

Castle Hills Forest News

The Castle Hills Forest Newsletter is Published Quarterly by Neighborhood News, Inc.

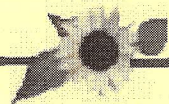
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As many of you are aware, there is an ongoing situation involving the north parcel of land at the entrance of our subdivision.

The situation involves a potential zoning change to that parcel of land in order to allow a Firestone to be built. Several residents came to our May HOA Board of Directors meeting in order to voice their thoughts and concerns on this proposal. We truly appreciate the input from these residents.

Please keep a eye on the blog and a look-out for signs around the neighborhood. We plan to utilize both in order to disperse any new information to interested and concerned residents.

Jennifer Guillen, President

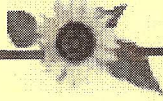


Castle Hills Forest Blog

In order to better communicate with residents in a timely manner, we are now utilizing a blog on our website. Instead of sending out emails and monthly online newsletters, the HOA Board can now add any information that may be of interest to the community on the blog.

Anyone can now use the blog to be "in the loop" on what is going on in our community. Residents can also scroll through previous blog posts in order to access information that may have been posted previously.

Please check the blog regularly for neighborhood information.



Theater Party

We will be having a Theater Party on Sunday, August 18th at the Sheldon Vexler Theater at the JCC at 2:30 p.m. We will be seeing "OUR TOWN" by Thornton Wilder. Tickets for a group of at least 10 will be \$16.00 and that includes \$2.00 for HOA fundraiser. Your check or cash is your reservation. The theater deadline for your reservation is August 3rd. RSVP to Marge 492-5153. We would like to have a potluck after to discuss the play and we will need a host.

www.castlehillforest.org

CHF ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OFFICERS

President: Jennifer Guillen
744-9312

Vice President: Beth Morse
493-2582

Treasurer: Larry Morgan
493-6410

larry-marie-morgan@sbcglobal.net

Secretary: Sue Gregory
479-3307

Sgregory10@satx.rr.com

DIRECTORS

Communications Director:
Jennifer Guillen, 744-9312
communicationsdirector@castlehillforest.org

Webpage Director: Chris Corbett,
748-2105

chfweb@castlehillforest.org

Membership Director:
Beth Morse, 493-2582

Pool Director: Beth Morse, 493-2852
David Present, 492-5153

COMMITTEES

Social Committee: Marge Present,
492-5153

Children's Activities: Tina Johnson,
334-0165

Women's Club: Ellen Brient,
493-9549

Landscaping/Maintenance Committee:
Lori Chapa, 878-7258

Fiesta Committee: Alan Futrell,
493-4395

Code Compliance Committee:
codecompliance@castlehillforest.org

Additional helpful numbers:

Pool Manager: Kim Aiken
479-1823 aikga@aol.com

Eels Swim Team: Norma Wood
492-3250

tonkatoy78641@yahoo.com

Landscape Committee

Lori Chapa

Hand Watering Volunteers Needed!



Like in your own backyard the neighborhood landscaping has also felt the effect of this summer's severe drought and extreme high temperatures. While the plants are surviving, they are having a hard time thriving. If it were not for the very FEW hands that we have volunteering to water, most of the landscaping would have been lost. A huge thank you to our fellow neighbors who have helped with watering, we all appreciate it very much. If you have some time to spare and would like to help with hand-watering in our neighborhood, please contact me. We are always in need of additional volunteers.

- Two large Live Oak trees in the recreational area have been stressed for some time now. An arborist was contacted and determined that they have been suffering from an infestation of the oak leaf roller caterpillar. The trees have received deep-root watering and fertilization to alleviate stress and will be treated in the spring when the caterpillars hatch. I will keep you posted.
- Please be sure to follow the watering restrictions set by SAWS. Not following these restrictions could lead to large fines. You can find more information regarding this at SAWS.org.
- Any landscaping questions or suggestions, please contact me.



Know what's **below**.
Call before you dig.

Always call 811 before you begin an excavation project, even small ones, so that all utilities can be identified and marked. Dig with care. Damages are avoided when safe digging procedures are followed. So call 811 before you dig!

NOW IS A GREAT TIME TO PUT YOUR HOME ON THE MARKET!

I have listed and sold many homes in Castle Hills Forest during my 9 yrs experience as a licensed real estate agent.

Call today for a **free consultation** and let me tell you about Coldwell Banker's extensive marketing program to include television advertising, magazine, professional photography, internet advertising and much more!

