

Z-News

Austin, Texas

The Newsletter of the Zilker Neighborhood

October, 1999

The President's Message

Not Saying Good-bye

Robin Cravey

At our last general neighborhood meeting, I announced that I would be resigning my post as president of the Zilker Neighborhood Association. I feel, having been appointed to the City Planning Commission, I had no choice but to resign. I promised my family that if I took the seat on the Planning Commission, I would give up my neighborhood office. I knew, too, that eventually there could come a clash between the two duties.

Having sat on the Planning Commission for a few months, I can report that it is as much work as I expected. A city staffer delivers a packet and agenda to me on Friday, which I read over the weekend to prepare for Monday. I attend meetings on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Then, of course, there are the calls, e-mails and letters to answer.

In one sense the work is hard; but in another way, it's easy. It's hard work because my position demands careful study and thought, difficult decision making and endurance. Because the system is well-established and well-staffed, the work is made easier for me. As a newly-appointed commissioner, I step in line with a moving brigade.

On the other hand, as the neighborhood president, I spend much of my time with the executive board trying to develop

continued on page 7

ZNA Fall Zestival Scheduled for Saturday, November 6

Your Zilker Neighborhood Association wants to be more than your neighborhood organization. It also wants to show you a good time! With that in mind, the ZNA Fall Zestival planners, Fontaine Maverick, Carlene South and Barbara Cossie, have been working hard to make this first ZNA Fall Zestival a fun event for everyone. Artists and craftspeople will be on hand to display their wares along with storytelling, music and face painting. For those shopping for the upcoming holidays, the ZNA Fall Zestival will be the perfect place to find that one-of-a-kind gift! Says Fontaine Maverick, ZNA treasurer, "There are a lot of talented people in the neighborhood, and an arts and crafts show is a great way to bring these local artists and entertainers together."



Don't confuse the ZNA Fall Zestival with the Zilker Elementary School Zamboree. Attend both, enjoy the fall weather, and run the gamut of festivals in our neighborhood from z to z! So zip, zoom or zigzag over to the **Zilker Fall Zestival** at the **Kinney Avenue Baptist Church** parking lot on **Saturday, November 6** from **10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**, and see what fun you and your family can have!

If you are interested in having a booth, entertaining the crowds or volunteering at the Zestival, please call Fontaine Maverick at 443-3290. She would love to hear from you!



**MARK YOUR CALENDAR
FOR THIS IMPORTANT
MEETING!**

**The October Zilker Neighborhood
Association meeting will be held
Monday, October 25 at 7:00 p.m.**

**Kinney Ave. Baptist Church
in the Fellowship Hall
1801 Kinney Ave.**

Meeting Agenda

Election and Installation of ZNA Officers for 2000

**APD Officer Fred Rodriguez
"Neighborhood Safety"**

Read this before you vote in the October 25 election!

The Zilker Neighborhood Association bylaws state that you must be a current and paying member of the ZNA, and your membership must have been established 30 days prior to any election in order to vote.

Nominations for any ZNA office need to be submitted to the Nominating Committee one week before the election. It is suggested that before you submit a person for nomination, you contact that person to see if she or he would be interested in being put on the ballot, and is willing to serve as an officer if elected. If so, call Lorraine Atherton, ZNA Secretary, before Monday, October 18 at 447-7681 to nominate your candidate, and to have the name listed on the ballot.

It's your neighborhood. It's your vote!

Ozone Action Days

by Jeff Jack, ZNA Officer

Will cooler weather *ever* get here? After the month of August and the first few weeks of September, it seems as though summer would never end. Not only has the weather been hot, but it also has been a terrible year for ozone in the Austin area.

Earlier this month, Austin set a new record for air pollution with a reading of 99 Parts Per Billion (PPB) for our fourth highest daily reading. The newly-adopted Environmental Protection Agency standard is 85 PPB over a three year average. With the 99 PPB count, we will exceed this limit and will very likely be facing stringent federal mandates to clean up our air. Who would have thought that Austin's air would ever get as dirty as Dallas or Houston's? However, as we see Austin growing with more sprawl and more cars, our air quality will probably get worse before it gets better.

