



HOLT-DELHI HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Preserves and shares our past



RAM TRAIL IS NOW OPEN

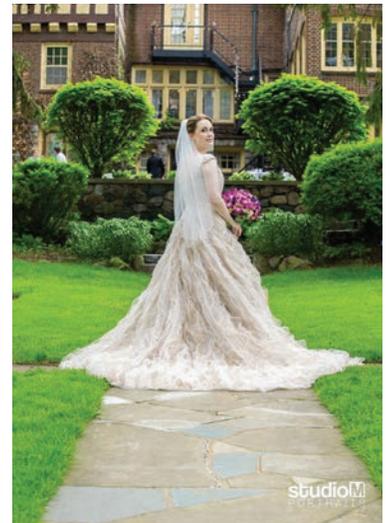


MAKING EACH DAY EASIER
Prestige Way Assisted Living & Memory Care

OURTOWN AT A GLANCE >>



studioM
PORTRAITS



Studio M Portraits co-owners Marvin Hall and Mary Gajda both have full-time jobs in other fields. But their passion for photography makes

the long “extra” hours worth it.

“I just love it so much,” Mary says. “We’re so lucky to have partners who can work with our crazy hours.”

Unlike Marvin, who has been behind the camera for some 30 years, Mary caught the photography bug a few years ago when her husband gifted her with a digital camera. She took a few adult education photography classes at Holt High School—but, by her own admission, she wasn’t exactly a natural.

“I was terrible,” she says.

Along the way, though, Mary met Marvin, who gave her a lot of guidance. They also discovered they shared “a really good work vibe.”

Mary notes that there are a lot of photographers in the market, but relatively few who have a brick-and-mortar operation like Studio M. In addition to proper lighting and equipment, the studio provides a comfortable environment.

“We’re really huge on the whole ‘experience’ aspect,” she says.

The comments—and the photographs—on Studio M’s Facebook page confirm that the experience is a good one. Now entering its third year in business, Studio M specializes in senior portraits, commercial photography, business headshots and weddings. And this past Christmas season, the studio hosted its first photo session with a certain white-bearded man in red.

Studio M Portraits is at 2006 Cedar Street, #2, Holt, 517.709.3757, studiomportraits.com.



Holt-Delhi Historical Society preserves and shares our past



Like most college students, MSU junior Jacob McCormick is busy managing the present and preparing for the future. But he also wants to make sure our community doesn't lose sight of its past.

Jacob, a history major, had spent time delving into his family's roots—which triggered the thought that Holt/Delhi Township should have its own historical society. In the spring of 2014, he and a group of like-minded folks brought the idea to the township board. The board agreed, and elected Jacob president of the society.

In the relatively short time since its founding, the Holt-Delhi Township Historical Society (HDHS) has steadily built awareness. Its Facebook page, "Holt, Michigan: A Slice of History," has more than 2,500 followers; its website offers more in-depth information. The group has also conducted four cemetery tours, held an open house at the Gunn School, and researched and constructed a physical timeline of the first 60 years of our township's history. The timeline was displayed at HDHS's booth at the Holt Hometown Festival in August.

"We've also been organizing rotating exhibits in the lobby of the Delhi Community Services Center since the spring of 2014," Jacob says. "The township has a display case and we're thrilled to fill it with artifacts and tell a new story every few months." HDHS's recent display, "Delhi Celebrates," highlighted local celebrations like our centennial, sesquicentennial, hometown festivals, and others.

Speaking of celebrations, the group that's dedicated to preserving our past is already looking ahead to 2017, when Delhi Township will celebrate its 175th anniversary.

To learn more about the Holt-Delhi Township Historical society, check out "Holt, Michigan: A Slice of History" on Facebook or visit holtdelhihistoricalsociety.webs.com.





Countryside Animal Clinic

Respecting pets and their people

Your pets are part of your family—and when you entrust their care to Dr. Cheryl DeSilva, she treats them like one of the family, too.

Countryside Animal Clinic is a full-service small animal veterinary clinic dedicated to maintaining the health and happiness of your four-legged friends.

Dr. DeSilva, a graduate of the Michigan State University College of Veterinary Medicine, practiced at a clinic in Leslie before opening her practice here two years ago. Countryside's services include everything from puppy and kitten vaccinations to preventive medicine, senior wellness exams, and surgeries. Dr. DeSilva also provides spaying and neutering for Ingham County Animal Control's low-cost spay/neuter assistance program.

