

April-June 2022

**New Exhibit
at the
Plymouth
Historical
Museum**



**Exhibit
Opens
Wednesday,
July 13,
2022**

The 1970s was a decade filled with drama and intrigue. Explore Plymouth in the 1970s in depth in our next exhibit, "Let Freedom Ring." The special exhibit will be on display at the Museum from July 13 until November 6, 2022.

The exhibit is sponsored by Community Financial Credit Union.

The Plymouth Historical Museum is located at 155 S. Main and is open Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday 1-4 p.m.

Admission is \$7 for adults; \$3 for children 6-17; free for children 5 and under, and free for members of the Museum.

THE PLYMOUTH HISTORICAL MUSEUM NEEDS YOU!

We are currently gearing up for our next exhibit, "Let Freedom Ring" which opens July 13th. This exciting new exhibit will propel you back to the 1970s so you can relive bell bottoms, disco balls and Saturday Night Fever!

But...The Plymouth Historical Museum needs your help! We are looking for any memorabilia from the 1970s that we can display. We promise to safe-keep your loaned items and return them in the same shape after the exhibit closes in November.



If you have memorabilia for loan, please call 734-455-8940 x7, even if you are unsure your memorabilia will fit our exhibit.

THANK YOU!



Exhibit Sponsored by:



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 four times a year.

Monthly Drawing

Linda Manchester, Sue Seelye, and Sharon Belobradich are the respective winners of the April, 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. 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!

Gloria Bruhowski, Northville
 James Cleary, Plymouth
 Dearborn Jewelers, Plymouth
 Keith Hom, Plymouth
 Pamela Lasazen, Plymouth
 Anne Marie Reilly, Plymouth
 Anne Rettig, Plymouth
 Sean O'Callaghan's, Plymouth

THANK YOU
 FOR SUPPORTING
 THE PLYMOUTH
 HISTORICAL MUSEUM



Become a Member

We appreciate your support!

The Plymouth Historical Museum is 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:

- 1 Roll Postage Stamps **\$58 per**
- IT/Network support **\$300**
- ½ month heating bill **\$375**
- ½ month electric bill **\$475**
- 1 month employee salary **\$600**

To donate, make your check payable to the Plymouth Historical Museum.

Bits 'n Pieces

By Elizabeth Kelley Kerstens, executive director

Archives Upgrade

The upgrade to the Museum's archives is moving along and nearing completion. In May, movable storage and more shelving were added, greatly expanding the capacity for our collections.

Our maintenance volunteers have been working hard for several weeks to assemble the new desks for the archives, to make the rest of the space more user-friendly and practical.

Meantime, archives staff and volunteers have been working hard to process the large Pere Marquette Historical Society archival collection we received last summer.

We are planning to have a soft reopening of the archives on July 13 when the Museum's new exhibit, "Let Freedom Ring" opens. If you've been waiting to do research in the archives, you might want to call ahead to make sure there is room for researchers, as we still have limited space and can only handle 4 or 5 researchers at a time. Call 734-455-8940 x3.

Thanks to the hard work of archives staff and volunteers and maintenance staff and volunteers, this project will soon be complete!



The Board elected new officers:

President—Tim Tingstad

Vice President—Stephanie Hoff

Secretary—Margaret Harris

Treasurer—Jim Burroughs

The Board of Directors would like to thank outgoing President Kathy Sullivan and outgoing Director Carol Souchock for their six years of service on the Board.

New Marketing Director

In the category of "what's old

is new again," our former marketing director, Mike Woloszyk, has returned to work at the Museum as our new marketing director! You will see his work later in this newsletter as the "Volunteer Spotlight" has returned. Each issue we like to highlight 2 of our wonderful volunteers. In this issue we are highlighting two new volunteers.

Welcome back, Mike, we're so happy you saw the light and came back to work with us!

New Board

The 2022-2023 Plymouth Historical Society/Museum Board of Directors convened on Wednesday, June 1. Two new members joined the Board: Margaret Harris and Ivy Orca Lung.

