

annual report

WHAT'S INSIDE

the team

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PRESENTED MAY 19, 2021



2020

The HCOC acknowledges that it is located on land the Dakota called home until being ceded in a treaty 170 years ago. It was then, and remains today, a place of significance for the Dakota.

the team



OUR VISION

To become a gathering place for the broader community that inspires and encourages the exploration of history.



OUR MISSION

Give people of all ages and backgrounds access and opportunity to learn about the past through interpretive programs and exhibits, research, publications and events.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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 - **VICE PRESIDENT**
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- Doug Boese
- Ken Brown
- Andrew Coenen
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- Kirk Schumacher
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- Abby Currier
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 - **ARCHIVIST**
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 - **CURATOR**
- Kevin Whaley
 - **COLLECTIONS MANAGER**
- Barb Whipple
 - **ACCOUNTANT**

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- Nate DeBoer
- Jane Douglas
- Tiffany Durham
- Debbie Fueher
- Patrick Gannaway
- Rebecca Gannaway
- Erik Goodmanson
- Marcia Goodmanson
- Coralee Grebe
- Jean Gutschenritter
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- Gordon Haubenschild
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- Julie Murray
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- Curt Shellum
- Jerry Swanson
- Tom Weber
- Jean & Mark Williams
- Linda & Chuck Willihnganz

4,966 HOURS = 2.4 FTE



MEMBERS

Civil War Roundtable	De Bus, Robert	Keith, Lorraine & Robert
Lloyd Fritswold & Carol Willett	Dean, Patrick	Kennel, Lois
Robert Suk Law Office	Denn, Daniel	Kiscaden, Sheila
Rochester Tool & Die, Inc.	Didier, Lynn	Knaak, Dana & Prudy
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Adamson, William	Dison, Lauren	Korsmo, Jeff
Albrecht, Larry	Distel/Uthke, David & Lorraine	Lamb, Kathleen
Allan, Pamela	Dittrich, Steven & Andrea	Laplante, Michael
Allis, Carol	Dockerty, John	Larson, Janet
Allsen, Ken	Doocy, Susan	Larson, Marsha
Amadio, Peter & Bari	Dunn, David	Laudon, Dennis & Laura
Anderson, Neil	Dunn, David J & Sonja	Lee, Betty
Andringa, Eric	Elshoff, Hanna	Leimer, Tom
Atkinson, Alice	Erickson, Timothy & Ellen	Liebenow, Michael
Bahn, Lucy	Evans, Titus	Loy, Becky
Bailey, Janet	Fritz, Dorothea	Lundstrom, Carl
Baron, Patricia	Fritzwold, Lloye & Carol	Madsen, Beverly
Bauman, Dorothy	Gallanis, Elizabeth	Marden, Rachel
Bear, Melissa	Gamble, Gail L.	Markus, Bill & Doreen
Beaupre, Lora & Bill	Gannaway, Wayne	McConahey, Peter
Beery, Robert	Gifford, Larry	McGoon, Bonnie
Bergner, Nancy	Gill, Sam	McMullin, Kathleen & James
Berreth, Marjory	Gilliland, Nancy	Mensing, Candace
Bilodeau, Katharine	Goodmanson, Marcia	Menzel, Peggy
Bird, Charlie	Graham, Charles	Milburn, Barbara
Boese, Douglas	Grever, Donna	Miller, Leslie
Borillo, April	Gustafson, Jeff	Moe, Louise
Branum, Martha	Hagler, Judy	Morem, Marilyn
Briggs, Maura	Hamre, Eileen	Nelson, Rob
Brimijoin, Maggie	Hansen, Susan & Steven	Neumann, Iris
Brinkman, Thomas	Hanson, Don	Nichols, Anne
Brown, Ned	Hanson, Jan	Nienow, Beth
Brubaker, Nancy	Harrison, Shaun	Nietz, Michelle
Cain, Don	Hedger, Nancy	Ohnstad, Gene and Marlys
Carlson, Daniel	Hewitson, Rebecca	Olsen, Wayne
Carlson, Patricia	Hilgendorf, Lee & Kay	Onnen, Dolores
Caucutt, Amy	Holtan, Breanna	Ostrom, Thomas
Chai, Sophia	Hugdane, Devon	Parisi, Christine
Clement-Brown, Jeff & Kate	Hunder, Ingeborg	Parsons, E. Dudley
Coenen, Andrew	Husen, Herman	Peterson, David
Cook, Kathryn & Brian	Iverson, Orillie	Peterson, Ham
Costu-Tappon, Karen	Jenkins, Ardis & Robert	Pisillo, Tom
Couvrette, Paul & Dorothy	Jewison, Mary	Plaetzer, Beth
Johnson	Johnson, Sandra	Plitzuweit, Irvin & Maureen
Craigo, Paula	Jones, Dorothy	Pluth, Deb
Dahl, Gayle	Jost, Ann	Porter, Katherine

