



Friends of the Middlesex Fells Reservation

www.fells.org 781-662-2340 **Events Calendar pullout: pages 5-8**

News of the Fells Spring 2014



Fells Senior Walks resume this Spring

Last year the Friends of the Fells began a series of Senior Walks which was sponsored by a Community Health Improvement grant. These specially designed walks provided a unique opportunity to enjoy the physical, mental and social benefits of walking through the Fells with leaders knowledgeable in the ecology and history of the area. The program proved that, although walkers may move at different speeds, all can actively experience the beauty of the Fells. Because these walks were so enjoyed, the Friends of the Fells plans to resume the Senior Walks again this spring, beginning on April 30th at Bellevue Pond in Medford for an exploration of early spring flowers. Check our calendar listings on page 5 for details.

ABOVE: Bryan Hamlin and seniors explore early spring (Mike Ryan)



Youngsters are curious about nature! (Noah Kaplan)

New Adventures Planned for Babes in the Woods

By Sarah Maisonneuve

THIS PROGRAM IS POISED FOR ENORMOUS GROWTH AND change, and we are pleased to announce a number of exciting developments for 2014. Incredibly, attendance on Babes hikes often reached 80 people during the summer months. The growing popularity of these hikes provides us with the opportunity to announce a bunch of plans

continued on page 11

Mass. Environmental Secretary reverses course

by Mike Ryan

IN A TERSE ADVISORY

Opinion issued December 30, 2013, the Director of the MEPA Office has endorsed the claim by the Langwood Commons project developers that their redevelopment project inside the Middlesex Fells Reservation is no longer subject to MEPA jurisdiction for environmental impact review.

The developers filed their request to end environmental review after the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) terminated the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that the developers had been required to sign in 2009 by DCR and the Secretary of Environmental Affairs, rejecting the developers claim that their project was not subject to MEPA jurisdiction.

The MOU agreement obligated the developers to pay \$1.8 million to DCR to modify Fells parkways to alleviate safety and other impacts

from the additional 4,500 traffic trips to be created by the project. At that time, DCR and the Secretary declared that the redevelopment project could not proceed without completing MEPA review unless the developers agreed to mitigate development traffic impacts.

The termination of the MOU by DCR in December and this new Advisory Opinion from the Secretary represent a complete reversal and abandonment of their long held regulatory positions, which cited requirements to address unacceptable public safety risks due to traffic increases from the proposed project.

In 2008 DCR stated, "At this time, we believe that mitigation measures respecting the scenic and historic integrity of the Middlesex Fells Parkway system, must be implemented to address public safety risks directly posed by development of the project. Either these measures need to be undertaken by the proponent under a permit

from DCR or DCR will need to take agency action directly on account of the project."

The termination of the MOU by DCR, and the rejection of environmental review by the environmental affairs Secretary, is only the latest twist in the dealings among the developers, DCR and the Secretary that are being challenged as a violation of MEPA's prohibition against project "segmentation" in a Superior Court lawsuit that the Friends of the Fells, ten citizens, and the City of Medford filed in 2009.

The case is scheduled to be heard by Superior Court later this year.

It is imperative that the developers complete MEPA environmental review, which requires presentation of a reduced scale alternative development plan showing that the traffic generated by the project can be safely accommodated without excessive modifications which would destroy the historic parkways character defining features.

FRIENDS OF THE FELLS ANNUAL MEETING — THURSDAY, MAY 8, 2014

Wright's Tower (Mike Ryan)

