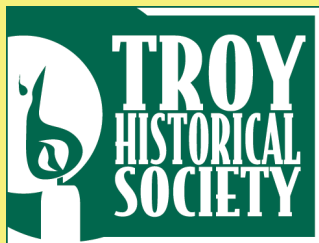


This 1968 aerial of Oakland Mall shows how much the City of Troy grew since its founding in 1955 and its potential to grow into the city we know today.

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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

In Memory of Kris Rose

This past March the Village lost Kris Rose, a friend, Villager, Board Member, and passionate supporter. Kris was the Village's biggest cheerleader. She loved our



volunteers, our staff, our guests, and our programs. She was always the first person to congratulate us on our accomplishments and milestones (personal and professional), and always made sure we felt appreciated.

Kris grew up in Troy, and you may have heard Kris share her experiences as a student who went to school inside Poppleton when it was at its original location. During her previous professional career, Kris traveled the world to far and exciting places, but she always came home to Troy, Michigan.

She loved it here and loved giving back to her community especially during our community events like Egg Hunt or Trick-or-Treat at the Craft Station. Over the last 11 years as a volunteer at the Troy Historic Village, Kris has made a lasting impact on the Village. As a Board Member, Kris worked tirelessly to improve Village policies and procedures to ensure its continued health and success.

Kris' huge heart, dazzling smile, and big laugh will be deeply missed.

Grant Announcement

The Troy Rotary Club awarded Troy Historic Village a \$2,625.00 grant to support field trip experiences for a Troy Elementary school. Troy Rotary seeks to bring people together which includes building up the community through service projects, grants, and other support. The grant funds will enable five grade levels to experience programs either at the Village or in their own classroom through our History 2 You program. We appreciate Troy Rotary's dedication to education, accessibility, and community!



**Focus on Fund
Development**



It's Scarecrow Row time! Each year our scarecrows are seen by thousands as they drive by on Wattles and Livernois, as well as those who attend Village events or stop by to take a picture to share with friends and family. Over the last 12 years, Scarecrow Row has become a highly anticipated annual Troy tradition that celebrates creativity while showcasing local businesses, organizations, and individual sponsors throughout our community.

There are many great benefits for your business or organization's participation in Scarecrow Row including a lot of exposure through traditional and digital marketing. The best part of sponsoring a scarecrow is that all proceeds help the Troy Historical Society provide the educational programs the Village offers for children, adults, and seniors.

You can build your own scarecrow for \$200 or have our amazing volunteer team build it for \$250. For an additional \$125, we will display your scarecrow at Troy Family Daze (space limited) where it will be seen by thousands of more people. Don't miss out on this chance to participate in this well-loved event! The last day to sponsor a scarecrow is August 22, 2025. Scan the QR code or visit www.TroyScarecrowRow.com to find out more!





Executive Director...

Jen Peters

*What's missing?
What's still here?*

If you look closely at the cover of this edition of the Village Press, you might notice that something is missing. As I am writing this letter, the Michigan Humanities (MH) and National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) are effectively dead in the water after the NEH was defunded by the Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE). With these shake-ups, a lot of people have asked me if the Troy Historic Village is okay. We are lucky that we are not in the midst of a grant-funded project. Other museums like the Ford Piquette Avenue Plant lost the \$500,000 funding they had already been awarded towards much-needed preservation and renovations. We recently received \$12,000 for our October 2024 Indigenous Voices program—money awarded and spent—but we are not able to apply for money to support that program in 2025. We decided to remove the logos of the MH and the NEH from the front of the Village Press to acknowledge the current state of both agencies and the hole left by the lost support.

As I said in an email earlier this year, our programs will continue as normal, and that's because of what is still here—your support!

But let's not minimize the effect this has on museums across the country, especially on the heels of the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) effectively being shuttered. The loss of funding puts pressure

on all museums as we apply for a dwindling number of available grants. As much as we sometimes complain about the grant process, it has been an effective source of funding for new projects, equipment, staffing, operations, and facilities improvement. Federal, state, and local grants supported us through Covid, enabling us to hit the ground running when schools and people were ready to visit

again. In short, grants support many of the expenses that we can't simply "pass on to" the consumers.

With fewer grant opportunities, we rely even more on you. Through your attendance, your membership, and your donations, we will be able to continue fulfilling our mission to engage the community and enable life-long exploration of history by sharing and preserving our stories, artifacts, and buildings through creative, meaningful experiences. I am thankful that you understand the value in the things we do at the Village. You know that learning is a life-long endeavor. You know that preserving our past

helps us understand who we are and how we do better. You know that programs that are accessible and inviting to all build up our community. And you understand that we need your support to do all these things.

Thank you for understanding that value, thank you for supporting our work!



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)

Summer Hours:

Monday – Friday, 10am – 3pm

Select Saturdays & Sundays
for special events and rentals

Closed: July 4

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.

