

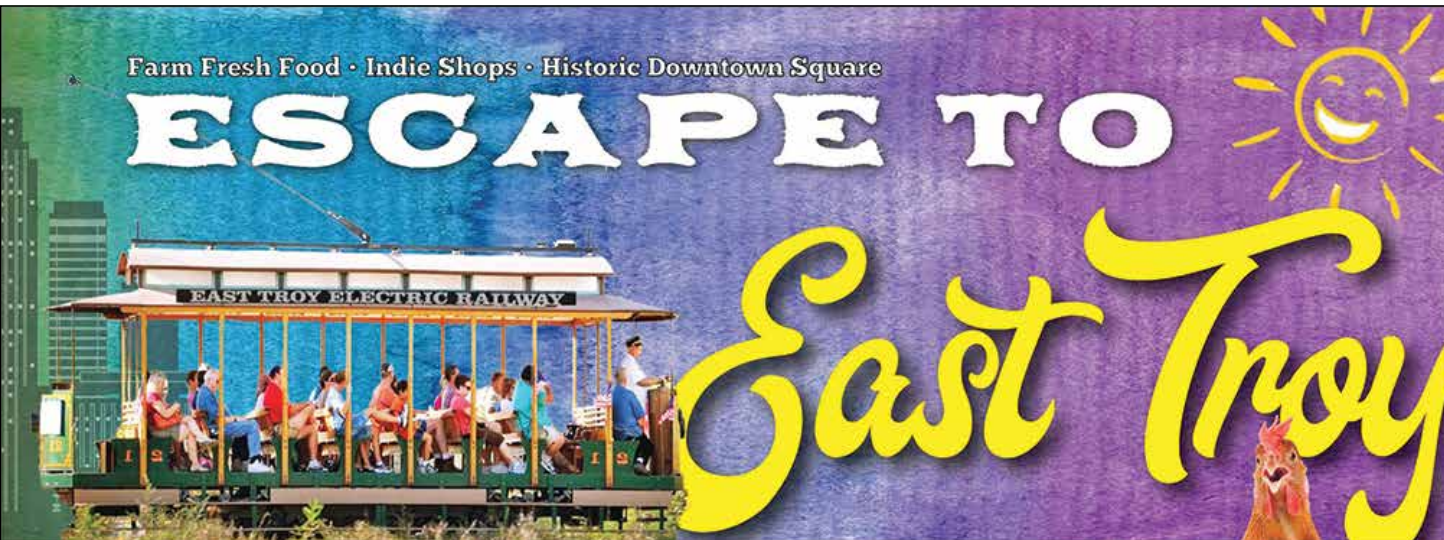
# Good NEIGHBORS

A Publication of the East Troy Area Chamber of Commerce

EASTTROY.ORG

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## Not just fun & games *East Troy home to big businesses*

By Vanessa Lenz  
EAST TROY CHAMBER EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

In the past 10 years, we've witnessed East Troy transform into one of the coolest places in Southeastern Wisconsin.

You'll feel it when you walk along the streets of our downtown historic Village Square, with a history that is well-preserved

and now ripe with a little bit of everything: a mean brewing scene, diverse event line up and dining experiences that put cities five times its size to shame (think Neapolitan woodfire pizzeria, farm-to-fork café and award-winning BBQ all within walking distance).

East Troy is also home to the most desirable

• CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

## Did you know?

This digital billboard ran on I-43 South (.24 miles west of Highway 100) for 16 weeks as part of a partnership with the Village of East Troy Community Development Authority. This campaign was part of the push by the East Troy Area Chamber of Commerce to show off East Troy as one of the coolest places in Southeastern Wisconsin in order to maximize the economic impact of travel and tourism to East Troy. Thanks for the ad design Jamie Rohrer of Dither Studio!

JAMIE ROHRER *Good Neighbors*

## Wisconsin Oven turns 50

*Celebrates milestone with community Open House*

By Vanessa Lenz  
EAST TROY CHAMBER EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Wisconsin Oven Corporation, one of East Troy's most respected and largest businesses, will be celebrating its 50-year anniversary with an Open House this September.

Wisconsin Oven Corporation, which serves a wide range of industries, has been manufacturing the highest quality industrial heat treating equipment since 1973.

The community is invited to celebrate the milestone during an Open House from noon to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 16. The event will feature tours, food and refreshments.

Through the years, Wisconsin Oven Corporation has made critical moves to become a leader in the industry, developing new technology, partnering with the nation's top brands and spreading its team around the country.

Wisconsin Oven's massive facilities have gained them a competitive edge, allowing it to build some of the largest ovens in the industry.

• CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

# HELLO FALL! *12 ways to jumpstart your season*

As the summer months melt away, the countdown begins for the love of all things fall.

From the spookiest Halloween events to some of the best festivals to our favorite way to see fall foliage, here's how to get the most out of this season.

## 1. TAKE A TROLLEY TRIP

Take in the changing leaves aboard the East Troy Electric Railroad, Wisconsin's last original electric line.

The East Troy Electric Railroad continues its 2023 season with trains running every Saturday and Sunday.

Saturday trains depart on the hour from the East Troy Depot, 2002 Church St. between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. and Sunday trains are at 10 a.m., noon and 2 p.m.

Fall Harvest Trains run Saturdays and Sundays, Sept. 9-Oct. 22 and depart from the East Troy Depot at on the hour between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m.

The East Troy Electric Railroad operates the last 7 miles of original track from The Milwaukee Electric Railway & Light Company interurban system, which had 200 miles of track in and around Milwaukee.

Fares are \$15 for adults, \$12.50 for seniors and \$9.50 for youth 3-14. Children

younger than 2 ride for free.

## Dinner & Brunch Trains

The Dinner Train season starts continues throughout the fall with the following:

Sept. 30 - Oktoberfest

Oct. 7 - Autumn Glow

Oct. 14 - Sweetest Day

Oct. 21 - Surf-N-Turf

Oct. 28 - Adult Halloween

The popular Sunday Brunch Trains are back, with departures on Sept. 17 and Oct. 15.

## Special Events

### Sept. 9- Oct. 22 - Harvest Fest Trains

(round-trip rides to the Elegant Farmer, where you can enjoy apple picking, a corn maze, and hayrides)

## Oct. 6, 13, 20 and 27 - Trick or Treat Trains

Bring your kids or grandkids in costume and take a train from the Depot in East Troy to Town Hall Park, where kids can go "Trick-or-Treating," play games, and enjoy the playground equipment before our trip back to downtown East Troy.

## Nov. 24 through Dec. 17 - Christmas Trains

The railroad's magical ride will take you from the East Troy Depot to Santa's workshop located at the Elegant Farmer. Here children can visit Santa and take a photo with the jolly elf himself.

For full schedule information and tickets, call (262) 642-3263 or visit easttroyrr.org.

## 2. GO APPLE PICKING

Whether you're continuing a family tradition or starting a new one this fall, The Elegant Farmer will offer a family fun farm experience with the return of its annual Autumn Harvest Festival weekends Sept. 9 through Oct. 22 from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Twelve varieties of apples can be picked right from the tree on the farm's orchard and pumpkins of all shapes and sizes selected from the patch. Enjoy beautiful fall colors aboard a tractor-pulled hayride, pony rides or vintage trolley ride. The East Troy Electric Railroad's turn-of-the-century train makes a stop at The Elegant Farmer Depot. The Elegant Farmer will also offer a

5-acre family-friendly farm scene corn maze with easy in and out access for all ages. New this year is Laser Tag, a family-friendly game that everyone ages 8 and older can play.

Adding to the fun, the event features delicious specialty foods, including caramel apples, warm cider donuts, pulled pork, homemade chili and more in the Smilin' Barn Café.

The Elegant Farmer, 1545 Main St. (County Roads ES and J), is open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. year round. Orchard hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, call (262) 363-6771 or visit elegantfarmer.com.

## 3. SPEND FIRST FRIDAY ON THE SQUARE

East Troy's First Fridays event series will conclude with Hometown Harvest from 5 to 8 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 1 at East Troy Village Square Park, 2881 Main St.

Say farewell to summer and ring in the season of falling leaves and temperatures with a celebration featuring live music by Wise Jennings, food trucks, beer tent, crafters, artisans, makers and more.

For details, visit easttroy.org.

