

# A dream made real:

#### H.O.L.T. SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM



A few years ago, the H.O.L.T. (Helping Others Learn Together) Scholarship was only a dream shared by a group of local educators and community leaders. Today it is a reality, offering at-risk students an opportunity to achieve dreams they might once have believed were out of their reach.

In March 2011, after years of planning, fundraising and many volunteer hours, the first five H.O.L.T. Scholarships were awarded. Like most scholarships, the H.O.L.T. Scholarship offers recipients the opportunity to pursue an advanced education. Unlike most, the H.O.L.T. Scholarship is awarded to qualifying recipients when they are in 7th grade.

Eligibility for the H.O.L.T. Scholarship is based on specific criteria for at-risk students. Scholarship winners and their parents sign a contract agreeing to the requirements and responsibilities of the program—including the student's pledge to graduate from Holt High School. In exchange, winners receive two years' free tuition at Lansing Community College. It is a program designed to provide both help and hope.

The H.O.L.T. Scholarship Program is a community-based program supported by donations. The Capital Region Community Foundation oversees scholarship funds, which are held in a permanent endowment to ensure the continuation of the program. As a component fund of the Capital Region Community Foundation, a 501(c)(3) public charity, donations are tax-deductible. Donations of any amount are welcome and may be sent to: H.O.L.T. Scholarship Fund, P.O. Box 191, Holt, MI, 48842. For additional information, visit holthelps.org.

### **Music in the Garden Returns**

The Holt Community Arts Council is pleased to present the fourth consecutive season of Music in the Garden which is scheduled to kick off July 7 with Root Doctor. The remaining concert schedule is below. Bring the family and enjoy excellent entertainment in a beautiful setting—free!

#### Thursday, July 14 - Zion Lion

Infectious rhythms with Caribbean, Latin American and African influences.

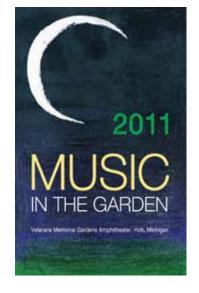
#### Thursday, July 21 - The Red Sea Pedestrians

They call their sound "a warped and beautiful blend of Klezmer, Greek, Gypsy, Celtic, jazz, and American roots."

#### Thursday, July 28 - Orquesta Ritmo

Local legends! Latin jazz and salsa band with hot brass and lively percussion.

Concerts are held in the amphitheater at Veterans Memorial Gardens behind the Community Services Center, 2074 Aurelius Road. All concerts begin at 7:00 p.m. and end before 9:00 p.m. Concessions will be available.





## **Main's Mini-Storage**

A lmost everyone needs more storage space. But not everyone needs the same *amount* of storage space. Chances are Main's Mini Storage has a solution that fits.

Main's offers storage options in five sizes, from 5'x 10' (equivalent to a walk-in closet) to 10' x 30' (larger than a one car garage). It's a range that can accommodate seasonal storage like a grill and lawn furniture, all the way up to long-term storage for business inventory, household relocation or vehicles.

Main's Mini Storage is family owned and operated, with facilities in Holt, Grand Ledge and Marshall. General manager Kevin Main oversees operations at all three locations. The sites are identical—with distinctive blue roofs, attractive fencing and landscaping—to reinforce the brand from community to community.

Kevin takes pride in Main's clean, modern and secure facilities. "I'm confident that we're the best facility in the market," said Kevin. "When you run a clean operation, people know it...I think more than just being price conscious, people are very value conscious."

Security is, of course, a major component of value for a storage facility. Main's Mini Storage provides high-tech security on its fully lit, fenced and gated lots, and customers access the lot via security passcode. Other amenities include optional climate control, and steel and concrete buildings to reduce the risk of flooding and rodents.

Kevin said that although the family has roots in the Detroit area,



economics were such that they could build three facilities in the Lansing region versus one in Detroit. The company chose Holt for one of its locations because they liked the demographics, and because, at that time, the new high school had just been built. "Generally I look at school systems as an economic indicator," Kevin said. When an area is putting up a beautiful new school, "..odds are it's a growing community [with] people who value education and the local businesses."

