



# HealthLine

A newsletter of the Darke County Health Department

## Message from the Health Commissioner

Dr. Terrence L. Holman, DVM, RS

### A Little History

The state of Ohio is celebrating  
100 years of Public Health



A celebration well deserved, but what about Darke County? Here are a few fun facts on the history of Public Health in Darke County...

- 1910** City of Greenville Health Department
- 1919** What we now know as the Ohio Department of Health established
- 1920** District Advisory Council formed which led to the appointment of members of a Board of Health and County Health Department
- 1926** Model County Health Organization for the state, served as a training center for the state, county and city combined staff with two Boards of Health, ended in 1929
- 1954** Darke County and Preble County shared the Health Commissioner who split his time between the 2 locations
- 1976** Preble and Darke Counties separated
- 1979** Greenville City and Darke County Health Departments combined Boards which is now known as the Darke County General Health District



## ACCREDITATION

The PHAB site visit was completed on March 26 and 27 as scheduled. All of the staff worked very hard to make this a successful event. We thank the PHAB staff and volunteer site visitors for their hard work as well. We also want to thank our Board Members and Community Partners who participated in the site visit sessions and/or helped us in any way throughout the process. We are now waiting for an official decision from the PHAB Board when they meet in June. The first round Accreditation success rate is approximately 60%, the other 40% are given the opportunity to develop an action plan addressing any issues that were not very well demonstrated through the documentation that was provided. Either way, we will continue our mission to provide the best health and well-being for Darke County residents.

*The Health Department is on Facebook & Twitter.  
Please "Like us" to receive up to date messages.*

## STAFF HIGHLIGHT

Michelle  
Mader



*Thank you to our Nursing Division Secretary! March was a challenging month for all of us but particularly for the Nursing Division where there were several big events going on, including Accreditation. Michelle works hard at keeping everyone organized and in the right place at the right time.*

***You are awesome!!! We appreciate you!***



We are happy to announce that we had another successful shot clinic in March for the future 7th and 12th graders in Darke County. Thanks to all the families who came out and took advantage of the event!

Here are a few of the stats:

Total Participants 315

# of 7th Graders 171

# of 12th Graders 144

Total percentage of the 7th/12th grade student population of Darke County: 25%

Reaching this many residents in one day is excellent!!

### Regular Clinic Hours: Tuesdays

**Hours: 8:00 – 10:30 a.m.**

**and 2:00 - 5:00 p.m.**

Clinics are walk-in with no appointments needed. Most insurances are accepted.

Call 937-548-4196, extension 224, with questions or concerns.

### What You Should Know about Measles & Other Vaccine-Preventable Diseases

Here's what you need to know about measles and other contagious diseases, the vaccines that help to prevent them, and considerations for both vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals during an outbreak. Measles is one of the most contagious viruses known. The virus from an infected person's sneeze or cough can hang in the air for a couple of hours after the person has left the area. The good news is that the measles vaccine, part of the MMR vaccine, is safe and effective.

The most well-known symptom of measles is the rash that begins around the hairline and spreads to the trunk before reaching the arms and legs. Measles also causes several other symptoms that together make infected individuals very uncomfortable for about a week. Small white spots with bluish centers form in the mouth a day or two before the body rash develops; these spots are known as "Koplik's spots." Other common symptoms include high fever, cough, fatigue and conjunctivitis ("pink eye"). Measles infections can cause complications that range from diarrhea or ear infections to more severe complications including swelling of the brain (encephalitis), infection of the lungs (pneumonia), seizures or death. About one in three people will experience complications; most of these people will be children younger than five years old or adults 20 years or older. Pregnant women infected with measles are at increased risk of premature labor, spontaneous abortion or delivering a baby with low birthweight. People who are immune compromised are at increased risk for a prolonged infection. It is important for women to get vaccinated before they get pregnant. The MMR vaccine (Measles, Mumps, Rubella) protects you from these diseases.

All communities have vaccinated and unvaccinated members while unvaccinated people are often thought of as those who have chosen to remain that way; in fact, people can be unvaccinated for any number of reasons. Newborns and young infants may not be old enough to receive certain vaccines, like the influenza or MMR vaccines. Also, some people have medical reasons for not getting one or more vaccines, such as an allergy to a vaccine component. Others may be immune compromised due to medicines like steroids for asthma that cause them to be susceptible to infections. Still others might not be vaccinated because they are receiving chemotherapy for cancer or immune suppressive medicines following an organ transplant. For all of these reasons, virtually every family experience periods of time when they rely on the collective immunity of their community to protect their loved ones. All members of the community contribute to its collective immunity just as every family relies on their community for protection of their loved ones, so too does every family contribute to the relative strength of their community's ability to stave off the spread of infection.

