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**JOIN BILL LOOMIS AS HE DISCUSSES HIS BOOK “DETROIT’S DELECTABLE PAST” WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19 AT THE DETROIT HISTORICAL MUSEUM**

**DETROIT** – The **Detroit Historical Society** continues its **Scholar Series** with local food aficionado **Bill Loomis**, who will discuss his book *Detroit’s Delectable Past* **Wednesday, June 19 at 6 p.m.** at the **Detroit Historical Museum**.

In *Detroit’s Delectable Past*, published by the History Press, Loomis looks back at the appetites, tastes, kitchens, parties, holidays and everyday meals that defined eating in Detroit, from the earliest days as a French village to the start of the 20th century. Whether it’s at a frontier farmers’ market, a Victorian 12-course children’s birthday party replete with tongue sandwiches, or a five-cent-lunch diner, food is a main ingredient in a community’s identity and history. While showcasing favorite fare of the day, this book also explores historic foodways — how locals fished the Detroit River, banished flies from kitchens without screens and harvested frog legs with miniscule shotguns. Wedding feasts, pioneer grub, cooking classes and the thrifless 1920s are all on the menu, too.

Loomis has authored numerous articles on social history in the *Detroit News* and *detnews.com*, *Michigan History* magazine and more. He was born in Detroit and grew up for a number of years in the North Rosedale Park neighborhood. He has a degree in literature from the University of Michigan and started his career writing and in television. In the 1990s, Loomis went back to college for a business degree, specializing in marketing research, where he developed a successful career. He has written on survey research and marketing for a number of business magazines and academic journals, but his passion has always burned strongly for culture, art, literature, local history, and the enjoyment of fine food. He loves cooking so much he took an evening job to teach cooking for the Ann Arbor Public Schools outreach education program. *Detroit’s Delectable Past* is the perfect book for him since it combines his two loves: history and food. He lives in Ann Arbor with his wife and children.

The Scholar Series is free for Detroit Historical Society members and \$10 for guests.

The Film and Scholar Series are supported by **the Michigan Council for the Arts and Cultural Affairs** and **the National Endowment for the Arts**.

The Detroit Historical Museum, located at 5401 Woodward Ave. (NW corner of Kirby) in Midtown Detroit, is open to the public Tuesday through Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. and

Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is free for all, all the time. Parking in the Museum's lot is \$5 at all times. Group tour pricing and information is available by calling (313) 833-1733. Permanent exhibits include the famous *Streets of Old Detroit*, the *Allesee Gallery of Culture*, *Kid Rock Music Lab*, *Doorway to Freedom: Detroit and the Underground Railroad*, *Detroit: The "Arsenal of Democracy,"* *Frontiers to Factories*, *America's Motor City*, and *The Glancy Trains*. For more information, call the Museum at **(313) 833-1805** or check out our website at [www.detroithistorical.org](http://www.detroithistorical.org).

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