



City of Balcones Heights

Serving the residents and businesses of Balcones Heights

Council Authorizes Red Light Cameras

Balcones Heights became the first city in the San Antonio area to authorize Red Light Cameras for traffic enforcement at the September 11, 2006 City Council meeting.

The cameras should be installed by January 2007 and be operational in February or March 2007.

When voting on the ordinance giving legal authority to the cameras, Council members who supported the issue said these cameras are being installed to save lives

and stop dangerous red-light collisions. According to Police Department records there were 410 accidents in Balcones Heights in 2005 and 262 accidents in 2006.

Intersections designated for cameras are:

- Hillcrest Drive and Fredericksburg Road
- Crossroads Blvd. and Fredericksburg Road
- Balcones Heights Rd. and Fredericksburg Road
- Hillcrest Drive and Babcock Road

New Fire Truck Ordered



During a special called meeting on September 18, 2006 the Balcones Heights City Council authorized the lease purchase of a Ferrara Mid-Mount, 100-foot “Quint” ladder truck for a total cost of \$791,698. The total cost includes the truck cost of \$770,000 and \$21,698 for fire hose, couplings, and a HOLMATRO “Jaws of Life” rescue tool. These items are stored on the truck for emergency use. This is the City’s first “Jaws of Life.”

At the same meeting, the Council

authorized the sale of the old 1978 75-foot “snorkel” ladder truck to the Johnson City Volunteer Fire Department for \$50,000.

The new fire truck should arrive at the station the first week of October 2006. Come to the fire station at 111 Altgelt Avenue to see the beautiful new truck.

“It is comforting to know that our old snorkel will stay in the fire business for many more years,” Fire Chief Ben Hoeffner said after the meeting.

The new fire truck should arrive at the station the first week of October 2006. Come to the fire station at 111 Altgelt Avenue to see the beautiful new truck.

Halloween “Spooktacular” Events

Let Balcones Heights “Thrill” you this Halloween! Come out and meet some of your favorite characters as you journey through an Animated Wonderland.

Enchanted Forest

City of Balcones Heights,
Tuesday, October 31, 2006
from 6:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. at the
Balcones Heights Civic Center
located at 107 Glenarm.



Also, be sure not to miss the:

Special Dance Performance

The Creative Awareness
Dance Theatre.
Balcones Heights
Neighborhood Crime Watch
Association
The Creative Dance Theatre
UPS Store (4319 Medical)
The City of Balcones Heights

CVB NEWSNET

BALCONES HEIGHTS VISITOR CENTER

Renovation has begun to create the new Balcones Heights Visitor Center in Crossroads Mall. The Visitor Center will be located on the lower level of the mall, in the main hallway at the intersection leading to the Food Court. Renovation is expected to take approximately six weeks.

To herald the opening of the Visitor Center a Tourism Forum, held in partnership with Norris Conference Centers and the San Antonio CVB is tentatively planned for November 9.

WWW.REACHFORTHEHEIGHTS.ORG

The official CVB Web site, www.reachfortheheights.org, continues to draw increased visits. There were 685 visits to the site during August 2006, compared to 530 during the same month last year. This is an increase of 29 percent.

HOTELS

Compared to August 2005 average hotel occupancy was down in August 2006. The drop is attributed to less group bookings and the recent flag changes at the



former Comfort Suites. This property is now Baymont Inn and Suites.

Ali Malone is the new Director of Sales at Springhill Suites by Marriott. Malone replaces Elizabeth Wells who left the hotel several months ago to accept a position at a new Marriott property in San Antonio.

NORRIS CONFERENCE CENTER

The Norris Conference Center and Crossroads Convention Center hosted 54 events in August, drawing an estimated 4,700 attendees. Year-to-date, more than 47,000 people have attended events at the two facilities.

CVB BOARD APPOINTMENTS

New new CVB Board appointments were made during the September 11, 2006 City Council meeting. Mayor Jim Craven appointed developer Jack Nicholson to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Sal Mendez. Councilman Steve Walker appointed Michele Krier, Director of Marketing and Public Relations for Santikos Theaters. Santikos Theaters operates the popular Bijou Cinema Café at Crossroads Mall.

New EMS Service

Medix Healthcare of San Antonio will be the City's new EMS provider! In June of 2006, the City of San Antonio informed Balcones Heights that it intended to increase Balcones Heights' annual EMS fee from \$84,000 to \$244,000. Faced with this tremendous cost increase, the City of Balcones Heights EMS advisory committee recommended that the City solicit bids for the provision of EMS services from private companies and other cities.

Two proposals were received, and City Council awarded the contract for EMS to Medix Healthcare of San Antonio for \$10,000 per month, an annual total of \$120,000.

Because this is the first time in more than 30 years that the City has left San Antonio, the Council asked for a six month review of the contract performance and a clause to withdraw if service is unacceptable.

Please call Ben Hoeffner, Fire Chief at 735-9206 or James Gaines of Medix at 375-1234 with questions.