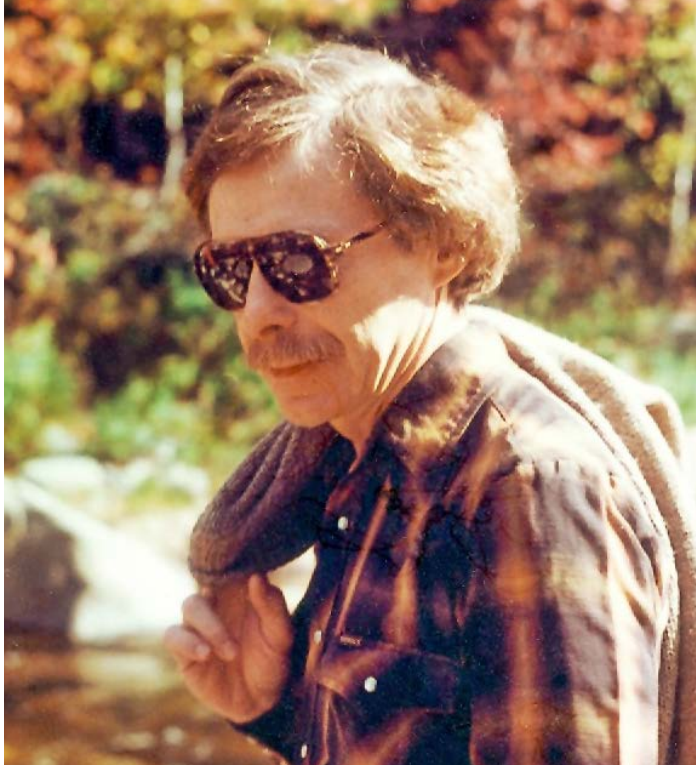


"The Peopling of This Place We Now Call The Fells"

Slide presentation by DCR Archaeologist Ellen Berkland
Thursday, May 8, 2014, 7-9pm
Milano Senior Center, 201 W Foster Street, Melrose

Join us a for a fascinating evening with Ellen Berkland as she highlights the significance of the many historic wonders found in the Fells. From the once thriving mill city of Haywardville to structures like Wright's Tower built in the 1930s the Fells continues to be a place where history can be experienced firsthand. May is Historic Preservation Month in Massachusetts, a time when DCR showcases its efforts to protect historic resources found in parks like the Fells.

Refreshments will be served! The evening will also include a brief business meeting and awards ceremony.



Friends First President Remembered

Tom McGreevy 1/25/1935 – 11/18/2003

by Hue Holley

TOM MCGREEVY TRAVELED ALL OVER the world with the Merchant Marines before landing in Boston to continue his education. There he met his future wife Carol who introduced him to the Fells. During their many walks in the Reservation, Tom fell in love with both Carol and the Fells. According to Carol, Tom thought there was no better place in the world than the Fells.

After moving to Medford, Tom frequented the Fells as often as he could, many times participating in Ranger led walks. In those walks he became friends with other Fells enthusiasts. Perhaps at the suggestion of the Fells district Ranger, this group started meeting in the mid 1980s in the Metropolitan District Commission's house at 1 Woodland Rd., Stoneham. It was these meetings that eventually resulted in the formation of the Friends of the Fells. Joining Tom in this undertaking was his wife, Mike Doucette, Dan Ballin, Mia McCullough, Ted Seigan and Bob Gaumer, among others.

Tom assumed leadership, becoming the Friends first president, and, along with his wife, became involved in all activities required to initiate the organization. Tom shepherded the incorporation of the Friends as a nonprofit, assisting pro bono lawyer Elaine Denison. He organized and led many of the Friends' first hikes and recruited other program leaders, notably Paul Rezendes (tracking) and Ed Myskowski (geology).

Initially, the Friends under Tom's leadership focused on informing the public about the beautiful, natural and

then underutilized Fells Reservation. When mountain bike riding was introduced to the Fells in the late 1980s, with resulting impacts to the resource, Tom helped engender the Friends of the Fells active stewardship role that continues today. His newsletter article, "Biking in the Fells" and subsequent slide shows publicized

Tom thought
there was
no better place
in the world
than the Fells.

both the problem and the MDC's inadequate protection of the Fells' natural features.

In the late 1990's heart problems caused Tom to resign as President of the Friends. He continued for years as a director and advisor, until his untimely death in 2003.

Tom McGreevy left behind a lifetime of accomplishments, earning a Bachelor degree from Suffolk University, and a Masters in Economics from Tufts University. He taught macroeconomics as an adjunct professor at Bentley College. His accomplishment in establishing the Friends is a legacy the likes of which few achieve.

Hue Holley was recruited as a volunteer by Tom McGreevy and later became the third Friends of Fells President.

(photo by Carol McGreevy)

Friends of the Fells Endowment Fund



We are pleased to announce that thanks to the generosity of Friends board member Bob Weggel a permanent endowment fund to benefit the Friends of the Middlesex Fells Reservation has been established.

In explaining the purpose of the *R.J. Weggel Fund for the Friends of the Middlesex Fells Reservation*, Weggel stated, "I would like this fund to serve as a legacy for the long term protection of the beauty and biodiversity of the Fells reservation, and hope that many others will join me in supporting this goal, now and in the years to come."

