

Public Health News Briefs



November-December 2010

Protecting Food Safety in Our Community ~ Tuesday, November 2nd

Local restaurant managers and interested community members are invited to a special presentation on *“Food Safety Issues in Our Community”* on Tuesday, November 2nd from 2 to 4 p.m. San Juan Basin Health Department is hosting the FDA (Food and Drug Administration) Regional Food Specialist in speaking about employee health regulations and policies, and the legal ramifications of food-borne outbreak for restaurant businesses. Bari Wagner, Communicable Disease nurse for San Juan Basin Health, will be discussing Hepatitis A and the outbreak in Grand Lake, Colorado this past summer. San Juan Basin Health partners with local food establishment managers and the public in maintaining food safety in our community. We are initiating a new campaign to protect the public and local food service employees by providing free Hepatitis A vaccinations. For more information, please call Marian at 335-2055.

ServSafe National Training Offered November 4-5

San Juan Basin Health Department’s Environmental Division is offering the ServSafe National Training Program on November 4 and 5 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Food Safety is a commitment and smart business practice for every food service professional. This program provides national certification and is a comprehensive, integrated program which provides science-based information on how to run a safe establishment and to establish sound food safety policies. The course costs \$150 and will be held at San Juan Basin Health’s Conference/Training Center. For information or to RSVP, contact Marian at 335-2055 or email: mschaub@sjbhd.org.

Flu Clinics

San Juan Basin Health is in the middle of its **nineteen outreach flu clinics** being offered at La Plata county senior centers, schools, businesses, local governmental offices, elderly housing and local soup kitchen. Our Community Flu Clinic (Boo to Flu) was held October 30th in Bayfield and in Durango and was open to all ages.

Friday Flu Clinics begin November 5th from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at San Juan Basin Health in Bodo Park. December 3rd. Flu shots cost only \$14.70 this year.



Bari Wagner giving Sarah Jacobson flu shot at an on-Site Flu Clinic at La Plata County courthouse October 20th. *Thanks again for the great drive!!! You ladies were awesome.* ~ Sarah Jacobson, La Plata County Wellness Coordinator

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**Flu shots are recommended by the CDC for adults
and for children 6 months and older.**

Flu Clinics in Archuleta ~ November 5th and Walk-In Clinics

San Juan Basin Health Department's Pagosa office is holding its low cost flu shot clinic for community members on Friday November 5th from 1 to 7 p.m. It will be held at the Pagosa Springs office at 512 S. 8th Street. No appointment is necessary and all ages are welcome. Flu shots cost just \$14.70. Medicare, pediatric Medicaid, CHP+, or Rocky Mountain HMO insurances are accepted.

Individuals will have additional opportunities to get their flu shot at the Pagosa office's Walk-In Flu Clinics from 8:30 to 10 a.m. Tuesdays through Fridays. Parents with children (under 19) can also call to schedule a flu shot appointment for their children at our regular Monday immunization clinics. Please call 264-2409.

Free Shot in the Arm Continues

Adults can still get FREE pneumonia and tetanus, diphtheria, and whooping cough booster immunizations. Individuals can get these at any of the flu clinics or by scheduling an appointment. Call 247-5702 for an appointment in La Plata County or 264-2409, ext. 0 in Archuleta County. Pneumonia shots are recommended for people over age 18 with underlying conditions and for adult smokers. These free vaccinations are made possible through a grant from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. For more information on what vaccines are recommended for adults, visit www.sjbhd.org/immunizations.

Free Screenings for Seniors

The Senior Outreach program continues to provide free screenings to our senior citizens. Our nurse tests blood pressure, temperature, heart rate, oxygen level, and blood glucose level. All take place from 11 a.m. to 12 noon. Anyone 60 years or older can receive a free nursing visit at home by calling the Senior Outreach Nurse Brenda Isgar, R.N. at 749-4007.

Second Thursday* of each month in Durango at the La Plata County Senior Center
(*closed November 11 for Veteran's Day – changed to: Tuesday November 16,
and still second Thursday on December 9)

Third Thursday of each month in Ignacio at the Ignacio Senior Center
(November 18, December 16)

First Friday of each month in Bayfield at the Pine River Valley Senior Center
(November 5, December 3)

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Meth Forum and Lasso Tobacco Coalition Meeting ~ Tuesday, November 16th

This meeting will update members and interested individuals of changes and opportunities involving the Meth Forum group and Lasso Tobacco Coalition. These groups are both coordinated through San Juan Basin Health Department's Community Health Promotion division. At this meeting, there will be discussion about furthering these projects addressing substance use and celebrating a community where everyone can live well and breathe free. Lunch is provided. Please call 335-2048 to RSVP.

New Mural Created Celebrating Youth's Vision of Healthy Community

Durango has a new mural! Local youth from Durango and Ignacio helped envision and paint the south wall of the Boys and Girls Club of La Plata County. Local artist, Debra Greenblatt, created the mural. She integrated images and concepts from the youth about what brings us together as a community and what's worth celebrating. The mural represents the youth's vision of a healthy community – and their challenge for the adults in our community to help in transforming this vision into reality.



The mural project was funded by Creating Positive Community Norms Task Force of Lasso Tobacco Coalition, through a grant from the Division of Behavioral Health. This task force is made up of youth, youth group leaders, substance abuse and tobacco prevention groups, Fort Lewis College, La Plata County Youth Services, and San Juan Basin Health Department.

STAFF

New Promotora for Latino Health Outreach program

Promoviendo La Salud announces the hire of Mariel Sholes for the position of Promotora (health educator) in La Plata County. Originally from Argentina, Mariel has lived in many parts of the world, including Grenada and the Dominican Republic. Since living in Durango, she has been very active in the Latino community and has contributed many hours of work as a volunteer interpreter with the La Plata Unity Project. As a promotora, Mariel will combine her professional skills with a love of working with people to educate Latino adults about chronic disease prevention and management. To learn more about Promoviendo La Salud, visit our website at www.sjbhd.org. Contact Mariel directly at 759-1504 or mariel@sjbhd.org.

Employment Opportunities

Please check our website www.sjbhd.org for up-to-date job opportunities. Click on employment in the top menu.

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