

THE VOICE

MAGAZINE

March 3, 2006
Volume 14 Issue 8



Feeding the Wildlife

Nature Notes

Beauty

What is it?

International Women's Day

From Where I Sit

Plus:
Lost & Found
From Where I Sit
The Good Life
Dear Barb
Chronicles of Cruiscin Lan
AUSU This Month

and much more...

Welcome To the Voice PDF

The Voice interactive Table of Contents allows you to click a story title to jump to an article. Clicking the bottom-right corner of any page returns you here. Some ads and graphics are also links.



articles

NATURE NOTES: Why Feeding Wildlife isn't all it's Cut Out to Be
GENIUS WILL WIN OUT
BEAUTY - What's That?

Zoe Dalton
Busby LeClair
Pam Pelmous



columns

FROM WHERE I SIT - International Women's Day
DEAR BARB - Bedwetting concerns
CHRONICLES OF CRUISCIN LAN
THE GOOD LIFE - A Simple Act
LOST & FOUND - Wilderness: Two Different Times

Hazel Anaka

Wanda Waterman St. Louis
Janice Behrens
Bill Pollett



news and events

SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS
VOICE EVENT LISTINGS
CONFERENCE CONNECTIONS



from the readers

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR
CLASSIFIEDS



We love to hear from you! Send your questions and comments to voice@ausu.org, and please indicate if we may publish your letter.

THE VOICE MAGAZINE

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Why Feeding Wildlife Isn't All It's Made Out To Be

It's hard to walk through a park without seeing some kindly soul out feeding the local wildlife. The peanuts come out for the squirrels and the bag of bread for the geese and ducks. Feeding wild animals generally stems from a desire to help, from a feeling of goodwill towards these creatures, and a hope that a little assistance from their human neighbours can make the animals' lives a little easier.

But feeding these creatures is often not as positive a move as one would hope or expect. In fact, in many cases, providing food for wildlife can be very detrimental. Unbeknownst to those dedicated folks out in the park on a cold winter's day, the food they are offering to their furred and feathered neighbours can be a significant cause of malnutrition, disease, and unanticipated human-wildlife conflicts.

While it's hard to imagine how providing extra food for wild animals can lead to malnutrition, the problem is a real one. Many wild animals are opportunists, filling up on whatever food is most readily available. When the easiest-to-come-by food is something like peanuts or bread, the problem becomes that the animals satisfy their caloric needs without meeting their nutritional requirements. Having filled up on the equivalent of junk food, the animals' desire to seek out natural, wild, and nutritionally appropriate foods is diminished. Feeding wildlife can therefore lead to nutrient deficiency and can, in some cases, cause serious health problems.

In addition to contributing to malnutrition, feeding wildlife can lead to the spread of disease. Providing large amounts of food in a single location encourages many individuals to congregate in one area, even individuals of species that would not normally be found together. The result is a two-fold problem. Firstly, congregation of many individuals in one spot leads to unnaturally high levels of accumulated animal waste, an ideal breeding ground for a variety of diseases. Secondly, close contact between a large number of animals increases the likelihood of disease transmission from one or a few ill individuals to whole populations or subpopulations.

A further negative impact associated with feeding wildlife is the resulting loss of wild animals' natural fear of humans. Such fear is of essential survival value for wildlife, and its loss can lead to very real human-wildlife conflict. Take, for example, a raccoon accustomed to being fed by a local community member that approaches a young family in broad daylight. The animal is, of course, only continuing the behaviour that has proved so successful in food procurement. However, to the parent of this family, the animal's behaviour seems unusual and frightening, possibly an indication of rabies. In reported cases like this, the animal is often considered a potentially dangerous nuisance; the all-too-common outcome for wildlife in this scenario is euthanasia.

Learning that feeding wildlife can cause more harm than good may come as a sad surprise for those who enjoy the thought of lending a helping hand to our wild friends. However, many other options exist for assisting wild animals, options that

allow these creatures to remain wild, healthy and independent. These options include landscaping our homes and public spaces with native plants that provide food and habitat for wildlife, helping to conserve and maintain natural areas in and around our communities, providing nesting platforms and den boxes for wild animals, and learning more about the issues wildlife face and what we can do to help. These actions are all important ways to provide real, long-lasting help for our wild neighbours.

