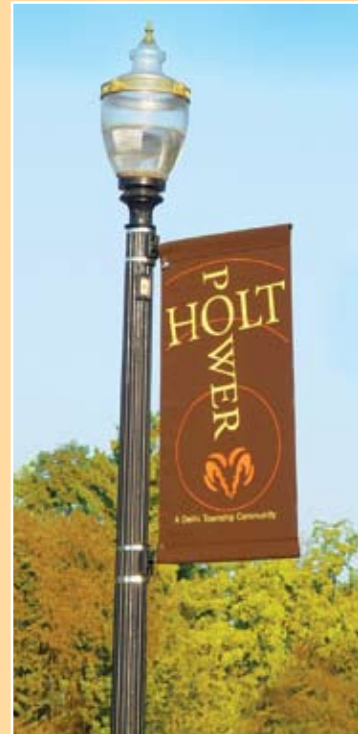


OUR TOWN

A Banner Year!

The second in a series of custom-designed banners now hang proudly over the streets in our community. The DDA commissioned several designs with seasonal and local themes to bring added identity and community spirit to the area. The banner shown here was designed to celebrate Autumn and the Holt Rams new sports season. Go Rams!



DDA to Co-Op Merchants' Holiday TV

Once again, the Delhi Downtown Development Authority is offering a holiday TV advertising opportunity for local merchants. The DDA will underwrite the major portion of the cost of the advertising package in order to help local merchants participate affordably. The packages are built around 30-second Holt-themed commercials, each spotlighting two non-competing businesses.

"The TV package has been very well received in previous years," says DDA executive director Al McFadyen. "Not only do the merchants welcome the opportunity to promote their businesses on TV at an affordable price, but it spotlights the whole business district and attracts people throughout the area to everything Holt has to offer."

McFadyen adds that the more merchants who participate, the greater the total number of commercials promoting Holt will air. "The upside potential is great," McFadyen says. "The coverage is quite impressive." The number of businesses which participate has grown each year since the program began.

The DDA has submitted a request for proposal from each of the local television stations. Additional details will be available after the proposals have been reviewed and the station is selected. A representative from the selected station will contact the merchants directly to find out if they wish to participate. If you would like additional information about the TV advertising program in the meantime, please contact the DDA at 699-3866 or 699-3867.



DEDICATED TO HELPING OUR COMMUNITY & ITS BUSINESSES GROW

A publication of the Delhi Charter Township Downtown Development Authority



Buffalo's is back!



Get a big bang for your buck!

Robert Burns, kitchen manager (far right) with some of the friendly staff at Buffalo's Southwest Cafe.

Buffalo's Southwest Cafe re-opened July 18 under new ownership. "The community has welcomed Buffalo's back with open arms," says owner Linda Kern. "We are really happy with the response we've gotten from the community."

Buffalo's is a sit-down, family casual dining restaurant which offers a huge menu, from salads to salmon to burgers to pork chops to fajitas. "We've got everything," says Linda. Buffalo's actually started out as a wing joint, and it offers nine different kinds of fresh, large wings. "I think the food is just incredible," Linda says. "That's one of the reasons I got interested in this franchise." And, Linda adds, "You get your bang for your buck."

Linda is proud of what Buffalo's has to offer. "Our diverse menu is unique, and the atmosphere is unique," she says. "It's a neat place to go. The kids love it." And, she says, if you don't have a lot of time, "We can get our lunch menu out in 5-8 minutes."

Linda also has great things to say about doing business here. "It's a great community. The people are real friendly, and the employees I have here have been excellent." She adds that "Working with the Township was a breeze. Township staff and the DDA have been very helpful."

While Buffalo's is in the process of applying for a State of Michigan liquor license, they're still doing fantastically well without it. "It will be nice to have the license so we can give the guests what they want." However, Linda adds, "The business is the food—that's what pays the bills."

Buffalo's is open from 11:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m., seven days a week.

Where are they now?

Now that the beautiful new "Welcome to Holt" signs are in place, have you ever wondered what became of the old signs? After several people expressed interest in them, it became clear that we had a collector's item on our hands.

The four old signs, along with many other local items, will be auctioned off on Monday, October 10, at the former Baker Auto Brokers office/garage at 1465 Cedar, just south of the corner of Cedar and Edgar. The auction will begin at 10:00 a.m., and items will be available for inspection from 9:00-10:00 a.m. Don't miss out on your chance to own a piece of Holt history!

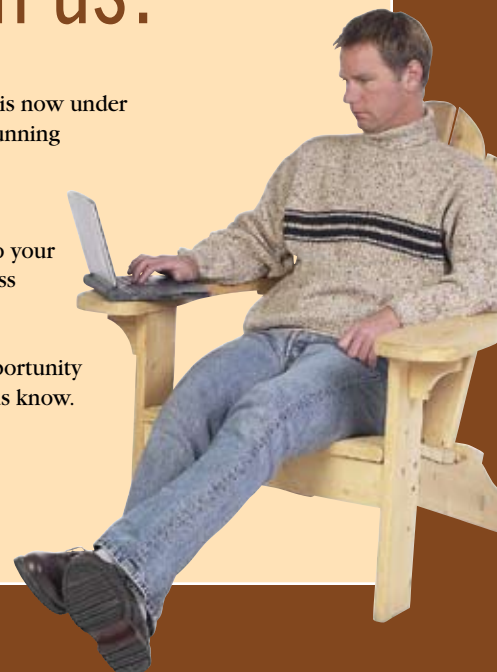


Link up with us!

