



## TIOGA COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

***PLEASE RSVP TO 607-687-8630***

***IF YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO ATTEND THIS MEETING***

TO: Members of the Board of Health

FROM: A. Reigelman, Secretary

DATE: June 8, 2023

RE: Board of Health Meeting - Thursday, June 15, 2023,  
7:30 a.m., **Multi-Purpose Room**, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor of Health and Human Services  
Building at 1062 St. Rt. 38, Owego, NY 13827.

### AGENDA

#### Introduction of Guests

- Daniel Scherrer, Public Health Sanitarian

#### Presentation

- Public Health Water Program

#### Additional Items

#### Old Business

- Meeting Minutes
- Enforcements
- Rabies Exemption Request

#### New Business

- None

#### Informational

- Agency Updates – May 2023

#### Next Meeting Information

- Next Meeting is on July 20, 2023



# TIOGA COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

## MEETING MINUTES May 18, 2023

### **BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT (All Attended In Person):**

T. Nytch, DVM  
T. Leary, FNP  
W. Standinger III, Legislator  
J. Raftis, DO, FACEP  
R. Kapur-Pado, DO (Arrived at 7:36 a.m.)

### **ABSENT:**

T. Hills, DVM, President  
W. Simmons, Vice President

### **OTHER(S) PRESENT:**

H. Vroman, Interim Public Health Director  
P. DeWind, Tioga County Attorney (Arrived at 7:39 a.m.)  
A. Reigelman, Secretary

### **GUESTS:**

Denis McCann, Director of Administrative Services (Departed at 8:06 a.m.)  
Susan Medina, Deputy Director of Public Health (Departed at 8:07 a.m.)  
Melanie Miller, Director of Patient Services (Departed at 8:07 a.m.)

**CALL TO ORDER:** at 7:30 by Dr. Nytch (requested to lead meeting by Dr. Hills in advance)

### **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:**

- Brief introduction of guests; Board welcomed back Ms. Medina and Ms. Miller.

### **PRESENTATION:**

Denis McCann, Public Health Financials Overview- funding, fees, where money is spent, budget schedule/process.

- Q&A and discussion followed; Legislator Standinger commended Mr. McCann and other Fiscal crew for what they do. Ms. Vroman added that Mr. McCann is also part of other State committees, which provides great insight/knowledge beneficial to the work he does for Public Health.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

- Meeting Minutes: No discussion; motion to approve prior minutes made by Ms. Leary; seconded by Dr. Kapur-Pado, all were in favor, none opposed, motion approved.
- Enforcements: brief discussion and explanation of higher priced enforcements listed (water-testing and hotel).
- By-Law Review: Subcommittee revised By-Laws per comments from Board at March meeting (revised By-Laws were sent electronically to members prior to meeting). Dr. Nytch asked Board members present if anyone had any further comments.
  - Ms. Vroman noted that she attended a Public Health Conference recently, where it was stated that legislation is being proposed to amend Public Health Law on Board of Health membership, making change of requirement from three physicians being on the Board to a minimum of two mid-level or greater providers. Not something to change in By-Laws yet, but to make note of for the future if legislation passes.
  - Dr. Nytch called for vote to approve the current iteration of By-Laws; motion made by Ms. Leary; seconded by Dr. Kapur-Pado; all members were in favor (by raise of hand), none opposed; motion approved.
  - Ms. Reigelman will send finalized By-Laws to Board of Health electronically.

