

Summer  
2011

Troy  
Historical  
Society



# THE VILLAGE PRESS

*where history lives*

{ **A** **New**  
**Era** **Begins** }

Just as it takes a village to raise a child, it will take all of us to nurture the Historic Village! Here's how you can help:

When Harriet and Norman Barnard, Morris Wattles and a small group of volunteers organized the Troy Historical Society in 1966, they were determined to preserve their community's history. Almost forty-five years later, the Troy Historical Society is entering a new era with an expanded mission.

On July 1, 2011 THS assumes operational management of the Troy Museum & Historic Village. The facility will have a new name, a brighter welcome center, and a broader mission. New signage will greet visitors to the *Troy Historic Village: where history lives*. "We are eliminating the word museum from the name," explained Director Loraine Campbell, "because our facility does not have traditional museum galleries, but our guests will be engaged in action-based visitor experiences in the village." A new logo for the Troy Historic Village was designed by volunteer Michael Nowosatko, who has thirty years of experience as a graphic arts designer. Mike was assisted by intern Tracy Finch. Tracy just completed three years of course work at the International Academy of Design and Technology. You see their work incorporated in the new masthead of this issue of the Village Press. The logo will be paired with a revised mission statement

and marketing efforts that brand the Village as a regional cultural center. Mike, Tracy and the new THS Community Relations team will unveil more new and creative ideas in future issues of the Village Press!

Finally, the 1927 Township Hall was painted and reorganized using remaining city capital funds. "We gave our gift shop (renamed The Village Store) more space, consolidated office space for the reduced staff, and created brighter, more engaging visitor spaces that orient and guide the public to the Village," said Loraine. The painters also stripped and stained little Town Hall in the Village. On Saturday, July 23 everyone is invited to a special reopening of the Village from 2 pm to 7:30 pm. Explore the updated 1927 Township Hall and the new Village store. Bring your friends and neighbors, your picnic dinner and lawn chairs, and hear the lively music of Great Lakes folk singer Kitty Donohoe at 6 pm. For more details please go to [www.troyhistory.org](http://www.troyhistory.org).

- Renew your THS membership when your renewal notice arrives.
- Make a donation to support the THS and Village operations. If you cannot afford a lump sum gift, please make a pledge, with 4 quarterly or 12 monthly installments. A donation form is included in this issue.
- Make an IN-KIND GIFT of office supplies or a gift card from Trevarrow Ace Hardware, Home Depot or Meijer.
- Volunteer your time and talents. We need:

Writers and editors to develop copy for the Village Press and program materials.

Facility attendants for weekend hours.

Volunteer gardeners to work with a Master Gardener in our flower beds this summer.

Volunteers who enjoy social networking to monitor and update our Facebook page.

Our sixth annual Spring THS fundraiser did a lot of business this year. The panel of six expert professional appraisers was fully engaged for four hours on Sunday, May 1. Among them, they performed 190 appraisals, which raised over \$950 at \$5 per verbal appraisal (\$740 after expenses) to help keep the Troy Historic Village open to the public. Our appraisers donated their time and services, so THS benefitted greatly. Thank you, appraisers! A baker's dozen THS volunteers also made this event a success. Gerry Young, Gloria Anderlie, and Kinda Hupman brought, prepared and distributed food and beverages to keep up the energy levels of appraisers and volunteers alike. Loraine Campbell, Fred and Muriel Rounds, and Diane Gurzick were our greeters, steering each customer to the right appraiser, learning how the customers found out about our appraisal fair this year (the Troy Times was the primary source - thank you Troy Times!), and, in Diane's case, also selling donated cookies to augment the appraisers' fees for the benefit of Troy Historical Society.



