

What Plympton Means to Me

by Olivia Cifrino

Growing up in Plympton I never questioned whether it was any different from other towns. I assumed every town was filled with people who knew each other, helped each other whenever they could and were bursting with town pride, but as I got older I started to see how idyllic Plympton really is.

When my mother first brought me home from the hospital she was greeted by baked goods and casseroles left by anonymous neighbors. When my grandfather was sick my family and I received calls every day from concerned Plymptonians. When I won an award at school I received accolades from all over town. Some people might dismiss this as nosiness. Those people have never been a part of a community. To be a part of a community is to never be in need, never be left unnoticed, and to never be unacknowledged for your achievements.

Plympton can not only be defined as a community, but also can also be defined as a busy town. It seems like we are either planning a new event or recovering from the last. When I was younger I never wanted to miss an event for fear I would miss something big. I have to admit nothing “big” ever did happen, however I never regretted going to a town event. I entered a pumpkin every year in the harvest fair pumpkin contest, attended every holiday craft fair, participated in library events, and watched every Memorial Day parade.

I have never seen more pride than I do every year at the Memorial Day parade. Considering the fact it is about ten minutes in length and has been lacking a band for the last five years, this is pretty impressive. The Girl Scouts wave the Plympton flag; the

police and firemen drive by slowly, sirens blaring; the Boy Scouts throw candy to a cheering crowd and the Selectmen and town officials march proudly.

Some may argue living in such a place leaves a person unprepared for the real world. I think growing up in Plympton has prepared me just as well as, if not better than, any other town could. From my experiences here I've learned to be compassionate towards others, to help out whenever I can and be proud of where I came from. These lessons are gifts that I will bring with me and apply to whatever I decide to do with my life.