SPRING SOIRÉE ON SATURDAY, MAY 21ST

Join us for an evening of cocktails at the annual spring soirée on May 21st at the historic home of Anne and John Underhill.

62 Old River Place is a fine Italianate residence, designed by Boston architect Theodore Voelkers, and built in 1847. The house was built for the Reverend Alvin Lamson, who was the minister at First Church Dedham from 1818 to 1860. The original written building specifications, with detailed instructions for the builder, still exist. A copy can be found in the Dedham Historical Society files.

The house preserves many original design features and finishes on both its exterior and interior. The 11’6” ceiling height throughout the first floor, along with the spacious room proportions, create the grandeur typical of these early Italianate gems. Steeply pitched, gabled roofs with overhanging cornices define the exterior of the house while high ceilings with elaborate plaster moldings and handsome wood trim characterize the interior. Original mantelpieces, built-in cabinetry, hardware and historic paint colors enhance the spaces. Former utility rooms and the original kitchen have been renovated into a modern kitchen that preserves details of the original house. The Underhills have planted lovely gardens that descend from the south side of the house.

Invitations were mailed to DHS members in early May. Soirée tickets are $100 per person, $125 for patrons, and $200 for benefactors. Catering is by Chiara of Westwood. A wine pull will take place at the event. For more information or to purchase tickets, please see the enclosed flyer or contact the Society office at 781-326-1385.

NEW BOARD MEMBERS ELECTED AT ANNUAL MEETING

The election of officers and board members took place at the April 21st Annual Meeting. Members of the 2016 Nominating Committee were: Thomas Gormley III as chair, Stephen Brayton, and Sandy Leith. The following were elected as officers: Andrea Gilmore as President; James Kaufman as Vice President, and Laurie Rabe as Recording Secretary. Elected as Directors to the Board were: Kate Cahill, Ange Cavallo, Thomas Gormley III, and Joan Pagliuca. Continuing on the board are: William Flanagan as Treasurer, Stephen Brayton, Sandy Leith, John Underhill, and Mark Whalen. Outgoing board members Mary Anne Osborne, and Stanton Lyman were recognized for their tireless work on the board. Please join us in thanking these dedicated individuals for their contributions to the organization.

THE ENDICOTT LEGACY IN DEDHAM
The Endicott family homes enriched and beautified Dedham for many generations. The gardens that grace the Endicott Estate and the M.I.T. Endicott House were cultivated many generations ago and continue to provide the town with beautiful landscapes. Our current exhibit, “Historic Gardens in Dedham,” pays tribute to these historic estates.

Augustus Bradford Endicott (1818-1910) settled in Dedham in 1852. He played a prominent role in town life, serving as selectman, assessor, auditor, and county sheriff. He was president of the Dedham Institution for Savings, and then the Dedham National Bank. He lived near the present Endicott Estate on East Street. Augustus’s son, Henry Bradford Endicott (1853-1920), ran the highly successful Endicott-Johnson Shoe Company with his partner, George Johnson.

In 1904, a fire burned down the original house on East Street, and Henry Bradford Endicott rebuilt the family estate. His stepdaughter, Katherine Endicott, inherited the property in 1944 and tended to its many gardens. She died in 1967, at which time the property was left to the town of Dedham.

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In 1929, Henry Bradford Endicott’s son, Henry Wendell Endicott (1880-1954), purchased Rockweld, a large estate at 80 Haven Street. He maintained many of the original plants but razed the original house and built a country manor in its place. After his death in 1954, the estate was given to M.I.T and in 1955, it opened as a conference center.

The DHS archive contains material related to the Endicott family: the Endicott Family Collection and the Friends of the Endicott Estate. Among the papers in the DHS Endicott Family collection are a copy of Katherine Endicott’s will and a copy of Henry B. Endicott: A Brief Memoir of His Life and His Services to the State and Nation.

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obligations. It is important to note that many other individuals and organizations have made significant contributions to specific projects of the Society. They have been gratefully acknowledged at the time of the gift. Be sure to contact us if there are any errors. Thank you. (IMO = In Memory Of; IHO = In Honor Of)

Tom & Kate Gormley

**PATRON ($1,000-$2499)**

John & Liisa Herweg (IMO Mabel Herweg)
Lynne Wadman-Howe

**SPONSOR ($500-999)**

Elizabeth M. Games

**DONOR ($100-$249)***

William McKibben
Kenneth Poeckert

**FRIEND ($10-$99)**

Mary Devine

The following should have been included in the March newsletter, and we apologize for the error. Membership and support: Stephen Kenny, Esq.

There are many ways to financially support the Dedham Historical Society & Museum. Our members often use employee matching gift programs or they enroll in monthly deduction programs through portals such as YourCause. Please check with your employer to see what options exist for you to make tax deductible donations. All of these gifts are important; thank you for your support.