Genius Will Win Out

Busby LeClair



Critical acclaim is a notoriously fickle and elusive thing, with neither rhyme nor reason applying as to why the work of one so-called talented writer is lauded and fawned over, whereas the *oeuvre* of some other, clearly more talented, practitioner of the art is shockingly overlooked or dismissed. How else to explain the fact that Jonathan Franzen's *The Corrections* (2001) is considered a masterpiece of contemporary fiction, whilst my own self-published *Trouser Snake: A Memoir*, a harrowing yet hilarious, vertiginous yet sycophantic account of my brief career in the Saskatchewan adult film industry, has been largely ignored by the literary critics? The one review my memoir did receive in a local newspaper (best used for wrapping deep-fried fish) was, shall we say, less than completely enthusiastic, heavily weighted as it was with ambivalent and double-edged phrases such as "moronic piece of crap," and "tragic waste of paper."

Nor is my lack of literary recognition the only significant disappointment in my life. If my friends had to pick just one quality of mine that raises me far above the level of my fellow human beings, they would likely cite my humility. If they were asked to choose another, they might mention the fact that I am something of a Renaissance man. With the appalling decline of modern educational standards, there are very few of us around today who can lay claim to the ability to initiate a polymerase chain reaction using only a few simple household appliances in the morning, compose an epic ballad in Middle English in the afternoon, then carve an exact replica of Paris Hilton's left breast out of a russet potato before bedtime. Incredibly, though, my name remains far from a household word.

However, I am not about to panic at the inexplicable lack of public recognition for my accomplishments. I take solace in the knowledge that a great many other giants in their respective fields (thinkers, like me, far ahead of their times) have gone largely unsung during their own lifetimes. Bob Dylan, Antonio Banderas, Yanni, Pablo Picasso, Bill Gates, Jesus Christ, Einstein and that guy from *Da Vinci's Inquest* who wrote about a code or something. All of them went to their graves as completely unheralded paupers. Or, if they didn't, I bet there were lots of people who did. The whole point is, I'm not panicked just yet. I know that, one day, I will receive just what it is that I so richly deserve.

Reference

Franzen, J. (2001). *The Corrections*. New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux.



We've all heard the idiom, "beauty is in the eye of the beholder." Generally, we understand it to mean that what one person may find beautiful, another one might not. The implication is, then, that beauty does not exist except in relative worlds. I consider this implication too dismissive. Even so, it is true that some people are said to have a more artistic and "appreciative" mind. These people are able to find beauty in abstract or traditionally "ugly" or "neutral" things. Take, for example, the plastic bag floating around in the wind in *American Beauty* (2000). Not everyone would have considered that "beautiful" or "intriguing." While I don't pretend to offer an explanation for these differences of opinion, I do intend to offer a speculation as to what beauty is.

Traditionally, beauty is considered a solely physical trait to which we respond to subconsciously. We perceive something (e.g., a person, a painting, a tree, a bike, etc.) in the physical world, light reflects off of the object and enters our eyes, subsequently sending messages to our brain, which may cause an increase in serotonin levels. We then experience a physical excitement that is interpreted as "I just saw something attractive." There's always a physical reaction to the beautiful. For those who enjoy sunsets, they never perceive a sunset without a sense of awe. The question is: Is this response a reaction to the mere physical beauty or is there something more?

Take static art, for example. In a study of paintings, pictures, photographs, or whatever, the focus isn't primarily on colour, medium, or even the subject matter. While all these elements work together to form a final effect, the ability of the artist to capture the spirit of the purpose is much more important. Andrea del Sarto was an amazing technical painter, perhaps the best that there ever was, but he lacked spirit, which left him in near obscurity. The most prominent composers are able to capture emotion in their music, a good example being Vivaldi's *Le Quattro Stagioni*. The most successful musicians are able to effectively convey those passions.

For anyone not artistically or musically oriented, this could sound like a bunch of hooey. So let me take this to a more basic and universal level.

Despite differences of opinion, a beautiful person can be generally accepted by all as a beautiful person. I'm not talking about Paris Hilton types here (i.e., those who have a sexual aura that is appealing to some people). I'm talking about truly beautiful women such as Catherine Zeta-Jones and beautiful men such as George Clooney. Of course, we all have our preferences. For example, I consider Al Pacino to be the most gorgeous actor alive, and I'm not too keen on Brad Pitt. Most of my friends, on the other hand, think the opposite, yet we can still understand each other's opinions. In short, preferences aside, there is a certain universality to beauty. My belief is that, much like art, the spirit is what infuses a person with true beauty.

