

# FRIENDS OF SAXONVILLE

NEWSLETTER • FALL 2013

## Discover Saxonville's Athenaeum

The Athenaeum is getting a little help from its "Friends."

by Lynne Damianos

**J**oin us for community, culture and cuisine during the Friends of Saxonville's initial fundraiser for the Athenaeum Hall improvements on **Saturday evening, October 5.**

Meghan Powers, owner of Mass Ballet and Saxonville newcomer Janet Hunt of the Hunt Trio are donating their space, time and talent to help make this event a success. The evening will commence with delicious elegant hors d'oeuvres and a wine/beer cash bar, followed by a brief presentation about the Athenaeum. The concert will include harpsichord and flute melodies, and will be followed by decadent desserts.

Although the exterior of the Athenaeum has been restored, the interior is in complete disrepair. Our event goal is to raise \$10,000 to help with construction costs, provide furnishings and accessories (i.e. media equipment and kitchen necessities), and provide operating expense support.



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### Event Highlights

- 7:00 pm Hors d'oeuvres and wine/beer cash bar
- 7:45 pm Presentation
- 8:00 pm Concert with Janet Hunt and the Hunt Trio
- 8:45 pm Decadent desserts and beverages

### Event Venue – Mass Ballet

2 Watson Place (not handicapped accessible)  
Saturday evening, October 5, 7:00 – 9:30 pm  
Dressy Casual

### The Hunt Trio Concert

The Hunt Trio, an ensemble of two flutes and harpsichord, will present a concert of Baroque music, including trios by Bach and Handel, as well as solo works for harpsichord by Domenico Scarlatti.

A native of Dallas, Texas, Janet E. Hunt studied organ and harpsichord performance at Oberlin College  
*(continued on p. 4)*



# The Campanelli Ranch – Life and Design

by Charlene Frary

A *“Framingham’s Fabulous Fifties Program”* presented by the Framingham History Center  
Sunday, September 22, 2013, 1:00 and 2:30 seatings

Come learn about the allure of one of Framingham’s most popular home styles – the California ranch – from a progression of speakers as you wind your way through the home of interior designer Celine Riard, Principal of CHIC Redesign. Experts on architecture, interior design, life science, and real estate will cover the different facets of why this home style was so prolific and how they contributed to Framingham’s exponential housing and population boon in the 1950’s.

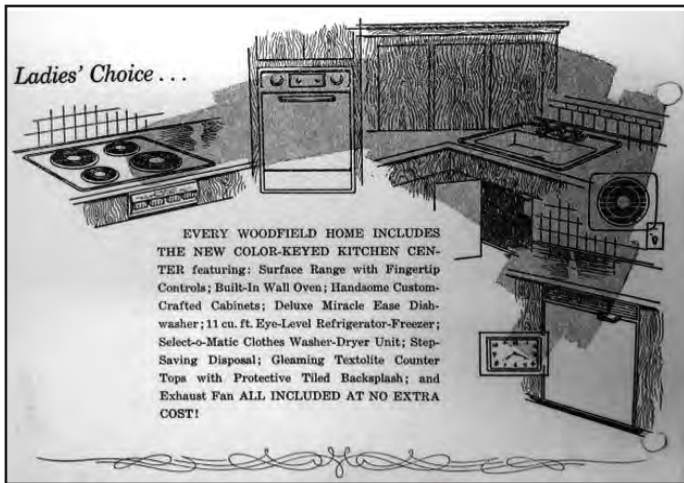
In the Spring 2003 issue of *Preservation Advocate*, a publication of the Massachusetts Historical Commission, Betsy Friedberg explains in her article

*Postwar Housing Comes of Age ... “an increasingly adventurous image of modernity was entering the picture; popular publications portrayed a confident and easygoing way of life that could be accessible to one and all. Of particular interest was the casual California lifestyle, implying prosperity, glamour and optimism as embodied in a sunlit and breezy ranch house where indoors and outdoors blended effortlessly.”*

Builders such as Campanelli quickly responded to the emerging ideal, and capitalizing on the availability of GI Bill financing for veterans, built more than 8600 single family homes in eastern Massachusetts. Neighborhoods in Framingham such as Longfield, Pinefield, Ridgefield, Woodfield and others allowed young



Cover image from *Preservation Advocate*, Spring 2003 edition.



