

Auburn Hills Celebrates New Student Housing Unit

Years of hard work culminated in a ribbon-cutting ceremony that celebrated the grand opening of several projects financed by Auburn Hills' downtown Tax Incremental Financing Authority (TIFA).

Stephanie Carroll, director of Community Relations for Auburn Hills, said the projects include both private and city efforts.

The new three-and-a-half-story parking garage is the city's contribution to the downtown TIFA, Carroll said. But other projects include the Downtown Education Nook, or DEN, aimed at providing:

- A spot for the students of the many colleges in Auburn Hills to meet, and
- A new 97-unit student housing development that includes retail space.

The DEN is meant to serve students who like to live where they go to school.

The final project within the district is the University Center, which is a partnership among Auburn Hills TIFA, Avondale Schools, Oakland University, OCC, Baker College and Thomas M. Cooley Law School. The center is an educational facility that can be used by high school and college students for educational purposes.

Tom Tanghe, Auburn Hills assistant city manager and executive director of the city's TIFA, said the market for the apartments is graduate students, but anyone can live there.

The TIFA district is located west of Grey Road between Auburn Road and Primary Street, Tanghe said. At the time the project was announced, Auburn Hills City Manager Pete Auger said the goal is to help further the city's downtown and help make it a "go-to" spot for the city's college students.

"With the addition of this new residence, we will add a critical mass of students who bring energy and vibrancy and want to cre-

Coming Out with Guns a-Blasting?

Skeet-shooting enthusiasts can take advantage of the Auburn Hills Chamber of Commerce's upcoming Skeet & Meet 2" event on Tuesday, Oct. 22, from 3 to 6 p.m. The event, at the Bald Mountain Shooting Range in Lake Orion, offers attendees the chance to network while enjoying an outdoor activity, said Denise Asker, executive director of the Auburn Hills Chamber of Commerce.

Here are the events offered for individuals:

- 50-Clay Scenic Course – \$55 per person (using your own equipment);
- 50-Clay Scenic Course – \$65 per person (with shotgun rental).

These events are for teams of four:

- 50-Clay Scenic Course with Golf Cart (10 available) – \$225;
- 50-Clay Scenic Course with Golf Cart and Shotgun Rental – \$240.

Although the range is walked easily, Asker said, 10 golf carts are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

"We are adding a second session based on requests from our members," Asker said.

Sponsors for this event include Oakland University, Cornerstone Community Financial and *dbusiness Magazine*.

ate a sense of place in downtown Auburn Hills," Auger said.

Tanghe noted, "This is a great achievement. In my role as executive director of TIFA, I can say the ribbon-cutting was the result of a lot of hard work by many people inside and outside city government."

The apartments will start opening during the next month, Tanghe said, on a floor-by-floor basis. The DEN and the university center will begin regular operations in January.

The total cost is \$16 million, Tanghe said. Of that, \$9 million was privately raised and \$7 mil-

lion came from TIFA, which is not directly funded by taxpayers.

Tanghe said the city's three TIFA districts were created in the 1980s. One TIFA district includes where Chrysler is headquartered. The other one is along Opdyke Road and Executive Hills Boulevard.



Auburn Hills officials cut the ribbon to open a student housing unit, meeting place and parking garage.

Chrysler's the Place for Working Mothers, Says Magazine

Chrysler is one of the 100 Best companies for working mothers.

That's how *Working Mother* magazine describes the automaker – for the 14th time.

The magazine honored Chrysler Sept. 18, saying the Auburn Hills automaker outscored hundreds of applicants on support of women's issues and advancement, flexible work arrangements, parental leave and overall culture.

"As an employee and mother, I am proud that Chrysler Group provides the programs and resources to help our employees balance the demands of work and family, and meet the demands of our high-performance work culture," said Nancy A. Rae, senior vice president – Human Resources at Chrysler.

"We also appreciate the support of the UAW, who has consistently provided progressive programs with the knowledge that employees will be more productive and engaged when their family is taken care of."

"The UAW places a high priority on addressing issues at the bargaining table that improve the quality of life for our members and their families," said UAW Vice President General Holiefield, director of the union's Chrysler Department.

"We're very proud to work with Chrysler Group to provide 'people programs' that help employees maintain a healthy balance in fulfilling their job and family responsibilities."

This year marks the 28-year anniversary for the "Best Companies" list, which is considered the benchmark for work-life practices in corporate America, said Chrysler spokesman Mike Palese.

Celebrating its 34th anniversary in 2012, *Working Mother* magazine is a national magazine for career-committed mothers and reaches two million readers.

"Women are an important part

of Chrysler Group's commitment to diversity and inclusion, and we are privileged to be able to continue the legacy," Rae said. "This commitment will continue to be a source of competitive advantage for our company."

"Now in its 28th year, the *Working Mother* 100 Best Companies are leaders in building initiatives that truly support all employees," said Carol Evans, president of Working Mother Media. "They are the vanguard of successful companies, with modern policies for American families."

The 100 Best Companies are featured in the October/November issue of *Working Mother* and on workingmother.com.

Working Mother Media, a division of Bonnier Corporation, is the publisher of *Working Mother* magazine and its companion website, workingmother.com, and the Working Mother Research Insti-

tute, Palese said.

The National Association for Female Executives Diversity Best Practices are also units within WMM. This year marks the 28th anniversary of the magazine's signature research initiative, Working Mother 100 Best Companies, and the 11th year of the Best Companies for Multicultural Women. Chrysler has been named 10 times to *Latina Style* magazine's annual list of the 50 top U.S. employers for Hispanic women, Palese said.

The automaker also was named among the nation's "Top Supporters" of Engineering Programs of Historically Black Colleges and Universities for the past three years, Palese said, recognizing the company's efforts to develop, recruit and hire talented students pursuing technical careers at the nation's minority-serving institutions.

Mark Fields Light United Way's 2013 Campaign Torch

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"Working together, we have a tremendous opportunity to make this a better place to live and work. United Way's work to prepare children for college and careers is important for families, and for every business looking to grow in Greater Detroit."

United Way President and CEO Michael J. Brennan attended the event, along with many community members, civic, business and community leaders and other supporters.

One of the newest members of the Detroit Lions, Glover Quin, spoke about his support of the campaign. "I don't want to just play a sport in Detroit, I want to be of Detroit," he said.

The lighting of the United Way torch symbolizes a public- and private-sector collaboration to achieve a common goal – making Greater Detroit one of the top five places in the country to live and work by the year 2030. Supporting United Way ensures that positive, lasting community change will continue at a grassroots level.

The last few years have been financially difficult for the organization, which relies on a combination of individual and corporate contributions, as well as various grants, to survive, Brennan said.

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Kevin Van Dyke is an automotive industry pension specialist.