What can we do to help keep pollution down? First, pay attention to the Ozone Action Day alert and follow these recommendations for reducing emissions on those days.

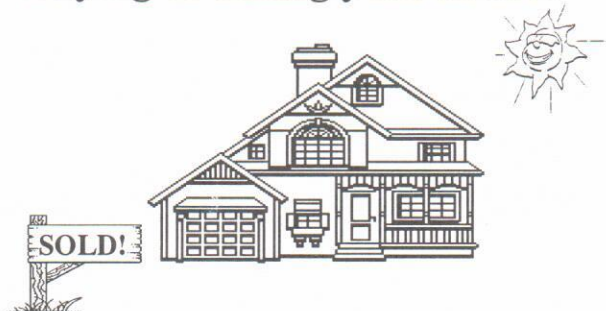
1. **Reduce driving.** Did you know Capital Metro buses are free on Ozone Action Days? Use this service, and take the bus. If you need to drive, consider carpooling with your neighbors. Ride your bike or tele-commute, if you can.
2. **Reduce the use of gas powered equipment,** such as lawn mowers and weed trimmers.
3. **Fill your car's gas tank late in the evening,** and don't "top off" the tank.
4. **Keep your car tuned up and in good running order.** It will also help to keep your speed below 55 miles per hour. Recent research has found that car emissions are even worse at 70 miles per hour.

These suggestions will help temporarily, but the only long-term solution is a comprehensive plan to reduce controllable emissions substantially. These pollutants come from a variety of sources ranging from power plants to the belching gas guzzlers on our streets. Whatever the source, we will need to reduce these emissions significantly.

Meanwhile, we could be forced by the EPA to implement a wide range of air pollution control measures. Whether it is the direct added cost for low sulphur gasoline, or the indirect cost for refitting a variety of businesses, such as dry cleaners or auto paint shops with antipollution equipment, it will reach into everyone's pockets. But we need to remember that the real cost of air pollution is the often-hidden health impact mainly to our children and older citizens. For the health of everyone, clean air cannot be compromised. We need to urge our city council to move as quickly as possible to develop a long-range strategy to restore Austin's air quality.

Jeff Jack is a member of the Board of Directors of the Central Texas Clean Air Force, a nonprofit organization of civic, governmental and businesses dedicated to improving our air quality.

Buying or selling your house?



Tom Amiss

Zilker resident and specialist

See why he is Austin's
"Realtor of the Year"

442-8581

860-8855 (pager)

tomamiss@aol.com

**Austin
Yoga
Center**
916-4499

"Yoga for the Heart of Austin"

Public & Private
Hatha Yoga Classes
7 days a week

Dance
Meditation
Contact Improvisation

1122-C South Lamar (Lamar Plaza)

Leave your name & phone number
when calling for our schedule of classes.

Looking for something to wear on October 31?



Angels Along the Way

"From Vintage to Velvet"

1050-H South Lamar (in Lamar Plaza)

442-4147

Gifts

Collectibles

Ty Beanie Babies®

Clothing 40's to the 90's

Women, Men & Children's Clothing Consignments

10% off with this ad!

COME TO THE ZILKER FALL ZESTIVAL!



Saturday, November 6

10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m



Kinney Avenue Baptist Church

1801 Kinney Avenue

*Arts and Crafts Booths!
Face Painting!*

*Storytelling!
Gift Ideas for the Holidays!*

Entertainment provided by 3 Ring Service!

Fun for the whole family!

If you are interested in having a booth or volunteering for the Zestival, call Fontaine at 443-3290.
The Zilker Fall Zestival is sponsored by your Zilker Neighborhood Association.

**KENNY HILL'S
AUTOWERKS**

*Professional Service For Import Cars
Specializing in Volkswagen & Audi*

445-0101 GOODRICH @ S. LAMAR
MasterCard, VISA, American Express, Discover accepted

Robin Theobald Cravey

General Practice of Law

Vaughn Building
807 Brazos Street Suite 910
Austin, Texas 78701

512-236-9655

KALEIDOPROPERTIES



440-1799

ZILKER NEIGHBORHOOD
REAL ESTATE PROFESSIONALS

We Love Spreading GOOD NEWS!

