It Takes A VILLAGER



Volunteer Newsletter-June 2025

SINCE OUR LAST NEWSLETTER...

We hosted the State of the City and our amazing volunteers helped make it a wonderful event! More info on page 3.

Volunteers have been helping with school craft-prep, and maintaining our stock during our busy spring season! More info on page 4.

We had a record breaking year for our Spring Egg Hunt! Truly a massive accomplishment, and we couldn't do it without our Villagers! More info on page 2.

1,706 students and chaperones joined us for Civil War Days and our volunteers led the charge! More info on page 5.

The Tuesday Crew have been Tuesday Crewin'! Find out what they've been up to on page 3.

Registration is now open for Scarecrow Row & Troy Traffic Jam. More info on page 5.

Susan, Gail, Jay, and Robin helped prepare and stuff almost 500 letters for our Spring Appeal! Read the letter by <u>clicking here</u>.



We hosted our first **History Tea Tour** and our volunteers helped present and share tea samples! More info on page 4.

Our annual Summer Raffle is ready for sales! More info on page 5.

Volunteers helped clean out the Pioneer Garden and get it ready for spring. More info on page 4.

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

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

SPRING EGG HUNT

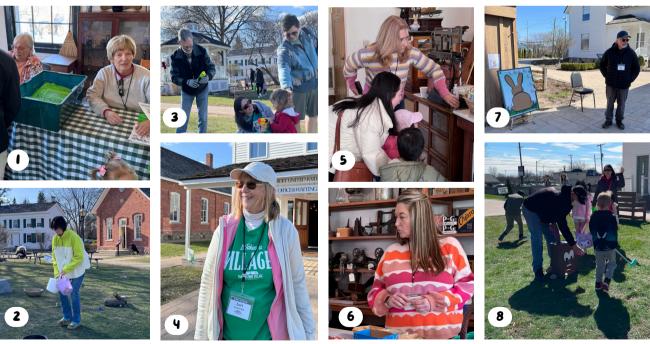
An EGGcelent record-breaking year for our Spring Egg Hunt! This was only our 5th year, and every year we get better and better. This year was extra special because we had great weather AND so many guests who joined us said they came back after having a wonderful experience at Trick-or-Treat and Cocoa & Crafts with Santa! Thank YOU volunteers who go above and beyond to create a magical and memorable experience with families that choose to spend their days with us.

Thank you also to the volunteers who dug in deep after becoming unexpectedly very busy, and for those who gave great feedback for how to make the program better for next year. We truly couldn't have put on this program without you, and we hope you had as much fun as we (and all the guests) did!

Egg Hunt 2024 total # of guests: 462

Egg Hunt 2025 total # of guests: 867!!

Many thanks to these bunnies for volunteering their time: Gail P, Debra S, John L, Lori P, Heather P, Padma K, Linda & Mike T, Lori & Craig H, Carrie R, Carolynn, Cathy, Kevin E, Chris R, Juan, & Anna. We also had quite a few high school student volunteers who helped put on an excellent program! Many of our volunteers also donated goodies to give as prizes during the Egg Hunt. Thank you so much for your dedication to the Village!



1. Cathy & Debra greet guests at check-in. 2. Anna resets eggs for the egg hunt.3. Mike refills the water bottle for the egg-shooting game. 4. Lori P takes a brief rest in between running and resetting the egg lanes. 5. Lori H explains what prizes kids can exchange their eggs for. 6. Carrie R helps a child pick which prize to take home. 7. Kevin E supervises the pin the tail on the bunny station. 8. Craig H tees up the golf balls for children to golf into the mouth of the bunny.



TUESDAY CREW

Our maintenance crew, the Tuesday Crew, has been hard at work Tuesday crewin'!

They built a pretty new sign and bell holder and installed it near the Niles-Barnard House. They answered the urgent call to help touch up paint around the Village for the State of the City, answered another urgent call to help paint the balance beam for Egg Hunt, and built / installed a banner holder in front of the main building.

They've also been working on sorting through and organizing the Parsonage basement to help make the space more functional for workshopping and programming needs.

We're so thankful for this hard workin' crew!



Top: Jim, Lynn, Mike, & Jeff test the banner posts. Right: The bell holder & sign. Bottom: Jeff, Jim, Mike, Lynn, & Rosemary smile in front of the sign they prepared and installed!





STATE OF THE CITY

On May 7, 2025, the City of Troy and Mayor Ethan Baker hosted the State of the City at Troy Historic Village! Jen Peters opened the ceremony by talking about the Village's collaboration with the City. Volunteers Carolynn, Gail P, JoAnn, Kevin L, and Susan L greeted guests as they walked through the buildings. Their passion for the Village and dedication to making sure everyone had a great time made a big difference in the program.

We also had a lot of help preparing the Village for the State of the City. Many city workers weeded and mulched around the Niles-Barnard House, trimmed trees and laid woodchips by the Pioneer Garden, and overall made sure the Village was looking tip top shape!

Tuesday Crew helped touch up paint around the Village and other smaller odds and ends jobs.

Thank you to everyone who helped us facilitate a wonderful evening, and for helping the Village look the best it can!



SCHOOL CRAFT PREP

So far for the 2024 - 2025 school field trip season at the Village, volunteers have helped prepare:

- 4,167 candles
- 3,811 folded foil & taped strings to sticks
- 1,871 taped tin

Thank you so much to everyone who helped contribute to our school craft prep supplies! We will continue our efforts over the summer, so keep an eye out for candle dipping shifts!

