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I love the subtle reminders and her direct honesty. If you're looking for a reliable, fair, and kind realtor, Patti is second to none! You can trust that you'll be in good hands from the day you say you want to sell your home to the day you hand over the keys. The follow up she does truly shows how much she cares about her clients. Patti is nothing short of excellent, at her job and as a person.

- K. Jung





See Many More Reviews on my website: www.HomesbyPattiOrr.com



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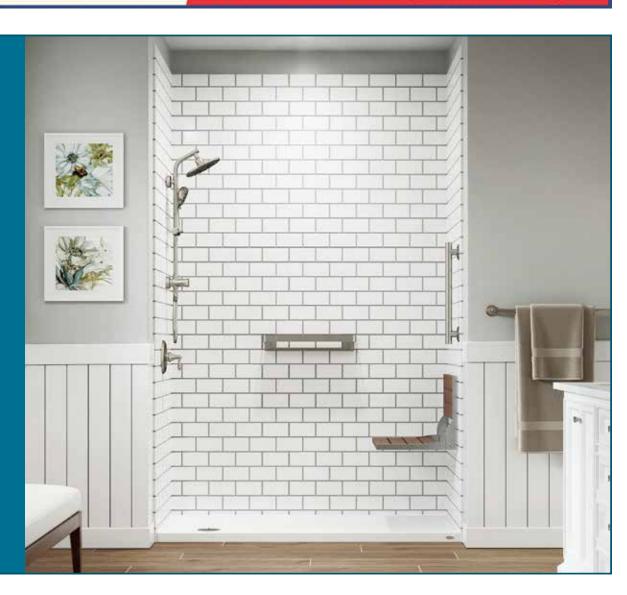
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Events Calendar

FEB. BREAK FOR ART

2/18 thru 2/20 11-12:30 or 1-2:30. Nassau County Museum of Art. Kids age 2-10 (teens also welcome) with adult companions. 3 days of family artmaking. Different project each day, come for one or all 3. \$10 children, \$20 adult. Includes museum admission & supplies. Register online: www.nassaumuseum.org One Museum Drive, Roslyn. 516-484-9338

ART ON THE FARM SERIES

2/19: 3-6pm. Watercolor Painting at the Queens County Farm Museum. Instructor is Denis Ponsot. This course is 6 sessions, sign up for 1 or all 6 for a discount. \$40 per class. Register online:

73-50 Little Neck Pkwy, Floral Park.

INTERSTELLAR CINDERELLA

2/19 or 2/20, 11am or 1:30pm Long Island Children's Museum. Other dates and times avail. Ages 4+ \$11. with museum admission. Buy tickets at the museum. Order tickets: www.licm.org 11 Davis Ave., Garden City

KIDS LETTERWRITING **WORKSHOP -PLANTING FIELDS**

2/19/25, 4-6pm. Drop off workshop for kids age 5-12. Outdoor fitness adventure \$25 p.p. 1395 Planting Fields Rd., Oyster Bay. Purchase tickets in advance online: www.plantingfields.org

DIGITALIS PLANETARIUM

2/19. 10, 10:30, 11 or 11:30am. 2/20. 1, 1:30, 2, 2:30pm Long Island Children's Museum. Other dates & times avail. Ages 4+ 30 minute fascinating show. Free with museum admission. Buy tickets at the museum. For complete info: www.licm.org 11 Davis Ave., Garden City

KIDS PROGRAMS AT ALLEY POND ENVIROMENTAL

2/19. 10am-11:30am. AGES 5-7 Drop off. Learn about mammals. Fun while learning, includes nature walk. \$30 child 2/19. 11am-12:15pm. AGES 3-5, Animal Homes \$26 per child w/adult. 2/21. 10-11:30am. AGES 5-7, Drop off. All About Birds. \$30 per child. Register: www.allevpond.org 229-10 Northern Blvd., Douglaston

WINTER WONDER WALK AT **JONES BEACH**

2/20. 1:30-3pm. All ages and families. Join our educator for a paved walk and short beach walk to find animal tracks and winter surprises. \$4 Fee. Jones Beach Energy and Nature Center, Bay Pkwy, Wantagh. Reserve:

www.jonesbeachenc.org

STORYTIME FOR KIDS ON **BLACK HISTORY**

2/20. 11am-12pm. At the Queens County Farm Museum. Topic: Who was George Washington Carver. Free. Register online: www.queensfarm.org 73-50 Little Neck Pkwy, Floral Park.

