



# NEWS



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## **Public Health Award presented to Michelle Maurer**

BLOOMINGTON— Michelle Maurer, BSN, RN, ILCSN, was named the recipient of the 20th annual McLean County Public Health Award for furthering public health principles, practices and services in McLean County. Board President Becky Powell presented the award at the Board of Health meeting Wednesday, Nov. 14.

Maurer was recognized for her public health advocacy inside and outside of Bloomington High School as the school nurse. Maurer partners with the McLean County Health Department by reaching out to students to connect them with health department services, inviting the health department to provide on-campus education, and facilitating several health screening appointments. She provides a nonjudgmental, trusted haven for her students to address difficult issues such as alcohol and drug abuse, unsafe sex, pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases.

Maurer works to address school health needs throughout the community as a member of the McLean County Wellness Coalition. She assisted the McLean County Health Department Asthma Coalition by recruiting District 87 elementary nurses to read "Taking Asthma to School" to third-grade students on World Asthma Day in May and coordinated incoming freshmen student volunteer hours at the health department over the summer.

Each year, the McLean County Board of Health Public Health Award honors a McLean County resident, volunteer or employee who exhibits leadership in a public health-related activity and contributes to health promotion efforts within the county. The contribution can be professional or occupational, in a volunteer or paid capacity; in areas such as the aging population, communicable disease, emergency preparedness, environmental health, health education and promotion, individuals with disabilities, injury prevention, maternal/child health, mental health, nutrition and fitness or any other health-related field. For more information about the McLean County Health Department or Board of Health, call (309) 888-5450 or visit <http://health.mcleancountyil.gov>.

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