

Zilker Neighbors Help Out Through Hurricanes . . .

by Fontaine Maverick

Along with the rest of the nation, we here in the Zilker neighborhood watched in disbelief as the unimaginable happened to the residents of Louisiana and Mississippi and to the city of New Orleans, during the week of August 28. By the following week it became clear that our neighbors to the east would require a tremendous amount of help, both in the short and the long term. Texas stepped up and took in an unprecedented 250,000 to 300,000 evacuees, and Austin took in an estimated 20,000. Here in Zilker we realized that some of our Louisiana neighbors would be staying with us a while and would need help getting settled, and a new, gentle breeze began to blow through the neighborhood. It goes by the name of the Zilker Zephyrs.

The Zephyrs learned that among our many new neighbors from Louisiana, nine families have enrolled their children in Zilker Elementary School. We started working in collaboration with the Zilker school counselor, Vickie Samuelson, who has helped identify the families, communicate with them, and coordinate the distribution of donations gathered so far. We've also been working with Julie Webb, from Community of Christ Church on Bluebonnet. The church has given us a place to store larger donated items, and the church members have generously donated much needed furniture for the families.

ZNA has, along with the Zilker PTA, donated gift cards from Target. I've talked to a few of the families, and these cards were greatly appreciated.

As of this writing about half of the families have found housing and gotten some of their needs met. Others are still living with relatives in the neighborhood, so the need is ongoing. Carlene South has also been working with the new counselor at Becker, and some of the extra donations have gone to those families who have lost so much.

Please join the Zephyrs in helping Zilker's newest neighbors from the great state of Louisiana begin their new lives. Your donation of any kind or amount would be much appreciated. The greatest need seems to be beds, chests of drawers, chairs, tables, and small kitchen

. . . And Through the Holidays

by Barbara Cossie

Yikes! October is almost gone! Time to think about stringing holiday lights on the house (unless you are a die-hard South Austinite who leave the lights up all year around. October is also time to get ready for the Zilker Holiday Family Program. Since 1999, ZNA has assisted the families of Zilker Elementary students who needed a

boost for the holiday season. Many of the parents or guardians of these children are trying to raise their families on minimum wage salaries, a single income, or with disabilities. When the holidays come around, they simply can't stretch the money any farther to make the season special.

Here's where the Zilker Neighborhood Association has stepped up. Over the last (Continued on page 8)

Next Quarterly ZNA Meeting
Monday, October 24, 2005

Zilker Elementary School
1900 Bluebonnet

Homeowners, renters, and
business owners are welcome.

6:30 P.M. Meet your neighbors.
Learn about issues affecting you and
the neighborhood you live in.

7:00 P.M.

Election of 2006 officers
Holiday Family Program kickoff
Guest Presentations on
No Nonsense in November
Plug-in Hybrid Cars
ZNA Reports on
Neighborhood Planning
Austin City Limits Festival

appliances. Also, we would like to purchase, as a gift to our newest neighbors, a new family-memories welcome kit, which will include a disposable camera and small new or donated picture frames.

You can send monetary donations to the Zilker Neighborhood Association at 1006 Kinney Avenue (write Hurricane Families Fund on the memo line). If you have household items to donate, email Fontaine at fmaverick@austin.rr.com.

Thanks, neighbors!

A No Nonsense Reason to Vote in November

No Nonsense in November is a coalition of individuals and organizations working together to mobilize fair-minded Texans to vote against Proposition 2, the constitutional amendment on the statewide November ballot that would ban civil marriages, civil unions, and domestic partnerships between same-sex couples in Texas.

Proposition 2 is nonsense because same-sex marriages are already prohibited in Texas, and such unions from other states or other countries are not recognized in Texas. Even if you oppose civil marriage for same-sex couples, you should oppose this amendment because it also prohibits civil unions and domestic partnerships and may impact common law marriages, denying basic rights to some Texans.

Under this amendment, some Texas families would lose the right to protect their loved ones in many of the important areas of life: medical decisions, inheritance, property, parental rights, and more. Protecting your family is a fundamental right. The constitutional amendment is wrong.

Find out more about No Nonsense in November at www.NoNonsenseInNovember.com, or call 443-2019.

