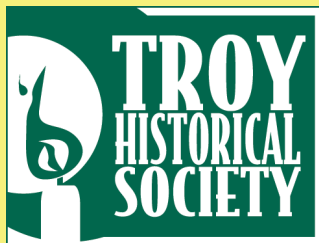




Troy Recreation in the 1980s.

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Publishing Schedule

Spring: March - May

Summer: June - August

Fall: September -
November

Winter: December -
February

**Enjoy your seasonal
Village Press!**

THIS News

Ice Cream Social and Annual Members' Meeting

All Troy Historical Society Members are invited to attend an Ice Cream Social at 6pm followed by the Annual Members' Meeting at 7pm on Tuesday September 22 at Troy Historic Village. The Ice Cream Social is a great way to enjoy the Village and get to know other members who love the same mission and programs that you enjoy! Join us at 7pm for the annual business meeting of the Troy Historical Society. As a member we hope you are actively engaged in what we do and this is your chance to review the previous year, look forward to next year, and vote on the Board of Trustees who oversee the work at the Village.



Spring Appeal

The Friends of the Forge and Village Donors came through with \$8,700 in gifts towards accessibility work in the Wagon Shop and continued programming support—thank you! This blasted past our initial goal of



\$7,000 and will enable us to put in a wooden floor for visitors, clear out the space behind the Wagon Shop to create more working space, and support the Village programs like Blacksmithing, Coppersmithing, Handcrafted: Traditional Trades

and Crafts Fair, Village Crafting Circle, and more! We look forward to sharing the updates with you later this year as we continue to improve how we use the Village through our Master Plan.

Homecoming Drive

Each fall we reach out to former Troy Historical Society Members to invite them "home" to the Village. While some simply missed sending in their membership renewal among all the busyness of life, we sometimes hear from others that they have moved out of town or that they are no longer able to attend as many of our programs. While membership does give you discounts for our programs and free General Admission, it is also a way for you to support the work of the Village and keep up with what is going on from across the state or country! If you know someone who has moved away from Troy, but still wants to stay connected, let them know that a Village Membership is the perfect way to do that!

Summer Raffle

Congratulations to our winners of this year's Troy Historical Society Summer Raffle! Generous local businesses donated over \$4,000 in prizes ensuring that all ticket sales went directly to support programs at the Village. Ten lucky winners walked away with cash, gift cards to local restaurants and programs, and more.



Executive Director...

Jen Peters

*Happy Birthday Troy
Historical Society!*

The Troy Historical Society turns 60 this August! Back in 1966, a group of concerned and passionate Troy Residents formed the Troy Historical Society to support the preservation of local history. Though focused on local history, creation of the Troy Historical Society was part of a much bigger movement across the country.

Post World War II, growth and prosperity across the United States launched a flurry of building infrastructure, the creation of the suburbs, and a car culture that changed American cities and landscapes. Buildings deemed “outdated” were slated for demolition and redevelopment as America valued “new” and “efficient” ones. In New York City, Penn Station was torn down between 1963 and 1966 to build Madison Square Garden, offices, and a hotel above a smaller and more efficient air-conditioned train station. This happened despite calls from architects and historians to save the massive Beaux Arts masterpiece. The loss of Penn Station is considered the catalyst for the 1966 Historic Preservation Act.

Troy, like the rest of the country, was growing fast and grappling with similar tension between looking forward and looking back. While some residents appreciated developments like paved roads, municipal water, affordable homes, and convenient shopping, others became concerned that they were losing the farming community and historic buildings they loved. In 1963, DiFabbio’s General Store at

the northeast corner of Livernois Road and Square Road was demolished. After more than a century of serving Troy Corners, the loss of the store was the end of an era.

Though not mentioned specifically in meeting minutes, the loss of buildings like DiFabbio’s was likely one reason

why concerned Troy Citizen’s came together to form the Troy Historical Society. While a Historic District Commission was formed in 1965 for city matters, the independent Troy Historical Society came together a year later. With their mission to preserve the artifacts and buildings that told Troy’s story, they quickly got to work raising funds to save the Caswell House.

The irony of this story is that we do not have a very good history of the Troy Historical Society itself. We have early meeting minutes, but those hardly capture

the depth of discussion that must have gone on. As we look at our 60th birthday and the nation’s 250th birthday, we are thinking more about how we can capture our more recent history. Our Oral History Project will continue to record personal accounts of Troy History. We also regularly accept photos and personal items that help us preserve and tell Troy’s Story. In all this work, we rely on you! These are your stories, these are your artifacts, and with your help they we be available 60 and hopefully even 250 years from now.



People protesting the destruction of Penn Station.



Penn Station being demolished.



Address:

60 W. Wattles Rd.
Troy, MI 48098

Phone:

248-524-3570

Website:

www.troyhistoricvillage.org

Facebook:

[/troyhistvillage](https://www.facebook.com/troyhistvillage)

Village Critter Corner:

(Private Group on Facebook)

[/groups/thvcrittercorner](https://www.facebook.com/groups/thvcrittercorner)

Instagram:

[@troyhistvillage](https://www.instagram.com/troyhistvillage)

Fall Hours:

Monday – Friday, 10am – 3pm

Select Saturdays & Sundays
for special events and rentals

**Closed: Sept 7, Oct 23,
Nov 26-27**

Admission:

Adults \$7, Seniors \$5,

Children 6-17 \$5

Children under 6 FREE

Troy Historical Society

Members FREE

The Troy Historical Society engages the community and enables life-long exploration of history by sharing and preserving our stories, artifacts, and buildings through creative, meaningful experiences.

The Village offers accessible parking spaces and building entry. Visit TroyHistoricVillage.org/About/Accessibility for details about accessibility at our site.

