

JAN 8, 2019

THE STATE CONSTITUTION NEEDS TO BE AMENDED TO SUPPORT A WOMAN'S RIGHT TO AN ABORTION. THAT WAS THE MESSAGE FROM GOVERNOR CUOMO YESTERDAY DURING AN APPEARANCE WITH HILLARY CLINTON. THE EVENT WAS HELD IN SUPPORT OF THE REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH ACT, A MEASURE THAT WOULD DECRIMINALIZE ABORTION AND MAKE THEM EASIER TO OBTAIN. BUT CUOMO SURPRISED THE CROWD BY SAYING THAT COULD BE UNDONE BY ANOTHER LEGISLATIVE MEASURE AND PLEDGED TO GET THOSE PROTECTIONS WRITTEN INTO THE STATE CONSTITUTION.

JAN 11, 2019

1-POINT-2 BILLION DOLLARS. THAT'S HOW MUCH DIABETES IS COSTING NEW YORKERS ACCORDING TO A REPORT FROM THE STATE COMPTROLLER. FIGURES SHOW THAT DIABETES HAS EXPLODED IN THE EMPIRE STATE, WITH NEARLY TEN PERCENT OF THE POPULATION SUFFERING FROM THE DISEASE. AND ALMOST ALL OF THOSE PATIENTS ARE DIAGNOSED WITH TYPE 2 DIABETES LINKED TO OBESITY. THE NEAR EPIDEMIC LEVELS OF THE DISEASE IS A HEAVY BURDEN ON THE STATE'S MEDICAID SYSTEM SINCE IT'S A CHRONIC CONDITION THAT CAN'T BE CURED, LEADING TO A LIFETIME OF HEALTH CARE COSTS.

JAN 28, 2019

ONEIDA COUNTY CONTINUES TO HAVE A RELATIVELY MILD FLU SEASON. IN THE SECOND WEEK OF JANUARY THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SAYS THERE WERE 31 VERIFIED CASES, A NEARLY FIFTY PERCENT INCREASE OVER THE NUMBER REPORTED THE WEEK BEFORE. THAT DOESN'T TAKE INTO ACCOUNT ANYONE WHO DIDN'T SEEK MEDICAL HELP, WHICH COVERS THE VAST MAJORITY OF FLU SUFFERERS. DESPITE THE SPIKE IN CASES OFFICIALS SAY IT'S STILL A RELATIVELY MILD FLU SEASON. JUST TWO YEARS AGO ONEIDA COUNTY SAW A POST HOLIDAY INCREASE IN THE TRIPLE DIGITS.

IF YOU HAVEN'T SIGNED UP FOR HEALTH INSURANCE YET YOU STILL HAVE TIME. NEW YORK'S INSURANCE EXCHANGE HAS EXTENDED IT'S OPEN ENROLLMENT PERIOD UNTIL THURSDAY FOR PLANS THAT GO INTO EFFECT ON FEBRUARY FIRST. THE LAST OPEN ENROLLMENT PERIOD SAW A 22 PERCENT JUMP IN THE NUMBER OF NEW YORKERS REGISTERING THROUGH THE STATE'S EXCHANGE. FAILURE TO HAVE A POLICY IN PLACE MEANS YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO SIGN UP FOR A QUALIFIED PLAN UNTIL NEXT YEAR'S OPEN ENROLLMENT PERIOD.

Feb 7, 2019

LOCAL HOSPITALS ARE TAKING STEPS TO PROTECT THEIR PATIENTS FROM THE FLU. BOTH SAINT LUKE'S AND SAINT ELIZABETH'S ARE RESTRICTING VISITORS TO THEIR MATERNITY, NURSERY, AND PEDIATRICS UNITS TO CLOSE FAMILY AND NECESSARY STAFF. OUTSIDE OF THOSE DEPARTMENTS THEY'RE ASKING ANYONE SUFFERING FROM COUGHING OR SNEEZING TO HOLD OFF ON MAKING ANY VISITS TO THE HOSPITAL. WHILE THE FLU CAN MAKE MOST PEOPLE FEEL MISERABLE IT CAN PRESENT A SERIOUS HEALTH THREAT TO NEWBORNS AND THOSE WITH COMPROMISED IMMUNE SYSTEMS.

Feb 11, 2019

4-POINT-8 MILLION PEOPLE. THAT'S HOW MANY NEW YORKERS SIGNED UP FOR HEALTH COVERAGE THROUGH THE STATE INSURANCE EXCHANGE ACCORDING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH. THAT'S A NEW RECORD, AND A TEN PERCENT JUMP FROM LAST YEAR. OPEN ENROLLMENT ENDED JANUARY 31ST, WITH THE VAST MAJORITY OF USERS SIGNING ON FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PLANS LIKE MEDICAID AND CHILD HEALTH PLUS. ONLY 272-THOUSAND PEOPLE ACTUALLY SIGNED UP FOR A QUALIFIED HEALTH PLAN.

