts and last but not least his dedication. Spring boarding onto this, and in the interest of our city, I hope that we all will "go the extra mile" to move our city forward to the next level, not only enhancing its beauty, but taking pride that we, as Castle Hills residents, experience by living in the best city in Texas.

Cheryl and I extend Happy Holiday Wishes to All!

Timothy A Howell
Mayor
Castle Hills, Texas

timothyallanhowell@yahoo.com
timothyallanhowell@gmail.com
mayor@cityofcastlehills.com
timothyallanhowell@facebook.com
castlehillstimh@twitter.com

CITY COUNCIL

Tim Howell
Mayor

Lesley Wenger
Place 1

Matthew Daggett
Place 2

John Squire
Place 3, Mayor Pro Tem

Frank Paul
Place 4

Douglas Gregory
Place 5

CITY STAFF
(210) 342-2341

Diane Pfeil
Interim City Manager, ext. 214

Yolanda Benitez
Interim City Secretary, ext. 216

Suzanne Riley
Finance/Human Resources, ext. 224

Jerry Riedel
Fire Department Chief, ext. 217

Wayne 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, 6:00pm
As Needed

The Changing Of The Seasons

By Diane Pfeil, Interim City Manager

What a great time of year! The air is crisp, leaves are beginning to fall, and the anticipation of the holiday season is upon us. Here at city hall we are busy working on projects and initiatives to make our great city even better. I have always believed the holiday season is a magical time of the year. We end our calendar year with special celebrations, family, friends, and a renewed spirit as we look ahead to the New Year.

Presently, work continues on our streets. The Public Works Team, along with selected contractors are busy with maintenance and repair of our streets. And soon, we will begin major street repairs all over the city.

A new website is in the works that allows timely accurate information in a user friendly format. A survey is being compiled right now to find out what you, the user, would like to see on the Castle Hills website. The survey will be on our

website and available here at city hall. Or better yet, just come by city hall and let's chat. I would love to hear what the residents and businesses want and need on our website. It is our goal to have a website that is informational, interactive and meeting the needs of the user.

We are busy analyzing all of our city services to make sure we are providing the most efficient use of your tax dollars. That is very important to me, because as most of you know, I too, am a resident. As I drive the neighborhoods and talk to neighbors, I am always conscious of the responsibilities of stewardship of which the city council and staff are tasked to provide you, the residents and businesses, superior customer service and add to your quality of life.

There have been numerous events and programs during this fall season when the community of Castle Hills has gathered together to strengthen neighborhoods and improve our city.

Thanks to the many volunteers from Castle Hills First Baptist Church and the Castle Hills Community Organization who

accepted the call to service on October 25th, the National Day of Service to give their time, and talents to landscape and beautify our Common area.

We recently had Safety Awareness, National Night Out and a Halloween Carnival. Watching all of the residents getting involved and having a great time was truly an uplifting experience for me. Our city has tremendous civic organizations that never cease to amaze me with their commitment to making Castle Hills such an amazing place. I know it is difficult sometimes to volunteer your time but I certainly am thankful for all the "giving" people in this community.

Our city is only as strong as our employees, residents and businesses working together. So many positive things are going on around us and the momentum continues to grow. I invite each of you to get involved. Come by city hall and let's chat about moving our city forward in a positive manner.

Our family, here at city hall, wish you and your family a very safe holiday season!

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COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS



September 16, 2014 – Special City Council Meeting

- Conducted second of two Public Hearings on the Proposed Fiscal year 2015 Budget and on the Proposed 2014 Tax Rate of \$0.501345/\$100 of Taxable Valuation.

September 29, 2014 – Special City Council Meeting

- Appointed Interim City Secretary Yolanda Benitez.
- Adopted the Fiscal Year 2015 Budget by ordinance.
- Adopted the 2014 Tax Rate of \$0.501345/\$100 of taxable valuation by ordinance.
- Ratified the Fiscal Year 2015 Budget raising more property tax than last year's budget by \$159,414.00 or 0.06% and of that amount, \$27,473.10 is tax revenue to be raised from new property tax added to the tax roll this year by ordinance.
- Conducted a Public Hearing for the Castle Hills Crime Control and Prevention District Adopted Budget Submitted for Fiscal Year 2015.
- Approved the Fiscal Year 2015 Budget for the Castle Hills Crime Control and Prevention District.