MEMBERS CONTINUED

Postier, Joe	Schultze, E. Christine	Thoreson, Jonathan
Price, Stephani	Schulz, Danielle	Till, Mary
Purrington, Brian & Anne	Schumacher, Kirk	Tlougan, Brian & Peg
Reckinger, Nanette	Schutz, Larry & JoAnn	Vandersnick, Sarah
Redman, Nancy	Scott, Sarah & Benjamin	Vankirk, Monica
Remington, Roz	Seegmiller, Rosie	Vanlaningham, Ella & Glenn
Rench, Dianne	Sexton, Marcia	Vinje, Karen
Richardson, Ron	Shanks, Diane	Virnig, Barbara
Ristow, Kay	Shrager, Charlene	Wagner, Steven & Pam
Ritman, Erik & Elizabeth	Smithson, Judy	Weissberg, Elizabeth
Rother, John	Sommer, Dennis	Wentzel, Virginia
Rothwell, Walter	Sprenger, Linda	Wheeler, Sue & Philip
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Sauter, Susan	Suk, Jim	Winter, Merlyn & Twila
Scanlon, Paul	Sullivan-Burton, Elizabeth	Witter, Lanny
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Schafer, Alan & Julie	Swenson, Gary	Wright, Scott & Betty
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Schmidt, Dixie	Szuberski, Brenda	Yunginger, Jane
Schmitt, Steven	Teigen, Bruce	Zabel, Linda
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Schroeder, Susan	Thompson, Romaine	

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Bahn, Lucy	Caucutt, Amy	Gregg, Leon
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Beaupre, Lora & Bill	Colby, Chris	Hagler, Judy
Berreth, Marjory	Craig, Paula	Hansen, Susan & Steven
Bird, Charlie	Dahl, Kathy	Hilgendorf, Lee & Kay
Bisel/Williams, Jane & Stevenson	Didier, Lynn	Hoffman, Alan & Judy
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Brimijoin, Maggie	Dittrich, Steven & Andrea	Holtan, Breanna
Brinkman, Thomas	Downes, Jerome	Husen, Herman
	Evans, Titus	Huyber, Steven & Cynthia

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 Koka, Karen
 Lawrence, Sherry & Thomas
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 Liebenow, Michael
 Lommen, Susan
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 McDonald, Carolyn
 McMullin, Kathleen & James
 Menzel, Peggy

Moe, Louise
 Molloy, Kevin & Cinta
 Neumann, Nancy
 Neumann, Iris
 Nigon, Bernard & Julie
 Norton, Kim
 Ohnstad, Gene and Marlys
 Olsen, Wayne
 Ostrom, Thomas
 Penz, Dan
 Petersen, Karen
 Peterson, Ham
 Peterson, Kristi
 Plaetzer, Beth
 Plitzuweit, Irvin & Maureen
 Purrington, Brian & Anne
 Ritman, Erik & Elizabeth
 Rule, Christine & Andrew
 Schaar, Gloria
 Schafer, Alan & Julie
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Schmitt, Steven
 Schroeder, Susan
 Schumacher, Kirk
 Schumacher, Curt
 Sloan, James & Judy
 Smithson, Judy
 Suk, Jim
 Sullivan-Burton, Elizabeth
 Till, Mary
 Van Vugt, Ruth
 Vankirk, Monica
 Vinje, Karen
 Weber, Thomas
 Weinschenk, Russ & Janice
 Wheeler, Sue & Philip
 Williams, Dr. Mark & Jean
 Willihnganz, Linda
 Winter, Merlyn & Twila
 Wright, Scott & Betty
 Zimmerman, Jeri

