

October-December 2024

**OUR TIME, OUR HISTORY.**  
 PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN



The Thanksgiving Spirit  
 Will Never Die

90 Years Ago  
 November 1934  
*Plymouth Mail*

Let the day be one of the greatest in the history of Plymouth churches. The pastors have prepared special services for your benefit and you will find in the church notices of this issue of *The Plymouth Mail* full accounts of the time of the services and the various sermon subjects.

If other plans have been made for the day, for once set them aside and attend some church service Sunday. If all of the people of Plymouth attended their favorite church Sunday, there would barely be seating capacity for all. Join with the pastors in making this day one of the outstanding in Plymouth church history.

Sunday Has Been Set Aside As  
 Church Rally Day in Plymouth



"I was glad when they said  
 unto me let us go unto  
 the house of the Lord."  
 1st Verse, 122nd Psalm.

84 Years Ago  
 November 1940  
*Plymouth Mail*



One of the first Thanksgivings in America was observed during the fall season of 1621, by the pilgrims from England who had established a colony in Plymouth, Massachusetts, in 1620. The event was considered a harvest celebration. The city of Plymouth is named after the historic Plymouth, Massachusetts, settlement.

Plymouth Is Namesake of Original Thanksgiving Place of Pilgrim Fathers

Next Thursday will be a day of special significance in the city of Plymouth, because it has been designated as Thanksgiving day and the first American Thanksgiving day was observed by the Plymouth Colony November 26, 1621 in Plymouth, Massachusetts, the historic place after which this city was named.

After the first corn crop had been gathered, Governor Bradford and the Pilgrim Fathers decided to have a feast of ingathering—a day of thanksgiving. They invited Massasoit, a friendly chief of the Wampanoags, to join them. These Indians taught the Pilgrims how to set their corn and where to take their fish. From the Indians they learned also to place a fish in each hill of corn to enrich the soil. The chieftain and his braves, ninety strong, came with venison and wild turkey. The surrounding woods

yielded the housewives wild fruit, and the waters supplied fish and clams. No room or home in the colony was large enough. The children gathered wood; fires were built out-of-doors. The housewives united their efforts. They cooked, and baked pastries, corn bread, and puddings in kettles. Wild turkeys, geese, ducks, and venison were hung on poles and roasted over open beds of coals.

Fifty-five English-speaking people and ninety Indians sat down to tables set under the pine trees. What with preaching, feasting, talking, and games, the ceremony lasted three days.

A day set apart in these United States on which to give thanks for the blessings of the year, Plymouth is privileged to bear the name of the original Thanksgiving site, and to count God's bountiful gifts.

**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**

Kathy Sullivan	President
Margaret Harris	Vice President
Ivy Lung	Secretary
Jim Burroughs	Treasurer
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Elizabeth Kelley Kerstens	Executive Director
Anita Strach	Museum Store Manager
Mary Thackston	Exhibits Coordinator
Marissa Warren	Administrative Assistant
Cindi Willard	Education Coordinator
Pam Yockey	Archivist
Carolyn Zaborsky	Cashier/Scheduler

**Museum Memo Editor**

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

The Museum Memo is printed four times a year.

**Monthly Drawing**

Pam Piendel, Jerry Wargo, and Jim Balgooyen are the respective winners of the October, 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 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.

**Plymouth Historical Museum Quotes**

*One of the finest museums for its size in the country.*

—Solon Weekes, curator of the Detroit Historical Museum, 1973

*News that the Historical Museum was to become a reality was met with great appreciation. Officials see it as another jewel in the city's crown.* —W. W. Edgar, *Plymouth Mail & Observer*, 1971

**Friends of the Plymouth  
 Historical Museum  
 New Members—Welcome!**

Thanks  
 for your  
 support!

Wes Bodenhamer, Plymouth  
 Camelot Installations, Wixom  
 Elizabeth Fabien, Canton  
 Julia Flagg, Plymouth  
 Virginia Kowl, Dearborn  
 Carolyn Lebeau, Plymouth  
 Martha Martinez, Plymouth  
 Amy Mustonen, Novi  
 Connor Reid, Plymouth  
 Plymouth Jewelry & Gifts, Plymouth  
 Plymouth Rubber & Transmission, Plymouth  
 Adam Szymczyk, Plymouth  
 Gina Szymczyk, Plymouth

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THE PLYMOUTH  
 HISTORICAL MUSEUM - BECOME A MEMBER!

