

Candidates for Election to the Board of Trustees of Historic Northampton April, 2014

Barbara B. Blumenthal is a professional independent hand bookbinder and letterpress printer as well as a rare book specialist in the Mortimer Rare Book Room at Smith College. She has designed and bound several publications under her own imprint, Catawba Press; she edited and co-wrote Paradise Printed & Bound: Book Arts in Northampton & Beyond. She is a member of the Northampton Historical Commission.

Craig Della Penna is a broker with Murphys Realtors, Inc. and Trailside Realty, Inc., specializing in properties near to bike and pedestrian pathways, other conservation lands and historic houses. Among his many projects, he is Executive Director of Northeast Greenway Solutions to help communities convert railroad corridors into park spaces, and a tour leader of Trailside Tours on the rail trail network. He is a member of the Northampton Historical Commission.

Elizabeth Denny is Senior Vice President and co-owner of Market Street Research where she is committed to helping businesses and organizations conduct sensible, cost-efficient and results-oriented research. She works with community coalitions, public school systems, government departments in education and public health and has served on multiple boards in the Valley. Liz is a visual artist and has shown her work in western Massachusetts galleries.

Marla Miller is Director of the Public History Program and Professor in the Department of History at the University of Massachusetts. Much of her research and publications have been based on subjects here in the Connecticut River Valley. These include The Needle's Eye: Women and Work in the Age of Revolution, "Mehitable Primus and Addie Brown: Women of Color and Hartford's Nineteenth-Century Dressmaking Trades" and "Collaborative Approaches to Teaching with Historic Places."

Julia Mines is a communications professional with over twenty years of experience in marketing and PR, copywriting, editing and producing. She has a reputation for successfully getting the public to stop, notice and act. Her experience is broad and includes several years as the Senior Marketing Executive/Copywriter/Producer for WRSI/The River and WHMP.

Nancy Rexford, Treasurer of the board, served as Curator of Costume and later, the Assistant Director and Registrar at Historic Northampton. She oversaw the development of the nationally recognized clothing collection here; over this period she received several NEH grants to gather primary source materials on American women's dress. She has consulted in over 60 museums and historic societies around the country. Her book, Women's Shoes in America, 1795-1930, is a result of this research.

Stan Sherer, Vice President of the board, is an independent photographer and fine art digital printmaker. His most recent solo exhibitions are *Printographs* at the A.P.E. Gallery and a series here at Historic Northampton: *Vanished: The Hospital on the Hill*; *Faces of Northampton, Enduring and Forgotten: Main Street, 125 Years*; and *Northampton Silk Threads: The China Connection*.

Kiki Smith, President of the board, professor at Smith College in the Theatre Department teaches costume design, directs the Smith College Historic Clothing Collection and designs professionally in many theatre companies. She was the director of the symposium *Silk Unraveled!*, part of the yearlong Northampton Silk Project. She is working with board member Marla Miller to make an online archive built on the collection of primary sources of American women's dress, assembled by Board Treasurer Nancy Rexford.

Steve Strimer helped develop Collective Copies in Florence after co-founding several worker cooperative printing businesses. He has spearheaded the establishment of the publishing wing, Levellers Press that produced Robert Romer's Slavery in the Connecticut Valley of Massachusetts. Since 1997 he has studied the Northampton Association of Education and Industry and early Florence history, helping identify the forgotten homes of abolitionists including Sojourner Truth and David Ruggles. Recently he founded the David Ruggles Center for Early Florence History and Underground Railroad Studies. He leads walking tours of the UGRR and abolition sites in Florence.

Michael Thurston is Professor of English and Director of the American Studies Department at Smith College, and editor (fiction and nonfiction) of the *Massachusetts Review*. He has written extensively on 20th century poetry and literature. His current book in progress is A History of Poetry in English after Modernism as well as essays on such varied topics as blindness in *The Waste Land* and Cape Cod.