



S.A.V.E. NOTES

News from the Science Alliance for Valuing the Environment

VOLUME 35, ISSUE 4

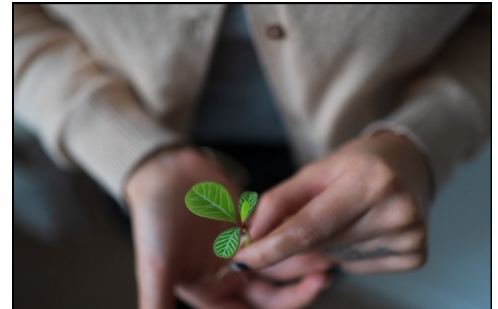
OCTOBER, 2023

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Another Culprit	2
Congratulations Father Tony!	2
Financial Update	2
In Loving Memory	3
Water Footprint	4
Drinking Water	4
An Outward Journey	5
A Message to All Cat Lovers	5
Zero Waste Lunch	6
Membership	7
Scholarship Info	7
Poetry Corner	7
Honey Update	7
World Religions	8
	9
Lecture Review	10
	11
Member Application	12
Corporate Sponsors	13
Calendar	14

How Important Are Humans to Planet Earth?

As we leave the month of celebrating the Feast of St. Francis, we are fully reminded that his message goes beyond his pictures and statues of him in birdbaths or lawn decorations. Most religious groups hold his appreciation and fascination with the entire created world. We are all connected by a deep web that dwells in the depths of each of us and connects us to one another. The experience of the profound oneness in nature and



form is what is known as the Sacred Earth Community, which can only be understood by us. We humans are the noblest of creatures, thus far, in evolutionary time. We don't know what the future holds but we do know the **past**, we are living the **present** and we hope to **persevere** as we forge the path into the future. Looking back, scientific evidence shows us that there were various forms of humans living on this Earth at a period of time and their origin was from Central Africa. Science is revealing all of this to us now. One of these humans, known as the Neanderthals, then migrated to Eastern Europe and other places on the planet. Perhaps some of you have had your DNA studied by Ancestry.com or elsewhere only to discover that you have 1-2% Neanderthal genes in your genetic profile. Early humans intermingled and our genes are revealing many things about our past – and there is still so much information yet unfolding. Present day humans have come to see that we have a consciousness, but so do all the other living things. However, we have a consciousness that knows we are conscious and no other living creature has this gift. We bear a tremendous responsibility because we have a consciousness as to how we view the world. It contains our values, our beliefs, our worldviews, which develop all our lives and are shared with others creating a group consciousness. We can choose to expand our understanding and protect increased diversity and compassion, or we can literally destroy Earth and all its inhabitants including ourselves. “The well-being of humans is directly related to the well-being of Earth and vice versa” – a sobering thought for sure!

In *AAA TRAVELER – WORLDWISE*, I read a quote that resonated with the deepest part of me. It combines thoughts from *Vital Impact*, a non-profit group founded by a National Geographic photographer, Ami Vitale and journalist Eileen Mignon.

“Our message is simple.” Vitale says, “Never before has it been so clear that our fates are inextricably linked to those around us. This is the moment to reimagine our relationship with nature and each other. We need to do all we can to care for the plants and critters that inhabit the earth. Our future happiness depends on them.” -Theresa-Gawlas Medoff.

In short, **the choice is ours.**

Sr. Rosine Sobczak OSF
President, S.A.V.E.

Another Culprit Arrives in the USA

The Spotted Lantern Fly is approximately one inch long with a black body and colorful spotted wings. First detected in Pennsylvania in 2014, the insect is presumed to be from Asia and they are moving through Ohio at a rapid rate. The Lantern Fly is a pest of grapes, hops and apples, in addition to many other plants, and causes \$6 billion dollars in damages in Ohio every year. If you think you may have spotted a lantern fly in your area, please report it to ODA by filing out The Ohio Plant Pest Report at:



<https://survey123.arcgis.com/share/1b36dd2cf09e4be0a79776a6104ce1dc>
[d2cf09e4be0a79776a6104ce1dc](https://survey123.arcgis.com/share/1b36dd2cf09e4be0a79776a6104ce1dc)

S.A.V.E. was established in August 1990 by a group of concerned citizens who wanted to make a difference and promote a love and appreciation for our natural world. It is a non-profit 501(c) (3) organization.

