



Antique Toy and Firehouse Museum

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Bay City, Michigan

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SUPER PUMPER SYSTEM CHALLENGE GRANT ANNOUNCEMENT

Reuniting Firefighting Legends: The FDNY Super Pumper and Super Tender

The Antique Toy and Fire Truck Museum (Bay City, Michigan) is honored to announce a **\$100,000 Challenge Grant** from **Stewart and Kathryn McMillan** to support the historic effort to reunite and restore the legendary **FDNY Super Pumper System**—bringing together both the **Super Pumper** and the **Super Tender** in Bay City, Michigan.

This generous matching grant will double the impact of every gift received—up to \$100,000—to fund:

1. **Acquisition** of the Super Tender from Hemet, California
2. **Specialized transport** of the unit across the country
3. **Restoration of the FDNY Super Pumper** to operational pumping condition

Commissioned in 1964, the FDNY Super Pumper was an engineering marvel designed by naval architect Francis Gibbs. It could deliver 8,800 gallons per minute at tremendous pressure. Supported by the Super Tender's 10,000-gpm monitor and supply hose, the system became an iconic response tool for high-volume industrial and waterfront fires in New York City throughout the 1960s and 1970s. It is not only historic it is also unique as it was the **ONLY** one ever built!

Thanks to the care and vision of the late Hewy Wick and his wife Ruth, the Super Tender has been preserved and will soon arrive in Bay City to be reunited with its sister truck at the museum.

A Personal Mission: Stewart McMillan's Firefighting Legacy

This project holds a special place in the heart of Stewart McMillan, whose life's work has been devoted to advancing the science and practice of fire suppression. Stewart is the former CEO and longtime leader of **Task Force Tips (TFT)** a world-renowned manufacturer of firefighting nozzles and equipment. Under his leadership, TFT became known for innovation, performance, and reliability in fireground operations around the globe.

But Stewart's connection to this project goes even deeper. In **1971**, as a young firefighter, Stewart was



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in New York City and witnessed the Super Pumper System in action at a working fire. That moment left a lasting impression on him—an awe-inspiring demonstration of engineering, teamwork, and capability that shaped his understanding of what fire equipment could accomplish. A photograph from that day shows Stewart pulling hose directly from the **Super Tender**, lending a powerful full-circle moment to this initiative. Decades later, he is helping to bring that same Tender home so that future generations can see, study, and be inspired by its legacy.

“This Super Pumper System is more than the fire trucks,” Stewart shares. “It’s a story of innovation and fire service history. It deserves to be preserved and experienced.”

Join the Mission: Help Reunite a Piece of Fire Service History

With your support, and the McMillans’ matching challenge, this vision can become reality!

Double your impact by giving today:  www.toyandfirehousemuseum.org/donate



Or mail your contribution to:

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Donors of \$250 or more will receive an invitation to the 2026 unveiling celebration featuring the reunited Super Pumper System, guided tours, and family-friendly activities.

For more information:



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Stewart McMillan’s Early Experience with the FDNY Super Tender and Pumper (1971)

Our museum foundation is a qualified charitable 501 (c) (3) organization, EIN #37-1468256.
Your contribution is tax deductible.