

PUBLIC HEALTH MUSEUM

IN MASSACHUSETTS

It's A Wrap!

We welcomed many tours during Public Health Week and we are ready to host you! High school, college, and professional group tours are available and we can work to accommodate your needs.

Click for dates or email us
info@publichealthmuseum.org.

BOOK A TOUR



The Massachusetts Association of Occupational Health Nurses (MaAOHN) visited in April as part of Public Health Week

Follow us on Facebook and Twitter for the latest information and programming.



Public Health Week 2023!

...from Al DeMaria, Jr., MD, president

National Public Health Week (April 2-8, 2023) was once again celebrated by the Public Health Museum, with a busy schedule of 10 programs and events!

We hosted a roundtable discussion of the refugee experience with health and healthcare with Representative Vanna Howard, a joint program with the Tewksbury Library with Maryn McKenna on antibiotics and poultry production, visits to the museum by several public health organizations, a forum on rural public health and a "Smallpox Walk" in association with the Middlesex Canal Museum to a smallpox cemetery along the banks of the Middlesex Canal. The Front-Line Initiative provided two naloxone (Narcan) rescue trainings.

The museum had a very successful open house on the Thursday, and provided an exhibit in the lobby of Tewksbury Hospital for the week and a lecture on the hospital's history for the staff.

We want to thank all our partners and participants for making this annual recognition of the role of public health such a success, and if you couldn't make it to any events, we've shared them with you this month in our newsletter.

Dr. Al DeMaria

The museum is seeking indoor and outdoor volunteer guides. Training is available. The museum is open Thursdays and Saturdays at this time.

info@publichealthmuseum.org

We had a full slate of activities for Public Health Week 2023

Here's a Recap In Case you Missed It!

The Southeast Asian Refugee Health Experience

As part of Public Health Week, the museum sponsored a forum about the refugee experience of the Southeast Asian community with health care and adapting to the US. The goal was to create a record of this experience. Participants included community leaders and service providers, including State Representative Vanna Howard, all of whom shared their refugee stories. The discussion was highly informative and highlighted many challenges that remain to this day, emphasizing the need for continued advocacy for past and current refugee and immigrant arrivals.



Pictured left to right: Kowith Kret, Cambodian Community Activist
Niem Naykret, Community Health Worker, REACH LoWELL, Lowell Community Health Center
Bich Ngoc (Mary) Vu, Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program, MDPH
Toy Vongpheth, Refugee Health Services Manager, Metta Health, Lowell Community Health Center
Vanna Howard, State Representative, 7th Middlesex District
Jennifer Cochran, Former Director, Division of Global Populations and Infectious Diseases, MDPH
Sidney Liang, Senior Director, Metta Health Center, Lowell
Al DeMaria, President, Public Health Museum
Kirirath (AJ) Saing, Multicultural Program Specialist at Element Care, Element Care, Lynn



Big Chicken: The Incredible Story of How Antibiotics Created Modern Agriculture and Changed the Way the World Eats

We were so pleased to have public health and global health writer Maryn McKenna share a discussion about the rise of antibiotics

What you eat matters—for your health, for the environment, and for future generations. In this riveting investigative narrative, McKenna dove deep into the world of modern agriculture by way of chicken: from the farm where it's raised directly to your dinner table. Consumed more than any other meat in the United States, chicken is emblematic of today's mass food-processing practices and their profound influence on our lives and health. Tracing its meteoric rise from scarce treat to ubiquitous global commodity, McKenna revealed the astounding role of antibiotics in industrial farming, documenting how and why

"wonder drugs" revolutionized the way the world eats—and not necessarily for the better. Rich with scientific, historical, and cultural insights, this spellbinding cautionary tale shines a light on one of America's favorite foods—and shows us the way to safer, healthier eating for ourselves and our children. The book documents how antibiotics transformed chicken from local delicacy to industrial commodity—and human health threat—uncovering the ways we can make America's favorite meat safer again.

