



AT HOME DOCTORS

Expert care in the comfort of home



TRADESMEN INTERNATIONAL

Providing jobs to area construction workers



DELPHI GLASS

Expanding creativity

OURTOWN AT A GLANCE >>

Next up: Ram Trail!

The Delhi Township board of trustees has unanimously approved the master plan guiding the township's parks strategy for the next five years—and the top priority item is now in its early stages.

Land is being cleared for Ram Trail, a mile-long non-motorized trail that will connect Eifert Road to the Holt High School complex, said Delhi Parks and Recreation Director Mark Jenks. Funding for the \$1.3 million project was secured from the Michigan Department of Transportation and the Delhi Township general fund.

Ram Trail will run parallel to Holt Road and will create a safer alternative for pedestrians, cyclists and others

who currently have to travel along the shoulder of the busy street. Township officials expect the trail to be completed next year.

As Ram Trail gets underway, the township's master parks plan has gone to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources where it will compete with other projects statewide for grant money.



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OUR TOWN



At Home Doctors

Expert care in the comfort of home



In 2010, there were more than 40 million people aged 65 and older in the U.S. As the senior population continues to grow, new health care options—like At Home Doctors—become increasingly important.

Designed to serve seniors and others who have difficulty leaving the house, At Home Doctors allows patients to receive medical care in the convenience of their own homes. At Home Doctors also sees patients in assisted living facilities, nursing homes and non-assisted living homes. Patients need not be disabled to qualify for at-home care.

“What we’re able to do in the home is often more than a physician can do on-site in the office,” said Asher Bashir, manager of At Home Doctors’ Delhi Township office. Services available to patients through At Home Doctors include lab, x-rays, diagnostic testing, podiatry, specialist referrals and much more.

“We’re able to offer more in-depth services,” Asher said. “Because of the growing population of seniors, more ancillary companies and services are getting involved in home care.”

Medicare, Medicaid and most insurance will cover house calls by a physician just as they would office visits, Asher said. Patients or caregivers can make an appointment for sick visits by phone or via the website, and patients are usually seen by a physician within 24-48 hours (for life-threatening emergencies, patients should call 911 or go to the emergency room). At Home Doctors also provides follow-up and ongoing care.

At Home Doctors is at 4136 Legacy Parkway, Suite 100, Lansing, 517.708.2001, www.athomedoctors.com.

More tips to protect yourself from fraud

Over the past several issues, we have discussed tricks con artists use to steal your personal information and valuables. We conclude this series with tips on ways you can protect yourself from two of the most common fraud threats—telemarketing fraud and identity theft.

Tips for Avoiding Telemarketing Fraud:

It's very difficult to get your money back if you've been cheated over the telephone. Before you buy anything by phone, remember:

- Don't buy from an unfamiliar company. Legitimate businesses understand that you want more information about their company and are happy to comply.
- Always ask for and wait until you receive written material about any offer or charity. If you get brochures about costly investments, ask someone whose financial advice you trust to review them. But beware—unfortunately, not everything written down is true.
- Always check out unfamiliar companies with your local consumer protection agency, Better Business Bureau, state attorney general, the National Fraud Information Center or other watchdog groups. Unfortunately, however, not all bad businesses can be identified through these organizations.
- Obtain a salesperson's name, business identity, telephone number, street address, mailing address and business license number before you transact business. Of course, some con artists give out false information. Verify the accuracy of these items.
- Before you give money to a charity or make an investment, find out what percentage of the money is paid in commissions and what percentage actually goes to the charity or investment.
- Before you send money, ask yourself a simple question: "What guarantee do I really have that this solicitor will use my money in the manner we agreed upon?"
- Don't pay in advance for services. Pay for services only after they are delivered.

- Be wary of companies that want to send a messenger to your home to pick up money, claiming it is part of their service to you. In reality, they are taking your money without leaving any trace of who they are or where they can be reached.
- Always take your time making a decision. Legitimate companies won't pressure you to make a snap decision.
- Don't pay for a "free prize." If a caller tells you the payment is for taxes, he or she is violating federal law.
- Before you receive your next sales pitch, decide what your limits are—the kinds of financial information you will and won't give out on the telephone. Never send money or give out personal information—such as credit card numbers and expiration dates, bank account numbers, dates of birth or Social Security numbers—to unfamiliar companies or unknown persons.
- Be sure to talk over big investments offered by telephone salespeople with a trusted friend, family member or financial advisor. It's never rude to wait and think about an offer.
- Never respond to an offer you don't understand thoroughly.
- Be aware that your personal information is often brokered to telemarketers through third parties.
- If you have been victimized once, be wary of persons who call offering to help you recover your losses for a fee paid in advance.
- If you have information about a fraud, report it to state, local, or federal law enforcement agencies.

