From: Christine Coe
To: PublicHealthServices;
Subject: MC DOH Health e-News Letter - January 2014
Date: Wednesday, January 08, 2014 10:29:56 AM
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MADISON COUNTY DEPARTMENT of HEALTH

Health e-News

2014

Staff Corner
Department Updates
Division Updates
Special Events
Idea Box

Staff Corner

Moving In

- None

Moving On

- Mary Pickard – 12/31/13

Vacancies

- None

Anniversaries

January:

- Eric Faisst – 8 years
- Chrystal Johnson – 17 years
- Cindy Holdridge – 26 years
- Adah Vaughn – 26 years

Employee of the Quarter

Congratulations to MARY PICKARD, even though she relinquished her crown before completing her 3-month reign due to her year-end retirement.

Back to top

Department Updates

Kudos to the Environmental Health Staff!

Hi Geoff -

I just wanted to mention that I met one of your regulated entities on New Year's Eve - he referred to himself as the "Cinnamon Almond Guy". I thought you would appreciate knowing that he spoke very highly of the Madison County Health Department staff and all that they do in working with regulated entities throughout the permit process. The almonds sure sound tasty!

Happy New Year!
Claudine Jones Rafferty, Field Coordination Unit
Division of Environmental Health Protection
New York State Department of Health
Corning Tower, Room 1190
Empire State Plaza, Albany, NY

_____

From: Geoffrey Snyder
Sent: Monday, January 06, 2014 2:38 PM
To: 'Claudine Jones Rafferty'
Subject: RE: Happy New Year!

Claudine, appreciate you passing his comment on. I am proud of my staff, and this is a good reflection of both our mission and how we approach our work.

Best wishes for a great 2014!
Thanks, Geoff

Staff/Management Committee Updates

All approved 2012 and 2013 Staff/Management meeting minutes are available on the Public Health Intranet under Staff/Management. PDF versions of the monthly e-Newsletters can also be accessed on our intranet site.

Back to top

Division Updates

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Through teamwork all programs will be supported by dedicated staff in a professional manner creating positive working relationships enabling Department viability and administrative efficiency.

Program Highlights

Happy New Year Everyone! We all survived the holidays and are ready to tackle 2014!

January will be a very busy month for the Administrative Department with reports for 2013 at the top of the TO DO list. Our first deadline will be January 2nd for December time sheets. All time and activity should be entered for 2013 no later than January 7th. If you cannot meet this deadline, please let Connie and/or Kelly know ASAP. Your help in completing this information timely is greatly appreciated.

Connie would remind everyone that the first payroll of the year will have changes or additional pay for some staff. White collar and management increases are effective January 1st. White collar unit members with comp time on the books will receive reimbursement for that time in payroll #1. NYSNA members comp time is carried over until March 15th, when it must be used or paid out. White collar lag deductions for those who opted to have 1.5 hours deducted per pay period will be begin with payroll #1 and continue through payroll #25. Any questions regarding pay changes or lag deductions should be directed to Connie.

