



5-1-2020

## COVID-19 Journal | Erin Vance

Erin Vance  
*Jacksonville State University*

Follow this and additional works at: [https://digitalcommons.jsu.edu/lib\\_ac\\_covidjournal](https://digitalcommons.jsu.edu/lib_ac_covidjournal)



Part of the [Epidemiology Commons](#), and the [United States History Commons](#)

---

### Recommended Citation

Vance, Erin, "COVID-19 Journal | Erin Vance" (2020). *COVID-19 Student Journal Project*. 23.  
[https://digitalcommons.jsu.edu/lib\\_ac\\_covidjournal/23](https://digitalcommons.jsu.edu/lib_ac_covidjournal/23)

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the COVID-19 Archive at JSU Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in COVID-19 Student Journal Project by an authorized administrator of JSU Digital Commons. For more information, please contact [digitalcommons@jsu.edu](mailto:digitalcommons@jsu.edu).

## COVID-19 Journal - Erin Vance

### **Monday, March 30th:**

Today has been just like every other day has been for the past 3 weeks. The majority of my time I spend either sleeping or watching Netflix since there is not much else to do. Today is the day we actually start school back and it is weird because it doesn't feel real. I forgot we even had to go back to school and we weren't just done for the semester. I don't really like this whole online class thing because I'm a very visual and auditory learner and can't really process information the same through a computer screen. I guess I will have to make do though since there is no other option. I'm just glad I'm not in nursing school right now having to go through this.

In regards to how COVID has had an impact on my life, it's getting kinda crazy. I am from Carrollton, Georgia, and they have put a shelter in place for all of Carroll County. This means that people can only leave their house for food, work, and medical care. It is crazy to me that something like this is actually happening all over the nation but specifically where I am from. I am supposed to drive home tomorrow since I have been staying in Piedmont the past few weeks and I don't know what to expect. People in my city have been diagnosed with corona and although I wasn't scared at first and thought it was getting blown out of proportion, it is all becoming real now.

### **Wednesday, April 1st:**

I drove home late last night and Carrollton is like a ghost town. Since there is a shelter in place hardly anyone goes out, especially at night time. I've pretty much done nothing except sit in bed since I've been home, and that's exactly what I was doing in Jacksonville too. I don't really have much else to say for today because nothing much has changed or happened.

I will mention that the Governor of Georgia implemented a shelter in place for the entire state of Georgia, going into effect the 3rd. It's not a lockdown, but it might as well be. The shelter in place isn't anything new for us since the city of Carrollton has had one for two weeks already. I just really hope they don't close the state borders because I have to go back and forth from Georgia to Alabama for medical things such as dentist and doctors appointments. All of this is just really inconvenient, and I hope it blows over soon.

### **Friday, April 3rd:**

For there to be a shelter in place, there sure are a lot of people driving around town. It is so hard to try to follow the rules when you start going stir crazy at home. I've been trying

to be good about staying home and minimizing contact, but it's just so boring. It also sucks that as soon all this quarantine stuff started, the weather just had to start being amazing. It feels so good outside but there's nothing to do, especially since there's a shelter in place.

The state of Alabama is also under a shelter in place now too. It's crazy to me how much COVID is affecting the entire nation. I don't know if it's because I haven't really been paying attention to the news, but it seems like it's getting a little better. I also have to keep driving back and forth between Georgia and Alabama, so I hope these shelter in place rules don't hinder that. I really hope that the borders don't get shut down because I haven't had the chance to move back home yet.

### **Sunday, April 5th:**

I finally got out of the house today! It was actually really hot outside, in the high 70's. I've been wanting to go fishing so bad but I can't find anybody to go with. However, I went to my friends house and helped pressure wash their pool area just so I could be outside getting some vitamin D. I'm so sick of being cooped up inside with nothing to do. I live in a townhouse complex, so there's not much to do outside with the lack of space and grass.

I haven't really heard much else about all the COVID stuff. I don't really ever watch TV when I'm home so I haven't kept up with the news. It isn't that bad in Carrollton at least. I think there's only around 150 cases in Carroll County, which is like 7 different cities. I know there's been 3 deaths but in comparison to higher infected areas like up near Atlanta, I'm glad we don't have it so bad down here. I have to drive back to Alabama tomorrow for a doctors appointment, so I hope I don't run into much trouble with the shelter in place.

### **Tuesday, April 7th:**

I drove back to Piedmont late last night. I had to get up early this morning for a dentist appointment at 8. Jacksonville was a ghost town and it makes me so sad. It sucks that all this happened so sudden because I haven't been able to see any of my college friends since March 12th when we got the email that classes were being moved online. I miss my college friends a lot and it sucks that we probably won't all see each other until the fall. I hate that all this is happening because so many things got cancelled. Our formal would have been last Friday for our sorority, and tons of other events.