The Underground Railroad in Oakland County Public History Project

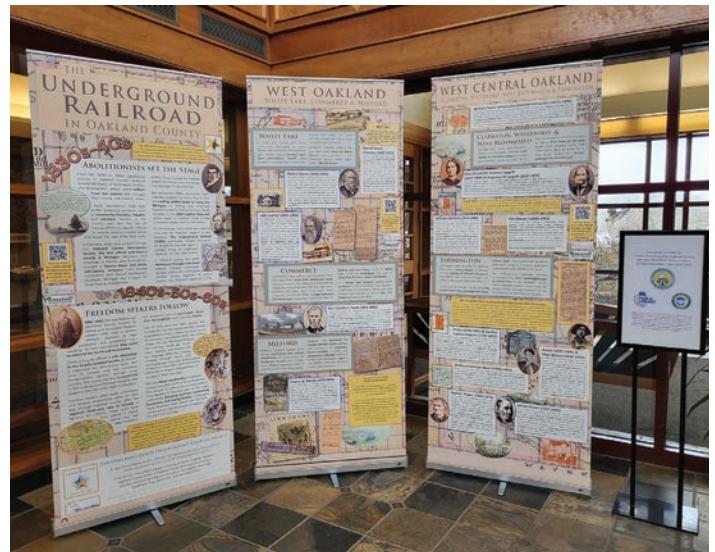
*by Shelby Nelsen, Troy Historic Village Adult Programs Director
with Leslie Pielack, Project Director and Birmingham Museum Director*

Troy Historic Village is excited to host a traveling exhibit this summer about the Underground Railroad! This exhibit is the result of a first-of-its-kind collaborative project titled “The Underground Railroad in Oakland County Public History Project” (UGRR Project) which has been studying the local history of the Underground Railroad network since 2023. The UGRR Project was an outgrowth of discoveries in Birmingham’s Greenwood Cemetery of freedom seeker George B. Taylor and abolitionist Elijah S. Fish, who were added to the National Park Service’s Underground Railroad Network to Freedom register in 2022.

The unique and award-winning UGRR Project began as a collective research undertaking involving local researchers from all over Oakland County with Birmingham Museum Director, Leslie Pielack, as Project Director. Now, the expanded project researchers include local historical societies, genealogists, and educators, including Troy Historic Village staff. “This project has developed a life of its own. It has drawn in professional genealogists and other historians who are uncovering amazing information and want to continue to do deeper dives to learn more of these compelling stories,” says Pielack.

Village staff helped identify and document freedom seeker Andrew Winters, who lived in Troy Township just before the Civil War. They also helped research Troy’s early abolitionists Eunice Morse and William G. Stone. Over 50 abolitionists and freedom seekers have been studied and documented throughout 15 Oakland County communities, and their stories are incorporated into the traveling exhibit that is making its way around Oakland County libraries, museums, and public buildings, including the Village this July and August.

Over 80,000 people have seen the traveling exhibit so far! The feedback has been overwhelmingly positive, and visitors are consistently surprised at how many stories of freedom seekers and abolitionists relate to their own communities. Pielack says, “The interest in this topic has resulted in lots of public presentations with enthusiastic audiences. They are blown away by this local history, and the phrase I hear over and over is, ‘Who knew?’” Pielack will be presenting in the Old Troy Church at the Village on June 26 as a preamble to the exhibit that opens July 1 at the Village.



Part of “The Underground Railroad in Oakland County” traveling exhibit on display at West Bloomfield Township Public Library.

*Partners to The Oakland County Underground Railroad Project:
City of Birmingham Oakland • Friends Center • of the Birmingham
Museum Oakland County Historical Commission History and the
Historical Societies of Commerce, Farmington, Royal Oak, Southfield,
Troy, Waterford, and West Bloomfield • Funded in Part by Michigan
Humanities, an Affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.*



So much information has been generated by the UGRR Project that the traveling exhibit had to be updated and expanded from four to six large exhibit panels. In addition, the UGRR Project will create classroom-ready lesson plans that align with Michigan's academic standards as well as a website, to be completed later this summer, with an abundance of photos, maps, documents, and other primary source materials to assist researchers and students with further study. Pielack is also completing an illustrated book of the UGRR Project's findings to be distributed at no cost to schools and libraries later this year.



Presentation on the Underground Railroad in Oakland County at Southfield Public Library.

The exhibit was awarded a grant in 2023 and 2024 from Michigan Humanities, an affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the UGRR Project has already received a few awards. Last year, the Birmingham Museum received the Collaborators Award from the Association of Midwest Museums for the project's multi-community collaborative approach. Oakland County history organizations in Birmingham, Farmington, Royal Oak, Pontiac, and Southfield received a proclamation in 2023 from the Oakland County Board of Commissioners for their role in the initial five-community pilot project to study the Underground Railroad.

"There is no time better than the present to acknowledge our shared heritage and gain a broader understanding of our early Black history in Oakland County. We have so many stories now that provide a glimpse of this difficult time in our history, and how people responded to it—both individual freedom seekers and abolitionist activists. This project proves that these people made a difference, and they were right in our own backyard," says Pielack.