Kellie Daniels
Coldwell Banker, D'Ann Harper, Realtors
210-325-0107

**COLDWELL
BANKER**

Code Compliance Committee

We would like to take this opportunity to bring to residents' attention some of the Code Compliance concerns that we have been contacted about:

- Parking on the street that impedes the thoroughfare of the service vehicles coming from an alley onto a main street. These vehicles are large and cannot make the turns without damaging a vehicle that is blocking or damaging fences, irrigation system or easements.
- Junked or inoperable cars in public view.
- Failure to mow and care for lawns. (weeds higher than 12").
- Trees hanging low and obstructing vehicular passage and trimming of trees that block the walk ways. Residents are responsible for their trees and trees cannot overhang onto the sidewalk or street. The sidewalks need to have a 6 ft. clearance.
- Fence issues: Owners are responsible for maintaining their fences.
- Alleys: Residents are required to maintain their property AND any foliage, shrubbery, grass, etc. halfway into the alley/easement behind their property.

Blue Cards

Blue cards are provided to us by the city to send out as a *courtesy* to our residents when a code compliance violation is suspected. A blue card is sent with information for residents to use in order to correct a suspected violation. We are not trying to ruffle any feathers. When we receive complaints we send these in order to inform the resident about the suspected violation.

An Animal Care Reminder:

When walking your dog(s), please remember that they must be on a leash **at all times**, (regardless of their size or how well-trained they are). Not doing so is a violation of the San Antonio Leash Law (to say nothing of a danger to other residents and animals). Recently, multiple requests have been made asking that the city crack down on residents who do not obey our leash laws. According to the San Antonio website (www.sanantonio.gov/animalcare), any resident can call 311 and request that an animal be picked up by the city. When doing so, a resident needs to note if the animal is:

- Stray and/or injured
- Loose vicious (the animal(s) has a known owner and you can provide owner information)
- Stray vicious (unknown owner)
- Stray public nuisance (dog roaming, getting into trash etc, dog not vicious – just a public nuisance)
- Regular stray (no owner, not causing problem – just a stray)
- Stray traps (any animal in a live animal trap)
- Stray contained (an animal that is being contained in an area, i.e. pool area, backyard area, garage)

LANDSCAPING Reminder

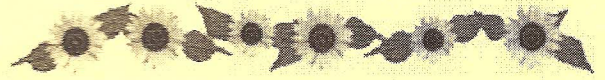
Please remember that any landscaping that you have that borders your sidewalk needs to be maintained. If you use mulch, stones, or pebbles along any part of your sidewalk, they must be kept up off the sidewalk so that other residents do not slip or trip on them. According to the city, every household is responsible for maintaining the sidewalk that runs along the front of their property. So please remember to keep your sidewalk clear of anything that may be a safety hazard.

WOMEN'S CLUB

CASTLE HILLS FOREST

CALENDAR

Contact: Ellen Brient, 493-9549



All women residents of Castle Hills Forest are invited to join the CHF Women's Club. Meetings are held on the second Monday of each month at 7:15 PM in a member's home. Also, the Club schedules a luncheon for its members and guests on the last Monday of each month, with the exception of November and December. Dues are \$10.00 per year. For more information, call Ellen.

Upcoming meeting dates are as follows:

Monday, August 8th

Monday, September 12th

Monday, October 10th

Board Meeting

Monthly Board meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month at 7 PM at Oak Meadow United

Methodist Church. All current HOA members are encouraged to attend.

Are you in need of Assisted Living?

Independence
HILL

ASSISTED LIVING
AT STONE OAK

20500 Huebner Road
San Antonio, Texas

www.independencehill.com

Independence Hill is known in the community for the integrity and reputation we have earned that only comes with years of experience and knowledge of serving our residents.

Our goal is to ensure your loved ones are not only well cared for and enjoying life but that we are creating memorable moments. We do this daily with all the unexpected little extras and surprises to make residents days exciting and new.

We take your loved ones health and happiness seriously and really enjoy doing so.

The only way to see if Independence Hill is right for your loved one is to come out for a tour. Knowledge is power!

Take the first step.

Call (210) 615-4000 today...

We are the alternative you are looking for!

Lic #100102



Welcome COMMITTEE

Welcome to new residents, Laura & Gabe Harvey on Cedar Canyon and they are also new HOA members.

Welcome to new members Emily & Bradley Randle on Woodpoint and Bruce & Veronica Martinez on Quail Knoll. All participated in the Pooch Parade.

Your support of the HOA helps us to do things to enhance our neighborhood. Tell us if you have any new neighbors.