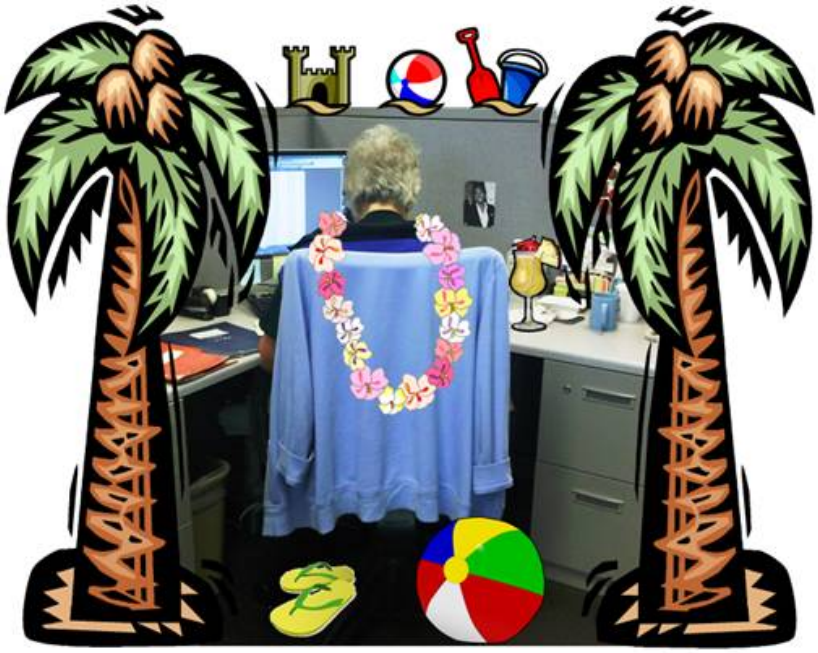
Staff Highlights

Administrative Team 2013 Accomplishments – What a year, nice team work Ladies!

1. All Home care records safely saved in Onbase
2. Time and Activity database with MCH billing component up and running; next challenge writing reports to pull data from this new database. This system is currently being used to report time for grants and state aid as well as printing invoices for MCH billing.
3. Improved immunization billing process for Madison County and now working with 6 other counties to streamline billing process in one system from scheduling to billing.
4. Preschool Medicaid billing getting caught up; more time spent entering services that are billing to Medicaid. Next challenge is getting software updates to allow billing with new requirements.
5. Scanning is being done proactively in Maternal Child, Early Intervention and Preschool programs. Charts are no longer being placed into storage as they are totally scanned at time of discharge.

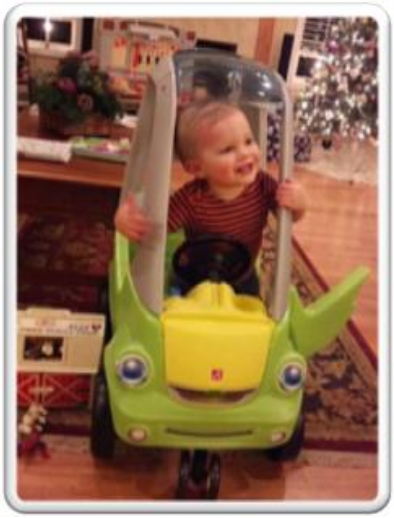
Promotions...Congratulations!

- Angela Burdgoff - provisional promotion to Principal Account Clerk effective 1/1/14
- Jennifer McGohan - promotion to Health Educator II effective 1/1/14



Mary Pickard retired after 34 years of service. Way to go, Mary!

Faith has a new niece! Attrition June arrived on December 31; 7 lbs 13 oz; 21 inches long, Mom and baby are doing well. Proud Daddy watching over his new daughter.



Jennifer's son, Noah, really enjoyed Christmas this year and so did the Health Educators!

Christine had an exceptional year between the addition of her first grandchild and her son, Ryan, moving back from New Hampshire, buying a home, and proposing to his girlfriend, Sydnie, on the day of the closing! Here's to hoping 2014 can come close to as many blessings as 2013!

Happy Car Rider…Kingston (Robin's grandson)

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

The mission of the department of Environmental Health is to enhance the quality of life in Madison County by implementation of effective and efficient environmental health programs to protect the public health, safety and the environment.

Program Highlights

EH staff finished up all required annual inspections, in addition to enjoying some time off for the holidays.

All remaining food service permits were processed, and both Cindy's are now busy sending out 2014 applications, including updating with new fee's adopted by the County BOS.

Much work went into the EH Profile document that was included as part of the Community Health Assessment. Interested individuals can view the document at…http://issuu.com/cjcoe63.

New Restaurants Opening or Reopening w/new owners

A number of new food service operations were permitted this past month, including some restaurants changing owners;

- The Pizza Party Palace has opened on Railroad St. in Oneida, offering a venue for birthday parties and other gatherings
- Christophers Pizza in Oneida has new owners from Vernon, who have renamed the establishment the Winning Circle Pizzeria at Coneheads
- Cornell Coop Extension of Madison County was granted a catering permit to allow them to present simple food prep and nutrition info at various food banks, farmers markets and similar venues
- The closed Ed & Zema's in Madison is undergoing renovations, and is expected to re-open soon under new owners as the Double D's bar & grill.
- Kerwins Cakes on Main St. in Oneida has closed, moving their bakery operation to the Great Northern Mall.
- YoGate, a self-serve yogurt café in Hamilton, is expected to be opening soon.
- Dave's Fireside on Rt. 20 in Madison has closed, but is expected to reopen soon under new owners.
- The re-opening of Napoleons in Oneida is awaiting the new owners closing on sale of building