Countryside employee Brooke Sigman has high praise for Dr. DeSilva's thorough, thoughtful care, and believes that the pets and their people feel the same.

"She takes her time," Brooke says. "She is respectful of the animals and their owners."



From left to right: Brooke Sigman, receptionist; Dr. Cheryl DeSilva, DVM owner/veterinarian; Jan Killoran, veterinary assistant; Mary Fehrenbach, receptionist

Countryside Animal Clinic is at 1185 N. Cedar Street, Mason, 694.7599, www.csanimal.com.

Thank you & farewell from Detective Kelly Bowden

After four and a half years serving as one of your community policing deputies, my time has come to an end. I have received a new assignment, one that allows me to continue serving my fellow citizens in Ingham County as a member of the Sheriff's Office, but will require me to leave Delhi Township. It has been an absolute privilege to serve here and to have met so many of the wonderful people and merchants in the Holt community, and I am grateful to have had the opportunity to work in this position. I will leave you in the very capable hands of my successor, Deputy James Rowley.

Like me, Deputy Rowley is a veteran officer, having served with the Sheriff's Office since December of 2001. He has worked in a variety of positions within the department and brings many valuable skills to his new position. Deputy Rowley will be picking up where I leave off with this column, offering all of you advice on safety, community resources, and ways in which to partner with the Sheriff's Office to keep the Holt community and Delhi Township the great place it is to live and work.

I hope all of you will remember our mantra: IF YOU SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING. It is only through our combined efforts the public and police are able to combat and discourage crime. Together we make it work and together we make our community work. I hope 2016 is filled with much success and many exciting things for all of you!

As always, if you have questions or concerns you can reach the Delhi officers at 517-694-0045. Suspicious persons, activities, or immediate needs can be reported by dialing 911.

Stay safe out there.



Detective Kelly Bowden

Ram Trail is now open

Students who once had to walk along the shoulder of busy Holt Road on their way to and from school can now travel a safe, non-motorized trail.



Holt Public Schools Superintendent David Hornak and an enthusiastic group of Washington Woods Middle School students cut the ribbon to officially open Ram Trail.

The 1.5-mile Ram Trail officially opened on December 1, connecting the high school campus to downtown Holt, and the outer neighborhoods to the newly completed Sycamore Trail that also feeds into the Lansing River Trail.

When the non-motorized master plan was put in place in 2007, says Delhi Township Director of Community Development Tracy L.C. Miller, the stretch that is now the Ram Trail was a high-priority route.

“The trail was built to provide a path for kids walking to school or sports practice,” she says. “It’s been a problem for years, particularly during football season when the kids are showing up at 6 a.m. and it’s still dark. The path’s creation is for both recreation and safety.”

A reception and ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the Ram Trail opening included township, state and Ingham County officials—and a dozen students from nearby Washington Woods Middle School.

“That’s what this is all about,” Delhi Township Supervisor C.J. Davis said of the children. “We gave them a safe path.”

CIMA – Capital Internal Medicine Associates

Working together to improve the health of local communities



Capital Internal Medicine Associates (CIMA) is a physician-owned internal medicine practice whose mission is “To offer cost-effective, quality patient care and other services to the people of the capital city and the mid-Michigan area.”

With seven locations and 34 providers—including eight hospitalists, three nurse practitioners and two PAs—CIMA is committed to providing accessible, efficient health care.

“We’ve added six locations since 2005,” says practice administrator Christina Holz. “We want to care for people where they are.”

Beyond treating those in need of medical care, CIMA provides health education and preventive services. And, says Christina, it strives to make health care cost-effective.

“We keep our costs low to keep costs down for patients,” she says.

Delhi Township is home to CIMA’s main office as well as CIMA Heart Institute, CIMA Family Practice and CIMA Specialty Clinic, which provides management of COPD, asthma, pulmonary fibrosis, sarcoidosis and diseases of the chest.

Other CIMA practices in the area include primary care, internal medicine, family practice, podiatry, and obstetrics and gynecology. This past November, the CIMA Breast Center in Haslett introduced the area’s first privately owned 3D mammography equipment.

CIMA is at 3960 Patient Care Way, Suite 109, Lansing, 517.374.7600, www.cimamed.com.





Making each day a little easier

Prestige Way Assisted Living and Memory Care

Prestige Way is dedicated to helping residents thrive as they navigate the changes and challenges of aging.

