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# CRESTVIEW NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

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April 2016

## EVENTS CALENDAR

**Saturday, April 2:** Colores Spanish Immersion Preschool Open House, 10:00 AM–1:00 PM, 908 Old Koenig Ln.

**Monday, April 11:** Crestview Neighborhood Association Meeting, 7:00 PM at Journey IFC, 7500 Woodrow Ave.

**Saturday, April 16:** Brentwood Rocks Concert, Fundraiser for Brentwood Elementary School, 3:00 pm–6:00 pm, 6700 Arroyo Seco. Outdoor stage on the north side of school. Adults: \$10, kids 18 and under are free.

[www.brentwoodrocks.com](http://www.brentwoodrocks.com)

**Saturday, April 16:** Bilingual Preschool Fair at Fibercove, 10:00 AM–noon, 1700 S. Lamar, Suite 338  
[www.colorespreschool.blogspot.com](http://www.colorespreschool.blogspot.com)

**Tuesday, April 19:** Crestview Neighborhood Plan Contact Team Meeting, 6:30 PM at the Episcopal Church of the Resurrection Fellowship Hall, 2008 Justin Ln. Agenda:

- Officer elections for Vice-Facilitator and Secretary
- Vote on priority of existing Plan goals (CIP & Non-CIP)

[www.cnpct.org](http://www.cnpct.org)

**Saturday, April 23:** Hazardous Household Materials Drop Off, 9:00 AM–11:00 AM, See article for details

**Saturday, April 30:** 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Historic Homes Tour, 10:00 AM–4:00 PM See article for details

**Saturday, May 7:** Violet Crown Spring Festival, 10:00 am–7:00 pm, Brentwood Elementary School parking lot. [www.violetcrowncommunity.org](http://www.violetcrowncommunity.org)

**Sundays:** Sunday yoga, 10:00–11:00 AM, Brentwood Elementary covered slab. For more information, see [www.yogadenada.com](http://www.yogadenada.com).

## 24th Annual Historic Homes Tour

Preservation Austin's 24th Annual Historic Homes Tour is coming to North Central Austin. "Austin's Post-War Boom" is a tour of eight gorgeous mid-century homes in Allandale, Brentwood, and Crestview, all renovated for today's families in smart, creative ways that embrace their historic design and neighborhood scale.

Whether you're pining for the days of pink bathrooms and bomb shelters or just looking for ideas for your own home, we've got you covered!

Preservation Austin has been the leading nonprofit voice for protecting our city's cultural and architectural heritage since 1953. Find tickets and information at [www.preservationaustin.org](http://www.preservationaustin.org).



24th Annual Historic Homes Tour  
Saturday, April 30, 2016  
10:00 AM–4:00 PM

## Household Hazardous Products and Electronics Recycling

Crestview United Methodist Church will hold a recycling collection of household hazardous products in their parking lot at 1300 Morrow St. on Saturday, April 23, from 9:00 AM–11:00 AM (unless the trailer fills up before 11:00 AM).

Simply drive up, provide your zip code for informational purposes, and volunteers will help unload your items. They can accept ONLY:

- Batteries of all kinds
- Oil of all kinds (in a closed container)
- Paint of all kinds, wet or dry (in a closed container)
- Antifreeze (in a closed container)

After the collection, the church will pack up and transport these items to the city facility that handles them.

An Electronics collection benefiting Wooten Elementary School will be held in conjunction with the recycling event at the church. Please donate working or non-working items such as laptops, printers, tablets and cell phones. See the complete list at [www.crestviewmethodist.org](http://www.crestviewmethodist.org).

### Thanks For Using A Leash

Just a note of thanks to the vast majority of folks who walk their dogs using a leash. Recently the Association has received several notes from residents about a few people waking their dogs without leashes and the problems that was causing. Please be considerate of your neighbors and always use a lease. Your efforts will be appreciated!

### Announcements

Crestview resident Charlene Waite passed away March 16, 2016. She and her husband Richard were long-time residents of Crestview, having moved into the neighborhood in the early 1970s and were valued members of the Crestview Neighborhood Association. Our condolences to her family and friends

# 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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512-458-2488

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## NEWSLETTER TEAM

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| ADVERTISING  | Don Ballard  |
| DISTRIBUTION | Megan Baker  |
| PRINTING     | QuikPrint    |

## CNA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

|                |                          |
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| NEWS EDITOR    | Chip Harris              |
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| Place 2        | Anne-Charlotte Patterson |
| Place 3        | Melissa Zone             |
| Place 4        | Roland Rodriguez         |

## CNA Contact Information

P. O. Box 9505, Austin, TX 78766  
[www.crestviewna.com](http://www.crestviewna.com)

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

Facebook: [CrestviewNeighborhoodAssociation](https://www.facebook.com/CrestviewNeighborhoodAssociation)

## Neighborhood Email Groups

[crestview-neighbors@yahoo.com](mailto:crestview-neighbors@yahoo.com)  
[crestview\\_forsale@yahoo.com](mailto:crestview_forsale@yahoo.com)  
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# Arlan's Market—Welcome to the Neighborhood!