Ticket Sale Dates for Upcoming Events

Date	Event	Members	Public
Aug 21	What's in Your Pantry Tea	June 20	July 4
Oct 14	Things That Go Bump in the Night	August 1	August 15
Oct 22	Plymouth Ghosts Cemetery Walk	August 8	August 22
Dec 3	Enchanted Winter Wonderland	October 10	October 24
Dec 9	Simply Dickens	October 10	October 24



Volunteers Make a Difference



Donations Received
March – May 2022 Thank You!

Thank you for the following generous donations that were received between March and May 2022:

The Lincoln (\$1,000+)

Robert Gotro (Archives Upgrade)
Kiwanis Club of Colonial
Plymouth
Merrill Lynch
Jay Qualman (Archives Upgrade)

The Starkweather (\$500–\$999)

Kevin Burek
Chris Huffman
Fritz Milhaupt (Archives Upgrade)
Tim Parker (Archives Upgrade)
Port Huron & Detroit Railroad
Historical Society (Archives Upgrade)

The Penniman (\$250–\$499)

Dearborn Jewelers
Ferman Optometry
Elizabeth Kerstens
Roy Pilkington

The Kellogg (\$100–\$249)

Anonymous
Luan Brownlee
David Camp
Clark Chapin
Frank Cozza
Mary Fritz
T. J. Gaffney
Hugh Hales
Cynthia Hartsig
Geraldine Kilsdonk
Judith Morgan
Cecilia Nelson
Dan Packer
Fred Reinhart
Arthur Souter

Under \$100

Marilyn Alimpich
Cynthia Churches
Chris Dobbs

Barbara Fortune
Thomas Grambau
James Keefer
Jane Libbing
Melody McCann
Brian Mitchell
Cliff Peters
Barbara Peterson
Geraldine Pritchard
Cindy Reinhart
Barbara Rogers
Veralou Scott
Barry Southwood
Chad Thompson
Bob VandeVusse
Dolores Vincent
Takeda Yoshido

Sponsorships
Archives Upgrade

Sponsorship (\$2,500)
Pere Marquette Historical Society
Plymouth Rotary Foundation
David Thoms
Varnum LLP

Plymouth Fair (\$2,000)

Blackwell Ford

Red Ryder (\$1,500)

O'Donnell Electric

Hamilton (\$600)

Alphagraphics
First Financial Strategies
First Merchants Corporation
Forest Place Optical
Packaging Corp. of America

Mary Todd (\$400)

Fox Hills Golf & Banquet Center

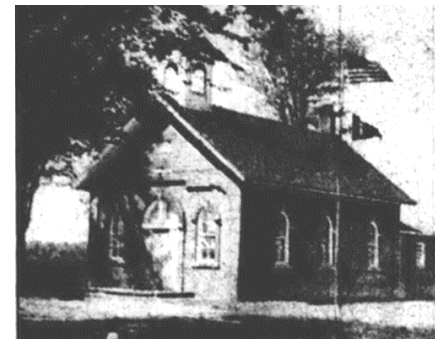
Family Fun (\$300)

Compari's on the Park
Executive Property Maintenance
Fox Hills Golf & Banquet Center
Hock Family Dentistry
Inch Memorials
MI Roots Real Estate Group

60 Years Ago
June 1962
Plymouth Mail

Three Schools Close
Forever This Week

In June 1962, Three historic Canton Township schools closed forever. Hough School, located on Warren Road near Lilly Road. Cherry Hill School, located at Cherry Hill Road and Ridge Road. And, Canton Center School, located on Canton Center Road south of Cherry Hill Road. The Canton Center School was listed as the only fulltime one room school-house remaining in Wayne County. In September 1962, students attending the three schools were transferred to the newer and larger schools in the expanding Plymouth School District.



In 1962, Canton Center School was listed as the last fulltime one room school house in Wayne County.



In 1962, Canton Hough School was listed as the last fulltime wood framed school house in Wayne County.

75 Years Ago
June 1947
Plymouth Mail

Regrets to Leave City of Plymouth

"It is with much regret that we are leaving Plymouth. We have lived here for 15 years and we have enjoyed every minute of it" stated Abe Goldstein yesterday.

"But doctors told me sometime ago that the time had come for me to quit business if I wanted to improve my health, and of course health comes first.

