



Flooding at Short Beach during the Nor'easter in February. Storms like this have intensified as a result of global climate change. Our shoreline will constantly change. Climate change issues are covered on page 3.



May in the Marsh 📅 **Saturday**

May 4, 10 AM - NOON

Belle Isle News

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Key Marsh Restoration in the Works

EVENTS

All programs are free and open to the public.

Marsh clean-up, Saturday April 27, 9 AM. Meet at Bayou Street entrance to the marsh in Winthrop. A limited number of boots and work gloves will be provided. Wear water-proof footwear.

May in the Marsh, Saturday May 4, 10 AM - NOON. Activities for children include hayrides. The Creature Teacher will be back with live animals.

For additional information and registration about the following DCR programs, contact Matthew Nash at Matthew.Nash@state.ma.us, or 781-485-2804 x 105.

Revere Beach discovery, Tuesday through Saturday (by appointment)
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INSIDE

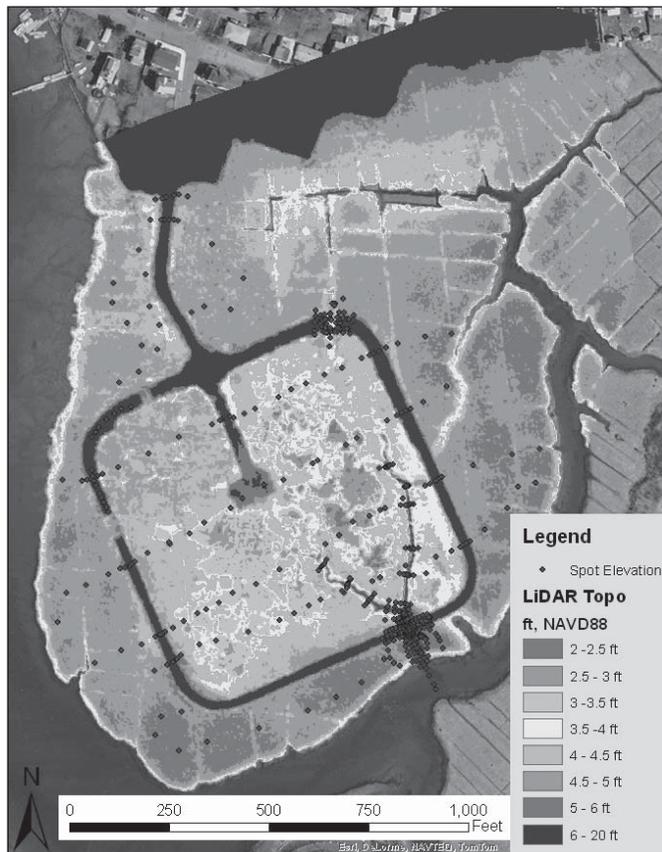
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Located off Summer Street in Revere, the Key Marsh is identifiable by a dike surrounding the seven-acre marsh. Constructed during World War II, the dike protected a radio tower used during the war effort. The radio tower is gone, except for its concrete foundations; however the dike, along with its lasting impact on the marsh, remains.

Salt marshes are defined and sustained by the tide. The twice-daily rise and fall of the tide irrigates the marsh, delivers nutrients and sediment and flushes toxins.

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Altered tidal hydrology's impact on the marsh elevation is clearly visible in this plot of LiDAR elevation data for the Key Marsh. Marsh surface elevations are 0.5 - 1.0 foot lower inside the radio tower dike than outside. The dike is indicated with a heavy line (representing elevations > 6 ft NAVD 88). Ground elevations captured using RTK-GPS technologies are shown as dots.

Caesar's Resort Casino at Suffolk Downs

The owners of the Suffolk Downs racecourse filed their Environmental Notification Form (ENF) on January 31st, beginning the next phase in the permitting process to win approval of a gaming license

at Suffolk Downs in East Boston and Revere in partnership with Caesar's Entertainment Corporation. Belle Isle Creek runs through the 161-acre site and delineates the border between

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In August, 2012, project team members tour the Key Marsh to discuss restoration strategies.

