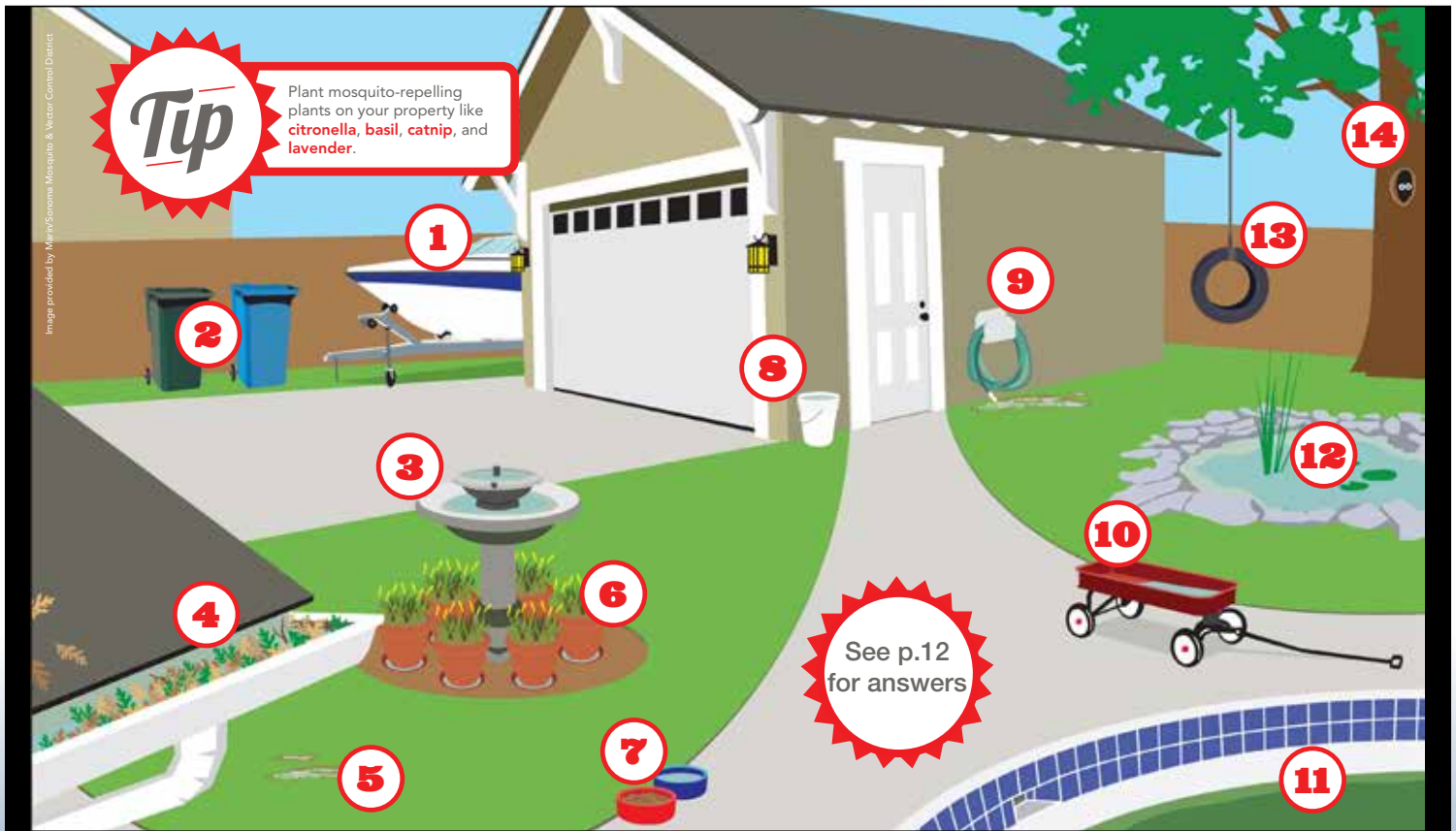




The Castle Hills Reporter



HOW TO PREVENT MOSQUITOES!



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Message From the Mayor



*Tim Howell
Mayor*

Spring is coming to an end and summer will be here with the long hot summer days. How quickly time seems to pass. I have called Castle Hills home for my entire life and I have a clear reflection of decades of history that have occurred in this city. Now as Mayor, I wonder "where do we go from here?"

In recent months citizens have contacted me asking about the consideration of sidewalks, bike lanes, pocket parks, and community recreational opportunities for Castle Hills. The trend I am observing is the population of Castle Hills is turning over and younger residents are moving into our city.

I believe that quality of life in our community requires more than basic services of water, sewer, streets, drainage, and trash services. Castle Hills is a very actively involved city. The Castle Hills Woman's Club, Castle Hills Community Organization, the Fiesta Castle Hills Committee, the Bridge Club, the Garden Club, and the area churches are just a few of the organizations that provides citizens the opportunity to interact, contribute to the social and civic needs of the community, and improve quality of life. Besides the Commons, does Castle Hills need to provide more possibilities for parks and improved alternate transportation through bike lanes and sidewalks? I believe it is time that our focus includes walkability, improved physical health, and connectivity to destinations.

