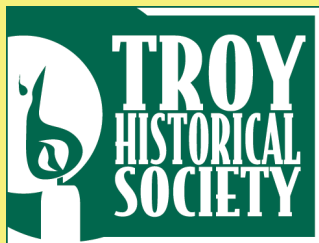


This 1908 Troy Twp. map shows the Detroit United Railway route along Livernois Road, through Troy Corners. The D.U.R. connected rural Troy to larger cities like Pontiac and Detroit.

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Publishing Schedule

Spring: March - May

Summer: June - August

Fall: September -
November

Winter: December -
February

*Enjoy your seasonal
Village Press!*

THS News

Board of Trustees Updates

During the September Annual Member's Meeting, Howard Adams, Kevin Enright, Beena Nagappala, JoAnn Preston, and Kris Rose were reelected to another 3-term to the Board of Trustees. We look forward to their continued work on the Board! Aditya Ezhuthachan chose not to run for another term. Serving on the board since 2018, we are thankful for Aditya's service to the Village and in particular his legal advice over the years!

Immediately following the Member's Meeting, the Board met to elect officers for the 2024-2025 year. After 6 years as Board President, Padma Kuppa has stepped down to provide support in the transition during her final year on the Board. The Board elected Ken Heck as the new President. We want to thank Padma for her leadership over the last 6 years!



THANK YOU, Scarecrow Row Sponsors!

You can see the full list in our attached Scarecrow Row Thank You Flyer (and your favorite little can color in their own fall scarecrow). Please consider supporting those amazing businesses across the Troy area that support the Village through this FUNdraiser!

Thank You Stephanie!

After 13 years with the Troy Historic Village, Stephanie Arady has taken a position with the Michigan History Center. Stephanie began as a volunteer then a history interpreter and volunteer coordinator before taking on the "new" Adult Program Director position. Stephanie has been a beloved facilitator and presenter for Thursday Teas, fearless in creating and providing cemetery tours, and a leader in healthy initiatives like the weekly walking group and summer yoga. We'll miss her creativity combined with research that produced fantastic programs over the years!



Focus on Fund Development

Today and Tomorrow

As we close 2024 and plan for 2025, it is a time to reflect on the year and extend our heartfelt thanks to you, our donors and friends of the Village. Because of your generous support, **we provided field trips for 11,723 students, teachers, and**

chaperones. Children explored the Village and enjoyed hands-on programs that connected them to history and made lasting memories. **You also supported programs, classes, and community events for an additional 13,213 visitors.** We believe learning happens at every age and that the Village is part of creating a strong and vibrant community. Every dollar you gave impacted the community through these programs!

We want to especially thank you for:

- Your support through attendance; your dedication to learning more about history and taking part in your community brings the Village to life!
- Your support through membership; as the first step in giving, it's a financial signal that you support our mission and vision to connect our stories to the past and to each other.
- Your support through giving; not only do your dollars support the programs at the Village, but they also support our projects that improve access to those programs. **Be sure to check out page 10 to see the many projects we've completed this year with your help!**

Looking forward, we will be sending out the year-end appeal shortly. We hope that as you reflect on the last year, you'll consider a year-end donation to support the Village! You are a vital part of our financial support to keep programs affordable, accessible, and impactful!

For more information, contact Sharon Snyder ssnyder@thvmail.org or 248-524-3571



Executive Director...

Jen Peters

Why Not Troy?

People living in southeast Michigan often wonder where Troy's "downtown" is located. Cities and towns across Michigan have that familiar block of brick buildings in their historic downtown. Some have been revitalized with hip restaurants, boutiques, and loft-style apartments and others remain empty, a sign of former glory days. Either way, those brick commercial blocks mark the center of their community and anchor its history and its story. Today Troy has the bustling Big Beaver corridor, but peel back those businesses and restaurants and there is no historic block of brick buildings.

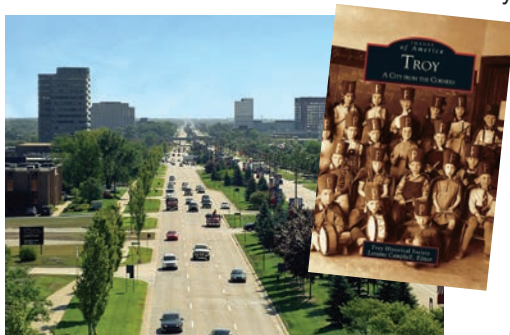
Troy is what we call "the city from the corners." It didn't grow from a central downtown, but instead from several small crossroad communities including Troy Corners and Big Beaver Corners. With our grid of mile roads, these were the intersections that had a general store, blacksmith shop, often a church, and a cluster of homes. Just enough for a local community to develop, but not enough for locals to build anything more than wood framed structures. But why? It wasn't for lack of trying!

As we planned this issue of the Village Press, the conversation of Troy not having a downtown came up when a red safe in the General Store caught the eye of our talented volunteer wordsmith (read on for that article!). The only thing we really knew about it came from the painted label "Michigan Safe Company, Pontiac, Michigan." It's not

surprising that the safe came from Pontiac. Until the modern Big Beaver corridor, someone living in Troy would have traveled to the nearby cities of Pontiac, Royal Oak, Birmingham, or Rochester to purchase much more than basic staples—all cities that still retain a historic downtown with those charming brick buildings.



