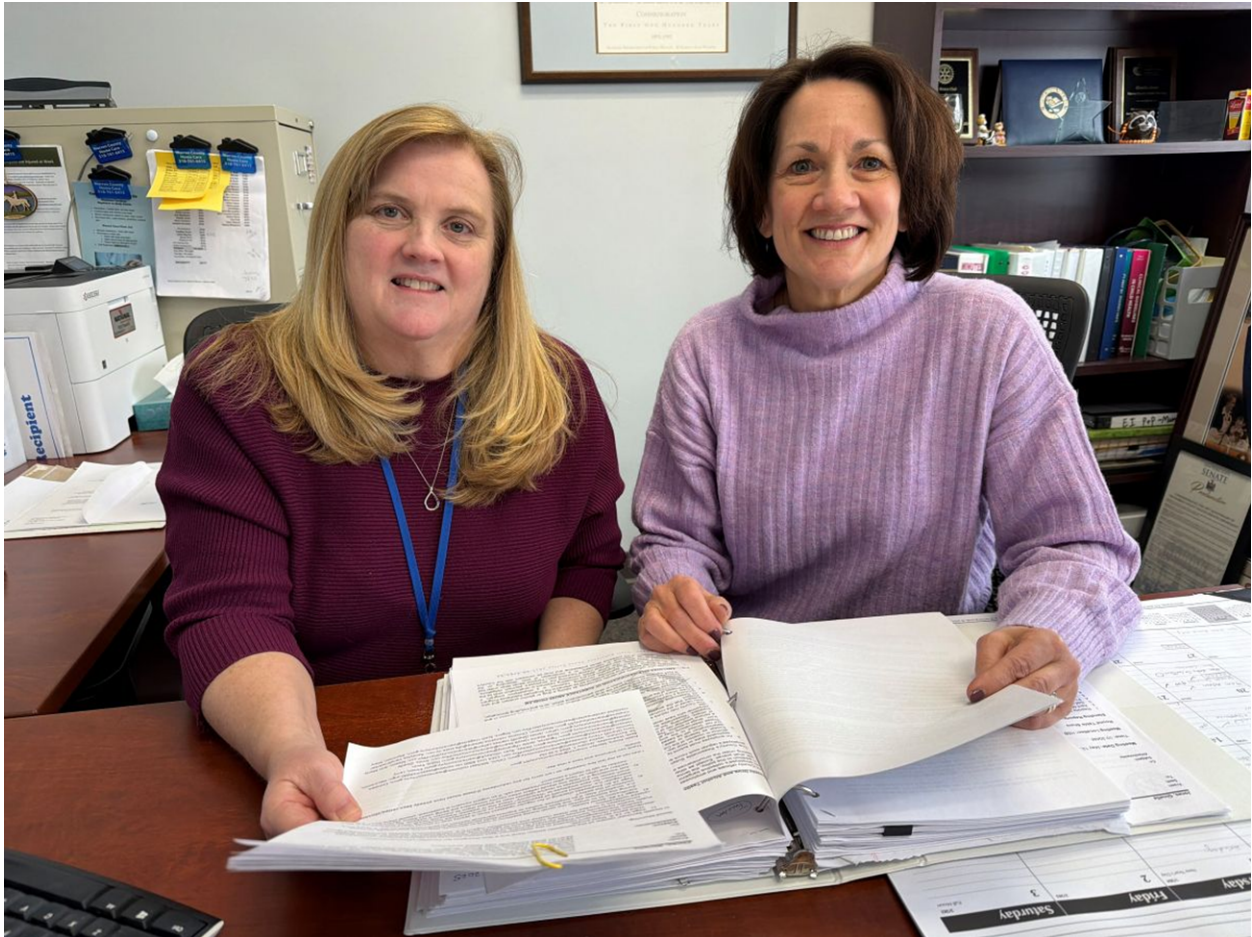


Ginelle Jones to retire as Health Services Director on April 3



Our staff got some bittersweet news this week – **Ginelle Jones, Warren County Health Services Director**, has announced she plans to retire as of April 3 after 31-plus years with Warren County!

We will be sad to see her go, as she has been a dedicated leader of our staff and champion of Public Health in our region for decades! But we are happy that she is leaving on her terms, and has so much to look forward to in retirement.

Many local residents got to know Ginelle during her tireless work during the COVID-19 pandemic, when our Health Services staff was tasked with overseeing the community response to the public health emergency.

But Ginelle was a rock for our department long before that, as she has been with us since 1994, working as a Public Health Nurse, Supervising Nurse and Deputy Health Services Director, being mentored by Directors Joan Grishkot and Patricia Auer before succeeding Auer as Health Services Director in April 2018.

Ginelle worked with all facets of Public Health during her early years, focusing on communicable diseases, lead exposure, rabies and more. After the September 2001 terrorist

attacks, she was tasked with creating the Public Health Department's first emergency response plan, which has been updated annually since.

"I have really enjoyed all of my years here," she said. "This job is 24/7 and every day is different. You have to be ready for anything. Public health takes a community, and I have met many wonderful people in the community and had so many awesome co-workers who have helped over the years."

She said she will miss her co-workers, and has particularly appreciated the support of County Administrator John Taflan, Board of Supervisors Chairman Kevin Geraghty and the county's medical directors, most recently Dr. William Borgos, during her years as Health Services Director.

And she said she was particularly appreciative of her family's support during the many late nights, after hours calls and weekend work situations a career in Public Health brings.

She said she was glad to be a part of the Warren County Health Services 100th anniversary celebration last year.

"It's been an amazing career. I'm so grateful to everyone who has helped me along the way," Ginelle added.

In addition to her years with Health Services, Ginelle has been deeply involved with a number of community groups and non-profits around the region during her free time.

"We are sad but happy for you," Queensbury at-Large Supervisor David Strainer, Chairman of the Health Services Committee said as supervisors were advised of the retirement news. "You have been one of the finest people in the health field and we have been very lucky to have you."

Under the Department of Health Services organizational chart, Deputy Director **Patricia Belden** — who has worked with Ginelle for decades -- will take the reins of the department when Ginelle retires.

"Pat is fully qualified, has been here for over 35 years and will provide a seamless transition when I leave," Ginelle said.

"Ginelle is leaving us in very good hands with Pat Belden," Strainer noted.