

**Ask State Rep. Gretchen Driskell for her Real Estate Broker's License.
Hint: She does not have one and never did.**

Gretchen Driskell has and continues to call herself a Real Estate Broker:

- LinkedIn page (enclosed)
- Her Swisher Commercial Professional Profile (enclosed)
- Testimony before House Transportation Committee (enclosed, page 3 of blog post)
- MLive article (enclosed)- she is referred to as a real estate broker; highly likely the newspaper received that description from her.

Gretchen Driskell does not have a Real Estate Broker's License:

- Her license is for a Real Estate Salesperson, not a Real Estate Broker (Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs Verification enclosed).
- The License number on her Swisher Commercial Professional Profile matches the number on this Verification, meaning Driskell says she is a broker, but refers to a license that is not a broker's license.

**Realtor.com- "Real Estate Titles Explained: Agent, Broker, Realtor"
(enclosed)**

"Real estate broker: A person who has taken education beyond the agent level as required by state laws and has passed a broker's license exam. Brokers can work alone or they can hire agents to work for them."

"the broker bears responsibility for the actions of the real estate agents under his or her supervision. While the majority of real estate transactions go through without any glitches, a broker will step in if there are any problems with your home purchase or sale. If you are unhappy with your real estate agent and cannot resolve the issues directly, your next step should be to talk with the broker to ask for help and perhaps another agent for you to consult."

"Real estate brokers not only have higher education requirements than real estate salespersons, they also must have experience working as an agent."

Cc: Detroit News-Chad Livengood; Saline Post; Michigan Information & Research Service; Tim Walberg Campaign; Michigan Republican Party

Gretchen Driskell

Greater Detroit Area Real Estate

500+ connections

Current Michigan House of Representatives, Swisher Commercial

Recommendations 3 people have recommended **Gretchen**

Join LinkedIn and access Gretchen's full profile. It's free!

As a LinkedIn member, you'll join 400 million other professionals who are sharing connections, ideas, and opportunities.

- See who you know in common
- Get introduced
- Contact **Gretchen** directly

[View Gretchen's Full Profile](#)

Experience

State Representative-52nd District

Michigan House of Representatives
January 2013 – Present (3 years 4 months)

Commercial Real Estate Broker

Swisher Commercial
January 2006 – Present (10 years 4 months)



Skills

- Real Estate Real Estate Development Appraisals Event Planning Public Policy
- Sellers Leadership Property Management Commercial Real Estate
- Economic Development Buyers Strategic Planning Fundraising
- Community Outreach Real Estate Transactions See 35+

Recommendations

A preview of what LinkedIn members have to say about Gretchen.

“ I recommended Gretchen to a client who was seeking to purchase a new site for a manufacturing operation. Gretchen worked very effectively, both

[See more](#)

“ Gretchen is a woman of high integrity that you can rely on to produce great results

[See more](#)

[Sign up to see who recommended Gretchen](#)

Search by name

Over 400 million professionals are already on LinkedIn. Find who you know

First Name Last Name

Example: Jeff Weiner

People Also Viewed



Jessica Ping, CLTC
Financial Advisor Northwestern Mutual



Christopher Taylor
Mayor at City of Ann Arbor



Andy Schor



Gail Contrucci
Business Outreach Coordinator

Diane Keller
President/CEO of the Ann Arbor / Ypsilanti Regional Chamber



Russ Collins
CEO/Executive Director of Michigan Theater, Ann Arbor



Andrew Grazioli
Campus Recruiter at 360 Campaign Consulting



Stephanie Glidden
Legislative Director for Rep. Gretchen Driskell at Michigan House of Representatives



Amanda Edmonds
Mayor at City of Ypsilanti and Executive Director at Growing Hope



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Gretchen Driskell

Swisher Commercial

Professional Profile

Agent/Broker – Working in Commercial Real Estate Since 2002

Gretchen joins Swisher Commercial as a Real Estate Agent after working in commercial leasing for The Phoenix Company. She managed the leasing of their commercial properties located in Washtenaw County and worked with office and retail tenants.

