

November/December 2017



Members are invited to be witnesses at a surprise wedding at the Plymouth Historical Museum on January 16, 6–8 PM.

The surprise wedding is part of the Appetizer Reception on the night before our new special exhibit opens. The exhibit, "Here Comes the Bride," features wedding outfits and artifacts from the past as well as interesting facts that pertain to wedding traditions long gone.

After the wedding, you can relax at the appetizer reception where we will be serving hors d'oeuvres and desserts.

Museum members receive 2 complimentary tickets; additional tickets are \$25 per person. Space is limited so it's first come, first served!

Please reserve your tickets by January 15 at www.plymouthhistory.org or call 734.455.8940x2.

Tea with Mrs. Lincoln

Join Mary Todd Lincoln on the day before her husband's birthday for a wonderful tea at the Plymouth Historical Museum on Sunday, February 11, 2018! "Tea with Mrs. Lincoln" will be held from 2 to 4 p.m. that day in the Museum's lower level. Mrs. Lincoln, portrayed by Pam Dawson, will discuss her earliest recollections, through her courtship and marriage to Abraham Lincoln, up to his election to the Presidency.

Enjoy tea delicacies catered by Diann's Catering, while sipping the Museum's own special tea, "Mary's Blend"—a tantalizing cherry and almond black tea blend in honor of our guest Mary Todd Lincoln. Ticket holders who arrive at the Plymouth Historical Museum before the tea are welcome to visit the Mu-

seum's "Here Comes the Bride" special exhibit, which will be open to the public January 17-June 17, 2018. Doors for "Tea with Mrs. Lincoln" will open at 1:50 p.m.

Pam Dawson has portrayed Mary Todd Lincoln for more than 10 years. She is a retired special education teacher from Livonia Public Schools.

Be sure to buy your tea tickets early as the teas at the Plymouth Historical Museum sell out quickly! Tickets are available at the Museum or online at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/tea-with-mrs-lincoln-tickets-41394233266>.

This tea is sponsored by Dr. Sean O'Brien of Canton.

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)

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Museum Memo Editor

Gerry Sabatini sabatini1983@att.net
 Proofreader—Elizabeth Kerstens

The Museum Memo is printed six times a year.

Monthly Drawing

Paula Holmes and Daniela Mayer are the winners of the November and December 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 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.

New Members—Welcome!

Michael Palko, Plymouth
 Michelle Lutz, Canton
 Judy Straley, Livonia
 Suemarie Klimek, Northville
 Louis Skiera, Plymouth
 Dan Quint, Plymouth
 Debbie Jones, Madison Heights
 Charles Turlo, Livonia

Volunteers Please Note

The Plymouth Historical Museum has a change in Volunteer Coordinators. Janet Burns, office manager, and Maria Thompson, our new marketing director, will be sharing the responsibilities of volunteer coordinator. New volunteers should call Janet at 734-455-8940 x6; volunteers wanting to schedule work days should still call Madelyne Beddoes at 734-512-6267.

Museum Wish List

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 the Plymouth Historical Museum.

Volunteer Spotlight

By Maria Thompson, Marketing Director & Volunteer Coordinator

Mike Woloszyk

Mike grew up in Northwest Detroit and after completing high school, joined the Navy and was trained as an electronic technician while the Vietnam war was in full swing.

After serving four years, Mike began a career as a loan specialist with Household Finance Corporation in Miami. He continued his career by working with numerous companies as a controller, operations manager, software sales manager and finally forming his own company, JMJ Marketing Corporation, helping local manufacturers find new sales and business relationships.

All the while, Mike attended night school at Henry Ford Community College and the University of Michigan Dearborn to advance his education, pursuing a degree in business management. Mike retired from the business world this year.

He is married to Janice, lives in Northville, and they have two grown sons, Adam and John, who both live in the area. Mike keeps busy with the Plymouth Historical Museum as a guide in the Abraham Lincoln room and as a character actor for the numerous museum events.

Mike has portrayed Harry Truman, Calvin Coolidge, and is Thomas Edison for the "Night at the Museum" birthday parties. He portrayed the Plymouth characters of Andrew Lapham and Clarence Hamilton at the cemetery walks and was the MC at the Museum Victorian Wake.

He recently appeared as Father Mike Kelly in the Plymouth Wake Murder Mystery. Mike also promoted the museum, in character, and introduced the band on stage every Friday night at the Plymouth band



concerts in the park this summer. Mike enjoys giving guided tours of the museum to scout groups and will be the MC at the upcoming Museum Gala in March.

