

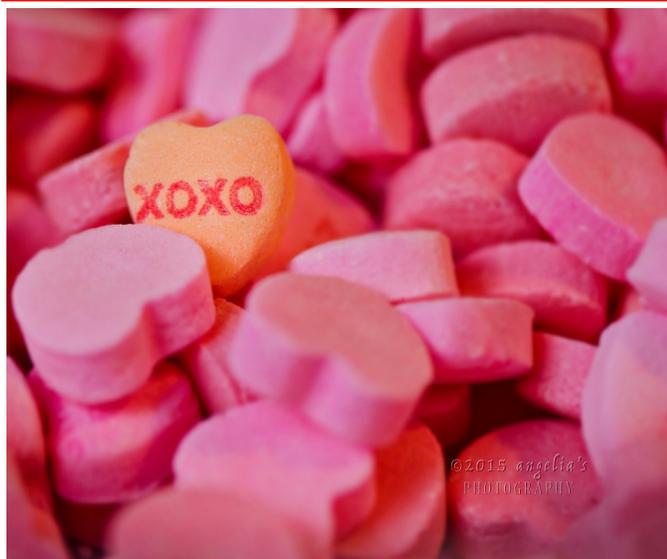


Vol. 9 Issue 2

THUNDERWORD

February 2022

Happy Valentines Day



**For the latest Club Event Information , Call our Message Center**

**610-218-1500**

**Or visit our Website:**

**<http://lehighvalleythunderbirdclub.com>**

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**THE LEHIGH VALLEY THUNDERBIRD CLUB**





PRESIDENT

## Officers

Vice President	Treasurer	Secretary
Tom Hollenbach	Walt Fries	Barbara Melnyk
610-703-6315	610-759-4997	610-279-6279

## Presidents Message

Happy February : Fellow LVTC Members! Hopefully everyone faired well with the past snow storm this weekend and you all managed to keep warm and dry! January seemed to fly by, so hopefully the rest of the winter will too! The Carlisle Auto Mania went well and was fairly well attended. I was planning on attending the Carlisle version at the Carlisle Expo Center, but the snow storm put a damper on the travel plans, so I did not go. No word on how it went either. This weekend we will be holding our monthly club meeting at America on Wheels Museum. On the agenda is planning activities for the upcoming spring through Fall Season, Pizza Party in March and our annual car show in July and we need to discuss a possible Fall Fling. Some other items that we need to address are the upcoming Tech Competition, the GLVADA Auto Show and are we doing a Valentine's Day dinner. Read on through the newsletter for more information. So, I hope to see you at the meeting, Have a Great February! Vince

## Board Members

Jerry Engle  
(610) 694-0728  
Mike Melnyk  
(610) 279-6279  
Sandra Fries  
(610) 759 - 4997  
Catharine Krasley  
(610) 820-5326  
Stephen Rivera  
(610) 791- 4581  
Troy Miller  
(610) 416-2219  
Kenneth Andersen  
(610) 869-9107

As a member of our club, your privacy is important to us. We would like to offer all our members a club membership list that would list each member's name, address, phone number and email address along with year and model of Thunderbird.

If you are ok with having your information on the list, sign on line "A":

**A: I am ok with having my name on LVTC Membership List :**

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IF you do not want your information on the club membership list, sign on line "B":

**B: I do not want my information on the LVTC Membership List:**

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**Thank You for your support of the Lehigh Valley Thunderbird Club.**

The Thunderword is published monthly for the benefit of the Lehigh Valley Thunderbird Club. All members and advertisers are welcome to submit articles for publication at any time. Articles must not be copy protected , if so the copy right must accompany the article. Send all articles to the editor via e-mail to [spokes5662@gmail.com](mailto:spokes5662@gmail.com) or the editors home address via snail mail. The editor with the approval of the president has the right to edit any article submitted for publication. Questionable language will be omitted. Please understand we have a volunteer Newsletter Editor so try to submit typed and proofed articles, comments, for sale items, wants and needs. All articles must be received on or before the 20th of each month to be placed in the following month's issue. All articles submitted become the property of the Lehigh Valley Thunderbird Club. Any and all Tech Tips published by the Thunderword are merely reports of another person's experience in attempting to make improvements to their situation. The author, editor, or any member of this car club shall not be responsible for your outcome. By using the advice presented to you accept full and complete responsibility for the outcome.