## 4. GRAB THE PERFECT CUP

Grab a great, local cup of coffee at East Troy's café 2894 On Main, located on the northwest corner of the East Troy Village Square. 2894 on Main, will be open on Fridays and Saturdays until 8 p.m. serving light dinner fare.

2894 on Main's menu focuses on local and organic options, packing in the flavor

• CONTINUED ON PAGE 5



For updates on the East Troy Area Chamber of Commerce event line up, visit easttroy.org.





**above:** Avi Foster (from left), Nola Foster, Dax Zacher, Kaitlyn Enger and Gavin Enger get a front row seat for live music during the East Troy Area Chamber of Commerce's 46th annual Corn & Brat Roast and Community-wide rummage, featuring live music, food, Brewfest & more. **right:** Porter Atkinson, gets his first taste of the season's mouthwatering, buttery sweet corn at the event, which spanned Memorial Day Weekend, May 26-29. **below right:** Carla Galler of Vote for East Troy mans the grill at the East Troy Area Chamber of Commerce's 46th annual Corn & Brat Roast, which saw record attendance over the course of the four day event.

VANESSA LENZ Good Neighbors



# Thanks for supporting East Troy!

To all the incredible volunteers and sponsors who helped make the 46th annual East Troy Area Chamber of Commerce Corn and Brat Roast, 31st annual Community-wide Rummage Sale and East Troy's 8th Annual Brewfest a success. It felt so good to see you all on the square and we are already making plans for next year!

Sarah Manke  
Jamie Rohrer, Sauced Pizzeria  
Jonathan Lenz, Sauced Pizzeria  
Adam Duda  
American Legion Loomis-Martin Post 188  
Don Roberts, American Legion Loomis-Martin Post 188  
John Vilanj, East Troy Area Historical Society  
Hometown Sausage Kitchen  
John Hudoc & Thomas Cicero, Hometown Sausage Kitchen  
East Troy Lions Club  
John Biersack, East Troy Lions  
Mike Glodowski, East Troy Lions  
Tent Events  
John Finney  
Bailey Kaiser, Citizens Bank  
East Troy FFA  
Dan Heidelmeier  
Ann Zess, East Troy Brewery  
Ted Zess, East Troy Brewery  
Scott Slauson, East Troy Brewery  
John Jacoby  
Keri Jacoby  
Jason Heidelmeier  
East Troy Brewery  
John's Disposal  
Kathy Frymark, State Farm Insurance- Tim

Werwie Agency  
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Tom McCormack  
Joann McCormack, Spotlight Real Estate  
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Chad Wales, ProVisor  
Grace Wales, ProVisor  
Jim Jakscht, Edward Jones  
Ruth Wampner, Edward Jones  
Jeannine Thielen, Edward Jones  
Jake Bock, Edward Jones  
Brecken Wampner, Edward Jones  
Bob Kugach, Knights of Columbus  
Mary Kugach, Knights of Columbus  
Drew Halbesma, Vote for East Troy  
Heather Glass, Vote for East Troy  
Dani Foster, Vote for East Troy  
Molly Moody, Vote for East Troy  
Sarah Halbesma, Vote for East Troy  
Carla Galler, Vote for East Troy  
Stevie Taylor, James R. Taylor & Sons  
Jim Taylor, James R. Taylor & Sons  
Jimmy Taylor, James R. Taylor & Sons  
Kim Postulka, James R. Taylor & Sons  
Tony Postulka, James R. Taylor & Sons  
Tina Hammerstad, James R. Taylor & Sons  
Fred Price, The Carpenter's Daughter  
Kim Price, The Carpenter's Daughter  
Michele Reyes, James R. Taylor & Sons  
Mario Reyes, James R. Taylor & Sons  
Stacey Kuehn, East Troy Community School District  
Mark Weerts, East Troy Community School District  
Amy Foszpanczyk, East Troy Community School District  
Aaron Judd, East Troy Community School District



District  
Ryan Holle, East Troy Community School District  
Amanda Jones, East Troy Community School District  
Kelly Wojcik, East Troy Community School District  
Kelly Geisert, East Troy Community School District  
Andrea Belka Van Buren, East Troy Community School District  
Jinessa Pluess, Wisconsin Fairways  
Sherry Pluess  
Jane Wegner  
Steve Wegner  
Rachel Standafer, Sauced Pizzeria  
Rob, Sauced Pizzeria  
Steve Meyer  
Adam Schrieber, Shruber Driving Service  
Molly Mitten  
Mick Mitten, Knights of Columbus  
Russ Frymark, East Troy Lions  
Keith Witt, East Troy Pharmacy  
Anna Robertson  
CynDee Sentieri  
Luke Bower, FBIA  
Debbie Condon, East Troy Lions  
Mike Drew, East Troy Lions  
Stacy Scholtka  
Ray Scolavino  
Ted Kilpin, Mason Lodge  
Mary Rohrer, 2894 on Main  
Alice Rohrer, 2894 on Main  
Jebb Rohrer, 2894 on Main  
Jane Rohrer, 2894 on Main  
Mary Nicoson, East Troy Kiwanis Club  
Deb Peterson, Aspect Foundation Student Exchange  
Ed Peterson, Aspect Foundation Student Exchange  
Jodi Stokhaug, Aspect Foundation Student Exchange  
Max Seubert, Accurate Housing Systems  
Lori Seubert, Accurate Housing Systems  
Accurate Housing Systems

Justin Nagl, Accurate Housing Systems  
Chelsey Nagl, Village of East Troy  
Rachel Neubauer  
Tim Guild, The Hive Taproom  
Ryan Paugh, The Hive Taproom  
Patti Robertson, East Troy Kiwanis Club  
Christine March, Kanizzle  
Sara Vogt  
Frank Tonkovich, Accurate Housing Systems  
Timmy Standafer, Citizens Bank  
Tim Barr, Trim N Tidy  
Chris Barr, Trim N Tidy  
Jeni Mueller, Citizens Bank  
Jake Starck, Citizens Bank  
Jenna Voss  
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Amy  
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Kevin Johnson  
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Larry Keckhaver  
Angie Smalley  
Jason Smalley  
Brandy Plautz  
Kai Bottum  
Bobbie Collamore, East Troy Lioness  
Shannon Boos, East Troy Bible Church  
Pat Whiting, Knights of Columbus  
Frank's Piggly Wiggly  
Village of East Troy  
Village of East Troy Department of Public Works



The East Troy Community School District brought a crew of volunteers to the East Troy Area Chamber of Commerce's 46th annual Corn & Brat Roast, including (from left) Amanda Jones, Director of Pupil Services, Amy Foszpanczyk, Director of Teaching & Continuous Improvement of Student Learning, Stacey Kuehn, East Troy High School principal, Mark Weerts, Prairie View Elementary School Principal, and Kelly Wojcik, 6th Grade English Language Arts, ETMS.

VANESSA LENZ Good Neighbors



# How Mead is Made:

## A Behind-the-Scenes Peek

In honor of its opening weekend at the end of July five years ago, the Hive Taproom has pulled back the curtain so you can see how its delicious beverages are made.

Ever wonder where that delightful carbonation comes from? You can thank yeast for that – oh, and yeast makes the alcohol too.

Technically a wine, The Hive’s honey-based alcoholic beverages start simply as filtered water, raw honey, and yeast. The yeast consumes the honey, producing alcohol and carbon dioxide (aka bubbles). If you’re familiar with making beer, this process skips the ‘hot’ side entirely because The Hive doesn’t need to heat grains to create sugars for the yeast, we start with them.

But with 14 different varieties on tap, surely the Hive does something different with each batch?

Why yes, yes they do! At various points during fermentation, The Hive adds food like hops, fresh juices (cherry, apple, cranberry, ginger, peach etc.), butternut squash, or the tired parent favorite: coffee.

“We taste the product often as it evolves and once our taste buds give their approval, we cool the batch to get the yeast to settle out,” said Tim Guild, owner and head brewer. “Throughout the

### The Better Buzz

Stop in The Hive Taproom, W2463 County Road ES, for an engaging conversation over a refreshing beverage. Using the cleanest ingredients possible, they brew deliciously dry to semi-sweet sparkling honey wine in-house from 100 percent raw Wisconsin honey, leaving you clear-headed and naturally energized, ready for anything. Perfectly refreshing, the Hive’s 14 hydrating beverages are available on tap and in cans-to-go.

For more information, visit [thehivetaproom.com](http://thehivetaproom.com).

process, we nerdily test things like brix, pH, and CO2. We adjust whatever needs adjusting, tell a Dad joke, and begin kegging and canning.”

