The New York City Veterinarian VMA NYC Newsletter



Veterinary Medical Association of New York City

> PO Box 959 NYC, NY 10024

Managing Editor: Dr. Sally Slavinski

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A feisty squirrel takes on a fearsome foe when he decides to tackle a Tyrannosaurus rex. After sniffing out the plastic enemy, he climbs onto the dinosaur's back in order to claim victory. Picture: Max Ellis/ HotSpot Media



MARCH 2014, VOL 56, NO 1

President's Message

Dr. Deirdre Chiaramonte

I am honored to serve the VMANYC as your 2014 president. Our outgoing president, John Sykes, deserves enormous thanks for guiding the association so adeptly. John will continue to serve as an officer of the association and I am grateful that I will be able to rely on his wise counsel during my term.

I welcome our returning and new members for a promising year. The VMANYC has over 350 members and I encourage each of you to maximize the value of your membership by taking advantage of our educational and social offerings to connect and engage with each other. Solutions+ of New York City have done a wonderful job piloting new members to our association and I encourage our returning members to make their acquaintance.



The level of members' involvement determines the strength of our VMANYC. I challenge you to think of ways you can participate and help me to enable those creative ideas. The Annual Awards and Casino night is one way in which you can get involved. That reception to honor our exceptional recipients is Saturday, March 22, 2014. Please save the date.

Thank you to the past and incoming Committee Chairs, committee members, and all who offered and accepted requests to volunteer in the past and in the future. It is an honor to witness the many passionate volunteers whose investment of time on behalf of the association allows us to provide opportunities for the entire membership.

Our all day continuing education seminar sponsored by The Hartsville Group was very successful and in fact sold out! Speakers from PLIT, HUB insurance, and from The New York State Department of Health - Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement were very informative. I know that a lot of work goes on behind the scenes to make events successful. Thanks team.

Even though we are doing well doesn't mean that we can't do even better. Veterinary professionals throughout the country are currently facing many challenges in a tough economic climate. As a result, we share limited resources while called upon to protect the public from natural disasters, communicable infection, national security, and a multitude of other health threats. Despite these difficulties, we move ahead and perform at our highest ability to prevent injury, illness, or death. It is at times like these that the real value of a professional association becomes evident.

One of the objectives of VMANYC in the face of such challenges is to further enhance our memberships' collective ability to negotiate the current landscape and thrive. As these relationships are nurtured, the association will continue to represent the interest of our members and present a cohesive voice while participating in advisory boards, committees, and legislative processes.

We encourage members, new as well as seasoned to share their views, experience and expertise. Please contribute to our newsletter; let us know about your activities in your communities.

Now is the ideal time to enhance our community experience by incorporating the ways we connect and communicate today. This philosophical and technological approach will facilitate new ways for VMANYC members to connect and to absorb the energy and passion of our organization. Our website is now been revolutionized and updated; it even has a payment portal! It will become our main means of communication and building relationship with our members, colleagues and the public. I hope it will be a way to facilitate greater interaction and discussion within our communities.

The value of our veterinary degree has never been higher; it is our responsibility to ensure that it continues to appreciate by supporting members within our organization. We plan to include more community events to increase the public's perception of the value of veterinary medicine. I welcome you to call or email me or anyone on the board to share your thoughts, ideas, and feedback. I hope you share my pride in our association for all that it has accomplished and for its vision moving forward. Being elected president is a special honor for me, and I will do my best to serve you, our members, during my term. We will continue to project a positive and professional image as we have since 1894. I look forward to hearing from you and seeing you at one of our many upcoming events! I look forward to our journey together this year.

With best regards, Deirdre

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Introducing the only nutrition clinically tested to reduce the recurrence of FIC signs by 89%¹ now with ingredients to help manage stress.