Mike is active with his church, Our Lady of Victory, in Northville. He is a Catechism teacher for seventh grade students and has recently become a Eucharistic Minister. Mike also is a member of the board of his neighborhood association.

His hobbies include nature photography, computer programming, stamp collecting, and he is an avid history reader. Another hobby Mike enjoys is collecting Abraham Lincoln memorabilia, amassing over 100 books about Lincoln along with numerous Lincoln busts, plaques and other mementos.

Santa's Job Goes Begging

Santa Claus doesn't seem over enthused at the Plymouth Chamber of Commerce's current offer of \$3 an hour.

At least to date there's been only one applicant for the three-day-a-week job which runs from Dec. 2 through Dec. 23. And, the applicant isn't too sure about the hours which are from 4 to 8 p.m. on Thursdays and Fridays and 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 3 to 7 p.m. Saturdays.

50 Years Ago - November 1967

An applicant should be a grandfatherly type with a ho, ho, ho personality and, naturally, he's got to like kids.

Robert Budlong is chairman of the Chamber committee conducting interviews.

Donations Received October – November 2017

Thank you for the following generous donations that were received between October and November 2017:

The Lincoln (\$1,000+)

Dolores Guenther
Raymond Skiba

The Starkweather (\$500–\$999)

Bake Real Estate
Ellen Elliott
Genuine Toy Company
Kiwanis Club of Colonial
Plymouth

The Penniman (\$250–\$499)

James Burroughs
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Edie Wysocki
Pam Yockey
Zack's

**50 Years Ago -
November 1967**

*Sid Strong
Quits After
30 Years*

Sidney Strong, who came to Plymouth in 1922 as first manager of the village and later the city, cut one of his last ties with the city government Monday when he resigned from the Planning Commission. He had served as chairman for quite some time.

“My term as a member of the Plymouth Planning Commission is up on the last of the month,” he wrote to Mayor James Jabara. “I have served on the Commission since May, 1938, when the commission first was organized.

“And now, as I near my 84th birthday, I think it is high time for me to say that I do not wish to continue. I would rather step down of my own volition than have someone say that I was too old for the job.”



March 3, 2018

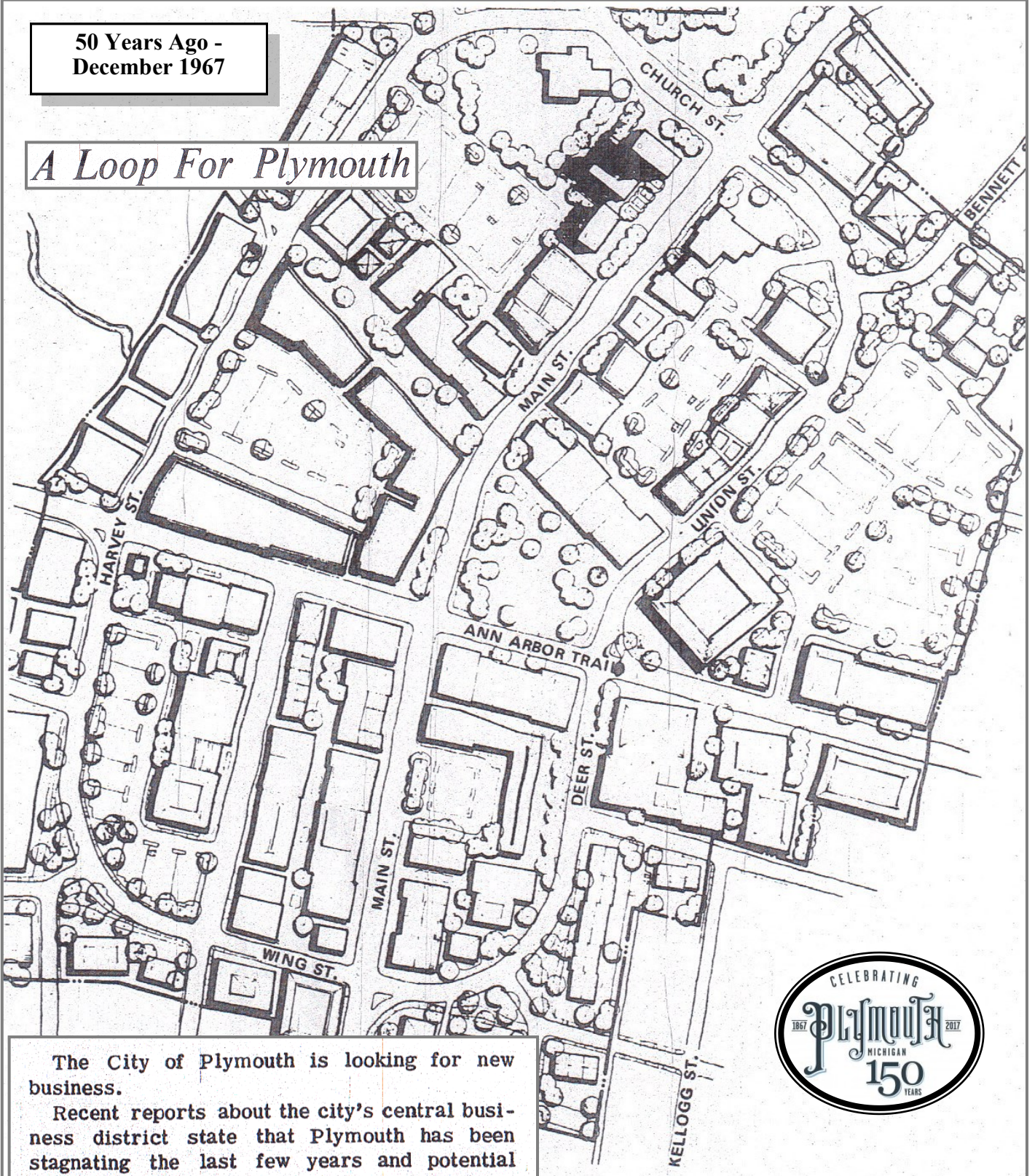
**To become a sponsor
contact Liz Kerstens at
734.455.8940 ext. 9**

