

# Alamo Heights News

CITY OF ALAMO HEIGHTS

6116 BROADWAY

78209

Volume 1, Issue 4

May 2007

## Wilson House Plans Show Architectural Success Story



316 Argo before planned demolition



New look for 316 Argo

While demolition requests have often resulted in controversy, the results have been remarkably different in the case of Joe and Denise Wilson's request. Their actions and resulting reconstruction plans for 316 Argo have won rave reviews from neighbors concerned about architectural style and neighborhood integrity.

The Wilsons submitted their request to demolish their detached garage and the roof of their house in order to construct a second-story addition to accommodate the needs of their family. They also plan to construct a carport with storage space.

The couple met with neighbors to unveil their project and received numerous letters of sup-

port because the planned construction fits the character of the neighborhood. The Mayor and City Council spoke highly of the plans and unanimously approved the project on April 30.

Residents attending the meeting expressed their support, not only for the Wilson's project but also for the way the demolition process and the new Residential Development Standards worked.

Emma Svododa, an Alamo Heights resident, said it best when she talked about the proposed project. "The Wilsons obviously love this area and are perfect examples of what homeowners and builders should consider when renovating in Alamo Heights."

## Trim Trees and Shrubs to Improve Safety and Visibility

Recent rains have accelerated the growth of grass, shrubs and trees. In some cases, shrubs and tree limbs have grown in length and become laden with new and thicker foliage. While their beauty is enhanced, some trees and shrubs on corner lots have become so dense and have grown to such heights and lengths that they obstruct traffic signs and street identification signs.

Residents who live on corner lots should check their trees and shrubs and, if necessary, trim away foliage that obstructs a clear view of traffic signs and on-coming vehicles. These signs should be clearly visible to approaching motorists at 100 feet from an intersection. Please help provide safe intersections in the community.

## Calendar

June

4	City Council Meeting	5:00 p.m.
6	Board of Adjustment	7:00 p.m.
19	Architectural Review Board	6:00 p.m.
25	City Council Meeting	5:00 p.m.

\* Note: City Offices will be closed May 28 for Memorial Day

Holiday Solid Waste Pickup Schedule will be in effect for the week of May 28th.

**911 for EMERGENCY**

Fire/EMS (Non Emergency): 824-1281

Police (Non-Emergency): 822-3321

Police Administration Office: 822-6433

Police Investigations: 822-2164

**CITY HALL**

Administration: 822-3331

Taxes: 882-1502

Water: 882-1507

Court Clerk: 882-1501

Public Works: 826-0516 (includes permits, garbage & trash, brush, recycling, inspections, etc.)

Mayor & Aldermen

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HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGER

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## CITY BRIEFS

### 'Click It or Ticket' Participation Announced

The Alamo Heights Police Department will participate with thousands of police agencies nationwide in the "Click It or Ticket" program May 21-June 3. People violating the seat belt use and child safety seat laws will risk receiving a citation not only in Alamo Heights but throughout the San Antonio area and across the state.

Studies show that use of seat belts and child safety seats save lives and prevent injuries. Although Texas had a 90.4 percent seat belt usage rate in 2006, many people still do not buckle up.

Using seat belts does not cost a dime but not using them could cost a person a citation during this intensified enforcement period. It's simple - "Click It or Ticket."

### Post Address Number to Speed Emergency Personnel

Seconds count in an emergency. Help Emergency Services personnel find you fast by clearly displaying your address.

When you call 911, the emergency response system is activated immediately. Your telephone number and address appear on the dispatcher's 911 screen, even before your call is answered. The dispatcher then answers your call and sends the appropriate agencies.

This process is completed in a matter of seconds, but valuable time can be lost later if responding personnel cannot see your address numbers from the street.

The Alamo Heights Fire Department recommends that address numbers be at least four inches high, with a letter width of one-half inch. They also recommend that numbers be reflective or of a color that contrasts with the background so they can be read at night.

If you have questions or need advice about where to locate the numbers on your residence, call the Alamo Heights Fire Department at 824-1281.

### Solid Waste Reminder

All solid waste containers set out for collection should weigh no more than 40 pounds so the collection loaders can lift them easily into the collection truck. Bulky waste, such as tree limbs, should be cut into 3' to 4' lengths so they can be handled easily.

Sharp objects, such as broken glass, should be placed in cardboard boxes or wrapped with cardboard and clearly labeled as

"sharps" to alert the loaders to handle with care. Please call the Public Works Department at 826-0516 for information about solid waste collection or recycling.

### 'Fill the Boot' Campaign Succeeds

The Alamo Heights Fire/EMS Department participated in the Annual MDA Fill the Boot campaign in April, the eighth year the department has helped raise funds for local MDA patients. With the help of citizens, the Fill the Boot campaign in Alamo Heights collected more than \$12,000.

The donated funds will send eight MDA kids to summer camp in June. Eighty-nine percent of the funds collected stay in the San Antonio metro area.

Firefighters and EMS personnel will present the funds during the Annual MDA Jerry Lewis Labor Day Telethon. Firefighters also will donate their time to answer the telephones during the telethon.

Firefighters donate their time each year to help send kids with muscular disease to summer camp. They assist in carrying patients onto the buses, since they receive training in moving patients as part of their normal job duties.

### Public Works Department Updates Equipment

The Alamo Heights Public Works Department recently acquired two new pieces of equipment and has another on order.

The department received a new solid waste collection truck, which has allowed the city to sell two 1987 models that were being maintained as spares. The new truck gives the department a more modern fleet to collect the city's solid waste efficiently.

The second piece of new equipment is a Bobcat skid loader that is used for both street repair and water/sewer projects. The Bobcat is particularly valuable for hauling material and cleaning up debris in tight quarters with minimum disturbance to adjacent properties.

The department is awaiting delivery of a new bucket truck to use for work on traffic signals and tree trimming. The bucket truck will replace a 1987 model that has become increasingly unreliable and more difficult to maintain. Because the reach of the new truck is greater than that of the old one, the city should eliminate the expense of renting specialized equipment to install holiday decorations.