It is February 2022 in two months the Car things around the valley will begin. The Big four in the Valley are Macungie Park , Mopar Madness , and 1st Pa Mustang club., Found in the 60s, they run the cruise at the Ritz in the Allentown Fairgrounds. Macungie Park is the best attended once a month you can expect to find anywhere from 500 Cars up to 1000 cars depending on the weather but Found in the 60s is moving up fast, last year at the Ritz in Allentown three of their events they had better than 500 cars in attendance. Mopar Madness has 14 cruises scheduled this spring , summer and fall at Emmaus park . Their flier is on page 15 of this newsletter. 1st Pa Mustang club has 1 or 2 shows a year, one is usually held at Macungie park.

I will have a list of events for the club as they become available to me. If these groups don't make their stuff available I can't do anything about it. Please Stay warm and healthy

I know that a few of you came to the Ritz last year, the Club named Found in the 60's will be hosting those again this year starting sometime in April, and going twice a month as we get farther into the cruise season.

What I do know is Macungie will Have at least 9 events this year? Plus Das Awkscht Fescht and Wheels of Time Rod and Custom Jamboree.

Mopar Madness will have 14 cruises this year weather permitting, those will be held at Emmaus Park which is just off of Shimerville Rd.

As far as Macungie Park goes The post always says ( Cars Start Arriving At 2 O'Clock and this is true, if you have a favorite spot be there early ) The three or four people who park with me always there early.

# General Meeting

February 5, 2022



Our February General Meeting will be held at America on Wheels

Upstairs in The Hub Cap Cafe

Five North Front Street

Allentown, Pa.

10:00 AM

Coffee and Donuts will be served

War is truly hellish. But there are incredible stories of courage and survival within the horrors and this is one of them.

Amazing Story—**A RARE MIRACLE FROM WORLD WAR II**

B-17 "All American" (414th Squadron, 97BG) Crew

Pilot- Ken Bragg Jr.

Co-pilot- G. Boyd Jr.

Navigator- Harry C. Nuessle

Bombardier- Ralph Burbridge

Engineer- Joe C. James

Radio Operator - Paul A. Galloway

Ball Turret Gunner- Elton Conda

Waist Gunner- Michael Zuk

Tail Gunner- Sam T. Sarpolus

Ground Crew Chief- Hank Hyland

In 1943 a mid-air collision on February 1, 1943, between a B-17 and a German fighter over the Tunis dock area, this became the subject of one of the most famous photographs on enemy fighter attacking a 97th Bomb Group formation went out of control,

probably with a wounded pilot, then continued its crashing descent into the rear of the fuselage of a Flying Fortress named *"All American"*,

Piloted by Lt. Kendrick R. Bragg, of the 414th Bomb Squadron.

When it struck, the fighter broke apart but left some pieces in the B-17. The left horizontal stabilizer of the Fortress and left elevator were completely torn away.

The two right engines were out and one on the left had a serious oil pump leak.

The vertical fin and the rudder had been damaged. The fuselage had been cut almost completely through . . . connected only at two small parts of the frame.

And the radios, electrical and oxygen systems were damaged.

There was also a hole in the top that was over 16-feet long and 4 feet wide at its widest; the split in the fuselage went all the way to the top gunner's turret.



Although the tail actually bounced and swayed in the wind, and twisted when the plane turned. And all the control cables were severed, except one single elevator cable still worked, and the aircraft miraculously still flew!

The tail gunner was trapped because there was no floor connecting the tail to the rest of the plane. The waist and tail gunners used parts of the German fighter and their own parachute harnesses in an attempt to keep the tail from ripping off and the two sides of the fuselage from splitting apart.

While the crew was trying to keep the bomber from coming apart, the pilot continued on his bomb run and released his bombs over the target.

When the bomb bay doors were opened, the wind turbulence was so great that it blew one of the waist gunners into the broken tail section. It took several minutes and four crew members to pass him ropes from parachutes and haul

When the bomb bay doors were opened, the wind turbulence was so great that it blew one of the waist gunners into the broken tail section. It took several minutes and four crew members to pass him ropes from parachutes and haul him back into the forward part of the plane.

When they tried to do the same for the tail gunner, the tail began flapping so hard that it began to break off. The weight of the gunner was adding some stability to the tail section, so he went back to his position.

