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www.itsnotwhoiam.com



SARA-ELIZABETH@ITSNOTWHOIAM.COM

It's Not Who I Am

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The Sara-Elizabeth Story

Chris Passudetti, the author of my book has given me an update that I wish to share with you here.

The draft of the book came back from the publisher, Scobri Press, and they said it looks like it's in pretty good shape. From here it is out Chris's hands all together for a number of months while the editors go to work on it. Chris is in the process now of putting together a list of what pictures he think the book needs, and then checking that against what he has already assembled. He should have this completed in about a week or so. Once that's done, he will let me know if he needs anything else.

The book itself is with the editors, the graphic designer is in

the beginning stages of designing a cover, and he should have the pictures sent to Scobri Press by late January or early February. The next time we see the book, the editors and graphic designer will have it all cleaned up and laid out with pictures and a cover and it will be ready for a last look before it heads to the printer.

That typically happens in July. So, that's where we are right now. Things are moving along well and Chris is glad to be moving into the next phase of this whole process.

Reminder, you can read a draft chapter from the book on my webpage on the [It Is Not Who I Am](#) tab. As soon as I hear more I will pass the news on to everyone.

Lights, Camera, ACTION

The acting bug is sweeping my Middle School. This is the first school play in years. The New Paltz Middle School is putting on the world renown "Annie Jr". I auditioned, and successfully acquired the part of Mrs. Pugh, the Head Maid of the Warbucks Household. I will also be an extra as an orphan and townsperson. We are currently in rehearsals and the play is to be held in February.

On another note, I am awaiting the try-outs for the 90 Miles off Broadway production of, "The Sound of Music". The auditions are being held in January & I am hoping of landing the part of either Louisa or Brigitta von Trapp. This show will open in May.

Disability Matters with Joyce Bender

I was contacted by Joyce Bender, host of the internet radio show, Disability Matters and asked to be a guest on her show December 30, 2008. Joyce Bender is the National Chair of the Epilepsy Foundation starting in May, 2009 and she has epilepsy and a hearing loss. She owns two companies, Bender Consulting Services, Inc. and Bender Consulting Services of Canada, Inc.

I, along with Joe Lamountain, were asked a series of questions from both Joyce Bender and a multitude of callers. A good portion of these people were the parents of some of the kids I went to

the Kids Speak Up Program with. Others, were subscribers to my monthly E-Newsletters, and even more were people I did not know, from all over the country.

Joe Lamountain talked about a petition he has started on facebook to help get more funding towards a cure for epilepsy. To sign it log onto epilepsypetition.com or visit my home page and follow the link from there. . Currently, thousands of people have already signed it.

Since there were so many people calling into the show, Joyce was only able to ask Joe and I a few questions. There were still many more people calling in. Therefore,

Joe Lamountain and I were invited back for a second show, which will air on January thirteenth.

If you would like to listen to the show or learn more information about Ms. Bender and her organization, go to her website www.benderconsult.com. I will also soon have a transcript and audio of the show on my website.

Remember to tune into www.voice.voiceamerica.com on Tuesday, January 13 at 2pm EST for part two of our live interview!

Epilepsy Q & A—

Q: What should I do if I suspect a seizure disorder?

A: If you think you or a loved one might be having seizures, it is important to discuss with your physician what has been happening. Keep a record of how often the unusual episode occurs, the time of day it happens and what form it takes. Giving the doctor this information will help him or her determine if what you are describing might be a type of epilepsy.

Happy New Year—2009