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CRESTVIEW NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

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November 2015

EVENTS CALENDAR

Saturday, November 7: Brentwood Park Fall Workday, 9:00 AM to noon. For more information, go to www.friendsofbrentwoodpark.org

Monday, November 9: Crestview Neighborhood Association Meeting. 7:00 PM at Journey IFC, 7500 Woodrow Ave. Guest speaker wildlife expert Laura Jackson will discuss living with wildlife and answer questions. Other agenda items include:

- ADUs—Neighborhood views
- Child care at meeting time—interest and options
- Newsletter delivery in Midtown Commons
- A December social event

Sunday, November 15: Journey IFC Silent Auction, noon. Visit the auction online at www.journeyifc.com/modx/index.php?id=258, and then visit it in person on Sunday Nov. 15 at Journey IFC, 7500 Woodrow Ave. We'd love to see our new neighbors there!

Saturdays: Johnson's Backyard Garden and Bikkurim Farms farmers' market, 9:00 AM–1:00 PM, at 7113 Burnet Rd., in front of Dallas Nightclub.

Sundays: Sunday yoga, 10:00–11:00 AM, Brentwood Elementary covered slab. For more information, see www.yogadenada.com.

Living with Wildlife

Our guest speaker for November will be Laura Jackson of “Going Wild”, an expert in wildlife education and humane removal. She has 10 years of experience in helping people and businesses with wildlife issues. She has trapped and relocated skunks, raccoons, possums, bobcats, snakes, and feral dogs. Ms. Jackson sees wildlife as a part of our heritage and landscape and her presentation will be an opportunity to learn how to live with wildlife. Please join us on Monday, November 9th at 7:00 PM at the Journey IFC at 7500 Woodrow Ave to hear Ms. Jackson.

Some of the topics covered during her wildlife presentation will include:

- Are there benefits to attracting wildlife?
- How do you humanely remove nuisance wildlife?
- What are beneficial wildlife in our area?
- What is the smart way to feed wildlife?
- How do you identify a poisonous snake?
- How do you attract native birds and owls?



From the President

Dave Considine, CNA President

It's unclear who first said, “The world is run by those who show up”, but like all good quotes, it says a lot in a few words. I would like you to show up. I would like you to help run, if not the world, then at least our neighborhood. The CNA meets the second Monday of the month for about 90 minutes. Consider showing up and seeing what's happening in your neighborhood. Consider participating and adding your voice to the conversation. I encourage you to become a member, but members and non-members alike are welcome to attend and participate.

The Executive Committee wants to know how we can best serve our membership and neighborhood. We need to hear your voice. We need to know your concerns. We need to understand your vision for the neighborhood. Please come join us at Journey Imperfect Faith Church on November 9th at 7:00 PM.

Recaps/Updates/Highlights

Recap of the 10/12/15 CNA meeting

The guest speaker at the October 12th CNA meeting was Jeff Jack, an architect and long time neighborhood advocate who served as the president of the Austin Neighborhoods Council. In addition, Mr. Jack is the former Chair of the Board of Adjustment and an Ex-officio member of the Planning Commission.

Mr. Jack gave a wide-ranging talk about development in Austin and the city's history in planning for that growth. Highlighting potential pitfalls in Austin's development, he emphasized how important it was for neighborhoods to know their infrastructure limitations including roadways, storm water drainage, water and wastewater capacity to name just a few.

Continued on page 2

Develop interest in life as you see it, in people, things, literature, music—the world is so rich, simply throbbing with rich treasures, beautiful souls and interesting people. Forget yourself.

Henry Miller

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CNA Contact Information

P. O. Box 9505, Austin, TX 78766
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CNA General Meetings are held the second Monday of every month at 7:00 PM at the Crestview United Methodist Church
1300 Morrow St.

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Neighborhood Email Groups

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Continued from page 1

Portions of Mr. Jack's presentation will be included in future newsletters as space permits.