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Linda Penn (deceased)

Congratulations, Father Tony!

On Saturday September 23, 2023, Father Tony was honored by the Sisters of St. Francis during the Sylvania Franciscan GALA held at the Franciscan Center. The celebration began with a Mass in Queen of Peace Chapel and then flowed over to the Franciscan Center for Awards and dinner. Father Tony was nominated for the St. Clare Award for his years of work in social justice and multifaith collaboratives, areas close to the mission of the Sisters. We honor him, too, because he has been a long-time active member of the SAVE Mission. Father Tony comes to almost every lecture, attends the Awards Nights and helps with the honey sales. Father Tony, we are so proud of you and grateful for your support!



(Photo: Sister Nancy Linenkugel, OSF, Congregational Minister with Gala awardees, Larry Drozdowicz, Father Tony Gallagher and Matt Grinshaw. Photo by Laurie Bertke.)

Financial Report - Fiscal Year End 2023

Receipts were less than Expenses by \$117 for the entire year. Therefore, SAVE account balances decreased slightly. Sautter's Food Centers joined as a new corporate member. All categories of revenue and expense tracked close to the budget amounts set for the year.

David Sobczak, Treasurer

In Loving Memory...

By Susan Perzynski

Valerie Obloza, a dear member of S.A.V.E. and resident of Convent Park Apartments in Sylvania, passed away on August 22. Valerie loved her family, home and Polish heritage. As a lifelong member of St. Adalbert Parish, she served in several parish organizations. Valerie was a long-time resident of Toledo's Polish Village and a founding member and treasurer of the Lagrange Development Corporation's Village Council. After retiring from DuPont, she was a member of the Eleanor Kahle Senior Center.

Our sympathy to her daughters, Michalene (William) Collins and Janina Douglas, as well as her extended family, friends and neighbors.



VALERIE OBLOZA 1928 - 2023

Spiritual Practice of the Day

When you walk on the Earth, imagine that this is the skin of a being . Imagine the flow of water in streams and rivers as the blood of this being. Imagine the air you breathe as her breath.

-Will Brinton in *Love and the World* by Robert Sardello

To Practice This Thought:

Honor the Earth by doing something to keep this living being alive.
SpiritualityandPractice.com



“Look at your feet. You are standing in the sky. When we think of the sky, we tend to look up, but the sky actually begins at the earth.”

- Diane Ackerman

Find Your Water Footprint

We must protect our most valuable resource—water.

So how much water annually do you use?

Calculate your water footprint.

www.waterfootprint.com

Use the Personal Water Footprint calculator first,

Then use the more detailed one if you wish to learn more.

*Reflections & Connections,
Sisters of St. Agnes, May 2018*



*“Hope is not a resting place but a starting point—
a cactus not a cushion.”*

- H. Jackson Brown, Jr.

Just water? There is no such thing.

How many times do we go to a faucet for water and never give it a second thought?



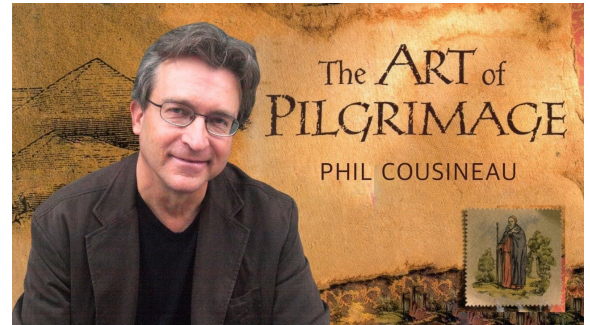
Or how many times do we go to a restaurant and when asked what beverage we would like to start off with, we say, “Just water.” It just doesn’t seem quite fair to say: “Just water.” Water is an extremely necessary requirement for all levels of life. Yet, our water is slowly being filled with many kinds of toxic chemicals. On the other hand, pure water is precious to all life and needs to be respected. When you are asked, “What would you like to drink?” Say, “I would like precious water.” Then make sure you drink it all after your meal! This is one way you are saving the environment! (Just think about it!)