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 **\$73 per**
- IT/Network support **\$1,000**
- ½ month heating bill **\$500**
- ½ month electric bill **\$600**
- 1 month employee salary **\$800**

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

# Bits 'n Pieces

By Elizabeth Kelley Kerstens, executive director

The new Victorian Home is finished and has been open to visitors since mid-October. We're receiving rave reviews from those who have experienced the new exhibit space. The home is currently decorated for Christmas (right). If you haven't yet come in, please do! We're very proud of our exhibits and displays.

## Staff Changes

We have had some staff turmoil in 2024 and there's more changes coming in 2025.

**Leslie Ryder**, who had been our education coordinator since 2009, retired at the end of June. She has now been replaced by one of our magnificent Museum guides, **Cindi Willard**. Cindi has been not only a guide, but also helps on the exhibits committee and works some of our special events. She's eager to work with our teachers and other staff to bring quality historic education to students from around the area.

## Visit the Museum Store!



The store features an assortment of gifts and books pertaining to Plymouth's history. Museum admission is not required to visit the store. Museum Hours: Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, & Sunday, 1-4 pm. 155 S. Main Street, Plymouth, 734-455-8940.



**Mike Woloszyk** wore many hats in the four years he was the Museum's marketing director and, briefly, the operations director. He reenacted as a variety of people in skits, cemetery walks, ghost walks, Night at the Museum parties, and murder mysteries. He also created and ran our new Time Escape Adventure, as well as several other key responsibilities. Mike's replacement, **Julia Flagg**, started in November and is hard at work looking for sponsors to support our events for 2025. You can read more about Julia on page 7 of this issue.

**MaryAnne Zavagnin** has been running the Museum Store for several years and has recently stepped down. **Anita Strach**, who volunteered in the store for many years, has taken charge and will be in the store frequently to greet you. Thank you, MaryAnne, and welcome back, Anita!

**Pam Yockey** was a volunteer at the Museum for many years before becoming the Museum archivist in 2018. She is also responsible for making many of the beautiful gowns currently on display in our "First Ladies—Fashion Setters" exhibit, as well as loaning vintage clothing through the years. Pam will be retiring at the end of January. While her shoes are hard to fill, **Marissa Warren** will be moving from administrative assistant to archivist at that time. Marissa interned with Pam several years ago and has been the administrative assistant for four years. She will be sorely missed in the front office!

## Annual Appeal

Thank you to all who have generously donated to our annual appeal! There's still time to make an end of year donation. Please keep the Museum in mind!

## Ticket Sale Dates for Upcoming Events

Date	Event	Members	Public
Jan 10, 17, 24	Time Escape Adventure	Now	Now
Feb 11	Members-only Preview	Dec 30	
Feb 23	After the War Fashion Show & Tea	Now	Dec 30
Mar 22	Comic Book Creator's Workshop	Jan 13	Jan 27

**Donations Received**  
**September – November 2024 Thank You!**

Thank you for the following generous donations that were received between September and November 2024:

**The Lincoln (\$1,000-\$2,499)**

Cynthia Hartsig  
 Kiwanis Club of Colonial  
 Plymouth

**The Penniman (\$250-\$499)**

Louis Christensen  
 Mary Fritz  
 Jane Fry  
 Wesley Hough  
 Geraldine Kilsdonk  
 Stephen Marulis  
 O'Donnell Electric  
 Mayflower Enterprises  
 Plymouth Rubber & Transmission  
 Fred Robinson  
 Gerald Sabatini

**The Kellogg (\$100-\$249)**

Fabian Beltran  
 Paula Bowman  
 James Burroughs  
 Patricia Carroll  
 Nancy Chapman  
 Dexter Antiquarians  
 Chuck Dykhouse  
 E & M Properties  
 Expert Heating & Cooling  
 Jacqueline George  
 Hugh Hales  
 Hidden Cove Estates  
 John W. Hunter Questers #142  
 Inch Memorials  
 John Marshall  
 Judith Morgan  
 Dan Packer  
 Barbara Rogers  
 David Rucinski  
 Leslie Ryder  
 Sarah Ann Cochrane NSDAR  
 Carol Sawyer  
 Jerry Wargo  
 Jayne Willson  
 Pam Yockey

**Under \$100**

Marie-Louise Capote  
 Giving Hope  
 Karen Gizzi  
 Bennie Latimer  
 Bob McCaffrey  
 David Norman  
 Barbara Peterson  
 Geraldine Pritchard  
 Veralou Scott  
 Jeffrey Tertzakian  
 Elsie Mae Trinka  
 Takeda Yoshido

