



CATTARAUGUS COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

1 Leo Moss Drive, Olean, NY 14760, Tel. (716)373-8050, Fax (716) 701-3737



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.
Cattaraugus County
Health Department
Established 1923

Joseph Bohan, MD, President

Giles Hamlin, MD, Vice-President

*Zahid Chohan, MD
Sondra Fox, RN
Richard Haberer
Julie Hamacher
Theresa Raftis
David L. Smith
James Snyder*

MINUTES

October 5, 2016

The 850th meeting of the Cattaraugus County Board of Health was held at The Point Restaurant, 800 East State Street, Olean, New York on October 5, 2016.

The following members were present:

Dr. Joseph Bohan	Ms. Julie Hamacher
Dr. Giles Hamlin	Ms. Theresa Raftis
Mrs. Sondra Fox, RN	Mr. David Smith
Mr. Richard Haberer	Mr. James Snyder

Also present were:

Kevin D. Watkins, MD, MPH, Public Health Director
Mark Howden, County Attorney
Lauren Law, Guest Speaker
Dan Law, Guest
Natalie Long, Guest
Madelyn Thornton, Program Coord.-Cancer Services of Allegany & Cattaraugus Co.
Richard Helmich Jr., County Legislator
Sue Labuhn, County Legislator
Robert Neal, County Legislator
Kelly Reed, Deputy County Administrator
Donna Vickman, County Legislator
Gilbert Witte, MD, Medical Director
Dave Porter, Hearing Officer
Rick Miller, Olean Times Herald
Susan Andrews, Director of Nursing
Kathy Ellis, Administrative Officer
Raymond Jordan, Sr. Public Health Sanitarian
Debra Lacher, Secretary to Public Health Director
Eric Wohlers, Director of Environmental Health

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Bohan. The roll was called and a quorum declared. Mr. Smith made a motion to approve the minutes of the Board of Health (BOH) meeting held on September 7, 2016, it was seconded by Ms. Raftis and unanimously approved.

"Public Health for Healthy Communities"

A motion was made by Dr. Witte to approve the minutes of the Professional Advisory Board meeting held on July 20, 2016, it was seconded by Mrs. Fox and unanimously approved.

Dr. Bohan welcomed Kelly Reed, Deputy County Administrator, and Natalie Young, student of Olean High School and daughter of Board member Theresa Raftis, and Madelyn Thornton, Program Coordinator of Cancer Services of Allegany and Cattaraugus County to the Board of Health meeting.

DIRECTORS REPORT: Dr. Watkins reported that influenza season is upon us and everyone from 6 months of age and older should get vaccinated against the influenza virus. He stated that people who are at high risk for serious flu complications are strongly encouraged to get vaccinated. This group includes those that are 50 years of age and older, especially those who are 65 years of age and older, children younger than 5, especially children younger than 2 years of age. People with certain health conditions such as those with chronic lung disease (i.e. asthma or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease), heart disease (i.e. coronary artery disease or congestive heart failure), blood disorders (i.e. sickle cell disease), kidney disorders, endocrine disorders (i.e. diabetes), or residents from chronic care facilities (i.e. nursing homes). He went on to say that the best way to prevent seasonal flu is to get vaccinated each year. Good health habits can help stop the spread of germs and prevent respiratory illnesses like the flu. Avoid close contact with those who are ill, stay home when you are sick. Cover your nose and mouth when you are sneezing, and wash your hands as often as you can. Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces at home, work or school especially when someone is ill.

Dr. Watkins reported that the department's 2017 budget has been submitted to the county administrator and it has an expense of \$11,463,901 which is about a 1.6% increase from last year's budget which was \$11,265,545. He stated that there has been no new positions, no new equipment, and no large purchases added in this budget. He added that there were several long term employees budgeted for retirement in the 2017 budget.