October 14, 2014 – Regular City Council Meeting

- Renewed contract with Acadian Ambulance Service for a term of five years.
- Appointed Mike Flinn as an Alternate to the Board of Adjustment.
- Moved the Regular City Council Meeting of November 11, 2014 to November 12, 2014 because of Veteran's Day Holiday.
- Approved Ordinance No. 2014-10-14A revising the method of appointment of the City Secretary and revising her duties and amending Chapter 12, Courts and Jails, Section 12-23(a) by eliminating the City Secretary as the Municipal Court Clerk.

SINGLE STREAM RECYCLING!

Recently, many of you have expressed an interest in knowing more about our Recycling program. We have had many questions about which kinds of items can be recycled, as well as questions about the information contained on the website. We want to thank all of the residents who called, emailed, and stopped by to ask questions about the Recycling program. There has been great support in helping to spread the word about the items we recycle. We are currently updating our website to include more information about the program, and you will be seeing those changes soon.

In the meantime, we want you to know that we have an efficient, highly inclusive Recycling program in Castle Hills! We recycle all of our items through Waste Management, which means that we recycle the same items as the surrounding neighborhoods of San Antonio. We have created a list of all the recyclable items that can be placed in your blue bins, and we hope that this new list will help make your recycling efforts much easier.

Continued on Page 5>>



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<<Continued from Page 4

YOU CAN RECYCLE THESE ITEMS:

- Carton/Paperboard (like Cereal Boxes)
- Paper Cardboard/Dairy/Juice Containers
- Newspapers (DRY only*)
- Magazines
- Office Paper
- Brown paper Bags
- Cardboard (flattened and DRY*)
- Phone Books
- Plastic Bags (must be collected and tied all in one plastic bag, like a soccer ball)
- Plastic Bottles/Containers (numbers 1 through 7)
- Aluminum Cans
- Tin or Steel Cans
- Glass Bottles and Jars
- Junk Mail

*All paper materials (newspaper, cardboard, phone books, etc.) must be clean and DRY to avoid contamination, as the sorting and processing machinery can be damaged by soiled materials.

RECYCLE PICKUP:

South Side = WEDNESDAY / Recycling must be placed out before 7am for collection.

North Side = THURSDAY / Recycling must be placed out before 7am for collection.

These items are NOT RECYCLABLE: Foam Cups/Containers (take-out containers), Wet newspapers, Food Waste, Food Contaminated Cardboard/Paperboard, Plastic Wrap, Films, Construction Materials, Windows, Broken Glass, Light Bulbs, Mirrors.

Thank you for your recycling efforts and for spreading the word about the Recycling program. We hope every resident will join the effort to help make the Recycling program even better!

Public Works Dept.

EMPLOYEE HIGHLIGHTS**Anniversaries****20-Years**

Lance Bonnette, Police Department

1-Year

Jacob Anderson, Public Works

Maribel Mendoza, Police Department

New Employees

Yolanda Benitez, Interim City Secretary



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I must be crazy! When the temperature drops, I can get pretty busy. So, why am I offering such a drastic discount on my Super-Tune-Ups? It's very simple. I want you as a client for life! So, I call this my INVESTMENT IN YOU!

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Back to my offer.

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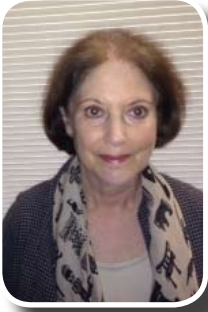
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Council Comments



Lesley Wenger
Place 1



John Squire,
PLACE 3

As this issue of the Castle Hills Reporter arrives in your mailbox, Our City will be moving forward on the task to repair and resurface multiple streets throughout our City. Getting to this point has taken time and consistent and persistent effort by city staff, and I am grateful for the work that our public works department has put in to develop the street maintenance plan to this point.

