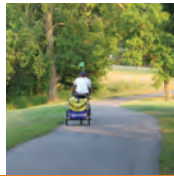




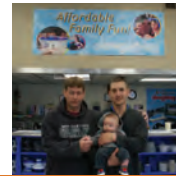
KONA ICE

A new way to
FUNdraise



HAPPY TRAILS

It's time
to hit the trails



TNT POOLS

Quality and
comfort in your
back yard

OURTOWN AT A GLANCE >>

Scooter's Holt Pro Cycle



Mark Dunn found his true calling when he was 14. He just took a bit of a detour before making it his full-time profession.

Mark started riding and racing bicycles at age four. In bikes he found a love that has lasted all his life—and, at age 14, it brought him to the door of Bill Barrows, the original owner of Holt Pro Cycle. Bill hired Mark to work in the store, where he began learning the nuts and bolts of the business. Even as an adult working in the tool and die industry, Mark never really left the bike world.

"I always kept a part-time job in bikes," he said.

When a back injury ended Mark's tool and die career after 20 years, he wondered, "What next?" It didn't take long to decide. Holt Pro Cycle had been closed for a couple of years, and Mark wanted to bring it back.

"At first I wasn't sure what the market would want," he said. "But we're getting back to what Bill built."

Today Scooter's Holt Pro Cycle has bikes for the whole family, as well as for the serious cyclist and racer. And, while he carries "some pretty cool stuff," Mark's biggest seller is "comfort bikes" designed for the recreational cyclist. He even carries bikes for people with special health concerns. Mark is proud that his store has become known for fast repair service, too.

Mark Dunn & Bill Barrows

"Our season in Michigan is so short, I try really hard to get people's bikes back to them by the next day," he said.

Mark has come full circle. He owns the shop where he worked as a kid, and the original owner, Bill, now works there part-time. And Mark is doing something he truly loves.

"I used to work all the time. It robbed me from my family," he said. "I'm 10 times happier now."

Scooter's Holt Pro Cycle is at 2230 Cedar Street, Holt, 694-6702, www.scootersholtprocycle.com



DEDICATED TO HELPING OUR COMMUNITY & ITS BUSINESSES GROW

A publication of the Delhi Charter Township Downtown Development Authority • www.DelhiDDA.com



Kona Ice

A new way to FUNdraise

Kona Ice of Holt launched in May 2013—and before the end of its first season, the business had already given back more than \$1,000 to local schools and youth sports.

That's what Kona Ice is all about, said co-owner Randy Gross. Partnering with organizations such as schools, sports leagues, churches and youth groups for fundraising events, Kona Ice sells shaved ice treats at the event and returns a generous portion of the proceeds to the fundraiser. Randy and co-owner Donna Kepler have worked with groups including Spartan Speedway, Impression 5, Lansing Parks & Rec sports teams, local soccer organizations and more. To date, Kona franchises nationwide have given back more than \$16 million to their schools and communities.

"There's nothing like it in this area," said Randy.

In 2012, *Forbes* magazine ranked Kona Ice the nation's fastest-growing franchise. One of the keys to its popularity, said Randy, is its patented FlavorWave®. That's the flavor bar where kids—the mainstay of Kona's fan base—can choose, mix and match from among 10 great flavors. Adults love Kona Ice, too, Randy said, noting that it's a fun addition to a corporate event or private party.

Randy parked his Kona Ice entertainment vehicle for the winter "when the snow started flying," but he and Donna are ready for the warm days ahead and this year's fundraising season.

Kona Ice can be reached at 517-712-8647, www.kona-ice.com

3rd annual 9/11 Hero Run

"Lest we forget."

Holt's third annual 9/11 Hero Run will honor the lives lost on that terrible day, celebrate the indomitable spirit of America, and benefit local charities.