It's Election Time: Vote for New ZNA Officers for 2006

by Lorraine Atherton

The Zilker Neighborhood Association elects new officers every fall, at the October quarterly meeting. On the next page is the slate of candidates recruited by the current executive committee, but it is not too late for you to volunteer to serve (or to volunteer someone else). The ZNA bylaws allow the executive committee to accept nominations up to a week before the fall meeting. This year, the meeting date is October 24, so you have until Monday, October 17, to make nominations. Phone any of the executive committee members listed on the back of this newsletter, or e-mail ZilkerNA@austin.rr.com.

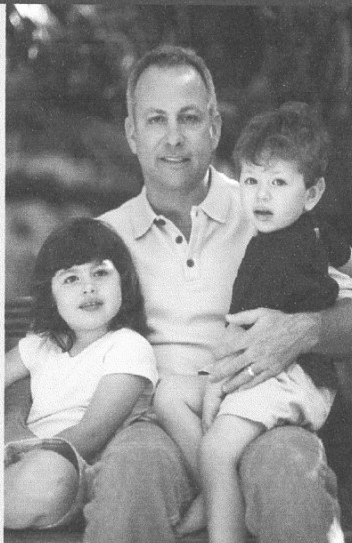
Besides the elected offices, ZNA needs to fill some very important unelected positions. We need a neighbor who can keep track of a fairly simple spreadsheet to head up our membership committee, another neighbor who can take charge of our quarterly newsletter distribution, a Zilker Elementary parent or staffer who can provide liaison between the school and ZNA, and a representative to attend the Commander's Forum (a meeting of citizens and police commanders in South Austin to share concerns about public safety and law enforcement).

Buying or Selling Your Home?

Keller Williams
Top Realtor

Recently voted
Top 10 Realtor
by the
*Austin Business
Journal*

*Zilker
neighborhood
specialist and
resident*



The Amiss Group
442-8581

email: tom@tomamiss.com

Bold Advocate • Sage Advisor

Robin Theobald Cravey
Attorney & Counselor at Law

Wills • Probate • Real Estate
Consumer • Environmental

www.robincravey.com



807 Brazos Suite 910 • Austin • 236-9655
not certified by Texas Board of Legal Specialization

PC guru

All PC
problems
solved

Data
recovery



(512) 301-HELP (4357)

2102 S. Lamar Blvd.
Austin, TX 78704

pcguru@allpcproblems.com
<http://allpcproblems.com>

The Candidates

The current executive committee of ZNA has nominated these neighbors to serve as elected officers in 2006:

President: Jeff Jack

First Vice President: Richard Gravois

Second Vice President: Dave Ward

Secretary: Ryan Stryker

Treasurer: Andy Elder

ANC Delegate: Robert Singleton

Z-News Editor: Lorraine Atherton

Social Chair: Rachel Elder

The following neighbors have agreed to serve on the executive committee in unelected positions in 2006:

Holiday Family Program chair: Barbara Cossie

Neighborhood Planning committee chair: Dave Piper

Parks committee chair: Dave Ward

Town Lake Park stakeholder: Kaye Trybus

Zoning committee chair: Bobby Rigney

Help *Keep Austin Weird* and out of the malls

Come to the first ever

• *South Lamar* • *Fall Festival '05*

LOCALLY OWNED businesses up and down the street will provide music, food, giveaways, sales all day long

Sunday, November 13, 2005 • noon - 8 PM

SOUTH AUSTIN FARMER'S MARKET

Saturdays 9-1  2910 South Congress

A market of small growers who bring only
fresh-picked vegetables and fruit

in the parking lot of El Gallo, across from St. Ed's

 SAFM@AUSTINFARM.ORG 

Serving South Austin with homegrown
fresh vegetables for 15 years



MEMBER

- Residential Shingle and Flat Roofing
- Velux® Skylight Installation
- Suntunnel® Installation
- Attic Ventilation
- Chimney Repair



CertainTeed 

VELUX

Professionalism At Its Best.

Here at Key Signature Roofing, we seek to consistently exceed our clients expectations by offering homeowners world-class products AND world-class installation.

Call 481-1888 to schedule an estimate with one of our Shingle Masters. We are happy to provide a list of references in your area.

Look for us on the web at
KeySigRoofing.com



**KEY SIGNATURE
ROOFING, INC.**
EXCELLENCE & INTEGRITY

512-481-1888





Keep your lawn healthy and beautiful with



grasshopper lawncare

Complete lawn maintenance for your home or business.

Sign up online. Pay online.