Gretchen has served as an elected official in the city of Saline for the past 15 years, the last nine as mayor. She serves on the local planning commission and economic development boards. She is also actively involved with regional economic development issues and sits on the Ann Arbor SPARK Executive Board.

Gretchen has also been a State Representative of the 52nd District since 2013 in the Michigan House of Representatives.

In 2008, Gretchen was elected and will serve a three year term as a board member on the Commercial Board of Realtors (CBOR) for the State of Michigan.

Prior to moving to Michigan she was employed by KPMG, in the Washington DC office as assistant controller. She holds an MBA from George Washington University and successfully completed her CPA while in Washington DC. She is currently pursuing her CCIM designation.

Gretchen's strength for her clients is her knowledge and understanding of southern Washtenaw County and her connection within the Saline community. She is involved with numerous community organizations and familiar with the market needs of the area. She is also a member of the Saline Rotary Club. She has 3 children in the Saline school system.

Expertise

Specializations:	Property Types:
Buyer Representation	All Property Types
Economic Development	
Leasing	

Credentials

Education	Professional Licenses:
Masters, BS, Accounting Lynchburg College 1980	CPA
MBA	Real Estate Licenses:
George Washington University, 1987	Real Estate License: 6501317252



Swisher Commercial
208 E. Washington St.
Ann Arbor, MI 48104
734-662-3760 [Office]
734-255-2707 [Mobile]
734-663-0316 [Fax]
gdriskell@swishercommercial.com



Completed Transactions

Completed Sale – Vacant Land in Ann Arbor, MI

3201 S. State Street

Property Subtypes: Hospitality, Office, Retail Completed: 9/17/2014

Size: 2.48 Acres

Price: \$2,400,000

Cap Rate: Undisclosed

Re-development land



THE BUTTERFLY EFFECT - GRETCHEN DRISKELL IN SALINE, MICHIGAN 48176

GRETCHEN DRISKELL'S DIALOGUE ON WHAT'S GOING ON IN SALINE, ESPECIALLY DOWNTOWN SALINE, CULTURE AND ARTS. OUR CUTE AND WONDERFUL SALINE SHOPS, FUN THINGS TO DO IN SALINE, MICHIGAN AND ISSUES THAT FACE US (NOT JUST LOCALLY) SUCH AS TRANSPORTATION AND THE ECONOMY. PLEASE JOIN ME IN THE CONVERSATION!

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2010

Holiday Shopping

I know everyone is out and about doing their last minute shopping for friends and family. I hope you are



thinking of

our local businesses and all the wonderful goodies they are selling. When you shop locally your dollars have a much higher ratio of ending up reinvested in our community. Also for those of you who haven't had a chance to stop by 212 Arts Center Holiday Sale, it is still going on through this Saturday. The sale hours are 10am-6pm and they have a diverse offering of handcrafted items, ranging from beautiful pottery, paintings, to jewelry and hand-knitted items. Wishing everyone a fantastic holiday season and a very happy and successful new year!!

POSTED BY GDRISKELL AT 7:59 AM NO COMMENTS:

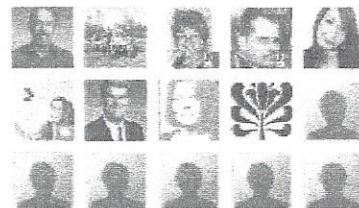
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2010

Changes...

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BLOG ARCHIVE

- ▼ 2010 (3)
 - ▼ December (2)
 - [Holiday Shopping](#)
 - [Changes...](#)
 - May (1)
- 2009 (10)
- 2008 (1)

ABOUT ME



GDRISKELL

[VIEW MY COMPLETE PROFILE](#)



Yesterday my daughter and I, along with many members of the Saline community, said goodbye to an amazing woman. Woodie Merchant was a friend, a mentor, and one of my heroes. As was attested to during her memorial ceremony she touched many lives in a wonderful way. I first met her during her stint as a "cub" reporter (at the age of 60+) at council mtgs when I got elected to council in 1993. She brought so much to our community with her vision, passion, and determination. Instrumental in the consolidation of our school system (one room schools), expansion of the Methodist Church, library system and welcome wagon writer, she made all of us feel so special while doing so much for our community. She was our spark plug...and she will be missed. Thank you Woodie, for being in my life. And as I said goodbye,