"We really like Holt," Kevin said. "Now that we've been here long enough, people are very familiar with us. I'd say 75% of our business is from referral customers...so that's the best kind of advertising we can get."

Main's Mini Storage is at 2302 Jarco Drive, Holt, 699.8240, www. mainsministorage.com.

## Delhi Environmental Leadership in Waste Re-Use



For the past several years, Delhi Township has prided itself on implementing exemplary environmental practices. Excellent examples can be found in the LEED certified Sam Corey Senior Center; the LED lighting conversion project, the Community Services Center rain garden and the recycling center, to name just a few of the Township's efforts.

Adding to this list could be the Township's recently proposed innovative system for the drying of wastewater sludge at the Publicly Owned Treatment Works. The plan is to use solar energy to complete the conversion of moist sludge into an

inert biosolid which may be used as fuel for steam boilers, commercial fertilizer or any number of other commercially useful products. Use of a greenhouse to dry the sludge reduces the amount of natural gas burned in the de-watering process, and the creation of economically viable biosolids—in the form of the dried sludge at the end of the process—reduces the volume of material which must be hauled off site by 85%. The intent is to provide good environmental stewardship while saving dollars for the commercial, industrial and residential sewer ratepayers.

# **Dynamic Audiology**

#### Expanding hearing possibilities

Hearing loss can sneak up on you.

Audiologist Roger Hughes of Dynamic Audiology explained that, in most cases, hearing loss is a slow, subtle progression. As a result, he said, "People don't realize how much they're *not* hearing."

Roger's mission is to improve people's quality of life by improving their hearing. Unfortunately, he said, there's often a five- to 10-year lag between the time a person begins to notice a hearing problem and when they take action. When patients come to him, Roger said, "I work hard to help them understand what their hearing needs are and what their options are."



And there *are* options. Finding the right one for each patient, Roger believes, is the result of taking time to learn the person's individual hearing requirements.

It's not as simple as just "turning up the volume," he explained. Hearing loss usually affects a person's ability to hear certain pitches. Roger likened it to turning down the treble on a stereo: although the volume may stay the same, much of the sound quality is lost, making it difficult to hear clearly. If a patient requires hearing aids, Roger makes sure they are carefully selected and properly adjusted. "Hearing aid technology has improved significantly," he said. "They're high-tech and usually much less visible" than the hearing aids many of us remember from generations ago.

A graduate of Michigan State University, Roger is an American Hearing Aid Associate and an active member of the Michigan Academy of Audiology. He was a staff audiologist at Sparrow Hospital for 14 years before opening his independent private practice here almost seven years ago. Roger said he constantly strives to make audiology services—and quality of life—better for the hearing impaired in Michigan. He welcomes self-referred patients, and his website provides a great deal of helpful information for those who may be concerned about hearing issues.

Dynamic Audiology is at 3410 Belle Chase Way, Suite 700, Lansing, 887.7660, www.dynamicaudiology.com.

#### CALL TO DELHI BUSINESSES:

## Be part of this year's Business Expo!

The 2010 Delhi Business Expo attracted more than 500 visitors. Plans for the 2011 Expo are underway, offering you the opportunity to spotlight your business to a large audience of potential customers.

The Delhi Business Expo is designed to make local consumers aware of the number and variety of businesses in our community.

With some estimates stating that nearly half of every dollar spent with local businesses stays in the community, raising awareness of your business with local consumers has never been more important.

Advertising and press coverage attract visitors to the Business Expo, and participating businesses will have the



opportunity to offer coupons, discounts, prizes and giveaways. To participate in the 2011 Expo, which will be held October 26, please contact Expo chairman Chuck Grinnell at 517-268-0024, or Helen Harrison at the Delhi DDA, 699-3866.



# CRRP helps business owners make improvements

If you're a business owner within the Delhi DDA business district and want to make exterior improvements to your property, the Commercial Rehabilitation Rebate Program (CRRP) may provide a big financial assist.