By Sister Rosine Sobczak

Pilgrimage — An Outward Journey to Inner Healing

Phil Cousineau's S.A.V.E. lecture of September 12, 2023, was a powerful experience. *The Art of Pilgrimage: Making Travel Sacred and Sustainable* addressed not only the physical journey, but the inward journey and its outward, cosmic implications.

Phil's childhood years in Detroit set the stage for his later journeying. Family practices, like reading books aloud together and traveling to experience sites they read about first-hand, influenced his later years. As Detroit descended into darkness during the 60's, travel became a search for the cult of life, a search for the soul of the world.



A few of the lessons learned along the way included:

- Pilgrimage grew from ancient rituals and other spiritually transformative journeys.
- Today, fewer people are going to church, but more people are searching out contemplative centers as a quest for meaning.
- Pilgrimages became popular in the medieval times, during the Black Death, searching for healing in spiritual centers.
- Pilgrimage is a “sacred journey you can’t afford not to take.”
- The pilgrim finds and creates beauty. The pilgrim walks in wonder, as an activist, as an artist.
- Pilgrimage is a search for an epiphany; people want experience, not theory.
- While pilgrimage is a sacred space, a sacred time, one can find a portal anywhere, opening to the truth of place. We need to pay attention so the portals open to us.
- Pilgrimage is a time of blessing. “You end up dancing the beauty of the world.”

The lecture ended, literally taking us back home, with a call to remember that this is our home. Are we, or are we not, taking care of our home – family, neighborhood, world, universe?

These are just a few of the enticing tidbits, honed over a lifetime, shared with us that evening. Take some time for yourself to watch the presentation on S.A.V.E.'s website, www.sciencealliancesave.org, on the events page.

By Sister Sharon Havelak



Vegan Catnip Soup

Adapted from a recipe by Simply Pets

One serving. Serve warm or cold.
 ¼ cup oat or almond milk
 ¼ cup dry vegan cat food
 1 tsp. catnip

Directions:

Warm the non-dairy milk in the microwave or on the stove if a warm soup is desired.

Put the vegan cat food in a bowl and pour the nondairy milk over it. Mix.

Sprinkle with the catnip, mix again and serve.

Zero Waste Luncheon 2023



On Thursday, October 5, 2023, Sisters, University Administration, faculty and staff, students, campus personnel, SAVE members, Mayor Craig Stough and other invited guests gathered at the Franciscan Center for the 11th Annual Zero Waste Lunch. Highlights included:

- Greetings by Sr. Nancy Linenkugel OSF, Congregational Minister of the Sisters of St. Francis, and Dr. William Bisset, President of Lourdes University.
- Lourdes University announced its commitment to becoming a *Laudato Si'* University during the feast.

"Lourdes University is answering Pope Francis' call with enthusiasm and purpose. By embracing the *Laudato Si'* Action Platform, we are enriching our environmental programs and strengthening our resolve to be responsible stewards of our planet and advocates for the marginalized," said Dr. Bisset.



- On the menu—A delicious Mexican feast prepared by El Tipico.
- Special guests included third graders from St. Joseph School who are working on a bee-autiful eco-art exhibit that was on display at the Franciscan Center.
- An Eco-art installation, created by Art Curator Christine Deemer with the help of Lourdes instructor Patrick DuBreuil, MFA, was on display in the front of the Franciscan Center. The display used recycled bottles to make flowers and bees, and showcased how much plastic litter we generate every day!
- Master beekeeper Tony Siebeneck demonstrated honey extraction from frames in our new bee boxes (installed on campus this past May.) Honey was tasted by all who wanted a spoonful and hesitant attendees tasted the honey after others kept saying, "This is good!" This 100% pure honey will be sold in the All Good Things Gift Shop on the campus for \$11 per pound. Come in and buy a bottle for your household or give as Christmas gifts. S.A.V.E. benefits with each bottle sold.
- Sr. Sharon Havelak, SAVE Corresponding Secretary, gave an inspirational closing prayer the all went back to work or studies.

Co-written by Elizabeth Reiter

Membership Renewals

S.A.V.E. is proud to have 100 members now!

Our new fiscal year began Sept. 1. Thanks to all who continue to renew! These dues support S.A.V.E.'s free lecture series and environmental programs and scholarships. Thank you for your support!