“Our process varies slightly for our popular tea-based beverages, like Fresh Brood, Lemon



The Hive Taproom owner and head brewer Tim Guild (right) and assistant brewer Ryan Stofferahn celebrate the completion of their latest mead, Silky Road. This smooth ride delivers flavors of vanilla and butterscotch, along with a subtle hint of whiskey sure to take you to a special place.

PHOTO SUBMITTED *Good Neighbors*

Pop, Ron Bergamot and Stargazer. First we make a tea using Rishi tea blends, and let the tea cool to 95 degrees before adding honey, keeping the honey in its beautifully raw, unpasteurized state, giving you The Better Buzz. Once we add the yeast, the fermentation kicks off and the beverage evolves as above, especially the Dad joke part. That is an integral part of our

process.”

All of this happens behind the glass doors visible in the Taproom inside those tall stainless steel fermenters.

Follow the Hive’s social media channels if you want to see videos of bubbles produced by fermentation or see Assistant Brewer, Ryan’s best worst Dad jokes.

## MORE THAN FUN • CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

attractions around, including the 115-year-old East Troy Electric Railroad, the famous Alpine Valley Music Theatre, Alpine Valley Resort (voted No. 1 family resort), SkyDive Milwaukee (at East Troy Airport), East Troy Brewery (in a renovated historic bank building), The Hive Taproom (one of a few meaderies in the state) and more.

We’ve also got greenspace galore and an up-and-coming tech scene.

But what’s less known, is East Troy is home to some of state and nation’s biggest companies. Businesses like Wisconsin Oven Corporation serve a diverse range of industries worldwide, attracting employees eager to work for a company that aligns with its values with a vested interest in our town.

This sends a clear message: When you move to East Troy, you’re aligning your business with the best.

Find out which big businesses have established their headquarters in small-town East Troy.

### MP SYSTEMS

2611 S Executive Dr.  
East Troy, WI 53120 • (262) 246-0280

The Village of East Troy welcomed MP Systems during a groundbreaking ceremony last fall.

The electrical utility construction company constructed the first building in East Troy Business Park South, which houses its corporate offices, equipment yard and repair facility. They are one of four companies within PPC Partners, Inc. family of companies, originally branching off of Pieper Electric.

Pieper Electric, established in 1947, has been working in the Powerline business since 1962.

Other subsidiaries include Carolina Power (2020), MetroPower (1980) and Pieper Electric (1947). Mike Tillman, President & COO, MP Systems Inc., tells us more about the business.

### Q. What makes you unique?

**A.** “We are 100 percent employee owned. When we send crews out to perform work, we are not just sending a crew, we are sending company owners.”

“Since 1968, the PPC Foundation has been generously donating to qualified non-profit organizations in an effort to positively affect the lives of individuals within the communities we serve and the neighborhoods we support.”

“The foundation is committed to giving back by volunteering our time and talents, as well as monetary donations.”

“As an example, following MP Systems’ relocation to East Troy, MP Systems adopted a section of State Highway 120 (between Potter and Prairie Roads) where the team has been providing voluntary highway cleanup.”

### Q. Why did you choose East Troy as your home base and how has being based in a small town played into your company mission?

**A.** “We chose the Village of East Troy for our headquarters because it’s a growing community where we felt we could attract talent to grow our business while making a positive economic

impact to the Village of East Troy.”

“The growing community aligns with our mission as a corporation as it will open an opportunity for us to positively impact the lives of individuals that live in communities that we serve.”

### Q. Can you tell us about some of the communities/partners you work with?

**A.** “Throughout our history, we have served a long list of customers throughout the country.”

“We work closely with large investor-owned utilities such as We Energies, American Transmission Company, Xcel Energy. Additionally, we work with our sister company Pieper Electric, Wisconsin DOT, Electrical Cooperatives and various other municipalities.”

MP Systems is an active member of the National Electrical Contractor Association (NECA), Missouri Valley Line Construction, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW), Wisconsin Energy Workforce Consortium, Milwaukee Area Technical College Foundation, University of Wisconsin Odyssey Project and multiple other qualifying charities throughout the areas we do business in.

“MP Systems performs emergency response work throughout the United States where we provide skilled labor to restore electric power following local storms or natural disasters.”

### Q. What is something you want people to know about your business?

**A.** “We are part of a large corporation but function like a smaller family-owned business.”

“The investment in the development of our team has proven to be successful in growing employee engagement, exceeding customer satisfaction, and overall surpassing company goals. We are a growing business with employee ownership on the rise every year.”

For more information, visit [mp-systemsinc.com](http://mp-systemsinc.com).

### AXIOM ENERGY

2050 Energy Drive  
East Troy, WI 53120 • (262) 642-6436

Axiom Energy Group is now home to both Engineered Concepts and Marathon Engine Systems, offering innovative clean energy solutions.

“Whether it be in the oil field to eliminate flaring, providing heat and electricity in your home, or generating off-grid power in remote locations, we have the answer,” according to Axiom’s website.

Headquartered in East Troy, Axiom Energy Group currently occupies a 70,000-square-foot manufacturing facility. This facility focuses on prime and remote power technologies.

James Green, President & CEO, tells us more about the business.

### Q. What makes you unique?

**A.** “Axiom Energy Group manufactures and distributes two types of equipment for use in clean energy applications.”

“Vapor Recovery equipment captures methane and other greenhouse gas emissions during oil exploration activities that would

otherwise be released, not only preventing those emissions from escaping into the atmosphere, but instead utilizing them for other beneficial purposes.”

“The micro Combined Heat and Power (mCHP) business involves equipment that produces heat and electricity with 93 percent efficiency.”

“The electricity generated from the mCHP eliminates the electricity that would have otherwise been purchased from the utility through the power grid. This eliminates a significant amount of greenhouse gas emissions and reduces carbon emissions by at least 20 metric tons annually. Additionally, this makes the power grid more resilient by reducing demand, and it provides the owner of the mCHP substantial financial savings.”

“Axiom Energy Group is only one of a very few companies, if not the only company, in the United States that manufactures a commercially available mCHP system in this size category, and we can proudly say we also qualify for the ‘Made In Wisconsin’ label.”

### Q. Why did you choose East Troy as your home base and how has being based in a small town played into your company mission?

**A.** “The business has had a long relationship with the East Troy community.”

“Its ideal location allows the business to draw on the Midwest manufacturing base for raw materials and machining. Although the technology for the mCHP system originated in Europe, nearly all sourcing, manufacturing, and assembly has been brought to the US. It was important to us to source as close to home whenever possible.”

### Q. Can you tell us about some of the communities/partners you work with?

**A.** “In the United States, the technology is not as well-known and demand for clean sustainable energy has not historically been as strong as in Europe, so the business is essentially still in a start-up position, so the relationships with communities and other partnerships is in the early stages of development.”

“But we have growing interest from many prospects including private commercial projects, local municipalities, state governments, and even programs within the United Nations where this type of clean energy technology can bring solutions to remote parts of the world that lack reliable and clean energy.”

### Q. What is something you want people to know about your business?

**A.** “Axiom Energy Group expects that it will soon need to expand our resources as the business begins to scale up to meet the growing demand and opportunities for sustainable clean energy.

“The East Troy community offers a great platform to launch that venture. Our dedicated employees are all local or part of the immediate surrounding communities and are passionate about promoting sustainable development and bringing clean energy solutions to our world.”

For more information, visit [axiom-energy.com](http://axiom-energy.com).

### KNOLL PRECISION

2465 Executive Drive  
East Troy, WI 53120 • (262) 720-7435

In 2002, the first CNC machine was delivered to Frank Knoll’s two car garage in East Troy. Long hours of determination, attention to detail and quality led to several moves to bigger facilities. Now located in the East Troy Business Park, Knoll Precision has built its own facility with room for future growth.

“We stand proud of our history providing quality parts on time,” said Knoll. “We are very honored to have the employees that make that happen.”

Knoll tells us more about the business.

### Q. Tell us about your business. What makes you unique?

**A.** “Being a machine shop, we machine or ‘cut’ finished parts from raw material such as a solid chunk or a casting.”

“What puts us in a unique category is the level of complexity and close tolerances of parts we make. We use five axis machines that can repeatably hold tolerances to .0001. Most of our work is in titanium and stainless steel. Other common materials like aluminum, plastics and carbon fiber come into play as well.”