The following programs are related to this article learn more about them on pages 14 & 15:



Thursday Tea Program

Thursday June 26, 2pm

The Underground Railroad in Oakland County by Leslie Pielack, Project Director

Summer Exhibit: The Underground Railroad in Michigan

July – August, Monday – Friday 10am-3pm

Guest Presentations

Tuesday July 15, 6-7:30pm

Midnight: Detroit & the Underground Railroad by Billy Wall-Winkel, Field Curator at Detroit Historical Society

Thursday, August 7, 6-7:30pm

Unlikely Conductors: The Role of Indigenous People in the Underground Railroad by Heather Bruegl, Curator of Political and Civic Engagement at The Henry Ford

1830s Map of Detroit

Tintypes: The Big Deal About Metal Photographs

by Elizabeth Thornburg, Troy Historic Village Curator

Tintypes are grayscale metal photographs that were once all the rage for their affordability and portability. What we call “Tintypes” were also known as “Ferrotypes” or “Melainotypes”, and are positive photographs developed directly onto thin sheets of iron coated in enamel and treated with chemical processes.

While they are novel to us today, tintypes are often found in the back of albums, bottom of drawers, and between book pages. They tend to be enigmas in family collections due to their frequent lack of durable labels. Some are shiny, some are scratched, and some have a little splash of color or gold embellishment. Early tintypes could be purchased in many sizes from one square inch up to 11 by 14 inches and were often sold with a simple paper sleeve. People could also purchase union cases made of gutta percha, a moldable naturally occurring latex material, to display and preserve their tintypes. Eventually, photo albums were developed to house multiple tintypes.



Tintypes were offered in a variety of types and sizes of cases. This photo includes a quarter for scale (Colby-Yee Collection).

Each tintype is unique, like a Polaroid. One exposure resulted in one photograph. It was popular to add tintypes to jewelry, like lockets, brooches, and watchcases. They are historically significant as they were the first affordable commercially available image type available to the American public. In 1842, The daguerreotype, a predecessor to the tintype, cost between \$2.50 and \$6.00 depending on size and location, which started at several days' pay for an average laborer. In comparison, Tintypes cost only \$0.25 to \$2.50 in 1858, which started at several hours' pay for an average laborer. Due to tintypes' affordability, these newer, more durable metal photos offered a tantalizing glimpse into a variety of people's lives.



A Civil War soldier stands in a cased photograph along with a variety of other tintype cases including gutta-percha, and leather tyles c. 1850s and 1860s. Though other photographs gained popularity, tintypes continued to be sold as souvenirs into the 1940s (Colby-Yee Collection).

Tintypes could be taken in a studio or on the road. A traveling ferrotypist travelled with a mobile darkroom and took photographs of anyone who could afford their fees. The whole exposure and development process was relatively quick, which also made it possible to take clear photographs of babies and young children. Tintypes even became popular with soldiers and others across a variety of socioeconomic backgrounds during the Civil War.

These inexpensive images also played a part in the abolitionist movement. Abolitionists would pass tintypes around as a means of identifying members of their movement, almost like an early form of social media, which made it easier for people to find

like-minded individuals. Using photos to share an experience is not a modern invention, either. Frederick Douglass and Sojourner Truth both used this early photography to draw attention to the cruelties of slavery through unfiltered images that demonstrated the everyday life and humanity of enslaved people.

Tintypes enjoyed only a short popularity. They were quickly outmoded by other photographic processes that had the ability to make multiple exact copies and cost less than tintypes. Though their time was short, tintypes endure as a unique piece of America's historic visual storytelling tapestry, leading the way for Polaroids, Instamatics, and now pictures captured with our cell phones.



William, Mary, and baby John Sipperly of Clifton Park, New York sit for a family photograph, about 1859. Faster exposure time meant babies could be photographed with minimal blurring. One of the most popular sizes of tintype was known as the Bon-ton and was two by three inches, about the size of a modern business card (THV Collection).



Two young men in Zouave uniforms sit together in front of a mobile backdrop. This image shows hand coloring in the faces and clothing (Colby-Yee Collection).



Roger Fenton's 'Waggon' was a mobile darkroom (Roger Fenton, 1819–1869, Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons).

Constitution Cafés

**by Shelby Nelsen, Troy Historic Village Adult Programs Director
with Loraine Campbell, Former Troy Historic Village Executive
Director and John Kulesz, Attorney and Moderator for
Constitution Cafés**



For the last ten years, we have been hosting a program called *Constitution Cafés* here at the Village. *Constitution Cafés* are an open discussion using the Socratic Method to explore different aspects of the United States Constitution and its Amendments. Occurring once a month, these open discussions are led by Oakland County lawyer John Kulesz, who prioritizes civil discussion to create a safe environment to ask questions.

What is the Socratic method? In today's world, it is commonly used to dissect concepts or ideas through questions that invoke dialogue connecting what we already know to new information. *Cafés* are considered Socratic seminars meaning the Socratic method is used to understand a text, the U.S. Constitution. It is not a debate, but a group discussion that uses one question after another to develop a better understanding of the document.

