

Countdown to family on the move



On the move: A box of items that you'll need even before the moving van arrives should be kept with you.

Survivor box limits moving day stress

There are few things more frustrating than settling into a new house, ready to unpack sealed boxes, only to discover that the family scissors is packed away in one of dozens of sealed boxes.

To prevent a similar situation, put together a survivor box before packing your household possessions.

- Here's what the box should include:
- Flashlight with fresh batteries.
 - Light bulbs.
 - Band-Aids, aspirin, first aid remedies.
 - Bar of soap.
 - Paper towels.
 - Toilet paper.
 - Linens and towels for your first few nights.
 - Some cookware.
 - Can opener.
 - Plastic utensils, paper plates, cups, napkins.
 - Trash bags.
 - Scissors and utility knife.
 - Screwdriver, hammer, nails, pliers.
 - Household cleaning supplies, dish detergent.
 - Pen and paper.
 - Telephone.
 - Small radio.

Moving a family and a household of furniture and goods can be an overwhelming experience.

One way to ease the anxiety of relocating is to properly plan for the move, according to Robert Fleisher, CEO of Allied Van Lines.

"To help families prepare to locate, Allied Van Lines has developed a checklist that begins two months before the big day," he said.

Eight weeks before the move: Contact your mover for information and an estimate.

Compile an inventory of all household and personal possessions to be moved.

Order a newspaper subscription from your new town to familiarize you family with the news and events in the community.

Six weeks before:

Write the chamber of commerce in your new town for information on schools, parks and recreation.

Obtain school, medical, tax and legal records. Ask for referrals.

Four weeks before: Start using items that are not transportable like frozen food or cleaning supplies.

Obtain a change-of-address kit from the post office, complete and mail forms.

Contact utility and related companies (cable companies and garbage collectors) for service disconnect and connect. Keep utilities connected in your current home throughout moving day.

If you are packing yourself, arrange to obtain boxes. Pack seldom-used or out-of-season goods that won't be missed before moving day.

Make travel arrangements for

your moving trip for you and your pets.

Hold a garage sale to be rid of unwanted items or donate usable items to a charitable organization.

Three weeks before: Arrange to close and open bank accounts.

Begin to pack in earnest.

Two weeks before: Reconfirm all arrangements with the moving company.

Service your car. If the building you are moving out of or into has an elevator, schedule time to use it for your move.

One week before: Empty safe deposit box.

Drain fluids from lawn mower and other equipment.

Prepare specific instructions for your van foreman. Include itinerary and emergency phone numbers.

Two to three days before:

Pack items you will need the first few days in your new home such as linens, towels and soap into a "survival box" to be taken with you on the move.

Defrost and clean the refrigerator and freezer.

Notify moving company of any last-minute changes.

Moving day:

Hire a babysitter to watch young children.

Read your bill of inventory carefully before signing.

Make final inspection of house to check for belongings and to check locked windows and doors.

Age influences reaction to moving

Whether moving across the country or across the block, parents need to make special efforts to help their children adjust to new surroundings, says a family psychologist.

"Moving is hard on children no matter what the situation," says Dr. Brenda Wade, author of "Love Lessons: A Guide to Transforming Relationships."

"But there are steps parents can take to make the transition easier. Children under 7 years of age need their lives as familiar and routine as possible during and after a move.

As soon as the family has relocated, set up the child's room as it was before the move, with the child's favorite toys, pictures and blanket in full view.

"Now is not the time to redecorate a small child's room," Wade says. "Younger children have a very small world and can become disoriented easily."

The same attention should be given to the youngster's schedule.

Continuity is the key. Structured times in their routine, like the family dinner hour and bedtime, should not be changed immediately following the move.

To help children over 7, a different approach should be used.

"It's important to be up front with older children when discussing the move. Include them in the decision-making process," Wade says.

Once a home and school have been selected, gather the family to discuss specifics. If a trip to the area is not possible, compile information on the neighborhood and school to show to older children.

Ask them how they would like to redecorate their new bedroom and provide a layout of the house.

Teens may be the most concerned about leaving classmates and close friends. Parents should encourage exchanging telephone numbers and addresses and setting aside time for formal good-byes.