Key Marsh Restoration *(continued)*

Indeed, the difference in plant communities between the low marsh (dominated by smooth cord grass *Spartina alterniflora*) and high marsh (with its broad swaths of salt meadow cord grass *Spartina patens* and *Distichlis spicata*) is caused by differences in the frequency and duration of tidal inundation. Alter the reach of the tide, and the marsh responds. Exclude the tides entirely, for example by building a dike, and

the salt marsh degrades over time and can no longer provide quality habitat for fish and wildlife.

Thus, when a dike was constructed in the Key in the early 1940s, several changes were set in motion. The marsh began to dry out, surface water and pore water (water within marsh peat) began to freshen, and the vegetation responded. A culvert under the dike fitted with a one-way flap gate provided drainage. When that

culvert collapsed, altering hydrology yet again, a new series of changes began and water pooled on the marsh surface. When the dike was partially breached in the late 1990s, yet another series of changes were set in motion. The marsh's physical response to these hydrologic changes is best viewed by looking at old aerial photographs available from <http://www.historicaerials.com/>. Simply search for "Summer Street, Revere, MA", and you can view images from 1938 (before dike construction) to 2005. In short, tidal influence is the primary driver of salt marsh health, and absent natural tidal hydrology, the Key Marsh remains impaired.

Recently, a partnership has formed with the goal of improving ecological conditions within the Key. The Mystic River Watershed Association (MyRWA), together with the Friends of Belle Isle Marsh, CZM's Mass Bays Program, the Massachusetts Division of Ecological Restoration (MA DER), and Northeast Massachusetts Mosquito Control and Wetland Management District have begun to assess the ecological condition of the Key Marsh and develop approaches to restore tidal flow. This past fall, project partners

Continued page 3

Casino *(continued)*

East Boston and Revere. The Friends of Belle Isle Marsh (FBIM) is studying the plan's impacts primarily in terms of water and air pollution and traffic congestion. The billion dollar plan calls for the construction of a casino, two hotels, a parking garage on the site, the rerouting of Tomasello Drive to the main entrance of the resort, construction of a fly-over at Boardman Street and Route 1A and construction of a new on-ramp to Route 1 north in Chelsea. Officials from Suffolk Downs have met with the FBIM Board of Directors to discuss environmental impacts and

opportunities for recreation at Belle Isle Reservation.

Caesar's executives say this project will be the "greenest" casino in the United States, if not the world. They promise to reduce the amount of pavement with a garage and "parking gardens" and a beautifully landscaped entrance to the resort. The plan calls for energy efficient lighting, the recycling of paper, glass, cardboard and plastic materials as well as waste vegetable oils, the installation of low-flow water systems in the hotel guest rooms and possibly roof gardens.

The project site is within the Rumney Marsh Area of Critical Environmental

Concern (ACEC), and a breeding ground for dozens of species of wildlife. Our goal in reviewing the documents is to preserve and protect Belle Isle Marsh, a critical resource in our community.

FBIM, Mystic River Watershed Association (MyRWA) and other environmental advocacy organizations will be submitting comment letters. FBIM members are urged to review and submit comments about the ENF document, which can be accessed via our website www.friendsofbelleislemarsh.org.

Barbara Bishop

Key Marsh Restoration *(continued)*
evaluated the site by collecting detailed tidal hydrology and ground elevation data to inform restoration design.

Field investigation revealed that after 70+ years, the dike continues to influence tidal hydrology. Tidal flow is excluded from the wetland on all but peak spring tides when water enters Key Marsh through a breach in the northeast corner of the dike. Once inside, the water drains slowly through the collapsed culvert. The result is that water is held on the marsh surface for days following spring tide events. In addition, marsh elevations within the dike are 0.5 – 1.0 ft lower than outside — the result of marsh peat subsidence and reduced delivery of sediment to the marsh surface.

Project partners are now discussing options to restore tidal hydrology. The most likely approach calls for breaching the dike in two locations: in the northeast corner to expand the existing breach, and along the southern berm at the site of the old culvert to reconnect the historic creek channels. This spring, project partners will reach out to marsh neighbors and the public to discuss restoration concepts and seek input. Once a restoration approach is selected, Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc., will be donating technical services to design the restoration project through the Corporate Wetland Restoration Partnership.

