

Glocester Heritage Society Spring and Summer Update 2022

At our monthly meeting in March with COVID restrictions easing, we needed to start planning some events and be more active in the community. First plan was to open the Job Armstrong Store to the public from April through July on Saturdays from 12 to 3PM. Just having the front door open allowed the visiting public to come in, look around, find out some history or just browse.

As of the writing, a project funded with a Champlin Foundation Grant is almost finished. This project was the vision of Master Gardener and GHS member Karen Lambe. It consists of a walkway with fencing and arbor leading to the URI Master Gardeners 1800's era Kitchen Garden in the rear of the Store. The garden has become a very popular spot with our visitors to the Store. If they are lucky, some Saturdays they find the Master Gardeners hard at work.

Vice President and Historic Cemetery Chairman Bill Brown is there most Saturdays to let visitors know of the progress this committee has made in the cleaning and maintenance of the historic cemeteries located in Glocester. Town Historian Edna Kent, who as we know is a wealth of information, is available to answer questions from the colonial history of Glocester to the colorful story of Betty the Elephant.

Speaking of Betty, tours were held on May 21st from our One Room Schoolhouse to the Bridge explaining to our visitors the sad story and demise of Betty the Learned Elephant. The tour ended at the JAS where we surprised our guests with a six foot tall stuffed elephant donated by Betty Mathieu.

Thank you to Frank Pfeiffer and Pam Waterman for arranging for a Memorial Brick Pathway to be installed at the Reuben Mason House. More information on how to purchase a memorial brick will be available in September

On June 11th, at the Reuben Mason House tours were given by Edna Kent with President Marie Sweet and Nancy Greene helping and Master Garden Val Begin giving visitors a tour of the Medicinal Gardens. Also, at the RMH, a successful yard sale was held on June 25th, that raised over \$700.00 for the Heritage Society.

In August, the JAS will be open on August 13th from 12 to 3PM. A yard sale and tours will be held on September 3rd at the RMH and another yard sale at the JAS on September 17th with a Master Gardeners Plant Sale at JAS on September 24th.

In September, check the Observer and Foster Home Journal for more information on our events to include a Ham and Bean Supper with the Chepachet Grange, Scarecrow entry, Cemetery tour and more