It's that easy.

www.grasshopperlawncare.net

Serving the Austin area.
Weekly or bi-weekly service starting at just \$20/week
go online, or call 512-560-9575 for more information

South Austin Police Report: From the SWAC Newsletter

The Southwest Area Commander's Forum was held on Sept. 14. Topics of discussion were Identity Theft Prevention, Burglary of Auto Prevention, and crime statistics for the Southwest Area Command. The next meeting of the Forum will be Dec. 14, 2005, at 7 p.m., at the Clinton Hunter South Substation, 404 Ralph Ablanado Drive. Please bring your concerns and ideas on how to better your neighborhoods.

Reducing violent crime and property crime:

Violent crime continues to decrease in our area, dropping 24% in the past three months. Robberies are down about 43%. Aggravated assaults are down 12%. Violent crime initiatives included emergency protective order home checks and sex offender home checks to verify current addresses (3 found in violation).

Property crimes continue to increase and are up 5% in the last three months. SW Crime analyst identified a trend related to business burglaries, which primarily targeted the South Lamar and Manchaca area. An initiative focused on a joint response by patrol and support units. During this initiative businesses were: Physically checked and stickers were placed on doors.

Surveillance was conducted on possible suspects, and Officers were assigned to target areas for close patrol. During the course of this initiative three suspects were arrested. One confessed to at least 26 burglaries and the other two suspects cleared four cases.

Initiatives to address residential and auto burglary focused on:
Burglary trends and patterns related to high burglary rates near neighborhoods around middle and high schools.
Daytime curfew violations involving truant students.
Nighttime curfew violations involving minors under the age of 17.
(Continued on page 5)

Nile Valley Herbs, Inc.
tel 512-442-6907
fax 512-442-6105
www.nilevalleyherbs.com
awad@nilevalleyherbs.com
Thanks for supporting
my village community
Awad

ENJOY THE MOST
Authentic Tex-Mex
&
mouthwatering margaritas
in Austin!
RIGHT IN YOUR OWN BACKYARD
Maudie's
TEX-MEX
Maudie's Too
1212 S. Lamar
440-8088
www.maudies.com

KALEIDOPROPERTIES
For Sale
440-1799
20 YEAR ZILKER RESIDENTS AND
NEIGHBORHOOD PROFESSIONALS
We Love Spreading GOOD NEWS!
Peach and Cynthia Reynolds
1709 Bluebonnet Ln.

Increase patrol of apartment complexes and residential areas with attentiveness on any suspicious activity. Assignment of officers to target problem areas for specific time periods.

Improving Traffic Safety:

To combat traffic fatalities, we ask that citizens voluntarily comply with all traffic laws. There have been six traffic fatalities this year in the SWAC. Traffic initiatives include: Speed trailer placement in 30 locations, "Late Till Eight", Motor officers conducting traffic enforcement till 8 pm., Neighborhood traffic enforcement, Crash Reduction Enforcement Zone, targeting S. IH-35, Slaughter Lane, and S. Congress. These initiatives resulted in 9,500 traffic-related citations and 164 DWI arrests.

Traffic Safety tips:

Do not park your vehicle left wheel to curb.
 Be aware of school zones 7:30-9 am and 2:30-4:30 pm.
 Wear your seatbelts.
 Do not use your cell phone while operating a motor vehicle.
 If you are having any continuous traffic problems in your neighborhood please contact your district representative.

The District Representative Officers (DRs) continue to work on the removal and clean up of transient camps along the greenbelt. Officers are also involved in increased enforcement of daytime curfew, bike patrol by evening officers in targeted neighborhoods, distribution of crime prevention fliers and burglary-of-auto fliers, meet and greet initia-

tives. Officers of the SWAC have tagged 75 abandoned vehicles in the last three months. DRs and patrol officers attended 42 neighborhood and community meetings and visited 63 neighborhoods during the National Night Out Event.

Crime prevention tips:

Car burglars look for valuables left in plain view (purses, laptops, cell phones, CDs, portable DVD players). Keep all items of value out of sight or in your trunk. Place them in trunk before you arrive at your destination.
 Keep your garage door closed whenever you do not have it in view. Open and unattended garages allow easy access for burglars. Most garages contain valuable tools and equipment that can be easily exchanged for quick cash. Always report any suspicious activity, vehicles, or persons. Following these tips can help us reduce crime in South Austin.

Helpful Numbers:

- Abandoned Vehicles, 280-0075
- Community Liaison Office, 974-4700
- Crime Stoppers, 472-8477
- Graffiti Removal, 854-4125
- Public Information Office, 974-5017
- Recruiting, 974-4211
- Southwest District Reps, 974-8241

Hey, Neighbor!
Zee you at the Zamboree!

