



Arboretum Tower Update

Zoning variance request for a 12 story, HD-6 building will lower your property value.

Even with opposition from 6 surrounding neighborhood associations, the tower developer put a contract on the vacant lot behind Chuy's, at the corner of Jollyville and Duval, two weeks after abandoning the previous plans. Now, the whole Zoning Variance request process starts over. On Tuesday, Oct. 17th there were at least 25 people before the Austin Zoning Commission to speak against this project. It was made perfectly clear that we were not opposed to a retirement facility of 60 feet (6 stories) or less, only to a building that is 120 feet (12 stories) tall and the highest density level of HD-6. Picture the equivalent of Dobie Mall. Personally, I can not believe that this project wasn't voted down by the Zoning Commission. They forwarded it on to the Austin City Council for a vote, despite the petition with over 800 names and the 25 people that showed up at the Zoning Commission meeting.

A group of 6 concerned neighbors, myself included, met with a representative from the Mayor's office and City Councilmen reps from each office on Oct. 31st. We again presented our case and objections. In turn they reported back to their respective offices after giving us the unofficial advice to develop a strong coalition of neighborhoods to protect our current zoning laws if we do not want to become the new "Downtown Austin". Should these new zoning laws go into affect, those putting their homes on the market will be required to fill out a Disclosure Type statement regarding your house, neighborhood, taxes, utilities, etc. In other words, everyone would be required to disclose that the zoning in our area has a potential for high-density 12 story commercial buildings in the vicinity.

On Thursday, November 16th please come in person to the Austin City Council Zoning vote. Let them know your opinion regarding the tower. The Zoning meetings start at 4:00 PM in the City Council Chambers, the case # is C14-06-0172. We do not have the agenda yet, but will send a Mesa Park Yahoo group notice when it is available. If you cannot attend, please go to the website:

<https://www.notower.com/> and locate a link for sending an e-mail to the Mayor and all Council members. Please use your own words, as we are not submitting form letters. Send a message to your City Council on what you want in your neighborhoods. All the neighborhood associations are not opposed to development, making it inevitable. Therefore, we want to at least work with developers that will work to blend in with our neighborhood and there are plenty of them out there. So, let's send a message loud and clear. Show up to the Council vote, deluge them with e-mails.

NW Commander's Forum

Our Northwest Area Commander's Forum is scheduled for Tuesday, November 14th at Westview Middle School located at 1805 Scofield Lane. The meeting starts at 7:00 PM. E-mail address is NWDR@ci.austin.tx.us.

The last Commander's Forum reported a very high burglary problem across 183 in the Oak Knoll area. At our MPNA meeting held Oct. 24th APD reported the problem had been resolved. The burglaries were occurring during the day between 10:00 am to 3:00 PM very large items were taken, which led the police to believe that at least 2 people were involved in the burglaries. The 2 men, eventually arrested, were running a landscape/yard care business and had been working in the area.

Recently, we had a very savvy neighbor notice a suspicious car, write down the license plate and e-mail it to our DR, Joe Maciel. The plate and car was verified as belonging to a wanted person who resides in Del Valley. Thank you to that neighbor. APD is now requesting that we call 911 (not 311 or e-mail) to report these kinds of incidents. Recently MPNA has also received e-mails reporting a significant increase in vehicle damage, tampering with private property and problems with reported drug activity in our neighborhood. With all the recent escalation in problems in our area, we urge everyone to pick up the phone and call 911 to report anyone or anything suspicious in our neighborhood. If taking a couple of minutes to pick up the phone and call 911 to report suspicious activity could result in keeping a neighbor or their property safe and help us all, why wouldn't you want to take the time?

In This Issue

- 1 Arboretum Tower Update
- 1 NW Commander's Forum
- 2 Thank You to All Our Volunteers
- 2 Yard of the Month
- 3 Holiday Decorating Contest
- 3 Mesa Park Play Group
- 3 Unusual Home Remedies

Big Thank You to All Our Volunteers

by: Terry Tevis

Recently our long-time volunteer helping distribute our newsletter stepped down. Our heartfelt gratitude to Bob Grissom for the years of his time, efforts and personal funds. On the other hand, I got to distribute our newsletter to our 15 neighbors that distribute the newsletter to every house. Except for about 4 residences, I got to introduce myself and personally thank these neighbors for the time that they take out of their daily lives to ensure that we have a newsletter. Without these neighbors donating time, we would have to turn to a professional company in order to have a newsletter. The *Mesa Park Messenger*, while a struggle in the last months since we need a new editor, is the best vehicle for getting our "Message" across.