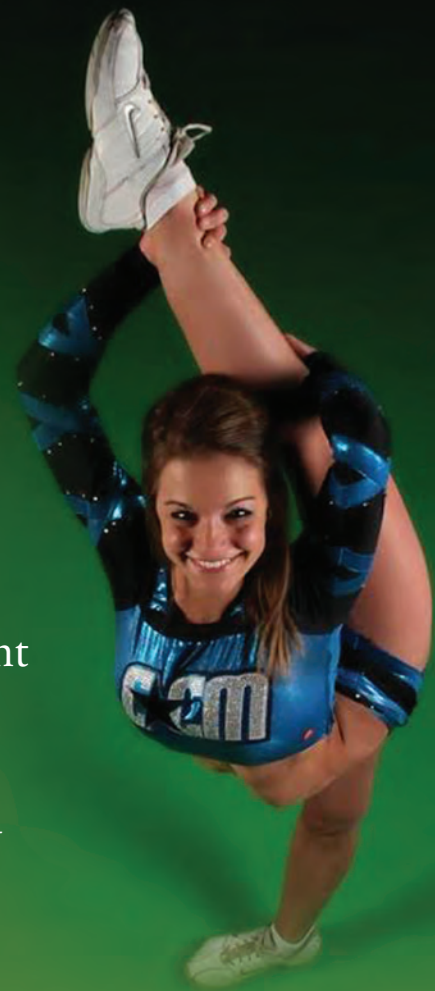
This run has become one of Delhi Township's biggest events, attracting more than 400 runners last year and raising thousands of dollars for worthy causes. The 2014 Hero Run will begin at 6:30 p.m. at Veterans Memorial Gardens, behind the Community Services Center, 2074 Aurelius Road, Holt. Additional details and registration forms are available at www.runningfoundation.com/9-11Hero_Run.html.

The race committee is seeking business sponsors for the 9/11 Hero Run, and several levels of sponsorship opportunities are available. If you'd like additional information on sponsorships, please email John Bush at Edward Jones, john.bush@edwardjones.com

Capital Cheer All-Stars

Quality cheer training in a safe, happy environment

“We do not make cuts. When we have our tryouts in the spring, we take everyone on the team. We place them first by age, then by skill level. It makes a level playing field for everyone.”



Erica Lester, senior at Holt High School

Today's cheerleaders are highly trained competitive athletes. Capital Cheer All-Stars is dedicated to teaching cheerleaders the proper techniques and training them to be the best they can be.

Carla Colbeck founded Capital Cheer All-Stars in 2005, and the program has grown and thrived ever since. With 120 current members, it's one of the largest co-ed cheerleading programs in Michigan. Carla estimates that 60-75 percent of their students are from Holt.

The Capital Cheer facility is a cheer paradise. It boasts two “cheer floors”—gymnastics floors with springboards underneath—which Carla and her sister Laura installed themselves. There are trampolines, mirrored walls, an athlete lounge, and a huge lobby with the “latest and greatest parent viewing area.” Wireless monitors throughout the gym transmit to the lobby so the parents can watch their athletes in comfort.

Capital Cheer All-Stars offers classes for ages three to college, from beginning to advanced skill levels, and for varying levels of competition. It also offers dance and gymnastics/tumbling classes.

“We literally have a team for everyone,” said Carla. “We do not make cuts. When we have our tryouts in the spring, we take everyone on the team. We place them first by age, then by skill level. It makes a level playing field for everyone.” Starting next season, there will even be a team for special needs athletes.

Carla says Capital Cheer All-Stars provides a happy and safe environment where athletes not only learn and advance their cheer skills—they learn self-discipline, respect, communication and compromise, as well as good sportsmanship and community service. The fully trained staff is approved and certified by the U.S. All Star Federation. There are 10 instructors including Carla, Laura and their mom, Susan.

Carla and Laura credit their family's support for helping make the business what it is today. “We couldn't have done it without the help of our parents,” Carla said. “My mom and dad and stepdad are all an integral part of the business.”

That family feeling carries over to the program, Carla said. “From the littlest cheerleader to the oldest girl...these kids treat each other like sisters.”

Capital Cheer All-Stars is at 4216 Legacy Parkway, Suite B, Lansing, 614-2807, www.capitalcheertrainingfacility.com



*Holt Farmers Market is at
2150 Cedar Street, Holt.*

Farmers Market opens May 3!

The wait is almost over! The Holt Farmers Market opens for the regular season on May 3. It will be open every Saturday through November 22 from 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

Now in its seventh season, Holt Farmers Market has attracted a loyal following and has continually expanded its vendor offerings. You'll find locally raised or prepared foods including fruits and vegetables, artisan breads, meats, jerky, salsa, golumbki, eggrolls, and specialty items such as gluten-free products. Fresh flower arrangements, handmade quilts, handcrafted jewelry and much more will be available. And you can shop in indoor comfort, rain or shine!

The market accepts payments by cash, debit/credit cards and EBT.

For more information or to become a vendor, visit www.holtfarmersmarket.org or contact manager Chuck Grinnell at 517-268-0024.

On Patrol in **OUR**TOWN

According to the United States government, people aged 65 and older are the largest-growing segment of our population. For the next several issues, I thought I would address one of the common problems we see in Delhi Township: scams targeting seniors.

