

# MUSEUM MEMO

May/June 2017

## Plymouth's 150th Birthday, July 26, 6-8 PM

YOU'RE INVITED!

PLYMOUTH'S 150TH  
BIRTHDAY PARTY!  
WEDNESDAY JULY 26, 6-8PM

Event Location:  
Plymouth Historical Museum

Plymouth's 150th Birthday Party  
sponsored by  
Fox Hills Golf and Banquet Center



Email us at [gala@plymouthhistory.org](mailto:gala@plymouthhistory.org)  
Or, call us at 734-455-8940 x 2

You're Invited to Plymouth's 150th Birthday Party on July 26, 6-8 PM, at the Plymouth Historical Museum. Tickets are \$25 each and include admission to the party (optional), and the chance to win a Diamond Pendant valued at \$10,000 with 150 diamonds, donated by Dearborn Jewelers of Plymouth. **Need not be present to win.** The birthday party event is sponsored by Fox Hills Golf and Banquet Center and includes wine and appetizers. Tickets are available at the Museum, on the Museum website at [www.plymouthhistory.org](http://www.plymouthhistory.org), and at Dearborn Jewelers.

**FREE SUMMER SATURDAYS AT THE  
PLYMOUTH HISTORICAL MUSEUM**

Sponsored by Allan Leonard

**Free Summer Saturdays**

**June 10-Sept 2 | 1-4 PM | 155 S. Main Street Plymouth MI**

**[www.plymouthhistory.org](http://www.plymouthhistory.org) 734.455.8940**

Plymouth Historical Museum  
 155 South Main Street  
 Plymouth, Michigan 48170  
<http://www.plymouthhistory.org>  
<http://www.facebook.com/plymouthhistory>  
 734-455-8940 Fax: 734-455-7797

**Hours**

Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday  
 1-4 PM all days  
 Open year round (except some holidays)

**Board of Directors**

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**Museum Memo Editor**

Gerry Sabatini [sabatini1983@att.net](mailto:sabatini1983@att.net)  
 Proofreader—Elizabeth Kerstens

The Museum Memo is printed six times a year.

**Monthly Drawing**

Sue Seelye and Bill Cottrell are the winners of the May and June drawings for a \$25 gift certificate.



**Kroger Plus Card Donations**

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 participate in the program, visit [www.krogercommunityrewards.com](http://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.

**New Members—Welcome!**

Yvette Babish, Plymouth  
 Jamie Blanchard, Plymouth  
 Jennifer Boettner, Plymouth  
 Laura Bramer, Canton  
 David Featherman, Plymouth  
 Marcie Gerlach, Plymouth  
 Kurt Heise, Plymouth  
 Carol Karol, Plymouth  
 Sarah Krot, Plymouth  
 Dorothy Mulroy, Plymouth  
 Grace Pierzynski, Plymouth  
 Kathy Pumphrey, Canton  
 Thomas Salapatek, Canton  
 Wendy Schultz, Plymouth

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 **\$49**
- 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:

Plymouth Historical Museum  
 155 S. Main Street  
 Plymouth, MI 48170

# Bits 'N Pieces

By Elizabeth Kelley Kerstens, executive director

**W**e have some fun events on the horizon and we want to make sure that Museum members get first crack at tickets for some of the events that sell out quickly.