## TIOGA COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

### **ADDITIONAL ITEM:**

- Ms. Vroman brought a verbal request to the Board from a community member asking to exclude pigs from needing a rabies vaccine if being showed at the Tioga County Fair, as they previously had pigs die/get very sick from the Rabies vaccine.
  - Members discussed and determined that Ms. Vroman should ask the community member for a formally written request, with evidential proof that the pigs had died/gotten sick from the Rabies vaccine. Once received, Dr. Nytch and Dr. Hills will review and make final determination.
  - Rabies Control Order will not change at this time.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- Ms. Vroman summarized the New York State “Start at 9” Campaign to Prevent HPV Cancers (informational letter sent electronically to members prior to meeting). TCPH received request for endorsement from Broome County Health Department and the HPV Coalition. Ms. Vroman sent to Dr. Kapur-Pado a month or two previously to inform and raise any questions.
  - Ms. Vroman informed the Board that moving forward she would like to begin to offer the HPV vaccine at the Public Health Clinic, and asked the Board their opinion on endorsing the “Start at 9” Campaign.
  - Board discussed, consensus to endorse the campaign, as the goal is to promote best practice, even though there will probably be some controversy on the matter. Ms. Vroman was requested to notify Tioga County Health and Human Services Legislative Committee at next meeting (in case they receive any pushback from community members).
  - Dr. Nytch called for vote to approve “Start at 9” Campaign endorsement for Tioga County Public Health; Ms. Leary made motion, Dr. Kapur-Pado seconded; all members were in favor (by raise of hand); motion approved.

### **INFORMATIONAL:**

- Legislator Standinger commented that the Public Health Open House was very nice. Ms. Vroman stated that there was a fantastic turn-out, over 100 people attended the event, staff worked hard to put together. Ms. Vroman also thanked the Board for coming to Public Health Week meet’n’greet with staff.
- Ms. Vroman noted the 2023 County Health Ratings (handout provided), Tioga County ranked 22 out of all counties in New York State.
  - Discussion of lack of individuals seeking primary care providers; TCPH offered vaccines (VFA and VFC), and how will TCPH assist in the Emergency Declaration for migrant/asylum seekers.
- Ms. Vroman informed the Board of the increase Public Health is seeing in lead testing for children. Had a very high case (child had to be hospitalized), level has dropped significantly since the initial test and outreach/education by our environmental health staff.
  - Currently following 18 children with high lead levels, all found through routine testing
- Ms. Vroman provided update on the local business requiring a Wellhead Protection Permit. The business has moved forward, following proper channels to secure permit.
  - Because of this case, Public Health environmental health staff were proactive with another local business in need of replacing oil tanks, ensuring they were following proper channels also.
- Ms. Vroman asked the Board to let her know (via call or email) if there are discussion topics they would be interested in having for future meetings.
- Brief discussion of virtual meetings for Board of Health for members who can not attend in person. County Attorney DeWind provided two options for members:
  - Per Open Meetings Law, if a member will not be able to attend the meeting in person but would still like to attend virtually as a voting member of the Board, they would need to disclose the location they will be attending from to be included on the Meeting Notice



## TIOGA COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

when posted publicly. Reason being, that as an open meeting, their location would be available to anyone from the public who wishes to attend.

- Second option: the Board could pass policy for emergency appearances. The member could attend virtually as a last-minute request, but they would not count toward quorum nor be a voting member of the Board.

Dr. Nytch called for motion to adjourn meeting; motion made by Ms. Leary; seconded by Dr. Kapur-Pado. All were in favor, none opposed, motion approved.  
Meeting adjourned at 8:49 A.M.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Abigail Reigelman.

---

Terry Hills, DVM; President

---

Abigail Reigelman; Secretary

Minutes approved June 15, 2023



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

**Tioga County**

June 2023 Enforcements

<u>Business</u>	<u>Type of Violation</u>	<u>Fine Paid/Date</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Scott & Karla Woodmansee The Red Rooster 13334 NY-38 Richford, NY	Water	\$100.00 5/10/2023	First



## **AGENCY REPORT**

**April 21-May 24, 2023**

### **Highlights**

- We welcomed back Mel Miller and Sue Medina who have rejoined our team as Director of Patient Services and Deputy Director!
- Partnered with Stray Haven in Rabies clinic, vaccinating over 100 pets!