Peach and Cynthia Reynolds
1709 Bluebonnet Ln.



Locking Out Break-ins in Our Neighborhood

Driving or walking around our neighborhood, you may have noticed those orange paper signs on the utility poles announcing the recent burglaries and break-ins in our area. Over the past several months, Zilker residents have reported having their houses broken into both during the day and night. Some break-ins have even occurred while people were in their homes. One suspect has been identified. However, as of this time, we have not heard of any arrests being made.

On Monday, October 25 at our next Zilker Neighborhood Association general meeting, Officer Fred Rodriguez from the Austin Police Department, will speak on neighborhood safety and update us on the situation of the break-ins. Officer Rodriguez advises, "Call 911, if you see or hear *anything* suspicious. Don't wait. The sooner you act, the sooner we can get out here to check out the situation."



For those who are interested in home security protection, Courtney and Jim Johnson have volunteered to research local and nationwide home security companies to see if a group discount would be available for Zilker residents. If you are interested in an alarm system for your home, call the Johnsons at 916-4909.

**GET EVERYTHING YOU NEED
FOR A GREAT HALLOWEEN!**



Robin's Party Shop

2149 South Lamar

444-1669



**Masks
Wigs**



**Make-up
Hats**

Novelties

Lawn Decorations

Kid's costumes now \$10.00

(regularly priced from \$15-30)

Monday - Saturday 9:30 am - 6:00 pm

Sunday 1:00 - 6:00 pm

Your Key to the Zilker Neighborhood

Specializing in Central Austin since 1982.



**Call me before you list your home
for an accurate market analysis.**

Your Zilker neighbor

Virginia Ivey, Realtor

tel 447-3336 fax 447-6680 email vrivey@earthlink.com

A Note from Zilker School

Look, you're already up and dressed. You've packed the kids' lunches, hunted down their homework, signed the overdue permission slip for the field trip, refereed a couple of fights over the breakfast table and delivered the kids to school--on time. Now you're thinking about a drink. Of coffee, that is. McDonald's is just a short drive away on Barton Springs Road. Starbuck's is downtown, if you *have* the bucks. But wait! You remember *today* is the **Principal's Coffee Hour** at Zilker! Not only can you have a good cup of coffee, but you also can talk to Ms. Trevino about your kids, the school and why you *love* being a parent --even on the most difficult of days. If your kids go to Zilker, join Ms. Trevino for her **Principal's Coffee Hour** on **Friday, October 22** and **Friday, November 19** at **8:00 a.m.** Can't you just smell those coffee beans brewing now?



You zany kids! You know there are a zillion reasons you should zip on over to the **Zilker Elementary School Zamboree**. So don't "zone out" the date. It's **Saturday, October 23** from **12 pm to 4 pm**. How much does it cost? *Zilch!* Zee you there.

We don't claim to be psychic over here at Z-News, but there is one thing we can say that is probably true: You need to clean out your closets! If your closets are anything like ours, they runneth over with clothes that are too small or too large, the wrong color, or just clothes you don't want anymore. If you need a good reason to get rid of what you don't need, want or can't use anymore, think Casa Zilker!

Casa Zilker is a parenting and multi-purpose center that offers a game room, pre-school storytime hour, after-school activities, and parenting and English as a Second Language (ESL) classes. Another service Casa Zilker provides is a clothes closet for Zilker parents and students in need.

Take a look in your closets and drawers this weekend. Is there anything in them that you or your family are not wearing? Could another family use these items? If so, bring your clean and pressed clothing to Casa Zilker. (Please donate only clothes that are in good repair, for example, no missing buttons, torn

hems, broken zippers or clothes with holes.) Your unwanted clothes will be put to good use. Women's, men's and children's clothes of any size will be accepted for distribution.



If you have any questions about the activities at Casa Zilker or how you can be a volunteer, please call Zilker Elementary School at 414-2327 for more information.