**Sponsorships**

**Hamilton (\$600)**

Hock Family Dentistry

**Plymouth Ghosts (\$500)**

ATS Advisors

**Family Fun (\$300)**

Comparis on the Park  
 E & E Manufacturing

**Victorian Home**

**The Dunning (\$2,500 +)**

James Burroughs  
 Kiwanis Club of Colonial  
 Plymouth

**The Lincoln (\$1,000-\$2,499)**

Clark Chapin  
 Brian Kidston

**The Starkweather (\$500-\$999)**

Sally Fedus

**The Penniman (\$250-\$499)**

BNE Services  
 Kathy Sullivan

**The Kellogg (\$100-\$249)**

Stephen Beltran  
 Cynthia Burnstein  
 Camelot Installations

Community Financial Credit  
 Union

Diann Dupuis  
 First Financial Strategies  
 Forest Place Optical  
 Mary Fritz  
 William Gayde  
 Cheryl Harvey  
 Lori Hemingway  
 Stephanie Hoff  
 Jean LaPointe  
 Carolyn Lebeau  
 Martha Martinez  
 MI Educational Credit Union  
 Cam Miller  
 Pam Piendel  
 Phoenix Mill Events  
 Plymouth Jewelry & Gifts  
 Stuart Popp  
 Fred Robinson  
 Rokit Digital Marketing  
 Gerald Sabatini  
 Richard Schubatis  
 Paul Sincock  
 Lary Smith  
 Peter Smith  
 Anita Strach  
 Mary Thackston  
 Trailwood Garden Club  
 USA Hockey  
 Richard Walther  
 Mark & Agnieszka Wira  
 Edie Wysocki  
 Carolyn Zaborsky



If you know of anyone who would be willing to volunteer three hours of service at the Museum each month, please let us know.

Please phone the Museum at 734-455-8940 x 6 and leave a message. We will return your phone call as soon as we are available.

Thank you for your support, and thank you to our dedicated team of volunteers!

# Historical Election Day Issues: Keep Plymouth dry; no theatre on Sundays

By Elizabeth Kerstens and Ellen Elliott

**T**HIS election season, we reflect upon contemporary issues that were brought before Plymouth voters a century ago. While the average person may associate prohibition with the 1930s, the wet/dry question was raised repeatedly in the Village of Plymouth many years before that.

Beginning in the 1880s, the Women's Christian Temperance Union (WCTU) submitted petitions to the Village Common Council to create an ordinance prohibiting the sale of alcoholic drinks. According to the February 1, 1915, Minutes of the Village Common Council, a petition was submitted by W. J. Burrows and other Plymouth citizens requesting the council submit a resolution to the voters to accept or reject all saloon licenses for the years 1915 and 1916.

The first year, saloon licenses were rejected by voters 339 to 272. In 1916, the sentiment continued when voters selected to keep Plymouth "dry." The Village Common Council codified the ban on saloon licenses with an ordinance change in the village charter in 1918.

Prohibition began nationwide in January 1920 after the 18th Amendment was passed. In late 1933, the 21st Amendment repealed the 18th Amendment. In the November 1932 election, City of Plymouth voters chose to support the repeal by a vote of 961 to 582.

In 1922, a controversy arose when Kate Penniman-Allen opened the Penniman Allen Theatre on Sundays. The town's Puritan opposition wanted an ordinance passed against it.

Kate felt being open on Sundays would keep the teen troublemakers off the streets and out of mischief. Clergymen preached against the disregard of Sabbath conventions. It became a moral issue and brought the town out in full force.



**Advance or Retreat?**

This is the question before us next Thursday. We have been without open saloons for a year. Is not Plymouth a better town without them? Business is better. Homes are happier. Conditions improved. Will we retreat to old conditions, injure business and rob our homes of their happiness? Not if we are made of the right stuff. We will advance, continue to clean up our town and make Plymouth the most desirable village in all the state in which to live.

SERVICES IN THE VILLAGE HALL NEXT SUNDAY  
10 a. m.—Advance or Retreat.  
11:20 a. m.—Sunday-school.  
7 p. m.—Mass Meeting for all Plymouth. Outside speakers. Good music.

**WELCOME**

On election day, 746 of 1,290 registered voters voted against the ordinance, while 507 voted to close the theatre on Sundays (there were 37 spoiled ballots).

William Pettingill, standing at his grocery store, pointed at the town mechanical traffic light and said, "If they close the show house they'd better hang crepe on that traffic sign."

Kate was quoted saying, "Horrible dive isn't it? Well if they close my place Sundays they will find the place definitely closed and finally if the ordinance passes. Indeed I would like to tear the whole place down brick by brick and throw every brick at certain persons I know." She grinned, "You know I am getting awfully nasty; I used to be rather even tempered but those reformers have made me mad. I give them good clean films and I keep their children in Plymouth Sunday Nights. Otherwise they would be running off to Ypsilanti, Walled Lake or Detroit."