Feb 28, 2019

IT LOOKS LIKE FLU SEASON IS REACHING IT'S PEAK. THE LATEST FIGURES FROM THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SHOW 214 CONFIRMED CASES OF THE FLU IN ONEIDA COUNTY IN THE LATEST REPORTING PERIOD. THAT'S A NEARLY SIXTY PERCENT INCREASE FROM THE WEEK BEFORE, A SIGN THE DISEASE IS BECOMING MORE WIDESPREAD. THE FIGURES ARE DRAWN FROM PATIENTS WHO SOUGHT MEDICAL HELP FOR THE FLU AND LATER TESTED POSITIVE FOR THE VIRUS AND DOESN'T COVER VAST MAJORITY OF FLU SUFFERERS THAT DON'T SEE A DOCTOR.

Mar 4, 2019

SINGLE PAYER HEALTHCARE COULD BE JUST AROUND THE CORNER IN NEW YORK. IN A NEW INTERVIEW GOVERNOR CUOMO SAID HE WOULD SIGN SINGLE PAYER INTO LAW IF IT'S APPROVED BY THE LEGISLATURE. THE LEADERSHIP OF BOTH THE STATE ASSEMBLY AND SENATE HAVE MADE PASSING THE LONG STALLED NEW YORK HEALTH ACT A PRIORITY. IT'S BEEN APPROVED IN THE ASSEMBLY FOR THE PAST FOUR YEARS, BUT ALWAYS STALLED IN THE SENATE BECAUSE OF REPUBLICAN OPPOSITION. THAT'S NO LONGER A FACTOR NOW THAT DEMOCRATS ARE IN CONTROL.

Mar 7, 2019

THE FLU IS NOW WIDESPREAD ACROSS ONEIDA COUNTY. THE LATEST FIGURES FROM THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SHOW 227 CONFIRMED CASES OF THE FLU IN ONEIDA COUNTY IN THE LATEST REPORTING PERIOD. THOSE FIGURES COME FROM PATIENTS THAT SOUGHT MEDICAL ATTENTION AND LATER TESTED POSITIVE FOR THE DISEASE. IT'S A GOOD INDICATOR FOR THE VAST MAJORITY OF

FLU SUFFERERS THAT DON'T REQUIRE MEDICAL ATTENTION. ALTHOUGH FLU SEASON IS HEADING INTO THE HOME STRETCH OFFICIALS SAY IT'S STILL WORTHWHILE TO GET VACCINATED.

MAR 11, 2019

A NEW BILL IN ALBANY WOULD ALLOW CHILDREN 14 OR OLDER TO GET VACCINATED WITHOUT THEIR PARENT'S CONSENT. ADULTS ARE CURRENTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR MAKING SURE THEIR CHILDREN HAVE BEEN VACCINATED, BUT THE STATE ALLOWS THEM TO OPT OUT FOR SPECIFIED MEDICAL AND RELIGIOUS REASONS. MIS-INFORMATION FROM ANTI-VACCINE ACTIVISTS HAS EXACERBATED THE PROBLEM. NEW YORK IS CURRENTLY SUFFERING ITS LARGEST MEASLES OUTBREAK IN CLOSE TO FIFTY YEARS AMONG PRIMARILY UNVACCINATED CHILDREN.

Mar 18, 2019

THE FLU IS WINDING DOWN IN THE UTICA ROME AREA. THE LATEST FIGURES FROM THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SHOW 179 CONFIRMED CASES OF THE FLU IN ONEIDA COUNTY IN THE LATEST REPORTING PERIOD. THAT COMES AFTER THE NUMBER OF CASES PEAKED IN LATE FEBRUARY. EXPERTS SAY THAT'S A GOOD SIGN INFECTIONS HAVE PLATEAUED. BUT FLU SEASON ISN'T OVER YET, AND HOSPITALS AND CLINICS SAY THEY'RE STILL DEALING WITH A STEADY FLOW OF PATIENTS STRUGGLING WITH THE DISEASE.

MAR 19, 2019

THE OVERWHELMING MAJORITY OF NEW YORKERS SUPPORT REQUIRING SCHOOL CHILDREN TO BE VACCINATED. THAT'S ACCORDING TO A BRAND NEW SIENA UNIVERSITY POLL. IT FOUND JUST UNDER EIGHTY PERCENT OF RESIDENTS SUPPORT RULES REQUIRING MINORS TO BE VACCINATED BEFORE ATTENDING PUBLIC SCHOOL. THAT COMES AFTER EXPERTS SAY A GROWING ANTI-VACCINATION MOVEMENT HAS ALLOWED DISEASES THAT WERE ALMOST WIPED OUT TO MAKE A RETURN. THE STATE IS CURRENTLY IN THE MIDST OF THE LARGEST MEASLES OUTBREAK IN CLOSE TO FIFTY YEARS.

Mar 28, 2019

NEW YORK'S MEASLES OUTBREAK IS FORCING STATE HEALTH OFFICIALS TO DO SOMETHING THEY HAVEN'T DONE IN DECADES- RECOMMEND WORKERS AND KIDS AT SUMMER CAMPS HAVE A MEASLES VACCINATION. THE CURRENT OUTBREAK IS CLUSTERED DOWNSTATE, BUT OFFICIALS ARE WORRIED THE VIRUS COULD SPREAD BETWEEN THE THOUSANDS OF CHILDREN ATTENDING CAMP THIS YEAR. HEALTH OFFICIALS SAY CONFIRMED CASES AT OR NEAR A CAMP COULD FORCE A QUARANTINE THAT WOULD BAN UNVACCINATED CAMPERS AND COUNSELORS.