1911 postcard of downtown Pontiac.



Troy's bustling Big Beaver commercial corridor.

People like me find history interesting no matter what the topic. Hand me an old object or open the door to an old building and I'm occupied for hours exploring it! I love history for history's sake, but I love history even more when I can apply it to the world today. Understanding what happened in the past can help us understand the world around us. Sometimes it's a simple question like why Troy doesn't have a downtown and sometimes the questions are more complex. Thank you for supporting us in research like this! Thank you for giving us the opportunity to enrich our lives as we connect our experiences to the past and to each other!

But why was it that these nearby communities grew in the 1800s when Troy Corners and Big Beaver Corners did not? We found ourselves asking an odd question: why NOT Troy? Hindered initially by a semi-swampy landscape, the real factors that held Troy back in the 1800s were economics and technology. You can read on to find out more about these factors in the early history of Troy in our two other Village Press articles!

I love that we can explore Troy's history in this way!



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:

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

Instagram:

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

TikTok:

[@TroyHistoricVillage](https://www.tiktok.com/@TroyHistoricVillage)

Winter Hours:

Monday – Friday, 10am – 3pm

Select Saturdays & Sundays
for special events and rentals

Closed: Dec 24 - Jan 1

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.

Splendid Red Strongbox With A Mystery Pedigree

by Mike Imirie, Wordsmith LLC

In the General Store at Troy Historic Village, you might expect to find Clabber Girl baking powder. Or Monogram brand coffee. Or even Kirby Packing Company pure lard! But I stumbled across something I didn't expect—and even viewed as perhaps a local historic treasure—when I spied a small, painted red floor safe, adjacent to our General Store's back display case. The door of that safe, you see, was proudly inscribed with the hand-painted words “Michigan Safe Company, Pontiac, Michigan.”

“Hmmm”, I thought. “Who knew there was once a safe company just 10 miles away in Pontiac? Surely, this is worth looking into.” And look into it, I did.

Online research at home followed. It netted nothing. A visit to the Oakland History Center in Pontiac was suggested. I made the trip to the former mansion of Michigan Governor Moses Wisner (1815-1863) one sunny September morning and spoke with staffer/magazine editor Barbara Frye. Barbara was eager to help. She quickly identified the painted image on the front of the safe as Pontiac's Steven Mack Dam, dating back to about 1816. (That dam once straddled the Clinton River, which flowed above ground through present-day Pontiac. It provided waterpower to Pontiac Knitting Works [1846-1919], reportedly Pontiac's leading 19th century employer.) I was excited that Ms. Frye could confirm the image as authentically Pontiac! This was a promising omen. Surely, we would be able to find supporting information about the Michigan Safe Company in old Pontiac.

Hours later, Barbara and I had struck out. Our combined and enthusiastic research through city directories, phone books, county archive inventories, and other baseline materials from back in the day netted no hard information about such an enterprise. *“Don't fret,”* Barbara encouraged as we parted. *“Consult Facebook, where you'll be surprised at the niche enthusiast groups represented there.”*

When I returned home, I did as Barbara had instructed. I searched Facebook using the criteria “Antique Safes and Locks.” *Eureka!* After locating such a group, I quickly posted a query and some supporting photos online. A number of the members of that Facebook group saw the photos and offered comments.

While no one knew specifically of Michigan Safe Company, one comment suggested that I contact a Kalamazoo expert in safe restoration. I spoke with Skip Bladen, locksmith since 1983 and owner of Presidential Safe & Security, and shared my photos of THV's strongbox with him. Skip asked about the information on the inside of the safe door, and I had to explain that - because the safe had been stubbornly locked ever since it was donated in 1976 - I couldn't look inside. He had never heard of Michigan Safe Company but recognized the look of the safe as being similar to units made by the Herring Hall Marvin or Alpine safe companies in Cincinnati back in the late 1800s. Skip explained that there weren't many



American safe manufacturers in those days and that it wasn't uncommon for local merchants to buy units from established makers and brand them as their own for resale. He conjectured that the Michigan Safe Company was probably that kind of reseller.



Conversations with archivists at the Burton Historical Collection of the Detroit Public Library advanced this theory. An excavated *Detroit News* clipping from July of 1903 advertised that Michigan Safe Company at 24 Lafayette Avenue was incorporated that year with a capitalization of \$10,000. A follow-on advertisement later that month announced that “Michigan Safe Company takes over the business of the Detroit Office of the Barnes Safe & Lock Company...and will carry in stock...a large line of Barnes...safes.” So...Michigan Safe was likely a local reseller of Barnes Safe & Lock products, as opposed to a unique manufacturer.

But what about the Pontiac connection advertised so brightly in gold oil paint on THV's safe? And what of the Blount Brothers, whose spelling skills invite such question?

The meaning of the painted “Blount Brothers” banner at the top of the safe is easy to explain. When businesses ordered safes in the 18th and 19th centuries, they often (and proudly!) stipulated that their names be placed on the outside of their new strongboxes. I suspect that's exactly what the Blount Brothers did when they ordered their new unit. While the 1907 City of Pontiac directory does list a few Blounts (*Blount, Frank A...machinist; Blount, George W...retired; & Blount, Miss Annie A, unclassified*), no mention of a Blount Brothers enterprise appears.

