

A LOOK AT WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OURTOWN

ISSUE 79 • SUMMER 2023

# HOLT NOW



DEDICATED TO HELPING OUR COMMUNITY & ITS BUSINESSES GROW

A publication of the Delhi Charter Township Downtown Development Authority • [www.DelhiDDA.com](http://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](http://www.DelhiDDA.com).

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### THE DDA BOARD MEMBERS:

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Sally Rae, *Treasurer*



#### JULY 12, 2023

Holt Farmers' Market  
Wednesday, 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.  
Live Music: NEW RULE & Mark Grinnell  
*Limited on-site seating available.*

#### AUGUST 16, 2023

Holt Farmers' Market  
Wednesday, 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.  
Live Music: MIXED FLAVORS & Got2B3  
*Limited on-site seating available.*

#### AUGUST 31

Holt Farmers' Market  
Thursday, 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.



Holt BBQ & Brew is a new event that will be held at the Holt Farmers Market. It will include a number of the area's best BBQ vendors, a beer tent and live music. The beer tent will be a fundraiser and will be hosted by American Legion Post 238.

#### SEPTEMBER 13, 2023

Holt Farmers' Market  
Wednesday, 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.  
*Limited on-site seating available.*

#### OCTOBER 11, 2023

Holt Farmers' Market  
Wednesday, 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.  
*Limited on-site seating available.*

## FIND DELHI BUSINESSES ALL IN ONE PLACE

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](http://delhidda.com/business-directory).



# Something for everyone at Sweet Sensations

Nothing says summer quite like an ice cream cone, and that's exactly what Sweet Sensations of Holt is serving up all season long. While someone's preferences or intolerances might have excluded them from a trip to the ice cream shop previously, Sweet Sensations is making sure to have something for everyone to leave no one out!

Along with over 32 soft serve, 32 sugar-free frozen yogurt, and 16 hard scoop flavors, Sweet Sensations also offers dairy-free dole whip and a vegan hard scoop flavor as well. Co-owner of Sweet Sensations, Kristina Greathouse, feels that this variety is what sets them apart from other ice cream shops in the area.

Greathouse and her husband, Pat, began running in the business in 2017, after taking over from Kristina's parents. In fact, the ice cream shop has been in Greathouse's family for over 55 years.

"It's been over 55 years in our family," says Greathouse. "Now we're the third generation and now it's fun because my two kids.... they're in the shop and running it and doing the same stuff that I did when I was little."

Greathouse's grandparents started the business in 1965, known then

as J.D.'s Dairy Delight. When Greathouse's parents took over in 1977, they reconstructed a new shop and renamed it Sweet Sensations. The name and building are what Delhi residents have come to know and love.

All the staff at Sweet Sensations strives to make the shop people's ice cream shop of choice. Greathouse accomplishes this by gathering a great group of employees who come to feel like family. For many of the staff at Sweet Sensations, the job is their first ever job, which is something special Greathouse hopes they carry with them into the future.

The team at Sweet Sensations also engages with the community in several ways. One is through their School Sundaes program. Each year,

Greathouse works with the local elementary schools in the township. Students create a sundae idea, bring the ideas to Sweet Sensations who then picks their top ten. From there, they vote on the top sundae which is featured as their Sundae of the Year.

"Every dollar of the School Sundae sold is given back to that school," Greathouse says. "It's a way for us to engage with the community and the schools."

So on the next ice cream run, make sure no one's left out and visit Sweet Sensations. And try out this year's Sundae of the Year while you're at it.

***Sweet Sensations is open for the summer Sunday through Saturday, Noon - 10 p.m. They are located at 1963 Cedar Street in Holt, 517.694.6922.***





# Come play some games at AFK Games



Perhaps no one understands how to build community better than AFK Games owner, Dan Wier.

Over a decade ago, Wier opened his shop, which stands for “Away from Keyboard Games”, as a retail and play space where people could go to buy and play social games.

Most people would recognize some of these games as traditional board games like Monopoly, or card games like Euchre; however, they also include role playing games such as Dungeons and Dragons or Pathfinder, where players pretend to be specific characters who are usually embarking on an adventure. Another popular type of game people play at the shop is tabletop miniature games, such as Warhammer 40,000, that use miniature figurines and where players engage in battles.

AFK has a library of games that are free and open for public use, but they also offer different types of games for sale. They also host special events for different games, including weekly themed game nights and competitive tournaments. Coming in June, AFK will play host to a two-day Warhammer 40,000 tournament. These types of competitive play events attract participants from around the state, neighboring states, and as far away as Canada.

What Wier hopes people find most at his shop is a community of people who share common interests. This desire stems from his own experiences as a newcomer to the Holt area when he was young.