These concepts need research, citizen input, and methods to fund the projects. In the past few years, we have made great strides in evaluating our streets and drainage issues. As many of you are now experiencing, SAWS is replacing water and sewer lines in parts of the city and numerous streets are being repaired. Infrastructure improvements will take time, but the work is underway. Is now the time to think beyond basic infrastructure? What are your thoughts and visions for Castle Hills?

Please contact me or any of the council members to share your ideas for the Castle Hills of tomorrow.

May 30th is Memorial Day. On this day of honor and patriotism let us all take a moment to remember those who gave the ultimate sacrifice for our country.

Timothy A Howell

Mayor City of Castle Hills Texas
210-535-9094
Mayortimhowell@gmail.com

"When location and service really matter - Castle Hills"

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Mayor

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Matthew Daggett
Place 2

John Squire
Place 3

Frank Paul
Place 4, Mayor Pro Tem

Douglas Gregory
Place 5, Treasurer

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City Secretary, ext. 216

Suzanne Riley
Finance, 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, 5:30pm
As Needed



THE POWER OF RELATIONSHIPS

By Diane Pfeil, City Manager

Dictionary.com defines relationships as:

A connection, association, or involvement.

A connection between persons by blood or marriage.

An emotional or other connection between people.

The mutual dealings, connections, or feelings that exist between two parties, countries, people, etc.

We all have relationships in our lives. Whether it be family relationships, business relationships, or even a relationship with our pets. Relationships can bring joy, strength, even trials and tribulations. Some relationships are not by choice and some are purely a matter of chance. I believe relationships are between two or more individuals or groups to work together to achieve common aims or goals. There are many different types and reasons that one might want to develop relationships. Some will help generate ideas, or develop content; some will be able to share their skills and knowledge to ensure your activity is a success and others may be prepared to put resources into the activity. Relationships can also help develop additional relationships with different audiences.

The City staff have relationships. The police and fire departments have similar missions of public safety, but different focuses of fighting crime and fighting fires. Often they work together at accidents, house fires and during other times of emergencies. They must work together. This is a relationship built on trust, training and survival.

Local organizations are formed to foster community relationships to improve the quality of life for citizens. It gives folks the opportunity to shape their regional services and the places where they live, work and play. We are fortunate to have a number of local organizations that work tirelessly for the betterment of Castle Hills. The Castle Hills Community Organization (CHCO) champions issues important to the homeowners' quality of life. The Garden Club fosters greater interest in home and civic gardening and the preservation of natural resources. The Woman's Club promotes beautification, safety, friendship, health and good citizenship within Castle Hills.

The City of Castle Hills has relationship with the City of San Antonio. Together, this past year we championed Senate Bill 631 to keep our perimeters safer. Both cities worked together for the common good of all. Castle Hills has many Interlocal Agreements with governmental agencies including surrounding fire departments, Bexar County Commissioners, and CPS Energy just to name a few.

We also form partnerships with other entities such as San Antonio Water System (SAWS), San Antonio River Authority, other municipalities, and the list goes on and on. Through a collaborative effort with SAWS, the city has been able to leverage money we had for street repairs into a major street and infrastructure project that includes sewer and water. A cooperative effort such as this meant sharing expenses to reduce the overall costs for each side while avoiding duplication of work.

Working together provides an opportunity for each party to use their strengths for the betterment of both. Innovative ideas frequently are the byproduct of collaboration. All of this happens when there is an understanding of the value of what each partner can contribute. Relationships evolve over time. As part of our daily work here at the City, we are always looking for ways to build relationships. If you have an idea please stop by and visit with me or my staff and let's build our relationship.

The administrative staff here at City Hall wish you a fun filled and relaxing summer!

PROPERTY DAMAGE?

Has your recent water damage claim been denied by your insurance company?

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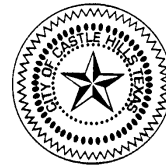


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Council Comments



Lesley Wenger,
Place 1

Walkers & Bicycles

We have always had walkers and bicycle riders here, but for the past 30 some years we had an aging population. Now, with the welcome explosion of young families buying homes in Castle Hills, more children are enjoying the liberty of exploring our safe streets on bicycles. Walkers have noticed that either accompanied by an adult or not, we have a notable increase in night-time bicycle riders whizzing around in the dark with no front lights and frequently no reflectors.

As temperatures rise in the summer, walkers—and especially dog walkers—tend to go out later at night to escape the heat. Dogs, with their superior hearing, are aware of bicycles (which make almost no noise) before people are, and many start to bark or lurch in recognition of a silent approach. So near accidents have been reported and complaints have been made among neighbors and to the police department.