Each appraiser was assisted by an assigned volunteer. Judy Siess helped appraiser Bill Lynch (books), John Lavender worked with appraiser Bob Krug (generalist), Ward Randol assisted appraiser LaVere Webster (fine art), Richard Barnard helped appraiser Greg Miehle (jewelry), Sue Lavender worked with appraiser Zola Webster (needlework), and Cheryl Barnard assisted appraiser Fred Fleming (generalist). Our two generalist appraisers worked especially hard, staying an hour after the official closing so that all

waiting customers could receive appraisals. We hope to have even more appraisers join us at next year's Appraisal Fair fundraiser, which will be held on the afternoon of Sunday, May 6, 2012 at Troy's First United Methodist Church. It's not too early to start thinking now about which of your antiques and collectibles to bring in for an appraisal, to help us keep the Troy Historic Village open. You may find a surprise treasure, and keeping the Historic Village open is priceless.

by Ward Randol

## New Positions For Familiar Faces

As part of the transition of the Historic Village to THS management, the Society has hired staff formerly employed by the City of Troy. Loraine Campbell, the city's Museum Manager since 2000, has been retained by THS as full time Historic Village Director, effective July 1. Loraine has a BS in Biology, an MA in History and certification in Archive Management, all from Wayne State University. She has 20 years experience as an interpretive naturalist and historian, is a published author, a frequent public speaker, and an adjunct faculty member at Wayne State University. Loraine also served on the Board of Directors of the Michigan Audubon Society and is a past president of that organization.

The Society has also hired Anne Nagrant, a key member of the museum's interpretive staff since 2006, as the part time Program Director in charge of education and public programs at the Village. Anne previously worked at the Detroit Historical Museum, Smithsonian National Museum of American History, Colonial Fort Michilimackinac and Greenfield Village. While in the Peace Corps in Romania, she volunteered at the Maramures Museum in Sighetu Marmatiei and, upon her return to the United States, she served as volunteer exhibit coordinator for the Romanian Museum Room at St. George Cathedral in Southfield. Ms. Nagrant is also the librarian and a violinist with the Livonia Symphony. She received her BA, cum laude, in Anthropological Archaeology and History from the University of Michigan Honors College. THS will also hire part time interpreters as needed during the summer and school year, to teach scheduled education and enrichment programs.



# This Summer

## Engaging with History by Sharing Our Stories



Join us for a delightful and engaging summer of sharing stories that express our heritage. Come for story lunches, and meet Michigan authors. Enjoy family picnics that feature professional storytellers and musicians. Hear stories from the past as you stroll through the Historic Village. Each week features a special theme and related hands-on activities. **Note: All children must be accompanied by an adult.**

*These programs were made possible, in part, by a grant from the Michigan Humanities Council, an affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. We are grateful for their support. Please note that any views, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed in the project do not necessarily represent those of the National Endowment for the Humanities.*

### Story Lunches

Thursdays at Noon; program will begin by 12:15 pm.  
Program is free with admission. Bring a picnic lunch to munch outdoors, while we read a storybook or two based on the week's theme.  
Children of all ages can enjoy a related, hands-on activity afterwards.

July 7	Celebrations
July 14	Gardens
July 21	<b>Pocketful of Passage</b> ..... Author: Loraine Campbell
July 28	Grandparents
August 4	<b>My Mountain Song</b> ..... Author: Shutta Crum
August 11	Tall Tales and Legends
August 18	Quilts Tell Stories
August 25	Tasty Tales

### Supper Storytellers for the Entire Family

Bring the whole family at 2:00 pm, your dinner and a blanket (or lawn chair) for picnic at 5:30 pm. Doors open at 5:30 pm; performances begin at 6:00 pm. Programs are free with admission. Donations are gratefully accepted. These professional storytellers are sure to delight! In case of rain, programs will be held indoors.

Saturday, July 23 Lighthouses & Legends, with Michigan singer/songwriter Kitty Donohoe, plus a new look at the brighter, visitor-friendly Troy Historic Village

Wed July 27 Skipping Through the '50s, with Lois Sprengnether Keel

Saturday, August 13 Michigan Tall Tales, with Larry Massie

### Thursday Teas at Two

Sip a cup of tea, while enjoying a slice of history. A different, delightful topic each month! Presentations begin in the air-conditioned Old Troy Church at 2 pm and last one hour. Guests are welcome to bring their own china cup and saucer, if preferred.



