

CRESTVIEW

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

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JANUARY 2021

What You Can Do Post-Vaccine, and When

Particularly in the early months of vaccination, many activities should wait, experts say — and plan to keep your masks.

Vaccines are here, bringing hope of the pandemic's end. But even when you get your dose, it won't mean an immediate return to life as you knew it.

Vaccines don't offer perfect protection; we don't yet know whether vaccinated people can spread the virus; and coronavirus is likely to continue its rapid spread until a large majority of the population is vaccinated or has survived a natural infection.

Experts recommend that people think about "how we are moving forward" instead of "getting back to normal." And vaccination provides the best way to move forward. When it comes to thinking about what's safe, it may help to think of post-vaccine life in several phases.

What's safer to do once I'm vaccinated?

When people are fully vaccinated (a week or two after the second dose), but most others aren't yet, their lives probably shouldn't change very much, experts say. It will most likely be safer for them to do things like visit the grocery store or the post office. But vaccinated people should still wear masks and avoid large groups and indoor gatherings when possible.

While early evidence suggests that the first vaccines in the U.S. reduce people's risk of developing Covid-19 by around 95 percent, that still means a small fraction could get sick — and as long as the virus is as widespread as it is now, even that small share could be a big number.

What's safer to do once my friends and family are vaccinated?

In some ways, this may be the hardest phase of post-vaccine life to navigate as deciding which risks to take will involve calculations that can prove exhausting. Many people will be vaccinated at a different time than their loved ones. If you and the people you want to see are all vaccinated, it should be safer to socialize with them, including indoors, experts said. Restarting socialization with your close family and friends might be okay, but being in large groups, like going to a movie theater or traveling, when there's no way to know if the people around you have been vaccinated, will remain risky.

What's safer to do once most of the population is vaccinated?

Many scientists think at least 70 percent of people need to have acquired immunity for the whole community to be protected. That number is just an estimate, though, and might need to be revised once we know more about how vaccines affect the virus's ability to spread.

When a majority of people are vaccinated, scientists said,



it will be safer to do things in your community, like eat at indoor restaurants, attend a party or ride a bus. Next Christmas, families can probably gather in ways they should have avoided this year.

It's too early to know exactly when we'll hit that threshold. It's likely that some regions will have higher vaccination rates than others. Experts stressed that even when herd immunity is reached, Covid-19 is not likely to disappear outright. Outbreaks could still be likely, probably in winter. But as more people are vaccinated and the virus's spread decreases, hospital capacity should increase allowing for people to return to activities bit by bit.

Experts have asked people to think of themselves as having a risk budget. If you spend some of that limited supply by engaging in riskier behaviors, you will need to cut back in other aspects of your life. Vaccines can expand an individual's risk budget, but they do not make the budget infinite. It may be frustrating to keep waiting, but as people get extra protection from the vaccine, the daily decisions will get easier as everyone's risk budget balloons.

What will the new normal look like?

Scientists said they were waiting to learn many things before they would feel comfortable doing more high-risk activities, like how many people wind up being vaccinated, how long immunity lasts (after vaccination and after infection) and whether the virus evolves.

Scientists also say it's unlikely that life will look exactly like 2019 again. In the new normal, there may be more mask-wearing during flu season or in crowded places because awareness has been raised. And there will probably be more systems in place to prevent pandemics from being as deadly, These might include methods for tracking emerging infections and screening before activities like flying.

This year, rates of seasonal flu are substantially lower than usual, a shift they say is partly explained by the widespread use of masks and physical distancing. If we keep them up, the changes that coronavirus has wrought — like the decline of handshaking — may have payoffs in reducing risks of other diseases in the future.

This is an abridgment of an article that appeared in The New York Times, December 23, 2020. For the complete article, see https://www.nytimes.com/2020/12/21/upshot/after-vaccine-recommendations-experts.html?utm source=pocket-newtab.

CRESTVIEW

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

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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.

Treasurer: joincrestview@gmail.com Twitter: @CNAneighbors Facebook: CrestviewNeighborhoodAssociation

Neighborhood Email Groups

crestview-gardeners@googlegroups.com crestview-parents@googlegroups.com



All CNA Memberships Are Up for Renewal in 2021

Unless, of course, you have already renewed or joined for 2021! (And a big "thank you" to those folks!)