The turn back toward England had to be very slow to keep the tail from twisting off. They actually covered almost 70 miles to make the turn home.

The bomber was so badly damaged that it was losing altitude and speed and was soon alone in the sky. For a brief time, two more Me-109 German fighters attacked the "*All American*".

Despite the extensive damage, all of the machine gunners were able to respond to these attacks and soon drove off the fighters.

The two waist gunners stood up with their heads sticking out through the hole in the top of the fuselage to aim and fire their machine guns.

The tail gunner had to shoot in short bursts because the recoil was actually causing the plane to turn.

Allied P-51 fighters intercepted the "*All American*" as it crossed over the Channel and took one of the pictures shown.

They also radioed to the base describing that the appendage was waving like a fishtail . . . and that the plane would not make it and to send out boats to rescue the crew when they bailed out.

The fighters stayed with the Fortress, taking hand signals from Lt. Bragg and relaying them to the base. Lt. Bragg signaled that 5 parachutes and the spare had been "used" so five of the crew could not bail out. He made the decision that if they could not bail out safely, then he would stay with the plane to land it.

Two and a half hours after being hit, the aircraft made its final turn to line up with the runway while it was still over 40 miles away. It descended into an emergency landing and a normal roll-out on its landing gear.



When the ambulance pulled alongside, it was waved off because not a single member of the crew had been injured.

No one could believe that the aircraft could still fly in such a condition. The Fortress sat placidly until the crew all exited through the door in the fuselage and the tail gunner had climbed down a ladder, at which time the entire rear section of the aircraft collapsed.

This old bird had done its job and brought the entire crew home uninjured.





# MOPAR MADNESS OF THE LEHIGH VALLEY

## 2022 CRUISE NIGHT

### TENTATIVE SCHEDULE \*

### SECOND AND LAST SATURDAYS



**Come out and join in the fun at the  
EMMAUS COMMUNITY PARK,  
1389 Shimerville Road, Emmaus, PA.**



*Dedicated Sponsor of Dream Come True of the Lehigh Valley*  
DONATION TOTAL TO DATE: over \$100,000

**We ask for a \$1.00 donation for Dream Come True**

<b>APR 09 (4-7 pm)</b>	<b>JUL 30 (5-8 pm)</b>
<b>APR 30 (4-7 pm)</b>	<b>AUG 13 (5-8 pm)</b>
<b>MAY 07 (5-8 pm)</b>	<b>AUG 27 (5-8 pm)</b>
<b>MAY 28 (5-8 pm)</b>	<b>SEP 10 (4-7 pm) *</b>
<b>JUN 11 (5-8 pm) *</b>	<b>SEP 24 (4-7 pm)</b>
<b>JUN 25 (5-8 pm)</b>	<b>OCT 08 (3-6 pm)</b>
<b>JUL 09 (5-8 pm)</b>	<b>OCT 29 (3-6 pm)</b>

**All Makes of Cars &  
Trucks Welcome.  
100% of your  
CASH DONATIONS  
go to  
Dream Come True!**

*Music, door prizes, 50/50*

**NO HOTRODDING AND NO ALCOHOL PERMITTED AT ANY CRUISE EVENT.**

*\*Check our Facebook page or website for up-to-date information.*

Cruisers and spectators are welcome! ALL cash donations received at our cruise nights are presented to Dream Come True, a local charity for chronically and terminally ill children.

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

All cruise nights are weather-permitting. Check our Facebook page for cancellations.  
<https://www.facebook.com/Mopar-Madness-of-the-Lehigh-Valley-261564923900904>

THIS WILL BE YOUR LAST  
THUNDERWORD  
NEWSLETTER UNLESS YOU PAY YOUR  
DUES  
BY THE END OF FEBRUARY  
\$ 25.00  
FILL OUT THE MEMBERSHIP FORM IN  
THIS NEWSLETTER  
MAIL TO  
WALT FRIES  
70 GUM ST.  
NAZARETH, PA. 18064  
COME TO THE MEETING  
PAY YOUR DUES THERE

# Lehigh Valley Thunderbird Club

**New** membership application fee **\$30.00**    **Renewal** membership application **\$ 25:00**

**Please** make check payable to **LVTC**

Please mail your completed application form and check for to :

LEHIGH VALLEY THUNDERBIRD CLUB, INC.