Schools in Troy: A Focus on Education from the Beginning

by Elizabeth Thornburg, Troy Historic Village Curator

Troy has always been a community interested in the education of its young people. Before the establishment of formal schools, children learned at home or in small groups, and later in designated one-room schoolhouses. Log cabins gave way to framed structures and brick schools and eventually the modern multi-room schools of today.

In 1827, an act for the establishment of Common Schools required all townships with 50 or more families or householders to have a school. Curriculum and duration of school year depended on how many householders were in a town. These schools served children of all ages. Troy at one time had nine whole school districts, each with a one-room school, as well as fractional districts which served multiple bordering communities.



Big Beaver One-room Schoolhouse



Leonard School at its original location in 1959.

The End of One-room Schools

Troy's schools grew as more families moved to Troy. One-room schools were replaced by four and eight-room buildings. The last one-room school to close was Leonard School, which was built in 1886 and closed in 1947. By this time, Poppleton School was flanked by a larger modern school of the same name, and Troy Union #1 and Stone School were converted into private residences. There was some debate about keeping the little Leonard School, perhaps repurposing it as a library or even moving it to the future site of the Troy Historic Village, but in 1959 there was little desire to save the little school, and it was razed shortly thereafter. Children from the Leonard district were bused to other schools.

Multiple-room brick schools replaced one-room schools in the early 20th Century. Schools such as Big Beaver, Poppleton, Niles, Troy Union, and Colerain were modernized in the 1920s, while other districts quietly closed or consolidated with nearby districts. As the population of Troy shifted, so too did the once rural schools that served the children of Troy. These school buildings were repurposed as newer modern schools were built. Colerain School served for a time as the city's community center until 1977 and was later leased to the Boys and Girls Club. Big Beaver School's multi-room incarnation became the site of Troy School's Media Offices and special education classrooms until it was demolished. The only surviving representative of this era in Troy's school-growth is one wing of Troy Union School on Square Lake Road that serves as a kindergarten wing of the modern school.



Troy's oldest one-room school still standing on its original site is Stone School at Adams Road and South Boulevard. It opened in around 1857 and closed in 1933. Then it served as a private residence before being donated to the City of Troy in 2008. Today, it is owned by the Bharatiya Temple and is not open to the public

Post-war Boom and Consolidation

Poppleton, Colerain, Big Beaver, Troy Union, Leonard, Niles, and Log Cabin were seven separate school districts that consolidated by public vote in 1949 into the current Troy School District. Families that once sent their children on foot to school could now drive them longer distances to new school buildings.

How children attended school changed over time, too. First, two high schools from the Log Cabin and Big Beaver districts, would merge into one single building at Troy High School in 1950. Though their proms were held separately, the first combined graduating class of Troy High School was in 1951. Later, Troy High School, Athens High School, and International Academy would emerge as great schools. Middle schools served children between the grades of 6 and 8. Baker Middle School would be the first in 1954, followed by Smith and Larson Middle Schools in 1967. The greatest building boom was in the 1970s, when Boulton, Baker, Wattles, Wass, Schroeder, Martell, Costello, Bemis, Barnard and Athens High were all built.



The current Troy High School completed construction and opened for students in 1992. Student government celebrated the closing with holiday cards wishing the old school farewell. Later, the old high school building would be extensively remodeled and become what today is the Troy Community Center.

Post Consolidation and Beyond

Racial diversity in Troy steadily increased through the 1980s. In 1983, when author Curtis Chin entered Troy High School as a freshman, approximately 6% of the 355 students in the freshmen class were people of color. It would be a decade until the student body established the first student organization to support students from minority backgrounds. The teacher-moderated Multi-cultural Committee strived to “eliminate stereotypes, racism, sexism and [replace] it with respect for individuals.” Established in 1993, this student group offended people. Exactly how people were offended, was not recorded for posterity. What was recorded were the faces and names of a more diverse graduating class consisting of about 18% students of color that year. This number continued to grow, as did Troy. Today, over 50% Troy School District’s student body are people of color.

Looking Forward

With the completion of the new Smith Intermediate School, others middle schools around Troy will temporarily relocate into the old Smith building until their new buildings are complete. In preparation for this move, Smith School Library Media Specialist Christina Chatel contacted Troy Historic Village with some exciting finds. Alongside scrapbooks and yearbooks was a green Rubbermaid tub. Inside, a fun collection of memorabilia from a group of seventh graders from 1998. We asked Warren, one of our high school volunteers, to write their impressions of the 18-year-old container.

Various objects from the 1990s truly opened a whole new perspective on how I look back at the 1990s. The only real experience I had was with old movies, but objects and magazines that lived through the times gave me a bit of insight. It was interesting how articles discussed what are considered classics today, such as Titanic and The Truman Show as new releases. As a current high school student, whose life has always been within the digital age with smart phones and social media, it was fascinating to see an era without them, an era that seemingly had more social connection and felt “physical.” To elaborate, everything inside the box was on paper, from paper newspapers that described big events, to catalogs from JC Penney and the now bankrupt Delias, setting trends before algorithms even existed. Even the technology, such as MTV CDs and a cable schedule were limited, unable to do more than the single purpose, widely contrasting with today’s entertainment, where the internet can bring forward almost everything with a single click. The included coupons, money, and shopping bags provided me with a glimpse of the whole ecosystem of that time.

Onward to Troy: I-75's Golden Corridor of the 1980s

by Michael Nowosatko, Troy Historical Society Board of Trustees

In the 1980s a large number of my firm's advertising clients moved from Detroit to the northern suburbs. My lifelong business partner and I researched business demographics and various possible suburban locations. The search led us to Troy. At this time Troy was recognized as one of Metro Detroit's premier "Edge Cities" becoming a booming corporate powerhouse and also known as I-75's "Golden Corridor."

