

Health e-News



2014

[Staff Corner](#)
[Department Updates](#)
[Division Updates](#)
[Announcements](#)
[Special Events](#)
[Gallery](#)
[Moms](#)
[Last Thoughts](#)

Staff Corner

[Moving In](#)

- × [Cheryl Madonna, Prevent, 4/29](#)

[Moving On](#)

- × [None](#)

[Vacancies](#)

- × [None](#)

[Anniversaries](#)

[May:](#)

- × [None](#)
-

Department Updates

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.

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

The highlight of our month was honoring our Administrative Professionals on the 23rd. Brenda, Robin, Angie, Jasmine, and Faith were treated to a morning break of homemade cinnamon buns, chocolates, coffee, and tea. They also had an opportunity to try relaxing massage chairs and Mary Kay “satin hands”. Flowers, coffee cups, and lunch rounded out the day. Each person wrote out three facts about themselves, which were put in a basket. We drew them out and guessed as to which fact related to whom. Interesting facts were revealed and we were stumped quite a bit. Someone in this group once jumped out a school window (bet you can’t guess who!). After working so many years together, we found we still had some stories to tell. Dessert was shared with fellow Administrative Professionals Doreen, Anne, and the Cindy’s. We appreciate what our support staff does for us every day and it was good to be able to let them know it.

Also this month, the Preschool program had an informal review with Annette Deyle, from the Mohawk Regional Information Center, to help us determine how we are doing regarding compliance with billing regulations. Ten services were surveyed and a few issues found, but overall, we did quite well. There was a post-review meeting to discuss documentation issues, as well as ways to address them. A written report will be forwarded, along with the answers to some questions that the reviewer was unable to answer.

April showers (or snow showers) may bring May flowers, but April also brought us numerous training opportunities. Many of us took the Active Shooter Training. New users were oriented to our electronic filing system, OnBase. Longtime users got a refresher course, as well as learned some new tips and tricks. Kelly, Connie, Cheryl and Jenn listened to a webinar on the Clin Ops inventory system. A few of us still need to listen to the corporate compliance video – don’t forget to click the submit button at the end.

Several meetings were held in April to consider additional scanning issues and projects. Faith has begun scanning some of the non-patient related documents, such as the grant folders. Communicable disease is the newest program to be scanned into OnBase. MCH, EI, and

Preschool records will all eventually be electronically stored, which should help with future physical storage issues.

Spring is also clean-up time, even here at the office. Kelly, Robin, Cindy H. and Aaron have all been involved in reviewing what records are being kept and where, as well as determining when discard is possible. Multiple boxes are awaiting pickup by ProShred.

Ongoing projects

- MCH Database – Rick, Kelly, Brenda, and Connie continue to work to improve the database. This month's focus was A/R reporting and tweaking new insurance forms.
- Immunization billing project continues with regular meetings to improve e-health scheduling and development of the billing component.
- Scanning - we continue to meet to discuss what and how to scan new programs.

Reminder

For those White Collar Unit members who elected to use accrued time for the payroll lag, remember to deduct 3 hours on your April monthly time sheet. This is 1.5 hours for payroll 7 (4/04) and payroll 8 (4/18).

Staff Highlights

Connie's granddaughter celebrated her 6th birthday at Chuck E. Cheese with her friends. Connie enjoyed watching the chaos and thinks her daughter is one smart woman to let Chuck E. handle the event.

Kelly took a trip to Mexico and did not bring back warm weather, but did share some lovely photos.

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

Calls to the EH Division a couple days after Easter, from persons falling ill after attending the Hotel Sollville's Easter buffet, prompted a full-scale outbreak investigation that continues to keep this Health Department busy. Staff from Environmental, Prevent and Health Education have been involved in the investigation, conducting ill and well person interviews, monitoring test results, performing site visits and inspections, preparing press releases and participating in the Epi calls with the State.

