Issue 64 SUMMER 2019



LEGG LUMBER Hometown improvement experts



OUR DANCE STUDIO Teaching dancers of all ages and walks of life



CLEAN TEAM USA Commercial janitorial and restoration services...and more

OURTOWN AT A GLANCE >>

12th annual Music in the Garden series kicks off another year!



Delhi Township's Music in the Garden series will return this summer for another year of local music and family fun.

"Grab a lawn chair or a picnic blanket and stop by Holt's beautiful Veterans Memorial Gardens to enjoy this Delhi Township tradition," said Evan Hope, Holt Community Arts Council board member and Music in the Garden chair.

All shows start at 7:00 p.m. and are hosted by the Holt Community Arts Council.

The Veterans Memorial Gardens are located at 2074 Aurelius Road. For more information, please visit the Holt Community Arts Council on Facebook @HoltArts.



best selling songs. This show vo includes all the look and feel 20 of Tom Petty, presented by the top industry professionals. Ap From the smooth guitar Go

Be ready to feel all the power

and passion that went into

over 30 years of Tom Petty's

July 11 | Teddy Petty

and the Refugees

tones and layered vocals to the signature Rickenbacker, Teddy Petty and the Refugees flawlessly capture the essence and power of Tom Petty and The Heartbreakers.

July 18 | The Dangling Participles

This Lansing-based band has a diverse song set ranging from folk and Americana to Latin jazz and blues.

July 25 | Full House Band

Six piece band (five vocalists), playing 2000-2018 hits, plus hits from the 70s, 80s, and 90s. Appeared on *America's Got Talent*.

August 1 | Root Doctor

Back by popular demand, Root Doctor is an awardwinning Michigan-based blues and soul band.

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Legg Lumber | Your hometown home improvement experts



When it comes to home building and renovation, Legg Lumber offers quality products, expert advice, and hometown charm.

"After lots of years in this business, we have maintained the neighborhood feel," said Jessica Rademacher, co-owner of Legg Lumber in Holt. "We really know our customers. Our staff is amazing and they're so knowledgeable."

Jessica and her husband Jon Legg are fifth-generation owners of this statewide family business. Originally founded in 1884 in Coldwater, Michigan, there are now five family-owned locations across the state. Holt's Legg Lumber location has been a mainstay in the community since 1965. Though the company has gone by a few other names over the past 54 years — Lansing Lumber Company and LumberTown — it has always been owned and operated by the same family.

"We sell so much more than lumber," Rademacher said. "We're really a full building material supplier."

Legg Lumber offers siding, roofing, windows, doors, kitchen design and renovation, decking design, and much more. Whether its a homeowner looking to DIY a new back deck or a contractor who signed on to a big commercial project, the staff at Legg Lumber are ready to help provide expert advice and point people toward the best building materials for the job.

"We have such a high quality of materials," Rademacher said. "Better quality saves everybody time. On job sites, builders don't have time to go through crooked boards." Rademacher and Legg and their team of six staff members enjoy getting to know their customers personally and walking them through each step of their home improvement project especially homeowners who may pop in once or twice every week until their project is done.

"It's so much fun working with our customers," Rademacher said. "Whether they have a new idea for a renovation, or are building a brand new house, it's fun to help."

After more than 50 years in the business, Legg Lumber isn't resting on its laurels. The team is constantly searching for new ways to continue growing and expanding their products and services. For the past few years, Rademacher has served as the company's chief kitchen designer, touring people's homes to make recommendations on how to optimize the space and consulting on the best materials and products to use. Legg Lumber has also become the state's leading distributor of Moisture Shield decking, a special composite decking that's especially popular for people with waterfront properties in Michigan. Their Holt location stocks every color and length of the decking.

As the family company continues to thrive, Rademacher says that she loves playing a part in her growing community.

"We're constantly getting to see new development and improvements," she said. "It's just a positive aspect of our community to be a part of."

Legg Lumber is at 4000 Holt Road, (517) 694-0431, www.legglumber.com







Realize Cedar construction project officially complete

After months of hard work, the construction phase of the Realize Cedar project is finally complete.

The Realize Cedar project is the culmination of years of planning on the part of the township and the DDA," said Tracey Miller, Delhi Township manager. "We are absolutely thrilled with the results of this project and are looking forward to the benefits of this new and improved downtown."

