
















## Celebrate With Us As We Turn 40!

We admit it. We're turning 40, and we're officially "Over the Hill." Over the (Blue) Hill, that is!

### Timeline of FBH Milestone Events and Successes over the Past 40 Years

  <p>Successfully advocated for on-site rangers in the Blue Hills</p>	 <p>Reconstructed the boardwalk at Ponkapoag Bog that was originally built by Professor William Babcock and his students in 1947</p>  <p>Protected views from Ponkapoag Pond by working with Town of Canton to modify the shape of the Canton water tank on Randolph Street</p>	 <p>Protected rare species by working with the state during an expansion of Pine Hill Cemetery in Quincy</p>  <p>Worked cooperatively and extensively with DCR to assure that the Ponkapoag dam would manage the level of the pond</p>  <p>Worked with state agencies to ensure that trails will connect the park to Route 128 Railroad Station to enhance use of the Reservation</p>
 <p>Established the original trail numbering system in the Blue Hills</p>	 <p>Protected endangered species habitat from a proposed petting zoo in Randolph</p>	 <p>Launched a volunteer-driven trail maintenance program to care for over 125 miles of trails</p>
<p><b>1970s</b></p>  <p>Initiated efforts to develop a Master Plan for the Blue Hills Reservation</p>  <p>Protected historic buildings by successfully listing eight sites in the Reservation in the Mass Historic Registry</p>	<p><b>1980s</b></p> <p><b>1990s</b></p>	<p><b>2000s</b></p>  <p>Introduced Peek-a-Blue Hikes, biweekly hikes in the Blue Hills for babies and toddlers</p>  <p>Sponsored the first Green Up the Blue Hills event, now drawing well over 100 volunteers annually to remove invasive species that threaten the forest</p>



Successfully advocated for a Mass Highway project to improve safety of hikers crossing Rte 138/Skyline Trail

## Friends for 40 Find It!

*Celebrate 40 years of protecting the Blue Hills with a chance to win a \$250 gift certificate and by exploring the Blue Hills!*

How well do you know the Blue Hills? Here's your opportunity to really explore this fantastic natural treasure right in our own backyard!

Check out our website [FriendsoftheBlueHills.org/FBHfind40](http://FriendsoftheBlueHills.org/FBHfind40) to get your checklist of 40 MUST SEE places in the Blue Hills. Visit some or all of these places and snap a pic and post it on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram with the hashtag #FBHfind40. You can download a free map of the Blue Hills on our website or stop by DCR Headquarters at 695

Hillside Street in Milton to purchase one.

When you request your checklist, you will automatically be entered into a raffle for a \$250 gift card to L.L. Bean! If you snap and post a pic of all 40 places, you'll also be eligible to win a year's membership to the Friends of the Blue Hills, a special 40th anniversary t-shirt, and a new laminated trail map! So come on, Friends...Find 40!!

Free Smart Phone Photography Clinic Thursday, January 24, 6:30-7:30 p.m. L.L. Bean at Legacy Place in Dedham Do you want to take even better photos? You can sharpen your photography skills with a special FREE clinic on smartphone photography. L.L. Bean's



*Historic Eliot Tower is one of 40 MUST SEE sites in the "Friends for 40 Find It!" scavenger hunt in the Blue Hills.*

expert staff will cover topics like lighting, composition, digital zoom, resolution, editing, and stabilizing your shot. Because the best camera to use is the one that you always have on you - your phone!

## Corporate Volunteers Have a Big Impact on the Trails



Each year, dozens of companies sponsor volunteer days in the Blue Hills, giving employees an opportunity to get out of the office and work together for a cause they believe in. Emergent BioSolutions in Canton was one such group last year. They chopped branches

and helped drag tree limbs off the trails. The hard-working employees are shown above taking a well-deserved break! For more information on company trail days, please email [info@FriendsOftheBlueHills.org](mailto:info@FriendsOftheBlueHills.org)

## Calling All Snow-Chasers!

*Look for "Pop-Up Clinics" when it snows.*

It can be hard to schedule winter recreational events because New England weather is so unpredictable! Check out our Facebook page or visit [FriendsOftheBlueHills.org/40Fun](http://FriendsOftheBlueHills.org/40Fun) if there's a big snow fall coming, though! We will be partnering with L.L. Bean to offer "Pop-Up Clinics" throughout the winter. Join us for snow-shoeing, cross-country skiing, and more! You'll learn tips for beginners before heading out, and then you'll benefit from continued coaching along the way. We hope to see you in the snowy Blue Hills this winter!

