

1 S. Main Street, 7th Floor
Mt. Clemens, MI 48043
Phone: (586) 469-5285
Fax: (586) 469-6787
www.macombgov.org/planning

News

Macomb County Executive
Mark A. Hackel



Planning & Economic Development

For Immediate Release

Media Contact: Vicky Rad (586) 469-5285

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PED deputy director takes over helm as WID president

Macomb County Planning & Economic Development Deputy Director Vicky Rad has been elected president of Women in Defense (WID) Michigan Chapter. This is a two-year term effective Oct. 1.

Rad has been affiliated with WID since 2008 and served the last two years as vice president of the nonprofit organization. She has received multiple awards including the Horizon Industry Award for Supply Chain Development in 2009 and the Horizons-Michigan Scholarship in 2011.

“I am so thankful and proud to serve with the amazing men and women who make up the WID board,” said Rad. “As our organization looks forward, we envision WID reaching for higher ground through collaboration and community.”

As president, Rad’s top priorities are to expand STEM programming to introduce young girls to careers in national defense, to focus on the mentorship program, to continue the Women’s Business Forum and to advance the chapter.

Founded in 2007, WID has strived to promote and inspire women to become leaders in national security and defense efforts. Over the past 10 years, they have recognized eight Leaders in Excellence, awarded 22 Horizon Industry Awards, mentored 40 aspiring young professionals and given away more than \$100,000 in scholarships.

Rad’s work with WID complements her duties as deputy director of Planning & Economic Development. Macomb County boasts a prominent defense industry, with more than two-thirds of all defense contractors in the state having a presence in the county. Since 2010, more than 600 Macomb County companies have received Department of Defense contracts. Rad and her staff work to support an environment where these companies can prosper and where local defense assets such as TACOM Life Cycle Management Command, Tank and Automotive Research, Development and Engineering Center (TARDEC) and Selfridge Air National Guard Base are protected.

On Friday, Oct. 21, WID is hosting their 8th Annual Black Tie Gala: A Masquerade Ball. During the event, the new board of directors will be introduced, General Dynamics Land Systems Business Development Manager Col. (Ret.) Patricia Sellers will receive the 2016 Excellence in Leadership Award, and three Horizon Industry Awards will be presented. The event will take place from 6 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. at the Royal Park Hotel in Rochester. Tickets are available at www.WID-MI.org through Wednesday, Oct. 19.



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