“When I was growing up in Holt, I moved here after elementary school and I had to make a new group of friends,” reminisces Wier. “I went to a place called Daggets Comic Shop. Going there and being around



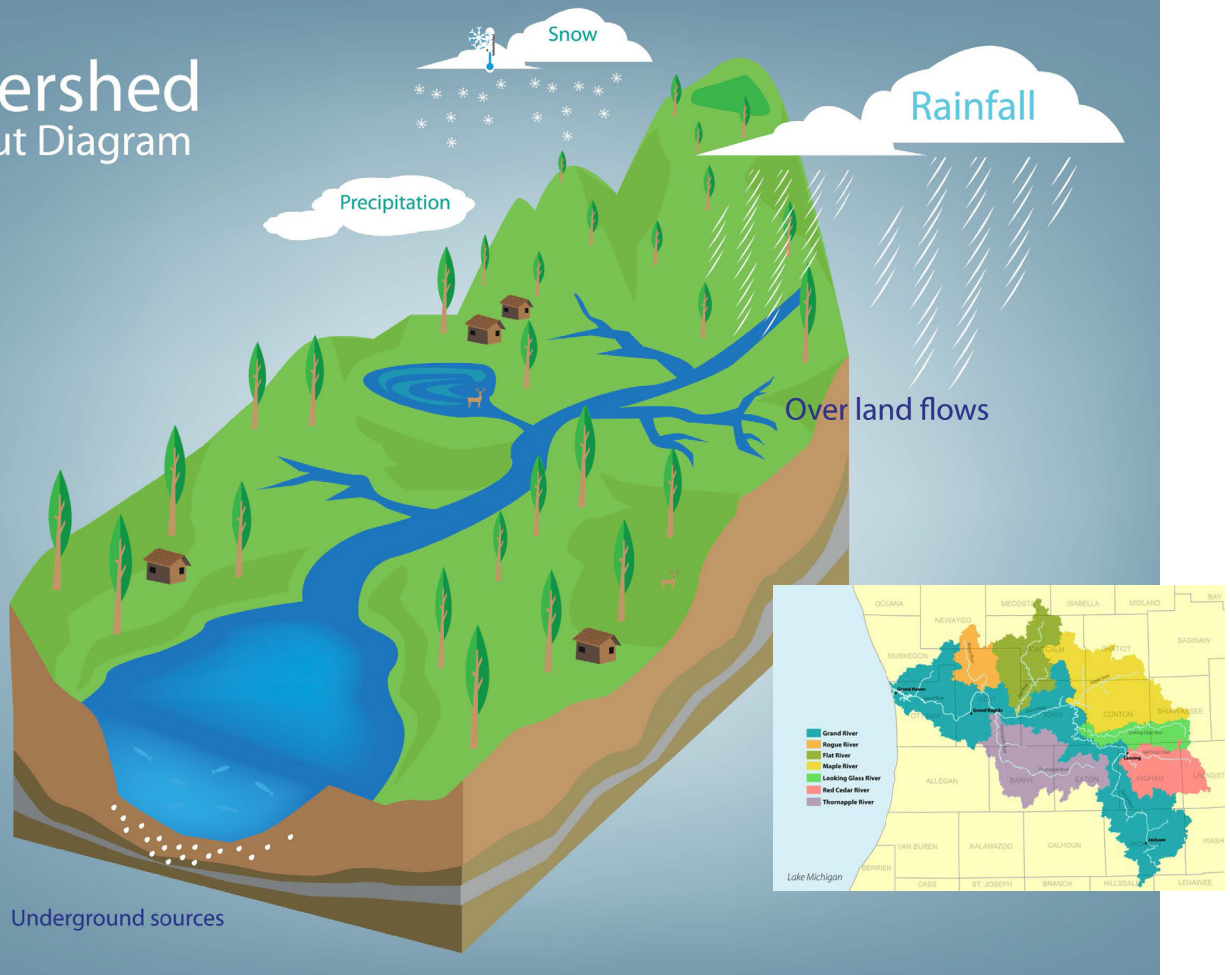
like-minded [people] allowed me to make friends and improve my social skills.” Wier recognizes that games teach young people many valuable skills - math, reading, problem-solving, critical thinking, as well as social skills and confidence.

“You can go buy games at [big stores]. What they don’t offer is community or a place to play and information about how to pick a game that will be a good fit for the people you’re playing with,” Wier says.

While AFK supports many types of games, they encourage video game play happens elsewhere, as their space is meant for more social gaming. The space is open to all age groups, free of charge. Reservations are not necessary. AFK does ask that any child coming to play games at AFK be able to leave the shop on their own if they are left to stay on their own; parents or guardians are encouraged to stay and participate in games as well.