"Plymouth people have always been good to me and I want to thank them from the bottom of my heart for their kindly treatment. We have enjoyed a good business here and I am sure that the young women who have taken over my store for the purpose of conducting a dress shop will also do well" stated Mr. Goldstein.

Mr. and Mrs. Goldstein and their son will live in South Haven where their daughter and her husband are in business. He does not expect to enter business again for a number of years. Mr. Goldstein has always been active in Plymouth's veterans affairs, being a member of the American Legion.

GOLDSTEIN DEP'T STORE

WE MUST SELL OUT

354 S. Main

Plymouth, Michigan

55 Years Ago
June 1967
Plymouth Mail

The
Stroller...



In June 1967, British Consul Mr. R. V. Juchaw, who was a first-time visitor to Plymouth, said the downtown "Village Green" displayed the real heart of Plymouth.

One of the rare treats of life is to be able to see ourselves as others see us.

This came to mind the other afternoon while strolling along Kellogg Park in company with Mr. R. V. Juchaw, the British Consul, who was making his first trip to Plymouth.

As we approached Penniman Avenue and he caught sight of the park, he stopped short for a second and said in rich English accent, "How delightful."

Surprised to see what he termed a "village green" he pointed out that such areas display the real heart of a city and tell more than anything else the type of people who live there.

"It is so nice to see that the people of Plymouth have seen fit to carry on the great tradition of 'meeting places' on the Village Green. Few cities in America have such things any more."

Even after he returned to his office he still was talking of the pleasant visit.

Over the phone the other morning he told The Stroller, "You have such a delightful city and I was duly impressed with the parkway you directed me to for my return to Detroit. It was a most pleasurable trip and I enjoyed every minute of it."

When informed of the rolling hills to the north he countered, "I have seen them, too. You know when I went out to see you the other day I went by way of Novi, so I had to come down through the hills. And it really was delightful."

Would that all residents of Plymouth and the surrounding area felt the same enthusiasm and appreciation of the fine things in our midst.



75 Years Ago
June 1947
Plymouth Mail

Father

builds his children's world

with vision...

Make Dad Happy with one of our New Shirts
—and a Tie to complete the Gift Box.

DAVIS & LENT

"WHERE YOUR MONEY'S WELL SPENT"

Father knows little things count and little things take time. He spends hours in irreplaceable companionship . . . giving needed information based on his integrity and experience. He shares triumphs with restraint and corrects defects with justice . . . always the masterbuilder of our children's futures. That's why there's a Father's Day in our calendar. This year remember it — SUNDAY, JUNE 15th.

Volunteer Spotlight

Doug Willett



We are happy to welcome Doug Willett, one of our new volunteers at the Plymouth Historical Museum.

Doug is working closely with the archives, digitizing Museum records, which will safeguard our valuable records and photographs for generations to come.

Born in Howell and raised in Wayne-Westland area, Doug attended Wayne Memorial High School and Central Michigan University. Formerly living in Howell, Doug has been a Plymouth Township resident with his wife Theresa since 1996. Doug and Theresa have two grown children, Adam and Sarah, who still live in Michigan.

Doug first got into the digitizing business working as a trusted photographer for the Google Business View program and creating outside 3D digital views of the businesses in Plymouth. He expanded this idea by adding 3D interior views that allow the computer user to explore building interiors.

Doug decided to form his own company, LunaTech 3D, and sell this service to businesses. You may have already seen his work when you are able to “walk through” a home in a real estate ad. Besides real estate companies, Doug’s customers for his business include hotels, restaurants, service centers, or any company that wants to give their customers a 3D walk-through of its business.

When not digitizing records, Doug enjoys doing genealogy, flying drones, and digitizing historic buildings and attractions in 3D for future generations.

Our Museum is very fortunate to have Doug’s expertise. Welcome aboard!

