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*Thank you to our outgoing
directors for their service*

Betty Batchelder
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VOLUNTEERS
*We couldn't do
it without you!*

Omer Ahern
Mary Baldwin
Linda Barlick
Michael Barlick
Janice Chipman
Darcy Cushing
Rodger Ellsworth
Kathie Flanders
Sue Grillo
Calla Jae Jones
Roger Kleinpeter
Ed Loranger
Doug McLane
Eva Nagorka
Marcia Rundle

(603) 536-2337
Post Office Box 603
Plymouth, NH 03264

Museum & Memory House
*In the Old Webster Courthouse
behind Town Hall*
Saturdays 10:00 AM-1:00 PM
and by appointment



**On Exhibit—
The Keniston Saga**

John Keniston (1850–1931) was born and raised in Plymouth. As a young child he showed an unusual aptitude for music, studying piano and organ; following high school, he continued his musical education and career in Boston. In 1884 he married Elizabeth P. Freeman; they settled in Plymouth, and began to raise a family which eventually grew to six children.

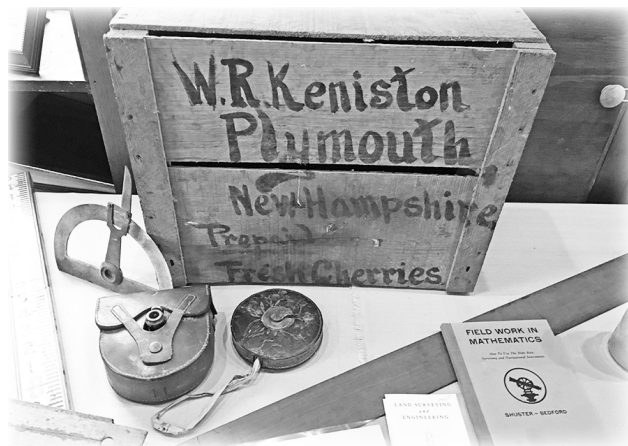
In 1892 John and Elizabeth moved their growing family into Whispering Pines, their new Victorian home built at the very edge of town, on Thurlow Street. (Today, Whispering Pines is the home of Eva Nagorka and Rodger Ellsworth; Rodger is the great-grandson of John and Elizabeth.) Here they raised their children and, as was expected in those

days, Elizabeth remained at home caring for home and children. In later years, she was described by her daughters as “the hub of our family wheel, the central figure upon whom we all depended.”



John was a man of many talents: throughout his adult life he was engaged in music, farming, surveying and public service. The success of his musical societies and bands spawned similar programs throughout New Hampshire. For over two decades he conducted many farm experiments, all while developing his surveying business, which was his main occupation; his surveying symbol can be found on rocks, trees and posts throughout this region. He gave much to the town of Plymouth, serving in a variety of public service positions throughout his adult life.

On display at the old Webster Courthouse is a glorious collection of antique clothing and hats, tools used by John in his surveying and farming businesses, and a wide variety of photos and documents. It's a wonderful glimpse into life in Plymouth a century ago. A narrative display provides historical information on the family. To learn more, visit the Plymouth Historical Museum and Memory House, Saturdays from 10:00–1:00.



A Look at the Year That's Been...



Rodger Ellsworth and Eva Nagorka presented the Keniston Saga

PRESENTATIONS

Nearly monthly presentations have brought hundreds of visitors to the Old Webster Courthouse, to learn about a variety of topics of local, regional, or general historical interest.

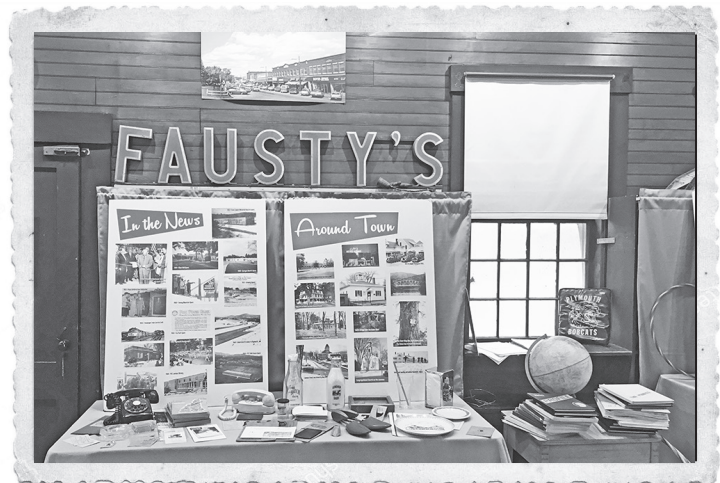
We've learned about **Whispering Pines and the Keniston Family** from Rodger Ellsworth and Eva Nagorka. Several of our presentations have focused on farms and farming, as befits our heritage—in the earliest days, nearly every home in Plymouth was a working farm. **The History of Longview Farm**, presented by Carol and John Perkins, brought a large crowd to honor this couple who have given so much to our community. This was followed by Thomas Hubka's **Big House, Little House, Back House, Barn** (made possible by a grant from the NH Humanities) and we wrapped up the farm program series with Steve Taylor's excellent presentation on **Poor Houses and Town Farms** (another NH Humanities event). Other presentations focused on **New Hampshire Cemeteries and Gravestones** with Glenn Knoblock (NHH), **Beebe River** presented by Dave Pushee, **The Medieval Roots of School Exercise** by Rebecca Noel and the **Internment of Japanese-Americans in World War II** by David Sakura.