The great thing about *Cafés* is that you don't need to be an expert on the topic before you attend the program. Some common themes in comments from participants is that the program is both "safe" and "civil." That is seen in how Kulesz approaches the program. "The only requirement on attending is a willingness to listen to your neighbors and share mutual respect. My goal for the Constitution Café is simple: to have a conversation that leads us to learn a little, think a little, and contribute a little about how the Constitution is a promise to us all," said Kulesz

How It All Started

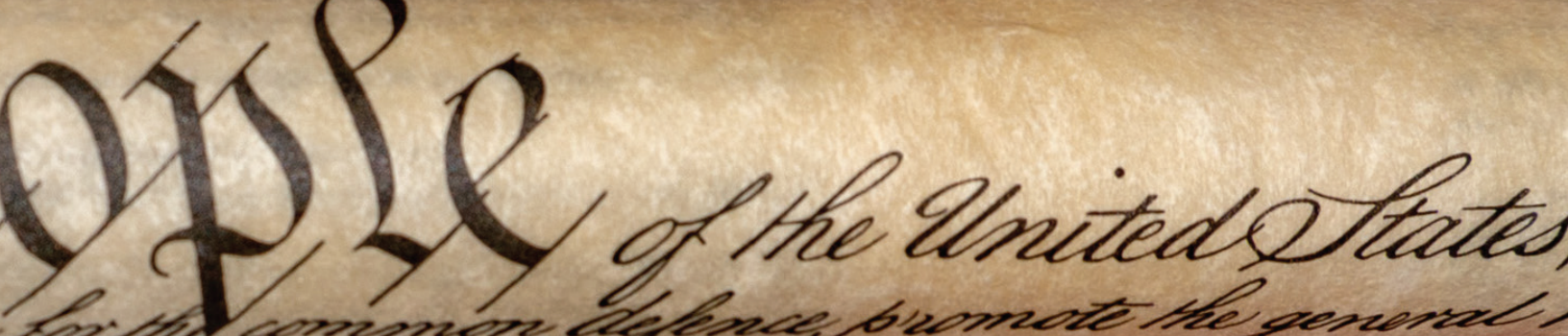
As good as Kulesz is at leading the *Cafés*, they are not something he just came up with. The idea was hatched ten years ago when Loraine Campbell, who was the Executive Director at Troy Historic Village at the time, asked Kulesz if he had read any good books lately. This eventually led to both reading "Constitution Café: Jefferson's Brew for a True Revolution" by Christopher Phillips.

Originally published in 2011, the book proposed a that a new U.S. Constitution be drafted that includes articles ranging from outlandish to serious. The idea for the book was influenced by the 2008 presidential election and Thomas Jefferson's original proposal that a Constitution Convention be held every 20 years to review and update the document. The short story is that the book led to mini-Constitutional Conventions being held across the country, most of which were or are called *Constitution Cafés*, just like ours.

Campbell saw value in hosting such a program at the Village to learn about how the past influences the present and future in a way that makes everyone comfortable. She hooked Kulesz into running the program by appealing to his philosophical side. In college, Kulesz



*Get your copy of the book in
the Village Gift Shop.*



was a Philosophy/Religious Studies major, so Cafés gave him the opportunity to not only flex his philosophical muscles, but to use his Juris Doctor degree in ways most lawyers don't get to. Ultimately, Campbell and Kulesz agreed that Troy needed space for civil and respectful discussions at a time when it was difficult to do so in the city.



Christopher Phillips (left) and John Kulesz (right) at the first Constitution Café in 2015.

Memorable Moments

A lot can happen in ten years and Cafés have allowed the Village to collaborate with some notable people. In 2015, the author of the book that inspired it all, Christopher Phillips, came to Troy to launch the program. Then in 2019, the Village partnered with Oakland University and Dr. David Dulio to bring in then Michigan Supreme Court Chief Justice Bridget Mary McCormack. "It was an intergenerational event that proved to me that people of every creed, color, and age have a stake in the Constitution. It felt like a true 'We The People' moment," said Kulesz.

Some visitors make attending the Cafés a monthly habit. When asked about their thoughts on the program, their responses had one consistent theme summed up by this attendee's comment: "In a time when public civility in discussions is rare, Troy Historic Village offers an innovative forum for safe discussions of important issues. The Socratic

method employed means everyone's contributions are welcomed – young and old. I've been participating for 5 years, and find this program is the most intellectually stimulating activity in our area."

What's Next

The Village agrees with Campbell that "Our Constitution is even more important today than it was ten years ago," so we encourage you to attend the next Cafés and learn more about the Constitution. If you are feeling a little nervous about attending, don't worry, that's normal. In fact, Kulesz says, "When I tell people about the Cafés, it's very routine for people to express hesitation about attending by responding, 'But I don't know anything about the Constitution.' And I reply, 'Congratulations, that makes you an American.'" The Village and Kulesz work hard to ensure that everyone feels welcome when they visit. As Campbell says, "When you walk through the door, you are a Villager. Your questions matter. We all learn together."



