



Auburn Hills booming?

Auburn Hills was named in U.S. News & World Report's and USA Today's coverage of American boom towns. Martin Rutter of Century 21 notes that the cost of average existing homes was below

the national average in 16 of 22 cities cited, including Auburn Hills. There the average price was \$65,000 compared to the \$96,000 Century 21 reports as being the national average.

'Affordability' index improves

(AP) — An index measuring the ability of the typical American family to buy a home improved slightly in November due to steady declines in mortgage interest rates and a slight increase in family incomes.

The National Association of Realtors said its index rose to 105.8 in November, meaning that a family with a median income of \$33,482 had 105.8 percent of the income needed to buy a median-priced existing home costing \$93,000.

The median means that half of the families earn more and half less, or that half of the homes sell for more and half for less.

The index was the highest since last February, when it registered 106.7. It was 105.5 in October.

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Moss next at LTU

Eric Owen Moss, a California avant-garde architect, will be the next speaker at Lawrence Technological University's Architecture series at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 1, in the College of Architecture auditorium, 21000 W. 10 Mile, Southfield. His work has been called an exploration of "L.A.'s paradoxes using irony and wit."

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