

Warren's Jennifer Morgan Earns 2013 ATHENA Award

Jennifer Morgan, director/administrator of the Martha T. Berry Medical Care Facility in Mt. Clemens, is the recipient of the 2013 ATHENA Award, presented by the Macomb Foundation.

Morgan accepted the award at a May 3 luncheon held at the Palazzo Grande in Shelby Township. The international ATHENA award honors women who actively assist women in realizing their full potential.

"Jennifer Morgan embodies the ideals of ATHENA," said Grace Shore, Macomb Foundation CEO. "She is well-accomplished professionally, involved in the community and generously gives of her time to support and encourage other women. Her leadership and dedication are an inspiration to us all."

Prior to Morgan's tenure, the Martha T. Berry Medical Care Facility, a 217-bed skilled nursing care facility in Mt. Clemens, struggled financially, and it was necessary for the county to make significant contributions for the facility to meet its operating expenses.

Employee jobs were at risk, and a medical facility whose mission was to serve the poor and indigent was in danger of closure or privatization.

That's how things stood in 2010 at the time Morgan took over the facility. In short order, she assumed leadership and implemented changes in policy and personnel as needed to turn things around, while maintaining the best quality of care for all residents.

Today, Martha T. Berry operates within approved budgets and Macomb County contributes zero dollars to its budget.

On her nomination form, Morgan stated, "My goal is simple: To share my passion for the long-term care industry and to aid in the development of strong professional leaders, managers and administrators delivering care with dignity to the aging, dependent members of society."

Morgan provides her predominantly female staff with ample opportunities to grow professionally, encouraging them to fur-

ther their education and hone their skills by attending workshops, seminars and training events.

Morgan also oversees a special events committee that holds events to raise money for employees who are in need, and provides employees with special recognition throughout the year for their hard work.

She has created programs at Martha T. Berry that encourage teamwork, respect among co-workers and positive behavior, creating a more positive, team-oriented culture, according to several employee testimonials submitted with the ATHENA award nomination form.

She is also executive director of the Martha T. Berry Founda-



From left, Grace Shore, CEO of the Macomb Foundation, ATHENA award winner Jennifer Morgan and Event Chair Maria Silamianos Sherman of Omega Solutions. Photo by Jennifer Horvath

tion, a newly created nonprofit dedicated to improving the lives of the residents of the medical care facility.

Morgan resides in Warren with her husband and two children – daughter Kennedy, 12, and son Joseph, 8.

Meals on Wheels Drivers Wanted In Macomb

Macomb County Community Services Agency (MCCSA) is seeking volunteer drivers to deliver meals to homebound senior citizens through the Meals on Wheels program.

The agency reported that there is a critical need for drivers in Clinton Township, Eastpointe/Warren, and Utica. Drivers are also needed in New Baltimore, New Haven, Romeo, Roseville, St. Clair Shores and Sterling Heights.

Volunteers are asked to drive a midday lunch route at least two times each month. An average route is completed in approximately 90 minutes.

To sign up, call 586-469-5228 or register online at www.macomb.gov.org/MCCSA.

2014 GMC Sierra Pickup Boasts 305 Lb.-Ft. of Torque

When the new 2014 GMC Sierra full-size pickup arrives this summer, its standard 4.3L EcoTec V6 will offer, according to GMC, the most torque of any standard V6 in the segment – 305 lb.-ft.

Buyers will choose from three new, advanced EcoTec3 engines – a 5.3L available at launch, followed by the 4.3L and 6.2L versions available later this year. All are designed specifically for the high trailering and hauling demands unique to truck buyers, said GMC communications manager Joseph LaMuraglia.

Torque is the turning force that generates off-the-line acceleration and confident trailering performance. Sierras equipped with the 4.3L EcoTec3 V6 will have trailering ratings up to 7,200 pounds for a regular cab, short-bed, four-wheel-drive model – 500 pounds more than the most capable Ford F-150 3.7L and 700 pounds more than a Ram 1500 3.6L, say GMC officials.

Sierra's standard V6 produces an SAE-certified 285 horsepower and is matched with a proven, efficient six-speed automatic transmission. EPA fuel economy estimates will be released later.

Like Sierra's optional 5.3L and 6.2L EcoTec3 V8 engines, the new V6 features three state-of-the-art

technologies – direct injection, active fuel management (cylinder deactivation) and continuously variable valve timing – that have been proven and perfected through 6 million hours of computational analysis by engineers studying the combustion process, LaMuraglia said.

In all, approximately 10 million CPU hours were spent refining and making the most of the Sierra's EcoTec3 engines.

"This is technology no other truck maker can match, and we offer it in every EcoTec3 engine, for every customer," said Jordan Lee, GM Powertrain chief engineer. "It is a standard feature, so our drivers get our best and most sophisticated technology regardless of trim level."

Although they share only a handful of parts with previous Sierra engines, the new EcoTec3

V6 builds on experience gained from millions of trucks and billions of real-world customer miles resulting from a half-century of leadership in V6 engine development. In 1960, GMC debuted the first V6 pickup truck ever and offered it exclusively through most of the '60s.

That engine, offered in various displacements starting at 5.0L, was designed with aluminum pistons, improved cooling and a stout crankshaft and bearings designed for unprecedented durability, say GM officials.

"The family of V6 engines introduced in 1960 was designed to last, and I've heard of some owners going more than 450,000 miles on the original engine," said Donald Meyer, GMC truck historian.

"They had really high torque and pulled loads well. GMC engi-

neers know how to build durable, reliable engines that never quit."

Like the 2014 engine, the 4.3L V6 introduced as standard equipment for GMC half-ton pickups in 1985 used geometry and engineering from the brand's proven Small Block V8.

As with today's V6, engineers studied the combustion chamber, developing "Vortec" technology that swirled the air and fuel inside the engine to create a more homogenous mix, improving power and efficiency. That engine was the basis for new generations of engines through the 2013 model year.

The new 2014 Sierra models with the 4.3L EcoTec3 V6 go on sale later this year with a suggested starting price of \$25,085, including a destination charge of \$995, but excluding tax, title, license and dealer fees.

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