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CENTRAL MICHIGAN ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®

CENTRAL DISPATCH



Happy   
St. Patrick's Day

**Join CMAR on March  
17th in Clare for the  
St. Patrick's Day Pa-**



**Set up & Decorating will be at 9:00am**

**Parade starts at 12:00 noon**

**Bring your own candy and business cards to pass out!**

**Contact the office to sign up & for more info.**

**CMAR Vision Statement:**  
**CMAR, a premier REALTOR® Association,**  
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<b><u>MARCH</u></b>	
1st	
PR Committee	9am
5TH	
MLS Committee	1pm
6TH	
Education Committee	9am
7TH	
Bylaws Committee	1pm
13TH	
Board of Directors	8:30am
Forms Committee @ Alma	9am
17th	
St. Patrick's Day Parade in Clare	9am
23rd	
MLS Committee	8:30am
28TH	
Forms Committee	9am

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# Your Attitude - How successful are you? 8 Steps to Get You There



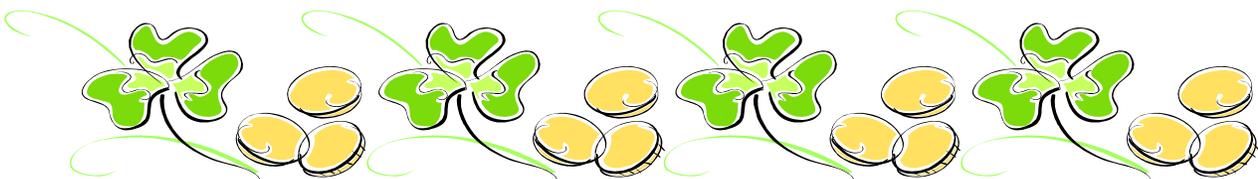
by Nancy Friedman, The Telephone Doctor

We've identified 8 characteristics that those with a great attitude have in common. Stick with us - believe you'll enjoy this!

1. Choose to have a great attitude - Successful people have chosen their attitude. Many folks tell me, "Gee, I'm usually in a good mood." Catch the difference there? Right - 'usually.' You see, a mood is temporary and an attitude is permanent. What we have found is that successful people with a great attitude are able to get out of a bad mood quicker than those who don't have a great attitude.
2. Visualize success - Successful people visualize themselves being successful. It doesn't mean you'll always get what you visualize, but it really helps to visualize what you need. Think about American Idol. Every one of those contestants firmly believe they have a chance of winning. And the successful cyclist Lance Armstrong, winner of 7 Tour de France, never saw himself losing. Visualizing success does help.
3. Energy, humor and enthusiasm - Successful people walk differently. Watch how people walk - even in the parking lot. It's a special energy. Those who keep their head up high and have a gait that's a tad faster than just lollygagging along seem to have the attitude that makes them successful. Show me the slow, drag your feet, head down walker and I'll show you someone who, in all probability, isn't as successful as he'd like to be. And we know from all the very successful comedians, successful people laugh a lot. They enjoy making others laugh. Laughter is contagious. Successful people with a good attitude tend to find humor in things quickly.
4. Resist negative tendencies - Successful individuals stay away from negative tendencies. Successful people with a good attitude resist becoming part of others negativity. They feel better for it and their attitude stays in check.
5. Be a 'whatever it takes' person - Seems it's real easy to turn customers (or anyone) down and not make a second effort. Successful people are what we call double checkers. They look for positive alternatives. Their attitude tells them to double check the situation and offer a positive alternative.
6. Accept change - Things didn't go your way? You couldn't/didn't get what you want? Successful people can accept change and move on or forward much better than others.
7. Be grateful for what you have - Those that are successful with a good attitude are most often void of jealousy. They share. They help. They donate. They are genuinely happy for others. Are you?

Smile - We know the most successful individuals with that great attitude SMILE - a lot!

And please remember that a  
"Phony smile is better than a real frown!"



**WELCOME ABOARD...**

**Cheryl Jindeel -Taking over the Secretary  
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**Tracy Snyder - Tracy Snyder Team**

**ON THE MOVE...**

**Rebecca Terpening– Corporate Settlement  
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**SALES COMPARISONS**

	<u>Feb 2011</u>	<u>Feb 2012</u>
Units Sold	59	51
Average Sale	\$69,940	\$99,357
Total	\$ 4,126,500	\$5,067,225



**ONLINE COURSES**

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## Legal Lines: Raffles

With the help of McClelland & Anderson, we are taking the most recently asked questions from our legal hotline and putting them in E-news. We will be featuring a different question each issue.