HISTORY TEA TOUR

During the first week of May, we hosed our very first History Tea Tour! Guests could walk around the Village and sample distinct teas from around the world while learning about the history of each tea from our amazing volunteers. Volunteers Celia & Terry demonstrated their excellent presentation and guest services skills, and out CAPS high school students did an excellent job presenting in their areas, too! It was a wonderful event, and we hope to continue it next year with more of our trained tour guides!

Left: Kristin (right) serves tea to a guest. Middle: Vaishnavi smiles in between serving guests. Right: Terry (right) serves tea to a quest.







GARDEN CLEAN OUT

On April 26, volunteers braved the chilly day and helped clean out and prepare the Pioneer Garden for spring planting! Our team cleared straw, pulled weeds, cleaned out in between beds, and we filled so many lawn bags (easily in the double digits).

Thank you so much to Debra S, Susan B, Hirak, and Juan for helping!



Left: Volunteer Hirak mows the grass that has over taken a bed. Bottom: Volunteers Hirak, Juan, & Debra, Staff members Shelby & Elizabeth work hard to stay warm while clearing out the garden.



GARDEN PLANS

We need help weeding and maintaining our Pioneer Garden this summer! Confirmed shifts will be on Fridays at 10am - 11am, and we will be weeding, monitoring the plants, and overall caring for the garden. Once you feel comfortable being out there alone, we can add some other shifts during the week based on your availability! Barbara will be out every Friday from 10am - 11am, but please also be sure to RSVP so we know to expect you. Shifts are on the Sign Up Calendar - you can come for one or come for them all! *No July 4th shift.



SUMMER RAFFLE

Every year we put on a Summer Raffle with 10 baskets valued over \$300 each, and the baskets are now ready for raffling! Volunteer Sheryl helped put together the prize baskets - thank you Sheryl! Check out the prizes and find out more information about how to buy tickets by <u>clicking here</u>, or visiting TroyHistoricVillage.org/troy-historical-society-summer-raffle/

Looking forward, we will need help selling raffle tickets during Troy Garden Club's Garden Walk / Plant Sale at the Village on July 9! No experience is necessary, and you'll be stationed under a tent the entire time. We'll teach you everything you need to know at the start of your shift! Shifts are two hours long starting at 10am, and are now on the Sign Up Calendar! Sign up for one or two or as many as you want!

We will also need help with setting up before the event and cleaning up after. Set up will take place at 8:30am - 9:30am, and clean up will take place from 6pm - 7pm. Shifts are on Sign Up Calendar.

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

Registration for Scarecrow Row 2025 & Troy Traffic Jam 2025 opened on April 1, 2025! Know a local business that might want to be a sponsor? Find out more at TroyScarecrowRow.com or TroyTrafficJam.com.

CIVIL WAR DAYS

1,706 students and chaperones joined us over 8 days during Civil War Days this year! We didn't have any bad weather, either! This program is a staple of our Education Programming, and having volunteers to lead the groups helps our staff immensely. It is a big undertaking, and we are so thankful so many of you donated your time and energy to help us make sure each student, chaperone, teacher, and presenter had a smooth program.

Please join me in thanking these folks for their time during Civil War Days: Karla C, Cathy M, Roger K, Denise K, Colete F, Gail P, Chris R, Terry P, Kevin L, Susan L, Lori P, Sheryl L, Ken M, Harlene C.

SUMMER KICK-OFF

On June 3, Troy Historic Village hosted our Summer Kick-Off and we had almost 200 people come through to see what we have going on this summer, purchase raffle tickets, and visit other vendors! Thank you to all of our volunteers who helped: Ken H, Debra, Ken M, Sheryl S, JoAnn P, John L, Sue L, Karla C, Gail P!

Right: Karla, JoAnn, and Gail P smile in between selling raffle tickets at Summer Kick-Off.



CURRENT VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

MONTHLY SCHOOL CRAFT PREP JUNE 10, 10:30AM - 12PM JULY 8, 10:30AM - 12PM

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

SUMMER RAFFLE SALES HELP JULY 9. VARIOUS TIMES

Help sell raffle tickets during the Garden Walk at the Village on July 9! No experience necessary, we'll teach you everything you need to know. Sign up for one or multiple shifts. We also need help setting up and cleaning up. Shifts are on the Sign Up Calendar.

PEDAL CAR RACES JUNE 15, JULY 12

We have two kids' pedal car races around Troy before the big finale at Troy Traffic Jam. We need help putting the race on on June 15 & July 12! Monitoring the finish line, taking pictures, lining up racers. No experience necessary. Shifts are on Sign Up!

MARKETING MATERIALS DISTRIBUTION ONGOING

Next sign up June 18. See Barbara with additional questions!

Going to car shows this summer? We'd love your help spreading the word of Troy Traffic Jam! Stop by the Village to grab postcards to distribute at the event.

PRESERVATION ASSISTANTS THIRD WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH. 11AM - 1PM

We are seeking energetic and compassionate people who enjoy cleaning to help us maintain some of our collections! Some duties may include dusting, sweeping / mopping, cleaning baseboards / walls, and other general housekeeping duties inside of our historic structures. We will provide all the supplies and have some training for handling artifacts! This position will work closely with our curator, Elizabeth! Shifts are on Sign Up Calendar.

CHECK-IN HELPERS NEEDED

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

- Thursday Teas (June 26, July 17, August 28)
- Summer Exhibit Guest Lectures (July 15, August 7)
- Radio Show (August 16, August 17)

PIONEER GARDEN HELP FRIDAYS, 10AM - 11AM

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

OTHER SAVE THE DATES:

- Troy Traffic Jam (August 3) all hands on deck! Expect sign ups to begin in a few weeks!
- Scarecrow Row (First week of August) building begins!