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CRESTVIEW NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

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February 2016

EVENTS CALENDAR

Monday, February 8: Crestview Neighborhood Association meeting, 7:00 PM at Journey IFC, 7500 Woodrow Ave. Update on Art at Entrances Project Vote—CNA Sponsorship of the Violet Crown Spring Festival, with a presentation by Bradley Linscomb

Sunday, February 14: Austin Marathon and Half Marathon. Find more information at www.youraustinmarathon.com

Tuesday, February 16: Crestview Neighborhood Plan Contact Team Meeting, 6:30 PM at Episcopal Church of the Resurrection Fellowship Hall, 2008 Justin Ln. Find more information at www.cnpct.org.

Saturday, March 5: Sunshine Gardens Plant Sale, 9:00 AM–2:00 PM, 4814 Sunshine Dr. Organic and heirloom plants: tomatoes, peppers, eggplants, herbs, ornamentals and more. Local artists and live music. Find more information at www.sunshinecommunitygardens.org

Saturday, March 5: Friends of Brentwood Park work day. See the article for more information.

Thursday, March 10 and Friday, March 11: Brentwood Elementary School Used Book Sale. See the article for more information.

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.

Friends of Brentwood Park Spring Work Day

by Denman Glover Netherland, FOBP

Calling all park lovers!

It's My Park Day (IMPD) 2016 is scheduled for Saturday, March 5, and is a great opportunity to get outside, give Brentwood Park some love, and meet your neighbors.

IMPD is a city-wide service day organized by Austin Parks Foundation and Austin Parks and Recreation and sponsored by many local businesses. Friends of Brentwood Park (FOBP) has organized projects and neighbors for IMPD at Brentwood Park each year since 2010. Genuine Joe Coffeehouse and Tacodeli have supported Brentwood Park projects every year; thank them if you get the chance!

Over the next month, FOBP will be sending out emails with information about projects for this year's IMPD and with information about how to register and what to bring. Information will also be available through our facebook page and through our website at www.friendsofbrentwoodpark.org.

If you would like to get involved with FOBP's leadership team, please let us know! You can reach us at friendsofbrentwoodpark@gmail.com.



Brentwood Elementary School Used Book Sale

By Candace Pruett, Used Book Sale Coordinator

Brentwood Elementary School needs your book donations! The Brentwood Elementary PTA is holding its annual Used Book Sale March 7–11th, 2016. Take advantage of this opportunity to jump-start your spring cleaning and donate:

- Books (children and adult). We especially need books for 4th and 5th graders
- CDs, DVDs, and VHS tapes
- Puzzles or board games
- School supplies, new or gently used
- Magazines

Items are priced very affordably, from \$0.25 to \$2.00, so that all students at Brentwood can purchase some great books. Proceeds from the sale will help purchase new books and materials for the Brentwood Elementary library. Last year, we earned over \$1700 for our library and put books into the hands of the students and community at Brentwood. This year our goal is to collect and sell even more!

Donation boxes are located just inside the front doors of Brentwood Elementary, next to the front office. Please drop off your donations by Tuesday, March 1. Need someone to pick up your items? Contact Candace Pruett at kandachu@gmail.com.

Check in at the front office and bring your ID. Look for signs to the library.

Brentwood Elementary School Used Book Sale

Thur, Mar. 10: 7:30 am–3:15 pm
Fri, Mar. 11: 7:30 am–1:30 pm
Friday is half-price day!

6700 Arroyo Seco

CRESTVIEW NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

is published monthly on 100% recycled paper by the Crestview Neighborhood Association (CNA).

For information and to submit articles contact:

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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.

Twitter: @CNAneighbors

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Neighborhood Email Groups

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Recycling Crucial to City's Health and Prosperity

By Leslie Pool, District 7 Council Member



I want to thank the Austin American-Statesman for drawing attention to the economic ups and downs of Austin's long-held practice of recycling. It is critical that the city does everything it can to protect our environment, including facilitating and promoting recycling.

As the chair of the City Council's Open Space, Environment and Sustainability Committee, I want to assure Austin residents that recycling is a great investment for our community, with real benefits for our air, water and land.

Consider the context for recycling. We throw things out by the truckload, and we can either send those trucks to the dump or to recycling facilities where our discards can be sold as commodities.

Every bit that we recycle delays the day when we have to permit and build new landfills—projects that cost upward of \$50 million apiece. And once it is built, the landfill saddles its neighbors with odor, noise, vermin, traffic and litter. I have yet to hear from anybody who wants a landfill in their backyard.

Unfortunately, a Dec 21 Statesman story failed to take this big picture into account.