Over 400 persons attended the Easter Sunday buffet at six different seatings, from at least five different counties, and over 100 interviews have been conducted. Initial test results suggest the cause of the illness that is estimated to have affected over 70 persons to be a norovirus. Staff of the Hotel Sollville were advised of the necessary procedures needed to properly clean and disinfect the facility, and the facility agreed to close for a period of 24 hours, to accomplish a complete cleaning of the establishment.

Guidance was also provided on measures to improve the safety of the food service operation and improve protection of the foods served in the buffet line. The number of calls has diminished as of today, but the situation will continue to be monitored until this Health Department is satisfied that all conditions contributing to the illness have been adequately addressed and no further reports of illness are received. This incident has been a truly cooperative effort from all involved staff, and both Cheryl and Geoff extend their gratitude for the hard work exhibited by all those involved in this public health response.

Work continues on the Environmental website redesign. Final edits are being made and a preview is to be scheduled for the Eric and Geoff. Campground and bathing beach applications are being received and reviewed. Many permitted seasonal facilities have opened or are planning to open soon.

Mark - Attended the NYS Weights and Measures Association Central Region meeting in Cazenovia. Various topics were presented by the state director and discussed, including W&M laws and regulations, the FUEL-NY program, the return of ethanol-free gasoline, the need and recommendation for county W&M departments to have a written procedure for consumer complaints, and the status of state-owned equipment that circulates among the counties.

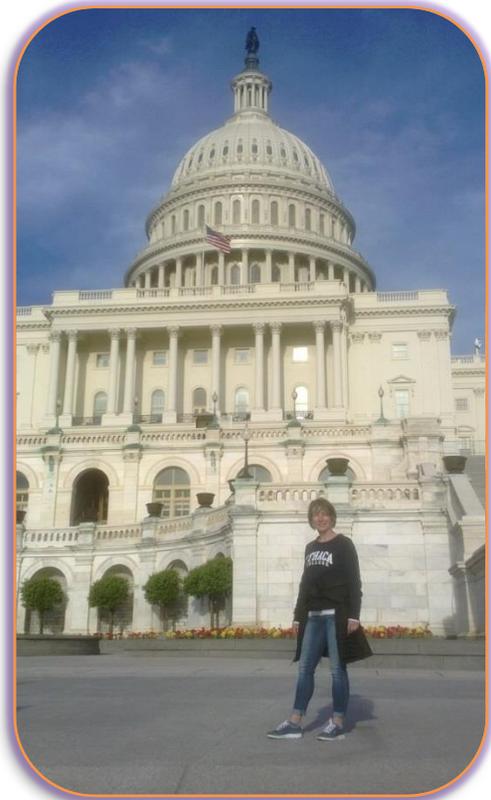
Drugstore scales were inspected and tested in April, which also sees the start of gas pump and vehicle scale testing throughout the better weather months.

Staff Accomplishments

Geoff attended a workgroup meeting in Alexandria Virginia, on the development of the National Health Security Preparedness Index, a tool that looks collectively at the health security preparedness of the states and the nation. The NHSPI is intended to be used to strengthen preparedness, inform decision-making, guide quality improvement and advance the science behind community resilience. Geoff was appointed to the workgroup by ASHTO in recognition of his involvement with NACCHO and background in Environmental Health.

Geoff's wife Maureen (Wink) accompanied him on the trip and both were able to visit the sites in nearby Washington, DC, following each day's meetings. In addition to visiting the White House, Jefferson Memorial, and walking the Mall, they strolled up the steps of the Capitol and stopped to see the Lincoln Memorial (see pictures below).

Geoff has also been busy preparing for the NYS Conference of Environmental Health Director's annual spring meeting, to be held next month at Minnowbrook Conference Center in Blue Mountain Lake. In addition to hosting a diverse and highly reputable group of speakers for the CEHD's technical session, NYSACHO's Environmental Health Committee, co-chaired by Eric, will be joining the CEHD for a discussion on forwarding environmental health issues in NYS.



