

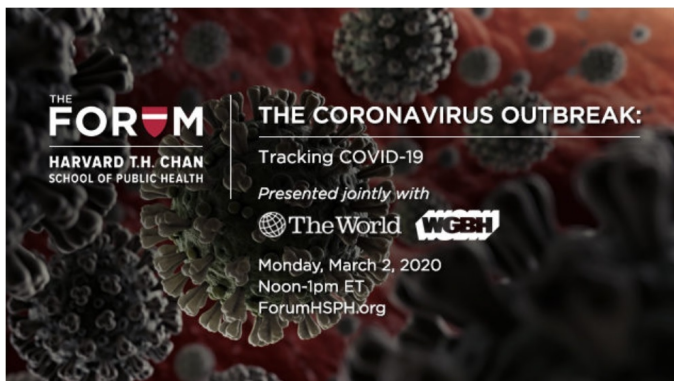
The Road Report & More

Health, Science, & Climate Action

Dr. Shahir Mastri

Happy Late V-Day!

I hope everyone had a great February and a lovely Valentine's Day this past month. If you love to garden, then you might appreciate my silly green heart made of hand-picked kale to the right. Kitchen creativity at its best! I want to remind everyone that I write this newsletter to help inform and inspire people about issues related to the environment and health. So, if you have any stories or news updates from your local community that you think might be of benefit for others to hear or learn about, don't hesitate to reach out to me by replying to this newsletter. Next month I look forward to sharing a brief news update about community choice energy here in southern California, which was written by a local community member who reads this newsletter. Be sure to tune in!



Outbreak Update - Live Tomorrow!

As the coronavirus heats up, it's increasingly important for us all to remain informed and follow useful news sources.

Thus, I wanted to share [this link](#) to the Harvard Forum, where a video interview and information session will be streamed, featuring experts from the Harvard School of Public Health. As a former student of the School, I've always found these forums to be very informative and useful, especially on hot news topics where the information is always changing. [Click here](#) to tune in tomorrow, March 2nd. And if you can't make it, tune in later for the video recording. I'd also like to share [this link](#), where Harvard is regularly updating information and providing sources relating to the latest news and information on the outbreak.

Record Temps in Antarctica

As you may or may not have heard, Antarctica just broke another high temperature record. Believe it or not, last month's temperatures over the frozen continent were as high as Los Angeles! After the heat record, the newspaper at Chapman University, where I teach, contacted me for an interview on the topic. Complete with other interviews by Columbia University's Maureen Raymo and Chapman University's Tom Piechota, the columnists for The Panther put together a great article discussing the implications of Antarctic warming. [Click here](#) to read their full article!



Climate Leadership Training - Join Us in OC!

Due to concern over the new corona virus, I'm sad to report that next weekend's Climate Reality Leadership Training Conference in Las Vegas is officially canceled. It was a major climate leadership program scheduled to bring in over 1,500 people from around the country to learn how to deliver an effective climate change presentation crafted by Al Gore. Fortunately, thanks to the vision of one local Climate Reality leader here in Orange County (OC), all

will not be lost. Though it's last minute, a one-day leadership training is being

organized in central OC that will take place next Sunday (March 8th) from 10AM to 3PM. Excitingly, I've been invited to speak about climate misconceptions and effective climate communication. Though it'll be a far cry from the multi-day event led by Al Gore, we nonetheless expect this to be a valuable training day for motivated climate leaders. So, if you were planning to train in Las Vegas, and even if you weren't, come train with us here in OC! The exact location is TBA. Let me know if you're interested in attending, and I'll be happy to provide you with further details. See you next weekend!

Eco-Giveaway!

This week I'm teaming up with Holy City Straw Company, who will be selecting 2 winners to each receive 2 boxes of their eco-friendly wheat straws. These "earth straws" are great alternatives to single use plastic.

100% biodegradable
Zero-waste
Gluten-free



Unlike paper straws, wheat straws are hot- and cold-drink friendly and won't get soggy. Even better, unlike plant-based plastic straws, their wheat straws don't require an industrial grade composting facility. Rather, they can be tossed in your own backyard or personal compost and will return the nutrients back to Mother Earth. Truly a great product! For your chance to win 2 boxes, [click here](#) to find this same exact post on my Instagram, and simply follow the giveaway criteria that I've outlined in the post. It literally takes 1 minute! Two winners will be announced on Wednesday, March 4th. Good luck!

Cheers,
Dr. Shahir Masri

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