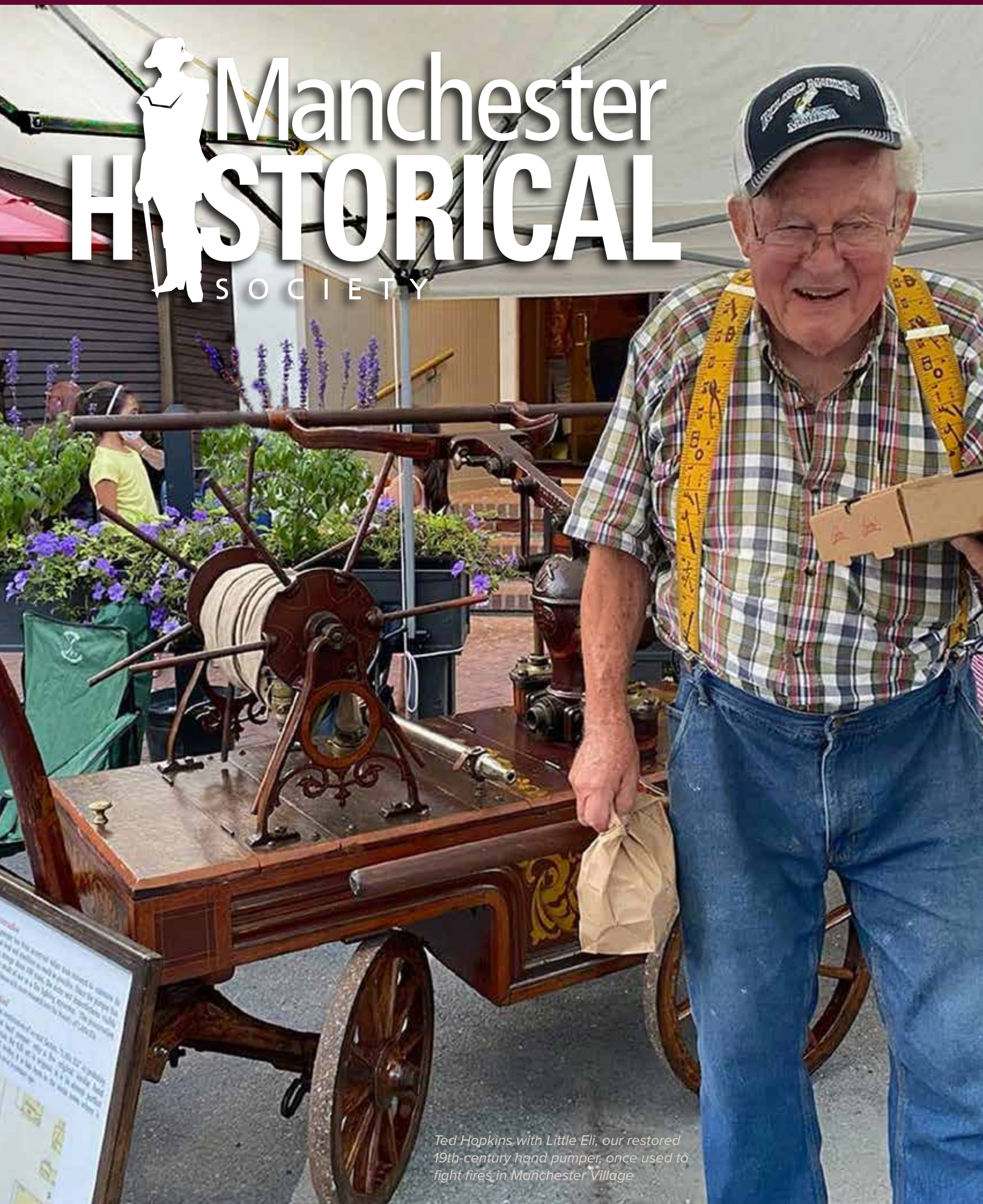




Manchester HISTORICAL SOCIETY



Ted Hopkins with Little Eli, our restored 19th-century hand pumper, once used to fight fires in Manchester Village

TOGETHER,
we are honoring
the history of
Manchester



THANKS TO YOUR GENEROSITY

Last year MHS kept up the pace of collecting, preserving, and educating despite the challenges from the ongoing pandemic.

The **COLLECTION** received 26 new items of historic interest this past year and we continue to receive gifts from near and far. We are so grateful to all those who have entrusted their family treasures to us. In addition to receiving items for the collection, we continued to gather evidence of how Covid-19 has been affecting our community.

Your support made it possible for us to accept the interesting historic items that come to us and to grow the collection in a careful and considered manner.



PRESERVATION is an ongoing task and even during the pandemic we were able to keep the process going. Thanks to our dedicated and masked “Friday Irregulars” — Helen Gawlik, Flo Ewasko, and Mike diMonda — we continue to make good progress cataloguing the collection into PastPerfect, a software program used by museums and archives all over the country. Our goal is to have our catalogue available online in the near future. Every item added to the collection must be preserved in archival-quality boxes and envelopes to ensure its survival.

Our responsibility for preserving all the items in our collection is a sacred trust, and thanks to your support, we have been able to make sure every item has a safe and secure home.



Many of our new items are now being stored at Rocking Stone Cottage.

Our new and revised walking tour of Manchester Center is available to download on our website under Publications. A new edition of the Manchester Village walking tour is currently in production.



