With the advent of World War II, it seemed that everyone wanted to get involved in the war effort, many enlisting in the military.

This effort extended to those working in the movie film industry in Hollywood.

Some major leading men volunteered, others were drafted and some were shielded from going into harm's way by their employers, the powerful Hollywood studios.

Some were put into the Special Services Branch of the military, making propaganda films or touring with the USO entertaining troops at stateside military camps.

Some stars fought the studios to get to the fighting front, many with mixed results.

In this presentation, the military records of many of these stars—those who joined, those who were drafted, and those who were protected by the Hollywood studios—will be reviewed and scrutinized.

You may be surprised about the military service provided by some of the great leading men of the 1940s.

You will also be introduced to many of the future stars that were in the military and in some cases used their military background in their on-screen portrayals after the war.

Though women in general were not allowed to fight in battle, many of the female stars made major contributions to the war effort, some putting their lives in danger.

All of these contributions by men & women during World War II are presented here.
The Plymouth Historical Museum a privately funded 501 (c)3 charitable organization. We receive no government funding. We always have a "wish list" of things that help us as we work to preserve and share the history of Plymouth.

Here are some of our common purchases to provide inspiration.
- Roll of 100 first-class postage stamps $50
- Box of copy paper $27
- IT/Network support $250
- ½ month heating bill $375
- ½ month electric bill $475
- 1 month employee salary $500

To donate, make your check payable to the Plymouth Historical Museum.
This year the Plymouth Historical Society celebrates 70 years of preserving Plymouth history! We’ve started off the year with a bang by having the best gala fundraiser ever! Numbers are still being tabulated, but it looks like we netted more than $50,000, thanks to all of the generous contributions from members, friends, and the greater Plymouth community.

Newsletter
The Board of Directors has voted to have the Museum Memo newsletter published quarterly instead of bi-monthly, beginning with this issue. Also beginning with this issue, we will tell members in advance when tickets will be available for our various events, to ensure that all members have the opportunity to purchase tickets before they sell out.

Tickets
Tickets for two upcoming events are on sale now. There is still plenty of room in the Ghosts of Plymouth Walk, but you are encouraged to purchase tickets early, in case we sell out. The 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. time slots are sold out.

“A Beastly Tea” is well on its way to selling out, and may be by the time you read this. If you want to come to that, you need to contact us immediately to see if there are still spaces available.

The events, dates, and when tickets will be available to members, first, and then the general public are listed in the box below.

Advance sale of tickets for Museum events can be purchased by members only at the Museum using cash, check or credit card. They can also be purchased online through Eventbrite, but only when the event becomes available to the public. Once the tickets are available to the public, you can purchase from the Museum’s Facebook page (https://www.facebook.com/plymouthhistory/) or the Museum’s website (http://www.plymouthhistory.org). There is a small fee added to purchases through Eventbrite.

Welcome Mike Woloszyk!
Mike is our new marketing director. He was a Museum guide for several years and has portrayed a number of characters as a reenactor. If you came to the Yuletide at the White House member preview, you’ll remember Mike as President Calvin Coolidge. He recently retired from a career in sales.
Thank you for the following generous donations that were received between December 2017 and February 2018:

**The Great Gadsby** ($6,000)
- Free Summer Saturdays
  - Comfort Keepers

**The Lincoln** ($1,000+)
- Argent International
- Mary Fritz
- Edward Furdak
- Betty Hees
- Lary Smith
- Donald Soenen
- John Wilson Jr.

**The Starkweather** ($500–$999)
- AlphaGraphics
- Jeff Ashton
- ATS Advisors
- Jim Burroughs
- Community Financial
  - Credit Union
- Compri’s on the Park
- Detroit Elevator Company
- Marlene Donoghue
- Joe & Ellen Elliott
- First Financial Strategies
- Freudenberg-NOK
- Fred Hill, ReMAX Classic
- Dr. Howard Kane
- Brian Kidston
- Loiselle & Associates
- Mettetel Airport
- Monroe Bank & Trust

**The Penniman** ($250–$499)
- C. L. Finlan & Son
- Italian American Club
- Mary Ellen King
- Mayflower Enterprises
- Michigan Educational
  - Credit Union
- Dr. Sean O’Brien
- Team DeJohn Realty