Yesterday afternoon the Center for Michigan and Business Leaders for Michigan Common Sense Reform Summit was held in Lansing. It was developed to discuss how to significantly change Michigan and bring forward ideas that will make our economy stronger and our state more competitive for new investment and talent. Panelists discussed public sector efficiency, making Michigan competitive, and investing in our future. The final panelists were 2011 legislative leadership and Governor-Elect Rick Snyder finished the afternoon. We have a new governor that is ready and excited to get to work. The leadership in the legislature said they want to work together for Michigan and not continue in the previous negative partisan manner. We have much work to do as a state...we are a state of citizens and each and every one of us was asked by this leadership to contribute. So I share the message..don't think of one(self), think of all, that is the real answer to how Michigan will work again.

POSTED BY GDRISKELL AT 6:06 AM NO COMMENTS: 

SUNDAY, MAY 2, 2010

Transportation Funding Crisis

Do you know that our transportation system is failing? Did you know that when you pay for gas you pay 19c/gal not a percentage of total sales (while mpg increases every year)? Did you know that Michigan has the 7th largest road system and its funding is in the bottom 10 states in the country? Did you know that next year when you buy gas and pay the federal portion of taxes it will not be coming back to Michigan because we do not have enough money to make the required match (it will go to other states that fund their system sufficiently)? Did you know there is a bill awaiting action to increase

our state gas tax 4c to provide some of the necessary investment in our system? How much have gas prices varied in the last week? This is an economic development issue, we cannot compete for jobs if we have failing infrastructure.

I recently had the opportunity to testify at the House Transportation Committee public hearing at Washtenaw Community College (see below). Tuesday is a Transportation Funding Rally Day-we need our legislators to act before they adjourn for the summer. Please call them today!!

Testimony

Thank you for the opportunity to speak with you today regarding the state of transportation funding. I am Gretchen Driskell, Mayor of the City of Saline. Over the past decade, I have served in many policy roles in transportation planning. Currently, I am a vice chair with SEMCOG. I also was chair of SEMCOG Transportation Advisory Council and current member, and served as chair and the MML appointee to the Citizens Advisory Council for the Transportation Funding Task Force (TF2). I am our cities representative to WATS (our county transportation planning agency) and a former chair of that organization. Additionally, I served on both the MML and the National League of Cities Transportation Policy committees and I am currently on the National League of Cities board of trustees. I work as a commercial real estate broker recruiting national and international business to the region. The reason I tell you all this is to make clear that I have a valid comprehension of the state of our transportation system and the crisis we have created by not taking action regarding additional funding to this system.

In Saline, we have been fortunate to have our Ford/Visteon, now ACH facility (1.5M sf), remain open during this automotive roller coaster ride. The city has an excellent relationship with management and we worked closely with Ford as they transitioned the closing and consolidation of 2 other facilities into ours. That entailed a \$100M investment on Fords' part, which included adding 23 shipping docks. Last week they announced an additional \$45M investment into the plant. Employment is at an all time high of 2,000. Why do I bring this up?

This facility now has 300 trucks going in and out of the plant every day. Onto a highway (US12) that has been documented for decades as being one of the most heavily travelled 2lane

highways in the state. Ford has made a financial commitment to our state to the tune of \$150M, why doesn't the state step forward and make an investment in this vital economic corridor? I stood before this same committee 3 years ago when you held your public hearing and made very similar remarks. And there has still been no change to the underfunding of our transportation system.

The county has 2 very exciting transit initiatives underway. The Ann Arbor-Detroit commuter rail and the US23 Corridor commuter rail (aka WALLY). In my work as CAC chair I sat on the passenger intermodal committee. We studied transit systems across the country. We documented the additional private dollar investment that comes into communities around transit hubs and commuter rail lines. This investment ranged from \$6-9 of **private dollars** for every \$1 invested in the system. Additionally this has become a business recruitment issue. International companies look for transit to support their employees, our inability to provide this alternative mode of transport makes us less competitive in national searches.