It is a pleasure to see that a lot of young couples, renters in our neighborhood, kids and older residents are concerned about our neighborhood and want to step forward to join our Mesa Park team. Thank you to people like Julie Kennedy for the whole new look of our web site. Thank you to Susan for organizing our Yard of the Month. Thank you to the two people to step forward to volunteer for Block Captains for Neighborhood Watch program. We need more people stepping forward to volunteer for Board positions. To make it easier to understand just what kind of time each position entails read the following descriptions.

Board Member: Second Saturday of every month, Board Meeting at Milwood library for about 1-2 hours. We discuss issues concerning general MPNA policy or even sometimes specific resident problems. New ideas are especially welcome.

Officers of the Board: The one year is almost ended, and any volunteers for Board President, Secretary or Treasurer is welcome. Board officers participate in Board meetings every month, volunteer to do extra jobs needed, prepare for quarterly association meetings. As President this past year, there were a lot of hours devoted to re-organizing the association, but I usually devoted about 2-3 days a month. Writing articles for the newsletter, monitoring our post office box, organizing association meeting and interacting with all our surrounding neighborhood associations and it was fun meeting new people.

We have always publicly invited anyone to come to the Board meeting, and several neighbors have attended, to participate in our meeting. And I can ensure you that I solicited their opinion just as much as the Board's! To see if you would like to participate, plan on attending our next Board meeting scheduled for November 11th, 10:00 AM at Milwood library, or E-mail Ruth Kidwell at rkidwell@austin.rr.com.

Curves

30 Minute Fitness
Common Sense Weight Loss
All the Support You Need to
Reach Your Goals

918-1771

Oak Knoll/Hwy 183

241-1771

8127 Mesa Drive

**Bring Ad In And
Get First Month**

FREE

**For 30 minutes, put
Your health first**

Free Month available with 12 mo. c.d. program only.
Not valid with any other offer. Valid only at participating locations.

Yard of the Month

by: Susan Serna

Even with the summer drought and the change of season, we still have some great looking yards! For our "Best Halloween House" we want to recognize The Hruzeks at 11705 Spotted Horse -- great decorations! For our November YOTM, we congratulate Juanita & Jim Ziebell at 4815 Gray Fox -- good work! And thanks too for the continued nominations. Please send nominations to: sserna@austin.rr.com. Thank you!

APPLIED
SURFACES

PAINTING SERVICES

Interior • Exterior • Commercial • Residential • Move-in/out


Scott Patterson

appliedsurfaces@prodigy.net • 512-426-3503

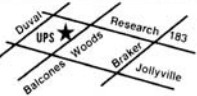
The UPS Store

338-0811
Fax: 338-4308

BALCONES WOODS SHOPPING CENTER
5114 BALCONES WOODS DR SUITE 307
HRS. MON. - FRI. 8AM - 6:00 PM • SAT. 9 AM - 5 PM



The UPS Store



3¢ COPIES
UNLIMITED COPIES!
8.5 x 11 White, One-sided
B&W Only — Not Valid
With Other Offers.
Expires 12-31-06

39¢ COLOR COPIES
UNLIMITED COPIES!
8.5 x 11 White, One-sided
Not Valid With Other Offers.
Expires 12-31-06

500 FREE Business Cards
with the purchase
of 500
Expires 12-31-06

Holiday Decorating Contest

Mesa Park Neighborhood Association plans to again award gift certificates for the best home holiday decorating. We are looking forward to seeing all the creative and festive designs to celebrate the spirit of the Holidays.

Your Mesa Park Neighbor & Realtor® Since 1995

Kay Wolking Bratton, ASP REALTOR®



SELL YOUR HOME for MORE MONEY
and 50% FASTER . . . Call Kay, an ASP*
REALTOR®, who stages "Homes to Sell" with
her creativity and specialized ASP* training.

*Accredited Home Staging Professional (ASP)
Accredited Buyers Representative (ABR)
Internet Real Estate Professional (e-PRO)

(512) 924-5167
www.KayBratton.com





Mesa Park Playgroup

by: Julie Kennedy

I am interested in joining or creating a playgroup in our neighborhood. If one exists, please let me know. If not, then let's start one! I have a 15 month old daughter, and I'd love her to get together with other kids. Please contact me at julie@digitalcitydesigns.com.