**Don't miss the
 Zilker Zamboree Fall Festival**

Zamboree is an old-fashioned school festival with food, fun, and games for the kids, a new-fangled silent auction, and much, much more.

A brand-new bike will be raffled away on the day of Zamboree.

Tickets go on sale, 5 for \$1, the week of Zamboree.

**Zilker Elementary School
 Saturday, October 29
 noon-4 p.m.**

Come to the Zamboree!



Cats Love Housecalls

Dr. Cecilia Burnside, DVM
 8127 Mesa Drive
 Suite B206, #330
 Austin, TX 78759

512.343.9200

*Compassionate Veterinary Care
 in the Comfort of Your Home*

www.catslovehousecalls.com

Austin Yoga School



**Iyengar Hatha Yoga
 from the Heart
 We love beginners!**

Beginners to Advanced—Daily Classes
 Teacher Training—Special Workshops

1122 C South Lamar Blvd.
www.austinyoga.org · 916-4499

Neighborhood Planning Is Launched

by Dave Piper

Zilker's long-awaited neighborhood planning process with the City of Austin is finally under way! The kickoff meeting was held Oct. 1 at Unity Church, 2806 Del Curto. Our planning area is called the South Lamar Combined Neighborhood Planning Area; it includes Galindo, South Lamar, Barton Hills, and Zilker. Each neighborhood, however, will emerge from the process with its own plan addressing its unique needs and circumstances.

Each neighborhood is assigned a City staff person to work with the stakeholders. Zilker's is Mark Walters. The entire process is expected to last from 6 to 18 months. The City mailed a letter to all households, owners, and businesses with an address for utility service in the area. Those who responded should be notified by the City of future meetings. If you did not respond or did not get a notice, you can still contact Mark Walters at 974-7695 or simply attend the next meeting, which is tentatively scheduled for Nov. 2 at Unity Church.

The process will continue over the coming months

with workshops where stakeholders can talk about how they want the neighborhood to evolve for the next 20 or 30 years. The neighborhood planning department will produce a document based on stakeholder and staff input and legal guidelines. It will be presented to the Planning Commission for approval and finally to the City Council for adoption. Stakeholders will have the opportunity to address City officials at these sessions.

At the kickoff meeting the four neighborhoods split up into their own workshops and discussed what they like about their neighborhoods and what they see as challenges and opportunities. Zilker stakeholders discussed South Lamar at length. Not surprisingly, most of that discussion fell into the category of challenges and opportunities. Land use and transportation were the most discussed issues. There seemed to be agreement that we like the single-family housing stock of the neighborhood and that it should be protected. Shops, restaurants, the tree canopy, Zilker Elementary School, walkability, bikeability, and access to parks were also listed as preferences.

Challenges and opportunities included housing affordability, attracting a grocery store, commercial creep into residential areas, designating a greenbelt and a hike and bike trail along the UP railroad tracks (future

On the Boulevard: What's Old Is New Again

by Fontaine Maverick

Paggi House

Nestled in the pecan trees just south of Riverside Drive and east of Lamar is the Paggi House, the oldest existing building in South Austin. Built in 1840, it was first a carriage house and part of the Goodrich Plantation, an inn during the 1860s, and an ice plant after 1875. In the last thirty years it has been a restaurant, but it closed its doors in late 2004.

The new owners, part of the Austin Java partners, saw the potential of this beautiful old building and decided to resurrect the Paggi House Restaurant, with a few new twists. Leaving the architecture unchanged, they added a large deck/patio with a view of the golf course, plus more landscaping and outdoor seating on the west side. A cistern 35 feet deep was discovered inside, and it has become a central feature of the building, with a beautiful lighted fountain deep inside.

The menu is eclectic, focused on what chef George Thomas calls "small plates," such as Smoked Duck Nachos or Ahi Tuna Poke, or, my favorite, spicy Hummus. Paggi House also serves lunch and Sunday brunch, and there is live music on the weekends. On the

second weekend of the month, enjoy the Party on the Paggi-o. Check out the menu and a list of events at www.paggihouse.com.

P. Terry's

You have probably noticed on the west side of Lamar, just north of Barton Springs Road, a new little place that would be right at home in a Jetsons cartoon. P. Terry's opened in April after an extensive remodel of an abandoned Shortstop drive thru. The new owners are Patrick and Kathy Terry. Patrick tells me that this is their first business venture, and something that they have always dreamed about. The architecture style is something called Googie, and yes, you *can* google it. It's a sixties-style architecture popular in the western United States.

