

## Women in Defense to Honor Major Atkinson at Rochester Black Tie Gala

Every day, the contributions of thousands of women in the national defense and security professions go largely unsung.

But, for the past four years, Women in Defense, a networking and development organization for these women, has recognized their excellence.

Every November since 2008, The Michigan Chapter of Women in Defense (WID) has hosted a formal dinner and awards ceremony. This year, that black tie gala is taking place on Friday, Nov. 9, at the Royal Park Hotel in Rochester.

This year's Excellence in Leadership honoree is Major Carrie M. Atkinson of the U.S. Marine Corps.

Major Atkinson has had a distinguished career in defense – she served as a platoon commander, company commander in Operation Iraqi Freedom, and later as a battalion executive officer.

She also served as the operations officer for Recruiting Station Detroit when the Armed Services increased forces to support the Global War on Terrorism.

She was then selected to the rank of major, and served the Marine Wing Support Group 47 at Selfridge Air National Guard Base in Harrison Township.

Currently, Major Atkinson serves as the joint force provider officer for Marine Forces in Norfolk, Va.

Julie Wood, president of WID-Michigan, said she couldn't be prouder. "WID-MI's Black Tie Gala gives us the opportunity to congratulate and celebrate the successes of women, like Major Atkinson, in the national defense and security industry," she said.

The WID website notes, "Major Atkinson is being recognized for her leadership in the USMC as well as for her service and dedication to our country."

Besides celebrating Major Atkinson's outstanding achievements, the Black Tie Gala will recognize three other women in defense, nominated by their company peers in three categories: product development, business development, and innovation.

There also will be three Junior Horizon Award recipients – female high school students who excel in the STEM disciplines (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics).

These high schoolers will be recognized with college scholarships, encouraging them to pursue an education and, later, a career in the defense industry.

Award recipients over the past three years include several women who make up a Who's Who in defense industry players, such as Tamera DelCorvo and Jillian Warner of BAE Systems, Karen Arondoski of I.F. Metalworks, and Karen Tadd of Adaptive Materials (which went on to be acquired by Ultra Electronics).

Sponsorship opportunities are still available, as are tickets to the Black Tie Gala itself. For more information, or to reserve tickets, call 248-643-6590 or visit [www.wid-mi.org](http://www.wid-mi.org).

The Women In Defense Michigan Chapter is host to 529 members in 198 companies. The chapter's mission is to strengthen and influence the defense and national security industry by inspiring women, cultivating leadership and growing professional relationships.

## Macomb College's New Art Gallery Features Blum's Photo Displays

Famed industrial photographer Joseph A. Blum was on hand to inaugurate the new Macomb Community College South Campus Art Gallery in Warren on Wednesday, Oct. 17.

Blum's work was chosen to be the first displayed at the suggestion of school president Jim Jacobs, said Christine Guardino, director of cultural affairs for Macomb Community College.

"Joseph Blum is a San Francisco industrial artist," Guarino said. "He is known for his photographs of people at work, which makes his work perfect for the opening of a gallery meant to showcase and celebrate industrial and commercial art and artists of our college and of our community."

Guardino said Blum has had an interesting life. For the 25 years before he became a professional photographer, he worked as a boilermaker, shipfitter and welder.

The gallery is located at MCC's south campus in Building S, which is home to the Robert E. Turner Advanced Technology



San Francisco industrial artist Joseph A. Blum was on hand to show off his work at the grand opening of Macomb Community College's South Campus Art Gallery on Oct. 17.

Center, Guardino said.

While Blum's work kicked off the gallery, a special committee will decide which work among MCC students, professors and area residents will be displayed on a rotating basis.

"The gallery will feature mostly the work of our students and faculty," Guardino said. "There will be a focus on industrial art and welding and commercial art. That's the work that's being done on this campus."

Guardino said that she has put together the gallery and that the idea behind it is to use space on campus that really wasn't being used for anything else.

"Dr. Jacobs asked me to bring an art option to the south campus," Guardino said.

