Cheverly STEM Buzz

Cheverly STEM Education Center Student Newspaper

Cheverly, Maryland

November 18, 2014



Ebola victims Dr. Martin Salia and Thomas Eric Duncan..
COURTESY: Associated Press

Second Ebola Patient in US Dies

By Erin, Buzz Reporter

Maryland's Dr. Martin Salia died yesterday in a Nebraska hospital from Ebola. The New Carrollton resident is the second Ebola death in the United States following the passing of Thomas Eric Duncan who passed away October 8, 2014 in a Dallas, Texas hospital.



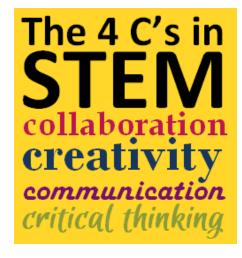
The first reported Ebola case in the world dates back to 1976 in small rural villages along the Ebola River that runs through the Democratic Republic of Congo. Today, cases of the Ebola virus are showing up in West Africa. It is spreading quickly in Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone.

"Since Ebola takes 21 days for symptoms to show, it can be tricky to track down," said Licensed Practical Nurse Linda Cruz. She added, her hospital is doing its part to prepare nurses for potential Ebola patients.

"The virus is only contagious once symptoms show. When a patient comes, nurses have to ask some questions, like where they have traveled lately and what their symptoms are," The LPN said.

"It is better to be safe than sorry," said Cruz. "The man who got it (Ebola) in Texas, he only died because we weren't prepared for Ebola then, but now we are," said Cruz.

Continued page B "Ebola"



Gun Safety 101

By Christian H., Buzz Reporter

In 2010 guns killed approximately 30,000 Americans. According to the U.S. government Centers for Disease Control (CDC), in 2010 over 600 people died from gun accidents.

There are about 90 guns for every 100 Americans. The USA has more guns than any other country on earth.

Having a gun in your home triples the risk of a homicide according to the Eastern Maine Medical Center. A gun in your home is 43 times more likely to kill someone that you know than in self-defense.

Having a gun in your home increases the risk of suicide occurring at your home by five fold. About 1/3 of gun owners report keeping a gun loaded and ready.

"Don't put a gun in your house unless you have a reason you need one," said gun safety expert Geoff Holdridge. "Take a gun safety course. "Buy a gun safe at the same time you buy the gun," Holdridge added.

He suggests purchasing a trigger lock and keeping you ammunition locked up in a different place than the gun.



"Always treat it like it is loaded," said Holdridge. "Never keep it loaded until you are ready to use it. Always keep the safety on even if you think it is not loaded and never point it at someone," he added. "Always point the barrel down."

The Child You Save May Be Your Own

Parents Who Own a Gun:

- ✓ Unload it and lock it up.
- Lock and store ammunition separately.
 Hide keys where children can't find them.

All Parents:

- ✓ Ask if guns are safely stored at places your children visit or play.
- **✓** Talk with your children about guns.
- Teach young children not to touch guns, and to tell an adult if they find one.

Common Sense

www.kidsandguns.org

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The Origins of 'Black Friday'

By Christopher, Buzz Reporter

The day after Thanksgiving is traditionally referred to as "Black Friday" in the United States. It's a day when consumers tend to kick off their holiday shopping taking advantage of numerous sales and doorbuster deals. Nearly 135million people shop annually on Black Friday. Some people camp out days in advance to get a bargain.



COURTESY: FOX News

Micro Center's Josue Escobar is among the millions of employees heading to work "Black Friday."

"I personally don't like Black Friday, but it's definitely helpful for the retail stores." The stores prepare weeks in advance making sure that they're stocked up on items or that most of the employees are working that day.

In 2011, two hundred twenty six million Americans purchased \$52 billion worth of merchandise Thanksgiving weekend.

Black Friday signifies the unofficial start of the holiday shopping season. It has been this way since 1924, when Macy's held its first Thanksgiving Day parade in New York City.

The big consumer day wasn't called "Black Friday" until January 1966. The Philadelphia Police Department dubbed the day "Black Friday" because it was often filled with massive traffic jams, overcrowded sidewalks, and lots of shoplifters.

The goal was to make it a day that consumers wanted to avoid. The negative name started to spread outside Philadelphia a few years later. Sonn retailers, and other people who rely on Black Friday to make money, attempted to redefine the term as positive.



Another positive aspect comes the day after Black Friday, Small Business Saturday. It's a day dedicated to buying from privately owned stores in to help boost the local economy. ####



COURTESY: 'Ten Hours of Walking in NYC as a Woman' video.

Controversial Catcalling Video Goes Viral

By Bena, Buzz Reporter

A YouTube video on catcalling is going viral on the internet.

Oxford Dictionary defines a catcall as, a loud whistle or a comment of a sexual nature made by a man to a passing woman

Anti-street-harassment group Hollaback! produced the video which shows a woman walking the streets of New York with men calling after her, saying things like, "God bless you," "Smile," "Hey baby/beautiful," and many more. One man walked silently next to her for five minutes

Some men are chiming in on the video to say catcalling is not sexual harassment in their opinion.

Jo Deutsch, a lifelong feminist, says, "It is not men's right to be sexualizing women in this way. I think this video is another prime example of the way women are viewed in this society."

"I can not speak for men, but I would imagine that they think they're complimenting women and that women should be flattered by it," added Deutsch. She said these men don't understand how threatening, intimidating, scary, and unflattering catcalling can be to women.