As to the maker of the safe itself, I found no further substantiating information. Not online. Not at Pontiac's Oakland History Center. And not even under the auspices of Detroit's Burton Historical Collection, Central Michigan's Clarke Historical Library, nor the archive at Michigan State University. While safe experts tell me that the number on the outside of the handle—147—indicates the specific model of a certain safe from a specific manufacturer's inventory, identifying that manufacturer without being able to open the door and look inside for maker's marks or patent information has proven impossible.



Taken together, what do all these vague and unrelated findings mean? However inconclusively, they remind us that THV continues to display a splendid strongbox representing both a security practice and a manufacturing type of the 19th century... with a pedigree that remains a mystery well into the 21st!

Routes to Growth

by Elizabeth Thornburg, Troy Historic Village Curator

In the first decades of the 1800s, many early Oakland County settler families came to Michigan over the Great Lakes from New York. At first, those journeys were made over water by schooner and then on foot into the interior of the Michigan Territory. Walking several hundred miles on foot or worse, being pulled on a wagon through muddy, uneven dirt roads was not easy or convenient, so growth in population was slow.



This 1825 painting of the Erie Canal by Carl Rakeman shows the Seneca Chief making its first trip along the 363-mile-long waterway.

In 1825, the opening of the Erie Canal from the east coast of New York to the Great Lakes offered a quicker, cheaper, and relatively more comfortable way to move into Michigan. This new route encouraged relocation, tourism, and business development like logging and mining. These in turn spurred the expansion of the railroad, which was relatively new at this time. Together, these two innovations brought a boom of expansion to Michigan, Oakland County, and the downtowns and main streets where railroad tracks carried goods and people.

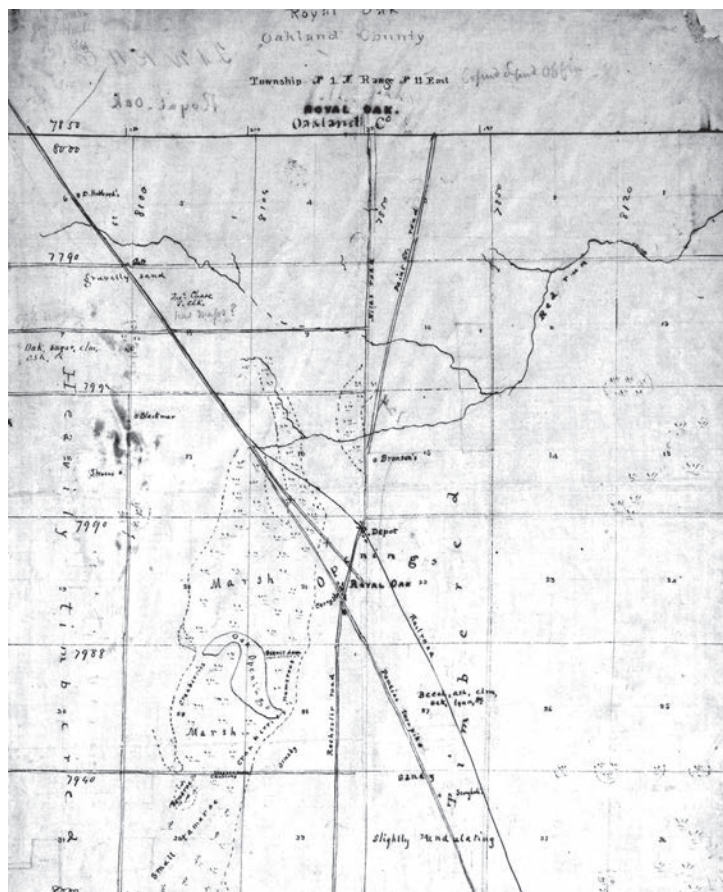
Our neighbors in Royal Oak and Birmingham were better positioned geographically along what would become Woodward Avenue, which stretched from downtown Detroit north to Pontiac, and a railway line was quickly chartered. The railway known as Pontiac & Detroit Railroad, was the sixth railroad to be chartered in Michigan. Most of the land that became downtown Royal Oak and the rail right of way was owned by Sherman Stevens, and the only locomotive to run this length of track was named for him. The earliest known survey maps of Royal Oak in the 1830s-1840s indicate where that railroad would be, even if it took several more years to complete. The tracks were not of the highest quality and the single railroad car (named for the founder of the railroad, Sherman Stevens) was hardly speedy or efficient, but a railroad was a railroad, and it was deemed better than walking—if only just.

Troy remained largely agricultural. For the most part, people stayed local, businesses stayed small, and industries that thrived near railways and waterways did not develop. People did continue to relocate to Troy, but at a slower pace than Royal Oak or Birmingham after an early initial boom.

Troy's focus remained on livestock and grain crops throughout the mid-19th century, and farmers struggled to get goods to market given the area's seasonally poor roads.

When the Detroit United Railway, an electric rail system, expanded into Troy around 1899, it featured several stops along Livernois that helped dairy farmers to get their products to market in Detroit. This new system however was not designed to carry heavy loads like the railroad was. The D.U.R. also enabled Troy residents to work in other places, but again did not promote the development of heavy industry. The D.U.R.'s successful run through Troy lasted until the early decades of the 20th century. It was ultimately outcompeted in terms of speed and commercial success by the automobile.

