



December 2019

# Terrell Hills Connection

5100 N. New Braunfels Ave.

[www.terrell-hills.com](http://www.terrell-hills.com)

## Coyote Sightings and What We Can Do.

- Don't keep pet food outside.
- Clean your grill after using, or store it inside your garage when not in use.
- Securely cover your trash and recycling cans. If possible and practical, put your trash out the morning of pick-up, rather than the evening before.
- Don't add meat, bones, etc., to your compost pile. Ensure your compost bin is tightly and securely covered.
- If you have fruit trees, pick up fallen fruit so as to not let it rot on the ground. Coyotes are very opportunistic feeders.
- NEVER intentionally feed a coyote.
- Keep cats indoors. Always is safest, but at least between the dusk and dawn hours (when coyotes tend to be most active).
- Don't leave dogs tied up outside, especially small dogs. But really any dog of any size, when tied up is no match for a coyote and is enticing to them.
- Don't become indifferent... if you see a coyote in your yard or neighborhood ALWAYS haze them away. Do so completely, and remind your neighbors of the importance of doing the same.
- Be extra vigilant if you or any of your neighbors keep backyard chickens, as the coyotes will be attracted both to the chickens and to the chicken feed. (And to the rodents that will also be attracted to the chickens and their feed!)



### Upcoming City Holidays

City Hall will be closed on the following days, there is also no work allowed on these days inside the city limits. As always your Public Safety Departments are available 24 hours a day 365 days a year.

**Wednesday, December 25th 2019 in observance of Christmas**

**Wednesday, January 1st 2020 in observance of New Year's Day**

## From the Fire Department:



The United State Fire Administration (USFA) and NFPA are working together to remind everyone that home fires are more prevalent in winter than in any other season, due in part to an increase in cooking and heating fires. Never leave your cooking unattended and always have your heating system inspected by a licensed professional at least once a year. Additionally, if your home uses gas or wood for cooking and/or heat-



### Some helpful tips to prevent package thefts from The Terrell Hills Police Department

by Lieutenant Homer Delgado

The holiday season is upon us, and with that, Terrell Hills residents can expect to see beautifully decorated homes, festive holiday parties and possibly even hot chocolate carrying carolers filling our beautiful neighborhood with holiday cheer.

With all of the wonderful things that the season brings, it can also attract people of an odious nature. These thieves and other Grinch types enjoy this time of year. They prey on unsuspecting and unprepared residents who may not have thought about these unwelcomed visitors. While we have not had a significant rise in package thefts this year, there is always the potential for "Porch Pirates" to strike.

The Terrell Hills Police Department would like to offer a few helpful ideas that might help to lessen the opportunity for thieves to strike in our beloved city.

#### **Install a lock box**

Lock boxes are a great way to safeguard packages.

#### **Hide the packages**

Often times you can provide instructions to package companies for delivery. Ask if they can place packages behind bushes or on the side of your home to make them less visible.

#### **Office delivery**

Although not as convenient, delivery to your office or place business is a much safer alternative.

#### **Utilize friends, family or neighbors**

Asking someone to receive your package for you is a great option to think about.

These are just a few ideas to consider when trying to safeguard your packages from nefarious individuals. We at the police department are committed to the safety of our citizens and your property. Please enjoy this holiday season as safely as possible and remember we are at your service.