

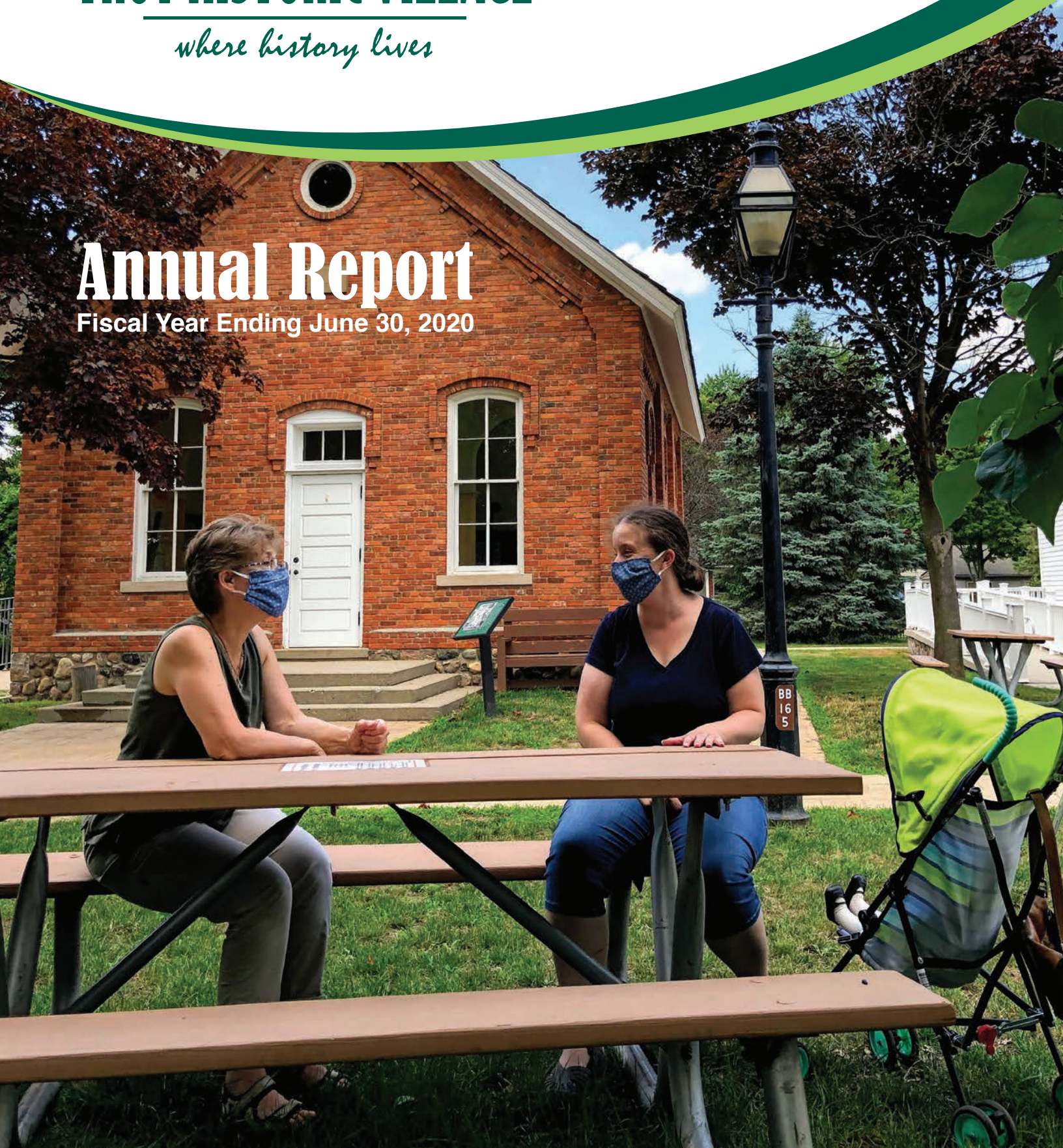


# TROY HISTORIC VILLAGE

*where history lives*

## Annual Report

Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2020





# AROUND THE VILLAGE



The Board of Trustees of the Troy Historical Society (THS) and the staff of the Troy Historic Village (Village) present this Annual Report for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2020 (FYE2020). During this year THS welcomed visitors of all ages for education programs designed to encourage the life-long exploration of history and culture. As the COVID-19 pandemic hit in the last quarter of the fiscal year, vital support enabled us to retain our professional staff who immediately began modifying and developing programs that continued this mission while following health and safety protocols.

## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

THS scheduled youth field trips for public, private, and charter schools from seven counties in southeast Michigan including all second-grade students attending Detroit Public Schools Community District. Over 15,000 students, chaperones, and teachers were planning visits during the school year. School closures in mid-March resulted in final 2019/2020 school attendance of only 7,917. With financial support from donors, grantors, and the City of Troy, education staff pivoted to modifying and developing new programs for the fall. Adult and family programs welcomed nearly 4,000 visitors to Cheddar Story Hour, Teas for a Few, Constitution Café, Hearth and Soul, Group Gathers, and Blacksmithing Classes prior to Stay-at-Home orders. During that pause, programs were reviewed and modified to accommodate safety protocol. Some went online while others became small groups for our summer reopening.

The Annual Troy Traffic Jam welcomed around 6,000 attendees to the Columbia Center on Big Beaver Road in early August 2019. We shifted our marketing strategies and focused on “fueling education.” This made clear the connection between our largest annual fundraiser and the daily activities at the Village. In October we welcomed over 800 children and family members to our annual Trick-or-Treat event.

Through FYE2020 we continued our Healthy Living activities. These proved to be some of the most resilient programs throughout the pandemic. Outdoor yoga classes at the Village and the weekly Walking Group around the community allowed for safe social interaction when it was needed the most. We added a Summer Fitness Challenge with social media interaction to further encourage healthy living in our community.



# AROUND THE VILLAGE

## STAFF AND VOLUNTEER SUPPORT

THS staff continued creative engagement with the community through FYE2020. A majority of the staff are historical interpreters who develop and present educational programs to school students—our core programming. They combine over 130 years of experience with teacher input and feedback to keep programs relevant and impactful. Our Adult and Family Program Director develops interesting and educational programs that fulfill the mission of THS and reach out to other age groups. She utilizes the interests and strengths of all staff members in program creation and execution.



We also employ a Director, Curator, Business Manager, Community Development Director, and custodial staff. These staff members support the general operations of the Village. They also work with the program and education staff members to analyze and refine programs. During the Stay-at-Home orders, all staff members worked reduced hours and adjusted their tasks while continuing to engage the community. This resulted in increased social media interaction, new program ideas, and a successful spring appeal. The historical interpreters worked with a recently retired Troy teacher to write new curriculum books and reformat field trips to an online platform. Other staff members modified existing programs and created new ones to creatively connect to the community in new and safe ways.

Volunteers have always provided essential administrative, marketing, and programming support. In 2019 we began Archive Core Training for those interested in preserving local history. Other volunteers assisted with Summer Visitor Experiences, the Troy Traffic Jam, Scarecrow Row, our annual Halloween and Christmas events, Maple Syrup Days at Stage Nature Center, garden and yard work around the village grounds, maintenance and small building projects, and Board work. 208 volunteers of all ages assisted with these activities for an approximate total of 3,796 hours.

## CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

Water intrusion into the Church basement damaged drywall but none of the furniture collection stored there. A city crew replaced the drywall and Village staff cared for the artifacts. National Restoration replaced and painted deteriorated clapboard on the Caswell House. They also replaced or restored window casings on the Caswell House and Church, with particular attention to the large, stained glass window, which had extensive rot. The roof on Poppleton School was patched in the fall of 2019 but requires complete replacement. An assessment of all the roofs in the Village will be used to create a multi-year replacement plan.