Left to Right: Dr. David Dulio, Loraine Campbell, Former Chief Justice Bridget Mary McCormack, and John Kulesz at the Constitution Café collaboration with Oakland University in 2019.

Please see page 14 for details on upcoming Constitution Cafés. Constitution Cafés are sponsored by the Oakland County Bar Foundation.



Troy: A Two-Part Tale

by Mike Imirie, www.wordsmithLLC.org

An early Troy city slogan read: “Troy: City of Tomorrow – Today!” And it must have been a matter of real pride that our circa-1955 town ultimately attracted the headquarters of such business giants as K-Mart, Kelly Services, and Volkswagen of North America. With its gleaming high rises and thoughtful suburban layouts, Troy was certainly focused on a bright future.



Troy Corners in 1949 where Square Lake intersects Livernois

The earliest history of Troy Township dates to the early 19th century, when settlement of the Michigan Territory began in earnest. Migrants from the American East crossed the Ohio River by foot or later reached the port of Detroit by way of the Erie Canal and the Great Lakes. Many were enticed by federal legislation offering eighty acres for the sum of \$100!

Pioneers migrated west in growing numbers. Some wanted better economic opportunities. Some sought out new communities. Some simply hoped for the chance to engineer fresh starts. One of them was Johnson Niles, who purchased 160 acres in the township in 1821. He was by all indications an energetic fellow and played a key role in our town's early economic development as well as its

underlying governance. Many of Troy's early residents were from the state of New York, just like Niles, which is why they named the young settlement after the prosperous town of Troy, New York.

In those early days, settlers in Troy weren't centrally located homesteads for farming scattered along the surveyed mile roads across the Township. Over time, travel to and from those farms resulted in roadways. Settlements came to be named after the crossroad places where dusty roadways met. Early Troy settlements carried such names as Troy Corners, Halsey Corners, and Big Beaver. As other homesteaders arrived and settled, those small rural communities gradually expanded.

Troy's incorporation as a city came about in part because of 'too keen' interest by its neighboring incorporated communities: namely, Birmingham, Royal Oak, and Clawson. All attempted to annex land parcels from Troy Township to better handle their own growth. In 1955, led by Township Supervisor Norman Barnard, Troy filed an incorporation petition with Oakland County. The petition was granted, and Township citizens subsequently voted 2111-254 to approve...and Troy officially became a city! In this way, the City of Troy avoided further annexation by neighboring communities, began to plan and manage its growth, and actively stepped into a very promising future.



Headquarters complex of S.S. Kresge in 1972 (renamed K-mart Corporation in 1977) at the northwest corner of Big Beaver and Coolidge.



Today's Troy truly has become a city for tomorrow. It has a strong economy, excellent schools, a strategic location, cultural richness, and a remarkable quality of life. At the same time, it continues to have an abiding recognition of and respect for its early 19th century agrarian origins. That respect comes to life each day and all season long on the grounds of Troy Historic Village through its preservation and interpretation of the 11 buildings.

The City of Troy is throwing a 70th Birthday Party on Saturday June 14 from 1-4pm. Learn more at TroyMI.gov.

JUNE 2025

- June 3 **Summer Kick-Off Open House** 5:00pm-8:00pm
- June 3 **THS Summer Raffle Ticket Sales** Open
- June 4 **Cheddar's Story Time** 10:30am
- June 4 **Watercolor Class** 5:30pm
- June 5 **Village Open Late** 10:00am-7:00pm
- June 8 **Constitution Café** 2:00pm
- June 9 **Preservation Conversations: On the Road!** 4:00pm
- June 11 **Watercolor Class** 5:30pm
- June 12 **Village Open Late** 10:00am-7:00pm
- June 12 **Museum Yoga** 6:00pm
- June 18 **Watercolor Class** 5:30pm
- June 19 **Village Open Late** 10:00am-7:00pm
- June 21 **Basket Weaving Workshop** 10:00am-1:00pm
- June 21 **Village Crafting Circle** 10:00am-1:00pm
- June 25 **Pinot & Paint** 5:30pm
- June 25-July 30 **Basic Blacksmithing Level 1 (Wednesdays)** 6:30pm-9:00pm
- June 26 **Thursday Teas** 2:00pm
- June 26 **Village Open Late** 10:00am-7:00pm
- June 26 **Museum Yoga** 6:00pm
- June 30 **Member's-Only Meetup** 4:00pm