**Walt Fries 70 Gum St.**

**Nazareth , Pa. 18064—1018**

**(Please Print Clearly)**

Name : \_\_\_\_\_

Birthday : \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse : \_\_\_\_\_

Birthday : \_\_\_\_\_

Address : \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail address : \_\_\_\_\_

City : \_\_\_\_\_ State : \_\_\_\_\_ Zip : \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Mobil Phone : \_\_\_\_\_

Thunderbird Data : (List additional cars on a Separate Paper and attach it to application )

National T- Bird Club : CTCL # : \_\_\_\_\_ VTCL # : \_\_\_\_\_ ITC # : \_\_\_\_\_

Body Type : \_\_\_\_\_ Coupe \_\_\_\_\_ Convertible \_\_\_\_\_ Landau \_\_\_\_\_ Roadster \_\_\_\_\_ Hardtop \_\_\_\_\_ 4- Door

Year : \_\_\_\_\_ Vin : \_\_\_\_\_ License # / State \_\_\_\_\_

Current Milage : \_\_\_\_\_ Color : \_\_\_\_\_

Collector Insurance Company Name : \_\_\_\_\_ Policy # : \_\_\_\_\_

How do You Use your Car?

Daily Transportation \_\_\_\_\_ 2nd Car \_\_\_\_\_ Hobby \_\_\_\_\_

How Would You Rate Your Car? ( 5 ) Show to ( 1 ) Poor \_\_\_\_\_

Please circle as many as best describe the condition of your Thunderbird :

All Original    Needs Restoration    Do Not Have a Car

Total Restoration    Restored for Fun Use    Restored for show only

Please enclose two pictures of your Vehicl



Happy Birthday To

Ron Leibowitz 2/14

Jerry Engle 2/17

Bob Free 2-19

Dwayne Behler 2/20

On the subject of Birthdays, Please when you fill out  
Your renewal membership please fill in your Birth Date  
Month / Day/ Year.

The only people who see this are Walt Fries and myself

# 55th Annual Hamburg Swap Meet and Car Corral



Sponsored by: Ontelaunee Region AACA

## Sun., March 6, 2022

### 7AM - 2PM

Free Paved Parking

Rain or Shine

**Hamburg Fire Co. Field House**  
**127 South 4th Street - Rear (Pine St.)**  
**Hamburg, PA 19526**

**Over 100 Indoor Spaces with Unlimited Outdoor Spaces & Car Corral**  
**"Handicap Friendly"**

**ADMISSION: ADULTS - \$3.00 • CHILDREN UNDER 12 - FREE**  
**Refreshments Available**

**DIRECTIONS: North, East & West** - Take I-78 to Hamburg's 4th Street exit; go South to Pine Street, Turn left up the hill, Field House is 1 block on right. **South** - Route 61 North to Hamburg's 4th Street exit; go to second traffic light (Pine Street), Turn right up the hill, Field House is 1 block on right.

#### FOR DETAILS & REGISTRATION:

Lester Manwiller, Email: hamburgswapmeet@ontelauneeaca.com  
 or 610-823-4656 (8:00 am - 8:00 pm)  
 20 Timothy Dr., Fleetwood, PA 19522

----- (detach here) -----

#### Vendor Setup:

**SATURDAY, MARCH 5, 2022 - 9:00 AM to 3:30 PM & SUNDAY, MARCH 6, 2022 - 5:00 AM to 7:00 AM**  
**"VENDORS ARE TO REMAIN OPEN UNTIL 2:00 PM ON SUNDAY"**