Campanelli's Woodfield brochure description of the color-keyed kitchen center.

families with modest savings a chance to move into a brand new 3 bedroom ranch home with the latest in modern features including a "new color-keyed kitchen center with fingertip controls, Miracle-Ease dishwasher, Select-O-Matic washer-dryer" and more ... available in turquoise, pink or yellow. Variations in home styles were given elegant names such as The Enchantress, The Charmer, The Eldorado, and The Monterey. Most homes even offered a place indoors for one of the family's most critical members ... an incorporated, attached garage for the all-important automobile.

Fifty years later, today's Campanelli ranch is a popular choice for both the original and next generation of homeowners. Residents are enthusiastically re-inventing these iconic homes to meet today's lifestyle by upgrading building technologies, repurposing rooms, updating and reconfiguring kitchens and baths,

**Of particular interest was the casual California lifestyle, implying prosperity, glamour and optimism as embodied in a sunlit and breezy ranch house where indoors and outdoors blended effortlessly.**

creatively expanding and often orienting around a cultivated landscape.

The debut and adaptability of these homes provides a fascinating study in architecture, local history and period trends. Learn more about the past, present and future of the Campanelli ranch from our featured speakers: Celine Riard of CHIC Redesign, Architect Aaron Socrat, Clark University Professor Kristina Wilson, and Architectural History Presenter Todd Robeck. Tickets (\$20/person or \$10/FHC member) may be purchased online at [www.framinghamhistory.org/the-campanelli-ranch-life-and-design](http://www.framinghamhistory.org/the-campanelli-ranch-life-and-design). For more information, contact Charlene Frary at 508.330.3252 or [charlenefrary@gmail.com](mailto:charlenefrary@gmail.com). ❖



Campanelli Ranch on Leonard Road, Framingham.  
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# Discover Saxonville's Athenaeum

The Athenaeum is getting a little help from its "Friends." (continued from cover)



Jennifer A. and Janet E. Hunt (above) and Leslie L. Hunt (below) of the Hunt Trio. © Andrew Montone



Conservatory of Music, Southern Methodist University, and the University of North Texas, where she completed her DMA in 1995. Equally accomplished on both instruments, she has performed extensively in the Boston area, including concerts at the Methuen Memorial Music Hall, Holy Cross Cathedral, and at Boston's First Night New Year's celebrations. Her

recordings include two compact discs of organ works by César Franck and Louis Vierne. She has been the Music Director, Organist and Lecturer in Music at St. John's Seminary since 2005, and the Goddard Chapel organist at Tufts University since 2007. She moved to Framingham in 2012.

Jennifer A. Hunt has been the Library Director for the Albert Alphin Library at The Boston Conservatory since 2002. She is currently serving as the Chair of the New England Music Library Association and is the

Coordinator for Boston Area Music Libraries. Jennifer received her B.M. in flute performance, M.A. in musicology and M.L.S. in library science from Catholic University in Washington, D.C.

Leslie L. Hunt, native of Texas, was a member of the U.S. Marine Band in Washington, D.C. for over thirty years. While there, he played every medium from concert band to chamber music and military formations for the Department of State. He retired in 1998 and is a graduate of the Manhattan School of Music and a student of William Kincaid. He and his wife Jennifer now make their home in Shirley, Massachusetts.

## Reserve a seat or send a tax-deductible donation

Visit [www.Saxonville.org](http://www.Saxonville.org) or send a check made out to "Friends of Saxonville" to Friends of Saxonville, P.O. Box 3236, Framingham MA 01705

Please list the number of tickets and or amount of your donation on the memo line.

\$40 per person through 9/27

\$50 per person after 9/27 or at the door

## Consider being a sponsor!

\$500 Sustaining Sponsor (includes 4 tickets)

\$250 Patron (includes 2 tickets)

\$100 Contributor (includes 1 ticket)

All other donations are welcome!

