

# Public Health Museum

In Massachusetts

## Newsletter

VOL II | SUMMER 2015 | ISSUE III

### Walking Tours now Open!

Welcome to the Public Health Museum's Summer Newsletter for 2015! The Public Health Museum enthusiastically welcomes you to join us on a 90-minute tour to explore the Tewksbury's historic grounds! The tour provides a walk through history, the community's architecture, the lives of its patients and staffs, and its connection to public health.

More information regarding tour schedule on Page 5



Chapel photo by John Bedard

### Museum Accepts New Collection

Margaret Ward enrolled in the Tewksbury State Hospital Nursing School in 1921 at the age of 27. Upon her graduation in 1924, she was employed at the Tewksbury State Hospital.

Mary Ferguson and Susan Sievers, granddaughters of Margaret Ward, have generously donated Margaret's nursing textbooks, a set of her surgical instruments, and a few pictures to the museum. They have also written her interesting life story and are sharing it with us. Refer to page 3 for a summary; read the entire story on our website.

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# *Outbreak 2015: A Public Health Experience*

“Outbreak 2015” is a week-long interactive program presented by the Public Health Museum with the support and commitment of Public Health Professionals. It is offered to students entering their junior and senior year of high school. This unique program presents the students with an opportunity to learn the history and importance of public health, including the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of diseases that could affect people worldwide.

Each day will focus on a different public health discipline, including field trips to both the Hinton State Laboratory Institute and the William X. Wall Experiment Station. The three classroom days will introduce students to the field of Epidemiology, Oral Health and occupational overviews of various careers in public health.

“Outbreak 2015” is being held the week of August 3-7. For additional information call the Public Health Museum at 978-851-7321, ext. 2606.



The first Outbreak students -2013. The participants are from Tewksbury, Methuen, Lawrence, and Acton-Boxborough.

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## *Meet Margaret Ward Warren: From Orphan to Nurse*



Margaret was born in Liverpool, England, in the Walton Workhouse, February 7, 1894 to a poor Irish mother and English father. Many poor women went to the work house to give birth as there was no fee. Food and clothing would be given to the mother upon leaving with her baby. A sister, Alice, was also born at the workhouse, in 1897.

In 1903, Margaret's father abandoned the family leaving them destitute. Margaret's mother gave the girls up to an orphanage, the Liverpool Sheltering Home, believing they would have a better life there.

The girls were sent from the orphanage on February 18, 1904 by steamship with 70 other children to Canada. As in many cases, they were separated, both taken in by farming families in the Province of Quebec. Alice was 7 and Margaret 11. Margaret remained with her farm family until she was 16. In 1910, Margaret went to visit her sister Alice in Manchester (where she had been adopted) and was allowed to stay.

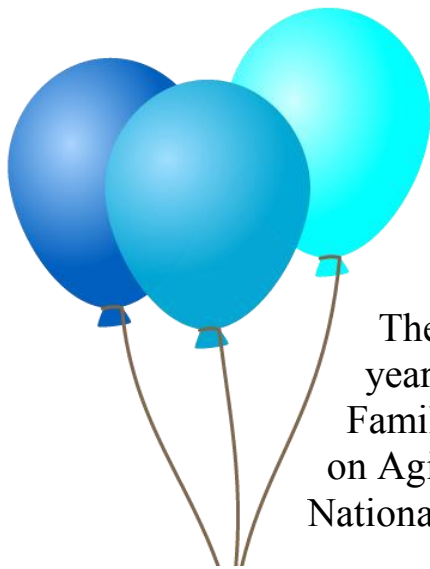
In 1921 Margaret decided to become a nurse and enrolled in The Tewksbury State Hospital Nursing School in Tewksbury, Ma. at the age of 27 years. She graduated in 1924, became an employee of the hospital and lived and worked there until her marriage in 1929. Letters tell us she worked on the wards as well as in the community as a private duty nurse. She sent money to her mother, Catherine, in Liverpool, who was still living in poverty and dying of cancer. Her mother lived with another daughter, Jessie, born to her a few months after the girls moved to Canada. In 1924, Catherine died and Margaret arranged for Jessie to come and live with her at the hospital.