The economics of recycling are tough right now. The current price our recyclables are getting on the market is about as bad as it has ever been, driven by record-low oil prices. The Austin Resource Recovery department fully prepared the City Council for this possibility, however, and the "profit" numbers mentioned in the Statesman's story were the best-case scenario figures it presented to council members.

It also gave us worst-case scenarios, and we are now at those prices. Commodity prices will turn around at some point, but we never expected recycling to be profitable for the city. It's the public good that we're focused on for programs such as these. That's why curbside recycling collection is a public program here and elsewhere — even in banner years the costs of collecting and processing recyclables is more expensive than the revenues generated.

Trashing, on the other hand, is always all cost and no benefit. As a community we invest in recycling because it makes more sense to repurpose than to bury valuable commodities in communities that do not want them.

Still, everyone wishes that our recyclables were more valuable and that we could keep the remanufacturing of these items closer to home. The good news is that we have a plan to do just that.

The Austin Remanufacturing Hub will bring about a dozen recycling and zero-waste companies to Southeast Austin to create a green, circular economy. We have already received inquiries from 22 manufacturers, meaning we will have a competitive process for choosing the best companies to provide the most value for local recyclers. This facility will create more than 1,000 manufacturing jobs for Austin workers. We are excited that this project has already received a \$1 million grant from the federal government.

This is a challenging time for recycling, with weak markets and pushback from powerful voices who say, "Just throw it all in the trash." What we do know, however, is that as a community Austin is committed to environmental protection and personal responsibility, which is why we are committed to zero waste.

The big picture makes it clear: Recycling is crucial for our health and prosperity. This is why I believe that next year and each year thereafter can be cleaner, healthier and less wasteful than ever before.

Pool represents District 7 on the Austin City Council and is chair of the council's Open Space, Environment and Sustainability Committee.

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Austin Police Department Crime Search Report for December 2015

Crime	Street	Date	Time	Location
Agg assault strangle/suffocate	14XX Cullen Ave	12/12/2015	13:12	Residence/Home
Assault by contact	23XX Pasadena Dr	12/21/2015	15:08	Residence/Home
Assault w/injury-fam/date viol	72XX Easy Wind Dr	12/12/2015	3:38	Streets/Hwy/Road/Alley
Burglary of residence	77XX Rutgers Ave	12/2/2015	14:33	Residence/Home
Burglary of residence	9XX Stobaugh St	12/11/2015	19:06	Residence/Home
Burglary of residence	15XX Morrow St	12/28/2015	0:26	Residence/Home
Burglary of residence	18XX Richcreek Rd	12/28/2015	1:21	Residence/Home
Burglary of residence	17XX Princeton Ave	12/28/2015	17:29	Residence/Home
Burglary of residence	19XX Richcreek Rd	12/28/2015	18:14	Residence/Home
Burglary of residence	18XX Pasadena Dr	12/29/2015	16:39	Residence/Home
Burglary of vehicle	8XX St Johns Ave	12/13/2015	16:07	Parking lots/Garage
Burglary of vehicle	78XX Lazy Ln	12/28/2015	8:22	Streets/Hwy/Road/Alley
Burglary of vehicle	18XX Morrow St	12/28/2015	10:21	Residence/Home
Crash/leaving the scene	69XX Lamar Blvd	12/17/2015	14:30	Streets/Hwy/Road/Alley
Criminal mischief	17XX Piedmont Ave	12/30/2015	8:22	Streets/Hwy/Road/Alley
Debit card abuse	73XX Grover Ave	12/4/2015	15:38	Residence/Home
Debit card abuse	2XXX Cullen Ave	12/14/2015	12:48	Residence/Home
Disturbance - other	23XX Pasadena Dr	12/22/2015	12:01	Daycare facility
Harassment	13XX Madison Ave	12/30/2015	12:33	Residence/Home
Theft	23XX Pasadena Dr	12/14/2015	12:21	Residence/Home
Theft	78XX Northwest Dr	12/21/2015	12:01	Residence/Home
Theft	76XX Burnet Rd	12/22/2015	15:08	Church
Theft	8XX St Johns Ave	12/28/2015	13:12	Residence/Home
Theft of vehicle/other	19XX Justin Ln	12/11/2015	14:50	Parking lots/Garage
Unauthorized use of vehicle	18XX Aggie Ln	12/28/2015	9:00	Residence/Home
Warrant arrest non traffic	18XX Anderson Ln	12/4/2015	21:07	Parking lots/Garage

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Update on Transportation Network Companies

By Ann Kitchen, District 5 Council Member



Austin currently has multiple ground transportation options for our community: taxicabs, TNCs (Transportation Network Companies), limos, charters, pedicabs, shuttles, and even horse-drawn carriages. All of these ground transportation companies have regulatory requirements and the city is directed by Ordinance to apply these fairly between all of the companies. On October 16, 2014, the previous Council passed an interim ordinance allowing TNCs to operate legally in Austin and directing the new City Council to review and update the regulations.