Donations and bequests to the *R.J. Weggel Fund for the Friends of the Middlesex Fells Reservation* will generate a growing source of income into the future to help sustain Friends of the Fells educational and stewardship programs serving the Fells for the benefit of all who visit the reservation.

The Fund is managed by the Essex County Community Foundation (ECCF), which currently administers approximately eighty million dollars in charitable funds on behalf of donors.

Tax-deductible contributions to the *R.J. Weggel Fund for the Friends of the Middlesex Fells Reservation*, can be made from the Friends website, friends@fells.org. For more information, please contact either the Friends of the Fells (781-662-2340) or ECCF (978-777-8876).

ABOVE: Bob Weggel helping out on DCR Park Serve Day. (Mike Ryan)

"I would like this fund to serve as a legacy for the long term protection of the beauty and biodiversity of the Fells reservation."

Friends Volunteer Spotlight

Name: Roland "Boot" Boutwell

Age: 65

Residence: Winchester, Mass.

Profession: Freelance itinerant teacher/naturalist

Volunteer Since: 1997

Volunteer Role: Leading wildly popular nature walks and programs

To volunteer with Friends of the Fells, email volunteer@fells.org



"I love leading nature walks for the Friends of the Fells because it puts me in some beautiful places with a very high class of people"

(Courtesy Boot Boutwell)

SPRING 2014 HIKES & EVENTS

Spring at Hemlock Pool (Mike Ryan)

We offer a variety of hiking programs in all seasons led by dedicated volunteers who share their knowledge of the many aspects of the Fells with participants. All hike programs are free and do not require registration. Please check the online events calendar for any changes to these listings: www.fells.org.

MARCH ♦ APRIL ♦ MAY

Animal Habitats Walk on the Rock Circuit Trail

Sunday, March 9, 2014

10:00 am – Noon

Leader: Pete Costello of Zoo New England. Join Pete for a family-friendly walk to explore and discuss animal and bird habitats, nests and animal signs in the Fells. Walking will be Easy to Moderate. Bring water and binoculars. Meet at 10:00 am at the Flynn Rink parking area on Woodland Rd. in Medford. Rain

cancels. Email Pete at pbeararl@yahoo.com for more information.

Hike 'n' Carry in the Eastern Fells

Sunday, March 23, 2014

2:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Leader: Linda Schwetz. Join Linda for an all-ages hike and trail clean-up in the Eastern Fells. Bags, gloves, and verification of two community service hours will be provided. Meet at 2:00 sharp at Flynn Rink on

Woodland Road in Medford. Rain cancels. Call Linda at 617-803-3173 for more information.

Volunteer Trail Adopter and Event Captain Information/Training Session

Monday, March 24, 2014

7:30 pm – 9:00 pm

Are you interested in volunteering on the trails of the Fells — as a trail adopter or a leader of volunteer



Between 1890–93 botanist George Davenport began presenting a series of glass lantern slides to build support

Middlesex Fells Lantern Slides of George Davenport

**Tuesday, March 25,
7:00 p.m.** (snow date
March 26th)

*Co-Presented by Mike
Ryan, and Kyna Hamill.*

for protect the Fells as a reserve of nature. These slides have recently been discovered in the Medford Historical Society's archives and are once again being shown.

Winchester Public Library, 80 Washington St, Winchester. Program sponsored by the Friends of Winchester Public Library.

PHOTO: George Davenport and children at Fells Druidical Rock (MHS)

groups doing cleanups, trail maintenance or invasive species removal? We need plenty of help as we work to expand these programs in 2014 — your interest and a little bit of initiative are the only prerequisites. At this meeting, we will review guidelines and procedures for maintaining trails in the Fells and set you up to work alone as a trail adopter or to lead groups at 2014 events like Park Serve Day. Meet at the Beebe Estate (235 W. Foster St., Melrose) around 7:30 pm. Call Rich at 617-335-7310 or email rich_sanford@alum.mit.edu for more information.

Nature Journaling in the Fells

Saturday, March 29, 2014

10:00 am – Noon

Leaders: Kaye and Walter Kittredge. Join artist-botanist team Kaye and Walter for a short easy hike to evocative spots in the Fells. Bring a sketchbook or art pad of your choice as we draw inspiration from nature, answer your questions, and explore different techniques for creating a unique journal of your own design. Open to all levels of experience, we will pick a theme to get your creative juices flowing. Bring pens, pencils, markers, watercolors — whatever media you like — and an open mind to give it a try. Meet at Long Pond parking lot, Gate 13 on South Border Road, Winchester.

