



OUR VILLAGE



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Volume XIII

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March 20, 2009

OUR NEW ONLINE EDITION WILL BE AVAILABLE BY APRIL 3RD.

OUR ONLINE EDITION WILL JOIN *OUR VILLAGE* AND *STREET LEVEL* NEWSPAPERS AS YOUR LOCAL, GRASSROOTS, FAMILY-FRIENDLY, NEIGHBORHOOD COMMUNICATORS. WE INVITE YOU TO SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS, SUBMIT YOUR EVENTS AND HAPPENINGS OF INTEREST, AS WELL AS STORIES FROM YOUR CHICAGOLAND COMMUNITIES.

PICK UP THE NEXT EDITION OF THIS PAPER FOR CONTACT INFORMATION. THANK YOU,

THE EDITOR

\$PEND LOCALLY AND \$SAVE!

It is possible to pinch pennies and still have a good time! One easy way to trim budget bulge is to dine, shop, and play in our own neighborhood. A visit to your favorite local boutique, bowling alley, movie theater, and restaurant saves gas money and is more affordable than a trek to a downtown counterpart. Best of all, spending locally is a vote of confidence and an investment in the future health of our neighborhoods.



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Earth Hour-The First Global Vote for the Planet

On March 28, 2009 at 8:30 p.m., hundreds of millions of people in more than 1,500 cities in 80 countries around the world will come together once again to make a bold statement of concern about climate change by turning off their lights for one hour - Earth Hour. With their light switch as their ballot, millions of people across the country and around the world will cast a vote for action in the first global election on climate change.

Here in the U.S., it sends a message that Americans care about this issue and stand with the rest of the world in seeking to find solutions to the escalating climate crisis.

From melting glaciers to increasingly intense weather patterns, climate change is already impacting life on our planet. To alter the course of climate change, we must act now.

Earth Hour Expands its Reach in 2009

Cities around the world have already committed to Earth Hour 2009. U.S. cities include Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Dallas, Houston, Las Vegas, Los Angeles, Miami, Nashville, New York, Salt Lake City, San Francisco and Washington D.C. They will join international cities such as Beijing, Berlin, Copenhagen, Dubai, Hong Kong, London, Mexico City, Moscow, Paris, Sydney and Toronto.

Icons going dark for Earth Hour in the U.S. include: The U.N. and Empire State Building in NYC, Las Vegas Strip, National Cathedral in D.C., Gateway Arch in St. Louis, Eiffel Tower and Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris, Niagara Falls, Christ the Redeemer in Rio de Janeiro, Hong Kong's Symphony of Lights and Taipei 101, Moscow State University and Table Mountain in South Africa

Organizations endorsing Earth Hour include 4-H, Astronomical League and the National Education Association. Celebrities pledging support include Archbishop Desmond Tutu, Academy Award-winning actress Cate Blanchett and actors Edward Norton, Ashley Judd, Janeane Garofalo, Jennette McCurdy and Keisha Knight Pulliam as well as recording artists Alanis Morissette, Big Kenny (Big & Rich), Kathy Mattea, Wynonna Judd, KT Tunstall, Gavin DeGraw, Rise Against, Coldplay and Jo Dee Messina.

Teaching guides, toolkits for colleges, communities and businesses, links to Earth Hour's communities on the social Web sites Facebook, MySpace and Twitter, as well as the limited edition Shepard Fairey "Vote Earth" poster are available for download at www.EarthHourUS.org.

A Historic Event

Earth Hour was first celebrated two years ago in Sydney, Australia, when 2.2 million people and thousands of businesses turned out their lights for one hour. In March 2008, an estimated 36 million Americans joined the effort, with more than 400 cities and 50 million people participating worldwide.

Earth Hour captured the public's imagination with lights going out at some of the world's most iconic landmarks including the Coliseum in Rome and the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco and symbols such as Cola-Cola's famous billboard in Times Square and the Google homepage.

One hour - Earth Hour, 2009. Turn out. Take action. Vote Earth. Visit earthhour.org to join the movement.



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Cover The Uninsured Week, March 22-28, 2009

Letter to the Editor

Resurrection Health Care's history is rooted in community service. For more than 100 years, our Sponsors have provided compassionate care to those in need, particularly poor and marginalized populations. During Cover the Uninsured Week, March 22-28, we hope to once again elevate the issue of the growing numbers of uninsured people in the United States.

In 2009, 47 million people in the U.S. still lack basic health insurance coverage—that is one in every seven of our friends and neighbors. More than nine million children are not insured, even though most live in a home where at least one parent works. A staggering 18,000 people in the U.S. die each year because they do not have coverage and missed the medical services they needed.

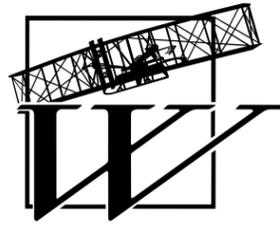
Health care access is fundamental to a healthy, flourishing society; it is not a product or commodity. When people have unmet health needs, it is difficult for them to fully function as members of their families, their workplaces or their schools, which then affects the broader community and economy.

Please join our online letter-writing campaign to elected officials, urging them to make health care reform a priority for the nation. For more information, visit www.reshealth.org/covertheuninsured.

Sincerely,
Sister Donna Wolowicki, C.R.
Chief Executive Officer
Resurrection Medical Center



Ivette Estrada
Chief Executive Officer
Our Lady of the Resurrection Medical Center



Two Wright Staff Honored for Excellence

A professor who is a television commentator and a former community college student who is now an employee have recently been honored as two top

employees at Wilbur Wright College, 4300 N. Narragansett Ave.

Social Science Professor Merry Mayer was named Wright's 2008-09 Distinguished Adjunct Professor for her excellence and dedication. She has represented Wright on the WYCC television show "The Professors," a roundtable discussion among City Colleges of Chicago faculty.

Irene Horne, an administrative assistant in Wright's Career Planning and Placement office, was named the recipient of this year's Clerical Excellence Award for her outstanding service. Horne has had a long career with the City Colleges of Chicago and is actually a graduate of the system.

Mayer, of Chicago's Jefferson Park neighborhood, has taught at Wright since 2005. In addition to teaching, Mayer helps out at Wright's Writing Center, which offers one-on-one writing advice to students. "I love working with the students and getting them excited about the ideas I find so fascinating. What makes Wright particularly great is the diversity of the student body," Mayer said. "Often when I bring up a country in my International Relations class, there is a student that either comes from there or has relatives there and can add to everyone's knowledge, including my own."

Irene Horne, of Chicago's Woodlawn neighborhood, has been at Wright since 1996 and is a 27-year City Colleges employee. Her experience with the City Colleges, however, began as a student at Kennedy-King College, giving her extra empathy in working with current students. "It's been my goal to treat everyone with kindness, to treat others how I want to be treated," Horne said.

For more information, call Ed Bannon at (773) 481-8535.