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Knutson Construction
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HISTORY MYSTERY DONORS

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 Beaupre, Lora & Bill
 Boese, Douglas

Borcherding, Donald & Pat
 Brubaker, Nancy
 Burbank, Marilyn & Mahlon
 Cain, Don
 Caucutt, Amy
 Chojna, Dorothy
 Chojna, Diana
 Coenen, Andrew
 Craigo, Paula
 De Bus, Robert

Evans, Titus
 Feeser, Pat & Hollis
 Funk, Molli
 Gannaway, Wayne
 Gilliland, Laura
 Hagler, Judy
 Hamre, Eileen
 Haubenschild, Gordon
 Hilgendorf, Lee & Kay
 Jenkins, Ardis & Robert

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Jones, Dorothy
Jost, Ann
Joyce, Margaret
Koeller, Paul
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Kreps-Flick, Loree
McDonald, Carolyn
McHardy, Mary Jane
McMullin, Kathleen & James
Menzel, Peggy
Moe, Louise
Molloy, Kevin & Cinta

Mueller, Kenneth
Neumann, Harold & Janice
Neumann, Nancy
Nigon, Bernard & Julie
Peterson, David
Redman, Nancy
Rule, Christine & Andrew
Samson, Mark
Scanlon, Paul
Schlichting, Evelyn
Schmitt, Tim & Renee
Schumacher, Curt

Schumacher, Kirk
Smithson, Judy
Stancl, Joe
Thompson, Romaine
Wanless, Dennis
Wentzel, Virginia
Whipple, Barb
Williams, Aileen
Willihnganz, Linda
Witter, Lanny
Ziemer, Renee

GOVERNMENT STAKEHOLDERS

Olmsted County Board of Commissioners
Rochester City Council



2020 has been a special year, and we could not have made it through without all of your support.

THANK YOU!

the year

A MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT, CHRISTINE RULE



Leading up to March 2020, the Board and Staff spent significant time improving HCOC's operations and underlying structures, and expectations were set for 2020 to be a pivotal year for the History Center. It most certainly was. The work completed in the months prior to the arrival of COVID-19 in Olmsted County simplified our ability to do scenario planning, monitor monthly cashflow, and shift our focus to areas that prioritized staff and patron safety while still moving the strategic plan forward.

The repeated museum closures and loss of the entire 2020 Mayowood tour season had significant impacts on 2020 revenue. Staff did an impressive job reducing expenses and locating new sources of revenue. Their efforts combined with obtaining our first PPP loan of \$79,300, now forgiven, turned March's projected annual loss of 100,000 into a year-end gain of \$51,979. A considerable achievement! With Mayowood tours still closed, government funding capabilities unclear, and the impact of the pandemic on the economy (non profit sector giving in particular), the HCOC Board is approaching 2021 with similar watchfulness and scenario planning.

2020 was a "tough row to hoe" as they say. But the challenges also provided unexpected opportunities. Mandatory closures allowed staff additional time to spend on writing grants, researching for exhibits, and cataloguing artifacts. The efforts of our committees, staff, and volunteers resulted in new partnerships and collaborations that expanded our visibility with downtown Rochester exhibits and drive-in movies here at the museum. Preservation work continued, most notably with the new Dee Cabin roof and preparations for the Stoppel Farmstead restoration. Digital savviness, our greatest weakness, turned into a strength through new branding, a new website, social media, and virtual programs reaching people nationwide. Local and national public history debates, and our own efforts to collect and preserve artifacts and stories of local businesses and COVID-19 experiences, reinforced our passion for the importance of historic preservation and education.