Early spring at Bellevue Pond

Wednesday, April 9, 2014

9:15 am – 11:30 am

Leader: Boot Boutwell. Spring has arrived. We will see if we can find any signs of spring on a walk around Bellevue Pond and down along Straight Gully Brook. The walk will focus on plant ID as well as fun and interesting natural history. Meet at the Bellevue Pond

parking lot on South Border Road in Medford. Steady rain cancels. This walk is free of charge and open to the public. For more information, please call Boot Boutwell at 781-729-4712.

Animal Habitats Walk on the Rock Circuit Trail

Sunday, April 13, 2014

10:00 am – Noon

Leader: Pete Costello of Zoo New England. Join Pete for a family-friendly walk to explore and discuss animal and bird habitats, nests and animal signs in the Fells. Walking will be Easy to Moderate. Bring water and binoculars. Meet at 10:00 am at the Flynn Rink parking area on Woodland Rd. in Medford. Rain cancels. Email Pete at pbeararl@yahoo.com for more information.

Early spring at Virginia Wood

Monday, April 14, 2014

9:15 am – 11:30 am

Leader: Boot Boutwell. Spring is here and signs of the season are popping up all over, if you know where to look for them. Join Boot Boutwell for a nature walk that will focus on plant ID as well as fun and interesting natural history. Meet at the Virginia Wood parking lot to the right of the house at #1 Woodland Road (at the intersection of Woodland Road and Pond Street) in Stoneham. Steady rain cancels. This walk is free of charge and open to the public. For more information, please call Boot Boutwell at 781-729-4712.

Serve the Fells for DCR Park Serve Day

Saturday, April 26, 2014

9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Fells supporters of all ages are invited to join in a day of service at the Fells in conjunction with DCR

Park Serve Day. Available projects will include trail cleanups, habitat restoration, and trail maintenance hikes at various sites throughout the Fells Reservation. Meet at Flynn Rink (Woodland Road, Medford) between 9am and 11am to register and receive your work assignment. Groups are welcome to pre-register by email. Please bring water, snacks, sunscreen and/or bug spray to suit your needs. Any required tools will be provided. Lightning cancels, otherwise please dress for the weather. Call Rich at 617-335-7310 or email rich_sanford@alum.mit.edu for more information.

Nature Journaling in the Fells

Sunday, April 27, 2014

10:00 am – Noon

Leaders: Kaye and Walter Kittredge. Join artist-botanist team Kaye and Walter for a short easy hike to evocative spots in the Fells. Bring a sketchbook or art pad of your choice as we draw inspiration from nature, answer your questions, and explore different techniques for creating a unique journal of your own design. Open to all levels of experience, we will pick a theme to get your creative juices flowing. Bring pens, pencils, markers, watercolors — whatever media you like — and an open mind to give it a try. Meet at Virginia Wood parking lot, Gate 42 on Pond Street, Stoneham.

Resident & Migrating Birds

Wednesday, April 30, 2014

8:00 am – 10:00 am

Leaders: Dana Jewell & Ingeborg Burggraf. Join Dana and Ingeborg on an easy walk looking for resident and migrating birds as they move north towards their breeding grounds. Meet at the Greenwood Park parking lot, Pond

St., Stoneham across from the Stone Zoo. Rain cancels.

Walk for Seniors by a Senior

Wednesday, April 30, 2014

10:30 am – Noon

Leader: Bryan Hamlin. Join Bryan in enjoying the beauties of early spring. Meet at Bellevue Pond parking lot in Medford. Steady rain cancels. Bryan's cell: 781-854-2058.

Hike 'n' Carry in the Western Fells

Sunday, May 4, 2014

2:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Leader: Linda Schwetz. Join Linda for an all-ages hike and trail clean-up by the South Reservoir. Bags, gloves, and verification of two community service hours will be provided. Meet at 2:00 sharp at the Parking Area near Gate #9 on South Border Road in Medford. Rain cancels. Call Linda at 617-803-3173 for more information.