\_\_\_\_\_ Inside (10' x 8') space(s) \$25.00 each

\_\_\_\_\_ Outside (25' x 17') space(s) \$15.00 each

\_\_\_\_\_ Car Corral \$5.00 each vehicle

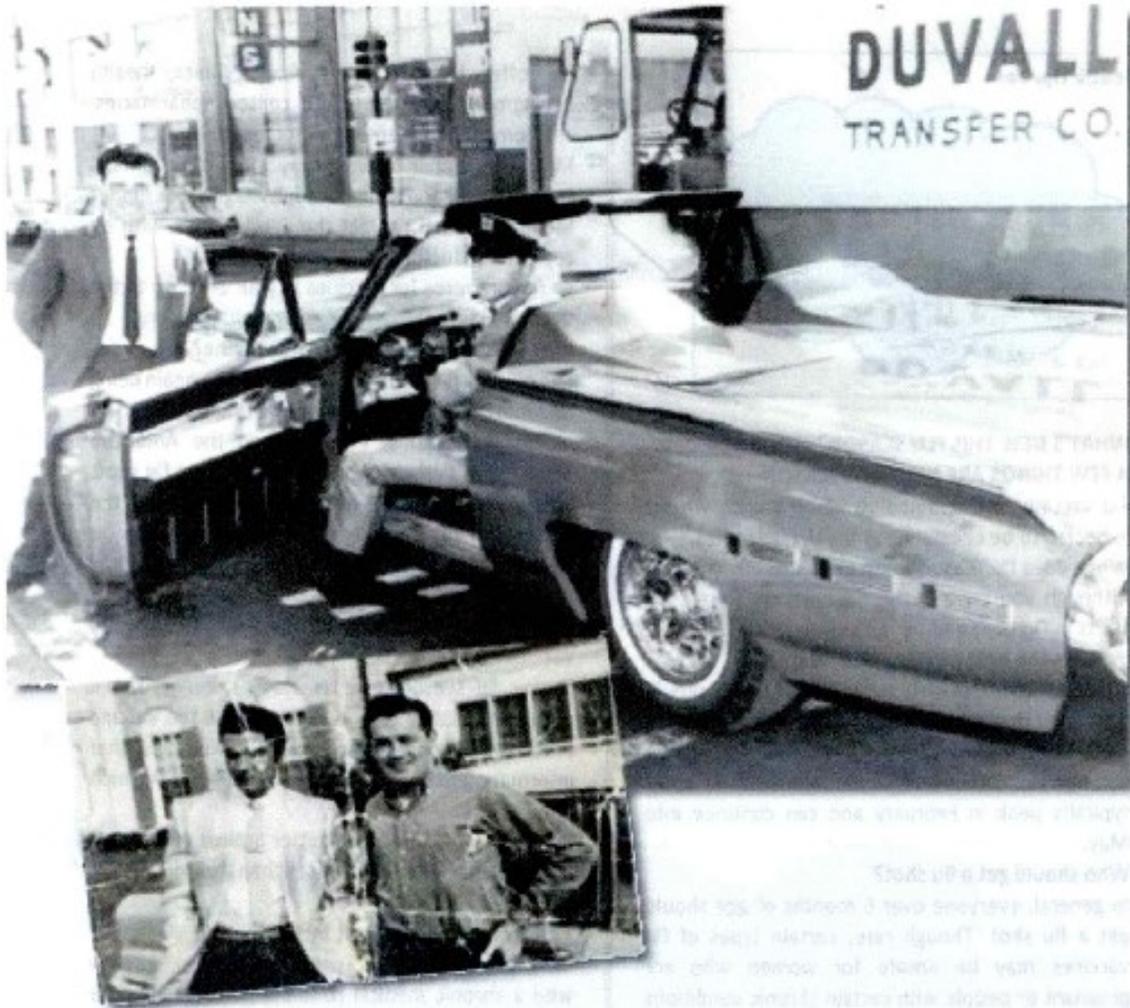
**NOTE:** Bring your OWN hand truck

\_\_\_\_\_ Table(s) (8' x 30") inside space(s) only \$2.00 each

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Item(s) Selling: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Make Checks Payable to: **Ontelaunee Region AACA**



Barrasso has looked at the photograph almost every day for 40 years and has never tired of it. 'Selling that car was the thrill of my life but it turned out to be an unhappy experience for Elvis'.

A couple of days after the sale, Elvis flew to Hollywood to make a movie. Two employees were assigned to drive the car out. Along the way they discovered some of the wires on the fancy wire wheel covers had come loose and were knocking against the car. They needed replacing, but the company that made them had gone out of business. So, plain ordinary wheels were substituted.

When Elvis saw that the spiffy wire wheels were missing and couldn't be replaced, he called Detroit and demanded to talk to 'Mr. Ford'. When Edsel Ford heard the story, he told Elvis to return the car to the nearest dealer and he'd get his money back. 'I was disappointed', admits Barrasso, 'but after the problem with the wheels, Elvis was never comfortable with the car. I just wish I'd had the money to buy it back'.