Plymouth citizens enjoyed movies on Sundays then, and continue to enjoy them today.

The Plymouth Historical Museum recently reopened to the public following construction of our new Victorian Home exhibit. The Museum's current special exhibit is "First Ladies: Fashion Setters," which is open through January 26, 2025.

The Museum is located at 155 S. Main Street in Plymouth and is open Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday 1-4 p.m. Admission is \$7 for adults and \$3 for children 6-17.

**SUNDAY MOVIE AT  
PENNIMAN ALLEN THEATRE**

The management of the Penniman Allen theatre announce in their advertisements today, that they will give a Sunday evening picture show, commencing Sunday evening, February 5th. The picture to be shown next Sunday evening will be Mary Pickford in "Little Lord Fauntleroy." This picture is now being shown in Detroit, and is one of the real big pictures of recent production. For the Sunday evening pictures the management will exercise the greatest care to select nothing but the very best that money can buy. Two shows will be given, 7:00 and 9:30.



# Plymouth's City Hall

60 Years Ago  
November  
1964

More than 3,000 Plymouth residents are expected to visit and tour the new half-million dollar City Hall Sunday in the official "Open House" program starting at 2 p.m.



The open house for Plymouth's new city hall was held on November 15, 1964. The building was previously occupied by city staff in August 1964. The open house was delayed until the interior trim was finalized.

It all started on October 6, 1963, when ground was broken for the new city hall. Present at the happy occasion were, left to right, former City Clerk Joseph Near, Commissioner George Lawton, Carl Shear, Commissioner James Jabara, Municipal Building Authority Chairman Harold Guenther, Commissioner Arch Vallier, Mayor Pro-Tem James Houk, Lou Borregard, State Rep. Paul Chandler of Livonia, Congresswoman Martha Griffiths, Architect Byron Becker, former Mayor Robert Sincock, Mrs. Neil Staebler, wife of the Congressman-at-large, Everette Burmester, General Contractor Ernie Burger, and City Manager Albert Glassford.



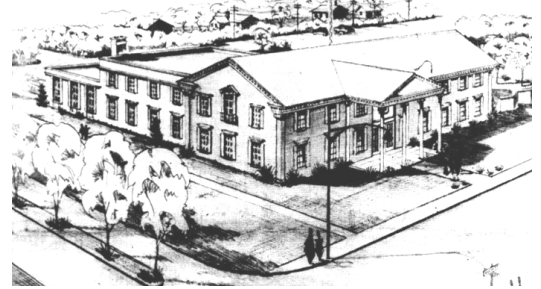
The old city hall commission chamber room had inadequate space, was not brightly lit, and lacked central air conditioning, causing the room temperature to rise unpleasantly warmer during the summer months.



During the spring of 1964, as construction of the new city hall continued toward completion, brick was put in place and assembly of the roof was started. General Contractor Ernie Burger kept his crew working whenever they could during inclement weather in order to complete the project on schedule for fall of 1964. The cornerstone was laid on May 22, 1964, and the building was occupied in August 1964. On November 15, 1964, more than 3,000 people attended the official open house.

62 Years Ago  
October 1962  
Plymouth Mail

## Colonial Theme Set for City Hall



An architectural drawing of the proposed new Plymouth City Hall, located adjacent to the Dunning-Hough Library on Main Street. October 1962.

Plymouth's new City Hall — if it becomes a reality — will carry a colonial architectural theme, according to plans unveiled here last week.

Architectural work on the proposed building is being done by Wheeler-Becker & Associates, with Plymouthites Byron Becker and Harold Pine in charge of the project.

To be located on Main St. between the library and the present site of the Historical Society museum, the new City Hall will be a two-story affair with a porch-like main entrance supported by four columns.

The 24,136-square-foot building will include a full basement, a 26-space parking lot in back, a 98-seat commission chambers and an 80-seat municipal court room. The latter are both on the second floor.

Under the present plans, one-half of Dodge St. would be closed, Church St. would be extended across Main and would circle around behind the new City Hall and exit onto the remaining portion of Dodge.

The L-shaped City Hall will cost approximately \$495,000, including an estimated \$70,000 for land acquisition, according to Mayor Robert Sincock.



A view of the old city hall across from the intersection of Main and Church streets, circa 1960. The old city hall, built in 1880, was razed in 1964 and replaced with the current colonial-style building. The building to the right is the former Christian Science Church, built in 1903.

