

A LOOK AT WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OURTOWN

ISSUE 76 • SUMMER 2022

HOLT NOW



DEDICATED TO HELPING OUR COMMUNITY & ITS BUSINESSES GROW

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

THE DDA – WHO WE ARE & 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.

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FIND DELHI BUSINESSES ALL IN ONE PLACE

Delhi Township residents know that our community is home to a variety of businesses, from large scale industries to small shops. A great way to explore all of the businesses Delhi Township has to offer is the DDA Business Directory. You can search for local businesses from restaurants to salons, retail to home services, and more at delhidda.com/business-directory. Visit today to find your new favorite Delhi business!

Michigan libraries now offering more technology and online content

The Michigan Library Association, located in Delhi Township, has a new campaign underway this summer. The campaign kicked off in the spring and focuses on bringing awareness around the state of Michigan to how libraries are relevant in today's world.

"If you haven't gone to a library in a long time, now might be the time to go see what they have to offer and be amazed at some of the things that you can check out or gain access to right from your own home," says Debbie Mikula, Executive Director of the Michigan Library Association. "Discover how the library is a place that you're not going to recognize."

Libraries across the state have gained access to new equipment and more online content, focused on important topics such as health issues, job seeking, and general education among others. Libraries were able to access funding for these resources thanks to two grants the Michigan Library Association secured through the Institute of Museum and Library Services for over \$2 million.

What libraries have to offer in their communities has been changing over time, but this became especially true when the pandemic hit. With people forced to work from home, many didn't have access to the right equipment, internet access, or skills

to do so successfully. Libraries across the state stepped up to provide these resources, including job seeking assistance and other training directly at the library.

"Many of our most vulnerable and disenfranchised citizens really do count on the library to provide them things that they can't access on their own," says Mikula.

These grants will allow libraries to extend services even more - expanding broadband internet access at the library, providing access to online content through the library that people can access from their own homes, and creating more programming, including outdoor spaces where people can safely meet to learn and grow.

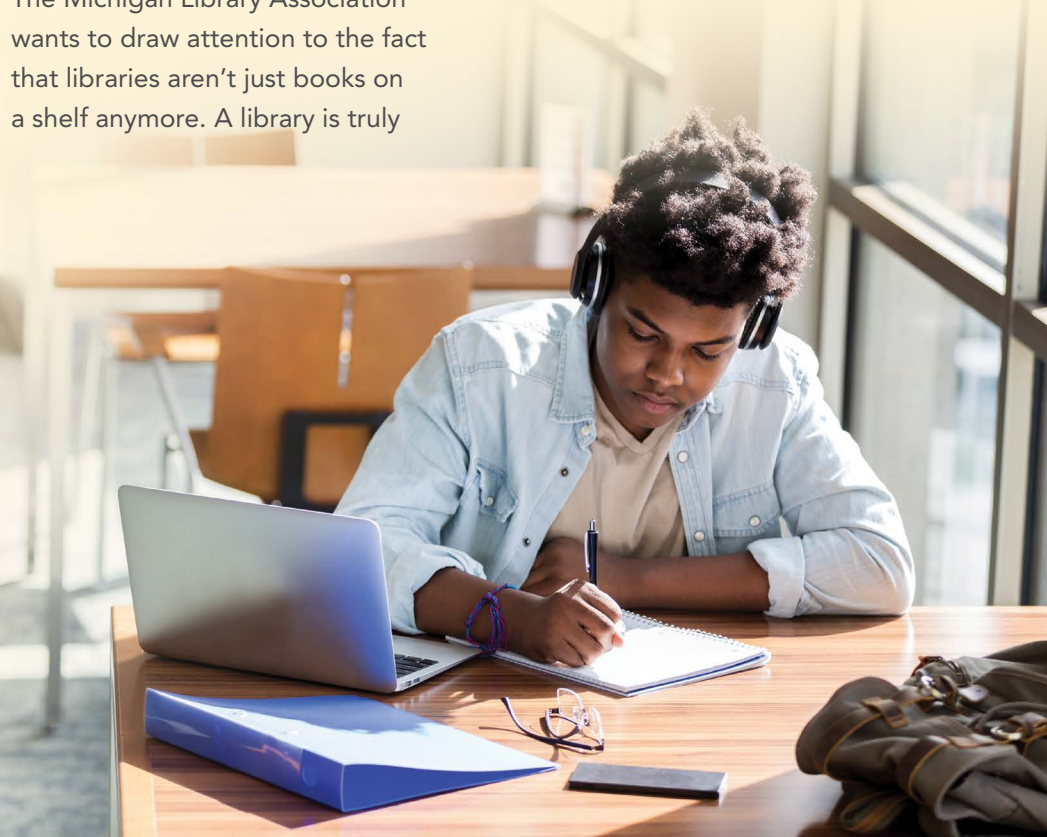
The Michigan Library Association wants to draw attention to the fact that libraries aren't just books on a shelf anymore. A library is truly

a "library of things;" an art gallery, a homework space, and a place where community members can checkout everything from a laptop to a SurfacePro to a guitar.