Eventually, Barrasso quit selling cars and went into the nightclub business; his first one was called the Thunderbird. Later, he was hired by the Las Vegas Hilton Hotel to run excursions out to the gambling mecca. More recently, he worked as a casino greeter in Tunica, Miss., but was recently laid off.

Barrasso likes retirement, even if it wasn't his idea. He plays racquetball, soaks in his hot tub, works in his at-home office and reminisces about the time he sold the world's most famous Cadillac man a Ford.

A cop pulls a car over for speeding.

Cop: "Sir, do you know you were doing 110 mph in a 90 zone?"

Driver: "Yes! I'm Sorry, but that's because I was racing another car and lost track of the speed."

Since he did not see any car besides that, the cop asks – "Sir, have you been drinking?"

Driver: "A little bit of Whisky, but just because I needed something to take with the LSD I took at a party!"

Cop: "LSD? Sir, I need you to step out of the car! Is there anything else I need to know? Drugs, Firearms?"

Driver: "Sure! There is at least 5 pounds of cocaine in my glove department and an AK-47 under my seat! But please, don't open the trunk, or the person I just kidnapped will escape

The cop, not believing in what he heard and a little afraid, called his superior!

At his arrival, the cop told the Sheriff all that. The Sheriff told him to wait by his car and goes to speak with the driver:

Sheriff: "Sir, my subordinate told me you have a kidnapped person in your trunk!"

Driver opens the trunk: "As you can see, there's no one here, but my jack and spare tire"

Sheriff: "What about the AK under your seat?"

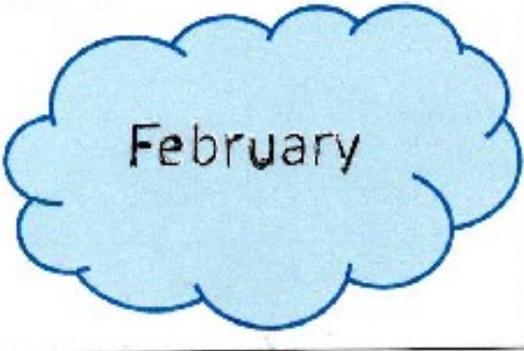
Driver pulling his seat forward: "There's no such thing here, just an umbrella!!"

Sheriff: "I see! And the cocaine in your glove compartment"

Driver opens the glove compartment: "you must be kidding me! Only my registration's there!"

Sheriff: "Have you been drinking or engaging in any kind of drugs?"

Driver: "Sir, I don't smoke cigarettes, don't even drink soda! I've been in my home all night with my mom and she's the most fervently religious woman you never know! That cop over there must be kidding you! HE told you I was drunk, took drugs, was armed and a drug dealer, and had kidnapped someone? What else? That I was speeding too?"

**Health Tip for**


February

**WHAT'S NEW THIS FLU SEASON?****A FEW THINGS ARE NEW THIS SEASON:**

Flu vaccines are updated to better match viruses expected to be circulating in the United States.

**When does flu season begin and end?**

Although you can get the flu anytime, flu season starts in October and can go as late as May.

**When is the best time to get a flu shot?**

Shoot for September/October. Ideally, you should have it by the end of October. But even if you miss that window, the CDC recommends vaccination through November and beyond because flu cases typically peak in February and can continue into May.

**Who should get a flu shot?**

In general, everyone over 6 months of age should get a flu shot. Though rare, certain types of flu vaccines may be unsafe for women who are pregnant or people with certain chronic conditions or serious allergies to vaccine ingredients like gelatin and antibiotics. Ask your doctor if you're unsure.

**How well does the vaccine work?**

The effectiveness can vary by year, but it typically lessens the risk of flu by between 40% to 60%. And if you do get sick, the vaccine also can help prevent the most serious symptoms as well as complications, hospitalization, and death.

**Can I get the flu vaccine at the same time as the COVID-19 vaccine?**

Yes. You can get both shots at the same time, including the COVID-19 booster shot. Children qualify for the COVID-19 vaccine once they reach 5 years of age. They can get both shots at the same time too.

**Where do I get the flu vaccine?**

It's offered at doctor offices, clinics, health departments, college health centers, pharmacies, and some schools, among other locations.

Many insurance plans pay for the annual vaccination, and older adults covered under Medicare Part B can get the vaccine free, with no copay or deductible.