Let's say that a perfect person existed, whom had all their features sculpted to perfection. Not too thin, not too big, dreamy eyes, nice nose, and good jaw line. All features "perfect." But, let's also say that this person never smiled, was openly cruel and flamboyantly vain. Would people still find him or her beautiful? I find it unlikely. Why? For the very same reason that someone who is considered unattractive by many people can still look beautiful to friends, family, and a significant other. What's on the inside counts, because it affects how we see the outside.

Even a flash glimpse of a person can tell you something about him or her. However, we won't know everything, and there's always a possibility that we saw the person on a bad day. Nevertheless, it is still possible to get an idea of his/her attitude towards life, others, and themselves. These are automatic, subconscious reactions that we respond to in the unity of inner and outer beauty. This also accounts for

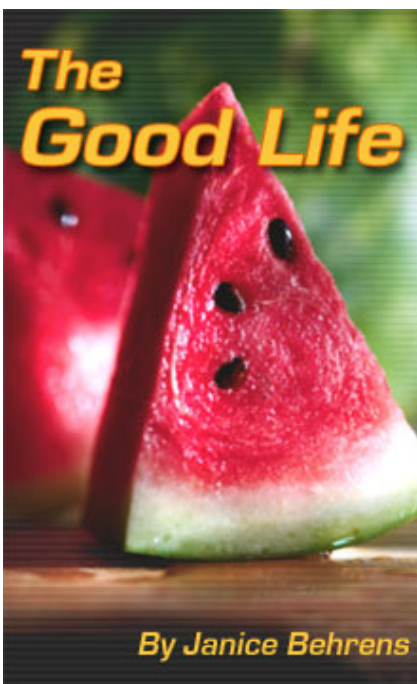
flash judgments in which context, lighting, mood, etc. affect our perception, which is why models and photographers are successful at getting a message (or messages) across with a single picture.

Can we find snobby people beautiful? Of course. But I suspect that it's because we've seen them in other contexts in which they were not snobby. A good attitude, even for a moment, can be a saving grace. Of course, everyone looks different, has their faults and imperfections. But the point is, you don't have to be "perfect" to be considered beautiful. Far from it. You don't need a "perfect" waistline, "perfect" nose, or "perfect" hair for people to admire you. Attitude and inner beauty are not insignificant notions. These are what truly emphasize physical beauty and what we subconsciously react to.

Remember, perfect people don't exist. The notion of perfect beauty is a fabrication of pop culture. You are beautiful the way you are.

Reference

Mendes, S. (Director) (2000). *American Beauty* [DVD]. Dreamworks Video.



A Simple Act

For me, along with the success of our female athletes, it was a defining and transcendent moment of the Turin Winter Olympics and one of the most gracious moments in recent sport memory. I am referring to the moment when Bjorner Haakensmoen, the Norwegian cross-country skiing coach, helped Canadian skiers Sara Renner and Beckie Scott win a silver medal by handing Renner a replacement ski pole after hers had been broken.

Growing up, competition in sports was a central part of my identity. My father coached football and basketball. His six children, three boys and three girls, were all filled with the competitive spirit, whether we were playing checkers, road hockey, Monopoly, or backyard football. Each of us played every team sport that was available to us. As far as organized sports go, I've played competitive baseball, as well as basketball at the college level. And whenever I play a game, no matter what it is, my intention is to compete as hard as I can.

One thing my father taught me, though, is that to compete with a sense of fairness, a sense of respect for yourself and others, is far more important than whether you win or lose. I realize this sounds like a cliché, but when you take a look around, you realize that this ethos is sadly lacking in our society. Certainly, the steroid use scandals that hover over every Olympics are never-ending evidence of the extent to which a win-at-all-costs mindset dominates serious sports. From the steroid-fuelled exploits of Eastern-bloc female athletes in the nineteen-seventies, through the national shame of the Ben Johnson fiasco, up to the present day rumours of blood doping etc., the history of modern day Olympic competition has been tainted by controversy and shame.

Nor is it only the athletes themselves and their coaches and doctors who are to blame. The fans, too, must take some responsibility for the "must-win" mentality that helps fuel this overheated machine. Just take a look at all the wailing and gnashing of teeth that erupted after our men's hockey team were knocked out of medal contention. The simple fact is that there are a lot of tremendous players and teams in international hockey these days. It is far from Canada's God-given right anymore to come home with a medal, and it would have been far better to enjoy the increased parity of the sport, and focus our national attention on the success of our other athletes, than to devote so much time and energy on this one disappointment.