**Visit the AFK website to see what events are coming up at [afk.games](http://afk.games). AFK is located at 2495 Cedar Street, Suite 14B in Holt, 517.694.7328.**

# Watershed Cut out Diagram



## Why Protect Our Watersheds?

**T**he Greater Lansing Area lies within the Upper Grand River Watershed which includes three smaller watershed areas: the Grand River Watershed, the Looking Glass River Watershed, and the Red Cedar River Watershed. When it rains, some of the water soaks into the soil and some evaporates into the air, but most of it runs over the land joining small streams and wetlands that drain into lakes and rivers, and eventually flow into the Great Lakes.

The stormwater runoff from our local region eventually drains into Lake Michigan at the mouth of the Grand River in the town of Grand Haven. Because of this connection, our actions at home have a direct impact on our local environment and the health of the Great Lakes! We can prevent trash, chemicals, and bacteria from impacting our communities by taking steps to protect our watershed.

### Tips for Watershed Protection

1. **Conserve Water:** Always conserve and reuse water wisely. Capture and reuse rainwater to control stormwater runoff.
2. **Dispose of Waste Properly:** Wash your car at a commercial facility to avoid detergents flowing into the watershed. Dispose of pet waste in the trash or toilet. If you have an onsite septic system, make sure it is maintained. Properly recycle household chemicals like motor oil, cleaners, and paint. Finally, maintain your vehicles to eliminate leaks.
3. **Garden Wisely:** Soil test before you apply fertilizers and use low or no-phosphorus fertilizers. Use native vegetation and reduce turf grass by increasing native wildflowers and grasses.
4. **Get Involved:** Join a local watershed organization! Click [HERE](#) to learn about how Delhi Township is managing stormwater runoff and helping to protect our watersheds.

# Take your ailment for a ride down Patient Care Drive

**N**o matter the ailment or need, Delhi Township is home to an impressive array of medical services and related businesses. And while many times it can be tough to find the best fit for each person's specific needs, Delhi Township has made it even easier.

Over 20 medical practices and related businesses are located on Patient Care Drive. Those in search of care can find everything they need on this road. Here's a list of just some of the services.

## Rehabilitation

- Par Rehab Services - specializes in treating traumatic brain injuries, dementia, learning disabilities and more, as well as diagnosis and treatment of mental health services.
- The Recovery Project - offers personalized rehabilitation for those with mobility impairments, such things as stroke rehab, spinal cord injuries, neurological disorders, and more.
- Reuben Henderson Rehabilitative Care - practices physical medicine and rehabilitation specialist treating things such as chronic neck pain and lower back pain
- Team Rehabilitation Physical Therapy - offers physical and occupational therapy.



## Having **sleep troubles**?

Capital Area Pulmonary Associates treats sleep issues such as insomnia, restless leg syndrome and narcolepsy, as well as lung issues such as asthma and emphysema.

Mid-West Center for Sleep Disorders diagnoses and treats things like sleep apnea, excessive daytime sleepiness, insomnia, and more.

In need of **eye care**? James Haviland Ophthalmology not only provides routine vision and eye care, but can also diagnose and treat eye disorders.

**Bones or joints** slowing things down? Michigan Orthopedic Center offers replacement and surgery for hip, knee, shoulder, foot and more.

In need of more general **foot care**? Red Cedar Podiatry treats foot and ankle issues such as bunions, stress fractures, calluses and corns, plantar warts, etc.

Past the diagnosis phase and ready for **surgery**? Lansing Surgical Associates is ready to help! They provide robotic, general, breast and hernia surgery.

Looking for **pediatric medical care** for the kids? Capital Area Pediatrics P.C. provides everything from well child and adolescent care to school and sports physicals to routine immunizations and more.

**Kidney issues** causing problems? Fresenius Medical Care Lansing Dialysis provides kidney dialysis and Ingham Nephrology and Hypertension treats kidney disease and high blood pressure.

While visiting one or more of these businesses, patients may need to get additional testing or **lab work** done. Patient Care Drive is truly a one-stop-shop for medical care needs. Visit Sparrow Laboratories to get additional testing completed or blood drawn. Or visit the new Sparrow Center for Laboratory Medicine for more advanced testing and quicker processing of test results.

When the diagnosis and treatment is underway or complete, patients might also need to visit a **pharmacy** to have prescriptions filled. Patient Care Drive has that too! Stop after a visit to the CIMA Pharmacy to pick up a prescription.

Nobody likes having medical issues or needing to visit some kind of doctor, but for residents in Delhi Township, the experience can be smoother and easier with just a ride down Patient Care Drive.



# Delhi Parks and Recreation adds new outdoor fun

One of the key focuses for Delhi Township is to provide a sense of community, not only for the existing township residents, but also to visitors, prospective business partners, and future residents alike. Perhaps no one understands this more than Delhi Parks and Recreation.

While the housing, schools, and businesses of the community are all important, the outdoor spaces are also a key component of what makes a community feel like home; somewhere people can live and play.

