

*Family, Friends, Clients, & Colleagues,*

*Happy Spring! The trees & flowers are blooming, and the sun is warming our part of the planet. I hope you are enjoying some time in nature. It's been quite some time since we've connected in this way, and I'm realizing how much it has been missed. On with some news...*

*KCCC School of Massage Therapy's 2012 classes begin next month and we are excitedly preparing for our newest group of students, and starting to think about graduation for the current group. We are also pleased to host Timberlake Seminars for five months of continuing education, beginning in April. If you, or someone you know, are interested in somehow getting involved with the KCCC program, or offering CEUs in Knox County, I would love to hear about it. Call 740.393.2933 or email [dfisher1@knoxcc.org](mailto:dfisher1@knoxcc.org).*



*There are many changes happening in massage therapy right now, and the State Medical Board of Ohio moving away from administering "the test" is one of them. They have adopted the MBLEx, but are currently facing some opposition from NCBTMB. If you're interested in joining the conversation visit <http://dianefisherlmt.wordpress.com/2012/03/18/for-ohio-licensed-massage-therapists/>*

*For clients, this year I will be taking a number of workshops, including a series of classes in Somatic Release in Clinical Massage, and look forward to bringing this additional knowledge into the treatment room. The first weekend is all about neck & postural shoulder issues and should prove helpful for many, including myself!*



*Almost one year ago I became an ordained minister and licensed to perform weddings in Ohio. Interestingly enough, I was blessed to be asked about presiding at two funerals before my first wedding. This year, I am honored to be uniting two dear friends and ask that you hold them in your hearts as they make this journey together.*

**Paying it forward...** I have always given back, volunteered or contributed to something I believed in. These are organizations that have had particularly my heart the last few years.

*March is Reading Awareness Month and even though it's almost over, it's never too late to talk about the importance of reading. More than half of the children in this country – 13 million – will not hear a bedtime story tonight. Honoring the importance of education and reading, one of my favorite organizations is **Read Aloud.org** ~ Get involved. You can do it~  
**15 Minutes. Every child. Every parent. Every day.***

Founded in 2008, ReadAloud.org is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization that works to ignite a passion for reading aloud in families nationwide. Through reading aloud together, families can build literacy skills, reinforce knowledge-based learning, and enhance communication across generations. In other words, we believe that families that read aloud together will be stronger, smarter and more successful — so we want more families to read aloud together every day.

*This is the 14<sup>th</sup> year for the Good Neighbor's Picnic and my 4<sup>th</sup> year of involvement. It's a day of fun and connecting with my neighbors in a different way. This picnic is for the homeless in central Ohio. There is food, entertainment for kids & adults, clothing & books available, not to mention family portraits and a visit from Santa. This year, in addition to providing massage I have agreed to help with marketing and outreach. We are seeking businesses, individuals, and members of social outreach organizations who are interested in getting involved and/spreading the word. Visit [www.goodneighborspicnic.org](http://www.goodneighborspicnic.org) for more info.*



Good Neighbors of Central Ohio is a 501(c) (3) charitable and educational organization whose purpose is:

- Provide a day of celebration to our often forgotten members of our community, those without homes;
- Dispel myths concerning homelessness and hunger in our community;
- Provide an opportunity for our diverse community to work side by side as partners with a common interest ergo building bridges of understanding between them which begins steps toward the reduction of bias and prejudice between people;
- Provide a compassionate framework founded on mutual respect as a positive role model for highly effective leadership with kindness, acceptance and integrity

*Another favorite of mine is Camp Mary Orton. If you don't know about this hidden gem just north of the city, do yourself a favor and check out this great place for indoor or outdoor events & gatherings. Family fun, classroom & corporate team building, as well as programs for youth & adults are just a few of the reasons you want to know about Camp Mary Orton. If you want to donate you can visit <http://donate.campmaryorton.org/diane-fisher/>*

We have been serving children and families for 100 years! Camp Mary Orton now exists to serve children, families, schools, churches and corporate groups. We are nicely situated on 167 wooded acres in the city of Columbus.

Within our green space we have a rustic lodge that seats 250 people, pavilions scattered across the property for gathering and activities and programs, indoor and outdoor high ropes courses and many adventure activities.



*In the garden right now there are crocuses, daffodils and hyacinths blooming. Tops on the list of gardening things to manage this year: peach stealing squirrels. Last year they got every single one! That just can't happen again. If you have any ideas, please share.*

***So tell me, what's been going on in your world? ~diane***

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