I think it is for these reasons that many of us have the sense that something is missing in today's society, and that is why the simple act of everyday sportsmanship displayed by the Norwegian coach struck such a chord with so many sports fans.

International Women's Day



From
Where
I Sit
Hazel Anaka

I thought making a list of important women would be a great way to celebrate International Women's Day on March 8th. The list would surely have included mothers, mentors and role models. I also planned to name names ... to share my own list of women of influence, strength, compassion--Oprah, Mother Theresa, women no one knows but me.

I soon realized I knew nothing about the origin, history, or significance of this day. I learned that industrialization at the turn of the twentieth century led to female factory workers protesting poor working conditions and low wages. According to Wikipedia, "in 1908, 15,000 women marched in New York City demanding shorter hours, better pay and voting rights." An international women's conference held in Copenhagen in 1910 established the first International Women's Day (IWD). At stake was the right to vote, hold public office, the right to work, training and the end of discrimination. A tragic factory fire in New York City in March 1911 killed 140 women and led to labour legislation and improved conditions in the U.S..

Rallies were held in Europe for women to either protest World War I or express solidarity with their sisters. Russian women observed their first IWD in 1913. By 1917, 2 million Russian soldiers were dead. A strike for 'bread and peace' in St. Petersburg, led by feminist Alexandra Kollontai, set the stage for the Russian Revolution. Kollontai convinced Lenin to make it an official holiday to celebrate "the heroic woman worker." Today it remains an official holiday with men expressing their love for women with flowers and gifts.

In the mid 1970s the United Nations began sponsoring the IWD. Today's issues are less workplace related and more individual rights and freedoms based, particularly in third world countries. The UN and others are focused on stopping female genital mutilation, rape as a weapon of war, and the burning of Indian brides with dowries deemed too small. It sort of makes any of our complaints as women pale in comparison.

Canada designates March 5 through March 11 International Women's Week with this year's theme being "Beyond Laws: The Right to be Me." The Status of Women website notes that despite the Canadian Human Rights Act, The Charter of Rights and Freedoms, and labour laws, "a gap remains between

laws and the reality of women's lives." Barriers like violence and poverty continue to keep certain women (aboriginals, lesbians, disabled, single parents) from reaching their full potential.

A quick scan of planned Alberta activities reveals everything from simple awareness sessions to candlelight vigils, potluck suppers to aid women in Sudan and Afghanistan, awards presentations, and supper and speaker sessions.

Let's not let another IWD come and go without some awareness of the struggles women have had and continue to have. Let's celebrate economic, political and social achievements while acknowledging that the fight is not over to make all women free and safe to become who they can be. We owe it to the women who came before, from where I sit.

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AUSU THIS MONTH



AUSU Election, Now Under Way

The 2006 AUSU election is now open, and members can expect to see campaign materials from candidates on this website and in our forums. Below is the candidate sheet, as approved by our Chief Returning Officer, Bevan Iwaskow. Candidates will be invited to create campaign posters for you to view, and as they become available you'll be able to access them by clicking on each candidate's name. If the name is blue and underlined, then there is a poster ready for viewing. We hope you all turn out to vote this year, for the council that will provide student services through March 2008!

This year's candidates are:

MacDonald McInnis - Calgary, AB
Joy Kryz - Edmonton, AB
Jamie Czerwinski - Sherwood Park, AB
Sarah Whaley - Surrey, BC
Lisa Priebe - Calgary, AB
Karl Low - Calgary, AB
Tania Davies - Carlsbad, CA
Alica Robichaud - Saint John, NB
Zil-E-Huma Lodhi - Waterloo, ON
Barbara Rielly - Westport, ON
Megan McIntyre - Niagara Falls, ON
Angele Gaudette - Sudbury, ON
Real Beaulieu - Nepean, ON
Peter Tretter - Greely, ON
Lonita Fraser - Hamilton, ON

AUSU Course Evaluations

Would you like to know what students have thought of an AU course? If so, you are not alone. Many students find the input of their peers invaluable when selecting courses or a program of study. AU students may not have cafeterias and hallways in which to share this knowledge, but AUSU has provided an alternative: AUSU Course and Program Evaluation surveys. Accessible through the "Course Evaluations" link on the right side of the top bar of AUSU.org, these surveys ask a series of questions about AUSU courses and programs. Students may rate each course or program only once, to ensure the validity of the results, so you must be logged in to access a survey form. Anyone, however, may view the results. If you haven't already, please rate some courses you have taken so that others may benefit from your experience. Note: these surveys are not the ones that AU distributes with their course manuals. No AU staff or faculty member has access to the AUSU website, nor can they determine who has filled out a survey. Your anonymity is assured.

