

UTAH VALLEY DIGEST

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Continued

from previous page

OREM

Orem Reads

On Friday at 7 p.m., the Orem Public Library will pair with The Wasatch Ballet to bring to life "The Black Cauldron," the first of Lloyd Alexander's beloved Prydain fantasy series. This original storyballet performance will mark the first of several forays into literary interpretation during the library's Orem Reads program. During its four-week run, the program will lead patrons on an exploration of the fantasy genre through author visits, expert lecturers, drama, dance and vocal performers.

The library will host repeat performances of "The Black Cauldron" on Oct. 9 and 22. All performances will be held at the Orem Library around the fireplace.

Upcoming stage and film performances include:

► **Oct. 4, 9 and 11:** Resonance Story Theater's "King Arthur and the Troubadours"

► **Oct. 6:** "Turning Tolkien into Film" with Dr. Jay Fox

► **Oct. 15:** "Fantastic Stories of All Ages" with professional storytellers

► **Oct. 25:** Utah Lyric Opera Society's "Lord of the Ring — Before Tolkien, There Was Wagner"

All Orem Reads events are free and open to the public. For more information on these and other events, visit the library's website at www.orem.org. Funding for Orem Reads comes in part from the Utah Humanities Council Book Festival. The Utah Humanities Council promotes understanding of human traditions, values and issues through informed public discussion. Additional support for the Orem Reads program in local schools was provided by Walmart, Macey's Market and Harmons Grocery.

PLEASANT GROVE

PLEASANT GROVE HIGH SCHOOL

Post High School Day

Thursday from 8 to 10:30 a.m., is Post High School Day for senior students and their parents. Each student who comes will receive a book, which will give them valuable information about higher education, admission dates and requirements, tuition rates and more. The opening session will be held in the high school auditorium.

After the opening, students and parents will have the opportunity to attend three 30-minute presentations given by representatives from colleges, universities and applied technology schools. Best dress is expected. Be prepared to ask questions and learn what opportunities are available.

MANILA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Reflections program

It's not too early to think about the PTA Reflections fine arts program at Manila Elementary School. This year's theme is "Together We Can." Entries will be collected in October.

Projects can be entered in literature, music composition, visual arts, photography, film/video production, dance choreography, three-dimensional art and theatre. Rules and guidelines can be found at www.utahpta.org/prog/reflections.

GROVECREST ELEMENTARY

Happenings Book Fundraiser

Students are selling Happenings Books for a school fundraiser. These books contain hundreds of buy one get one free and other discount coupons for food, fun, lodging and much more in Utah Valley. Contact a student or the school at (801) 785-8714 for more information.

JOHN HANCOCK CHARTER

Fundraiser concert

John Hancock Charter School presents a Jon Schmidt fundraiser concert. It will be held Oct. 19 at Pleasant Grove High School at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$10 per person and are available online

at johnhancocks.org, or you may call (801) 796-5464. The proceeds will benefit the PTO.

PROVO

Economic development

Provo Mayor John Curtis will hold an Interim Report on Economic Development and iProvo on Thursday from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the Covey Center for the Arts, 425 W. Center St. The mayor will make a presentation followed by breakout sessions on economic development, iProvo, the proposed new recreation center and a Q & A with the mayor. For more information, visit www.provo.org. This event is free and open to the public.

SARATOGA SPRINGS

WESTLAKE HIGH SCHOOL

Post-high school tour — Seniors and their parents are invited to a higher education day on Monday from 8 to 10:30 p.m. The presentation will feature university and college programs available after graduation. Best dress is recommended.

SPANISH FORK

Airline Pilot seminar

What is the outlook for airline pilot hiring for the next few years? Is the projected pilot shortage that we have been hearing about really going to happen? How will the new pilot time and training requirements impact pilot hiring? What is the life of an airline pilot like these days? If you are interested in these and other airline pilot issues, plan on attending our Airline Pilot seminar on Wednesday at 7 p.m. in hangar #49 at the Springville-Spanish Fork Airport.

Our guest speaker is a pilot for Delta Air Lines and loves to share his passion for flying and his knowledge of airline operations with interested pilots. This should be an interesting and worthwhile evening.

Spouses are invited and encouraged to attend the Airline Pilot seminar.

