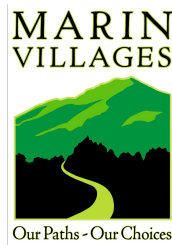


[View this email in your browser](#)



MARIN VILLAGES UPDATES

December 22, 2020

Dear Marin Villages members and volunteers,

Did you see the great conjunction of Jupiter and Saturn last night? If not, you can still check it out tonight! About one hour after sunset, look for the brightest spot in the western sky.

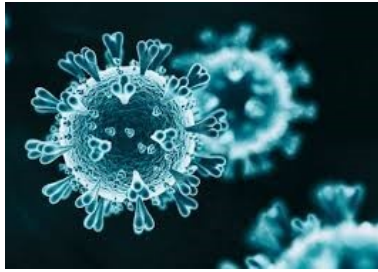
HOLIDAY WISHES

Please enjoy this video of holiday wishes made by Cherie Sorokin, and Diane and BJ from the office. Thank you all for being members and volunteers of Marin Villages, and we wish you a warm, peaceful, and hopeful holiday season.



Holiday wishes to you from Marin Villages!

COVID-19 UPDATE



The Grinch has not entirely stolen Christmas this year. Hope is on the horizon! As you probably have heard, Marin has received an allotment of vaccines and vaccinations are already starting for healthcare workers. You can watch Dr. Matt Willis receiving our first shipment [here](#).

Happy as the vaccine delivery news is, because the “rest of us” aren’t likely to receive vaccinations for a number of months, it’s important not to get complacent. Keep wearing your mask, stay home unless you really have to go out, social distance when you are out, avoid indoor gatherings of people who don’t already live with you, and wash your hands frequently!

Those of you who would like more information on the current state of the surge in infections in Marin and our ICU capacity can watch the approximately one-hour recording of last Friday’s excellent Marin County Community Conversation [here](#). A [shorter \(5 minute\) video](#) from this past Sunday is also worth watching.

Note that a major cause of the current surge appears to have been Thanksgiving gatherings that did not follow outdoor and social-distancing guidelines.

One more thing: please keep an eye out for scams! If someone tries to “sell” or ship you a vaccine or offers to put you at the head of the line to receive a vaccine, report the attempted fraud to (855) 613-7080, the California Medicare Fraud Patrol line.

THINGS TO DO



Lots of holiday and a few non-holiday things to do on this week's Things to Do list, plus some humor. You can access the list [here](#) and a copy was emailed to all on Monday.

MARIN VILLAGES PROGRAMS

Not Home Alone—Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, and New Year's Eve!
Thursday, December 24; Friday, December 25; and Thursday, December 31, 3:00pm



Please note the time change to 3:00pm!! You can still RSVP to join Donnalee Wells on Zoom and celebrate the holiday with fellow Villagers. You are encouraged to have something to eat with the group to celebrate with others. Always fun and good conversation. A movie to follow will also be suggested. RSVP to Marin Villages at info@marinvillages.org to receive the Zoom link. By the way, December 25 is Donnalee's birthday too!

DONATING TO MARIN VILLAGES



If you've already donated to our end-of-year campaign, thank you! It's not too late if you haven't done so already. Contributions are always welcome as they are truly vital to Marin Villages operations!

The easiest way to donate is [through our website](#).

You can also mail a check or call us about making a donation of appreciated stock: 4340 Redwood Highway, F-142, San Rafael, CA 94903; (415) 457-4633. And remember, you can also name Marin Villages as a charity to support on Amazon Smile—a great way to have your purchases on Amazon help us too!

CLOSING THOUGHTS

Many thanks to Marin Villages' poets Robin Gill, Val Stilson and Laurel Feigenbaum who helped us refine the following 2020 COVID version of *The Night Before Christmas*. Hope this bit of poetry and the video that follows from some clever folks in the UK put a smile on your face. Happy thoughts to all!

Tis the night before Christmas, and no one's about!
Everyone's at home, no one dares to go out!

Another lockdown is here, which makes me quite sad.
No parties, no family, no friends, I'm alone in my pad.

Despite things being crazy, I'm cheered by the fact
I have made it thus far without having cracked.

Volunteers from Marin Villages helped quite a lot
Delivering smiles, groceries and sundries, right on the dot.

We all helped each other and learned how to cope.
In truth it's not been that bad, and now there is hope!

I know children are worried how Santa will fare
If he can't come inside to deliver presents with care.

But he's got plenty of masks, and his reindeer do, too.
Skipping the chimney's ok with him, the front porch nicely will do.

Well I'm not looking for presents, my closets are at last clean
But would certainly be nice if Santa could deliver that vaccine!



COVID Christmas Parody (*'It's Beginning To Look A Lot Like Christmas'* – Perry Como)

Cherie Sorokin, President, Marin Villages
Peter Lee, Interim Executive Director



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