



Volume 31: Issue 2

February 2017

SUNDAY SCHOOL

PLACE: ZHCC, 8787 W. Airport Blvd., Houston, TX 77071 Tel: 713-270-9339

TIME: Different times for each group

DATE: **February 12, 2017.**

Children's Session The Sunday School session will start at **10.30 am to 11.30 am**
- Story of The Other Wise Man

Middle Group: The Sunday School session will start at **11.00 am.**

Youth Group: Sarosh Collector and Kaemerz Dotiwalla conduct this session. Age group - High School age

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday – Feb 12, 2017, 10.45 – 11.45 am **ZAH FITNESS CLASS** (see details below)

Tuesday – March 21, 2017 **Navroze Humbandagi – Details to be announced**

- **Navroze is on 20th March at 5.28 am Houston time**
- **Color – White**
- **Year of the Rooster**

Friday – March 24, 2017

Fri to Sun – April 28-30, 2017

Sunday – June 4, 2017

Fri to Sun – June 23-25, 2017

Ava Parab Jashan – Details to be announced

FEZANA AGM

Maidhiyarem Gahambar (Dae Mahino)

ZAH Z-Camp 2017

Please Note:

****Navroze function (previously scheduled for March 25, 2017, is now cancelled due to ZAH Renovations (See EC Report below for details)**

****ZAH Annual Carnival (previously scheduled for April 9, 2017 will be moved to a future date)**

SPECIAL REQUEST

Shop Using AmazonSmile To Support ZAH for all your Christmas shopping and beyond

MEETINGS

GOLDEN GROUP

Fourth Sunday of each month. Interested? Please call Zarine Balsara at (832) 288-2436

LIBRARY COMMITTEE	First Sunday of each month at 11:00 AM. Interested in helping? Or would like more information, please call Aban Rustomji at 281-493-1275 or e-mail her at aban@coatingindustries.com
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REPORTS

EC REPORT

ZAH Renovations: The Vision 2020 plan included renovating the center. We are going to start with the bathrooms, the atrium and the main hall. The EC plan is to start the work ASAP and try and finish by mid-April prior to the FEZANA AGM on 4/27- 4/30. Due to the work in progress the EC has decided to cancel the March Navroze function, as otherwise we will not be able to get the work done in time, and we can't have a function without access to the bathrooms. Here are the highlights of the renovation.

1. Kitchen sewer line repair. The kitchen sewer line kept clogging because of a bow in the line, we are going to replace this line.
2. Re tile the atrium – Since the Phase 3 construction was creating a new entry into the atrium the tile in the new section would not have matched. Also repairing the kitchen sewer line required that tile be broken in that section. The tile in the atrium was looking grungy as well. To fix all these issues and make it look seamless, the EC has decided to replace the tile in the atrium.
3. All 3 bathrooms will be renovated, with new tiles, new lighting and automated fixtures and granite countertops. The ladies room will also be expanded to use up some dead space, creating an additional stall and a dressing area near the shower.
4. Main Hall ceilings tiles and lighting will be replaced and the area around the stage redone to make it look better. We will also be doing other cosmetic touchups to make the hall look better.
5. Atrium ceiling tiles and lighting will be replaced at the same time as the main hall.
6. Kitchen renovation will start after the AGM as we cannot get everything done before then.

Phase 3 A update: Construction is in full swing. The structural steel frame and the roof have been installed. The framing for the interior and exterior wall is complete and the exterior sheathing is currently being installed. We are making progress and hope to complete soon. Attached are some photos showing the building taking shape.

Commit for 5: We are very grateful to all the members who have signed up for the Commit for 5 program. For the ones who are a little behind in their payments, we urge you to please catch up. We would like to request all our members to join this program at whatever amount they feel comfortable with, or make a one-time donation.

I want to thank our wonderfully dedicated, hard working renovations team, as none of this could be possible without their work. The team members are: Zia Anklesaria, Rohintan Deputy, Aspi Colah, Yezdi Engineer, Farokh Firozgary, Kamalrukh Gandhi, Arzin Italia, Yasmin Medhora, Pervin Sagar, Arnavaz Sethna, Farzana Sidhwa.