PREVENTIVE HEALTH

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

Program Highlights

Flu numbers are finally decreasing in Madison County and across the state, but “as of April 18th, 129 people from 13 states in the U.S. have been reported as having measles. This is the most measles cases reported in the first four months of the year since 1996. States and cities with the highest number of cases reported so far include California with 58, New York City with 24 and Washington State with 13. To date, 13 outbreaks have been reported, and we define an outbreak as three or more related cases. 34 of the 129 cases reported so far here in the U.S. were importations involving both U.S. residents who traveled abroad and foreign visitors who came here. Seventeen, or half of those importations, were from the Philippines where there is a very large outbreak occurring, with about 20,000 confirmed or suspected cases and 69 deaths through late February. 129 cases in the first four months of this year are more than we typically have, and health departments around the country today are working hard to stamp out the chance of transmission from the imported cases.” (This was taken from an April 24th CDC telebriefing). Visit www.cdc.gov for additional information about measles, or ask a Prevent staff member.

Staff Highlights



Happy Birthday: Cheryl Madonna - May 23rd



*Welcome Cheryl Madonna to Public Health!!!
Cheryl M. (as she will now be known by) joined the Prevent Division April 29th. She will be orienting to Immunizations, Lead and TB clinic, alongside Adah!*

Cheryl G. - Phew...the musical is over.



Brittany as a postulate,



...then as the Baroness.



The costume ladies (and Benny), aka "the scissors gang", and she said, "What...a new dress?!"



In the new dresses.

Barb – brought Olivia to see the musical and tried to keep her from singing along with the cast...is preparing for her trip to Haiti...finished all her shots.

Doreen – has been getting extra time with her grandchildren, Evan and River, babysitting.

Eileen – attended her future daughter-in-law's bridal shower...went looking for the mother-of-the-groom dress....is back from her cruise.....back Friday to fill us in.

Chrystal – is so busy in May planning her mom's mother's day celebration, her sister's birthday celebration, Julie's birthday weekend at the Turning Stone, and working with the Tattoo education project, to help "sell" the project to the high school students at Oneida High School.

Adah – is somewhat looking forward to helping her daughter move into her new place...but will miss the daily "noise" ...watching her son Daniel sell and find a new home.

Donna – had a simply *Marvelous* time in sunny Florida...and arrived in time for a snowstorm...planning her dog show competitions this summer.

Molly – joined Barb at the recent Morrisville College Employee Assistance Program Health Fair...and is searching for dresses (and hopefully, a foxy HAT!) for the upcoming wedding in London.



Molly at the Morrisville College Employee Assistance Program Health Fair on April 29th.

CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL HEALTH CARE NEEDS

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



Program Highlights

Quality Assurance activities were completed for the first quarter of the calendar year. 47 Early Intervention referrals were received during the quarter, with current enrollment of 111. The Preschool program has 140 enrolled, with 47 referrals in the evaluation process. Early Intervention and Preschool chart audits, and review of consumer satisfaction surveys, resulted in positive findings with few identified areas in need of correction. 36 parent satisfaction surveys were completed and returned in the first quarter, with several positive comments, including:

"Lori has always addressed my questions promptly and offered support."

"Michelle is always so nice and more than willing to lend an ear. She always has helpful information and recommendations."

"Sharon was always available when I needed to talk or had questions. You will very much be missed. Thank you for everything."

"The Early Intervention program was a great program for my grandson and helped him a great deal. I hope it will continue being a helpful program for children in need for a long time."

In May, the division will be represented at Head Start and Early Head Start Policy Council meetings, as well as the regional Children with Special Health Care Needs meeting in Syracuse.

Staff Highlights



Happy Birthday to Lori on May 24th!

Michelle has been an active member of the Staff Management committee. Thank you, Michelle, for your interest and time to share staff thoughts and ideas.

