

Highlight on Health

An Emmons County Public Health Publication

Important Dates

July 1 - International Joke Day

July 3 - National Stay Out of the Sun Day

July 4 - Independence Day (Office Closed)

July 7 - World Chocolate Day

July 11 - World Population Day

July 15 - National Pet Fire Safety Day

July 18 - World Listening Day

July 20 - World Jump Day

July 24 - Parents' Day

July 27 - National Disability Independence Day

July 28 - World Hepatitis Day

July 30 - World Day Against Trafficking in Persons

It is with mixed emotions ...



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Emmons County Public Health

It is with mixed emotions, that I will be saying farewell to my public health career at the end of June. I have seen many changes these past 39 years since opening the doors in 1983. Emmons County did not have a public health program and I was tasked with implementing public health services for our residents. I get overwhelmed thinking about how much the public health office has grown and how it has become a successful and vital service for our community.

I have loved being a public health nurse and have been honored to be the administrator of Emmons County Public Health. It's been a long journey and it is time to pass the torch. As I recount the many lives I have touched through the years and the many people who have touched my life, I know that my public health career has been indeed a rewarding experience. May our paths cross again with thanks to many who have helped me along the way.

*Best Wishes,
Bev*



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Emmons County Public Health
118 E Spruce Ave, Linton ND 58552
P: 701.254.4027

www.emmonsnd.com/public-health.html
facebook.com/ECPH.gov

Voller Prepares for Next Steps with Retirement

A constant public health presence over the past four decades, Bev Voller's career is coming to a close as of July. The Emmons County Public Health Executive Officer will retire from full-time duty at the end of June but will continue to serve ECPH in a part-time role.



Bev Voller

Voller joined Emmons County Public Health as it began serving its residents in 1983. She has seen epidemics with impacts from global to regional including HIV/

AIDS, SARS, H1N1, MERS, Ebola, Zika, Opioid abuse, and finally COVID-19.

"We have big shoes to fill with Bev's retirement, but we are determined to keep Emmons County Public Health a viable entity moving forward as a cornerstone of the health of our county," said Lisa Edholm-Moch, who will serve as Voller's successor in leading the organization.

Along with administrative and budgetary duties, and serving medical needs in a nursing capacity, Voller has worked closely with nicotine prevention and cessation. The work has put her in contact with

generations of Emmons County youth and adults. Voller received the North Dakota Public Health Association Outstanding Service Award in 2013. The award honors an individual who has exhibited continued excellence in the field of public health.

"Bev always brought so much experience to the table, in any situation," said DelRae Baumgartner. "She has been a constant presence here and you can't just replace the impact that she has had on us, as an organization, as well as a community. We're really excited for her personally and glad we can continue to use her as a resource part-time."

Fireworks Season Brings Potential for Injury, Death

Follow these tips when using fireworks:

- Never allow young children to play with or ignite fireworks.
- Avoid buying fireworks that are packaged in brown paper because this is often a sign that the fireworks were made for professional displays and that they could pose a danger to consumers.
- Always have an adult supervise fireworks activities. Parents don't realize children suffer injuries from sparklers. Sparklers burn at temperatures of about 2,000 degrees - hot enough to melt some metals.
- Never place any part of your body directly over a fireworks device when lighting the fuse. Back up to a safe distance immediately after lighting fireworks.
- Never try to re-light or pick up fireworks that have not ignited fully.
- Never point/throw fireworks at another person.
- Keep a bucket of water or a garden hose handy in case of fire or other mishap.
- Light fireworks one at a time, then move back quickly.
- Never carry fireworks in a pocket or shoot them off in metal or glass containers.
- After fireworks complete burning, douse the spent device with water from a bucket or hose before discarding it to prevent a trash fire.
- Make sure fireworks are legal in your area.



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