

The Noon News

October 12, 2009

Published



Waterloo Exchange Club

H1N1 Flu Update—Although we had a business meeting scheduled, which typically does not include a speaker, Ann Kline gave us a timely update on the H1N1 Flu situation. Ann explained that physicians are using surveillance testing—that is they are sampling a portion folks coming for treatment of the flu— to determine the extent of this strain of flu in the community. She reported that there are cases of this type of flu beginning to show up here now.



Ann Kline, Black Hawk County Health Dept Exchangite

Ann says the symptoms are the same as regular flu and it can last up to two weeks, just like regular flu.

Ann reported that the vaccine for H1N1 is beginning to trickle in now. These limited supplies are being "rationed" to "priority populations". Ann says the highest priority group is health care workers that are providing direct patient care. Children under the age of 4, pregnant women, folks around infants under 6 months of age and children between 5 and 18 years of age that have weak immune systems round out the list of folks most likely to be affected by H1N1. She expects this rationing to continue through the month of November. After that, supplies are expected to become more available.

When supplies increase, all children from 6 months to 24 years of age and folks 25-64 years of age with weak immune systems will have access to the vaccine.

Ann believes the H1N1 vaccine is safe. She says it's manufactured in the same way as the normal flu vaccines and there have been no problems detected in rather extensive testing that has been done.

Although this particular strain seems to be extremely contagious and since it's a new virus we have no immunity for it, at this point it seems to affect us in about the same way as other strains of flu that we are familiar with. Folks with normally functioning immune systems should be able to fight it off without medical attention. Thanks, Ann, for this informative update.

Other Health News—Larry and Vicky Bjortomt's son is responding to treatment making some progress. There is still paralysis and other issues. He still has a ways to go in recovering. Larry and Vicky are staying at this address near the medical facility:

John Zay Guest House
2131 North Tejon Street
Colorado Springs, CO 80907

A card or note, along with our prayers, would help a lot.

NEXT MEETING LOGISTICS

Program: Firefighter of the Year
Prayer : Part of the program
Pledge : Part of the program
Menu : TBA

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Oct 19: Firefighter of the Year
Oct 26: Capt Kies, U.S. Navy
Nov 02: Jerry Anders, That Dam Update
Nov 09: Waterloo Schools Strategic Plan
Nov 16: No Meeting

WHAT'S FOR LUNCH

Oct 19: TBA
Oct 26: TBA
Nov 02: TBA
Nov 09: TBA
Nov 16: No Meeting
Order Chef Salad one week in advance

BIRTHDAYS

Oct 13: Jerry Anders
Oct 13: Mark Johnson
Oct 15: Frank Magsamen
Oct 15: John Woods
Oct 16: Sharon Jordan

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

"Change is inevitable, except from a vending machine." Anonymous

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Expo School Project—Our Partners in Education school, Expo High School, is participating with the other High schools from the area in a project to support the Cedar Valley Food Bank by collecting canned goods or monetary donations. This is especially ironic, since many of the students at Expo depend on the Food Bank for food themselves. So, they can really use our help with this project. Beginning next week, members are asked to bring canned goods to support the Expo effort. This initiative will run through November 16th. Larry Shollenbarger is heading this up for the club. Contact Larry for more information.

Membership information—Three members have elected to leave our ranks: Ted Boeger, Kevin Evans and Tim Hurley. This brings our membership to 91.

On a positive note, after an invitation for lunch from Sandy Goldsberry and a couple of visits Jodi Verbraken has decided to join us. Welcome Jodi.

Guests— Pat Cole invited her brother John Murphy as her guest. John is running for election to the Waterloo City Council.

Upcoming program— Wanda Martin announced that the One Nation Under God Program is scheduled for November 19th. She is working out all the details, but has Reverend Homer Larson lined up as the speaker. There will be a sign-up sheet started next week.

Big program next week— The program next week will be the Fire Fighter of the Year. This is always a fine program, but this year will be even more special... We need a big turn-out next Monday.

AIMS Committee update— Rocky Buege gave us an update on some of the recent gifts by the AIMS committee. Camp Ingawanis received \$240. These folks have been very helpful with the Sunshine Special projects lately. The East High School Speech and debate Team received \$250. And we gave \$250 to the Memorial Hall Sign Project.

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