Best Always,
Aderbad Tamboli
For the ZAH Executive Committee

LIBRARY REPORT

By Jango Mistry

An Evening with FIRES

As most of you know, ZAH is hosting FEZANA's 3-day Annual General Meeting (AGM) at the end of April. On the evening of April 27, the day before the AGM starts, we are planning an event to showcase FIRES to our members and to out-of-town guests.

A noted dignitary, Aban Marker Kabraji has accepted our invitation to be the chief guest and keynote speaker for the evening. A biologist and a scientist, Ms. Kabraji is the Regional Director of the Asia Regional Office of [IUCN](http://www.iucn.org), International Union for Conservation of Nature. We are excited to have this distinguished activist with us.

In addition to the speaker, the evening will feature a short entertainment program followed by dinner. The Library will also feature an exhibition of our cultural artifacts and a presentation linked to the exhibits that will bring them to life.

Like previous ZAH Library events, this evening promises to be entertaining and informative. Watch for more details in subsequent issues of Manashni. But in the meantime, please mark your calendars for 7pm on Thursday, April 27.

YOUTH REPORT

By Yazad K. Sidhwa – ZAH Youth Group Web Master

We had a few activities these past two months and our entire Youth Group worked pretty hard to make these activities a great success.

In January, we had a great start with the Youth Group going out to volunteer at the Houston Food Bank on Jan 14th. It was a great fulfilling experience again for some of us who had been there before as well as for the new comers to be able to enjoy the new experiences of volunteering through ZAH. We worked very hard and helped prepare 500 meals which was an excellent outcome. We would like to thank all the volunteers, chaperons and parents for helping out and making the trip possible.

We are planning a lock-in during the month of February and one of our activities during the lock-in shall be preparing Lunches for a non-profit organization called Lunches of Love. They help and support ending childhood hunger in Fort Bend County by providing a free nutritious sack lunch during extended school holidays and weekends.

VISION 2020 Team Report

By Kayomerz Sidhwa

Vision2020 Strategic Projects Update

Dear Community Members,

At the outset, we wish you a very Happy and Prosperous 2017 and would also like to take this opportunity to express our heartfelt thanks to all our donors and well-wishers who have so magnanimously contributed to our V2020 program since 2013.

One of the highlights of 2016 was the much awaited “Expansion” of our Center (Phase IIIA) after the ground breaking ceremony we had earlier last year. This has been one of V2020’s major initiatives and the Center has been buzzing with a lot of construction activities since December 2016. Please have a look to view progress when you are at the Center if you haven’t already. It is so heartening and fulfilling to see our first V2020 initiative starting to come to fruition which has been possible only with the noble and generous contributions of Aban Rustomji & family as well as other donor families.

Thanks largely to Sam Bhadha and other donors, another V2020 initiative regarding renovations and upgrades at the Center is also underway although under preliminary stages. At present, a few community members are enthusiastically working on some future renovation plans and will be communicated to all by the responsible individuals once finalized, approved and ready to go.

The Atash Kadeh construction, costs of which are entirely donated by Feroze and Shernaz Bhandara & family, is currently under the City permitting process and further updates will be provided as available.

We whole-heartedly thank all our benevolent donors for their contributions from 2013 to 2016. If you have unintentionally overlooked and not sent in your pledge checks for 2016 or for earlier years, we respectfully request you to please do so to the Treasurer ZAH indicating Vision2020 in the memo field. This will assist us with our budgeted disbursements for the expenses we shall incur during 2017 and beyond.

All others who have been contemplating or still considering being a part of this program, we urge you to please have a look at the developments and make this a priority as this strategic financial program will benefit ALL OF US, not just a select few. **All donations are tax deductible** and in case of queries or questions please contact Aderbad Tamboli at axtamboli@windstream.net or Kayo Sidhwa at kaysid@hotmail.com.

Kayo Sidhwa
V2020 Strategic Projects Committee

ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

By the Entertainment Committee

Jashne Sadeh

The Jashne Sadeh event was celebrated at the ZAH Center on Saturday, January 28, 2017 and was attended by estimated 200 people including children. The ZAH received an estimated amount of \$400/- from this event (includes 22% on expense).

The celebration commenced with the beautiful prayers recited by Ervads Bomanshah and Zubin Sanjana, Farhood and Shapur Pavri. The guests were then requested to proceed outdoors for the festivities around the camp fire. Traditional songs and dancing took place around the fire.