JOIN S.A.V.E. TODAY!

^z Members receive a quarterly newsletter, fliers for upcoming lectures and events, announcements concerning local opportunities, scholarship opportunities and more. Fill out the application on page 12 or [submit your application online today!](#)

NEW MEMBER!

Eileen Kerner

**COLLEGE
SCHOLARSHIPS**

Scholarship Application Available on Lourdes University Website

S.A.V.E. will begin accepting applications for the 2024 S.A.V.E. Scholarships on February 9, 2024. We hope that this increased visibility on the Lourdes website will increase the volume of applicants. Anyone is eligible, regardless of the college/university they are planning to attend. More at: www.sciencealliancesave.org.

Poetry Corner

When the animals come to us,
asking for our help,
will we know what they
are saying?

When the plants speak to us in their
delicate, beautiful language,
will we be able to answer them?

When the planet herself
Sings to us in our dreams, will
we be able to wake ourselves and act?

Gary Lawless

Poem is available in All Good Things Gift Shop
(Entry #11433)

Submitted by Sister Sharon Havelak

Honey & Maple Syrup Update

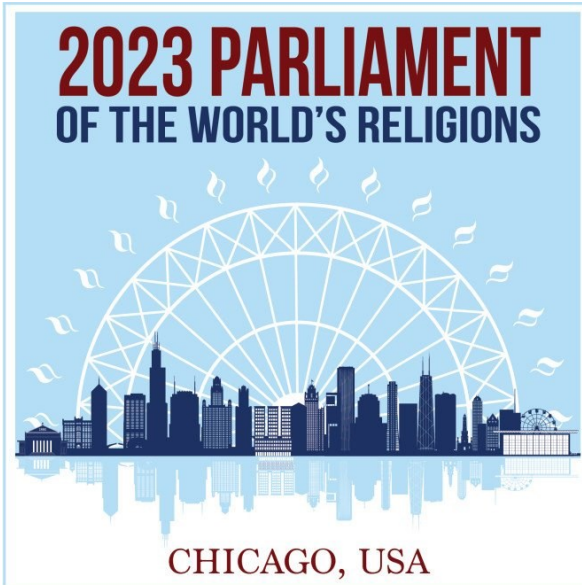
Except for minor sales at lectures, most sales occur through All Good Things Gift Shop on Lourdes campus. Actual sales exceeded \$2,100 for the year. S.A.V.E. thanks all who purchased products to help our mission.

David Sobczak, Treasurer



Parliament of World Religions – Chicago

By John Krochmalny



The August 14-18 conference was attended by over 8,000 persons representing virtually all the world's great and indigenous religious leaders, lay persons, and related world organizations. Attending this conference from the Toledo Northwest Ohio Area included Judy Trautman, Joe Zielenski, Jennifer Vasquez of the MultiFaith Council of NWOHio, Barb and John Krochmalny. The theme of this event was *"A Call to Conscience: Defending Freedom & Human Rights"* and was the focus of all the featured keynote speakers. John Krochmalny had formally represented the Sylvania Baha'i Community, MultiFaith Council of NWOHio, and Science Alliance-S.A.V.E. in delivering *"The Role Communities of Faith Play in Creating Just & Sustainable Societies"* in the conference breakout session.

Each of the keynote speakers stated the urgent need on the mutual theme: 'Our common religious values and principles must translate into local action for making our communities, regions, and nations better.' The over 150 conference breakout presenters and presentations featured a wide range of topics covering how particular communities of faith and their leadership addresses issues such as Women's Rights, Social Justice, and Climate Change. Many presentations featured what their communities and programs are doing to foster dialog among their diverse clients to bring about understanding and respect. It seems that many of the organizations presented were operating in their own "silos" and not utilizing potential partnerships for collaborative efforts. Comparing what other localities are doing, the NWOHio Area is 20 to 25 years ahead of other localities in utilizing our diverse community membership in being active agent of positive change utilizing their religious community's diverse and shared values.

Notable people addressing the conference included Rev. Jessie Jackson, Steve Sarowitz, founder of Paylocity and Wayfarer and United Nations Secretary General António Guterres. Each of the keynote speakers stated the urgent need on the mutual theme: 'Our common religious values and principles must translate into local action for making our communities, regions, and nations better.'