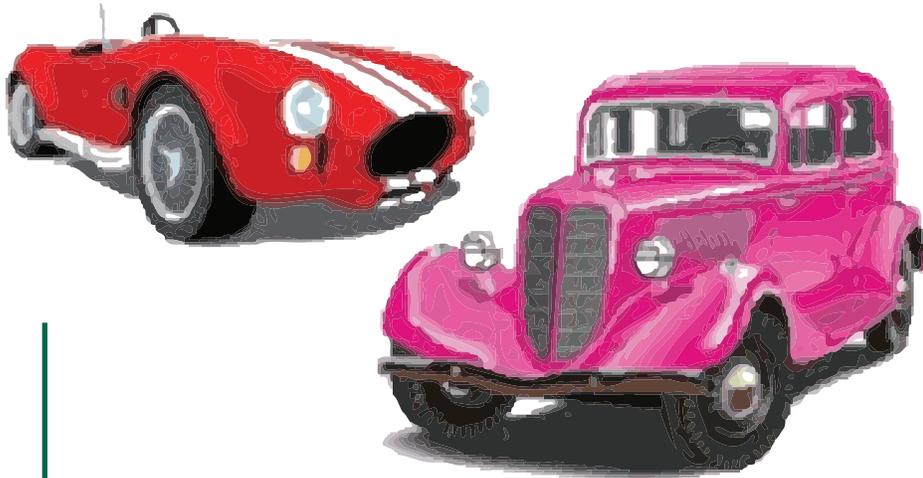
**July 28: Inventerrific Tea**  
Explore the creativity of women inventors who solved problems of everyday life, presented by Amy Clark.

**August 25: Tea and Tollhouse**  
Marguerite Humes will share the story of Ruth Wakefield, who invented the Tollhouse Cookie in 1930.

\$7 per person for each tea Register in advance, as space is limited for this popular series. Program fee includes museum admission. No refunds are made for tea ticket purchases.

# Thanks For Your Support!

THS members contributed nearly \$3,000 in donations in response to our recent transition appeal. The Board of Trustees and Village family of staff, volunteers and patrons deeply appreciate every dollar donated to keep the Village open and thriving. Because of your continued support, over 10,000 school children teachers and chaperones participated in education programs at the Village during the 2010/11 school year and we are able to plan new programs that will keep history alive in our region.



## Troy Traffic REVS Jam Up!

### A Bit of History

On June 15, former Poppleton School principal David Beattie talked with 71 Wattles Elementary School students who were enjoying a Field Day at the Troy Historic Village. Mr. Beattie explained that when the old one-room school was no longer needed as a classroom, it served as living quarters for the school's custodian, Walter Bemis. The Bemis family lived there for three years until Poppleton became a classroom. Later the students and their families wished to honor their beloved custodian by naming a new elementary school in his honor. Naming a school after a janitor was such a rare event that the story was reported in the national news.

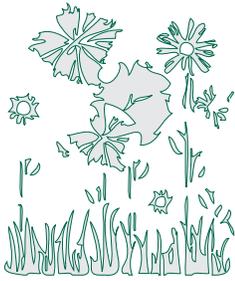
My first car was a powder blue 1967 Camaro with a tiny racing stripe. I can still remember how much fun it was to drive when I commuted to Wayne State University. What is your best car memory? What is your favorite car? Whether you prefer classic motorcars, muscle cars, or street rods, you'll enjoy the Troy Traffic Jam on Sunday August 7th from 10 am - 3 pm. This annual event sponsored by Kirco Development, Kelly Services, and The Suburban Collection, is held at the Columbia Center at the southwest corner of Big Beaver and Livernois. All proceeds from the event support the work of the Troy Historical Society. The show features over 150 terrific cars, great music and delicious food. For more information about the show, or to download an application to enter a car, go to [www.troyhistory.org](http://www.troyhistory.org) or stop by the Troy Historic Village. There is a \$15 fee per car to enter before the event, or a \$20 fee per car to enter the day of the event. General admission to the Traffic Jam is free.

By Loraine Campbell

# The Niles-Barnard House Preservation Update

The gracious Niles Barnard House now rests on a refurbished sill, but some foundation work must still be completed. "The engineers have outlined some modifications to the structural steel installed in the basement, and a bit of masonry work is still unfinished," said Heritage Campaign co-chair John Lavender. "Most important, we must install the salvaged stones against the cinder block foundation. This work is not just decorative - it provides structural integrity to the foundation." THS applied for, but was not awarded, an Evans Memorial Grant to pay for this work. "The price tag is about \$10,000," said Lavender, who also serves as the Society's Treasurer. Donation forms are included with this newsletter, in case you would like to make a contribution.

