
what's up doc?



by Dr. Mary Livers

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Hello, Everyone:

I know that every week I tell you how busy I've been running from meeting to meeting, but this week I feel like I've been running a marathon. When I say I've been running from one meeting to another, all over the state no less, I'm telling you I need a new pair of shoes because mine are smokin'. I wish I could say it was from honest exercise, but no...it's meetings. I've been all over the state this week – Leesville, Shreveport, Monroe, Rayville Denham Springs and Baton Rouge, Baton Rouge. All those meetings in all those towns over two days, no less.

It was actually a good week to be out of central office. They tell me it was quiet as a tomb around here, so many staff were at home under the weather. No, it wasn't too much Mardi Gras partying.... there's a particularly nasty upper respiratory bug going around, and it puts its victims down and can linger for weeks. So, be careful who you get close to. If they are coughing and hacking and generally feeling awful, keep your distance. You do not want to catch this.

I hope you all had a great Mardi Gras holiday. The weather was beautiful, after a really gloomy weekend, so I hope you were all able to get out and enjoy the parades or other regional festivities, or just a wonderful day at home. If anyone out there celebrated a Cajun Mardi Gras, please send me some information about the experience. Especially the Courir du Mardi Gras – one day I just may make that horseback ride myself!

Well, Lent is here, and as you know, it's a season, not something on your coat. I haven't been around this week to hear what people are doing without, but I can tell you, it's not candy. I think we have a bunch of stress eaters around here. I have a candy dish in my office and it's been dwindling quite a bit more than usual. In fact, when I'm gone I think they hit it more than usual.

Lent is not a loan, as in borrowing something from someone, but when I think about it, Lent could be payback season. Along with spring and Lent comes our crazy weather. Louisiana – the only state with four seasons in one day. Stay warm and dry this weekend – it's predicted to be in the 30s again tomorrow.

By the way, I have been moving around the state recently, but I haven't asked anyone about the mission lately. Better make sure you know it – and how you fit in and help to meet it – because I will be making field visits again soon and I will be asking.

My thanks to each of you in every OJJ office and facility, for all you do every day to meet the mission. I know that you know it, because you live it every day.

Sincerely,
"Doc"

Dr. Mary Livers

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