EXHIBITS

The planning and mounting of an exhibit requires many hours. Fall and winter featured the continuation of our exhibits on our home, the **Old Webster Courthouse** (created by Kathy Hillier), and **Plymouth in the 1950s and '60s** (created by Lisa Lundari). Our current exhibit featuring **Whispering Pines and the Keniston Family** opened in June. The exhibit was created by Eva Nagorka and Rodger Ellsworth, Mary Baldwin, Judy Floyd, and Kathy Hillier.



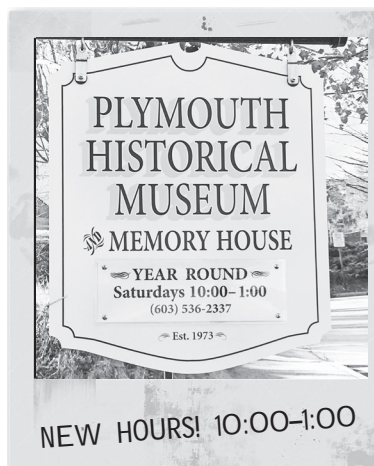
The Old Webster Courthouse (1774-2017) Exhibit



Plymouth in the 1950s and 1960s Exhibit



The crowd gathering for David Sakura's presentation



OPEN MUSEUM HOURS

Each Saturday the Courthouse has welcomed visitors from 10:00–2:00. Local folks stop by to see the exhibits, out-of-towners often come in “Just to see what’s here,” and many come to find information on ancestors or historical information regarding the town. Starting in October, as we get ready for the winter months, our Saturday hours will be 10:00–1:00. Volunteer docents welcomed!

WALKABOUT WEDNESDAYS

As part of Plymouth State University's Walkabout Wednesday program, PHS has hosted six well attended pop-up exhibits featuring artists living in our area. Created by Cynthia Robinson, now the Director of the Museum of the White Mountains, Walkabout Wednesdays invite museums, organizations, and businesses in downtown Plymouth to hold an exhibit on the first Wednesday of each month from 4:00–6:00 PM. We have been honored to present work by Alma Grand, Cam Sinclair, Paulette Brace, Annette Mitchell, Susan Wei, Gunnar Baldwin, and Janet Cocchiaro with each bringing a unique and thoughtful collection of inspiring work.



ENGAGING STUDENTS

Students from Plymouth Regional High School taking a video class spent many hours in the Courthouse taping recollections of people's association with the Old Webster Courthouse during the years it served as the Town library. This project will be completed this Fall.



PRHS Building Trades students took measurements and made remodeling suggestions at the Old Webster Courthouse.

Our School Committee, comprised of former teachers Judy Floyd, Jan Chipman, Linda Barlick, and Rondi Gannon, is working with Plymouth Elementary School to bring children to the Courthouse for a taste of old-time Plymouth, and historical hands-on activities in connection with local history curriculum.

PLYMOUTH MEMORIES PROJECT

Louise McCormack



With the understanding that much of our history lives in the memories of our long-term residents, the Plymouth Memories Project was initiated. Our goal was to showcase, preserve and honor the stories of people living here over many decades. It has allowed the members of our community to share and preserve our memories of the growth, culture and events that make up the history of Plymouth.

The first interviews took place in May 2017. All interviews were videotaped by Pemi-Baker TV and aired on PBTv Channel 20 as well as on YouTube. The project began with the sister/brother dynamic duo of Charles and Mary Durgin. This was followed by William Batchelder (June), Betty Batchelder (June), Malcolm 'Tink' Taylor (July), Milton Pettengill (July), Clement Simoneau and kindergarten friend Tom Volpe (August), high school friends Wilber Coffey and William Noyes (August), Donald Wiggett (September), and Evelyn White MacNeil (September). Each interview lasted 45–60 minutes.

Questions and informed consent forms were provided in advance and informal meetings with each participant took place. Pictures and artifacts were provided to augment the final video, copies of which will become part of the archives at the museum. Copies of the video interviews will also become a part of the PHS archives at the Old Webster Courthouse, home of the Historical Museum. (We may also make DVDs of the series available in the future.)

