



The Castle Hills **Reporter**



HAPPY NEW YEAR 2019

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MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR



I hope the holidays brought special moments for you and your family to cherish. 2019 is already moving forward full steam ahead. New year's resolutions bring a time for contemplation of both the past and the future. We all want to make improvements to our physical, mental and even spiritual well-being. The same is true for the city. As I reflect on the events of 2018, I embrace that some things were done well and others have room for improvement.

Many of the great things that happened in Castle Hills in 2018 are a direct result of the volunteers who help in so many ways. The Castle Hills Community Organization members hosts movie nights, concerts, and many more acts of kindness. When Municipal Court is in session, it is all hands-on deck to process hundreds of violators at each court date. Pasty and Don Martin are faithfully helping to conduct intake as violators arrive. Zuzana Trejo again put together the fantastic End of School Mayor's Picnic with minimal budget. Judy Crawford organized the vendors for Fiesta Castle Hills, organized the Lighting of the Lights and frequently helps staff in administration with paperwork and filing. Jana Baker who makes the sledding hill possible at the Lighting of the Lights. Ginger Magers who organized a holiday luncheon for city staff. The members Castle Hills Woman's Club who give of their time, treasure and talents by coordinating ribbon cuttings at business grand openings, purchase needed items for city hall, and show up to assist at most city events. Ana Frias and her Fiesta team make Fiesta Castle Hills better every year! The Castle Hills Christian Church who serves up kindness and thanks by hosting multiple luncheons throughout the year for city staff. This list must include the members of the many boards, commissions and committees who selfishly serve the citizens. If you want to participate, just let me know your interests and I can steer you to others who are dedicated in making Castle Hills a great place! My apologies to anyone I may have failed to list, your kindness and generosity are vital and appreciated!

My second term as mayor is waning, and I wish I could share what I know with the younger me who started on the city council in 1999. I would guide the freshly minted councilman to listen twice as much as you speak (two ears and one mouth, maybe there is a reason we have this anatomy). Communicate positive messages to citizens to encourage community pride and share the great events and actions occurring in Castle Hills. People before politics is a mantra, I would encourage myself to never forget. Cooperation and compromise are the keys to solving issues. Stay above the fray and take the high road. Serving on the city council should be a selfless act based on the desire to serve and make Castle Hills the best community possible. Mind your ego, your temper, and your self-righteousness. If left unchecked it is difficult to take the high road.

You can best serve your constituents with a warm smile, a firm handshake, be attentive when hearing their concerns and needs, and always do your best to find solutions when possible. If you make a mistake, own it. Give a sincere apology if you fail and learn from your mistakes. Forgive others who make a mistake. Never be too smart to keep learning. Look for the big picture and create policies that serve the greater good of the entire community not the wants of a few. Appreciate the gifts of others. Everyone has something positive, so keep your eyes and mind open to see those attributes.

I would remind my younger self to appreciate the present and the many gifts we possess (including that great ponytail I thought would last forever). I will keep all this advice in mind as a resolution for the new year to practice what I preach!

Happy New Year to All!

Timothy A Howell

Mayor – City of Castle Hills, Texas
mayortimehowell@gmail.com

CITY COUNCIL

Tim Howell
Mayor

Clyde R. McCormick
Place 1

Maretta Scott
Place 2

Amy McLin
Place 3

Lesley Wenger,
Mayor Pro-Tem, Place 4

Douglas Gregory
Place 5

CITY STAFF

Ryan Rapelye
City Manager, (210) 293-9673

Vacant
City Secretary, (210) 293-9681

Vacant
Finance, (210) 293-9674

Joe Hernandez
Interim Fire Department Chief
(210) 342-2341, ext. 217

Johnny Siemens
Police Department Chief
(210) 342-2341

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

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POLICE CALL 911

Non-emergency (210) 342-2341

Monthly Meetings
All meetings are held at
City Hall unless otherwise posted.

City Council
2nd Tuesdays, 6:30 p.m.

Architectural Review Committee
1st Wednesday, 7:00pm
Upon Request

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

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

Crime Control & Prevention District
3rd Monday, 5:30pm
As Needed

MESSAGE FROM THE CITY MANAGER

By Ryan D. Rapelye, City Manager



Looking forward to 2019!

I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season and I wish all a happy new year. There is much to look forward to in our community in the new year to improve Castle Hills. In November, City Council approved a Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) and the 2018-2019 Strategic Plan. The CIP provides the City a plan to address infrastructure needs – streets and drainage. The purpose of the CIP is to provide the City with a 5-year street only improvement plan based on existing pavement condition information provided by the City. Streets within the City were analyzed and were assessed an overall condition index (OCI) rating. The OCI rating serves as the basis for pavement related decisions and will allow the City to build an annual pavement maintenance and capital improvement projects plan.

The CIP plan utilizes provided information to develop an evaluation matrix and provide recommendations for maintenance and rehabilitation on City streets. The plan includes an inventory, evaluation and maintenance/CIP recommendation for approximately 27 miles of asphalt roadways. The CIP plan will eventually incorporate drainage related improvements as part of Phase II.