The next order of business was a discussion and vote on the proposed rezoning of the Austin Korean Presbyterian Church property. CNA President Dave Considine made a motion that the Crestview Neighborhood Association support the CNPCT's (Crestview Neighborhood Plan Contact Team) position on the zoning by passing the same motion that was approved 56-7 by the CNPCT. That motion opposed the developer's request for multi-family (MF-3) zoning allowing 36 units per acre but supported a multi-family (MF-1) zoning allowing 17 units per acre that was compatible with the surrounding single family homes and low density condominium complexes. In addition, the motion limited the height to two stories and required that 100% of the parking be provided onsite. There was a second to the motion and it passed by a vote of 36-1.

Dave also discussed the December CNA meeting and said plans were in the works to replace the business meeting with a social affair on December 21st at the Crestview Shopping Center with refreshments provided. Those gathered would use the opportunity to stroll down the arroyo enjoying the first night of the luminarias.

Update on the 10/15/15 City Council Hearing on rezoning the Austin Korean Presbyterian Church property

Thanks to the folks who spent their evening at City Hall on October 15th. Unfortunately our case didn't come up until 10:30 PM! Because of the late hour and lengthy agenda, our case was both moved along and postponed at the same time. The council approved the zoning on first reading (there are three readings), but left the hearing open and scheduled the second reading for Thursday, November 12th. Bottom line: nothing really happened at Thursday's meeting. We'll make our pitch for MF-1 or more restrictive zoning during the November 12 hearing and the council will vote on second reading. Following that, it will be scheduled for a third, final reading. And here's the meat of the matter: Our valid petition doesn't apply until the third reading. What does that mean? Simply put, because we have a valid petition opposing the developer's requested MF-3 zoning, the developer needs to receive a "super-majority" vote on the third reading to win his zoning. How does that work? During first and second readings, all that is required for the zoning to be approved is a simple majority vote of the council, that is, 6 of the 11 votes. However, with a valid petition at the third reading, a super-majority, a 3/4 majority vote is required. That means the developer would need 9 of the 11 votes to win, a much higher threshold. (Note: The reason the developer's previous request for rezoning this property to allow a 4 story office complex failed in May was because there was a valid petition and three votes against it.) For more information, contact Chip Harris at austinchip@hotmail.com.

Highlights of the 10/20/15 Crestview Contact Team meeting

An election was held to replace Lealon Martin who had resigned from the Vice-Facilitator's position and Chip Harris was elected to take his place. Facilitator Larry Ouellette discussed forming a committee to review the implementation priorities of the neighborhood plan with respect to sidewalks and other infrastructure issues. And the group voted to cancel the December 21, 2015 meeting. As a result, and because the contact team only meets on even numbered months, the next meeting will be held in February 2016 unless an emergency meeting needs to be called.

Status of the Grover Avenue Striping Project

Under the direction of CNA officer and Grover Avenue resident Roland Rodriguez, the Grover Avenue striping project has taken a step back to ensure residents' input. A survey of residents along Grover Ave. and abutting streets is planned to determine how the project should move forward. You can contact Roland at r_rod224@yahoo.com.

City Council Action

On Oct. 1, the City Council, on a vote of 9-2, voted to make Vision Zero part of Imagine Austin. Anyone interested in hearing more about the organization Vision Zero whose goal is to prevent traffic deaths can contact Mary at mpustejovsky@gmail.com or visit the Vision Zero ATX Facebook page.

Save Money On Your Water Bill

Wastewater Averaging FAQ

1. **What is a wastewater average?** Wastewater averaging is a way for you to save money. Wastewater averaging takes place during the late fall and winter months and determines a cap on the volume of wastewater you will be billed for each month for the next year.
2. **Why does the City use a wastewater average as the basis for my wastewater bill?** Your water meter measures your monthly water use, but there is no meter on your wastewater line. Wastewater averaging provides a measure that is generally reflective of the amount of water that goes directly into the sanitary sewer system from your property.
3. **How do I know the specific dates my water usage will be monitored for my new wastewater average?** Find a copy of your recent bill and use Austin Water's Wastewater Averaging Period calculator at www.ci.austin.tx.us/water/wwaverage/wwaverage.cfm
4. **How is my wastewater average calculated?** Wastewater averaging is calculated from mid-November to mid-March when most of the water goes directly into the sanitary sewer system versus being used for outdoor watering. To calculate your wastewater average you must have at least 60 consecutive days of water use with a minimum of 100 gallons used per billing period. If less than 100 gallons is billed for two or more months of the averaging period, the wastewater average will be set at a default of 5,000 gallons.
5. **Why is wastewater averaging done mid-November to mid-March?** Usually outdoor watering is minimal during the late fall and winter months; therefore it is easier to estimate the actual amount of water that goes directly into the sanitary sewer system versus being used for outdoor watering.