AUSU 2005/06
student
Handbook/Planner

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Dear Barb:

I've been reading your column hoping someone would write in with my question, but no one has yet. My six-year-old daughter is still wetting her bed. She also has many accidents during the day, usually when laughing or playing. I am constantly reminding her to go, but she says she doesn't have to, and then she has an accident. This behaviour is really affecting our family. When I go out with her, I am constantly watching for signs that she may have to go to the bathroom. When I see the signs, I have to force her to go to the bathroom. I'm wondering if this is common, as I don't see a lot of my daughter's friends having this problem. I would appreciate any advice you can provide to help me better cope with this.

June - Keswick

Hi June, your concern is understandable. "Nocturnal Enuresis" (the fancy name for bedwetting) becomes a problem if it occurs after the age of five. It is estimated that approximately 200,000 Canadian children over the age of five regularly wet their beds. Before this age, we kind of expect this is going to happen from time to time.

After some research, I discovered there are any number of reasons why children wet their bed. Genetics play a role, as most children who wet the bed have parents who also experienced this problem. However, the most common physiological reason may be a reduction of a natural chemical. The job of this chemical is to tell the kidneys to concentrate the urine so that the bladder doesn't overflow.

I'm sure you and your daughter are aware of the unfortunate social consequences of this condition. For example, sleepovers your daughter will not want to participate in. Also accidents at school or on other outings will inevitably lead to teasing by peers. These are all behaviours that can seriously affect a child's self-esteem. However, there are things you can do to help your child feel more comfortable and fit in with her peers. Wearing pull-ups when going on a sleepover will help your daughter overcome the embarrassment of an accident. Also advise her to limit drinking liquids after supper. This will prevent her bladder from over-filling through the night. When your daughter is at home perhaps bringing her to the bathroom before you go to bed may help ensure a dry night, which will do wonders for her self-esteem. Before you do any of these things you must have your daughter checked out by a physician to rule out any physical cause, like a bladder infection.

Remember your child will be just as distressed by this condition as you are. Therefore try to be positive and encouraging, reassure your daughter that she will eventually overcome this. I personally have a friend who has six-year-old twins and one wets the bed and the other doesn't. This is very difficult for the child that wets the bed. She feels embarrassed and wonders why this is happening to her and not her sister.

This is a complex situation that, as you said, affects the entire family. Try to be patient and don't blame your daughter for something she has no control over. Also when your daughter has a dry night or a dry day at school, reinforce this behaviour. I hope this information helps.

Further information is available at www.bedwetting.ferring.ca.

E-mail your questions to advice.voice@ausu.org. Some submissions may be edited for length or to protect confidentiality: your real name and location will never be printed. This column is for entertainment only. The author is not a professional counsellor and this column is not intended to take the place of professional advice.



Wilderness: Two Different Times

Once upon a time, when I was nine years old, there was the abandoned building lot, the wasteland, that used to be the exhibition grounds. It was filled with rusted metal hooks, bags of maggot-infested garbage, a broken fridge, a television set with its screen smashed in, and rotten, rain-soaked armchairs. It was surrounded by hurricane fencing and "Keep Out" signs. There was an announcement at the school telling everyone that the

exhibition grounds were dangerous and that all students were to stay well away from it. A boy in Miss Fraser's class (a quiet, invisible boy) had disappeared in the middle of the year from school. Some people said that he had been in the wasteland and had been abducted by aliens. Some people said that he had suffocated inside the abandoned fridge. Others were sure that he had been murdered and buried there. Someone claimed that his mother got a job in Croydon, and they had moved away, but nobody really believed this. My friend's sister told him that there was a bogeyman there who would cut your toes off with a pocketknife, then watch you bleed to death. Another boy had been walking by it, had seen a phantom rising out of the ground, and had run screaming all the way home. Naturally, I spent a lot of time there, sneaking under the fence. I would go there whenever home was a dangerous place to be. For a few hours, I was wild and free. I was an archaeologist, digging up the bones of chickens, of extinct monsters. I collected gull feathers matted with mud. I watched rats scurrying about and the occasional fox. I kept an eye out for madmen and ghosts. I watched the sky for approaching lights.