Rosanne has been busy getting ready to do some planting at home - trying to determine what the deer won't like. Suggestions are welcome!

Sharon's daughter, Summer, has been accepted to Clarkson University. She will be majoring in biochemical engineering and playing softball. Congratulations!

Announcements

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 pm - 6:00 pm
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!

Illnesses/ After-Hours Emergency:

There is an after-hour supervisor available after 5 PM and before 8 AM 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.

IT Help

Did you know you can drag and drop an e-mail attachment to your desktop? No need to open the attachment. It also works on a closed document in a folder. Just click on the item, hold the mouse down, and drag it over to your desktop. It's a big help when you're not finished working on something and it keeps it handy.

Thank You

Here is a list of Public Health Department employees who donated blood at our recent blood drive. Your help is so much appreciated! Because of the many natural disasters, the blood supply has been low, and donations are in great demand.

Lori Brockway
Doreen Cunningham
Faith Hyde
Chrystal Johnson



Molly Limbert
Jasmine Smith
Barb Whaley

Request for Assistance

Barb is planning a mission trip to Haiti in July with the Awaken Haiti organization, who has been in Haiti since the earthquakes. The organization's objective is to work alongside the Haiti community and help them to achieve independence. Their focus on this trip is for the three orphanages that house ages 3-18, most especially to help with physical and dental needs. They are in urgent need of the following items:

Bar soap
Conditioner
Hand sanitizer
Lotion



Shampoo
Toothbrushes
Toothpaste

Won't you please consider donating some of these items? Barb will set up a box for collection in a cubicle behind the front desk area, and the items need to be shipped out by the first week of June. Thanks so much for your help.

Public Health Week



Luckily, the sun came back out after the rain and we were able to get a decent photo of many in the department. The Madison County Board of Supervisors passed a resolution honoring the hard work done by Health Department employees.

Special Events

The Special Events Committee met and came up with a few places to hold future happy hour events, either on a Thursday or Friday. Please let Faith know if you have any preferences and would like to attend.

- Owera Vineyards, Cazenovia
- Dupree's Sports Bar (formerly Coleman's)
- Good Nature Brewery, Hamilton
- Marble Hill Inn, Oneida
- Lakeview Restaurant, Sherrill
(golf course behind Mansion House)
- Pier 31, Canastota



Let's see if we can increase attendance this year! It will be a fun opportunity to relax and get to know our co-workers outside of work.

Special Events Fund

So that we can continue providing snacks at Health Department events, the Special Events Committee is asking for your help toward these costs. A container will be left on the kitchen tables, and we thank you for your participation!



Summer Picnic – SAVE THE DATE!

Thursday, July 24th **OR** July 31st
Theme: Water Carnival
Lunch, music, and fun activities!

Who will win the Golden Shoe this year? Mark your calendars - more details to come!

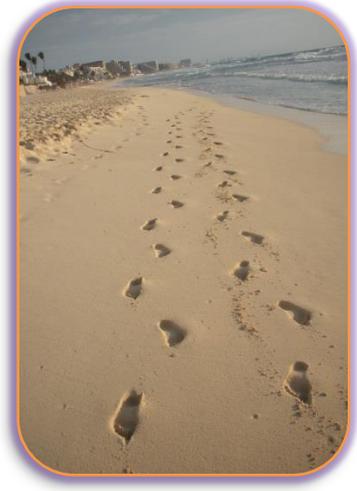
Gallery



Here is Summer's 1st time with grass between her toes. She was nervous about it at first, but then she wanted to know what it felt and tasted like.



Cindy and Doug Holdridge's grandchildren (Madison, Parker, and Larissa) are celebrating Easter at their grandparents' house. In case you are wondering why Parker is holding a jar of pickles, it's because they are his very favorite thing. He even likes pickles better than Easter candy!



Kelly reports that her and her husband, Jeff, had a wonderful week in Cancun exploring the beaches, the Mayan Ruins, and snorkeling. They spent many hours on the beach, enjoyed many fancy foods and drinks, and even got a massage! It was a great week!