JULY 2025

- July 1-Aug 29 **Summer Exhibit: The Underground Railroad**
- July 3 **Village Open Late** 10:00am-7:00pm
- July 4 **Village CLOSED**
- July 7 **Preservation Conversations: On the Road!** 4:00pm
- July 9 **Troy Garden Walk** 9:00am-6:00pm
- July 9 **THS Summer Raffle Winners Drawn and Notified!** After 6:00pm
- July 10 **Village Open Late** 10:00am-7:00pm
- July 10 **Museum Yoga** 6:00pm
- July 12 **Adult-Child Blacksmithing** 10:00am-1:00pm
- July 13 **Constitution Café** 2:00pm
- July 15 **Underground Railroad Presentation** 6:00pm
- July 17 **Thursday Teas** 2:00pm
- July 17 **Village Open Late** 10:00am-7:00pm
- July 19 **Leather Working 101 Workshop** 9:00am-5:30pm
- July 19 **Village Crafting Circle** 9:00am-5:30pm
- July 19 **Blacksmithing Sampler** 10:00am-11:30am
- July 24 **Village Open Late** 10:00am-7:00pm
- July 24 **Museum Yoga** 6:00pm
- July 31 **Village Open Late** 10:00am-7:00pm

- Kids & Families
- Health & Wellness
- Adults & Seniors
- Artisan-led Class
- Community Events

AUGUST 2025

- Aug 3 **Troy Traffic Jam (Columbia Center)** 10:00am-3:00pm
- Aug 3 **Kids Pedal Power 200 (Columbia Center)** 1:30pm
- Aug 6 **Cheddar's Story Time** 10:30am
- Aug 6 **Watercolor Class** 5:30pm
- Aug 7 **Village Open Late** 10:00am-7:00pm
- Aug 7 **Underground Railroad Presentation** 6:00pm
- Aug 9-10 **Weekend Intensive Copper & Iron Workshop** 10:00am-5:00pm
- Aug 9-10 **Village Crafting Circle** 10:00am-5:00pm
- Aug 10 **Constitution Café** 2:00pm
- Aug 11 **Preservation Conversations: On the Road!** 4:00pm
- Aug 13 **Hey, Teachers! School Field Trip booking begins today!**
- Aug 14 **Village Open Late** 10:00am-7:00pm
- Aug 14 **Museum Yoga** 6:00pm
- Aug 16 **Old-Time Radio Show** 7:00pm
- Aug 17 **Old-Time Radio Show** 2:00pm
- Aug 18-Aug 22 **Introductory Copper & Iron Workshop** 10:00am-12:30pm
- Aug 18-Aug 22 **Intermediate Copper & Iron Workshop: Footed Bowl** 6:00pm-8:30pm
- Aug 21 **Village Open Late** 10:00am-7:00pm
- Aug 28 **Thursday Teas** 2:00pm
- Aug 21 **Village Open Late** 10:00am-7:00pm
- Aug 28 **Museum Yoga** 6:00pm

Troy Garden Club's 50th Garden Walk: "Garden Stories 2025"

Wednesday, July 9

Village open for FREE 9 am-6 pm
Rain or Shine!

Enjoy free admission to the Troy Historic Village while you shop at the Troy Garden Club's Plant Sale and outdoor Midsummer Arts & Crafts Boutique. Get your tickets for the Troy Historical Society's Summer Raffle! To learn more about the garden walk and how to purchase your tickets to see the five private gardens and one new bonus venue, visit www.TroyGardenClubMI.com or call the Troy Garden Club at 248-321-8291.

SUMMER KIDS & FAMILY PROGRAMS AT THE VILLAGE



Summer Kick-Off Open House

Tuesday June 3, 5-8pm | FREE

Grab dinner, listen to some live music, and enjoy an evening at the Village! Get your tickets for the Troy Historical Society's Summer Raffle. We'll have games, food and treats for purchase, and information about all sorts of great summer activities around Troy. *Music is generously sponsored by the Cook family.*

Kids Pedal Power 200

Various Dates

\$10 - \$15 per car/racer

Three Pedal Car races will be held around Troy this summer and are open to racers ages 3-8 with a pedal powered car. Race in one or race in them all! Collect a medal and sweet treat for each race you participate in. Registration is required and closes for each race one hour before race start time. Visit TroyTrafficJam.com for more details!



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 to help kids have fun while they develop skills and learn about the world around them. *Sponsored by Troy Women's Association.*



• June 4: Bugs and Insects

This month's book: *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* by Eric Carle

Insects don't bug us! We will be making a butterfly craft, playing with Play-Doh and plastic insects, and doing a buggy dot-to-dot. Snack will be "ants on a log"- celery, raisins, hummus and ranch or peanut butter (depending on allergies).

• August 6: At the Beach

This month's book: *Beach Days* by Karen Roosa

We will be making a clam craft with sand, feeding our hungry shark foam letters, counting and sorting seashells, and searching for numbers in the sand. Make sure you wear a beach hat, sunglasses, or flip flops!

Old-Time Radio Shows

Saturday August 16, 7pm & Sunday August 17, 2pm

THS Members: \$15 | Non-members: \$17

Use your imagination to travel with us back-in-time for a mock radio show. Actors will perform scripts from "Buck Rogers," "Flash Gordon," and "The Planet Man" with live piano music and sound effects! Desserts and coffee/tea will be served at intermission. Tune in and sign up as soon as possible because space is limited. Recommended for ages 12 & up.



Village Open Late Every Thursday!