The new and improved DDA website is now under construction, and should be up and running by November. The site will include a section devoted to local businesses.

We would be happy to create a link to your business's site from ours. Any business in the DDA district may participate.

If you are interested in this added opportunity to promote your business, please let us know. Simply e-mail your website address to Al.McFadyen@delhitownship.com





Precision Parts & Tooling benefits from CRRP

Rebates helped owner William Beehler renovate the entire exterior of his business

Precision Parts & Tooling Co. has recently taken advantage of the DDA's Commercial Rehabilitation Rebate Program (CRRP), which offers business owners rebates of up to 50%—as much as \$50,000—for exterior improvements and renovations. Owner William "Skip" Beehler received rebates for renovating the entire exterior of his business, and for a new sign.

Precision Parts & Tooling is an industrial tool distributor, selling cutting tools, abrasives, and other products and tools used in manufacturing. Originally based in Lansing, Precision was purchased by Skip Beehler in 1982, and he moved it to the current Aurelius Road location in 1987. Skip lived in Holt and felt moving the business there "would be a good investment and a good area."

In addition to being a distributor, Precision has a grinding facility and also does band saw blade welding. They also offer a tool crib management program, in which they maintain a company's tool crib and ensure that all the tools they need are available and in good repair.

Precision's customer base comprises companies within a 50 mile radius of Lansing. "We want to take care of the customers we have now and do a good job for them," he says. "We don't want to put too much on the table." Since Skip has owned Precision, it has grown from two employees to its current ten—including Skip's wife and son—and is still growing.

Skip and Linda Beehler.



Holt Lions Club

Supporting vision-related causes locally and abroad

The Lions Club is "A volunteer organization dedicated to leadership development through community service." With nearly 1.4 million members worldwide, the Lions Club is the largest service organization in the world.

The Holt club was chartered in 1968, and is the second-oldest service organization in Holt. Now 45 members strong, the local club has the distinction of having had two of its members serve as District Governor, the Lions' highest elected position in the state.

With the motto, "We Serve," Holt Lions serve because they care about our community and the less fortunate. One of the Lions' primary projects is vision services for the needy: helping to provide eye exams, eyeglasses, white canes, radio talking books, and wheelchairs. They also support a variety of projects, including Leader Dogs for the Blind, Welcome Home for the Blind, Michigan Eye Bank & Transplantation Center, Lions of Michigan Foundation, Lions Club International Foundation, Lions-Quest (drug awareness), diabetes awareness, and Youth Exchange.

It was the Lions' involvement in vision-related causes that led Delhi Township supervisor Stuart Goodrich, an optician, to become one of the founding members of the Holt club. "In

the late 1920s, Helen Keller challenged the Lions to better the world for those with vision problems," Goodrich says. "That was right in line with my profession, and four of my rela-



tives were blind, so it seemed like a natural choice for me." Current Holt Lions president Kevin Storberg says, "We are a broad-based community organization; we are physically visible in the community. In addition to collecting eyeglasses for the needy, we do some work with hearing aids, and we raise money for programs throughout the community, the state and internationally."

One such effort is the Eyeglass Project in Latvia, a small eastern European country bor-



dering the Baltic Sea. Lion Tim Fauser of Holt Veterinary Clinic, and his wife Inny, a Latvian native, began the program with the support of the local and international Lions Clubs. Formerly annexed to the USSR, Latvia re-established their independence in 1991 following the breakup of the Soviet Union, but health services, including vision care, are hard to come by. This project enlists the help of not only vision care professionals but anyone willing to donate their time. Using space provided by a local hospital, the group does vision screening, professional eye exams, and fits patients with donated glasses, which have been collected, sorted by prescription, and sent to Latvia prior to the volunteers' arrival. Although the International Lions Club Foundation sponsors equipment and supplies, the volunteers pay their own travel and expenses, so the project takes place every other year. Approximately 25 volunteers will make the trip in May, 2006. Tim says, "There is basically no cost to the Latvian people. All the grant monies and donations go directly toward purchasing medications or helping with surgeries."

The Holt Lions Club meets the first and third Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at Delhi Café.

Why did I choose Holt?



"I love it here," says Terry Boyer of Terry's Jewelry and Gifts.

For Terry Boyer of Terry's Jewelry and Gifts, Holt is home. "I've been here since third grade. It was a natural to open my business here in Holt," he says. "I like the community very much. I don't think I'll ever move out or move my business out, because I love it here."

Terry notes that the Holt Plaza at Aurelius and Holt Road has been renovated since he first opened, and that the DDA helped with his signage. "The DDA, the owners of the Plaza, and Delhi Township have all been a part of the business's success. I'm very happy to be here."

How are we doing?

We have now been publishing Our Town for more than a year, and we are interested in your feedback. What do you like? What don't you like? What features or articles would you like to see, and what could we be doing better?

Our Town is designed to keep residents of Delhi Township informed of what is new in the business district, and to strengthen the connection and communication between business and community. If you would like to share your thoughts, please write or call:

Al McFadyen, Executive Director
Delhi Township DDA
2045 North Cedar Street
Holt, MI 48842
(517) 699-3866 or (517) 699-3867
Al.McFadyen@delhitownship.com

THE D.D.A. — 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 which make Delhi Township a desirable place to live and work.

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