



Building a caring community for residents who want to remain in their homes safely and affordably while maintaining a meaningful lifestyle.

NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2021

PRESIDENT'S POST



Earlier this week our board of directors held its first quarterly meeting for 2021. It was productive and upbeat. We have very engaged board members each with unique qualities that benefit our organization. There is a lot of work that goes on behind the scenes even during a pandemic that has forced us to curtail in-person activities. I am extremely proud of our board members for their continued support of and dedication to AIP-TW.

There are two board members I want to specifically thank for their recent, tireless efforts related to Covid-19 vaccinations. Pat Goodpastor and Bruce Cunningham have been combing the internet for local vaccination sites and sign-up procedures. When they find the information they share it with members of AIP-TW and post it to our Facebook page. As many of you have experienced, it is usually not an easy process to get signed up for the vaccine, especially if you are not internet savvy.

Quite a few of our drivers have received at least their first of two vaccinations which is very encouraging news for our rideshare program. As more drivers get vaccinated we hope to expand our transportation services which are currently only for medical appointments.

Our goal now is to determine which members have not received the vaccine and are interested in getting it. Earlier this week we sent out an email to our members asking them to notify us if they need assistance in scheduling a vaccination. Information on local vaccination hubs is constantly being updated and it can be overwhelming to keep up with all of it. Our volunteers are ready and happy to help you with this process.

Please call or email AIP-TW (aiptwtx@gmail.com) and we will do our best to get you the information on vaccination hubs and assistance with signing up if needed.

I know we have a ways to go, but I am seeing a break in the Covid cloud. I wish you and your loved ones continued good health and happiness.

Best wishes,



Peggy Reinhold
President, AIP-TW

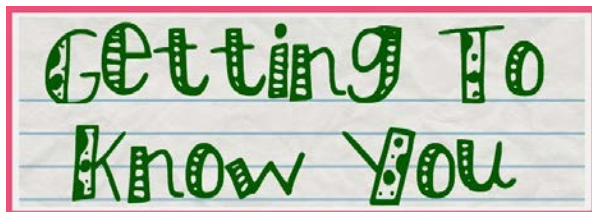
CHANGES ANNOUNCED IN BOARD OF DIRECTOR POSITIONS

The AIP-TW board of directors accepted the leave of absence of founding member **Ken Dorland** at its quarterly meeting on February 8 and welcomed new board member **Tara Sapru**. Ken was roundly thanked for his contribution to the success of our organization. He founded and directed the rideshare program since its inception. He temporarily stepped down following a recent cancer diagnosis.

Tara is a lawyer in the insurance industry. She grew up in The Woodlands and moved to New York City where she spent the last 23 years in Brooklyn. She moved back recently to spend more time with her dad who still lives here. Her interest in AIP-TW stemmed from watching Erika Pratt and others donate time and effort to helping others remain independent and happy in their own homes.

Tara Sapru was elected to be Secretary for the organization, so that current secretary **Erika Pratt**, a longtime volunteer driver and board member, can step in to manage the rideshare program in Ken's absence.

JOIN US FOR A ZOOM GET-TOGETHER ON WEDNESDAY, FEB. 17 AT 2 P.M.



Isn't it easier to ask someone you know to do you a favor than it is to ask a stranger? Since the purpose of AIP-TW is to help one another, our monthly socials are designed to build friendships and strengthen our community. It is amazing how much you can

learn about someone and lay the foundation of a lasting friendship while chatting over a cup of coffee. We plan to resume face-to-face get-togethers as soon as health officials assure us there is minimal risk of catching the Covid-19 virus. Meanwhile, join other AIP-TW members and volunteers for a Zoom **"Getting to Know You" social on Wednesday, February 17 at 2 p.m.**

Social Team member **Pat Ligon** has come up with a list of questions she will pose to participants to get the conversation going. First off, she suggests you let everyone know what your favorite color is by wearing it. Other questions might be about where you were born and what brought you to Texas? Have you ever climbed a mountain or ridden on a fire truck? Met someone famous? Parachuted from a plane? One question you might want to think about in advance: What is the best advice anyone ever gave you? If there are questions you prefer not to answer, that's okay.

To join the Zoom meeting click on the link below (you may have to cut and paste it in your browser), or enter the meeting ID and passcode numbers.