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(World Religions Conference, Continued)

John Krochmalny had proposed and was accepted to present *“The Role Communities of Faith Play in Creating Just & Sustainable Societies.”* This presentation featured not only an historical account on how communities of faith provided for the wellbeing and advancement of their locality but also a Toledo-local account on how members of communities of faith continue in providing positive change and transformation of their local society. For over 25 years, The Toledo and Lucas County areas have successfully utilized peoples of faith to work together under their Shared Values to assist in the addressing of local challenges and opportunities such as in areas of Poverty Eradication, advancing local economy, education / vocational skills training, and local environmental health. Featured in the presentation were examples of accomplishments; Science Alliance-S.A.V.E. in their partnerships with Toledo Metropolitan Area Council of Governments for improving water quality, Multi-Faith Council of NWOHio in their partnerships in bringing recognition of Toledo and Lucas County to be a Community of Compassion declared by Karen Armstrong’s Charter for Compassion, and Park Church UCC / Sylvania Baha’i Community with their partnerships with the Toledo Repair Café.



In his presentation, wealth, wellbeing, and associated values were redefined, referencing texts from the World’s Great Religions. The case study of Modern Western Civilization was used to showcase constructive progress happening when religious values are integrated in programs and development. This presentation also covered facts on how, in NWOHio, Christians, Jews, Muslims, Baha’is and other members of the area’s faith communities have accomplished significant advances in societal wellbeing utilizing partnerships involving governmental and non-governmental organizations for our area’s citizens. Featured in this presentation was how these accomplishments and future planning fit into the United Nations 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG’s).



2023-2024 FREE Public Lecture Series

NO REGISTRATION REQUIRED • IN-PERSON AND ZOOM

LIVING OUT LAUDATO SI:

Teaching Sustainable Practices at Bethlehem Farm

UN Sustainability Goal #11: SUSTAINABLE CITIES & COMMUNITIES

Tuesday, November 14, 2023 • 7:30 - 9:00 PM

Franciscan Center Conference Room A and B

Eric Fitts lives in Clayton, WV, with his wife Colleen, and three children. Eric and Colleen are part of the founding group of Bethlehem Farm, where Eric has served as Director since 2007. Bethlehem Farm is a Catholic community in Appalachia that transforms lives through serving with the local community and teaching sustainable practices. Eric & Colleen live in community with fellow caretakers and invite volunteers from across the country to join them in living the Gospel cornerstones of prayer, community, simplicity, and service. Eric also serves on the board of Nazareth Farm, Bethlehem's sister farm, and Sprouting Farms, a nonprofit that combines education, resource sharing, land access, and food production models to support new and beginning farmers, jump-start local wholesale market channels, and help nurture the local farming community. Bethlehem Farm is a member of the Catholic Committee of Appalachia, Coalition for Home Repair, Catholic Volunteer Network, WV Nonprofit Association, and Pennsylvania Association of Sustainable Agriculture. Eric's other passions include raising barefoot children, working in the garden, running, hiking and stargazing.

<https://lourdes.zoom.us/j/4917506213>

Meeting ID: 491 750 6213 Dial by your location: +1 305 224 1968 US

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www.sciencealliancesave.org



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Eric Fitts

*BS in Biology, Loyola University Chicago;
West Masters in Public Administration, with certificate in Nonprofit Management, Virginia U*

For more information, contact:

Sr. Rosine Sobczak, OSF
419-824-3691

or
save@lourdes.edu

Commemorative Donations Memorials and Tributes

Celebrate someone's special occasion in Tribute or Memory of a person or loved one by protecting the environment in their name.

A contribution to S.A.V.E. will honor them and will assist us to continue educating others to care and appreciate the environment on our beautiful planet, Earth.

🌿 Donate online through PayPal listing this as a Tribute or Memorial.

OR

🌿 Send your information and donation to:
S.A.V. E. Inc.
Sr. Rosine Sobczak, OSF
6832 Convent Blvd.
Sylvania, OH 43560



🌿 Call 419-824-3691 with questions.

🌿 A response card will be sent to you and to any person designated as the recipient.