- First up is the **4th of July** parade down Main Street, beginning at 9 AM on the 4th. This year, in honor of the Village/City of Plymouth's 150th anniversary, the Museum will have a float recreating a scene from Plymouth in the 1860s. It's a band wagon and members of the Plymouth Community Band will be on the float making music. Don't miss our tribute to Plymouth!
- **Sunday, July 16** we are holding a Super Hero Ice Cream Social, 2-4 PM. There are still tickets for \$12 each available at the Museum or at [www.plymouthhistory.org](http://www.plymouthhistory.org). Please don't wait until the last minute, as lately we've had a number of sold-out events.
- **Wednesday, July 26** we will be celebrating Plymouth's 150th anniversary with a birthday party at the Museum, 6-8 PM. This is a ticketed event, i.e. each person that attends must present a ticket to get in. The ticket is \$25 and enters you in a raffle to win a diamond pendant valued at \$10,000, donated by Dearborn Jewelers. We will have plenty of refreshments and some people from Plymouth's past. The event is sponsored by Fox Hills Golf & Banquet Center.
- **August 17-19** is the Museum's Nostalgia Sale. We're accepting donations of items that are better than yard sale quality. If you wonder if we're interested in an item, give us a call.
- **October 7** is the first of two Plymouth Ghosts Cemetery Walks. The second will be on **October 28**. This is an immensely popular event; both walks we held last year sold out within a week each. Tickets will go on sale Monday, July 10. If you're interested in attending one of the walks, please buy your tickets right away. The walks will be identical, so you only need buy tickets for the walk that fits best with your schedule. The tickets will be on sale at the Museum and through our website at [www.plymouthhistory.org](http://www.plymouthhistory.org).
- **October 28** is the second of two Plymouth Ghosts Cemetery Walks. Please see October 7 entry.
- **November 5** is a Markham/Wilcox House Tour. We have a tour on September 24 of this wonderful mansion, but the *tickets sold out in 2 hours!* So we're letting members know ahead of time that tickets for this walk will go on sale on Monday, July 24. Again, the tickets will be on sale at the Museum and on our website at [www.plymouthhistory.org](http://www.plymouthhistory.org).
- **December 10** we will have Simply Dickens back for a tea! Watch for more details.

## Volunteers Make a Difference!

School groups visit the Museum and we teach them about Lincoln, the Civil War, the Victorian period, old toys, Underground Railroad, communities, Native Americans, and the Erie Canal.

We have all of the materials; our Education Coordinator Leslie Ryder will help you organize the presentation.

## Jump into the Pool !

We are looking for people to join our pool of educational presenters.



Please join our pool !

Contact the Museum at 734-455-8940 x 2, or by email at [education@plymouthhistory.org](mailto:education@plymouthhistory.org).



**Penn Theatre**



**NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM**

Friday, June 30 and Saturday, July 1  
7:00 p.m. and 9:05 p.m.  
**All Seats \$3.00\***

In cooperation with the  
**Plymouth Historical Museum**

**\*MUSEUM VISITORS  
June 30 and July 1  
WILL RECEIVE FREE MOVIE PASSES**



**Sponsored by Linda Clements**

**Donations Received  
April – May 2017  
Thank You!**

The following generous donations were received between April and May 2017:

**The Lincoln  
(\$1,000–\$2,499)**  
Dolores Guenther

**The Penniman  
(\$250–\$499)**  
Rick Mosteller

**The Kellogg (\$100–\$249)**  
Thomas Salapatek



**Support the Plymouth  
Historical Museum**

The Friends of the Plymouth Historical Museum (a.k.a. Plymouth Historical Society) is privately funded and receives no government support for its mission of providing historical education and maintaining the Plymouth Historical Museum.

Donations are sent directly to the Plymouth Historical Society, a 501(c)3 charitable organization, and all donations are tax deductible. If your donation is more than \$100, you will be acknowledged on our new donor wall in the stairwell leading to the lower level.

We appreciate your support!



**Mark your calendar and dust off your flapper dresses!**

**Next Year's "A Night For the Museum" gala will be Saturday, March 3, 2018 at the Italian American Banquet Center.**

**To become a sponsor contact Liz Kerstens at 734.455.8940 ext. 9**



## Future Of City Is Up In The Air

The future of the City of Plymouth is up in the air--literally.

This is the conclusion reached by a special group of students from the University of Michigan following a 13-week personal study and was given in a special meeting with the City Commission last Monday evening.

As part of their work as members of Prof. William Glaser's class, the students presented their findings in one of the most fascinating reports heard in a long while.

"If the people of Plymouth want to retain their quiet, little 'city of homes' they will face a real task", the report stated. "The quiet and beauty can be retained--but at an awful cost."

The report pointed out that there is no room for development in the city and the way to grow is in the air.