Marge Present
Welcome Chairman
492-5153



New to our Neighborhood?

If you are new to our neighborhood, we'd love to stop by and give you a Welcome Packet. Please call Marge Present at 492-5153 in order to arrange a convenient time for us to welcome you to our neighborhood!

Are You Thinking About Selling Your Home?

If you are considering selling your home in
Castle Hills Forest,
I can help you get the best price!



**Selling
Castle Hills
Forest
Since 1987**

Carla Haley
Elaine Ludwig Real Estate Company
210-614-1300
carlahaley@satx.rr.com

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS – May, 2011

As I am sure you have noticed NW Military Hwy. is just about complete.

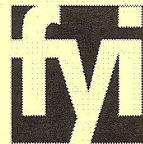
Why are there four lanes instead of six?

TxDOT received an overwhelming number of public comments during project development regarding the phasing of additional capacity to commensurate with travel demand. As a result of these comments and at the request of City of San Antonio leadership, TxDOT agreed to construct the full-width necessary for the ultimate six lanes, but would stripe the section as four lanes in the interim. As travel demand increases, TxDOT, through re-striping, would open the additional lane in each direction.

You may contact: Darla Laughter, Public Information Officer @ 210-615-5932 or darla.laughter@txdot.gov

Please call TxDOT and express your concerns about the striping and turn lanes if you have any.

David Present



To all residents: Messages of concern regarding our neighborhood cannot be addressed by our HOA if the messages do not include the name and address of the person concerned. The HOA holds all communications in confidence.

311 Call Center hours--7AM - 11PM. After hours leave a message for a call back.

Check out these websites:

- For Voelcker Park updated info - www.voelckerparksa.com/home
- For filing police reports online - www.sanantonio.gov/sapd
- Questions about code compliance? - www.sanantonio.gov/hns

Caregivers for Seniors, Inc. Keeping Seniors Independent

Let us help you!

We provide affordable non-medical care and companionship for seniors who want to stay in their own homes.

Services include:

- Meal planning/preparation
- Grocery shopping
- Transportation to outings & appointments (min. required)
- Light housekeeping/laundry
- Medication reminders
- Daycare, overnight, or 24-hour care

Call Martha Cave • (210) 492-8100

Social Activities

Contact: Marge Present, Chairperson - Social Activities 492-5153



In May we had a cookout at the home of Amy Alcott and her husband. Thanks for hosting. We all had a great time. Special thank you to my co-chair, Donna Futrell for making sure we had good meat.

I mistakenly left out a thank you to our host for the February Wine Tasting, Marguerite Chapman. Thanks Marguerite. We all had a great time.

Our July 4th Pooch Parade was a huge success with around 70 people attending. We had vendors, my vet who brought her technician to do dog nail clipping and the proceeds were donated to Animal Friends No-Kill Shelter. We also had Rob Cary Kennels who gave some training tips, and a volunteer from Animal Friends who talked about the shelter.

We had 25 dogs that competed in a contest with 13 different categories. We had bottled water donated to us by CVS on DeZavala Road. Prizes were donated by HEB, Locke Hill Feed, Pets First Veterinary, Stephen Wood, D.D.S., Pet, Bath & Beyond, Lucy's Dog Grooming, PETCO, Rob Cary Kennels, 2 Sisters Bakery, DeliKate promotional products and Best in Show Pet Grooming. We had over \$500.00 in prizes donated. Please patronize these businesses as they were very generous in their donations.

Thank to my co-chair, Donna Futrell who helped in getting several really good prizes. Also thanks to the rest of the committee, Norma Smith who was one of the judges and

made those great signs and also to Ray McDonald who was also one of the judges and got some prizes. Three new families joined the HOA.

Animal Friends are in need of bleach, detergent and save your newspapers. We will be having a drive for them. We'll let you know of the date as soon as we hear from the volunteer. You can go on their website www.animalfriendsforever.org to see their needs.

BOOK CLUB (New day and time) – We are meeting on the first Wednesday of the month at 2:00 p.m. All HOA members are welcome. We are reading *The Lost Symbol* by Dan Brown for August. Call Marge 492-5153.

BUNCO – Our Bunco game is the 4th Monday of the month. We are always looking for subs. Call Marge at 492-5153.