In the first year of the CIP, the recommendation is to provide maintenance to the better conditioned roadways, specifically seal coating twenty-nine streets and to proceed with roadway improvements for Antler Drive. The Antler Drive Phase III project limits are from Jackson Keller Road to Buckaroo Drive. In addition to these limits, this project also

includes Honeysuckle Lane from Lou Jon Circle to Antler Drive. The City is partnering with SAWS to fund the necessary utility improvements for water and sewer.

The strategic plan provides a clear destination and/or vision for our community and develops a defined roadmap to get us there. This plan helps translate the community's vision and City Council's goals for the organization which ultimately enable the organization to better serve the community. The strategic plan guides the organization for decisions and actions of both elected officials and city employees providing action items which are measurable and can be reviewed annually for determining the community's needs. It helps with prioritization during the annual budget process.

The approved strategic plan provides a community vision & core values:

- Promote the health, safety, and general welfare of the community.
- Practice fiscal responsibility.
- Encourage citizen involvement and participation.
- Provide excellent customer service.
- Champion collaboration and cooperation.
- Maintain municipal independence.
- Engage in regionalism through cooperative inter-local agreements and working with other cities and Bexar County.

"The approved strategic plan focuses on the following core values:

- Good Governance

- Financial Sustainability
- Core Services and Infrastructure
- Diverse and Stable Economy
- Citizen Engagement and Beautification
- Improving Mobility
- Sustainable City

The strategic plan identifies the goals, objectives, and actions to implement and benchmark these areas of focus. Both the approved 2018-2019 Strategic Plan and the Five-Year CIP are available for review on the City's website. In reference to drainage, the City will hold a workshop this month to address and identify costs to certain drainage projects in the community.

Other projects in the pipeline include doing some on-demand street work around the 100 block of Lemonwood and 100 block of South Winston. This on-demand work will involve a mill and overlay of portions of these roadways. Also, the City is going to install concrete bollards in front of the drainage channel at East Castle Lane along with concrete improvements. The City is working with NEISD on a partnership to construct sidewalks along Honeysuckle next to Castle Hills Elementary. This will be the City's contribution and in turn NEISD would allow residents access to the new playground equipment and walking track. I personally thank Bernard Juettemeyer who spearheaded this project and brought this to the forefront for consideration.

In previous reporter articles, I have mentioned the need to establish a positive culture and highlighted the City has wonderful employees who are knowledgeable, talented and dedicated to their respected positions within the organization. Recently, we have had employees resign who were experienced, professional and capable within the organization. I would like to recognize, Janet Thelen, Administrative Assistant to the City

Continued on page 15>>





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COUNCIL COMMENTS

CLYDE R. McCORMICK PLACE 1



By the time you read this the holidays will be over! I hope you had Happy Holidays! Another couple of months have slipped by and the Holidays are upon

us. In the last few months we have established the Ad Hoc MPO-RFP Projects Committee and a new City Parks Commission. The Project Committee made the recommendation to the City Council to establish a Parks Commission and volunteered to serve as the Parks Commission. It was approved at the November Council meeting. Our first Parks project is a joint use park with NEISD and Castle Hills Elementary School which we anticipate to open in late February. We hope to have a couple more joint use park projects perhaps later in 2019 or early in 2020. The cost to the city will be minimal. We are also looking at a "Dog Park" and other projects.

The Project Committee is also working on a project to reduce congestion in the West Avenue-Loop 410-Jackson Keller interchange. If we can find some significant improvements to recommend, the project will be submitted to the Metropolitan Planning Organization in April. We are also looking at the drainage issues which might be subject to become an MPO/TXDOT project with part being paid for by state or federal funds. We are also looking at the Exchange Library and perhaps a Business Forum to improve our local economy.

I would like to thank a citizen for his impassioned, if perhaps misguided, critique during the December Council meeting of my article here last issue. He made my case for the lack of civility and good manners in our council meetings and public discourse far better than any other demonstration we could have arranged. The matter now seems beyond controversy. I note that Mr. Rapelye has adopted the "Speak Your Piece" project to promote civility and I encourage everyone, citizens and staff to take a look at the program and make an effort to apply it at

every opportunity.

I wish you all a wonderful New Year! I am available to talk to any citizen on matters of public concern. I wish you all a Happy Holiday season!

"Be excellent to one another" (Bill & Ted's Excellent Adventure)
Clyde R "Skip" McCormick- 210-383-8941

MARETTA SCOTT PLACE 2



Happy New Year!

I hope that 2019 has already brought joy and great happiness to you and your families. I also hope that any new year resolutions you have chosen are still going strong and will carry on throughout the year.

If you have not yet decided on new resolutions; or if your list needs another project to round out the new year, please allow me to make a suggestion. Why not consider getting involved in our city. We provide many opportunities to join a group and/or volunteer with other people that have similar interests as yourself.

It brought pain to my heart to hear that the first meeting of our newly formed Parks Committee did not have citizens attend to brainstorm ideas for the vision of parks in the city. I hope the next meeting posts for a quorum so that I, as an Alderman, can attend. I have a lot of ideas concerning parks, walking trails, biking trails, playgrounds, splash pads, exercise group ideas/locations, and many more. I wish you could see my Pinterest board of ideas! It is borrowed from what other cities our size are doing for preschoolers through great-grandparents.

