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Packard Proving Grounds Historic Site

49965 Van Dyke Ave Shelby Township, Michigan 48317

PackardProvingGrounds.org 586-739-4800



Photo by PPG Volunteer Jim Mischel



*Merry
Christmas!*

AND HAPPY NEW YEAR





The Volunteer Appreciation Dinner



On Sunday, November 10th, 2024, the Packard Proving Grounds Historic Site was filled with gratitude and celebration as we hosted our annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner.

This special evening was dedicated to honoring the tireless efforts of our volunteers who have contributed significantly to preserving the history and legacy of the PPG..

Longtime volunteer Donna Lombus was the 2024 recipient of the Tolonen Award. This award is given annually to a volunteer who has shown outstanding dedication and effort in preserving and promoting the rich



history of the Packard Proving Grounds.

[Read More](#)



2024/2025 PPG Upcoming Events



- Fri, Dec 20th 'Twas a Night Before Christmas 1939**
- Sun, Jan 5th Historic Speaker Series - Mascots**
- Sun, Jan 19th Historic Speaker Series - Lost Villages of Macomb**
- Sun, Feb 2nd Historic Speaker Series Parke Davis Tetanus Vaccine**
- Sat, Feb 8th Down & Derby Scouts Fundraiser Event**
- Sun, Feb 16th Historic Speaker Series - William Austin Burt**
- Sun, Feb 23rd Farmers Market Vendor Boot Camp**



'Twas a Night Before Christmas 1939

with Santa at the Packard Proving Grounds

December 20, 2024

5 - 9pm (\$12 per person)

Join us on a journey as we travel through time every year celebrating Packard Proving Ground's timeline. This year the young and young at heart will step back in time to 1939. We welcome you to bring your Christmas list to give to St. Nick. Make a handmade ornament, too, while sitting around the radio like Grandma used to do. Enjoy a taste of Christmas vintage cheer while listening to the story of Santa's reindeer. Tour the old lodge all lit up and bright ready to celebrate Christmas Eve night.



**Historic Tours
of the Lodge House
decorated for
Christmas circa 1939**

**Make & Take Crafts
Storytelling
Visit with Santa**



Packard
PROVING GROUNDS
HISTORIC SITE



49965 Van Dyke Ave., Shelby Township, MI 48317

Call or text (586) 739-4800

Purchase Tickets @

PackardProvingGrounds.org/Christmas39

Volunteer Spotlight

Meet the Utica Academy for International Studies (UAI) Key Club

The Utica Academy for International Studies (UAI) Key Club is a high school service organization that's all about helping our community and making a positive impact. They are part of the larger Key Club International, which is sponsored by **Kiwanis International**.



Their mission is to build leadership skills while encouraging students to get involved in meaningful service projects. “Whether it’s participating in small activities at school, volunteering at local events, or supporting important causes, the UAI is all about teamwork, kindness, and creating a better community,” states Megan Mangalathet, who coordinates the volunteer events for the UAI Key Club.

The (UAI) Key Club has been an invaluable partner to the Packard Proving Grounds (PPG) for several years! Since its founding in 2009, the UAI Key Club has grown to include 210 registered members this year. They have consistently helped at the PPG with special events, grounds clean up, farmers market, directing traffic, greeting guests, assisting with setup and cleanup, and more!

The work these students perform at the PPG reflects their commitment to the Key Club’s mission of service and leadership. By contributing their time and energy, they help preserve the historic significance of PPG while acquiring life skills that will serve them well in the future. “What we do at the Packard Proving Grounds totally fits with Key Club’s mission because it’s all about service and leadership. It’s a perfect way to achieve our goal of making a difference in the community while building skills we can use in the future,” says Megan.



The Utica Key Club’s dedication is both inspiring and essential to the success of PPG’s events and operations. We are deeply grateful for their support. Their enthusiasm reminds us of the transformative power of young leaders. We look forward to many more years of collaboration and shared success!

Learn more about Volunteer Opportunities at
the PPG



THIS
Christmas
GIVE THE GIFT OF PACKARD.

Visit the Packard Proving Grounds Gift Shop
for the Packard enthusiast in your life!



Shop at our online Gift Shop

Preserve the past.

Fuel the future.



SUPPORT
THE **NEXT** FUND.

[Click here to make a donation to the Packard Motor Car Foundation](#)

THE GREAT GATSBY

GALA FUNDRAISER

at the Packard
Proving Grounds



Saturday
April 5, 2025
6-11 PM

Tickets
\$100 Per Person

Includes Dinner + Drinks
21+ Only
Black Tie or 1920's Apparel Required



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More info @ PackardProvingGrounds.org/GreatGatsby
49965 Van Dyke Ave., Shelby Twp, MI 48317 | Call or Text (586) 739-4800

Mark your calendar for the Great Gatsby Gala Fundraiser to be held on Saturday, April 5, 2025.

2025 marks the 100th anniversary of the **Great Gatsby novel by F. Scott Fitzgerald** so the gala is going to be a popular way to celebrate this milestone and to help support the restoration work at the Packard Proving Grounds Historic Site.

Dinner tickets make a great gift - even for yourself!

Plus if you want to gather a group of eight and reserve a table so you can all sit together, it's good to plan ahead.

At the very least you can start planning your outfit!

The Michigan WWII Historic Trail



The Michigan WWII Historic Trail is a statewide opportunity for communities and businesses to celebrate their war heroes and triumphs. By highlighting significant WWII events, businesses or individuals, the Historical Trail will recognize the courage, ingenuity and resiliency shown when the country needed them most.

If you would like to make a donation to help in this endeavor, please mail a check made payable to 'Packard Motor Car Foundation' and include 'WWII Historic Trail' in the memo, and mail it to the Packard Proving Grounds Historic Site 49965 Van Dyke Shelby Twp, MI 48317 or **click on this link** to donate via credit card.



RaiseRight™

The Right
way to
Fundraise



Did you know?

Your next grocery bill, gas tank fill-up, restaurant check, coffee run, and online purchase can help you raise money for the Packard Proving Grounds!

Join the PPG's RaiseRight program so you can buy gift cards to use as payment for everyday expenses and shop online through RaiseRight. Every gift card

and online purchase earns up to 20% back — and it adds up fast! Each family can easily earn \$1,000 or more every year.



*Scan the QR code and
download the app today!*

Plus, with a mobile app available and instant access to your eGift card and reload purchases, you can buy gift cards and shop online through RaiseRight anytime, anywhere.

Learn More



Photo by PPG Volunteer Jim Mischel

Have a question?

You can text us at the PPG main phone #586-739-4800





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Packard Proving Grounds Historic Site
49965 Van Dyke Ave. Shelby Twp, MI 48317

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