

Kawanza Newson, Editor

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NATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH WEEK IN REVIEW

by Julie Becker



Each spring the City of Milwaukee Health Department (MHD) celebrates National Public Health Week, taking time to recognize the contributions of our public health workers and raise

awareness about issues important to improving the community's health. With a theme of "Safety is NO Accident: Live Injury-Free," this year the focus was on preventing injuries and violence before they happen, in all areas of life – at work, at home, or in the community.

During the week of April 4-10, displays in the City Hall Rotunda and informational tables at ZMB and each health center provided information to the public on the services MHD offers, as well as materials related to this year's theme of public safety and injury and accident prevention.

As in previous years, Commissioner Baker visited each MHD location, where he acknowledged staff's hard work and accomplishments, even in light of recent challenges facing public workers. He also gave an update on the department's efforts to begin the accreditation process, which will help position MHD for continued future success, and discussed the role that the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee School of Public Health will play in educating and shaping future leaders of our department.

A Public Health Week favorite, the department's traditional volleyball tournament also returned this year. Three teams participated in the 9th annual competition, with the **Lead Program** team taking home the trophy for the second consecutive year.



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COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS



Bevan K. Baker, FACHE

This month, the City of Milwaukee Health Department will host the second annual **Infant Mortality Summit**, which will focus on prematurity. As you all know, prematurity is Milwaukee's #1 cause of infant mortality, contributing to more than half of our infant deaths.

The summit will target Milwaukee physicians and healthcare systems that work with at-risk women and our speakers will share up-to-date, evidence-based prenatal care interventions that can decrease pre-term births.

Our keynote speaker, Janice Whitty, is a professor of obstetrics and gynecology at Meharry Medical College, and is only one of a handful of physicians in the United States who is triple Board-certified in Obstetrics and Gynecology, Maternal-Fetal Medicine and Critical Care.

I am proud that to say that we continue to make a strong impact in our community. In addition to the summit, we are also gearing up for the third annual **Milwaukee Child Health Week** to promote the importance of having a consistent medical provider and to encourage parents to make sure that their children have the basic health services needed to return to school.

We will host two **Back-to-School Health Fairs** again this year. The first will be held on August 12th at South Division High School and the second will take place on August 19th at North Division Campus as part of the week's activities.

More details on additional events that will happen throughout the week will be rovided later.

Thank you all in advance for the hard work and preparations that will happen to make sure that these events are a success.

Bevan K. Baker, FACHE
Commissioner of Health

PUBLIC HEALTH WEEK, *continued*

The week brought another opportunity for friendly competition in the form of the department's first annual Bag Toss Tournament. Three teams of two competed in the game, held at Fanatics Sports Central. **Jennifer Zanin** and her husband, Gino, became the first champions for the MHD event, which was a success and is likely to continue in future years.

Children of MHD employees also had the opportunity to get involved in the week's festivities through a poster contest. Entrants in three different age groups submitted creative drawings reflecting the week's theme. Winners, chosen by the Public Health Week planning committee, were **Hailey Litwaitis** (age 6 and under), **Nicole Wicker** (ages 7-10) and **Breanna Hults** (ages 11-14).

Overall, MHD enjoyed another engaging, successful Public Health Week. We look forward to hearing your feedback and ideas on how we can make next year's activities even better.



Employee Highlight

PAT WILSON



Just for Fun

Find the 25 RECREATION words listed below. Answers will be published in the next issue.

B A S K E T B A L L B O
W I L P I G N I H S I F
B O C C I E N G L A N E
E S C Y A N M B R I I G
D P G M C K N E A L N V
S E O A A L G I N I U E
M K I R M L I N N N W A
U K A A P E E N I G Q T
W T W T I M U S G X E H
E C O H I R U K N T O N
I G S O I N A J H C O B
G N N N Z Y G E K T A E
H I G I A P R E N S G C
T E N K O B Y I E D C D
S O I E A I M B I A H R
R N Y L E D A R L R E E
G A L V A L B A N T S T
O C F B L A C R O S S E