90 Years Ago  
November 1934  
*Plymouth Mail*

### Change Name Of Ann Arbor St. To Ann Arbor Trail

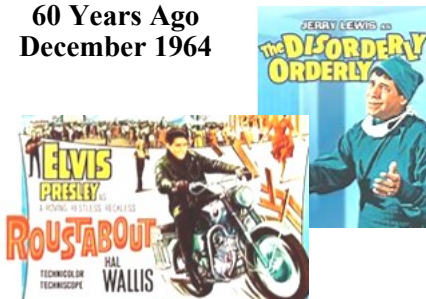
#### City Commission Acts To Prevent Confusion In Future

A petition signed by fifty-six residents and property owners on Ann Arbor Street was filed with the City Commission last Monday night, requesting that the name of this street be changed to Ann Arbor Trail.

The reason given by the petitioners for a change was that a considerable amount of confusion exists in trying to locate addresses on Ann Arbor Street, because of the fact that the portion of U.S. 12 which runs through Plymouth is known as Ann Arbor Road. It is believed that the change of this name will eliminate the confusion which existed in the past.

### Penn Theatre Plymouth, Michigan

60 Years Ago  
December 1964



### 44 Years Ago – 1980

At right is a classic photo of the 1965 Bristol, England, double decker bus that was owned by the city of Plymouth during the 1980s. The bus was used for special events and rented for chartered services to Tiger Stadium and to Greenfield Village. The British icon required careful attention when the driver was maneuvering the bus. The driver seat was on the right side of the bus, the passenger doors were on the left side facing traffic, and the height of the bus did not fit under the railroad bridge on Ann Arbor Road. The reconditioned 1965 Bristol, England, double decker bus is shown parked in front of Plymouth City Hall; circa 1980s. Image from the Plymouth Historical Museum archives.

# Volunteer Spotlight

## Julia Flagg



This month we welcome our new Marketing Director, Julia Flagg, who replaces Mike Woloszyk, who recently retired.

Julia is a township resident and volunteered at the Plymouth Historical Museum many times over the last 30 years.

Born in Dearborn, she spent her school years in the Grand Haven area. She graduated from Western Michigan University with a BBA and spent her college years restoring historic homes in Kalamazoo, Battle Creek, and the Marshall area. She worked hand-in-hand with the Marshall Historic Home Tours.

She married and moved to Plymouth in the 1980s—the town where her great-grandfather and his two brothers—the Wagonschute family—lived. Julia still has the family’s 110-year-old pump organ, and welcomes all to come by to play it!

Over the years, she has been a substitute teacher around the area, ran several marketing campaigns for small businesses, and currently sings in the “DTE Singers” for the Tiger’s home games. At Christmas time, she’s a substitute soprano for area churches to help complete the choirs for their Christmas celebration services.

We look forward to working with Julia as she channels her vibrant enthusiasm into more visitors and donations for the Museum!

—Written by Mike Woloszyk, Museum marketing director

The Plymouth Historical Museum owes its success to the efforts of its dedicated volunteers. Thank You Volunteers! Volunteers Make a Difference!



57 Years Ago  
October 1967  
Plymouth Mail

## *Plymouth's Most Urgent Need Is Enthusiasm Of Its Residents*

Now that the City Commission has moved off dead center in planning for the future of Plymouth there may be a tendency to sit back and watch what develops.

This would be a mistake.

Planning for the future of an area with such a great potential as Plymouth is not a job for any one group. It is not just a case of letting the Commission carry the ball.

Planning is a job that demands the help of everyone—and more important, it is an activity that must not be looked upon as a job.

It must be approached with enthusiasm. No city ever was built or any great job done without enthusiasm—and a lot of it.

We need look no further than the Gas Light project in Kellogg Park.

Without the enthusiasm of the Garden Club these lights still would be in the discussion stage.

But, after listening to plans and promises for a long spell with no tangible results, the women went to work on their own. With enthusiasm such as only women can create when they have a set goal, it wasn't long until they had obtained a sufficient number of lights donated to make the plan possible.

### OUR COLONIAL COMMUNITY



### *Time Has Come To Get Serious About Planning For Future Of Plymouth Area*

Now that the businessmen in Plymouth are going to take a firm stand in planning for the future of the city, the time has come to discard all delaying tactics that have been used in the past and get down to work on some long-range views.

For several years any number of committees have been at work on one project or another, often working in opposite directions. These committees often overlapped and there were times when a thought was advanced, no one knew which committee should be assigned the work.

This was true from the top officials in city government to the fraternal and civic groups. There were plans on top of plans until no one knew just what the future held in store.

An art gallery with some outstanding exhibits, has been talked about in some circles.

A complete new downtown business section and parking area is the goal of another group.