Unusual Home Remedies

provided by: Cindy Lindsay

Drinking two glasses of Gatorade can relieve headache pain almost immediately, without the unpleasant side effects caused by traditional pain relievers.

Colgate toothpaste makes an excellent salve for burns.

A couple of curiously strong Altoids peppermints will clear up your stuffed nose.

Sore throat? Just mix 1/4 cup of vinegar with 1/4 cup of honey and take 1 tablespoon six times a day. The vinegar kills the bacteria.

Soak a cotton ball in white vinegar and apply it to a bruise for 1 hour. The vinegar reduces the blueness and speeds up the healing process.

Cover a blemish with a dab of honey and place a Band-Aid over it. Honey kills the bacteria, keeps the skin sterile, and speeds healing. Works overnight!

To disinfect a broken blister, dab on a few drops of Listerine, a powerful antiseptic.

To prevent the screws in eyeglasses from loosening, apply a small drop of Crystal Clear nail polish to the threads of the screws before tightening them.

Saturate an abrasive sponge with Coca Cola and scrub away rust stains. The phosphoric acid in the coke is what gets the job done.

Jokes

provided by: Cindy Lindsay

- The young man from Mississippi came running into the store and said to his buddy, "Bubba, somebody just stole your pickup truck from the parking lot!
Bubba replied, "Did you see who it was?"
The young man answered, "I couldn't tell, but I got the license number"
- **NEWS FLASH!** - Kentucky's worst air disaster occurred when a small two-seater Cessna 150 plane, piloted by two University of Indiana students, crashed into a cemetery earlier today.
Search and Rescue workers have recovered 300 bodies so far and expect the number to climb as digging continues into the evening.
The pilot and copilot survived and are helping in the recovery efforts.

Classified:

Peace of Mind Pet Care since 2004 in Mesa Park! Experienced vet techs care for your pets. Call 794-1031 free estimates.

Piano Lessons for young children in my home. Call Elizabeth @ 345-5584 for more information.

To place your ad in the Mesa Park Messenger, please contact Claudia at: claudia.mpna@gmail.com

Do you have an announcement to share or neighborhood news?

Is there something you would like your neighbors to know?

Please send us your news or stories and we will publish them in the next issue of the Mesa Park Messenger.

Emergency: 911
Police Non-Emergency: 311
NW Austin Police District Rep: SPO Joe Maciel,
joe.maciell@ci.austin.tx.us, 974-4289

Reminder: The MPNA is not a HOA (Homeowner's Association). If you have a complaint or need to report a violation, please contact the appropriate city official for assistance. Thank you!

Neighborhood Contacts

President:
Terry Tevis, mpnapres@yahoo.com, 736-8469

Treasurer:
Susan McVicker, susanmcv@att.net

Board Members:
Claudia Ullrich, claudia.mpna@gmail.com
Cindy Lindsay, TreeTopProp@prodigy.net, 346-2232

Hon. Board Member:
Val Schroeter, 345-3314

Quarries Representative:
Pamela Villars, pvillars@earthlink.net, 418-8219

Volunteer Coordinator:
Ruth Kidwell, rkidwell@austin.rr.com, 343-1638

Yard of the Month Chairperson:
Susan Serna, sserna@austin.rr.com

Lost & Found Pets:
Jennifer, POMpetcare@yahoo.com, 794-1031
Marie Wilson, organize4u@prodigy.net, 343-2662

Park Chairman:
Kendall Kelsoe, ninpo_ikkan@juno.com

Webmaster:
Julie Kennedy, julie@digitalcitydesigns.com

Newsletter Editor:
Camille Sehon, camille.sehon@nov.com

Your Mesa Park Resident Realtor



Let my experience and knowledge make the difference for you.

G.A. "Sandy" Nelson, Jr.
Broker Associate, CRS, GRI, ABR

Residential Sales - Leasing
Relocation

512-502-7856

www.SandyNelson.com

E-mail Sandy@SandyNelson.com

3933 Stead Ave., B-110
Austin, TX 78759

JBG Goodwin
CORPORATION
Your Professional Friend in Real Estate