- | | | |
|------------|-----------|------------|
| BADMINTON | CHESS | MARATHON |
| BASEBALL | DARTS | RUNNING |
| BASKETBALL | FISHING | SAILING |
| BICYCLING | FLYING | SKATING |
| BOCCIE | HOCKEY | SPINNING |
| BOXING | JUMP ROPE | TETHERBALL |
| BRIDGE | KARATE | WEIGHTS |
| CAMP | KAYAKING | |
| CANOEING | LACROSSE | |

Pat Wilson has a secret she'd like to share. She loves to write. So much so that she recently published a romance novel entitled "Cloudy with a Chance of Rain" under the pen name Patricia Balentine. The Alabama native is one of 11 children, and is passionate about family, getting a closer relationship with God, and celebrating and enjoying life. At the MHD, she serves as a Program Assistant II for the Home Environmental Health program and is responsible for maintaining the department's complex databases and providing support to the lead program nursing staff. Pat took time out of her busy schedule to tell us more about herself.

When you were a kid, what did you want to be when you grew up?

I wanted to be a dancer, actress, and singer. The whole package. Being shy wasn't so good.

Do you consider yourself an introvert or an extrovert?

Somewhere in between if that's possible...if not, an introvert but I'm getting better at being an extrovert.

What gives you energy?

A goal. When I set a goal, I'm energized to make sure it is achieved. New adventures also give me energy. Doing new things and meeting new people. Seeing others realize their potential, it's all energizing.

Who is the person you admire the most?

My mom. She's gone through so much in her life but she still got back up time and time again, and she's still smiling.

What was your favorite toy as a child?

My Grandmother gave me a doll that was almost as tall as me when I was about 4 or 5 that could walk with you when you held her hand. My grandmother kept that doll for years after our family moved to Illinois and I think she finally gave it to one of my little cousins.

What has been your most memorable vacation?

My first cruise to the Bahamas was wonderful. The weather and the ship were beautiful. There was way too much food, and I stayed up way too late, but I really enjoyed myself.

Read the first two chapters of Pat's book FREE online at Barnes & Noble, Borders, Authorhouse.com or Amazon.com.

If there is a person you would like to see featured in the Employee Highlight, please contact:
Kawanza Newson
knewso@milwaukee.gov
or call **x3548**.

PRESS CONFERENCE WRAP-UP

MHD held three press conferences this quarter to bring awareness to Milwaukee’s high infant mortality rates and the need to create stronger and healthier babies in the community.

In January, Mayor Barrett released results from the **2010 Fetal Infant Mortality Review**, which summarizes what is known about factors that contribute to Milwaukee’s high number of stillbirths and infant deaths in an effort to reduce infant mortality, and eliminate the racial and ethnic disparity in infant mortality.



In February, MHD and Children’s Hospital of Wisconsin launched the third phase of Milwaukee’s **Strong Baby campaign** by unveiling a light-hearted image that promotes breastfeeding as the preferred method of providing nutrition to infants.

And in March, Mayor Tom Barrett announced that preliminary data found that Milwaukee’s infant mortality rate decreased in 2010.

MHD STAFF HONORED

This spring, the Executive Leadership Team began recognizing employee anniversaries. MHD employees celebrating 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30 or 35 years of service anniversaries are formally recognized and presented with a framed Certificate of Appreciation—signed by Mayor Barrett and Commissioner Baker—indicating their years of service. In addition, ELT meetings now rotate between various work-sites to honor those employees outside of ZMB. Here are the names of the most recently honored employees:

	Anniversary	Years of Service
Debora Tobin	01/12/11	30
Denise Anderson	03/24/11	25
Tracy Wetzel	03/04/11	20
Lori Hoffmann	02/06/11	15
Melen Dogan	02/19/11	15
Robert Dunn	02/26/11	15
Joseph Payne	03/25/11	15
Robert Colla	04/01/11	15
Patricia Wilson	04/15/11	15
Eileen Taylor	04/22/11	15
Sherri Green	01/22/11	10
Robert Kieser	02/19/11	10
Kandy Perez	02/19/11	10
Brandon Stinson	02/20/11	10
Sharon Conley	04/02/11	10
Mary Ann Kiepczynski	04/16/11	10



From left: Pat Wilson, Robert Dunn, Melen Dogan, Mary Ann Kiepczynski, Kandy Perez, Denise Anderson, Commissioner Baker, Robert Kieser, Deb Tobin, Bob Colla

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THE Healthy TIMES



MHD UPAF/Visions Donation History

Year	Donation
2006	\$11,074.00
2007	\$12,145.60
2008	\$13,826.62
2009	\$13,202.24
2010	\$14,241.91
2011	\$11,809.02

NEED HELP USING MICROSOFT OFFICE 2010?