**The Kellogg** ($100–$249)
- Joel Clark
- Dr. Thomas Covington
- Matthew Duda
- William Elliott
- Joseph Gentilcore
- Robert Gordon
- Karen Grima
- Audrey Gross
- Cynthia Hartsig
- Shirley Jallad
- Steven Kemps
- Steven Marulis
- Nancy Navarre
- Dan Packer
- Fred Robinson
- Kate Rosevear
- Gerald Sabatini
- Thomas Salapatek
- Ruth Schonhoff
- George Thompson
- Jim Vermeulen

**Under $100**
- Carter Black
- John Bonesch
- Linda Bowlby
- Linda Bozgan
- Charles Curmi
- DJL Builders
- Katharina Fedototszkin
- William Keough
- Geraldine Kilsdonk
- Dale Knab
- Rosina Kuhlmann
- Susanna Leprich
- Linda Manchester
- Cara Nims
- Robert Quattro
- David Rocker
- David Rucinski
- Susan Robinson
- Veralou Scott
- Carl Solak
- Carol Souchock
- Ann Stanford
- Tim Tingstad
- Patricia White
- Agnieszka Wira

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The Friends of the Plymouth Historical Museum is a privately funded organization and receives no government support for its mission of providing historical education and maintaining the Plymouth Historical Museum. Donations are always welcome to help preserve the exhibits, and to allow visitors the opportunity to experience the cherished history of Plymouth.

Utility expenses alone are $30,000 per year. Donations are tax deductible, and can be sent directly to the Plymouth Historical Society, a 501(c)3 charitable organization.

We appreciate your support!
Mike Janz

Mike retired after 38 years of self-employment in the retail, film production and power generation business to pursue his two passions in life: perennial gardening and world history. After he retired, he earned his Master Gardener Certification through Michigan State University and worked part time at Plymouth Nursery, applying the science he learned to everyday practices. He admits to having a mistress in life—his books. Mike feels fortunate to have acquired the habit of reading at an early age and it seems to have served him well in life.

Mike keeps in close contact with many of his college friends and travels to an away Spartans football game each year with ten of his fraternity buddies from the old days at MSU. Last year marked their 29th year in a row of traveling to a game together! Mike is also president of the Theta Chi Alumni Corporation at Michigan State.

Mike and his wife Sally have two daughters. They spend as much time as possible with their three grandchildren (all under 2 1/2 years old, plus one due in April). One of his daughters lives in Northville and the other in Cincinnati. They travel to Cincinnati often to visit and babysit their grandchildren, which gives new meaning to the old adage, “How did we ever find the time and energy to raise children and have our career?” Or as his wife would retort, “what do you mean ‘we’?”

As a guide, what Mike admires most about our Museum is that our exhibit themes are expressed as stories and not just memorizing various names of famous people, places and events. The internet can offer all the "content" in the world but it can't deliver a conversational story telling experience about the people and the cultural circumstances they lived in. A personal every-day goal of his is to always “let 'em leave with a smile on their faces!” He can't express enough how important it is to him to be a member of such a committed team of volunteers and staff.

Thank you to those who have added the Plymouth Historical Society to their Kroger Plus Card. The Museum receives a small percentage from any purchases made by those who have an up-to-date registration on their cards. To participant in the program, visit www.krogercommunityrewards.com.

Click on “Michigan” and click on “Enroll.” You must have a valid online account at Kroger.com to participate. If you need help, give us a call at 734-455-8940 ext. 9. We’ll be happy to help you get enrolled.
Saturday, April 21, 2018

The walks begin at 4 p.m. and leave every 15 minutes, circling Old Village Plymouth and lasting up to 90 minutes.

Participants should meet near the gazebo on Farmer Street.

Purchase tickets at
Plymouth Historical Museum
155 S. Main Street
Plymouth
734-455-8940

www.plymouthhistory.org

The Ghosts of Plymouth Walk is sponsored by the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce.

May 2018 Board Elections

Elections for the Friends of the Plymouth Historical Museum Board of Directors are coming up!

Elections will take place at the Plymouth Historical Museum annual meeting on Tuesday, May 8.

You can also vote absentee!