Free Income-Tax Preparation Available at Wright

Free income-tax assistance is available at Wilbur Wright College until this year's filing deadline to help local families and individuals maximize their tax refunds. Trained volunteers from Ladder Up (formerly known as the Tax Assistance Program) will be at Wright College, 4300 N. Narragansett Ave, from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. on Saturdays through April 4. Spanish and Polish translators will be available.

This free tax-filing service is available to families who earned up to \$45,000 in 2008 and to individuals who earned up to \$20,000 that year.

Ladder Up can also help filers submit their tax return electronically for free and obtain a tax refund in about two weeks, avoiding high-interest tax anticipation loans that slash refunds. Ladder Up volunteers help tax filers obtain all the deductions and tax credits they qualify for, such as the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), which can mean hundreds or thousands of dollars in a tax refund. Ladder Up works with Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley in the Mayor's EITC Initiative to help families claim the money to which they are entitled. Tax filers should bring their tax documents, such as W-2s and 1099s, and identification, such as Social Security cards and ITINs for all family members. The service is confidential.

Ladder Up is a Chicago-based nonprofit organization that recruits and trains more than 1,800 professionals from the area's top accounting, law and financial service firms to provide free tax preparation, financial aid form and banking services.

For more information about additional locations and program requirements, please visit www.taxassistance.org or contact TAP at (312) 466-0771. Prospective clients can call the TAP hotline at (312) 409-1555.

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ATTENTION "OUR VILLAGE" READERS FROM AMERICAN LEGION EDISON PARK POST

On Saturday March 21st at 2:00 PM American Legion Edison Park Post #541 is hosting a cash Bingo for the extended care patients of Hines Veterans Hospital, 5Th Ave / Roosevelt Road, Maywood, IL. The Bingo location is bldg. 217, 1st floor dinning room, which is at the west rear of the complex. There is ample parking. We need your help to assist these patients. These Bingo's are a highlight in the veterans lives, and last only about two hours. For additional information please contact:

Post Commander Gerald Skotzko at 773-693-3448 or Sr. Vice Commander Robert Fuggiti at 773-736-8738

KIDS' ACTIVITY DAY ON FRIDAY, APRIL 3, FEATURES FLOWERS AND FUN

Chicago's Oldest Home offers fun activities on CPS Professional Development Day

Kick off the spring season by bringing your kids to Chicago's oldest home on Friday, April 3, to enjoy a fun activity day right in the Norwood Park neighborhood! The Noble-Seymour-Crippen House, 5624 N. Newark Avenue in Chicago, will offer a Kids' Activity Day from 9:30 a.m. to noon. Chicago Public Schools will be closed for a Professional Development Day, so take advantage of this inexpensive program that will offer craft activities, art classes, story telling, and more.

This month's theme features gardening and spring. Vicki Bellisario from If an Elephant Can Paint will have special flower pots for the kids to decorate (for an additional fee). The Young Rembrandts will offer an art class at 11 a.m. where kids will learn how to create a spring-themed painting. We'll have other crafts throughout the day, with talks about gardening and planting. The house parlor will feature a special story time, while a docent will offer kids and their families scavenger tours of the house.

Attendance is \$5 per child; adults free. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Flower pot painting craft fee is additional. To register for the event, please call the Norwood Park Historical Society at 773-631-4633 and mention the number and ages of children attending. Or e-mail gwen@norwoodparkhistoricalsociety.org. Activities best suited for children aged 5 through 10.

41st Ward Zoning Advisory Board

The 41st Ward Zoning Advisory Board will meet at 6:30 p.m., on Wednesday, April 1, 2009, at Olympia Park Fieldhouse, 6566 N. Avondale Avenue in Chicago.

There will be one item on the Agenda.

Old Business:

1. To consider a request for a zoning change from B3-1 to B2-3 for the property at 6770 Northwest Highway, Chicago, for construction of 12 condominium units with 21 parking spaces (15 indoor and six outside)

New Business: None

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Alderman Brian Doherty's office at (773) 792-1991.

VOICES OF NORWOOD PARK OPENS SATURDAY, MARCH 28

New Exhibit Features Stories from Historic Chicago Neighborhood

The Norwood Park Historical Society announces its new exhibit, Voices of Norwood Park. Consisting of candid oral interviews, photographs, and artifacts from a variety of area residents, Voices of Norwood Park tells the personal stories of this historic Chicago neighborhood from the people who live in the area. The exhibit opening on Saturday, March 28, noon to 4 p.m. at the Noble-Seymour-Crippen House, 5624 N. Newark Ave., celebrates this project and will feature the Norwood Park residents who pulled it all together.

At the exhibit, visitors will view old photos, read personal memorabilia like scrapbooks, see artifacts from a bygone era, listen to audio of local residents telling their stories, and watch video interviews of long-time residents.

The exhibit began as an oral history project. Several Norwood Park fans came together at the Norwood Park Historical Society to talk about the history of the area. They then began to interview other residents, particularly those who have lived in the area for a long time. They found that many Norwood Parkers have been in the area for decades; some even still live in the house in which they were raised. Many of these residents donated or lent their own personal photographs and historic treasures to be featured in the exhibit.

Many of these residents will be attending the exhibit opening, so visitors will have the opportunity to meet the "stars" of this exhibit. Voices of Norwood Park, which runs through November 2009, offers an interesting, heartfelt look inside this historic Chicago neighborhood.

Travel back to a time when housewives did their marketing while strolling up and down Northwest Highway; elementary students mimeographed their own school newspapers; and neighbor kids rode their Big Wheels around until dark. You'll hear stories about the houses, churches, shops, schools, and all the other things that make Norwood Park so special.

"I would have to say I could not move from my house because I love my neighbors so much. I would rather be divorced than to move any place," said Norwood Park resident Kris Peterson.

"Some of the people I've run into through the Norwood Park Historical Society have acted like they have left their hearts in Norwood Park. Even though fate and circumstances took them to other places to live, their hearts still remain in Norwood Park," said longtime Norwood Park Historical Society board member and neighborhood resident Tom Spenny.

For more information on the Voices of Norwood Park project or the opening event, call 773-631-4633 or e-mail info@norwoodparkhistoricalsociety.org.

Voices of Norwood Park is made possible in part by a grant from the Illinois Humanities Council, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Illinois General Assembly. The project is also supported by a "JumpStart the Conversation" grant, part of an Aging in Place Initiative by Partners for Livable Communities and the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging with funding provided by the MetLife Foundation.

The Norwood Park Historical Society, a not-for-profit organization, resides in the Noble-Seymour-Crippen House, Chicago's oldest home. We invite you to join our efforts to preserve our community's rich history and architectural integrity and to make the dreams and experiences of our predecessors come to life. Visit us on Saturdays, noon to 4 p.m., or by appointment. The Administrator can be reached at the house on Mondays and Wednesdays or by appointment.

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GREAT OUTDOORS

Volunteers Needed at the Lincoln Park Conservatory, Alfred Caldwell Lily Pool, & North Pond Sanctuary Six-Week Docent Training Begins April 4

The Lincoln Park Conservancy, Alfred Caldwell Lily Pool and North Pond Sanctuary are seeking individuals to serve as docents.