<https://zoom.us/j/8223907298?pwd=MXJrdTRJNFA1TDNCaTZWOGdZYU5Hdz09>

Meeting ID: 822 390 7298 Passcode: 999777

To use your phone to participate dial 1-346-248-7799. When prompted enter the meeting ID number. When asked for the participant code, press #. Finally, when prompted, enter the passcode followed by #. If you have any questions, email aiptwtx@gmail.com or talk to one of our volunteers at 281-845-4441.

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 17, 2 p.m., Wednesday. Zoom social. See details above.

February 22, 3 p.m., Monday. Book Buddies live chat via Zoom. See details below.

March 4, 4:30 p.m. Thursday. Enjoy a virtual happy hour with Capital City Village, a member of the Village to Village Network in Austin. It will be a chance to see how another organization like ours handles virtual events and to chat with some of their members. We will be welcomed by Capital City Village Executive Director **Tommi Ferguson** and **Rick Cloud**, their point person for happy hour. A reminder will be sent to your email inbox or phone closer to the date. **Here is the Zoom login information if you'd like to make a note of it: ID 810 7790 7106 and Passcode: happy. Or use the link below (you may have to copy and paste it into your browser):**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81077907106?pwd=eWZjQUJQa2dWR1ErMDhpcitPOTILdz09>

March 17, Wednesday. Monthly Wednesday "Chat Party" social via Zoom. Details to be announced.

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his recent biographer Eddie Glaude, novelists Toni Morrison and Ernest Gaines, playwrights Lorraine Hansberry and August Wilson, poets Langston Hughes, Maya Angelou and Amanda Gorman, magazine writer Jelani Cobb (*The New Yorker*), and newspaper columnists Leonard Pitts (*Miami Herald*), Edward Pratt (*Baton Rouge Advocate*), and Charles Blow (*New York Times*).

Looking forward to meeting with you via ZOOM on Monday, February 22, 2021 at 3 p.m. Prior to Monday, February 22, 2021, a reminder will be sent to you with the ZOOM log-in and passcode details. For more information, contact Book Buddies coordinator **Helen Bostock** at helenbostock@comcast.net, or text or call her at 713-992-9505.

The big talk of the town during our January virtual social was Covid vaccinations: Who had gotten them and or how to wrangle an appointment if you had not. **Vicki Bradley and Margo Pearson** co-hosted the event during which participants shared things they are happy and grateful for and what they are looking forward to in 2021. Most expressed gratitude for their health, families, and the Aging in Place community. Others mentioned chatting about books with our Book Buddies special interest group.

Almost everyone said they are looking forward to traveling again after being housebound for nearly a year. After two people mentioned they are booking trips to Ireland, several others jumped in to share their travel experiences in the Emerald Isles. At least one couple who has lived abroad and loves to travel has already booked five trips. They are keeping their fingers crossed that their plans materialize amid the Covid epidemic.

Someone said she is looking forward to enjoying the simple things of life again. Topmost are a professional haircut in a salon, and a visit to the new Nancy and Rich Kinder Building at the Museum of Fine Arts Houston, which houses a world-class display of the museum's outstanding and fast-growing international collections of modern and contemporary art.

CLOSED CAPTIONING YOUR ZOOM SESSION

Trying to follow the conversation during a Zoom session can be frustrating for people with hearing loss. Nearly 25 percent of those aged 65 to 74 and 50 percent of those who are 75 and older have disabling hearing loss, according to the Department of Health and Human Services National Institutes of Health. That, of course, is the demographic for AIP-TW members and volunteers.

Recently, a few of our members tested a CapTel closed captioning phone during a Zoom session. They could read a live transcript of what participants were saying while watching the Zoom session on their computer or other digital device.

If you are hearing impaired, an audiologist can help you obtain a free CapTel phone through the Texas State benefit program. This includes assistance in setting up the phone. CapTel phones are also available for purchase. For more information see captel.com and captelfromtmobile.com. YouTube videos and brochures are also available to walk you through the setup process.

Helen Bostock used the 2400i CapTel Touch Screen Phone during the test with Erika Pratt and Vicki Bradley participating on Zoom. "It worked well, and the captions were only on my phone screen not in the session Zoom screen, so it didn't bother the other participants," she reported. For those with only minor hearing loss, Helen recommends the portable Wonderboom Bluetooth speaker to pair with your computer or other device.





Essential to building and sustaining thriving Villages

**Our Village is a
Proud Member of
the Village to Village
Network**

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<https://aipwtx.clubexpress.com>.