## A Tapestry of Gardens: **The 2011 Garden Club Walk**



The Troy Garden Club has supported the Troy Historic Village for many years. Members donate their time tending our flowers. Talented Master Gardeners have designed and nurtured beautiful flower beds in the Village and the club has contributed funds for programs and plantings. On Wednesday, July 13 the Garden Club will host their annual fundraiser, the Garden Club Walk. This year's event features six wonderful residential gardens, plus the opportunity to tour the environmentally sustainable gardens at the Kresge Foundation headquarters on Big Beaver Road, just west of the Somerset Collection. Once again the Historic Village will host the craft boutique held during the event. It features nearly 30 vendors selling plants, gardening materials, books, photographs, decorations and wonderful gift items. The Garden Club Walk runs from 9:00 am - 2:00 pm and from 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm. The boutique at the Village is open from 9:00 am - 7:00 pm. Ten dollar tickets are available, in advance, at the Historic Village, Telly's Greenhouse, Auburn Oaks, and Uncle Luke's Feed Store. Tickets are sold at the Village on July 13 for \$15 and Village admission is free that day. Please attend and support this wonderful event!

### **Society Board Officers:**

President: Cheryl Barnard

Vice President: Judy Iceman

Treasurer: John Lavender

Deputy Treasurer: Ward Randol

Secretary: Catharine OGawa

### **Board members:**

Gloria Anderlie, Richard Barnard, Ron Bernard, Kinda Hupman, Alison Iceman, Judy Iceman, Sherrill Jackson, John Lavender, Sue Lavender, Judy Siess, and Gerry Young.

Village Press:

Alison Iceman, Layout Editor



**Troy  
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Society**

Troy Historical Society  
60 West Wattles Road Troy, MI 48099  
248.879.6305  
[www.troyhistory.org](http://www.troyhistory.org)

Enjoy the past by visiting and taking advantage of the outstanding lectures, festivals, and displays at the:

Troy  
Historic Village  
60 West Wattles Road  
(248) 524-3570

Hours:  
Tuesday-Thursday  
10am-3pm  
Adults \$3  
Children \$2

Children under six are free

[www.troyhistory.org](http://www.troyhistory.org)

Please check the expiration date of your current membership which is on your address label. Those membership dates that are highlighted should be renewed before our next newsletter. For example, if your expiration date is September 2011, you can extend your membership to September 2012.

# Join the Historical Society Help Preserve the Light

The Troy Historical Society was organized in 1966 to promote the appreciation and awareness of the rich heritage of the citizens of Troy, to encourage preservation of records, pictures, structures, and other objects of local historical significance, and to sponsor programs to carry out these purposes. You can become a member by mailing in the membership application on the back page of this newsletter. Society Board meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the Troy Historic Village. All Society members are welcome to attend.

## Troy Historical Society Membership Application and Renewal Form

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday (D/M): \_\_\_\_\_

Enclose payment for membership in the following categories:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$20 Individual       | <input type="checkbox"/> \$30 Family/Couple           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 Business        | <input type="checkbox"/> \$ 50 Non-profit Institution |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$200 Individual Life |   |

Please check if you would like Newsletters via E-mail:

Memorial contributions and bequests are welcome.

Your interests or personal collections/Your history in Troy: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Help preserve Troy's history. Send this form and your payment to:  
Troy Historical Society, 60 W. Wattles, Troy, MI 48098

We care about our members and would like to keep updated on any cares or concerns. Please feel free to call Gerry Young at 586-802-1225.

We welcome any members' articles for the newsletter, subject to content and space limits.

How do you like our new look?  
Any questions or comments please send to:

The Village Press  
Attn: Alison Iceman or Tracy Finch  
60 W. Wattles  
Troy MI 48098

E-mail us at:  
[thevillagepress@troyhistory.org](mailto:thevillagepress@troyhistory.org)

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