Thank you members, volunteers, board, staff, and community partners for your support, diligence, patience, and passion for HCOC in 2020. We appreciate you more than can be said and can't wait to see you at the museum!



in review

A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, WAYNE GANNAWAY



In this age of start-ups, micro-enterprises, and here-today-gone-tomorrow side-hustles, I am often struck by one fact about the History Center: It has been a membership organization for nearly 100 years! The Olmsted County Historical Society founders held their first meeting on January 25, 1926. Major disruptive events not a decade past would have been fresh in their memories. World War One. The 1918 influenza epidemic. A huge expansion of voting rights through the 19th Amendment. That founding generation was born of profound change—migration. Burt Eaton, one of our founders, migrated to Minnesota along with thousands of other Yankees and European immigrants, building lives, businesses, and civic institutions. Awareness of one's history offers the opportunity of taking perspective when facing change. We've had our share in 2020: disruption due to the COVID-19 pandemic, police accountability protests, and a polarized national election, just to a name few. History, be it from our families, commercial life, or community, can provide us both refuge and grit. It's the latter—with historical perspective—that builds resilience, allowing us to not only cope with change, but to master it.

As a public history organization, we have the somewhat paradoxical mission of preserving the past while adapting to change and preparing for the future. In the past year we took on projects we never would have contemplated if not for the pandemic. A virtual cocktail party, a socially distanced hootenanny, and online history talks. But we will not forget about our commitments to preservation, namely, the largest historical object we own: The George Stoppel Farmstead. Looking ahead, you are going to see many ways to experience, explore, and support this unique historic site.

2020 was quite a year but, whatever the future holds, we will continue to find ways to keep HCOC and our county history relevant well beyond our 100th anniversary.



department

EVENTS & PROGRAMS

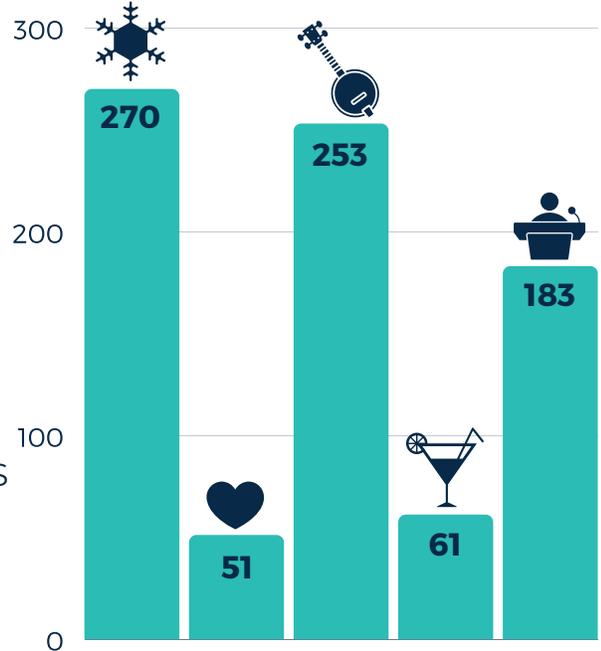
2020 was supposed to be a busy year for the events department, but, like everything else, it came to a screeching halt in March. We got in a few regular programs, like Princess Café, but most we had to cancel. Thankfully, not all was lost. We hosted a successful socially distanced Hootenanny in September followed by our first ever virtual event in October - the Creepy Doll Cocktail Party!

See how we did!



EVENT & PROGRAM ATTENDANCE

-  WINTERFEST
-  DEAREST ANNA
-  HOOTENANNY
-  CREEPY DOLL COCKTAIL PARTY
-  OTHER PROGRAMS



COLLECTIONS

A global pandemic may have put some obstacles in our path, but the collections departments never stopped working. With more time on their hands, people continued to donate artifacts and submit research requests. With the help of our 19 volunteers and interns, we made the most of an unusual year.

