### REAL ESTATE NEWS

# **LISTINGS**

Listings features notes and news about subur-ban real estate. To list an event, write: Listings, Real Estate Editor, Observer & Eccentric Newspa pers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150, Our fax number is 313-591-7279.

S ON BOARD



B ON BOARD

Birmingham Realtor Robert J.

Piliska was elected to the board of directors of both the Detroit Area Commercial Board of Realtors and Professional Association Serivees.

DACEDOR is a commercial board of Realtors and Professional Association Serivees.

Piliska

### STOP PRODUCERS

EI 10P PRODUCERS
Douglas Stranahun, Century 21 Great Lakes
Inc., divisional president, reports that the Century
21 Metro Brokers Council has named its top-producing sales associates for October:
Anna Carlesco and Rachel Colvin, Century 21
Today, Livonic, Sanford Norman, Century 21
Town & Country, Birmingham; Roxann J.
Tarantino and Sharon L. Camera, Century 21
Town & Country, Rochester; Samir Balzel, Century 21 Premiere Real Eatate Co., West Bloomfield.

E RETAIL DIVISION
Grubb & Ellis of Southfield has formed a retail
division and has hired two retail brokers responsible for lessing and selling commercial/retail properties around metro Detroit. Joffrey Higgins specializes in retail tenant representation. Daniel
Jacob specializes in retail tenant representation
and lessing.

## Sales agents help shape winning offers

Offering too much or too little mon-ey for a house can be one of the many pitfalls involved in the buying pro-

pitfalls involved in the buying process.
Obviously, offering too much money can come back to bite the buyer.
No one likes to be taken financially.
If the offer is unrealistately low, however, negotiations can be stymied by
an insulted seller who may refuse to
consider future counter offers.
With help from a real estate sales
associate and a little common sense,
a buyer should be able to make a reasonable offer that jump-starts negotiations with a seller, said Doug
Stranathan, divisional president for
Novi-based Century 21 Great Lakes
Inc.

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Inc.

Remember, all agents you contact during the buying process legally represent the seller unless they have a specific written agreement to work for

specific written agreement to work for you.

A good first step in the process is to compare the seller's asking price with prices actually paid for similar homes in the same area within the past year.

Using data from local multiple listing services, a sales associate can provide a list of selling prices for similar homes and help the buyer make meaningful comparisons.

"Typically, a buyer's first inclination is to make an offer which is comparable to one of the lowest recently accepted offers for similar houses," Stranahan sold. "The seller may not be overly enthusiastic about this type of first offer, but may not reject it either — as long as it's reasonable."

Another place to get information is

Another place to get information is the assessing department or treasur-er's office at the municipal building where the house is located. By law, residential properties must be as-sessed at one half of foir merket val-

ue,

An evaluation of selling prices may
not be possible in a home that doesn't
really compare with others in the
area. In this case, the buyer could
have the home's value professionally

网 'Typically, a buyer's first inclination is to make an offer which is comparable to one of the lowest recently accepted offers for similar houses. The seller may not be overly enthusiastic about this type of first offer, but may not reject it either - as long as it's reasonable."

Doug Stranahan Century 21 Great Lakes

There is always the risk, however, that another buyer could make an of-fer and purchase the home before an appraisal is completed.

appraisal is completed.

In any case, researching selling prices of similar homes usually provides a good figure that can be used as a starting point for the negotiation

process.

An actual offer must be made in writing and should be accompanied by a deposit or earnest money. Since a purchase offer is legally binding, it may be wise to consult an autorney before submitting that document.

"It should contain a time limit for

the seller to accept, reject or negotiate your offer," Stranahan said.

Buyers demonstrate their serious-ness by submitting deposits with written offers. A deposit of five to 10 percent isn't abnormal, but a larger deposit may be encouraging to the seller.

In a situation where two buyers make the same offer, the seller will often select the buyer with the bigger

"Making a well-researched offer and applying a reasonable amount of carnest money best demonstrates a buyer's serious interest and en-courages the seller, 'Stranahan said. "These are the best steps a buyer can take towards successful negotia-tions."

## Avoid attorneys with conflicts



CONDO QUERIES represented us for approximately seven years and we have been satisfied with him until now.

The problem is that our management company has been doing a poor job of accounting and we have asked the attorney to pursue the management company.

ment company.

The attorney indicates that he has a working relationship with the management company on a number of projects and does not want to offend the management company and has suggested that we retain someone else.

We are upset only because if we ad known of his relationship with ne management company, we

would have not hired him in the first instance because when we need him the most, he is not avail-able. Should the management com-pany or attorney have disclosed that information to us?

It is hard to answer your question specifically without knowing exactly what the relationship is between the management company and the attor-ney. Obviously, if the attorney repreney. Obviously, it the attorney repre-sented the management company or any of its principals, that fact should have been disclosed to the association before the attorney was retained, clearly by the attorney, and probably by the management company.

To the extent that the attorney is economically tied in with the management company, which would otherwise preclude him for pursuing the manauement company, arguably that fact should have been disclosed to the association, which, presumably, re-

lied on the attorney to advise it in re-gard to its dealings with the manage-ment company, perhaps even in the matter of the management agreement.

The association in the future should be mindful of retaining an attorney who does not have any tie-ins with the managing agent or the man-agement company that would affect his/her ability to represent the best interests of the association at all

Robert M. Meisner is a Birming-Robert M. Meisner is a Birming-ham attorney concentrating his prac-tice in the areas of condominiums, real estate and corporate law, You are invited to submit questions by writing Robert M. Meisner at 30200 Tele-graph Road, Suite 467, Bingham Farms 48025. This column provides general information and should not be construed as legal opinion. To leave a voice-mail message for Robert Meis-ner, dial 953-2047, mailbox 1871.