Docents, volunteers trained to educate the public, have the opportunity to foster a greater appreciation and understanding of Lincoln Park, the conservatory and Alfred Caldwell Lily Pool. The training program begins on April 4 and continues each Saturday from 8 a.m. to noon (skipping April 11).

Volunteer docents are asked to spend approximately nine hours per month giving tours to the public. Area experts on horticulture, the art of interpretation, the history of Lincoln Park, and landscape design will train docents for six weeks. Actual tour slots include the following times:

- Fridays from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.
- Saturdays from 9 a.m. to noon and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.
- Sundays from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

The Lincoln Park Conservatory is a treasured Victorian glass house dating from the 1890s with collections of tropical plants, a show house, all surrounded by two historic gardens. Discover tropical palms, ancient ferns and brilliant orchids at the Lincoln Park Conservatory. In the heart of Lincoln Park, this historical facility houses four show houses capturing the botanical splendor with plant species from all over the world. The fern room's lush greenery and the orchid room's exotic species connect visitors to nature amidst the urban jungle. The Lincoln Park Conservatory, owned and operated by the Chicago Park District, was designed by nationally renowned architect of the Victorian era Joseph Lyman Silsbee in collaboration with architect M.E. Bell.

After completing the training, docents will be able to give free interpretive tours to the public and organized groups. Applications are available through the Chicago Park District and the Lincoln Park Conservancy. For more information about docent opportunities contact Julia Bachrach at 312.742.4698, julia.bachrach@chicagoparkdistrict.com or Norman Raidl at 773.883.7275, nhraidl@sbcglobal.net.

Urban Wildlife Coalition

Spring Urban Wildlife Tips

Spring is a wonderfully busy time for urban wildlife. Take advantage of the season and our wild neighbors by enjoying nature hikes, watching the dazzling array of birds in our area, and following these tips.

Drive carefully, especially near forest preserves, parks, and other natural areas. Especially later in the spring, inexperienced young animals may venture out into the road. Be especially cautious during the dawn and dusk hours. Keep to the speed limit; allow enough space between cars; and scan the edges of the road.

In spring, animals like squirrels, mice, raccoons, and foxes are looking for ideal nesting sites. If you prefer not to host wildlife in your home, prevention is key – so much easier than trying to rid your home of unwanted visitors later. Take an hour or two now to inventory your home for possible entry sites, and seal them before new residents move in. If wildlife has already started unpacking, a bit of patience goes a long way. Try to wait until newborns are on their own before trying to evict wildlife visitors.

Keep cats indoors. Outdoor pets are the leading cause of wildlife deaths in the spring.

Animals are establishing new nests in the spring, so avoid cutting trees and shrubs and applying pesticides and herbicides.

Think strategic gardening. Want to attract wildlife to your backyard? Consider plants and landscaping that lure birds, butterflies, and others. Hoping to deter animals from your garden? Now's the time to think about growing plants they do not enjoy and building fences around the types they do. Look to the next issue of *Our Village* for specific gardening tips.

Urban Wildlife Coalition is a community-based organization founded to help preserve our treasured urban wildlife. For more information about urban animals and tips for living in harmony with them, visit www.urbanwildlifecoalition.org. Questions? Call 773-545-8136 or e-mail us at urbanwildlifecoalition@gmail.com.

Legends of the Lake

by Tracy Seglin

There's nothing quite like Chicago tradition – dyeing the River Green on St. Patrick's Day; celebrating the 4th of July on the 3rd at Grant Park; ordering hot dogs minus catsup; and saving a hard-earned, post-blizzard parking spot with lawn chairs..

One of our most intriguing and tenacious traditions takes place chilly spring nights as hundreds gather at the Lake...

at Belmont Harbor or near the Shedd Aquarium... huddled with buckets, nets, coolers, and fire pits. April marks the annual smelt (or do you say "shmelt") run. Chicagoans are nothing if not steadfast, and diehard smelters show up year after year, even when the smelt do not.

First imported from the Atlantic Ocean as salmon chow in 1912, smelt traveled from Crystal Lake to Lake Michigan, liked what they saw and started families – big ones. Now, between mid-March and the end of April, rainbow smelt (*Osmerus mordax*) swim upstream to spawn, usually at night.

Over the years, smelt populations have waxed and waned dramatically. They virtually disappeared in the mid-40s, only to rebound in huge numbers in the late 50s. Lake Michigan seems to be in the midst of another smelt slump. Poor water quality is sometimes blamed, as are new predators, other invasive species, and disease. Faithful smelters just believe it's the regular ebb and flow of all things Chicago... that with patience, the smelt, like warm weather and the Cubbies, will come 'round again.



National Wildlife Federation

Why Garden For Wildlife?

1. It's fun! Watching wildlife in action can be fun and relaxing for everyone. Your habitat may attract beautiful songbirds, butterflies, frogs, and other interesting wildlife for viewing from your very own window.

2. Curb appeal! Replacing grass lawns with native wildflowers, shrubs, and trees will increase the beauty of your property and provide a nurturing refuge for wildlife.

3. Bring wildlife home! Restoring habitats where commercial and residential development have degraded natural ecosystems can be your way of giving back to wildlife.

4. Eco-friendly! Gardening practices that help wildlife, like reducing the use of chemicals, conserving energy and water, and composting also help to improve air, water and soil quality.

5. Community! Gardening for wildlife can help you share your love of wildlife with your neighbors and help them get involved in creating a home for wildlife.

Once your habitat is certified by NWF, you can order and display an attractive Certified Wildlife Habitat sign to convey your commitment to wildlife conservation and the environment, and help you spread the word to your neighbors.



Live Fast, Die Young?

It's been long accepted that the bigger you are the longer you live if you're a mammal. But, recently, scientists have uncovered an increasing number of exceptions to this rule. Find out more at <http://www.nwf.org/nationalwildlife>

National Wildlife Federation *Adapted from materials provided by USDA/Agricultural Research Service. Contact us at info@nwf.org, 1-800-822-9919, National Wildlife Federation, 11100 Wildlife Center Drive, Reston VA, 20190. © 2008 National Wildlife Federation. All rights reserved.*

Active Transportation Alliance News & Events



More details on the Bicycle Commuter Benefit

Bicycle commuters have been waiting for guidelines on implementing the Bicycle Commuter Benefit. Here's the official word: Employers can provide up to \$20 per month to encourage bike commuting, making the incentive itself no longer taxable. Expenses can include a commuter bike, upgrades, repairs and bike parking. You can't use the \$230 transit benefit (up from \$115 thanks to the recently passed stimulus package) or the \$220 parking benefit in months when you use the \$20 bike benefit. Get more details on our blog at www.activetrans.org.

New Share the Trails Brochures and Posters Available

"Share the Trails: A Guide to Trail Etiquette" brochures and posters are available with tips on sharing the trail to enhance the trail experience for all users and minimize conflicts. The project was coordinated by the League of Illinois Bicyclists and funded through a grant from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. The brochures and posters available for display at trail kiosks, display cases, and other trail information outlets. They are available at www.bikelib.org. For copies, contact Gina Kenny at gina@bikelib.org or (708) 334-2244 or mail your request to the League of Illinois Bicyclists, 2550 Cheshire Drive, Aurora, IL 60504.

