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News

Macomb County Executive
Mark A. Hackel



Planning & Economic Development

For Immediate Release

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Macomb Business Awards winners announced

Business leaders from across the region attended the 5th Annual Macomb Business Awards today at Palazzo Grande in Shelby Township. Macomb County Executive Mark A. Hackel joined Macomb County Department of Planning & Economic Development Director John Paul Rea to recognize the following award winners:

- **Champion of Workforce Development:** R&E Automated Systems, Macomb Township
R&E specializes in all areas of turnkey automation including concept, design, prototyping, controls design and engineering, robotics and PLC programming, laser welding, joining, roller hemming and more. R&E has a dedicated, state-certified training center which provides training to young professionals looking to get into the industry, existing professionals looking to expand their knowledge and on-site training for its own employees. R&E has grown from 30 employees to more than 400 in the span of 10 years and continues to grow. The company recruits at local colleges and is very involved with local high schools and middle schools, helping them to grow their STEM programs.

Contact: Dan Jaraczewski (586) 228-1900, www.reautomated.com

- **Corporate Citizen:** Binson's Medical Equipment and Supplies, Center Line
Binson's is a family-owned-and-operated, full-service home medical equipment, medical supply and orthopedic company. Their customer base includes individuals, hospitals, doctor offices, nursing homes, health plans and other providers. They are committed to helping defeat the diseases that impact the families they serve on a daily basis. Throughout the years, they have raised and donated funds to many charities including the Karmanos Cancer Institute and Muscular Dystrophy Association. They also played a big role in supporting the MDA Summer Camp and Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure by donating the medical supplies and wheelchairs needed for attendees to participate at these events.

Contact: Jaclyn Fasse (586) 850-0580, www.binsons.com

- **Diversification Leader:** Baker Industries, Macomb Township
Still privately owned by the Baker family, Baker Industries has been in business for 24 years as a tier one and tier two supplier for automotive and aerospace industries. They began as a duplicating company and have evolved over the years to become a premier tooling and machining shop. With the goal of encompassing all the capabilities that their customers could wish for in a supplier, today Baker has expanded to include machining, fabrication, injection molding, tooling, 3-D printing, project management and quality assurance. With the addition of a 3-D printer, they have entered new markets

including medical, agriculture, appliances, energy and defense.
Contact: Rachel Burke (586) 764-7763, www.bakerindustriesinc.com

- Efficiency Expert: JEM Tech Group, Clinton Township

JEM is dedicated to helping customers with information technology products and services to transform their mission-critical environments into energy-efficient areas. They provide corporations with efficiency studies to assess their baseline energy consumption, determine problem areas and provide recommendations. Improvements may include reorganizing room layouts, equipment upgrades or airflow management devices. JEM also provides hardware and software that analyzes power consumption down to each outlet. Knowing the amount of power servers the customer is using can help determine what equipment can be better utilized or consolidated. JEM can help companies eliminate 30 percent in energy costs, resulting in significant savings.

Contact: Jami Moore (586) 783-3400, www.jemtechgroup.com

- Model of OneMacomb: Arts Academy in the Woods High School, Fraser

Arts Academy in the Woods is a free public high school where students can major in the fine and performing arts while also fulfilling their academic requirements. They promote racial, cultural and gender diversity, and this is reflected in the makeup of their student body. Since their founding, hundreds of students who were uncomfortable fitting in at other schools have felt welcomed and accepted in this school community. Arts Academy in the Woods begins each school year with a three-day diversity training for new students which is led by current students. Here, students develop a cultural awareness and respect that will benefit them for a lifetime.

Contact: Tim Johnson (313) 737-3580, www.artsacad.net

- Startup Business to Watch: United Shore Professional Baseball League, Utica

USPBL is the first professional independent baseball league in Southeast Michigan. The league's inaugural season in 2016 featured three teams: Utica Unicorns, Eastside Diamond Hoppers and Birmingham Bloomfield Beavers. USPBL attracted more than 225,000 fans during its first season at Jimmy John's Field. Starting the league was a Herculean task that included working with city and county officials, securing corporate sponsors, constructing a state-of-the-art stadium, designing team logos and uniforms, hiring more than 400 employees, marketing and launching a baseball finishing school. USPBL has significant plans for growth in the future including a fourth team next season and additional stadiums in the future.

Contact: Andy Appleby (248) 601-2400, www.uspbl.com

In addition to the above-mentioned awards, Rea also recognized Macomb/St. Clair Michigan Works! as the Economic Development Partner of the Year. The Beacon of Economic Development award was presented to Dr. Jim Jacobs, president of Macomb Community College.

Fox 2 Detroit's Huel Perkins and Charlie Langton served as co-emcees. Keynote speaker Richard Sheridan, founder, CEO and chief storyteller for Menlo Innovations, spoke about joy, creativity and human energy in the workplace. Digital First Media Publisher Jeannie Parent presented how to leverage the local media through successful partnerships. This event was sponsored by Henry Ford Macomb Hospitals and the Michigan Economic Development Corporation, along with support from Advancing Macomb, Automation Alley and First State Bank.

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