



COMMUNITY CONNECTION

June 22, 2021 • 2:00 p.m.

The COVID Briefing has now transitioned to a weekly **COMMUNITY CONNECTION** and will continue to provide information of interest to the Fowler Family. We hope you will prioritize Tuesday at 2pm and tune in to Channel 6 as a time of connection, community, and communication.

- **Good afternoon Fowler Family!**

- **COVID UPDATE:**

- Yesterday Dallas County reported 106 new cases and 2 deaths.
- Judge Clay Jenkins stated “Every day I report a death; every day 100 people are hospitalized; this is nearly preventable, and we want everyone to take advantage of the free life saving vaccines
- This past week was the lowest average of deaths in a year.
- The Parkland Center for Clinical Innovation has pushed back its projection for when Dallas County will reach herd immunity — 80% of residents vaccinated or recovered from COVID-19 – to late July.
- Dallas County now stands at 47% of those ages 12 and over that are fully vaccinated; 56.7% have had at least 1 shot. President Biden set a goal to achieve 70% having at least 1 shot by July 4.
 - There are now 6 variants in the U.S. with the Alpha and Delta variants gaining strength
 - Last Tuesday we shared that the variants are up to 50% more transmissible and potentially more deadly
 - In the past month, the Delta variant has gone from 3% of all cases to 10% of all cases in the U.S.
- Experts continue to stress the need for vaccinations, and we support that strategy in fighting the pandemic
 - If you are not vaccinated, we strongly encourage you to make that choice to be vaccinated – we can help you make that happen

- **FOWLER UPDATES:**

- **FOWLER COVID PROTOCOLS AND POLICIES**

- We continue to review the 145-page document provided to us from Texas Health and Human Services to detect changes that can be implemented, specifically in our assisted living areas.
- Our licensed regulations have an impact on our protocols community-wide
- Changes you will see in the next couple of weeks in assisted living and independent living:
 - Volunteers will be welcomed back inside of our buildings

- Eucharistic Ministers from St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church will be invited to return
- East Dallas Christian Church will resume teaching Sunday School in person on July 4
- Pet Therapy volunteers will be returning
- Entertainers will return to in-person gatherings
- Our assisted living residents will be able to go on outings!
- We will return to in person trainings for future foster parents
 - Due to the storm damage of Fowler Community Center, these trainings will take place in the Administration Center conference room and in FCA F Building Community room
- With each of these new social opportunities, there will be protocols on masks and sanitation requirements regardless of vaccination status
- I want to encourage all of you to remain cautious and proactive in your decisions
 - Do I go out or not? Do I wear a mask or not? Who will I be around wherever I go? Are they vaccinated or not?
 - If you cannot confirm the answers to these questions, then I urge you to be proactive and wear your mask or social distance
 - The 2-dose vaccines are considered 88-90% effective against the variants and 95% effective against the original COVID. None of us wants to be in the 5-12% that still get COVID or a variant
- We are working this week to update all our COVID policies and procedures and will get these rolled out to you hopefully by next Tuesday
- **LANDSCAPING:**
 - Yesterday, we pulled in the parking lot and saw a truck belonging to the irrigation company – halleluia! They were still here last night when we left so we are pleased to know that the assessment of our entire sprinkler system has begun.
 - Thank you to our resident volunteers who are hand watering our flowers
 - We look forward to receiving the assessment and plan so that repairs and additions can be made in time for the fall planting season
- **SALON:**
 - We continue to work on our salon staffing
 - We are aware of the staffing challenges in PNCC and FCA specifically and have additional opportunities that we are evaluating for those areas
- **CALLING ALL ARTISTS!**
 - **Leading Age Art Inspire** contest is open for submission!
 - ArtsInspire™ is a contest that showcases the artistic talents of older Texans from not-for-profit aging services communities across the state. LeadingAge Texas receives over 200 entries every year that are judged by experts in the field such as university professors, artists, authors, etc.

- Who is eligible:
 - Current residents of LeadingAge Texas' community members are eligible to participate. **The submitted artwork must have been completed when the resident was at least 62 and/or while the artist/author/musician was residing in a LeadingAge Texas community.**
 - Categories:
 - Sewing crafts, needlework, knitting or crochet, painting, drawing, photography, poetry and prose – and many more
 - Timeline:
 - June 11, Contest opens for Submissions
 - August 27, Submissions Deadline
 - September 6-13, Visual Arts and Written Arts Judging
 - October 4-8, ArtInspire Week of Celebration
 - Fowler will have designated coordinators that will help you get your submissions in the mail to Austin
 - We have many talented people who live at Fowler - stay tuned for more information
 - **CHAPEL:**
 - The Chapel is open!
 - You are welcome to attend worship and Sunday School in-person
 - Please enter through the back door of PNCC – that door will be open for you on Sunday mornings
 - **HISTORIC MOMENT AT FOWLER**
 - Today, we are scheduled to close on our latest development – The Peak
 - The Peak will add 144 apartments at Fowler and is designed specifically for seniors with limited to moderate income
 - Once the dust settles with the mountains of paperwork that accompanies a closing, preparing the site for construction will begin
 - Once the site is prepared, construction will begin and is expected to last until September of 2022
 - Construction hours will take place Monday-Friday, 7am-6pm; Saturday and Sunday construction will only take place if we have to makeup rain days
 - What can we expect during the construction phase?
 - Like all construction, we can expect sound
 - We can expect dust and some mess
 - We can expect additional traffic with large trucks and equipment
 - While inconvenient, we can also be grateful its temporary
 - The new program will be a great complement to our services to our community and will serve more people for many years to come
- **RESIDENT BIRTHDAYS!**
 - 6/22 – Roma (FCA)
 - 6/25 – Suzan (FCA)