If you won’t be at the May meeting, be sure to pick up an absentee ballot from the Museum beforehand and return it to the Museum by 3:30 PM on Monday, May 7, or else your vote will not be counted.

The absentee ballot will also be available on the Museum’s website, www.plymouthhistory.org, after the April 10 monthly meeting.

The May membership meeting is a potluck dinner. The meeting begins at 6:30 PM.

The Plymouth Historical Museum presents historic figures from Plymouth’s past in...

Ghosts of Plymouth Walk Around Old Village

Tickets are $15 in advance, $20 per person day of the Ghost Walk.

Groups of 8 or more should contact the Plymouth Historical Museum for a group rate of $12 per ticket.

Call 734-455-8940 x2 for more information.

The Ghosts of Plymouth Walk is sponsored by the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce.

The party is $250 for 3-4 hours of fun! Accommodates up to 10 kids. Includes watching a Night at the Museum movie, pizza or subs & drinks, and meeting the Museum characters.

For more information contact the Museum or visit the Museum website.

SCHEDULE A NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM PARTY
**Candidates for the Friends of the Plymouth Historical Museum Board**

**Carol Bimberg** is running for the Friends of the Plymouth Historical Society Board of Directors for the first time. Carol is a retired technical training manager and worked at the agency that still creates Ford commercials. She currently answers questions on Fitbit products in online forums. Her degrees are in Business/Accounting (BS, U of M) & Adult Instruction (MA, U of M). Carol and her husband live in Plymouth, and their children and grandchildren live nearby. She has been a member of the Plymouth Historical Museum for a while.

**Jim Burroughs** is running for reelection to the Friends of the Plymouth Historical Society Board of Directors. He has served several years on the Board as treasurer. His efforts have helped to ensure that we are able to pay our bills when they are due. We have also worked hard to make sure that we are in good financial shape for future years. He also really enjoys contributing as an opener/closer for the Museum on the weekends. Jim is retired from Ford Credit in Dearborn. His interest in the Museum developed from knowing Dr. Weldon Petz and his Lincoln collection.

**William Moore** is the owner of Executive Property Maintenance in Plymouth. We specialize in Grounds Maintenance, Landscape design, install/ construction and snow removal. He holds several certifications relating to his business, is an active member and is a director of the MGIA, and is a member of the Plymouth Chamber of Commerce. William has lead his company to be in the top 100 snow contractors in North America. He enjoys challenges, gardening/planting, current affairs and engaging in good conversation, traveling, Lego architecture, and baseball. He is a member of the Friends of the Plymouth Historical Museum.

**Tim Tingstad** has lived in Plymouth for more than 35 years. He was the first president and founding member of the Fairground Park Association and is past president of the Kiwanis Club of Colonial Plymouth. Tim has worked as a Certified Financial Planner since 1982 and worked as a commercial fisherman in Alaska, 1998-2004. He is a member of the Friends of the Plymouth Historical Museum, and is a member of the Museum's Plymouth Living History Troupe where he portrays various characters for Museum events. Tim is married to Sandra; they have 2 grown sons and 2 grandchildren.

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**Friends of the Plymouth Historical Museum**

**Annual Meeting & Election of Board of Directors**

May 8, 2018  6:30 PM

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Meeting includes a Potluck Meal

Please bring:

Last names beginning A-H—Dessert
Last names beginning I-R—Main Dish
Last names beginning S-Z—Side Dish
Volunteer Spotlight

Mike Gillett

Mike was born and raised in Binghamton, NY—a proud ninth-generation New Yorker! After graduating from the Art Institute of Pittsburgh, he moved with his soon-to-be-wife and former classmate to Columbus, Ohio, in the fall of 1978, where they both worked in the pre-computer era as graphic designers. After several different Ohio homes and careers (Mike has an eclectic résumé, having worked as a cartoonist and caricaturist, art teacher, and is a retired Friends pastor), they moved to Livonia in early 2005. Mike currently is employed with Xerox in Ann Arbor.

