



Mobile County Health Department

Major General William C. Gorgas Clinic

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DATE: August 12, 2008

TO: Board of Censors
Medical Society of Mobile County

FROM: Juan F. Ronderos, M.D.
Chairman, Mobile County Board of Health

SUBJECT: Informational Items for July

- Dr. Daniel McCall joined the Health Department as a full-time pediatrician on July 28. As part of the Health Department's ongoing efforts to make healthcare more accessible, Dr. McCall is now providing children's services at the Newburn Clinic weekdays from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Gold Star Award:** To encourage restaurants to join with the Health Department in its mission of promoting, improving and protecting the health of the residents of Mobile County, the department kicked off its Gold Star Restaurant Award the first week of July. The award is given in recognition of any full-service restaurant that achieves excellent food safety practices and demonstrates concern for the health of their patrons by adhering to the following criteria:
 - Has scores of 90 or above with no critical (4- or 5- point) items for two consecutive inspections.
 - Uses no trans fatty acids in the preparation and cooking of food items.
 - Is a tobacco-free restaurant.
 - Offers the caloric content of food items on menus or on register receipts.
 - Has had no alcohol beverage citation within the previous 12 months.

The award consists of a certificate of excellence that can be posted at the restaurant. A gold star is also attached to the restaurant's inspection report, which is required to be on public display. Names of restaurants that receive the award are designated with a star when their inspection scores are published in the Mobile Press-Register. To date, three establishments (2 KFCs and 1 Subway) have earned Gold Star awards.



*The Mobile County Health Department has earned
the Joint Commission's Gold Seal of Approval.*

- In addition to their regular inspection duties, Food & Lodging environmentalists inspected the operations at the Watermelon Festival in Grand Bay and the Alabama Deep Sea Fishing Rodeo at Dauphin Island.
- The Health Department has begun "going green." Employees at the Keeler Compound now have collection bins for paper in their work areas. The recycling program will be expanded to other Health Department sites in the coming months.
- Members of the Emergency Preparedness Team met with U.S. Postal Service representatives to review the memorandum of understanding and other aspects of the relationship between the parties regarding an anthrax emergency. The Postal Service's central distribution center in Theodore has a biohazard detection system that can detect anthrax in the air should any be released during processing by automated mail-handling equipment. In such an emergency, the Health Department's six-member Postal Service Special Response Team would be deployed to a pre-designated medical station to provide nursing, pharmaceutical, social, and clerical services.

Members of the Emergency Preparedness Team also made a presentation on Pandemic Influenza and Personal Preparedness at Springhill Medical Center.

- Health Education personnel from the TEEN Center conducted nine community outreaches at which they conducted a total of 23 sessions and reached 414 students.
- In July, Primary Care patient visits for all sites and visits for all other services totaled 9,130.
- Primary Care at the downtown site had 3,239 patients with a total of 4,193 medical and dental visits. These included pediatrics through geriatrics.
- The satellite clinics had a total of 2,863 Primary Care patient visits.
- The Women's Center had 2,003 patient visits.
- There were 3 new cases of AIDS and 3 new HIV cases in July. Year to date, there have been 28 cases of AIDS and 54 cases of HIV compared to 32 cases of AIDS and 51 HIV cases for the same period last year.
- A total of 4,273 immunizations were administered at Health Department sites in July.

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