**If you think you are a person of influence,
try ordering someone else's dog around.**

ART LESSONS for Kids



Ages 4-5

Getting Ready For Monart

Ages 5-12

Basic Monart

Monart for Homes Schoolers

PokéDraw©

444-5642

MONART DRAWING SCHOOL
708 S. Lamar Suite E

UNBOUND FEET

EMPOWERING CHILDREN THROUGH
CREATIVE DANCE

ongoing enrollment for
ages 6-12

moving to the beat of our feet, and
music from around the world!

classes held at 1122 S. Lamar
FOR MORE INFO. CALL 288-6656

HALLOWEEN FUN FOR THE KIDS!



Bring your little ghosts, goblins and ghouls to the Austin Children's Museum for some Halloween entertainment, storytelling, costume parades and other non-scary fun.

Saturday, October 30 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
Sunday October 31 12:00 - 5:00 pm

Admission is \$3.50 per person, but the Museum honors an Open Door Policy. Anyone who asks is admitted for free.

HAVE YOU HEARD Z-NEWS?

This Robin's flying upward! At our last ZNA general meeting, **Robin Cravey** announced his resignation as our president. Robin served the neighborhood association with enthusiasm and efficiency, and we wish him well in his new position on the Planning Commission.

Hi, Neighbor! We would like to welcome our newest residents to the Zilker neighborhood: **Doug, Jody and Benson** who moved to Juliet St. last month, and **John and Lila** who recently moved over from Barton Hills.

A hardy farewell and our good wishes go out to **Debbie Lawson**. She moved to South Texas in September.

Thanks to our good citizen **Dan McClennen** for making the Zilker Neighborhood Association signs for us. The signs will be used to announce our general meetings. Look for them on a street near you!

Congratulations to **Ed Gonzales** who retired from his state job last month. Lucky Ed.

We knew it was true; now everyone else does, too! In its September 23 issue, *The Austin Chronicle* recently named these Zilker area businesses, people and places as its choices for their **Best of Austin** article:

Best Theatre Company: Zachary Scott Theatre

Best Landscape/Pool/Park/Train Ride: Zilker Park

Best Architectural/Gardenscape Metal Artist: Lars Stanley

Best Outhouse (?): Shady Grove

Best Lunch Deal: Pizza Nizza (tied with Kim Phung)

Best Night of Bluegrass & BBQ: Green Mesquite

Best Shave Ice: Sno-Beach

Best Place for Body Movement: Body Choir at the Austin Yoga School

Best Car Wash: Genie Car Wash

Best Photo Lab: Holland Photo Lab (tied with HEB)

Best Petsitter: Alexander's Particular Pets

Best Vintage: Flipnotics (tied with Goodwill)

Best Bead Shop: Austin Bead Shoppe

Best Collectible Posters: Treasured Tracs & Images

Congratulations, folks. You only get to *be* the best by *giving* the best!

If you have some good news to share, don't keep it to yourself! Drop us a line at:

Z-News

P. O. Box 33546

Austin, Texas 78764-0546

RAZOR'S EDGE



SALON

VIKI TEAS

STYLIST / NAIL TECH

448-1800

2104 BLUEBONNET

WWW.CITYSEARCH.COM/AUS/RAZORSEDGE

Five
Good Reasons
To Call 3 Ring
Service!

1. Birthdays
2. Large Parties
3. Small Parties
4. Special Events
5. Just any ol' time you want to have some extraordinarily good fun!



CHILDREN'S ENTERTAINMENT
Clowns ★ Magicians ★ Jugglers ★ Face Painters
Moon Walks ★ Gyros ★ Games

CONVENTION & PARTY SERVICES
Theme Parties ★ All Types of Music
Las Vegas Casinos

SINGING TELEGRAMS
Crazy Costumed Characters

448-4447 or 800-246-0000

Tracy Deagan, LPC, LMSW, ACP
Tracy Deagan & Associates

EXPERIENCED COUNSELORS

- Women's Therapy ●
- Couples Therapy ●
- Parenting ●

326-3176

continued from page 1

goals and strategies, and motivating people to move in the same direction. Our association is faced with a constant stream of neighborhood issues, but it has no institutional support for dealing with these issues.