—Written by Mike Woloszyk, marketing director

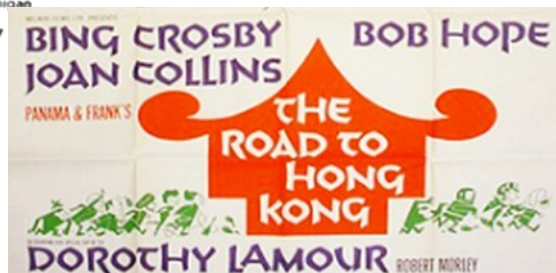
Volunteers Make a Difference!

for the finest in entertainment



Air Conditioned! .

60 Years Ago
June 1962
Plymouth Mail



55 Years Ago
June 1967
Plymouth Mail

**Owners Give
P & A Theater
To Plymouth**

Photo, circa 1920s



The City of Plymouth was presented a gift on Monday night and now doesn't know what to do with it.

The gift is the P & A Theater on Penniman Ave. It was offered to the city by Katherine B. Stockwell, of Grosse Pointe Farms, for the use of all of its citizens.

In making the offer she wrote,

"The gift is made in the memory of several of my relatives who have been closely associated with the City of Plymouth, its growth and development since 1838. There are my great grandfather, Ebenezer Jenkes Penniman, his daughter, Mrs. Kate E. Allen and her husband, William O. Allen, and my mother, Mrs. Sarah Penniman Burbess."

Though badly in need of repairs to be made into a modern theater, it was pointed out that some good could be made of it. Later, Commissioner Arch Vallier asked that the gift be accepted with the proviso that the building may be razed.

He then asked that the City Manager make a thorough study of the costs of razing the building, remodeling it, and determining what uses could be made of it.

And so another landmark passes.

75 Years Ago
April 1947
Plymouth Mail

Plymouth Suffers Its Worst Flood

Heavy Rain and Melting
Snow Sends Rivers
Over Banks

As a result of one of the heaviest rainfalls in a few brief hours that this part of Michigan ever experienced, Plymouth and other southern Michigan places Saturday suffered the greatest flood damage in the state's history. Snow banks melted under the warm rain, adding to the torrents created by the rain.

Tonquish creek began overflowing its banks during the middle of the forenoon and within two hours the great volumn of water rushing down the valley overflowed the big conduit west of Harvey street, and flooded the entire area along the old creek bed through the city from Harvey

Loren Goodale probably suffered the severest loss of any one in Plymouth from the flood. The day before the flood he had received a large shipment of groceries and these cartons were piled in the basement. Hundreds of dollars worth of soap chips were in the shipment, as well as other supplies packed in paper cartons.

While a desperate effort was made to remove the boxes as the flood water poured into the basement, it is estimated that \$1,000 would not cover the damage done.

As far as can be found out, no flood insurance is held by any one in Plymouth.

Water flooded into the A & P store on Ann Arbor trail, filled the basement of the professional building, flooded the main floor of a part of the Perfection Laundry building on Wing street and caused damage to nearly every piece of property lying within the old creek valley.

Hundreds of basements throughout the city were flooded, many stokers and oil burners being put out of commission as a result. A rise of one inch more would have extinguished the fire in the stokers of the Mayflower hotel.

Volunteer Spotlight

Rick Schubatis



Our Maintenance staff at the Museum has recently added a very capable volunteer, Rick Schubatis.

Rick comes to us after his recent retirement from Henry Ford Health, where he practiced Internal Medicine since 1985. Rick has handyman skills that he acquired from his father, an electrician.

Rick and his wife, Darice, have been residents of Plymouth Township for the last 33 years. They have a daughter, Paula, who is an art teacher at Emerson School in Detroit and a son, Adam, a CPA.

Rick, born and raised in Dearborn, was already familiar with volunteering at the Museum because his mother, Virginia, was a longtime volunteer in the archives. Virginia will be turning 100 years old this year.

Rick has many side interests besides volunteering. He has been active with the Kiwanis Club of Colonial Plymouth for the last six years, currently acting as its vice president.

His other interests include cooking, gardening and furniture restoration. Rick and his wife also love to travel, focusing upon US National Parks as well as Europe. They plan to travel to Ireland this year for the first time.

Our Museum is very proud and appreciative of our volunteer staff and look forward to working with Rick for many years.

—Written by Mike Woloszyk, marketing director

Volunteers Make a Difference!