Community members throughout the state can visit **milibraryisnow.com** to view a full database of all the libraries throughout Michigan and see what services they can offer.

"Libraries are serving in so many different capacities now," says Mikula. "The more people know about what a library can provide, the happier they will be that it resides within their community. We are the heart of every community."

Learn more about this campaign and what a library near you has to offer by visiting milibraryisnow.com.



Edward Jones of Holt Continues Family Legacy with New Financial Advisor

Edward Jones of Holt has been serving the community for over 20 years. Started in 2000 by Jane Olney, her son, John Bush, eventually took over the branch once she was ready to retire. The family legacy continues as the branch has recently added Michelle Bush, John's wife, as another financial advisor.

Michelle has been getting to know existing clients but is also accepting new clients. Edward Jones is a full-service financial firm focused on complete wealth management. Michelle offers financial services such as Traditional/Roth IRAs, small business retirement plans, retirement plan rollovers, educational savings plans, life and long-term care insurances, CDs, money market accounts and other savings solutions.

For Michelle and her office administrator, Trina Austin, it's all about personalization. "We offer financial services that are tailored and individualized to each client," says Michelle. "We need to find out what their goals and desires are and the best way to tailor solutions to what they need and are looking

for. No two portfolios look the same as no two clients are."

This very individualized stance is why relationships are the most important thing to Michelle and the Edward Jones team. "Once I understand the purpose of the client's investments, I am able to develop a long term plan in partnership with the clients to achieve their goals," Michelle says.

"I am really excited to carry on the family tradition in serving the Holt community and continue that relationship with leaders in the Holt community."

It's more than simply relationships with their clients, but also their community as well. Both Jane and John have been actively involved in the community, forming important relationships with leaders and organizations such as the Holt Business Alliance. But they, and many others at their Edward Jones branch,

volunteer in the community regularly. It's this piece that Michelle is especially excited about.

"I am really excited to carry on the family tradition in serving the Holt community and continue that relationship with leaders in the Holt community."

Anyone interested in starting a conversation with Michelle about their financial priorities can call the Holt office to set up a meeting with her or fill out a questionnaire online to help get the conversation started.

Edward Jones of Holt is located at 1995 N. Cedar St., Ste. 5 in Holt, 517.694.3262, www.edwardjones.com/us-en/financial-advisor/michelle-bush.



Studio M Portraits Captures Moments within the Moment

If there's one thing Marvin Hall, owner of Studio M Portraits, understands, it's how to capture the moment within the moment. Hall has been a professional photographer for over 40 years. He has also lived and photographed in the Holt community for a number of years, as well as doing a lot of work in Grand Ledge and Lansing. Hall started Studio M Portraits in Holt over nine years ago.

Studio M specializes in corporate headshots, lifestyling portraits, individual branding, events, sports photography, and senior pictures. Hall has photographed many of the Grand Ledge and Holt schools sporting events over the years, as well as photographing for a website called The Only Colors, a sports website for Michigan State University, taking photos for many MSU sports.

But more than his wide variety of services and experience, one of the things that sets Hall and Studio M apart from other photographers is his physical studio space. "Back in the day there were a lot of brick and mortar studios," says Hall. "It takes a bit more to run a studio. It's more of an anomaly now. We have an actual facility where people can come in. I have a lot more things that I can do in the studio. I have lights, backgrounds, things you don't have

to lug around...I don't have to set up or tear down. This way I'm not handicapped by time." The physical studio also gives Hall a back-up space when weather doesn't cooperate. "I don't have to worry about outdoor sessions. If I need to do it indoors I have the facility to do it."

As Hall shares his craft with the community and helps capture important moments in time, one thing he tries to advocate for is physical prints of their pictures. "A statistic I read three or four years ago said that in 2025, half or three quarters of the photos taken will be forgotten," says Hall. "People take pictures with cell phones and they crash, things get deleted or stolen. It's a lot harder to misplace your wedding album or 16x20 print. It's something you can look back on. It's a lost art."