In 1928 Margaret married George Warren when she was 34 years old. She knew him well because he was Alice's brother by her adoption into the Warren family. The couple settled in Scituate, MA where George found work as a boat builder. They had two children, a daughter Jessie and a son George. Margaret stopped nursing for a few years when the children were in school, but returned to work in a Doctor's office in town until his death. From about 1950 through the late 60's she worked at a retreat for blind persons as a housekeeper, cook, and seamstress, whatever was needed.

Margaret stopped working when she was 80 years old because the retreat closed and she could not find another job. Her husband passed away and she was alone for the last 15 years of her life. She was a loving and warm grandmother who brought comfort and joy to all who knew her. She loved to tell stories about growing up in Canada on a farm and about her nursing days too. She lived in her own home until her death in 1983 at age 89.

Extracted from the writings of Mary Ferguson and Susan Sievers (granddaughters). Please read the full account on the website.





## A Participant at the Tewksbury Health Fair!

The Public Health Museum was an eager participant again this year in the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual “Health and Wellness Fair” for the Whole Family sponsored by the Tewksbury Board of Health and Council on Aging. The Wednesday event was part of the celebrations for National Public Health Week, April 6-10, 2015.

Other participants at the fair included community businesses such as home health organizations, dentists, assisted living communities, dieticians, pharmacists, Police and Fire Departments, and many more. The fair was open to all and provided health, safety, and preventive educational information.

The booth set up by the museum was well received by visitors from the community. Duncan Hazel and Joe Pike helped set up the booth and Joanne Murphy and Linda Perry gave out information and answered questions.



Joanne Murphy and Linda Perry at the Tewksbury Health and Wellness Fair

# Calendar



Eye Injury Prevention Month  
Hemochromatosis Screening and Awareness Month  
**July 28:** World Hepatitis Day



Psoriasis Awareness Month  
Spinal Muscular Atrophy Awareness Month  
National Awareness Month  
Cataract Awareness Month  
**August 1:** National Minority Donor Awareness Day  
**August 1-6:** World Breastfeeding Week  
Arthritis Awareness Month



Children's Eye Health and Safety Month  
Gynecologic Cancer Awareness Month  
National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month  
National Cholesterol Education Month  
**September 1- 6:** National Asthma Week  
**September 7-12:** National Suicide Prevention Week  
**September 20-26:** Reye's Syndrome Awareness Week

# The Public Health Museum in Massachusetts

## OUR MISSION

The Public Health Museum is a non-profit educational and cultural museum. The Museum strives to preserve records and artifacts from our nation's public health history; educate the public about the achievements and contributions of public health; and inspire people to build upon the past and continue to advance the future of public health. Our Museum provides a space to explore public health, inspire future public health professionals, and foster community involvement.

## OUR HISTORY

Incorporated in 1990 and opened to the public since 1994, the Museum has the distinction of being the first of its kind in the nation. Massachusetts has a rich history of leadership and notable firsts in the birth of our nation. In the field of public health, Massachusetts was the first to record vital statistics; the first to implement a sustained board of health; and the first to implement a communicable disease surveillance system, among many others.

### MUSEUM BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Katherine Domoto  
*President*  
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## MUSEUM HOURS

Time: 10 am – 2 pm

Wednesdays, Thursdays

1st Saturday of each Month (except Sept 5, 2015)

Open Saturday, Sept 12, 2015

May be open by Appointment

**ADMISSION:** \$5.00 per person

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## TEWKSBURY HOSPITAL CAMPUS WALKING TOUR 2015

Saturdays: August 1, September 12, October 3.

Wednesdays: July 22, August 19, Sept 16.

10:00 am-12:00 pm

**By appointment** - Weather permitting

**ADMISSION:** \$10.00 per person

**ADDRESS:** 365 East St, Tewksbury, MA 01876

**PHONE NUMBER:** 978-851-7321 EXT 2606

**EMAIL ADDRESS:** [phmuseum@gmail.com](mailto:phmuseum@gmail.com)

**WEBSITE:** [PUBLICHEALTHMUSEUM.ORG](http://PUBLICHEALTHMUSEUM.ORG)

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