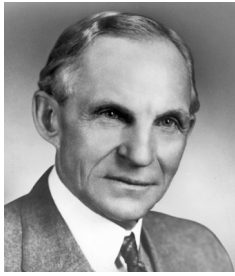
65 Years Ago
April 1957
Plymouth Mail



"PRINCESS ELANE" — Serpentine front, gleaming brass trim. Self-rising tray inside. Free \$500 moth protection guaranty. Your choice of finishes. No. 6151 \$69.95

Plymouth Days Gone By

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



Henry Ford, founder of the Ford Motor Company, died at the age 83 on April 7, 1947 at his Fair Lane estate in Dearborn, Michigan.

Henry Ford
1863-1947

In Tribute to Henry Ford, All His Industries Closed for Day

In tribute to Henry Ford, one of the greatest industrial leaders of all times, who died suddenly at his home Monday night in Dearborn at the age of 83, all Ford plants in Plymouth and vicinity and the rest of the world were closed Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. Ford had just returned to their home in Dearborn from Georgia. He spent Monday looking over the damage that had been done by the Rouge flood in Greenfield Village. Flood waters had cut off the heat in their home

and only fireplaces kept the rooms warm.

Although he appeared in the best of health, a stroke brought sudden death to him. Mrs. Ford and a house attendant were alone with him.

Plymouth was closely tied with Mr. Ford and his great industry. It was Charles H. Bennett, president of the Daisy company who was the first stockholder to invest in the Ford Motor company. It was this investment of Plymouth money which many believed led Mr. Ford to develop the numerous Ford factories along the Rouge river.

The first was the "Wilcox" factory in Plymouth. Then followed Northville, Waterford, Nankin Mills, Phoenix, Newburg and Cherry Hill plants. These small Ford industries have provided, during the years, thousands of residents in this vicinity with employment.

Former Editor Tells How Plymouth Missed Being Site of Ford Industry

Myles F. Gray, retired clerk of the Michigan house of representatives now living in Lansing, just back from a winter vacation spent in Florida, the other day told how Plymouth just missed becoming the industrial site of the great Ford empire. Mr. Gray was once editor and publisher of The Plymouth Mail.

It was all because Charles Bennett couldn't raise \$35,000 for Mr. Ford when he first started out to organize the Ford Motor company, said Mr. Gray.

"Mr. Bennett tried desperately to get Plymouth citizens to invest \$35,000 in the proposed Ford venture," said Mr. Gray, "but he couldn't sell the idea. Neither could Mr. Ford."

"Henry Ford came up to my office and wanted me to invest \$500 at the time. The Plymouth Mail was then located upstairs over Gale's drug store on Penniman avenue. The building which stood there at that time was called Penniman's hall.

"He told me that if I would put \$500 in his company that he would make me a millionaire, but I didn't do it because I didn't have the \$500," said Mr. Gray.

"To show you how frank Mr. Ford was, he told me that he didn't have enough money in his own pocket at the time to buy a round-trip ticket from Plymouth to Detroit. In those days we had a sort of a commuter ticket that sold for 75 cents for a round trip.

"If I remember correctly Mr. Bennett was the only person in Plymouth who took any stock in the Ford company. I guess he was the first person Mr. Ford was able to sell any stock to. Mr. Ford told me that if he could raise the \$35,000 in Plymouth that he would build his factory here. But neither Mr. Ford or Charley Bennett, as good a salesman as he was in the old days, couldn't get Plymouth people to invest that much money in Mr. Ford's 'dream' car.

"If I had had \$500 at the time and if I had let Mr. Ford have it, I often wonder what would have happened," said Mr. Gray.

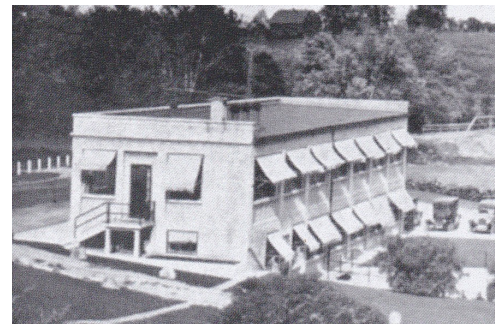
75 Years Ago
April 1947
Plymouth Mail

Richest Estate in World to Be Administered by Plymouth Judge

To Probate Judge James H. Sexton of 1043 Penniman avenue, this city, falls the unusual public duty of administering the late Henry Ford will, a probate document that provides for the legal distribution of the largest fortune ever created by any man since the beginning of time.