Then, in quick succession one can name plans for a motel, parking arenas, high rise apartments to keep residents living in the central business district, and a series of fashion shops.

These are all fine projects and Plymouth is ready for any or all of them.

But help is needed. Enthusiastic help at that.

For Plymouth to become the type of an area that is being painted by the planners and dreamers residents will have to take a hand in the activity.

There is no mistaking the fact that the Old Plymouth we once knew is passing. It is another victim of progress.

What do we want to take its place?

We can have a real live modern community with assets not boasted by any of the other suburban districts.

We can have a kind of community that will attract people in all walks of life and fashion shops that would do justice to areas much larger.

Or, we can be the type of community where folks are willing to "let George do it," and die a slow, lingering death.

The choice is up to you.

Never was enthusiastic help so badly needed.

There was only one area of agreement. That was the fact that in Kellogg Park, right in the center of the downtown area, Plymouth had a jewel matched by few cities. Most of the plans started from the park, only to go off in all directions.

This is the reasoning behind the plan of the Chamber of Commerce to sponsor a series of breakfast meetings, starting in September. Working on the theory that nothing was achieved without enthusiasm, the meetings will determine just how far the businessmen want to go.

57 Years Ago  
August 1967

## OUR TIME, OUR HISTORY.

PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN

57 Years Ago  
May 1967  
Plymouth Mail

### 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."

"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."



59 Years Ago  
November 1965

## Mother of 17 cooks the quick way

Quick and easy—that's the way Mrs. Joseph LeBlanc, 13443 Banbury, likes to cook. The Lemon Velvet Cake she suggests this week is just that—quick, easy and delicious. She says her whole family enjoys this dessert.

And with a family of 17 children, it's not always easy to please everyone. With such a large family, we were interested in a few statistics concerning the amount of food the LaBlancs eat at each meal.

Slim and trim Mrs. LeBlanc says she uses 9 to 10 pounds of meat at each dinner meal. She cooks 36 pork chops for one sitting and the family consumes 84 quarts of milk each week.

Sixteen of the children are at home in the lovely six bedroom home in the Glenview subdivision which Mr. LeBlanc is developing. Joey, 19, is attending St. Thomas College, St. Paul, Minn.

The other children are Jeannie, 22, and Dorothy, 20, who are working gals. Jim, 18, Don, 17, and Jon, 15, attend St. John's high school, Ypsilanti. Peggy, 14, is a student at Our Lady of Mercy high school, Farmington. Tim, 13, Tom, 12, Sue, 11, Donna, 9, Mary Jo, 8, and Michelle, 7, attend Our Lady of Good Counsel. Pat, 4, is in kindergarten at Bird school and Therese, 3, Dan, 2, and Anne, 15 months, keep their mother company at home.

100 Years Ago  
September 1924  
*Plymouth Mail*



### THE NEW MASONIC TEMPLE BUILDING

The new Masonic temple, now under construction upon the spacious lot at the corner of Penniman avenue and Union street, is beginning to assume both size and beauty. Last winter it became evident that Plymouth Rock Lodge, No. 47, F. & A. M., and Plymouth Chapter, No. 115, O. E. S., would necessarily have to erect a temple in order to care for their present and future needs. The two organizations then elected from their membership, trustees, who in turn formed the Masonic Building Association, with the following officers and members:

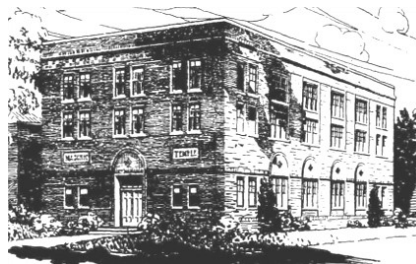
President—Robert O. Mimmack.

Vice President—Daniel F. Murray.  
Secretary—William Wood.

Treasurer—George A. Smith.

Trustees—Henry Hondorp, Herman Mack, John Patterson and Chauncey H. Rauch.

The building committee then secured the services of A. G. Dohman, architect, to design and prepare plans for the new temple, which is a two-story building 44x90 feet. The cost of the temple was estimated to be approximately \$40,000.00.



A 1924 architectural rendering of the new Masonic Temple.

### Plymouth History Footnote, 18 Years Ago – 2006



A 2006 architectural drawing of the planned Parkside project in downtown Plymouth at the former site of the Masonic Temple building.

In 2006, the 82-year-old historic Masonic Temple building in downtown Plymouth was sold and demolished. The developer proposed a three-story complex with a total of 18 condominiums on the second and third floors, and office space on the first floor. The new development was named the Parkside project. The Masonic property sold for a reported \$1.2 million. Construction cost for the project was estimated at \$4 million. The tentative price for each condominium was around \$300,000.