The menu is simple: great burgers and fries, including a tasty veggie burger, and delicious milkshakes. On the west side, there is a very pleasant outdoor seating area with attractive landscaping. Now that the temperature has dropped, this reporter will be there!



commuter rail?) for easier access to Town Lake and downtown.

A Services Forum, where residents can speak directly to providers of City or social services, is tentatively set for November 16. If there are specific City services you are interested in, please let Mark Walters know. If you want to know more about ZNA's participation in this process, please contact Dave Piper at 916-9636.

The Density Debate: How Close Is a Walkable Community?

by Jeff Jack

As we begin the City's neighborhood planning process, a fundamental question is, What is the right density for our neighborhood? In previous issues of *ZNews* we have discussed density as it relates to zoning, transit, affordability, and sprawl. Another hot topic in this debate is the connection between density and a more walkable community.

Most of us have enjoyed a truly walkable community sometime in our lives. For me, it was visiting Paris. I remember one exceptional evening walking along the streets, stopping at a bakery on one corner, a cheese shop on the next, and finally on the next block buying a bottle of red wine. The result was a simple meal made special by that stroll along the shop-filled streets. Such delightful experiences are just one motivation for creating a walkable community; each day we face very practical reasons also. With gas near \$3 a gallon, anything that allows us to drive less saves us money, as well as cleaning up our air and improving our health. Without a doubt, residents of Zilker could benefit from being able to walk to shops, restaurants, and services we need on a daily basis.

We often hear that to increase shopping options, we need to upzone properties for commercial use. A quick survey of local businesses (as noted in the July *ZNews*) shows that we have over 200 existing businesses in our area (not counting the many home-based businesses spread throughout our residential areas), with over 47 restaurants already. But most of these businesses are not strictly neighborhood services. As an example, we have way too many used car dealerships for just our neighborhood! With close to four miles of commercial strip along Lamar and Barton Springs Road, Zilker has the quantity of commercial opportunity we need, but perhaps not the right mix or quality that we desire. However, the determination of which businesses locate in the neighborhood is largely market driven, and almost all the current businesses depend on a much larger market area to remain financially viable. If all these

On the Boulevard: Blueprints for Now

In the works on South Lamar:

- Two cocktail lounges, at Barton Springs Road and at Gibson
- A small mixed use condo project behind Taco Xpress (soon to be a new Walgreens)
- A new office building in the 900 block of South Lamar, on the west side of the hill
- A townhouse and office condo project at 1702-1704 S. Lamar (five stories for the office-condos facing the street, three stories for 21 townhouses behind)
- A true mixed-use project at 300 S. Lamar (the Binswanger block), with more than 140 apartment units and more than 14,000 square feet of retail, under 60 feet high

businesses had to rely on the patronage of Zilker residents walking to their stores, most would shortly go out of business. An antique store on South Congress recently did an analysis of where its customers came from and found that only 25% of their sales were from the surrounding neighborhoods and 75% were from outside the area. The major problem with most commercial development to our neighborhood is that to remain viable, these businesses must draw even more customers from outside the area. We in Zilker may choose to walk to these new stores, but most of their customers will be driving cars, adding to the local traffic congestion, air pollution, and parking problems.

Many New Urbanists suggest that the solution to this dilemma is simply to increase the density of the surrounding neighborhoods by upzoning single-family property to multifamily, thereby allowing for more population (consumers) in the neighborhood. But would the increased population actually be able to support more development? And at what cost to the character of the neighborhood and quality of life for our existing residents? Using the example of the South Congress merchant, if the surrounding neighborhoods increased their density, would it ensure that the new residents would replace the 75% of sales that the rest of the city now provides? Would we have to have four, six, or ten times the current density to support all the new businesses that some suggest we add? In Zilker, that density would mean replacing all of the single-family homes with three- to five-story apartment and condominium blocks.

Such a solution is like the proverbial snake eating its tail. To enhance our lives, we want more shopping and entertainment within a walkable distance, so we add commercial zoning. But for these new businesses to be successful, we must accept more car traffic or add more

(Continued on page 9)

(Continued from page 1) six years, our fine Zilker residents have donated money, toys, clothes, household items, and food to help 21 families have a happier holiday season. ZNA wants to take on seven families this year—or maybe more, including our new neighbors from Louisiana. If you can help the ZNA Holiday Family Program, there will be seven families living right here in Zilker that will always remember the 2005 holiday season.