But wait! There is more exciting news! The City Manager, along with citizens, are developing a newly created partnership with NEISD to have a park located at Castle Hills Elementary school. It will include a walking trail and exercise equipment for the whole community to use when school is not in session (and for the kids to use during the school day). I am hoping to see this spread to our other elementary school, Jackson-Keller Elementary, so all families are in walking distance of similar amenities. This is a great team of NEISD, City of Castle Hills and a non-profit that is joining together to bring more exercise and playtime into the lives of the whole community.

The Castle Hills Community Organization (CHCO) is a great group to join as they do many things to bring all of the households closer together to socialize and make new friendships. CHCO hosts family friendly movie nights at The Commons where food, fun and film combine for some great memories to be made. Also, they have Concerts at the Commons for a more grown up good time of festive fun. Of course, kids are always invited. They end up learning to appreciate all types of music or join other neighborhood kids in the latest games or sports craze.

But wait, there's more! I haven't told you the best and biggest news the CHCO has to offer in 2019. FIESTA! The CHCO has worked hard over the years to get our Castle Hills Fiesta Events recognized as Official Fiesta Events through Fiesta San Antonio. That is no small undertaking. This year our Fiesta at The Commons, 5K Run, Coronation, and Fiesta Parade will need more volunteers than ever to make these events memorable and bring more people into Castle Hills introducing them to our hospitality and our amazing city. Perhaps, we might even find some wonderful new residents to move here when they see what our city has to offer.

I am asking you to make being an active participant in our city this year one of your resolutions. Join a community group, volunteer at an event, come to city council meetings, go to committee meetings, and really get to know your neighbors and your city in a new way in 2019.

Hope to meet and or see more of you this year!

Sincerely,

Marettia Scott, Alderman Place 2

AMY McLIN PLACE 3



Our home, our decisions. You may have picked up a fan at the November 13th City Council meeting that displayed this slogan. This is the theme adopted by

the Texas Municipal League (TML) for the 2019 Texas Legislative Session. The session starts January 8, 2019 and runs through May 27, 2019 which is also known as "sine die." According to the TML website the "goal of the campaign is to raise awareness about the State of Texas eroding the ability of Texans to have a voice in developing local solutions to local problems that affect their neighborhoods and their communities."

"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."

According to the 2010 Census, the City of Castle Hills had 4,116 residents. There are eight Texas cities and two "census-designated places" in Texas with populations that are within 100 more or less than our city. While basic city functions can be similar from city to city, the location and character of each city will drive specific needs. Cockrell Hill is surrounded by Dallas. Morgan's Point Resort is located on a lake in Bell County. Colorado City is the county seat of Mitchell County in the panhandle and Bellville is the county seat of Austin County in Southeast Texas. Primera is located in Cameron County and is part of the Brownsville-Harlingen Metroplex. The City of Castle Hills may be landlocked, but San Antonio completely surrounds our city and brings over 250,000 people through our boundaries on a daily basis. Every city has its unique circumstances.

Unfortunately, the climate in Austin is very anti-city. Bills have already been pre-filed and some propose limits on the ability of cities to raise the revenue needed to support basic city services and to fund infrastructure repairs. We need to pay attention to what is going on in Austin and advocate for our City's autonomy. We need to anticipate technological advances (e.g., electric car charging stations, electric scooters, etc.), changes in business structures (e.g., Airbnb, VRBO, UBER, vehicle share, etc.), and possible cannabis legislation in order to have ordinances in place that preserve the health and safety of our residents and businesses. We need to be looking for grants and other income sources. We need to leave a better city for the next generation.

If I can be of assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Amy McLin- amclin@castlehills-tx.gov

LESLEY WENGER

Mayor Pro-Tem, PLACE 4



Farewell to Friends & Notable Neighbors 2018 - Part 2

So often when we hear that a friend or neighbor has passed on, we learn for the first time about their accomplishments which they never bothered to divulge. It is comforting to know that we live and have lived among such interesting and often caring people in Castle Hills. This year we lost so many valued citizens that my end-of-year homage had to be split into two issues.

Anette Leos (June 12) originally from Laredo,

was a long-time Castle Hills resident who ran a successful business, Annette's House of Beauty on South Alamo for 35 years. Her salon catered to many of San Antonio's most influential women who considered her a dear friend and confidante. A member of Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church, Annette survived for 97 years.

Jane Magavern (June 17) a 7th generation Texan, was born in Brownwood where she graduated from HS, although her father had already moved the family to San Antonio to continue his career as a firefighter at Kelly AFB. Jane went on to graduate from the Baptist School of Nursing located in the Baptist Hospital downtown. She met her husband William (a survivor of the Battle of the Bulge) while she was in school, but could not marry until she graduated. One of her early jobs was at the iconic Rose Shop in the Woodlawn area where she specialized in designing live floral arrangements. Moving to Castle Hills with her family in 1955, Jane pursued her gardening passion by joining the CH Garden Club. In 1964 she restarted her nursing career and spent the next 31 years working for Dr. William Johnson. As a member, with her husband, of Laurel Heights UMC, she became VP of the Bluebird Organization at the "new" Methodist Hospital in the Medical Center. Jane and William, who were married 60 years before his passing in 2011, had three daughters. Cindy, who moved back to CH in 2011, followed her mother into the nursing profession. Before her own passing, Cathy, who inherited Jane's artistic talent, started an interior design firm "Distinctive Designs" and Jane was recruited for many shopping and design projects. She also designed silk flower arrangements for the Parade of Homes over many years. She was a member of the National League of Nursing and also, for a number of years, of the Castle Hills Woman's Club.

