

Any time while I was a slave, if one minutes' freedom had been offered to me and I had been told that I must die at the end of that minute, I would have taken it just to stand one minute on God's earth as a free woman."

August 21, 2022
Celebrate Elizabeth
"Mum Bett"
Freeman's Life and
Legacy



Honorary Host Committee
Governor Deval Patrick and Diane
Patrick
Dennis Powell
Dr. Frances Jones-Sneed
Gwendolyn VanSant
Paul W. O'Brien
Wray Gunn and Cora Portnoff Gunn
Representative Smitty Pignatelli

Dear Friends,

In 1781, Mum Bett – who later became known as Elizabeth Freeman, successfully sued Colonel John Ashley, representing herself, for her freedom and won her emancipation from slavery to become a free woman on God's Earth right here in Berkshire County.

This daughter of the Berkshires is the first ground-breaking, history maker in the civil rights movement and we want to solidify her place in history. We treasure her life and her important legacy and we want the world to do the same.

You can help us! We need your support to honor her with a statue representing her as a pillar of social justice and peace and to celebrate our nation's diverse history so that we learn from our past to create a more perfect future. We are excited to be working with renowned sculptor Brian Hanlon on this project. Mr. Hanlon was the artistic genius behind the statue of Susan B. Anthony, that was recently dedicated in the Town of Adams.

It is our hope to keep Elizabeth "Mum Bett" Freeman's legacy alive. It is critical to do this NOW as she is a lost figure in history, rarely taught about in schools and her important life's story is not told as a part of our American story. This project will not only unite the community, but will solidify her place in the fabric of our nation to educate and inspire generations to come.

Will you help make history and be a part of this honor with us? Any donation amount matters. Please find suggested donation levels and information attached.

Together, we will make a difference.

Sincerely,
The Elizabeth "Mum Bett" Freeman Honorary Host Committee