The families are selected by the counselor at Zilker Elementary School. A list of requested gifts will be given to the ZNA committee in November. Money donated by Zilker neighbors is used to purchase the gifts (or neighbors purchase items from the list and donate them), and volunteer elves wrap and deliver them to the

families just before Christmas Eve.

If you would like to donate money, make your check payable to ZNA and mail it to P. O. Box 33546, Austin, TX 78764-0546. Write "Holiday Family Program" on the memo line. If you would like to purchase toys, clothes, or other requested items to donate, call Barbara at 326-1222 (daytime number only) for more information. You can also use the form below to send in your contact information, or sign up at the ZNA quarterly meeting on October 24. Barbara and her ZNA elves will let you know when the gift lists arrive and the wrapping begins.

ZNA has always been delighted by the generous response of Zilker residents to the Holiday Family Program. The spirit of giving brightens the season for all of us. Caring, sharing and compassion—that's the Zilker way!



Zilker Neighborhood Holiday Family Program Volunteer Sign Up 2005

Yes, I want to help make the holidays happier for seven Zilker families.

- I would like to purchase a gift from a family's gift list. Please contact me when the lists arrive.
- I would like to help with gift-wrapping. Please contact me when the gifts are ready for wrapping.
- I would like to help with gift deliveries. Please contact me when the gifts are ready for delivery.
- I would like to donate money to the program. I have enclosed a check for \$ _____

Name: _____ E-mail: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

Please make checks payable to Zilker Neighborhood Association and mail with this form to:
ZNA Holiday Family Program, P.O. Box 33546, Austin, TX 78764-0546

BECOME A ZNA MEMBER TODAY

Membership is open to Zilker residents (renters or homeowners) 18 years old or older. Annual dues are \$7 per person. Additional contributions are welcome. (Many couples pay \$25.)

Name: _____ E-mail: _____

Name: _____ E-mail: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

Dues: _____ Contribution for ZNA general fund: _____

Contribution for special project (specify): _____

Please make checks payable to Zilker Neighborhood Association and mail with this form to:
ZNA Memberships, P.O. Box 33546, Austin, TX 78764-0546

(Continued from page 7)

local density, which in turn displaces the very same residents we are trying to help! Clearly, that is an extreme remedy. So what is the solution?

What we need is a balance between maintaining the residential quality of our neighborhood and providing accessible services. We can start with an assessment, as part of our neighborhood planning process, of our current mix of uses in our commercially zoned areas: what kinds of businesses we want to retain, what new businesses we want to encourage, what we have enough of, and which current uses are not compatible with our community's needs. While we have no power to influence current uses, we can create guidelines for future land use and include them in our neighborhood plan.

We can also encourage new mixed use (commercial plus residential) development in appropriate places. Sensitively planned mixed use development would help support new commercial uses that are neighborhood friendly without impinging on the character of the existing residential areas. But it has also been suggested that we add some commercial zoning in residential areas as a way to increase access to some local services. That idea should be carefully examined, weighing the impact versus the benefit. As an example, adding commercial zoning along Bluebonnet would convert almost fifty homes to commer-

cial use. Besides losing these homes, the remaining adjacent homes would be subject to new problems with parking, noise, and lighting—a radical change in their quality of life. Would such a change be worth a "shorter walk" to another coffee bar? We really need to consider our definition of a reasonable walking distance, so that everyone in the neighborhood has the option to walk to some combination of services, without sacrificing our residential character, just so a few folks won't have to walk a bit farther.

Walkability is a worthy goal for our neighborhood plan, but land use planning alone will not guarantee a truly walkable community. We will also need to make the walking experience as positive as possible. Better sidewalks, better lighting, and safer crosswalks are essential to improve walkability. In our neighborhood planning process, we have the chance to evaluate opportunities for new commercial development, set guidelines for new neighborhood services, select locations for additional business opportunities, and define what infrastructure improvements we need. As we embark on the formal neighborhood planning process, ZNA encourages everyone to get involved and help the neighborhood develop a truly walkable neighborhood plan.

VULCAN VIDEO

*for
lovers
of
mystery...
from BBC
and
A&E*

Foyle's War
Inspector Lynley

Midsomer Murders
Rumpole of the Bailey

A Touch of Frost
Mike Hammer
Nero Wolfe

Poirot
Miss Marple
Kavanagh Q.C.