I am sure you have heard by now all the statistics of where we stand vis-à-vis other states regarding transportation funding.

How counties are cutting back to the minimum and just doing maintenance. How we are spending half of what is needed in this state to maintain our system let alone become competitive. How the longer we wait to fix roads the more expensive the fix becomes.


I just don't understand the inability to do a minor increase in the gas tax. The price of gas can change more in one week than the proposed increase! The argument can be made in multiple ways that this is an investment that gets a high return. It is probably the clearest public infrastructure investment with an outcome of significant return of all the spending we do in Lansing. For at least the last three years we have been talking about 2010, the **last year** we will have enough money to match the federal dollars. This is money that our citizens have already paid into the system and in 2011 it will go to other states??

In March the NLC board met and Ray LaHood, secretary of transportation came to speak with us for about an hour. I know you are all aware that nationally our infrastructure is in crisis also. Secretary LaHood spoke to this issue. He made it clear that there is a commitment to improving the infrastructure at the federal level. He also made it clear that money would go to those regions that can provide the necessary match, those

regions that are making a commitment to investing in their future. We have not shown that commitment.

I have been an elected official for 18 years, 12 years as mayor. I have lowered taxes and I have raised taxes. And I would certainly prefer to lower taxes. However, as leaders we have a responsibility to make the hard choices. As leaders, we study the issues and plan for the future of our state. That is what we are elected to do. This crisis will not go away, it will just get worse. After in depth study, the TF2 made a recommendation **18 months ago** to increase the fuel taxes.

I urge you to take leadership on this issue, to make the responsible choice, move these bills forward and invest in our future.

POSTED BY GDRISKELL AT 2:27 PM 31 COMMENTS: 

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2009

Holiday Happenings

The elves have been out in preparation for the holiday season! Come see the twinkling lights and sparkling storefronts in Saline. This weekend (Dec 4th & 5th) there are lots of fun holiday activities in town. Friday we have the tree lighting ceremony downtown, the holiday tea party and Ele's place fundraiser (see our school administrators 'dance thru the decades') as part of the Moonlight Madness Craft Show (at the middle school), and on Saturday the holiday parade at 5:30. (I still miss the Christkindlmarket, sigh...). Last week as part of our city council meeting we adopted a resolution in support of the 3/50 initiative (you know I have been talking shop local for years...). Come revel in all the holiday cheer Saline has in store for you...

POSTED BY GDRISKELL AT 4:36 PM 6 COMMENTS: 

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2009

Community Volunteers

While we were waiting for the fair parade to begin I had the chance to meet some amazing people. They were gathered around colorful wooden carts, which were circling Harris Street in front of city hall. The local First United Methodist Church has started a project to build PETs. (aka Personal Empowerment Transportation). They are



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Posted on Fri, Feb 3, 2012, 11:37 am

Saline Mayor Gretchen Driskell explores run for state representative

By Lisa Allmendinger

Gretchen Driskell (<http://www.annarbor.com/tag/Gretchen%20Driskell/>), Saline's longest-serving Mayor is considering a run for state representative as a Democrat and is forming an exploratory committee.



Gretchen Driskell

Lisa Allmendinger | AnnArbor.com

Driskell, 53, is considering challenging **Mark Ouimet**, of **Scio Township**, a first-term Republican representative in the 52nd District, which encompasses all of western Washtenaw, as well as the City of Saline and Saline Township.

"I thought about running two years ago," Driskell said, and was approached this year when Christine Green decided not to run for the seat. Green lost the election to Ouimet in 2010.

"I was asked to consider it, and I'm looking at it very seriously," said Driskell, who is up for re-election this year.

Saline's elections are non-partisan, but Driskell, calling herself a moderate, said she is "most closely aligned with the Democrats."

"I'm very pro-business," she said. "Some of the votes that the Republicans have taken I don't agree with."