**QUESTION:** My Sellers are having a difficult time selling their home. They have asked whether they can sell their property by having a raffle. Is this legal?

**ANSWER:** NO. According to the Michigan lottery statute, only certain nonprofit organizations are eligible for a license to conduct bingos, millionaire parties, and raffles, and to sell charity game tickets.

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Sue Welling at last year's St. Patty's Day Parade.

She has spirit....



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Let's see who can have the most spirit at this year's parade!!

# *February 21st General Membership Meeting!*

*Thanks to all who participated and attended.*

*Special Thank You to the Education committee  
Affiliate members for serving up breakfast.*

*Delicious and enjoyed by all!!*





# RPAC

**-Who is RPAC?** *REALTORS Political Action Committee and it supports candidates who support the Real estate Industry.*

**-What do they do?** *Represent Michigan REALTORS in Lansing and all REALTORS in Washington DC to protect our interest*

**-Why do we need them?** *Having a PAC makes REALTORS a player in the political process. NAR wants to be at the table when bills are introduced that effect the Real Estate industry and the way you conduct your business. RPAC helps to open doors and encourages lawmakers to keep an open mind about our issues. RPAC is also an advocate for home ownership.*

**-When can you contribute to RPAC?** *RPAC donations can be made all year long. You can make a donation during dues renewal or make a pledge and make payments throughout the year.*

## Are You Our Friend?

Don't forget to friend us on Facebook and "like" our CMAR page in order to get up-to-date, interactive information on mid Michigan realty news!



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# 10 Interesting Facts About St. Patrick's Day

## #10: Shamrocks



Of course with St. Patrick's Day comes the massive appearance of shamrocks. Whether you're wearing one pinned to your lapel or you have them on your socks, shamrocks have definitely become a central symbol for this day. In the olden days in Ireland, the shamrock was seen as sacred. Due to its green color and overall shape, many believed it to represent rebirth and life. The four leaves of the clover represent faith, love, hope, and of course, luck. Because of this, the shamrock has continued to be very popular in the Irish culture. When the Irish were under control of the English, many silent protests were held, and each person would wear a shamrock pinned to their shirt. From then on the shamrock has become a very well-known symbol that represents Ireland and the Irish people.

## #9: Prohibition in Ireland...Really



When you think of March 17, you almost surely will think of beer, and when you think of someone Irish, you probably think of beer and pubs as well. But, in the history of Ireland, beer wasn't always a given on this widely-celebrated day. In 1903, a member of the Irish parliament, James O'Mara introduced a new bill that called to recognize St. Patrick's Day as a religious observance in Ireland. However, because this was made a law, this meant that all of the local pubs had to close; therefore, no beer was readily available. So for 67 years, the Irish suffered through a total shut down of all pubs until 1970 when the law was overturned and the holiday was no longer a religious observance, but a national holiday.

## #8: Only Three Locations Truly Care



While many places all over the world celebrate St. Patrick's Day, from the U.S. to Australia to Argentina and South Korea, only a very select few locations have actually made this day a public holiday for everyone. First, the very tiny island sometimes known as "Emerald Island of the Caribbean," Montserrat, is one of three countries that publicly celebrate the holiday. This is due to the high number of Irish refugees that came from Nevis and St. Kitts to the island. So to commemorate them, the holiday is celebrated. The holiday is also considered to be a public one in Newfoundland and Labrador. Here the holiday is celebrated to remember a failed slave uprising that occurred in 1798. And of course, last but not least, Ireland has made March 17 a public holiday as well.

We all know about Hallmark and their greetings that are perfect for some of the most prized holidays such as Christmas, Mother's Day, and even Valentine's Day. If you've ever given someone a card, or received a card yourself, you've probably opened one that was closed by Hallmark's famous gold seal. Though it seems crazy, on St. Patrick's Day, Hallmark usually sells anywhere from 8-15 million St. Patrick's Day cards each year. But, offering these cards to the public isn't anything new for Hallmark. According to their website, the company has been offering these green cards since the early 1920s, and there is always a wide selection to choose from, usually between 100-150 cards each year.