April marked the beginning of a series of “brown bag lunch” learning sessions covering the major applications in Microsoft Office 2010. We’re calling it Lunch and Learn. Every other week or so, we’ll hold one during Noon hour to give users a chance to see a short demonstration of some new features of these programs, as well as the chance to ask questions.

The first session was held on Friday, April 8, and covered Excel 2010. It was moderated by **Jim Patzer**, the Personnel Payroll Assistant, at ZMB. The next session covered Word 2010 and was moderated by **Laura Vanderbilt**, Graphic Designer, ZMB. Laura also covered PowerPoint 2010 on Thursday, May 5.

MHD STAFF HONORED, *continued*



*From left:
Joe Payne,
Tracy Wetzel,
Commissioner
Baker,
Eileen Taylor,
Sharon Conley*



*Lori Hoffmann and
Commissioner Baker*

WELLNESS COMMITTEE UPDATE

by Yvonne Greer and Lisa Phillips



Your Wellness Committee

SSHC	Nancy Burns
ZMB	Michelle Kinnard, Neil Rice and Jennifer Zanin
NWHC	Shirley Senaya, Lisa Phillips, and Yvonne Greer
KHC	Emerald Mills and Regina Jagers

The MHD Wellness Committee continues to meet monthly to plan and implement activities, including Lunch and Learns, physical activity events, and nutritional Tips of the Month. It is our hope that you will be able to participate in some, if not all, of these events.

Every MHD location has a Wellness Committee representative who goes above and beyond their workload to find some activities that hopefully each of you can participate in. The committee representatives are always looking for help and input from MHD staff members.

Some of the 2011 activities planned are:

May 7th – American Cancer Society Walk (Captains Liz Rodriguez and Lisa Phillips) – we’re forming a team now – walk with us!

May/June – Ergonomics Lunch and Learns. Any participant will have one on one access

to the presenter to review their area to see how they can ergonomically improve their work area. First dibs will go to those that attended the presentation.

June – Men’s Health Month – Black Health Coalition Quality Health Walk (Captain Emerald Mills) and other promotions (TBA)

July – Sand Volleyball Tournament – get your team ready!

Hope to see you at these events!

UPAF/VISIONS CAMPAIGN 2011

by Ali Reed



The 2011 UPAF/Visions campaign was a success: in addition to having lots of fun, MHD staff raised a total of \$12,385! This breaks down to

\$11,809 in paycheck deductions or one-time donations, and an additional \$576 from fund-raising events. Of those fund-raising events, the big money maker was the health center chair massages, courtesy of the SPA SCHOOL. What a great way to relax and contribute at the same time!

Other UPAF/Visions events this year included a kick-off breakfast at each site and many raffle prizes: tickets to Discovery World, Betty Brinn Children's Museum, the Milwaukee Public Museum, the Milwaukee Art Museum and the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra.

The Cookie-Gram campaign sent 11 dozen shamrock cookies throughout the MHD on St. Patrick's Day – what a sweet way to show co-workers how much they are appreciated!

None of it could have happened without the support of our outstanding MHD Solicitors: **Kawanza Newson, Ali Reed, Nancy Hills, Carol Johnsen, Ron LaPorte, Jill LeStarge, Becky Litwaitis, Alicia Pacala, Ali Reed, Claire Vanden Wymelenberg** and **Laura Vanderbilt**.

Thank you to everyone for making this year's campaign so successful!

HEALTH CENTER MODERNIZATION AND BEAUTIFICATION TASK FORCE

In August 2010, nine MHD employees met to determine how to standardize signage and modernize the look and function of all health centers.