By Nancy Harris, Neighborhood Contributor

On March 6, area residents gathered at the Crestview Shopping Center to give the long time owners of the Crestview Minimax, the Prellop family, a touching goodbye. Just a few days earlier on February 29, the new owners had taken possession of the grocery store, now called Arlan's Market.

Much like the beloved Minimax, Arlan's Market is a family-owned business, just on a grander scale. Founded in 1991 in the Houston area by Ames Arlan who started out as a sacker as a young man before starting his own small independent grocery store, the business has since expanded to 19 stores (with the addition of the Crestview location) in the Gulf Coast and Hill County regions. Ames and his son



Chris Peters, store manager

Nick have worked at acquiring small grocery stores in both smaller Texas towns like Sequin, Cameron, Navasoto, and New Braunfels, as well as in larger cities such as the last Handy Andy stores in San Antonio. In addition to the Crestview store, Arlan's has two other stores in Austin. Bobby Lopez, the general manager, says he expects the new store "to be somewhere between Fresh Plus and Walmart" with prices that are close to HEB's.

So what changes can the area shoppers expect? In keeping with the pattern set in prior acquisitions, Arlan's will be updating the interior of the store. They will be adding new produce cases and doubling the selections of organic produce. New refrigerator cases for the dairy and meat sections are also in the works along with new shelving throughout the store. The checkout area will also receive a face-lift and new check out machines. A new ATM machine with a chip reader has already been put in place, and the exterior of the store has been repainted. While not expanding the actual footprint of the store, the new owners plan to expand their grocery selections of not only major brands, but of popular locally produced items, special dietary items such as gluten-free choices, and beers. Also expanding will be the hours of operation—the new hours are 7:00 AM–10:00 PM, seven days a week.

Many residents have wondered about the signage. Look for a new sign to replace the large Crestview sign on top (which we understand the Prellop family has donated to the Texas Historical Society), and of course the IGA signs will no longer be applicable. "The Heartbeat of the Neighborhood Since 1953" sign on the north side of the building will remain.

What will not change is most of the familiar faces folks are used to seeing at the store. The employees of the Minimax were invited to stay on and the majority of them have chosen to do so. Robert will continue to do deliveries to homebound customers but now as a volunteer. Arlan's has also emphasized that they plan on offering the same attention to customers' needs and wants that the Prellop family was famous for. They plan to maintain the atmosphere of a small, hometown grocery store. A suggestion box is being put in for customers to provide feedback on items they would like to see carried in the store or ways to make their shopping experience more enjoyable.

Chris Peters is the store manager for the new Arlan's. He started out as a teenager working for the company and is delighted to be here. Crestview reminds him of the Texas towns he has previously enjoyed working in. According to him, "The neighborhood is like a small town in the middle of Austin. It is wholly different once you turn off Burnet Road or Lamar."

Arlan's will have specials that change every week in addition to rotating TPRs (Temporary Price Reductions) on select items that will last for about 4 weeks. These can be accessed on their website, [www.arlansmarket.com](http://www.arlansmarket.com), or on their Facebook page. They will retain the old store phone number, 512-459-6203 if you need to contact them.

Thanks to Arlan's for their interest in our neighborhood and in working to meet the needs and desires of their customers. If you have a chance, stop by the new store to check out the changes and welcome Chris to the neighborhood.

# The Crestview/Brentwood Community Cat Project

By Emily Wilson, Community Cat Project Volunteer

I am pleased to announce that the Crestview/Brentwood Community Cat Project, a newly funded volunteer project aimed at reducing our neighborhood's population of community cats through a humane system of Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR), is a huge success. Last year, after the neighborhood associations purchased traps, neighbors began to help one another to practice TNR on cats on their street. TNR is a non-lethal method of population control where cats are humanely trapped, evaluated by a veterinarian, spayed/neutered, ear-tipped, vaccinated, and returned (after recovery) to the same location. So what does this have to do with our neighborhood?



Our neighborhood has a huge population of community cats. A community cat (feral cat) is an abandoned domesticated cat, or the off-spring of a domesticated cat living in and around the neighborhood in colonies, not in a home.

Last year, several neighbors new to TNR checked out traps, got some simple trapping directions, and completed TNR of cats in their area. How can neighbors help?

Without your help, this situation can quickly overwhelm a

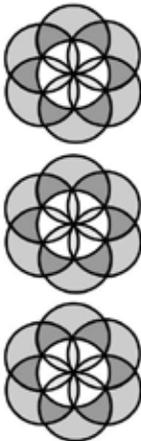
community. If a street starts with one abandoned unneutered male and one unspayed female cat, in one year there can be 12 kittens. Next year, each kitten can have 12 kittens and if the original male and female were around, they could have an additional 12 kittens for a total of 84 kittens in two years.

At the end of 3 years, a community would have 588 new kittens that would be the descendents of the first pair of cats. So what do we do about it?

Austin Humane Society (AHS) has a great Feral Cat Program. Two times each week, AHS offers free spay/neuter, rabies vaccination to community cats. To make it easy for the neighborhood to take advantage of these services, the neighborhood associations have rallied together to support the adoption of the Brentwood/Crestview Community Cat Project. The project focuses on neighborhood TNR, and provides neighbors free access to humane traps and support for learning the TNR process. Within just two years of performing TNR on a cat colony, there is a 30% decline in population. A community TNR effort makes a difference to the cats, the neighbors and a street.