The CRRP provides grants to businesses within the DDA business district for eligible updates to existing structures. Eligible improvements up to \$100,000 of owner-paid costs can be reimbursed to a maximum of 50 percent or \$50,000 for each commercial parcel. Improvements which may be eligible for CRRP funds

include facade upgrades, landscaping, exterior signage, parking lot surfacing and security lighting.

The application and rebate process is easy. Whether you are a property owner or tenant, the CRRP is a unique opportunity for you to modernize, upgrade or otherwise improve the appearance of your building at a significant cost savings.

You can find detailed information, a list of eligible improvements and a downloadable application at delhidda.com, or contact Helen Harrison at the DDA, 699.3866.

# Holt Farmers' Market headed for a big season



olt Farmers' Market reopened in May with a "Wow!" More than 500 visitors stopped by on opening day, with many of the vendors reporting healthy sales.

Market manager Chuck Grinnell plans to bring lots of live entertainment to the market this year. "We're working hard to make every Saturday morning at the market an event," said Grinnell. "It's not just about produce, it's also about the experience of shopping locally and seeing your friends and neighbors."

In addition to produce, shoppers will also find other locally-raised or -prepared foods including baked goods and meats. New vendors at the market this year include a sausage vendor, Polish and Italian pastry makers, and a vendor specializing in glutenfree products.

Have you ever thought about stopping by the market, only to realize you aren't carrying enough cash to shop? That's no longer a problem. The Holt Farmers' Market is now making it even more convenient to purchase fresh local foods by accepting debit cards, EBTs (electronic bank transfers) and credit cards.

Housed in the former Delhi Township fire station at 2150 Cedar Street, Holt Farmers' Market has 4,000 square feet of vendor space indoors and is one of only two indoor farmers' markets in Ingham County. "Rain or shine, it's always sunny inside," said Grinnell. The Market is open on Saturdays from 9 am - 2 pm, and adds Thursday hours from 4-7 pm beginning July 7.

Holt Farmers' Market welcomes new vendors, and recent changes in Michigan legislation open the door to "cottage kitchen" vendors. If you would like to become a vendor or learn more, you may download the vendor application and handbook at holtfarmersmarket.org, or contact manager Chuck Grinnell at 517-268-0024.



"Quality first. I don't want to

# WHATEVER IT TAKES TO SERVE THE CLIENT Weymouth & Associates Realty

"It's still a distressed market," said Roger Weymouth. "But last year our agency completed just under 500 transactions."

That's nearly 500 homes bought or sold through just 12 agents in one of the toughest real estate climates in memory. Obviously Roger and his team are onto something. And though he made it clear that he

doesn't like to engage in a lot of "we're number one in this or that" hype, there's one category that's very important to him: "We are the number one agency in this area in sales per agent." That's

impressive regardless of what the real estate market is doing.

So what's the secret? First and most basic, said Roger, "We won't list the home if we don't think we can sell it." He's also proud of his company's Guaranteed Sale Program, a 10-point system he and his agents implement with sellers. "If they follow the program, the house *will* sell," he said. All Weymouth & Associates listings on REALTOR.com® are enhanced "showcase listings," with large photos, full motion videos, and other features to show the home to best advantage. Roger also believes

his sellers shouldn't be locked into a listing. If at any point the client wants to cancel the listing, they may do so at no cost.

On the buying side, Weymouth & Associates offers many routes to home ownership. "We're very versatile," Roger says. The agency handles traditional sales in any price range, as well as rent-to-own and lease

options. They also work with commercial properties, foreclosure homes and have been approved by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to sell HUD-owned homes.

Housing and Urban Development to sell HUD-owned homes.

Weymouth & Associates is a family business with a bit of a twist:

Roger, "We won't list the so proud of his company's he and his agents

Roger started the company in 1997 and hired his parents (now retired). Although the company has enjoyed steady growth—from two agents to the current 12—and continues to do so, Roger's vision is to

remain a moderate-sized independent agency. "Quality first," he said. "I

Weymouth & Associates Realty is at 1795 Cedar Street, Suite A, Holt, 694.7653, www.greaterlansing.com.

don't want to be the biggest, just the best."