To find a source for vaccines in your area, go to the Vaccine Finder (<https://vaccine.healthmap.org>).

**What about the nasal spray flu vaccine?**

The nasal spray vaccine, FluMist, is once again being recommended by the CDC for adults and children. In recent flu seasons, the CDC and the American Academy of Pediatrics had recommended flu shots only for kids because of questions about well the spray worked. But the manufacturer appears to have improved the spray, so the CDC and AAP say parents can go either way -- shots or spray.

**How do experts decide what to put into the flu vaccine?**

During flu season, experts study samples of the viruses circulating to find out how well the vaccine protected against those viruses. They use that information to help make their decision for the next one.

In general, vaccines work better against influenza B and influenza A (H1N1) viruses than they do against influenza A (H3N2) viruses.

**Who gets hit the hardest by the flu?**

Children, older adults, pregnant women, anyone with a chronic medical condition, and health care workers are especially vulnerable to getting the flu or to having complications such as pneumonia, bronchitis, and sinus and ear infections.

Children younger than 2 are especially vulnerable. Those ages 6 months and under are also much more likely to get complications, but they're too young to be vaccinated, so the best idea is to be sure everyone in contact with them is vaccinated.

Adults ages 65 years and above are at greater risk than younger, healthy adults due to weakened immune systems. Typically, these older adults account for most flu-related deaths and more than half of flu-related hospitalizations.

Pregnant women, as well as those who have delivered a baby in the previous 2 weeks, are more likely to have a severe illness than women who aren't pregnant.

# Health Tips

## HEALTHY HABITS FOR A HEALTHY WEIGHT

This information should not be used as a substitute for medical advice from, or treatment by, your physician. Please contact your physician for additional information about your condition.

- Ring in the New Year with healthy habits that will also help you to maintain a healthy weight throughout 2018!
- Maintaining a healthy weight can lower your risk of heart disease, stroke, diabetes, high blood pressure and many cancers. If your weight is in the healthy range and isn't more than 10 pounds over what you weighed when you turned 21, focus on maintaining your weight.
- Most adults between the ages of 18 and 49 gain an average of 1 to 2 pounds each year. Gaining weight as you age increases your risk of chronic conditions and reversing weight gain should be a priority. Here are few habits to get you moving in the right direction.
- Get moving
- Aim for 30 minutes or more of moderate activity (walking, running, etc.) in addition to any activity you normally do every day. Access fitness discounts in your area at:
- [www.globalfit.com/fitness](http://www.globalfit.com/fitness) or call 800-298-7800.

## HYDRATE

- Choose healthy options to quench your thirst. Water is the healthiest choice. Coffee and tea, without added sweeteners, are also healthy options. Avoid sugary drinks like soda and energy drinks.
- Cook at home
- Cooking at home helps you to control your portions and the amount of fat, sodium and sugar your meals.
- Eat more fruits & vegetables
- Fruits and vegetables are packed with nutrients and are naturally low in fat and calories. Include a variety of colors to ensure that you get a mix of nutrients.
- Get enough sleep
- Research suggests that those who do not get enough sleep tend to weigh more than those who get appropriate rest.
- Participate in online health coaching
- Coventry Well Being offers several digital health coaching programs available at no cost to all members.

Visit the website listed on your insurance ID card and get started today!

## WASH HANDS

Wash hands often to lower the risk of spreading germs and getting sick. Take 20 seconds to help protect yourself and others.

- Wash hands with soap and clean water for 20 seconds.
- If soap and clean running water are unavailable, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer to clean your hands.
- Wash hands:
  - Before, during, and after preparing food
  - Before eating food
  - After using the bathroom
  - After changing diapers or cleaning up a child who has gone to the bathroom
  - Before and after caring for someone who is sick
  - After blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing
  - After handling an animal or animal waste
  - After touching garbage
  - Before and after treating a cut or wound
  - More frequently when you or others around you are sick

## STAY WARM

Cold temperatures can cause serious health problems, especially in infants, older adults, and the chronically ill. Take a few minutes to prepare yourself and others for cold weather.

- Check the weather report to find out what to expect so you can prepare.
- Stay dry and dress appropriately in layers of loose-fitting, tightly woven clothing.



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**THUNDERWORD**  
**FEBRUARY 2022**