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NEW

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Liaison Committee

The liaison committee interacts with our local specialty hospitals, educational institutions and not for profit organizations and lists in this column any information which is relevant for our membership. Specifically, we highlight continuing education which is complementary to our membership and new hires in specialty areas. Please contact us if your hospital has information that you would like to share with our membership

The Animal Medical Center's Continuing Education:

Register OnLine at http://www.amcny.org/pipseminars

PARTNERS IN PRACTICE TUESDAY (7 TO 8:30PM) CLINICAL WORKSHOPS

MARCH 11: HEMATOLOGY FOR CLINICIANS, PRESENTED BY DR. ELIZABETH APPLEMAN MARCH 25: RADIOLOGY READING - WHAT'S YOUR DIAGNOSIS, PRESENTED BY DR. ANTHONY FISCHETTI APRIL 8: CYTOLOGY TIPS AND TECHNIQUES, PRESENTED BY DR. RACHEL WALTON APRIL 22: GI AND RESPIRATORY CASES, PRESENTED BY DR. DOUG PALMA MAY 6: CLINICAL NEUROLOGY, PRESENTED BY DR. JOHN MCCUE MAY 20: ONCOLOGY - CURRENT CONCEPTS, PRESENTED BY DR. NICOLE LEIBMAN JUNE 10: ORTHOPEDICS AND JOINT REPLACEMENT, PRESENTED BY DR. NICOLE LEIBMAN SEPTEMBER 23: EXOTIC PET MEDICINE, PRESENTED BY DR. KATHERINE QUESENBERRY OCTOBER 4: LEPTOSPIROSIS, PRESENTED BY DR. RICHARD GOLDSTEIN OCTOBER 21: RADIATION THERAPY - THE ESSENTIALS, PRESENTED BY DR. RACHEL ST-VINCENT NOVEMBER 11: DENTISTRY - RADIOGRAPHY AND CLINICAL OPTIONS, PRESENTED BY DR. STEPHEN RIBACK NOVEMBER 18: CARDIOLOGY CASES - DIAGNOSIS & RX DECEMBER 2: REHABILITATION SIMPLIFIED, PRESENTED BY DR. LEILANI ALVAREZ

PIP COMPREHENSIVE CONFERENCES—8AM TO 4PM

SUNDAY, APRIL 6, 2014: Pain Management and Rehabilitation – What You Need to Know. Presented by Drs. Dennis Caywood and Leilani Alvarez.

REGISTER ON LINE: http://www.amcny.org/pipseminars QUESTIONS? CONTACT DR. PHILIP FOX AT PHILIP.FOX@AMCNY.ORG OR CALL 212.329.8606

PIP VETERINARY TECHNICIAN LECTURES 6 TO 7PM, 6TH FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM

MARCH 4: HEMATOLOGY, PRESENTED BY DR. ELIZABETH APPLEMAN APRIL 3: CLINICAL NEUROLOGY, PRESENTED BY DR. JOHN MCCUE MAY 5: ELECTROCARDIOGRAPHY, PRESENTED BY DR. PHILIP FOX JUNE 3: REHABILITATION, PRESENTED BY DR. LEILANI ALVAREZ



A dog was seen taking a taking a tumble after sprinting for a treat. Photographed on the shore of the Uzundere lake in eastern Turkey.

Picture: SULEYMAN OGUZ / CATERS NEWS

News from Blue Pearl Veterinary Partners:

Continuing education lectures are free and open to all area veterinarians. There are also veterinary technician CE lectures which are open to all veterinary technicians and assistants. Registration is required and is done by contacting Dr. David Wohlstadter at <u>david.wohlstadter@bluepearlvet.com</u>. Dinner begins at 7 PM and the lectures start at 7:30 PM. BluePearl is approved as a New York State sponsor of CE for veterinarians and veterinary technicians. Unless otherwise noted, lectures are given in Brooklyn, Queens and Manhattan at the addresses listed below:

Manhattan 410 West 55th St (Bet 9th and 10th Avenues) New York, NY 10019

Queens 107-28 71st Rd (Bet Austin St and Queens Blvd) Forest Hills, NY 11375 Brooklyn 32 4th Ave (at Pacific St) Brooklyn, NY 11217

<u>March 2014</u>

Surgery (for veterinarians) TBD March 18—Queens March 19- Manhattan March 20—TBD

<u>April 2014</u>

Critical Care (for veterinarians) TBD April 22—Queens April 23—Manhattan April 24—TBD

June 2014

Dermatology *(for veterinarians)* TBD June 17-Queens June 18-Manhattan June 19-TBD

July 2014

Emergency Medicine (for veterinarians) TBD July 15-Queens July 16 -Manhattan July 17 -TBD