“Many things have to change course, but it is we human beings above all who need to change. We lack an awareness of our common origin, of our mutual belonging, and of a future to be shared with everyone. This basic awareness would enable the development of new convictions, attitudes and forms of life. A great cultural, spiritual and educational challenge stands before us, and it will demand that we set out on the long path of renewal.”

Pope Francis, Laudato Si, Chapter 6



S.A.V.E. Membership Application

Begins September 1 and ends August 31

Please complete and send the membership form and dues to:

S.A.V.E. Inc.

6832 Convent Blvd. • Sylvania, OH 43560

PayPal can also be used for S.A.V.E. dues.

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ M.I.: _____

Affiliation: _____ Position: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: (business) _____ (home) _____ (cell) _____

Email: _____ Fax: _____

MEMBERSHIP: New Renewal

TYPES OF MEMBERSHIP:

Annual Dues

- | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> Student Member \$10 | <input type="radio"/> Corporate Member.....\$100 |
| <input type="radio"/> Senior Member \$10 | <i>Please send a camera ready logo or a business card to include in our newsletter.</i> |
| <input type="radio"/> Active/Supporting Member \$20 | <input type="radio"/> Sustaining Member.....\$200 |
| <input type="radio"/> Family Membership \$30 | |

All members will receive the quarterly newsletter.

I would like to help in one of the following area(s):

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> Membership | <input type="radio"/> Newsletter | <input type="radio"/> Award Reception & |
| <input type="radio"/> Fundraising | <input type="radio"/> Lecture Series | Dessert Buffet |
| <input type="radio"/> Phone Committee | | <input type="radio"/> Board Member |

Please accept my monetary donation of: \$ _____

In Memory/Honor of _____

Send Response card to: _____

THANK YOU TO OUR S.A.V.E. SPONSORS

Please support our generous sponsors and let them know you saw them in the S.A.V.E. newsletter!
Interested in becoming a sponsor of S.A.V.E.? Contact SAVE@lourdes.edu or 419-824-3691.



**Want to see your
business here?**

*Learn more about
corporate sponsorship
on our website or
contact
SAVE@lourdes.edu
or 419-824-3691.*





S.A.V.E. Inc.
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Sylvania, OH 43560

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Fax: 419-824-3526
E-mail: SAVE@lourdes.edu

**An Educational Consortium for
Environmental Sustainability**

VISION STATEMENT

S.A.V.E. is a catalyst for individual and community action for sustainability.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Science Alliance for Valuing the Environment (S.A.V.E.) fosters a personal awareness and respect for the interrelatedness of ecology, spirituality and sustainability. S.A.V.E. creates formal and informal life-long learning opportunities in collaboration with organizations at all levels — local, national and global. S.A.V.E.'s activities are designed to empower individuals to values-based action for a just and sustainable world.

FIND US ON THE WEB

www.ScienceAllianceSAVE.org



www.facebook.com/SAVEScienceAlliance

S.A.V.E. CALENDAR

S.A.V.E. Lecture Dates 2023-2024

September 12, 2023
November 14, 2023
January 16, 2024
March 12, 2024
April 9, 2024

[Follow S.A.V.E. on Facebook](#) or

Find events at www.sciencealliancesave.org.

May 14, 2024

S.A.V.E. 32 nd. Annual Awards
Night (hybrid event)

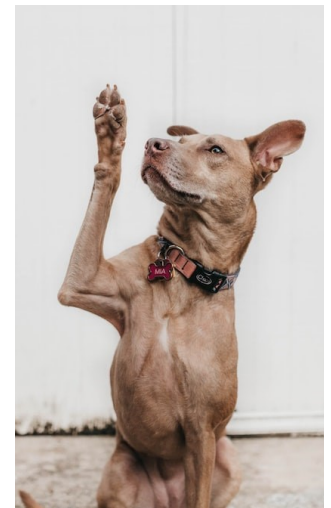
Reception — 6:00 p.m.

6:30 p.m. Presentation of the
Awards

8:30 p.m. Closing

Did you know?

Bacon may smell great to a human nose, but imagine how it must smell to dogs. They have about 50 times more olfactory receptors than we do, helping make their sense of smell up to 100,000 times stronger. They can also hear it sizzling from four times farther away.



We might end up enjoying it more, though: Not only does bacon probably look greener and blurrier through dogs' eyes, but they have one-sixth our number of taste buds.