One of the many projects that I didn't get around to doing during my term as Zilker president was to look for a staff assistant to the association through grant funding or some other mechanism. The City of Austin could make all this easier--and it may--by providing staff support to the neighborhood associations. The City *has* taken a tiny step in this direction by instituting a neighborhood ombudsman. I look forward the day when the neighborhood associations receive materials each week or month from the city staff outlining issues that are affecting the neighborhoods. City staff could attend the general neighborhood meetings to present their issues, and the votes taken at the meeting could be recorded and transmitted to the appropriate departments, boards, commissions and council members. This system of staff support and recognized decision-making would empower our neighborhoods as never before. Would such a system be too formal, expensive or cumbersome? I don't think so--if it were sensibly implemented. It is obvious that neighborhoods can't be autonomous. Each neighborhood is part of the city as a whole. But neighborhoods deserve a formal voice in their own affairs. They can play a very important role in solving problems at the lowest level *before* they become problems downtown.

It's been a privilege to serve as your ZNA president. I've had the chance to work with some fine people, particularly the officers who are remaining on the executive committee. This isn't really a farewell message. I'm not moving away, and I'm not losing my interest in the neighborhood. You'll still see me walking in the neighborhood, swimming at Barton Springs or going to some ZNA meetings. And I'll still see you.

What are your printing needs?
Instant Printing Rubber Stamps
Business Cards Stationery Forms

Southside Printing Service

1050-F South Lamar
 (in Lamar Plaza)

444-2590

Fax: 444-6337

Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m.- 5:30 p.m.
Saturday 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Rush jobs welcome!

**The Official Printer of Z-News,
 the Newsletter of the Zilker Neighborhood Association**

***Please support our advertisers.
 Tell them you saw their ads in Z-News!***

Make a difference in your community. Join your ZNA today!

Annual ZNA dues are only **\$5.00** per person.

Your ZNA membership allows you to vote in neighborhood association elections.

Name: _____

Address: _____ Apt.: _____

Home Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Send this completed form and your check (payable to the Zilker Neighborhood Association) to:

Fontaine Maverick, Treasurer
Zilker Neighborhood Association
P. O. Box 33546
Austin, Texas 78764-0546

Which of *These* Costly Home Seller Mistakes Will You Make When You Sell Your Home?

Austin, Texas--A new report has just been released which reveals the seven costly mistakes that most home owners make when selling their homes and the 9 Step System that can help you sell your home fast--*and* for the most amount of money.

This industry report clearly shows how the traditional ways of selling homes have become increasingly less and less effective in today's real estate market. The fact of the matter is that fully three quarters of today's home sellers don't get what they want for their homes and become disillusioned and financially disadvantaged when they put their homes on the market.

As this report uncovers, these seven deadly mistakes that home sellers make will cost them literally thousands of dollars when they go to sell their homes. The good news is each and every one of these mistakes is entirely preventable.

In answer to this issue, industry insiders have prepared a free special report entitled, "*The 9 Step System to Get Your Home Sold Fast and For Top Dollar*".

To hear a brief recorded message about how to order your free copy of this report, call 1-800-278-5449 and enter ID #1086. You can call anytime 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Call NOW to find out how you can get the most money for your home.

This report is courtesy of Thom Lemon, Broker.
Copyright Craig Proctor© 1997

Z-News Newsletter

Z-News is published four times each year by the Zilker Neighborhood Association of Austin, Texas P. O. Box 33546 Austin, Texas 78764-0546.

ZNA Officers

President
Robin Cravey
447-8014

Vice President
Kaye Trybus
447-4437

Second Vice President
Harriet Gonzales
444-3335

Secretary
Lorraine Atherton
447-7681

Treasurer
Fontaine Maverick
443-3290

Austin Neighborhoods Council
Jeff Jack
447-5877

Neighborhood Services
Open

Social Chairperson
Open

Newsletter Editor
Barbara Cossie
326-1222

Zilker Neighborhood Association general meetings are held four times a year in January, April, July and October. Meetings are scheduled on the last Monday of these months as announced. These general membership meetings are open to all Zilker residents and others interested in the preservation of the Zilker neighborhood.