

## Springfield Net has more than 200 Subscribers

The headline is correct . . . More than 200 residential units have been activated!! This is pretty exciting, as we unveil one of the fastest, most efficient, and most technologically-advanced wireless internet systems in the country.

We first need to thank everyone for being so patient throughout the process of installing the wireless internet system. Many of you have called us a number of times wondering when it would be available. While we are about one year behind schedule, it makes us feel much better when we hear from many of our subscribers that it is faster and cheaper than the DSL or cable internet that they were originally getting . . . it was well worth the wait!

After nearly two years of anticipation, *Springfieldnet* is finally live, and available to nearly everyone in the City. Some people have even had it for 3+ months.

*Springfieldnet* is the product of a joint partnership between the City of Springfield and ACD Net, a local internet service provider, to blanket the City of Springfield in wireless internet, and provide the service to residential customers for only \$10.00 per month!

Overall, everyone seems excited, and optimistic about this great, affordable service that is expected to give us another option from AOL, Comcast, and AT&T. It also puts us in an elite group with Cities like Minneapo-

lis, MN, that have made large investments to ensure sustainable and reliable high speed wireless networks.

Most of the \$750,000 cost was funded through a grant received from the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (special thanks to Battle Creek Unlimited for their help in securing the funds) and a \$75,000 private investment made by ACD.

For more information on the WiFi service, or to sign up, please contact ACD at 877-4-

ACDNET or visit them online at [www.acd.net](http://www.acd.net)

Enjoy the high speed internet. Try it out in Begg Park this spring.



## Tax Time Tips

It's tax time; and that undoubtedly means that it is also time to keep an eye out for tax-related scams. Some tips to protect yourself:

1. Watch out for fake IRS websites.
2. Be wary of any phone calls or emails that request personal information to finish processing your tax return. The IRS won't email you for this! Forward any questionable emails to [spam@uce.gov](mailto:spam@uce.gov).
3. Shred any documents that contain personal information before you send them to the trash.

## Remember to Shovel your Sidewalks

Now that our Michigan winter is in full swing, we are all going to have some snow removal to deal with.

Please help us keep the City's sidewalks clear for pedestrians. I assure you that the mail carriers, school children, joggers,

and others that use our sidewalks each day will be very appreciative of your efforts.

The City will continue to provide some of the best winter road maintenance in the County; we just need a little help from our property owners.

## What Would YOU Like to See at the Market?

We are interested in hearing your ideas for special events at the Farmers Market.

Last year, we rolled out a number of new events and services to try and attract more people to the beautiful facility.

We instituted the credit/debit/ebt card program, and now can accept all major credit cards. We also added a small bistro for people to sit and enjoy the Market. We also have a monthly craft show, multiple Mom 2 Mom Sales, an annual car show, and recently started an annual Community Potluck, an annual Business Expo, and an annual Health Fair! This is all in addition to the normal Wednesday and Saturday Markets!

Now, we need your input. We are putting together our schedule of events for the 2009 Market Season, and we want to try some more new events.

Do you want to have a scrap-booking event? How about a cooking event or a home improvement event? Maybe a career expo? We need to hear from you!!

If you have an idea for a special event at the Farmers Market, please forward them to our Market Manager (Kris Vogel) at [kvoegel@springfieldmich.com](mailto:kvoegel@springfieldmich.com). You can also contact her at 965-2354, and you can always stop in to our office Monday thru Thursday from 7a to 6p to speak with her.

### \* \* E-File Your City Income Taxes for Free! \* \*

Beginning this tax year, you can begin e-filing your Springfield income taxes on our website .

Keep your eyes open for a postcard from the Income Tax Department. The postcard will have a user ID number on the mailing label. You will need to use the ID number to access the e-file system.

We also have fill-able tax forms on-line for those that would like to fill out the forms and file via US Mail or in person. Booklets are available on-line, and will not be mailed this year. If you do not have internet access, please contact the Income Tax Department to request a booklet.

Our web address is [www.springfieldmich.com](http://www.springfieldmich.com)



We value what you value.

# *Orchard Hills*

Allen Edwin Homes is honored to partner with the City of Springfield and offer new homes in Orchard Hills.

Orchard Hills is an attractively priced community with new homes starting at \$99,900. This community is in an area of growth with a wealth of surrounding lifestyle amenities. Residents in Orchard Hills are located minutes from downtown Battle Creek and have easy access to I-94.

Visit [AllenEdwin.com](http://AllenEdwin.com) to learn more!

Or Call Joe at (800) 514-1620



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