

## SINCE OUR LAST NEWSLETTER...

**Mid-Winter Break** was a record-breaking year! More info on page 2.

**The Tuesday Crew** have been Tuesday Crewin'! Find out what they've been up to on page 5.

**Scarecrow Row & Troy Traffic Jam** registration opened on April 1! More info on page 4.

**The Troy Garden Club** mulched the Village flower gardens and is preparing for the spring blooms!

Our **West End Expansion Project** is off to a great start, but we have a little delay. More info on page 5.

**Jen Peters, our Executive Director, is receiving an award!** More info on page 4.

Our pop-up shop at Stage Nature Center's **Maple Syrup Time** was a great success! Thank you to everyone who volunteered by helping sell products, label products, and serve samples!

**Field Trips are here!** Thank you for your ongoing support for craft supplies!



**Why Troy Oral Histories have started!** More info on page 4.

**Spring Egg Hunt** welcomed over 800 guests! More info on page 2.

**Very important updates to volunteer records coming,** more info on page 3.

**Welcome to our new volunteers!** Kyle, Maureen, Murryum, Isaac, Mary & friends, Greg O, Rick W, Paul J, Elizabeth A.

**Civil War Days, the Pioneer Garden, Summer Raffle, Village Open Late,** and more are all on the horizon! Find out more inside.

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.

## SPRING EGG HUNT

On March 27 & March 28, over 800 guests joined us for Spring Egg Hunt! AND! We had over 75 volunteers donate their time to help create a wonderful event for our community! Volunteers helped prepare the craft ahead of time, donated treats & supplies, and showed up ready to go on the days of the event. We are so thankful for your efforts, and hope you also had a wonderful time creating spaces for families to enjoy our Village by making memories together!

1) Pete H. (left) welcomes guests into the General Store to pick out their prizes. 2) Raahi, Sahasara, and Ojal help guests with the craft activity. 3) Jeff collects eggs from guests before they head into the General Store. 4) Maureen smiles in between greeting guests inside the General Store. 5) Nancy smiles in between directing guests to the prize line. 6) Our amazing craft activity smiles while preparing supplies for guests to make their cup bunnies or cup chicks. 7) Maya & Gail pass out craft activity supplies. 8) Agata (striped jacket) collects eggs from guests after they finish the egg hunt activity. 9) John (left) and Laura (top center) pass out prizes to guests inside the General Store. 10) Cathy (left) and Ivana (right) smile in between greeting guests and orienting them to the program. 11) Craig (right) passes out treats to guests inside the General Store. 12) Amelia (egg hunting lane captain) instructs guests how to find their lane and search for eggs! 13) Carolynn smiles while checking in guests. 14) Kevin (left) and Michael (right) take a break to smile in between supervising the parking lot.

## MID-WINTER BREAK OPEN HOUSE

On February 16 & 17, our free Mid-Winter Break Open House welcomed 462 guests! It was a record breaking year. Thank you to Karen, Padma, Cindy, Denise, Ivana, Kevin E, Pete, JoAnn, Kevin L, and Susan L for volunteering your time to help create a wonderful experience for our guests!



## VOLUNTEER FAIR

On April 4, THV hosted our inaugural free Volunteer Fair wherein 23 local organizations set up tables to recruit volunteers! Over 150 people came to find ways to make a difference in their community here in Troy, and beyond. We received 6 volunteer applications and are looking forward to having them attend orientations and join the gang! We are so excited about this event, and can't wait to start planning the next one. Thank you to Sheryl S, Denise K, Ken H, & Jerome K for helping greet people and tell them about volunteering at Troy Historic Village!



1) Barbara (left) & Sheryl (right) wait eagerly to tell guests all about volunteering at the Village! 2) Jen poses in between recruiting volunteers for Troy Traffic Jam.

## IMPORTANT RECORDS UPDATE

We are currently in the process of renewing our operations agreement with the City of Troy, and part of the new agreement includes both staff and volunteer background checks to be completed each year. This means we need all of our volunteers who have not completed the Background Check Authorization form to do so no later than June 30, 2026. Starting July 1, 2026, you will no longer be allowed to volunteer at the Village.

The easiest way to complete this task is to fill out the volunteer application, which includes the background check authorization, on our website by [clicking here](#). You can also stop by the Village on Tuesdays from 11am - 12pm, or on Fridays 10am - 12pm, in April, May, and June to complete the paperwork on one of our office computers. No need to make a reservation, you can just stop by. You can pick up a paper copy to fill out by hand anytime- just make sure it is returned to Barbara by June 30! Barbara will also be contacting individuals for reminders.