I didn't run into any problems with the shelter in place that's over the state of Alabama now. It's funny because there still were a lot of people out and about. I went and visited

some family and it hit me about how real this corona stuff is. The family I visited are older and have some health issues, so they're paranoid. I couldn't hug them, touch certain things, and I had to wear a mask and use hand sanitizer. It's sad that older people have to worry about all of this that's going on and the fact that they are scared to catch it because they could potentially die.

#### **Thursday, April 9th:**

It's kinda hard to write these journals when I do the exact same thing every day. I don't go to bed until about 7 am, then I sleep until 3 pm. I sit in my bed all day until I finally go downstairs to eat dinner. That is all I do, every single day. I watch a lot of Tik Tok and snapchat people. I don't have anyone to make plans with because a majority of my friends are from college and they're all back in Alabama. I go check the mail every day so I can at least go outside and get some sun.

I'm really tired of all of this and it makes me so sad. I want to be able to hang with my friends and go and do stuff. I saw that Tuesday started the two week peak period of all this corona mess so hopefully it gets better after this. I'm just so sick of staying inside 24/7 because there's nothing for me to do outside. I could walk around the apartment complex but that's sketchy and I don't want to do it by myself. I just really hope things get better soon and life can go back to normal.

#### **Saturday, April 11th:**

I woke up around 3 today and my work called and asked if I wanted to come in which is super exciting! I work at Chick-Fil-A and I love my job so much. I consider all my coworkers to be like my second family. I've worked there since I was a senior in highschool and I get so happy whenever I get to go back. It's weird that I enjoy my job so much but I love the atmosphere and all my friends there make it ten times better. I worked 5-10 and I haven't stood up for that long in a few weeks so my back and feet started to hurt.

My brother told me that he saw on the news today that Corona is close to being over. I don't know if I can take his word for it but I really hope that's true. All my days and weeks are running together and we've only been doing this for a month, but it feels like it's been five. I can't wait until the day this quarantine is called off and everyone gets to go out and do stuff. It's gonna be like black friday every day for 2 weeks. Everyone's going to be happy and out with their family and friends. It's crazy to me that we're living through history right now.

#### **Monday, April 13th:**

I did absolutely nothing today. I feel like these journals are getting kind of repetitive but there's nothing for me to do. I literally just drive around town and get food when I'm bored. I finished this Netflix show called Umbrella Academy, it was really good. I went and checked the mail and got my federal tax return back, so I took that to the bank. I drove around and the sunset was really pretty tonight. I went to the gas station at midnight with my friend to get snacks. That is literally it, I pretty much do nothing all day every day.

I haven't been keeping up with the news about Corona. I do know that Carroll County was ranked #3 in COVID cases in Georgia, but now we're ranked around #30, so that's good. I thought things were getting better but my friend said they really aren't. I guess that's what I get for not watching the news at all. Some people have started getting their stimulus checks, but unlucky for me, I won't get one because my mom claimed me as a dependent. I think that's dumb because college kids are some of the people who need it the most. I work for all my own spending money, but since I haven't been able to work much it's been harder.

### **Wednesday, April 15th:**

I actually was pretty productive today for once! I woke up before noon shockingly, I've normally been waking up around 3 pm. I got up and went to my mom's bank and got money out for her. I went to my bank to deposit some money and got gas. I also went and got a few groceries for my mom and got the fam some dinner (we had pizza). It got to around 5 pm and my friend was heading home from work and I thought he got off early because of how productive I had actually been since I woke up earlier than normal. It was a good day for once.

Most everyone else got their stimulus checks today so the town was super busy. Everybody was out at the bank, driving around, and at the grocery stores. It's so funny to me how people are acting about all this Corona stuff. People go out into public with masks and gloves on, but that literally does nothing for them. The masks are semi-permeable which means droplets can still get through, they're supposed to be used more for people who already have Corona to keep them from spreading it as easily. The gloves thing really irritates me because people will go around and touch everything they'd normally touch which just spreads the little virus particles anyways. If people wanted to actually practice proper glove procedure and it be useful, they'd have to change gloves every time they touch something. \*\*eye roll emoji\*\*

### **Friday, April 17th:**

All I've pretty much done the past two days is clean my room. My room has tons of stuff piled up from my entire life because my parents never made me throw anything away. I've wanted to redo it for awhile now and move my furniture around but I never could because of how messy it was. I recruited my mom to help me and these past two days have just been us going through boxes of stuff and organizing. We made a lot of progress today even though it doesn't seem like it. I've made it my goal to help my mom clean the entire house throughout the summer, because it needs it.

I saw the email from the university today that no one connected to JSU has been diagnosed with COVID. The email also said that Calhoun County has flattened the curve really well so I guess that's a good thing. I'm not sure how things are going around here in Carrollton but I hope things are getting better. Slowly but surely I think things are getting better, but I could be wrong. This is completely unrelated but Carrollton was trending on Twitter in the U.S. this morning. It definitely wasn't for a good reason but it's kinda wild my small town but being talked about all across the country.