Water Projects Update

Ken & Ruth collected samples from a dozen small community water systems (CWS's) recently for testing of a wide range of contaminants including pesticides, dioxins, arsenic and other organic chemicals. These CWS's are required to test for these contaminants every three years, and by EH staff collecting and submitting these samples through the State program, saves the benefiting communities several thousand dollars in testing costs.

Pete & Aaron continue to assist OWERA Vineyards efforts to improve the facilities water system, including securing additional water from a second well and adding storage.

Ken & Pete teamed together to complete all remaining MHP inspections this past month.

Last 2013 Rabies Clinic Held

The last rabies clinic was held Saturday morning December 7th at Vet's Field in Oneida. Cindy S assisted Cindy H, who reports that 1,599 pets were vaccinated in 2013.

Aaron notes that of the 41 specimens submitted for testing in 2013, three were positive for rabies; a cow, a skunk and a fox.

Pete assisted the Sherriff's office and ASPCA with an animal cruelty complaint in Lincoln that resulted in the seizure of 24 cats and a dog due to poor health and unsanitary living conditions.

Weights & Measures

W & M Director Marc reports that a total of 1,828 scales, fuel pumps and other consumer measuring devices were tested in 2013, involving 274 separate facilities.

Staff Accomplishments / Personnel Notices

David completed the last class room training course of the NYSDOH Basic Environmental Health Program held at the School of Public Health in Albany.

Staff hosted three high school students on 12/03 during Tina's job shadow event. All three youths expressed a much greater interest in environmental health services after spending field time with Jennifer, Ken and Ruth.

Aaron & Ruth both attended the annual OCWA meeting on 12/11, and stayed for OCWA's holiday party following.

All EH staff that attended the MCDOH's annual holiday luncheon enjoyed the food and activities. Kudos to Ken for being the model TP Frosty, and leading the EH team to victory in the snowman building contest. Thanks to all who contributed to this festive gathering.

The last social gathering of the year was held on 12/19 at Dunn's Grill in Oneida. Participation was limited to Geoff, Ken & Marc, who did toast the Holidays on behalf of all staff. (see photo)

The last EH staff meeting was held on 12/17, with all contributing to the traditional breakfast pizza. Geoff & Aaron wish to thank everyone for the thoughtful Christmas gifts, (see photo of Geoff's bobblehead) and for the great work done by staff in 2013.

In the spirit of the holiday season, Aaron made a contribution to the Golizano Children's Center on behalf of EH staff, while Geoff provided a donation to the disaster relieve efforts of the American Red Cross.

Geoff's favorite Christmas present was having daughter Maggie home for the holidays, and Aaron provided photo of his daughters while noting their fav gifts from Santa.

Aaron's daughters, Mia and Ava, had a wonderful Christmas. Mia's favorite gift was her Crayola Marker Maker, and Ava's was a giant Barbie head she can style her hair and paint her nails.

Geoff, Aaron, Cindy H and the rest of the EH staff wish everyone a happy and joyous New Year!

PREVENTIVE HEALTH

The Community Health Division provides education, programs and services necessary to promote health in the community.

Program Highlights

Prevent Division is slowly getting all annual reports and documents for 2013 boxed up and ready for storage… Lead, Communicable, TB, Immunization…Kelly is working with Cheryl to get the documents scanned into Onbase for ease of information retrieval and less "boxes for storage".