Later, all guests feasted on the lavish Potluck dinner of 80 plus dishes brought by families to share with others. There was a variety of home cooked rice, kabobs, cutlets, dals, veggies, salads, chicken and beef dishes, pastry puff patties, sandwiches, pizza, etc. Everyone enjoyed tasting the various dishes and took the left overs home.

Thanks to Bob Yazdani for providing a DJ. The traditional Persian music set the mood for the evening and the dance floor was packed with elegant dancers.

The ZAH would like to thank all attendees, our Ervads, donors and volunteers for making this function a grand success.

Super Bowl LI

Super Bowl LI event at the Center was held on Sunday, 1/28/17.

There were estimated 45 attendees who had a grand time watching the exciting game, the wonderful halftime show, the unique commercials and cheering their teams. The adults and kids went rowdy during the competitive last quarter of the game. The lucky guys of the Football Squares' pool were happy with their winnings.

All viewers relished the potluck brought by all families which included appetizers, heavy finger foods, even curry chawal, desserts and cool drinks.

Thanks to Zia Anklesaria and Arzin Italia of the Entertainment Committee for arranging this event. Also thanks to Danesh Desai, Rustom Anklesaria, Aderbad Tamboli and friends for setting up the projection in the hall. Thanks to all kids and volunteers who set up the hall, food trays and chipped in to clean up the hall and kitchen before they left the center.

MISCELLANEOUS

KIDDOS PITCHING IN!

During the week of 16th January, due to heavy rains accompanied by high velocity winds, rainwater had seeped into the Atrium of our Center from the skylight above. This resulted in a mini ocean of water on the Atrium floor. Some of our Sunday School kids group children who were at the Center on 20th January. promptly got to work and mopped up the water from Atrium floor.

A big thank-you to all the children who helped take care of the ZAH Center that day – Ava Pundole, Mahtab and Darius B. Dastur, Roshni Chikhliwala, Natasha Dungor, Sabrina and Sanaea Warden, Neville and Natasha Kanga. Many thanks to Zarina Pundole for co-ordinating the clean-up.



ZAH FITNESS CLASS

Ate too much over the Holiday Season? Feel you need to shed a few pounds?

Join the ZAH Fitness Crew for a fun one hour work out. Aerobics, simple exercises and core work out. We will also share lots of healthy food recipe ideas. We will also have tips on eating healthy and eating clean. We will also have a sample of protein shakes to try.

If you guys have Dumbbells, weights, therabands at home. Please bring them we can use them during our workouts.

All ages above 12 are welcome to participate.

Spectators welcome ONLY for the Open House provided they do not disturb the session.

Bring a friend or two and support the ZAH!

Date: Sunday, 12th February 2017

New Time: 10.45 am- 11.45 am

Bring water bottle and towel.

Bring Floor mat and your energy!

New Fitness/Yoga/Meditation Instructors welcome.

Thanks for your support.

Your ZAH Fitness Crew

STATISTICAL RECORD

The ZAH Library has undertaken a project to record new family arrivals, births, navjotes, graduations, weddings and deaths, of the Zoroastrian community in Houston area from 1976, when ZAH was first formed. So far we have compiled these statistics by extracting them from Manashni. However, since we started publishing Manashni in 1987, we are missing information from 1976 to 1987. The summary of the statistical record, as of the day, will be put in a time capsule in the newly constructed Purvez Rustomji Room. *This information will NOT be posted on the Internet and is only for our records.*

Please fill out and return the attached form (at the end of *MANASHNI*) to Arnavaz Sethna by e-mail. **We reiterate that the event information should be from 1976 onwards.** We would greatly appreciate your input so we have a complete set of data. Thank you.

For all questions, please give first name, last name, month and year

MNE SCHOLARSHIP

The ZAH is very pleased to announce the MNE scholarship, a need-based scholarship sponsored by Mike Engineer. The applicant must be enrolled in, or be ready to enroll in a college or post high school vocational, IT or technical school.

The first scholarship of \$3,500 will be announced in March, 2017 and additional \$1,000 scholarships may be awarded later in the year.

