



Charlie Crist  
Governor

Ana M. Viamonte Ros, M.D., M.P.H.  
State Surgeon General

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**MARTIN COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

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For Immediate Release

Media Contact: Renay Rouse - 772-631-6008

**STATE SURGEON GENERAL TO ATTEND ANNIVERSARY EVENT**

***Martin County Health Department celebrates 60 years of service***

Martin County Health Dept. 3441 SE Willoughby Blvd, Stuart  
**Friday, November 6, 2009 – 9:30 am – 11:30 am**

State Surgeon General, Ana Viamonte Ros will be a guest speaker at a special reception marking the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Martin County Health Department.

The reception, which will be held at the Health Department in Stuart and is open to the public, will feature a series of speakers who will chronicle the early days of the Martin County Health Department as well as a look to the future.

Featured speakers include, Dr. Archie McCallister who served as Martin County's first full time Health Department Director and doctor for 13 years during the 1970's and early 1980's and Martin County Commissioner, Edward Ciampi.

***A look back to 1949:***

The Martin County Health Department was approved by the Martin County Commission in November 1949. Operations began in December at a building on Flagler Avenue in Stuart behind the Martin County Courthouse.

Approximately 7,400 people lived in Martin County in 1949. The early days of the Health Department were dedicated to health screens for tuberculosis and the management of sewerage overflow. Initially, four staff persons were hired to run the department.

Today, there are approximately 143,000 people in the county and the Health Department has grown into a vital agency providing comprehensive health services that prevent disease and promote wellness.

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