## CLASSIFIED REAL ESTATE





### Observer & Eccentric TYPE OF ADVERTISEMENT

Classified

Monday	"Display"
December 27th	and
Issue	"Liner Ads"
For	Classified
Monday	"Display"
January 3rd	and

PUBLICATION

Issue

"Liner Ads"

Deadline 5 pm Thursday December 23rd

Deadline 5 pm Thursday December 30th

Display Proof Ads Due on Wednesdays

Please Call Early!

Have A Safe and Happy Holiday

644-1100-Oakland County • 591-0900-Wayne County 852-3222-Rochester/Rochester Hills

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01 Open Houses	ŀ
STT Dennett Lane. 4 bedroom, 214.	ŀ
eth coloreal. Speciacular yard. Serry extras. \$145,900 651-4592	ŀ
CALL	ŀ

HOMELINE OPEN HOUSES 953-2020 24 Hours A Day With New Listings Added right up to The Weekend se Large Display Promo in 1

### 302 Birmingham Bioomfield

JUST LISTED BLOOMFIELD HILLS - 5 bedroom 4 Auf baths, 2 half baths, Fam Room, Media Room, Library, 3 C garage, prime Boomheld acres on wooded, hilly setting, \$900,000 EC-H-738RA

room, 2 fireplaces, 2'4 to shopping, Birmingh \$258,000, EC-H-88ROL

# 02 Birmingham

BIRMINGHAM- 3 Degrooms, 41 value. \$70,900 for lease wi BIRWINGHAM-Sharp 3 bedroom, 3 car garage, completely renovated \$93,000. O'RILLEY REALTY. 889-8844

CLASSIFIED RESÜLTS

**HOMELINE** OPEN HOUSES 953-2020

24 Hours A Day With New Listings Added right up to The Weekend

See Large Display Promo in This Section for Instructions

303 W.Bimfid. Keego Orchard Lake

ST BLOOMFIELD -PER STRAITS LAKE PRI IES Exceptional value. Spott addroom ranch with 2 car gara a 150 lot, unlimited possebat

presently entrance soon to com-area \$94,900, W-30EVE B1209 LL 628-4000

CARCONY Off master Decroom. Five CAR BARAGE READY to move in \$399,000, W-86LAK B14064 CALL 826-4000

CASE LAKE CANAL West Bloom held. 100 fl. on canal. 2433 sq.f brand new. 3 car effached garage 1st floor master bedroom. 516 nee accroval. Time to make charges 2224,900. W-000LD B15159 CALL 626-4000

WEST BLOOMFIELD - Birmingham Schooks 1600 sq ft. sanch. Excellent condition. Neutral decor. Family room, formal daining sens. 2 car garage. Large lot, treed and lenoed. Waking distance of Madore Brook elementary school. \$152,800.

W-60BRO [01:338 CALL E28-4000]

MAX BROOCK, INC. 626-4000

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Farmington Hills
BUILDER HAS HOMES IN Nov. 8
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erstable priced from 1227,900 Aug
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FARMINGTON HILLS RANCH

FARMINGTON 474-6930

### 304 Farmington Farmington Hills

OWNER-3 bedroom ranch in daRwood Sub. 1% baths, find d basement, updaled kitchen, ched 2 car garage, 28224 mybrae, \$131,000. 553-7154 CALL

HOMELINE OPEN HOUSES 953-2020 24 Hours A Day With Now Listings Added right up to The Weekend

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FARMINGTON HILLS'
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\$183,500 OE2SLAM.

SECULDED AND SERENE - the contemporary F.L. Wright style from boasts a brained walkout former of the contemporary of the contem

FORTUNE PROPERTIES REALTORS 626-8000

New Construction
Charming, Unique, Efficient
Ibedroom ranch, 2 AL baths, basens, attached parage, 1100 squares, Anordable at \$102,500.
Iperian Construction 471-403

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n noor master suite, living more
th fireplace & a cory country
tchen. \$189,800, (LHP69020)

306 Southfield-Lathrup

### 306 Southfield-Lathrup SOUTHFIELD RENT - TO OWN 3 bedroom, sitached 2 car garage central av, as appliances. Pent at \$745/mo., Buy at \$54,900 Excellent area, negotiable 338-9883

307 South Lyon Milford-Highland

GREEN OAK TWP. SOUTH LYON

Builder's Model Home For Sale: 1958 square foot 3 begroom 1% atory brick home, Open Foot plan, main floor master surfs, first floor laundry, walk-out basement. Three car garloo Gorgeous to acre treed lot \$199,500. ADLER BUILDING & DEVELOPMENT CO. 37-3773

27-3773 229-5722

SPHUDSON - Specious and 
semming cape cod on 5 acres Upsted throughout, 4 car garage, 
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may, Cast for details, \$164,900, 
THUMPSON-BROWN 
553-8700

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urie with everythingt Vintage a stee \$439,000 HEEP-U-SELL of South Cakland 541-0700 ochester Hills:
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WOLVERINE PROPERTIES 532-0600 HOY 4 bedroom, 2'4 beth Comerset, \$169,900 HELP-U-SELL of South Com 541-0700

309 Royal Oak-Oak Park COLDWELL BANKER BRIGHTON TOWN & COUNTRY 227-1111 S17027 WEIR, MANUEL SHYDER & RANKE S89-7300

# Observer & Eccentric REAL ESTATE INDEX

REAL was 200-50-a 201 (per house 1 200-50-a 201 (per house 1 200-50-a 201 (per house 1 200-50-a 200-50

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REAL ESTATE RENTALS

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