Delhi Parks and Recreation is always striving to improve and enhance the outdoor experience when visiting Delhi Township.

“No township wants to...not progress,” says Troy Stowell, Delhi Parks and Recreation Director. “Placemaking...is about creating that sense of home, where people really want to live and work and play.”

And with this spirit of play in mind, Parks and Recreation is constantly adding new things to the Delhi experience. This year alone they will renovate the tennis and pickleball courts at Kiwanis Park. There will be six brand new tennis courts and six pickleball courts. This construction is embracing the latest pickleball trend sweeping the United States right now as the fastest growing sport in the country.

These renovations will be complete by the end of July or first part of August. These changes will accompany the latest launch of a kayak rental station at Esker Landing which happened earlier this spring.

“We want to be the first to have all these new trends and amenities in the township to continue to grow,” Stowell says.

Other updates or additions on the horizon include a new playscape at Kiwanis Park which will embrace the more natural feeling of the park, as well as additions to Delhi’s trail system for walkers, runners, and bikers.

With all these changes and future plans, Stowell and other Delhi leaders hope to continue to make Delhi Township a great place to live, work, and play. But they also hope to attract outside visitors and businesses to the area by making Delhi Township not only a fun destination to visit, but a place worth calling home.

## Kayak rentals available at Esker Landing

Just in time for summer, kayak rentals are now available at the Esker Landing launch on Cedar Lake! Patrons can rent everything from kayaks,

paddles, and personal flotation devices. This is a great opportunity for those looking to enjoy a kayak excursion without having to buy all the equipment.

“It’s an amazing opportunity... [at] Esker Landing,” says Troy Stowell, Delhi Parks and Recreation Director. “Every

single weekend it’s getting rented out.” Delhi is only the second township in Michigan to add a kayak locker to its recreational areas.

The kayak rental station is self-serve and easy to access with nothing more than a cell phone. Here’s how it works:

1. Download the mobile app called @The.Real.Rent.Fun;
2. Scan the QR code located on the kayak locker;
3. Enter a credit card to pay the rental fee; and
4. Sign the digital waiver through the app.

Rental fees are \$20 for every two hour block. Patrons are charged for the duration of their trip. Currently the kayak station has four kayaks available for rent, and according to Stowell, the Delhi Parks and Recreation hopes to add more next year.

Residents and visitors alike are welcome to continue to use their own kayaks and other outdoor gear at the launch; the kayak rental station allows those without their own gear to enjoy time out on Cedar Lake as well!



# Superior Saw and Lakeside Fire & Grill provides high quality products

**T**he most important thing to Brian Cady is providing high-end products with high-quality service. As the owner of Superior Saw and Lakeside Fire & Grill, Cady has grown his businesses over the last twenty plus years—starting out in a corner of his father's lawn equipment business.

Superior Saw provides homeowners and businesses with high end power equipment, carrying well-known brands like Stihl, Scag, Exmark, and Ventrac. Cady's team of professionals provide full service on all their equipment. "We take a lot of pride in being recognized as full service. Everybody is certified in all the brands that we carry," Cady says.

He recognizes that power equipment is an investment that may be passed down to future generations. Building those relationships with generations of customers is one of Cady's favorite parts of the business. "We get to know people on a first name

basis. We have a good blend of customers and get along great with all of them."

Cady started a sister company, Lakeside Fire & Grill, in 2015 and opened the shop right next door to Superior Saw.

Lakeside Fire & Grill specializes in high quality, high end fireplaces, outdoor grills, patio fire tables, stone work, and installation services.



With the warmer months here, there's no better time to visit Superior Saw and Lakeside Fire & Grill for all your outdoor equipment and entertaining needs.

*Superior Saw is located at 1350 North Cedar Road in Mason, 517.694.7224, [superiorsaws.com](http://superiorsaws.com). Lakeside Fire & Grill is located at 1334 North Cedar Road in Mason, 517.694.7224, [lakesidefireandgrill.com](http://lakesidefireandgrill.com).*

# HOLT HISTORY



Pine Tree Road gets its name from a famous tree in Delhi Township called, "The Lone Pine." When Eliza (Clark) Owen was just a young girl, she carried a pine seedling from the William Cook farm south of Holt. Her father, Benjamin Clark, helped her plant the tree during the 1850s and it stood for approximately 70 years before being struck by lightning in 1921. Although the Forestry Department at the Michigan Agricultural

College attempted to save the tree, it died within a few years. The community commemorated the original tree: The Holt Sportsman's Club used its wood to make a baseball bat, and the earliest Holt High School yearbooks were called "The Lone Pine." An offspring tree was planted in its place during



the 1920s. And in 1931, Hugo F. Voss painted the old pine. This painting still hangs in the Delhi Township Board Room. Today, the second generation pine is still standing at the corner of Keller and Pine Tree Road. It is approximately 100 years old.