Dr. Watkins mentioned that last month the legislature passed a local law that prohibits the sale of tobacco products to those under the age of 21. He thanked the Board of Health for supporting this important piece of legislation, and extended a special thanks to the legislators who regularly attends BOH meetings and agreed to sponsor this legislation. He added that preventing tobacco use and nicotine addiction in our youth is a far more effective strategy to reduce the human and economic toll that tobacco takes on our community. Dr. Watkins reported that the department will be sending out letters to merchants within Cattaraugus County who have licenses to sell tobacco and e-cigarettes products to inform them that the new local law that prohibits the sale of tobacco products to anyone under the age of 21 goes into effect November 1, 2016.

He went on to say that when the Clean Indoor Air Act (CIAA) was enacted, temporary waiver permits (which allows smoking in certain areas of the facility), were granted to establishments who modified their place of business by designating a separate room away from the general traffic utilizing special mechanical ventilation systems in order to control second hand smoke exposure to non-smokers that entered their establishments. Three annual temporary waiver permits are still granted to businesses in Cattaraugus County and the permits are set to expire on December 31, 2016. Dr. Watkins stated that the department would like to send inspectors out to conduct inspections for those facilities. In addition, the department would like to notify the businesses of this expiration date and that they must submit a renewal application and pay the permit fee.

He asked Dr. Bohan if the board could entertain a motion to renew for one year, the three remaining CIAA waivers in Cattaraugus County that has been issued to: (Ischua Fire Department, Off Track Betting, and Little Valley VFW) with a condition that the businesses pass their inspection.

A motion was made by Mr. Snyder to renew the (3) remaining CIAA waivers for, Ischua Fire Department, Off Track Betting, and Little Valley VFW, on the condition that the businesses pass their inspection, the motion was seconded by Dr. Hamlin. A vote of (7) ayes and (1) opposition, made by Mrs. Fox was recorded and the motion passed. Dr. Bohan stated that the BOH will not grant any new waivers for any other businesses in Cattaraugus County and that these (3) waivers have been longstanding.

Dr. Watkins stated that under the CIAA, there are exemption certificates granted to membership associations. He stated that these establishments are exempt from all smoking restrictions that are contained within the CIAA. He went on to say that such establishments attests that members do not receive compensation of any kind from the membership association or any other entity for their performance or duties within the association. In Cattaraugus County there are three establishments that fall under this category and they include the Christopher Columbus Club, the Olean American Legion Post, and the Olean Veterans Club who fall under this exemption.

Dr. Watkins informed the board that the Community Health Assessment is due at the end of the year. This assessment will describe health needs of the county and efforts to implement interventions and strategies to address health priorities for the county. He stated that the department has placed a community health survey on line and have distributed a paper copy to everyone in attendance. He asked that all BOH members and legislators take the survey which takes about ten minutes, and will conclude on Friday, October 7, 2016. He added that upon completion of the survey, (2) \$50 Olean Chamber of Commerce gift cards are being offered for those who care to enter in the drawing.

Dr. Watkins reminded the board that October is breast cancer awareness month which is an annual campaign to increase awareness of the disease. While most people are aware of breast cancer, many forget to take the steps to have a plan to detect the disease in its early stages and encourage others to do the same. He stated that breast cancer is the second leading cause of cancer deaths amongst women in Cattaraugus County. Only lung cancer kills more women each year.

He went on to say that the number of women who will die from breast cancer in the U.S. is around 3%. The American Cancer Society estimates that in 2016, 247,000 new cases of invasive breast cancer and 61,000 new cases of carcinoma in situ (non-invasive breast cancer), will be diagnosed amongst women. In addition, nearly 40,000 women will die from breast cancer in 2016. The American Cancer Society also estimates that 2,600 new cases of invasive breast cancer will be diagnosed amongst men this year and about 440 men will die from breast cancer this year. Dr. Watkins remarked that the death rates of breast cancer has been dropping since 1989 with larger decreases in women younger than 50. These decreases are believed to be the result of finding breast cancer early through screening, an increase in awareness as well as better treatment.