The father of two adult daughters (Corrie, who lives in Seoul, Korea, and Chaela, who lives considerably closer), and the grandfather of two, Mike has been involved for many years with the Plymouth Historical Museum, volunteering to “be” Santa on weekends each holiday season at the Museum, and portraying local historic figures at the Plymouth Ghosts Cemetery Walks, Ghosts of Plymouth Walks, Night at the Museum parties, and many other events. Some of you might remember that Mike was Liz’s administrative assistant for an all-too-short time.

Mike’s numerous hobbies include Civil War reenacting (a Union Chaplain), American Revolutionary War reenacting (a kilted Scottish Chaplain), genealogy (long before Ancestry.com’s “shaky leaves,” and even before Roots!), his dog Tully, visiting old cemeteries, all sorts of history, naps, and all-too-verbose story-writing/telling. He also has a life-long obsession with the rock band “Jethro Tull.”

Lady Kenmore Dishwasher

DEAN MARTIN as MATT HELM in
The Ambushers

50 Years Ago - February 1968

Dick Van Dyke "Fitzwilly" Starring Academy Award Winner SANDY DENNIS

UP THE DOWN STAIR CASE

PLYMOUTH HISTORICAL MUSEUM
City Joins Protest On Trains

C&O to end passenger service between Plymouth and Detroit.

The City of Plymouth will join in the protest against the C&O Railroad curtailing passenger service at a public hearing scheduled in Detroit on Wednesday, Feb. 28.

The City Commission designated City Attorney Charles Lowe to attend the hearing and present Plymouth's protest.

For some time it has been rumored that the C&O was planning to eliminate the train that stops in Plymouth each morning on its way to Detroit, and returns each evening.

Mail Will Cost More

First Class Mail increases to 6 Cents

Effective Jan. 7, it will cost six cents to send a letter by first-class mail and 10 cents for air mail.

The 20 per cent increase in postage applies to all first-class mail up to 13 ounces and to all air mail up to seven ounces.

New rate for post cards will be five cents and for air mail post cards eight cents.

Penniman Building Fire Sets Longevity Record

P&A Theater fire took 60 hours to extinguish

The fire that destroyed the Penniman Building last Sunday not only was the most stubborn blaze in the city's history, but it also set a record for longevity.

The first alarm was sounded shortly after noon on Sunday and it was not until almost 60 hours later, on Tuesday evening, that Fire Chief George Schoenneman declared the fire "out" and removed the last of the fire fighters from the scene.

Two More High Schools May Be Needed

In the last five years, the Plymouth school district has gained the unprecedented number of 3,000 students and predictions show that this growth will become more intense in the next four years.

In 1962, there were 5,304 students enrolled in all grade levels throughout the district and that number increased tremendously to 8,450 as of December, 1967.

Five years ago the district built new facilities valued at $4,325,367, but the five year span to 1967 saw that value figure jump to six times that amount to $25,103,033.

However, instead of simply repeating itself along the same lines the number of enrollments in the next four years is expected to double that of present count.

Predictions indicate that by 1971 there will be 14,055 students which would require two more high schools, three more middle schools and six more elementary schools.

The 1967 portion of the split school year saw 24 new classrooms added throughout the district. This represented an increased capacity of 780 students over the year before.
She Is 96 Years Young And Still Being Honored

MRS. B. R. GILBERT

In 1929, Mrs. B.R. Gilbert of 959 Penniman was president of the Plymouth Woman's Club and now, 39 years later, at the club's recent annual benefit it was announced that she will hold an honorary membership in the organization.

Born Letitia Wallace Smith in 1871, Mrs. Gilbert has filled her 96 years of life with teaching, music and an unflagging interest in local and global events.

Her teaching career began many years ago on her father's large land holdings located in Oakland and Livingston counties.

Mrs. Gilbert was the first girl in her family to attend college and after graduation from Eastern Michigan University, then "Ypsi Normal," she began teaching in the school built by her father on his land to serve the children of his farm hands.

* * * *

"MY STUDENTS were what you might call a captive audience," Mrs. Gilbert reflects, "but those years were good ones."

When the little schoolhouse stood empty under the summer sun, Mrs. Gilbert would become a student herself and return to the Ypsi campus for the summer courses.

It was during one of these summers that she met Mr. Gilbert. As owner and manager of a men's clothing store in Ypsilanti he was taking advantage of the college's summer courses in business.