Franz Ingelfinger

Franz Ingelfinger is a project manager and restoration ecologist with the Department of Fish and Game's Division of Ecological Restoration. The mission of the Division of Ecological Restoration is to restore and protect the Commonwealth's rivers, wetlands and watersheds for the benefit of people and the environment.

If you have questions, please contact Franz at franz.ingelfinger@state.ma.us.



Making Black Gold

I make black gold. Because I'm lazy, it takes a long while (3 years for the last batch) but it actually smells wonderful. Of course, it's compost that I'm talking about. Black gold for the garden. You take your old leaves and weeds and twigs, throw them all in a pile and let it rot. You end up with dirt, very special dirt for the garden. The lazy man's method involves an old discarded bed liner from a pickup truck cut in half and held together with a few bolts for the pile. I add some old fertilizer (Milorganite — dried sewage from Milwaukee) when I think of it. I water it sometimes in August. Maybe turn it over with a pitchfork once a year but be careful of the mouse family that lives there. That's it. The best dirt in the world.

The purists will tell you all the ways to do it right. Aeration, temperature control, hydration, particle size and the list goes on. If you follow the scientific method, you can get compost in six

weeks but if you're like me, that's just too much work. I follow an easier path, a path followed by robins.

Last week, a rowdy gang of robins was scavenging the ground by the marsh where I walk our dog, Ruby. The tree towering above them was full of seed pods that this late in the winter were finally falling to the ground. The robins were feeding on the seeds. There were close to two dozen birds relentlessly pecking away. Occasionally, a few birds wandered off into the leaf litter strewn nearby. They would kick through the dried leaves like kids in the autumn. They made all kinds of noise in the quiet of the early morning. It was like a school yard filled with kids. Quite suddenly I made the connection. The robins were making compost. The leaves were getting a good turn over mixed in with some loose topsoil. The snow melt was wetting the mixture down and the robins were adding the fertilizer. It was all a big compost bin. Nature at work.

Dirt is one of those things that you only notice when it's under your finger nails or on the bottoms of your shoes. It's far more than that. It takes a long while to make and then it produces almost everything that we eat, bread, veggies, fruit and by way of grass, hamburger. It deserves respect. It is black gold.

George Cumming





Photo by Soheil Zendeh

Tens of thousands of people gathered at the National Mall in Washington, DC, on Sunday, February 17, marching to the White House to register their opposition to the construction of Keystone XL pipeline. The protests were organized by a wide swath of environmental organizations including 350.org and Sierra Club.

Keystone to Climate Change

It was good news and surprising when in his inaugural address this January President Obama singled out “the devastating impact” of global warming as a policy focus for his second term. The fight against the Keystone XL pipeline is our chance to hold the administration to the goals set in that speech, obliging it, in the president’s inspiring words, to “respond to the threat of climate change, knowing that failure to do so would betray our children and future generations.”

The struggle against the pipeline and for the development of responsible energy policies entered a new phase in early March, when the results of a new study of Keystone’s likely environmental impact was released. In its 2,000-page Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), the State Department concluded, weakly, that the pipeline’s new route, redrawn last year to avoid Nebraska’s Sandhills and the Ogallala Aquifer, posed no obvious environmental hazards. But it left unanswered the

serious questions about the pipeline’s economic impacts and its likely effect on the country’s energy future.

It seems unlikely that any pipeline could cross 1,700 miles of wildlife habitat and agricultural land without risk. But strategically, it is probably better at this point to argue not with the specific conclusions of the EIS but to point out, forcefully and repeatedly, to the president and to the Secretary of State that completion of the Keystone project would serve only to prolong our dependence on fossil fuels, degrading our environment and retarding the search for safer, cleaner alternatives.

The State Department’s publication of the EIS on March 1 marked the beginning of a 45-day comment period. Please take the time to review the documents linked to at keystonepipeline-xl.state.gov and to offer your commentary at keystonecomments@state.gov. Let’s help the Obama administration and the Kerry State Department find the courage to carry through on the promises made in January.