### Q. Why did you choose East Troy as your home base and how has being based in a small town played into your company mission?

**A.** “We chose East Troy because the administration is business friendly, and the Village is laid out very efficiently. The East Troy business park is close yet separate from town.”

“The business area can exist and expand without upsetting the very nice downtown area where people can enjoy leisure without heavy industrial congestion. Interstate 43 makes workforce commutes and supplier routes easy. It also functions a perfect city bypass.”

“We work at a very precise level and is challenging at times. Being located in a small quiet town can offer a break with a nice lunch on the Square or a peaceful walk.”

### Q. Can you tell us about some of the communities/partners you work with?

**A.** “We work with a broad scope of industries. From earth moving to aerospace.”

“Our beginnings and main focus still today is in the defense sector. Of that, mostly guidance system components such as lens and gimbal housings for aircraft and missiles.”

### Q. What is something you want people to know about your business?

**A.** “We are a small group of people with great minds and a solid work ethic. Large companies



# Allan-ICS expands in East Troy

Allan Integrated Control Systems, which moved here in 2007, has invested in a big way in East Troy, incorporating giving back into its core business strategy and operations. The business, which has a number of projects standing out in its portfolio and an expanding work load, is currently working on an expansion to its East Troy facility. The company is remodeling and adding to its main office building at 2021 Beulah Ave., creating over 4,500 square feet of office space. Allan-ICS also recently added two new control systems engineers to its team bringing its total professional staffing to 17. Owner Ted Zess and Mechanical Engineer and Systems Project Manager Chip Seib chatted with us about the company's current journey.

**Q. Allan ICS is based in East Troy but known for big time projects like designing the control system for Chicago Landmark Buckingham Fountain. Can you share some of the locations where your work is featured?**

**A. Ted Zess:**  
“We work extensively in Northern Illinois and Southern Wisconsin. Our projects are located throughout all of the Chicago Water Department facilities, Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District, Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago, O’Hare Airport, Municipalities throughout the Chicagoland area and Wisconsin including Wilmette, Highland Park, Arlington Heights, Kenilworth, Glencoe, Evanston, City of Appleton, Neenah/Menasha, and many more. “We also do work for manufacturing companies including SSI Technologies, Milwaukee Tool, Modine, CNH, and more.”

**Q. Can you tell us about your latest project involving US Army Corp of Engineers Fish Dispersal Barrier?**

**A. Ted Zess:**  
“Allan-ICS has completed custom control systems for five fish dispersal barriers in Romeoville, Ill. for the Army Corp of

Engineers. These barriers use high voltage power supplies feeding current into the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal connecting the Mississippi River to Lake Michigan (that was part of Chicago’s system of reversing the flow of the Chicago River well over 100 years ago), to keep the various species of Carp out of the Great Lakes. “Our control systems allows the system operator to vary the voltage, current, frequency, etc. of these barriers while also monitoring the systems for proper operation. “We have been working on this project for the last four years and our engineer Joe Sterle has built a reputation for excellence with his expertise on these systems.”

**Q. While your engineering firm specializes in the design and build of custom project integration solutions, you’ve also been a major community supporter including a presenting partner of East Troy Lights – East Troy’s newest holiday lights attraction. Why did Allan ICS want to get involved with this project?**

**A. Ted Zess:**  
“Ann (Nyffeler) and I are both born and raised in East Troy, meeting at ETHS. Both of our families have been and are heavily involved in this community and we have tried to carry on that tradition. “We strongly believe in East Troy and want to see it grow and prosper which is why we also developed and started East Troy Brewery. “Our East Troy Lights work is just an extension of that desire to see East Troy become a destination for anyone traveling in SW Wisconsin.”

**Q. The New Year’s Eve Ball Drop was the most notable addition to East Troy Lights in the last two years. How did you build that ball?**

**A. Chip Seib**  
“We got a group of employees together and did some brainstorming. We needed something big enough for all to see but needed to keep it light enough to be able to



Ted Zess, Ben Zess and Chip Seib of Allan Integrated Control Systems prepare to raise East Troy’s New Year’s Eve Ball. Special thanks to the Allan ICS team for bringing the ball to life!  
VANESSA LENZ *Good Neighbors*

get it pulled up the flagpole on the square. “So, the company purchased a small metal roll former. We ran some aluminum straps through it to bend them to the arc size needed. Then we had to figure out how to illuminate it. A couple of employees came up with the idea to adhere LED strip lights to the straps and have them controlled by an LED light controller. “We then needed to make up a surround at the base of the pole for the ball to drop into. “There was a learning curve to getting this to work. The first year we did the drop, it was a wet sleety rainy night. The ball was working well most of the day. Then close to midnight the LEDs went out. “Somehow water was able to short out the signal for the controller and we had to install battery operated lights at the last minute to again light up the ball. Most people were unaware there was even an issue. “So needless to say we did some inspection

and found the cause of the water intrusion. We redesigned the connections and things went off without a hitch the following year.”

**Q. What upcoming projects have you been working on?**

**A. Ted Zess**  
“We are very busy maintaining and upgrading the entire City of Chicago Water System monitoring and control systems. “We are also doing projects for the Chicago DOT maintaining their tunnel and ventilation control systems. “Allan-ICS is also working on a smart energy project for Naval Station Great Lakes. We recently landed new projects for the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District as well as for Waterford, Burlington, Lyons, and Mukwonago bringing us a little closer to home.” Find out more at [allan-ics.com](http://allan-ics.com).

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## EAST TROY PHARMACY



Keith A. Witt, RPh  
**3284 Main Street,  
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East Troy makes it easy to make the most of the fall season. Clockwise from above: Rayla Henningfeld decorates a pumpkin at East Troy Village Square Park. East Troy's First Fridays Hometown Harvest Fest, will return on Friday, Sept. 1. The Elegant Farmer's Harvest Festival features apple picking, a corn maze, hayrides, apple cider donuts and more. East Troy Elementary PTO and the East Troy Area Chamber of Commerce are teaming up to present East Troy's Pumpkin Pop-Up Experience Oct. 27-31. Trick-or-treat hours will be held in the Village of East Troy, Town of East Troy and Town of Troy on Tuesday, Oct. 31 from 5 to 7:30 p.m.

VANESSA LENZ *Good Neighbors*

## FALL • CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

with rotating soups, hearty sandwiches and vibrant bowls, colorful breakfast dishes (both savory and sweet) as well as seasonally changing salads (loaded with veggies and protein) and specialty items that will keep you coming back for more.

The beautifully renovated historic site from 1856, features a farm-to-fork menu and

uses locally roasted beans with local, organic milk.

For more information, visit [2894onMain.com](http://2894onMain.com).

### 5. FIND THRILLS AND CHILLS

East Troy's Walk of Terror will be back weekends this fall for an

entire month at a new location, Alpine Valley Resort, W2501 County Road D.

The elaborate haunted house will offer experiences for both adults and children and organizers promise that this year's event will be bigger and better than ever.

The spine-chilling haunted house will run Sept. 29 and 30 and Oct. 6, 7, 13, 14, 20, 21, 27 and 28. Black Out Thursday is Oct. 26. Box office hours are 6:30 to 10:20 p.m. The show begins at 7 p.m.

Organizers are currently looking for volunteers. To get involved, email [walkofterror@yahoo.com](mailto:walkofterror@yahoo.com). For more information, visit [thewalk-ofterror.com](http://thewalk-ofterror.com).

### 6. ENJOY THE BEST IN BLUEGRASS

The East Troy Bluegrass Festival is celebrating its 29th year with a weekend lineup that once again includes two of the industry's biggest names.

The two-day East Troy Bluegrass Festival, presented by the East Troy Bluegrass Festival Committee, will take place Saturday, Sept. 9 and Sunday, Sept. 10 at East

Troy Village Square Park, 2881 Main St.

The festival runs from 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Saturday and 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Sunday.

The Day 1 lineup will feature The Little Roy and Lizzie Show. The band includes Elizabeth "Lizzy" Long, one of the youngest fiddlers to be inducted into America's Old Time Fiddler's Country Hall of Fame, and Little Roy Lewis, the youngest member of the famed Lewis Family of gospel and bluegrass musicians.

Award-winning country and bluegrass group, The Kody Norris Show, will take the main stage Day 2. The band took bluegrass by storm with four wins at this year's SPBGMA Awards.