Prime Suspect
Lord Peter Wimsey
Campion

Cadfael

Heat of the Sun

326-2629

Cracker
Hetty Wainthorp
Sherlock Holmes

Nomadic Notions



Austin's Oldest & Largest Full Service Bead Store!

Awaken your inner designer by creating your own jewelry

2426 Guadalupe St.
478-6200

3010 W. Anderson Lane
454-0001

Beads Gifts Jewelry Classes Parties Repairs

Austin City Limits: Has It Reached Its Limit?

by Dave Ward and Bobby Rigney

Following every Austin City Limits Festival since the first one in 2002, ZNA has met with the promoter (CSE) and parks department, and with other neighborhoods, to suggest ways to lessen the unavoidable impact an event of this size has on our neighbors.

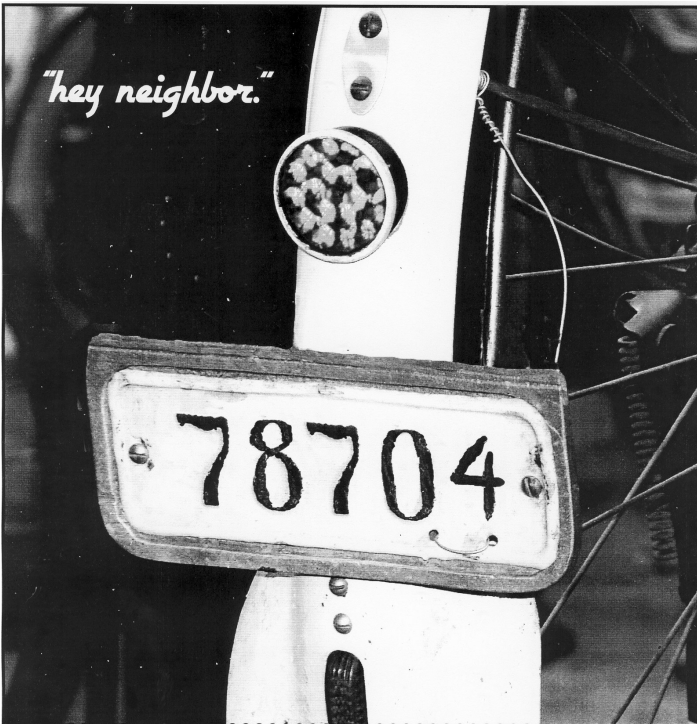
Each year there are ups and downs to report. This year, the music carried far into Zilker, probably because of a shift in the wind. By Sunday the wind had died down, and sound levels were reduced in the affected homes.

More troubling were the car counts by ZNA monitors, which showed more encroachment into the neighborhood. When streets in the northern part of the neighborhood (between Margaret and Barton Springs Road) are lined with parked cars and packed with drivers looking for parking, potential emergency access is compromised. This happens every year during large events like the ACL Festival and the Fourth of July. A top priority for the ZNA park events committee is to avoid that awful day when a house or loved one is lost because the fire truck or ambulance couldn't get through our narrow streets blocked with event traffic.

Parking remains the main problem in Zilker neighborhood. Parking problems consisted of illegal parking,

blocking driveways and fire hydrants, blocking lanes of traffic, the streets not being wide enough to accommodate parking on both sides of the street with two-way traffic and the streams of pedestrians, and the additional influx of cars in the neighborhood. Signs were again ignored. Again a more stringent application of COA Police Department towing would be more effective in mediating the parking problems.

Suggestions to mitigate parking and congestion problems include a combination of permanent and temporary No Parking zones in the area north of Margaret, using the standard No Parking signs, yellow paint on curbs, orange traffic cones, one-way streets, and parking on only one side of certain streets. Although there were PARD employees at some of the street entrances to the neighborhood, they were passive (showing small handmade signs or nothing at all) and not proactive. There needs to be more personnel with enforcement responsibilities. We are still hoping for shuttle buses to parking areas such as Barton Creek Square Mall or the Burger Center, plus smaller neighborhood shopping centers such as Lamar Plaza and The Corners, which might contract out some space. Permit parking would be manageable with special guest permits sent to residents during these events for guests of the




"hey neighbor."

78704

BICYCLE SPORT SHOP

Stop in and visit your new neighborhood bike shop.