Contrary to some notions, the city does not introduce new ordinance restrictions on a whim—they are always triggered by a multitude of complaints. Fortunately in this case none are needed because Chief Wayne Davis has researched the state Transportation Code and his officers will now be enforcing it.

Section 551.103 of the Code, OPERATION ON ROADWAY is more applicable to heavily trafficked areas where bicycles are required to operate next to a curb or edge of road.

Section 551.104 on SAFETY EQUIPMENT states—

(b) A person may not operate a bicycle at nighttime unless the bicycle is equipped with:

- (1) a lamp on the front of the bicycle that emits a white light visible from a distance of at least 500 feet in front of the bicycle and
- (2-A) a red reflector on the rear that is visible from all distances (or) 50 to 300 feet from the bicycle's rear when in front of motor vehicle headlamps or
- (2-B) a lamp that emits a red light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the rear of the bicycle.

Walkers with flashlights or reflective clothing will be more apt to see a rear lamp at a distance than a reflector.

Lesley Wenger
City Council, Place 1
wengertx@satx.rr.com
210-277-3636
pg.4



Matthew Daggett,
Place 2

One of our most valuable assets is the beautiful live oak trees we have on our properties. Can you image how your property would look if you had to remove all or many of the oaks on it? Oak wilt is in our area and is a threat to our trees. If the conditions are just right it could spread faster than it already has. We must be proactive to protect our trees. I would like to use my space here to educate our residents on this very important issue that most of us have heard of but many do not completely understand.

The oak wilt disease is spread by a fungus (*Ceratocystis Fagacearum*) that infects the oak, and essentially cuts off the channels for water in the tree. The fungus enters the tree through connecting roots and through bugs infecting wounds in the tree, mainly the nitidulid beetle. Once infected the tree will die within one to six months. The red oak is the most susceptible to oak wilt and once infected, the fungus forms a fungal mat under the bark of the red oak tree. This happens in the springtime of year. The mat puts off a fruity smell that attracts beetles and other bugs. Once in contact with the mat, the beetle then spreads it to the live oak trees through cuts caused by tree trimming or any damage to the trunk or roots. It is very wise not to prune oaks trees during the springtime of year when the fungal mats are active. In fact as of last council meeting, it will be illegal to trim oaks from February through June. Fungal mats do not form on live oak trees. Any damage to the oaks should be immediately sprayed with paint to close the

"The statements and facts contained in newsletter articles from the Mayor and City Council Members are their own personal views and should not be considered official city sponsored statements or facts and should not be relied upon as such."



wound. All pruning instruments should be cleaned with 10% bleach to avoid spread of fungus. New red oaks should not be planted in our city and existing ones should be monitored for infection. All infected red oaks must be immediately removed completely and disposed of properly. Infected red oak firewood or stumps can be a source for new infections.

Oak wilt travels through live oak trees by their connected roots. This can happen at a rate of 0-150 feet per year. If one of your trees become infected, you must inform city hall who will get the forest service expert in to evaluate and give recommendations for treatment. Your neighbors within 100 feet will be informed. This gives you and your neighbors an opportunity to try to prevent spread of infection through the roots by trenching (which is very difficult in residential neighborhoods) or treating oaks you really want to save by injecting fungicide into the trunk of the tree. Fungicide treatment is really only beneficial if oak wilt is within 100 feet of your tree, too soon or too late is not helpful.

Lastly related to our trees, is the need for our residents to keep the branches of their trees trimmed at least 12 feet above the street. I was speaking with the fire department recently and they were discussing all the damage caused to the trucks by the low hanging branches in our city. This also increases response time if our fire trucks have to travel to the scene slower to avoid hitting trees. Keep in mind when trimming your trees, if your trees are wet, they will hang even lower because of the weight.

I hope this was helpful, as always if you have any ideas or questions you would like to share, call me at 210-849-6209 or email: mdaggett@cityofcastlehills.com.

Thanks,

Matthew Daggett
City Council, Place 2
mdaggett@cityofcastlehills.com



John Squire,
PLACE 3

Our Castle Hills Fiesta event including the 5K run, parade and all the daylong fun Fiesta activities in the Commons has come to another successful completion. Even with the rain, everything worked out great and a good time was had by all. Many thanks go to Denise Haley and her dedicated team of volunteers who put in countless hours of work to continue to make this Fiesta event such a success.