Ride of Silence planning meeting - Mar. 30

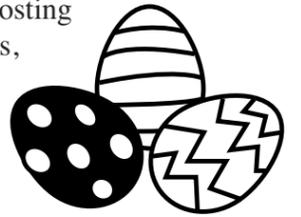
Help plan this year's Ride of Silence. We will meet at REI the last Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. to plan the upcoming ride in May. Next meeting: Apr. 27. Contact Elizabeth at rideofsilence.Chicago@gmail.com. The Ride of Silence is a free ride, hosted in hundreds of cities worldwide, that aims to raise the awareness of motorists, police and city officials that cyclists have a legal right to the public roadways. The ride is also a chance to show respect for those who have been killed or injured. Find more information online.

Bank of America Bike the Drive registration open!

Sign up by Apr. 4 and save \$2 on any registration package. See the city's famous lakefront and architecture; relive legendary memories at the site of the 1893 World's Fair or the site of Barack Obama's history-making election speech; breeze through lush parks; and come together with family and friends - all while biking on eight lanes and 15 miles of a tranquil Lake Shore Drive. Support our work and save on more bicycling with the Gold Package. Register today at www.bikethedrive.org/gold.

Park District Hosts Egg Hunts at Local Parks

The Chicago Park District welcomes spring by hosting dozens of egg hunts, including an egg hunt for dogs, from March 28-April 11 at parks throughout the city. Most events will feature treats, prizes, face painting, arts and crafts plus photo opportunities with the bunny. Some activities may require pre-registration due to limited space. Many programs are admission free or have nominal entrance fees. Participants should call the individual parks for additional information.



Following are a few highlights:

6th Annual Doggie Easter Egg Hunt Saturday, April 4 10 a.m. - Noon; Horner Park, 2741 W. Montrose Ave., 773-478-3499; Admission \$5 per dog; recommended for all ages. Activities include a hunt for treat-filled eggs, a bonnet parade, and refreshments for everyone. Photos with the bunny will be available for purchase. Dogs must be kept on a leash, and owners must stay with their dogs at all times.

Lunch with the Bunny Saturday, April 4 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.; Pottawattomie Park, 7340 N. Rogers Ave., 773-262-5835; Limited seating, pre-registration is required. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Admission \$9 includes lunch and a photo; recommended for all ages

Easter Egg Hunt Saturday, April 4 12 - 1 p.m. for ages 5 & under; 1 - 2 p.m. for ages 6-10; Athletic Field Park, 3546 W. Addison St., 773-478-2889; Admission \$3



Easter Egg Hunt Thursday, April 9 11 a.m. - 12 p.m.; Mayfair Park, 4550 W. Sunnyside Ave., 773-685-3361; Admission \$2; recommended for ages 2-5

Easter Egg Hunt Friday, April 10 10 - 11 a.m.; White (Willye B.) Park (formerly Gale Park), 1610 W. Howard St., 773-262-5051; Admission \$2; recommended for ages 18 months - 5 years; online registration only

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MATTER OF REACTION MOVEMENT PROJECT SHOWCASES MODERN DANCE IN SPRING PERFORMANCE IN PERSON, IN PLACE APRIL 2 - 3, 2009

Matter of Reaction Movement Project (MRMP) establishes themselves as a premiere modern dance company in Chicago with their fourth modern dance concert, *IN PERSON, IN PLACE* at Hamlin Park Auditorium, 3035 North Hoyne, Chicago, IL. This innovative collaboration of pieces features works self-produced by its co-artistic directors Kristin Balsamo, Kathleen Hickey and Renee Murray. Performances will take place Thursday April 2, and Friday April 3 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets can be purchased in advance for \$15.00 by calling (708) 203-6825, or \$18.00 at the door.

Matter of Reaction Movement Project works within a collaborative and improvisational environment while utilizing feedback to create dance with physicality and a focus on humanity. MRMP showcases the varied repertory of Balsamo, Hickey and Murray accompanied by choreographer/sound designer Mark Jamerson. *IN PERSON, IN PLACE* focuses on the exploration of a variety of ideas including long-distance dance, self-reflections and personal space. The choreographers of MRMP are submerged in how these inspirations develop, affect life and create art.

"Accumulation," choreographed by Kristin Balsamo, examines the "ins and outs" and depth of one's relationship with the self. This duet is a culmination of the dancers' self-reflections, life experiences and intrapersonal evaluations personified through movement and spoken words.

"This Close" investigates our comfort level with personal space. Dancers engage in movement designed to test the boundaries of space and comfort while dancing to the live music of Peter Landry and Dan Fenney. Choreographed by Kathleen Hickey, this piece reflects what happens when close gets too close.

MRMP's exploration of interactive sound and movement with the Nintendo Wii controller continues with the piece "Broken Balance." Mark Jamerson's sound programming and Kathleen Hickey's choreography combine to create a world in which decision making and its inherent difficulties are dissected.

Renee Murray's quartet performance "Read Between the Lines," proves that dance can survive geographic differences. With two dancers in Chicago, one in San Francisco and one in Long Beach, CA, they separately work through improvisational exercises, tasks and movement

phrases from afar, never inhabiting the same location until the week of the performance. How each dancer translates and interprets her instructions will greatly impact the outcome of this work. Murray is guiding her dancers through Sound designer Mark Jamerson is creating the original sound score for this work.

"Woman #1, Charcoal on Canvas," choreographed by Renee Murray, was created in collaboration with Tizoc Ceballos, composer and MFA student in the Music Department at California State University Long Beach. This solo incorporates a variety of choreography approaches including music visualization, improvisation, analysis of the compositional structure and an interpretation of the "atmosphere" of the music.

The theme of this work is one of longing, infatuation and desperation for the unattainable.

Choreography for *IN PERSON, IN PLACE* is done by Kathleen Hickey, Renee Murray, and Kristin Balsamo. Dancers include Kate McIlvain, Renee Murray, Anna Goldman, Laurie Caird Bramblage, Kathleen Hickey, Kristin Balsamo, and Joel Baughn. Music and Sound Design is created and performed by Mark Jamerson, Pete Landry and Dan Feeney. Lighting design is created by Chris Holland. Costumes are designed by Mark Jamerson, Kathleen Hickey, Renee Murray and Kristin Balsamo.

Kathleen Hickey, Renee Murray, and Kristin Balsamo formed Matter of Reaction Movement Project in August of 2006. They premiered their inaugural modern dance concert *iN FLUX* in March of 2007, and recently produced *iN Bloom* in May 2008. For information concerning MRMP or *IN PERSON, IN PLACE* please e-mail mrmppchicago@yahoo.com or visit us at www.myspace.com/mrmppchicago. Advance tickets are available for \$15 until April 1, 2009 and can be purchased by contacting Kathleen Hickey at (708) 203-6825.