HELPFUL NUMBERS

Police (Non-emergency): 207-7273

District 8 Councilman: W. Reed Williams, 207-7086

SAFFE Officer: Hank Quiroga, 207-5820,

M-F 7 AM-3 PM

henry.quiroga@sanantonio.gov

To follow-up after making a police report

Park Police: 207-8590

To report incidents related to Salado Creek Greenway

Poison Center: 1-800-222-1222

Code Compliance: 311 (or 207-6000)

To report the following: Front-yard parking, illegal trash dumping, junked vehicles, loud noise, weeded and overgrown lots, potholes, drainage issues, etc.

Donate

Did you know we're in your neighborhood? Donate at our donation station near Huebner & Churchill Estates Crossing, or at our store at 281 & Bitters. Your donation helps Goodwill change lives through the power of work! For more information, call (210) 924-8581 or visit goodwillsa.org.



CASTLE HILLS FOREST HOME OWNERS ASSOCIATION
INCOME STATEMENT
 May 21, 2011

	YTD	Budget
REVENUE:		
HOA Memberships	16,571	22,000
Special/Transfer Memberships	537	16,000
Event Lessons	0	0
Party/Pool Rentals	0	1,600
Event Prizes	0	25
Interest	12	15
Miscellaneous Donations	0	0
Transfer from Savings	0	19,000
Fund Raising	3,950	5,000
Total Revenues	21,070	63,640
EXPENSES:		
HOA Activities	1,130	2,000
Party	0	44
Contributions	250	400
Office Supplies & Mailings	195	500
Ground Maintenance	2,730	3,000
Capital Purchases-Pool	0	0
Pool Remodeling	19,284	19,000
Repairs	1,176	1,000
Supplies	0	5,000
Utilities	3,874	9,000
Insurance	0	6,500
Salaries	2,100	12,500
Payroll Taxes	191	1,000
Event Lesson Cost	0	0
Fund Raising Expenses	495	2,500
Total Expenses	31,425	62,444
NET INCOME OR (LOSS)	(10,355)	1,196

CASTLE HILLS FOREST HOME OWNERS ASSOCIATION
BALANCE SHEET
 May 21, 2011

	As of May, 2011	As of Dec, 2010
ASSETS:		
Party Cash	150	150
Checking Account	9,303	19,671
Money Market Account	37,652	37,639
Debits	700	700
Reserves	0	0
Prepaid/Paidable Expenses	0	0
Total Assets	47,805	58,160
LIABILITIES:		
Accounts Payable	0	0
Deferred Pooled Income	0	0
Legal/Contingency	0	0
Deferred HOA Dues	0	770
Payroll Taxes Payable	0	1,510
Total Liabilities	0	2,280
EQUITY:		
Surplus	58,160	48,149
Current Earnings	(10,355)	7,731
Total Liabilities & Equity	47,805	58,160



If you have leaf bags sitting in front of your home, you need to call the city @ 311 to schedule a pickup. Help keep Castle Hills Forest beautiful!

Guitar Lessons In Your Home
Ages 10 to Adult
"TheOtherDaveTX" on YouTube

Associate of Science, Secondary Ed.
 Bachelor of Music, Guitar Performance

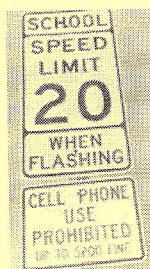


DAVE MATTHEWS
 PRIVATE GUITAR AND BASS INSTRUCTION

24 Yrs. Experience Teaching Classical,
 Rock, Blues, Jazz, Improv., Theory

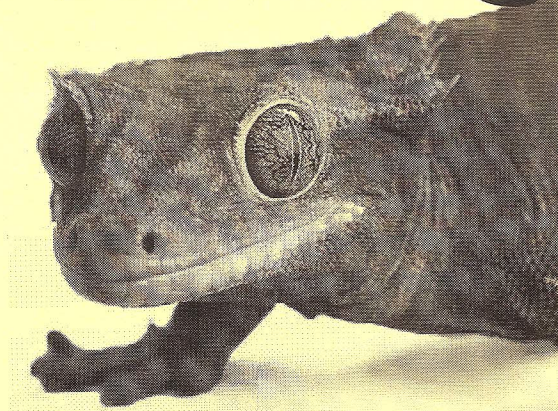
Please Leave Message
 (210) 215-3475

New School Zone Restriction



Although School is officially "out" for the summer, some schools still have classes, and school zone restrictions apply. A "new" restriction, recently implemented, forbids the use of Cell Phones, while school is in session. Thus, not only must you drive less than 20 MPH, but you must also avoid using your cell phones (for calls or texting) while classes are in session. A word to the wise ...

EVERYONE
is looking



ADVERTISE HERE.

