

**Community Invited to “Show Your Love” for
Planned Sculpture of Manchester Road Race Icon, Joe McCluskey**

Manchester, CT Olympic athlete, Manchester Road Race winner and Manchester resident, Joe McCluskey, ran away with our hearts during his high school, college and professional career as a runner and steeple chase athlete. Under the stewardship of the Manchester Historical Society, the Sculpture Committee has been working to raise funds for a life size bronze sculpture of Joe McCluskey to be installed in the East Coast Greenway parklet at the corner of Wyllys and Highland Streets. The McCluskey sculpture will be the first of three planned sculptures immortalizing notable Manchester citizens.

Contributions both large and small have brought the Sculpture Committee closer to its goal of \$65,000 needed to create, cast and produce the bronze sculpture. To date slightly over \$40,000 has been raised. We are honored by the generosity of individuals, businesses, corporations and foundations that have brought fundraising efforts to this point. Special promotions like the “Have a Cup ‘o Joe for Joe” coffee sales promotions and an autumn House Tour of an iconic local residence have made important contributions to fundraising efforts. More work needs to be done.

The Sculpture Committee would like to have “Joe” in place to greet Manchester Road Race runners on November 22, 2018 as they crest “heartbreak” hill. In order to do so monies must be raised by March 15th to reserve the foundry.

The committee encourages the community to “show your love for Joe” and support this important public arts project by making a donation to The Sculpture Project. Donations at all levels are greatly appreciated. In order to push fundraising over the finish line the committee is seeking a major contribution by a visionary donor whose enthusiasm for public art and Manchester history will inspire their contribution. For more info on the Sculpture Project and to learn how to donate go to www.manchesterhistory.org or contact The Sculpture Project Committee Chair, Lynn Sottile at 860 649-3487.