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"A Theatre Review"

"Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat"

**Marriott Theatre
10 Marriott Drive
Lincolnshire, Illinois**

Reviewed by Richard Allen Eisenhardt

"Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" has once again arrived in Chicago or rather Lincolnshire. Some critics may scream the show is overdone but I love the music and the story. It is obvious or amazing that audiences love the show that it gets several revivals in the regional theatres.

The show offers a variety of music from rock to country to Calypso. Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice's music include "Any Dream Will Do," "Close Every Door" and "One More Angel in Heaven." Tim Rice wrote the book that is taken from the Bible.

The show has a narrator who for this production is played by Susan Moniz under the awesome direction of Marc Robin.

The story begins in the biblical land of Canaan where Joseph played by Max Quinlan is the favorite son of Jacob played by Roger Anderson. Joseph encounters the jealousy of his brothers who object to his dreams in which he is the hero with his brothers paying him homage. They arrange to have him killed and show his father his multicolored coat splattered with blood as proof of his death. But this is not true. Joseph has been sold as a slave in Egypt and has entered Potiphar's household where he falls foul of his mater who is jealous of his wife's partiality for Joseph. Cast in jail, Joseph puts his interpretation of dreams to use. The Pharaoh played by Bernie Yvon is impressed with Joseph's power and wastes no time in putting Joseph in charge and everything prophesized comes to pass. Joseph returns to Canaan when a famine hits the family, but everything works out and Joseph is reunited with his father and brothers.

Robin works his magic with his cast and the dancing is all first rate. Some of the others in the cast are Roger Anderson, Bernie Yvon, Kevin Barthel, Summer Rich, Andrew Keltz, Christian Libonati, Jason Shufflet, Ericka Mac, Lyndsey Cole and Laura E. Taylor. The cast has 20 who all work hard to make this show first rate.

"Joseph" runs through May 10. For performance days, show times and reservations call 847-634-0200. Tickets are \$45.00.

"Our Town"

**Lookingglass Theatre Company at the Waterworks
821 N. Michigan
Chicago, Illinois**

Reviewed by Richard Allen Eisenhardt

Thornton Wilder Classic "Our Town" that won a Pulitzer Prize in 1938 on the people of Grover's Corners is a show that will be revived time and time again by regional theatre as well it should. The Lookingglass theatre is now presenting a production of this show under the direction of two female directors Anna D. Shapiro and Jessica Thebus.

This classic masterpiece is also getting a production off Broadway in New York under the direction of Chicagoan David Cromer who is also playing the role of the stage director. Last year he directed the show in Chicago for the Hypocrites Theatre Company.

Recently when Chris Jones reviewed the show on the CBS news David Schwimmer who has the role in Lookingglass's production of George Gibbs requested they not use footage of him as it is an ensemble piece and because he didn't want to take away from the other cast members. Those who saw Schwimmer on "Friends" for as long as the series ran on television will flock to see his performance. While he became a major star he remains faithful to Chicago and the theatre company he helped form. Schwimmer is a sage actor and gives a gifted performance in this production.

The show has a cast of twelve actors and runs a solid two hours in its three acts.

Joey Slotnick has the role of stage manager and his folksiness fits in perfectly in a play that is set in the small town of Grover's Corner. Laura Eason plays George's wife Emily and the performance works like magic. With or without Schwimmer, this production is well worth seeing. David Catlin plays Dr. Gibbs and Christin Mary Dunford plays Mary Webb. Heidi Stillman is Mrs. Gibbs and Andrew White plays Mr. Webb.

The show covers daily life, marriage and death over a period of twelve years. The first act deals with the wedding of high school sweethearts and in the end we are faced with Emily's death at age 26 in childbirth.

"Our Town" runs through April 5. Ticket prices are \$30 to \$60. For performance dates, show times and reservations call 312-227-0655

DOG & PONY THEATRE COMPANY'S MIDWEST PREMIERE OF GOD'S EAR

God's Ear Runs March 26-April 26 at the Viaduct Theatre

Dog & Pony Theatre Company's fifth anniversary season continues with the Midwest premiere of God's Ear by Jenny Schwartz directed by Artistic Director Krissy Vanderwarker.* Please note that God's Ear replaces the previously announced spring production of Women in the Lobby.

Performances run March 26-April 26 at the Viaduct Theatre Mainstage, 3111 N. Western Ave. Previews are Thursday-Friday, March 26-27. Performances are Thursdays - Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 5 p.m. Tickets are \$20 general admission, \$15 for students and seniors. All Thursday and Sunday performances are pay-what-you-can. For tickets, call the Viaduct Theater box office at 773-296-6024 or visit www.viaducttheater.org.

God's Ear is a heartbreaking work that uses unconventional structure and language to explore a couple's relationship as they mourn the death of their son. The New York Times described the story as "... separate odysseys of suffering that intersect on some sort of psychic plain, Mel and Ted slide down a rabbit hole into an alternate reality, where a toddler cracks wise, the Tooth Fairy sings grimly comic little ditties and G.I. Joe offers family counseling."

Jenny Schwartz is a New York-based playwright and a graduate of Juilliard where she received a fellowship in the Lila Acheson Wallace Playwriting Program. Her play God's Ear was a finalist for the 2007 Susan Smith Blackburn Award. It was premiered by New Georges under the direction of Anne Kauffman in February 2007 and was subsequently produced by the Vineyard Theatre in spring 2008. She is currently working on her new play, Somewhere Fun, which is a commission from Soho Theatre, London & Soho Rep, NY. She is also under commission from South Coast Repertory and True Love Productions where she is writing a musical with Ethan Lipton. Schwartz is an associate artist with The Civilians and a member of New Dramatists.

Dog & Pony Artistic Director Krissy Vanderwarker* directs God's Ear. Vanderwarker directed As Told by the Vivian Girls, Mr. Marmalade, Ape, Osama the Hero, Crumble (Lay Me Down, Justin Timberlake) and As Much As You Can for Dog & Pony. Regional credits include the upcoming Kinsmen, or Descendants for the O'Neill Cabaret & Performance Conference and As Much As You Can for Hendel Productions West at Celebration Theater, NY Fringe Fest. Assistant director credits include Black Diamond at Lookingglass, Purple Heart at Steppenwolf Theatre Company and Sky Girls at Northlight Theatre. She holds a BA in religion and art history from Northwestern University where she founded Sit and Spin Productions.

The cast for God's Ear features Gina D'Ercoli, Jeff Fisher, Luke Hatton, Faith Noelle Hurley*, Teeny Lamothe*, Elizabeth Levy, and Mike Trehy.

Crew includes set design by Grant Sabin*; sound design by Stephen Ptacek*; lighting design by Aaron Weissman; props by Linda Laake*; and composition by Abraham Levitan of Baby Teeth.

Dog & Pony has presented nine full productions in five years. The company made its debut with Michael Frayn's Clouds at the historic Chicago Cultural Center in May 2004. In winter 2005, the company gained both popular and critical acclaim for its production of Sheila Callaghan's Crumble (Lay Me Down, Justin Timberlake), which received an encore performance at Theater on the Lake. In 2007, Dog & Pony was named Best Theater Troupe by Chicago Magazine.