Staying true to the festival's roots, local, emerging and popular regional bands will pepper each day's lineup.

#### SATURDAY

11 a.m. Down from the Hills

12 p.m. Cork and Bottle String

• CONTINUED ON PAGE 6



## What do you want to see?

Help us shape this year's light show!

Which songs would you like to hear?

\_\_\_\_\_

Which change excites you most?

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- ☐ More Story
- ☐ Longer Shows
- ☐ More Events

Other comments/suggestions

\_\_\_\_\_

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1 p.m. Grass Attack  
2 p.m. Band Scramble  
3 p.m. Piper Road String Band 50th Anniversary  
4 p.m. The Little Roy and Lizzie Show  
After Show at East Troy Brewery, 2905 Main St., 6 to 9 p.m.: Piper Road String Band

**SUNDAY**  
10 a.m. Gospel Service featuring New Legacy  
11:30 a.m. Banjo, Guitar, Mandolin and Fiddle Contests  
1 p.m. Annie and the Oakies  
2 p.m. The Soundbillies  
3 p.m. Dance Around Molly  
4 p.m. The Kody Norris Show  
Admission is \$20 per day or \$35 for the weekend.  
Attendees should bring their own lawn chairs.  
For more information, visit [easttroybluegrass.com](http://easttroybluegrass.com).

**BLUEGRASS AFTER SHOW**  
Keep the party going after the 29th annual East Troy Bluegrass Festival at East Troy Brewery, 2905 Main St. on the East Troy Village Square.  
Piper Road String Band will perform immediately after the festival from 6 to 9 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 9. For details, visit [easttroy.org](http://easttroy.org).

**7. TOAST TO OKTOBERFEST**  
East Troy Brewery, 2905 Main St., will celebrate Oktoberfest on Saturday, Sept. 23 with special beer releases, live music, dancers and games. For details, visit [etbrew.com](http://etbrew.com).  
The locally owned brewery, which opened in a remodeled historic bank building dating back to 1892, features exclusive taps, an outdoor patio, fireplace lounge, open kitchen, indoor seating for 200 and Taproom on the southwest corner of the East Troy Village Square.

**8. EAT PIZZA ON THE FARM**  
Grassway Organics, W2716 Friemoth Road in East Troy, hosts Pizza on the Farm events on Friday and Saturday nights through October, baking pizzas using only organic ingredients on the farm's onsite wood fired pizza oven.  
The series invites people to visit the farm for live music and fresh, drool-worthy wood-fired pies. Pizza is served rain or shine from 4 to 8 p.m. on Fridays and 2 to 8 p.m. on Saturdays. Live music starts at 4 p.m.  
For more information, visit [grasswayorganics.com](http://grasswayorganics.com).

**9. GO FOR A FALL HIKE**  
East Troy is home to some of the most beautiful areas for hiking and they become even

better when the leaves are changing. Here are our top fall foliage destinations:  
**Beulah Bog:** Visitors can travel along its hiking trail, located on Stringers Bridge Road, east to catch sight of its shallow bog lake, floating mud flats, tamarack forest and wet open moat.

**Lulu Lake:** The focal point of the diverse wetland and upland communities, located on County Road J, is the 95-acre Lulu Lake, a 40-foot deep, hard water drainage kettle lake fed by the Mukwonago River and situated at the base of glacial deposits.  
**Kettle Moraine State Forest-Mukwonago River Unit:** The 970-acre former Rainbow Springs property is situated in the Mukwonago River watershed and is an area known for its outstanding resource waters, including the 35-acre Rainbow Springs Lake, varied habitats and biological diversity. Visitors can park in lots on Highway LO, County Road J or County Road E.

**Price Park Conservancy:** Two miles of self-guided hiking trails run through the park, located on Hodunk Road in the Town of LaFayette, and include panoramic views of Sugar Creek and wildflower areas, as well as other outstanding features of natural diversity.  
**Beulah Bluff Preserve:** This Kettle Moraine Land Trust nature preserve, is located at N9026 Bakavi Way, East Troy. The preserve overlooks the northwest shoreline of Lake Beulah and is open to the public.  
**Army Lake Public Access:** Take a leisurely stroll to the public access point on the west side of the lake – a half-mile driveway connects the property to St. Peter's Road in the Town of East Troy.  
The 15.7-acre property at W1698 St. Peter's Road features a 78-acre lake and 989 feet of shoreline frontage on Army Lake.

**10. SPEND SATURDAY NIGHTS AT THE HIVE**  
This fall, The Hive Taproom, W2463 County Road ES, is buzzing with outdoor events, and ready to be your new favorite hangout spot.  
Enjoy live music events from a variety of genres every Saturday night from 7 to 10 p.m. in the Hive's outdoor space – complete with an outdoor bar and large stage.

**Music Lineup:**  
Sept. 9: Paulie and the Poor Boys  
Sept. 16: Candy Cigarette  
Sept. 23: TBD  
Sept. 30: Radio Recall  
Oct. 7: Ivy Ford  
Oct. 21: Milwaukee Blues Rock Collective  
Oct. 28: Red Moon  
Nov. 4: Un-Hich'd  
Nov. 11: Matt Meyer



# Fall fun for kids

## RESOURCE CENTER PROVIDES FAMILY FUN

The East Troy Family and Community Resource Center, located in the East Troy Area Intergenerational Community Center, 2040 Beulah Ave., has announced a variety of offerings for every age level beginning Sept. 12. Enter via Division Street through door 7.

**Alphabet Adventures** – Tuesdays, 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.: This program focuses on letter, number and color recognition, printing, and crafts that improve fine motor skills.

**Play Group** – Fridays, 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.: Join the Resource Center for a free, drop in play group. This is a great time for kids to make some new friends and parents and caregivers to meet others in our community

**Lego Build Program** – will begin Tuesday, Sept. 12 from 3 to 6 p.m.: Open to both kids and adults. Children in kindergarten through fifth grade must have a parent in attendance. Middle school aged kids and older are welcome to drop in.

For additional details, visit [www.easttroyfamily.webs.com](http://www.easttroyfamily.webs.com), email [easttroyfamily@gmail.com](mailto:easttroyfamily@gmail.com) or call (262) 642-4900.

## LEARN SOMETHING NEW

The East Troy Parks and Recreation Department offers a wide range of programming this fall.

Offerings include tennis, indoor swimming, soccer, tumbling and more activities for adults, seniors, youth and teens.

Program brochures are available at the East Troy Municipal Building, 2015 Energy Drive, or at [easttroy-wi.com](http://easttroy-wi.com).

Nov. 18: Indigo Canyon

Using the cleanest ingredients possible, The Hive Taproom brews deliciously dry to semi-sweet sparkling honey wine in-house from 100 percent raw Wisconsin honey, leaving you clear-headed and naturally energized, ready for anything.

Perfectly refreshing, their 14 hydrating beverages are available on tap and in cans-to-go. Bee in the know about events, new releases, and more at [thehivetaproom.com](http://thehivetaproom.com).

## 11. SHOP THE EAST TROY FARMERS MARKET

Add a fall festive touch to your home with an autumn themed bouquet of flowers, get your fill of the season's best veggies, as well as local treats and artisan goods from the East Troy Farmer's Market.

The East Troy Farmers Market is now located at Honey Creek Collective, N8030 Townline Road, from 3 to 6 p.m. on Fridays through Oct. 27.

This vibrant market is a hub of activity for the East Troy community, featuring a diverse array of locally grown produce, handcrafted goods, and other products from small-scale, independent vendors.

"We are committed to promoting sustainable agriculture and supporting local businesses, and our vendors take pride in offering fresh, high-quality goods that are grown or produced right here in the surrounding area," organizers said. "Whether you're looking for the freshest produce, a unique gift, or just a fun Friday afternoon outing, we invite you to join us at the East Troy Farmers Market."

For more information, visit

[honeycreekcollective.com](http://honeycreekcollective.com).

## 12. GET ON YOUR BIKE

Fall is a great time to explore on your bike while admiring the foliage.

Here are the best spots for you to plan to pedal.

## ALPINE VALLEY RESORT

The Mountain Bike Trail at Alpine Valley Resort, W2501 County Road D, features 8.1 miles of single track with a 1,043 feet ascent and 1,035 descent.

