

CITY OF CHINO HILLS

PRESS RELEASE



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CHINO HILLS HONORS EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

Denise Cattern has been selected as the City's Employee of the Year for 2012. She was honored by her fellow employees for her tremendous work ethic, and tireless efforts to go above and beyond for over 24 years of dedicated service to Chino Hills. She has become known for her rich institutional knowledge, and her special event and script writing abilities that seem to put just the right touch on the City's special events. She has supported all of the departments and most of the City employees at one time or another. Denise is always willing to assist even when the task is not her responsibility. According to her co-workers, there is no other employee whose heart and soul is as deeply engrained in the Chino Hills community.

Denise started her career in Chino Hills in 1988 at the Chino Hills Manager's Office, a Special District of the County of San Bernardino. Chino Hills was experiencing tremendous growth at the time and Denise became the "answer person" handling a myriad of questions from the community and developers ranging from special taxes, to landscaping issues, to neighborhood concerns. She coordinated numerous special events as the community celebrated new parks, roads, and even freeways. Denise was part of a small group who stayed late on the night of the City's incorporation election in 1991 to sketch the City's first logo and she helped plan the incorporation party. She served as the City's first Public Information Officer.

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In 1994, Denise was appointed to serve as the Community Services Director responsible for the City's fledgling recreation programs, special events, volunteer programs, and park planning. Four years later, with two young children, Denise sought the approval of the City Manager to take a step back in her career. She transitioned back to the City Manager's Office to handle the public information duties on a part-time basis. After about ten years, she gradually built back up to full time.

Denise is the Senior Administrative Analyst in the Community Relations Division. She works across all City Departments to gather information in support of the City Council's objective to enhance the flow of information to residents through the website, newsletter, and media releases. She works on the City's advertising program, special publications, marketing, and community relations efforts. According to Denise, she has the best job because she works on a great team and enjoys meeting residents, community leaders, the business community, and volunteers who make a difference in Chino Hills. Denise and her husband Mark have been married 33 years and have lived in Chino Hills for 26 years. Their two kids graduated from Chino Hills High School. Their son Chris is 23 years old, and daughter Kelly is 20 years old.