For more information, go to www.austinwater.org.

Crestview IGA—In the Heart of Our Neighborhood

By Mike Kammlah

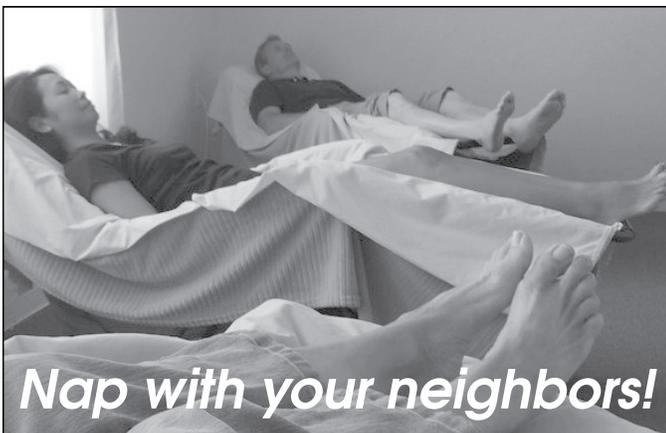
DID YOU KNOW?

That the Crestview IGA has been the heartbeat of Crestview and Brentwood for 62 years (since 1953) and is still operated by the Prellop family? The Minimax is respected citywide for its meat department—new additions include organic Smart Chicken, and there are expanded offerings of organic foods throughout the store!

It carries a tremendous selection of beers (local as well as imported) in a walk-in beer cave that is kept cold at 38 degrees, and there is also a large selection of wines from around the world. Not only does it have a nice selection of bulk coffees, but now it has a new variety of Solar Roast coffees from Pueblo, Colorado. Not finding items that you like? Simply ask and they will be glad to check on availability and add your favorite product to their inventory list.

As owner and manager Ronnie Prellop says, "Crestview IGA is convenient, but much more than a convenience store. Our customers are more than just customers—they are our friends." He adds, "We have a large selection of specials every week on our website at www.crestview.iga.com. Crestview IGA is also on Facebook and Twitter."

The residents of Crestview have benefited tremendously over the years from the many generous contributions made by the Minimax, including providing employment and a priceless experience for growing youth and a location for boy scouts, girl scouts and school fund raisers of all kinds to set up, in addition to personal fund raisers for the sick and needy and delivering grocery orders to shut-ins. Last but not least, they provide the most important element of our ice cream social: the ice cream! Stop by today and enjoy friendly personalized customer service.



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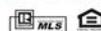


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Our Animal Companions

By Debbie Berliner

We all want what is best for our animal companions. But when it comes to cats, the best thing for them to live a long and healthy life is to reside safely inside your house. Many people think that cats need to roam outdoors to be happy.

But what does your cat miss by staying indoors?

Getting hit by cars

Getting lost

Being abused by cruel people

Contracting feline leukemia

Eating poisoned food

Being attacked, maybe killed by loose dogs

Meeting rabid wildlife

Walking on pesticide-treated lawns

Fighting with other cats

Shivering in cold, rainy weather

Crawling into warm car engines

Contracting worms

Collecting fleas and ticks and sharing them with you

On the average, indoor cats can live 15 years or more, while the average lifespan of outdoor cats is just 2 or 3 years. A cat that is indoor-outdoor, or exclusively outdoors, can transition to a risk-free and contented life inside your home.