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210 558 3160

Sales@NeighborhoodNews.com

For a complete list of tax-free items go to http://www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/taxpubs/tx98_490/tx98_490.html



Texas Sales Tax-free Weekend

August 19-21, 2011

Texas shoppers get a break from state and local sales taxes on August 19, 20 and 21 - the state's annual tax holiday. Lay-away plans can be used again this year to take advantage of the sales tax holiday.

As in previous years, the law exempts most clothing and footwear priced under \$100 from sales and use taxes, which could save shoppers about \$8 on every \$100 they spend. Backpacks under \$100 and used by elementary and secondary students are also exempt. A backpack is a pack with straps one wears on the back. The exemption during the sales tax holiday includes backpacks with wheels, provided they can also be worn on the back like a traditional backpack, and messenger bags. The exemption does not include items that are reasonably defined as luggage, briefcases, athletic/duffle/gym bags, computer bags, purses or framed backpacks. Ten or fewer backpacks can be purchased tax-free at one time without providing an exemption certificate to the seller.

School Supplies

The 81st Texas Legislature passed HB 1801 (2009) expanding the list of items qualifying for exemption from Texas state and local sales and use taxes during the annual sales tax holiday in August. In addition to clothes, footwear and some backpacks, Texas fami-

lies also get a sales tax break on most school supplies priced at less than \$100 purchased for use by a student in an elementary or secondary school.

The following is an all-inclusive list of qualifying school supplies (if priced less than \$100):

- Binders
- Book bags
- Calculators
- Cellophane tape
- Blackboard chalk
- Compasses
- Composition books
- Crayons
- Erasers
- Folders; expandable, pocket, plastic, and manila
- Glue, paste and paste sticks
- Highlighters
- Index cards
- Index card boxes
- Legal pads
- Lunch boxes
- Markers
- Notebooks
- Paper; loose leaf ruled notebook paper, copy paper, graph paper, tracing paper, manila paper, colored paper, poster board, and construction paper
- Pencil boxes and other school supply boxes
- Pencil sharpeners
- Pencils
- Pens
- Protractors
- Rulers
- Scissors
- Writing tablets

Maid Affordable

- Regular house cleaning *(you choose the recurrence)*
- Occasional/One-time house cleaning
- Commercial cleaning
- Event cleaning
- Move out/Make-ready cleaning
- Office Cleaning

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100% Satisfaction Guaranteed

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www.itex.com

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10 BEST BRUNCHES IN SAN ANTONIO
featuring Bottomless Mimosas
Sunday Brunch 11:00am to 3pm

Tost *Café Francais*

Join us for dinner before 6:30pm and get a complimentary bottle of wine from our selection *Free**

*Some restrictions apply. Not valid with other offers and at the bar. One per couple. Must purchase 2 entrees.

.....
Come taste our Fabulous Slider
also introducing 15 wines for \$15
.....

Best Happy Hour in Town
\$15 Happy Hour from 4pm to 7pm
Tuesday thru Saturday
.....

Lunch 11:30am-3:00pm
Dinner 5:30pm to 10:00pm

14415 Blanco Rd (one block south of Bitters)
210-408-2670 • www.tostbistro.com

Castle Hills Forest

Homeowners Association
NEWSLETTER

P.O. Box 781645
San Antonio, TX 78278-1645

Time Dated

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CASTLE HILLS FOREST NEIGHBOR 34 19
13715 CASTLE GROVE DR
SAN ANTONIO, TX 78231-1911

CHFHOA 2011 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name _____
Address _____
San Antonio, TX 78231
Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____
Work Phone _____
E-mail _____

Annual dues: \$55.00 (includes FREE tennis/basketball membership)

I would like to make an additional contribution: ___ \$5.00 ___ \$10.00 ___ \$20.00
Other _____
(Please specify amount)

I would like my additional contribution to be used for:
___ Children's Activities ___ Landscaping ___ Pool/Recreation Area
___ Pool Resurfacing ___ Swim Team ___ Social Activities

Make check payable to CHFHOA
Send to:
Castle Hills Forest Home Owners Assn
P O Box 781645
San Antonio, TX 78278-1645

For Office Use only:

YOUR SUPPORT IS GREATLY APPRECIATED

NEWCOMERS INFORMATION PACKET

Welcome to Castle Hills Forest! Marge Present will deliver a Newcomers Information Packet provided by the CHF Board of Directors and the Homeowners Association to your home. If you have recently moved into the neighborhood and would like a packet, please contact Marge Present at 492-5153.

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