Spring at Virginia Wood

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

9:15 am – 11:30 am

Leader: Boot Boutwell. Spring is in full swing and wildflowers are popping up all over, if you know where to look for them. Join Boot Boutwell for a nature walk that will focus on plant ID as well as fun and interesting natural history. Meet at the Virginia Wood parking lot to the right of the house at #1 Woodland Road (at the intersection of Woodland Road and Pond Street) in Stoneham. Steady rain cancels. This walk is free of charge and open to the public. For more information, please call Boot Boutwell at 781-729-4712.

Spring Hike with Botanist Bryan Hamlin

Saturday, May 10, 2014

10:00 am – Noon

Leader: Bryan Hamlin. Join botanist Bryan Hamlin for a spring hike. Meet at Gate 8 on South Border Rd, Medford. Steady rain cancels. Bryan's cell: 781-854-2058.

Animal Habitats Walk on the Rock Circuit Trail

Sunday, May 11, 2014

10:00 am – Noon

Leader: Pete Costello of Zoo New England. Join Pete for a family-friendly walk to explore and discuss animal and bird habitats, nests and animal signs in the Fells. Walking will be Easy to Moderate. Bring water and binoculars. Meet at 10:00 am at the Flynn Rink parking area on Woodland Rd. in Medford. Rain cancels. Email Pete at pbeararl@yahoo.com for more information.

Walk for Seniors to See Pink Lady Slipper Orchids

Wednesday, May 21, 2014

10:00 am – 11:30 am

Leader: Bryan Hamlin. Botanist Bryan Hamlin invites seniors to join him on a walk to see Pink Lady Slipper Orchids. Meet at Long Pond parking lot in Winchester at the top end of South Border Rd. Steady rain postpones till same time Thursday. Bryan's cell: 781-854-2058.

Long Pond Lady Slippers

Thursday, May 22, 2014

9:15 am – 11:30 am

Leader: Boot Boutwell. Lots of spring wildflowers are in full bloom at Long Pond and with any luck, the Lady Slippers will be among them. Join Boot Boutwell on a nature walk which will focus on wildflower identification as well as fun and interesting natural history. Meet at the Long Pond parking lot, South

Border Road, Winchester. Steady rain cancels. This walk is free of charge and open to the public. For more information, please call Boot Boutwell at 781-729-4712.

A Hike to See Pink Lady Slipper Orchids

Saturday, May 24, 2014

10:00 am – Noon

Leader: Bryan Hamlin. Join Bryan Hamlin in looking for pink lady slipper orchids and other spring beauties. Meet at Long Pond parking lot in Winchester at the top end of South Border Rd. Steady rain cancels. Bryan's cell: 781 854 2058.

Nature Journaling in the Fells

Saturday, May 31, 2014

10:00 am – Noon

Leaders: Kaye and Walter Kittredge. Join artist-botanist team Kaye and Walter for a short easy hike to evocative spots in the Fells. Bring a sketchbook or art pad of your choice as we draw inspiration from nature, answer your questions, and explore different techniques for creating a unique journal of your own design. Open to all levels of experience, we will pick a theme to get your creative juices flowing. Bring pens, pencils, markers, watercolors — whatever media you like — and an open mind to give it a try. Meet at Bear Hill parking lot, Gate 21 on Fallon Road, Stoneham

**To confirm that these walks
are going on as scheduled,
check the “Hikes and Events
Calendar” on the Friends
of the Fells website at
www.fells.org.**

BABES IN THE WOODS



Children share nature finds with each other (Mike Ryan)

MARCH

All hikes take place on Tuesdays from 10:00am to 11:30am

March 4

Long Pond Nature Trail

Meet at the Long Pond parking lot, South Border Rd., Winchester.

March 11

Sheepfold to Bear Hill

Meet at the Sheepfold parking lot, off Fellsway/West/Route 28, Stoneham.

March 18

Woodland Path Trail east or west

Meet at Flynn Rink, Woodland Rd., Medford.

March 25

Bellevue Pond to Panther Cave

Meet at Bellevue Pond parking lot, South Border Rd., Medford. Additional parking is available on Governors Ave.

APRIL

All hikes take place on Tuesdays from 10:00am to 11:30am

April 1

Spot Pond Stroll

Meet at the DCR Botume House Visitor Center, 4 Woodland Rd., Stoneham. Parking is also available at Spot Pond Boating.

April 8

Crystal Spring to Virginia Wood

Meet at the Greenwood Park parking lot, Pond St., Stoneham, across from the Stone Zoo.