See how we did!



RESEARCH



220
VISITORS  = 10 visitors



84
REQUESTS  = 10 requests

DONATIONS

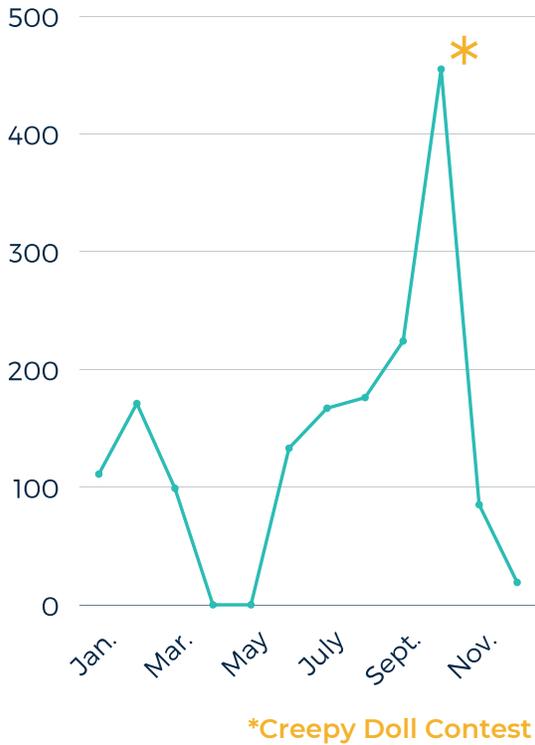


100
DONORS
2,000+
ARTIFACTS

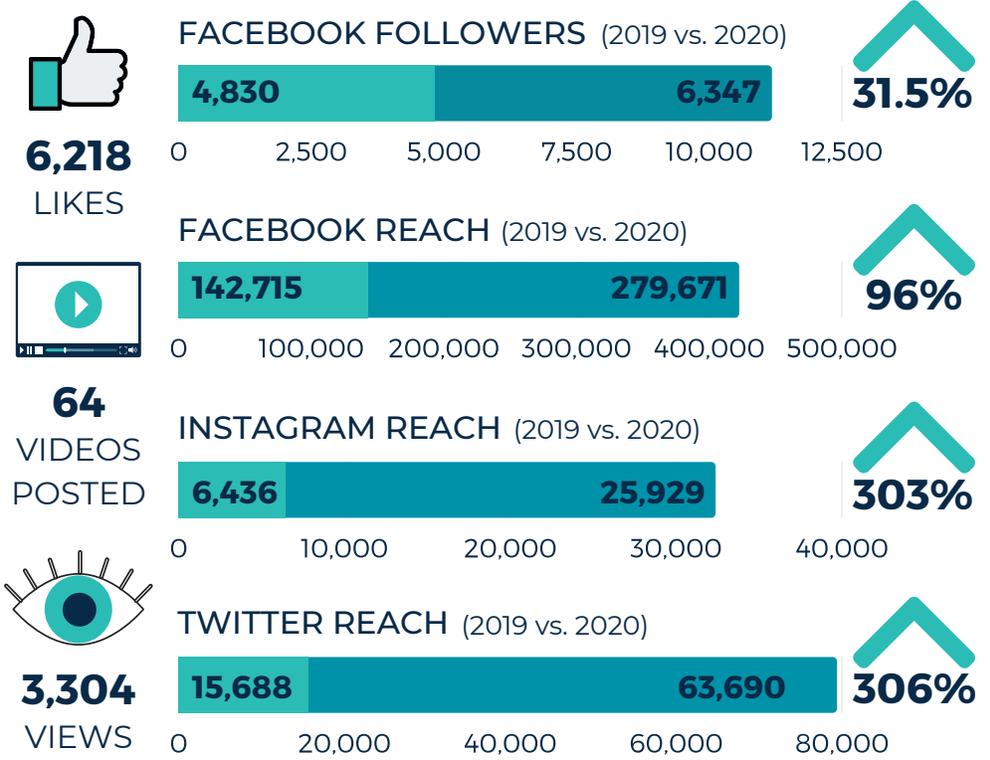
 = 10 donors

reports

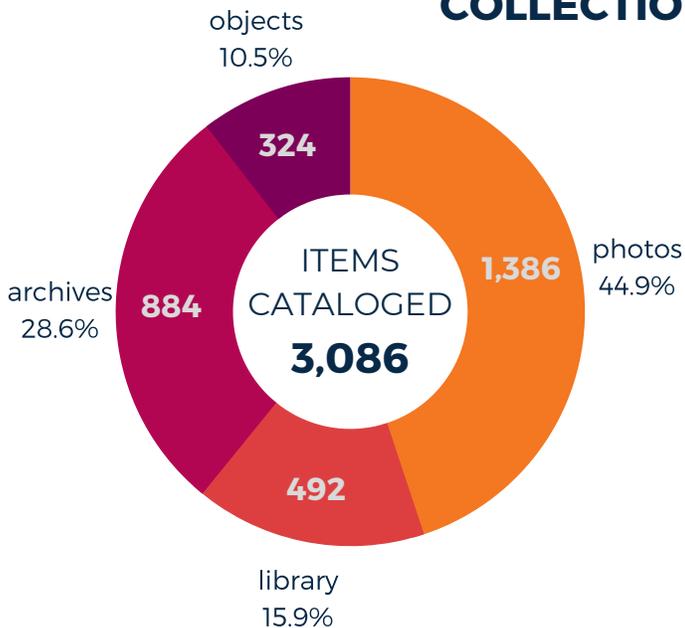
MUSEUM ATTENDANCE



SOCIAL MEDIA



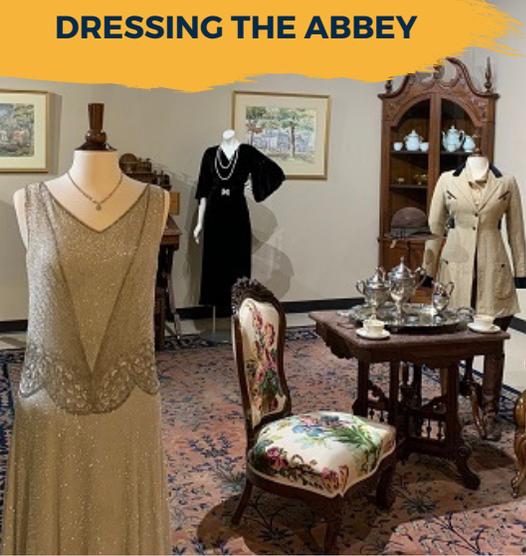
COLLECTIONS PROCESSING



history



ROCHESTER STATE HOSPITAL



DRESSING THE ABBEY



THE ONWARD MARCH OF SUFFRAGE



CREEPY DOLLS



ALL THIS COMES OF TEACHING GIRLS TO READ

spotlight

At the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, we asked the community to help us record this historic period by sharing their experiences with us. We heard from the young, the old, business owners, and politicians. We received tragic stories, optimistic outlooks, poems, and even a virtual choir performance.

The following are

Stories from Our Community

The Coronavirus outbreak took me by surprise and I didn't take it seriously at first. The most painful part is the inability to be in contact with my Grandparents. It seems like the world is falling apart. It just goes to show how unprepared we were.

