

From the Executive Director

Dear Cumberland County Historical Society Friends,

We hope this finds everyone safe, secure, and healthy at home. These are unprecedented times and we are all trying our best to help others as well as help ourselves. While we, the staff, here at the Cumberland County Historical Society miss our regular contact with all of you while we are closed, we know the critical importance of staying at home both for you and for our staff.

We will remain closed until the stay at home restrictions are lifted, but that does not mean that there aren't ways you can still access us online. We are doing our best to provide resources that can help you connect to local history in a meaningful manner during your hours at home. I encourage you to check out our Facebook page with daily postings that you might find useful. We encourage you to visit our Discover History at Home page on our website - www.historicalsociety.com - that highlights activities and resources you can enjoy at home.

We also encourage you to participate in our "Archiving History as it Happens" digital project. We're asking residents to share stories and photos of life during Covid-19 for a virtual story map. Please send a photo or video and a short description to lvarner@historicalsociety.com. We will update the project as submissions arrive so be sure to visit our Facebook page and the project's page to view new stories - [Cumberland County during Covid-19: Archiving History as it Happens](#).

Finally, staff are daily posting new activities and stories from community members, so "Like" us on Facebook for the latest updates.

Currently, many of our staff who are able are working from home. Only three employees may enter the main building at 21 North Pitt Street, and for only the most immediate of needs. These staff are taking all recommended precautions when in the building and are not in the building at the same time.

We also want to let you know that we are committed to our employees. While we are closed, our employees are being paid for at least the initial eight weeks of the closure. This is possible because of the Payroll Protection Program enacted by the federal government. We are doing our part to ensure that they are financially secure the best way that we can.

I want to thank you, our community, for the support and concern you have shown for CCHS over the last couple of weeks. Rest assured that we are doing everything we can to be safe, stay calm, and continue to provide as many resources as we can. We appreciate your commitment to the Cumberland County Historical Society. We know we are able to make our way through these difficult times.

With great care and respect,



Jason Illari