April 15

Long Pond Nature Trail

Meet at the Long Pond parking lot, South Border Rd., Winchester.

April 22

Sheepfold to Bear Hill

Meet at the Sheepfold parking lot, off Fellsway/West/Route 28, Stoneham.

April 29

Woodland Path Trail east or west

Meet at Flynn Rink, Woodland Rd., Medford.

MAY

Hike and Seek is from 10am-10:45am; Babes hikes are from 11am-noon



Aerobic paced hikes begin in May (Noah Kaplan)

Babes in the Woods hikes in May

Please note these hikes are appropriate only for parents who carry their children; trails will not accommodate strollers, or young children who walk. For those with children who like to walk the trail and explore, please join us for Hike and Seek at 10am! (see details on next page)

May 6

Bellevue Pond to Panther Cave (11am – Noon)

Meet at Bellevue Pond parking lot, South Border Rd., Medford. Additional parking is available on Governors Ave.

May 13

Spot Pond Stroll (11am – Noon)

Meet at the DCR Botume House Visitor Center, 4 Woodland Rd., Stoneham. Parking is also available at Spot Pond Boating.

May 20

Crystal Spring to Virginia Wood (11am – Noon)

Meet at the Greenwood Park parking lot, Pond St., Stoneham, across from the Stone Zoo.

May 27

Sheepfold to Bear Hill (11am – Noon)

Meet at the Sheepfold parking lot, off Fellsway/West/Route 28, Stoneham.

Hike and Seek walks begin in May

Hike and Seek is an opportunity for young hikers and their parents to explore the Fells through nature themed scavenger hunts. For parents with children young enough to carry on a conventional hike through the woods, please join us for our Babes in the Woods hike at 11am!

May 6

Bellevue Pond Hike and Seek (10am – 10:45am)
Meet at Bellevue Pond parking lot, South Border Rd., Medford. Additional parking is available on Governors Ave.

May 13

Spot Pond Hike and Seek (10am – 10:45am)
Meet at the DCR Botume House Visitor Center, 4 Woodland Rd., Stoneham. Parking is also available at Spot Pond Boating.

May 20

Whip Hill Hike and Seek (10am – 10:45am)
Meet at the Greenwood Park parking lot, Pond St., Stoneham, across from the Stone Zoo.

May 27

Sheepfold Hike and Seek (10am – 10:45am)
Meet at the Sheepfold parking lot, off Fellsway/West/Route 28, Stoneham.



Friendships form on the trails. (Noah Kaplan)

What is Babes in the Woods?

Are you home on mornings with young children? Come for a walk in the woods with Friends of the Middlesex Fells.

Children of all ages are welcome, whether they are hanging out in a carrier, or tromping through the woods on their own two feet. Hike leaders will point out interesting sights and sounds unique to that day's trail. Please note these hikes are not suitable for strollers. See above for information on Hike and Seek walks which begin in May!

See weekly calendar section for hike dates and locations. Rain or snow cancels. No dogs please. All hikes are drop-in format — no pre-registration is required. Hikes are always free, but we encourage you to become a Friends of the Fells member to help support these programs.

Additional walks: Please check our website calendar found at www.fells.org for updates about additional Babes in the Woods hikes, and to confirm weekly schedules.

Program Note Please download and fill out the liability release form linked to the Friends of the Fells website on the Babes in the Woods Information page. Bring the waiver to your next hike and give to the hike leader.

Babes in the Woods is co-sponsored by the Friends of the Middlesex Fells, the Medford Family Network, the North Suburban Family Network, the Malden/Everett Family Network, and the Department of Conservation and Recreation.

Questions? Call the Friends at 781-662-2340, or go to www.fells.org.

New Adventures Planned for Babes in the Woods

continued from front cover

in the works for spring! Thanks to considerable input by parents, we have decided that in May we will begin offering two separate hikes to meet the differing needs of our parent and child hikers. These will be offered consecutively on Tuesday mornings, so parents who wish to attend both can do so.

Hike and Seek hikes

For families with children who are old enough to walk and explore the woods, we will offer scavenger hunts/hikes themed by the season and different animal and plant types found in the Fells. These hikes will give children the opportunity to learn, play, and explore in the forest, without being asked to keep pace with adult hikers. These hikes will be offered Tuesday mornings from 10-10:45am (see details on previous page).