The new wheeled machine made more accessible by Henry Ford gave people a means to travel further overland than the railroad or any transportation technology before it. It also gave Troy, a sleepy little farming town a hearty boost in the post-World War II years. Now people could travel and carry goods as they wanted between Troy and Detroit (if the weather was right) over steadily improving roads, freeways, and expressways. I-75 was plotted through Troy in 1959—with an astounding 5 exits. The need for a centralized Main Street and the businesses that once thrived on them was relegated to history and Troy—once a small farming community—expanded to become the thriving and changing commercial center it is today.



This 1968 aerial photo of Oakland Mall shows part of I-75's route through Troy (look for it on the far left)

Hard Times in “Hastings”: The Panic of 1837 Reaches Troy

by Stephanie Arwady, Troy Historic Village Adult Programs Director

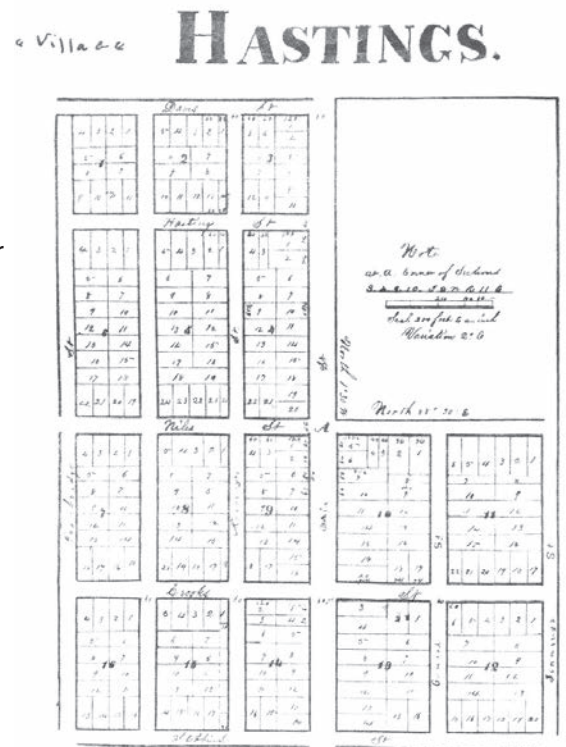
“Troy had reached the summit of its glory, and then sunk into such a comparative condition of decay that even now, [...] its former greatness is almost forgotten.”

– “The Village of Troy Corners,” *History of Oakland County, Michigan* (L.H. Everts & Co., 1877)

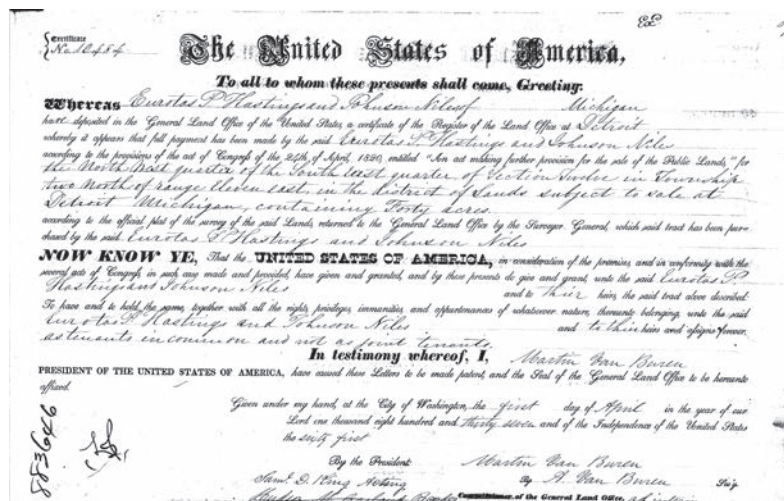
In the Dawn of this Bright Prospect

History of Oakland County (1877) contributors considered Troy Corners to have reached its economic and social peak by the mid-1830s. Located at the intersection of present-day Square Lake and Livernois Roads, the settlement founded by Johnson Niles in 1822 quickly grew into a bustling village. Blacksmith and shoemaker shops joined Niles’s trading post and tavern, along with several other mercantiles, schools, and churches. Residents included families, physicians, mechanics, and other professionals, even “a brilliant young lawyer” who eventually married Johnson Niles’s daughter. By the mid-1830s, Troy Corners was a hub for traders and travelers. Niles announced his plan “to make it the leading place north of Detroit,” and began work on platting a village he called “Hastings.”

The growth and prosperity of Troy Corners reflected larger economic trends of the era. The early years of the 1830s were a time of fast-paced economic growth in the United States. In 1835, the government even paid off the national debt for the first and only time in the country’s history. The General Land Office encouraged westward expansion by selling parcels of dispossessed Indigenous lands at cut-rate prices to settlers who moved westward and speculators who bought up land intending to sell it for a profit. State governments, investment companies, and individuals took out loans to fund better infrastructure, new businesses, and of course, real estate purchases.



Johnson Niles platted out 16 blocks at Troy Corners as the village of Hastings.
Image: Troy Historic Village.