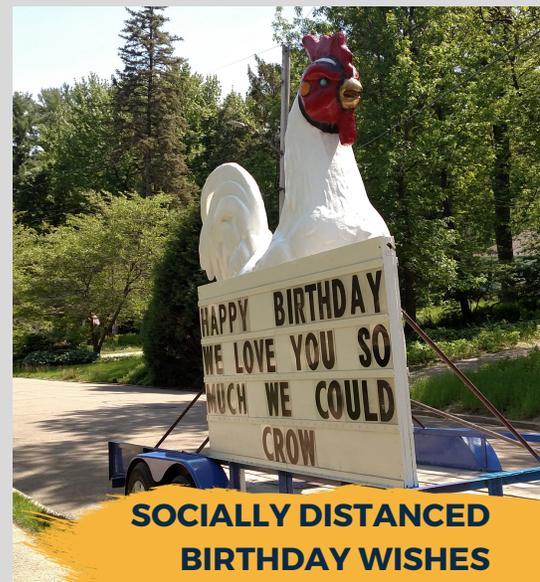
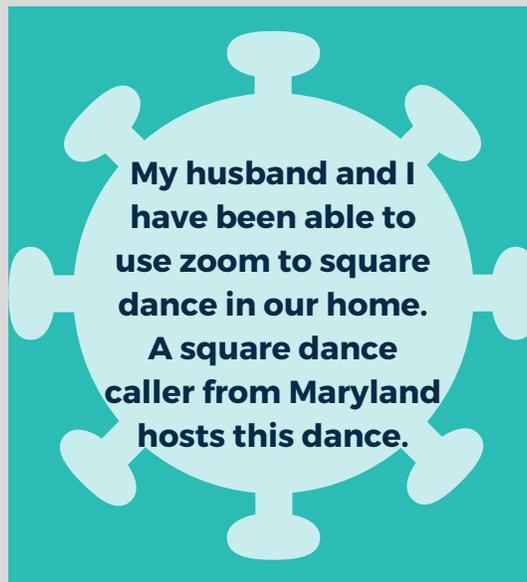


HEALTH PRECAUTIONS

Today is my 48th birthday! We will be celebrating at home by ourselves having take out on the deck for dinner instead of getting together with friends or family and going out to eat. A small sacrifice in the scheme of things.