The result: a cleverly designed renovation of the South Side second floor classroom. The room was dedicated on February 24, in honor of the late **Carol M. Graham**, former Director of Public Health Nursing Manager.



Using WIC program infrastructure funds, the Health Center Modernization and Beautification Task Force decided to paint, install new window treatments, replace the ceiling lights, install custom cabinetry, sink and counter tops, purchase new tables that connect to outlets and purchase beautiful chairs for the remodel. We also created a



“Wall of Clients” with numerous framed client photos and displayed them for everyone to see.

In the future, we will look at a Smart Board installation as funds are available.

We are proud of our new conference room and use it for meetings for staff and community partners. If you haven't seen it yet, please stop by the next time you are at SSHC to see the transformation. It's beautiful!

In addition to the classroom makeover, we also painted the walls of the first floor waiting areas, registration area, stairwells up to the second floor and the hallways. We removed all the posters and bulletin boards and are in the process of determining guidelines for uniform placement of pictures and posters. Painting has also been completed in the waiting rooms at the Northwest Health Center.

Plans are in process for the remodel of the Keenan Health Center registration area on the first floor. We are excited about having a central registration area for the first floor programs. We plan to have the renovation completed by the summer of 2012, just in time to celebrate Keenan's 80th Year Anniversary in October 2012!

We would also like to consider an updated look of the SSHC Break room too! If you have any ideas or concerns, please email **Yvette Rowe** at yrowe@milwaukee.gov.

THE *Healthy* TIMES KUDOS



From Lisa Phillips



KUDOS TO MBCCAP STAFF

On March 6th, the Milwaukee Bucks held their 18th Annual Bucks Wives Saves Lives auction to benefit the MBCCAP program. The Milwaukee Bucks handle everything which includes getting autographed items for the auction, printing flyers to be passed out before the game, and setting up the display.

The MBCCAP staff arrives at the game before the gates open to pass out flyers and talk about the auction. This year the event raised \$20,113.63 from this event. The auction raised \$10,113.63 and Senator Herb Kohl graciously donated \$10,000 from his foundation. These funds are used to maintain the Immunization van, purchase incentives, and gift cards.

This year we had 15 helpers giving out flyers. It really helps to have all the extra hands passing out flyers and encouraging game attendees to participate in the event.

A big thank you to MHD staff **Sherri Green, Brenda Holman,** and **Janet Woolfolk** and MHSI staff **Lavinia Matias.**

From Nancy Castro



KUDOS TO WIC STAFF

Kudos to **Becky Litwaitis**, WIC Health Project Coordinator, for implementing the City Watch auto dialer in the WIC program. Great job!

Kudos to **Yvonne Greer**, Nutritionist Coordinator for her work with the 7th and 8th graders at Milwaukee College Prep School. Yvonne presented two classes: *Nutrition and Fitness: How Do You Measure Up?* – Milwaukee College Prep School, Active Living Program, 2 sessions with 7th Graders (50 total) on March 7th and 2 sessions with 8th Graders (50 total) on March 9th; and *Nutrition Trivia: Test Your Knowledge* (Assembly Program – 100 Students) – Milwaukee College Prep School, Active Living Pro-



Also helping were family members and friends.

I would like to say kudos to additional hires for MBCCAP that started with the program in September and October. Both have been and are a much welcome addition to the program.

Janet Woolfolk (PHN) transferred from STD and recently received a much deserved thank you from an extremely worried patient in need of diagnostic services through the program. For many years, MBCCAP has only had one PHN to provide breast and cervical diagnostic follow-up and enrollment into Medicaid for treatment for the City of Milwaukee. Janet has taken on her own case load which now allows both PHN's to provide better follow-up of our clients. Janet is also currently filling in for WISEWOMAN until a new PHN is hired.

Luz Cruz (OA) is new to the Health Department and has been a welcome addition to the program as a bilingual staff. MBCCAP serves approximately 50% Spanish speaking clients and we are very happy to welcome Luz to MBCCAP. Luz schedules Spanish speaking Well Woman clients and is the OA for the WISEWOMAN program which was added in 2009. The addition of Luz to our programs provides a much needed resource to the Spanish speaking women we serve.

gram, 7th and 8th Graders combined on March 11th. Thank you, Yvonne – the impact on their lives is invaluable.