Thank you to Scott Troppy for making this program possible.

WATCH "Big Chicken"

PUBLIC HEALTH WEEK 2023

OUTBREAK! WHAT I GAINED FROM THE PROGRAM

APRIL 5TH - 7 PM - VIRTUAL

Outbreak!, the Public Health Museum's summer program for high school students is in its 11th session and will be held this year from July 24th to July 28th. A panel of five students will share their Outbreak experiences and what they gained. Hear their advice about pursuing public health careers and the connections they made.

OUTBREAK! A STUDENT EXPERIENCE

Alumni of the museum's summer public health experience gathered to discuss how Outbreak! shaped their path to the public health profession. Former students shared insights into different career choices, and how learning the breadth of the field opened up possibilities for their studies.

Outbreak will run this summer in a hybrid format-welcoming students from around the country.

WATCH OUTBREAK! WHAT I GAINED FROM THE PROGRAM

RURAL HEALTH FORUM

Moderated by Professor Harold Cox of Boston University's School of Public Health, five rural health providers discussed the challenges and rewards of rural public health.

Whether it's food inspections, lack of transportation infrastructure, finding safe housing, or lack of digitized records for small communities, community public health in smaller and more remote towns is worthy of our attention.

Watch this program about the boots on the ground experiences that our public health colleagues shared.



**VIRTUAL
LOCAL PUBLIC
HEALTH FORUM**
on Rural Health

PUBLIC HEALTH WEEK 2023
April 7th, 2023 - 10 am to 12 pm

Providing public health services in small, often isolated, rural communities presents particular challenges. A panel of public health officials from rural districts and towns will discuss these challenges and potential solutions. Join to hear a lively discussion of meeting the public health needs of rural communities.

 **Register here:**
<http://bit.ly/3LAJjFK>

WATCH THE FORUM HERE

NARCAN IS FOR EVERYONE

The Public Health Museum hosted two free Narcan trainings during PHW. The Front Line team discussed the signs of opioid overdose and instructed participants how to administer Narcan. Narcan was distributed to participants. "An overdose can happen anywhere, any time," said Matthew Page-Shelton, Front Line director.

Watch for future trainings at the museum.
Free and open to all.



Free Narcan Training

Front Line & The Public Health Museum offer free Narcan, training, and information.



Did you know...?

- Fentanyl is being added to other drugs and fake pills that look like real medications
- Narcan can reverse the effects of an opioid or Fentanyl overdose

Narcan is for everyone!

- You can still carry Narcan even if you don't know anyone living with addiction
- You might save a life
- It's easier to help than ever



Pre-register or Drop-in for a Refresher
Public Health Museum
365 East Street, Tewksbury, MA
Museum will be open after training.

SMALLPOX CEMETERY WALK

In partnership with Marlies Henderson and the Middlesex Canal Museum, we capped off Public Health Week with a walk to a hidden smallpox cemetery in neighboring Billerica. This fascinating 3 mile walk was a glimpse into the development of the canal and how the hand-dug channel was instrumental in developing trade and tourism between Boston and the Merrimack Valley. Highlighted by Dr. Al DeMaria's history of smallpox and its eventual eradication, the marker was a poignant reminder that while we have eradicated one disease, we still have so very far to go.

Visit the Middlesex Canal Museum:
[LEARN MORE HERE](#)



COMING SOON

The Public Health Museum will be offering walks of the Pines Cemetery near the grounds of the museum. Led by our guide Liz, this will be a chance to learn about the history of the 10,000 souls buried there.

This 90 minute tour leaves from the museum. The walk is approximately a mile and a half long and sturdy shoes are recommended. Watch for sign ups through the summer.



Help conserve public health artifacts, underwrite programming, and support student tours as we continue the mission of educating everyone about the history of public health!

DONATE

"Sharing the history of public health since 1994"

[Public Health Museum](#)



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