Well, this is one way of getting your milk delivered. Cattle rustlers in Bukit Mertajam, Malaysia, had to abandon their car after it broke down after squeezing four cows into it. The dozy crooks used a blowpipe to tranquilize the animals before loading them into their Proton Wira car, which has folding rear seats. One cow was placed in the boot and the other three squeezed into the rear of the vehicle. As the three crooks fled the scene of the crime, two on motorbikes and one driving the car, the car broke down under the weight of the four unusual passengers. **Picture: Stian Alexander**



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Kills Fleas and Ticks

Soft Beef-Flavored Chewables

Kills fleas before they can lay eggs
Prevents flea infestations
Lasts for the entire month

Net Contents: 6 Chewables Each chewable contains 28.3 mg afoxolaner

Give once a month FOR USE IN DOGS AND PUPPIES 8 WEEKS OF AGE AND OLDER

VENNE, led for use in human. Keep the and all drops as of the of accelerate ingestion, context a physical inmediately. From the vent labor.

NexGard[™] (afoxolaner) is the protection you asked for, and patients will beg for.

NexGard is FDA-approved to kill fleas, prevent flea infestations, and kill the American dog tick. NexGard is available only with a veterinarian's prescription, and features anti-diversion technology monitored by Pinkerton[•] Consulting & Investigations.



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Lothargy	1	17	4	20
Accession	5	12	9	45

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Store at or below 30°C (05°T) with excursions permitted up to 40°C (104°T). How Supplied:

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Calendar of Events

Program Committee

Dr. Mark E. Peterson, Chairman , Dr. Deirdre Chiaramonte, Dr, Sally Haddock

The schedule of the VMA of NYC Continuing Education meetings for the 2014 calendar year is listed below, including the speakers and topics. All meetings will be held at Cicatelli Associates, 505 Eighth Avenue (b/w 35th & 36th St) on the 20th floor, NYC. The meetings will start at 7 PM. Please bring photo ID with you to allow entry into the facility. Members of the VMA of NYC are automatically registered to attend the meetings, but guests need to be added to the attendance list in advance of each meeting date.

March 5, 2014		6800
Speaker:	Richard B. Ford, DVM, MS, DACVIM, DACVPM (Hon) North Carolina State University College of Veterinary Medicine	
Topic:	Vaccine Updates	
April 2, 2014		
Speaker:	Lynelle Johnson, BA, DVM, MS, PhD	
	UC Davis Veterinary Medicine	
Topic:	Respiratory	
May 7, 2014		
Speaker:	Stan Marks, BVSc, PhD	
	UC Davis Veterinary Medicine	
Topic:	Gastrointestinal	
June 4, 2014		
Speaker:	Karen Rosenthal, DVM, MS	
	St. Matthew's University School of Veterinary Medicine	
Topic:	Exotics	
September 3, 2014		
Speaker:	Rodney Bagley, DVM, DACVIM	
	Iowa State University College of Veterinary Medicine	
Topic:	Neurology	
October 1, 2014		
Speaker:	Cindy Charlier, DVM, FAVD, DAVDC	
- .	Fox Valley Veterinary Dentistry and Surgery	
Topic:	Dentistry	
November 5, 2014	King Califina DVAA NAC DACVUNA	
Speaker:	Kim Selting, DVM, MS, DACVIM	
Terrier	University of Missouri College of Veterinary Medicine	
Topic:	Oncology	
December 3, 2014	Tommy Crubbs DV/M MC DbD DACV/AA	
Speaker:	Tammy Grubbs, DVM, MS, PhD, DACVAA	
Tonio	Iowa State University College of Veterinary Medicine	
Topic:	Anesthesiology/ Pain Management	

Remember, our Continuing Education program is meant for our VMA of NYC members, so please do not ever hesitate to provide your input and suggestions for great speaker or timely topics to make our C.E. program the best it can be. I can always be contacted via email at <u>mark@animalendocrine.com</u> or feel free to call me in my office (212.362.2650) if you have any suggestions.

Membership Spotlight Dr. Deirdre Chiaramonte

Q1. Where did you grow up and when did you move to New York City?

I grew up in Staatsburg, NY on a small farm. I moved to New York City to do an internship in 1997.

Q2. Why did you become a veterinarian and when did you know you would become one?

