

News

Macomb County Board of Commissioners



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 1, 2011

Contact: Lisa Martino
(586) 469-5713

Board of Commissioners Recognizes Veterans Services Department During National County Government Month

MOUNT CLEMENS, Mich. — The Macomb County Board of Commissioners has designated April 2011 as National County Government Month in Macomb County with the theme “Serving Our Veterans, Armed Forces and Their Families.”

In keeping with the theme, the Board’s Health and Human Services Committee will spotlight the work of the county’s Veterans Services Department at its April 20 meeting. The Board joins governmental agencies across the nation in this National Association of Counties initiative.

“Each year, the Veterans Services Department provides invaluable guidance and resources to thousands of veterans and their families,” said Commissioner Toni Mocerì, who chairs the Health and Human Services Committee. “We commend them for tirelessly working on behalf of our residents and pursuing ways to serve them better.”

The department provides support and services including assistance with education/vocational rehabilitation, service-connected and non-service connected disability pension, medal requests, requests for discharge papers, home loans, burials in the national cemetery, and more.

In 2010, Macomb County’s Veterans Services Department assisted 6,610 people and recovered nearly \$6.4 million in back pay for claims made by veterans. Thanks to a millage approved by voters in 2008, the department was able to increase the number of outreach counselors and dramatically reduce wait time for assistance in 2010 from 13 weeks to two weeks.

“To people in need of help, this is a welcome relief,” Board of Commissioners Chair Kathy D. Vosburg said. “We have much appreciation and respect for our veterans and our troops, and are happy to provide them timely assistance.”

Sponsored by the National Association of Counties (NACo), the purpose of National County Government Month is to raise public awareness and understanding about the roles and responsibilities of county government. Formerly National County Government Week, the designation was expanded to an entire month in 2010 to encourage and allow for increased participation.

###