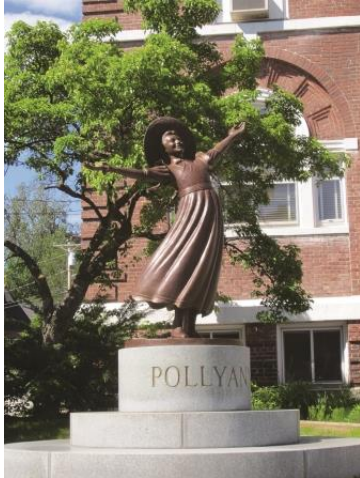


# 73 Pollyanna Statue

Town of Littleton, Grafton County, New Hampshire

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Have you ever known someone who was called a “Pollyanna?” The term “Pollyanna” was incorporated into the English language, following an immense public affection towards a character penned by author Eleanor Hodgman Porter. Ms. Porter, born in Littleton, New Hampshire in 1868, was author of over 200 short stories and 15 novels, including Pollyanna (1913) and the sequel, Pollyanna Grows Up (1915).

Pollyanna is most remembered for her unwavering enthusiasm in difficult situations and for always seeing the “bright side.” Pollyanna remained at the top of the Best Seller list for two years, and currently includes 12 language translations. In 1990, Eleanor H. Porter was posthumously recognized as “A Notable Woman of New Hampshire” by the National Organization of Women.

Over the course of her lifetime, Ms. Porter’s work became world renowned. A bronze statue was erected as a tribute to the author, depicting Pollyanna with her arms outstretched, welcoming residents and visitors alike to Littleton. The Eames family commissioned New Hampshire artist Emily Birch to create the statue and then donated it to the Town of Littleton in 2002. The statue can be found on the lawn in front of the Littleton Public Library. Rub Pollyanna’s high-top shoe for good luck and gladness!

Each June, the Town of Littleton celebrates the legacy of Ms. Porter and her character, Pollyanna, on Pollyanna Glad Day. This free event, held rain or shine, features a parade, cake and plenty of time to be glad!

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