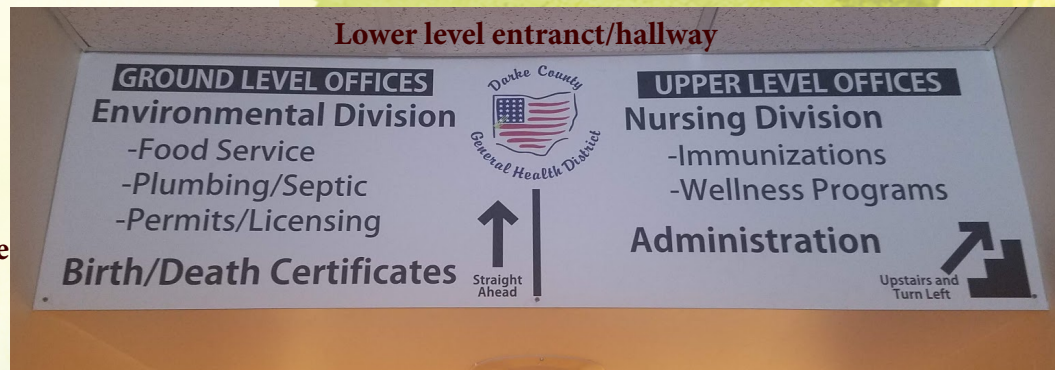
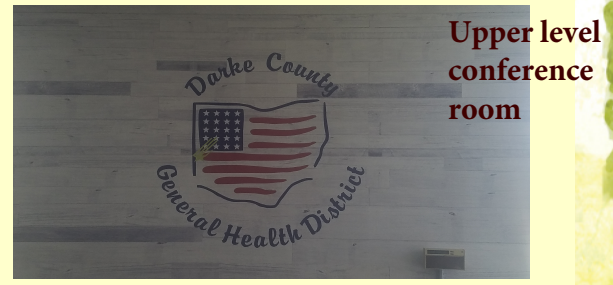
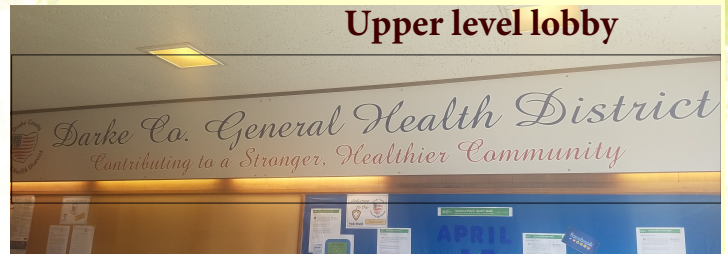
As a final thought: the best way to prevent measles (and other vaccine-preventable diseases) is to get vaccinated. The MMR Vaccine is a two-dose series. The CDC recommends children get vaccinated at their first birthday and again prior to kindergarten. For people born during or after 1957, at least one dose of the vaccine is recommended.

Feel free to stop in and get vaccinated!

For more information about communicable diseases, please call 937-548-4196 ext. 235. You can also visit the website at

[www.darkecountyhealth.org](http://www.darkecountyhealth.org).

Updates inside the Health Department:  
As part of our marketing and branding strategy, developed for Accreditation, we have added some additional signage to our building. We hope this helps the community navigate their way to the services they are seeking and leaves an impression of what the Health Department works on every day.



## STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Grace Winhoven, Sanitarian in Training has resigned from DCGHD. We will miss her greatly. She has been a very dependable, hard worker. We wish her all the best in her new ventures. Thanks Grace! Good Luck!



**2019 Food Inspection Reports are being uploaded to our website. Go to [www.darkecountyhealth.org](http://www.darkecountyhealth.org) to see the latest reports.**

## National Public Health Week April 1-7

Darke County Health Department has celebrated NPHW for several years by hosting a breakfast for staff, board members and stakeholders. The theme this year is **Creating the healthiest nation: For Science. For Action. For Health.**



Dennis Wein, MC, sharing valuable information with attendees.

Ginger Magoto providing some opening remarks.

**Fairs, crafts, summer OH MY!  
Are you planning on having a mobile food operation in Darke County? Licensing is required.**



### What is a mobile food service operation?

It is a food service operation that is operated from a movable vehicle, portable structure, or watercraft and that routinely changes location, except that if the operation remains at any one location for more than 40 consecutive days, the operation is no longer a mobile food service operation.

### What is a mobile retail food establishment?

It is a retail food establishment that is operated from a movable vehicle or other portable structure, and that routinely changes location, except that if the establishment operates from any one location for more than 40 consecutive days, the establishment is no longer a mobile retail food establishment.



FOR More Info GO TO [www.darkecountyhealth.org](http://www.darkecountyhealth.org) or call 937-548-4196 ext. 206