The Realize Cedar project included infrastructure improvements along the Cedar Street Corridor, including: repaving Cedar Street; reconstructing and retiming the Aurelius, Keller, and Holt Road intersections; restoring utility lines and sidewalks; and introducing new amenities like street parking. These improvements will redevelop the Cedar Street Corridor across Delhi Township and create a more livable, walkable community that attracts new businesses and residents, creates jobs, and boosts local property values.

For more information on Realize Cedar, please visit www.realizecedar.com.

"Thank you so much to the community for their patience and understanding during these past months of construction," said Lia Michaels, project manager with HRC, the engineering firm orchestrating the project. "We are proud of the results of this project and are excited to see how it positively impacts the Delhi Township community and businesses."



Edward Jones advisor helps Delhi Township families meet their financial goals



Ben Marciniak-Jennings

"We can remove ourselves emotionally from a family situation yet still connect with families, provide a personal approach, and get to know families for who they are and what's important to them." or Ben Marciniak-Jennings, becoming an Edward Jones financial advisor was about making connections and forging new relationships — not just crunching numbers.

"I think one of the misconceptions is that we trade stocks all day," he said. "But we really focus on individual goals and what's really important to the client. I like to build the relationship around their needs."

As a financial advisor in this national firm, Marciniak-Jennings works with families and individuals at all stages of life with estate planning, retirement savings and income strategies, college savings plans, and more. His years of experience in the field help him guide clients toward financial options that coincide with their life goals.

"It's a really nice feeling when you watch someone's eyes light up when they realize 'we can retire,' or 'my kids can go to college and it's going to be just fine,'" he said.

When financial planning can be especially emotional, such as managing the finances of a relative who has passed away, Marciniak-Jennings offers an outsiders' perspective and can help families navigate their financial options.

"We can remove ourselves emotionally from a family situation yet still connect with families, provide a personal approach, and get to know families for who they are and what's important to them," he said.

Marciniak-Jennings has worked in the customer service industry for 18 years and launched his Edward Jones branch with partner Korie Spitzley four years ago. As a Holt resident, he appreciates the opportunity to be close to home and to get to know his clients better.

"It just takes one good contact or one good conversation to really make me feel that I'm having an impact and moving the needle forward," he said. "The ability to work with people and help them out is what I look forward to each day."

Ben Marciniak-Jennings' Edward Jones office is located at 3410 Belle Chase Way, Suite 500 in Lansing, (517) 393-5581, www.edwardjones.com/benmarciniak-jennings.

Our Dance Studio offers a new way to connect

n a world of constant communication, it can be hard to connect.

That's one reason Louis Soma, owner of Our Dance Studio, is passionate about partner dance. For more than 40 years, Soma has been teaching dancers of all ages and from all walks of life the fundamentals of partner dance so they can connect on the dance floor.

"It's all about learning to relate to each other without talking, texting, or emailing," he said.

Our Dance Studio teaches all styles of partner dance: waltz, salsa, foxtrot, chacha, swing, and more. They offer private lessons, group classes, private group classes, wedding preparation, practice parties, and more.

"Someone's individual reason for wanting to dance is unique to them," Soma said. "We teach for weddings, but some people just want a new hobby or exercise. And some people want a new way to express themselves because they've been shy all their lives."

Soma's career started when he saw a help wanted ad for a dance instructor in Grand Rapids. When he read that the school would offer training, he thought, "why not?" He taught partner dance at several dance studios during his early career and then opened his own studio in Grand Ledge 20 years ago. Last year, Soma moved his studio to Holt. Families who visit other shops in the plaza often stop in front of the studio's large windows to watch dancers during their lessons. Soma always makes a point to invite them inside.

"We've already had people walking by come in and take lessons," he said.

Not sure if partner dance is right for you? Our Dance Studio offers newcomers a free 45-minute partner lesson.

"We want to get them on the dance floor, spend some time getting comfortable and see if this is the place they want to be," Soma said. "If it's not for them, that's okay. But if it is, then we can help."

Our Dance Studio is at 2495 Cedar Street, Unit 14b, (517) 622-8588, www.ourdancestudio.com



Laux Construction Family-owned company continues to thrive

When David and Ronni Laux started Laux Construction 26 years ago, they never imagined that it would grow to become the thriving construction company that it is today.