If you are unsure if you need to complete the paperwork, you can do it again just in case, or ask Barbara and she will let you know if you need to. Thank you so much for your understanding!



## **JEN PETERS, AWARD WINNER**

Michigan Museum Association's Peninsulas Prize for Advocacy is selected to acknowledge outstanding efforts by an individual in championing the value and importance of Michigan museums over the course of their career or in a specific circumstance. This award celebrates an individual's impactful advocacy efforts that raised awareness, influenced policy, or fostered public and governmental support for Michigan museums.

Jen Peters, our Executive Director, is receiving this year's award to recognize her relentless commitment to ensuring the reinstatement of the LEO Grant funding (for the West End Expansion) which was awarded in 2025, eliminated, then reinstated thanks to her efforts. We are so proud of her!

## **SCARECROWS AND TROY TRAFFIC JAM**

Registration for both Scarecrow Row and Troy Traffic Jam opened on April 1!

2026 is Scarecrow Row's 13th year, and it remains our second biggest fundraiser. Each year, local individuals, businesses, and organizations sponsor scarecrows that are put on display surrounding the Village's perimeter for the entire month of October. Some sponsors pay a little extra to have their scarecrow go on a field trip to be displayed at Troy Family Daze! For the past few years, we have had to stop selling scarecrow sponsorships early because 90 scarecrows is in fact too many scarecrows! If you know of a local business or organization that would be interested in sponsoring a scarecrow, you can pick up a registration packet to deliver to them, or pass their contact info to Barbara! We close registration when we sell out, or in August.

2026 is Troy Traffic Jam's 18th year, and it is our biggest fundraiser each year! On the first Sunday in August, we host 300+ cars for a true automotive festival. Individuals can pay to register their car to showcase in the show, and businesses / organizations can sponsor a tent to be a vendor during the show. We will need lots of volunteer help on the day (more on that later), but for now, if you know anyone who would like to bring their vehicle to this car party, or who would like to be a sponsor of this event, you can direct them to [www.TroyTrafficJam.com](http://www.TroyTrafficJam.com).

## **WHY TROY ORAL HISTORIES**

In conjunction with America250, the Village is looking to record the stories of Troy's residents today. Share about why your family moved to Troy, your favorite memory of living in Troy, and more by giving an oral history. The Village is also looking to scan photos of homes, businesses, community events, and Troy families. Come share your own "Why Troy" with us! Find out more by visiting our website ([click here](#)), or stop by the Village.

## SUMMER OUTREACH

THV's Summer Kick-off is Tuesday June 2, 5pm - 8pm. We need volunteer help with directing parking, greeting guests, and selling raffle tickets. Come volunteer for a little while, then enjoy the program! Shifts are on Sign Up Calendar!

Troy Public Library's Summer Kick-off event is on June 5, 5pm - 8pm. Thousands of people come to this event, and we need help passing out flyers and sharing information about Village programs! Last year, Barbara got to hold a snake AND got to meet Ghostbusters. Shifts are on Sign Up Calendar.

## SUMMER RAFFLE

Our Summer Raffle fundraiser is back this year and will feature 10 baskets valued at \$300 each, minimum. We need volunteer help selling tickets! No experience is necessary, we will train you! Shifts are on the Sign Up Calendar.

Summer Kick-off: June 2, various times  
Garden Walk: July 8, various times

## TUESDAY CREW

The Tuesday Crew put up extra storage shelves in the Niles-Barnard basement, and are currently working on a custom built doll house for the Parsonage! They are looking towards summer and other upcoming projects.

## WEST END EXPANSION UPDATE

Last year, we were awarded a grant for funding to move the Log Cabin. Part of the funding included installing heated floors and other updates. We originally planned to move the Log Cabin this June, but due to a few different factors, we are postponing the move to early summer 2027. The delay will provide more time to finalize our plans, as well as more time to plan the party for the day of the move! Find out more about the West End Expansion by [clicking here](#).

## HISTORY TEA TOUR

On May 16 we are hosting our second History Tea Tour! We need volunteer help presenting and serving the teas during the stops. Anyone can sign up, and we will have a mini-training before the event (May 13, 4pm). Shifts on Sign Up Calendar!

