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GET A BEHIND THE SCENES LOOK AT DETROIT'S NEW CENTER AND THE VILLAGE CLUB DURING TWO UPCOMING "BEHIND THE SCENES" TOURS WITH THE DETROIT HISTORICAL SOCIETY APRIL 18 AND 25

DETROIT - The Detroit Historical Society's popular weekly "Behind the Scenes" series, sponsored by the **DTE Energy Foundation**, continues with a walking tour of **Detroit's New Center** on **Saturday, April 18th** and **The Village Club** on **Saturday, April 25th**. Tours begin at **11 a.m.**

The April 18th tour takes place in **Detroit's New Center**, a vibrant and diverse commercial district known as the northern anchor of Detroit's greater downtown. It was developed during the economic boom of the early 1920s just as W.C. Durant was beginning his search for a suitable location for General Motors' headquarters. Durant settled on a location on West Grand Boulevard. This building, one of the largest of its day, served as General Motors' world headquarters from 1923 to 1996 before housing State of Michigan offices and being renamed Cadillac Place. The Fisher Brothers followed Durant to the area, and built the Fisher Building in 1927 and the New Center Building in 1931. Guests on this tour will explore the Albert Kahn building, New Center One, Cadillac Place and the Fisher Building.

The April 25th tour visits **The Village Club** in Bloomfield Hills. The Village Women's Club was established in 1956 with 30 charter members as a charitable and educational organization. The first classes were offered that fall. Originally, meetings were held at other clubs and The Community House in Birmingham. In 1961, the Club purchased the site of its present location, the Winningham House. In 1968, the club was renamed The Village Club for social and cultural purposes with The Village Woman's Club continuing as its charitable entity. Today, classes are held, social events and trips are planned and fine cuisine is served.

The cost for each Behind the Scenes Saturday tour is \$20 for Detroit Historical Society members and \$30 for guests. Telephone reservations can be accepted with a Visa or MasterCard Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tickets are not sold the day of the tour. Those who

register receive directions to the tour location, a map, and additional information in the mail one to two weeks prior to the tour.

For more information or to reserve your spot for the Detroit Historical Society's Behind the Scenes Saturday tours or other 2009 events, call **(313) 833-1801**, or visit www.detroithistorical.org.

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