Years later, half a world from that wasteland, I was backcountry camping with the first girl I loved. We had pitched our tent on the edge of an inland sea poisoned by acid. We were travelling under a curse, trying to find our way without a compass. We drank warm beer. We ate canned beef stew and nacho chips. The food tasted like ashes in our mouths. The end of our relationship was seven days away. There were a few wildflowers arranged on clumps of foul sod, and a piss-drenched log half hanging out of the fire grate, like an indecent charcoal tongue hanging out of a corroded mouth. There was a scattering of mosquitoes stubbornly fastened to the chubby arm of her six month old son. A family was paddling their canoe along the weed-infested bank. When my girlfriend went to bed, I stayed out until quite late, watching the fire burn down, drinking beer, listening for ghosts, reading a map by lantern light, and planning another route home.



SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS

Contributed by Zil-E-Huma Lodhi

LEA ROBACK FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS

Value: \$500 - \$3,000

Application Deadline: May 15

Description: For Canadian citizens, permanent residents or convention refugees who reside in Quebec, and women pursuing studies at any level from literacy up to the completion of an undergraduate degree. Must not have a university degree acknowledged in Quebec, and must be socially committed and require financial assistance.

Instructions: Submit resume, letters of reference, letter or audiocassette describing choice of programme and description of financial situation.

Contact Information: Lea Roback Foundation / Fondation Léa-Roback

Web Site: www.fondationlearoback.org/bourse.htm

SOCIETY FOR THE HISTORY OF DISCOVERIES PRIZE ESSAY CONTEST

Value: \$600

Application Deadline: June 15

Description: Open to students of all nations, college or university students who have not received a doctoral degree. Submit unpublished essay of a maximum of 6,000 words on voyages, travels, biography, history, cartography, techniques and technology, or other aspects of discovery.

Contact Information: Society for the History of Discoveries (SHD)

Web Site: www.sochistdisc.org

APEGGA MILLENNIUM SCHOLARSHIP (2)

Administrator: APEGGA Education Foundation, The

Award Amount: \$2,000.00

Award Deadline: Saturday, July 15, 2006

Scholarship Criteria: Alberta resident. Intended to assist the children of APEGGA members to pursue a post-secondary education. Based on academic achievement with significant weight placed on accomplishments in other areas. Must be Canadian citizens or landed immigrants. Contact for more information.

Contact Information: 1500 Scotia One, 10060 Jasper Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta, T5J 4A2

Phone: (780) 426-3990

Fax: (780) 426-1877

Toll Free: (800) 661-7020

Web Site: <http://www.apegga.org/Members/ScholarshipsAwards/schlist.html>



Voice Events Listings

On and off campus events worldwide

To list events in your area, e-mail voice@ausu.org with the word "events" in the subject line.

british columbia

SPRING THEATRE CLASSES

February 06 to May 01, 2006 - Kelowna, BC
Kelowna Actors Studio

Ticket Prices very reasonable
Kelowna Actors Studio - 250-862-2867
info@kelownaactorsstudio.com
<http://www.KelownaActorsStudio.com>

Ticket Prices - \$27-\$49

1-800-434-5092

info@capitoltheatre.com

<http://www.capitoltheatre.com>

SCIENCE SATURDAYS WITH MCMASTER UNIVERSITY

January 22 to May 28, 2006 - Hamilton, ON

1:00 PM - 3:00 PM - Hamilton Children's Museum

Adults - \$1.00 - Children - \$3.00

905-546-4848 - childrensmuseum@hamilton.ca

McMaster University science students provide hands-on science activities for children and families. Venture Physics and Let's Talk Science Team bring along "the punky physics roller coaster" and other creative science demonstrations and activities. DATES: Saturdays, March 12, 19 & 26; April 16 & 30; May 21 & 28. 6 yrs and up

ontario

JESSE STEWART: WATERWORKS

On now to March 12, 2006

Oshawa, ON - The Robert McLaughlin Gallery

Ticket Prices - By donation - Free refreshments

905.576.3000

communications@rmg.on.ca

<http://www.rmg.on.ca>

Waterworks examines the elements of water, wood, earth and metal. The exhibition draws on Stewart's background in the sonic and visual arts. Stewart is well known as a percussionist.