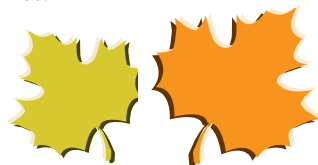
From the start, the trail is an ascending, leg-burning climb in the trees up the side of the ski hill. After you go around the excavation pit, miles of twists, turns, punchy climbs, and fast descents await.

Enter via Alpine's driveway toward the resort. At the bottom of the hill, you'll see a blue sign that says Mountain Bike Trail. For more information, visit [alpinevalleyresort.com](http://alpinevalleyresort.com).

## JOHN MUIR TRAILS

The John Muir Trails, known for its high-quality single-track mountain bike trail system, are among the most popular in the state.

Part of the Kettle Moraine State Forest's Southern Unit, the trail system, about two miles north of La Grange, N9097 County Road H, features five loops ranging from 1.25 to 12 miles.



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# Welcome Fall on the Farm

Whether you are soaking up the last moments of summer or eager to for all things fall, it's the best time of year to be on the farm. We've rounded up our favorites so you can get your fall fix of apple picking, pumpkins and of course Pizza on the Farm.

## GRASSWAY ORGANICS

Friemoth Road

Get to learn more about the farm you love at Grassway Organics, W2716 Friemoth Road, East Troy. Grassway will feature farm tours at 1 p.m. (for about an hour) every Saturday through

September. Meet and chat with Grassway owner and farmer Chaz Self. Tours are free. Listen, learn and wear walking boots. Meet in front of the Farm Store at Grassway Organics. The store is open Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Grassway Organics hosts Pizza on the Farm events on Friday and Saturday nights, through Oct. 7, baking pizzas using only organic ingredients on the farm's on-site wood fired pizza oven. The series invites people to visit the farm

for live music and fresh, drool-worthy wood-fired pies. Pizza is served rain or shine from 4 to 8 p.m. on Fridays and 2 to 8 p.m. on Saturdays. Live music starts at 4 p.m. For more information, visit [grasswayorganics.com](http://grasswayorganics.com).

## BOWER'S PRODUCE

Highway 20

If you're looking to keep it local for your fall produce and pumpkins, visit East Troy staple Bowers Produce, W490 State Road 20, East Troy, Wisconsin. Open daily from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

## GREEN MEADOWS PETTING FARM

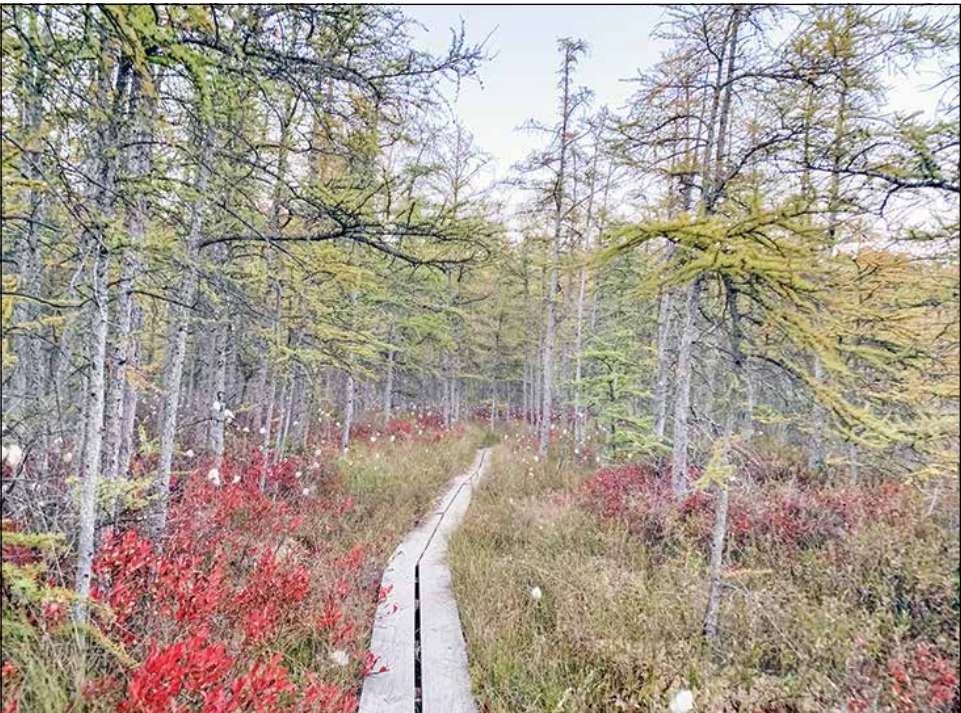
Highway 20

Green Meadows Petting Farm, 33603 Highway Dr. (Highway 20), East Troy, offers a chance to encounter animals including goats, cows, ducks, horses, and pigs as well as pick a pumpkin to take home. Green Meadows is open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesdays through Sunday. For more information, call (262) 534-2891 or visit [greenmeadowsfarmwi.com](http://greenmeadowsfarmwi.com).



**above:** What better way is there to enjoy the change of seasons than stocking up on pumpkins and produce at Bowers Produce, W490 WI-20. Right: Visitors to Beulah Bog can travel along its hiking trail, located on Stringers Bridge Road, east to catch sight of its shallow bog lake, floating mud flats, tamarack forest and wet open moat.

VANESSA LENZ *Good Neighbors*



# Best fall events

## SEPTEMBER

### Aug. 30-Sept. 3 Walworth County Fair

The 174th Walworth County Fair will be held from Aug. 30-Sept. 3 at the Walworth County Fairgrounds, 411 E. Court St., Elkhorn. The "There's No Place Like Home" event will feature entertainment, food animal exhibits, carnival rides and more. For more information, visit [walworthcountyfair.com](http://walworthcountyfair.com).

### 1 First Friday Hometown Harvest

East Troy's First Fridays event series will continue with "Hometown Harvest Fest" Friday, Sept. 1 from 5 to 8 p.m. at East Troy Village Square Park, 2881 Main St. Say farewell to summer and ring in the season of falling leaves and temperatures with a celebration featuring live music by Wise Jennings, food trucks, beer tent, crafters, artisans, makers and more. For more information, visit [easttroy.org](http://easttroy.org).

### 9-10 East Troy Bluegrass Festival

The 29th annual East Troy Bluegrass Festival is set for Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 9-10 at East Troy Village Square Park, 2881 Main St. A full line-up of Bluegrass bands and contests, plus lots of great food, will take place from 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. each day. Admission is \$20 per day or \$35 for the weekend. For more information, visit [easttroybluegrass.com](http://easttroybluegrass.com).

### 17 Fall Fest

The East Troy Family and Community Resource Center, in partnership with the East Troy Area Intergenerational Community Center, will be hosting a free Fall Fest event for the community on Sunday, Sept. 17 from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at 2040 Beulah Avenue. (Parking will be available in the back of the Doubek Administration Building off of Division Street). The event will include fall snacks, hot dog plates and beverages, while supplies last. There will be a lot of family-friendly activities, including games, bounce house, as well as Touch a Truck. There will be a small selection of raffle baskets. Tickets are 1 for \$2, 3 for \$5, 7 for \$10 or 20 for \$20.

### 23-24 'Murder at the Pie Auction'

The Friends of the East Troy Lions Public Library will present "Murder at the Pie Auction," a play by Michael Druce, directed by Mary Hubbard Nugent, this fall. Shows will be held on at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 23 and Saturday, Sept. 30 at Ivan's Backstage, 2093 Division St., and 2 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 24 and Sunday, Oct. 1 at St. James United Methodist Church, 2945 Main St. Tickets are \$15 and available for purchase at the East Troy Lions Public Library, 3094 Graydon Ave. Cash or check only.