In addition to individual interviews taking place for the next several months, we look forward to a 'gathering' of these elders of our community, bringing together all those interviewed to reminisce.

We view this ongoing project as a video time capsule to preserve first-person accounts of individual stories as well as participants' memories of Plymouth.

Suggestions/volunteers for future interviewees are welcome. Please contact Louise McCormack at louisem@plymouth.edu or leave a message at the historical museum (603) 536-2337.

HISTORICAL WALKING TOURS

Louise McCormack, in period costume, led people on several tours highlighting locations of historical interest in the downtown area as well as on the PSU campus. Recently, we also hosted a **Haunted Walking Tour** led by paranormal researcher/PSU student Clayton Harbert featuring buildings on the PSU campus.

ACCESSIONING AND CATALOGING

There are many documents and artifacts which have been donated to the museum—all of which have been gratefully received! Documenting, cataloging, and appropriately storing these items takes time—and funds. There are a multitude of objects in the existing collection which need to be taken care of as well. Want to help?



MEMBERSHIP DUES

We are so grateful for your support and interest! We rely heavily on your membership dues and donations, which this year provided over 35% of our operating funds. Please take a moment and use the enclosed envelope to renew your membership for 2017–2018. Your membership is an investment in the preservation of Plymouth's history.

FUNDRAISING

Our fundraising projects have helped balance the budget—your support for our plant sale (May), yard sale (September), Old Webster Courthouse ornament sales and a wreath-making workshop (December) are all important sources of income. The almost \$2,000 raised this fiscal year (October 2016–September 2017) brought in nearly 25% of the funds needed to meet our budget.



A BIG THANK YOU!

We are most appreciative to Pemi Glass for the donation of supplies and labor to repair a broken storm door window.

FINANCIAL REPORT 2016–2017

As of 9/26/17

Income

Membership Dues and Donations.....	\$3213
Gifts and Grants.....	2261
Retail Sales.....	923
Fundraising.....	1868
Other.....	748
TOTAL.....	\$9013

Expenditures

Programs/Publicity.....	\$1748
Operating Expenses.....	1380
Utilities.....	3811
Other.....	1050
TOTAL.....	\$7989

The Year Ahead...

We're excited! Our board holds lively meetings monthly to keep all the balls in the air—and we keep coming up with more great ideas. The challenge is making more happen when we're already so busy! But here's a peek ahead...

EXHIBIT—FARMS IN PLYMOUTH

Did you know that one of the most beautiful homes in Plymouth was once the town's Poor Farm?

Located on Old Hebron Road, this beautiful farm (currently owned by the Fauver family) was Plymouth's Poor Farm from 1835–1871, where the Town supported its paupers.

Want to learn more about the poor farm and other farms in Plymouth? Watch for our 2018 exhibit on **Farms in Plymouth**.

PROGRAMS

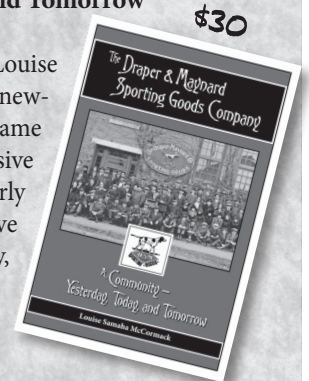
Our evening programs will continue, with something offered nearly every month. Our Program Committee (Betty Batchelder, Linda Barlick, Dick Flanders, and Judy Floyd) are putting together events for the next few months, and welcome your suggestions! More are in the works!

WED • OCT 18 • 7:00 PM

**Draper and Maynard Sporting Goods Factory:
A Community Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow**

Presented by Louise McCormack

Based on the exhaustive research Louise has done over the past decade for her newly-published 300-page book of the same title. She will present a comprehensive history of D&M from the founders' early connection with the tanning and glove making industry, through its hey day, to the factory's final days in 1937. Followed by a book signing.



WED • NOV 8 • 7:00 PM

Native American Artifacts from your Back Yard

Presented by Doug McLane and Ben McLane

Displays of Native American arrowheads and other artifacts found in NH will be on display.

SOMETIME IN 2018

- **North Country columnist John Harrigan**
- **Development of the Dartmouth College Highway**
(which includes Plymouth) *Presented by Kate Donahue*

WALKABOUT WEDNESDAYS

WED • NOV 1 • 4:00–6:00 PM—Work by Suzan Gannett

ACTIVITIES

SAT • DEC 2 • 9:00 AM–12:00 PM

Wreath Making Workshop

At Dick & Kathie Flanders home, 320 Fairgrounds Road. \$5/frame; BYOD—bring your own decorations.