Visit [FriendsOftheBlueHills.org/40Fun](http://FriendsOftheBlueHills.org/40Fun) for updates on our 40th Anniversary

### Become a Friend of Forty!

Please join the Friends of the Blue Hills in celebrating 40 years of protecting and preserving the Blue Hills Reservation by adding \$10 when you renew your membership this year! Your tax-deductible contribution of \$40 (or more!) will help ensure that the historic resources and natural beauty of this amazing park will be enjoyed by visitors for another 40 years!

The Friends of the Blue Hills newsletter is produced four times a year.

Editors: Anne Comber,  
Judy Lehrer Jacobs,  
Barbara Kirby

Layout: Donald Souliere

Visit us on the web at [www.FriendsOftheBlueHills.org](http://www.FriendsOftheBlueHills.org) or call 781-828-1805 for membership, maps and schedule information.  
P.O. Box 416, Milton, MA 02186

### YES! I want to protect the Blue Hills Reservation!

- Basic Membership – \$30 + \$10 for 40!
- Hancock Hill Hero – \$100
- Chickatawbut Champion – \$500
- Other \_\_\_\_\_
- Ponkapoag Protector – \$50
- Skyline Steward – \$250
- Great Blue Guardian - \$1,000

Payment Frequency (Choose one)

- Lump sum donation
- Monthly donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Become a Sustainer:**  Yes, have this gift renew automatically

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Exp. date (MM/YY) \_\_\_\_\_

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Please mail check to Friends of the Blue Hills P.O. Box 416, Milton, MA 02186 or donate on our secure server at [FriendsOftheBlueHills.org](http://FriendsOftheBlueHills.org).

**Thank you for your generous support!**

# Beat the Winter Blues at Winter Fest!

## Join us on Tuesday, February 26, from 5-8 p.m. at Blue Hills Ski Area

Join the Friends of the Blue Hills and the Blue Hills Ski Area for an evening of winter fun at Winter Fest! Come for a night hike or get your exercise on the slopes downhill skiing. Whether or not you choose the outdoor activities, there is plenty of inside fun too: you can tap your feet to the spirited Irish tunes of Songs for Ceilidh, sample chili from some of the best local restaurants, entertain the kids

with crafts, and warm up in front of a blazing fire while enjoying the company of old and new friends.

Blue Hills Ski Area will be offering discounted ski tickets for the night. If planning to ski, print the front page of [www.FriendsoftheBlueHills.org](http://www.FriendsoftheBlueHills.org) or the FBH Facebook page and bring it to the event. For more information, visit [FriendsoftheBlueHills.org/winterfest2019](http://FriendsoftheBlueHills.org/winterfest2019).



## Friends of the Blue Hills, DCR and REI Open Abigail Adams Trail in the Blue Hills

representatives from the Friends of the Blue Hills and REI to officially open the Abigail Adams Trail in honor of the

Leo Roy, Commissioner of the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation, joined

200th anniversary of the death of this American First Lady and heroine.

The Abigail Adams Trail begins near the Trailside Museum in Milton, MA and is marked with a sign describing the courage and patriotism of the nation's second First Lady. A new trail marker—a quill which is a reference to

the many letters that Abigail and John Adams exchanged while apart—makes it easy to follow the trail from the base of the hill to Eliot Tower.

Improvements to the Abigail Adams Trail and new signing were made possible by a \$15,000 grant from REI in 2018.