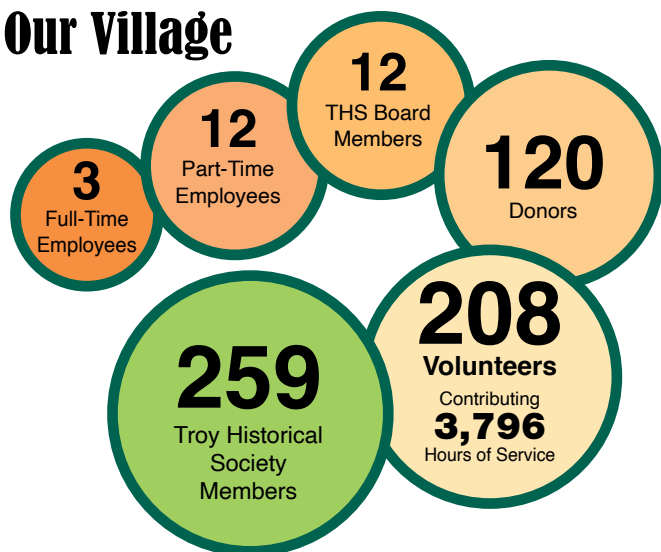


We are eagerly anticipating the completion of the historic 1837 Niles-Barnard House. The contract for the project was awarded last November to Cedroni Associates of Utica. Unfortunately, the project has suffered serious delays related to the COVID-19 pandemic. New pathways to the Niles-Barnard House and improvements to existing pathways in the Village were completed this past summer. Jeremy Locke, a local landscape designer, has graciously donated his time and talent to design a colorful landscape utilizing native plants as we work to complete the project.

Volunteers continue to work on small projects around the Village. Last fall and winter the Village Work Crew repaired and repainted the Wagon Shop sign, repaired trash barrel lids, and patched/painted plaster ceilings in the Caswell House. This past summer they repaired and repainted the front doors on the 1837 Church.

*"The Village continues to find new and exciting ways to engage the community... turning children, adults, and seniors into students of all ages" ~Jen Peters, Executive Director*

### Our Village



### COVID Update

COVID had an immediate impact on programming and fundraising at the Village. With support from generous donors, the City of Troy, and CARES Act relief, we were able to retain our professional staff who quickly began reformatting existing programs and creating new ones.



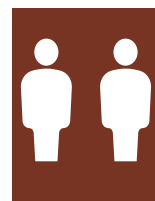
#### EDUCATION

- 5** New virtual and homeschool programs created with hands-on kits
- 3** New curriculum-based activity books with teacher editions, over 200 pages written



#### FAMILY & ADULT PROGRAMS

- 8** New programs designed for families offered throughout the summer and fall
- 5** New scout programs with merit badge opportunities developed
- 4** Existing programs for adults and seniors reworked to meet new safety guidelines



#### EVENTS

- 2** Events reimaged to include physically distanced activities for safe social interaction
- 2** New outdoor events added this fall to utilize our safe green spaces



#### HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

Expanded our activities with more participants at outdoor yoga and walks and created new family fitness opportunities



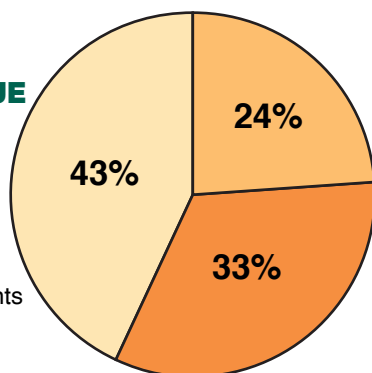
#### AROUND THE VILLAGE

- 3** Village-wide exhibits produced with related tours and programs

### Financials\*

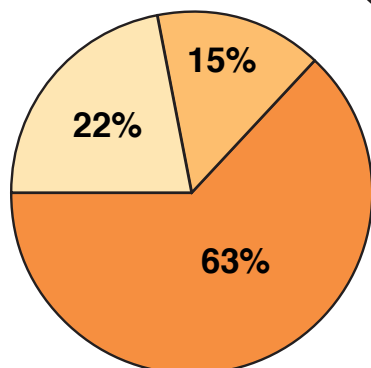
#### SOURCE OF REVENUE

- 24% Programs, Admissions, Village Store & Rentals
- 33% Donors, Sponsors, Membership & Fundraising
- 43% Government & Grants



#### FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES

- 22% Administrative
- 15% Fundraising
- 63% Programs



\*Unaudited Financial Statements from FY 2019/2020



# FINANCIALS

## FINANCE

THS successfully completed its ninth fiscal year operating the Village through its renewable management agreement with the City of Troy. The current agreement will end in 2026. The Village provided profitable programming and had successful events and fundraising activities for the first three quarters of the fiscal year. However, due to COVID we had no programming income in April, May and June—our busiest time for field trips, teas, and other programs. Programs plus a successful spring appeal, additional support from the City of Troy, and Covid-specific grants contributed sufficient revenue to carry us through FYE2020 with gross receipts of \$481,162. The Village staff created and THS Board approved a 6-month budget to finish the calendar year using net income from FYE2020 as our “financial pot” to get us through diminished fall programming and into the spring.