Since being elected to serve on council, the repair and maintenance of our streets has been my priority and will continue as such. Among other items, this has involved the development of a Castle Hills specific street maintenance plan of which the implementation of the plan has started. This has been evidenced by the work done to date which included the Reclamite program performed on many of our streets to help preserve them, the ongoing crack sealing, and numerous smaller repairs that have been completed involving filling pot holes, small depressions, and smaller street cuts where the surface has completely failed. Additionally, the development of a multiyear program for major street resurfacing and repair work is a living document that requires constant observation of street conditions and incorporation of those findings into the maintenance program. As I have previously said, this type of work takes time, patience, and consistent effort by our staff to step up and coordinate and perform these maintenance activities. So I ask each of you to please show support for the ongoing Public Works efforts.

I thank everyone for their appreciation and recognition for the work that has been done to date and look forward as we continue to make progress.

As always, I am available to discuss our City's issues and encourage you to keep in touch. I can be reached at:

- email address – jsquire@cityofcastlehills.com or
- phone – 210-390-4611

My family and I wish you a blessed and wonderful holiday season.

Respectfully,

John Squire



Matthew Daggett,
Place 2

I would like to share my reflections of the first few months on city council. I have been a resident of Castle Hills the majority of my life. I knew for a while that some day I wanted to serve on council, but thought I would

wait until the kids were out of the house or some calling would happen. Well it did, and in July, I was appointed to serve on our city council.

It has been a rewarding experience so far as I am getting to know the city staff, and all the inner workings of our city. My goal for my service to our city is that I hope that I can bring a common sense business approach to the decisions that will be made to continue to keep our city going in a positive direction. I want to see forward thinking business development, boost property values, and a city government that is considered reasonable to do business with. I want to maintain our excellent police, fire and sanitation services, and lastly an issue so important to so many of our residents is improvement of our streets, which we will start seeing more results from very soon. It has been an honor to serve and I would be happy to hear from any of our residents with any concerns or suggestions you may have. You may reach me at mdaggett@cityofcastlehills.com or 210-849-6209.

Happy Holidays!

Matthew Daggett



Frank Paul,
PLACE 4

I would like to do a special shout out to the many citizens and city employees that worked hard and participated in the October 2nd Safety Awareness Night put on by the Home Owners group and the National Night Out held on October 7th.

The Safety meeting was well attended and supported by many of our City Civic groups and local merchants. Thank you.

The National Night out events had to be the best ever. I attended 9 events hosted by our citizens and the parties were well attended. The police and fire departments were everywhere. Again, thank you.

Castle Hills is your city. All need to take pride and get involved. I often say, please get involved and stay informed. IT IS REALLY YOUR CITY.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or comments at fpaul@cityofcastlehills.com



Douglas Gregory,
PLACE 5

Recently, VIA announced that over \$300,000 was being "given" to Castle Hills for street repair. Unfortunately, this "gift" from VIA has raised more questions than answers. If this money comes from

VIA's treasury, Castle Hills would appreciate such a "gift" and we would have complete control over these monies. However, if these funds originated from the Federal Government, then in turn was given to the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), who then awarded these monies to VIA for very specific and limited purposes ie., upgrading bus pads, then Castle Hills has no say where these funds can be put to work. As of yet, VIA has not said where these monies originated and are vague as to the when and where the money would be spent.

Castle Hills needs to know whether or not this \$300,000 is a "gift" or simply smoke and mirrors providing little or no benefit to our City. Stay tuned!

Castle Hills Fire Department

By – Chief Riedel

Just a couple of quick reminders this month to help your Fire Department help you! Make sure that your address is posted clearly on your house and or mailbox. 3 inch reflective letters are ideal. If at all possible, turn your porch light on after you have called 911. It is easier to see your house at night and enables first responders to find you quicker.

Secondly, check your trees for limbs that hang over the street. The city ordinance requires that branches be trimmed up a minimum of 12 feet off of the street. The 12 feet must allow for all weather conditions. Remember that branches and limbs are heavier after a rain or ice storm. This will allow for safe passage of not only fire apparatus, but sanitation vehicles as well.

The Castle Hills Fire Department wishes you and your family Safe and Happy Holidays!

Castle Hills Police Department

The Castle Hills Police Department continues to promote and provide training for officers and recently Officer Ron Singleton attended a week long course that could help you reduce your insurance premium AND keep you safe.