Jeanine Payne (June 26) a resident for over 20 years, was a dedicated military wife having been married to Commander Robert H. Moore from 1953 till his death in 1991. In 1995 she married Capt. Paul Payne but unfortunately lost him four years later. An energetic person, with wide-ranging interests, Jeanine loved to travel, something she was able to do throughout her two

marriages and which she continued on her own, filling her home with unique objects from around the world. She was a devoted friend, and is greatly missed by all her neighbors.

Dr. Vincent Fontana (July 3) was born in Brooklyn, NY. After serving in the U.S. Military and graduating from Dental School he and his wife moved to San Antonio. He opened his own dental practice here which he maintained for 40 years until his retirement in 2015. The following year he lost his beloved wife, Juanita. Aside from his regular patients, as part of his contribution to the community, Dr. Fontana provided free dental care to the SAMMS Shelter and in recognition of that selflessness, in 2017 he received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Academy of General Dentistry.

Connie Mendoza (July 30) was born in Lavaca, TX where she graduated from Calhoun HS. After moving to San Antonio she attended SAC. After meeting her husband Cruz, they opened a Singer Sewing Machine dealership which they operated together. An elegant woman, with a great sense of style, Connie was a renowned seamstress and in her early years, designed most of her own clothes. Raising a family put a crimp on that activity, but she continued to oversee the alterations within the business, and her daughter Dawn recalls that she always made her children's Halloween costumes and continued to do so for her grandchildren. As residents of Castle Hills since 1965, Connie and Cruz were founding members of the SONGSTERS (Save Our Neighborhood Group) along with Terry and Wayne Carter, and became regular attendees at City Council meetings as well as hosting neighborhood meetings at their home. Members of St. Gregory the Great Catholic Church, Connie and Cruz celebrated their 52nd Anniversary before her death.

Continued on page 12>>

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COUNCIL MEETING

HIGHLIGHTS



November 13, 2018 – City Council Regular Meeting

The City Council took the following action:

- Unanimously accepted the Zoning Commission recommendation to approve Ordinance No. 2018-11-13 granting a Special Use Permit for 2220 NW Military Highway as requested by The Christian School at Castle Hills serving as the agent for the Castle Hills First Baptist Church to use the preschool buildings located on the property for preschool educational use as a continuation of the preschool that has historically occupied these buildings.
- Unanimously accepted the Zoning Commission recommendation to approve Ordinance No. 2018-11-13-A granting a Special Use Permit for a portion of 6909 West Avenue as requested by The Christian School at Castle Hills for school use of the property and existing structures.
- Conducted a Public Hearing and unanimously approved the FY2019 Crime Control Prevention District Budget as recommended by the CCPD Board.
- Unanimously approved removing the hiring freeze in Police Dispatch in order to replace the funded open position and accept additional part-time dispatchers.
- Unanimously approved removing the hiring freeze to replace the two positions left vacant in September hiring one full-time person in Sanitation and one in Public Works.
- Unanimously approved Ordinance No. 2018-11-13-C repealing Sec. 2-254 "Emergency contracts and purchases authorized" and adopting a new Sec.2-254 "Budget adjustment, supplement and emergency appropriations policy."
- Approved with a (4-1) vote to adopt the Strategic Plan 2018-2019 with the provision that hazardous mitigation plan items pertinent to the CIP shall be coordinated and scheduled with the other CIP items.
- Approved with a (3-2) vote to adopt the Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) Phase I regarding streets.
- Unanimously voted to table Ordinance No. 2018-11-13-D amending the FY2018 General Operating Budget and reimbursement to the City of San Antonio for San Antonio Fire Department expenditures per the AACOG Mutual Aid Agreement in relation to the 2014 Wedgwood Fire.
- Approved with a (3-2) vote for the City Secretary to use only surnames for Councilmembers on Council Minutes (except in Quorum box) and on Agendas to identify submissions in parentheses following Agenda Items. Residents addressing City Council should be identified only by name and address.
- Approved with a (4-1) vote Ordinance No. 2018-11-13-E approving the recommendation of the Ad Hoc MPO-RFP Projects Committee to establish a Parks Commission and for Project Committee members to appointed to serve as the Parks Commission with an amendment modifying the second "Whereas" to read: "WHEREAS, presently, the City of Castle Hills has "The Commons" next to city hall, other land which could be dedicated to parks; and".

- Ordinance No. 2018-11-13-F to amend Chapter 18 of the Castle Hills Code of Ordinances to remove the position of Assistant Fire Chief from Sections 18-24 and 18-25 and defund that position in the 2019 City Budget failed with a (2-3) vote.