Every Thursday in June, July, & August | 10am - 7pm

General Admission rates apply

Spend your Thursday evenings at the Village this summer! Join a guided tour, complete a scavenger hunt, rent an immersive game, attend a yoga class, and visit with History Interpreters! Activities vary weekly, and additional charges may apply. Visit our website for a detailed calendar of Village Open Late programs.

- **Every Thursday:** Rent an immersive game for your family or group of friends! Games include a private Escape Room in one of our historic building, Village Clue that will take you inside each and every building, or The Michigan Trail which will allow you to enjoy our Village Green outdoors. When you rent a game, you will also receive one coupon to a local Troy restaurant. *Prices vary per game in addition to General Admission.*
- **1st Thursday:** Join a Guided Tour of the Village at 5:30pm! Tours are led by either a Village volunteer or staff member. Lasting about an hour and half, tours will explore the history of the Village buildings. *Included with General Admission.*
- **2nd Thursday:** Museum Yoga will take place on the Village Green. Instructors from Troy-based Explore Yoga studio will lead students through yoga postures and breathwork in classes appropriate for all levels of experience. Register in advance as space is limited. Price is \$10 for THS Members and \$12 for Non-members. *Museum Yoga is not included with General Admission.*
- **3rd Thursday:** History Interpreters will be out and about from 4-7pm. Visit with our pioneers with them and learn about the various chores and activities they are working on. *Included with General Admission.*
- **4th Thursday:** See Museum Yoga above. *Museum Yoga is not included with General Admission.*

Adult-Child Blacksmithing: Ice Cream Spoon

Saturday July 12 | 10am - 1pm

THS Member: \$185/pair | Non-member: \$220/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. Child partner must be age 10 or older. No prerequisite.

Blacksmithing Sampler

Saturday July 19 | 10-11:30am

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

Step alongside the Village forge and discover what it's like to "make the anvil ring!" Learn 4 basic hand forging techniques while making your own square tapered nail as it was done centuries ago. Ages 12 & up. No prerequisite.



School Bookings Open August 13 at 10am!



Attention teachers! The Village will begin taking school bookings for the 2025-26 school year on Wednesday, August 13! Those interested in booking a field trip should get their request in as soon as possible as the calendar fills up very quickly –

especially for spring. Call the Village Education line at (248) 524-3598 to get your field trip booked. Visit TroyHistoricVillage.org for more information.



TROY HISTORIC VILLAGE

where history lives

SUMMER ADULT & SENIOR PROGRAMS AT THE VILLAGE



Troy Traffic Jam

Sunday August 3, 10am-3pm | *FREE to the Public*
Car Participants: \$25 per Vehicle Pre-registration, \$30 per Vehicle Day Of

The 17th annual Troy Traffic Jam will display 300+ cars ranging from antiques to high performance vehicles. This year we are celebrating SPEED by featuring cars from across all racing genres! More than just a car show, the Traffic Jam features Tech Talks from industry experts, automotive art, kids' pedal car races, robotics demonstrations, food, music and so much more!

Summer Exhibit: The Underground Railroad in Michigan

July – August, Monday – Friday 10am-3pm
Included with admission

Come see six exhibit panels that are the result of "The Oakland County Underground Railroad Project," a multi-community public history project to research and provide access to evidence-based local Underground Railroad history led by The Birmingham Museum and Oakland County Historical Commission, funded in part by Michigan Humanities, an affiliate of the National Endowment for the Arts. The exhibit is accompanied by research completed by Village staff.

Midnight: Detroit & the Underground Railroad

Tuesday, July 15, 6-7:30 pm | *FREE*

Join Billy Wall-Winkel, Field Curator at Detroit Historical Society, to learn about how Detroit, codenamed Midnight, was a vital station on the Underground Railroad.

Unlikely Conductors: The Role of Indigenous People in the Underground Railroad

Thursday August 7, 6-7:30pm | *FREE*

Join Heather Bruegl, Curator of Political and Civic Engagement at The Henry Ford, to learn about the important role that Indigenous people played in assisting others in the Underground Railroad.

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.



- **June 8: The 26th Amendment: Military Service and Suffrage**
- **July 13: The 27th Amendment: Compensation for Legislators**
- **August 10: The 28th Amendment?: Do we have a new Amendment?**

Thursday Teas

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.



- **June 26: The Underground Railroad in Oakland County** by Leslie Pielack, Project Director
- **July 17: Pontiac: The People, The Place, and Their Wheels** by Terry Connolly, Board Chair and Working CEO of Pontiac Transportation Museum
- **August 28: Enjoying the Ride: Michigan's Inland Lake and River Excursion Boats, 1835-2020** by Scott Peters, Maritime Historian

Troy Historical Society Summer Raffle

Tickets available June 3 – July 10

Tickets: \$5 each or \$20 for 5 tickets

Our annual Summer Raffle is back with ten baskets valued over \$300 each! Enter to win fabulous prizes while supporting the Troy Historic Village. Prize details will be posted online, at the Village, and on social media. Winners will be drawn and notified on July 9. Need not be present to win.