- 6/26 – Ann (FCA)
- 6/27- Marjorie (PNCC)
- No JLC Birthdays
- **RESIDENT MOVE-IN ANNIVERSARIES:**
 - 1 Year – George (FCA)
 - 2 Years- Ina Jean (PNCC) – Cecilia (FCA)
 - 3 years- Edith (JLC) and Sheila (FCA)
 - 4 Years- Dorothy (PNCC), Emma (FCA), and Norman (FCA)
 - 5 Years – Carol (FCA)
 - 6 Years – Melvin (FA) and Jeanine (FCA)
 - 7 Years – Ana (FCA)
 - 14 Years – Judith (FCA)
- **SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS:**
 - Jackson resident, The Rev. John David W passed away Tuesday, June 8
 - John was loved and respected by many, having served as a Disciples of Christ pastor throughout Texas. John moved to Fowler 6 years ago and was the current Resident Council President at Jackson
 - John’s celebration of life will be held at 3pm Thursday June 24 at Gracehill Church, 8535 Ferndale Road
 - If you are unable to attend it will be live streamed on YouTube, Gracehill Church
 - Jackson residents can gather in the media room to watch together
 - An in-person memorial service will be held for FCA’s Helen Z at Midway Hills Christian Church, 11001 Midway Road, this Saturday, June 26 at 11 am. The service can also be viewed on Zoom.
 - After 10:55 a.m., open a link in your web browser:
<https://link.caltech.com/u/15ddbd1c/YGWD1bLS6xGU6D7fhns0Mg?u=https%3A%2F%2Fzoom.us%2Fj%2F2143524841>
 - Wait to be admitted to the service by the host.
 - At 11:00 a.m. the service itself starts.
- **TEAMMATE TUESDAY!**
 - Happy birthday, LaFonda Caldwell! Today is LaFonda’s birthday.
 - Tomorrow is Hope Ross’s birthday. Happy birthday, Hope!
 - Happy birthday, Leticia Garcia! Leticia’s birthday is this Friday the 25.
 - Danny Cacique and Fabian Garcia both celebrated their 4-year Fowler anniversary yesterday, June 21. Happy anniversary to Danny and Fabian!
 - Soul Chikopa received a shout out for pursuing excellence! Soul’s med pass with the pharmacy consultant was praised for being one of the best med passes she had seen! Way to go, Soul!
 - A shout out to Marion Hampton in the form a hand written letter saying, “I so much appreciate your training in your field. You have a well-functioning staff. Our food is well planned and tasteful. Thank you for all of your hard work”.

- Ashley Lewis also received a hand-written shout out in a letter! It reads, “Ashley, you are a miracle worker in the kitchen. Our meals are balanced and colorful. You do a great job with many to add extra treats. You are a blessing!”
- Shout out to the Jackson dining team for loving people. You have made a new teammate feel beyond welcome.
- June is PRIDE month. It is an opportunity to honor and appreciate the struggle of those in the LGBTQ community. I found an interesting story in searching important figures in LGBTQ history. There are many to choose from.

Today I share the story of Katherine Lee Bates. Katherine was an American professor and author who is chiefly remembered for her anthem “America the Beautiful”. Born in Falmouth, Massachusetts to the towns’ congregations’ minister William Bates and Cornelia Frances Lee. Her father died a few weeks after she was born she was primarily raised by her mother and aunt. Bates entered Wellesley College, a women’s college as part of its second class in 1876. She graduated with a B.A. in 1880. She was a teacher in her early career and later went on to write young adult novel, *Rose and Thorn*. *Rose and Thorn* incorporated poor and working-class women as characters to teach readers about social reform. Taking advantage of new educational opportunities available to women after the Civil War, Bates used prize money from *Rose and Thorn* to travel to England and study at Oxford University in 1890-91. Near the end of the Spanish-American war, she worked as a war correspondent for *The New York Times*, and strove to reduce the widely circulating negative stereotypes about Spaniards. Later she earned her M.A. as was promoted to a full professor of English literature at Wellesley.

The first draft of “America the Beautiful” was quickly jotted down in a notebook during the summer of 1893. Bates remembered, “One day some of the other teachers and I decided to go on a trip to 14,000-foot Pikes Peak. We hired a prairie wagon. Near the top, we had to leave the wagon and go the rest of the way on mules. I was very tired. But when I saw the view, I felt great joy. All the wonder of America seemed displayed there, with the sea-like expanse”.

Bates was a social activist interested in the struggles of women, workers, and people of color, tenement residents, immigrants, and poor people. She helped organize the Denison House, a college women’s settlement house, with other women friends and colleagues in 1892. She wrote and spoke extensively about the need for social reform and was an avid advocate for the global peace movement that emerged after World War 1. She was especially active in attempts to establish the League of Nations. Long an active Republican, Bates broke with the party to endorse Democratic presidential candidate John W. Davis in 1924 because of Republican opposition to American participation in the League of Nations. Thinking of herself as a “global citizen”, Bates decried the American policy of isolationism.

Bates died in Wellesley Massachusetts March 28, 1929, while listening to a friend read poetry to her. Most of her papers are located at the Wellesley college Archives and include “diaries, correspondences, musical scores, publications, scrapbooks, manuscripts, reports, memorials and tributes, memorabilia, concerning “America the Beautiful” and other writings. In 2012, she was named by Equality Forum as one of their 31 icons of the 2015 LGBT History Month.

- **Make it a great day on purpose!**

All COVID Updates are posted on our website – www.fowlercommunities.org/covid19/

COVID Hotline: Phone: 214-515-7184 • Spanish Speaking Line: 214-515-1385

Email: Covid19info@fowlercommunities.org

COVID-19 Mental Health Support Line 24 hours a day, 7 days a week toll-free at 833-986-1919