Babes in the Woods “classic” hikes

For parents who carry their children and wish to walk a bit more quickly for exercise, we will offer appropriately paced 1-hour hikes at 11am each Tuesday. Note that until May all hikes will begin at the regular 10am starting time as listed in the events calendar.

New hike leader volunteer



We are grateful to parent hiker, Guillermo Ortiz, who has volunteered to lead our Thursday hikes! Guillermo is a long time resident of Massachusetts, originally from Mexico. He works as a musician, and is proud dad to little 8-month old, Julieta (*photo by Noah Kaplan*).

Please check our online calendar for updates and details about our upcoming events.

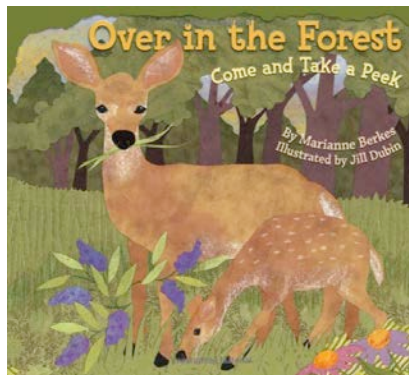
Marathon Sports donation

We want to thank Marathon Sports, in Melrose for their generous donation of 10 pairs of ice crampon Yak Trax for our Babes in the Woods winter hikers! We are especially grateful to store manager, Alison Eno-Ballback, for coordinating the donation.

Fifteen-year anniversary of Babes in the Woods

To celebrate this remarkable milestone, this spring we are planning a large-scale “hike and seek” event, to be facilitated by naturalists with knowledge of the different plants and animals found in the Fells. Families with children of all ages will be welcome, and awards and raffle prizes will be given to “master naturalists” who complete all of afternoon’s activities!

Storybook Walk April 19 – April 27



We are excited to announce our collaboration with the Department of Conservation and Recreation, and the North Suburban Child and Resource Network, to offer a self-guided walk through the

Fells! This family activity will feature the children’s book, *Over in the Forest*, by Marianne Berkes. Children and their parents will learn about the different forest animals that can be found in the Fells, as they read laminated pages of the book posted along the trail. Directions for the self-guided walk will be posted adjacent to the Botume House, 4 Woodland Road, Stoneham between April 19 – April 27, to coincide with Earth Day and school break. This program was adapted from The StoryWalk® Project created by Anne Ferguson of Montpelier, VT and developed in collaboration with the Vermont Bicycle & Pedestrian Coalition and the Kellogg Hubbard Library.

Sarah Maisonneuve is Friends of the Fells Youth Program Director

Connecting Medford High School students with the Fells

By Susan Ekstrom



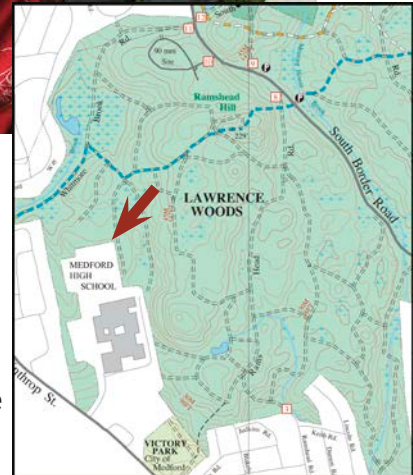
EAGLE EYE INSTITUTE IS EXCITED TO announce the formation of an EAGLE (Earth Advocates Green Leaders for the Environment) Club at Medford High School this spring. In December community partners, including Friends of the Fells, Department of Conservation and Recreation, the Environmental Protection Agency, and USDA Forest Service began meeting at Medford High School with Headmaster John Perella and physical education teacher Matt Galusi to discuss ways to engage Medford High School students and staff in exploration of the Middlesex Fells.

The Lawrence Woods section of the Fells abuts MHS, yet is underutilized by students. Eagle Eye and its partner organizations will teach MHS students about the ecology and challenges facing the Fells, while developing trail maintenance, outdoor leadership and teamwork skills through EAGLE Club sessions during weekly gym classes. After eight weeks of direct learning and unstructured time in the Fells, the students will host a public stewardship event, leading work crews of Medford citizens in stewardship projects aimed at improving public access and maintaining the Fells' integrity.

