

July – September 2025

## Something for Everyone!

By Laura Elder, Administrative Assistant  
and Marketing Specialist

Since I started working here in January, I've been amazed by how much the Plymouth Historical Museum has to offer. It isn't just a place to look at old things, it's a place where history comes alive for all ages.

For kids, the museum feels like stepping into a storybook. They love exploring our 19th-century Main Street, peeking into shop windows, and finding surprises along the way. Special events throughout the year add even more fun, including Night at the Museum birthday parties, themed tea parties, ice cream socials, and Santa in the Caboose.

Teens, who often expect history to be just names and dates, are surprised to find so much more. They linger in our 1950s soda shop and Daly's Drive-in, receive invaluable resources and thought-provoking information for their school research projects, and are the perfect age to enjoy our very own escape room called Time Escape Adventure.

Adults often connect with our Lincoln Collection and our rotating exhibits. Some of our most popu-

lar events that sell out quickly include our Murder Mysteries, Wilcox House Tours, Plymouth Ghost and Cemetery walks, and themed tea parties.

Whether you're here for a quiet afternoon, an exciting event, or simply to spark your curiosity, there's something here to surprise you. Families, students, and lifelong learners alike find plenty to explore and often leave saying, "I never knew that!"

So, if it's been a while since your last visit, I invite you to stop by and see for yourself. A friendly guide is waiting just for you! And if you catch me around, please say hello! I'd love to hear what caught your eye.

**History isn't just preserved here. It's alive, and it's waiting for you!**

### Quirky Artifact Spotlight

Did you know our Museum features one of Robert Wadlow's shoes? At 8' 11", he was the tallest person in recorded history! Today, it's one of the most talked-about objects in our display!



### 5 Things to Do at the Museum

1. *Walk the Streets of Old Plymouth* – Peek inside shops and homes frozen in time
2. *Check out the Lincoln Collection* – One of the largest in the state!
3. *Attend a special event* – Always unique and local
4. *Tour the Timeline* – Follow Plymouth's story from its earliest settlers
5. *Explore the special exhibits* – They change 2-3 times per year, so there's always something new

**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 holidays)

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Marissa Warren	Archivist
Cindi Willard	Education Coordinator
Carolyn Zaborsky	Cashier/Scheduler

**Newsletter Editor**

Elizabeth Kerstens, [director@plymouthhistory.org](mailto:director@plymouthhistory.org)

The Newsletter is printed four times a year.

**Monthly Drawing**

Volunteers Ben Hodge, Adrian Galindo, and John Wilson are the respective winners of the drawings for a \$25 gift certificate for July, August, and September.

**Donations Received**

**June – August 2025**

Thank you for the following generous donations that were received between June and August 2025:

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

Plymouth Lions Foundation

**The Lincoln (\$1,000–\$2,499)**

Linda Manchester

**The Starkweather (\$500–\$999)**

William Lawton

**The Kellogg (\$100–\$249)**

William Keough

**Under \$100**

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 Leslie Ryder  
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 Edie Wysocki

**Sponsorships**

**Mary Todd (\$400)**

AlphaGraphics Canton

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• **Welcome New Members!** •

- |                        |                   |   |
|------------------------|-------------------|---|
| • Andrew Connor        | • Brooke Lund     | • |
| • Chris Ernst          | • Lilly Meek      | • |
| • Margaret Gordon      | • Gina Neuhaus    | • |
| • Kristen Gulyas       | • Doreen Raynak   | • |
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| • Jessica Karl         | • David St. Amant | • |
| • Stacy Kearney        | • Ray Stanczak    | • |
| • Cheryl Klobucar      | • Jennifer Wells  | • |

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# Birthday Parties at the Museum

Looking for a birthday your kids will never forget? The Plymouth Historical Museum now offers two amazing birthday adventures: one designed just for teens and one for kids!



## For Teens:

### A Time Escape Adventure

Step through a time portal into the 19th century. Work together to solve puzzles, uncover clues, and race against the clock to fix the time machine before it's too late. Perfect for ages 12-18!

\$300 package includes:

- One-hour escape room experience inside the museum (4-8 players)
- Private party space for up to 2 extra hours
- A celebration full of laughter, teamwork, and memories!

## For Kids: A Night at the Museum

History comes alive for this unforgettable birthday bash! Watch your favorite “Night at the Museum” movie with friends, then meet real historical characters who magically “come to life” just for your special day. Designed for ages 8-11.

\$300 package includes:

- Up to 10 kids
- Pizza or subs and drinks
- A keepsake “Tablet of Ahkmenrah” for the birthday child
- A storybook celebration where history meets fun!

## Reserve Your Party Today!

Give your child a birthday that will go down in history. Call 734-455-8940 x0 to book your party today!