### **Sunday, April 19th:**

I haven't done anything today other than study for a test I have tomorrow. Yesterday I was really productive though. I went to my friend's house and layed out and tanned and helped pressure wash their pool area. I also went and tried this snow cone place in town and it was so delicious. To top the night off I had wings from my favorite wings place for dinner. Today I haven't done much except sleep. I got woken up at 7 in the morning from the thunderstorms but slept most of the rest of the day because of the weather. Rainy weather always just makes me wanna sleep.

One of my friends ended up having a fever today so I hope it's not anything related to corona. I feel like my journals are so repetitive because I don't really have much to say about what's going on. I don't keep up with the news so I'm almost clueless about what is going on in the real world. I know the U.S. is now leading in the amount of Corona cases worldwide. It irritates me how I know so many people who aren't social distancing. I haven't been perfect either but I've only seen two other friends besides my family and I'm not going out and hanging in huge groups or going out into public much. The stay at home that is in effect keeps getting pushed back and it's so frustrating because if people just listened this stuff would be over quicker.

### **Tuesday, April 21st:**

The days I don't do my journals are the days I always end up doing stuff. Yesterday I hung out with one of my old highschool friends. We went to Walmart to buy stuff for him to spray paint a project. It was a Monday but Walmart was soooo busy. I don't even

know why it was so busy because it's not like people get paid on Monday's. It was crazy though almost everybody had masks on and they were looking at us like we were crazy for not having them. It was fun though, I haven't seen my friend since his graduation (he's a year younger than me) so it was good to catch up.

Yesterday Governor Kemp announced that he was letting certain businesses open back up. He's letting nail salons, hair salons, bowling alleys and gyms open back up. I've also heard that restaurants are opening back up. Kemp has gotten a lot of backlash from this with everyone saying it is way too soon to open back up. I have to agree, I think it is too soon to open back up, especially with Corona case numbers still rising. I think this is just going to be a setback and have Georgia rise to the top in the number of COVID cases we end up having.

#### **Thursday, April 23rd:**

All I did today was take my final for my history class. It's kinda sad because I'll usually wake up around 1pm, but because I'm so bored and don't know what else to do I just fall back asleep. So most all I've done today is sleep, like every other day. I did go out and get some pizza for me and my brother. I have my chem final tomorrow that I should probably study for, but I'm just gonna wing it. I'm glad this semester is almost over because since all this Corona stuff started, it feels like we've been doing it for 3 months.

A lot of places are opening back up already, or at least trying to. I don't think they can officially open until next week, but I know that restaurants and stuff have been gearing up to reopen. I still don't think it's such a good idea to open back up so soon, but I'm not the governor. I'll probably still try to stay home as much as I can just until the cases start going down more. I'm trying to plan a beach trip with my friends, so hopefully Corona starts dying down so that can actually happen.

#### **Saturday, April 25th:**

I haven't done much today. I didn't really sleep much last that night and combining that with allergy season wreaking havoc on my sinuses, I've felt kind of crappy. I did hang out with one of my friends and that was fun. I went and got dinner for my mom and brother, which I don't mind doing because it gets me out of the house and I can drive around. I have to drive back to Jacksonville tonight to pack my things up to bring back home, so I'm excited about that. I've missed Jacksonville so much and I'm so excited to get to see everyone in the fall.

Businesses are gearing up to open again. Georgia was the last to go into a state of emergency and the first to open everything back up to the public. It's weird that we've

been living like this for over a month now and soon everything will go back to normal. I don't think things will ever truly go back to normal though. I still think people are going to be extra cautious for a few months. I've heard that there will be another wave of this in December, which I really hope doesn't happen. I've also heard that some universities are already saying classes will be online in the fall. I hope that doesn't happen either because if I have to do my first semester of nursing school online I will be livid.

### **Monday, April 27th:**

Well today is my last journal entry. It's kind of ironic that I'm ending my journal while I'm in Jacksonville. I'm packing up today and heading back home to Georgia tomorrow. I've enjoyed doing this journal and I think it'll be a cool thing to look back on in the future. I hope someone else gets a kick out of it if they happen to come across it sometime. It makes me kinda sad to pack up, even though I'll be back in August. It just reminds me of the fact that our semester was cut so short and how much I miss everybody.

In regards to COVID, I know there are several other states opening back up their borders and attempting to return to normal. I know it is way too soon but hopefully all of this gets resolved soon. I'm ready for summer now but I definitely don't wanna get sick. It's just crazy to me that we all lived through this and it's going to be studied and talked about for years to come. It'll be something to tell my kids about. Let's hope they figure out a vaccine soon.

My name is Erin Vance and I am a sophomore at Jacksonville State University. I am a Nursing major. I covered a timeline from Monday, March 30th to Monday, April 27th in the year 2020. In this journal I discussed my day-to-day life and how Coronavirus affected it. I moved back home to Georgia during this time, after classes were transferred online March 12th. I hope whoever finds this journal enjoys reading about my very boring life, but that it gives some insight as to what it was like to live as a college student during these times.