December 11, 2018 City Council Regular Meeting

The City Council took the following action:

- Unanimously approved authorizing the City Manager to Advertise for Bids for the Re-Construction of Antler Drive and Honeysuckle Lane as Phase III of the Street Program.
- Approved with a (4-1) vote to authorize RPS Infrastructure, Inc. to proceed with design, bid and construction phase services related to Street Maintenance Program for Seal Coat in the lump sum amount of \$31,595.
- Unanimously voted to amend the hiring freeze end date from January 15, 2019 to December 11, 2018.
- Approved with a (4-1) vote on Ordinance No. 2018-12-11 to amend the FY 2019 Budget in Administration Department in order to extend the Administrative Assistant Finance Clerk position until June 30, 2019 to ensure essential city services for the City of Castle Hills and continuation of the Passport Acceptance Office.
- Approved with a (4-1) vote to sign the Engagement Letter from Armstrong, Vaugh & Associates, P.C. to conduct the 2018 Fiscal Year Audit.
- Unanimously approved setting a City Calendar for Community Events in 2019.
- Approved with a (4-1) vote on Ordinance No. 2018-12-11-A installing stop signs on Honeysuckle Lane at the intersection of Sir Arthur Court.
- Approved with a (3-2) vote to approve extending for six months the revised agreement with Langley and Banack for legal services as City Attorney for the City.
- Unanimously approved Ordinance No. 2108-11-13-D amending the FY2018 General Operating Budget and reimbursement to the City of San Antonio for San Antonio Fire Department expenditures per the AACOG Mutual Aid Agreement in relation to the 2014 Wedgwood Fire.

December 17, 2018 City Council Special Meeting

The City Council took the following action:

- Approved with a (4-1) vote Ordinance No. 2018-12-17 to amend the FY 2019 Budget in Administration Department in order to extend the Permit Clerk position until September 30, 2019 to ensure essential city services for the City of Castle Hills and continuation of Residential and Commercial Permitting.
- Ordinance No. 2018-12-17-A to amend the FY 2019 Budget in Administration Department in order to extend the Administrative Assistant Finance Clerk position until September 30, 2019 to ensure essential City services for the City of Castle Hills and continuation of the Passport Acceptance Office failed with a (2-3) vote.

MAY 5, 2019 GENERAL ELECTION

1st Day to Apply for Ballot by Mail

Tuesday, January 1, 2019

1st Day to File for a Place on General Election Ballot

Wednesday, January 16, 2019

Last Day to File for a Place on the General Election Ballot

Friday, February 15, 2019 5:00 pm

Last Day to File a Declaration of Write-in Candidacy

Friday, February 15, 2019

Last Day to Register to Vote

Thursday, April 4, 2019

First Day of Early Voting by Personal Appearance

Monday, April 22, 2019

Last Day to Apply for Ballot by Mail *(received not postmarked)*

Tuesday, April 23, 2019

Last Day of Early Voting by Personal Appearance

Tuesday, April 30, 2019

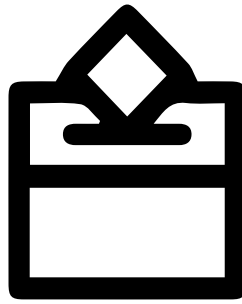
Last Day to Receive Ballot by Mail

Saturday, May 4, 2019 (election day) 7:00 p.m. (unless a late-arriving deadline applies)

Three council members seats (Mayor, Place 2, and Place 3) are up for election this year. City council members serve for a period of two years.

No person shall be eligible for the office of council member who is not a qualified elector within the city and who has not resided in the city for a period of not less than 12 months preceding the election in which he seeks office.

Please contact the City Secretary for an election packet if you are interested in serving as a city council member in Castle Hills.



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Zero Degrees – Restaurant

Jessica Delgado State Farm – Insurance

Human Capital International and Financial Services

Personnel Staffing

The Door SA – Church

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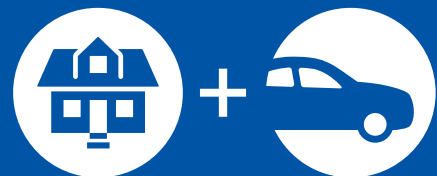
1 year - Christopher Palomo - Dispatch

NEW EMPLOYEES:

Edward Wiens – Dispatch



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BBB Angie's list

New Years Resolution

January is here and it gives everyone the opportunity to set goals for the coming year in the form of New Year's resolutions. Some of us make the resolution to become more fit and healthy, while some to work on our relationships, and others to work on our careers. The Castle Hills Police Department is also going to make a New Year's resolution. The police department will continue to relentlessly work to make the community we serve safe.

In 2018, the police department was once again very busy, and we are expecting to see a similar trend continue for 2019. However, the police department does not want to see Castle Hills be a part of the upward trend in mail theft sweeping throughout the country. As such, we are going to pay particular attention to preventing mail theft by proactive enforcement techniques from our Patrol Division while our Criminal Investigations Division will pursue developing suspects for the

crimes that are a byproduct of mail theft; like Forgery, Credit/Debit Card Abuse, and Identity Theft.

The citizenry can help us achieve our New Year's resolution by taking the necessary steps to insure their mailbox is emptied daily, being observant, being vigilant in reporting suspicious activity in the neighborhoods, and using the online banking services offered by your financial institutions. Please report suspicious activity by immediately calling the police department non-emergency telephone number (210)342-2341. Through our joint efforts, the Castle Hills community can put a stop to or limit mail theft. Please have a safe and productive 2019 with great success in fulfilling your all of your new Year's resolutions.