Improve Your Home Security and Reduce Your Homeowner's Insurance Premiums

Castle Hills Police Department is offering home security surveys to evaluate the security of your home and potentially reduce the premiums on your homeowner's insurance. Officer Ronald Singleton recently completed certification as a Crime Prevention Specialist by the Texas Crime Prevention Association. Officer Singleton is available by appointment to conduct a security evaluation to determine if your home meets the security standards set out by the Texas Insurance Board. If these requirements are met, your insurance company will generally allow you a reduction in your insurance premiums.

Requirements for Homeowners Insurance Reduction

Article 5.33A, Section 6 (a) (1) Texas Insurance Code

Exterior doors are solid core doors that are 1 3/8 inches thick and are secured by dead-bolt locks. Dead-bolt locks must lock with a minimum bolt throw of one inch that penetrates a metal strike plate. If the door secured by the dead-bolt lock has breakable glass within 40 inches of the lock, the lock must be key operated from both sides unless prohibited by life safety codes.

- *Metal doors are secured by dead-bolt locks as described above.*
- *Double doors meet the specifications for exterior doors as*

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listed above, have the inactive door secured by header and threshold bolts that penetrate metal strike plates, and in case of glass located within 40 inches of header and threshold bolts, have the bolts flush-mounted in the edge of the door.

- Sliding glass doors are secured by secondary locking devices to prevent lifting and prying.
- Dutch doors have concealed flush-bolt locking devices to interlock upper and lower halves and are secured by a dead-bolt lock as described above.
- Garage doors are equipped with key -operated locking devices.
- Windows are secured by auxiliary locking devices. An auxiliary locking device required by this section must include screws, wooden dowels, pinning devices, and key operated locks. In areas in which safety codes permit, metal bars or grating. If mounted to prevent easy removal, may be substituted for auxiliary locking devices. Jalousie or louvered windows do not meet the specifications of this section unless they have metal grating mounted as provided for above.

Article 5.33A, Section (a) (2), Texas Insurance Code

Property is equipped with an electronic burglar alarm that meets the following requirements: all exterior structure openings are contacted; the system includes an interior and exterior siren; all equipment is U.L. approved and is monitored by a U.L. approved central station; and sales, service, installation, and monitoring of the system are done in compliance with the Private Investigations and Private Agencies Act (Article 4413 (29bb), Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes).

The Castle Hills Police Department recommends that you consider combining a Residential Security Survey with a Homeowners Insurance Premium Reduction Survey. Not only is this service free, but it will also put money in your pocket by reducing your insurance premiums! Call (210) 342-2341 and leave a message for Officer Singleton to schedule your complimentary survey.

Respectfully,
Chief Wayne Davis



Holiday Safety Tips

Let the Castle Hills Police Department know the days your home will be vacant by calling dispatch at (210) 342-2341 or for added convenience the request is available on the city website under the "Departments" "Police" page.

Leave lights inside your home on timers to create the impression you are home.

Have neighbors pick-up your newspapers and mail, or stop the mail and newspapers during your absence.

Lock your vehicles when shopping, visiting friends, and at home (basically all the time) and do not leave valuables visible in your vehicle.

If you receive expensive items such as televisions or gaming electronics do not place the empty boxes out with the trash as that signals would be criminals of a prime target to burglarize. Dispose of cardboard boxes in recycling dumpsters typically found at area schools.

Monitor your credit cards for unauthorized transactions and scrutinize monthly statements for even small questionable transactions.

Be aware of your surroundings. If you see someone or something that makes you uncomfortable. Take action. If shopping, park in a well-lit area, call 911 to report suspicious activity, or double check that your doors are locked. Simple actions such as these can prevent an opportunity for a crime.

Use social media wisely. Post the pictures from your trip once you return home. If you receive an expensive gift avoid advertising that fact on social media. Remember that your friends and family are not the only people looking at your posts.

Check the batteries in your smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors.

If you are having a cut tree for the holidays check the water level in the stand twice a day keep the tree from drying out too quickly to reduce the fire hazard risks.



Castle Hills Community Organization Events

Join your neighbors for "Snow Day at the Common" on December 14th. Bring your camera and capture the memories of playing in the snow in South Texas. The Castle Hills Community Organization is hosting this event. (Check the website for the time and details).

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YOUR COMMUNITY



Castle Hills Elementary students honor CH Fire Department on September 11th.