When the will was filed for probate action under the laws of Michigan, the attorneys for the Ford family followed usual court procedure and went to Judge Sexton's court in Detroit; just as other lawyers would in handling probate matters for clients. Maybe, however, it wasn't by chance, but by desire that they saw to it that Mr. Ford's will was placed in the hands of a resident in this part of Wayne county where Mr. Ford had such a keen interest all of his life.

Judge Sexton is the only out-country probate judge in Wayne county and it may be that it was for that reason that the Ford family desired that the Ford fortune be administered in its final distribution by a public official who has always lived "out-county."



Henry Ford's Plymouth factory, located at Wilcox Road and Hines Drive, was in operation from 1923 until 1948. The factory manufactured taps for the Ford Rouge Plant.

55 Years Ago
May 1967
Plymouth Mail

Death Takes Last Of '98 War Vets

Plymouth resident, Thomas Gray, served in the Spanish-American War in 1898.

Plymouth buried its last link with the Spanish-American War Saturday in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery.

Thomas A. Gray, who had served his country in the Philippines during the inflamed days of '98, died Tuesday night in St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, Ann Arbor.

The 87-year-old veteran was the last of his war vintage in the community, and as his flag-covered casket was carried to its final tomb it brought Plymouth to the stage where only the battlefields of the 20th century possess living memories.

Gray had been scheduled to be an honored guest at the community's recent Memorial Day observance, but even then he had been placed on the critical list at St. Joseph's. His death came exactly two weeks later.

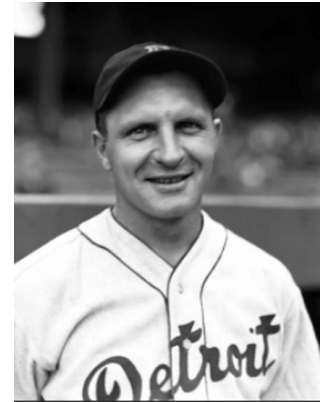
Born in Wayne, Gray lived in this area all his life. He served through two enlistments in the Army as a youth, and for many years worked as a supervisor at the Ford Motor Co. In recent years he lived with a daughter at 1027 Dewey St.

He was a member of Our Lady of Good Counsel Church, where final services were conducted Saturday morning; Plymouth Council of the Knights of Columbus, and Elks Lodge 1780.

He is survived by three sons, five daughters, 19 grandchildren and 26 great-grandchildren.

75 Years Ago
May 1947
Plymouth Mail

William "Billy" Rogell, (1904-2003), was a professional baseball player who played 14 years in the Major Leagues; primarily as a shortstop for the Detroit Tigers from 1930 to 1939. Rogell's best season of his career was in 1934, when he batted .296, and drove in 100 runs for the Tigers. After ending his playing career in 1940, Rogell served 36 years as a member of the Detroit City Council.



Billy Rogell
1904-2003

Famed Detroit Tigers
Shortstop
and Long Time
Detroit City Councilman

Mayor Jack Taylor — "Famed" Bill Rogell Open City's Baseball School

Three strikes—and no hits—right smack over the home plate! One was a right hand curve, the other a twister and the third and last was a "drop" ball.

The pitcher who performed this outstanding feat was none other than Mayor Jack Taylor, who did the "hurling" at the formal opening Tuesday evening of Plymouth's baseball school for the juvenile sandlotters.

But Plymouth's popular mayor was not the only honored citizen to take part in this outstanding event.

City Councilman William Rogell of Detroit, one of the greatest short stops ever to play with the Tigers, was on the receiving end—and he didn't miff a single one of the speed balls pitched by Mayor Taylor.

More than 100 boys were at the Athletic field back of the high school to take part in the first baseball school ever conducted in this city.