For more information on how to do this, see www.catbehaviorassociates.com/making-an-outdoor-cat-into-an-indoor-cat

Foreign Exchange Students Living in Crestview

By Megan Baker

Crestview is currently hosting three young Frenchmen! Nathan Bordin is a foreign exchange student, and Liam and Vincent McKenna are twins from Paris who are staying with their American aunt. All three attend McCallum High School as juniors.

Nathan is living with my family and me on Reese Lane, and is a very pleasant addition to our household. He hails from Île de Ré, an island off the west coast of France, where he surfs and enjoys spending time with his

parents, two older brothers, and friends when he is not in school or working at a local restaurant.

Nathan is hoping to learn English in addition to making friends and getting a taste for life in the U.S. Although it's still a bit hot here for him, he is enjoying Little Deli pizza,



the school tennis team, and the friendliness of our neighborhood and Austin in general.

Liam and Vincent are living in the northern part of Crestview with Katie Foley, their father's sister. French is of course their first language, but their English is also quite good. They are friendly and outgoing, and are also enjoying their American experience.

If you see these fine young men in your travels, give them a friendly Crestview "Hello!"

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Austin Animal Center Seeks Volunteers for Multiple, New Positions

From the City of Austin



With over 18,000 animals coming through its doors each year, the Austin Animal Center needs your help to provide love and attention to homeless cats, dogs and small animals.

Volunteers are critical to ensuring that the shelter's pets receive exercise, attention and enrichment. Volunteers also provide support in other key areas, including matching pets with adopters, providing toys and treats to cats and dogs, and greeting visitors and answering questions. With an easy onboarding process, new volunteers will be able to start soon after attending an orientation session.

Want to make a difference in the lives of homeless pets in America's largest No Kill city? Here are just some of the positions you'll be able to choose from:

- **Adoption specialist:** Help adopters find the right pet for their family. Many visitors walk away without adopting simply because the Austin Animal Center facility is so large

and can be overwhelming. This position's primary functions are to help people visit with pets, answer questions about each animal, and provide counseling, education, and resources.

- **Cat enrichment volunteer:** AAC can be a scary place for cats, with lots of noise and activity. Cat enrichment volunteers spend time giving extra love and attention to fearful felines. They also make sure rambunctious kittens get much-needed exercise and toys. Cats need time out of their kennels too, so cat volunteers make sure kitties get breaks from the stress of confinement.
- **Dog enrichment volunteer:** If you've visited AAC, you know there are lots of dogs. Dog enrichment volunteers make sure all dogs get the exercise and attention they need to stay happy and healthy while they wait for their homes. Many of the medium and large dogs wait months to find their new families, so dog enrichment volunteers play a lifesaving role.

Volunteers can work with dogs, both on and offsite, and many of the volunteers foster their favorite dogs. Have a training or behavior background? You can help teach dogs basic obedience skills through positive reinforcement training.

- **Clean team:** Do you love to organize and clean? You're needed to help manage donations, stuffing, handing out and cleaning Kong toys, and helping with basic tasks like spot-cleaning, washing dishes, and cleaning laundry.
- **Greeters:** One of the most important volunteer roles in the entire shelter, the greeter is the first person visitors see when they walk through the door. This position answers questions, guides potential adopters to the appropriate areas, and serves as a point of contact for visitors. Studies have shown that the way people are greeted has a huge impact on whether they adopt a pet, so this role is perfect for outgoing, social people.

Sign up to attend by visiting www.givepulse.com/event/12450-New-Volunteer-Orientation

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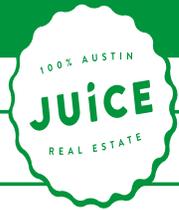


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Crestview United Methodist Church has volunteers who will **rake leaves, mow, trim shrubs,** and put **faucet covers** on for those who are unable to do these tasks themselves.

Work day is Saturday, Nov. 21

To request yard help: 512-451-1741 or office@crestviewmethodist.org. Selection of work sites based on a first-come, first-served work day; no guarantee we can complete all yards if demand exceeds our volunteers.

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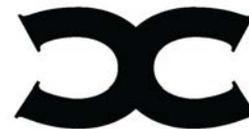
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