## GRANTS

The following grant funds were received in FYE2020:

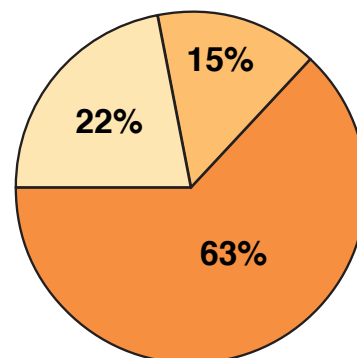
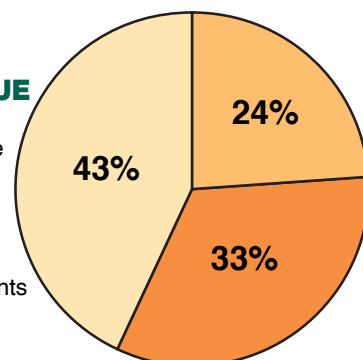
- ✓ **Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs** awarded an \$18,000 Operational Support Grant.
- ✓ **The Kresge Foundation** allocated \$5,000 from a three-year grant of \$15,000 to support general operations, plus an additional \$500 in COVID assistance.
- ✓ **The Oakland County Bar Association** awarded \$6,880 to THS for the Constitution Café program and related educational opportunities.
- ✓ THS applied for and received a \$65,700 **Payroll Protection Plan** loan that should successfully transition into a grant upon submission of final paperwork.
- ✓ **Michigan Humanities Council and National Endowment for the Arts** awarded THS a \$5,000 Michigan H.O.P.E. grant as part of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act economic stabilization plan.
- ✓ **Culture Source** awarded a \$10,000 Relief and Resiliency Grant to THS through their COVID-19 Arts and Creative Community Assistance Fund
- ✓ Annual \$100,000 support from the **City of Troy** plus an additional \$50,000 to maintain Village staff and operations through the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Endowment Fund to benefit the Troy Historic Village administered by the Troy Community Foundation reached \$29,787 and is now an invested fund.

## Financials\*

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NATIONAL  
ENDOWMENT  
FOR THE  
HUMANITIES



THE  
KRESGE  
FOUNDATION



Phillip & Elizabeth Filmer Memorial Charitable Trust

# COLLECTIONS AND COLLABORATIONS

## COLLECTIONS

Staff Curator, Elizabeth Thornburg, with the assistance of fourteen volunteers contributing 875 hours completed the following projects during FYE2020:

- ✓ Completed an inventory of the Church basement and removed all mildew from the archive collections following the basement flood.
- ✓ Designed and installed a pop-up exhibit for Troy Citizens Academy.
- ✓ Wayne State University Practicum Student Emily Reitzel organized materials donated by the Barnard family in 2009-2010; consolidation and organization of the collection continues.
- ✓ Selected artifacts and photographs for display in the Niles-Barnard House.
- ✓ Digitized Troy Daze clippings, photographs and business records.
- ✓ Completed two Archive Core Trainings, consisting of THV Volunteers, college students and high school students. This group will use community collections to learn more about archiving, enhance THV collections presence online, and create more advocates for Troy community collections.
- ✓ Digitized the Evening Primrose Society scrapbooks.
- ✓ Digitized the Big Beaver School Scrapbooks.
- ✓ Digitized Scrapbooks belonging to the late Lee Shambarger.
- ✓ Digitized, indexed and researched the Troy Township Register of Women Electors for 1919-1924 to celebrate the centenary of women's suffrage. In partnership with the education department, the names of women voters registered in 1919-1920 will be used to gain a better understanding of who these women were.
- ✓ Wayne State University mini-practicum student Ginny Schneider transcribed oral histories using a new software program.
- ✓ Labeled Niles-Barnard Photographs with accession numbers.
- ✓ Digitized the Arthur Molinar scrapbooks.
- ✓ Catalogued and digitized the Fowler-Reeg stationary scrapbooks. This collection holds over 19 scrapbooks with over 1,000 unique examples of Detroit area business letterhead, business cards, and other engraving work c.1960-1995.
- ✓ Identified artifacts from the collection the Resilience on the Homefront Exhibit (July-September 2020).