"I plainly see where this school idea for the boys is going to be a great thing" said Mayor Taylor in discussing the opening game. "The boys seemed thrilled with the plan and I anticipate that instead of a hundred or more taking part in the games, there will be many more before the season ends."

Councilman Rogell in a brief talk, urged the boys to become real sportsmen—and he predicted they would.

New Plaque In Kellogg Park To List All of Plymouth's War Dead

When Plymouth citizens Friday honor the heroes of its wars, there will be placed on "Plymouth Rock" in Kellogg park a new plaque containing the names of the fallen heroes of World War I and World War II.

Up to the present time the plaque has contained only the names of the veterans who sacrificed their lives during the first World war. Now the plaque has been recast and it will present the names of all the veterans of the two world wars who died while in the armed services of our country.

This has been accomplished as the result of efforts on the part of the ex-service men who wanted to see an accurate and complete list of all war victims compiled. The files of The Plymouth Mail provided accurate data for the list that was compiled of Plymouth uniformed men who gave up their lives in the last World war.

78 Years Ago
June 1944
Plymouth Mail



On June 6, 1944, as World War II continued to rage across Europe, the Allied Forces began the critical and strategic invasion of Normandy, France. Code named "Operation Overlord," the invasion was the largest seaborne landing force in world military history. The invasion, which became known as D-Day, launched the foundation for the decisive Allied victory in Western Europe in the spring of 1945. U.S. Gen. Dwight David Eisenhower, the Supreme Commander of the Allied Forces in Europe, along with military leaders in Britain, planned and directed the historic invasion.

Success of 5th War Loan Will Meet Acclaim of Men in Field and Prove Nation Is Backing Our Armed Forces

by Gen. Ike Eisenhower

General of the Army - Dwight D. Eisenhower

"In moments of crisis involving the safety of our native land, the American people have invariably rallied against the danger with courage, faith and resolution.

"For the past two years we have been in one of these crises, perhaps the greatest in our history. On the battlefield and on the home front men and women are daily making great sacrifices so the freedom in our way of life may be preserved.

"There is now in progress the 5th War Loan Drive to raise money so as to insure that this conflict will be brought to the speediest possible conclusion and with the least loss in lives.



"All of us profoundly trust that soon the world may be restored to a just peace. Until we can, with God's help, bring about that happy realization of our dreams, each of us must seek incessantly for ways and means by which the value of our services to our country may be enhanced. Right now we can do so by buying Bonds. Let's make this particular victory a quick and decisive one."

Plymouth Churches Filled As The Invasion Starts

Plymouth Plans Quick and Decisive War Bond Drive

Keeping in step with the hundreds of thousands of American boys who have invaded Hitler's Europe, Plymouth will Saturday morning at 9:30 o'clock start its great Fifth war loan drive to help support the American army now fighting for America on the European mainland.

The Junior Chamber of Commerce parade will start from the corner of Starkweather and Liberty streets at 9:30 o'clock Saturday morning. It will march down Main street, circle Kellogg park and then set up headquarters as in past years at the corner of Main and Penniman avenues where bonds will be sold from one of Ed Sinta's buses during the day.

News of the invasion struck Plymouth as it did all other towns throughout the United States.

Here was the real thing. Here was the start of the biggest battle the world had ever known.

Scores, perhaps more, of Plymouth young men would be engaged in that battle. Some of them undoubtedly would be casualties.

Relatives and friends had waited so long for the day, that it had really become important.

Perhaps for the first time since the start of the war there was a genuine feeling that this country is in a war.

Factories reported a sobering effect. Men and women worked with more seriousness. They were making the tools the men in France would need.

Most establishments observed a few minutes of silence for the men in the service and the victory which would be their's.

The Methodist and Presbyterian churches were open throughout the day for meditation, and scores of persons visited the churches singly and in small groups throughout the day.

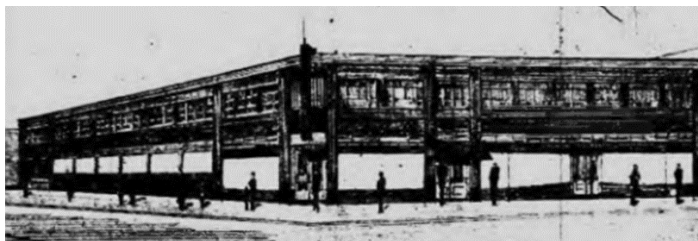
The Methodist church held special services at ten in the morning and again at eight in the evening. The Presbyterian church in conjunction with St. John's Episcopal church held services at 7:30 in the evening and there were large congregations at all of the services.