ARNAUD MAGGS NOMENCLATURE

On now to March 26, 2006

Oshawa, ON - The Robert McLaughlin Gallery

Ticket Prices - By donation - Free refreshments

905.576.3000

communications@rmg.on.ca

<http://www.rmg.on.ca>

Arnaud Maggs will be in attendance at the Closing Reception Sunday, 26 March 1-3 p.m.

CAPITOL SPRING SERIES 2006

On now to May 20, 2006

8:00 PM - Port Hope, ON - Capitol Theatre

maritimes

ST. JOHN'S CIRCUS: GROUP PRACTICE

St Johns, NF - Tuesdays - Mun Athletics building - FREE

<http://nick.wirelesszero.net/cgi-bin/juggling/YaBB.cgi>

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Tues At 7:00 PM - Thurs At 7:00 PM - Sat At 2:00 PM

Sessions usually run about 3 hrs...

123 SENSE

St Johns, NF - Saturdays - 12:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Eastern Edge Gallery, 72 Harbour Drive

free - 709-739-1882 - <http://www.easternedge.ca>

Jean Klimack (Winnipeg); Dave Yonge (B.C); Tania Lewis (NY/Newfoundland)

These three artists present in different mediums (video, drawing and photography) odd senses of the everyday, urban myths and gentrification.

To list events in your area, e-mail voice@ausu.org with "events" in the subject line.

Conference Connections

GEOLOGY FOR NON-GEOLOGISTS - HOUSTON

March 6, 2006 - March 9, 2006 - Houston, Texas, USA

<http://www.peice.com/eventdetails.aspx?event=102400&ref=Allconferences&frfi=16734>

This popular four-day course will provide non-geologists with a practical understanding of the principles used by petroleum geologists in the search for oil and gas. The session will include both the scientific background and the practical applications of geology. The tools, techniques, and vocabulary of the petroleum geologist will be emphasized throughout the course. A complete set of course materials and lunches are included.

Delivery Method: Classroom Training

Fee: \$ 1995 USD

CEU: 3.2 Continuing Education Units

PDH: 32 Professional Development Hours

NASS SPRING BREAK: BACK TO THE EVIDENCE

March 8, 2006 - March 11, 2006 - San Diego, CA, USA

<http://www.spine.org/06SprgBrk.cfm>

NASS Spring Break will be a high-energy interactive meeting focusing on controversial and non-traditional topics. Look forward to interactive symposia and debate sessions. NASS Spring Break will provide physicians an opportunity to share current information and concepts relating to spinal problems in an open, interactive relaxed atmosphere.

ON-LINE METHODS IN CHILDREN'S LANGUAGE PROCESSING

March 21, 2006 - March 22, 2006 - New York

Understanding how children process language, in real time, is necessary for building comprehensive theories about language acquisition. This workshop is the first scientific gathering specifically dedicated to a new field of research that explores such issues, experimental developmental psycholinguistics. This workshop provides a forum in which scholars from different areas of expertise (psycholinguistics, language acquisition, and cognitive neuroscience), particularly those interested in applying on-line methods to study children's language processing, will discuss how current and developing empirical approaches can inform about language processing mechanisms in children.

RISK MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE 2006

March 24, 2006 - March 26, 2006 - Mont Tremblant, Quebec

<http://www.mfrc.mcgill.ca/?section=Conferences>

A conference fee will be charged to cover expenses (C\$250 for academics, C\$500 for practitioners and C\$100 for students). Presenters, discussants and chairs will be provided with free accommodation. Conference participants are responsible for their own travel and accommodation expenses. Conference participants are eligible to pay discounted hotel rates starting at C\$199 per night, for arrival on Thursday March 23rd and departure Sunday March 26th.

The conference will be held at the Fairmont Resort Hotel situated at the foot of Mont Tremblant in Quebec's Laurentians.

Know of a conference that is not on this list? Contact voice@ausu.org with the details and we'll list it in Conference Connections.



Prairie Universities Biological Symposium
40th Anniversary Conference
BY students FOR students

University of Calgary
Feb 23-25, 2006
Registration \$22, Banquet \$20



Banquet at the Calgary Zoo
Guest speaker: Dr. Robert Barclay

SUBMIT YOUR ABSTRACTS NOW!
Deadline: Jan 10, 2006

Registration & information:
<http://homepages.ucalgary.ca/~pubs/>

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