One of the ways Studio M likes to share these physical photos, especially for graduating seniors, is through banners. These make great additions at graduation parties, but Hall finds that people hold onto the banners for many years, allowing them to live vicariously in those moments again, five, 10, even 15 years later.

Studio M Portraits is located at 2006 Cedar Street, Suite 2 in Holt, 517.709.3757, studiomportraits.com. Studio hours are by appointment only.

Ingham County Sheriff's Office Offers Summer Safety Tips

With summer now in full swing, Lieutenant Chauncey Shattuck of the Ingham County Sheriff's Office offers Holt residents a number of safety tips to keep in mind during the summer months.

The Sheriff's Office sees an increase in a number of crimes during summer, especially when it comes to larceny and auto thefts. Residents can take a couple of simple measures to prevent these types of crimes. First and foremost, locking their vehicles. "Close to 100% of the time, when people have things stolen from their vehicles, it's because they didn't lock their doors," Lieutenant Shattuck says. "These same people that are breaking into cars are stealing the cars if people leave their keys in the cars. It's a common thing that people do, but it's a recipe for disaster."

Another crime that picks up in summer is phone call fraud. It's very common at this time of year to receive phone calls where someone tries to get personal information or claims there is a warrant out for the person's arrest. Lieutenant Shattuck reminds people that the Sheriff's office will never call and ask for money or credit card information over the phone.

Residents should always verify the identity of the government agency the caller is claiming to be from. Scammers will even go onto an agency's website and find real names to use to seem more authentic. When in doubt, residents should always call to check whether a phone call claim is for real. Holt residents can contact the Sheriff's office general number at 517-676-8224.

For residents who plan to travel, there are a number of safety measures to keep in mind. "If you're going to be



outside doing recreational activities this summer, make sure you take a cell phone with you," says Shattuck. "If you're going to a secluded area, go with a friend or family member. If you're doing something at nighttime, take a flashlight. Be aware of your surroundings and aware of where you're at at all times so if you do need to call 911 for emergency or criminal activity, you can let dispatch know where you are at."

Lastly, Lieutenant Shattuck offers a reminder to Holt businesses of the Sheriff's Office Business Officer, Deputy Zach McBride. Deputy McBride specializes in crimes involving businesses. Business owners can reach out and schedule a meet and greet with him at any time.

"We're always changing and evolving with the times, and trying to figure out better ways to serve the public and be there when you need us."

The ICSO Delhi Township Station is located on the west side of Cedar Street just north of Holt Road at 2045 N. Cedar St, Holt, MI 48842. The front office is open to serve the residents of Delhi from 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. The Delhi Station can be directly reached at 517.694.0045.

Esker Square Well Underway

Construction is well underway at Esker Square, the much-anticipated mixed-use development on south Cedar Street.

“We’re very pleased to have the project moving forward and at a point where people can see what it’ll look like,” said Scott Gillespie, founder and CEO of The Gillespie Company. “We appreciate and are greatly looking forward to being part of the Holt community.”