MY FAVORITE MARTIAN

2/21. 12-2pm Long Island Children's Museum. Drop in between these hours and make a crafty martian to take home. Other dates and times avail. Ages 3+ Free with museum admission. Buy tickets at the museum. For more info: www.licm.org 11 Davis Ave., Garden

PIRATES OF PENZANCE

2/21, 2/22, 2/23, Various times. At The Madison Theatre at Molly University. Gilbert and Sullivan's operetta. 1000 Hempstead Ave., Rockville Centre. Rates, Times & Tickets online: www.Madisontheatreny.org

WONDEROUS STORIES LIVE AT THE PLATTDUETSCHE

2/21: 7-11pm. \$8 Cover. German food & beer available for purchase. 1132 Hempstead Tpke., Franklin Square. 516-354-3131. www.parkrestaurant.com

CRADLE OF AVIATION FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

2/21, 5:30-9pm. How To Train Your **Dragon.** Packed wit dragon inspired activities, making your own paper dragon, exploring the museum and a screening of the movie in our theatre. Snacks provided. Adults \$18, children \$16. Buy tickets online: www.cradleofaviation.org 516-572-4066

LITTLE LEARNERS AT **PLANTING FIELDS**

2/21, 10-11am. Breathe in, breathe out for ages 2-5. Help kids focus in a fun and peaceful environment. \$15p.p. 1395 Planting Fields Rd., Oyster Bay. Purchase tickets in advance online: www.plantingfields.org

ADRIANCE FARM TOURS

2/22, 2/23. 11am-4pm, Every hour and half. Queens County Farm Museum. Learn about the oldest surviving structure on Queens County Farm. Free admission. No reservations needed. www.queensfarm.org 73-50 Little Neck Pkwy, Floral Park.

We Publish Your Event for Free! events@marketplacepublications.com

CREATIVE ART JOURNALING CIRCLE & WORKSHOP

2/22, 3/22, 1-4pm.Adults & teens 16+ at the Nassau County Museum of Art. Register for 1 class or all 3. Explore various creative tools & techniques, all levels welcome. \$60 per class, \$54 members. Register online: www.nassaumuseum.org One Museum Drive, Roslyn. 516-484-9338

A BAND CALLED HONALEE

2/23: 2:30pm A tribute to Peter, Paul & Mary Tickets: \$40-\$45. 516-599-6870. Elmont Library Theatre, 700 Hempstead Turnpike, Elmont. Tickets:

AFTERNOON WITH ELVIS

2/23. 1-4pm. Long Island Society of Italian Americans. (LISIA) At the Malverne American Legion. Post 44. 240 Franklin Ave. \$30p.p. includes show, coffee and cake, cash bar. Bring your own snacks. Call Diane Langella to reserve: 516-777-0607

MINDFULNESS WORKSHOP AT JONES BEACH

2/26. 1:30-3pm. Ages 12+ and adults. Join our educator for peaceful walks, mindful meditation and breathing exercise. Free. Jones Beach Energy and Nature Center, Bay Pkwy, Wantagh. Reserve your spot: www.jonesbeachenc.org

BIRD WALK

3/2, 9am. Mill Pond Park. Hosted by the South Shore Audubon Society. Weather permitting. Free and open to the public, children also encouraged to come. Register by texting Joe Landesberg: 516-467-9498 leave your name and date you want to attend. 2286 Arby Court, Wantagh

For more info: www.ssaudubon.org

NASSAU NORTH SHORE CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S CLUB

3/4 Noon: Luncheon

Special feature: Loretta Fay DeGregoria showcases latest collection of scripture inspired bags & accessories. Loretta is also the inspirational speaker. Soloist Lori Muller. Call to reserve by 2/28: Jane Voss 516-742-0861 or Pat Pedley 516-354-5385. \$44 p.p. Jonathan's Restaurant, 3000 Jericho Tpke., Garden City Park.