*(From left to right) Eric Grady from REI, Commissioner Leo Roy from DCR, Paul Gannon from REI, David Dobrindt from Friends of the Blue Hills, and State Senator Walter Timilty were on hand to celebrate the opening of the Abigail Adams Trail in the Blue Hills.*

### What's a Wise Way to Help Wildlife in the Blue Hills?

When you remember the Blue Hills in your Will, you will help protect the wild inhabitants of the park for years to come. Learn more at [FriendsoftheBlueHills.org/Skyline](http://FriendsoftheBlueHills.org/Skyline)



Photo by Jean Lewis of Canton

## Hilltop and Skyline Society Members Feted at Reception

Friends of the Blue Hills board members (below) honored members of the Hilltop and Skyline Societies at a special reception on a historic estate overlooking the Blue Hills. Members of the Hilltop Society donate \$1,000

or more and Skyline Society members let us know that they have or intend to remember the Friends in their Will. To learn more about these societies, visit [FriendsoftheBlueHills.org/societies](http://FriendsoftheBlueHills.org/societies).



Friends of the Blue Hills board members shown above are (l to r) Laura Beebe, Bob Mazairz, David Dobrindt, Barbara Huggins, Cheryl Weinstein, and Rick Kesseli.

## Controlled Deer Hunt in the Blue Hills

For the fourth year, the Department of Conservation and Recreation and Mass Wildlife organized a controlled deer hunt in the Blue Hills to manage deer populations last fall. The hunt reduced the population by a total of 72. This year's hunt included 11 days of permitted archery hunting in November in designated areas in the Reservation. In late November and early December, there were four days of controlled shotgun hunting.

## THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS!

### Blue Hills Champion

Sunrise Erectors, Inc.

### Skyline Trail Supporter

Beth Israel Deaconess Hospital-Milton

### Great Blue Hill Guardian

Bank of Canton

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Mike and Ann-Margaret Caljouw

Dedham Institution for Savings

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Emergent BioSolutions

Falconi Properties

Fruit Center Marketplace

Bob Mazairz

Quirk Auto Dealers

Success! Real Estate – Tom O'Neill

The North Face

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Judy Lehrer & Gene Jacobs

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# Old Friends and New Location Make for a Memorable Celebration!

Nearly 150 people attended last fall's Friends of the Blue Hills Annual Celebration at the Canton Town Club. Attendees enjoyed the opportunity to catch up with other Blue Hills enthusiasts, learn about what we have achieved together over the past year, and raise funds to protect and preserve the Blue Hills Reservation.

A big thank you to our excellent keynote speaker, Ellen Berkland, staff archeologist at the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation, whose informative and engaging presentation on the first residents of the Blue Hills was the highlight of the evening.

We would also like to thank everyone who came and made the event such a success and the many individuals and businesses who sponsored the event and donated to the silent auction!



*Karl Pastore of DCR, Keynote Speaker Ellen Berkland, and Friends board member Bob McCrystal*



*All photos by Ken Cohen*

*David Dobrindt (at left), president of the Friends, and the recipients of the 2018 Community Partners Awards: Jeremy Comeau, Ben Houston, Jessica Baumgart, Melissa Nelson, and John Erickson.*



*A full crowd enjoyed DCR archeologist Ellen Berkland's informative presentation.*



*Katie and Chris Vaughn and Dovi Hirsch and Johanna Fleisher*

**Staff:** Executive Director: Judy Lehrer Jacobs  
 Associate Director: Anne Comber  
 Membership Coordinator: Maile Panerito-Langer

**Officers of the Friends of the Blue Hills:**  
 President: David Dobrindt, Milton  
 Vice President: Laura Beebe, Milton  
 Treasurer: Bob Murray, Milton  
 Secretary: Denny Swenson, Milton

**Trustees at Large:**  
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 Jim Green, Canton  
 Barbara Huggins, Newton  
 Rick Kessel, Milton  
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 Successful Real Estate  
 Sunrise Erectors  
 The North Face

**Winter Fest**  
 Tuesday, February 26, from 5-8 p.m.  
 Blue Hills Ski Area  
 Night hike, Irish music, chili tasting and more!  
[FriendsOfTheBlueHills.org/winterfest](http://FriendsOfTheBlueHills.org/winterfest)

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