The Administrative Department is taking a just a moment to relax and enjoy Administrative Professionals Day on Wednesday, April 23rd, after being served a homemade breakfast and lunch, which included cinnamon buns, specialty flavored coffees, chicken salad, fruit, chocolate, hand moisturizing treatments, massage chairs, aromatherapy, vases of pink carnations, and cards for all.



Barb's granddaughter, Ella, was dressed up beautifully for Easter, and was quite intrigued with the Easter eggs.



Here is Jenn McGohan's son, Noah, attempting to drive his dad's 1979 Camaro!



Here is Adah with her son, Daniel, and her darling granddaughter, Lily, hunting for eggs on Easter.



Chrystal, Anne, Molly, and Kelly represented the Health Department at the Canastota "Dancing through the Decades" Zumba Fitness Party at the Canastota High School on April 25th. They got their groove on with songs from the 50's to the 90's. A great time was had by all. Kelly was the first name drawn for the raffle, and she (wisely) chose a one-hour Reiki session (for relaxation) as her prize!



The Lazzara's went to Myrtle Beach over spring break. Mia and Ava were able to see a number of wild alligators at Huntington Beach State Park, and tour Atalaya. Atalaya is a beach home built in the 1930's by Archer and Anna Huntington. The structure of the house is built around a perimeter that is 200 yards on a side and the house and grounds include more than 30 rooms. This created a large enclosed courtyard in the center of the grounds. The back of Atalaya opened towards the beach dunes. If you vacation in Myrtle Beach, the Huntington Beach State Park is a wonderful place for a visit (<http://www.huntingtonbeachstatepark.net/>).



Sharon's daughter, Summer. She is graduating high school this year.

Moms

My son's first full sentence was "don't bite". He had a hard time teething and seemed to chomp down on everything!

Anne

My mom would pull the living room furniture away and put on Elvis music and we would all dance together. I still think about it and it makes me smile.

Doreen

Erma Bombeck wrote that the most foolish thing her kids ever did was to call her at work to report that they were bored, because she always found something for them to do.

My daughter was a very trusting little girl. She would go off with anyone, so I had to watch her like a hawk! The mailman decided to test that one time, because he thought I was exaggerating. Sure enough, he asked her to come help him deliver mail with him and she went without hesitating.

Anne



Kelly with her mom. My mom has been the lady I have looked up to my whole life. I cannot think of any time she has not supported me and loved me, even if she might not have agreed with my decisions. To this day, I cannot think of anyone I respect more.

My mom set the gold standard for being a grandmother. Now that I am a grandma, or “Bama” as I am known, I think of her often. I remember that she was never too tired to play or tell a story. She was full of great ideas and had a wonderful sense of humor. She always had the imagination necessary to make ordinary situations fun. She knew when and how to offer encouragement. She was the “frosting” on her grandchildren’s lives and as I hope to be on mine.

My favorite funny story is the time when she got mad at me (about what, I don’t remember) and in exasperation said, “Don’t you have anything to say for yourself?” Then, when I finally started to talk, she reversed direction and said “Don’t talk back to me!” I just couldn’t win that one.

Connie

My favorite memory of my grandmother is her deciding to do the twist with my cousin and me, while we were watching American Bandstand. “Hey, that looks like fun”, she said. “I think I’ll try it”. A couple of minutes later, she was loudly moaning and groaning because she had thrown out her back. My cousin and I, being kids, had a hard time stifling our giggles as she kept saying “Oh, oh, oh, my back...!” I always loved that she was willing to get up and try it.

Anne

The following was submitted in honor of all moms. Thanks, Molly!

When God Created Mothers

by Erma Bombeck

When the Good Lord was creating mothers, He was into his sixth day of “overtime” when an angel appeared and said, “You’re doing a lot of fiddling around on this one.” And the Lord said, “Have you read the specs on this order?”

