

March 2018

## *Points of Interest...*

- Fourteen individuals attended training offered by the Environmental Health Division for the ServSafe Food Safety Manager Certification. The program consists of three classes in which food safety topics are discussed along with hands-on techniques and demonstrations. All participants successfully passed the examination with an average score of over 86%. All licensed fixed food establishments must have at least one certified staff member and the certification is valid for five years. The response from the community has been positive, with numerous recertification candidates coming back the Health Department to attend the training.
- On March 23, 2018 the St. Clair County Health Department participated in the MISNS SharePoint Site Exercise. This is an annual state-wide test of procedures for requesting medical countermeasures (Strategic National Stockpile) in response to an emergency incident. The exercise focus was to test the capacity of the *MISNS SharePoint Site* to receive and forward request for CDC's Strategic National Stockpile assets.
- Dr. Mercatante, Medical Health Officer, joined Sheriff Tim Donnellon, Deb Johnson, Community Mental Health Executive Director, and Jim Johnson, Region 10 PIHP CEO on March 26, 2018 for an opiate round table discussion on Facebook live via ebw.tv social media page. This live community connect program provided a platform to discuss the joint effort to address opioids in the community. Throughout the program, those viewing on Facebook were able to ask questions and have them answered by the panel. The St. Clair County Prescription Drug Abuse Workgroup helped sponsor this event.
- The Environmental Health Division is one of ten local health departments to be certified by the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) to conduct inspections and be the licensing authority of temporary food inspections at county fairs. Currently, the Food Code only authorizes the MDARD to conduct such fair concession inspections. A plan will be developed between the two agencies to collaborate on the efficient transfer of responsibility for the 4-H & Youth Fair at the Goodells County Park.
- The WIC department looks forward to another growing season in Michigan! In the past three years WIC has significantly increased dollars spent at local farmers markets with Project Fresh from \$1,258.00 in 2014 to \$2,170.00 in 2017. This can be attributed to the WIC staff's belief in the program, creative program management, and increased advertising.
- The St. Clair County Smoke-Free Community Team is continuing to follow SAMHSA's Strategic Prevention Framework. This group decided to focus on youth use of new and emerging tobacco products, such as e-cigarettes and hookah. The group completed their strategic plan which identifies three goals and specific objectives. Vaping prevention presentations are already scheduled in some area high school health classes.