What has helped Laux Construction experience such exponential growth?

"Our workmanship, our dedication, and our commitment," said Ronni Laux, office manager and chief financial officer at Laux Construction. "The feedback we get from owners is that we're very punctual, we keep them up to date, are very informative, and very courteous."

In the early days of the company, the couple ran their new business out of their home in Dansville, working mostly in the residential field building homes and pole barns. But Laux Construction quickly took off. The company grew exponentially over the years, and as the team started to expand into new fields they quickly outgrew their home office space. Five years ago, the team moved to Holt and began taking on even more commercial work, including projects with Michigan State University, Lansing Community College, and the State of Michigan. But they also work on projects close to home. In just a few short weeks, Laux Construction will finish up work on the new Esker Landing Park in Holt, which will connect the Delhi Trails and feature a kayak and canoe launch.

Today, Laux Construction has a team of 35, including office staff, field staff, and apprentices who tackle the company's full load of summertime construction projects around Michigan and the Midwest.

"Our field staff is amazing," said Ronni Laux. "They go above and beyond what needs to be done on a project."

Laux Construction is located at 1018 Hogsback Road in Mason, (517) 694-0117, www.lauxconstruction.com.

YOUR CLEANING PARTNER

Joe Arnold, president and CEO of Clean Team USA, knows what it's like to stand in his employees' shoes. He started at the company as a janitor when he was just 17 years old.

"It's been one of those American dream type stories," he said.

Unable to afford college, Arnold stayed at Clean Team USA. Working his way up through management, he became the president and CEO of the company when he was only 30 years old. Originally founded in the 1950s, the commercial janitorial company now services some of Lansing's biggest facilities and specializes in daily janitorial services, 24-hour water restoration, mold remediation, commercial floor care, and more. In the eight years that Arnold has been in leadership, the company has nearly doubled in size.

"We base our entire company on honesty and being completely transparent," he said.

Arnold believes that oftentimes, clients are being overcharged for janitorial services and restoration work. While other companies try to hide project details or individual line items from their clients, Clean Team USA believes in showing the client exactly what it will take to get the job done.

"When we charge you an invoice or we give you a proposal, we're going to show you exactly what you're paying for," he said.

At Clean Team USA, customers are treated more like partners.

"We don't work for anybody, we work with them," Arnold said. "We're going to do anything and everything we can do to help them."



This atmosphere of respect, partnership, and camaraderie extends into the Clean Team USA culture. The company employs more than 300 janitorial staff across the region and 14 office staff housed in their Lansing office. Just like Arnold, every one of his office staff members started their careers on the janitorial team.

"I believe you can't manage anyone unless you've done their job," Arnold said. "We have created a great culture and a great atmosphere to be in. We're creative, we laugh, we have fun, we work hard, and we have a good time together."

If there's one thing Arnold has learned over his 21-year career in the janitorial industry, it's that everyone from the office janitor to the multi-million dollar client — deserves to be treated with respect.

"We're an honest, ethical company that gives fair treatment to everyone we come across," he said. "Whether it be our clients or our employees, we treat everyone the same."

Clean Team USA is at 4055 English Oak Drive, Suite 20001A in Lansing, (517) 372-2111, www.cleanteamusa.com.

Don't miss the new and improved...

Holt Fest Join the fun on Saturday FOOD, FUN & MUSIC

Aug.17, 2019

top by the Cedar Street **Corridor (Holt Farmers** Market, Veterans Memorial Gardens and Amphitheater, and Senior Center properties) on August 17 to celebrate the 20th year of the Holt Fest, formerly known as the Holt Hometown Festival!

The festival will feature a full day of activities for the whole family, including:

- Parade running down Cedar Street
- Two entertainment stages filled with back-to-back live performances
- 20 food vendors serving everything from BBQ to ice cream
- BeerWorks Craft Beer Tasting Tent (for those 21 and older)
- Kids events, including inflatables, balloons, face painting, and Touch-a-Truck
- Laser Light Show and more!

Festival-goers will be able to take advantage of a free shuttle service to help them easily get to and from the festival activities.

Please visit www.holtfest.com to learn more and to download a copy of the Holt Fest Guide!





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 4410 Holt Road, Holt, MI 48842 517.699.3866 Howard.Haas@delhitownship.com

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