We moved our offices to 2100 W. Big Beaver Road in the "The Atrium Building" with its various vegetation and trees growing in the center atrium of the two-story building. It was later demolished and the land is now home of the restaurant Eddie V's Prime Seafood since 2017. As business continued to grow, our next relocation was to the Lindsey Center. This building was constructed in 1987, was modern in design and is located on Crooks Road just south of Big Beaver Road. Originally, it served as the payroll and recruiting office for Kelly Services and eventually became underutilized office space. In 2025, the Lindsey Center was reopened as Lindsey Living Apartments.



S.S. Kresge Company headquarters with the iconic Corporate Head bronze sculpture in 1972 (image donated by Kmart Corporation).

Of course, the most well-known corporate headquarters in Troy was that of the S.S. Kresge Company (later Kmart). They moved their headquarters from Detroit to Troy in 1972 and put the city on the map before leaving Troy in 2006. Kelly Services also moved their world headquarters to Troy in 1978 and are still around. Arbor Drugs was one of the largest regional drug stores in the United States and held their corporate office on Big Beaver Road until 1998.

Flagstar Bank was a prominent banking institution founded in Troy in 1987 and though the institution has been acquired, the new company holds a regional office in Troy today. Standard Federal Bank relocated its headquarters to Troy in 1979. They operated their regional headquarters at the iconic 26-acre campus on Big Beaver Road before transitioning to LaSalle Bank and eventually Bank of America, which moved the offices to the Charlotte, North Carolina.

Frank's Nursery & Crafts, Inc., the arts and crafts chain, operated its headquarters and major hubs in the city during this decade on Long Lake Road and Kirts Boulevard. In the early 1980s, Entertainment Publications global headquarters operated in newly constructed offices in place of the outdoor theater. The publisher of the iconic Entertainment coupon book—which was founded in Detroit in 1962—closed its Troy headquarters in March 2013 after filing for bankruptcy. Saturn Corporation, founded in 1985 as a subsidiary of General Motors, operated its automotive business based out of Troy on Stephenson Highway before eventually moving its complex to Spring Hill, Tennessee, in 1990.

The 1980s were an extremely booming time in Troy and corporate travel followed the extensive office buildings. Did you know Troy contained two airports? The Big Beaver Airport opened in 1946 and operated on land of the John Main family farm at Big Beaver and John R. Roads. It continued through 1997 mainly serving crop dusting and flight training on a grass runway. The Oakland/Troy Airport opened in 2001 and is still operating today on Coolidge Highway serving small aircraft and corporate travel.

Another biproduct of locating to Troy was networking at restaurants. Capraro's was located at Maple and John R. Roads. All vibrant restaurants to enjoy with



Menu artwork from the Alibi of Troy before it was expanded.

or without the networking option. The Alibi of Troy on Rochester Road opened in 1927 and was used by the prohibition-era gangsters for its hidden cellar stills. In 1980, it was purchased and demolished by the Charles family who re-built and focused on its award -winning pizza. Troy was comprised of several casual or fast-food restaurants to dine from, like the A&W, famous for its signature draft root beer and classic root beer floats served in ice-cold frosty mugs. The A&W was located on Rochester Road, just north of Big Beaver, and is now City BBQ. The Wagon Wheel Saloon on Rochester and Big Beaver Road had a rich and varied history. A great hang out spot with a vast menu and music, unfortunately closed and eventually reopened the Gran Castor which went from a public restaurant to a private event space in 2026.

Kim's restaurant on Long Lake Road, known for serving Chinese-American classics like almond boneless chicken, Szechuan lo Mein, and sweet and sour pork as well as bubble tea. A popular spot for Christmas Eve dinner, Kim's opened in late 1974 and closed 2019, now the site is a Jax Kar Wash.

Entertainment also flourished. Charley's Crab at the Northfield Hilton, originally located on Crooks Road and I-75, was the major lodging hub for musical acts playing at the Pontiac Silverdome like Robert Plant of Led Zeppelin, Elvis Presley, and the Beach Boys who wrote some of their songs there while they stayed at the Northfield Hilton. The area is now a vacant cement field.



The Troy Drive-In was one of the largest in the country with 33 acres (1984) (image donated by James Bonkowski).

Do you remember any of these businesses? Maybe you worked there or enjoyed going to one them? Let us know through an oral history or let us scan your photos to capture those memories in our collection.



Bill's Drive-In served as the local A&W in Troy (c. 1950s) (image donated by James Bonkowski).

For an outdoor experience there was the Troy Drive-In, once located on Maple Road and Stephenson Highway. The Troy Drive-In opened in 1955 showing movies during the 1980s like "Caddy Shack" and "Weird Science." In addition, the theater showed action and horror films. At its peak, the 3,000-car capacity was famously once a co-holder of the Guinness World Record for the largest drive-in theater by car capacity. The Troy Drive-In closed on September 9, 1984.

In August 1968, Oakland Mall opened attached to the existing Hudson's. Oakland Mall even contained a Ticketmaster in the basement level in the 80s where we waited in long lines for paper tickets. This was the golden era for the mall's "Restaurant Row," neon-accented architecture, and classic stores like JCPenney and Sears. In addition, Somerset Mall, the most famous and premier luxury shopping destination in Michigan, opened "Somerset South" in 1969 and in 1992 "Somerset North." The mall continues with that notoriety from the 1980s into today with 180 stores like Saks Fifth Avenue, Gucci, Louis Vuitton, Niemen Marcus, Nordstrom, and more.

