

Warped

By Scott McCullar



89 conventioners struck by possible food poisoning

United Press International
INDIANAPOLIS — Eighty-nine people have been rushed to five area hospitals, apparently suffering from food poisoning from a convention luncheon at the Sheraton West Hotel. All but one were treated and released. The victims were among a group of about 275 people from Indiana, Ohio and Illinois attending a sales meeting of Tri-Chem Corp., of Harrison, N.J.,

which makes "liquid embroidery" craft kits. The only person admitted to a hospital was Maryknell Kocher, 46, Algonquin, Ill. She complained of chest pains and was placed in the Methodist Hospital cardiac unit, hospital officials said. The conventioners became ill at a sales rally about 30 minutes after eating a lunch of baked chicken, green beans,

mashed potatoes, tossed salad and chocolate mousse, with officials. Many victims complained chicken smelled or tasted according to various emergency officials. "Personally, I do not believe to be food poisoning," Anton J. Piringer, the hospital's general manager. "Our 150 employees ate the same food, none of our employees are

Vet says hot cars hurt pets

United Press International
NEW CITY, N.Y. — A parked car is a dangerous place for pets — and newer cars can even create more heat stroke problems than older ones — says the president-elect of the American Animal Hospital Association.

Dr. John B. McCarthy, of New City, says manually operated floor vents that allow outside air to enter usually are eliminated in factory air-conditioned vehicles. In addition, many windows in newer cars cannot be opened.

Car temperatures are affected by more than the sun, McCarthy says. Heat from pavement and streets and catalytic converters and other parts of a car's exhaust system can contribute to interior temperatures, he adds.

Even when the outdoor temperature is only 70 to 75 degrees, that inside a parked car can rise above 100, McCarthy says. When the heat combines with high humidity and poor ventilation, the results can be disastrous for pets, he adds.

The veterinarian says signs of heat stroke include restless pacing, trembling and twitching; panting, an increased pulse rate and an anxious or staring expression; and frantic pawing or scratching at windows or doors if confined in a vehicle.

Frothing at the mouth is not uncommon. Gums may become pale and blueish and vomiting may occur, followed by convulsions, stupor or coma.

Chest pains on planes explained

United Press International
NEW YORK — An airline passenger who suddenly suffers chest pains, faintness, and rapid breathing — the classic signs of a heart attack — may be experiencing hyperventilation rather than a heart attack, according to the American Medical Association's Commission on Emergency Medical Services.

In fact, hyperventilation is the most common ailment to beset airline passengers, says the commission in a report quoted in the July edition of American Health Magazine.

Doctors, nurses or paramedics aboard are advised in the article to treat such patients by placing a disconnected oxygen mask over mouth and nostrils. In rebreathing their own exhalation, sufferers will be inhaling carbon dioxide and normal respiration should be restored within minutes.

If no medical personnel are aboard, the sufferer who recognizes the symptoms can treat himself by taking the plastic-lined motion sickness bag provided each passenger and breathing into it for about 5 minutes.

Chest pain caused by hyperventilation is relatively mild, while chest pain caused by a heart attack is crushing and often followed by pain in the left arm. Hyperventilation also causes a numbness around the mouth and sometimes spasms in fingers and toes.

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