Tickets are available for purchase in-person only at the Village during regular Village hours from June 3 – July 9. Tickets are also available during special events like our Summer Kick-Off Open House (June 3, 5pm – 7pm), and the Troy Garden Walk Plant Sale July 9, 9am – 6pm). Tickets may only be purchased in-person and by individuals over age 18.

Preservation Conversations on the Road!

Mondays, 4pm | THS Member: \$10 | Non-member: \$15
Visit local sites to see historic preservation in action! Tours require standing and walking; length of tour is noted in the description. Participants will need to secure their own transportation to the tour site. *Presented by the Phillip & Elizabeth Filmer Memorial Charitable Trust.*

- **June 9: Visit Bowers Farm** (*Limit 20 guests, 1.5-hour tour*)
- **July 7: Detroit's Midtown including the West Canfield Historic District** (*Limit 25 guests, 2-hour tour*)
- **August 11: Palmer Park Log Cabin** (*Limit 25 guests, 1.5-hour tour*)

Museum Yoga

Select Thursdays | 6pm

THS Members: \$10 | Non-member: \$12

Instructors from Troy-based Explore Yoga studio will lead students through yoga postures and breathwork in classes appropriate for all levels of experience, from beginner to advanced. Yoga classes are held outdoors and you must bring your own mat. Visit TroyHistoricVillage.org for dates and to register in advance (space is limited).



Basic Blacksmithing Level 1

Wednesdays, June 25-July 30 | 6:30-9pm

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

Learn 12 basic hand-forging techniques as you make your own trowel. Ages 12 & up. No prerequisite.

Classes for Basic Blacksmithing Levels 2, 3, & 4 classes are forming now! Visit TroyHistoricVillage.org to add your name to the scheduling list.

Introductory Copper & Iron Workshop

Monday August 18– Friday August 22 | 10am-12:30pm

THS Member: \$260 | Non-member: \$310

Learn the traditional arts of coppersmithing and blacksmithing as you make a unique bird feeder mobile. Ages: 15 & up. No prerequisite.

Intermediate Copper & Iron Workshop: Footed Bowl

Monday August 18– Friday August 22 | 6-8:30pm

THS Member: \$260 | Non-member: \$310

Returning students will design and create a copper and iron footed bowl with elements inspired by modern British sculptor, Barbara Hepworth. Ages 16 & up. Prerequisite: Introductory Copper & Iron Workshop.

Watercolor Classes

Select Wednesdays | 5:30pm-7:30pm | Ages 16 & up

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

Watercolor teacher and artist Megan Swoyer guides students in using watercolor techniques to create colorful scenes step-by-step. No experience is necessary; all supplies will be provided.

- **June 4: Gorgeous American Goldfinch**
- **June 11: Bluebirds Duet**
- **June 18: Monarch & Milkweed**
- **August 6: Hibiscus Near Yellow Cottage**

Members-Only Meetup

June 30, 4-6pm | FREE for THS Members

Calling all members of the Troy Historical Society! We invite members to take the first look at our summer exhibit: "The Underground Railroad in Michigan County." Hosted by our Troy Historical society Board of Trustees, enjoy a cold drink and light snack while you mingle with other folks passionate about history.

Pinot & Paint: Zinnia Pop!

Wednesday June 25 | 5:30-8pm | Ages 21 & up

THS Member: \$50 | Non-member: \$58

Artist and teacher Megan Swoyer will lead students down a garden path to focus on a singular large zinnia bloom and lots of intriguing leaves while enjoying a glass of wine. All supplies and refreshments are included. No experience is necessary.

Village Crafting Circle

Select Dates & Times | FREE

Do you have a craft you enjoy? The Village will be open on select weekends for 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. Visit our website for more details. Want to try out a new craft? Check out the workshops below!

Basket Weaving Workshop

Saturday, June 21 | 10 am-1 pm

THS Member: \$115 | Non-member: \$135

Lead by a guest teaching artist from Michigan Folk School, students will create a unique and beautiful basket using pine needles and/or broom corn that will delight and impress. Students can expect to finish one full basket in this class, perhaps even a lid depending on the speed with which you work. Ages 18 & up. No prerequisite.

Leather Working 101 Workshop

Saturday July 19 | 9am-5:30pm

THS Member: \$150 | Non-member: \$175

The students learn basic leatherworking techniques, including the "shoemaker's stitch," cutting and paring of leather, basic tool usage and safety, and a good deal of historical context that makes the work and the product more satisfying. The final product of the class is a small, leather "document case." Ages 18 & up. No prerequisite.

Weekend Intensive Copper & Iron Workshop

Saturday August 9 & Sunday August 10 | 10am-5 pm

THS Member: \$350 | Non-member: \$400

A great alternative to our weeklong introductory workshop in copper and iron, this two-day intensive immerses you into the old-world crafts of coppersmithing and blacksmithing at a modern day pace. Create a unique bird feeder mobile. Ages 18 & up. No prerequisite.

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
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Troy MI 48098