**BAH HUMBUG!**
by Kay Kimbell

“It’s the most wonderful time of the year” as the song says. We spend time with family and friends. We shop for gifts and decorations, as well as food for holiday parties and meals. But with all that shopping comes a lot of stress and frustration with traffic jams, crowds, long lines, idiots with shopping baskets who cut in front of us then block the aisle, and rude drivers who steal our parking spot. It’s anything but wonderful.

The other day I was standing in one of those dreadful long lines that was slower than Christmas. “Bah humbug”, I said to myself. Then it dawned on me: We’re buying all this stuff for the purpose of bringing joy to our loved ones, but we don’t have much joy in the process of shopping for it.

The things we buy for family and friends should be an expression of our own joy, because ultimately, joy is the greatest gift we can share with our loved ones. Don’t allow your joy to be dimmed by traffic jams, crowds, long lines, and rude people. Don’t be a bah humbug.

**SIDEWALKS & STOP SIGNS**
by Jenny Heymann

The Traffic & Infrastructure Committee directed several requests to Councilman Gallagher’s office for updates to our neighborhood’s infrastructure. Last month the committee walked the 100-300 blocks of Greenwich to collect signatures in support of installing sidewalks on the odd-numbered side of the street—the only area without sidewalks. It was originally believed this project could be funded through the Neighborhood Access & Mobility Program, but at this time we are uncertain about the funding source. Other funding sources are being investigated.

The Traffic & Infrastructure Committee also requested a 4-way stop for the intersection of Kenilworth and Brees. But the City has already determined this area does not receive enough traffic to warrant an all-way stop. So it’s up to residents to help change the City’s mind by reporting all accidents that occur in the neighborhood.

On a positive note, City Council has agreed to replace the stop signs at the Mt. Calvary triangle with larger signs, and will also repaint the crosswalks to make them more visible to traffic.
WANT TO CHANGE THE WORLD (WITHOUT GETTING BURNED OUT)?
by Kay Kimbell

At a time when what’s wrong in the world seems complicated and daunting, neighborhoods offer hope that we can still make a difference. What’s overwhelming at the international, national, or municipal level can often be fixed closer to home, without large sums of money.

So what is the answer? Simple: Join THNA. Get involved with your community.

Regardless of political views, artistic tastes, or differences of opinion, all of us belong to this community, and each of us has an equal stake in what happens here. THNA provides ways for us to connect with each other, to stay informed about issues affecting our neighborhood, and offers the collaborative power for us to have a say in what happens in our community.

The greatest challenges facing Terrell Heights are the inaction and disconnectedness that permeate our community. It is only by getting involved and taking action that it becomes eminently feasible for us to have a direct impact on our community and the functioning of THNA. When a crisis occurs (a rash of burglaries) or opportunities arise (plans to revitalize the park), the people of THAN—our neighbors—stand beside us to make improvements for all Terrell Heights residents.

Supporting THNA is one of the very best ways we can help to develop, nurture and sustain our community. As residents of Terrell Heights, we are the keys to the success of our neighborhood and THNA.

Want to change the world (without getting burned out)? Join THNA today by visiting http://terrellheights.org/household or mail a $25 check to 1248 Austin Highway, #106-220, San Antonio, TX 78209.

‘TIS THE SEASON TO BE SAFE!

The holiday season is open season for criminals, so it’s very important to stay vigilant during this time. Here are a few safety tips:

★ Call SAPD Northside Sub Station at 210-207-8126 to schedule a courtesy vacation patrol
★ Have neighbors/family members pick up your newspaper and mail
★ Leave a radio on so the house sounds occupied
★ Keep windows and doors locked at all times
★ If you come home and think someone is in your home, DO NOT ENTER! Go to a neighbor and call the police.
★ Place gifts where they cannot be seen from outside your home
★ Be aware of your surroundings
★ Have your keys out and ready when you are approaching your vehicle
★ Don’t open the door to strangers

For more safety tips, visit www.sanantonio.gov/SAPD/ Crime-Prevention-Tips.