Dr. Watkins stated that there has been controversy as far as when and how often a woman should get a mammogram. The United States Preventative Services Task Force recommend that women ages 50-74 years of age get a mammogram every 2 years. The American College of Radiology believe women should have mammograms every year starting at age 40.

Dr. Watkins stated that women younger than age 50 should talk to their doctor about when to start and how often to have a mammogram.

Dr. Bohan introduced Lauren Law who is from Salamanca and who benefited from the cancer services program of Allegany and Cattaraugus Counties.

Mrs. Law shared that in 2009 she was diagnosed with breast cancer at the age of 51. She stated that at that time she was unemployed and had no insurance. After calling Cancer Services Program she had an ultrasound, a mammogram, a biopsy, and an appointment scheduled at Roswell to see an oncologist within a one month period. She added that there was no expense incurred other than the travel expenses to Roswell. Mrs. Law stated she was told that she had three invasive tumors that would have to be removed from her left breast. She chose to have a double mastectomy.

Mrs. Law stated that two things were important to her and her husband Dan as they approached this cancer diagnosis; it was their faith and their humor. They tried to find joy in something that wasn't joyful. Trying to entertain themselves instead of thinking about the battle they were going through. The most difficult period was between the diagnosis in July and the surgery in August. Once the surgery was completed they became focused on the plan to beat this disease. Chemotherapy was administered every Friday. Radiation followed the chemotherapy and that was done in Olean. Mrs. Law stated that currently she is on medication which she will continue for at least the next 3 years and she has been cancer free for 7 years. Many of her friends and acquaintances have also been touched by breast cancer and consequently she tries to inspire them as they undergo treatment. These steps include prayer, help the individual to admit what she is facing, and finding the research about their disease as knowledge is power. She added that it is important for everyone to know their family medical history, and encourage family and friends to go with the patient to doctor visits. Mrs. Law stated that she received the best of care and was cured only because Cancer Services Program in Allegany and Cattaraugus Counties was made available. Her husband Dan added that it is important to provide education for the caregiver as well.

Madelyn Thornton stated that free cancer screenings are provided for any woman over the age of 40. The Cancer Services Program will provide breast, cervical, and colorectal cancer screenings for women and men over 50. Women who are under the age of 40 and have a detectable mass or something unusual will be referred to a physician to determine their risk for cancer. If the provider believes that cancer is probable, the program will pay for all the diagnostic services. Mrs. Thornton brought pins and an informational handout about the program for all those in attendance. The 2009-2013 New York State registry reports that the annual cases of breast cancer averages 73.4 and the annual deaths from breast cancer average 9.8 in Cattaraugus County. She stated that the goal is to diagnose breast cancer at an early stage to have great outcomes. The Cancer Services Program office is now located in Cuba, NY and the program can also help individuals who have high deductibles.

Dr. Bohan reminded everyone that in 2015 the Cancer Services Program of Allegany and Cattaraugus Counties received a \$50,000 grant from the state for cancer screening services.

NURSING DIVISION REPORT: Mrs. Andrews reported on communicable diseases, she stated that there were two cases of viral meningitis in the month of September that included a 13 year old and a 1 year old. There were two cases of E-coli, one resident believed she caught it in Kentucky and the other was a vegetarian.

She informed the board that in September the department have received reports of (5) new cases of Hepatitis C, and three cases had a history of intravenous drug use. There have been (22) confirmed cases of Lyme disease this year which is far more than the department has recorded in the past. On the state communicable disease call this morning it was reported that there has been about (9) cases of Legionella in Niagara County at the end of September. Officials did find a positive water sample in a facility in Niagara County. In Cattaraugus County, there has been (60) cases of gonorrhea this year, previous recorded high back in 1993 recorded (44) cases. The department has completed (7) Zika virus test this year and all have been negative.

Mrs. Andrews informed the board that twice in the last few months the department has been contacted by the State Health Department to inform the department about passengers on airlines that were exposed to active TB while on the airplane. She stated that there were (2) residents in Cattaraugus County that needed followed up but they were negative.