### **Health Education**

- Katie W. completed Public Health Essentials Certificate Course through Cornell University.
- Kylie interviewed with WENY and Fox 40 regarding the spike in overdoses in Tioga County.
- Laura worked with Scott Smith & Son to adopt a PTO policy for cancer screenings for their employees; and with Alzheimer's Association of Central New York to adopt Sun Safety policy for their End Alzheimer's Walk at Hickories.
- Katie W. tabled at the Apalachin Food Pantry.
- Hosted a Car Seat Giveaway event at the Health and Human Services Building; 9 seats were distributed to families during the event and an additional 6 were given away the following week. Two Child Passenger Safety trainings were provided for CPS staff.
- Grant application for \$5,000 was submitted to Community Foundation of South Central New York to be able to purchase new car seats.

### **Environmental Health**

- Adam, Al and Mel attended the CLPPP Training in Syracuse for Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program training, Q&A, and discussion!
- Todd attended the Conference of Environmental Health Directors in Blue Mountain Lake, NY
- Dan attended a Candor water project meeting.
- EH division hosted a NYSAWWA operator training on the topic of Basic Laboratory Skills; 18 operators were in attendance.
- A notice was created and mailed to Tioga County food establishment operators to inform about NYS law change on food allergen awareness in food service establishments.

### **Patient Services (EI, Dental, Clinic)**

- School based Dental Program finished services at Candor School District and Spencer Middle School.
- Spencer VanEtten School District put two new dental electrical hook ups in, allowing the Dental Van to park at the Middle school and also allowing us to go to VanEtten Elementary without the use of the generator.
- Had educational VFC site visit from NYSDOH, ensuring our clinic procedures are correct. Visit went well, no issues found, and it was very informative.
- Having a DPS on staff has allowed us to vaccinate a child facing exclusion, a staff member needing routine immunization, and take care of internal staff PPDs.

- Initiated MOU with Tioga Opportunities to loan them our Lead Care II machine, that was not in active use in our clinic; for them to utilize and assist with increasing lead testing rates of vulnerable populations.
- Various staff members involved with the Early Intervention Program (in all avenues) attended training for the new EI Hub.

### **Administrative Services**

- Update to agency forms and clinic policies, and internal procedures.
- Board of Health updated and finalized Tioga County’s Rabies Control Order and By-Laws. Board also approved our department to endorse HPV “Start at 9” Campaign.
- Katie W. and Abby took the Agency Administrator Training on the Learning Management System.
- PHD attended annual Public Health Partners conference in White Plains.
- PHD participated in Hazard Mitigation Stakeholder planning meeting.

### **Ongoing Support/Partnerships**

- |                                                  |                                                          |
|--------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| - Allies in Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition | - Tioga County Board of Health                           |
| - Child Fatality Review Team                     | - Tioga County Commissioner’s Advisory Council           |
| - Family Enrichment Network (Head Start)         | - Tioga County Council of Governments                    |
| - Lourdes PACT Advisory Board                    | - Tioga County Immunization Coalition                    |
| - Mothers and Babies Perinatal Network           | - Tioga County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) |
| - Racker Center                                  | - Tioga County Mental Health Sub-Committee               |
| - Rural Economic and Partnership (REAP)          | - Tioga County Non-Profit Network                        |
| - Safe Harbor Committee                          | - Tioga Opportunities                                    |
| - S2AY Pivotal Partners Finger Lakes             |                                                          |
| - Team Tioga                                     |                                                          |

**Attachments:**

1. Financial Snapshot, YTD thru 4/2023
2. Article: “Reset, renew, re-imagine,” Morning Times, April 25, 2023.
3. Article: “Overdose spike alert issued in Tioga County,” Morning Times, May 3, 2023.
4. Flyer: “What the Health!?,” May 2023.
5. Bulletin Board: “Lyme Disease,” 56 Main St., May 2023.
6. Billboards: “What You Eat Can Hurt Your Teeth & Don’t Get Sick from a Tick,” May 2023.
7. Data Spreadsheet April 21-May 24, 2023.

