Takes A TROY HISTORIC VILLAGE Where history lives



Volunteer Newsletter-August 2025

SINCE OUR LAST NEWSLETTER...

Kris Rose's memorial bench was installed in front of Poppleton school. We're having a memorial on September 16. More info on page 2.

90 volunteers helped make our 17th Troy Traffic Jam the most successful one yet! More info on page 2.

Field Trip Season is almost here again! We need lots of help preparing school craft supplies. Dates on the last page.

THV Staff Sarah Faist and her husband Josh welcomed a healthy baby girl named Briar on July 14!

THV Staff updates! more info on page 5.

The Tuesday Crew have been Tuesday Crewin'! Find out what they've been up to on page 4.

Scarecrow Row is off and running! The build team is hard at work and we would love your help with setting the scarecrows up in a few weeks! More info on page 3.

Be a Village Ambassador outside of the Village gates. More info on page 5.



The Pioneer Garden has had a very fruitful year with lots of visitors. More info on page 4.

We hope you're ready for Trick-or-Treat! It's going to be out of this world! More info on page 2.

Help us engage our community outside of the Village gates. More info on page 5.

Upcoming volunteer opportunities will be lots of fun. More info on page 6.

Thank you to everyone who joined us for our annual Volunteer Dinner on August 25. We hope you had as lovely a time as we did! We even ended the day with a double rainbow!! Pictures on page 7.

Monthly volunteer meetings are held be on the first Tuesday of every month at 10:30am inside the Niles-Barnard House. Any changes from the plan will be communicated in advance! No need to RSVP - just stop on by! You can sign up on our calendar for a reminder if you would like.

TROY TRAFFIC JAM

Another record breaking year for the Troy Traffic Jam! On August 3, 2025, 370 folks registered their cars and displayed them in the show, and over 7,500 guests joined us throughout the day! The car show was SOLD OUT and full of registered cars by 8:30am! Here are some fast facts:

- Total number of cars on display: 370
- Total number of volunteers: 90
- Total number of volunteer hours (on August 6): 353
- Total number of pedal car racers: 12
- Total money raised during the event: over \$50,000

Thank you to everyone who spent the day with us and helped us put on our best show yet. We had a lot of folks join us as a guest for the first time, and as volunteers for the first time! Thank you to our veteran volunteers for greeting everyone and treating them so wonderfully. With your help, the Traffic Jam has grown to an event that is getting accolades from the automotive industry, and has become something our community can and should be super proud of!







KRIS ROSE MEMORIAL

On September 16, we are hosting our Annual Members Meeting inside the Village from 6pm - 8pm. Before the meeting, we will be having a small memorial service for Kris Rose outside Poppleton School near her memorial bench. We'd love for you to join us and spend some time at one of Kris' favorite places in her memory.

You're also invited to stay for the ice cream social from 6pm - 7pm before the Members Meeting. RSVP information will be sent once it is available, but please save the date for now if you would like to join us.

TROY FAMILY DAZE

Troy Family Daze is from September 11 - September 14, and we need your help to greet folks and share information about Troy Historic Village! We will have a tent, tables, and information to share about the Village. Each shift will have a staff member present, and no experience is necessary! It's also a great way to experience Troy Family Daze for free! Shifts are on the Sign Up Calendar.

TRICK-OR-TREAT

Save the date! Trick-or-Treat: OUT OF THIS WORLD is on the horizon. Friday October 24, 4pm - 8pm & Saturday October 25, 10am - 1pm are the dates! Volunteer shifts to follow.

We are also accepting donations! Please click <u>HERE</u> to see what we're asking for!

SCARECROW ROW

Scarecrow Row is off and running! Our builders are hard at work creating and constructing some magical art pieces that will be on display during Troy Family Daze and at the Village in October. We can't wait for you to see what they've been up to!

We will need some assistance setting up and taking down the scarecrows. Shifts are on the Sign Up Calendar!

- September 10, 10:30am 11:30am: Set up scarecrows at Troy Family Daze
- September 15, 10:30am 11:30am: Help take down scarecrows at Troy Family Daze
- September 30, 3:30pm 5pm: Scarecrow Row set up at Troy Historic Village
- November 4, 3:30pm 5pm: Scarecrow Row take down at Troy Historic Village

GARDEN WALK & LIBRARY KICK OFF

In July, our amazing volunteers helped sell tickets for our Summer Raffle. We had ten great prizes all valued over \$300 each, and we raised over \$2,000! Thank you to everyone who helped sell tickets, and who bought tickets!