**NEW ACQUISITIONS TO THE DHS**

The DHS has recently received two major donations to help us fill voids in our collection. The Fales collection includes newsletters and other genealogical information donated by the Fales Family Association. James Fales was the earliest member of this family to reside in Dedham. He signed the 1636 Covenant under the name James Vales, but over time the spelling changed to Fales. The Fales Family Association, which had been active for many years, was recently dissolved and generously gave its historical materials, along with a financial contribution, to the DHS. It will take archivist Sandra Waxman several months to incorporate the newsletters, books, and photographs into the collection.

The Burgess family collection includes two chairs (1820-1830), a dressing table and bench, china, an 1846 Chinese sewing box belonging to Mary Burgess Kingsbury, and hair jewelry from the Broad Oak estate. The donor, a family descendant, gave the collection in memory of his mother, Barbara Burgess Royce. He also gave a photograph album filled with tintypes and photographs of family members. Perhaps the most well known of the family is Reverend Ebenezer Burgess (1790-1870) who served as pastor of the Allin Congregational Church for 40 years.

Throughout the year the Society receives numerous items for the collection, ranging from a single photograph to boxes full of family memorabilia. The DHS acknowledges each of these gifts and appreciates the trust donors place in us to care for these items. Due to space limitations, we are unable to exhibit everything at the time it is received. However, our donors should rest assured that these items are important to us and are shared with researchers, loaned to other museums, or kept in safe storage until used at a later date.

**FINBAR HEASLIP: DIGGING FOR HISTORY**

Finbar Heaslip digs history. For this 15-year-old Dedhamite, a good day is when he can spend a few hours in search of old dumping grounds and privies. These sites often serve up buried treasures for Finbar to collect and research. The riches that he’s uncovered have sparked a love of history and a passion for archaeology. Lucky for Finbar, he is home-schooled, and so, his history lessons are enriched by his very “hands-on” explorations.
In the three years since Finbar began digging, he has learned a lot about where and how to dig. He tries to identify the era of a site before he begins so that he knows which tools to use and how deep to dig. “I can figure out where to dig by looking for unnatural sink holes in woodsy areas,” he says. “The indentations usually mark the location of an old burning pit or a bottle dump.”

Finbar Heaslip

As a result of his careful work, Finbar has unearthed some prized objects. His favorites include antique die-cast metal soldiers, clay pipes, coins, and shards of Dedham Pottery. Finbar has also found a 1908 Barber dime and a Chinese coin from the 1800s.

Finbar came to the Historical Society to compare his finds with pieces in our collection. He arrived with a shoebox full of artifacts, gingerly removing them, one at a time, and then shared each object’s story. The joy that he derives from digging is enhanced by the follow-up research that places each object in time and identifies its purpose. Like a museum curator, Finbar understands that every object tells a story, and he relishes using clues to determine where and when each artifact was made, and how it was used. Finbar created a short video of his tour at the DHS and it can be found on YouTube at https://youtu.be/Xiq74mCPT5c.

OPEN SATURDAYS: The DHS Museum, Gift Shop, and Library/Archives are open on the following Saturdays from 1 pm – 4 pm: May 14 & 28; June 4 & 18

This newsletter is a benefit of DHS membership. For membership information, call 781-326-1385 or visit www.dedhamhistorical.org.

WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS
Jill Devirgilio
Ellen Donovan
Beatrice Fourny
Anne S. Heller

PLEASE THANK OUR CORPORATE SUPPORTERS
Bay State Federal Savings
Charitable Foundation
Dedham Institution for Savings
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DEDHAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY & MUSEUM OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS
Andrea M. Gilmore, President; James D. Kaufman, Vice President; William E. Flanagan, Treasurer; Laurie Rabe, Recording Secretary. Directors: Stephen K. Brayton, Kate Cahill, Angela Cavallo, Thomas A. Gormley III, Alexander K. Leith, Joan Pagliuca, John Underhill, Mark R. Whalen. Executive Director, Vicky L. Kruckeberg

Please join us for
The Dedham Historical Society & Museum’s Spring Soirée
An Evening of Cocktails at the home of Anne & John Underhill
62 Old River Place, Dedham, Massachusetts

Saturday May 21st, 2016
6:30 pm to 8:30 pm

Catering by Chiara of Westwood
A Wine Pull will take place during the evening

Please R.S.V.P. by May 13th

Tickets: $100
Patron Tickets: $125
Benefactor Tickets: $200

Please reserve _______ tickets at the cost of ______ each.
I/We cannot attend but enclose a contribution of ______.
Total Enclosed _________
Name: ____________________________________________________
Address: ___________________________________________________
Town, State, Zip: ___________________________________________
Please make checks payable to the Dedham Historical Society
Tax deductible as allowed by law. Tickets will be held at the door.
For questions call: 781.326.1385