



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

A pair of Garys - Gary Wrigley (left) and Gary Bulson - are the owners of Men on the Move moving company.

# Moving with a personal touch

**Observer:** Tell us about your business, including the types of service and/or products you feature.

In 1991, Gary Wrigley, who is now my partner, called me for an interview for a manager position with his company that he was trying to get off the ground. Well, not only was I the manager, but the first employee as well. I hired a couple more guys and we were off and running. In 1995, we became partners and I retired from the moving truck. Since then we have seen our ups and downs like most small business owners. We have had as many as eight trucks and 25 employees in the best of times. Currently, we have six trucks and 13 employees. We offer a full line of boxes and packing supplies. We can come out and do the packing and moving for you or we can just sell you the supplies to do it yourself.

**Observer:** What makes your business unique?

I think what makes the moving business unique is that we get to help people start over. What I mean by that is moving is such a big burden and very stressful. We can come in and help out and relieve a lot of the stress and aggravation associated with moving. We can even help you just load your truck, if you're moving out of state, if that's what you want.

**Observer:** How did you decide to open your first business?

My partner, who also owns Nankin Hardware and Hobby,

was trying to expand and wanted to open another business for himself. He looked into pizza franchises and then he read a story about a moving company that was doing well and decided to look into that. He saw a need in the metro Detroit area for a good local mover and here we are.

**How did you decide to locate in the Westland community?**

Being that Gary had Nankin already we decided it would be a good spot to park our first truck, and we answered the phones out of my apartment. I would pick up the truck in the morning and move a person or two, then go home and return phone calls that were left while I was out. From there, my wife and I decided to purchase our first home in Westland in 1993 and have lived there ever since.

**Do you have a funny tidbit or story to share with our readers about your experience so far as a small business?**

I just want to say that owning a business has been a great experience for me as a person. I have been able to get so involved in the community being a business owner. I'm not sure I ever would have stepped out as much as I have without this experience. I've been humbled in the past with such awards as Business Person of the Year, Citizen of the Year and First Citizen. I owe a lot of that success to being a business owner and to my great staff and partner for allowing me to have the time to do so.

## MEN ON THE MOVE

**Business name:** Men on the Move

**Address:** 446 S. Newburgh, Westland, MI 48186

**Name and Title:** Gary L. Bulson of Westland and Gary L. Wrigley of Livonia, owners

**Business Opened:** In 1991 in Westland

**Number of Employees:** We have anywhere from 12-18 employees depending on the time of the year.

**Business Specialty:** Our business specialty is moving people locally and providing them with that personal touch a lot of companies lack today. Although we do also move people out of state, 90 percent of our business is locally based.

**Hours:** We provide our service seven days a week and we can arrange to work around your schedule, meaning we will move you any day anytime.

**Business phone and Web site:** Our main office number is (734) 729-6683, fax number is (734) 722-6683. Visit our Web site at [www.michiganmovers.com](http://www.michiganmovers.com) where you will also find an online quote form to get a basic idea of the cost for any move local or long distance.