"Men will never understand the impact catcalling has on women, because they are not catcalled. And even if the video was staged, the things the men are saying are not scripted in the real world," Deutsch added.

She feels men men who think catcalling is acceptable and friendly should consider how it would impact someone close to them.

"How do you think your mothers, sisters, grandmothers, and wives would feel if a stranger made these kinds of comments to them? Perhaps they need to hear from the women in their own families to understand the fear and then maybe they'll think twice about catcalling women," Deutsch said. ###

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COURTESY: CatLoversDiary.com

Cat Care Tips for Kids

By Zoe, Buzz Reporter

The Small Miracles Cat and Dog Rescue have a couple tips on how to take care of multiple cats. According to Small Miracles, you should have food, water, a litter box, a scratching post and toys for a new kitten.

If you have more than one cat, you should have a litter box for each one and one extra box. The litter box should be in a quiet space.

You can remember to get your cat's vaccination by putting a reminder on your calendar or cell phone. Veterinary technician Julie at Paws n' Claws said it's important to help cats adjust to their new environment.

"Don't let them hide. Block off hiding areas so they have to interact and be around everything" said Julie. She said kitten often sneeze in new environments.

"Kittens can have upper respiratory infections. They also sneeze when they're nervous. Also, they yawn, purr and shed when they are nervous," Julie

Kittens meow because they can get scared, hungry, or chilly and that's how they tell their moms. Its the same reasons why human babies cry.

"Allowing cats outdoors increases their risk of being injured and exposed to infectious diseases such as feline leukemia virus and feline immunodeficiency virus," said Veterinarian Jane Brunt.

"Keeping cats inside is better. You need to have lots of toys, scratching posts, and human interaction to keep cats active," she said.



Zoe's cat

Brunt suggests a few ways to protect your furry friend. "Keep them away from electrical cords, plants that might be poisonous and chemicals. Many plants and fruit seeds can be poisonous to cats," said Brunt. "Cats can eat some people food. They can eat grains, meat, eggs, and some vegetables, but the food must be cooked," Brunt added.####

How to Care for a Venus Flytrap

By Madison, Buzz Reporter



Madison's plant

The Venus flytrap is a carnivorous plant native to the East Coast. It grows in North Carolina and South Carolina.



COURTESY: Venus FlyTrap Center

The Venus fly trap has to be kept above 40 degrees. The soil must be kept moist and it needs to be kept in light if possible. The plants extracts can be used to make medicine.

Venus flytraps don't just eat flies, they also eat grasshoppers and praying mantises and other bugs. It makes a liquid that attracts bugs. There are six little hairs in there. When a bug touches one of the hairs a 20sec timer starts and if it touches another one in those 20sec, it is a goner.

10 Easy Plants for Kid Growers

COURTESY: Thompson & Morgan

- 1. Sunflowers
- Sweet Peas
- 3. Nigella
- 4. Aquilegias
- 5. Eschscholzia (California Poppy)
- 6. Nasturtiums
- 7. Marigold
- 8. Hardy geraniums
- 9. Fuchsias
- 10. Pansy

View details on how to grow these flowers here:

http://www.thompson-morgan.com/top-10-easy-to-grow-flowers

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Thanksgiving Traditions

From National Geographic Kids

Each year, Americans celebrate the Thanksgiving holiday on the fourth Thursday of November. Most families follow traditions begun on the first Thanksgiving, but many have their own traditions that they follow each year. Here are some of the common traditions associated with "Turkey Day."

Travel

One of the best things about
Thanksgiving is spending time with
family. Many people live far from family
members and travel long distances by
car, train, or plane to be with their
loved ones. Thanksgiving is the
busiest travel day of the year!

The Feast

Traditional foods are a large part of Thanksgiving celebrations. Many families include the entire family in the food preparation. Traditional foods include turkey, stuffing, gravy, sweet potatoes, cornbread, mashed potatoes, and cranberry sauce. Many people serve pie for dessert at the end of the meal. Popular pie flavors are pumpkin, pecan, sweet potato, and apple.

Vegetarian Foods

Some families choose to serve vegetarian Thanksgiving dinners instead of a stuffed turkey. Some people eat vegetarian turkey, which is made out of tofu. Others prefer to eat squash, salads, or other fruit and vegetable dishes.

Read more and play interactive Thanksgiving games here:

http://kids.nationalgeographic.com/content/kids/en_US/explore/history/thanksgiving-traditions/

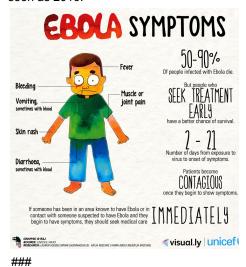


"Ebola" continued

Ebola symptoms include: bleeding eyes, coughing up blood, diarrhea (sometimes with blood in it), and a high fever. The current recovery rate is about 50%. In past Ebola outbreaks, the recovery rate has been as high as 75% and as low at 10%.

"Our army goes to build hospitals and clinics, in West Africa," said Cruz. "And when they get back, they are quarantined for 21 days, if they don't get sick, they can go see their families, but if they do, they are rushed to a prepared hospital." She feels our military is helping the West African countries contain the Ebola outbreak.

Scientists are testing potential Ebola vaccines. The World Health Organization reports vaccines may be available as soon as 2016.



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