## OCTOBER

### Sept. 29, 30, Oct. 6, 7, 13, 14, 20, 21, 26, 27, 28 The Walk of Terror

The Walk of Terror, East Troy's scariest Halloween attraction, will return for its eighth year in a new location at Alpine Valley Resort, W2501 County Road D. The award-winning haunted attraction will be located at a new location, Alpine Valley Resort, beginning Sept. 29 through Oct. 28 on Friday and Saturdays. Black Out Thursday is Oct. 26. Box office hours are 6:30 to 10:20 p.m. The show

• CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

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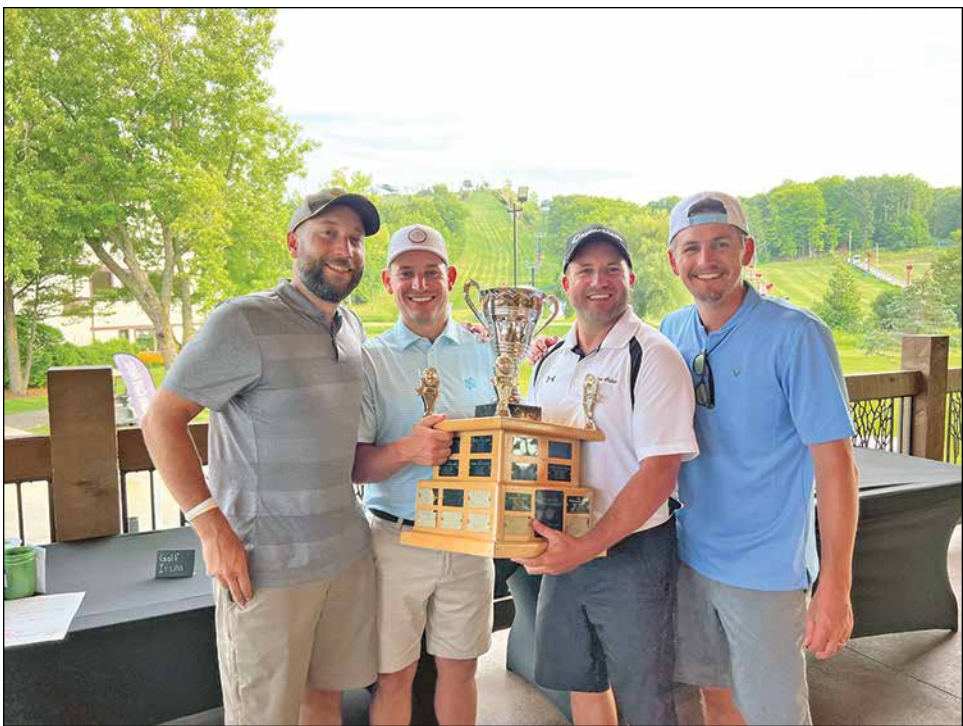
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• CONTINUED ON PAGE 10



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begins at 7 p.m.

Tickets are \$15 for general admission and \$30 for fast pass in advance and \$20 for general admission and \$40 for fast pass at the gate. Experience 6,000 square feet of horror as you walk through the realms of the Walk of Terror. For more information, visit [thewalkofterror.com](#).

**13 ETHS Homecoming**

A week-long series of East Troy High School Homecoming events will culminate with the Homecoming Parade and game on Friday, Oct. 13. The Homecoming Parade will start at 1:30 p.m. The route begins at the high school, heading east on Main Street, around the East Troy Village Square and back to the high school. The Homecoming Dance will be held on Saturday, Oct. 14.

**26 Halloween Bash**

East Troy High School, 3128 Graydon Ave., will host its annual Halloween Bash from 5 to 7 p.m. **on Tuesday, Oct. 24.**

Children 10 and younger, along with their parents, are invited to trick-or-treat through the school. The event will also feature face painting, a costume contest, pumpkin bowling and more. For more information, call (262) 642-6760.



East Troy residents Jeff and Vicki McKone will bring The Walk of Terror, East Troy's scariest Halloween attraction to a new location, Alpine Valley Resort on Fridays and Saturdays for an entire month. For details, visit [thewalkofterror.com](#).

PHOTO SUBMITTED *Good Neighbors*

**31 Trick-or-treating**

Trick-or-treat hours will be held in the Village of East Troy, Town of East Troy and Town of Troy on Tuesday, Oct. 31 from 5 to 7:30 p.m.

**27-31 Pumpkin Pop Up**

East Troy Elementary PTO and the East Troy Area Chamber of Commerce are teaming up to present East Troy's Pumpkin Pop-Up Experience.

Stroll the streets of the East Troy Village Square and enjoy pumpkins created by Little Prairie Primary School students, Oct. 27-31. Trick-or-treat hours will be held in the Village of East Troy, Town of East Troy and Town of Troy on Tuesday, Oct. 31 from 5 to 7:30 p.m.

**NOVEMBER**

**4 Resource Center Annual Fundraiser**

The East Troy Family and Community Resource Center will be hosting its Annual Fundraiser in the Valley View Lodge Room at Alpine Valley Resort, W2501 County Road D, on Saturday, Nov. 4. Doors will open at 5 p.m. and the dinner will begin at 5:30 p.m.

Tickets can be purchased online through Eventbrite or in person at Citizens Bank East Brook Branch, 2541 Main St., Suite A, East Troy. Tickets are \$35 and must be purchased by Sept. 29.

The ticket price includes a dinner of roasted chicken with parsley potatoes and peppered beef tips dinner, sides, dessert bar, coffee and water. A cash bar will be available.

The event will also feature a wine pull (\$10/cork), large raffle, Heads or Tails and 50/50 for only \$5 per person. The resource center will use proceeds to continue its 20 years of free family programming. To make a donation or purchase tickets, contact Marolyn at (262) 642-4900 or [easttroyfamily@gmail.com](mailto:easttroyfamily@gmail.com).

**ONGOING**

**East Troy Farmers Market**

The East Troy Farmers Market is returning at at Honey Creek Collective, N8030 Townline Road, from 3 to 6 p.m. on Fridays through Oct. 27. This vibrant market is a hub of activity for the East Troy community, featuring a diverse array of locally grown produce, handcrafted goods, and other products from small-scale, independent vendors. For more information, visit [honeycreekcollective.com](#).



The East Troy Bluegrass Festival's Sunday Headliner, The Kody Norris Show, was named Entertainer of the Year at the Society by the Preservation of Bluegrass Music of America (SPBGMA) annual conventions in 2022 and 2023. The group has a well-earned reputation as a high-energy, crowd-pleasing ensemble.

PHOTO SUBMITTED *Good Neighbors*

**Pizza on the Farm**

Grassway Organics, W2716 Friemoth Road, in East Troy, hosts Pizza on the Farm events on Friday and Saturdays, through Oct. 1, baking pizzas using only organic ingredients on the farm's on-site wood fired pizza oven.

The series invites people to visit the farm for live music and fresh, drool-worthy wood-fired pies. Pizza is served rain or shine from 4 to 8 p.m. on Fridays and 2 to 8 p.m. on Saturdays. Live music starts at 4 p.m. For more information, visit [grasswayorganics.com](#).

**Movies in the Meadow**

The Hive Taproom, W2463 County Road ES, will host Movies in the Meadow starting at 8:30 p.m. on the first Friday of the month in September and October, including:

- Sept. 1: National Treasure
- Oct. 6: The Addams Family

These nostalgic 80's & 90's box office hits are sure to bring back favorite childhood memories. Bring your family (and a camp chair) to enjoy The Hive's outdoor movie experience. Free admission. They'll have adult (and kid-friendly) beverages and popcorn at our outdoor bar and additional beverages and food inside. Remember that outside

beverages are not permitted. Movies will be held inside in case of inclement weather. For more information, visit [thehivetaproom.com](#).

**Tim's Taproom Trivia**

Test your Trivia skills every Thursday at the Hive Taproom, W2463 County Road ES, beginning at 7 p.m. Bee there with your team (up to 6 people) for a fun night of friendly competition.


The Taproom is open Thursday 4-9 p.m. For more information, visit [thehivetaproom.com](#).

**Picture Lady**

This fall, the East Troy Area Historical Society's Kubicki Museum and Heritage Center, 2106 Church St., will continue its "Picture Lady" series, presenting a famous artist's work and style at 1 p.m. on Saturdays, Sept. 2 (Pablo Picasso) and Oct. 7 (Rembrandt).

The museum, located on the village square, provides a showcase of local history including changing exhibits, artifacts, books, maps, documents, photographs and other materials.

Regular hours and days of operation are Wednesdays from 9 a.m. to noon and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more information, call (262) 642-2642 or visit [easttroyhistory.org](#).



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For more information, visit [generalfinishes.com](http://generalfinishes.com).

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Accurate Housing Systems specializes in the design, fabrication, and delivery of roof trusses, floor trusses, and wall panels.

The company is situated on 70 acres on Corporate Circle, providing panels and components for carpenter contractors, developers, general contractors, and lumber yards.

Accurate uses computerized systems, tables and automated saws to fabricate its components from its 65,000-square-foot facility in East Troy.

Its in-house staff of designers and estimators specializes in engineering your drawings. The final designs are further aided in accuracy by computer aided manufacturing.

