

A Health and Safety Bulletin from

UI HealthWorks and WORKSAFE IOWA

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OSHA: Under New Management

The new acting head of the Occupational Health and Safety Administration (OSHA) is Jordan Barab, appointed in April by the new Secretary of Labor, Hilda Solis. Since 2007 Barab has been a senior policy adviser for the House Education and Labor Committee. His background also includes 16 years running the AFSCME union's health and safety program and 3 years (1998-2001) as special assistant to the OSHA director. Barab will lead OSHA until a permanent director is chosen and then will become 2nd in command at the agency.

US House of Representatives (Committee on Education & Labor) -

<http://edlabor.house.gov/newsroom/2009/04/chairman-miller-congratulates-2.shtml>

Engineering News-Record - http://enr.ecnext.com/coms2/article_bmsh090410JordanBarabO

Keeping Farmers, Their Families, and Workers Alive and Well

An intensive, 5-day course in "Agricultural Medicine" will be presented June 8-12 in Iowa City (hotelVetro), with CME credit and Nursing CEUs offered. This continuing education course certifies participants to diagnose, treat, and prevent occupational illnesses and injuries in farm communities. The training and certification also enables health professionals to join the AgriSafe Network™ as a Provider Member. Past participants—more than 400 in the past 10 years—have included nurses, physicians, veterinarians, emergency medical technicians, respiratory and physical therapists, rural mental health professionals and others. Sponsored by Iowa's Center for Agricultural Safety and Health (ICASH) and the Great Plains Center for Agricultural Health, this Iowa-based training program is unique in the US.

Brochure/reg form - www.public-health.uiowa.edu/ICASH/programs/2009-IA-Ag-Training-Final.pdf

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Hepatitis Awareness Month

Hepatitis refers to liver inflammation caused by viruses. Specific hepatitis viruses have been labeled using the alphabet (A, B, C, up to G so far). While symptoms and susceptible populations vary, illness generally results from exposure to blood or body fluids from an infected person. Modes of transmission include sexual contact, blood transfusion, needle sticks, and shared drug needles. National Hepatitis Awareness Month, first designated by the CDC in 2001, is a good time to update knowledge and promote awareness of liver health.

medicine.net (What is hepatitis) - www.medicinenet.com/script/main/art.asp?articlekey=18737

National Digestive Diseases Information Clearinghouse (Hepatitis) -

<http://digestive.niddk.nih.gov/ddiseases/topics/hepatitis.asp>

Teens in Summer Jobs

Teen workers have unique risks for work-related injuries and illnesses. Both OSHA and the Employment Standards Administration (ESA), which enforces child labor laws, have standards that may apply to teens in your workplace. OSHA's colorful "Teen Workers" web page is full of information for workers, parents, small business owners, and others, including a quick link to state-specific laws.

OSHA (Teen Workers) - www.osha.gov/SLTC/teenworkers/index.html

UI HealthWorks is a member of the WORKSAFE IOWA Occupational Medicine Associate Network, the only university-affiliated network of occupational health providers. WORKSAFE IOWA is an outreach program of the Department of Occupational and Environmental Health in the College of Public Health at the University of Iowa (www.public-health.uiowa.edu/worksafe).