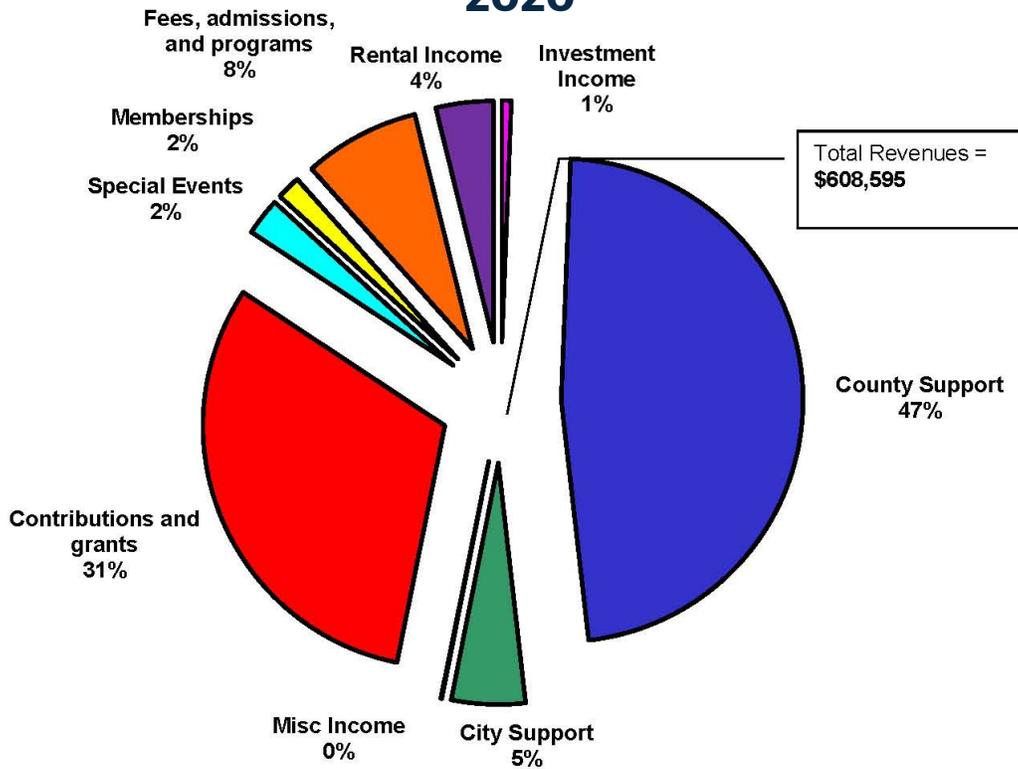
SIGNS OF GRATITUDE



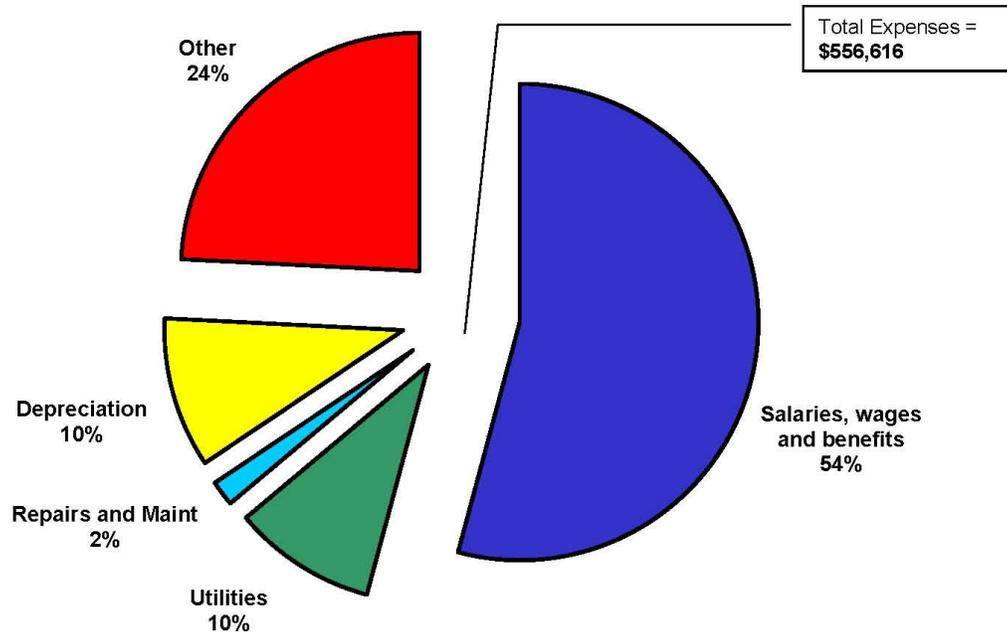
SOCIALLY DISTANCED BIRTHDAY WISHES

financial

SOURCES OF REVENUE 2020



OPERATING EXPENSES 2020



report

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES 2020

	2020	2019	Variance
Revenues			
Olmsted County	\$ 289,515	\$ 289,515	\$ -
City of Rochester	30,000	30,000	-
Contributions and grant income	189,415	176,880	12,535
Special events, net	15,169	6,228	8,941
Memberships	9,770	9,267	503
Fees, admissions, and programs, net	47,216	158,599	(111,383)
Rental income	23,370	22,689	681
Investment income	3,782	2,754	1,028
Miscellaneous income	358	8,485	(8,127)
Total Revenues	608,595	704,417	(95,822)
Expenses			
Salaries, wages, and benefits	301,514	409,220	107,706
Utilities, waste removal and security monitoring	54,042	67,352	13,310
Repairs and maintenance	9,551	14,232	4,681
Supplies, postage, and printing	24,141	30,276	6,135
Collection care	10,247	39,244	28,997
Professional fees	44,093	29,165	(14,928)
Contracted services	10,760	11,295	535
Insurance	17,419	16,209	(1,210)
Advertising	10,311	11,987	1,676
Telephone, internet, computer software and supplies	9,344	14,597	5,253
Exhibits	4,568	3,833	(735)
Travel, dues and conferences	2,655	6,391	3,736
Depreciation	56,775	65,983	9,208
Miscellaneous expense	1,196	3,056	1,860
Total Expenses	556,616	722,840	166,224
Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets	\$ 51,979	\$ (18,423)	\$ 70,402