Wayne County Commissioners urge vaccinations in light of measles outbreak

Addressing the recent measles outbreak, Wayne County Commissioners unanimously supported a resolution Thursday, April 4, calling on residents to have themselves and their children vaccinated to stop the spread of measles and other infectious diseases.

Presented by Commissioner Melissa Daub (D-Canton Township), the resolution affirms that vaccinations and immunizations help save lives. Commissioner Daub is a member of the commission’s Committee on Health and Human Services.

As of April 4, there were 34 confirmed cases of measles in southeast Michigan and some 387 cases confirmed nationally by the Centers for Disease Control. The local outbreak is the largest of its kind in more than 25 years. Nationally, the CDC has stated that more cases have been confirmed during the first three months of this year than in all of 2018.

Most sites linked to the local outbreak have been identified as being in the Oakland County communities of Oak Park, Southfield and Royal Oak.

Measles is a highly contagious virus that can be deadly, particularly among infants and elderly individuals who have not been vaccinated.

The Wayne County Health Department offers vaccinations by appointment 8-11 a.m. and 12:30-4 p.m. Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays as well as 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 3:30-7 p.m. Wednesdays at 33030 Van Born Road, Wayne.
CDC research indicates that the MMR vaccine, which provides immunization from measles, mumps and rubella, has between a 93 and 97 percent effective rate in preventing each disease.