

Housing market slows down, but home prices are going up

Michigan housing sales dropped 2 percent during the third quarter compared to the same period a year ago, the Michigan Association of Realtors reported this week. But most areas, including Oakland County, reported price increases.

It blamed sagging consumer confidence, due in part to the struggle over the federal budget and the Midwest crisis.

Some potential buyers are taking a "wait and see" approach before moving up the housing ladder, reported Mel Durbin, president of the 23,000-member association.

"However, despite our recent downturn, Michigan's housing market is still a favorable market, with the average price of \$82,938 well below the national average of \$120,500, Durbin said.

"INTEREST RATES are still at a good level, and listings are up, creating a slight shift to a buyers' market. While potential buyers wait for things to get better, housing values are continuing to increase, as evidenced by the 4-percent rise in the average price over a year ago.

"We continue to be optimistic about the future of Michigan's housing market."

"If I were a buyer now, I would first look to FHA and VA loans as my initial inquiry into the mortgage market. These are underutilized sources of mortgages that most buyers have been neglecting.

first three quarters of 1990 and the percentage difference:

- Northern Oakland County — 1,930; 1,901; down 1.5 percent. Average price was \$91,721, up 5.72 percent.

- Southern Oakland County — 3,177; 3,047; down 4.09 percent. Average price was \$83,779, up 5.41 percent.

- Western Oakland and Wayne counties — 13,605; 13,070; down 3.93. Average price was \$95,637, up 3.45 percent.

- Downriver — 2,455; 2,449; down 0.24 percent. Average price was \$86,886, up 6.53 percent.

- Livingston County — 1,163; 1,073; down 7.74 percent. Average price was \$115,177, up 9.9 percent.

- Macomb County — 11,618; 11,582; down 0.31 percent. Average price was \$82,598, up 3.44 percent.

Praise your children, agency says

Child Abuse Councils across the state are joining together for a public awareness campaign entitled, "Stop the Report Card Reflex."

"This campaign promotes positive parent-child interactions when children bring home report cards," said Meg Mittel, executive director of the Child Abuse and Neglect Council, County of Oakland.

The organization's public awareness committee, chaired by Lt. John Himmelspach of the West Bloomfield Police Department, has sent letters to all elementary school principals and PTA/PTO presidents in Oakland County.

They explain that report cards:

- Are sometimes the only communication between teachers and parents.

- Generally focus on academic progress, but are mechanisms for reporting school behavior (usually problems) as well.

- Can provoke a range of response from parents, depending on numerous variables.

- Are sometimes viewed by parents as being a direct reflection on them or a personal affront.

The Stop the Report Card Reflex campaign encourages parents to:

1. Sit down with their child and look over the report card.

2. Praise the child. Find at least one good thing: attendance, no lateness, etc.

3. Be calm! Let the child explain about his poor grades.

4. Ask what kind of help the child needs to do better.

5. Ask what the child can do to make better grades.

6. Make a plan with the teacher and the child to improve grades.

Because a disappointing report card is especially hard on both parents and children, the campaign is designed to give parents suggestions in handling grades in a constructive and productive manner.

The Oakland County Child Abuse and Neglect Council is a private, non-profit agency dedicated to eliminating child abuse and neglect. It is a United Way and Children's Trust Fund agency.

SENATOR RUDY NICHOLS



No other candidate matches his credentials.

Endorsed by:

- Congressman Bill Broomfield
- Oakland Executive Dan Murphy
- Oakland Sheriff John F. Nichols
- Oakland Prosecutor Richard Thompson
- Oakland Clerk Lynn D. Allen
- Oakland Treasurer Hugh Dohany
- Oakland Drain Comm. George Kuhn
- Circuit Judge Robert C. Anderson
- Circuit Judge Steven N. Andrews
- Circuit Judge David F. Breck
- Circuit Judge Jessica R. Cooper
- Circuit Judge Hilda Gage
- Circuit Judge Alice L. Gilbert
- Circuit Judge Richard D. Kuhn
- Circuit Judge Fred M. Mester
- Circuit Judge Francis X. O'Brien
- Circuit Judge John N. O'Brien
- Circuit Judge Gene Schnelz
- Circuit Judge Edward Sosnick
- Circuit Judge Robert L. Templin
- Probate Judge Joan E. Young

ELECT RUDY NICHOLS CIRCUIT JUDGE

Paid for by the Nichols for Circuit Court Committee • 1090 West Huron • Waterford, MI 48328 • (313) 681-1200