For more information or to volunteer, visit [www.Saxonville.org](http://www.Saxonville.org) or contact Jan Harrington at 508.877.0520 or [giftbk@aol.com](mailto:giftbk@aol.com) ♦



The second floor of the Athenaeum. The original tin wall appears beneath the peeling paint. © Damianos Photography

# FOS Business Members – Please Support our Local Business Members! Visit [saxonville.org](http://saxonville.org) for Business Bulletin Board Specials

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# FOS Board Members

by John Stasik

The Executive Board extends their admiration and gratitude to Bill Bowman of School Street and Chip Chambers of Newbury Street for their two years of board service. Chip's sharing his depth of understanding of Saxonville residents' contributions to the nation's Civil War on the battlefield and in the Mill gave us all a new perspective of mid 19th century Saxonville history. Bill's quick wit at meetings and his willingness to share his technical skills are indeed missed. Both Chip and Bill have assured us that they will be available on an "as needed" basis – our sincerest thanks to them both.

The good news is that we have two new board members. Mary McCarty was voted to a two-year position at our annual meeting in April. She has been a long time volunteer with many of our events and projects through the years. As Mary became more involved, she

took part in our board meetings and decisions. She brings a unique perspective to the board since she lives on McGrath Square. You can't get anymore "Saxonville" than that! The board welcomed and voted Steve Weisman of Hillside Street to the board at our July "Business and Board" Barbecue. Steve brings his strong planning and organizational skills to the board, which will be particularly useful as we embark on our first fundraising event for The Restoration of the Athenaeum Community Hall. Steve has already contributed significantly as a member of the Athenaeum Task Force for the last four years. Recently, we have had some success with our efforts, in large part due to his organization, planning and communication skills.

On behalf of the entire membership, we thank you both for your willingness to offer your time and talent to Saxonville. ❖

## Business and Board Barbecue

by Lynne Damianos

On July 11, FOS business members met for a potluck barbecue at Lynne Damianos' home where they discussed ideas for the Friends, including ideas for the upcoming Jingle Bell Day to be held on December 7. Afterwards the board enjoyed an outdoor setting where they discussed plans for a Discover Saxonville's Athenaeum event on October 5. ❖



Lisa Breslow Thompson and John Stasik discuss Athenaeum restoration logo concepts. © Damianos Photography



James L. Parr, John Stasik, Mary McCarty, Shivaun Pryor and Susan Silva enjoying the refreshments at the FOS Business and Board Barbecue. © Damianos Photography



# FRIENDS OF SAXONVILLE

**T**he mission of the Friends of Saxonville is to educate the public about the special identity of Saxonville, an historic neighborhood of Framingham, Massachusetts, and to preserve, enhance, and protect its cultural, economic, environmental and historical qualities.

Membership fees help support our initiatives, newsletter, and our annual Discover Saxonville events.

Please renew your membership or consider joining us for the first time. If you renewed already – Thank you!

***If your membership is not up to date, this may be the last newsletter you will receive.***

Memberships or Donations:

Pay online at **www.Saxonville.org**

Or detach form below and mail your check to:

Friends of Saxonville, P.O. Box 3236  
Framingham, MA 01705-3236

## Become a Member! Membership year runs May 1 to April 30

- 1 year Individual Membership: \$25
- 1 year Business Membership: \$50
- Connection to this wonderful village: Priceless!

### Additional Contribution

- General Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Athenaeum Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I am interested in:  Athenaeum  Nature Trail  Fundraising  Rail Trail  Danforth Bridge  
 Expanding and improving the Historical Walk  Volunteering to complete specific tasks

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## Trivia Question

by Susan Silva

**D**o you remember the "overflow?"







# FRIENDS OF SAXONVILLE

P.O. Box 3236  
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Alison Field-Juma and David Longden unveil the new panels on the George Dixon Kiosk. © Damianos Photography

## RiverFest Recap

by Lynne Damianos

**O**n June 22, the high river water did not keep OARS and the Friends from meeting on the old Danforth Street Bridge to unveil the new kiosk panels celebrating the return of the raptors to the wild and scenic rivers, of which the Sudbury River is one.



The two panels were designed by Lisa Breslow Thompson and funded by OARS. ([www.oars3rivers.org](http://www.oars3rivers.org)) On behalf of the Friends, President David Longden dedicated the kiosk to George T. Dixon, Co-Founder, Treasurer,



(Left) David Longden with Alison Field-Juma and Julia Khorana of OARS. (Above) Susan Silva and Paula Longden at right with RiverFest participants. © Damianos Photography

Generous Contributor and Lead Restorer of The Old Danforth Bridge 1998-2012 ... a True Friend of Saxonville. David unveiled a bronze plaque affixed to the kiosk hereafter known as "The George Dixon Kiosk."