This year, Dog & Pony was honored with two non-Equity Jeff Award nominations for its production of Mr. Marmalade. The company recently garnered three After Dark Awards for the spring 2008 world premiere of As Told By The Vivian Girls, a devised promenade play by Associate Artistic Director Devon de Mayo and Dog & Pony's ensemble that drew inspiration from renowned outsider artist Henry Darger.

Dog & Pony Theatre Company is committed to producing vital works by new and emerging playwrights whose use of language and convention are daring and highly imaginative. As an eclectic collective of artists with backgrounds in theater, political activism and religion, Dog & Pony is particularly drawn to work with social and cultural relevance. Dog & Pony Theatre Company is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization and a proud member of the League of Chicago Theatres. For more information, call 773-360-7933 or visit www.dogandponychicago.org.

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Children's Story Time

Warm up through the winter and greet the spring with stories, songs and more! Are you and your children ready to have some fun together? Join us for an engaging program of stories, songs, rhymes and games. Toddler Story Time, for children ages 2-3, will meet at 10 a.m. and 11 a.m. on Thursday, April 2. Preschool Story Time, for children ages 3-5, will meet at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, April 7. Both sessions will meet with Children's Associate Sharon in the second-floor community room. All children must be accompanied by a parent or caregiver; no registration is required. For further information, please call 312-744-8313.

ADULT PROGRAMS

The Adult Book Club will discuss *On Chesil Beach* by Ian McEwan, on Thursday, March 26, from 7 to 8 p.m.

Tax Smart Investing Workshop will be presented by Matt Fishbune, an Edward Jones financial advisor, on Thursday, April 2 at 6:00 p.m. at the Edgebrook Branch, 5331 W. Devon Ave. In this workshop, you will learn tax-savings strategies for today's dollars, and how to take action this year and learn how to keep more of what you earn. This workshop is free, but space is limited, so reserve your spot today by calling (773) 774-7550.

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Misericordia Heartzingers Spring Choral Concert
Thursday, March 26, 7:00 p.m.

Welcome in spring with a free concert by the Misericordia Heartzingers, a choral group that performs throughout Chicagoland. This free concert is on Thursday, March 26, at 7:00 p.m., at the Chicago Public Library Budlong Woods Branch, 5630 N. Lincoln Avenue. For additional information, please call the branch at 312-742-9590.

Free Choral Concert!

Seven area synagogue choirs take part in the annual Zemer Am ("Song of the People") Choral Festival, a free choral concert to be held Sunday, March 29, 4:00 p.m. at Shaare Tikvah (5800 N Kimball Ave, Chicago, 773-539-2202). Participating choirs are from Temple Beth Israel (Skokie), Jewish Reconstructionist Congregation (Evanston), Anshe Emet (Chicago), Shir Hadash (Northbrook), Am Shalom (Glencoe), B'nai Tikvah (Deerfield), and B'nai Jehoshua Beth Elohim (BJBE - Glenview) Also featured will be Kol Zimrah Community Singers, a volunteer civic chorus of Jewish singers from many backgrounds serving the metropolitan Chicago area, and the Milwaukee Jewish Community Choir.

Lincolnwood Happenings

Sports Mania

This class will feature a variety of sports and active games. These include, but are not limited to, basketball, soccer, and floor hockey. Time may be spent outdoors, weather permitting, and a snack will also be provided. What are you waiting for? Sign up today! (Min 6 / Max 12)

Ages: Students in grades K - 2

Date: Monday(s), April 6 - May 18, 2:00 - 3:00pm

Location: Lincolnwood Community Center, 6900 N. Lincoln Ave.

Fee: Resident: \$55 Non-Resident: \$69 Pre-Registration is required, for more information contact the Lincolnwood Parks & Recreation Office at (847) 677-9740.

Cartoon Drawing

Learning to draw can be lots of fun! Especially if we are creating silly characters, funny expressions, and drawing sequences that tell jokes! This delightful program combines Young Rembrandt's innovative step-by-step drawing method with light-hearted subject matter that engages children, their sense of humor and their vivid imaginations. Come join us! All materials supplied! New lessons every session. (Min 6 / Max 15) * Refund requests must be made one week prior to class start date.

Ages: Students in grades 2 - 5

Date: Monday(s), April 6 - May 18, 2:00 - 2:45pm

Location: Rutledge Hall, Multipurpose Room, 6850 N. East Prairie Road.

Fee: Resident: \$70 Non-Resident: \$88 Pre-Registration is required, for more information contact the Lincolnwood Parks & Recreation Office at (847) 677-9740.

Todd Hall Drawing

Todd Hallers are so eager to learn and a joy to teach! Young Rembrandt's instructors provide a positive, nurturing environment for your child. Each week we will draw something these little ones are interested in, from fish to teddy bears, rainbows to cowboys, and we talk about the subject matter as we learn to draw it together. We will concentrate on the skills of drawing and coloring, and also work on developing fine motor skills, focus, listening, staying on task, spatial organization, and patience. All materials are provided and happy, smiling faces are guaranteed! New lessons every session. (Min 6 / Max 15) Refund requests must be made one week prior to class start date.

Ages: Students in grades K - 2

Date: Monday(s), April 6 - May 18, 2:00 - 2:45pm

Location: Todd Hall, Library, 3925 W. Lunt

Fee: Resident: \$70 Non-Resident: \$88 Pre-Registration is required, for more information contact the Lincolnwood Parks & Recreation Office at (847) 677-9740.



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Tough Times Could Be Tougher



Chester M. Przybylo

In unsettling economic times, people are looking for someone to hold accountable for their difficulties. With an expected increase in lawsuits this year, it is important to protect yourself. This article discusses steps you can take to protect yourself and your family against harmful lawsuits that could put all your assets in jeopardy. A qualified estate planning attorney can help structure a plan that limits your liability and keeps you safe during these tough times.

Dark clouds are all around us. The stock market is down. Real estate values are down. Layoffs are up. But, it could be even worse!

With tough economic times, people often look to hold others accountable for their difficulties. Which is why lawsuits tend to rise as the economy sinks. In fact, a 2008 survey of corporate law departments shows increased expectations for litigation. So, what can you do to protect yourself?

First, consider placing your business or rental property in a limited liability entity. Let's say you own a corner market. If you own it directly, then someone who is injured on the premises could collect against all your assets, including assets not involved in the business. This could include things like your home and the money you've set aside for your children's education. Let's say your business has assets of \$500,000, you have a home worth \$500,000, and you have brokerage accounts with \$500,000. The entire \$1.5 million could be in jeopardy.

However, if your business were owned by a corporation or a Limited Liability Company (LLC), for example, the injured person could only collect against the \$500,000 of assets in the entity, regardless of the amount of the damages awarded to the injured party. Your home and brokerage accounts would be safe.