Asian Immigration and Troy

by Shelby Nelsen, Troy Historic Village Adult Programs Director

Troy in 1826 looked very different than Troy in 2026. From family farms and dirt roads to suburban neighborhoods and towering office buildings, the city has changed visually in form, but it has also changed in contents. Troy 200 years ago was inhabited by white European settlers, largely from the east coast, particularly New York. Today, of the approximately 89,000 people living in Troy, almost 40% identify themselves as non-white and about 31% of people are foreign-born (data according to the United States Census Bureau). But why did Troy's population shift in this way?

To understand how the City of Troy became as ethnically diverse as it is today including its particularly large Asian population, we have to look back at Asian immigration in the United States as a whole. Until the late 19th Century, states were able to pass and maintain their own immigration laws. In 1876, the Supreme Court of the United States put the regulation of immigration into the hands of the federal government and 20 years later, the federal government created the Bureau of Immigration. Until this time, immigration depended on the openness and needs of the states, so many immigrants from Asia entered the country as laborers.

State or Poss.	WHITE			BLACK			CHINESE			JAPANESE			FILIPINO			HINDU			KOREAN			OTHER		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female			
All States	108,761,492	54,380,746	54,380,746	12,888,492	6,444,246	6,444,246	1,088,492	544,246	544,246	1,088,492	544,246	544,246	1,088,492	544,246	544,246	1,088,492	544,246	544,246	1,088,492	544,246	544,246			
White	108,761,492	54,380,746	54,380,746																					
Black				12,888,492	6,444,246	6,444,246																		
Chinese							1,088,492	544,246	544,246															
Japanese										1,088,492	544,246	544,246												
Filipino													1,088,492	544,246	544,246									
Hindu																1,088,492	544,246	544,246						
Korean																			1,088,492	544,246	544,246			
Other																				1,088,492	544,246			

Snapshot from the "1920 Census: Volume 3. Population, Composition and Characteristics of the Population by States."

Census records do not give a clear idea of what countries Asian immigrants were moving from. In 1860, only California had the option of "Chinese" in addition to "Indian," "Black; Mulatto," and "White." Thirty years later, "Japanese" is added as an option in California. Another 30 years later, in 1920, "Chinese" and "Japanese" are options on the federal census alongside "Filipino," "Hindu," and "Korean." "Hindu" referred to all other South Asians. The lack of accurate recording options coupled with exclusion-styled immigration policy made it difficult for people to immigrate from Asia to the United States, let alone move to Troy.

From 1875 through 1965, a series of exclusionary policies and quota

restrictions prevented people from immigrating from Asian countries. The Page Act in 1875 was the first restrictive immigration law passed by the United States Congress and prevented male laborers from bringing their families to America. The Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882 is probably the most notorious for prohibiting nearly all immigration from China and preventing Chinese immigrants from obtaining citizenship. There were labor positions left vacant from the restrictions on China, and those jobs were filled by Japanese and South Asian laborers. Several acts in the mid-1900s repealed the exclusionary clauses of previous laws but still held strict quotas. It was not until 1952 that most Asian immigrants could become naturalized citizens.



Cartoon showing Uncle Sam kicking Chinese out of the United States published in 1886 (courtesy of the Library of Congress).

The Immigration and Nationality Act of 1965 truly transformed America's immigration policies and enabled people to immigrate from Asia to the United States. Also known as the Hart-Celler Act, this piece of legislation radically changed immigration policies from a quota system that used national origin, race, and ancestry as the basis for obtaining a visa to a system consisting of seven categories focused on re-uniting families, professionals, and other skilled workers. It also put an equal cap on immigration from all countries including, for the first time, the Western Hemisphere. Of course, there were negative effects from this policy, particularly for people in South American countries and Mexico, but for Asian countries, like India, the door to America became wide open. Today, about 28% of Troy's population identifies as Asian and about 12,500 Troy residents identify as Indian or Indian American. It is estimated the Troy has the largest Indian community in Michigan.

Like many places, as Troy's population grew and diversified, so did its offerings including restaurants, grocery stores, and places of worship. This is a common trend from communities with large immigrant population. Who would not want to have their favorites foods, products, and familiar social spaces available? For those that like cooking at home, stores like Grand Troy Indian Groceries, Spice Hub Indian Groceries, and Subzi Mandi Indian Groceries have served as places to get authentic ingredients for decades. But it does not stop there. Large chains like Kroger and Meijer sell products geared towards Troy's complex community. Nino Salvaggio's mission is to support diverse neighborhoods with the ingredients they need. Next time you are driving around, look out your window and see all the places to shop and eat.

One beloved restaurant is Neehee's currently located on Rochester Road in Troy. The local chain serves Indian street food and started out of a grocery store in Farmington in 2004. Five years later, they outgrew that location and expanded their menu. In 2016, an even larger location was opened in Troy. The restaurant is owned and operated by two brothers from Gujrat, India. The space in Troy can accommodate large groups of people to support the way food brings a community together. They also have an extensive menu that covers many dietary needs including vegan, gluten-free, orthodox, and even something for the kids. Neehee's is an excellent example, but not the only restaurant to share South Asian cuisine in the area.

America saw a large increase in Indian immigrants beginning in the 1980s, but Metro-Detroit had enough Indian residents in 1975 that they worked together to build a Hindu Temple. That year, a committee selected 18 acres in the northwest corner of Troy with funds raised in the spring. Construction of the Bharatiya Temple began in 1980, a formal inauguration took place in 1981, and deities were installed in 1983. In the last 30 years, the Temple has grown significantly in size. New buildings have been built on the grounds for classes as well as a larger Temple that accommodates about 600 people. The former Temple, which could hold around 350 to 400, now serves as an event hall. The Bharatiya Temple's location makes it easily accessible to the communities neighboring Troy, too.



Bharatiya Temple in Troy.

Do you have any personal connections to the places listed above? Is there another store, restaurant, or community space you are connected to? Let us know! We are always looking for photos and records of places in Troy and will happily scan them into our collection so that you can keep the original. You can also share your favorite stories about Troy by recording an oral history with us.