This is a free event. Invite your friends who are interested in an airline career to attend this program. For more information or directions to the hangar call Ed at (801) 471-1304.

WOODLAND HILLS

Recycling — Paper, cardboard, plastic and aluminum do not need to be sorted before being dropped off at the recycling containers by the mail boxes. All materials can be placed in any of the three compartments in the blue container. For more info, contact the South Utah Valley Solid Waste District at (801) 489-3027 or Bob Fisher at (801) 473-6858 or bobfisherwh@gmail.com.

LEARN MORE ...

Look to your community newspapers to get the full report on issues and happenings that affect you.

TO REPORT A NEWS, TIP CONTACT:

Nebo Reporter

Christi Babbitt
(801) 465-7910

Payson, Elk Ridge, Genola, Santaquin, Eureka, Goshen, Mona, Nephi

Spanish Fork Press

Debbie Chandler
(801) 798-1011 ext. 10

Spanish Fork, Salem, Woodland Hills

The Springville Herald

Pat Conover
(801) 489-5651

Springville, Mapleton

Daily Herald

Amie Rose
(801) 344-2530

Logan Molyneux
(801) 344-2560

Provo, countywide

Spider bites and stinging bees

Tug Gettling

A neighbor family stopped by the house the other night with their friends in tow. It was just getting dark when they knocked on the door. Upon greeting them at the door I noticed they each held a bit of anticipation in their eyes, like someone does right before they smash a cream pie in your face. Then from the midst of the crowd (there were eight or nine of them) a very large pickle jar emerged containing a hairy inhabitant called *aphonopelma iodus*, more commonly known as a tarantula. They said they had scooped the arachnid up running across the street and didn't know exactly what to do with it. They considered the knee-jerk squash-it-with-a-shoe response but decided that they weren't sure they could either pull it off successfully or handle the splat if they did. After some inspection and way too many spider jokes and anecdotes the question was asked, "How bad does it hurt to get bitten by a tarantula?" I've never been bitten by one and truthfully I have no idea. I wondered how I would rate the pain if I had been bitten — I mean what do you compare a spider bite to?

Apparently someone else has pondered a similar question and then devised a way to measure such pain. A man by the name of Justin O. Schmidt, an entomologist at the Carl Hayden Bee Research Center in Tucson, Arizona, developed a pain scale rating called the Schmidt Sting Pain Index, which rates the relative pain caused by the sting of different insects in the hymenoptera order (wasps, bees, ants and sawflies). The scale goes from 0 (meaning no significant pain) to a 4 (meaning it hurts like the dickens). Here are a few of the more interesting results:

► 1.0 Sweat bee: Light, ephemeral, almost fruity. A

tiny spark has singed a single hair on your arm.

► 1.2 Fire ant: Sharp, sudden, mildly alarming. Like walking across a shag carpet and reaching for the light switch.

► 1.8 Bullhorn acacia ant: A rare, piercing, elevated sort of pain. Someone has fired a staple into your cheek.

► 2.0 Bald-faced hornet: Rich, hearty, slightly crunchy. Similar to getting your hand smashed in a revolving door.

► 2.0 Yellowjacket: Hot and smoky, almost irreverent. Imagine W. C. Fields extinguishing a cigar on your tongue.

► 2.0 Honey bee and European hornet: Like a match head that flips off and burns on your skin.

► 3.0 Red harvester ant: Bold and unrelenting. Somebody is using a drill to excavate your ingrown toenail.

► 3.0 Paper wasp: Caustic and burning. Distinctly bitter aftertaste. Like spilling a beaker of hydrochloric acid on a paper cut.

► 4.0 Pepsis wasp: Blinding, fierce, shockingly electric. A running hair drier has been dropped into your bubble bath.

► 4.0+ Bullet ant: Pure, intense, brilliant pain. Like fire-walking over flaming charcoal with a 3-inch rusty nail in your heel.

I am not sure exactly where a tarantula would rate on the scale. Many spider bites are not felt during the actual bite but rapidly become painful due to the venom that is injected by the bite. Schmidt went as far to get stung by most of the 78 species of insects that he rated so that he would have firsthand knowledge of the pain. I wonder if anyone would be willing to do the same for arachnids and let me know how badly a tarantula bite hurts.

► Tug Gettling is director of North Utah Valley Animal Services.

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PLUS receive the complete lesson plan on CD to try at home

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