Rick Wright

For many of us, the warmer weather brings a renewed commitment to get outside and appreciate Mother Nature and some fresh air. With that in mind, we hope that you take advantage of our spring event, **May in the Marsh**, which is scheduled for May 4th from 10 AM to noon. This event replaces the Harvest Festival which was cancelled due to weather back in October. We know that there were many disappointed would-be attendees, so we hope to attract you back to Belle Isle Park for this spring event!

Here are a few of the other projects and happenings which you should be aware of:

- The **spring clean-up** is planned for Saturday, April 27, at 9 AM at the Bayou Street entrance to the marsh in Winthrop. We will continue our efforts to clear that section of debris and knotweed, which can take over in a year’s time. From this entrance, it is a pleasant walk over the new pedestrian bridge to the John Kilmartin Walkway, which takes you to Short Beach Park.
- To mitigate for Clean Water Act violations, Suffolk Downs will fund construction of a new boardwalk at Belle Isle Park.
- Suffolk Downs has filed an Environmental Notification Form (ENF) detailing plans for developing their site. See **Caesar’s Resort Casino at Suffolk Downs** in this issue.
- The Department of Coastal Restoration will begin a wetland restoration project at the Key. See **Key Marsh Restoration in the Works** in this issue.

If you would like to check out the Key in one of your spring “back-to-nature” walks, there is a terrific hand-drawn map that was submitted by Jack Markley for our newsletter a few years ago. Go to our website, http://friendsofbelleislemarsh.org/Belle_Isle_Newsletters.html, and look

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President's Report *(continued)*

for the Summer 2005 newsletter. Jack also wrote a description of the Key with a short history, and instructions on how to get there. Enjoy your outings!



At our Annual Meeting on March 10, the Board of Directors was elected for the current year. (Board members are listed on page 8.) The featured speaker, Shawn Carey, presented a beautiful video documentary on shorebirds which he produced over the past four years. Craig Jackson's review of the video follows.

Daniela Foley

President, Friends of Belle Isle Marsh

VIDEO REVIEW

Epic Journeys by Shawn Carey

Piping Plovers (unlike most shorebirds) breed on open sandy beaches — in roughly the same areas that human beings use for summer beach-going. Thus, they are extremely susceptible to human disturbance during the breeding season and over the years their numbers have plummeted. Accordingly, for some years now they have been placed on the critically endangered species list. The vast majority of the small number of breeding pairs are in Massachusetts, and readers of this newsletter may recall that up to 8 pairs nested successfully on Winthrop and Revere Beaches the past two summers. What I did not know until the recent FBIM Annual Meeting is that these pairs had the highest breeding success



Photo by Shawn Carey

Adult Piping Plover brooding young

(percentage-wise) of any location in Massachusetts.

In no small part this success was due to careful monitoring of the nests, protective fencing, and educational outreach done primarily by FBIM's own Susannah Corona. Susannah is one of many persons (both paid and unpaid) who tirelessly work both to protect these birds on their nesting beaches and educate beachgoers on how to avoid disturbing them. The work of these protectors and the still tenuous situation of nesting Piping Plovers and their chicks was the subject matter of one third of a video, *Epic Journeys*, that was presented by Shawn Carey at our Annual Meeting. Four years in the making, the video examined intensively three different shorebird species and areas used by them during different times of the year — Red Knots in the spring, Piping Plovers during their breeding season and Semipalmated Sandpipers in the fall.

With few exceptions (the Piping Plover being one), most shorebirds breed in taiga and tundra, in high northern latitudes. Many also have long migration routes that are almost non-stop; thus, they are heavily dependent on specific concentrated feeding locations that have been imprinted in these species over thousands of years. While we have yet to understand completely how such small birds can fly such great distances, we do know that these feeding stops are essential for them to survive and breed. Red Knots may have one of the longest migration journeys of all shorebirds, with some breeding in the high arctic and wintering in the southern tip of South America — a total distance of almost 10,000 miles each way. While Semipalmated Sandpipers do not migrate as long a distance, for such a small bird (possibly

¼ the size of a Red Knot) they also travel a great distance, breeding in the arctic and wintering along the tropical coasts of Central and South America.

