

The Plymouth Press



Please help us raise the funds to return our school bell to the Old School Park. The Harman family has kept it safe for many years and would like to see it back in town. There needs to be a pedestal constructed to mount it on.

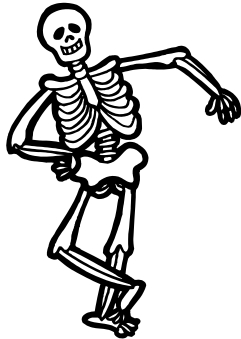
We have construction estimates in the \$15,000 range. A WDCA grant has been applied for that could cover a portion of the cost, but we have to cover the remaining balance.

The Harmam sisters will match up to \$500 in donations.

Read History of the Plymouth School Bell on page two of this newsletter.



Trick or Treat!!



TRICK or TREAT night will be
Saturday **October 31st**
Time TBD

Children are reminded to wear light colored clothing, carry a flash light and to be **"VERY CAUTIOUS"** when crossing city streets. All drivers are asked to please use **EXTREME**

CAUTION when driving this evening.

PLEASE WATCH OUT for children crossing city streets.

November 3rd Elections

All registered voters and residents of Plymouth are encouraged to come out and vote. If you are not registered to vote, but are eligible or will be 18 before November 3rd, you are encouraged to register and vote.

REMINDER—Our voting place is

Rockfalls Community Center, 3 S. Nottingham

**ABSENTEE BALLOT REQUEST FORMS MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE COUNTY AUDITORS OFFICE .
BY CLOSE OF BUSINESS ON OCTOBER 19th.**

www.cerrogordo.gov/auditor/elections/

You may also call 641-421-3041 to request the form or with questions

DATES TO REMEMBER

October 1: Council Meeting
@ 7:00 p.m.
October 20: Flu Shots 9—10 a.m.
City Hall
October 31: Halloween
November 1: Turn you clocks
back one hour.
November 3: Election Day
Polls open 7am—8pm
November 5: Council Meeting
@ 7:00 p.m.
November 11: Veterans Day
November 26.: Thanksgiving
City Hall Closed
December 3: Council Meeting
@ 7:00 p.m.
December 12: Santa @ Fire Barn
December 24: City Hall Closed
December 25: Christmas
January 1: New Years Day
January 7 Council Meeting

City of Plymouth

616 Broad Street
PO Box 278
Plymouth, IA 50464-0278
Phone: 641-696-3363
Fax: 641-696-3419
E-mail:
plymouth@myomnitel.com

Where Neighbors are Friends!



Like our page, City of
Plymouth, Iowa for updated
information and events

**Santa Clause is
coming to town...**
DECEMBER 12TH
9:00-9:45
at
the Fire Barn



Facility Name: Plymouth Water Supply
Date: September 8, 2026

PWSID#: 1759048
Contact: Wade Eastman

PUBLIC NOTIFICATION

MONITORING VIOLATIONS OF THE WATER TESTING SCHEDULE

Our water system violated drinking water monitoring requirements over the past year. Even though these were not emergencies, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we did to correct these situations.

We, the Plymouth Water Supply, are required to monitor our drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards.

Required monitoring that was missed:

- Sodium - 1 required sample during the 3-year monitoring period ending June 30, 2025.
- Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) - 3-year monitoring requirement; missed compliance date August 31, 2025.
- Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) - 3-year monitoring requirement; missed compliance date August 31, 2025.

Because the required monitoring was not completed during the applicable monitoring periods, we cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water for these contaminants during those periods.

What should I do?

There is nothing you need to do at this time.

What happened? What is being done?

The required monitoring samples were not collected during the scheduled monitoring periods. Plymouth Water Supply had previously relied on the automatic shipment of the appropriate sampling containers as notification that scheduled testing was due. The automatic shipment had been discontinued, and the water system was unaware of this change until notification of the monitoring violations was received from the Iowa Department of Natural Resources.

After notification, the appropriate sampling materials were obtained. A replacement sodium sample was collected and submitted for analysis. Plymouth Water Supply has also taken steps to track future required sampling dates independently of automatic container shipments and will complete required monitoring in accordance with its sampling schedule.

For more information, please contact: Wade Eastman, Public Works Director, at 641-430-1679.

Please share this information with all other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly, such as people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses. You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

Plymouth Water Supply - PWSID 1759048

History of the Plymouth School Bell

Rural schools possess a strong connection to the memories Iowans have of their childhood and the communities that shaped them. Iowa was established during the height of the educational reformation and developed public school systems almost immediately upon the state's foundation. Most Iowa settlers were firm in their belief of the importance of education for all citizens.

The town of Plymouth, Iowa originated in 1858 as a stagecoach and mailstop. The first classes were held in a log cabin. The first schoolhouse was built in 1858. The building was eventually replaced with a structure that included a cupola to house the school bell. A large bell with an estimated total weight of 500 to 600 lbs. was procured from Jones & Company out of Troy, New York.

The bell marked the start and end of the day, signaled recess and taught many a Plymouth youth the importance of punctuality. The bell ended its reign with the completion of the new grade school in 1954. It was removed and gathered dust in storage for several years. In the early 1960s, the school custodian, Bernie Gould, was cleaning out storage areas. No one knew what to do with a 600 lb bell. Bob Harman, a member of the school board, agreed to take the bell and transported it to his farm east of Plymouth.

Bob and Dorothy Harman safeguarded the bell for the next fifty plus years. It made an appearance on a float for the Plymouth Centennial and an occasional local celebration. The children and grandchildren loved to ring the bell and plug their ears when the loud, clear tone would sound. Bob died in 2016 and Dorothy in 2021. The century farmstead was to be sold. The decision to return the bell to the town of Plymouth was made. Before it could be safely displayed, an old, repaired crack in the cast iron frame needed to be repaired. Neighbor Duane Christiansen carefully transported the bell to Kruger Welding in Grafton, Iowa. Tom Kruger, metal artisan, designed and crafted the new yoke for the bell.

During the 1870s, Jones & Company was one of the premier bell makers in the United States, supplying massive tower bells to churches, courthouses, and newly established "Union" public school buildings across North America. The 1876 model was called "The Centennial Bell" and a surge of orders came in as the country showed their patriotism. Unlike cheap, dark grey cast-iron farm/ dinner bells of the era, Jones & Company used high-grade bell metal bronze (a highly resonant alloy of copper and tin) which develops a distinctive greenish-brown patina over time. The raised lettering cast directly into the bronze bell reads:

THE JONES & COMPANY, TROY BELL FOUNDRY, TROY N.Y., 1876.

Once again, the beautiful ring of the Plymouth School Bell will sound throughout the community. It is hoped it can be used for celebrations and reunions giving all a chance to reminisce about their childhood school days and be grateful for their education - something that can never be taken away.

-Submitted by Julie Kuntz, Daughter of Bob and Dorothy Harman

HAVE A GREAT FALL