Mrs. Andrews reported that the influenza clinics have started and about (300) doses of vaccine have been given. The department fully supports community pharmacies who choose to immunize.

Mrs. Andrews stated that the rabies post exposure cases are up to (46) which is higher than what has been recorded in a few years. August and September exposures were all related to bats except for (1) raccoon, and (1) dog.

Mrs. Andrews mentioned that the family planning clinic has gone live with their new electronic medical record (EMR).

Mrs. Andrews informed the board that there were (2) new elevated blood lead level cases reported. One child had a very high initial lead level of 37ug/dl (normal is 9ug/dl) and the department is working with the child's pediatrician, and the lead center physician. In addition, the department is following another (20) children with elevated blood lead levels.

Mrs. Andrews stated that the homecare census is about (337) patients and another (30) in the maternal child health Medicaid Obstetrical and Maternal Support (MOMS) program. She added that September admissions were (122) which is 10%-14% lower since the Visiting Nurses Association moved into Cattaraugus County. There is (1) open RN position and the new nurse will start on October 17th.

ENVIRONMENTAL DIVISION REPORT: Mr. Wohlers reported that the temporary food permit program is winding down with the Ellicottville Fall Festival on October 8th and 9th.

Mr. Wohlers stated that there has been a total of (9) positive rabies specimens this year. He added that the final animal rabies clinic for the fall was completed in September.

He went on to say that the department vaccinated a total of 1,687 animals this year, down by 150 from 2015. This included 1,178 dogs, 500 cats, and 9 ferrets. In the month of September, the department investigated (14) animal bites and submitted (9) specimens for testing last week.

The department received a call from the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) in Albany regarding an individual who had taken in a baby raccoon to their home. The conservation officer actually went to the home to confiscate the raccoon. Fortunately, after submitting the animal for testing the results came back negative.

Mr. Wohlers reported that the department successfully submitted the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) application. The department has been successful in receiving funding for this program for the last six years and the grant has helped a lot of households replace failed septic systems and water wells. The department requested \$350,000 and a decision if we will get refunded should come in December or January.

At the last Board of Health meeting the Board issued an order to close The Stage Coach Inn in Franklinville. The facility was placarded and there is now a for sale sign on the facility.

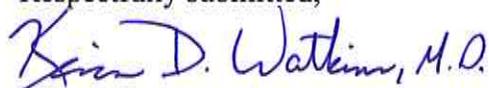
Mr. Wohlers stated that a new State law was passed requiring all schools to test all potable water outlets for lead contamination, and to take responsive actions. He stated that all school districts have to disclose elevated results to parents, local and state departments of health. Dr. Bohan asked what a single lead test would cost the school. Mr. Jordan stated that he believes the test can be done for less than \$15 a sample, but every tap will need to be tested and that could add up to several hundred dollars per building. Mr. Smith added that every receptacle that could possibly dispense water must be tested even areas where people would not commonly drink, but if it is possible to physically drink from this area, it must be tested. Rick Miller asked if every school could expect to receive an elevated test result. Mr. Wohlers stated that unless it is a really new building that was constructed after lead soldering was banned, that schools can expect to record an elevated lead result from one or more of their outlets.

Dr. Bohan stated that there are no enforcement cases today.

Mrs. Labuhn publicly thanked Mr. Wohlers for his presentation that he made at the recent New York State Association of Counties (NYSAC) conference in Niagara Falls, NY.

There being no further business to discuss, a motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Haberer, and seconded by Mr. Smith and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,



Kevin D. Watkins, M.D., M.P.H.
Secretary to the Board of Health

WELLSVILLE
**DAILY
REPORTER**

Young secures \$50,000 state grant for Cancer Services Program of Allegany and Cattaraugus Counties

Tuesday Posted Sep 8, 2015 at 4:15 PM

Updated Sep 8, 2015 at 4:17 PM

By Kathryn RossDaily Reporter

BELMONT — State Sen. Catharine Young, (R,C,I - Olean) got a hearty ‘thank you’ Thursday, not just from the recipients of a \$50,000 state grant check, but also from a cancer survivor.