Since the early 1980's when the Crestview Neighborhood Association was formed, CNA has been dedcated to preserving our neighborhood as a safe, livable place for its residents. Any residents living within the boundaries of Crestview (Lamar, both sides of Justin, Burnet Road and Anderson) are eligilible to join the assocation. Dues are \$10 per year per household (up to 4 adult members) and are paid on a calendar year basis. To join the association or to renew your dues through December 2021, use the form below. Make checks out to Crestview Neighorhood Association or CNA. Or you can use PayPal by going to https://crestviewna.com/ join/. Any questions regarding your membership can be directed to the Treasurer at joincrestview@gmail.com.

CINA GRESTVIEW NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION	Crestview Neighborhood Association PO Box 9505, Austin, TX 78766 www.crestviewna.com		All residents are invited to join Annual dues are \$10 per household	
Date:	New Member []	Renewing Member []		
Household Members	s (List up to 4):			
Address:				
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Brentwood/Crestview Neighborhood Association Community Cat Project

by Emily Wilson

rap-Neuter-Return, ▲ known as TNR, of our community cats prevents overpopulation, needless suffering, nuisance behaviors, and other undesirable consequences caused by un-spayed/ unneutered community cats. TNR is a non-lethal method of population control where cats are humanely

TNR continued on page 3





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Howdy Neighbor!

By Mike Lavigne, CNA President

Thank you for making the Lil' Lane of Lights (LLOL) such a success. As I marched with Buddy the Elf from the Clubhouse to the LLOL singing carols with 100 of my neighbors, this Jew got all Christmassy for a hot minute. It wouldn't have been possible or as fun without Sharon Clark and Sunny Castillo as co-conspirators so be sure and thank them!

This month I'm giving my pal Billy Tweedie some space to say hello and thank you. He's been instrumental in many of the neighborhood things we take pride in. From Oktoberfest to the LLOL - he's been there for us and is always down to help wherever he can.

Happy New Year! My name is Billy Tweedie, and I've lived in the neighborhood for over 14 years. I also happen to be a priest, serving at the Episcopal Church of the Resurrection on Justin Lane. Many people know it as the church across from Lala's. I consider my life blessed because of getting to be part of this neighborhood as person and priest. I find the spirit of this community to be steeped in all the best parts of that post World



War II society, which is also my favorite aspect of church. It has been a joy to watch the children on my street grow up and to laugh and cry with many of you along the way.

During the pandemic, many of us have had to lean into our neighborhood community even more for a multitude of reasons. What a gift to have community. I have heard the laughter of neighbors gathering in the streets, having fun and celebrating life in the safest ways possible during these times. Participating in community is at the heart of most religions. Whether it's the people, the mystery, or the common shared values of life - it all points back to relationships.

I was thinking about the relationships I have formed in my 14 years here as I rode my bike from the Violet Crown Clubhouse to the church last week to experience the LLOL, an idea that I can't take credit for but am honored to participate in and host. To see those lights come on and light up brought me a few steps closer to Christmas, and I hope it did for others too! It made me grateful to live in this area of Austin and

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grateful for collaborative people. Special thanks to Brightside Eco School, the Crestview Neighborhood Association, Violet Crown Community Works, Brentwood PTA, King's Hobby Shop, Juice Realty, Boy Scout Troop 1407, the cheeky people of Krewe St. John, and, of course, the Violet Crown Clubhouse for organizing. Attached to most of those displays are opportunities to show your gratitude to a non-profit of their choice. I hope you got to check it out and will participate next year.

I leave you with the word "Immanuel" which most simply means "God with us". It comes from Hebrew scripture and speaks to the tangible reminder that we get from intentional community. God be with you and have a blessed season.

TNR, continued from page 2

trapped, evaluated by a veterinarian, spayed/neutered, ear-tipped, vaccinated, and returned (after recovery) to the same location. TNR is the only method of intervention that is 100% safe for our community cats and that effectively reduces the community cat population.

Without your help, this situation can quickly overwhelm a community. If a street starts with one unneutered male and one un-spayed 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. What can be done?