As I reflect on the rain and unfortunately the hail that fell in Castle Hills, I also contemplate our past, present, and future efforts to control stormwater runoff that impacts our city. By the time this newsletter is delivered to your mailbox, the comprehensive drainage study of the entire city should be complete. The engineering study will provide a path to guide our comprehensive approach to relieving many areas in Castle Hills from the decade's long stormwater threats. As I have previously mentioned, and is documented, a significant portion of the stormwater impacting Castle Hills comes from San Antonio. With that said, our city staff and members of the council are actively communicating these issues and meeting with San Antonio city staff and their elected officials. Going forward, we need to continue this effort and I am asking our citizens to provide support and activism to aid in getting the voices of Castle Hills heard regarding the stormwater runoff that enters the city and compounds the flooding. It is my belief that the only effective way to address these continuing flooding issues is to work to solicit the resources that surround our city. This will take time and political effort, but with the study complete and proper support from those impacted in Castle Hills we can push forward.

Finally, we are in the midst of the largest infrastructure project that our City has undertaken in many years in the repair of our streets. As I communicated last time, there are many inconveniences to our affected residents as this work progresses. However, city staff continues to ensure people are informed of the work ahead of time and is promptly addressing any issues that might occur. Your continued patience and understanding while the work is taking place is greatly appreciated.

I am available to discuss our City's issues and encourage you to keep in touch. Please contact me at:

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

Respectfully,
John Squire
City Council, Place 3

| | | |
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Frank Paul,
PLACE 4

"What is my vision for the city?" Since I have been on City Council (almost 2 years) I have often been asked this question. As I have reflected on this, I know that this is not an easy question. I finally realized that my vision is to make sure our city stays a city and does not become a sub-division of San Antonio! Why do I say this?

It the last 9 months the city has had projects brought before it for development of one kind or another. In most cases this has included petitions for rezoning.

I have experienced that some citizens want smart development, but not in their neighborhood. Development is okay for other areas of the city. This mindset has and probably will continue to cause friction within our city. Of course this is not what a city should be about.

Example of the above: A memory care center and small office project was proposed for the corner of West Avenue and Dani Lane. The property is located behind CVS. The neighborhood behind the project decided it might bring excessive traffic to the area. So they did what they could to stop the project. And their efforts did stop the project. My take on it was this project would have been a good transitional buffer between N.W. Military and that neighborhood.

Then some of the same residents who were against the Dani Lane project wanted council to approve a zoning change on Lemonwood Drive from Residential to 2 Story Office. This was to allow the rezoning and sale of an existing building and allowing the operation of a learning center on Lemonwood Drive. This would of course added many more vehicles commuting to and from an area already busy because of city hall and Castle Hills Elementary.

The city is facing needed improvements to our aging infrastructure. The estimate to fix the drainage in a small area of the city is about 8 million dollars. This includes the streets of Carolwood, Glentower, Dogwood and others in that area. While other portions of the city have stormwater problems, this area floods at the drop of a hat. The city is awaiting reports from the city engineers on specific plans to address this flooding.

City administration is also working with the City of San Antonio to try and solve the problems of water coming into our city from the area behind and east of Walgreens on West Avenue. Additionally, water also flows freely on to Carolwood from across Lockhill Selma from San Antonio. We are looking for cooperative solutions that will help both cities.

I could go on. But the issue is that we need to increase our tax base, raise taxes or pass a bond to help with all of the issues that have been neglected for years. My choice is to try and encompass a little bit of all of the above solutions. Of course, if we can "pay as you go", this would be the first and best option.

I often look at the strip of Broadway that runs through Alamo Heights. pg.6

It is commercial with a minor buffer of professional offices, multi-family properties and other lower impact uses between it and the adjacent residential neighborhoods. The transitional uses work there and I know the value of the homes is about twice the price per square foot of Castle Hills. I look at N.W. Military as the same type of development. We already have a good start, and with an uptick in interest in available properties in Castle Hills, now is the time to embrace smart development. We must find a balance between preserving residential, taxation, debt, thoughtful development and funding infrastructure needs. As I said, other cities have worked through this and have found a balance. I believe cooperation and thoughtfulness can lead Castle Hills to smart development and find the needed balance.

Frank Paul
City Council, Place 4
fpaul@cityofcastlehills.com



ANNIVERSARIES

5 – Years
1 – Year

David Cain – Fire Department
Cesar Losoya – Public Works

NEW EMPLOYEES

Deborah Kitkowski – Administration
Jose Govea – Code Enforcement
Jeanette Ulmer – Public Works



Shop

CASTLE HILLS NEW BUSINESSES

Elevate Systems - Lighting
Beast Fitness – Fitness Gym
Get Me LLC – Transportation Services
Lone Star Title Loans - Lender