Plymouth did not participate in the statewide blowing of whistles and sirens. It was the contention of the city officials that blowing of whistles and such modes of information added carnival to the solemnity of the day, and that it was not a day for carnival.

Remembering the Historic Plymouth Hotel

June 1937
Demolition of One of Plymouth's
Last pre-Civil War Buildings

In June 1937, workmen began the razing of the historic Plymouth Hotel, at the northwest corner of Main St. and Ann Arbor Trail. The Plymouth Hotel was located across the street from the Mayflower Hotel. A new two story structure, costing \$30,000, was planned for the site, consisting of both office and retail space. Demolition of the hotel marked the passing of a historic downtown landmark, and one of Plymouth's last pre-Civil War buildings.



A 1937 architectural drawing of the new building proposed for the northwest corner of Main St and Ann Arbor Trail in downtown Plymouth. The ambitious plans for the building were eventually downscaled. The first operational phase of the building was completed in 1939, and was leased to the D & C Five and Dime company.



The Plymouth Hotel, circa 1900. During the Civil War, the hotel was a welcomed stop along the often travelled stagecoach line; including daily passenger service to Ann Arbor. In the mid to late 1800s, the west side of Main St, across from Kellogg Park, was known as the Phoenix Block. An apropos name, considering the business block was twice resurrected after devastating fires in 1856 and 1893, severely damaged the buildings. After the fire of 1893, the block was rebuilt with brick buildings.

OUR TIME, OUR HISTORY.
PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN

85 Years Ago
June 1937
Plymouth Mail

Because of the historic significance of the famous Mayflower Hotel that previously stood at the southwest corner of Main St. and Ann Arbor Trail in downtown Plymouth, the northwest corner of Main St. and Ann Arbor Trail is often overlooked when reminiscing about the history of Plymouth. The unsung corner was once the home of a prominent downtown hotel—the long forgotten Plymouth Hotel.

The history of the hotel dates back to 1853, when the hotel was known as the Root Hotel, operated by James Root. In 1856, a fire started in the hotel. The blaze swept north on Main St. and destroyed most of the buildings on the west side of the street. A few months after the fire, the hotel was rebuilt and reopened in 1857. In 1859, William Adams sold his farm west of Plymouth, and purchased the hotel. The hotel became known as the Adams House, and was eventually renamed the Plymouth Hotel.

During the Civil War, the Plymouth Hotel was a popular stop along the stagecoach line. One folktale about the hotel's stage service occurred on January 1, 1863, when the temperature was 37 below zero. As the hotel stage and horses slowed up in front of the hotel, returning to Plymouth from a trip to Wayne, it was noticed the stagecoach driver wasn't moving. The driver, unprotected from the extreme cold weather, had frozen to death in his seat on top of the stage.



The D & C Five and Dime Store was built at the former site of the Plymouth Hotel; northwest corner of Main St. and Ann Arbor Trail in downtown Plymouth, across from the Mayflower Hotel. Circa 1940s. In the 1950s, the Five and Dime building was torn down and replaced with a Kresge Department Store.

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

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Calendar of Events

Events are at the Museum unless otherwise specified.
Tickets can be found at <http://plymouthhistory.org/events/upcoming-events/>.

June

- 26—Last day of “Connecting at the Speed of Life” exhibit.
27—Museum closed for exhibit changeover.

July

- 12—Members-only Let Freedom Ring Wine & Appetizer Reception. 6-8 pm. *Members can sign up for 2 free tickets, but you must sign up as there is a limit on space and food. Reservations are going quickly.*
13—“Let Freedom Ring” special exhibit opens.

August

- 21—“What’s in Your Pantry” Tea, 2-4 pm. Tickets are \$30 for members/\$35 for non-members. They are on sale to members now and to the public July 4.