"There is less than five

acres available for any type of use", the report showed--and not much can be done with this to improve a tax base.

"If the city is to remain in its present confines of two square miles, there must be a full scale re-zoning of property, to maintain a balance between industrial and residential property. It is suggested," the report continued, "to concentrate the residents in high rise apartments and switch much of the present residential property to light industry.

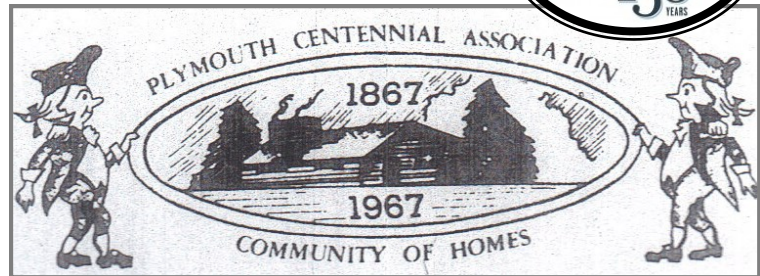
"There is only one alternative", the report went on, "and that is annexation or unification with surrounding communities and make the present city the core of the area."

Claiming that their study uncovered the fact that the Plymouth housewives do most of their purchasing at the large shopping centers and patronize the downtown area only for "odds and ends", the students recommend two things to bring about survival. They were:

1. Construction of an overpass to eliminate the Main Street railroad crossing.

2. Develop an area of specialty shops in the Kellogg Park area.

50 Years Ago -  
May 1967



## SUPER HERO ICE CREAM SOCIAL

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FUN ACTIVITIES

SUNDAY,

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2-4 PM

PHOTOS  
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PLYMOUTH HISTORICAL MUSEUM

155 S. MAIN STREET

734-455-8940

WWW.PLYMOUTHISTORY.ORG

SPONSORED BY COLONIAL VETERINARY CLINIC

TICKETS ARE \$12 PER PERSON.

ADD \$5 TO TICKET PRICES AFTER JULY 7.

CHILDREN MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT.

MINIMUM AGE 4



# Plymouth Days Gone By

Compiled by Gerry Sabatini from the newspaper archives at the Plymouth District Library

## Memorial Day Marks Passing Of Another Era

50 Years Ago - May 1967

One era of Plymouth's history will come to a close and another will be born Tuesday when, for the first time, the formal observance of Memorial Day will be conducted without the presence of a single war veteran from the battlefields of the 19th Century.

Time has turned its inevitable corner, and, while the solemnity of the tribute will be the same, only the fighting men and women of the 20th Century remain to take part in the 1967 ceremonies.

Plymouth's last link with the past, 86-year-old Spanish-American War Veteran Thomas Gray, was to have ridden in a special place of honor in Tuesday morning's traditional parade.

Wednesday night Mr. Gray was placed on the "critical" list at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ann Arbor, with advancing age making his survival appear problematical.

50 Years Ago - June 1967

## Lord Mayor To Get Big Civic Welcome

A huge civic welcome is being planned for the Lord Mayor of Plymouth, England, and his entourage, when they arrive on Monday, July 3, to be honored guests at the Plymouth Centennial.

From the moment they arrive by plane at the Windsor, Canada, airport, they will be given the "red carpet" treatment that will reach a climax on the City Hall lawn at approximately 4 o'clock in the afternoon.

Under the plans approved by the Committee, Mayor James Jabara will head a motorcade to the airport to extend greetings upon their arrival.

From the airport the motorcade will head for the City-County Building and an official call on Mayor Cavanagh. From there, the group will make a quick tour of Cobo Hall to allow the visitors an opportunity to see one of the larger exhibition and convention halls in America.

## Plymouth City Commission Sets 4 Public Hearings on June 19

The Plymouth City Commission has set Monday evening, June 19, as the date of public hearings for the proposed closing of four alleys in the community.

These alleys include—

1—The alley between Auburn and Sunset, between

Farmer and Junction.

2—Alley between Sunset and Sheldon Road, between Farmer and Junction.

3—Alley east of Sheldon Road between Junction and Goldsmith.

