



The Katy Sun



Top News

There's no show business like the shoe business

By: CLAUDIA RICHTER, Katy Sun Staff

06/07/2006

[Email to a friend](#) [Post a Comment](#) [Printer-friendly](#)



HOLLYWOOD ENDING: Fran Allgood, a costumer for more than 20 years in the film industry, displays a Z-Coil shoe of the type she'll be selling amid her memorabilia in Katy.

"They looked pretty funky," she said, "but once I tried them it was like a miracle."

For the first time since Allgood could remember she did not require pain relief for her aching knees. But, there is a catch.

The shoes can attract a lot of stares.

"My friend Dustin Hoffman asked me why I was wearing such ugly shoes," she said.

"And I told him because they are so comfortable. Since then he has become convinced himself and bought a pair of the running shoes."

Allgood said other actors and studio workers have become addicted as well.

"I'm completely convinced that these shoes work and I truly believe in them," said Allgood.

But don't expect her to quit her day job.

"I'm still going to work as a costumer on films, but I plan to bring a little of Hollywood back to Katy," she said.

Allgood will have a section of the store dedicated to her film memorabilia and celebrity photos.

"I've never really been someone to talk a lot about my career, but I think people in Katy will enjoy seeing what I've collected over the years from the movies I've worked on."

In addition to the full Z-Coil line, Allgood will carry Crocs, a boating and leisure shoe line also known for comfort.

Allgood also has some "surprises" in store for shoppers.

When Fran Allgood, a costumer with a career that spans more than 20 years in the Hollywood film industry, decided to return to Katy to spend more time with family, she picked a rather unusual way to do it.

Allgood is opening a shoe store that carries Z-Coil Pain Relief Footwear near Jason's Deli on Mason Road in mid-June.

The shoes are engineered for foot, leg and back pain relief with a built-in orthotic, forefront cushioning, a flex line and, perhaps the most unique feature, a coil.

The coil provides shock reduction, which reduces the types of pain often attributed to excess weight, strenuous activity, genetics and age, said Allgood. She said the coil compresses when the heel strikes and can significantly reduce its impact on the body.

She said Z-Coil footwear can absorb 50 percent more impact that conventional shoes.

And Allgood knows all too well what it's like to be on her feet all day.

After spending years working on movie sets, Allgood went through dose after dose of pain relievers trying to assuage her knee problems.

"An actor friend told me about the shoes," said Allgood, "and I knew I had to try them."

She picked up both sandals and clogs and had them customized for a perfect fit.