Both settlement and land speculation occurred in Troy; sometimes the same individuals made both types of purchases. Johnson Niles, for instance, ultimately acquired 600 acres of land in Troy—almost one square mile!—some of which he platted as the village of Hastings in 1838. Niles planned to name the village for Eurotas

Signed by President Martin Van Buren on April 1, 1837, this land patent recorded Eurotas P. Hastings’s and Johnson Niles’s purchase of 40 acres in the northeast part of Troy, within the square mile bounded today by John R., Square Lake, Dequindre, and Long Lake. Image: Bureau of Land Management General Land Office records.

P. Hastings, the President of the Bank of Michigan who had financed many of the early settlers' land purchases. Hastings himself was a land speculator who purchased over 80 patents for Michigan land from the federal government between 1825-1845. Nineteen of these were in Oakland County; three of them were in Troy. Hastings purchased 120 acres in Troy Township with none other than Johnson Niles as a "tenant in common," or co-owner. Hastings also teamed up with several other speculators to acquire over 8,200 acres in Michigan.

The Gay and Festive Throngs... Departed Forever

Circumstances that permitted this speculation-friendly climate ultimately caused its implosion. President Andrew Jackson had liquidated the Bank of the United States in the early 1830s, which meant that the country's 850 or so local banks could print their own currency—which they did, a lot, even when they lacked the gold and silver to back it up. The nation's supply of paper money grew dramatically, as did inflation. In 1836, Jackson's Specie Circular executive order declared that the federal government would no longer accept bank notes for land purchases, only gold or silver. In the spring of 1837, the economy took a nosedive: paper money lost its value, hundreds of banks collapsed, and people all over the country faced financial ruin. Known as the Panic of 1837, this major recession lasted into the 1840s.

In the midst of the national panic, Troy Corners lost its promising future as a popular center of trade. It did not help matters when the new railroad line that ran north of Detroit bypassed Troy and went through Royal Oak and Pontiac instead. According to the History of Oakland County, Troy Corners's population had reached several hundred before the spring of 1837. In the wake of the panic, people began to leave, like Edward M. Peck, who moved his store to Pontiac where he became one of the city's "foremost businessmen." Eurotas P. Hastings left the Bank of Michigan to become Auditor General for the State of Michigan, where he settled over 600 bankruptcy cases and became embroiled in his own financial mismanagement scandal. Niles's plan for the village of Hastings never came to fruition. By the time the *History of Oakland County* was published in 1877, the population of Troy Corners had fallen to around just sixty people.



This 1837 political cartoon by Edward Williams Clay was one of many to depict the nation's depressed economy. The hat and spectacles over the word "Glory" are meant to represent President Andrew Jackson, whose policies Clay (and many others) blamed for the recession. Image: Library of Congress.



Johnson Niles's Greek Revival-style home at Troy Corners, as depicted in the 1877 History of Oakland County. Constructed in 1826/27, it survived the Panic of 1837 to become Troy's oldest extant building. Image: History of Oakland County, Michigan (L. H. Everts & Co., 1877)

Advancing Accessibility: Fundraising Update!

Thank you to all who have supported our appeals to Advance Accessibility across the Village. Thanks to your donations, we have made a number of important improvements!

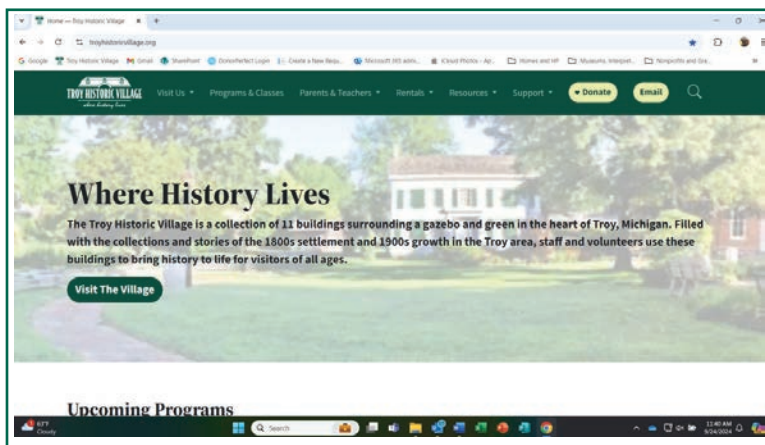
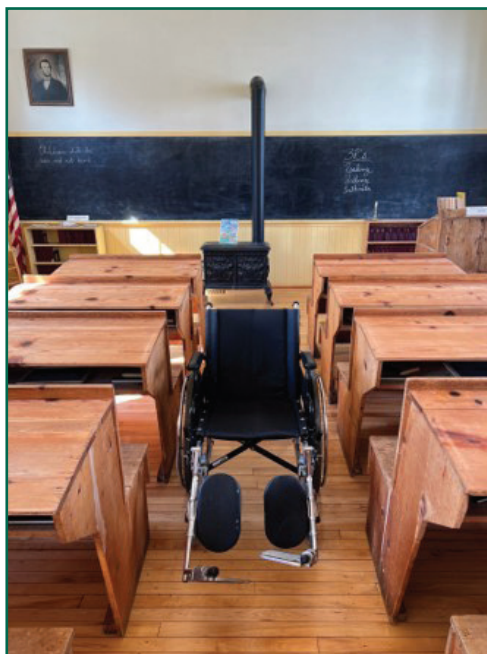


Audio-Visual System in Old Troy Church

Our outdated, unreliable 20-year-old A/V system has been replaced! The new one integrates assisted listening and vastly improves the visual quality of programs for everyone. You'll notice the difference when you join us for Thursday Teas, Preservation Conversations, and Constitution Cafés!