4—Alley between Auburn and Sunset between Blanche and Farmer.

THE PENN THEATRE



50 Years Ago - May 1967

### Centennial Ball Opens Big Year

Heeding the request of the Plymouth Centennial Committee, the City Commission has approved the re-naming of the main thoroughfare to "Centennial Boulevard" until December 31.

The request was made as a means of boosting the centennial and it will be brought closer to the public eye with the erection of signs calling attention to the Centennial on all the light poles on Main Street - er, Centennial Boulevard.

### Main Street Renamed for Centennial

CENTENNIAL DR



Now that Michigan Week has been written into the pages of history the City of Plymouth is turning to the celebration of its 100th birthday-- and the first of the summer events on the long schedule is set for Saturday evening, June 3.

It will be the Centennial Ball and will be held at the Meeting House with all the fanfare and fervor of the "balls" that were popular at the time of the founding of the city.

A fine evening of entertainment is planned with George Alfano and his orchestra furnishing the music for the dancing. This is one of the most popular musical groups in the area and the dancing is certain to be enjoyable.

Jan Wynn, former singing star at radio station WJR will be the soloist of the evening and the laughs are to be furnished by comedian Paul Lennon.

The City of Plymouth is going to be presented with a most unusual gift as a remembrance of the centennial celebration.

It will be a stone taken from the same docks at Plymouth, England, where the original Pilgrims set sail in the famed Mayflower for their new home in America, in 1620.

### City To Be Given Real Plymouth Rock

Announcement of the unusual gift was made by John Jarvis, a local official of the BOAC (British Overseas Airlines Company), who resides here in Plymouth.

50 Years Ago - June 1967

A big civic dinner, the like of which the City of Plymouth never has seen before, is being planned by the Businessmen's Forum to honor the Lord Mayor, of Plymouth, England, during his visit to the Centennial the week of July 4.

The affair is to be held at the Meeting House on Thursday evening, July 6 with civic, industrial and business leaders in attendance, along with the British Counsel and his staff.

### Civic Dinner To Honor Plymouth's Lord Mayor

Originally, the Forum had planned a luncheon meeting, but because of the importance of the visitors, it was decided to switch to an evening affair.

Senator Philip A. Hart is being extended an invitation to deliver the main speech and among others to be invited for short remarks are Senator Griffin and Governor George Romney.



July 1967. Former Plymouth Mayor James Houk, and Frank Chapman, Lord Mayor of Plymouth, England.



Friends of the Plymouth Historical Museum  
155 S. Main Street  
Plymouth, MI 48170

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## Calendar of Events

For a detailed list of events, visit the Museum website at [www.plymouthhistory.org/events.html](http://www.plymouthhistory.org/events.html).

Special Museum Exhibit, "Celebrating Plymouth — 150 Years!" The exhibit will change throughout the year to feature various decades in Plymouth's 150-year history.

### June

30—Friday, Penn Theatre, *Night at the Museum*, 7 & 9:05 PM. Tickets \$3. In cooperation with Plymouth Historical Museum.

### July

1—Saturday, Penn Theatre, *Night at the Museum*, 7 & 9:05 PM. Tickets \$3. In cooperation with Plymouth Historical Museum.

4—Tuesday, Museum float in 4th of Plymouth parade.

16—Sunday, "Super Hero Ice Cream Social," 2-4 PM. Tickets \$12 per person.

26—Wednesday, "Plymouth's 150th Birthday Party", 6-8 PM, at the Plymouth Historical Museum. Tickets are \$25 each and include admission to the party (optional), and the chance to win a Diamond Pendant valued at \$10,000.

### August

17-19—Nostalgia Sale, Plymouth Historical Museum.

### September

13—Wednesday, Family Night, Plymouth Historical Museum, Sponsor: C.L. Finlan Insurance.

24-Oct. 1—Exhibit closed for updates for Halloween.

CELEBRATING  
1867 **Plymouth** 2017  
MICHIGAN  
150  
YEARS

Visit the Museum's Special Exhibit,  
"Celebrating Plymouth — 150 Years!"