The Council does not wish any TNC or the drivers that depend on them to leave Austin, but that is a choice for the TNCs themselves to make. The City fully expects that a TNC can successfully operate within the standards passed and looks forward to working cooperatively with TNCs. Austin's newest company—GetMe—has already committed to support drivers and work with our commu-

nity towards our goals for best practice public safety measures.

At its December 17 meeting, Council voted 9–2 to pass an ordinance that moves us toward these public safety goals, with additional issues to be addressed at the January meeting. The ordinance does (among other things) the following:

- Provides public safety by prohibiting TNC drivers from stopping, parking, loading, or unloading passengers in a travel lane or bus stop
- Requires emblem identification of vehicle so that riders know what cars they are getting into
- Sets forth data reporting required for the purpose of supporting public safety and transportation planning including prevention of driving while intoxicated
- Sets benchmarks that work towards a goal of fingerprinting for all drivers

The FBI and the Texas Department of Public Safety agree that fingerprinting is the best way to ensure that the records reviewed belong to the person being checked, with a match accuracy rate of 99.6%.

“Fingerprint based background checks are the only reliable methodology to positively identify the applicant,” says Mike Lesko, Deputy Assistant Director for Texas Department of Public Safety.

Austin needs a wide range of transportation options to resolve the traffic issues in our city, and TNCs are now an important part of Austin's transportation system. The Council has a responsibility to ensure that the people of our city are safe when using TNCs.

While there is no one thing that will ensure public safety, the least that the City can do is implement the recommended best-practices.

Almost immediately after the passage of the ordinance, a political action committee supported by Uber and Lyft launched an effort to repeal it. They have submitted a petition and Council must either pass their proposed alternative ordinance stripped of the above safety measures, or require the City and County to hold a special election to put the alternative ordinance on the ballot for a public vote.

Austinites should not have to risk sacrificing their safety to get a ride home.

Kitchen represents District 5 on the Austin City Council and is chair of the council's Mobility Committee.

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Reid's Story

Blood & Tissue Center of Central Texas

Reid was born with a rare heart condition that caused him to be placed on life support within hours of being born. While on life support, he received both cardiac and respiratory support oxygen as well as several different blood products.

"Reid would not be alive today if it were not for blood donors," says his mother, Melissa. "Blood donors are true heroes."



The Blood Center of Central Texas is the exclusive provider of blood and blood products to all of the local hospitals in our area plus an additional 35 hospitals and medical facilities in a 10 county area of central Texas.

The Center must collect 200 blood donations per day to meet the needs of patients in our community so if you are a blood donor, thank you! If you are not, please consider blood donation as part of your New Year resolution! Blood cannot be manufactured, grown or purchased at

a store. It is the precious lifesaving gift that only a volunteer blood donor can give to another that costs nothing but a little of your time.

Visit www.inyourhands.org for donation locations and hours or call (512) 206-1266. Every donation saves and enhances the lives of 3 patients in our community...please donate!

Free Income Tax Help Available

Foundation Communities will be providing free tax help for low-income families and individuals in Austin.

Assistance will be provided until April 18 at the Community Financial Center at 5900 Airport Blvd.

For hours and days of operation, visit www.communitytaxcenters.org or call 211 for more information, to schedule an appointment, and find out what to bring.

The service is free for individuals and families who make less than \$50,000 annually, income eligibility increases by \$5,000 for each additional person for families with more than four members.

Note from the Editor

By Chip Harris, CNA Newsletter Editor

You may have noticed changes in the newsletter recently. In response to members' requests, we are trying to include more articles about events and city policy changes that directly affect Crestview and the quality of life for its residents.

Our goal is to provide an informative agenda for the monthly meeting along with engaging articles that will contribute to members' knowledge of the issues facing our neighborhood and facilitate discussion at the meetings. If you have a suggestion for a newsletter topic, please send it to Chip Harris at austinchip@hotmail.com. Thank you!

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Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

Feb 9, 5:30 - 6:30 pm
\$5 Adults, \$2 Child, \$12 Family

Ash Wednesday Worship

12:15 - 12:45 pm

Crestview United Methodist Church
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