Kudos to **Pam Jones**, WIC DTR, and **Bonnie Brower**, WIC RD, for successfully completing the “Shopping Matters for WIC Parents” grocery store tours!

Congratulations to the MHD Registered Dietitians **Bonnie Brower, Yvonne Greer, Becky Litwaitis, Angela Hamilton** and **Nancy Castro**, as they celebrated National Registered Dietitian Day on March 10th!

From Becky Litwaitis

Kudos to **WIC staff** for serving **7,652 participants in the month of February!**

WOW!

Autumn 2010 puzzle:



APPLE PIE
BAKING
BREAD
CHESTNUTS
COAT
CORN
CRANBERRY
FALL
FIREPLACE
FOOTBALL
FROST
GOURD
HAM
HAYRIDE
LEAF
MAPLE SYRUP

MASHED POTATOES
MITTENS
PUMPKIN PIE
RELATIVES
SCARF
STUFFING
THANKSGIVING
TURKEY
WARMTH
YAMS



Mayor Tom Barrett

Think Health 
CITY OF *Act Now!*
MILWAUKEE
HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Tom Barrett, Mayor
Bevan K. Baker,
Commissioner of Health
www.milwaukee.gov/health

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RETIREMENTS

Thank you to all who have devoted their careers to educating, empowering and improving the health of Milwaukee's citizens. Your many years of service are deeply appreciated.

Claire Bark	PHN	FCH	SSHC
Rob Chalhoub	PHN	HEH	ZMB
Sandra Dobrzynski	OA III	HEH	ZMB
Herman Fields	Custodial Worker II	Hlth Op	KHC
Wanda Griffin	Lab Assistant III	Lab Svcs	ZMB
Tim Helm	OA III	DCEH	ZMB
Tracy Ingram	Custodial Worker II	Hlth Op	NWHC
Sharon Ostergaard	Health Access Asst II	FCH	SSHC
Kris White	PHN Supervisor	HEH	ZMB
Noutou Xiong	Health Access Interpreter	FHC	SSHC

NEW STAFF/REINSTATEMENTS/APPOINTMENTS

Cindy Huebschmann	PHN	NFP	SSHC
Traci Lebow	PHN	EFM	SSHC
Karen LeSage	Prov FCH Operations Manager	FCH	ZMB
Jim Patzer	Payroll Assistant II	HR	ZMB
Ann Porreca	PHN	STD	KHC
Diab Qadah	Chemist II	Lab	ZMB

PROMOTIONS/RECLASSIFICATIONS

Julie Becker	to OA II	Lab	ZMB
Karl Curda	to Lead Project Coordinator	HEH	ZMB
Irmine Reitl	to CD Program Supervisor	STD	KHC

TRANSFERS

Laura Beyer	OA III	to STD	KHC
Nancy Burns	PHN Coordinator	to PNCC	SSHC
Pat Makarewicz	PHN Coordinator	to PNCC	SSHC
Margot Manassa	PHN	to HEH	ZMB
Janet Woolfolk	PHN	to MBCCAP	NWHC

RESIGNATIONS/INTERDEPARTMENTAL TRANSFERS

We also bid farewell to the following staff members and wish them well in their new endeavors:

Terri Birt	Health Project Coordinator	EFM	SSHC
Ebony Cobb	PHN	FCH	NWHC
Debra Husar	OA III	FCH	ZMB
Charlie Lauters	Environmental Health Specialist I	DCEH	ZMB
Sara Mishefske	FCH Operations Manager	FCH	ZMB
Bill Morales	Mayors Against Illegal Guns	ADM	ZMB
Ashley Saggio	PHN	FCH	SSHC
Vinny Taneja	Epidemiologist	ADM	ZMB
Eleni Topetztes	PHN	DCEH	ZMB
Yesenia Valle	OA II	HEH	ZMB
Bernita Zollicoffer	PA II	DCEH	ZMB