Safety Awareness Meeting



Police Department Administrative Assistant Maribel Mendoza and Interim City Manager Diane Pfeil provided safety awareness tips at the Safety Awareness Event hosted by the Castle Hills Community Organization.



HEB Store 389 partners honored the police and fire departments with delicious meals on September 11th.



Councilman Frank Paul and Mayor Tim Howell visit with residents at the Safety Awareness Event.



We remember all of our vets including combat vets, decorated vets, vets who served in a support role or served in "undeclared" operations. We owe our freedoms to all of our vets. Thank You



Ana Frias represented the CH Woman's Club and Marianne Huizar manned the Fiesta Castle Hills table at the Safety Awareness Event.

National Night Out Block Parties



Police Captain Johnny Siemens and Interim City Manager Diane Pfeil pose for photos with neighborhood children at a National Night Out block party on Villa Ann Street



Fire Captain DeHart, Fireman Cory Steward and Jeremy Huffman outfit resident Liz Larsen in bunker gear while Fireman Dustin Vackar stands ready with a fire fighting tool at a National Night Out block party.



Liz Larsen poses for a photo in the bunker jacket.

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HURRY! PRICE GOOD THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2014



Fire Chief Riedel visits with County Commissioner Kevin Wolff and Sydney Wolff at Robert and Suzanne Riley's National Night Out block party.



Mayor Howell administering the Oath of Office to Interim City Secretary Yolanda Benitez at the Special City Council Meeting on September 29, 2014.

Safety Tip

Solicitors or peddlers who have obtained their license from City Hall will be issued an official Castle Hills ID tag identifying themselves as such. This ID tag will be worn on the outer clothing of the individual or otherwise displayed, so to be visible to any person who might be approached by them. If you do not see this tag, regardless if you can see some other type of company-specific ID tag, this person has not obtained the necessary license nor have they undergone the required background check as required by ordinance. Please report these individuals to the police department at once.



National Night Out block party host, Richard Huizar (middle) visits with neighbors on Twinleaf Lane.

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Shweiki

Know Your Codes

In this column, I will cover several issues that address public health, safety, and well-being and can diminish quality of life and property values.

Trash Receptacles set out/left out at curbside; Ordinance Sec. 36-30 states, in part, *"Garbage containers shall not be placed curbside or in the right-of-way for collection earlier than 6:00 p.m. the day before collection day. After a garbage container has been emptied by the city it shall be removed from the right-of-way of a street at the earliest possible time on the same day of collection and returned to an area of storage on private property not readily visible from the street."* Unfortunately, this is a widespread and on-going issue.

Debris; Ordinance Sec. 26-117 states, in part, *"It is unlawful for any person...having under his control any lot or premises, whether vacant or improved, within the city to permit the same to be covered, in whole or in part, with any...downed timber or brush, old logs, decaying vegetable matter, trash or trash piles, junk, scrap, open garbage, filth, or debris whatsoever, and same are declared to be public nuisances, a hazard and menace to public health, and fire hazards."* Thus, any of the preceding items must be disposed of or kept out of the public view until such disposal is completed. Note that even the out-of-public-view collection of debris can still be considered to be a public nuisance and will still be abated.

Discharge of stagnant, unfiltered swimming pool water; Ordinance Sec. 8-178 states, in part, *"The owner, tenant, or occupant of any property or residence whatsoever in the city, on which is situated a swimming*

pool, is prohibited from emptying, causing to be emptied, or permitting to be emptied the swimming pool in any manner whatsoever that causes or permits any amount of water therefrom to reach any street, alley, or public way in the city."

For those of you who are merely cycling in new, fresh water, you may discharge CLEAN pool water as per Ordinance Sec. 16-120 (b) (17); *"Swimming pool water that has been dechlorinated so that total residual chlorine (TRC) is less than 1.0 mg/l and that contains no harmful quantity of chlorine, muriatic acid or other chemical used in the treatment or disinfection of the swimming pool water or in pool cleaning,"* may be discharged. Note that the burden of proof for the preceding acceptable amounts of TRC lays with the pool owner.

Street numbering to be displayed in the alley, residential or business; Ordinance Sec. 38-21 states, in part, *"All residences and businesses that abut on a rear alley will also ensure that the number of their residence or place of business is clearly visible from the alleyway. These numbers will also be of a contrasting color to the background and no less than four inches in height."* This is for your safety as it allows police, fire and utility personnel the ability to immediately know their location.

