



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

# At Fruitlands, sculptor Carolyn Wirth is a free-range historian

By Nancy Shohet West | GLOBE CORRESPONDENT JUNE 24, 2016

**FRUITFUL VISIT** Carolyn Wirth usually refers to herself as an artist. But this summer, she has a different way of describing her vocation: “amateur free-range historian.”

“I walk around, look at exhibits, then go back to my studio and think about what I saw,” Wirth explains.

Wirth is the artist-in-residence at Fruitlands Museum in **Harvard** this year, and her inaugural public exhibit, “Seeing Past Faces,” will be on view July 2 through Aug. 21. In keeping with the museum’s history and connections with such literary families as the Alcotts, Wirth’s work showcases authors including Emily Dickinson and Louisa May Alcott, and women connected to Fruitlands’ history, such as Shakers leader Mother Ann Lee, Fruitlands Museum founder Clara Endicott Sears, and Wampanoag basket maker Emma Safford. An opening reception will be held Saturday, July 16, at 1 p.m.



FRUITLANDS MUSEUM

**“I Read Emily Dickinson All Last Winter,” by Carolyn Wirth.**

Wirth calls her current work “disruptive portraiture,” a phrase whose invention she credits to Fruitlands guest curator Rebecca Migdal. “It reflects the way that I often

that doesn't really have anything to do with what the person actually looked like.”

Comments

In some cases, Wirth said, the women in her Fruitlands show were never painted during their lifetimes, so it's hard to say what they looked like. In other cases, the artist is being deliberately fanciful, such as a piece about reading Emily Dickinson in which Wirth used Photoshop to combine her own image with Dickinson's.

Wirth's tenure as artist-in-residence means she is also creating several works around the Fruitlands grounds and has designed a Spirit Tree mural to which visitors will be invited to add their own efforts. Special programming during Wirth's residency this summer includes workshops, gallery tours, a studio tour, and collaborative opportunities.

Fruitlands Museum is at 102 Prospect Hill Road. For hours, admission fees, and more information, including a full schedule of Wirth's events as artist-in-residence, call 978-456-3924 or go to [www.fruitlands.org](http://www.fruitlands.org).

**CELEBRATE EARLY Acton** holds its annual Independence Day Celebration on Saturday, July 2, at NARA Park, 25 Ledge Rock Way. Activities begin at 3 p.m. with Family Fun Time. The Baha Brothers perform the music of Jimmy Buffet and the Beach Boys starting at 7 p.m., followed by fireworks at dusk (approximately 9:30 p.m.).

Complimentary shuttle buses will begin at 2 p.m. to and from NARA from designated parking lots along Nagog Park Drive. Admission to the event is free. Bracelets for \$10 during Family Fun Time include moon bounces, a 35-foot inflatable obstacle course, a slip 'n' slide, and a water slide. A train ride will also be onsite for \$3 per person. Food vendors will be available throughout the event. Go to [www.acton-ma.gov/events](http://www.acton-ma.gov/events) for more information.

**SOUNDS OF SUMMER** The **Northborough** Community Affairs Committee launches a new season of its free Summer Concert Series, taking place at Ellsworth-McAfee Park in Northborough from 6 to 8 p.m. on Thursday evenings June 30,

and Aug. 11. <sup>Comments</sup> The series begins June 30 with Beatles for Sale, a New England Beatles tribute band that recreates the sounds of the Beatles live in concert. For more information, including rain dates, go to [northboroughcac.weebly.com](http://northboroughcac.weebly.com).

**CONCERTS ON THE GREEN** The Framingham Park & Recreation Division announces the return of its free “Summer Concert Series on the Green,” with performances by a wide variety of groups and artists every Friday through Aug. 5 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Village Green, Edgell Road. Upcoming acts include the Tom Nutile Big Band on July 1, XRB on July 8, and Amy Gallatin & Still Waters on July 15. For a complete schedule, go to [www.framinghamparks.com/DocumentCenter/View/23003](http://www.framinghamparks.com/DocumentCenter/View/23003) or call 508-532-5962.

**BLOCK PARTY Westborough** holds its annual July Block Party on Friday, July 1, from 6 to 10 p.m., on West Main Street with food, live music, and games. The Block Party features a concert by the Westborough Community Band at 6 p.m. in front of the Forbes Municipal Building. Parking and admission are free.

**VEGAN TAXIDERMY** Aimee Baldwin presents her solo show “Enduring Blooms” through July 24 at Tower Hill Botanic Garden, 11 French Drive, **Boylston**. A self-taught artist from the Bay Area who specializes in what she calls “vegan taxidermy,” Baldwin creates botanical and bird sculptures from crepe paper. For hours, admission fees, and more, call 508-869-6111 or visit [towerhillbg.org](http://towerhillbg.org).

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 0 COMMENTS



## Cyclist is struck by truck, killed in Cambridge

A 27-year-old woman was struck by a landscaping truck at 12:17 p.m. at the intersection of Hampshire and Cambridge streets. [MORE...](#)

## Early details emerge in death of Cambridge cyclist

The preliminary probe indicates the 27-year-old struck the open door of a parked car before she was pushed into traffic. [MORE...](#)



## New institute tackles the mysteries of food allergies

Four mothers whose children have food allergies raised \$10 million to get the project started. [MORE...](#)



## Walsh salary review stalled after chairwoman resigns

The resignation has left a vacuum on the independent panel Mayor Walsh revived to herald fiscal accountability. [MORE...](#)



## Boston Latin teachers, parents call for return of headmaster, top aide

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ADRIAN WALKER

## What's next for Boston Latin?

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### District attorney, AG investigate Roxbury real estate dealer

Jake Wark said prosecutors began receiving new complaints after the Globe's coverage of allegations against Rolando Pam and two members of his family.

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### Climate change could be even worse for Boston than previously thought

A new report commissioned by the city says seas could rise more than 10 feet by the end of the century. [MORE...](#)

### Read BLS administrator Malcolm Flynn's resignation letter

Assistant headmaster Malcolm Flynn submitted his resignation Wednesday in solidarity with headmaster Lynne Mooney Teta. [MORE...](#)



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What happened to Jim Gass is a warning for desperate patients entering the murky, largely unregulated, and booming world of "stem cell tourism." [MORE...](#)



### Newton mayor unveils ambitious housing plan for the city

The proposal pinpoints seven areas as priorities for development. [MORE...](#)



GROUND GAME

### New England states are roadblock for Libertarians

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Comments

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### Elaine Werby, 94; helped shape public housing policy

Mrs. Werby was a social worker, worked for the Boston Housing Authority, and was a professor at the University of Massachusetts Boston. [MORE...](#)

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### Uber, Lyft praise new ride-for-hire regulations bill, while taxi drivers fume

The Senate on Thursday unveiled legislation with far fewer restrictions for ride-for-hire firms than a House bill that was recently passed. [MORE...](#)

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### After a Dizzying search, a missing monkey returns home

After three days of monkeying around, Dizzy came back home Thursday night. [MORE...](#)

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One major criticism of online casino games is that it allows players to win at a higher rate than they can realistically expect at the brick-and-mortar casino. [MORE...](#)

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### Making it big, the Pam family way

In some Roxbury circles, the Pams' actions are so widely known that they've been given their own nickname: "The Pam Family Scam." [MORE...](#)