58 Years Ago  
July 1966

## Old hotel for sale



An old lady in Plymouth is getting a new dress.

The old lady is the Anderine Hotel at 886 N. Mill St., near the C & O tracks.

A rambling, two-story structure, the hotel this week was given a fresh coat of grey paint, with white trim, over the weather worn red bricks and peeling window sashes.

Inside workers have painted, laid carpeting and new floors, and hung new ceilings.

Purchased last September, the sagging hotel has been refurnished by its new owner, Robert Gaddis, 41174 E. Ann Arbor Trail.

Rooms rent by the week and month. The lobby itself has been converted to rooms.

Part of yesterday remains on the left side of the front portion of the building – an old time saloon where nickel beer flowed, where Johnny came marching home from three wars

In the fall of 1967, Dick Egloff, a former football star at Plymouth High School, was a starting defensive linebacker with the Arizona State University gridiron squad. Egloff, a senior, was 6 foot 2, 206 pounds.

**57 Years Ago  
October 1967**



**61 Years Ago  
September 1963**



**Milt Plum - Detroit Lions  
Quarterback from 1962 to 1967**

To the excitement of Detroit Lions fans, Big George's Home Appliance Store on Plymouth Road announced that Lions quarterback Milt Plum would visit the store to talk with fans and sign autographs. The Lions finished the 1963 season with a record of 5-8-1. Plum, who began his career with the Cleveland Browns in 1957, played for Detroit from 1962 to 1967. His best year with the Lions was in 1964 when he threw for 2,241 yards and 18 touchdowns. He retired in 1969 after 13 seasons in the NFL. Plum's passer rating of 110.4 in 1960 was the best single-season mark until 1989 when San Francisco quarterback Joe Montana surpassed it with a rating of 112.4. Plum played quarterback at Penn State and was a second round draft pick.

# Plymouth Days Gone By

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

## *Football Is Best TV Show*

**54 Years Ago - 1970**  
*Plymouth Mail  
& Observer*



Try to design a television program.

Forget the idealism of educational television, the drabness of public service programming, the vast expanse of wasteland. Accept the present condition of commercial television, and design a perfect program for it.

First, the program needs a definite beginning and end, so we know when to start and stop the show. Find action and color, bring in tension and drama, give us heroes and villains, too. Produce it on a recognizable scale, taking advantage of television gimmickry without taxing the basic equipment. Allow periodic breaks for commercials. Put on a new one every week.

\* \* \*

**OBVIOUSLY**, what we have described is professional football, from the opening kick-off to the final gun. It is man against man and team against team, with heady rivalries at both levels; it is life, on a small, sophisticated scale.

Football is played at just the right speed and just the right distance. Baseball is too slow, hockey is too fast; auto racing is too far away, boxing is too close.

The time outs are long enough for commercials, and the pauses between plays are long enough for a slow motion or a split screen replay. Half time is long enough for a sandwich and a beer, or in a well-organized household, long enough for Sunday dinner.

Professional football is a new show every game. The worst team in the league just might beat the champions one week-end, and regardless of who wins, every play is a potential scoring play. Something is always happening in football. Something is always there to put on the screen.

**SOCIAL CRITICS** worry about the game. Football, and the average man's delight in it, seem to them symptomatic of some deep ill in our world. Nonsense. For all its polish and jolt, football is still basically a game.

American man's love of football is nothing ominous. Football is a game -- despite the proliferation of capricious rules and the infinite variety of specialization -- essentially a very simple game. It would be great to be able to play, but few can. Millions can watch, though, and do, because it is good television.

# FOOTBALL FIELD OPENING DRAWS 3,400 CITY RESIDENTS

Field Acclaimed as City's Most  
Progressive Project in Years

Plymouth 12 - Wayne 6

Community spirit reached an all time high in Plymouth last Friday night when 3,400 local residents and children attended the first football game on Plymouth's new football field. On a setting under \$10,000 worth of flood lights and a bright harvest moon in the sky Plymouthites thrilled to the brilliant playing of their high school football team and their 80-piece band.

An inspired, injury riddled, 11 rose to the occasion to defeat Wayne 12 to 6 in their first tilt on their new home grounds. Playing inspired football for the first time this year the Rocks thrilled the spectators with beautiful runs and passes that brought them their first taste of victory this season.

The high school band resplendent in their new uniforms furnished by the Junior Chamber of Commerce was not only a surprise to most of the 3,000 fans but their performance between halves won the hearts of all that saw them in their first home appearance.