Your best source for Castle Hills Code information can be found at https://www.municode.com/library/tx/castle_hills/codes/code_of_ordinances

Have a safe autumn!

L. Zamarron
Code Compliance Investigator

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Castle Hills Community Organization (CHCO)

By John Strieb, President

As I am writing this article for the Castle Hills Reporter, as usual, on the last day of the deadline for article submission, I am looking back over the last two weeks where the Castle Hills community had two opportunities to participate in two great events. Last night was National Night Out and I managed to attend three of the nine block parties that were held by residents all over our community. I met some great people and had some great food. Who would have thought that at the Huizar's party I would meet Bill Jones, a man steeped in Indy 500 auto racing with a nationwide reputation in the racing community who is still restoring vintage sprint cars in his 90's? The parties were an opportunity for residents to learn more about the police and fire departments as well as build and foster strong neighborhood communities. The Fire Department and Police Department gave tours of fire trucks and police cruisers to the delight of young and old. Chief Davis, accompanied by Councilman Paul, visited the parties in the Police ATV. Mayor Howell enjoyed working the siren and horn on Fire Engine 1 as they arrived at the parties. Hats off to the residents who graciously hosted the parties and planning fun activities such as the moon bounces, sno cones, limousine rides as well as the great food. "Thanks" goes to Police Captain John Siemens for taking the lead for this event.

CHCO sponsored the Safety Awareness Night on October 2nd and had a great turnout. Representatives from the Fire and Police Departments as well as our City Manager conducted presentations relating to safety issues in our community. Chief Riedel represented the Fire Department while Captain John Siemens and Officers

Singleton and Munoz made presentations on programs they coordinate through the police department. Diane Pfiel, our City Manager and also a Master Gardner, reviewed how landscaping and yard maintenance play an important part in keeping your homes safe and secure. Our Mayor, Tim Howell, also took the stage and reviewed the importance of maintaining a strong community. He honored Rick and Marianne Huizar for their leadership in establishing Fiesta Castle Hills, and acknowledged several of our long term residents. Tim, who was born and raised in Castle Hills introduced the Pillets, Joyce Buie, the Poteets, and Sherry Yeckel, who considers herself the first daughter of Castle Hills as her father Leonard Yeckel was our first mayor. (My apologies if I forgot anyone).

The evening was an opportunity for the various clubs and organization to meet with residents. Included were The Women's Club, represented by Ana Frias, the Garden Club represented by Sharon Pillet and Beverly Rollins, and Fiesta Castle Hills represented by Marianne and Rick Huizar. Maribel Mendoza, Police Administrative Assistant, handed out "goodie bags". Robert Riley promoted National Night Out as well as the online community bulletin board, "NextDoor". Vera Howard represented the Castle Hills/Shavano Park Business Alliance. CPS was represented by Amanda Canales and Jim McAden and IBC Bank by Zedlain Garcia and Louis Seeman. Doug Dudycha of Federal Security Systems displayed home alarm equipment and answered questions on home alarm systems.

Our thanks to Kathy Friedrich and Joyce Buie who were in charge of refreshment and Sherry Yeckel who greeted those attending the event. Door prizes were given out throughout the evening. The Women's Club gave a bottle of wine, the Garden Club a plant that was nurtured from a cutting by Sharon Pillet, and Fiesta Castle Hills gave two sets of Castle Hills Fiesta metals. The CHCO gave a gift basket containing all sorts of goodies. Thanks to Catherine and Elizabeth McLin for assisting in drawing the winning tickets.

We set a record this year by having all but one of Family Movie Nights rained out and one screening moved indoors due to the heat. The September movie was set up outside but moved quickly indoors when it started raining ten minutes before movie time. Thanks again to our firemen for setting up the screen and electronics and for their usual quick response in moving the equipment indoors in record time for the impending rain. I think we are better predictors of rain than our local weather teams.

Mark your calendars for the next major CHCO event will be Snow Day scheduled for December 14th.

We continue to use NextDoor for communication so if you have not joined NextDoor let me know and I can get you signed up. My email is jfs@prodigy.net. We use NextDoor for communication but it is a communitywide resource, not just for CHCO.



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