## Financial Snapshot Year-to-date through April 2023

	2023 Budget	Actual* <sup>1,2</sup> YTD 2023	Percentage of 2023 Budget
--	-------------	------------------------------------	------------------------------

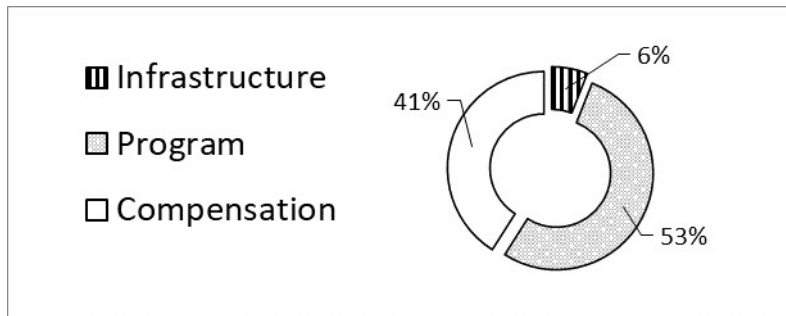
### REVENUES

Fees	978,450	146,423	15 %
State/Federal	3,237,536	7,055	0 %
Local	2,960,456	1,287,310	43 %
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7,212,442</b>	<b>1,440,788</b>	<b>20 %</b>

### EXPENSES

Compensation	2,636,640	602,771	23 %
Program Expense	4,029,700	756,979	19 %
Core Infrastructure	546,102	81,038	15 %
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7,212,442</b>	<b>1,440,788</b>	<b>20 %</b>

## Allocation of Expenses Year-to-date through April 2023



**\*Notes:**

1. COVID Specific funds have been removed from these tables, as they skew the numbers due to their large amounts. In 2023, over \$1.9 million of Covid funding remains within Public Health. However, very unlikely much of it will be expended.
2. Most of January & February revenue are adjusted back to prior year as payments during this time are for services performed in the prior year. State Aid reimbursement is reported a couple months after each quarter ends.



# Reset, renew, re-imagine



Photo provided

Tioga County Public Health held an Open House to introduce the community to its new leadership team and give demonstrations on the various aspects of public health with which the organization deals. The event included lots of information, a tour of their dental van, free gifts, refreshments and raffles for attendees. Pictured is Laura Bennett, Health Educator, exhibiting the importance of proper child car seat use.

## TC Public Health holds open house; highlights county services offered

By WENDY POST  
For The Times

OWEGO — On April 20, Tioga County Public Health was host to an open house event at the Health & Human Services Building in Owego. The event, which took place from 2:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., offered Narcan Training, Dental Van tours, Water Testing demonstrations, car seat safety, Children's Therapy Room tours, raffles, refreshments, and much more.

Kylie Holachek, Senior Public Health Educator for Tioga County's Public Health Department, noted a good turnout on Thursday, adding that by 4 p.m. they already had close to 100 guests come through the door for the open house event.

Holachek also talked about the event's theme, Reset, Renew, Re-imagine.

"We're resetting as a department, renewing our partnerships, and reimagining Public Health," Holachek added.

For the last couple of years, and during the COVID pandemic, the focus for public health was pandemic driven. Now post-COVID, Holachek emphasized that Public Health is more than isolation and quarantine, and the open house was an effort to showcase the services they offer.

Mark Stromberg, who attended the open house event on his own work break, applauded the efforts of the Department of Health.

"What I like about the Department of Health," said Stromberg, "is that they are not afraid to be seen; they respond quickly when needed."

Katie Chandler, Tioga County employee with the Treasurer's office, attended on her break as well to learn more about the Public Health Department.

"It's always good to get out and see what the other county departments are doing," said Chandler.

Lynn Klossner and Katelyn Carriere dropped in for a visit. They arrived at the open house event to look around, and to try and get some information about mental health services offered through the department. They were also able to tour the Children's Therapy Room and learn about its uses.

