

# Welcome Mat



Steven C. Flum Inc.

## Shipping container model center to break ground

Detroit-based real estate development company Three Squared Inc. is taking recycling to another level. Later this month, the company will break ground on a model center on Michigan Avenue in Detroit's Corktown area for a new housing development it plans to build in Midtown. So what separates its 20-unit condo development on the southwest corner of West Warren and Rosa Parks from others? It's made of old cargo shipping containers. The Rosa Parks Squared condo complex will span four stories, 26,000 square feet and will be made of 93 shipping containers. Using old shipping containers is not only cost effective but more energy efficient, says Leslie Horn, the chief executive officer of



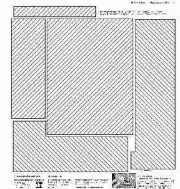
**MAUREEN FEIGHAN**  
Detroit News  
Detroit Writer



Three Squared Inc.

**Siblings Patric and Leslie Horn lead Three Squared. They say old cargo containers are stronger than wood.**

Three Squared which recently teamed up with Eric Lloyd Wright, Frank Lloyd Wright's grandson, who'll be part of its architectural team. It's "stronger, more cost-effective and faster" to build, says Horn. The project was supposed to be finished in 2013, but financing pushed back the timeline, Horn says. With financing now in place, they're ready to go on their 4,400-square-foot model center, which should be done by February. Horn says people are already lining up to buy or rent units, which will range in size from 850-1,920 square feet and will have ductless heating and air systems and tank-less water heaters. "We've got 26 people that have said, 'I want to be in line in buy or lease,'" says Horn. To learn more, email [manager@threesquaredinc.com](mailto:manager@threesquaredinc.com) or call (877) 297-2572.





Chilewich

## Chilewich's BioFelt floor tiles made of recycled materials

Imagine a floor tile made of recycled water bottles, renewable vegetable compounds and post-industrial compounds. Oh, and it looks good, too. That's Chilewich's new collection of floor tiles called Plynyl with BioFelt. Once only available for contract and commercial use, Chilewich is now offering it to consumers. BioFelt is a PVC-free tile-backing system developed exclusively by Chilewich that is available with signature Basketweave textiles in 12 colors. Each square is easy to install and connect with Velcro Brand Hook Squares. Chilewich says they're durable, easy to clean and made in the good ol' United States. The tiles are \$23 each and only available online. Go to [chilewichbiofelt.com](http://chilewichbiofelt.com).



Houzz

## Remodeling survey reveals frameless glass showers are popular

A large percentage of homeowners are choosing frameless glass showers over bathtubs these days, according to a new bathroom remodeling survey by Houzz.com. The Winter Houzz Bathroom Remodeling Survey queried more than 7,500 Houzz users who are in the midst of, or are planning, a bathroom remodel. Four in 10 say they don't plan to install a tub. Glass shower enclosures are a top choice, appearing in 8 in 10 bathrooms, with frameless glass topping the list for master baths (54 percent). To learn more, go to [www.houzz.com](http://www.houzz.com).

## Pewabic exhibit explores glazing techniques

Detroit's Pewabic Pottery may be well-known for its iridescent glaze work, but a new exhibit that kicks off tonight, "State of Flux," is about pushing outside the famous pottery's comfort zones, says senior glaze technician Alex Thullen. Thullen is one of five artists – along with Matt Fiske, Hideaki Miyamura, Sebastian Moh and John Tilton – whose work will be featured in the exhibit, which kicks off with an opening reception from 6–8 p.m. today and runs through March 9. The exhibit will explore the nuances and complexities of four styles of glazing: iridescent, Tenmoku, Celadon and crystalline. Thullen focuses on an iron heavy glaze called Tenmoku, a Japanese term, that produces a brown and black look after it's fired (an example of Thullen's work is below). "It's something that gets overlooked a lot... (but) it's actually versatile in many ways," says Thullen. "By subjecting (pieces) to different temperatures and atmosphere, it can achieve a lot of interesting results." Pewabic Pottery is at 10125 E. Jefferson

in Detroit. Call (313) 626-2000 or go to [pewabic.org](http://pewabic.org).



Pewabic Pottery



Snow Joe

## Snow Joe iON can clear snow without a cord or gas

Digging out of Sunday's massive snowstorm – before the polar vortex set in – I had a new appreciation for my father. After each winter storm, he'd plug in his faithful snowblower and stretch it as long as the extension cord would allow to clear our driveway. Technology has come a long way and there's now a snowblower that is both cordless and gas free. The Snow Joe 18-inch iON Cordless Electric Snow Blower uses a rechargeable Ecosharp lithium ion battery. After a 2½ to 3-hour charge, iON can run for 25-40 minutes to clear a path 18 feet wide and 8 feet deep. "iON is the first to eliminate electric cords and gas operation and operate just as most electronics do today – with a simple charge," said Joseph Cohen, president and CEO of Snow Joe. Other features include a 3W LED headlight and 180-degree auto-rotate chute. The Snow Joe iON, which costs \$399.99, is available at Amazon.com, HomeDepot.com, Brookstone, Sharper Image and Wayfair.com.