My father is an orthopedic surgeon and my mother was a nurse anesthetist and physical therapist. Medicine is in my blood. My parents thought my vocation should support my avocation.

Q3. Where did you go to veterinary school?

Tufts University School of Veterinary Medicine. At that time we shared the Boston campus with the medical students. Our last two years were spent in North Grafton, MA.

Q4. What was your first job as a veterinarian?

I worked at East Hampton Vet Group after finishing my internship.

Q5. Where do you practice now, and how long have you been there?

After working as an internist in Manhattan for many years I wanted to transition to pain relief and rehabilitation. I received certifications in rehab and acupuncture and in 2012 launched NYC Mobile Vet.

Q6. What pets do you have?

Currently I have two Blue Persian cats. (OMG they are so cute!)

Q7. What are your hobbies/interests?

Right now my hobbies of knitting (with clenched fingers) and jewelry making have taken a back seat to balancing my practice and family.



DR. DEIRDRE CHIARAMONTE

NYC VMA MEMBER SPOTLIGHT About 10 years ago, biologists studying a population of wild massasauga rattlesnakes in Illinois came across several individual snakes with severe, deep, granulomatous fungal infection that distorted facial features and led to debilitation and death. A fungus, then called *Chrysosporium ophiodiicola*, was repeatedly recovered from these sick massasaugas. The condition was dubbed Facial Disfiguration Syndrome as facial lesions were the most striking, but lesions could also be seen elsewhere on the body. In subsequent years, a similar condition was identified in timber rattlesnakes across New England. The same fungus was repeatedly isolated from sick snakes. While facial lesions were again predominant, they ranged across affected individuals from mild to severe. Still, the onset of disease coincided with a rapid decline of timber rattlesnake populations in Vermont, New Hampshire, and Massachusetts and raised significant concerns among conservationists . *Chrysosporium ophiodiicola* seems to target crotaild snakes but fungal dermatitis seemingly occasionally spills over in sympatric colubrid snakes such as Northern water snakes, ring-necked snakes, and black rat snakes so that the disease was renamed Snake Fungal Disease (SFD).



Timber rattlesnake in a clear plastic restraint tube. Note the lesion on the right side of the face. The Wildlife Conservation Society were consulted by the New Jersey Fish and Wildlife Service in 2012 when SFD was identified in timber rattlesnakes, copperheads and a few other snake species in northern New Jersey . In 2013, several New Jersey timber rattlesnake den sites were monitored for sick snakes and diseased individuals tested positive for the presence of *C. ophiodiicola*. The fungus was found in NJ areas where it had not been documented before. We know that SFD occurs in New York State timber rattlesnakes as well, but the magnitude of the impact of SFD on the NJ and NY snake populations is currently unknown.

In 2013, *Chrysosporium ophiodiicola* was correctly assigned to a novel genus, and renamed *Ophidiomyces ophiodiicola* (Oo). This fungus has never been recovered from anything but snake skin. A long-term study, also published in 2013, demonstrates that Oo has been causing disease in a variety of captive snakes for at least three decades. Cases in which numerous animals were affected support the notion that infection is contagious. This fungus grows relatively slow in vitro, but proliferates rapidly in vivo within the epidermal corneum where it soon conidiates heavily. It grows better at lower temperatures, those expected in the colder climatic conditions or in hibernacula, where the toll it takes on snakes is very difficult to measure. Many questions pertaining to the epidemiology of this serious disease and the biology of Oo remain unanswered. Organizations such as the National Wildlife Health Centre and the WCS work on attempting to resolve some of those questions with the hope of mitigating the spread of this disease among our North American populations of wild snakes. Should you ever encounter a snake with dermal lesions while enjoying the outdoors, please do your part and notify your nearest wildlife official.

