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Feb. 1, 2023

Association for Michigan’s 83 counties launches 125th anniversary year with State Capitol event

Lansing, Mich. – The state association representing Michigan’s 83 counties launched its 125th anniversary year today with a State Capitol announcement and reception featuring remarks from state and county leaders.

“On this date, 125 years ago, in the Senate chamber just steps away, representatives from 16 counties gathered to form this association,” said Stan Ponstein of Kent County, president of the Michigan Association of Counties’ Board of Directors. Ponstein noted that while Kent was not among the original 16, it has produced the largest number of MAC presidents – 11 and counting.

Originally formed as the State Association of Supervisors of Michigan, the association was formally renamed the Michigan Association of Counties in 1969 as the state shifted to county boards staffed by commissioners directly elected from geographic districts.

Also speaking at the event in the State Capitol’s new Heritage Hall were:

- State Sen. Veronica Klinefelt of Macomb County
- State Rep. Julie Rogers of Kalamazoo County
- State Rep. Ken Borton of Otsego County
- State Rep. Matthew Bierlein of Tuscola County

Klinefelt, Borton and Bierlein, all former MAC Board presidents, presented a personal legislative tribute to MAC to mark the anniversary.

MAC also unveiled a special logo for the anniversary year, which will include a variety of events culminating in an Anniversary Gala for members at the association’s 2023 Annual Conference in Kalamazoo County in October.

MAC is the oldest Michigan association representing local governments and the only one dedicated to the representation of all county commissioners in Michigan. Learn more by visiting www.micounties.org.

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