**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.**

50 Years Ago -
December 1967

A Loop For Plymouth



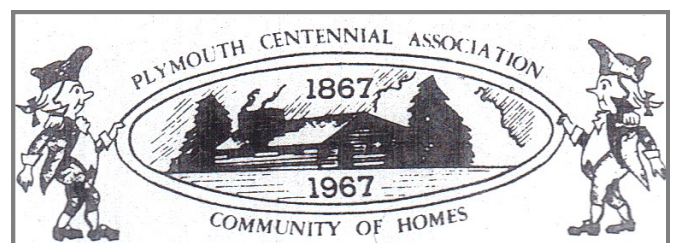
The City of Plymouth is looking for new business.

Recent reports about the city's central business district state that Plymouth has been stagnating the last few years and potential customer money has been lost to neighboring communities.

The most exciting remedy for the city's commercial headache is a proposed traffic loop that will surround the downtown area.

Construction of the loop will cost in the neighborhood of \$500,000.

* * *



Plymouth Days Gone By

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

50 Years Ago - November 1967

Mr. Coello Hamilton, who was born in Milford, Michigan, April 21, 1872, and had lived in Plymouth for 93 years, died Saturday Oct. 28, at his home, 311 Hamilton Street, following an illness of five weeks. In the years measuring the span of a lifetime, he was surpassed in age only by Mr. Clarence E. Stevens, of 940 North Harvey Street, as Plymouth's oldest citizen. Mr. Stevens is 102 years old.

One of Plymouth's pioneering civic leaders, he played a leading role in obtaining natural-gas service for Plymouth, and during World War I served for two years on the community's draft board.

Plymouth's second oldest citizen died over the weekend at the age of 95.

*Plymouth
Loses
Second
Oldest
Citizen*



COELLA HAMILTON

Unification Of Governments Is Key To Future Of Plymouth

- One water system.
- One sewer system.
- One set of municipal offices.
- One police department.
- One fire department.

"There would be an end to duplication of equipment and facilities. There would be an integral approach to planning for streets and highways, zoning, law enforcement and youth activities.

The obvious solution to the problem of the population explosion that threatens to engulf most of western Wayne County by 1980 and cause many present areas to lose their identity is the unification of governments in the City of Plymouth and Plymouth Township.

This is the opinion of former Municipal Court Judge Edward Draugelis and he expressed it in no uncertain terms in an address before the Plymouth Women's Club last Friday.