What I've Learned...

by Amelia Walker, Communications Intern & History Interpreter



During the school year I am a History Interpreter teaching field trips, but this summer I had the opportunity to work on the Why Troy Oral History project as a part of my internship as a student at Oakland University. Between other staff and myself, the Village has interviewed over 10 people so far. Some interviewees have lived in Troy for 60 years and others for five and others have worked in Troy. I have learned about so many different events that have happened internationally or locally that have affected people in Troy.

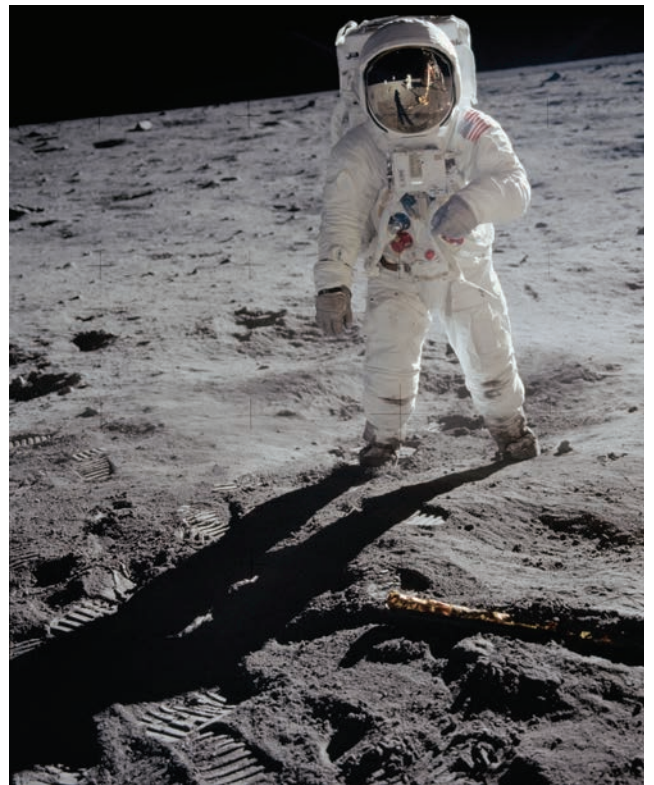
My favorite part of interviewing people is hearing about different events from history from someone who lived through it. One person, who has lived in Troy for their entire life, told me about their neighbor who owned horses. The interviewee and their siblings helped care for the horses, and in turn, got to ride the horses. Another person recalled how they were able to drive on I-75 before it opened in Troy in 1963. They were surprised at how big and wide the interstate was. Other interviewees have talked about the Vietnam War and the draft that took many of their classmates.

Every interview has been memorable, but my favorite question to ask is about the moon landing in 1969 as I was not even close to being alive yet. I have heard so many accounts of the event with most people saying it was amazing and awe-inspiring. Many recalled Neal Armstrong's speech as mesmerizing. Others have shared they felt like humans could do anything since we made it to the moon.

I have also enjoyed doing research about the influential people of Troy and life in Troy over the last 200 years as part of the Summer Exhibit: Telling Troy's Stories. As I create my presentations for the Open Late Why Troy Presentations (the last one is Thursday August 20 at 5:30pm), I continue to learn even more about the people that made Troy from Johnson Niles to Morris Wattles to those that live here today. I have learned about a lot of non-Troy things, too, and life before my time. One of my funniest memories while researching was looking through newspaper clippings and realizing just how large newspapers used to be!

What are the ways you can share your story with us? If you are an adult and have lived or worked in Troy for any amount of time we would love to talk to you! The Why Troy Oral History project is focusing on Troy past and present, think of it as collecting a time capsule or snapshot of Troy through the stories shared. If you have any school-aged kids in your life who live in Troy, or frequently visit, they can create a poster that will be part of our Summer Exhibit. Students are invited to tell us their favorite parts of Troy and create a picture.

You can find printable posters for kids of all ages and how to set up an oral history interview on our website! You can also pick up materials for all ages at your next visit to the Village. If you have questions or concerns, please reach out to info@thvmail.org or call 248-524-3570. We are happy to work with you, so you can comfortably and confidently share your story with us.



Astronaut Edwin Aldrin walks near the Lunar Module during Apollo 11 Mission (courtesy of the National Archives.)