✱ Through her 14 years of experience as the mayor of Saline and her job as a commercial real estate broker with Swisher Commercial, Driskell says she knows "what it takes to bring business to a community," and thinks that the business tax cuts are "out of balance."

Driskell said she has until May to decide, and she is working on an election platform that



cludes education, jobs, and the economy.

(<http://www.mlive.com/ann-arbor/>)

"I am concerned about the future of the state and the long-term impact of the decisions that are being made right now," she said.

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"I'm still in exploratory mode," she said, "And I'm talking to people to see what kind of support I have."

Driskell, a mother of three children, ages 17 to 24, has served on numerous national, state and local boards including the National League of Cities, the Michigan Municipal League, the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments and the Washtenaw Area Transportation Study.

So far, she says, the response she's gotten from people has been very positive. Including her family. "They're all for it."

Lisa Allmendinger is a regional reporter for AnnArbor.com. She can be reached at lisaallmendinger@annarbor.com. For more Saline stories, visit our Saline page (<http://www.annarbor.com/news/saline/>).

Comments

Edward R Murrow's Ghost

Sun, Feb 5, 2012 : 2:37 p.m.

xmo wrote: "How can she run as a Democrat? 'I'm very pro-business,'" Let's check some, you know FACTS. Dow Jones Industrial Average on January 9, 2009 = 8599.19 DJIA today = 12862.23 49% increase during the Obama presidency NASDAQ Composite index, January 9, 2009 = 1571.59 NASDAQ today = 2905.66 84% Increase in the NASDAQ composite during the Obama presidency S&P 500 (the broadest measure of the market), January 9, 2009 = 683.28 S&P 500 today = 1344.90 96% increase in value of S&P Index during the Obama presidency And we can do the same exercise for the Clinton administration. Reagan, Bush I and Bush II? Not so much. Given this result, why any so-called "business person" would ever vote for any Republican for any office at any level of government is beyond me. So yes, business people of Western Washtenaw County. If you're looking for an



VERIFY A LICENSE/REGISTRATION

Licensee Information

Name: DRISKELL, GRETCHEN DEMAREST
 Address: Saline, MI 48176
 County: Washtenaw

License Information

License Type: Real Estate Salesperson
 License Number: 6501317252
 Specialties:
 Status: Active
 Limitations:
 Issue Date: 05/05/2003
 Expiration Date: 10/31/2018
[Continuing Education](#)

Employed/Managed By

Employer/Manager: SWISHER REALTY CO
 License Number: 6505072033
 Address: Ann Arbor, MI 48104
 County: Washtenaw

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Additional information pertaining to the occupations regulated by the [Bureau of Professional Licensing](#) can be found on the [Licensing Division](#) site.

DISCLAIMER

The Issue Date is the date the license/registration was first issued. Please note this information is not always available in the database. The Expiration Date given above is the date the license/registration expired or will expire. The license/registration may not have been active from the Issue Date to the Expiration Date. There may have been periods of non-licensure or non-registration. Please view the status history for more information.

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Real Estate Titles Explained: Agent, Broker, REALTOR®

By

Michele Lerner (<http://www.realtor.com/author/michele-lerner/>) [✈](http://twitter.com/mvlerner) (<http://twitter.com/mvlerner>)

6:00 am ET March 10, 2014

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(<http://www.realtor.com/advice/buy/whats-difference-real-estate-salesperson-broker/>)

If you're entering the real estate market for the first time (<http://www.realtor.com/advice/skip-credit-repair-clinics-do-it-yourself-instead/>), you may find real estate professionals' various titles a little confusing. Sometimes consumers use these titles interchangeably, but there are some important differences between the roles of the various professionals, as well as different requirements for using particular titles.

