



Dear Members and Supporters,

Since 2006 the people of North Brookfield and the Friends of the Town House have had a dream: Save the historic Town House. Bring it up to code so that everyone can enter and use it. Make it a vibrant “Center of Everything,” once again welcoming people as they gather for programs and performances, proms and graduations, and perhaps, even a bite to eat.

During the past year the Friends have come closer than ever to realizing that dream. Since June is the time for renewal, it is a perfect time to reflect on what we have accomplished this past year and set our sights on the way forward:

- While partnering with area businesses and community organizations, the Friends held the following events to raise funds and promote public awareness: Arts in the Park, Know Your School Night, the Fall Family Fun Fest, the Bemis Holiday Fundraiser Workshop, and the May Festival, for which the Friends acquired a \$1,500 MCC Festival grant.
- UpCycle!, our first ROAR program, was a hit with area residents.
- “Giving Tuesday” and Year End Appeals netted over \$6,000 for Town House restoration.
- Working with SBL, a non-profit consultant, we received over \$22,000 from foundations.
- After a request by the Friends for State aid, Rep. Donnie Berthiaume secured \$50,000 in ARPA funds for North Brookfield to use for restoration of the Town House.
- And, just in, word that the Friends have received a grant of \$35,000 from the Mass Cultural Council. With it we can match any donation made to the Friends of the Town House up to a max of \$35,000.

As we move forward into a new membership year, we encourage you to look in the newspapers and on our social media for announcements of the following:

- Fall ROAR Programs
- A Friends YouTube Channel highlighting area artists
- Our new “Building Community” Friends T-shirt
- A Very Special Friends Annual Meeting
- The Friends Octoberfest at Common Grounds

Please support us with your membership and remember our Matching Grant opportunity that doubles your donation. All our success has only scratched the surface in our efforts to raise the funds to make our dream come true.

Sincerely,

Jim Buzzell, President