For more information, see these recent journal articles;

https://www.nwhc.usgs.gov/disease information/other diseases/snake fungal disease.jsp



The NYC VMA mourns the loss of Dr. Shirley Sara Koshi

Dr. Shirley Sara Koshi, 55, of New York City, died Sunday, Feb. 16, 2014. Dr. Koshi was born in Pune, India, a daughter of Puthuparumbil Koshy and the late Thankamma Varkey Koshy. A Doctor of Veterinary Medicine, for over 33 years Dr. Koshi worked in different practices in India, New York, Rhode Island and Massachusetts. Early in her career, one of her jobs was consultant at the Peshwa Park Zoo in Pune, India, where she worked on panthers and elephants. Last year she opened her own solo practice, Gentle Hands Veterinarian in the Bronx. Beloved daughter of PK Koshy of Kingston and the late Thankamma Koshy, brother of Dr. Thomas Koshy and his wife Jamie of Kingston; aunt of Gina Menendez, her wife Sandra Rodriguez and their daughter Estelle; Naveen Koshy and his wife Sheena Malik; Adrian Koshy and his wife Kristie Gerhart. Shirley is also survived by many dear friends and her loving cats.

VETERINARIANS AVAILABLE

PER DIEM OR STEADY PART-TIME WORK. Available most Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. Excellent people skills. Good practice builder. 35 years experience. References available. Contact Dr. Tobias Jungreis at 516-295-1125.

RELIEF - PER DIEM. General practice. Orthopedic and Soft Tissue Surgery. DVM, Cornell. Internship Oradell. Residency in Small Animal Surgery, Cornell. Phone Dr. Kathy Sevalla at 1-718-267-6489 or 1-718-578-9085.

RELIEF VETERINARIAN. Experienced with excellent medical, surgical and client skills. Contact Dr. Christine Asaro at (631) 806-9343 or (718) 238-2513, or e-mail: <u>chrisasaro@hotmail.com</u>

EXPERIENCED RELIEF VETERINARIAN - small animals and exotics (also available for wildlife, zoo and aquarium relief) for work in Manhattan and possibly surrounding boroughs. Licensed (including DEA and USDA) in NY, PA, NJ, FL and CA. Please send inquiry via e-mail to: Donald W. Stremme, VMD at <u>CCACDWS@aol.com</u>

EXPERIENCED VETERINARIAN AVAILABLE for relief work including surgery. Please call Shirley Koshi 212-288-9088 or Email: <u>kitydogdoc@gmail.com</u>

RELIEF/PER-DIEM VETERINARIAN: experienced, capable, personable. Dan Grayson, DVM. 917-755-1615.

FULL OR PART-TIME Dr. Eduarda Krieger. NY Licensed. Seeks work at small animal practice in NYC. Phone: 917-239-3377.

VETERINARIAN AVAILABLE for permanent Per Diem any weekday except Friday. Experienced LI vet with strong medical, surgical and people skills seeks position in Queens 2-4 days per month. Call Dr. K. at 516-374-5050.

PART TIME OR RELIEF VETERINARIAN AVAILABLE in NYC. Currently practicing in Westchester. Please contact me at drmartinvet@gmail.com

VETERINARIANS NEEDED

ANIMAL CARE AND CONTROL : Of NYC is seeking full-time, per-diem and on-call veterinarians to work in our Care Centers in Manhattan, Brooklyn and Staten Island. Join a team of dedicated and caring professionals who provide veterinary care for homeless and abandoned animals. You will work with a wide variety of species, medical conditions, emergency and public health issues. Volunteer opportunities are also available. Competitive Salary, full benefits. See www.nycacc.org for a full description. Send cover letter and CV to hr@nycacc.org or 212-442-2066. Call 212-442-2061 for more information.

WANTED: Part-time or per-diem vet with interest in preventive and shelter medicine needed for one or two days a week with Williamsburg, Brooklyn clinic. New York State license and prior experience required. Email resume to <u>feltonvet@verizon.net</u> or fax to 718-388-6968.

LOOK TO YOUR FUTURE: Join our modern, well equipped Brooklyn practice. We've been here 4 years and are looking to expand. We will be interviewing for energetic, smart graduates and experiences clinicians for part time work schedules. Compensation will be production based and is negotiable. Practice and live as you dreamed. We supply the facility and staff. You bring your energy and expertise. We can fulfill our goals of balanced work and family life in the great borough of Brooklyn. Contact Dr. Edward Osterman, Kings Bay Veterinary Hospital; 718-339-0557 or (c) 917-916-4012. **WANTED:** Full-time caring, compassionate and competent Veterinarian wanted for four-doctor progressive well-established practice in the Greater New York Area. State of the art modern equipment: full lab, digital radiology, and

ultrasound. Superior, qualified, well trained and friendly colleagues form our team. Flex time scheduling available. Two or more years experience preferred, but recent graduates will be considered. Email us at: <u>vetonclove@verizon.net</u>