According to Meagan Merton, Early Intervention Service Coordinator, the room is used for developmental evaluations for individuals to see if they qualify for services.

Jordan Marsh, Senior Early Intervention Service Coordinator, added that they have therapists that come in and provide occupational, physical, and speech therapy onsite or at home.

In addition to Narcan training and kit information, therapy service information and child passenger safety seat information, they also offered tours and information about the county's Dental Van.

Tioga County's Dental Van is available Monday through Friday, and services six school districts. They also service adults, and accept insurance and have a sliding fee. Dental services for children are free.

According to Nicole Whitmore, director of Dental Services, procedures include fillings, cleanings, and even extractions. The Dental Van, she added, usually has about eight to ten students a day that they offer services to.

Kim Thomas has been working as a dental hygienist for 30 years, and says she enjoys working with the kids.

"I like working with kids. I integrate education like diet, and the importance of brushing and flossing," said Thomas.

Another feature of the open house, outside of the wealth of information provided regarding services, were live bugs, to include ticks.

Inside of a glass container, and alive and well, Holachek added that the live

See **Reset**, page A6

## Reset

From Page A1

specimens offer a way to help folks identify these dangerous insects, and to learn more about ways to protect themselves from ticks, especially when hiking or working outdoors.

An additional highlight of Thursday's open house event was the opportunity offered to guests for an

introduction to the new Public Health Director, Heather Vroman, who was available at the open house event to greet people.

To learn more about Tioga County Public Health and its services, visit [www.tiogacountyny.com/departments/public-health/](http://www.tiogacountyny.com/departments/public-health/) or call their offices at (607) 687-8600. You can also follow them on Facebook.

To learn more about Tioga County's mobile dental services, call (607) 687-8505.

Morning Times, April 25, 2023.

# Overdose spike alert issued in Tioga County

By the Times

OWEGO — The Tioga County Public Health Department on Monday warned residents of a drug overdose spike that occurred over the weekend and killed two people.

“While it is unknown if the overdoses are related, the public is warned about the possibility of a substance laced with a potent opioid in our area,” health officials stated. “It is noted that there have been additional overdose deaths in our region over the last several days.”

Health officials added that overdose deaths often involve fentanyl, which is a synthetic opioid that is 50 times stronger than heroin, and can sometimes be laced into other substances.

The department recommended that family members,

caregivers, and people who spend time with those who have a substance use disorder know the signs of an opioid overdose, which include:

- Cold, clammy skin
- Difficulty waking or speaking
- Slow or no heart rate
- Slow or no breathing
- Limp body
- Pinpoint pupils
- Gurgling or choking sounds
- Blue or purplish lips or fingernails.

Shawn Nalepa, Captain of Operations at Tioga County Sheriff’s Office, also reminded the public to call 911 if these symptoms of an overdose are present.

“An opioid overdose can be reversed by using the medication Narcan, also known as Naloxone, when

administered in time,” health officials said. “Due to Tioga County’s large geographic make up, first responders may not make it to a scene in time to reverse an overdose. Keeping Narcan on hand can greatly increase the chance of survival should an opioid overdose be occurring. Narcan is not addictive and does not cause harm if administered during another medical emergency.”

Additionally, Narcan nasal spray is free and available through the following agencies in Tioga County:

- Tioga County Public Health, 1062 State Route 38, Owego, NY 13827 — 607-687-8612
- Tioga County Mental Hygiene, 1062 State Route 38, Owego, NY 13827 — 607-687-0200
- CASA-Trinity, 72 North Ave., Owego, NY 13827 — 607-223-4066.

Morning Times, May 3, 2023



# What the Health!?

May 2023

## WHAT YOU EAT CAN HURT YOUR TEETH!

LIMIT SUGARY FOODS & BEVERAGES!