## CIVIL WAR DAYS

Hard to believe it, but it's almost time for Civil War Days! Shifts are already on the Sign Up Calendar. Look for May 6, 7, 8, 11 - 15.

## PIONEER GARDEN

Since we are not moving the Log Cabin this summer, we will be planting and maintaining our Pioneer Garden! To prepare for the summer, we are removing 3 garden beds and would love your help on May 6, 2:30pm - 5pm to do so. Starting in June, join us on Fridays from 10am - 11am to help out in the garden! No experience necessary, a staff member will be there to guide the way.

# CURRENT VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

**monthly** **SCHOOL CRAFT PREP**  
**MAY 12, 10:30AM - 12PM**  
**JUNE 9, 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:  
April 27. May 1, 4, 21, 22, 26, 28.

**weekly** **VILLAGE OPEN LATE**  
**EVERY THURSDY IN JUNE, JULY, & AUGUST, 4PM - 7PM**

Come spend the evening at the Village! Greet guests inside buildings and share info about the spaces, or help with games on the green! Sign up for one day or for multiple! Shifts on Sign Up Calendar.

**event** **PIONEER GARDEN PREP**  
**MAY 6, 2:30PM - 5PM**

To prepare for the summer, we are removing 3 garden beds and would love your help. Shifts on Sign Up Calendar!

**event** **HISTORY TEA TOUR**  
**MAY 16, VARIOUS TIMES**

Guests can explore the Village while learning about the history of teas. We need volunteer help to present and pour the teas! We will have a training on May 13. We will also need help cleaning up after the event. Shifts on Sign Up Calendar!

**weekly** **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!

**weekly** **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 all the windows and glass on our property! No experience is needed, we'll train you! Shifts on Sign Up Calendar.

**monthly** **CHECK-IN HELPERS**

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 Talks (5/21, 6/25, 7/16, 8/20)
- Preservation Conversations (5/11)

**monthly** **MARKETING MATERIALS DISTRIBUTION, ONGOING**

Next sign up May 20, but you can come sooner! Just let Barbara know a day or two early.

**CIVIL WAR DAYS**  
**MAY 6, 7, 8, 11 - 15, VARIOUS TIMES**

Lead students from station to station during Civil War Days. Company Guides will do a brief orientation with their group, and make sure the group stays on schedule from station to station. Company Guides will not be presenting, just leading. This is an excellent way to experience our field trip programs! Shifts are on Sign Up Calendar.

# CURRENT VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES, CONT.

## **weekly** PIONEER GARDEN HELP **\*\*EVERY FRIDAY, 10AM - 11AM**

Starting in June, we need help weeding and maintaining our Pioneer Garden this summer! Drop in on Fridays, 10am - 11am. Once you feel comfortable being out there, we can add some other shifts based on your availability. No experience necessary, staff will be there to guide you. Shifts on Sign Up Calendar.

## **event** THV SUMMER KICK-OFF **JUNE 2, VARIOUS TIMES**

We're kicking off summer at the Village and will need help directing cars where to park, greeting and checking in guests, sharing info about upcoming programs, and selling raffle tickets! Shifts are on the Sign Up Calendar!

## **event** TPL SUMMER KICK-OFF **JUNE 5, VARIOUS TIMES**

Troy Public Library will be hosting their summer kick-off event and are expecting thousands of guests. We need lots of help passing out Village flyers and sharing info about upcoming programs. Shifts are on Sign Up Calendar!

## **OTHER SAVE THE DATES**

- Troy Garden Walk: July 8
- Troy Traffic Jam: August 2
- Old Time Radio Show: August 23
- Troy Family Daze: September 17 - 20

## **VILLAGE PRESENTER TRAINING TWO BATCHES, SEE BELOW**

We are looking to add to our exceptional ranks of volunteer presenters (formally tour guides) at the Village! This position requires 3 days of training spaced out over a few weeks. Once trained, Village Presenters are invited to provide special tours, present in buildings, and are given an opportunity to learn new things! This is a great way to brush up on presenting skills, or learn new ones! Sign up on Sign Up Calendar!

Below are the dates for our next two rounds of training.

Batch #1 (all dates below):

- Day 1: May 22, 11am - 2pm
- Day 2: June 4, 1pm - 2:30pm
- Day 3: June 12, 1pm - 3:30pm

Batch #2 (all dates below):

- May 28, 4pm - 7pm
- June 11, 4pm - 5:30pm
- June 19, 4pm - 5:30pm