"I mentioned the idea of a gallery to showcase industrial and commercial and artists of the college and the community, and he thought it was a great idea."

## City Blood Drive Slated for Oct. 25

The City of Warren and the American Red Cross are holding a blood drive at the Warren City Hall, One City Square, on Oct. 25 between the hours of 9 a.m. and 3 p.m.

To set up an appointment, call 586-574-4516. For more information, visit [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org), or call 1-800-733-2767.

## Stan Ovshinsky Dies at 89

A private burial service will be held in Akron, Ohio, for Bloomfield Hills resident and entrepreneur Stanford R. Ovshinsky, who died at his home on Wednesday, Oct. 17, 2012, of complications from prostate cancer.

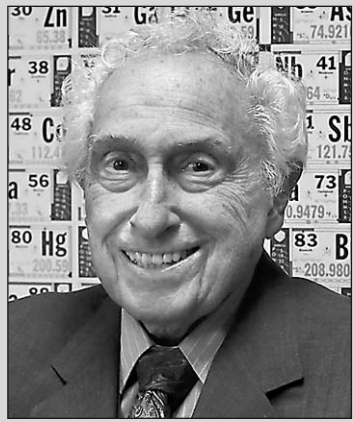
Ovshinsky, 89, was born in Akron, Ohio, on Nov. 24, 1922. Known as an innovator in the automotive industry, Ovshinsky was this year nominated as a finalist for the prestigious European Inventor Award, according to the European Patent Office in Munich, Germany.

The award was first launched in 2006 and was the first European prize to distinguish inventors who have made an outstanding contribution to innovation, the economy and society.

Ovshinsky's nomination came in the category of "non-European countries," for the invention of the nickel-metal hydride batteries (NiMH), which enabled the hybrid and electric car industries to take off and is considered important to solving the problems of CO2 and minimizing the use of gasoline.

Ovshinsky was the developer of more than 400 patents and was president and CEO of Ovshinsky Innovation LLC and Ovshinsky Solar LLC, both based in Bloomfield Hills.

Prior to founding those companies, Ovshinsky also started Energy Conversion Devices on Schaefer Road in Detroit with his late wife Iris in 1960. His work and research has been



Stanford R. Ovshinsky  
1922 - 2012

used in the development of cell phones and other portable devices that operate on rechargeable batteries.

Through its wholly owned subsidiary United Solar Ovonic, LLC (also called Uni-Solar) located in Auburn Hills, Energy Conversion Devices was the world's largest producer of flexible solar panels.

On Feb. 14, 2012, Energy Conversion Devices, Inc. and its subsidiaries, United Solar Ovonic LLC and Solar Integrated Technologies, Inc. filed for bankruptcy in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Michigan.

A strong advocate of maintaining the United States' industrial base, Ovshinsky said in an interview earlier this year, "I don't see how without the kinds of people who built the industries, and know what to do and how to build them, you can't

have a powerful country in terms of giving proper jobs if you don't really have an industrial base."

Ovshinsky, in the 1990s, teamed up with then-General Motors chairman Robert Stempel to use his batteries in the second-generation GM EV1 electric vehicle, which was the car that kicked off the modern EV industry.

Ovshinsky was also credited with discovering in the 1960s what became known as the Ovshinsky Effect – the principle that described how glass can be engineered to conduct electricity.

Ovshinsky was self-educated and predicted at the time that the effect could be used to produce smaller and cheaper electronic devices, including computers and television sets.

After leaving Energy Conversion Devices, Ovshinsky founded Ovshinsky Innovation and Ovinsky Solar, which operate out of a retired elementary school building near Square Lake and Squirrel roads in Bloomfield Hills.

Ovshinsky was predeceased by his wife Iris. He is survived by his brother Herbert, his longtime partner at ECD; his wife at the time of his death, Rosa, a former scientist at ECD; seven children; and six grandchildren.

Contributions in his honor may be made to the Michigan chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union and the Ovshinsky Student Scholarship Fund of the American Physical Society.

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