First, we need to consider why older persons are more commonly targeted by con artists. According to FBI.gov, there are many reasons, some of which include:

- Senior citizens are most likely to have a "nest egg," to own their home and/or to have excellent credit—all of which make them attractive to con artists.
- People who grew up in the 1930s, 1940s and 1950s were generally raised to be polite and trusting. Con artists exploit these traits, knowing that it is difficult or impossible for these individuals to say "no" or just hang up the telephone.
- Older Americans are less likely to report a fraud because they don't know who to report it to, are too ashamed at having been scammed, or don't know they have been scammed. Elderly victims may not report crimes, for example, because they are concerned that relatives may think the victims no longer have the mental capacity to take care of their own financial affairs.

- When an elderly victim does report the crime, they often make poor witnesses. Con artists know the effects of age on memory, and they are counting on elderly victims not being able to supply enough detailed information to investigators. In addition, the victims' realization that they have been swindled may take weeks—or more likely, months—after contact with the fraudster. This extended time frame makes it even more difficult to remember details from the events.

- Senior citizens are more interested in and susceptible to products promising increased cognitive function, virility, physical conditioning, anti-cancer properties and so on. In a country where new cures and vaccinations for old diseases have given every American hope for a long and fruitful life, it is easier to believe that the con artists' products can do what they claim.

So what do you do to protect yourself from fraud?

One of the easiest ways to protect yourself is to remember the old adage, "If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is." Promises of easy money, free products and vacations are tempting. Con artists know this and use it to their advantage. They know many seniors have extended families and wouldn't hesitate to help a grandchild or great-niece or -nephew in times of crisis and they exploit this. We'll cover more on this in an upcoming article.

This issue is very complicated because there are so many ways in which people are targeted. In future issues, I'll explain some of the common scams we see and how to recognize when you are being targeted. I'll also cover ways to protect yourself and your family if you are the caregiver to an elderly person who may be vulnerable.

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

Happy trails!



Now that we've slogged through the long cold winter, it's time to hit the trails!

Winding through woodlands, parks and a variety of terrain, Delhi's paved trails are a prized feature of our community and a favorite destination for walkers, runners and cyclists. Here's the latest on the trail projects:

- **Trailhead Park** – Last fall, the Delhi DDA built a lovely park at the trailhead on Holt Road, just east of downtown. With grills, picnic tables, parking and bike racks, the park is a great place to relax when traveling the trails. A few additional enhancements will be made this spring, but Trailhead Park is ready to enjoy right now.
- **Sycamore Creek Trail** – Now under construction, this wooded trail starts at McGuire Park on Jolly Road and connects to the end of Valhalla Trail at Willoughby Road. Township officials have determined

that, due to the trail's proximity to the creek, there will be a few days during particularly rainy stretches when some of the trail is under water; however, Delhi Parks and Recreation staff will drive the trails daily and alert the public to any flooding or concerns. A mobile app is being developed for this purpose. The Sycamore Creek Trail will be largely complete by the end of the summer, and fully complete no later than October 1.

- **Ram Trail** – Delhi Township is finalizing the acquisition of easements to build this trail on the north side of Holt Road, ending at the Holt High School campus area. Grant funding becomes available in the fall, and construction is slated for state and federal fiscal year 2015.

The longer-term vision also calls for more trails to be added over the next five to eight years. Enjoy!

TNT Pools

Quality and comfort in your back yard



Tim Pitcher Sr., Tim Pitcher Jr. & Tim Pitcher III

Believe it or not, summer will eventually arrive and people will long for the refreshment of a backyard pool. When that happens, Tim Pitcher and his trusted crew will be ready.

“We can put in a pool a day,” Tim says.

Tim is the owner of TNT Pools, a family business built on Tim’s 20-plus years of expertise in pools and spas. He was a 16-year veteran of Holt Pool and Patio when it closed in 2005; after a four-year stint with another company, Tim decided to put his knowledge to work in a business of his own.

“All I know is pools,” he said. “Over all these years, I’ve developed quite a clientele.”

TNT sells and installs the American-made Doughboy line—Tim calls it “the Cadillac of above-ground pools”—which has been a trusted brand for more than 50 years. TNT offers a variety of pool sizes and styles to fit a family’s particular needs—and their back yard.

TNT Pools is growing quickly, and moved to a larger building last May. It’s also becoming more of a year-round operation, carrying spas, saunas and related supplies. In short, the company is about summer and winter relaxation and making people comfortable.