Second, consider liability insurance. If someone sues you, that is your first line of defense. There is separate liability coverage for your home and your auto. In addition, you may need a separate policy for a rental property or any business-related liability, like malpractice insurance for a doctor. In addition to these separate liability policies, consider an "umbrella" policy which provides coverage on top of the underlying coverage. If you had a premises liability policy for your corner market, that policy would protect you up to the policy limit, let's say \$300,000. This would pay first. Then your umbrella coverage would add its limit, let's say \$1 million, on top of that. So, you would be protected for the first \$1.3 million of court award against you. However, that would still leave some exposure to liability above the \$1.3 million, if you did not have a limited liability entity.

Third, leave assets to your children in a manner which protects them. A trust can protect your children and the assets you leave them from your children's creditors, their future ex-spouses, taxes, and even their own misjudgment. A qualified estate planning attorney can help structure a plan that limits liability for you and your family.

Chester M. Przybylo has been elected to the Board of Governors of the prestigious American Academy of Estate Planning Attorneys and has been engaged in the practice of law for the last 40 years. For more information or to attend an upcoming seminar, call (773) 631-2525.

State's Attorney Offers Assistance to Cook County Consumers

The Cook County State's Attorney's office maintains a Consumer Fraud Unit for the benefit of consumers who are victimized by unscrupulous persons and businesses. The Consumer Fraud Unit prosecutes violators of Illinois consumer protection laws within Cook County

Home repair fraud, identify theft, immigration fraud, and travel scams are only a few of the areas within the jurisdiction of the Consumer Fraud Unit. As a result of the recent decline in the United States economy, the Consumer Fraud Unit has experienced an increase in complaints and inquiries about credit repair, mortgage rescue, and loan modification scams.

The Consumer Fraud Unit relies on complaints from members of the public to prosecute individuals and businesses engaged in fraudulent practices. The Consumer Fraud Unit may be able to help you recover losses, prosecute the person or business responsible for the fraud, and prevent other members of the public from falling victim to the same scheme.

To File a Complaint

To initiate a complaint with the Consumer Fraud Unit, please call 312-603-8600 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on weekdays. The Consumer Fraud Unit is staffed by specialists, and often, many citizens' questions about a suspicious transaction can be answered over the telephone. In some cases, you will be asked to file a written complaint with the State's Attorney's Office, and in other situations, you may be referred to another government agency, private organization, or resource. Spanish language service is also available.

The services of the Consumer Fraud Unit are free, but personnel from the State's Attorney's Office are not permitted to provide legal advice or represent an individual in a legal dispute.

What Happens After a Complaint is Received?

After the Consumer Fraud Unit receives your complaint, it will be screened by an Assistant State's Attorney. At this screening level, some cases are declined for prosecution, some cases are referred to other government or law enforcement agencies, and other cases are retained by the Consumer Fraud Unit for an investigation. Although a prosecution cannot be guaranteed, the Consumer Fraud Unit has the significant capability of prosecuting consumer fraud cases in criminal or civil courts.

Navigating Through Troubled Economic Times

Jewish Child & Family Services is offering a series of FREE workshops to help the community manage the stresses and challenges of the financial downturn.

Money Matters: What Makes Cents – Skokie. Thursdays, 3/26 and 4/2, 7-8:30pm. Learn about your money personality, your emotional relationship with money; concerns about spending and establishing a budget to include some "fun" even though you have limited funds. JCFS, 5150 Golf Rd., Skokie. Contacts: Jennifer Hines, LCSW, 847-568-5220; Ronni Weinstein, LCSW, 847-568-5217. FREE workshop. Jewish Child & Family Services is offering a series of FREE workshops – Navigating Through Troubled Economic Times – to help the community manage the stresses and challenges of the financial downturn. www.jcfs.org

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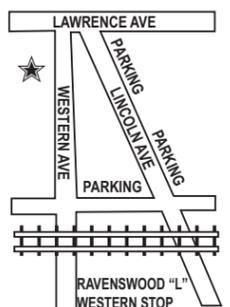
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Presidential Pooch

By Bosley

It seems that our Humans have recently elected a new President; supposedly it is someone to run the country. Humans always need someone "in charge," they are not like us dogs that decide things in the moment and adapt easily. We are much simpler than our beloved Humans, why don't we run the country? Of yes, because we are smart enough to not want the pawache! Anyway, it turns out that this new Pres. Wants a pooch for the family and the country is in a tizzy over what breed or rescue he should get, so I am throwing my paw into the ring!

Its nothing unusual that a President has a dog, who do you think helps makes the important decisions? You know Humans are helpless on their own! Anyway the issue is that the little Humans have allergies, so they are trying to make an educated decision on what dog to get.

My ears really perked up at this because of all the talk about hypoallergenic dogs. News flash; THERE IS NO SUCH THING! Many believe that it's the hair that makes them sneeze; actually it's the dander of the pet that does it. Why don't Humans realize this, it's a cruel twist of fate that man's best friend is not always tolerated by the Human nose. Yes, some of us dog's are easier for some people with allergies to tolerate, but that truly depends. There is NO GUARANTEE that just because you get a certain "so called hypoallergenic breed" that you won't be allergic.

We are told that the Presidential family is doing their homework, and that is very important! What I think anyone should do before adopting a new pup is go to the breeder's home, spend time with the dogs and see how you react. Do the same for the shelter dogs, most will let you spend time with the pups. Really love them and put your face in their hair. How does the allergic person react? Breeders and shelters want their pups in forever homes; they want to match the right pooch with the right family. Humans should not be afraid to ask their expertise.

There is NO GUARANTEE that a dog is hypoallergenic (I know I just said that, but sometimes Humans are a bit slow.) My Human has helped rehome many dogs that where suppose to be hypoallergenic and it turned out that the Human couldn't tolerate them. Humans please do your homework! There has also been some talk about those "designer breeds," as being hypoallergenic; I no you are laughing with me my furry friends; Humans just don't get how us dogs are made. Just because you breed one dog to something that is supposed to be hypoallergenic does NOT mean you get a hypoallergenic dog. The pure breed dogs of today took years of dedicated breeding and understanding of dogs to get us here, there was a purpose to each breed and why they wanted certain things. I don't think any breed was ever created to be hypoallergenic; it just turn out that some of us dogs got luckier than others. The point is, that you Humans need to make an educated decision about what pet to bring home. The effect the dog has on your nose is only one consideration (they only give me some much room to write so I won't get into anything else) so please do your homework.

My suggestion for the President is a Poodle of course! We are usually well tolerated by Humans, very smart, very classy, very pawfect! I don't know why Poodles get such a bad rap, did you know that Poodles where originally breed to go into the water and retrieve the birds that the hunter shot, Yuck! Well, that shows how sporty and intelligent we are, but I am not putting any dead thing in my mouth!

Anyway, to the lucky pooch that will run our country, I really would like a day dedicated to us Dogs. For Heavens sake, even Groundhogs have a day!

Bark on!

Submitted by Bosley's mom, Nicole Carfora, CMG, owner of Canine Corral.



Rabies: A Discussion for Kids

by Peter S. Sakas DVM

What Do I Do If I Am Bitten By An Animal?