To make these huge long distance migrations, shorebirds have to store quantities of fat and increase their body weight substantially. Red Knots, after traveling halfway on their journey northward, need a second refueling stop. As *Epic Journeys* shows, this spot is the coast of Delaware Bay, where in spring massive numbers of Red Knots can be seen actively feeding and storing enough fat to make the second half of their journey to the arctic tundra. However, the video goes on to state that although one can still see huge numbers of Red Knots in Delaware Bay, the numbers have significantly decreased in recent years. This drop in population has been so great that in the 1990s the Red Knots stopping at Delaware Bay “declined ... from 100,000 birds to about 15,000.” (*Massachusetts Wildlife*, No. 1, 2012, p. 32). The situation since then has not improved greatly. In fact, there is such concern that conservationists have started worrying about the long-term prospects of the species. As late as 2012 the species was still under consideration for listing under the Endangered Species Act. Some scientists have even predicted its possible extinction if nothing is done.

What has caused this tremendous drop in numbers? Although beachfront development has certainly reduced the

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Photo by Shawn Carey

Clouds of migrant shorebirds over Bay of Fundy

Epic Journeys (continued)

available feeding areas, the real cause lies elsewhere. The main food resource of Red Knots at Delaware Bay is the millions of Horseshoe Crab eggs that are laid there every spring. However, as *Epic Journeys* states, the number of Horseshoe Crabs is plummeting, primarily because of over-harvesting due to their use in the conch and eel fisheries, with a predominance of those taken being the larger females.

Although the view shown in *Epic Journeys* of hundreds of Horseshoe Crabs on the beaches is certainly impressive, interviews with long-time residents recall bygone years when there were many tens of thousands! As the film clearly explains, the result is two-fold. First, fewer eggs are being laid to sustain the population of Horseshoe Crabs. Second, since Red Knots primarily feed on Horseshoe Crab eggs that have been dug up by succeeding egg-laying females, the lower numbers of egg-laying females results in far fewer eggs being dug up. This reduction in the food supply means that not only is there not enough food to sustain a larger population of knots, but also that many of the knots that do stop there to feed are not able to put on sufficient weight to breed successfully. Thus, populations of Red Knots continue to plummet.

The other long-distance migrant shorebird, the Semipalmated Sandpiper, is not in nearly the same danger. Again, *Epic Journeys* shows that upwards of 300,000 may be feeding at one time on the mud flats of the Bay of Fundy located in the Canadian Maritimes. The immensity of these flocks, however, can really only be appreciated at high tide: the sandpipers take flight from the tidal mudflats as tide rises and eventually land high up on the shore, covering every square inch of their high tide roosting areas. The shores of the Bay of Fundy are their principal feeding areas during fall migration, and almost all of them will have to put on enough fat to fly non-stop from here across the Atlantic Ocean to their wintering grounds in northern South America. The video points out that, although the birds are not in immediate danger, having such a

tremendous concentration of birds in one spot makes them especially vulnerable to any environmental disaster, whether natural or caused by human action. Both the Exxon Valdez ship sinking off the coast of Alaska and the more recent BP oil spill should give us pause in assuming that a possible threat to these birds is non-existent.

While *Epic Journeys* (as I have tried to show) makes clear the many threats to survival that these shorebirds have, its much greater value and impact is the visual effect it has on the viewer. Seeing tailless newborn Piping Plover chicks leave the safety of their mother's breast and search for food on their own cannot but touch the viewer's heart. Likewise, the concentration of Red Knots actively feeding on every square inch of the Delaware shore, with hundreds of Horseshoe Crabs lying on the sand above them is a spectacular sight. As impressive as these are, few things in nature today could compare to the mind-boggling sight of hundreds of thousands of Semipalmated Sandpipers flying in huge flocks to their high tide roosts. The impact of this flight is emphasized at one point in the video when all you can hear in the background is the low roaring caused by the wing beats of hundreds of thousands of birds.