Chief Siemens

START PLANNING BEFORE THEY BEGIN TO BITE HOMER EMERY, HEALTH INSPECTOR

If it's been too cold for you, keep in mind that spring is just around the corner and will bring warmer weather, April showers and of course pesky mosquitoes. Now is the time to begin planning on reducing the risk of becoming infected with the Zika, Dengue, Chikungunya and West Nile, to name a few just a few of the viruses that mosquitoes can transmit.

The good news is that prevention is the same for all. Begin with not providing mosquitoes a breeding place. Swimming pools that are no longer used for swimming and are not treated with commercial larvicides make ideal breeding sites. Pools that are home to tadpoles and mosquito fish provide natural control.

Before you complain about the pool next door take a look at your own yard. Just about anything in your yard that can hold water ranging from gutters that need cleaning, bird baths, flower pots, plastic bottles, pet water bowls and wading pools can be a mosquito breeding site. Change water in wading pools and bird baths several times a week.

Wear a long-sleeved shirt, long pants, and socks when you venture outside. Apply an EPA approved lotion, liquid, or spray repellent to exposed skin. Repellents used on skin can also be applied to clothing but provide shorter duration of protection. If using sunscreen, apply sunscreen first and insect repellent second.

With children spray repellent on your hands and then apply to the child's face. Do not use repellents on babies younger than 2 months old. Instead, dress them in clothing that covers arms and legs. In all cases be sure to read and follow instructions on the product label.

Don't wait until mosquitoes start biting. Take time now to check the yard for potential breeding sites and your supply of repellants. More information on mosquito borne diseases is available from the Centers for Disease Control Website at: <https://www.cdc.gov/> and from the Texas State Department of Health Services at: <https://www.texaszika.org>



Top Reasons to Replace Your Windows:



- ✓ Save money on your energy bills year round.
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- ✓ Extend the life of your air conditioning and heating unit.
- ✓ Cut down dramatically on outside noise.
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- ✓ Improve the security of your home.
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The condition of your windows is critical to your in-home comfort. A MULTI-POINT INSPECTION will identify any problems you may have that will impact your energy bills, safety, and conditions that could damage the rest of your home.

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HAPPY NEW YEAR!

I hope the holidays were great for you and your family, and your New Year is starting off in the right foot. Many of us make New Year's resolutions which we do our best to keep. This year make one that is easy to keep and will help you be a better driver. The following list contains various options you can choose from:

Wear your seatbelt and make sure all your passengers are wearing theirs.

- Do not use your cell phone while driving.
- Do not drive when you are drowsy.
- Do not drive after you have been drinking alcoholic beverages.
- Drive defensively at all times.
- Obey the speed limit.
- Give yourself plenty of time to reach your destination.

This year make a resolution to drive safe.

Tina Zelenak, Court Clerk



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.

Passports

The City of Castle Hills is now officially able to accept paperwork for U.S. passport applications at city hall. The passport application services are available on a walk-in basis:



Mon – 8:30 am to 2:00 pm;

Wed – 8:30 am to 4:00 pm;

Fri – 10:00 am to 2:00 pm

Appointments are available for Saturdays from 8:30 am to 1:30 pm. To schedule an appointment call (210) 293-9674 or (210) 342-2341.

For more information regarding how to apply for or renew your passport, please visit the U. S. Department of State website at: <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/passports.html>



The Castle Hills Woman's Club had a busy December between decorating the Community Room, enjoying our Holiday party and creating cookie boxes for all the city hall staff. We realized we needed to take a little break in January.

In February, we will resume with our President's Luncheon in which we honor all the past Presidents of our club as we celebrate our 66th year!

Moving into March we will have a "total" look at wine as we experience wine tasting at the Total Wine Store located in the La Plaza Shopping Center.

If any of these programs interest you or if you would like more information about the Castle Hills Woman's club, please feel free to email us at castlehillswomanclub@gmail.com or contact me personally at barnesrus@sbcglobal.net.

Bernie Barnes, *President*
Castle Hills Woman's Club



Were you denied life insurance benefits because your insurance company claims your loved one lied on the policy application?

While this is one of the tactics used by insurance companies to deny life insurance claims, the standard necessary to prove such misrepresentation is very high in Texas. Don't let a life insurance company take advantage of you. Contact us at **(210) 733-4177** to set up a free consultation on your life insurance denial claim. We will fight to get you the benefits you deserve.

¿Se le negó un reclamo de beneficios de seguro de vida porque la compañía de seguro insiste que su ser querido mintió en su aplicación?

Aunque ésta es una de las tácticas que usan las compañías de seguro de vida para negar reclamos, el nivel de evidencia necesario para probar una representación falsa es muy alto en Texas. No deje que una compañía de seguro de vida se aproveche de usted. Contáctenos al **(210) 733-4177** para fijar una cita de consulta gratis para discutir su reclamo de seguro de vida. Pelearemos por ayudarle a recuperar los beneficios que se merece.

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Happy New Year!

How many words can you find using the letters above? We found 125!

8 Letter (1)

6 Letter (9)

5 Letter (22)

4 Letter (46)

3 Letter (47)

ANSWERS on page 15 >>

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Shweiki



CITY SNAPSHOTS



The Christian School at Castle Hills Middle School Choir Sang the Songs of the Season at the Lighting of the Lights.



Children Shared Their Wish Lists with Santa Claus at the Lighting of the Lights.