Tips for Avoiding Identity Theft:

- Never throw away ATM receipts, credit statements, credit cards, or bank statements in a usable form. Whenever possible, shred such documents before discarding.
- Never give your credit card number over the telephone unless you make the call. Reconcile your bank account monthly, and notify your bank of discrepancies immediately.

- Keep a list of telephone numbers to call to report the loss or theft of your wallet, credit cards, etc.
- Report unauthorized financial transactions to your bank, credit card company and the police as soon as you detect them.
- Review a copy of your credit report at least once each year. Notify the credit bureau in writing of any questionable entries, and follow through until they are explained or removed.
- If your identity has been assumed, ask the credit bureau to print a statement to that effect in your credit report.
- If you know of anyone who receives mail from credit card companies or banks in the names of others, report it to local or federal law enforcement authorities.

I hope you have found this series informative and useful. If you would like additional information, it is available both online and at the Delhi Division office.

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

Stay safe out there.



Deputy Kelly Bowden



Tradesmen International

Providing jobs to area construction workers, supporting contractors with skilled contingent workforces

The concept behind Tradesmen International is simple: Connect skilled tradespeople on a contingent basis with the contractors and subcontractors who need them. And the benefits are many for all involved.

“From the contractor’s standpoint, it helps them maintain the balance between the work and the workforce,” said Ed Rojeck, corporate marketing director. Contractors can operate “lean and mean” with a core workforce and, when needed, turn to Tradesmen International to supplement with skilled contingent workers. This “helps them stabilize the bottom line and increase profitability by substantially increasing overall workforce productivity,” Ed said.

For tradespeople, the advantages are many as well—including consistent employment. “Because we have excellent relationships with the area’s top contractors,” Ed said, “we’re able to help keep people consistently employed.” Once hired, they become full-time permanent employees of Tradesmen International, with benefits including health care and a 401(k). “They’re no longer a freelancer,” Ed explained. “They now have us as their ‘agent’, finding good work for them with our numerous contractor clients in and around Lansing.”

Nearly always, Ed said, that work is within a 50-mile radius of home, because Tradesmen International’s construction recruiters and sales professionals develop and maintain relationships with many contractors and subcontractors in their local area. The Holt office, managed by general manager Rob Orr, is one of 105 Tradesmen International locations nationwide.

The organization is proud of the 8,500 skilled crafts people they employ nationwide. “We emphasize safety, productivity and craftsmanship,” Ed said. Each of its skilled craftsmen completes a stringent hiring process, including multiple interviews by construction-experienced recruiters, reference checks, skills testing and more. All employees also receive provided OSHA safety training.

“We’re proud to provide employment in our communities,” said Ed, “and to support the skilled labor needs of local contractors and subcontractors.”

Tradesmen International is at 2450 Delbi Commerce Drive, Suite 6, Holt, 694.1510, www.tradesmeninternational.com.



Lisa Parks, General Manager

Delphi Glass

Expanding creativity



Since its founding in 1972, Delphi Glass has been synonymous with art glass supplies in the Lansing area. Four decades later, the company's reach is global.

"Ninety percent of our business is online," said Lisa Parks, general manager of Delphi for the past 10 years. "Of that, about 10 percent is international. We ship to 87 different countries."

Stained glass, fusing, mosaic, glass jewelry and more—if it has to do with glass and creativity, chances are you'll find the materials at Delphi. And if you'd like to learn, Delphi Creative Center offers beginning, intermediate and advanced classes in various glass skills.

The company built and moved to its Delhi Township location in 1996, and last appeared in Our Town nine years ago. A lot of good things have happened at Delphi since then.

"We've added 10,000 square feet to our building," Lisa said, "and our three new classrooms just passed inspection. It's very exciting." The company has also added a box machine that makes sized-to-order corrugated boxes on demand. This ensures that the shipping box for each order is appropriately sized—a move that is more environmentally

friendly as well as cost effective. Delphi will also produce custom boxes for other companies, Lisa added.