Young was in the county’s boardroom Thursday to present the check, allocated by the State Senate to the Cancer Services Program of Allegany and Cattaraugus Counties, to Madelyn Thornton, coordinator for the Cancer Services Program. The grant will allow for expanded early screening options and stronger support for those suffering from the financial burden which comes with a cancer diagnosis, they said.

And while that announcement received grateful acknowledgements from the officials present, one woman in the crowd knew firsthand how much it will help.

Lauren Law of Salamanca was just 48 when she became concerned about the changes taking place in her body, but she was unemployed and had no insurance and her husband’s job didn’t offer her insurance.

“I was concerned, but I didn’t have the money to go to the doctor,” she told the assembled crowd. “Then one day when I stepped out of the shower, my breast kind of collapsed inward and I knew something was wrong. I told a friend about it and she said she had the phone number of people who could help.”

Law called Cancer Services of Allegany and Cattaraugus Counties and spoke to Thornton. Within a day, she had a doctor's appointment. Before two weeks were up, she had had a mammogram, biopsy and diagnosis of Stage 2 breast cancer. Within three months, she had a double mastectomy that saved her life.

"For me, early detection saved my life and has allowed me to meet four grandchildren I might never have known," Law said.

She went on to thank the government and programs that provided the funding that saved her life.

Law later learned that the friend who had given her the phone number was also a cancer survivor. The need for early detection was emphasized, she said, when she returned to her native Louisiana to stay with her mother, who was dying from Stage 4 breast cancer.

"Madelyn (Thornton) still calls me to make sure I have my followup appointments," she said. Law was treated at Roswell Park Cancer Institute in Buffalo.

"The Cancer Services Program of Allegany and Cattaraugus Counties provides screening for early detection, along with long-term support for those receiving a positive diagnosis, so that they can become a survivor. Each day they see firsthand how devastating a cancer diagnosis can be on a family. The program's services and support are a lifesaver for many in need," said Young, emphasizing the need for such programs, especially in rural areas.

Thornton explained that the funds will be used to increase outreach and educational efforts to improve cancer screening rates. This will help reduce the number of residents who will face a cancer diagnosis with the early detection of cancers and pre-cancerous conditions.

Among those commenting on the funding was breast cancer survivor Lori Ballengee, Allegany County public health director, who said, "As a cancer survivor myself, I am intimately aware of how important early detection can be. I wouldn't be here today if I had not had my routine screening."

Also commenting on the need for early detection to reduce cancerous conditions and thanking Young for securing the grant funding were Curtis Crandall, chairman of the Allegany County Board of Legislators, Mitch Alger, Allegany County administrator, and Dr. Kevin Watkins, public health director for Cattaraugus County.

For the uninsured and underinsured resident, Cancer Services of Allegany and Cattaraugus Counties offers free mammograms to women ages 40 and older and those at high risk for breast cancer. The program also offers free Pap tests to women ages 40 and older, free colorectal cancer tests for men and women over 50 or for those at high risk and assistance to companies looking at paid leave for cancer screening. For more information, call (585) 593-4839.

New York State Department of Health

Cancer Statistics for Allegany County, 2008-2012

- 39 breast cancer diagnoses averaging seven deaths each year
- 29 cases of colorectal cancer averaging 10 deaths each year

NO
Health Insurance?

FREE
Cancer Screenings!

- WOMEN:** Age 40 & Older
- * Mammogram
 - * Clinical Breast Exam
 - * Pap/Pelvic exam

- WOMEN & MEN:** Age 50 & Older
- * At-home colorectal cancer screening kit

Early Detection
Saves Lives . . .

Call today!
Enrollment done
over the phone ...
585-593-4839

Allegany and Cattaraugus Counties
Cancer Services Program
Your partner for cancer screening, support and information

