

# Delhi on Growth Track

by Tamera Nielsen.

## Sam Corey Senior Citizen's Center

Holt (or more accurately, Delhi Township) is aiming to set high standards for senior centers in the Lansing-area community. The Sam Corey Senior Citizen's Center opened last month and is fast-becoming the destination for Delhi's growing senior population, according to Al McFadyen, executive director of Delhi Township Authority (DDA).

Delhi is a charter township, which incorporated in the 1840s. According to McFadyen, over the past 20 years the township has had a large influx of residential development, and the population has grown from the low teens to over 25,000. "After an extensive survey conducted by a firm from Iowa, [we realized] our senior population is growing, and this new senior center will support our existing senior population as well as its growth for years to come," says McFadyen.

Located at 2108 Cedar Street, the Sam Corey Senior Center is run by Delhi Township's parks and recreation director, Mark Jenks. Jenks has set up his new office to ensure the center provides all it plans to offer its growing senior population.

Wieland-Davco broke ground on this center in July 2008. According to McFadyen, they were awarded the job due to their "impressive proposal and their ability to help us set an example for green stewardship."

Delhi aimed for a green building to be LEED certified, and Wieland-Davco has experience with this as they were contracted to build the library in Delta Township. Wieland-Davco's expertise proved advantageous in the Sam Corey Senior Center as the center is now positioned to be awarded LEED certification for its green roof and geothermal heating and cooling system.

The Sam Corey Senior Center in Delhi Township offers a comfortable, welcom-

ing setting for its senior population, and by way of its commitment to green stewardship, will likely set new standards for other senior centers in the Lansing community.

## Oakwood Executive Park

Delhi Township is also fertile ground for a variety of commercial and industrial businesses. At over 90 percent occupancy, the Oakwood Executive Park situated on 100 acres provides space for approximately 30 businesses and roughly 400 jobs for area residents.

Oakwood Executive Park is home to Magna Powertrain, which manufactures the rear suspension module for Delta Township plant for the Buick Enclave, GMC Acadia, and Saturn Outlook as well as exports to the Springhill, Tenn. plant. Also in the executive park are a mix of professional and commercial businesses including a cheerleading studio, a Michigan State University packing and teaching facility, engineering firms, gymnastic training facility and more.

A privately held, privately funded entity of Dart Container, Dart Development is responsible for managing and maintaining various real estate properties including Oakwood Executive Park, which added an additional 40 acres last year.

Oakwood Executive Park is an industrial development district and Dart Development worked closely with Delhi Township and the MEDC to qualify for tax abatements. Notably, Dart Development partnered with the Delhi Development Association (DDA) to build a new road, Development Drive, which connects Pinetree and Dunkel roads.

In our tough economic climate, Dart Container and Dart Development, with the Dart family behind both, are privately funded and continue to pour resources into building a better future for the Lansing region and most recently, Delhi Township. ■

the entire center was an overriding goal for the team. Doors, flooring and trim including paint, primers, as well as post- and pre-consumer contents, were used during the buildout, and each meets standards of the U.S. Green Building Council. "The center's lighting package is fully controllable, very automated with sensors in every room, so they're turned off when they're not in use," says Kincaid.

Kincaid's enthusiasm is palpable. "I think people will be surprised and shocked and excited. Coming down to Old Town, people have a preconceived notion of what's going on down there, but they'll go 'wow' and fall in love! It's set up so well for users and clients and employees. This building will enhance property values and will energize the whole area."

Echoing his sentiments is Brittney Hoszkiw, executive director of the Old Town Commercial Association (OCTA), who says, "The center is bringing a different group into our area, and it will be a huge asset not just to the commercial district, but also north Lansing and surrounding neighborhoods."

Old Town Medical Arts Center may very well ignite jobs from MSU graduates, interns and more. Not only has this building been renovated, likely the entire area will be renewed by way of the center's import into Old Town. The center is a destination for commuters, and having poured \$3 million into purchasing and renovating, the owners are committed to revolutionizing the art of healing for surrounding neighborhood residents right here at home, in the heart of Lansing's Old Town. ■