Epic Journeys is truly a magnificent video. I hope it reaches a wider audience. If you made it to the annual meeting of FBIM, you were surely fortunate to be able to see it. For those who didn't and would like to purchase a copy, or if you would like to learn more information about the video, you can visit the website of Migration Productions at <http://www.migrationproductions.com/video-epic-journeys/>.

Craig Jackson



Compulsion to Clean

Several years ago, a strange and wonderful compulsion came over me: I could not pass by litter without my hands aching to pick it up. Since then, I have become a professional litter picker-upper. Luckily, I have found that the Friends of Belle Isle Marsh value this compulsion and provide it with an outlet once or twice a year in the form of an organized marsh clean-up. They bring together a great group of people of all ages and supply the tools, bags and truck to make the clean-up happen. We work as a team against litter and invasive plants.

At the end of the three hour stint, we all look back to a beautiful sight: Park areas that are so clean it looks like people have not discovered the area. I am old enough to remember that in the 1960s the poor marsh was a depository for gangland warfare victims. Then, we had contests to see who found the most unusual piece of litter; I was glad the winner only found a fire extinguisher!

For me, after years of managing projects that often felt like never-ending assembly lines, clean-ups give a immediate and heart-warming end. The park is clean and there is a large pile of ugly litter being carted away. Many children and youth groups are often part of the experience and see something valuable — people coming together for nature. It is also obvious that some of these children spend too little time with nature. Last year some children who found a garter snake were so frightened they ran away screaming. It gave our park ranger a chance to introduce the children to a harmless creature the children had never seen except on TV.

The Friends schedule an annual clean-up on a Saturday morning in mid to late April every year. The Friends newsletters and emails alert people to these events. Join us! It is a free way to get your heart warmed by nature and a good deed. You may even get your own "compulsion to clean".

Lorene Melvin

This year's clean-up is on April 27.

The Bounty of the Sea

Thousands of silver fish flashed all around my head in seemingly every direction. The school of pollock seemed to be everywhere at once and their sheer abundance was completely disorienting. It is easy to understand how difficult it must be for a predator to pick out a fish in this incredible moving mass of life.

I've only had the pleasure of being enveloped by large schools of fish a handful of times in my diving career. These schools are typically small compared to historical accounts of past fish abundance. Mariners reported schools of fish streaming past their boats for hours at a time. Fish schools of that size (allowing for some exaggeration) likely constituted millions of individuals. In 2013, it's rare to find such massive congregations of life.

At one time, men believed that the bounty of the seas were endless. We have since learned that fish, like every other natural resource, are a finite resource. These changes in abundance generally go unnoticed by the public at large. Slow declines in abundance can even go undetected by fisherman, scientists and people who tend to be very close to these resources. If these changes occur over a long period of time, the ultimately lower levels of abundance become the new normal state. Scientists have coined the term "shifting baselines" to describe this phenomenon. Each generation of scientists regard the state of the natural world during their career as the normal state, but in reality small abundance changes aggregated over multiple generations will result in dramatic reductions in organisms. The ocean that I swim in now is a very different place than even the ocean of Jacques Cousteau.

The logical question to ask is: "Where did the bounty go?" Unquestionably, a large percentage of it went into fisherman's nets, but that's not the only thing that is going on. The oceans are filled with a large

number of intricate interlocking pieces involved in this elaborate balancing act. A significant reduction in one piece, due to overfishing, inevitably will have implications (both positive and negative) for others. In New England, overfishing of cod allowed skates and dogfish populations to explode. As our Canadian neighbors have learned on Georges Bank, simply stopping the fishing of cod may not be sufficient to restore their populations to their prior levels. They have eliminated cod fishing on the Canadian side of Georges Bank for over a decade with little cod population recovery to show for it.

The sea's bounty is being shifted to different parts of the ecosystem to levels never previously recorded. Some scientists are reporting a global increase in jellyfish. Many species of jellyfish follow a boom or bust population cycles. Some years, swarms of jellyfish cloud the waters and other years not one can be found. Scientists theorize that they are observing more frequent boom years as humans change the natural conditions of our oceans.