Dr. Moczygemba and Jon Bassana, COO Share the Honors of Cutting the Grand Opening Red Ribbon with Mayor Howell for Medallus Urgent Care located at 1010 NW Loop 410.



Residents Ginger Magers, Patsy Martin and Kelly Gent-Engelskirger Prepared a Wonderful Staff Appreciation Holiday Luncheon for City Staff on December 19th.



Sparky the Fire Prevention Dog Joined in the Fun Sledding.



Everyone Was All Smiles When Sledding During the Lighting of the Lights!



Blue Santa greets visitors at the Commons at the Annual Lighting of the Lights.

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<< continued from page 4

Robert Nagel, Sr. (August 3) was a San Antonio native who graduated from Thomas Jefferson HS and from Trinity University with a degree in Business Administration. For nearly 65 years he owned and ran the well-known Nagel's Gun Shop, a family business. Friends and customers knew him as "Bobby".

Dorothy Booth (August 5) was a native Kentuckian, born in Columbia. She received her BA in Education at Western Kentucky University (Bowling Green) and then her MS and PhD from Vanderbilt University (Nashville, TN) in Administrative Education. She began teaching in a one-room school house (that she had to walk to daily for 7 miles), then was named the principal of Ft. Knox Elementary and finally an Assistant Superintendent of the Ft. Knox School District. Dorothy and Maynard, who was in the U.S. Army, were married in Fort Knox in April of 1956 they were transferred to Tokyo where their son George was born. Maynard was a survivor of the Bataan Death March plus the sinking of two separate transport ships on which he was serving. After his retirement in 1960 the family moved to Castle Hills and Dorothy began teaching at Dellview Elementary until her own retirement in 1982. A gourmet chef, Dorothy and Maynard were known for hosting large parties for their friends and for their world travels, many to Mexico where they simply drove with no plans delighting in the unexpected adventures. Maynard who died in 2001, was a Shriner, so aside from her professional sorority Alpha Delta Kappa, Dorothy was active in Daughters of the Nile. Known for her humor, incisive conclusions and generosity, she is greatly missed by her many friends.

Weldon Whisenant (August 12) was born in Driftwood, TX and graduated from San Marcos HS. At 17 he joined the U.S. Navy, serving in WWII where he was wounded in action and received the Purple Heart. After the war he returned to San Marcos and graduated from what is now Texas State University. He went on to coach football, track and golf at various schools in the area. After working for the Del Mar Tackle Co. he went into business for himself selling school athletic supplies. After marrying his wife "Corky" in 1960, Weldon returned to education in the NEISD and became the principal at Eisenhower Middle School for 17 years. After retiring in 1985 he enjoyed hunting and horse racing, spending many summers in Ruidoso, NM. He was a member of the National Education Agency, the Alumni of Texas State U's Bobcat Club and Shearer Hills Baptist Church as well as of Big Lake Masonic Lodge #1203 and Prospect Hill #817 Order of the Eastern Star. Weldon is remembered for his joviality, fund of knowledge and kindness to his friends and family. He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Thomas Lou "Corky".

Loydean Thomas (October 11) who is remembered for her feistiness was born in San Angelo, married at 16, never graduated from HS and did not go to college. Her husband Leo ended up working in production at the Express-News while Loydean raised their four children. Despite all this, and due to her love of thrift shops and flea markets, she began writing a weekly column for the Express-News in 1978 called "Tracking Treasures". After Leo's death in 1984 she became a full-time feature writer/reporter and a force to be reckoned with in the newsroom, challenging her editors whenever they tried to suggest any changes. Her multitude of friends considered her a mentor both in living life to the fullest and the most effective use of language. After her retirement in 1997 she continued to work as a freelancer for various publications like the Southside Reporter, Country Life and San Antonio Woman. Loydean always kept up with all of the issues and gossip of the day, keeping everyone on their pg.12

toes, even after her stroke and her time in hospice, both with the staff and with visitors.

Jane Hamlyn (November 13) was born in Pittsburgh, PA, moving to Chicago and Madison, WI. She received her BA in Physical Therapy from the University of Wisconsin, but joined the Air Force during her senior year. After graduation she served at Wilford Hall Medical Center-San Antonio and at Tachikawa, Japan from 1955-60 and went on to receive her M.S. degree from the U of Iowa. While at WHMC, she met her husband Hugh, and after a long-distance courtship, when he was stationed at Maxwell AFB in Montgomery, AL, they married and began to raise their sons there until Hugh was transferred to Wiesbaden Hospital in Germany. This provided them with the ability to travel around Europe, they began entering 5K and 10K walks popular in Europe ultimately running marathons in Metz, France in 1975. After Hugh's retirement in 1977 they returned to San Antonio, moving to Castle Hills. Jane worked at the VA Hospital becoming the Director of Physical Therapy before retiring in 2000. She and Hugh were members of Colonial Hills UMC, San Antonio Roadrunners and the American Volkssport Association. Jane was a Life Member of the PTA and the American Physical Therapy Association. She enjoyed volunteering at Castle Hills Elementary, Jackson Middle School and with Meals on Wheels. Along with her lifelong passion for walking & jogging competitions, she was an avid Bridge and Mahjong player and loved antiques. Jane and Hugh were married for 55 years before his passing—they were devoted to Castle Hills always keeping up with politics and community events.