COMMUNICATION is an important part of our mission. Our Instagram and Facebook pages continue to attract the attention of people all over the world. We are excited about the growth in the number of our followers because that means we are connecting in an entertaining way with lovers of local history, regardless of where they live.

Through our printed newsletters and e-news we bring our readers an ongoing report on what we are up to and news of the latest acquisitions.



We are preserving the 'genealogy' of the town and the remarkable people who brought Manchester to life. It's living an adventure 'to be continued' for the future. I really enjoy my small part in the activity.

- FLO EWASKO, VOLUNTEER AND PASTPERFECT WRANGLER

Your gifts made it possible to use many different avenues to share the history of Manchester.

We love sharing what we learn with the community through in-person **PROGRAMS**. But the pandemic restrictions against gathering meant we had to find other avenues to showcase our stories, we were thrilled to partner with several local nonprofits to bring you some amazing programs this past year.

The collaboration between the Manchester Historical Society, the Dellwood Cemetery Association, and The Dorset Players brought to life a living glimpse into the lives of just a few people of Manchester who created the fabric of how Manchester developed as a town... I was privileged to be a part of this event for the third time to enlist and costume The Players.

– SUZI DORGELOH
THE DORSET PLAYERS



The Dorset Players and Dellwood Cemetery once again partnered with us to put on “Dellwood Comes Alive,” our incredibly popular theatrical presentation featuring some of Manchester’s most interesting (past) people telling the story of their lives. Our thanks to everyone who participated.

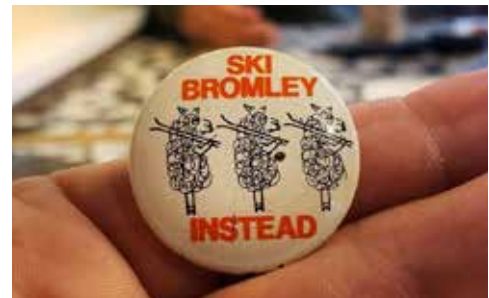


Our collaboration with Green Mountain Academy for Lifelong Learning has given us a chance to share programs with an even wider and more diverse crowd. While Zoom can be clunky, and can't replace in-person events, it does allow participation for almost anyone, anywhere. It has been great, and we look forward to more programs next year.

– BILL BADGER, MHS BOARD MEMBER AND VIRTUAL PRESENTER

We are incredibly grateful to every supporter who let us know they value what we are doing and want to be a partner in our work.

You let us know you enjoyed the videos Curator Shawn Harrington did with GNAT-TV. His Time Stamp programs were among the most watched videos on their website and on our E-newsletters. There are lots more planned for the future! Virtual walking tours of Manchester Center and Manchester Village drew a substantial audience for Green Mountain Academy for Lifelong Learning and we were delighted to collaborate with them.





2020-2021 ANNUAL GIVING CAMPAIGN

The Manchester Historical Society is very grateful to all our supporters who helped us exceed our Annual Giving goal in our last fiscal year. Thanks to you, our loyal and generous supporters, we raised \$85,552.

In April 2020 MHS applied for and was awarded \$6,300 from the federal government's Small Business Association Payroll Protection Loans for Businesses and Nonprofit Organizations program. When the second loans were made available in February 2021, we applied again and were awarded \$5,280. Both loans have been forgiven. The two loans totaling \$11,580 went to support our payroll costs.

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FIVE YEAR + SUPPORTERS

We are especially grateful to the following donors who have supported MHS for five or more years. Thank you for your loyalty to MHS!

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Susanne Washburn
Constance West
Margot S. Wright

COMMUNITY PARTNERS AND IN-KIND DONORS

Our thanks to the following for their generous collaboration and support:

Manchester Community Library
Dorset Players
Dellwood Cemetery
GNAT-TV
Green Mountain Academy for
Lifelong Learning
Irene Cole Design
Ted Hopkins and Son
Eric Severance

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Duncan Ogden
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Mike Powers
Timothy Stevenson
Frederic Taylor

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy and completeness of our annual report. Errors do happen, however, so do let us know if there are any mistakes or omissions by calling us at 802.549.5482 or by email: info@manchesterhistoricalsocietyvt.org.

In Memoriam

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The mission of the Manchester Historical Society is to collect, preserve, interpret and present the story of Manchester through the research collection, exhibitions, programs, and publications.

Louise Hughes Farbmacher

1939-2021

MHS lost a wonderful friend and volunteer this year. Louise was a cherished colleague and volunteer for the last several years. She was an expert at reading 19th-century handwriting and saved many of our manuscripts from obscurity as she patiently transferred their words into digital files for us. Her contribution to our preservation work was deeply appreciated and we will miss her.

Elisabeth Bartlett Sturges

1941-2021

Libby Sturges is remembered by her many friends in Manchester and Dorset as a spirited and civic-minded woman who had a wonderful sense of humor and gave generously to many area nonprofits. A resident of Dorset and Rupert for many years, Libby was active in numerous civic organizations, including the Dorset Historical Society, where she served as president, and was a contributor to the town history, *Dorset: in the Shadow of the Marble Mountain*. She was also a generous supporter of the Manchester Historical Society as well as of the Dorset Library, Burr and Burton Academy, and Long Trail School. Libby lived the last 20 years of her life in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, where she continued to volunteer for historical and social justice organizations. MHS very much appreciated her generosity and friendship.

Thank you to our 2020-2021 CORPORATE SPONSORS for their interest in Manchester's history and their generous support.

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