From proposals to shipping, Accurate works closely with its customers to meet their needs. For more information, visit [accuratehousing.com](http://accuratehousing.com).

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For more information, visit [maxapparel.com](http://maxapparel.com).

**ECP**

2096 Church St.  
East Troy, WI 53120 • (262) 684-5600

Founded in 2004, ECP is committed to providing state-of-the-art software to the senior living community across the country.

The crew at ECP works out of the newly renovated building at 2096 Church St., the former Grand Theatre Professional Building and original Grand Opera House.

The company’s customers range from small to large multi-state providers. Since the beginning, it has been ECP’s philosophy to encourage communication from its business partners. Communication, combined with ECP’s diverse staff of industry professionals, top notch, programmers and incredible support team has resulted in a comprehensive, easy to use, senior living software solution.

For more information, visit [ecp123.com](http://ecp123.com).

Here’s a glimpse of some of the company’s major milestones:

**1973** Henry “Hank” Kubicki founds Wisconsin Oven Corporation on Nov. 16, 1973 at 2027 Young St., East Troy. The first order taken was from an OEM customer, Systemation, and was destined for Canada. By the end of the month, four people were employed

**1973-2003** Kubicki ran the company for 30 years, creating a culture focused on community, until he tragically passed in March of 2003.

**2003** Employee buyout after founder Hank Kubicki passed away

**2005** Strand, who was first hired by Wisconsin Oven as a shop worker in 1986, becomes majority owner President & CEO of the company and 85 employees

**2008** Revenue doubles and major \$1 million expansion to Standard Plant, 150 employees

**2009** The great recession causes lay off of nearly 100 employees

**2010-11** Major rebound in business, company is back to 140 employees

**2012** With record revenue, Wisconsin Oven needs expansion. Company sold to French firm, PLC Group, to raise capital and payoff old shareholder debt.

**2013** New 30,000-square-foot expansion to Main Street facility while celebrating record shipments and record growth

**2013** New owner Philippe Blandinieres from France names building after David Strand for his 29 years of dedication and success in growing the company.

**2015** French owners sell Wisconsin Oven to Thermal Product Solutions after another record year. TPS is a global leader in thermal processing products and test solutions with brands including Baker Furnace, Blue M, Gruenberg, Tenney, Lindberg/MPH, Lunaire, and Wisconsin Oven.

**2015** Strand named President and CEO of Thermal Product Solutions- 500 employees facilities in Pa., Mich., Calif., and Wis.

**2016** Wisconsin Oven refurbishes existing building for production and moves production of the Blue M product line from Pa. to Wisconsin to create extra capacity for growth in Pa.

**2017** Wisconsin Oven expands its reach in East Troy with a property purchase of the former Plymouth Tube facility at 2056 Young St., offering over 130,000 square

**If you go...**

**WHAT:** 50th Anniversary Open House featuring tours, food & refreshments

**WHEN:** Saturday, Sept. 16 from noon to 4 p.m.

**WHERE:** Wisconsin Oven Corporation, Young St. (aka Wisconsin Oven Way), East Troy

**RSVP:** (262) 642-3938 or <https://bit.ly/woc-rsvp>

feet of manufacturing space to allow for the production of composite materials in the automotive and aerospace industries. Wisconsin Oven purchased the vacant building for \$1.7 million, unveiling an extensive plan for \$1.5 million in renovation and equipment costs.

**2017** Strand officially names Young Street facility after Bruce Champion, a former vice president of operations for Wisconsin Oven. Champion is credited for playing a key role in the Wisconsin Oven’s success offering guidance and advice to employees who would become key leaders.

**2018** Aerospace now represents about 40 percent of its business, and it has also done well with its products used in the production of commercial airliners

**2019** Strand retires after dedicating 33 years to the continued growth of Wisconsin Oven Corporation

**2019** Greg Jennings appointed to the role as President and CEO of Thermal Product Solutions, parent company of Wisconsin Oven Corporation.

**2019** Jeff Kent appointed to the position of General Manager of Wisconsin Oven Corporation. Kent has had a long and successful career with Wisconsin Oven, spanning more than 35 years.

**It's what you give**

Supporting the East Troy area community through giving has been a cornerstone of Wisconsin Oven’s business since the company was founded by Hank Kubicki.

Wisconsin Oven Corporation, the East Troy Area Chamber of Commerce’s longest standing member of 50 years, has been a Chairman Level Corporate sponsor at \$2,500 a year since the program’s inception 12 years ago. Each year, the company gives over \$30,000 back to the community.

The company also partners with United Way of Walworth County.

**GOLF** • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

and organizations of all sizes,” Lenz said.

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# Summer spotlight: East Troy Cycling Classic

Photos by  
MITCHELL VINCENT  
Good Neighbors



**Clockwise from above:** The Tour of America's Dairyland, the largest competitive cycling event in the United States, kicked off day 2 of 11 consecutive days of racing June 16 at the East Troy Cycling Classic, hosted by the East Troy Area Chamber of Commerce and title sponsor the Klumb Family Foundation. Jordan Serota (first place) (from right), Ellison Guild (second place) and Ethan VerLee (third place) celebrate their victories during the Tour de Square Kids Race. Eric Seaverson of the Southern Moraine Kettles Mountain Bike Team won a heated battle amongst locals and visitors competing for last place during East Troy's 7th annual Slow Ride Bike Race. Nearly 500 cyclists raced through a four-corner fast and flat course .6-mile course Friday in downtown East Troy. The event was part of the 14th edition of ToAD, the United States largest multi-day bike racing series, features criterium-style bike races daily in different Wisconsin communities from June 15-25. Elliot Alger and Smyth Jones (right), joined by Danielle Alger, enjoy a popsicle courtesy of Sauced Pizzeria following the Tour de Square Kids Races.



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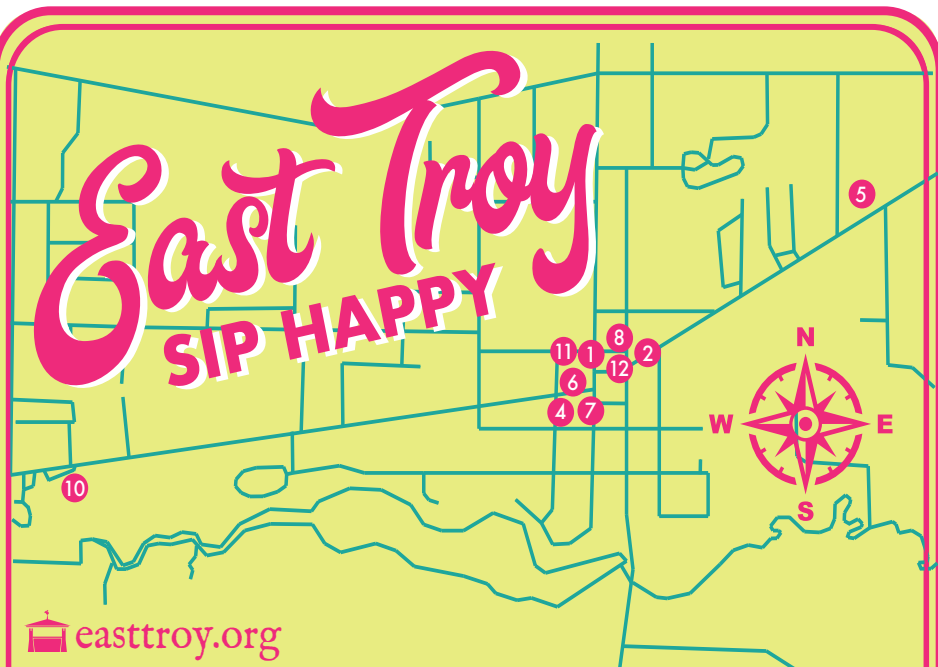


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- Little Prairie earned a **97.4%** satisfaction score from parent respondents
- The Senior Class of 2023 included 140 graduates with a **graduation rate of 100%**
- **ETMS ranked #1 overall** in English, Math, Science, and Social Studies at the Southern Lakes Middle School Advanced Learner Academic Bowl in 2023
- Little Prairie, Prairie View, and ETHS received Silver level recognition by the Wisconsin RtI Center for their successful implementation of an equitable, multi-level system of supports for the 22-23 school year
- **90.8%** of responding families believe our schools are focused on their student(s) social and emotional well-being
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