Humane traps are available for check-out by anyone living in Brentwood or Crestview. In order to check out traps, receive information about the TNR process, or discuss how to get hard-to-trap cats, please contact volunteer Emily Wilson at [pamelagrierrocks@gmail.com](mailto:pamelagrierrocks@gmail.com).



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## Summer Camp—Let's Play

By Megan Baker

According to the thermometer, summer is here. According to the calendar, you still have time to enroll your child in summer camp. One of your options is a small, local business I run out of my Crestview home: Camp Vamonos!

Now in its seventh year, Camp Vamonos! emphasizes free play and low-tech, old-fashioned fun. At CV!, kids play, learn, and make friends in a setting where they are not just a number; groups are capped at 12 campers.



In addition to making decisions about how they spend their time, campers are spoken to in English and Spanish, giving them exposure to the accent and syntax of a foreign language, which makes it less foreign.

Daily outings are done using public transit, including the train when we go downtown, though two afternoons a week we walk to Brentwood Pool.

And Camp Vamonos! is affordable: \$185/week for new families; \$175 for returning families (food not included). Hours are 8:30 AM–5:30 PM, with extended hours available this year. Camp dates are June 6–August 19, though the week of August 15 is full.

Come play with us this summer while supporting a homegrown neighborhood business. Vamonos! For more information, contact me at [mezarito@juno.com](mailto:mezarito@juno.com), 512-453-8382, or visit CV!'s website at [www.campvamonos.com](http://www.campvamonos.com).

## Korean Church Zoning Update

By Chip Harris

In February of 2015, a zoning change was initiated for the one-acre property at the corner of Cullen Ave. and Hardy Dr. currently being used as a parking lot for the Korean Church on Justin Ln.

The land is zoned for single-family housing but a developer is requesting a change to multi-family zoning so that a multi-story apartment complex can be built. On November 12, 2015, the higher density, apartment zoning was approved on the second of three readings.

However, because a valid petition opposing the high-density apartment zoning has been filed, the third reading/vote must be approved by a super-majority of the council, at least 9 of the 11 members.

Currently, the apartment zoning does not have the support of nine council members and the case has not been scheduled for a third reading, although the applicant could request the third reading at any time and has until November 12, 2016 to do so.



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# Update on Pedestrian Safety at Burnet and Romeria

By Leslie Pool, District 7 Council Member

One of the most important parts of my job at the City of Austin involves helping empower neighbors across District 7 to advocate on behalf of their communities. One such effort is currently underway in Crestview, thanks to the hard work of Anne-Charlotte Patterson and Nancy Barnard, both active members of the neighborhood.

The project in question involves ways to improve pedestrian safety at the intersection of Burnet Rd. and Romeria Dr. Students often use this intersection to cross Burnet Rd. on their way to Lamar Middle School. As chair of the Campus Advisory Council at Lamar Middle School, Anne-Charlotte has been working on finding solutions for this intersection.



Last month, Anne-Charlotte and Nancy met with my staff to discuss their concerns and possible solutions. They came up with a number of potential improvements that could be implemented quickly, including: providing a five-second advance on the pedestrian signal before the traffic signal turns green, providing signage reminding drivers to yield to pedestrians, and educating students on how to cross safely.

Currently, ATD has put in the request for the five-second advance and is evaluating the signage request, while the Public Works Department is working with Lamar Middle School through its "Go Smart" campaign for pedestrian and cyclist safety.

Please let my office know if you or your neighbors need help working on any community issues or projects. You can contact my office at [District7@AustinTexas.gov](mailto:District7@AustinTexas.gov) and my staff will help handle your inquiries. We are here to help!

My staff includes:

Amy Smith, Chief of Staff

Louisa Brinsmade, Land Use Policy Advisor

Michael J. Gaudini, Policy Advisor

Leslie Hethcox, Executive Assistant

Annie Boggs, Policy Aide

# Celebrate National Arbor Day April 29

**P**lant a tree! As trees grow, they help stop climate change by removing carbon dioxide from the air, storing carbon in the trees and soil, and releasing oxygen into the atmosphere. Trees provide many benefits to us, every day. They offer cooling shade, block cold winter winds, attract birds and wildlife, purify our air, prevent soil erosion, clean our water, and add grace and beauty to our homes and communities.

There are about 60 to 200 million spaces along our city streets where trees could be planted. This translates to the potential to absorb 33 million more tons of CO2 every year, and saving \$4 billion in energy costs.

The planting of trees means improved water quality, resulting in less runoff and erosion. This allows more recharging of the ground water supply. Wooded areas help prevent the transport of sediment and chemicals into streams.



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## Single Servings: Eating Out or Cooking In

Cooking for one; portion sizes; making healthy food choices whether you're eating out or cooking at home. **Free!**

Monday, April 18, 2016 at 6:30 pm

**Crestview United Methodist Church**  
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Thank you,  
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