If you are bitten by an animal, tell an adult immediately! Have the adult wash the wound well with soap and water for at least five minutes. You should then see a doctor as soon as possible for additional evaluation of the wound.

Have an adult contact your local animal control officer. If the animal that bit you is a pet (dog, cat, or ferret), the animal may be watched for signs of rabies for about 10 days. If it is a wild animal, the animal control people may need to euthanize the animal to test its brain for rabies.

Bites from bats are the main source of rabies in humans in the United States today. It is possible, but rare, that someone might be bitten by the bat and not know it. If you discover a bat in the house, especially in the room of a sleeping person or child, treat this situation as though an actual bite has occurred. This is especially true if the bat is acting strangely (unusually tame).

Contact your local or state health department for more information.

Other prevention activities: Oral vaccine program

Today, many states are vaccinating animals in the wild to prevent the spread of rabies. This is done by putting oral vaccines in a special bait. The baits are then dropped from airplanes or placed in areas where wildlife are likely to be. The wild animals then eat the food with the vaccine in it. This keeps them from getting rabies if they are bitten by a rabid animal. This method has worked well in both Europe and Canada.

The idea behind oral rabies vaccination programs is that if enough animals in an area without rabies become vaccinated against the disease, they will create a barrier. Those animals vaccinated against the disease will defend their territory against animals with rabies. This will slow or stop the rabies outbreak.

Humans And Rabies

Most of the human deaths in this country since 1980 were caused by a strain of rabies associated with bats. The number of deaths is small because people who are bitten by animals often get the anti-rabies shots.

As many as 40,000 people each year in the United States are exposed to animals that might have rabies, and these people receive the shots to prevent the disease. The number of human rabies deaths is low in the United States compared with the rest of the world. Each year, about 30,000 to 50,000 people in the world die of rabies. These deaths occur because people did not get vaccinations after being bitten by a rabid animal. Many occur in Asia, Africa, and Latin America. Millions of people around the world get the anti-rabies shots after an animal bite. Dogs are the biggest source of animal bites leading to rabies shots worldwide

Rabies in Animals

In the United States, rabies in domestic animals (like dogs, cats, and cattle) has declined dramatically since the 1950s. This decrease is mainly due to rabies vaccination programs. Today, pet ferrets can also be vaccinated against the disease. However, overall rabies cases in the United States have been increasing since the 1970s. This is mainly because of outbreaks of rabies among wildlife.

If your dog or cat would happen to bite someone a bite report would need to be filled out by the police. You would then have to take your pet to the veterinarian for a process called "Rabies Observation." Your veterinarian would examine your pet for any evidence of the external signs of rabies, as described above, which is typically looking for problems with the nervous system. A special form is then filled out which is sent to the County Rabies Control Office.

If your pet is currently vaccinated against rabies and is up-to-date then you can take your pet home for "home confinement" and are required to return in ten days for a follow-up examination. You must strictly follow the guidelines for the confinement as it is the law and someone's health is at stake. The reason for the ten day period is because an animal that is in the furious form of rabies (mad dog that is attacking), will show symptoms of nervous system problems within ten days. Your veterinarian checks for these nervous system changes on the ten day follow-up exam. If your pet shows no symptoms, they are released from the confinement and a release form is sent to the Rabies Control Office.

If your pet is NOT up-to-date on the vaccinations because the yearly boosters (which are required by law) were not given then your pet must be impounded for the ten day period in a veterinary hospital or animal control facility with veterinary supervision. That is why you DO NOT want to let those vaccinations lapse.

Conclusion

If you are bit by a dog or wild animal let your parents know. Rabies is a dangerous disease and it can be easily treated soon after exposure. If not treated properly, serious and possibly fatal disease can develop. Always exercise caution around strange dogs, aggressive dogs and wild animals. And be certain that your pets are up-to-date on their rabies vaccinations. It protects them against rabies, but if they would happen to bite someone they will not be impounded.

Based on notes from Educational Seminar given by Dr. Sakas. Niles Animal Hospital & Bird Medical Center. 7278 N. Milwaukee Ave. Niles



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“Tax Reform”

We the taxpayers, at the cost of 50% increase in the State income tax, can have “Tax Reform” a phrase used too often.

The State of Illinois is a huge business. If it were managed properly, much of the financial problems would not exist. With increased good management skill and reduction in political games, the problems never would be eliminated, but they could be cut back. The State would therefore, be much more successful.

Through the years many people have gotten a laugh out of some deal or other that was pulled off politically. The State pays for an overpay or overcharge, and you, the taxpayer, pay the State. It is time to stop thinking that government mismanagement and corruption is funny.

We vote the politicians into office. Until people start to question our State leadership, nothing will change.

Until the State politicians start worrying about money management and the concerns of the people, the State will continue out of control and will have a need for more taxes. Next year nothing will change unless voters take an interest.

Next year “Tax Reform” may be the reason why the State has a need for more taxes.

The Editor – Common Sense

St. Paul Summer Day Camp Program

St. Paul Lutheran School, 5650 N. Canfield Ave., Chicago (between Higgins Ave. and Bryn Mawr Ave.) will again be offering a Summer Day Camp open to all children entering Kindergarten through Sixth grade from June 22nd through August 7th. Camp hours from Monday through Friday will be from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Before-camp extended care hours from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and after-camp extended care from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. will be available as a convenience to families which need longer care services. The camp offers a flexible schedule for parents to enroll their children for only certain days and or weeks depending on their needs. Each week will be filled with carefully designed education programs, creative workshops, cooking projects, field trips, visit to library, water play, computer time, sports, outdoor activities, arts and crafts. For further information or an enrollment packet, please contact the Program Director, Mrs. Barbara Palmer, at 708-867-5044 or visit www.stpaulwildcats.org.

Lenten Menu Ideas

Broiled Fish with White Wine and Olive Sauce

1 Whole Fish
Butter
Salt
Pepper
1 tbsp. Lemon Juice
1 onion
1 cup dry white wine
1 tbsp. flour
3 tsp. water
Few sliced stuffed olives
Few drops of onion juice.

If a whole fish is used, have it split lengthwise for broiling. Place skin side down in a buttered shallow pan, sprinkle with salt and pepper and 1 tablespoon of lemon juice, and spread slices of 1 onion sliced thin, over the whole surface of the fish. Dot with butter and put under the broiler. When butter melts, begin basting with dry American sauterne or Chablis (1 cup). Broil, basting frequently, until fish separates easily into flakes when tested with a fork. Remove fish to hot platter. Thicken liquid in pan with 1 tablespoon of flour mixed with 3 teaspoons of warm water. Add a few sliced stuffed olives and a few drops of onion juice, and pour sauce over fish.

Taken from: “With a Jug of Wine”

Send your favorite Lenten recipes to us so we may share them with our readers.

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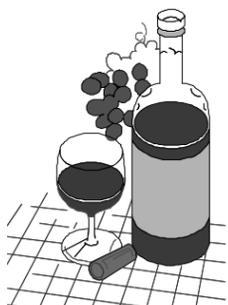
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