



February 11, 2010

Learning Shop educational facility opens at Northville Square

Language classes range from English to Japanese

By Pam Fleming
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Deborah Stearns is taking her love of teaching to the streets of Northville.

The longtime Northville resident and educator recently opened The Learning Shop, an educational facility, on the main level of Northville Square.

The educational facility is a new business for teachers and students and serves both local and international students. Stearns chose to open her business in Northville Square because she supports the 350 Project, which supports Michigan businesses, and values networking with other vital small businesses in the building.

Stearns said she chose Northville Square for her new business because she wanted a downtown Northville location.

"The building is beautifully appointed and boasts so many amenities that the choice was immediately clear," Stearns said.

The Learning Shop's teachers are highly-qualified and engaged in teaching the subject material they have a passion for, which translates into exciting educational experiences where advancement comes more easily. The varied course offerings are designed to provide educational opportunities for learners of all ages and fall into three main categories: English as a Second Language, Academic Advancement, and Language Learning.

CLASSES OFFERED

ESL classes include: Beginning English, English Conversation, Business English, Medical English, TOEFL and TOEIC Test Preparation, and Cross-Cultural Training.

Academic Advancement Classes (K-College) include: Handwriting, Beginning Reading, Academic Reading, Academic Writing, Writing Applications, MLA Workshop, Etymology, Math (all levels), Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and French and Spanish Support.

The Learning Shop also offers test preparation for: PSAT, SSAT, SAT/ACT, GED and more. Current language courses include: French, Greek, Italian, Japanese, Spanish and American Sign Language.

Two other classes will provide instruction on How to Tune Up Your Bike and How to Use an MLA Form.

A rug-hooking class is tentatively scheduled from 10 a.m.-noon on Feb. 18. This type of primitive rug hooking is considered a fine art indigenous to North America.

It uses strips of wool rather than yarn, and should not be confused with latch hook rug making. Generally, students learning this fine craft want to create heirlooms or art for their homes, and enjoy the social interaction as well.

Classes are forming now, and schedules will be published on the upcoming Web site. A grand opening will take place soon at Northville Square. For more information about The Learning Shop, call (248) 818-5775 or go to www.thelearningshop.net. For more about the 350 Project, go to the350project.net.

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Additional Facts

Salsa dancing friday

At 7 p.m. this Friday, The Learning Shop will offer salsa dance lessons in conjunction with Solid Grounds Coffee House at a Salsa Social on the main level at Northville Square. Cost is \$10 per person, with instruction provided the first hour and dancing taking place the second hour. Greek dancing lessons and cultural activities are also soon to be offered, and one of the springtime workshops will feature baking Greek Easter confections.