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COUNCIL MEETING

HIGHLIGHTS



March 8, 2016 – Special Regular City Council Meeting

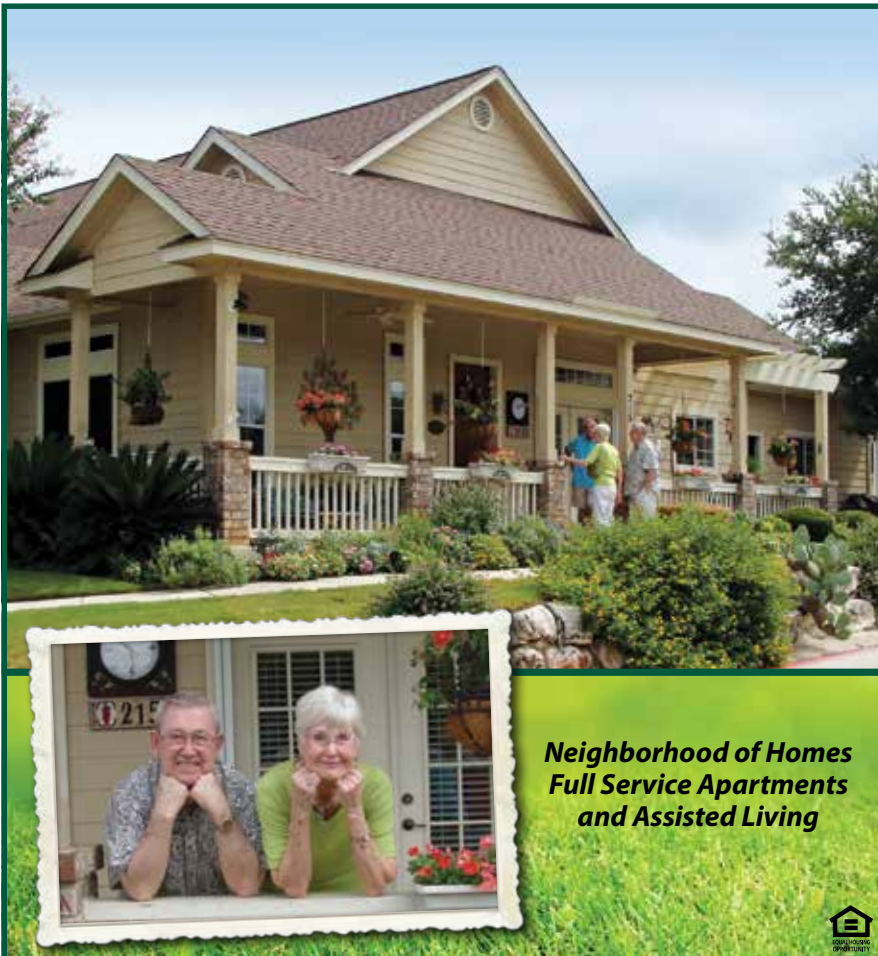
- Presented a Proclamation to Terry Carter in Recognition for her dedication to the City.
- Update on Street Maintenance Plan.
- Recognition of Castle Hills Fire Department for their service and professionalism at the Wedgwood Fire.
- Introduction of New Police Officers – Raymond Madrid and Nathan Alcala.
- Appointed Bonnie Hopke to Board of Adjustment.
- Instructed the City Manager to prepare and publish a Request for Proposals (RFP's) for Digital Billboard Signage on NW Military Dr.
- Approved the CERT Loan Agreement between Bexar County and the City of Castle Hills.
- Approved Ordinance No.2016-03-08 Vegetation.
- Approval of a clock for the commons, honoring the Bequest from Perry H & Madeline Burnham Estate.
- Announced that St. George's Farmers' Market is every second Wednesday of the month from 2pm – 7pm. (Truckin' Tomato).
- Field Audit was completed.
- New Patrol Fleet arrived.

March 9, 2016 – Townhall Meeting

- Discussed VIA services in the City of Castle Hills.

April 12, 2016 – Special and Regular City Council Meeting

- Certificate of Recognition Presented to David Lewis.
- Street and Infrastructure Update.
- Announced Fiesta Castle Hills Kick-off Party.
- Presented a Proclamation for Fiesta Castle Hills.
- Introduced Fiesta Castle Hills Parade Grand Marshal.
- Approved Application for a Special Use Permit, from Terry Parr with H-E-B.
- Approved Ordinance No.2016-04-12 Vegetation, other trees.
- Fire Department received their new Self Contained Breathing Apparatus's.
- Sales tax revenue continues to climb. Last month's receipts totaled \$90,149.00 and this month's exceed that with \$99,448.00 collected.
- Flooding pictures were sent to Councilman Krier's appointee regarding flooding issues.
- Mayor and City Manager Pfeil will meet with Peter Zaroni and Charles Mazuca regarding the proposed zoning on Anchor Drive, San Antonio, TX.



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10:00am - 12:00pm

RSVP by Monday, June 6, 2016

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Even though we think of many insects and arachnids as pests, all creatures perform a role in their ecosystems, even systems as small as a backyard. Scorpions eat other insects and ants help aerate the soil so water and oxygen can reach plant roots.

Because pests have important jobs, it's better to try and repel them, rather than trying to get rid of them with chemical or other pest treatments. A better solution is to plant your pest control. You can do this by adding plants that deter pests around outdoor areas that you and your family might enjoy, such as a patio or pool deck.