After pointing out that urban planners predict that by the end of this century the Detroit Metropolitan area will extend from Woodward and Jefferson to a point above Mt. Clemens on the east, above Pontiac on the north, and beyond Ann Arbor on the west, he stated that the utility companies, always a good barometer, are planning for a population growth in the Plymouth School District that will be greater than the population of the City of Flint.

The Greatest Event in Motion Picture History!

The Penn Theatre

Cecil B. DeMille's
PRODUCTION
The Ten Commandments

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Christ Child Stolen

Vandalism in the City of Plymouth reached its peak during the holidays when the Christ Child was stolen from the manger in the Nativity scene in Kellogg Park.

D&C To Close After 29 Years

Another old land mark in the central business district is going to be missing after the holidays.

The D & C Store, which has been on the corner of Main Street and Ann Arbor Trail since 1939, is falling victim to economic pressures and will pass into history about mid-January.

"We are opening our closing out sale the day after Christmas", Jack Herman, manager of the store, stated, "and we should be closed about the middle of the next month".

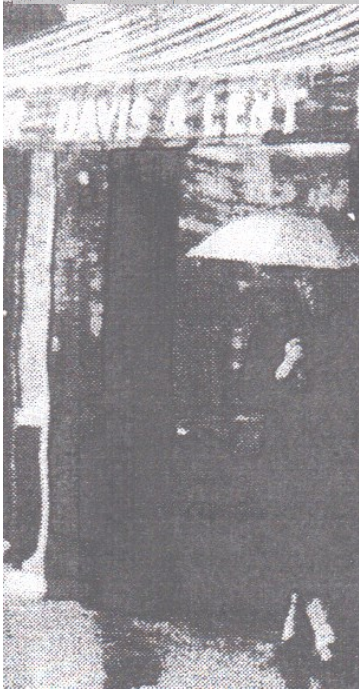
WITH THE passing of the once popular store, 13 employes will be left unemployed but, according to Manager Herman most of them are of retirement age.

"We sure hate to leave Plymouth", he confided, "for we have enjoyed it here for years. But economics are forcing the move and there is just nothing that we can do about it."

50 Years Ago -
December 1967



Davis & Lent Closes Its Doors



After nearly 30 years of doing business on Main Street, Wendell Lent, well known dealer in men's clothing, is closing the doors of the Davis & Lent Company--forever.

"I am tired", he sighed Friday afternoon when announcing his farewell, but intimated that he would be somewhere in the Plymouth business picture shortly after the new year.

"Thirty years is a long time," he said "and I have seen a lot of changes along the street. But I am leaving with no regrets."

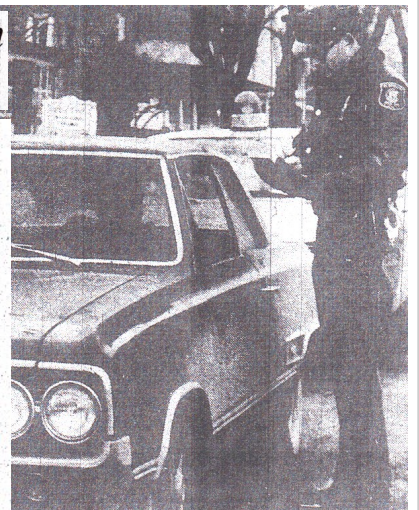
In answer to complaints from many quarters, Plymouth Police Chief Robert Corrington has emphatically denied that there is a special drive on to issue parking tickets during the holiday season.

"There is absolutely no basis for such a charge as that", he said. "We are here to see that the law is obeyed and we never are concerned with seasons."

A Violation Is A Violation Even During Holiday Season

The Chief did point out, however, that there has been an increase in the number of parking tickets written during the past two months.

"We had 224 moving violations in November and 412 parking tickets. This was up considerably from October, which was way below average."



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.

December

23&24—Santa Claus visits Museum

31—"Charles Dickens Christmas" exhibit closes. Museum closed until Jan. 17, 2018

January

16—Members-only preview; members receive 2 free admissions by RSVP'ing; non-members are \$25.

17—Wednesday, "Here Comes the Bride" special exhibit opens.

February

11—"Tea with Mrs. Lincoln," 2 PM. Tickets are \$25 for members and \$30 for non-members. Sponsored by Dr. Sean O'Brien of Canton.

21—Family Night, open house sponsored by Michigan Educational Credit Union.

March

3—Saturday, A Night FOR the Museum, Italian American Banquet Center, Livonia.



**January 17–
June 17, 2018**