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How has the huge footprint of humanity forced other animal and plant species to evolve differently than they might otherwise have without people around? - Lois V., NY, NY

Humans have profoundly altered the planet, driving plants and animals to adapt in ways they never would have without our impact. Through activities like habitat destruction, pollution, climate change, hunting and introducing invasive species, humans have significantly accelerated evolutionary changes, transforming ecosystems in dramatic and often unpredictable ways.

One example is the rise of tuskless elephants. Decades of ivory poaching have created intense pressure on African elephants. In regions of heavy poaching, up to half of female elephants are now tuskless, an adaptation showing how humans can profoundly alter the genetic makeup of another animal population.

Urban environments have also become hotspots for what some researchers consider accelerated evolution. During the Industrial Revolution, peppered moths in England evolved darker colors to blend into soot-covered trees. Today, insects and city-dwelling birds are similarly adapting to human-made conditions. Pigeons have modified their eating habits to thrive on discarded food, and some mosquito species have adapted to reproduce in tiny water collections present in city environments. These alterations illustrate the adaptability of species adjusting to environments changed by humans.

Chemical resistance is another area where human influence is clear. The widespread use of pesticides and antibiotics has driven the evolution of resistant pests and bacteria. Farmers battle "superweeds" that can survive herbicides, and healthcare providers face rising concerns over antibiotic-resistant bacteria.

Climate change has further expedited evolutionary shifts. Animals are altering their migration patterns and breeding seasons to adapt to warmer temperatures. Birds like the great tit in Europe are laying eggs earlier in the spring to align with the availability of insects. Similarly, marine species are moving to cooler waters. This disrupts ecosystems and fisheries

These adaptations showcase the nature's incredible resilience, despite some notable drawbacks. Rapid evolution can lead to reduced biodiversity, as species unable to adapt face extinction. Ecosystem imbalances arise as invasive species prevail, pushing out native organisms. According to the National Wildlife Federation, human activities are driving an unprecedented rate of evolutionary change. To help, choose sustainably sourced products, reduce waste, plant native trees and plants, limit using chemicals and support conservation efforts to protect habitats and species. Advocacy for policies that address climate change and pollution is also kev. RECIPE OF THE WEEK

Baked Broccoli Mac Pie



1 box (1 lb) pasta noodles (cellentani, elbow or penne) 2 cups chopped broccoli 2 cups chicken broth 1 cup heavy whipping cream or halfand-half 2 cups mozzarella 1/2 block pasteurized cheese product, cubed 1 tbsp garlic powder 1 tbsp onion powder salt, to taste pepper, to taste

Topping: 2 cups breadcrumbs 1/2 stick butter 1/2 cup grated Parmesan cheese

Heat oven to 350 F. In large pot, cook pasta according to package instructions. Drain well then add broccoli, chicken broth, cream, mozzarella, pasteurized cheese product, garlic powder and onion powder.

Season with salt and pepper, to taste.

To make topping: In bowl, mix breadcrumbs, butter and Parmesan

Pour macaroni mixture into large baking dish then sprinkle with breadcrumb mixture. Bake 30 minutes.

Recipe courtesy of "Cookin' Savvy"

GOT AN ENVIRONMENTAL QUESTION? Send it to: EarthTalk, c/o E/The Environmental Magazine, P.O. Box 5098, Westport, CT 06881; submit it at: www.emagazine.com/earthtalk/thisweek/, or e-mail: earthtalk@emagazine.com.

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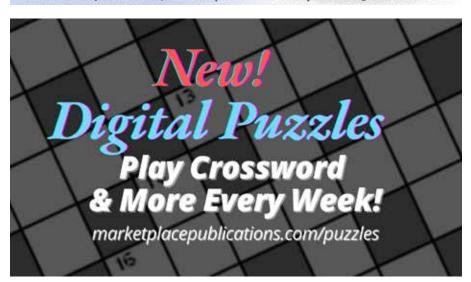


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