Just because these plants help repel pests, doesn't mean they are unattractive. Many of them are beautiful to look at and to smell! Additionally, many plants that keep creepy-crawlies away are Texas natives that will thrive in yards and gardens with relatively little care.

- Lavender produces oil that deters scorpions. True and Egyptian lavenders are best, but Spanish and English lavenders also work to create an environment less attractive to scorpions.
- Lemongrass keeps mosquitoes, scorpions, ants, fleas and many other pests away because its strong scent masks human and food scents that attract many bugs.
- Rosemary, like lavender, also produces oil that scorpions and mosquitoes dislike. As a bonus, if you add a sprig of rosemary to your food while grilling it'll add flavor to your food and the scented smoke will keep mosquitoes and flies away. Common rosemary and trailing rosemary are best-suited for the San Antonio area.

There are a few non-native plants too useful not to mention, and luckily they can thrive in pots both inside and outside the home.

Mint is a non-native plant that can be grown in pots. Many pests such as flies, scorpions and ants avoid mint because of its oil. Mint of any kind will do the trick. Another easy-to-grow-in-a-pot plant is citronella; it puts off a strong fragrance that masks human scents, keeping mosquitoes, scorpions, ants, fleas and many other pests away.

Courtney for Garden Style S.A.

<http://www.gardenstylesanantonio.com/2015/08/plant-pest-control/>



Greetings citizens,

We hope everyone is enjoying the nice spring like weather. As of this writing we are heading into summer which means more kiddos out on the street. They will likely be riding bikes, playing ball or just running around. We ask that as you drive through our neighborhoods to please be careful of the pedestrian traffic. Our speeds in the neighborhoods are less than 35 mph, some 30 mph and some 25 mph.

Heading into summer also means more people will be traveling on vacation. This is your opportunity to take full advantage of a service we provide; that is placing your home on our "patrol by list". This is a great service and has far reaching benefits to our community. It starts with calling, or better yet coming by the police department anytime, day or night and visiting with our dispatch center. Our dispatchers will take a variety of information from you and place you in the system for the duration of your vacation. Our officers, at least once every eight hours will randomly conduct a "patrol by" on your home. If all checks out, (based on the information you provided our dispatcher) we will notate it and move on. If something does not check out we will investigate further. I cannot stress enough how important it is for you to utilize this service. Just to give you an idea we conducted over 8400 last year. It all starts by you contacting dispatch.

In closing we hope everyone has a safe and enjoyable summer. Be safe out there and if you ever need anything please give us a call 24/7.

Wayne Davis
Chief, Castle Hills PD



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Home Pool Safety

Maintaining a Safe Environment Around Your Home Swimming Pool

With the hot summer months rapidly approaching, an afternoon at the pool is always a great time. The American Red Cross offers the following safety tips.

Millions of us enjoy warm weather every year by swimming in our backyard pools and relaxing in hot tubs. Tragically though, over 200 young children drown in backyard swimming pools each year. The American Red Cross suggests owners make pool safety their priority by following these guidelines:

- Secure your pool with appropriate barriers. Completely surround your pool with a 4-feet high fence or barrier with a self-closing, self-latching gate. Place a safety cover on the pool or hot tub when not in use and remove any ladders or steps used for access. Consider installing a pool alarm that goes off if anyone enters the pool.
- Keep children under active supervision at all times. Stay in arm's reach of young kids. Designate a responsible person to watch the water when people are in the pool—never allow anyone to swim alone. Have young or inexperienced swimmers wear a U.S. Coast Guard-approved life jacket.
- Ensure everyone in the home knows how to swim well by enrolling them in age-appropriate water orientation and learn-to-swim courses from the Red Cross.
- Keep your pool or hot tub water clean and clear. Maintain proper chemical levels, circulation and filtration. Regularly test and adjust the chemical levels to minimize the risk of earaches, rashes or more serious diseases.
- Establish and enforce rules and safe behaviors, such as “no diving,” “stay away from drain covers,” “swim with a buddy” and “walk please.”

- Ensure everyone in the home knows how to respond to aquatic emergencies by having appropriate safety equipment and taking water safety, first aid and CPR courses from the Red Cross.

These and other safety tips can be found on the American Red Cross website:

<http://www.redcross.org/prepare/disaster/water-safety/home-pool-safety>



go green

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- 1 Visit www.NeighborhoodNews.com
- 2 Click on: “Let’s do our part” and follow the instructions.

What will change?

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

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Questions? Feel free to contact Neighborhood News at (210) 558-3160 with any website-related questions.





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PUBLIC WORKS



It's official. Spring is here! The fresh days of Spring mean Spring cleanup! This includes removing leaves, rocks, twigs and branches from your yard. Spring is a great time to tidy up inside your home as well. Now is a great time to tackle closets, junk drawers, cabinets, the garage, and more. Please keep in mind the proper way to dispose of unwanted items. Some items can be donated to charity, others can be taken to a recycling center, and other items just need to be thrown away.

