



The front window of Emons Store in Potter Place displays a few of the items that will be offered for sale at an outdoor table on two Saturdays in June, weather permitting; dates to be announced. Photo: Larry Chase

Old Time Fair is Cancelled; Potter Place Station, Emons Store Closed

Historical Society is working on alternatives

Larry Chase

Andover Historical Society

Owing to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Andover Historical Society's board of directors has canceled its annual Old Time Fair, originally slated for Sunday, August 2, in Potter Place. A decision to close the Potter Place railroad station, Emons General Store, and Gordon-Lull House was made last month.

However, there are alternative plans in the works. A large map of Potter Place showing the Historical Society's holdings along with their histories will be mounted beside the entrance to the Emons Store, and new displays in the Emons Store windows and the railroad station will be offered.

The station display – viewable from outside the building – will include a working HO-gauge model train in the station's back room.

In East Andover, the Tucker Mountain Schoolhouse on Tucker Mountain Road will be closed for the season, but a virtual tour may be viewed at AndoverHistory.org/tucker-mountain-schoolhouse/.

In addition, the Society's 2021 fund-raising calendar, entitled "The Historical Homes of Andover," will be available for purchase later in June. And the Secret Garden – originally the stone foundation of Richard and Sally Potter's home site near the railroad station – will be available for rest and contemplation. For dining, the nearby picnic area's ta-

bles are accessed by a new gravel walkway and surrounded by new plantings.

Weather permitting, on two Saturdays in June there will be tables outside the Gordon-Lull House with the Society's store items and other collectibles for sale, including raffle tickets. Cash, checks, or PayPal via the buyer's phone are accepted.

Items for sale are also available by calling Gail Richards at 498-6439 for delivery in Andover or for pickup outside the Emons Store. All will be accomplished with masks, gloves, and physical distancing. See the ad on page 13 in this issue of the *Beacon* for sales items.

Also, in support of the Society's annual fund-raising efforts, raffle tickets are available by calling Gail at the above number, or by e-mailing Pam Cooper at Treasurer@AndoverHistory.org. Ten dollars for two tickets is the minimum purchase. Please include name, phone number, address and/or e-mail. Payment may be made by mailing a check to the Andover Historical Society, PO Box 167, Andover NH 03216 or online by PayPal at AndoverHistory.org.

And a message from Gail Richards: "All of the Society's work is accomplished by the trustees, members, and other volunteers who have been innovative in rethinking our outreach activities during the coronavirus outbreak in New Hampshire. Many, many thanks to every one of you who have worked to keep our Historical Society viable, and our holdings visible, in this difficult time." 



The historic 1923 red caboose owned by the Andover Historical Society is scheduled for a "roof-lift" this summer, thanks to a grant of \$5,000 from the non-profit Massachusetts Bay Railroad Enthusiasts. Here, local builder Doug Bent of Bentwood Construction (center) discusses work details with volunteers (l-r) Bob Norander, Tim Norris, and Fred Nystrom. The restoration, expected to cost about \$10,000, will be the object of continuing Historical fund-raising.

Meanwhile, the Society received an additional \$5,000 grant in May, this time from the New Hampshire Humanities, as part of the National Endowment for the Humanities supplemental funding to assist cultural institutions affected by COVID-19. This grant will be used to help cover general operating expenses. Caption and photo: Larry Chase

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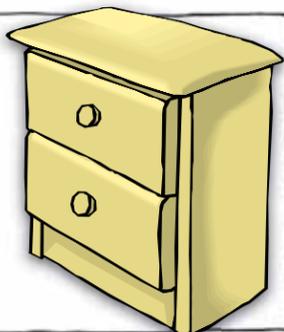
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