- She has to be completely washable, but not plastic;
- Have 180 movable parts... all replaceable;
- Run on black coffee and leftovers;

- Have a lap that disappears when she stands up;
- A kiss that can cure anything from a broken leg to a disappointed love affair;
- And six pairs of hands.”

The angel shook her head slowly and said, “Six pairs of hands... no way.” “It’s not the hands that are causing me problems,” said the Lord. “It’s the three pairs of eyes that mothers have to have.” “That’s on the standard model?” asked the angel.

The Lord nodded. “One pair that sees through closed doors when she asks, ‘What are you kids doing in there?’, when she already knows; another here in the back of her head that sees what she shouldn’t but what she has to know; and of course, the ones here in front that can look at a child when he goofs up and say, ‘I understand and I love you’, without so much as uttering a word.”

“Lord,” said the angel, touching His sleeve gently, “Go to bed. Tomorrow...” “I can’t,” said the Lord, “I’m so close to creating something so close to myself. Already, I have one who heals herself when she is sick, can feed a family of six on one pound of hamburger, and can get a nine-year-old to stand under a shower.”

The angel circled the model of a mother very slowly. “It’s too soft,” she sighed. “But she’s tough!” said the Lord excitedly. “You cannot imagine what this mother can do or endure.” “Can it think?” “Not only can it think, but it can reason and compromise,” said the Creator.

Finally, the angel bent over and ran her finger across the cheek. “There’s a leak,” she pronounced. “I told You that You were trying to push too much into this model.” “It’s not a leak,” said the Lord. “It’s a tear.” “What’s it for?” “It’s for joy, sadness, disappointment, pain, loneliness, and pride.”

“You are a genius,” said the angel. The Lord looked somber. “I didn’t put it there,” He said.



*This was a memorial that Ruth Boyd wrote for her mother a few years ago.
Thanks for sharing these beautiful words, Ruth. Happy Mother’s Day to all!*

Reflections on a Life Well Lived

I would first like to say how pleased Mom would be to see you here. She was a people person. She loved to learn new things, she loved to converse on any given topic and she loved all of you.

Upon the death of his mother, the author C.S. Lewis said that he felt as if suddenly the ground beneath his feet had crumbled and sank into the ocean. He felt adrift in a choppy sea, surrounded by tiny islands that had once been all that had connected him to the earth. Perhaps

Thelma knew this feeling herself. Perhaps that is why she urged us to “plant our feet upon the Rock” and stand together so.

Thelma, or “Tina” as you may have called her, had a natural gift for music. In her fine, clear voice, she taught us to sing (and play a little guitar). She taught us that music is a gift to share in times of joy and that it has the power to unite and strengthen us in times of sorrow. I will never forget the way her face would light up when she was singing with her brothers and sister at our many family reunions.

Mom taught us to accept others as they were. “People are different”, she would say “And my kids are different, too.” Most of all, Mom taught us to stand together as a family. She once told me, “One of the things I like about our family is that we don’t fight with each other. We have disagreements, but we work together to do what is right.”

Mom is gone now, and we will miss her terribly. We can take some comfort in that she now walks with her husband in Glory.

Thank you for helping us celebrate a life well lived.

Family and Friends of Thelma (Whitney) Klingman

Last Thoughts



🌻 God could not be everywhere and therefore, He made mothers.

Rudyard Kipling

🌻 A mom forgives all us our faults, not to mention one or two we don't even have.

Robert Brault

🌻 A mother is she who can take the place of all others, but whose place no one else can take.

Unknown

🌻 A mother is a person who, seeing there are only four pieces of pie for five people, promptly announces she never did care for pie.

Tenneva Jordan

🌻 The phrase "working mother" is redundant.

Jane Sellman

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.



An e-Newsletter from the Madison County Health Department
Copyright (C) 2014 Madison County Health Department. All rights reserved.