TRAVEL VACATION

SEE THE NEW... 1991

PARK MODELS, TRUCK CAMPERS, MOTORHOMES, 5TH WHEELS, TRAVEL TRAILERS, POP-UPS, VANS AND TOW VEHICLES

24TH ANNUAL

The Detroit Camper AND RV Show

OCTOBER 31 - NOVEMBER 4

COBO CENTER

WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY & FRIDAY 2 PM - 10 PM
SATURDAY 11 AM - 10 PM
SUNDAY 11 AM - 6 PM

SPECIAL FEATURES:

Visit the past with a special display of antique RV's

Learn more about your RV maintenance and safety with Hal and Penny Gaynor

Learn how to save on your personal taxes with an RV

Special seminar on how to buy the right tow vehicle and hitch

Bavarian Village

SUPER SKI SAVINGS

From the ski shops that are famous for low, low prices, expert advice & a tremendous selection of top brand names. Choose from Michigan's largest selection. Here are a few examples.

BOOTS

*390 ROSSIGNOL CS SLALOM	\$279
*355 ROSSIGNOL STS CARBON	\$239
*320 ROSSIGNOL 935	\$199
*290 ROSSIGNOL EQUIPE SCI	\$159
*335 K2 5000 8.3 SLALOM	\$219
*310 K2 PK 7.8 SLALOM	\$189
*275 K2 3800 SPORT 8.7	\$159
*365 K2 LTP KEVLAR	\$249
*275 OLIN COMP SP	\$149
*325 OLIN SP-2 SPORT	\$209
*320 OLIN RC-700	\$129
*410 DYNASTAR COURSE HPI	\$289
*375 DYNASTAR ELLE SL KEVLAR	\$259
*375 PRE M-3 KEVLAR/CARBON	\$189
*385 PRE M-4 KEVLAR/CARBON	\$289
*325 ELAN NRG 733 KEVLAR	\$159
*265 ELAN 615 ULTRA	\$139
*225 HEAD FLAIR CLASSIC	\$129
*375 ATOMIC 533 CE SLALOM	\$249
*295 BLIZZARD V14 KEVLAR	\$169
*365 KASTLE RX-15 SYNERGY	\$259
*385 KASTLE RX-15 TI RAC SL	\$249
*260 KASTLE FW1 COMFORT	\$159

SNOW IS ON THE WAY! GET READY TO SKI NOW AND SAVE.

*175 DOLOMITE 265	\$99
*300 LANGE XSI	\$219
*170 HEIERLING 91 MODEL	\$119
*215 HEIERLING 91 MODEL	\$139
*265 HEIERLING 91 MODEL	\$179
*200 RAICHLER RE-255	\$129
*230 RAICHLER RE-355 MIL	\$149
*300 RAICHLER RX-670 MIL	\$249
*265 TECNICA PRO SLALOM	\$179

SKI PACKAGE SETS

BLIZZARD-TYROLIA

- *BLIZZARD '91 FREEBIND F10 \$199.00
- *TYROLIA 540 BINDINGS... \$132.00
- *SAC MATCH STIX POLES... \$27.95
- TOTAL \$358.95**

PACKAGE SET SALE PRICE \$169

K-2-SALOMON

- *K2 ETX/3500 SPORT SKIS... \$285.00
- *SALOMON S-447 BINDINGS... \$132.00
- *SAC AERO STIX POLES... \$27.95
- TOTAL \$444.95**

PACKAGE SET SALE PRICE \$199

ROSSIGNOL-MARKER

- *ROSSI '91 EQUIPE RC1 SKIS \$299.00
- *MARKER M-27 BINDINGS... \$140.00
- *SAC MATCH STIX POLES... \$27.95
- TOTAL \$466.95**

PACKAGE SET SALE PRICE \$239

PRE-SALOMON

- *PRE '91 M3 KEVLAR SKIS... \$375.00
- *SALOMON S-487 BINDINGS... \$180.00
- *SCOTT STRAPLESS POLES... \$34.00
- TOTAL \$589.00**

PACKAGE SET SALE PRICE \$289

K-2-MARKER

- *K2 '91 4000 7.8 SL SKIS... \$300.00
- *MARKER M-28 BINDINGS... \$160.00
- *K2 MATCHING POLES... \$40.00
- TOTAL \$500.00**

PACKAGE SET SALE PRICE \$299

ROSSIGNOL-SALOMON

- *ROSSI '91 SERIES 835 SKIS... \$320.00
- *SALOMON S-757 BINDINGS... \$175.00
- *ROSSI 835 STRAP POLES... \$13.95
- TOTAL \$508.95**

PACKAGE SET SALE PRICE \$339

RECEIVE OUR \$100 "LET'S GO SKING" BONUS FREE WITH ALL SKIS PURCHASED THIS WEEK WHILE SUPPLIES LAST.

ASK SALESPERSON FOR DETAILS

OPEN DAILY 10 A.M. - 6 P.M. THRU NOVEMBER 4, 1990