New Floors and Floorplan in Poppleton School

We sanded and resealed the wood floors and volunteers worked hard to refinish the desks inside Poppleton School. The widened center aisle allows visitors who use wheelchairs to move more easily through the building and pull right up to a desk.



Website Upgrade

With accessibility in mind, our website got a much-needed upgrade! The new platform supports accessibility features and is easier to navigate on smartphones.

*Thank!
You!*

DECEMBER 2024

Dec 1	Constitution Café 2:00pm
Dec 4	Cheddar's Story Time 10:30am
Dec 4	Holiday Card-Making & Cosmos 5:30pm
Dec 7	Cocoa and Crafts with Santa 10:00am-2:00pm
Dec 8	Cocoa and Crafts with Santa 10:00am-2:00pm
Dec 11	Watercolor Class 4:30pm
Dec 13	Victorian Christmas 6:00pm-8:00pm
Dec 14	Victorian Christmas 10:00am-1:00pm, 5:00pm-8:00pm
Dec 15	Breakfast with the Victorians 10:00am
Dec 19	Thursday Teas 2:00pm
Dec 24-Jan 1	Village Closed

JANUARY 2025

Jan 8	Cheddar's Story Time 10:30am
Jan 12	Constitution Café 2:00pm
Jan 15	Watercolor Class 4:30pm
Jan 17	Village Open Late - Long Winter's Night 4:00pm-8:00pm
Jan 22	Watercolor Class 4:30pm
Jan 23	Thursday Teas 2:00pm
Jan 25	Coffee and Conversation: Members Only Meet-Up 11:00am-12:30pm
Jan 27	Preservation Conversations 2:00pm
Jan 29	Watercolor Class 4:30pm
Jan 30	All That She Carried Book Discussion 4:30pm

FEBRUARY 2025

Feb 1	Drop-In Crafty Day 10:00am-3:00pm
Feb 5	Cheddar's Story Time 10:30am
Feb 9	Constitution Café 2:00pm
Feb 12	Watercolor Class 4:30pm
Feb 17	Free Mid-Winter Break Open House 10:00am-3:00pm
Feb 18	Free Mid-Winter Break Open House 10:00am-3:00pm
Feb 19	Watercolor Class 4:30pm
Feb 24	Preservation Conversations 2:00pm
Feb 26	All That She Carried Book Discussion 7:00pm
Feb 27	Thursday Teas 2:00pm

■ Kids & Families ■ Community Events
■ Adults & Seniors ■ Artisan-led Class

Demonstrated Loyalty to THV....

Across the Miles

by Mike Imirie, Wordsmith LLC

You can't put a price on loyalty, but maybe it's possible to attach some miles to it.

The staff at Troy Historic Village is invested. Season after season, Jen, Elizabeth, Stephanie, Tom, Alex, Barbara, Laura, and Sarah are professional, knowledgeable, caring, and enthused.

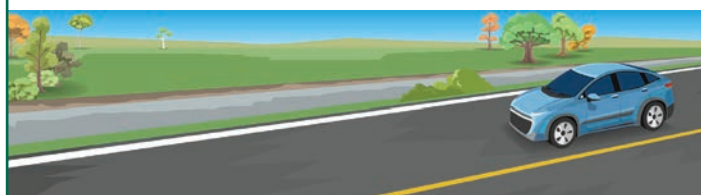
Their professionalism runs deep. It encompasses marketing, project management, research, cross cultural competency and interpersonal communications, among so many other talents.

Did you know that three of them demonstrate their considerable professionalism even before they arrive at 60 West Wattles Road each day?

How? By covering a surprising (daunting? formidable? gynomous?) number of miles on their way to work. Alex, for example, motors up I-75 from his Wyandotte address: a distance of 45 miles. Director Jen commutes southward to THV from her home near Flint: another 45 miles. Barbara takes the prize; she bravely makes the long distance drive from her home in Ypsilanti, 55 miles away.

Oh, my!

Soooo, while it's impossible to quantify loyalty, we can probably draw some hefty numeric conclusions about those three THV staffers. Each work day, they must be ready to be "highway heroes," deftly navigating serious traffic and competitive drivers long before they show up at our favorite Village!



WINTER KIDS & FAMILY PROGRAMS AT THE VILLAGE



Cocoa and Crafts with Santa

Saturday December 7 | 10am-2pm

Sunday December 8 | 10am-2pm

Early registration: \$7/THS Member or \$9/Non-member

At the door: \$8/THS Member or \$10/Non-member

Free for Children under 2

Start your season of family fun and holiday tradition at the Troy Historic Village! Spend time with Santa, make a simple holiday craft, play holiday games, and sample the sights and smells of the season. Warm up with hot cocoa, courtesy of Troy Garden Club. Space is limited! Sponsored by Genisys Credit Union.



