

## Proverb offers hair, shopping in intimate setting

### Co-owners had a vision

By Pam Fleming • STAFF WRITER • July 29, 2010

Angela Plachta and Julia Showerman, owners of the new Proverb hair salon and boutique at 103 MainCentre in Northville, had a vision when they acquired the studio.

The friends and former stay-at-home moms, who just met a year ago through their daughters, who are also friends, together crafted their ideas for the 727-square-foot interior.

The store features large mirrors, a beautiful display case, salvaged windows used as a divider and a unique painted floor. Several items, such as the chairs that grace the shop, have come from their own homes or the homes of relatives.

They even have a few boards from the former Gardenviews space at W. Main Street and Wing Street.

The boutique offers a variety of hair services, plus some unusual retail items, including comfortable clothing, jewelry (from Israel, South America and Portugal), skin and hair products and more.

One item that has been a hot seller is the sorte, a necklace worn in Brazil for protection and love.

"We just have an array of all of our favorites," Showerman said. "We really scoured the Internet to find them. We don't work with any reps."

### LONG-TIME HAIRDRESSER

Plachta has been a hair dresser for 25 years.

"Since I was 17 I always wanted my own space, my own small studio," she said. "It's taken me all these years, but at 42 I'm living the dream."

Showerman said when she and Plachta met, "We clicked right away. Last summer, we had a small company called 'Proverb,' where we would put proverbs on T-shirts."

Then, last winter, Plachta drove by the space formerly occupied by a dry cleaning business and saw that it was empty.

Plachta is the only hair dresser right now, but she wouldn't be opposed to adding another person. "I want to keep the concept intimate and personal, so I only put in two chairs," she said.

"I think I was born with a comb in my hand. I've always had a passion for it (doing hair). I love my work, and I love being with people."

She works by appointment but also takes walk-ins. Hours are 10 a.m.-? Tuesday-Saturday. They'll also see clients on days they are closed if need be for a special occasion. The opening of Proverb was recently featured in the Metro Detroit magazine StyleLine.

Flooring in the front of the boutique features white canvas glued to concrete, then painted by a local artist. The back of the studio has a stained concrete floor.

### DEAD-ON DECOR

"The decor had to be dead-on, because this isn't done very often — a small salon," Plachta said. They only carry one retail hair line, MorrocanOil.

"We're real believers in it, and it's something that

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you can't buy in stores," Plachta said. "It's the most nourishing product for your hair; it makes it feel like a million dollars."

Hair services are offered to women, men and children. Both Plachta and Showerman have lived in the Northville-Novu area for years.

The words on the front window — "coiffure, essentials and attention" — entice passersby to stop into the new boutique.

The hair salon and retail store opened on May 15. Other items include purses, soy body whip, solid perfumes, Nag Champa incense, candles, momiji dolls, herbal eyeliner from Lebanon, Brazilets, tea spheres for massage, scarves and additional body creams.

"We're meticulous minimalists always searching for the best of whatever," Plachta said. "Everything we have is special."

For more information, call (248) 449-6877.

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Julia Showerman, left, and Angela Plachta opened Proverb hair studio and boutique in Northville's MainCentre Building on May 15. (JOHN HEIDER|STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER)

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