517 S. Lamar • 477-3472
(at Barton Springs Rd.)



**Barton Springs Home of ~
Hot Coffee, Cool Threads & Live
Music Since 1992!**

COFFEESPACE

Flipnotics
Clothes Pad


**1601 Barton Springs
480-8646
www.flipnotics.com
Free Wireless Internet**

neighborhood residents.

Scheduling staggered end times for bands was somewhat effective in reducing large crowds exiting at the same time at night, although as with the headliner on Sunday night, most people are staying for the main act. Two entrances/exits were helpful.

Size of ACL Fest. In the 2003 report on the fest the recommendation was for an upper limit of 65,000 people. We hope it will be reduced to a more realistic level. We still would like CSE to lower the number of tickets sold: It would make the fest more enjoyable for attendees, more manageable for city staff, and lessen the impact on the neighborhoods and the park land. The *Statesman* reported that because of the unseasonably hot temperatures and large crowds the grass in the park was damaged more than usual.

The ZNA park events committee will continue to gather comments and suggestions from neighbors about the ACL Fest and other large events throughout the year. What we learn from attempts to manage and mitigate the effects of the ACL Fest can be useful to nonprofit events, such as the Trail of Lights and the Kite Festival, and make Zilker Park more enjoyable for neighbors and visitors alike. If you would like to help, contact Dave Ward at 912-1494.



Why look far and wide for an answer to your printing needs?

Southside Printing Service

is ready to serve you—
and it's *just* around the corner!

Forms * Stationery * Rubber Stamps
Instant printing * Business cards


1050-F South Lamar Blvd.
(in the Lamar Plaza Shopping Center)
444-2590

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

The official printer of Z-News, your Zilker neighborhood newsletter

Lamar Plaza Drug Store

"Your Neighborhood Pharmacy"



- ✦ Gifts & Greeting Cards ✦
- ✦ Prescriptions ✦
- ✦ Fax Service ✦
- ✦ UPS ✦
- ✦ Nursing Home Services ✦
- ✦ Durable Medical Equipment ✦

1132 South Lamar
in the Lamar Plaza Shopping Center
442-6777

BARTON HILLS ASSISTED LIVING

1606 Nash
and
BARTON HILLS GUEST HOUSE

1809 Ford

(512) 441-6000

Assisted living is one of the best alternatives to Nursing home placement when an individual does not require 24 hour nursing care but does need supervision, or assistance, with activities of daily living.

Visit our website or stop by for a visit!
<http://www.bartonhillsal.com>



Newsletter
of the Zilker
Neighborhood
Association

www.main.org/znaweb

P.O. Box 33546, Austin, TX 78764-0546

Editor:

Peggy Kelley, 440-1269

Ad Sales:

Fontaine Maverick, 443-3290

Distribution:

Open

Web Site:

Richard Gravois, 441-3430

Executive Committee of ZNA

Elected Officers:

President: Lorraine Atherton, 447-7681

Vice President: Dave Ward, 912-1494

Vice President: Hill Abell, 462-0141

Secretary: Rachel Elder, 428-9180

Treasurer: Andy Elder, 428-9180

ANC Delegate: Robert Singleton,

Z-News Editor: Peggy Kelley, 440-1269

Committee Chairs:

Social Chair: Rachel Elder

Holiday Family Program:

Barbara Cossie, 447-4437

Neighborhood Planning:

Dave Piper, 916-9636

Parks: Dave Ward, 912-1494

Town Lake Park: Kaye Trybus, 447-4437

Web Site: Richard Gravois, 441-3430

Zoning: Michael Heffernan, 448-2801,
and Bobby Rigney, 471-3758

About the Zilker Neighborhood Association

ZNA holds general meetings the fourth Monday of February, April, July, and October, at Zilker Elementary School. The Executive Committee meets at 7 PM the first Monday of each month, usually at Artz Rib House.

Our Purpose: To improve the quality of life in the neighborhood in matters of land use, environmental protection, public services, consumer protection, preservation of the historic and unique character of the community; to provide support in other matters of neighborhood concern; and to promote and participate in the civic life of the city.

What is Your Home Worth?



**FREE, Quick
OVER-THE-NET
Home Evaluation**

You will receive information on what comparable homes have sold for in your neighborhood and which homes are currently listed, how long they have been for sale, and their prices.

**Get The Facts
Without The Pressure**

Based on this information, you will know what your home is worth. This Complete Confidential Market Analysis is absolutely FREE.

**For a FREE, Quick
OVER-THE-NET
Home Evaluation**

Visit

www.AustinHomeStore.com

Thom Lemon, Broker