Their marriage in 1895 was blessed with one daughter, Helen, who has followed in mother's footsteps and is a teacher with the Detroit school system.

Mrs. Gilbert holds very strong feelings on the recent teacher strikes and feels that disagreements should be resolved in a manner befitting the profession.

* * *

Plea Repeated For Recreation

For the second time within a year Commissioner James McKeon has asked the City Commission to consider a city-wide recreation program.

“If we can have an outline of a program and what it would require, in the way of funds,” Commissioner McKeon stated, “we would then be in a position to set up a budget accordingly.

‘Let’s find out what other cities do and how a program is established. Then we can move with intelligence and get started on a recreation program that long has been needed.”

COSTLY UNSIGHTLINESS --- These piles of junk and rubbish in the industrial park just off Ann Arbor Road at the viaduct are proving to be more than an eyesore to the residents. It came to light during the week that a major manufacturing concern turned down the site for a new plant because of the environment.
Points In Plymouth History

Speaking before the Rotary Club Friday, Sam Hudson, official historian of the City of Plymouth, listed what he termed “the 10 turning points” in the history of the Plymouth community.

Going into the most minute detail in his reasons for the selections he listed them as follows:

1. Selection of the name of Plymouth in 1627.
2. Establishment of Kellogg Park, known as Plymouth Green in 1835.
3. Establishment of city boundaries--no official date known.
4. Coming of the railroad in 1870.
5. One man’s vote to bring about the Daisy Air Rifle Company.
6. The major fire of 1893.
7. Partition of Plymouth Township in 1898.

Top Sports Story?

October 1, 1967
Tigers drop season finale - give Red Sox AL pennant

50 Years Ago - January 1968

There can be no question about the major sports stories nationally in 1967.

1. The Red Sox beating out the Tigers for the American League flag.
2. Indiana surprising the football world by capturing the Big Ten’s right to go to the Rose Bowl.
3. Cassius Clay being stripped of his heavyweight boxing title for failure to enter the U.S. Army when drafted.
4. The continued downfall of the United States in tennis.
5. Bob Gibson’s pitching that won the world series for St. Louis.

If you’re looking for other big moments: how’s about -- Jim Ryun’s 3:51.1 mile record, Lew Alcindor and his UCLA basketball team, the record number of victories (68) and the world title plucked by Wilt Chamberlain and the Philadelphia 76ers, the first Super Bowl game, Intrepids easy victory in the Americans Cup, and Charles Finley pulling the Kansas City A’s out of Missouri and moving them to Oakland, Cal.?

Township Approves Plans For First Shopping Center

Construction begins on $350,000 Wrigley Supermarket

The last hurdle was removed Tuesday night when the Planning Commission approved a building permit that will allow the developers, Stewart Oldford & Sons, to construct the center that will comprise more than 33,000 square feet.

THE PLAN was approved without a dissenting vote and it furnished another sizable bit of evidence that the township will continue the boom that started several years ago.

Oldford told the commission that construction will begin soon on a $350,000 Wrigley supermarket with completion sometime in the fall of 1968.
Calendar of Events
For a detailed list of events, visit the Museum website at www.plymouthhistory.org/events.html.

April
10—Tuesday, FoPHM Membership Meeting, 7 PM, “Another Take on World War II: The Stars Go To War,” with Daniel Packer.
18—Wednesday, Family Night, 6-8 PM, Sponsored by Team DeJohn Realty.
21—Saturday, Ghosts of Plymouth Walk Around Old Village. Walks begin at 4 PM at Gazebo on Farmer Street; tickets $15 in advance, $20 at Gazebo. The walk lasts up to 90 minutes. Sponsored by Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce. 4 PM and 7 PM time slots are sold out.

May
6—Sunday, “A Beastly Tea,” Noon-2 PM. Tickets are $25 for one adult and one child; $15 additional people.
8—Tuesday, FoPHM Annual Meeting, 6:30 PM, Board of Directors election. Potluck suggestions: Last names beginning A-H—Dessert; I-R—Main Dish; S-Z—Side Dish.

The Museum’s Current Special Exhibit
Here Comes the Bride
Featuring wedding outfits and artifacts from the past as well as interesting facts that pertain to wedding traditions long gone. The exhibit is on display until July 15, 2018.