## DON'T GET SICK FROM A TICK!

WARM WEATHER MEANS BUG WEATHER!  
 PROTECT YOURSELF THIS SUMMER FROM LYME DISEASE AND OTHER TICK-BORNE DISEASES!

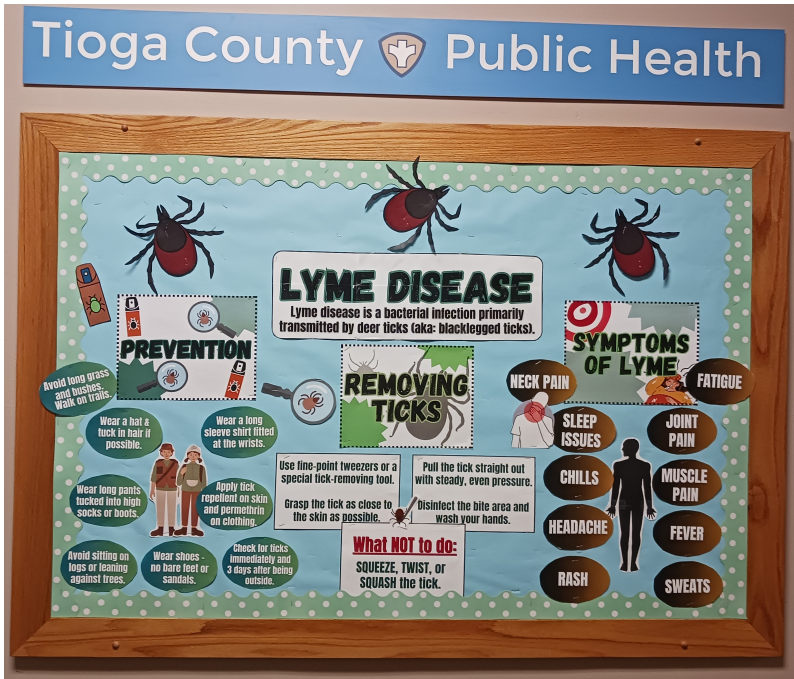
- WEAR INSECT REPELLENT TO KEEP TICKS AWAY!
- COVER UP WITH LONG PANTS AND TALL SOCKS.
- WEAR LIGHTER COLORS TO SEE TICKS EASILY.
- STAY ON A PAVED PATH AND OUT OF TALL GRASS.
- CHECK YOUR BODY FOR TICKS AFTER BEING OUTSIDE.
- TAKE A SHOWER TO WASH TICKS OFF YOUR BODY.
- REMOVE TICKS WITH FINE TIP TWEEZERS.
  - NEVER USE PETROLEUM OIL, OPEN FLAMES, OR ANYTHING ELSE THAT WILL AGGRAVATE THE TICK.
- CALL YOUR HEALTH CARE PROVIDER IF YOU GET A FEVER OR RASH FOLLOWING A TICK BITE.

## Prevent Hot Car Deaths!

- Leave pets home on hot days.
- Look before you lock.
- If you see a child or pet in an unattended vehicle, don't leave until the situation is resolved!

outside F°	inside F°	
	10 mins	30 mins
70°	89°	104°
75°	94°	109°
80°	99°	114°
85°	104°	119°
90°	109°	124°
95°	114°	129°

Leaving the windows open has **little effect** on how hot it is inside the car.