In June, both staff and volunteers greeted thousands of folks at the Troy Public Library Summer Kick-Off. Thank you, Denise and JoAnn, for helping share all the fun things families could do this summer at the Village!



1. Sheryl, our lead scarecrow builder, is putting the final touches on a scarecrow. 2. Karol & Gail pause in between building a scarecrow to smile. 3. Debe, Denise, & Karla are building scarecrows. 4. Denise & Karla smile while selling Summer Raffle tickets at Garden Walk. 5. Gail helps pick winners for the Summer Raffle prizes. 6. Ken H and Debra greet guests at Summer Kick Off. 7. Amelia, JoAnn, and Jolie greet folks and pass out information at the library kick-off. 8. Karol double checks the roster while Karla, JoAnn, and Denise build in the back.

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UPDATE TO PRESERVATION ASSISTANTS

Starting September 3, Preservation Assistants will now take place every Wednesday from 10:30am - 11:30am. Elizabeth, our Curator, will be on site in the buildings each shift, and we need your help to keep our spaces clean and tidy! No experience is necessary as Elizabeth will teach you when you arrive! Come as often as you like. Shifts are on the Sign Up Calendar.

WINDOW WASHING

Starting September 9, every Tuesday morning Elizabeth, our Curator, needs help cleaning the windows throughout our buildings. Window cleaning shifts are from 10:30am - 11:30am every Tuesday (except the first Tuesday of the month) until it gets too cold outside! Then we will clean the class inside buildings. No experience is necessary. Shifts are on the Sign Up Calendar!

TUESDAY CREW

Our Tuesday Crew has spent the last few weeks continuing to work on their workshop space in the Parsonage basement, and have been hard at work building barriers for around our air conditioning units. Take a look next time you come to the Village to see if you can spot their handywork!



PIONEER GARDEN

This summer we have been in the garden hard at work every Friday from 10am - 11am no matter how humid or hot it has been. We've planted and harvested vegetables, weeded thousands of unwanted plants, and met lots of buggy Village guests.

Special thank you to Susan B who has been tending the garden almost every week! Pete H has also helped, and we have had quite a few high school students join us.

We only have a few more Fridays left this season, so come join us!









Top Left: Susan is hard at work weeding and preparing a garden bed. Bottom left: radishes pulled from our garden! Top right: Buggy guests swallowtail caterpillars loved our dill. Bottom right: Buggy guest praying mantis that was in our lettuce beds.

STAFFING UPDATE

History Interpreter Sarah Faist had her healthy baby girl, and will be staying home to care for her. Jolie Saul, who we've introduced before, will be taking over Sarah's hours and responsibilities. You'll be seeing a lot more of Jolie at the Village and Village events!

History Interpreter, Tom Arwady, has also moved on from the Village. He has started a new full time job at a nearby assisted living facility working on their programming and events! We wish him the best of luck, and will miss him!

We have a booklet to sign for Tom inside the gift shop if you would like to stop by and write him well wishes! Tom was here for 7 years and I'm sure many of you have some fun memories with him!

We are also currently hiring another staff member for our History Interpreter / Museum Education Team! If you know anyone who would be a good fit, please direct them to fill out the application located on our website. You can find it by clicking here.







Left: Tom reads from the script during the Old Time Radio Show. Middle: Sarah tests out a scarecrow costume before it was put on one of the 'crows. Right: Jolie smiles while holding Cheddar in his sunglasses!

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

The fall is a busy time - not just at the Village - but all around Troy! We would love your help to support other organizations' events and programs to ensure our community has a wonderful time. Your goal will be to be a representative of the Village and greet people and pass out flyers and other information about the Village! No experience is necessary, and we will make sure you have all the information needed before the event! You can volunteer at one or as many as you would like!

- Troy Fire Department Open House:
 October 5, 1pm 4pm
- Troy Rec Fall Fest: October 11, 10am -1pm
- Troy Public Library Storybrook Trail (more info to follow)

WEST END EXPANSION PROJECT

Big changes are coming to the Village! We applied for a very big grant earlier this year, and we were finally notified that we were awarded \$399,770 from the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Development! This is a huge win, and we are so excited to start checking things off of our Master Plan. Jen, our Executive Director, wrote an article about the Village West End Expansion Project in our latest Village Press. You can read it by clicking HERE. The article is on page 3.



