

this fact as the lifeguards are not saddled with the job of moving the lane lines, the bulkheads

keep water classes get a chance to spread out and use more space. I personally will miss the

April Cady is the Administrator of CWEG and can be reached at 228-7621 or acady@mail.colgate.edu.

All classes at Madison-Oneida office, 100 Was. Oneida. Cour. For more info register, call McGee, Health Director at 3 email patti@madison.oss.org or stop by office.

## Forum discusses health issues in Vernon

Submitted by Jennifer Weeks, MS

Madison and Oneida counties held a joint, three-hour forum on Friday, Sept. 5 at Dibble's Inn in Vernon to identify the forces impacting community health in the counties. Approximately 200 community representatives and local leaders participated in this meeting and worked to answer the questions: "What is occurring or might occur that affects the health of our community or the local public health system?" and "What specific threats or opportunities are generated by the forces?"

"Madison County has many of the same health challenges as other growing areas but also has its own unique forces of change. The forum brought people together to identify and discuss the forces, trends, factors and events that are or that will be affecting the health and quality of life of our community and the work of organizations in the local public health system," said

Eric Faisst, director of the Madison County Health Department.

"The great interest and response to this forum clearly reflects the dedication of the local community and organizations who work in the local public health system to improve the quality of life for Madison County residents," said John Salka, supervisor for the Town of Brookfield, vice president for the Madison County Board of Health, and chair of the Madison County Forces of Change Committee.

Discussion involved many topics, including changes in aging, movement of youth, family structure, shifts in the employment and the economy, social climate, geography, technological advances, changes in the organization of health services, and new legislation.

The findings of the meeting will assist in guiding the work of Madison County's Mobilizing for Action Through Planning and Partnerships (MAPP) Committee as it identifies strategic

issues critical to the success of the local public health system and the community's vision for a healthy Madison County. The MAPP Project is a community based, community driven project that will identify health issues and strategies to improve the health and quality of life of Madison County residents.

The Forces of Change Forum was sponsored by Oneida County Health Department and Madison County Health Department and was facilitated by Tom Dennison, Ph.D., professor of Practice, Program in Health Services Management and Policy, The Maxwell School, Syracuse University.

For additional information the Madison County MAPP Committee and project, visit [www.healthymadisoncounty.org](http://www.healthymadisoncounty.org).

Jennifer Weeks, MS, a public health educator with the Madison County Health Department, can be reached at [jennifer.weeks@co.madison.ny.us](mailto:jennifer.weeks@co.madison.ny.us) or 315-366-2361.

## Madison County youth celebrate National 4-H Week

Mid-York Weekly

4-H youth from across the nation will be "Keeping It Green" as they celebrate 2008 National 4-H Week Oct. 5-11 by raising awareness about environmental issues and initiating environmental projects that make a positive difference in their communities.

Madison County 4-H members ask their community to get ready for the "Keeping It Green" challenge by joining 4-H families at Spirit Day, the local fall celebration of 4-H, from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 13

If You Go

What: National 4-H Week

When: Week of Oct. 5-11

Where: Madison County

Information: 315-684-3001



You?" Young and old will get together to play games, learn about 4-H, participate in hands-on workshops, and have fun.

For more information or to learn how to become a 4-H member or volunteer leader in

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