SEPTEMBER 2026

Sept 1-Nov 30 **Why Troy Oral Histories (Every Tuesday)**
By Appointment

Sept 2 **Cheddar's Story Time** 10:30am

Sept 3 **Yoga & Wine Night** 6pm-8pm

Sept 7 **Village CLOSED**

Sept 12 **Partner Project: Ice Cream Spade** 10am-1:00pm

Sept 13 **Village Crafting Circle** 10am-2pm

Sept 13 **Constitution Café** 2pm

Sept 14 **Beginner's Embroidery Class** 5:30pm-7:30pm

Sept 17 **Thursday Talks** 2pm

Sept 17 **Blacksmithing Sampler** 6:30pm-8pm

Sept 19 **Free Fall Open House & Pet Adoption Day**
10am-3pm

Sept 21 **Preservation Conversations** 2pm

Sept 23 **Village Open Late** until 7pm

Sept 23 **Watercolor Class** 4:30pm-6:30pm

Sept 24 **Fire & Flannel** 4pm-6:30pm

Sept 24-Oct 29 **Basic Blacksmithing Level 1 (Thursdays)**
6:30pm-9pm

Sept 26 **Handcrafted: A Traditional Trades and Crafts**
10am-5pm

NOVEMBER 2026

Nov 3 **Watercolor Class** 5:30-7:30pm

Nov 4 **Cheddar's Story Time** 10:30am

Nov 8 **Village Crafting Circle** 10am-2pm

Nov 8 **Constitution Café** 2pm

Nov 10 **Live the Story** 4:30pm-6pm

Nov 11 **Members-Only Meetup** 5pm-6:30pm

Nov 12 **Thursday Talks** 2pm

Nov 16 **Beginner's Macrame Class** 5:30-7:30pm

Nov 17 **Watercolor Class** 5:30-7:30pm

Nov 19 **Classics Book Club** 5:30-7pm

Nov 23 **Preservation Conversations** 2pm

Nov 25 **Village Open Late** until 7pm

Nov 26 **Village CLOSED**

Nov 27 **Village CLOSED**

■ Kids & Families

■ Adults & Seniors

■ Community Events

■ Artisan-led Class

■ Health & Wellness

OCTOBER 2026

Oct 1-Oct 31 **Scarecrow Row** Dawn to Dusk

Oct 2 **Cheddar's Story Time** 10:30am

Oct 3 **Partner Project: Ice Cream Spade** 10am-1pm

Oct 6 **Watercolor Class** 5:30pm-7:30pm

Oct 10 **Odd Deaths & Unique Markers Cemetery Tour**
10am-11:30am or 1pm-2:30pm

Oct 11 **Village Crafting Circle** 10am-2pm

Oct 11 **Constitution Café** 2pm

Oct 13 **Beginner's Crochet Class** 5:30pm-7:30pm

Oct 14 **Village Open Late** until 7pm

Oct 14 **Watercolor Art Journaling, Part 2**
5:30pm-7:30pm

Oct 15 **Thursday Talks** 2pm

Oct 17 **Historic Bread Making Class: Pretzels**
10am-12:30pm

Oct 17-Nov 21 **Basic Blacksmithing Level 1 (Saturdays)**
10am-12:30pm

Oct 19 **Preservation Conversations** 2pm

Oct 23 **Village CLOSED**

Oct 23 **Trick-or-Treat: Under the Sea!** 5pm-8pm

Oct 24 **Trick-or-Treat: Under the Sea!** 11am-1pm

Oct 28 **Blacksmithing Sampler** 6:30pm-8pm

FIRE & FLANNEL

Join the Troy Chamber & Troy
Historic Village for an evening of
live music entertainment, whiskey
tastings, networking, s'mores,
yard games, a blacksmith station,
& more!



troy
Chamber of Commerce

Sept. 24th | 4-6:30 PM

TROY HISTORIC VILLAGE
where history lives





TROY HISTORIC VILLAGE

where history lives

FALL KIDS & FAMILY PROGRAMS AT THE VILLAGE

Trick-or-Treat: Under the Sea

Friday October 23,
5pm – 8pm

(Early Access at 4pm with
Advance Registration)

Saturday October 24,
11am – 1pm

(Early Access at 10am with
Advance Registration)

Advance Registration:

THS Members: \$5

Non-members: \$9

(Advance Registration closes
on Thursday

October 22 at 12pm)

At the door: THS Members: \$7

Non-members \$10

All Children Under 2 Years Old: FREE

Trick-or-Treating at Troy Historic Village is a swimmingly good time! Enjoy ocean-themed games and activities as your family explores the Village. Fill your bag with candy and trinkets including teal pumpkin options at each stop. As always, trick-or-treating at the Village is friendly, not scary. Register in advance at www.TroyHistoricVillage.org for reduced admission and early access to the Village! Families can expect to spend 1-2 hours at Troy Historic Village playing games, doing activities, making a craft, collecting candy and trinkets, and making memories. Sponsored by Genisys Credit Union.



Free Fall Open House & Pet Adoption Day

Saturday September 19 | 10am-3pm

All Ages | FREE

Enjoy the Village free of charge! Tour historic buildings, try out our smartphone app, look for Cheddar the Village Mouse, or try a Village scavenger hunt. Learn about our fun family programs coming up this Fall. A local animal rescue will be outside the Main Building with animals available for adoption! Find yourself a new furry friend or bring a donation for the rescues! Sponsored by Oakland Hills Veterinary Hospital.



Live the Story

Tuesday November 10 | 4:30-6pm

THS Member: \$8/person

Non-member: \$10/person

Bring your reading to life by putting yourself in the shoes of

some of your favorite characters from historical books! This program will focus on the American Girl Samantha who grew up in an upper-class New York in 1904 and her friendship with a servant girl opened her eyes to the way other people live. Participants will learn about the social conditions of the era and make a craft to take home. Appropriate for ages 7 to 12. Troy Historic Village is in no way affiliated with American Girl Doll or Mattel.



During October, come stroll along Wattles and Livernois as you visit this year's crop of 'crows. Scarecrow Row is located outside the Village fence, so you can visit them for free anytime - even if the Village is closed! Don't forget to come vote for your favorite!

Troy Education Association and Signs & More tied for 1st place in our 2025 Scarecrow Row Fan Favorite Contest!



Village Open Late

September 23, October 14, & November 25 | 4pm-7pm

Included with General Admission

The Village will be Open Late, and the Villagers will be at work! History Interpreters will tend to chores around the Log Cabin and work on seasonal activities. Come explore the Village and see what our pioneers are up to! Scavenger hunts will be available for people of all ages. Visitors are welcome to bring a picnic dinner to eat on the Village green or at one of our picnic tables. The Village will be open from 10am-7pm, and History Interpreters will be working around the Log Cabin from 4pm-7pm. Rent an immersive game for your family or group of friends including Village Clue or The Michigan Trail (price per game is in addition to General Admission).



Cheddar's Preschool Story Time

Select Days | 10:30-11:30am

Ages 2-5 accompanied by an adult

THS Members: \$5/child, \$3/adult

Non-members: \$7/child, \$5/adult

Join Cheddar the Village Mouse and Mrs. Laura for story time!