School officials had hoped for some 1,500 people at the opening game and seating had been provided for 1,600 but when double that amount surged on the field there was no possible way to furnish them seats. Efforts are being made now to secure an additional 2,000 seats for the game tonight between Belleville and Plymouth which will take place at 8 p.m.

Local Rotarians attended the game in a body as guests of the Board of Education. It has been through the efforts of the local Rotary club that funds amounting to more than \$15,000 have been raised to make the field possible. Farsighted planning on the part of former superintendent George A. Smith and his Boards of Education made the field location possible when they exerted every effort to secure all of the available land near or around the school.

77 Years Ago  
October 1947  
*Plymouth Mail*

*This Is What They Said*

About the New Field



**OUR TIME, OUR HISTORY.**  
PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN

77 Years Ago  
November 1947  
*Plymouth Mail*

## Field Dedication Rocks Run Wild to Score 50 Points

Plymouth 50 - Northville 0

According to their best estimates, school officials state that over 3,500 people attended the Plymouth-Northville dedication game last Friday night.

Total receipts for the game amounted to slightly over \$1,800 bringing a season four game total to \$5,700.00.

An inspired football squad of 44 players, all of whom played, ran wild to score 50 points to give the fans a proper dedication victory. When the final gun sounded the score board recorded 50 for Plymouth and nothing for the visitors.

Beautiful open field running and long passes featured the four quarters of the game and the third team was equally as effective on scoring touchdowns as was the first.

## HAVE YOU SEEN THE NEW FOOTBALL FIELD?

**PLYMOUTH PLAYS  
TRENTON OCTOBER 24th  
INKSTER RESERVES OCTOBER 28th  
NORTHVILLE OCTOBER 31st**

JOIN YOUR NEIGHBORS  
AND SEE THESE GAMES



"It was the most beautiful and impressive athletic spectacle I have ever seen in Plymouth. The beauty of the field's location is clearly outstanding. The increased spirit in the hearts of the players I believe was what really won the victory over a much larger and more skillful team," George A. Smith.

"I never thought I would live to see so inspiring a sight in Plymouth," Cass S. Hough.

"There has never been anything that will do a better job of building community spirit than the new field. What ever I have done to help has only been half enough," Edwin A. Schrader.

"It certainly was a wonderful sight and a wonderful field," E. V. Jolliffe.

"It was one of the most wonderful sights I have ever seen in Plymouth," Mrs. John Morrow.

"There is no doubt but what it was the finest game a Plymouth team has ever played and the field certainly inspired everyone that night," Claude Eckles.

"A more brilliant spectacle could never be held and wait until the community at large realizes the many purposes that the field can be used for," Dr. Henry Walch.

"To me the field, the game and the band were only a start when it comes to showing a community like Plymouth what can be done when everyone takes part in any civic undertaking. It's a grand start let's keep going," Robert O. Wesley.

"Amen," Coach Eddie Bender.

"It only took a football field to show the city what real community spirit is," Ralph Lorenz.

"It's the finest thing for the city that's ever been done," Dr. A. C. Williams.

SEE PLYMOUTH'S 78 PIECE BAND

*"It's the Talk of the Town"*

**GAMES START 8 p.m. Admisson 75¢**

NORTHVILLE DEDICATION GAME ADMISSION \$1.10

**BUY YOUR TICKETS NOW**

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

Non-Profit Org  
U. S. Postage  
PAID  
Plymouth, MI.  
Permit No. 111

Return Service Requested

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## Calendar of Events

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

### January

**10—Time Escape Adventure**, 6-7 pm. Tickets \$30.  
<https://tinyurl.com/4mtu3nrd>

**17—Time Escape Adventure**, 6-7 pm. Tickets \$30.  
<https://tinyurl.com/4mtu3nrd>

**24—Time Escape Adventure**, 6-7 pm. Tickets \$30.  
<https://tinyurl.com/4mtu3nrd>

**26—Last day**, “First Ladies—Fashion Setters” special exhibit.

**January 27—February 11—Museum Closed**

### February

**11—Members-only Preview**, 6-8 pm.

**12—“War’s Over...Now What?”** Special Exhibit opens

**23—“After the War Fashion Show & Tea,”** 2-4 pm.  
Tickets on sale to members now; on sale to public December 30.

*Sorry we are*  
**CLOSED**



CHRISTMAS DAY  
DECEMBER 25  
&  
NEW YEAR'S DAY

MUSEUM CLOSED

**Happy**

**New Year!**



**Woo Woooo!**  
**All Aboard**  
**the CSX Railroad**  
**Caboose**  
**permanently**  
**on display at the**  
**Plymouth Historical**  
**Museum.**