April is Art Glass Month, and Delphi is celebrating by holding art glass competitions at its Creativity Center and online. Stop by the store or visit the website to view the entries and perhaps become inspired!

Delphi Glass Creativity Center is at 3380 East Jolly Road, Lansing, 394-4631, www.delphiglass.com.

Get connected with Holt Community Connect

Do you know what's happening in our community?
 Do you want to be more involved, learn or do something
 new, or volunteer your time?



Holt Community Connect is for you. A new nonprofit organization, HCC is designed to connect, cross-promote and support Delhi organizations, businesses and events. Executive Director Marcy Bishop Kates invites you to visit Holt Community Connect's Facebook page and see what's happening. She's also posted community calendars for a variety of local organizations on public Google calendars—check the March 3 Facebook post, or view the list right here!

IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR...	MASTER CALENDAR	WEBSITE
Activities for seniors	http://goo.gl/cpZFDK	www.delhitownship.com/parks-SeniorCenter.htm
Athletics	http://goo.gl/R82ucF	www.hpsk12.net/schools/athletics www.delhitownship.com/parks-recreation.htm
Civic groups & activities	http://goo.gl/BsKbKl	www.facebook.com/FriendsOfTheHoltTrails www.holtfoodbank.org www.facebook.com/pages/Holt-Community-Food-Bank www.facebook.com/HoltMichiganHistory/ www.facebook.com/kiwanisclubofholt www.holtlionsclub.org www.relayforlife.org/holtmi www.facebook.com/masonholt.eagles/ www.chickswithpicks.org www.facebook.com/pages/South-Lansing-Holt-Rotary www.facebook.com/HoltCommunityConnect www.facebook.com/HoltHometownFestival/
Holt Farmers Market	http://goo.gl/DvAjSy	www.holtfarmersmarket.org
Holt Community Arts Council		www.holtarts.org
CADL Holt Delhi	http://goo.gl/J629T1	www.cadl.org/events/browse-all-events/?branch=holt-delhi
Local events	http://goo.gl/gTzUqI	various
Township/govt.	http://goo.gl/lcQvcy	www.delhitownship.com www.delhitownship.com/parks-recreation.htm
Youth activities	http://goo.gl/yE3tLO	www.delhitownship.com/parks-recreation.htm

Volunteer bureau or for more info: Involved@holtcommunityconnect.org or call 517.974.8944



Growing forward: A look at the accomplishments that have helped shape our community for the future



Holt Farmers Market

Like all farmers markets, Holt's began with the idea of bringing fresh, wholesome, locally grown food to the community. But when the market opened in 2008, even its founders might not have predicted how much it would come to mean to Holt and the surrounding area.

"The market was almost instantly accepted," says manager Chuck Grinnell. Not merely accepted, but embraced. "It has really become a social gathering place for our community. It has also created a destination for people from other communities."

Pretty impressive, considering that the former fire station that houses the market was once slated for demolition. Fortunately, Chuck says, "The DDA had the foresight and the funds to save and develop the property and make the market a reality."

Chuck has been involved with Holt Farmers Market "since the first paintbrushes started flying." In addition to recruiting vendors and handling all manner of administrative work, he constantly seeks to ensure the quality of the market experience. From live music to a demonstration kitchen to the latest project—4' x 8' murals painted by Holt High School art students—there's always something new going on.

"The market is really, really nice for our community," Chuck says. "It's an example of the 'placemaking' the DDA has done that adds to our quality of life."

Holt Farmers Market is at 2150 Cedar Street, Holt, 517.268.0024, www.holtfarmersmarket.org.





Winter markets are a bright spot

In late fall 2014, the Holt Farmers Market did *not* close for the season.

The market is now open every Saturday year-round, and manager Chuck Grinnell said awareness is growing—along with attendance. “We’ve had good commitments from vendors this winter, and most of them have reported good sales,” Chuck said. “I’m looking forward to building on this year’s success.”

Chuck wants to assure those who haven’t checked it out that the market has plenty of great products available, even in the winter! Just to name a few: naturally fed and raised meats, homemade pasties, artisan breads, gourmet ready-to-eat hotdogs, gluten-free foods, fresh produce, ethnic foods and handcrafted items. And much more! Visit the Holt Farmers Market Facebook page for current vendors, news and events.

Holt Farmers Market is at 2150 Cedar Street, Holt, 517.268.0024, www.holtfarmersmarket.org.

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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
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