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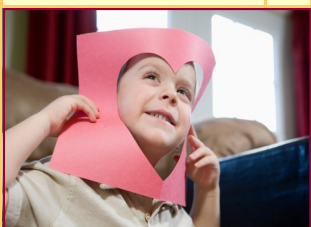
Visit us on the web at: www.dancing-trees.org
 Email us at: dt@dancing-trees.org

Committed to

- Families
- Animals
- Environment



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Happy Valentine's Day!



Nice job Ali and Patti!

Really! These people aren't crazy! They are the brave participants of the 2012 *Freezin' for a Reason* fundraiser supporting Harvest Hills Animal Shelter in Fryeburg, Maine.

DancingTrees' Volunteers Patti Murphy and Ali Kiger dove into the icy waters of Highland Lake raising over \$11,000 for this event; they have a lot to celebrate!

To learn more about Harvest Hills Animal Shelter, visit them at <http://www.harvesthills.org/index.html> or call the shelter at (207)-935-4358.

Quote of the Month

"IF YOU'RE WILLING TO FAIL INTERESTINGLY, YOU TEND TO SUCCEED INTERESTINGLY."
 ~Edward Albee

Word of the Month

alacrity (ah-LAK-ri-tee)

1. cheerful willingness; eagerness.
2. speed or quickness; celerity

Source: The Vocabula Review-Best Words

To unsubscribe to this e-newsletter, email us at dt@dancing-trees.org or call 207-539-2670.



Once again, Team DancingTrees dusts off their bowling shoes for Big Brothers Big Sisters Bowl for Kids' Sake event.

Big Brothers Big Sisters matches children ages 7 through 13 with mentors in professionally supported one-to-one relationships throughout communities across Oxford, Androscoggin and Franklin Counties.

Come join the fun and make a difference!

Contact Cara Billings at Big Brothers Big Sisters (207) 890-4225 to form your 4-person team for the March 24th event held at Hobb's Lucky Lanes in South Paris.

Home Safes—One Stop Shop Protection

Adapted from an article by Ray Martin entitled,
"12 Things to Keep in a Safe at Home, Not at a Bank"

Can't find your spare keys? In the event of an emergency, can you quickly locate all of your important things? Like many, the answer is, "No". A home safe may be your answer. Being a one stop shop work horse, its sole purpose is to protect your belongings. Thus, making your life a little easier and quite possibly saner.

12 Things to Consider Storing in Your Home Safe

1. A photocopy of the contents in your wallet: (driver's license, health insurance cards, credit cards, debit cards...).
2. Insurance policies and agent contact information. Also, you may wish to include a video of your assets.
3. Passports, original birth certificates and Social Security Cards.
4. A list of family doctors, prescriptions, and contact information for pharmacies you use.
5. CD's or external hard drive containing digital copies of all family photos.
6. Safe deposit keys.
7. Important documents related to investments, retirement plans, bank accounts, credit card accounts, and associated contact information.
8. Information on your outstanding debts, due dates, and contact information.
9. Copies of your important legal documents, including powers of attorney, living wills, and health care proxies—both for yourself and for anyone else for whom you are designated attorney-in-fact or health care surrogate.
10. A copy of your will and all wills you are designated as executor.
11. Valuables: jewelry, coins, cash, etc.
12. Spare keys and titles to all vehicles.



8 Ways to Protect Your Identity

Adapted from an article on *Readers Digest.com*,
by James Van Dyke, Founder and
President of Javelin Strategy & Research



1. **Guard Your Personal Information** Never respond to requests for personal or account information online (or over the phone). When your social security number is requested as an identifier, ask if you can provide alternate information. Watch out for convincing imitations of banks, card companies, charities and government agencies. Use legitimate sources of contact information to verify requests for information, such as your financial institution's official website or the telephone number listed on statements.
2. **Don't Over Share** Don't divulge your birth date, mother's maiden name, pet's name or any other identifying information on social media websites such as Facebook, LinkedIn or Twitter.
3. **Stay Up to Date** Install anti-virus software on your computer and keep it updated. Use the latest version of your web browser. Install security patches and software updates as soon as they are ready to install.
4. **Make It Difficult** Use unique and hard-to-guess passwords. Don't access secure websites using public Wi-Fi.
5. **Be Aware of Fake Online Sweepstakes and Contests** All offers that require payment or private information before giving an award are bogus. Take the time to check out the validity of an offer. Ask for contact information from the sender and details about the company running the contest. Once you start asking a lot of questions and make it clear you won't be pushed to make an immediate decision, most scammers will go away.
6. **Go Paperless** Enroll in electronic statements, use direct deposit, and make bill payments online (to avoid mail theft).
7. **Don't Believe the Work at Home Hype** Thoroughly conduct a background check on the company, making as many phone calls and Internet searches as you can. If in doubt, visit a local law enforcement office and ask their opinion. All offers to earn pay for re-shipping goods sent to your address are bogus. Tragically, some work-from-home scams not only enlist the individual to defraud others, they also make an identity fraud victim out of the individual!
8. **Ask What Your Bank is Doing to Protect You** Understand banks' guarantees for fraud protection: all large providers now offer zero-liability protection for debit and credit cards, while a few offer a guarantee for online banking transactions.