This monthly program for preschool-aged kids features stories, games, activities, songs, crafts, and snacks that connect with each month's theme.

Themes, stories, and activities are carefully chosen to be age-appropriate and help kids have fun while they develop skills and learn about the world around them. Sponsored by Troy Women's Association.



- **Wednesday September 2: Apples**

This month's book: *Apple Picking Day!*

By Candice Ransom

Wear your red clothes! We will paint with apples, make apple crafts, sort apple shapes and do other fun fruit activities. Snack is apple slices and dip.

- **Friday October 2: Festive Fragrances**

This month's book: *The Gingerbread Man* by Carol Jones

We will be exploring our sense of smell with scented playdough, pomanders, and other sensory activities. Snack is ginger snaps and apple cider.

- **Wednesday November 4: Hey, Gobble Gobble**

This month's book: *The Very Stuffed Turkey* by Katherine Kenah

We will make a paper plate craft, sing a song about colors and a turkey, use fall sewing cards, play with farm animals, and free play with playdough.

Partner Project: Ice Cream Spade

Choose Between:

- Saturday September 12, 10am-1pm
- Saturday October 3, 10am-1pm

THS Member: \$175/pair | Non-member: \$210/pair

Come forge an "ice cream spade" as you discover the world of traditional blacksmithing! The two of you will learn 5 hand forging techniques while making this fun serving utensil together. There will be a 30 minute break in this 3 hour class. One partner must be age 18 years or older. Child partners must be age 10 years or older. No prerequisite.

SCOUTS AND HOMESCHOOLS

The Village offers great programs for Scouts, Homeschools, and other small groups. Book a program to work on badges, get some hands-on help with curriculum, or just have a fun outing together. Check our website to see the current offerings and to book a program. Programs can be scheduled outside of our typical open hours, including weekends and evenings. Email YPD@THVmail.org for more information.



FALL ADULT & SENIOR PROGRAMS AT THE VILLAGE

Handcrafted: A Traditional Trades & Crafts Fair

Saturday September 26, 10am-5pm

Included with General Admission

Come see the people keeping alive traditional trades like blacksmithing, leatherworking, fiber arts, and woodworking, as well as crafts with a more modern twist. Craftspeople may have items to sell, but the emphasis for Handcrafted is on display, demonstration, and interaction.



Yoga & Wine Night

Thursday September 3, 6-8pm

THS Member: \$18 | Non-member: \$20

Join us for an outdoor yoga class led by Explore Yoga, followed by a glass of wine or sparkling cider, light appetizers, and a chance to mingle while touring the Village. Bring your mat and register in advance as space is limited. Ages 21 & older.

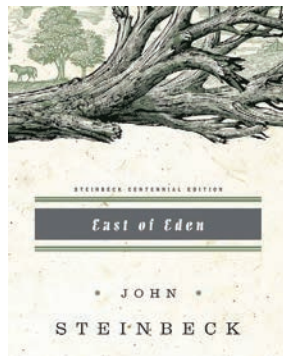


Classics Book Club

Thursday November 19, 5:30-7pm

FREE | Registration Required with Troy Public Library

Join us for a vibrant, immersive discussion of *East of Eden* by John Steinbeck! This 1952 novel follows the intertwined lives of two families, the Trasks and the Hamiltons. Set in California's Salinas Valley, the book explores biblical themes of good vs. evil, as well as the power of choice.



Members-Only Meetup: Nooks & Crannies of the Archives

Wednesday November 11, 5-6:30pm

FREE for THS Members

Go behind the scenes to see how staff store artifacts and archive to preserve them for future generations. You'll see some of our storage spaces and we'll pull out some special items to discuss. Not a member? Join today! Visit www.TroyHistoricVillage.org for details.

Odd Deaths & Unique Markers Cemetery Tour

Saturday October 10 | 10-11:30am OR 1-2:30pm

THS Member: \$7 | Non-member: \$10

Learn some fascinating underground histories at Crooks Road Cemetery. Come explore a few odd demises and visit some of Troy's unique grave markers. This rain or shine tour requires some standing and walking over uneven ground.

Thursday Talks

Select Thursdays, 2pm

THS Member: \$10 | Non-member: \$15

Join us each month for history talks led by guest presenters or Village staff on various topics.



- **Sept. 17: Detroit Red Wings: A Century of Hockeytown** Cory Nummer, Ilitch Companies/Detroit Red Wings
- **Oct. 15: Heaven on Earth: Utopian Societies of the 19th Century** Alex Konieczny, THV Youth Programs Director
- **Nov. 12: The Lost Stories of The Holidays** Laurie Chandler, Author

Constitution Cafés

Select Sundays, 2pm | FREE

Utilizing the Socratic Method of inquiry, engage in civil discourse to explore different aspects of the Constitution each month. Sponsored by the Oakland County Bar Foundation.



- **Sept. 13: The Declaration of Independence** When does government stop working and it becomes necessary to dissolve the political bands that hold us together?
- **Oct. 11: The Declaration of Independence** In the words of Jefferson, we have "certain inalienable rights," and governments exist to secure those rights. Does it matter the form of government if those rights are secured?
- **Nov. 8: The Declaration of Independence** Grievances and abuses required the Colonists to revolt. Are there 21st century grievances that require a new Declaration of the purposes of government.



Beginner Classes with Wild Daisy Creative!

No experience is necessary; all supplies will be provided. Ages 16 & older.



Embroidery Class

Monday September 14, 5:30-7:30pm

THS Member: \$40/class | Non-member: \$48/class

Learn about the tools needed for embroidery and four basic stitches. You'll take home an embroidery hoop, needle, threader, colorful threads, and patterns to use at home on a cute canvas pouch bag.