Unsettling experience: Parents are urged to let children be a part of the moving process and to encourage activities where they make new friends.

DESIRABLE GREATER CANTON/WESTLAND AREA

1,996 SQ. FT.

GRAND OPENING! From the Low **\$139,990**

CONVENTIONAL FINANCING or \$1 DOWN VA

Ford Rd.	• Three Bedrooms	• Full Basement
Cherry Hill	• Six Baths	• Family Room
Model	• Walk-in Closet	• 1st Floor Laundry
	• Water Bedroom	• Ceramic Tiled
	• Family Room	• Ceiling in selected
	• Sunroom Living Room	• 2 Car Garage
	• Dining Room	• AVIA Cabinets
	• Loft	• Vinyl Siding + add

Take Ford Rd. to Newburgh, Turn South on to Newburgh to Cherry Hill. Go West on Cherry Hill 400 Ft. past John Mix to model.

Mon thru Friday and Sat & Sun 1 to 6. (Closed Thurs.) Sales Office: 326-8724

BUILT and SOLD by... M J GROUP I

PLYMOUTH COMMONS MODEL HOMES FOR SALE AT DISCOUNT PRICES

Luxurious Custom Homes completely furnished with 4 bedrooms, 2 1/2 or 3 car side entrance attached garage, 2 1/2 and 4 1/2 baths, landscaping and deck

All 1/4 acre sites
14 acre Commons Park

ALSO SOME LOTS FOR SALE
Models open 2-6 p.m. closed Thursday
Located W. of Ridge Rd., S. of N. Territorial Rd.
Plymouth Township

A. ROSSI & SON BUILDERS, INC.
(WILL BUILD TO SUIT)
Office 347-4864 Model 453-4350

More Than Just The Horsey Set Is Galloping Out To See Milford's Finest New Home Values

3 and 4 bedroom homes from the \$170's and custom homes on estate sites from the \$290's. Surrounded by Kensington Park, downtown Milford and Twelve Oaks Mall. Adjacent Saddle Club and equestrian facilities available.

BERWYCK
Furnished Models Open Daily 12-4 pm 684-2600

Another Distinctive Community by The Irvine Group
Brokers Welcome

PHASE IV NOW OPEN

Salley Pointe condominiums

THREE PHASES HAVE SOLD QUICKLY! DON'T MISS PHASE IV We can't be beat!

FROM **\$68,500**

- ★ 1 Floor, 2 Bedroom, 2 Bath Models ★
- ★ 3 Floor Plans
- ★ Private Entrances
- ★ GE Appliances
- ★ Cathedral Ceilings
- ★ Carport

Open Daily 12-5 • Closed Thursday
981-8550
SALES BY CENTURY 21, CASTELLI

Spring Has Sprung!

And We Have The Power!

Come and catch the excitement at Arrowon Pines, a condominium community that offers affordability, privacy and luxury in a MAINTENANCE FREE environment.

- ★ 2 & 3 Bedroom Ranches and Townhomes
- ★ Wooded Setting
- ★ Walk-outs Available
- ★ Distinctive Designs

Priced from **\$131,900.**

For information, call Marsha **349-8808**

Open daily 12-5, Closed Thurs. Brokers Welcome

Located in the Golden Center of West on West Road between 9 and 10 Mile Roads.

NOVI

NEW MODELS

The Quality of Royal Crown Estates

A community of impressive single family homes in a dramatic "natural setting"

Price from... **\$226,900**

Heavily wooded and walk-out sites, ravine and creekview sites. Excellent location with easy access to major expressways, malls, recreation (such as riding stables, state parks, skiing and golf), churches and schools. Royal Crown Estates offers value, style and comfort. Features include: vaulted ceilings • barbed breakfast rooms • private 2nd staircase designer kitchens with built-in appliances • private master bedroom suites • huge lofts • attached garage • sidewalks and more.

PHASE IV NOW AVAILABLE

Sales Office **380-3088**
Model Homes Open Daily 12-6p.m. (Closed Thurs.)
MONROE

Located on Tapp Rd. just north of 9 Mile.
Brokers Welcome