



# Genesee County Health Department

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Date: April 1, 2010  
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End Date: April 9, 2010  
Contact Person: Suzanne M. Cupal  
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RE: 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Robert M. Pestronk Excellence in Public Health Award – the Bronze Bow Tie – Awarded to Nate Jonker

The Genesee County Health Department is proud to announce the presentation of the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Robert M. Pestronk Excellence in Public Health Award – the Bronze Bow Tie, at a ceremony to be held on Thursday April 8, 2010 at 2:00 pm at the Genesee County Health Department, 630 S. Saginaw Street, Flint, Michigan 48502. The ceremony is in conjunction with the Food Service Excellence Award ceremony, which will be held at the same time and place. Both events are part of the National Public Health Week celebration.

This year the Bronze Bow Tie award will be presented to Nate Jonker and the Clio Healthy Community Initiative. Over the last two years, the people of the Clio area have organized to improve their own health and the health of their community under the leadership of Mr. Jonker and the Clio Healthy Community Initiative. Through their efforts there has been a shift in attitudes toward health in the northern tier of Genesee County. Healthy snacks have become the norm at Clio area meetings, an annual health fair has been established, family fun days in the Clio City Park are held every Wednesday during the summer to promote physical activity, the Clio Area Fire Department adopted a physical fitness policy for its employees, Clio Chamber of Commerce now includes regular “Healthy Community” reports at their monthly meetings, and residents receive a monthly “Healthy Community” supplement in the *School Bell* Newsletter.

Nate Jonker and Clio Healthy Community Initiative members have made themselves available to other communities in Genesee County interested in making similar health improvements. The Genesee County Health Department strongly supports their efforts to help all Genesee County communities promote the health and wellbeing of their residents.

For all their accomplishments toward health improvement over the last two years, the Genesee County Health Department salutes Nate Jonker and the Clio Healthy Community Initiative with the presentation of the second annual Bronze Bow Tie award.

The Bronze Bow Tie award was created to honor the contributions of former Genesee County Health Officer, Robert M. Pestronk, a visionary leader in the field of public health and known for his ever-present bow tie.

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