In early 2014, both Crestview and Brentwood's Neighborhood Associations voted to approve a humane approach, TNR, to address our neighborhood's community cats. The neighborhood associations have purchased 6 total Tru-Catch cat traps and a neighborhood volunteer will assist with trap check-out, education and coaching assistance. Since 2014, over 100 of our community cats have been safely TNR'd.

Traps can be checked out for a week at a time to Crestview/Brentwood residents. Please contact volunteer Emily Wilson - emily.wilson8596@gmail.com. I will explain the process, guide you to local free resources and help in any way I can. Volunteers are also needed.

Austin Animal Center's Community Cat Program http://www.austintexas.gov/page/community-cats

Austin Humane Society's Community Cat Program http://www.austinhumanesociety.org/communitycat/



In Memoriam - Remembering the Neighbors We Lost in 2020

(Editor's note: Because of the pandemic, we weren't able to publish the newsletter for several months and fell behind honoring those residents who passed away during the year. If we've accidentally missed a resident who should have been included, please feel free to advise us. Thank you.)

Joann Sawyer, a Crestview resident for nearly 60 years, died on November 8, 2019. She served in many capacities at the Crestview Baptist Church, from committee and volunteer work to Sunday School Department Director, then eventually becoming Church Secretary. Her vivacious personality, smile and great sense of humor will not be forgotten.

Tim Ramirez, founding CNA member in 1982, former CNA officer and a resident of Crestview for many, many years, left this life on January 1, 2020. Always contributing in some capacity to the neighborhood association, Tim volunteered in many roles, from newsletter distributor to CNA Treasurer and without exception, consistently exceeding expectations. Thoughtful and wise, Tim worked hard to improve his community, and his neighbors were ever thankful he lived nearby. In addition to working for the city of Austin for over 40 years, Tim was also very active with the Saint Louis Catholic Church where he was an usher, a Catechist, a member of the Knights of Columbus and a Communion Minister to the sick at Seton Hospital. He also contributed his time and efforts to helping battered women. Tim's absence will be felt by many who depended on him for so much.

John Rivas, hairstylist, passed away on January 20, 2020. While he didn't reside in Crestview, John touched the lives of many residents through his hair styling shop in the Chase Bank building on Burnet Road. Born in Beaumont, Texas, John travelled to Paris, France to study his craft. John was recognized by the *Organisation Mondiale Coiffure* in Paris as an International Master Hair Stylist in honor of his lifetime achievement as a creative artist and educator. John and his admirable talents will be missed by many.

Fred Mitschke, one of Crestview's earlier residents, having bought his house in 1959, and a CNA member since 1985, died on January 31, 2020. He was a good mechanic, loved to fish with his brothers in the Colorado River, enjoyed learning

new things and having coffee with his HEB coffee friends. Part of what made Crestview such a great neighborhood, Fred will be sorely missed.

Lillie Mae Williams, a longtime Crestview resident and CNA member since 1984, departed this life on February 29, 2020. She had a successful career as a businesswoman and an antiques dealer and was beloved by the community. A condolence note written by Bobby Killebrew (who grew up in Crestview) sums it up well. He wrote "Ms. Williams (Lillie Mae) was a vibrant and colorful neighbor who was loved by all. As a kid, we couldn't wait to see just how many lights she would put up for Christmas."

Mavis "Sunshine" Danel had lived in Crestview many years when she passed away on April 4, 2020. After college, she became one of the first 10 employees of Dell Computer Corporation. With a yard that displayed the most beautiful passion flowers, she enjoyed the outdoors and playing many years of softball, including being on the Dell softball team. The loves of her life were her three precious dogs, each one as friendly as Sunshine.

Jon Becker, part of the management team at Arlan's Market in the Crestview Shopping Center, died unexpectedly on July 9, 2020. Everyone who traded at Arlan's knew Jon and appreciated his friendly personality and supportive customer service. At a service for Jon held at the shopping center, friend after friend expressed how Jon had enriched their lives. A plaque has been installed on the exterior wall of Arlan's celebrating Jon's life.