## COLLABORATIONS

THS continued its collaboration with the Troy Nature Center to provide Michigan products at their annual Maple Syrup Festival.

The Troy Garden Club provided plants for the Village grounds, mini pumpkins for the Trick-or-Treat event, evergreens and refreshments for the Cocoa with Santa event, and hundreds of hours of volunteer service to maintain and update flower and herb beds. The Garden Club embraced safe physical distancing practices to continue their volunteer work at the Village through the spring and summer and once again assisted a local family in raising vegetables in the Pioneer Garden.

Beaumont Health continued to support outdoor yoga classes through the summer and fall, and the year-round weekly walking group. These physically distanced outdoor activities became an important social connection through the pandemic.

The Village had anticipated hosting Eastern Michigan University's Historic Preservation Field School in the spring of 2020. Field School was cancelled due to COVID, but we hope to host EMU in upcoming years.



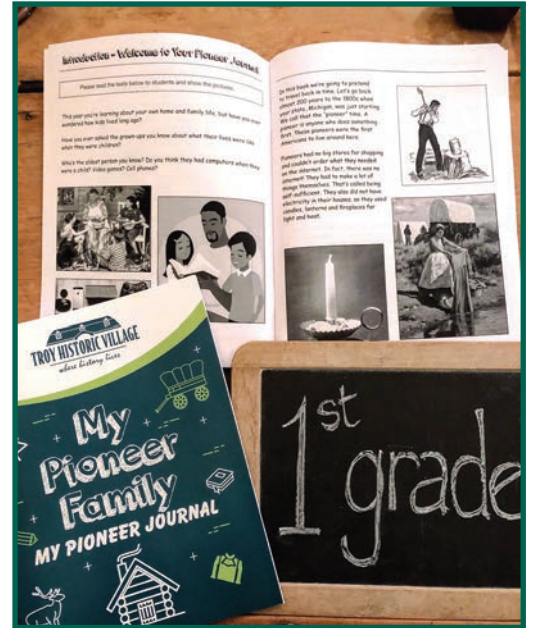
# LOOKING FORWARD

COVID-19 interrupted what promised to be our largest programming year. We look forward to integrating what was developed over the last eight months into a more robust offering that promises to expand our reach to new communities in the Troy area and across the state. Our Virtual Field Trips and Curriculum Books have the potential to reach students who could never physically visit the Village. We have expanded our “Group Gather” topics for adults and seniors and will continue to offer them virtually. We also have developed more ways for families and scout groups to participate in educational programs and opportunities at the Village.

This year we produced a series of Village-wide exhibits including *Resilience on the Homefront*, *Scarecrowtopia*, and *Celebration of Light*. We were able to experiment with using the Village in new ways and partnering with new collaborators for these exhibits, and hope to develop more ways for visitors to engage the Village collections.

Our blacksmithing program remained strong this year suggesting visitors might be interested in exploring other trades. We hope to restart the Village Printshop and rethink the surrounding space to create a tradesperson education area—a place where visitors might take hands-on classes in the trades (blacksmith, tinsmith, carpentry) and/or preservation of historic buildings and structures.

Finally, we look forward to expanding rentals at the Village in 2021. The completion of the Niles-Barnard House and other projects put us in the perfect position to host a range of activities. We enjoy being a historic and cultural resource to the community that provides a range of opportunities to visitors of all ages and backgrounds.





# BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY SPONSORS

## BUSINESS & OPERATIONS

AAA Ice Cream  
City of Troy  
Genisys Credit Union  
Home Depot  
Kim's Restaurant  
Lowe's  
Nino Salvaggio International  
Marketplace  
Pomeroy Living-Rochester  
Real Living Kee Realty  
Signs and More  
Tim Hortons-Troy  
Trevarrow Hardware  
Troy Garden Club  
Whole Foods

## TROY TRAFFIC JAM

American House  
Autumn Insurance & Benefits  
CBTS  
City of Troy  
Classic & Exotic  
Community Choice Credit Union  
Detroit Performance Center  
Speed Shop  
Dilisio Contracting  
E.M. Schroeder Insurance Agency  
GR Auto Gallery  
Kelly Services  
Kirco/Columbia Center  
Kiwanis  
Mahindra  
Master Auto  
Merrill Lynch  
Morgan Stanley  
Oakland County Commissioner-  
Penny Luebs  
Stoney River SteakHouse & Grill  
Suburban Collection

## SCARECROW ROW

A.J. Desmond & Sons  
Accent Florist  
Alliance Mobile Health  
Anthology of Troy  
Benito's Pizza  
Billings Lawn Equipment  
C & G Newspapers  
Coldwell Banker Weir Manuel  
Community Choice Credit Union  
Crispelli's Bakery & Pizzeria  
Dairy Queen  
Della's Maple Lane Florist  
DeMore-University of Michigan  
Estia Greek Street Foods  
Fabric Affair  
Genisys Credit Union  
Greenberg Laser Eye CTR  
Highest Honor  
Home Depot  
Jazzercise Troy Fitness Center  
Jen Peters & Family-Albion  
College  
Jonny Cakes Café  
J-Ro School of Music  
Kristine Rose-MSU  
Lincoln of Troy  
Luxury Kitchen  
Mahindra  
Manpower Group  
Mr. Kabob Xpress  
MSU Management Education  
Center  
Oakland Press  
Oakmont Sterling Enhanced  
OMPT Specialist Physical Therapy  
Padma Kuppa-MSU  
Pomeroy Living Rochester  
Independent  
JoAnn Preston-University of  
Wisconsin

Real Estate One Troy  
Real Living Kee Realty  
Rebecca Preston-Purdue  
University  
Rexpointe Kennels  
Ridley's Bakery Café  
Robert Preston – Kettering  
University  
Rochester Lawn Equipment  
Center, Inc  
Royal Oak Heating and Cooling  
Signs & More  
St Anastasia Knights of Columbus  
Stage Nature Center  
State Farm Insurance-Ann Percy  
Sunrise Senior Living  
T & I Credit Union  
Troy Friendship Club  
The Choice Group  
The Clawson Steak House  
The Quell Group  
Thrivent  
Trevarrow Hardware  
Troy Dental Studio  
Troy Fire Dept  
Troy Garden Club  
Troy Police Dept  
Troy Optimist Club  
Troy Public Library  
Troy Racquet Club  
Troy Rotary  
Troy Sports Center  
Troy Veterinary Hospital  
Troy-Somerset Gazette  
Vals Pet Supplies  
Waltonwood Main  
Ward Randol-Yale

## EDUCATION SPONSORS

City of Troy  
Kelly Services  
Kirco/Columbia Center  
Suburban Collection

## HEALTHY LIVING COMMUNITY INITIATIVES

Beaumont Health

## TRICK OR TREAT SPONSORS

AAA Ice Cream  
Genisys Credit Union  
Meijer  
Nino Salvaggio  
The Art of Smiles Daniel J.O'Brien  
DDS, FIOCI  
Troy Garden Club

## HOLIDAY EVENTS SPONSORS

Genisys Credit Union  
Troy Garden Club

## OPEN HOUSE SPONSORS

Real Living Kee Realty

## TEA SPONSORS

Pomeroy Living-Rochester  
Michigan Council for Arts and  
Cultural Affairs  
National Endowment for  
the Arts

## FOUNDATIONS AND GRANTS



NATIONAL  
ENDOWMENT  
FOR THE  
HUMANITIES



THE  
KRESGE  
FOUNDATION



Phillip & Elizabeth Filmer Memorial Charitable Trust



# INDIVIDUAL DONATIONS

Edna Abraham  
J. Howard Adams  
Valiena Allison  
Connie Babinchak  
Paul & Brenda Balas  
Fred & Kit Barnard  
Ronald & Laura Barnard  
Mike & Pam Brady  
Richard Beaubien  
Robin & Richard  
Beltrami  
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Christine & Julia Birdsall  
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Karen & John Kraft  
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