IMMUNIZATION:

Thanks to Jennifer who assisted with the radio ads for *National Flu Vaccination Week – December 8-14, 2013,* with messages such as:

Listen closely; does one of the following apply to you? Are you:

- *A person with a chronic medical condition like asthma, diabetes or heart disease?*
- *Are you living in a nursing home?*
- *Are you providing care for others?*
- *Are you living with or caring for others at high risk for flu?*
- *Are you over the age of 50?*
- *Are you pregnant?*

If you answered yes to any of these questions, protect yourself ***and others you care for*** *from getting sick or dying from the flu,* ***it's not too late****. Get the flu vaccine by contacting your doctor, call Madison County Health Department at 366-2361, or walk-in to your local pharmacy to get protected today.*

LEAD:

Environmental Health staff used the last 5 years of housing addresses for children with Elevated Blood Lead Level and mapped the critical areas using GIS (on display at Prevent division bulletin board).

Chrystal and staff have been upgrading the Prevention Division quarterly provider newsletter to make it more operational information. Each issue will have selected items such as information on Lead Poisoning prevention, immunization links, car seat updates, safe sleep information, and the recent issue features full time staff pictures and bio's (on display at Prevent division bulletin board).

ILLNESSES/after hours EMERGENCY:

There is an after hour supervisor available after 5pm and before 8am every night and on weekends to report an illness or family emergency. You can call the answering service at **366-5002** and ask to speak to Geoff, Cheryl, Aaron, or Eric and the answering service will page one of us to return your call.

Staff Highlights

Happy Birthday to Tina Louis – January 2nd

Over the river and through the woods…

Chrystal cherished the visits with her family, enjoyed her niece Claire, wishing in the New Year 2014 in Oneonta with Dennis.. then back to ZUMBA!!!

Donna had a great celebration with family for Christmas…and then used her nursing skills with her friend Ron, who had coronary artery surgery recently… now she is planning her visit to Florida…and a dog show in Buffalo January 10-11…

Doreen had a short visit to her camp over the Holidays..with lots more snow and awesome snowmobiling…and spent quality time with her grandchildren…

Some of Evan and River's favorite Christmas gifts!

The party's over...sweet dreams!

Kathy enjoyed her celebration luncheon December 18 and her gifts from the Prevent division.. Kathy will be back to help with Flu season in 2014..

Adah had may *'Silent Nights'* when Penny (her sister) travelled back to her own home in Waterloo over the Holidays...she is no longer HOMEBOUND...

Cheryl enjoyed some skiing at Labrador mountain in preparation for the Killington trip over February break; had family over between Christmas and New Year's.. travelled with Anna to volleyball games ..waited with Brittany for college acceptances ...

Eileen loved babysitting her grandson Vincent for the 2 weeks in December.. then Vincent came with his parents and stayed over Christmas.. *"he cuddles in my neck and loves to be held.. He never left my arm."*

Antara went to see the Christmas Carol at Syracuse Stage...travelled to Philadelphia on a the week of New Year's ... visited the Liberty Bell, Independence Hall and the Museum of Art.*.(you know.. where Rocky ran up the stairs and jumped around in preparation for the big fight..)*

Independence Hall

Art Museum Boots ruined from walking in snow and ice

Molly had her mom and in laws over the Christmas Holiday… visited Destiny Mall…maneuvered the rope course with Isabella…went to the Syracuse basketball game New Year's Eve…

Barbara made seat covers for her husband's truck.. *once he got out of the house so she could sew…*and shared Baby Ella's excitement at her first Christmas..

Ella (Barb's granddaughter) waiting for Santa.

CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL HEALTH CARE NEEDS

Children with Special Health Care Needs provides services to overcome barriers and foster the healthy development of children and families within the community.

Program Highlights

Reflection on the past 2013 year held some accomplishments for CSHCN.

On site review of Children with Special Health Care Needs information and referral services including Physically Handicapped Children's Program was conducted by New York State Department of Health Regional Office staff on March 18, 2013. Results were favorable with minor suggestions for improvement. Corrective Action Plan was not required.

All 58 Municipalities in NYS are required to be in compliance with specific federal and state Early Intervention performance indicators which are monitored by NYS Department of Health. Madison County Department of Health Early Intervention Program met measured performance indicators for the program years of 2009-2010 and 2010-2011. Measurement results for 2011-2012 performance indicators will be made available in February 1014.

Madison County Department of Health management of Early Intervention provider contracts and fiscal management of and payment of Early Intervention claims were transitioned to NYS DOH responsibility on April 1, 2013. Madison County Department of Health Early Intervention Program established a provider agreement with NYS Bureau of Early Intervention as a provider of Service Coordination and Special Instruction services.