Billie Joyce Hall, a longtime resident of Crestview and CNA member since 1986, left this world on August 1, 2020. She was devoted to her family and doted on her grandchildren. She was employed by the *Austin American-Statesman* and after her retirement, enjoyed activities at her church. In addition, she was a big Longhorns fan. Her friendly personality and smiling face will be long remembered.

Helen Lucille Hoy, who made Crestview her home for many years, departed this life on September 12, 2020. Very active in the Hyde Park Baptist Church, she served in many roles throughout her 44 years of service. She also led conferences for the Sunday school division of the Baptist General Convention of Texas over the state for Sunday school and In Memoriam, continued on page 6



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Arts Journalism, Jeanne Claire Van Ryzin and Sightlines

by Marilyn Querejazu

Now more than ever we relate to our changing world through art. Historically, the role of the arts journalist has been to guide our attention, to explain meaning and provide background, to help us find connection with art. But when a universe of art is a search, swipe and click away, do we really need someone to tell us what is artful? The explosion of online information compounded by our shrinking attention questioned the relevance of arts journalism.

Even before the pandemic sent the job market into a tizzy, the world of arts journalism was in full upheaval – jobs were eliminated by the thousands.

Then came 2020, a most unpleasant year. But there were silver linings among the dark clouds. One of these was the online collaboration between quarantined artists, closed galleries and museums and all of us stuck at home.

Jeanne Claire Van Ryzin can tell us a thing or two about all this. She is an award-winning arts and culture journalist of visual art, theater, dance, music, and architecture. For 17 years she was the staff arts critic and reporter for the *Austin American-Statesman*. At the end of 2016, the newspaper eliminated her job.

Ms Van Ryzin launched **Sightlines** (sightlinesmag.org) in 2017 to share a full palatte of art and entertainment news and ideas. Sightlines is an independent non-profit online magazine, based in Austin and a great source of information about public art on our streets and in our parks.

Here is what Jeanne Claire Van Ryzin thinks of us:

"Austin remains one of the nation's fastest growing cities, widely celebrated for its creative, smart and independently-minded population. Sightlines believes in that astute and curious population. We see that they want — and deserve — insightful, well-written and timely journalism about the broad, cross-disciplinary arts and culture landscape in Austin and beyond.

Arts journalism creates an ongoing conversation. That conversation is necessary fuel for any creative ecosystem. And it's a conversation that's a necessity of civic life."

I encourage you to connect with Sightlines. Know more.

Also:

I recommend a gander at Julia Lucy's aquatint etchings. http://julialucey.com

Also check out **Printmakers: In Good Company**, January 9-30, 2021 at www.wallyworkmangallery.com.

Piano Lessons for All Ages and Levels Tess McKenna, a Crestview resident 512.630.7982 tess_mckenna@utexas.edu I'm experienced and easygoing. I'll teach in your home or mine- whichever you prefer!

Know Your Risk During COVID-19

ustin has now moved to Stage 5 during the pandemic, And this winter is expected to be worse than we have seen yet for the spread of COVID-19. As mentioned on page 1 of the newsletter in the article from The New York Times, individuals may want to consider how they are spending their "risk budget" on the activies they participate in. With that in mind, here is a ranking of common activies and how much risk they might entail. This ranking assumes that all the individuals participating in the activity are wearing a mask/social distancing when possible, that the activities are done in an environment with few people, that the activies are not done with someone ill with the virus, and that one uses sanitizer or washes one's hands during or following the activity. It is also assumed that the establishment that is being frequented is following recommended protocols to the greatest extent possible. Not following these personal and business protocols would increase the risk of the activity, as would any individual's personal risk for severel illness if infected. Generally speaking, safer activies would be those that are outdoors versus indoors, activies that do not involve close bodily contact with another individual and activies where one is exposed to the smallest number of people for the shortest period of time.