# Hospice of Lansing

#### COMFORT, DIGNITY AND PEACE AT THE END OF LIFE

Hospice of Lansing's mission is to provide comfort care for those nearing the end of life—and to support those who love them.

"We believe that a life fully lived, no matter how long, should include an end-of-life experience of comfort, dignity and peace," said Janet

Martinich, director of operations at Hospice of Lansing. "Our goal is to keep each person as comfortable and independent as possible, while supporting the emotional and spiritual needs of our patients and their loved ones."

Hospice of Lansing is the original non-profit hospice, founded in 1979 by a grassroots group who wanted to provide terminal patients with a better end-of-life experience.

While most of its patients are able to live out their lives in their homes, Hospice of Lansing also provides its services in care facilities, community living centers, and at Stoneleigh Residence, the organization's eight-bed hospice residence. Stoneleigh's wooded 22 acre site features gardens and a cascading pond and supports wildlife such as deer, wild turkeys and a variety of flora and fauna, providing a peaceful place for the patients and their loved ones.

"We excel in keeping patients comfortable," Janet said. "One of our slogans is 'Time with us is time you gain," she said. Research shows that if patients begin receiving hospice care early, it can improve the quality of the time they have left, Janet explained. "Some of the patients do so well that they 'graduate' from hospice," with their health

improved to the point that they no longer need hospice care, Janet said. "That's a joyful time."

Hospice of Lansing supports partnerships between the health care community and the people of the geographic areas it serves, and promotes community education on the hospice concept of care. The organization also conducts bereavement programs for the families and friends of hospice patients and others in the community.

Hospice of Lansing has 67 employees and also relies on the help of approximately 50 volunteers. Hospice of Lansing has three locations: the main office in Delhi Township, the Stoneleigh Residence in South Lansing, and Ionia Area Hospice, which affiliated with Hospice of Lansing in 1993 to better serve the mid-Michigan area.

Hospice of Lansing's main office is at 4052 Legacy Parkway, Suite 200, Lansing, 882.4500, www.hospiceoflansing.org.

# Michigan Association for Computer Users in Learning

Integrating technology to improve student achievement



Blackboards and workbooks are giving way to interactive whiteboards; students may learn via computer from instructors across the state, the nation or the world. Technology has forever changed the way we learn—while technology itself is forever changing. How can Michigan educators learn to effectively use technology to improve student achievement?

The Michigan Association for Computer Users in Learning (MACUL) is there to support them. A non-profit organization established in 1975, MACUL assists the education community—from preschool through college level—in the effective use of educational technology. MACUL has more than 5,000 members and is an organizational affiliate of the International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE).

"Our members are educators who use technology to support student academic achievement," said MACUL Executive Director Ric Wiltse. Technology should be part of every Michigan educator's classroom, Ric added, because "the students they're teaching are growing up in the digital age."

MACUL provides a variety of programs and initiatives to support its members. Each spring MACUL sponsors one of the largest educational technology conferences in the country, attracting more than 3,000 attendees annually. MACUL also sponsors and participates in smaller regional conferences focusing on educational technology applications, networking, and professional development.

Through MACUL, Michigan educators also have access to training programs that help them integrate technology into the classroom. Thousands of Michigan educators have taken advantage of these programs, impacting tens of thousands of students, fellow educators and administrators. Other MACUL initiatives include grants for innovative uses of educational technology; teacher and school award programs; programs highlighting student achievement with technology; special interest groups and a bi-monthly newsletter.

MACUL relocated to Delhi Township from the Detroit area 14 years ago, a move which gave the association greater proximity to the Michigan Department of Education and provided a more central location for members throughout the state. Ric Wiltse, formerly the technical director for East Grand Rapids Public Schools, has been MACUL's executive director for 13 years. He welcomes inquiries from educators who would like to learn more about using educational technology to help students advance.

The Michigan Association for Computer Users in Learning is at 3410 Belle Chase Way, Suite 100, Lansing, 882.1403, www.macul.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: Al McFadyen, Executive Director

2045 North Cedar Street, Holt, MI 48842

(517) 699-3866 or (517) 699-3867 Al.McFadyen@delhitownship.com

#### THE DDA BOARD MEMBERS:

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