Crochet Class

Tuesday October 13, 5:30-7:30pm

THS Member: \$40/class | Non-member: \$48/class

You'll begin working on a cozy mug coozie while building confidence with your new skills. If you don't finish in class, you'll have everything you need to complete your project on your own.

Macrame Class

Monday November 16, 5:30-7:30pm

THS Member: \$40/class | Non-member: \$48/class

You will learn four knot styles as you make a cute macrame plant hanger for your new 3-inch pot with a starter plant and the hanger can be adjusted for up to a 6-inch pot.

Preservation Conversations

Select Mondays, 2pm | THS Member: FREE | Non-member: \$7
Come join the conversation as we learn more about preserving and utilizing our historic assets! Presented by the Phillip & Elizabeth Filmer Memorial Charitable Trust.

- **Sept. 21: The Weston Hall Project**
Ed Fowler, Detroit Landmark Development
- **Oct. 19: The Davenport-Curtiss House**
Amber Lubbers, EMU Preservation Studies Graduate Student
- **Nov. 23: Livonia's Historic Resources**
Emily Tchorz-Fielder, Livonia Program Supervisor

Village Crafting Circle

Sundays: Sept. 13, Oct. 11, & Nov. 8 | 10am-2pm

FREE | Registration Requested

Do you have a craft you enjoy? The Village will open to crafters to bring in their own supplies and socialize with other crafters. Types of crafts include but are not limited to drawing, painting, all forms of needle work like crochet and knitting, whittling, and other hands-on crafts. Stay for the entire time or come for an hour!

Historic Bread Making Class: Pretzels

Saturday October 17, 10am-12:30pm

THS Member \$40 | Non-member: \$48

You'll learn the basics of using a clay oven and explore early American bread-making techniques. The workshop will be led by professional baker and historian Jeff Pavlik. No experience is necessary; all supplies will be provided. Ages 14 & older.

Watercolor Classes

Select Days, Times Vary

THS Member: \$40/class

Non-member: \$48/class

Watercolor teacher and artist Megan Swoyer guides students

in using watercolor techniques to create colorful scenes. No experience is necessary; all supplies will be provided. Ages 16 & older.

- **Wed. Sept. 23, 4:30-6:30pm** Watercolor Basics for Beginners
- **Tues. Oct. 6, 5:30-7:30pm** Pumpkin Vignette
- **Tues. Nov. 3, 5:30-7:30pm** Happy Hummingbird
- **Tues. Nov. 17, 5:30-7:30pm** Zesty Zinnias



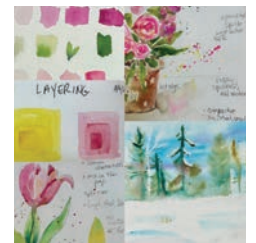
Watercolor Art Journaling, Part 2

Wednesday October 14, 5:30-8:30pm

THS Member: \$40 | Non-member: \$48

Add-on a journal and pen for \$20

This mindful class is sure to relax you and put you in the moment as you observe your relationship with life through pen and paint. Watercolor teacher and artist Megan Swoyer will demonstrate journaling techniques. No experience is necessary; all supplies will be provided. Ages 16 & older.



Blacksmithing Classes

Visit www.TroyHistoricVillage.org to add your name to the scheduling list for Basic Blacksmithing Levels 2-4.

Blacksmithing Sampler

Choose Between:

- Thurs. Sept. 17, 6:30-8pm
- Wed. Oct. 28, 6:30-8pm

THS Member: \$48 | Non-member: \$58

Learn 4 basic hand forging techniques while making your own square tapered nail as it was done centuries ago. No prerequisite. Ages 12 & older.



Basic Blacksmithing Level 1

Choose Between:

- Thursdays, Sept. 24 - Oct. 29, 6:30-9pm
- Saturdays, Oct. 17 - Nov. 21, 10am-12:30pm

THS Member: \$310 | Non-member: \$360

During this six-week introductory course focusing on the fundamental processes of traditional blacksmithing, you will learn 12 basic hand-forging techniques as you make your own trowel. No prerequisite. Ages 12 & older.

Become a Villager Today!

Support quality, engaging education for all ages and enjoy:

- FREE Admission to the Village
- Discounts on Village programs
- 10% discount on your Village Gift Shop purchases
- "Members Only" Tours for new and existing members
- The option to purchase a discounted two-year membership
- Quarterly Village Press and regular news updates
- An invitation to the Annual Members Meeting and Ice Cream Social

YES! I want to be a Villager. Please process my Troy Historical Society membership at the following level:

- ☐ **\$35/one year \$60/two years Individual Membership**
One adult 18 or older
- ☐ **\$55/one year \$90/two years Household Membership**
Up to 6 adults and/or children
- ☐ **\$150/one year \$250/two years Patron Membership**
Up to 6 adults and/or children
Additional benefits include:
 - 4 tickets to the Annual Barnard Bash Donor Event
 - North American Reciprocal Museum (NARM) Membership
- ☐ **\$350/one year \$600/two years Barnard Benefactor**
Up to 10 adults and/or children
Additional benefits include Patron-level plus:
 - 20% discount on the base rate of any Village Rental
- ☐ **\$1000 one year Business Membership**
Call us today for more information!

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

The quarterly Village Press Newsletter will be emailed to you unless you check this box ☐

Already a Villager?

I would like to make an additional donation to the Troy Historic Village. Please put \$ _____ towards the general fund to support preservation and programs at the Village.

Payment Options:

- ☐ Enclosed Check / Check # _____
- ☐ Call the Village at 248-524-3570 or visit www.troyhistoricvillage.org/membership to pay by credit card

Return completed form & payment to:
60 W. Wattles Road, Troy, MI 48098
Make checks payable to: Troy Historical Society

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