Engaging a core group of High School students in outdoor lessons and activities, specifically tailored to their local woods, will give them the experience, knowledge and inspiration to spend more time in nature. Participating in a long-term stewardship project will grow respect, appreciation and engagement in the Fells as youth will want to show their friends and family all their hard work. The progress of the stewardship work will generate enthusiasm and motivate other MHS students, teachers and Medford residents to visit the site, ask questions and explore the Fells further. The stewardship event will be a great opportunity for those curious about the Fells and recreating in the outdoors to learn about the various adventures the Fells offers. We hope you will join us for this stewardship event! Date and times will be announced as they are developed.

Susan Ekstrom is Eagle Eye Institute EAGLE Program Manager

TOP: Eagle Eye Fells EAGLE projects combines education with stewardship (Eagle Eye Institute); INSET: Medford High School is perfectly located for Fells learning and stewardship opportunities



“Few are altogether deaf to the preaching of pine trees. Their sermons on the mountains go to our hearts; and if people in general could be got into the woods, even for once, to hear the trees speak for themselves, all difficulties in the way of forest preservation would vanish.”

John Muir

HELP NOW: Donate to The Friends of The Middlesex Fells

Your contribution to the Friends of the Middlesex Fells will help preserve this priceless landscape for the enjoyment of this and future generations! We truly need your financial help in dealing with the proposed development which threatens the very essence of the Fells. Your support for Friends programs benefits Fells visitors of all ages.

Donation Levels

- ☐ \$1000 and above: Protector — my contribution is _____
- ☐ \$500-\$999: Advocate — my contribution is _____
- ☐ \$100-\$499: Conserver — my contribution is _____
- ☐ \$10-\$99: Associate — my contribution is _____

The Friends of the Middlesex Fells is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. All donations are tax-deductible. Check with your employer's Human Resources Department to see if they will match your gift.

Donate

In addition to mailing a check you may now contribute online! See the 'Donate' button on www.fells.org.

JOIN US: Become a member of the Friends of the Middlesex Fells

- ☐ New Membership (includes trail map!) ☐ Renewal

Which level would you like to join?

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Life Member \$1,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor \$100 | <input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$25 | <input type="checkbox"/> Corporate \$500 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor \$500 | <input type="checkbox"/> Supporter \$50 | <input type="checkbox"/> Senior \$15 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Patron \$200 | <input type="checkbox"/> Family \$25 | <input type="checkbox"/> Student \$15 | |

All but \$50 of Life Memberships are tax-deductible. All but \$5 of Annual Memberships are tax-deductible.

Donate online, or make checks payable to the Friends of the Middlesex Fells and mail this form to:
Friends of the Middlesex Fells, 235 West Foster Street, Melrose, MA 02176

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____

Phone _____

Please print legibly.

Personal information is not released for any purpose.

Please add friends@fells.org to your email address book to prevent email blocking.

- ☐ Check here if you would like to receive the Friends of the Middlesex Fells volunteer opportunities questionnaire.

☐ **\$4** Trail Map describing scenic and natural features found in the Fells.

☐ **\$3** *Creation of the Middlesex Fells* by Michael Ryan, executive director, Friends of the Middlesex Fells

☐ **\$4** *The Middlesex Fells*: An 1898 article by William de las Casas

☐ **\$10** *Changes in the Flora of the Middlesex Fells*, a reprint of the 2012 Rhodora article with a complete list of plant species and habitats.

☐ **\$18** Friends of Middlesex Fells Fox T-shirt (Please visit www.fells.org for details)

☐ **\$8** Pack of 4 Fells postcards: Lawrence Woods Pond, Spot Pond, Spot Pond Brook, Ravine Road Hemlock Grove

All prices include shipping and handling.

Contact the Friends of the Fells for wholesale prices.

Friends of the Middlesex Fells Board

Bryan Hamlin/Chair; Sandra Pascal/Vice Chair; Mike Ryan/Executive Director; Heidi Kelf/Secretary; Mike Oliver/Treasurer; Mayor Robert Dolan; Joyce Calabro, Bob Ghika, Walter Kittredge; Dana M. Jewell; Carol McKinley; Rich Sanford; and Bob Weggel



Spring profusion welcomes Fells visitors (Mike Ryan)

Return Service Requested



Friends of the Middlesex Fells Reservation | 235 West Foster Street | Melrose, MA 02176
www.fells.org | 781-662-2340 | friends@fells.org | The Fells: forever the people's forest park

News of the Fells Spring 2014

If you would like to receive Friends of Fells email updates on program changes, breaking news or alerts, please send your email address to friends@fells.org.

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