Bulletin Board, 56 Main St., Owego, May 2023



Webcam  
Park Outdoor 237 FE



Billboards: Various locations, May 2023



# DATA SPREADSHEET

April 21-May 24, 2023

<b>PUBLIC HEALTH ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>Y-E 2021</b>	<b>Y-E 2022</b>	<b>May-23</b>	<b>Y-T-D</b>
<b>Community Health</b>				
Communicable Disease	0	885	0	0
- Respiratory (Legionellosis, Strep)	4	8	0	24
- Influenza	49	400	2	178
- Tick caused	105	220	24	71
- Hepatitis	53	89	3	32
- Gastrointestinal Disease	40	40	3	9
- PPD Test Administered	0	0	3	3
Child Passenger Safety Seats Inspected	20	40	4	8
- Child Seats FAILED Inspection	10	31	3	7
PH Interns	2	2	0	0
Immunizations total child and adult	0	35	0	2
People Trained w/ Narcan	2	1	2	2
Opioid Overdose Reporting Forms received (changed name 8/18)	12	3	0	1
<b>Dental</b>				
New Clients	154	340	29	136
Dental Screenings	782	1120	116	451
- Clients with no tooth decay	328	265	17	87
-Clients WITH tooth decay	310	496	62	231
- Clients with EXTENSIVE tooth decay	128	347	36	132
Extractions	179	100	11	38
<b>Children Services</b>				
Early Intervention Referrals	138	148	18	87
- Early Intervention CURRENT Caseload Monthly total	59	52	62	N/A
- EI children waiting for service(s)	N/A	N/A	21	N/A
<b>Environmental Health</b>				
Animal bite investigations	150	153	15	59
Rabies Clinics	6	7	1	3
- Number of Animals	1098	1012	130	447
Food Establishment Inspections	182	151	25	65
- Establishments with Violation	26	18	1	4
Temporary Food Inspections	8	57	3	3
- Clean Indoor Air Act Violations (Smoking)	0	0	0	0
Mobile Home Park Inspections	37	12	0	11
Swimming Pool Inspections	14	18	0	1
- ATUPA Violations	3	2	0	1
Children's Camps	4	8	0	0
Agriculture Fairgrounds	2	2	0	0
Nuisance Complaints	17	16	0	2
Enforcement Actions	31	29	2	36
<b>Weights &amp; Measures</b>				
Inspection Sites	129	123	12	48
-Devices Inspected	499	475	16	199
Petroleum Quality Samples Taken	0	12	0	0

**COUNTY OF TIOGA  
EXECUTIVE PROCLAMATION**

WHEREAS: Stroke is a leading cause of serious long-term disability and the fifth leading cause of death in the United States; and

WHEREAS: In Tioga County stroke has a mortality rate of 19.7 per 100,000 population according to data from 2017-2019; and

WHEREAS: High blood pressure, high cholesterol, smoking, obesity, and diabetes are leading causes of stroke and one in three Americans has at least one of these conditions or habits; and

WHEREAS: Warning signs of stroke include sudden numbness or weakness of the face, arm or leg, especially on one side of the body; sudden confusion, trouble speaking or understanding; sudden trouble seeing in one or both eyes; sudden trouble walking, dizziness, loss of balance or coordination; and sudden severe headache with no known cause; and

WHEREAS: Ninety-three percent of Americans recognized that sudden numbness on one side is a symptom of stroke, but only 38% were aware of all major symptoms and knew to call 9-1-1 when someone was having a stroke; and

WHEREAS: Patients who arrive at the emergency room within 3 hours of their first symptoms often have less disability 3 months after a stroke than those who received delayed care; and

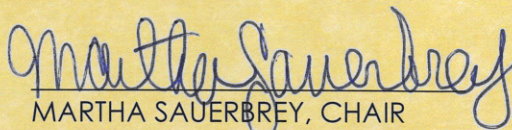
WHEREAS: New and effective treatments have been developed to treat and minimize the severity and damaging effect of strokes, but much more research is needed, therefore

THE TIOGA COUNTY LEGISLATURE, County of Tioga, does hereby proclaim the month of May 2023 as:

**AMERICAN STROKE MONTH IN TIOGA COUNTY**

and urges all the citizens of our County to familiarize themselves with the risk factors associated with stroke, recognize the warning signs and symptoms, and on the first signs of a stroke dial 9-1-1 immediately so that we might begin to reduce the devastating effects of stroke on our population.

Dated: May 9, 2023

  
MARTHA SAUERBREY, CHAIR  
TIOGA COUNTY LEGISLATURE