Many of these items are not regular household kitchen garbage, and they should not be placed in garbage cans for regular pick up. Most importantly, hazardous pool chemicals or other potentially harmful materials should never be mixed in with your regular garbage. Contact Public Works at 342-2341, ext. 206 and get a quote/surcharge to remove these items for you. Remember, your household

generated garbage must be placed in a bag and placed inside a trash receptacle.

Brush collection is on Wednesday of each week, except during a holiday week. There is a proper way to dispose of brush. If you performed the work yourself, you can set out the equivalent of three 30-gallon trash cans for collection. This does not mean they have to be in a trash can. Stack the brush/limbs neatly. Tree limbs cannot exceed 5 feet in length and 3 inches in diameter. If the work was performed by a hired contractor or landscape company, they must remove it. It is a violation to place brush in the City's right-of-ways. This could become a dangerous situation for motorists and pedestrians if the piled up brush is obscuring traffic. Visit <http://www.cityofcastlehills.com/2161/Public-Works> for additional information on garbage pick-up and the specifics for disposal.

Shweiki

Tree trimming is one of our major concerns in Castle Hills. Oak trees and trimming of oaks are a major concern due to oak wilt in our City. Open wounds must be painted with a black latex paint or wound treatment immediately to minimize the spread of oak wilt. All trees over the streets, alleys and right-of-ways need to be trimmed to a height of 12 feet in all weather conditions. Please remember that during a heavy rain or ice storm the tree limbs hang lower. This results in passing vehicles hitting the tree limbs and causing damage to both the trees and the vehicles. The heavy equipment utilized for street repairs across the city are experiencing difficulty with low hanging tree branches. Please check your trees for the safety of the workers and their equipment.

We should all strive to be responsible residents and follow the City Code at https://www.municode.com/library/TX/castle_hills/code_of_ordinances. If you have any questions or concerns, please call Public Works at 342-2341, ext 206.

Get Ready for Zika



By now, you have heard that the Zika virus is coming to Texas. Matter of fact, the virus is already here. As of April 14, 2016, Texas health officials had confirmed 28 cases of Zika. Twenty-seven of these cases were in travelers that were infected by mosquitoes abroad and diagnosed after they returned home. The other case that was acquired in Texas was from sexual contact. So far, there have been no confirmed cases transmitted by mosquitoes within the state. If planning to travel outside the U.S. obtain the latest travel advice from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) at the following Website: <http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/page/zika-information>.

When outside this summer, you can reduce the risk of being bitten by mosquitoes by using insect repellents and wearing long-sleeved shirts and long pants. When using an insect repellent, make sure that it is EPA registered and always follow instructions on the label. If you're sitting on the back porch at dusk and hear mosquitoes buzzing

don't rush to blame the neighbor's green swimming pool until you check your own yard for possible breeding areas.

Artificial containers such as, flower pots, potted plants, discarded tires, buckets, tin cans, clogged rain gutters, ornamental fountains, water bowls for pets, birdbaths and even tree stumps are ideal breeding sites. If you have a backyard pool and are not able to maintain it for swimming use mosquito control tablets (dunks) that are available at most local hardware stores. Small top water minnows can also be added to pools for mosquito control.

The CDC is working with state, county and local public health officials to monitor Zika and in implementing a phased control plan. You can find current information on Zika at the following CDC Website: <http://www.cdc.gov/zika/index.html>.

Homer Emery, PhD, RS
City Health Inspector



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Fiesta Castle Hills 2016

Fiesta Castle Hills was a great success despite the scattered showers. A big thank you to Denise Haley, the 2016 Coordinator. The planning for Fiesta takes many months of hard work. This is accomplished with a dedicated team of volunteers. A special thank you to the committee chairs:

Pasty Martin – Booths

Tiffanie Barta and Shannon Austin – Children's Activities

Sharon Pillet – Fiesta Medals

David Olivares – 5 K Run/Walk

Colleen Gavaghan and Marianne Huizar – Parade

Planning has already started for Fiesta Castle Hills 2017!

Viva Fiesta

HOW TO PREVENT MOSQUITOES!



Adult mosquitoes lay eggs in stagnate or slow moving water, and on moist soil or leaf litter in areas likely to collect water. By eliminating these water sources, you can keep new generations of mosquitoes from taking up residence in your yard.