Titles for Real Estate Professionals

The real estate profession is regulated by state governments, which have different requirements for earning a license. In general, though, the titles you may come across include:

- **Real estate agent:** Anyone who earns a real estate license can be called a real estate agent (<http://www.realtor.com/realestateagents>), whether that license is as a sales professional, an associate broker or a broker. State requirements vary, but in all states you must take a minimum number of classes and pass a test to earn your license.
- **REALTOR®:** A real estate agent who is a member of the National Association of REALTORS®, which means that he or she must uphold the standards of the association and its code of ethics.
- **Real estate broker:** A person who has taken education beyond the agent level as required by state laws and has passed a broker's license exam. Brokers can work alone or they can hire agents to work for them.
- **Real estate salesperson:** Another name for a real estate agent.
- **Real estate associate broker:** Someone who has taken additional education classes and earned a broker's license but chooses to work under the management of a broker.

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Working With a Real Estate Professional

While you are more likely to work directly with a real estate salesperson or an associate broker, some brokers provide services for buyers and sellers themselves. If you have hired a real estate agent to help you buy or sell a home, that agent typically reports to a broker. The broker handles the earnest money deposit (<http://www.realtor.com/advice/understanding-the-earnest-money-deposit-2/>) and establishes the escrow account.

In addition, the broker bears responsibility for the actions of the real estate agents under his or her supervision. While the majority of real estate transactions go through without any glitches, a broker will step in if there are any problems with your home purchase or sale.

If you are unhappy with your real estate agent and cannot resolve the issues directly, your next step should be to talk with the broker to ask for help and perhaps another agent for you to consult.

Experience and Education


Real estate brokers not only have higher education requirements than real estate salespersons, they also must have experience working as an agent. For example, in Virginia the license requirements are as follows:


- A salesperson must take 60 hours of classes and pass an exam with both state and national sections.
- A broker must take 180 hours of broker-specific classes, pass an exam with both state and national sections, and have actively worked as a real estate salesperson for 36 of the previous 48 months.


When you are looking for a real estate professional, it is wise to work with a member of the National Association of REALTORS® who is committed to maintaining the professionalism of the real estate business. You can choose to work with a salesperson or a broker, but in any case you should take the time to interview your agent and ask for references.

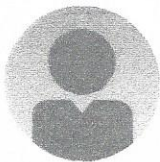
If you want to work with someone new to the profession, you may want to ask to meet the broker as well so you can feel comfortable that someone with experience will be representing your interests (<http://www.realtor.com/advice/what-should-i-do-to-prepare-to-buy-a-home/>).

Share :  ([http://www.realtor.com/advice/buy/whats-difference-real-estate-salesperson-](http://www.realtor.com/advice/buy/whats-difference-real-estate-salesperson-broker/?share=facebook&cid=soc_shares_news_article_persistentCTA)

[broker/?share=facebook&cid=soc_shares_news_article_persistentCTA](http://www.realtor.com/advice/buy/whats-difference-real-estate-salesperson-broker/?share=facebook&cid=soc_shares_news_article_persistentCTA)) 
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[share=twitter&cid=soc_shares_news_article_persistentCTA](http://www.realtor.com/advice/buy/whats-difference-real-estate-salesperson-broker/?share=twitter&cid=soc_shares_news_article_persistentCTA)) 
 ([http://www.realtor.com/advice/buy/whats-difference-real-estate-salesperson-broker/?](http://www.realtor.com/advice/buy/whats-difference-real-estate-salesperson-broker/?share=google-plus-1&cid=soc_shares_news_article_persistentCTA)

[share=google-plus-1&cid=soc_shares_news_article_persistentCTA](http://www.realtor.com/advice/buy/whats-difference-real-estate-salesperson-broker/?share=google-plus-1&cid=soc_shares_news_article_persistentCTA)) 
 ([http://www.realtor.com/advice/buy/whats-difference-real-estate-salesperson-broker/?](http://www.realtor.com/advice/buy/whats-difference-real-estate-salesperson-broker/?share=pinterest&cid=soc_shares_news_article_persistentCTA)
[share=pinterest&cid=soc_shares_news_article_persistentCTA](http://www.realtor.com/advice/buy/whats-difference-real-estate-salesperson-broker/?share=pinterest&cid=soc_shares_news_article_persistentCTA))



Michele Lerner writes about real estate, personal finance, and business news. She is the author of two books about home buying. She also enjoys writing fiction, visiting art museums, and tutoring kids.

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