HIRING HOME EUTHANASIA VETERINARIANS

Part-time veterinarians needed to provide private pet euthanasia in the comfort of home throughout entire greater NYC and Long Island areas (and nationwide). Earn \$2000/month for 10 home visits, \$4000/month for 20 home visits, \$8000/month for 40 home visits. Study <u>www.PetLossAtHome.com</u>. Email <u>DrKaren@PetLossAtHome.com</u>. Also **Pet Loss At Home** provides FREE INFO: sedation protocols, how to do quick & easy clay paw print impressions, home euthanasia techniques & signs of suffering handouts for clients. Simply request via email <u>DrKaren@PetLossAtHome.com</u>.

Want to place a classified ad? Please send your submissions to <u>info@vmanyc.org</u>. Submissions will only be accepted from NYC VMA members. Be sure to provide a brief description of the posting and appropriate contact information.

RELIEF VETERINARIAN Banfield Pet Hospital is currently hiring for a relief veterinarian to help cover several of our Long Island hospitals. We are looking at all availability but prefer a candidate available for a mix of weekend and weekday shifts. Compensation will be dependent upon experience. We see a diverse caseload and focus on teamwork, compassionate pet care, and thorough client education. To inquiry, please e-mail Zakrey Coon at <u>Zakrey.coon@banfield.net</u> or by calling 1-503-922-5444.

ASSOCIATE VETERINARIAN Banfield Pet Hospital is currently hiring an Associate Veterinarian in Pelham, NY! We have a thriving practice with growth possibility both in income and leadership potential. Join a team committed to practicing the highest quality preventative medicine with modern equipment and diagnostics, and committed, well trained paraprofessional staff. We see a diverse caseload and focus on preventative care, teamwork and long lasting relationships. Banfield offers medical, dental vision, prescription drug, life insurance, 401K, CE allowance, paid days off and several more benefits. To inquiry further, call **Zakrey Coon at 1-503-922-5444** or e-mail <u>Zakrey.coon@banfield.net</u>.

LVT DESIRED

LVT needed in SW Nassau County, 5 miles east of Kennedy Airport. 2 Dr. practice. FT weekdays 11-7. Strong dental and surgical skills a plus. Fax resume to Abby 516-374-6817.

One year old Veterinary Practice for sale. Good for a retiree or a new graduate. High potential – very reasonable.

FOR SALE

Please contact Kay at 917-751-1906

Shoreline Stainless Steel Cages—all sizes, 40 total available. Call Kay at 718-592-2022 or 917-751-1906.

VARIOUS POSITIONS AVAILABLE

ANIMAL CARE & CONTROL OF NYC (AC&C) has many new and exciting job openings available at this time. If you love working with animals and helping people they may have a great career opportunity for you. Some of the positions that are available are Communications Associate, Volunteer Liaison, Veterinarian, Licensed Vet Tech, Animal Care Officer, and Animal Control Officer. If you are interested in learning more about the available positions or want to apply, please visit their website at <u>www.nycacc.org</u>.

ZOETIS Diagnostic Technical Service Manager— F/T Marketing & Sales/Commercial Business in New Jersey. With minimal guidance take an aggressive and impactful role to provide both sales and US Dx operations personnel with support to drive the revenues of the Diagnostic and Reproductive Services portfolio and provide superior customer, medical and scientific support so that Zoetis may achieve a sustainable competitive advantage. Actively serve as a medical and scientific advisor to operations personnel on matters related to veterinary medicine. Enhance scientific/ professional image of Zoetis. Effectively manage Zoetis resources (finances, projects) to achieve the above. Apply: http://www.zoetis.com/careers/jobsearch/diagnostic-technical-service-manager.

NYC Mayor Bill de Blasio, left, winces as Staten Island Chuck breaks free and drops to the stage during the 2014 Groundhog Day ceremony at the Staten Island Zoo. Staten Island's furry prognosticator, Charles G. Hogg, called for six more weeks of cold winter weather.

Sunday February 2, 2014. (Staten Island Advance/ Anthony DePrimo)



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