Information about the criteria for the scholarship and the application form are on the ZAH website (under Scholarship). **The filing deadline is February 26, 2017.** If you have any questions, please contact Mike Engineer at zah.mne.scholarship@gmail.com

We hope members of the community will make good use of Mike's generosity and that we will get many applications for the scholarship.

CONGRESS 2000 LEGACY AWARDS

ZAH & YOUR LEGACY TEAM ARE PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THAT THE 2017 SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS WILL BE THE 10TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY ONES AND BE PRESENTED AT A DINNER TO BE HELD DURING THE FEZANA AGM IN HOUSTON AT THE END OF APRIL 2017.

THIS YEAR WE ARE DELIGHTED TO HAVE A TOTAL OF THREE SCHOLARSHIPS OUT OF WHICH TWO ARE THE congress2000legacy FOR \$3000 EACH & ONE IS THE CYRUS DESAI AWARD FOR \$3000

Do be aware that for your convenience, the application is in a fillable pdf format and please ensure that you read the FAQ's link on our Scholarship page and then if you have any questions write to us at our e-mail and/or call Homi Davier at 832-428-4285.

THE TIME HAS COME TO START GETTING YOUR DATA TOGETHER. READ ALL THE RULES, CRITERIA AND REQUIREMENTS CAREFULLY AND ONLY THEN BEGIN THE APPLICATION. DO ENSURE THAT YOUR COMPLETE DOCUMENTATION CAN REACH US LATEST BY THE **DEADLINE** DATE OF:

FEBRUARY 15, 2017

THE 2017 APPLICATION IS AVAILABLE ON LINE AT zah.org AND HERE IS A DIRECT LINK:

http://zah.org/?page_id=2704

E-MAIL YOUR COMPLETED APPLICATION & ALL SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS TO : congress2000legacy@gmail.com

*WISH YOU GOOD LUCK!
THE LEGACY TEAM*

WZCC REAL ESTATE SEMINAR

Dear WZCC Members, Friends and Supporters,

The Houston Chapter of WZCC is delighted to present an informative presentation on

**Making Money in Residential Real Estate Properties – Re-selling (Flipping) / Renting
by three local experts in the field
Rubina Byramji, Kersi Engineer and Pankaj Arora.**

Wednesday, February 22, 2017 at 6:30 pm at Madras Pavilion in Sugar Land.

**Please RSVP before February 18, 2017
Kershaw K. Khumbatta @ 281 313 8006 or kershaw@khumbattapc.com**

*Everybody is welcome.
Hope to see you on February 22nd. At 6:30 pm*

Board Members
WZCC - Houston Chapter

STATISTICAL RECORDS FORM

Family Arrived: _____

Child born: _____

Child born: _____

Child born: _____

Navjote: _____

Graduation: High School Under grad Masters/Certification Postdoctoral

Wedding: _____

Death: _____

Navjote/Navar/Wedding of Houston area residents performed outside of Houston

Name: First _____ Last _____ Event _____ MM/YY: _____



World Zarathushti Chamber of Commerce

BUILDING THE SPIRIT OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP

HOUSTON CHAPTER

Invites you to attend

An Interesting & Useful Presentation

Making Money in Residential Real Estate Properties Reselling (Flipping) / Renting

by

Rubina Byramji — Kersi Engineer — Pankaj Arora

Wednesday, February 22, 2017

Mixer & Appetizers: 6:30 PM
Dinner: 7:00 PM
Meeting: 7:45 PM

Cost

\$10 WZCC Members for the Year 2017
\$15 Guests and Non-members

Rubina Byramji, Kersi Engineer and Pankaj Arora have several decades of real estate experience amongst them in the Houston, Texas and Las Vegas, Nevada markets. They will discuss the generation of income through Residential Real Estate Investing. The two areas of discussion will be the purchase of rental properties, and the purchase/refurbishment/resale of properties. It will also include researching and purchasing the "right" properties, acquisition of loans, using individual versus general contractors, risks associated with such investments, and methods of minimizing investment risks. WZCC Houston Chapter invites you to attend this very informative presentation by these highly experienced professionals.

RSVP Before February 18, 2017

Kershaw K. Khumbatta at (281) 313 8006 or
kershaw@khumbattapc.com

Madras Pavilion Restaurant on the Lake
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