## Ticket Sale Dates for Upcoming Events

Date	Event	Members	Public
October 11	Plymouth Ghosts Cemetery Walk	Now	Now
October 26	Masquerade Tea	Now	Now
November 16	Puzzle Quest Ice Cream Social	Now	Now
December 6	Murder Mystery	October 6	October 20

# Collection Treasures

By Marissa Warren, Archivist



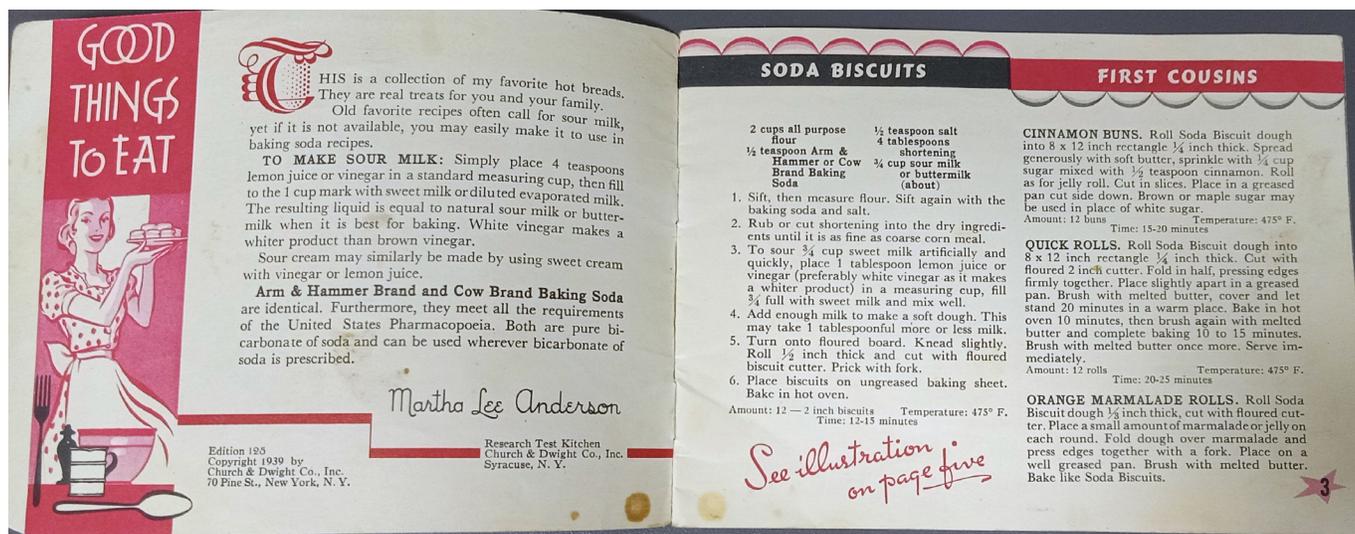
## First aid kits

First aid kits are a common requirement in workplaces, and good to have at home for any small medical problem. This specific kit was made with a different setting in mind, used by the U.S. Army back in the 1950s, with many of these kits going with soldiers involved in the Korean War. Today's first aid kits still have some of the same medical remedies, and some like petrolatum have only changed in name. While no one would want to use the items in this specific first aid kit now because of their age, they still show how some treatments got it right the first time.



## Cookbooks

Cookbooks and pamphlets like the one below have always been great places to look for new recipes and find tips for making fun meals. While some of the recipes in this 1939 booklet and other vintage books are not to everyone's taste, others still sound delicious, with the bonus of modern appliances making them easier to prepare. Cookbooks showcase the types of meals that were common in different eras, and the incorporation of newly marketed products and brands into the familiar family recipes.



## The Lincoln Funeral Train



### History Quiz Challenge

During Abraham Lincoln's funeral train journey in 1865, Plymouth residents traveled to which nearby city to pay their respects as the train passed through?

(Hint: If you've visited our Lincoln exhibit, you might already know!)

Email [secretary@plymouthhistory.org](mailto:secretary@plymouthhistory.org) with your answer, and we'll feature the winner in the next newsletter.

## TIME ESCAPE ADVENTURE

at the Plymouth Historical Museum

If you like escape rooms, you will love this teamwork scavenger hunt. You have entered a time portal to the 19th century. You are challenged to locate a time machine to return to the present before you are vaporized. All of your sleuthing skills will be needed to save yourself and your party.

- Groups must be between 4 and 8 people.
- Age requirements: 12 to adult. Ages 12-17 require the accompaniment of a ticket-holding parent or guardian.
- Please arrive 15 minutes before start time.