“Life is good,” Tim says.

TNT Pools is at 5157 Aurelius Road, Lansing, 393-4800, www.tntpools.net

Helping others heal

Steven A. Halsell, MA, LPC, NCC

Not long ago, Steven Halsell, a licensed professional counselor, came across a photo of his then-12-year-old self at summer camp. In the photo, Steve is wearing one of the hats the camp counselors wore, with the word “Counselor” emblazoned across the front. Seeing that long-ago image of himself brought Steve a profound feeling of recognition.

“I was a counselor before I knew I was a counselor,” he said.

Today, Steve, who earned his master’s degree in counseling from Spring Arbor University in 2007, helps clients deal with a variety of challenges.

“Life is tough. No doubt about it,” says Steve. “Sometimes it’s downright overwhelming.” That, he says, is when it can be beneficial “to have someone to help you as you wade through it all.” Steve says he is grateful to be able to help people at critical periods in their lives. His greatest expertise is in the areas of addiction and compulsive behaviors, marital issues, and ADHD in adolescents and adults. However, he says, “I feel like I’m in my sweet spot when I get to work with men and men’s issues.”

Most of Steve’s clients come to him via his listing on the *Psychology Today* website (www.therapists.psychologytoday.com) and through area churches. In addition to personal counseling, Steve does consulting and public speaking, often to church groups. He is also training to become an approved clinical supervisor, which will qualify him to supervise students working toward a master’s degree in counseling.

Steve and his wife have lived in Holt for the past 10 years and have two sons in Holt Public schools.

***Steven Halsell’s practice is at
2101 N. Aurelius Road,
Suite 2B, Holt, 517-648-7718.***

Steven A. Halsell





Rich Colby, owner

A-OK Mechanical

We know how to keep you comfortable

The name is A-OK, but this company's services run pretty much from A to Z.

A-OK Mechanical provides residential and commercial mechanical, plumbing, electrical, heating and cooling, indoor air quality and appliance repair service. The company brings decades of experience working in existing homes and commercial buildings as well as new construction. A-OK prides itself on providing fast, reliable service at fair rates, and emergency service is available 24 hours a day.

Owner Rich Colby founded A-OK Mechanical 38 years ago, and he and his family still own and operate it today. Rich's wife, Teresa, and two of their three daughters work at A-OK, along with six other employees.

In recent years, homeowners and businesses alike have become more conscious of reducing energy costs—and, Rich says, making your home or office energy efficient is now easier and more cost effective.

A-OK Mechanical's technicians are educated in the latest energy-saving sustainable green technologies and can offer money-saving solutions.

A-OK is a member of numerous professional organizations including the Small Business Association (SBA), Air Conditioning Contractors of America (ACCA), Building Trades Association and National Federation of Independent Businesses (NFIB).

Rich is a Holt graduate and is involved in community activities including Holt Hometown Festival and the Business Expo.

***A-OK Mechanical is at 5601 Aurelius, Holt, 882-1734,
www.a-okmechanical.com***

Ram's Corner Store



"We've even installed TVs so when you're watching the game at home and come to the store, you don't miss anything."

As you might surmise from the name of his store, John Gideon is loyal to Holt.

A Dimondale resident who has a daughter at Holt High School and a son who's a Holt graduate, John wanted to become part of the local business community. In fact, he sold his two Lansing stores in order to open one here.

John says that initially there was some resistance to having a party store at his chosen location, and it was important to him and his family to be good neighbors. So, before building the store, John talked with business people and residents in the area about his plans "to make sure everyone was OK with it."

Now, says John, "People love us here. They see how we've kept it up. It's always stocked and all lit up." Not only that, John says, "We've even installed TVs so when you're watching the game at home and come to the store, you don't miss anything."

John and his brother, Imad, and three other employees work at Ram's Corner Store. In addition to food, beverages and convenience items, the store sells lottery tickets and is a Western Union agent.

Ram's Corner Store is at 4509 Willoughby, Holt, 889-5132.

A publication of the Delhi Charter Township Downtown Development Authority • www.DelhiDDA.com



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:

David Leighton, *Chairperson*
Kim Cosgrove,
Holt Schools Representative, Treasurer
Nanette Miller, *Secretary*
Tim Fauser, *Vice Chairperson*
Robert Fillion
Steven L. Marvin
C.J. Davis, *Township Supervisor*
Marcy Bishop Kates
Tonia Olson, *Planning Commission Representative*