Edward Staffel, DDS (November 18) was born in San Antonio and graduated from Baylor University with a Doctorate of Dental Surgery. Over 60 years he had a thriving dental practice where he pioneered cutting edge techniques in restorative dentistry, developed alternate sedation procedures and hosted a dental radio program for 20 years that covered 99 Texas counties encouraging the maintenance of dental health as it relates to systemic health. His dedication to the greater community included his support as a patron and underwriter of the San Antonio Symphony. He was a proponent of outdoor activities and a passionate hunter and fisherman. Ed was preceded in death by his wife Doris Schorlemer-Staffel.

Larry Coindreau (November 19) was a San Antonio native through and through. He graduated from Central Catholic, SAC and St. Mary's University where he studied computer science before it was popular. Then he enlisted in the Marine Corps and served in the Vietnam War. A lifelong hunter, Larry won numerous medals for marksmanship before being wounded by mortar fire which left him without sensation below his knee in one leg, and he was sent home. With his typically upbeat philosophy, he ignored the injury, feeling lucky to still have his leg, and went to work as an operational manager for Levitz Furniture. In 1988, largely as a result of his war injury, he suffered a fall from a tree which would have killed him had his wife Mary not rushed to give him CPR, but he ended up as a quadriplegic and lived in a wheelchair and on a ventilator for his last 30 years. Still he returned to school to brush up on the advances in computer science, and found full employment as a computer analyst with the Texas Rehabilitation Commission in Austin. In 1991, in order to be closer to the VA Hospital and doctors, Larry, Mary and daughter Melissa moved to Castle Hills and became members of Holy Spirit Catholic Church. Larry continued to commute daily to his job in

continued on page 15>>

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3 WAYS TO PREVENT FROZEN PIPES

As temperatures drop, your pipes run the risk of freezing and cracking. Consider these 3 easy things you can do now to prevent frozen pipes.

1 Insulate

Insulation can take various forms, including foam sleeves, pipe "tape," batt insulation, and expanding foam. Insulation slows heat loss from pipes, as long as water is flowing frequently during periods of freezing temperatures.

2 Let it Drip

Letting a faucet drip during extreme cold weather can prevent a pipe from bursting. Only pipes vulnerable to freezing (ones that run through an unheated or unprotected space) should be left with the water flowing.

3 Heat it up

The use of space heaters, electric heating tapes and cables in areas that have exposed water lines can regulate the temperature and prevent freezing. However, these methods must be used with extreme caution to avoid the risk of fire.



<< City Manager's article continued from page 3

Manager (5 years), Nora Davis, Administrative Assistant Finance Clerk (2 years) and Darrell Dover, Fire Chief (20 years) for all the work and time spent to make this organization great over the years and ultimately their service to the Castle Hills community.

I would like to thank the Castle Hills Woman's Club for sharing their time and talents by preparing boxes of baked cookies for our City employees during the holidays. Also, I would like to recognize, Patsy Martin, Ginger Magers and Kelly Gent-Engelskirger for taking the time to prepare a holiday luncheon for City staff. On behalf of our staff, I thank all the volunteers for the consideration and appreciation you show to our staff, who do a great job on a daily basis for the City of Castle Hills. Your kindness and thanks are sincerely appreciated!

I am eager and ready to continue the momentum we have established during the latter part of 2018. Many projects and events are coming to Castle Hills in 2019. There is plenty to be excited about in the New Year!

<< Lesley Wenger's continued from page 12

Austin with the help of a nurse/driver in a van that accommodated his wheelchair. Through his work and his active membership in Disabled American Veterans, Larry routinely visited other wounded vets to offer support and encouragement. Everyone who had the pleasure of knowing Larry was amazed at his positive outlook—he continued to be interested in everything, including national, state and small town politics, offering advice, solutions, humor and sarcasm. Most amazingly he continued to hunt with a special rifle and contraptions on his chair. It is very rare that most of us have the opportunity to be in the presence of a Triumph of the Human Spirit such as Larry

Coindreau. We are all immensely saddened at his passing but enriched to have had the privilege of his friendship.

Lesley Wenger | (210) 377-3636 | wengertx@satx.rr.com

Our word list:

8 Letter (1)

anywhere

6 Letter (9)

anyway, appear, happen, napper, nephew, papery, peahen, prepay, yapper

5 Letter (22)

apnea, arena, aware, happy, harpy, hyena, hyper, nappy, newer, paeon, paper, payee, payer, prawn, preen, ranee, renew, repay, weary, weepy, where, yearn

4 Letter (46)

anew, area, away, awry, earn, ewer, hare, harp, heap, hear, here, hewn, hype, nape, nary, neap, near, pane, papa, pare, pawn, pear, peep, peer, perp, phew, pray, prep, prey, pyre, reap, ware, warn, warp, wary, wear, weep, were, whee, when, wrap, wren, yarn, yawn, yeah, year

3 Letter (47)

any, ape, app, are, awe, aye, ear, era, ere, ewe, eye, hay, hen, her, hew, hey, nap, nay, nee, new, pan, par, paw, pay, pea, pen, pep, per, pew, pry, ran, rap, raw, ray, rep, rye, wan, war, way, wee, why, wry, yap, yaw, yea, yen, yew

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