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FROM THE DESKS OF RAZUMICH + DELAMATER

It's hard to believe that the year is already halfway over! Due to the publishing schedule, I'm writing this on July 1, and it's been a WILD ride so far.

We've said goodbye to two team members and hello to one new member. By the time this hits your inbox, we may actually be saying hello to yet another member. We've handled two juries, multiple suppressions, and helped an additional 84 people get the results they deserve.

On the administrative front, we're excited to continue testing new methods of staying in contact with the people we help. Our new text messaging system has been successful at giving people extra avenues to reach us, and we should be rolling out new blog content starting this month that we'll be sharing on our social media accounts and emailing to you, just like with this newsletter.

In fact, the only thing that **hasn't** gone well so far this year is that I **still** haven't made it to any baseball games, and I've fallen by the wayside on my resolution to have a hot breakfast at least twice each week. Thankfully, there's another six months to turn that around.



THE MAGICAL PULL OF THE POOL



HOW TO TAKE THE EXPERIENCE UP A NOTCH

It's no secret kids love water. When the summer heat waves peak, kids in bright bathing suits charge through sprinklers, shoot down hose-powered Slip N' Slides, and take turns perfecting their cannonballs at the neighborhood pool.

This affinity for water is particularly powerful when they're small; the single word "pool" can inspire them to eat broccoli or even clean up their rooms. But what makes the water so alluring? Susan Brown, an assistant director and parent educator at Commonwealth Parenting, has a theory.

"I like to think of children's fingers as if there are little brains on the tip of each finger," Brown wrote in an article for Community Idea Stations. "When these little brains get stimulated through play, neurons begin to fire. This firing of neurons excites the brain, causing it to grow bigger, stronger, and more facile, setting the brain up for higher levels of cognition. One of the simplest ways to provide sensory play is through water activities."

In other words, kids love water because splashing around in it is literally helping their brains grow. For busy parents, this is a blessing: Letting the kids loose at the pool under the eye of an experienced lifeguard can be an ideal way to keep the summer fun rolling for kids and adults alike. Follow the tips below to enrich the pool experience for your kids and get those neurons firing.

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SPLASHTASTIC POOL TOYS

If your kids are old enough for regular pool visits, it's a good bet you already have a pile of perpetually damp inner tubes and pool noodles in your garage. Still, if you want to cement your "cool parent" status, try upping your pool toy game. The options are endless: Sea-Saw Water Rockers, Boat House Floating Habitats, underwater diving sticks, and many others. Stop by your local big box store or visit Amazon.com to browse the bounty.

GAMES FOR ALL OCCASIONS

Once you're fully stocked with pool toys, the next step is to make swim time competitive. Water sports equipment, like floating basketball hoops and volleyball nets, can keep kids occupied for hours, and brave parents can even snag waterborne trampolines or Starfighter Super Squirters — inflatable command posts that seat one kid each, complete with squirt guns — which are perfect for aquatic squirt gun battles. Just be sure to keep your distance from the pool, or else you're likely to get soaked, too.



MAKE IT A PARTY

If you're lucky enough to have a backyard or neighborhood pool, all it takes is a pack of brats on the grill, a huge bowl of sliced watermelon, and a few neighbors in attendance to turn a simple pool visit into a summer extravaganza. Let your kids invite their friends, offer up some s'mores, and you're guaranteed extra "cool" points.

JOIN THE FUN

The younger your kids are, the more they'll want you to jump in the pool with them. Not only

is swimming together an excellent bonding experience, but it's also the perfect way to cool off and stay in shape for the summer.

TAKE TO THE ROAD

In the mind of an 8-year-old, the only thing better than a trip to the pool is a vacation to the beach or trip to the waterpark. While this option requires more investment than buying a handful of pool toys, it comes with significant upsides: Beaches and waterparks cater to all age groups, and the memories you make will last for years to come.



STAYING 'COOL' WITH YOUR CANINE

ENJOY THE WEATHER WHILE KEEPING YOUR PUP COMFORTABLE

With all this late-summer sunshine, it's the perfect time to take your dog out for some fun. And while spending time basking in nature's beauty can be a great source of fun and exercise for you and your pets, it's important to keep a careful watch on your dog's core temperature to prevent heat exhaustion. There are several detectable signs of heat exhaustion that you can watch for, including abnormal lethargy, vomiting, or a brightly colored blue or red tongue. Here are some tips to keep your canine cool this summer.

WATER IN ALL ITS FORMS

While certain dog breeds thrive in hotter climates, all pups need a little extra care when it comes to staying hydrated during the summer. For starters, always make sure they have ready access to drinkable water. If you are going on an adventure, consider bringing a collapsible water bowl. If you are doing some backyard chilling, consider filling up a small wading pool with water for your pooch to splash or lounge in.

SOME INVALUABLE INVENTIONS

There are many contraptions to help you keep your canine cool in the summer heat. Booties to insulate their toes and protect their paw pads

from the hot asphalt, cooling vests that reflect sunlight off darker fur, and pressure-activated cooling pads are just a few of the gizmos you can purchase to stave off those scorching temps. The Dog People, a website powered by Rover.com, also recommends making frozen "pupsicles," a yogurt-based frozen treat that can satisfy doggy cravings while keeping them cool.

TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE

While fun water toys and helpful cooling inventions are great, the best thing you can do to keep your dog cool is be careful about when you decide to go outside. Taking your pup out in the early morning or later in the evening, when the sun isn't at its highest point in the sky, will help keep them cooler in the long run. Additionally, keep in mind that some breeds deal with the heat better than others. If you're unsure, do a little research to determine your dog's susceptibility to heat exhaustion.

Just because the heat is sizzling doesn't mean your dog should be! Keep these tips in mind before taking your canine out in the summer sun. They will thank you for it!

WHAT'S NEXT FOR MARVEL MOVIES?

3 MARVEL MOVIES TO WATCH OUT FOR

For the past 10 years, Marvel movies have delighted families and comic book nerds alike with their memorable characters, incredible action scenes, and sprawling, interconnected storylines. The Marvel Cinematic Universe (MCU) is the story of the Avengers so far, told through 23 movies. Even though this year marked the end of a massive arc that Marvel Studios dubbed "The Infinity Saga," there are still more movies coming out that will feature everyone's favorite heroes. Here are a few films coming up next in the MCU.

A BLACK WIDOW SOLO MOVIE

International assassin Black Widow, played by Scarlett Johansson, was the first female member of the Avengers and made her debut appearance in "Iron Man 2." She never got her own movie, but Marvel announced recently that a Black Widow movie is officially in the works for the next phase of Marvel movies. Besides the fact that they've started filming, there's not much information about it yet. But for many excited fans, this movie has been a long time coming.

'GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY VOL. 3'

Star-Lord, Rocket, Groot, and the gang are all back in the third installment of this smash-hit franchise. Without getting into too much detail, "Avengers: Endgame" and the post-credits scene of the second "Guardians" movie

provided some clues about the plot and possible main villain. Though details are slim, "Vol. 3" is sure to be another rollicking ride through the cosmos.

'BLACK PANTHER 2'

"Black Panther" was immensely popular (it earned nearly \$700 million domestically), and its success removed all doubt that there would be a sequel. Audiences will journey back to Wakanda and see the newest adventures of King T'Challa and crew, although not much is known about the plot or the release date as of now. But you can rest assured that the creative minds behind the sequel are taking their time to make it as good as the first.

The future storyline of the MCU is up in the air, but, if the previous movies are any indicator, families, fans, and audiences everywhere have a lot to look forward to.



TAKE A BREAK!



Ingredients

For the lamb:

- 2 lbs trimmed leg of lamb, cut into 1-inch cubes
- 1 tbsp peanut oil, plus more for grilling
- Salt and black pepper, to taste

For the onions:

- 1/2 cup distilled white vinegar
- 1/2 cup Dijon mustard
- 1/2 tbsp agave nectar
- 1 yellow onion, thinly sliced
- Salt and white pepper, to taste

Equipment

- Bamboo skewers

Directions

1. In a bowl, coat lamb with 1 tbsp oil and generously season with salt and pepper.
2. In a mixing bowl, whisk together vinegar, mustard, and agave nectar. Toss in onions and season with salt and pepper.
3. Heat a grill or grill pan to medium and oil the grates.
4. Thread lamb on skewers and grill for 6–8 minutes.
5. Serve alongside onions



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THE RIGHT PLACE AT THE WRONG TIME

A LOOK AT SOME INTERESTING PERSONAL INJURY CASES

There is no shortage of crazy cases that come through a court of law, but those revolving around personal injury can be especially surprising. Whether it's a slip-and-fall accident or something a little more eccentric, there are a million ways to hurt yourself while simply going about your day. The problems arise when it's determined to be another party's fault. Let's take a look at some notably strange cases where bizarre miscalculations led to injuries and ailments.

AS BELOW, SO ABOVE

Time spent in the restroom is inherently private. We don't normally talk about it, but that's not the case for a Pennsylvania woman who experienced a traumatic event during a routine trip to the lady's room. In 2007, a schlocky horror plot came to life in a building along Philadelphia's famous Market Street. The culprit was a faulty plumbing system.

The woman was inside a restroom stall on the eighth floor, and, as she sat on one of the old toilets customary in the building, pressure building from inside the tank caused a massive explosion that sent her body hurling out of the stall. You don't need to know the details of her injuries to understand the extent of her grievances. Some forms of suffering are better left to the imagination, especially if the aggressor was a literal stink bomb. She sued the building's landlords for anxiety, pain, and medical expenses, but it's hard to determine which party was truly at fault without more information.

IT'S RAINING CATS AND DOLLARS

You can't predict the weather, no matter what your weather app says, but some people tend to forget that. A few years ago, an Israeli weatherman was faced with a lawsuit by a woman who claimed his inaccurate forecast



caused her a great deal of suffering. She claimed he misrepresented a particularly harsh day in the forecast, and it encouraged her to wear insufficient layers that left her health to the whim of the elements. As a result, the woman caught the flu from the downpour and missed work for four days. Citing lost income, large medication costs, and tremendous anxiety, she sought reparations from the fraudulent weatherman and was amazingly awarded a four-figure settlement!