CURRENT VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

MONTHLY SCHOOL CRAFT PREP SEPTEMBER 9, 10:30AM - 12PM OCTOBER 14, 10:30AM - 12PM

Our ongoing & continuous need for school craft prep supplies! It's also a wonderful time to catch up with other volunteers, and get to know new ones. Outside of our scheduled monthly gathering, you're welcome to grab supplies to take to work on at home. Shifts on the Sign Up Calendar.

CANDLE DIPPING SHIFTS

Look on the Shift Calendar for these dates: September 4, 8, 15, 16, 18, 19, 22, 23 October 3, 6

TROY FAMILY DAZE SEPT 11 - SEPT 14, VARIOUS TIMES

Assist a THV staff member with being a Village ambassador! Greet guests and share information about upcoming programs. Shifts on the Shift Calendar.

MARKETING MATERIALS DISTRIBUTION ONGOING

Next sign up September 17. ***We added Troy Public Library, Troy Community Center, and Stage Nature Center to the list!***

PIONEER GARDEN HELP FRIDAYS, 10AM - 11AM

Come drop in at the Village and help weed, harvest, and generally care for our garden! Shifts are on the Sign Up Calendar for an hour at a time. Sign up for as many shifts as you would like!

PRESERVATION ASSISTANTS EVERY WEDNESDAY, 10:30AM -11:30AM

Join our Curator every Wednesday for one hour to help us maintain some of our collections! Some duties may include dusting, sweeping / mopping, cleaning baseboards / walls, and other general housekeeping duties inside of our historic structures. We will provide all the supplies and have some training for handling artifacts! Shifts on Sign Up Calendar!

CLEANING WINDOWS EVERY TUESDAY*, 10:30AM - 11:30AM

Assist our Curator every Tuesday (except the first Tuesday of the month) for one hour to help us clean and polish all the windows on our property! No experience is needed, we'll train you! Shifts on Sign Up Calendar.

CHECK-IN HELPERS NEEDED

Help us welcome and greet guests for our programs! Stay for the program, or take off after checking guests in. We need help at the following:

- Thursday Teas (Sept 18, Oct 23, Nov 20)
- Preservation Conversations (Sept 22, Oct 27, Nov 10)

OTHER SAVE THE DATES:

- Trick-or-Treat: Friday October 24, 4pm -8pm & Saturday October 25, 10am - 1pm ** Please note the earlier start time on Saturday!
- Cocoa & Crafts with Santa: December 6 & December 7

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES, CONT.

SCARECROW ROW SET UP AND TAKE DOWN

Help us set up and take down scarecrows! No experience is necessary, we just need extra hands! Shifts are on the Sign Up Calendar.

- September 10, 10:30am 11:30am: Set up scarecrows at Troy Family Daze
- September 15, 10:30am 11:30am: Help take down scarecrows at Troy Family Daze
- September 30, 3:30pm 5pm: Scarecrow Row set up at Troy Historic Village
- November 4, 3:30pm 5pm: Scarecrow Row take down at Troy Historic Village

COMMUNITY OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES VARIOUS DATES AND TIMES

Help us as a Village ambassador! No experience is necessary, we just need people who like chatting with people! More info on page 5. Shifts are on the Sign Up Calendar.

- Troy Fire Department Open House: October 5, 1pm 4pm
- Troy Rec Fall Fest: October 11, 10am 1pm
- Troy Public Library Story Brook Trail (more info to follow)

FALL OPEN HOUSE SEPTEMBER 13, 10AM - 3PM

Help greet and check in guests! Trained tour guides can also present inside buildings. Shifts are on the Sign Up Calendar!

HELP CLEAN UP AFTER DONOR EVENT SEPTEMBER 4, 7:30PM - 8:30PM

Help clean up after the donor event! Wipe tables, move tables, take out trash, put up chairs. Shifts on Sign Up Calendar.

TRICK-OR-TREAT: CRAFT PREP OCTOBER 15, 1PM - 2:30PM

Help prepare the supplies needed for our craft activity during Trick-or-Treat! No experience necessary. Shifts are on the Sign Up Calendar!