The potential implications of increased jellyfish numbers can be profound. Jellies in general are voracious eaters and will dine directly

on fish eggs and larvae or on the zooplankton that many fish larvae rely on for food. In the Black Sea, the proliferation of comb jellies triggered the collapse of multiple fish populations. Sea turtles, ocean sunfish and a few other things will dine on jellies, but since jellies are primarily water there is not a huge payback for any potential predator.

My oceans may not be the oceans of Cousteau, but they are still a pretty special place. My oceans contain many stories about the resiliency of life on the planet. In my travels, I have often seen small reminders of that resiliency: the single mangrove tree growing on a mud flat representing the beginning of a new forest; the prolific new set of blue mussel spat covering large areas of bare rock; the discovery of eelgrass, sea scallops or oysters in locations where I've never observed them before.

Surrounded by the silvery school of pollock, I was filled with a sense of hope that only the bounty of the sea can bring.

Phil Colarusso

Phil Colarusso has been at the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) since 1989, spending about half of that time under water.



Friends of Belle Isle Marsh (FBIM) membership dues:

- Family \$15
- Individual \$10
- Seniors and Youth (under 16) \$5

FBIM is a registered nonprofit corporation; contributions are tax-deductible. Thank you for your continued support.

FBIM is a volunteer organization dedicated to the preservation of this marsh. We believe that protection ultimately depends on public awareness of the value and beauty of this natural resource. Our focus, therefore, is mainly educational.

*For extra newsletters to share or leave on tables at your coffee shop, public library or boat club, etc., call 617-567-5072 or email: **friendsofbelleislemarsh@comcast.net***

*Our web address: **<http://www.friendsofbelleislemarsh.org>***

*Also, look for us on **Facebook**.*

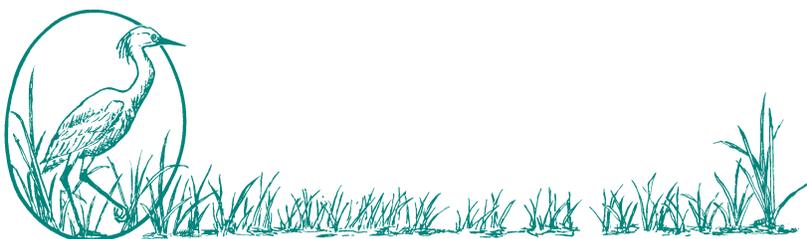
This issue was produced by Soheil Zende with help from Barbara Bishop, Daniela Foley, Gail Miller, Joe Wilson and Christine Zende.

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Events (continued from page 1)

only). Suitable for children K - 5. *Children will explore signs of life along the beach and learn ways to help keep the area beautiful and safe for wildlife and people. We can accommodate groups of 27 or less, and require at least 1 chaperone per 12 students. Meet at Revere Beach. Accessible by MBTA.*

Shorebird discovery, Tuesday through Saturday (by appointment only). Suitable for children K - 5. *Children will learn about the different kinds of birds that visit our beaches and how the DCR protects rare shorebirds. We can accommodate groups of 27 or less, and require at least 1 chaperone per 12 students. Meet at Revere Beach. Accessible by MBTA.*

Seaside clean-ups, Tuesday through Saturday (by appointment only). Suitable for children K - 5. *Help clean seaside habitats. Materials will be provided. Meet at Belle Isle Marsh, Revere Beach, Winthrop Beach, Lynn Beach, Nahant Beach, Salisbury Beach and Constitution Beach in East Boston. Most beaches are accessible by MBTA.*

Friends of Belle Isle Marsh Board Of Directors

The following officers and Board members were elected at the Annual Meeting on March 10:

President:	Daniela Foley, Winthrop
Vice President:	Barbara Bishop, Winthrop
Secretary:	Liz Regan, Winthrop
Treasurer:	Mary Mitchell, Winthrop
Members-at-large:	Karyl Stoia, Lynn Suzanne Ryan, Lynn Erica Foley, Winthrop Carina Campobasso, Winthrop
Former presidents:	Gail Miller, East Boston Eleanor Casey, Lynn