Victorian Christmas

Friday December 13 | 6pm-8pm

Saturday December 14 | 10am-1pm and 5pm-8pm

Tickets: \$10/THS Member or \$12/Non-Member

Experience Christmas during the 1850s-60s. Costumed reenactors will perform activities of the season like playing games, decorating, exchanging gifts, and calling on friends. Enjoy carols, kids' crafts, hot cider and cocoa, and shopping for stocking stuffers in our general store. The theme this year is the Arts; learn about music, crafts, stories, and other artistic elements of the season. Fun for all ages!



Village Open Late – Long Winter's Night

Friday January 17 | 4pm-8pm | Free with admission

The Village will be open late, and the Villagers will be at work! History Interpreters will be tending to chores around the cabin and passing the time on a long winter's night. Come explore the Village and see what our pioneers are up to! Scavenger hunts will be available for kids. The Village will be open from 10am-8pm, and History Interpreters will be working around the cabin from 4pm-8pm.

Drop-in Crafty Day

Saturday February 1 | 10am-3pm | \$15/child participant; \$7/ accompanying adult

Shake your winter blues and join us for a day of getting crafty! The Village has a slew of crafts at the ready to put your skills to the test or teach you some new ones. Tie some knots on a rag doll, try your hand at knitting or spinning, make a toy, and print a poster on a printing press! Check our website for more details and to register.



Free Mid-Winter Break Open House

Monday February 17 and Tuesday February 18
10am-3pm | FREE admission!

Donations are appreciated.

Shake off some cabin fever and visit the Village free of charge. Explore historic buildings, go on a scavenger hunt, and see what fun programs are available at the Village. Great for all ages.



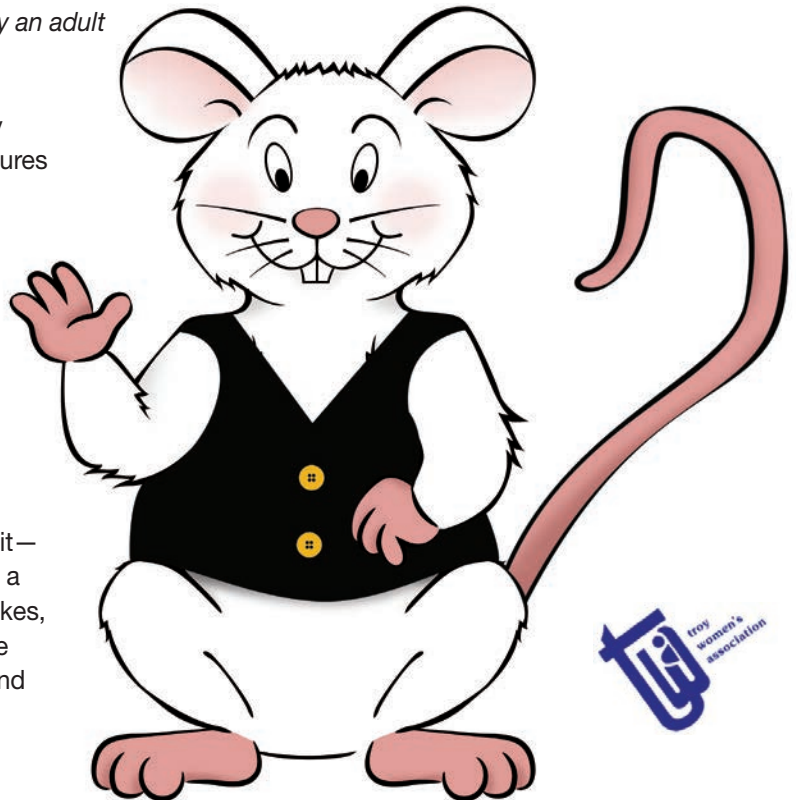
Cheddar's Preschool Story Time

Select Wednesdays, 10:30 am 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.



- **December 4: Snow!**

This month's book: *Froggy Gets Dressed* by Jonathan London

Wear something white or anything that has snow on it—like snowmen, snow covered trees, or sleds! Look at a Flexi Flyer sled from long ago, cut out paper snowflakes, identify different types of winter clothes, play in some winter sensory bins, and try other fun snow (or pretend snow) hands-on activities.

- **January 8: Comfy and Cozy Despite the Cold**

This month's book: *The Mitten* by Jan Brett

Look at a 1920s muff and talk about what you can and can't do while wearing a muff. Use cutting and gluing skills to decorate paper mittens, see how many beanie babies can fit into a pair of huge mittens, and use playdough with winter-themed cookie cutters. Learn a fun snowflake song and have pita bread with a filling for a snack.

- **February 5: Fantastic Friends**

This month's book: *Little Critter's This Is My Friend* by Mercer Mayer

Make a bird feeder for our birdy friends and use heart-shaped cookie cutters with playdough. Match letters in words with foam letters and try sorting and patterning with our jumbo-colored buttons. Participants will each receive a friendship bracelet to bring home.



WINTER ADULT & SENIOR PROGRAMS AT THE VILLAGE



Holiday Card-Making & Cosmos

Wednesday December 4 | 5:30-8pm

\$60/THS Member | \$68/Non-member | Ages 21 & up

Enjoy creating clever holiday greeting cards and gift tags while sipping on festive cosmopolitans and indulging in a few sweet and savory treats! Watercolor teacher Megan Swoyer has a sleighful of ideas to make handcrafted beauties for your gifts and greetings to mail out as special holiday note cards!