Schedule For Reconstruction of Gentleman Road



- Survey (Aug – Sept) Complete
- Soil Testing October
Soil evaluation for pavement design
- Report to City with pavement design October 5, 2006
Plan preparation
- Plans to City for review and comment October 26, 2006
Specifications and bid proposal preparation
- Bid documents to printer – advertise November 9, 2006
- Bid opening December 14, 2006
Holidays; bid and bidder evaluations
- 1st notice to City residents January 15, 2007
- Award of contract January 25, 2006
- 2nd notice to City residents February 1, 2007
- 3rd notice to City residents February 15, 2007
- Construction signs – set up February 22, 2007
- Start of construction March 1, 2007
- End of construction May 31, 2007

Balcones Heights City Officials

- Jim Craven, Mayor
- Bill Johnson, Mayor Pro Tem Councilman, Place 5
- Lamar Gillian Councilman, Place 4
- Steve Walker Councilman, Place 3
- Suzanne de Leon Councilwoman, Place 2
- Bennie Cass Councilman, Place 1
- Lanny S. Lambert City Administrator
- Balcones Heights Justice Center (210) 735-9148**
- Mayor Jim Craven x235**

Balcones Heights Staff Roster

- City Administrator Lanny S. Lambert x227
- City Secretary Delia Flores x236

- Director of Tourism Lorenzo Nastasi x230
- Accts. Payable/
Payroll Clerk Vacant x243
- Municipal Court Clerk . . . Yvonne Baez x223
- Deputy Court Clerk Jo Ann Vidal x224
- Building Code
Enforcement Officer David Cadena x246
- Interim Police Chief Bill Stannard x242
- Asst. Police Chief Robert de la Garza x238
- Police Secretary Grace Lerma x222
- Investigator/Sergeant . . . Joyce Pena x239
- Dispatcher x232
- Fire Chief/
Fire Department Ben Hoeffner (210) 735-9206



Residents of Bexar County!

(Suburban Cities and Unincorporated Bexar County only)

FREE Home Pickup Program For Household Hazardous Waste

(Paint, Batteries, Used Oil, Poisons, Spray Cans, and More!)

HOW DOES IT WORK?

1.) Call 800-449-7587 to request a collection:

When you call the Collection Hotline, you will be asked several questions, including you address and the type and amount of materials available for collection.



2.) A collection date is scheduled and a Kit is shipped:

The Collection Hotline Operator will fully explain the program, schedule a convenient collection date, and discuss where the kit should be safely placed outside for collection. Please tell the operator if you are a senior citizen, or a disabled resident and require assistance to gather your materials.

3.) Preparing for Collection:

The Kit includes a program Instruction Sheet (with a Hotline telephone number to call for questions) and other items to help pack and secure the Household Hazardous Waste. All materials, such as gasoline, poisons, pesticides and aerosols, must be placed into the Kit. If you have more waste than will fit in the Kit, please call the Hotline to discuss your options.



4.) HHW material is collected:

On the scheduled date the contractor's Customer Service Representative will collect eligible materials directly from your home. They will sort and pack the materials for proper disposal. Participants will receive a postage-paid survey card to be completed and mailed to the County to help track the program.

Acceptable HHW Wastes:

Paint and paint products	Lubricants
Herbicides	Used motor oil/filters
Rust removers	Pesticides
Aerosols	Cleaners
Batteries (household AA, C, D, auto, hearing aid, etc.)	Hobby chemicals
Automotive chemicals	Antifreeze
Fluorescent tubes	Gasoline
Chlorine bleach	Corrosive chemicals
Drain openers	...and much more!

Unacceptable Wastes:

Biological waste
Radioactive materials
Ammunition
Explosives
Fire extinguishers
Gas cylinders
Commercial chemicals
Containers over 5 gallons
Unlabeled or unknown items

Visit us on the Web at www.balconeshights.org

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PERMIT NO. 130

City of Balcones Heights
3300 Hillcrest Drive
Balcones Heights, Texas 78201



Balcones Heights Calendar • October 2006

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9 Regular City Council Meeting Balcones Heights Justice Center 6:00 p.m.	10	11	12	13	14
5	16	17	18	19  CVB Meeting Justice Center 5:30 p.m.	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31  Halloween Fun Fest: Enchanted Forest Oct. 31, Civic Center, 107 Glenarm, 6-10 p.m.				

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O'Brien's Income Tax Service

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734-2868 531-9691

Grand
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My 4 Son's Sportswear

558-6333

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NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER SPECIALS

press Lube

2800 Hillcrest
at Babcock

733-8366

Other services included:

- *PVC Valves*
- *Wiper Blades*
- *Breathers*
- *Fuel Filters*
- *Light Bulbs*
- *Air Filters*
- *Batteries*
- *State Inspections*

\$10.00 off

The following services:

- AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION SERVICE-
- FUEL INSPECTION SYSTEM CLEANING-
- POWER RADIATOR FLUSH-
- SERPENTINE BELT REPLACEMENT-

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER SPECIALS

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King

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