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News

Macomb County Executive
Mark A. Hackel



Planning & Economic Development

For Immediate Release

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Macomb County breakfast to recognize outstanding businesses

Tickets on sale for the 4th Annual Macomb County Business Awards

An anticipated 400 community and business leaders will come together Feb. 9 to celebrate entrepreneurship at the 4th Annual Macomb County Business Awards.

“Strong businesses are essential to the quality of life we enjoy here in Macomb County,” said Macomb County Executive Mark A. Hackel, who will co-emcee the event. “Their efforts to gain an advantage through the execution of strategic planning make them good job providers and neighbors for us all.”

Nominations for the awards were accepted late last year in six categories: Champion of Workforce Development, Corporate Citizen, Diversification Leader, Efficiency Expert, Model of OneMacomb and Startup Business to Watch.

In all, 51 organizations were nominated. Each was evaluated by a panel of judges that included Julie Gustafson, executive director for the Macomb-OU INCubator; Dr. Jim Jacobs, president of Macomb Community College; and Gene Lovell, president of First State Bank.

“We reviewed some incredible applications,” said John Paul Rea, director of the Macomb County Department of Planning and Economic Development. “It is inspiring to see how innovative our companies are becoming to make their businesses a success.”

A single recipient in each category will be presented with a crystal award. Fox 2 Detroit’s Huel Perkins will join Executive Hackel as emcee. Kim Yost, CEO of Art Van Furniture, will offer the “68-Day Challenge,” an inspirational message for businesses of all sizes.

Event sponsors include Henry Ford Macomb Hospitals and the Michigan Economic Development Corporation along with Advancing Macomb, Automation Alley and First State Bank.

The awards breakfast will be held from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 9 at Fern Hill Golf Club in Clinton Township. Tickets are \$30 and available for sale at www.MacombBusiness.com.

About the Macomb County Department of Planning & Economic Development

The Macomb County Department of Planning & Economic Development supports an environment where businesses prosper and people thrive. Its activities and programs are focused on stimulating the local economy through business retention, expansion and attraction while improving the overall

quality of life for residents. The department specializes in providing services to businesses at all stages of development with a concentration on the high-growth industries of aerospace, alternative energy, advanced manufacturing, defense and homeland security. For more information, call (586) 469-5285 or visit www.MacombBusiness.com.

About Art Van Furniture:

Art Van Furniture is the Midwest's largest furniture retailer and America's largest independent furniture retailer. The company operates 98 stores throughout Michigan, Illinois, Ohio and Indiana, including freestanding Art Van PureSleep mattress stores, Art Van Flooring stores, and Art Van Furniture franchise locations as well as a full-service e-commerce website. Founded in 1959, the company is family-owned and headquartered in Warren, Michigan. Visit www.artvan.com for more information.

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