Low Risk:

- Taking a walk, hiking or camping alone
- Opening the mail Pumping gas
- Using to-go, pick-up or drive-thru services

Low to Moderate Risk:

- Grocery shopping Sitting in a doctor's office
- Walking, running or bike riding with another person(s)
- Eating at a restaurant outside

Moderate Risk:

- Attending school Going to a museum or library
- Taking your kids to the playground
- Going swimming Going retail shopping
- Hosting an outdoor event with family/friends

Moderate to High Risk:

- Traveling Hugging or shaking hands
- Going to a nail salon, barbershop or hair salon
- •Playing a team sport Working in an office
- Attending a wedding, funeral or shower

High Risk:

- Going to the gym, a movie theater, a bar or church
- Eating at a restaurant indoors or a buffet
- Having dinner/visiting indoors with a friend(s)
- Visiting a sick person or a nursing home
- Attending a sporting event or concert



Wildflower Area Installed

by Friends of Brentwood Park (FOBP)

Seven volunteers from Brentwood and Crestview neighborhoods, Friends of Brentwood Park and Austin Parks Foundation worked together to install the wildflower area on the morning of Wednesday, December 9. Next steps are to monitor the area and mow the rye and Bermuda grass as needed until the wildflower seeds sprout. Neighbors are invited to scatter additional seeds over the next two months to build up the number of wildflower seeds in the soil's seed bank (please only add wildflower seeds native to Central Texas!).

We anticipate a small workday in the spring to spread mulch on trees in that part of the park, to cover the weed barrier along the wildflower area fence line, and to do some light hand-weeding in the wildflower area if needed. With luck and rain, we will have a nice crop of wildflowers this spring.







In Memoriam, continued from page 4

Vacation Bible School. Her energy and commitment were cherished by many.

Amanda Lea (Ponder) Peschel passed away on September 28, 2020 at her home in Crestview where she had lived for 63 years. Almost a founding CNA member, Amanda joined in 1984. She was very active in her church where she served in Vacation Bible School and taught Sunday school. After retiring from AISD after 20 years, Amanda volunteered at Seton Hospital. Our community has lost a wonderful woman.

Billie Jean Loftis, a resident of Crestview since 1959 and CNA member since 1986, died on October 28, 2020. Billie and her husband Harold were known for the exquisite Snow Village displays throughout their house. The Austin American Statesman featured them in an article and referred to them as the "Village People". Billie was involved in many civic activities and was very active in her church. She will be sorely missed by her family and community of friends.

Walterene Evelyn Peters, a longtime Crestview resident (1968) and CNA member, passed away on November 14, 2020. She loved growing beautiful flowers in her yard and excelled at crochet, embroidery and quilt making. Gifted with artistic abilities, one of her paintings was featured on the cover of the October 1975 *Water for Texas* magazine. Our condolences to her family and many friends.







The Curious Tail of Bianca the Christmas **Squirrel**

By Abby Strite, Crestview resident

Driving down the street one day Round Anderson and Tisdale way I caught a glimpse aside the trail A white and fluffy flash of... tail?

I'd heard a rumor long ago But never thought it could be so: A ghostly rodent comes around To keep watch over this part of town.

Although she never asked for fame, Try to snap a photo, ask her name! She might squeak out a mousey demurral She's Bianca the Christmas Squirrel!

She soars from tree to roof to fence She scurries underneath your bench That rattle in your walls, you see It may be, might be, could be she!

She navigates a possum fight And deftly skirts construction sites You'll barely catch the route she takes When she makes you slam your brakes

She'll drink all of your Texas tea, Then travel up your Christmas tree. She may scratch lightly at your door Then burrow underneath your floor

While you're relaxing on your butt, She'll drop on you great Bur Oak nuts. Just when you think it's safe, instead, She'll launch pecan shells at your head

But she's not here to be destructive Nor to make you unproductive She sees you while you work from home And dial that Zoom call from your phone

She's watching over front yard "parties" Always on time, never tardy, Ensuring distances are wide And masks are on while you're inside

And every few years, at an imprecise hour Bianca displays a magic power When you least expect it, look up and behold. Biance produces a Texas snow!

If you're lucky enough to see her You might become a true believer In the quick and climbing furry specter Our Crestview neighborhood protector.

So, keep your eyes peeled while you go Strolling down the Arroyo Keep your masks and sanitizer handy While you drink your Christmas brandy

If we're good she might just show And treat us to some well-timed snow She'll call as she bounces away, clear and bright, "Hang in there y'all, the end is in sight!"



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