Parent satisfaction surveys were revised with simplicity yet informative statements giving families the opportunity to provide valuable feedback to the Early Intervention Program.

In 2014 CSHCN will focus on improving and maintaining the NYS Early Intervention performance standard indicator of children receiving services within 30 days of the authorized Individual Family Service Plan. Program forms will continue to be refined and modified to meet regulations. Ongoing communication and coordination with families and Providers to ensure service delivery will remain paramount.
Madison-Oneida County BOCES region has been identified by NYS Department of Education as a region having one of the largest percentages of preschool children with disabilities placed in segregated center based settings. Madison County currently has only one in county preschool center based program through Madison–Oneida BOCES which is a segregated program. Madison County Health Department Children with Special Health Care Needs division has been and will continue to coordinate with and support Madison-Oneida BOCES application to NYS Department of Education for the addition of an integrated preschool center based program within Madison County.

Staff Highlights

Lori had a holiday gathering at her home. The left/right game that was played at the MCDOH holiday luncheon was also enjoyed by Lori's family. Lori and her sister spent New Year's Eve at the Turning Stone casino enjoying great music and entertainment. Lori danced the night away with blisters on her feet as a result.

Michelle had a wonderful Christmas enjoying time with family. Nieces Ashley and Natalie and nephew Caleb had fun opening presents and making Christmas cookies. Michelle's niece Ashley sang at her first Christmas concert and will be singing the National Anthem in January at a Syracuse Crunch hockey game with the choir.
Michelle received wonderful pictures of her daughter Amber and grandson Nathan who live out of state opening the gifts she sent them. Michelle's church raised money to buy a house for the Salvation Army to be used as transitional housing for men in Syracuse.

Ashley & Natalie

Caleb

Christmas cookie making

Amber & Nathan

Rosanne enjoyed Christmas Eve and Christmas day with family in Utica who gathered to share in the spirit of giving and receiving not to mention eating lots of food. Friends from Virginia arrived the day after Christmas to spend the weekend. Rosanne entertained in her home in addition to sharing with friends ice skating at Syracuse's Clinton Square and the holiday lights at Turning Stone casino.

Sharon celebrated Christmas Eve at the Turning Stone casino buffet with Christmas day spent at home with family. Life is quiet in the Lancette home and they are enjoying the peace.

Back to top

Special Events

2013 Holiday Party Highlights

Ugly Sweater Contest:

1st place – Barb
2nd place – Michelle
3rd place – Faith

Build a Snowman Contest:

1st Place – Environmental (Ken) 2nd Place – Admin (Jennifer-intern)

3rd Place Tie - Prevent (Chrystal) & CSHCN (Rosanne)

Additional photos from the December 11th Holiday Party can be found in the Staff Resources folder: P:\Staff Resources\Photos\Holiday_Party_2013. If you took photos, feel free to add to the folder.

Zumba and Zumba Toning

We have been mixing regular Zumba with the Zumba Toning and everyone seems to love it so far!!! Zumba Toning is the perfect way for enthusiasts to sculpt their bodies naturally while having a total blast.

Where: Health Department Large Conference Room
When: Tuesdays; 5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Instructor: Sue Crawford
Cost: $36 for 6-week session (or $7 per session)
Register Now: With Kelly Golley (first timers must complete a waiver)

Open to all county employees and their friends and relatives. Space is limited so reserve your spot now!

Back to top

Idea Box

Health Department staff is invited to share their ideas to improve department programs, communication, morale, etc. They are also encouraged to sign their name so that they may be recognized for ideas that are implemented.

Anonymous suggestions are always welcome; however, the Staff-Management Committee requests that issues/concerns that are submitted also include constructive solutions/recommendations to address them. The Idea Box is located on the break room table under the Communication Board.

Employee of the Quarter Nominations and Shout Outs may also be placed in the Idea Box.

Back to top

e-Newsletter Submissions:
If you have any news or announcements you would like to place in the Health e-Newsletter, please forward to your supervisor for submission.

Back to top

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