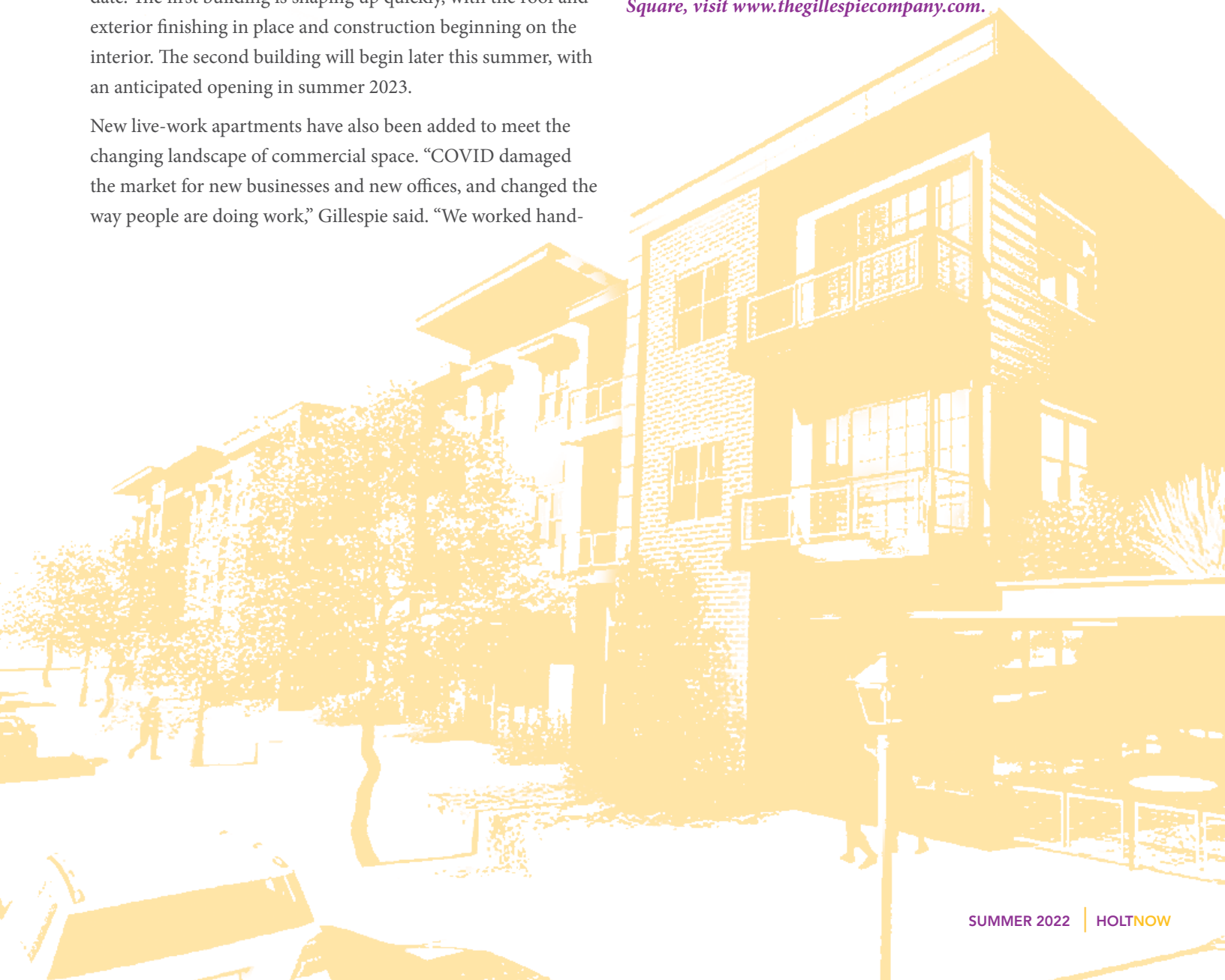
Though construction was slowed due to the COVID-19 pandemic and disruptions in supply chains, Gillespie says they are making good progress to their planned fall 2022 completion date. The first building is shaping up quickly, with the roof and exterior finishing in place and construction beginning on the interior. The second building will begin later this summer, with an anticipated opening in summer 2023.

New live-work apartments have also been added to meet the changing landscape of commercial space. “COVID damaged the market for new businesses and new offices, and changed the way people are doing work,” Gillespie said. “We worked hand-

in-hand with the township to still allow space for commercial tenants, but to pivot more towards what people need.” The live-work units will be located on the first floor, and have traditional living spaces along with a small storefront or office. “We hope this will attract small businesses, artists, startups - anyone who needs more space to work but not a large office.”

As construction progresses, The Gillespie Company is setting up their management team and preparing for the opening in the fall. Details on leasing and more information will be coming soon - stay tuned for more details.

To learn more about The Gillespie Company and Esker Square, visit www.thegillespiecompany.com.





LOOKING FOR NEW EMPLOYEES? THE DDA IS HERE TO HELP!

As part of the Delhi Township DDA's ongoing efforts to support our community's businesses, we are promoting local jobs via our HOLTNow social media platforms. Jobs will be shared on a weekly basis via Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter and featured in social media stories and highlights – all reaching thousands of individuals around the area. Social media is a great way to get further exposure for your job listings.

If you are interested in submitting a job posting, please email the DDA at DDA@delhitownship.com with the following information:

- Name of business
- Job title
- Brief job description
- Position closing date (if applicable)
- Link to posting (if available)
- Contact name and email address

We look forward to helping you find great local talent for your business!



Holt Food Frenzy
FOOD, FUN & MUSIC!

Summer fun at the Holt Food Frenzy

This summer, the Holt Food Frenzy is bigger and better than ever! Hosted by the Holt Farmers' Market, Food Frenzy events are held once a month on Wednesday evenings and provide Holt residents and visitors with evenings full of delicious food, live music, and community connection. With added fun for the entire family, including new magic shows in August and October, there's something for everyone to enjoy.

UPCOMING DATES

August 17, 2022

Wednesday, 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Live Music: Bypass

Comedy Magic Show

September 14, 2022

Wednesday, 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Live Music: Showdown

October 12, 2022

Wednesday, 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Live Music: Jake & Shelby

Spooky Monster Magic Show