— Eliminate Standing Water Sources —

- 1** Uncovered Boats
- 2** Open Trash Bins
- 3** Fountains and Bird Baths
- 4** Clogged Rain Gutters
- 5** Low Areas
- 6** Potted Plant Saucers
- 7** Water Bowls for Pets
- 8** Buckets and Barrels
- 9** Leaky Hoses
- 10** Wagons and Other Toys
- 11** Neglected Pools
- 12** Ponds
- 13** Tires
- 14** Rot Holes in Trees



May is Older Americans Month

May is a month of fresh beginnings. Perennials bloom once again, blazing a trail of bright color. May is also when we celebrate Older American's Month (OAM), acknowledging the perennial contributions of older adults to our nation. The 2016 OAM theme is Blaze a Trail. The Administration for Community Living and The Village at Incarnate Word will use this opportunity to raise awareness about important issues facing older adults. We will also highlight the ways that older Americans are advocating for themselves, their peers, and their communities. All events are FREE and open to the public. Kindly RSVP to (210)829-7561, ext. 114.

Monday, May 2 - Presentation: "Why Should I Exercise?" 10:00 a.m. CHRISTUS Heritage Hall at The Village at Incarnate Word. It's important to exercise - know the facts of how exercise affects our mind and body. Presented by Andrea Tercero, MS, Certified Fitness Instructor and Personal Trainer at The Village.

Friday, May 6 - Age Strong! Live Long! One Mile Walk 7:30 a.m. - Transport begins from The Village at Incarnate Word to Gayle and Tom Benson Stadium 8:00 a.m. - Walk begins! Join us as we celebrate Older Americans Month with a one mile walk around the track at the University of the Incarnate Word. Stay engaged, active and involved with your fellow residents and friends! Complimentary refreshments. Shuttle service will be available from The Village at Incarnate Word to/from the track. Participants who pre-register will receive a free t-shirt courtesy of The Village at Incarnate Word.

Friday, May 20 - Talk: Growing Old "Grace-fully" 2:30 p.m. CHRISTUS Heritage Hall at The Village at Incarnate Word. Presented by Sister Brigid Marie Clarke, CCI. The talk will reflect the graces and blessings that come with our advancing years - when they are lived with faith and hope and love.

Friday, May 27 - Presentation: Healthy Living for Your Brain and Body: Tips from the Latest Research 2:30 p.m. CHRISTUS Heritage Hall at The Village at Incarnate Word. For centuries, we've known that the health of the brain and the body are connected. But now, science is able to provide insights into how to make lifestyle choices that may help you keep your brain and body healthy as you age. Join us to learn about research in the areas of diet and nutrition, exercise, cognitive activity and social engagement, and use hands-on tools to help you incorporate these recommendations into a plan for healthy aging. Ginny Funk, Director of Programs & Advocacy - Alzheimer's Association, San Antonio & South Texas National Chapter.

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Castle Hills Celebrates the Fourth of July

Mark your calendars, for Monday, July 4th and plan to join your neighbors as we celebrate the 240th birthday of the United States of America. There will be a short parade for bicycles, strollers, wagons, and other non-motorized modes of transportation. Grab your red, white and blue crepe paper, bows, flags and ribbons to decorate your ride to show your patriotism. Following the parade, plan to spend some time at the Commons for a watermelon seed spitting contest, hamburger and hot dog picnic, a water slide and lots of traditional picnic activities. Bring your chairs and blankets and plan to celebrate Independence Day with your family and friends!

If you would like to get involved, please contact Diane Pfeil, City Manager at 342-2341 or by email dpfeil@cityofcastlehills.com

Please check the Castle Hills website for specific details!
www.cityofcastlehills.com

Oak Trimming Prohibited February to July

Oak trees of any type growing within the corporate limits of the City may not be trimmed during the months of February, March, April, May, and June due to the increased activity of the nitidulid beetles and the potential for the spread of oak wilt. Any branches posing an immediate threat of danger to persons or property may be trimmed during the prohibited months with the issuance of a special permit and the approval of the city manager. This change in the code became effective April 25, 2016.



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CITY SNAPSHOTS



Grand Marshal Evelee Moore and Mayor Howell welcome guests to the Fiesta Castle Hills 2016 kick-off party held at IBC Bank on April 14th.



Terry Carter, longtime Castle Hills' resident was recognized by the Mayor and City Council at the March City Council meeting for her dedication to the City of Castle Hills. Sadly, Terry lost her hard fought battle with cancer in April. We extend our condolences to her husband, Wayne Carter and family.



At the April City Council meeting Mayor Howell presents a Proclamation to Denise Haley, Coordinator for Fiesta Castle Hills 2016, naming Evelee Moore, the Grand Marshal for the Fiesta Parade.



Resident Dwight Juettemeyer and daughter Adalyn Juettemeyer enjoyed being in the Fiesta parade in their classic car.



HEB Partners celebrate Fiesta in the World's Largest Shopping Cart during the 2016 parade.



Indulge Beauty Concepts located at 2193 NW Military celebrated their grand opening on February 26th.



Honorable Judge McCall administers the Oath of Office to Officer Nathan Alcala the newest member of the Castle Hills Police Department.

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Info@NeighborhoodNews.com www.NeighborhoodNews.com

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