## #7: Yes, Hallmark Makes Some Money Too



## #6: So Does McDonalds



If you've ever taken a look at McDonald's "dessert" menu, to put it lightly, you've surely seen the pies, ice cream, cookies, and probably even one of those fruit parfaits. You've probably also noticed the varying milkshakes that McDonald's offers, especially during certain holidays and seasons. Usually around the end of February or beginning of March, McDonalds offers its Shamrock Shake. Of course the milkshake is nothing but a green color that tastes like mint. First served in 1970, the shake had become very popular in the U.S., Canada, and Ireland but today is mostly popular in the U.S. Prices of the shake have about doubled in the last decade, and new additions

are often added. Recently, McDonalds has served the shakes with whipped cream topped with a cherry.

## #5: Evacuation Day



With every event that occurs, there's usually some sort of coincidence to it, and St. Patrick's Day is no exception. In a few counties in Massachusetts, the state with the largest amount of Irish population (about one-fourth), there is a celebration of a day known as Evacuation Day. Mainly the day is celebrated in Somerville, Cambridge, and Suffolk County. While Boston is already well known for its celebration of St. Patrick's Day, Evacuation Day is important as well. Coincidentally the holiday falls on March 17, but it does commemorate a very special event in Irish history. On March 17, 1776, the British forces left Boston after troops headed by Henry Knox and George Washington placed heavy artillery around the city. To celebrate this significant event, counties in Massachusetts made the day a holiday in 1901. However, the holiday is usually under heavy fire, as some see it as a waste of money, as workers are paid for a day off.

We've all heard one Irish folklore story or another, especially those centered on St. Patrick. One very popular story is that St. Patrick was able to chase all of the snakes out of Ireland where they then drowned in the ocean. However, when it comes down to it, St. Patrick didn't chase any snakes out of anywhere, nor can you take folklore literally. In all reality, there has never been any record of snakes living anywhere near the Emerald Isle. Instead, figurative language was often used in these folklores, and in this case, the serpents more than likely represented druid and pagan religions that slowly disappeared from Ireland over a period of centuries after St. Patrick is said to have placed the seeds of Christianity there.

## #4: Snakes in an Ocean



## #3: New York has more Irish Pride



With a holiday all about the Irish, you'd probably think that the biggest and most widely known celebrations come from nowhere else but Ireland. However, as history shows, Ireland isn't the country that tops the list with Irish pride, at least not when it comes to celebration and festivities. After decades of studying, no one has found the exact time when St. Patrick's Day was first widely celebrated. The first known depiction of the holiday comes from a man named Jonathan Swift, who mentions a 1713 celebration taking place in London. The only thing mentioned is a day where Westminster Parliament was given a holiday and that buildings were decorated in green. In 1762 in New York City, the first parade honoring this holiday took place. Today it stands as the largest celebration and parade in the U.S. Almost 3 million people come to see the parade, with contains over 150,000 people that span a mile and a half long.

Though green is a very popular color on St. Patrick's Day, the original color that was very popular and often related back to St. Patrick was not green, but blue. However, in today's world, if you're without an ounce of green, expect a pinch! In Irish folklore, green is known as being worn by immortals and fairies, and often signified new life and crop growth. Some even say that wearing green is considered to be unlucky as it is known to represent a time in Irish history when Ireland was not a free country. Blue came into the picture long ago when the military men wore "St. Patrick's Blue" in their uniforms. The blue is also represented during the time when Henry VIII was declared King of Ireland and the flag used was a gold harp on a blue background. But today, green is the prominently known and worn color. In Chicago, the Chicago River is dyed green using 40 pounds of green vegetable dye.

## #1: St. Patrick wasn't Irish



Because St. Patrick's Day is so popular in Ireland, and all you really ever hear about on the date is Irish this Irish that, you probably just assume that St. Patrick is well...Irish. However, your assumption would be wrong. St. Patrick was actually Scottish and was said to be either born in Scotland or Wales. Even more shocking is that his name wasn't even Patrick. His birth name is actually Maewyn Succat. However, at the age of 16, he was kidnapped and sold into Irish slavery. Later on in time he became a priest under bishop of Auxerre and took on the name Patricius, better known as Patrick. Here he felt that this was his calling to being Christianity and Ireland closer together. In any case, the Scottish should get some recognition on this day as well.

## #2: Green or Blue?