734-455-8940 x0  
[www.plymouthhistory.org/events](http://www.plymouthhistory.org/events)

### UPCOMING ADVENTURES:

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3, 6-7 PM  
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17, 6-7 PM  
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24, 6-7 PM

TICKETS ARE  
\$30 PER  
PERSON



SCAN ME

**A SLICE OF History**

# 860 Fralick

Building continues tradition of feeding community with introduction of DownTown Pourhouse

By Elizabeth Kerstens and Ellen Elliott

**R**ESTAURANTS come and go in Plymouth. The building at 860 Fralick has housed an eating establishment since 1970, when Jerry Harb opened Harb's Restaurant there. The edifice, which was built in the 1930s, had previously housed a gas station, a laundromat and a real estate office.

Harb's initially offered beer and wine with meals – liquor by the glass was added in late 1971. In 1974 the restaurant was sold to J.B.D. Inc., and was renamed Side Street Pub. Food offerings included a sandwich menu and a salad bar, with prices ranging from 50 cents for a grilled cheese sandwich to \$2.25 for a steak sandwich. Ken Bakewell and Jack Neil were the proprietors until Joy Hollen joined Bakewell as a partner in 1983. Hollen took over ownership after Bakewell died in 1988.

In 1996 the business was renamed McMahon's Side Street Pub. The grand opening took place during Plymouth's Fall Festival. The restaurant was updated and included a new menu and 15 televisions. Brothers Steve and Jim McMahon purchased the Side Street Pub when the previous owners wanted to retire.

Ownership changed again in 2002, when the Doyle siblings purchased the restaurant in tribute to their father who had recently died. Doyle's Tavern opened on March 8, 2002, and celebrated its grand opening on April 5, also the opening day for the Detroit Tigers that year. The menu included



The Plymouth Historical Museum's special exhibit "War's Over...Now What?" highlights life in Plymouth following the end of World War I, World War II, the war in Vietnam, and Operation Desert Shield. Some interesting topics include the birth and marriage spurts, how veterans were treated when they came home and the housing boom. The exhibit runs through July 6. 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.

burgers, clam baskets and homemade soups. During the time of the Doyles' ownership, an outdoor patio was built that included 38 seats and a white picket fence.

The tavern once again changed hands and became Stella's Black Dog Tavern in 2013, with new owners Bob and Helena Ostendorf and Jim and Kathy Sullivan. The tavern was named for the Ostendorf's Bernese Mountain Dog Stella, who was frequently seen at the restaurant until her death in 2022. The Ostendorfs published "Introducing Stella" in 2017, a beloved children's book.

The front patio of Stella's was enclosed in 2014 and a back patio was added in 2020.

In January 2025 the Sullivans took full ownership of Stella's. The restaurant was renamed DownTown Pourhouse Tavern on February 25, 2025.

**1.**

**2.**

**3.**

**4.**

**5.**

**6.**

# MASQUEURADE TEA

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2-4 PM



## Historic Costumes with Costume Historian Pam Yockey

*Enjoy tea delicacies and the Museum's own special tea, "Mary's Blend." Costumes are encouraged.*

*Tickets are \$35 for Plymouth Historical Museum members; \$40 for non-members  
[www.plymouthhistory.org/events.html](http://www.plymouthhistory.org/events.html)*



## Cracking codes never tasted so sweet!

At the Puzzle Quest Ice Cream Social, kids will journey through puzzle stations in the Museum's Timeline of Plymouth to collect secret codes, use a decoder wheel to solve a final message, and earn a ticket to build their own Ultimate Ice Cream Creation! Join us for a fun adventure at the Plymouth Historical Museum on Sunday, November 16, 2-4 PM.

Recommended for children ages 7 to 11; minimum age is 7. Tickets are on sale now. Tickets are \$30 for one adult and one child; \$15 for additional children or adults. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Limit of 40 children for the event, so please sign up early. Tickets are at [www.plymouthhistory.org/events.html](http://www.plymouthhistory.org/events.html).

The ice cream social is sponsored by the Plymouth Canton Optimists. Desserts are catered by Diann's Catering. Call 734-455-8940 x0 for more information.



**Sunday,  
November  
16, 2-4 PM**



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

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## **Calendar of Events**

Tickets can be found at <http://plymouthhistory.org/events/>.

### **October**

- 3—**Time Escape Adventure**, 6 PM. Tickets available.
- 11—**Plymouth Ghosts Cemetery Walk**. Tickets available.
- 17—**Time Escape Adventure**, 6 PM. Tickets available.
- 24—**Time Escape Adventure**, 6 PM. Tickets available.
- 26—**Masquerade Tea**, 2-4 PM. Tickets available now.

### **November**

- 16—**Puzzle Quest Ice Cream Social**, 2-4 PM. Tickets available now.
- 29 & 30—**Santa in the Caboose**. Free admission.

### **December**

- 6—**Murder Mystery**, 6-9 PM. Tickets available to members October 6.
- 7, 13, 14, 20, 21—**Santa in the Caboose**. Free admission.