Providing innovative, award-winning, licensed senior care, Prestige Way offers assisted living—24-hour assistance with “activities of daily living,” including mobility, eating, dressing and bathing—and memory care for residents who have Alzheimer’s disease or other types of dementia. Short-term stays and respite care are also available.

Allowing seniors to “age in place” is a primary goal at Prestige Way, said Ann Stibitz, director of community relations.

“Our goal is for residents to not have to move to another place to get the care they need,” Ann said. “That takes a lot out of the person.”

To that end, Prestige Way works with home health agencies, therapy agencies, hospice and other organizations that come in and provide care, just as they would if the resident were in their own home. Prestige Way has a nurse on staff who develops individualized care plans and is on call 24/7.

Residents also have the opportunity to participate in a variety of planned activities and outings.

Ann, a certified speaker for the Alzheimer’s Association who is passionate about caregiving, pointed with pride to Prestige Way’s “Moments in Time” Montessori program for memory care residents. It’s designed to allow residents with dementia to remain as independent as possible in a secure environment where they are treated with respect and dignity.

“Care is much different today than even 10 years ago,” said Ann. “We meet them where they are, cognitively. That may change from day to day, moment to moment. There’s lots of redirection and creativity.”

Prestige Way’s parent company, Meridian Senior Living, is the fifth-largest company of its kind in the country and growing quickly, Ann said. It provides care and life services for more than 7,400 residents, “one at a time.”

Prestige Way is at 4300 Keller Road, Holt, 694.2020, <http://www.meridiansenior.com/community/prestige-way>



Famous Dave's employees (left to right) Kristi Peasley and Kailee Barnes welcome guests.

Famous Dave's | Award-winning BBQ

When Famous Dave's first appeared in *Our Town*, the Holt location was still in the construction/anticipation phase. In July 2015, Famous Dave's celebrated its two-year anniversary in our community. And, says manager Kristi Peasley, "We're here to stay!"

Famous Dave's is passionate about BBQ. Nationwide, its food has racked up more than 700 awards in competition—for everything from best ribs, best wings and best dessert to best American food.

Everything is made from scratch, Kristi points out. The authentic BBQ starts in a live-wood smoker stoked with hickory logs and is finished on the grill with Famous Dave's award-winning sauces. Asked what dish she would recommend to a first-timer, Kristi found it hard to narrow it down to just one thing. She settled on two: the Texas beef brisket and the Cajun chicken sandwich.

In addition to delicious entrees, sides and desserts, Famous Dave's has a full bar with \$1 off pints and its Famous Drinks from 4-6 p.m. Monday through Thursday. It also offers an extensive to-go menu, as well as catering for events from meetings to tailgates to weddings.

"Our catering is going nuts!" Kristi says.

She's happy about the way the community has supported the restaurant, and is also proud that Famous Dave's supports the community through charitable activities.

Famous Dave's is at 2457 Cedar Street, Holt, 694.1200, www.famousdaves.com/togoholt

DDA rehabilitates blighted properties

One of the Delhi DDA's primary missions is to promote development in Delhi Township and one of the ways it works to accomplish that mission is by purchasing blighted properties and making them suitable for redevelopment.

In some cases, rehabilitating a property may mean razing the existing structure; in others, it may require removing large volumes of contaminated soil. Sometimes, says Delhi DDA Executive Director Howard Haas, a site is so badly contaminated as to be unsuitable for redevelopment.

"That's when we pursue other uses for the property," he says.

The DDA is actively working with about half a dozen properties right now, Howard says. One of those is a 16-acre parcel being considered for a trailhead park that would offer access to Cedar Lake and recreational activities.

"We're seeking state and federal grants to help with rehabilitating that property," he says.

The Delhi DDA is at 2045 North Cedar Street, Holt, 517.699.3866, www.delhidda.com.



The Water Store before and after



THE DDA – WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO

The Downtown Development Authority (DDA) promotes economic development through business attraction/retention programs and works to foster investment within the DDA district. It strives to increase the township's tax base and strengthen the local economy while maintaining those qualities that make Delhi Township a desirable place to live and work. For more information, visit us at www.DelhiDDA.com.

To contact us: Howard Haas, Executive Director
2045 North Cedar Street, Holt, MI 48842
517.699.3866 or 517.699.3867
Howard.Haas@delhitownship.com

THE DDA BOARD MEMBERS:

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