Breakfast with the Victorians

Sunday December 15 | 10am-11:30am

Tickets: \$30/THS Member or \$34/Non-Member

Enjoy breakfast with the reenactors from Victorian Christmas. Breakfast on period-inspired dishes, chat with reenactors, and enjoy some period entertainment as you immerse yourself in the Victorian Christmas season. Includes an hour to wander the Victorian Christmas Village after breakfast. Registration required, space is limited.

Coffee and Conversation: Members-Only Meetup

Saturday January 25 | 11am-12:30pm

Calling all members of the Troy Historical Society! Gather for an informal conversation about the Niles-Barnard House's historic past and vibrant future. Hosted by our Troy Historical Society Board of Trustees, this conversation is FREE to all members and includes a hot drink and a light snack. Not a member yet? Join today! Visit www.TroyHistoricVillage.org/support/membership for details.

Thursday Teas

2pm | THS Member: \$10,
Non-Member: \$15

Join us for history talks led by guest presenters or Village staff. Sponsored by Oakmont Manor and Oakmont Sterling.



- December 19: Talking Shop: From General Stores to Five and Dimes**

Many people miss the days when employees at the "mom and pop" store on the corner knew their name and shopping preferences. THV History Interpreter Tom Arwady shares the story of general stores and variety nickel and dime stores like Kresge and Woolworth.

- January 23: Movers, Shakers, and Music-Makers: Six Michigan Women Who Changed History**

Anna Marck shares the stories of union organizer Myra K. Wolfgang, philosopher and activist Grace Lee Boggs, abolitionist and underground railroad conductor Laura Smith Haviland, and more! Be inspired by the legacy of Michigan's women activists and hopeful about building a better world right in your own backyard.

- February 27 Rosie the Riveter & Beyond: How Women Helped Win WWII**

Join Jeanette Gutierrez of the American Rosie the Riveter Association to explore the many ways women stepped up during WWII, from war production and essential civilian jobs to the Armed Forces and volunteerism, even female celebrity influencers!



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.



- ***December 1: The 20th Amendment!**
Should we eliminate lame ducks? How long should Congressional terms last? *This program is the first Sunday of the month.
- **January 12: The 21st Amendment: The Repeal of Prohibition.**
What did we learn from the experiment of Prohibition?
- **February 9: The 22nd Amendment.**
The Office of the President is the only office with term limits. Is this an anti-democratic Amendment? Or should we expand term limits?

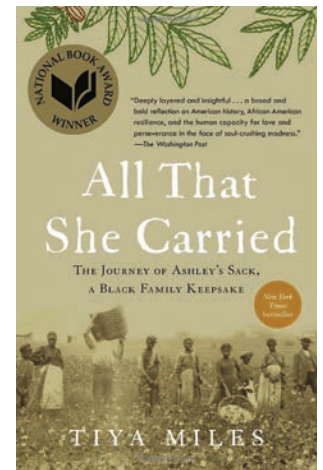
Preservation Conversations

Select Mondays | 2pm
FREE/THS Member or \$7/Non-Member
Do you enjoy old houses, good stories, and great places to visit locally and nationally? Come join the conversation as we learn more about preserving and utilizing our historic assets!
Presented by the Phillip & Elizabeth Filmer Memorial Charitable Trust.

- **January 27: Notre Dame: Twice Restored.**
On April 15, 2019, a fire devastated Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris. A massive restoration effort has been underway ever since and she will reopen in December, but this isn't the first restoration she's been through!
- **February 24: Destination Depots Along the Rivers of Steel.**
Take a delightful look at America's local train stations. Architect Ron Campbell explores these centers for transportation, commerce, and information that often became the landmark identity of the community they served.

Beyond the Book

FREE Book Discussions:
Thursday January 30,
4:30-5:30pm or
Wednesday February 26, 7-8pm
All That She Carried: The Journey of Ashley's Sack, A Black Family Keepsake by Tiya Miles
In 1850s South Carolina, an enslaved woman named Rose packed a cotton bag for her nine-year-old Ashley, knowing her daughter would soon be sold away. Embroidery added to the sack decades later by Ashley's granddaughter, Ruth, hints at the love and resilience of this family.



Join Troy Historic Village and Troy Public Library this winter inside Niles-Barnard House for a warm beverage, a friendly trivia competition, and lively group discussion on *All That She Carried*. Visit www.TroyHistoricVillage.org/programs/beyond-the-book for more program dates, details, and registration, and info about getting a copy of the book.

Watercolor Classes

Select Wednesdays
4:30-6:30pm | Ages 16 & up
THS Member: \$40/class or \$200/6-class series
Non-member: \$48/class or \$255/6-class series
Watercolor teacher and artist Megan Swoyer guides students in using watercolor techniques to create colorful winter scenes. No experience is necessary; all supplies will be provided. Class begins at 4:30pm sharp, please arrive on time and put your cell phone on silent.



- **December 11: The Pink Door**
- **January 15: Wren's Colorful World**
- **January 22: Go, Flamingo!**
- **January 29: Sturgeon Point Light**
- **February 12: Zinnia Zest**
- **February 19: Lilac Impressions**

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

Troy Historic Village
Troy Historical Society
60 W. Wattles Road
Troy MI 48098

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2024

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