



SBBA NEWS

<http://www.sbba.us>

Spring 2021

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Salisbury Beach
Betterment Association
P.O. Box 5508
Salisbury, MA 01952



Greetings from Our President

Dear SBBA Members,

Happy Spring!!

The weather is getting warmer and spring is in the air. It feels like we will have a return to some sense of normalcy during these next few months. Many of us have received our COVID-19 vaccinations and the infection rate in Massachusetts is down. I'm looking forward to walking the beach, dining at our local restaurants and seeing our friends and neighbors in Salisbury Beach center. As with past practice, we recommend that everyone adhere to guidelines regarding masks and social distancing that may be in place this summer.

The SBBA continues to be committed to advocating for

Salisbury Beach. Late last year we were instrumental in creating the Salisbury Beach Resiliency Task Force whose mission is to preserve and maintain Salisbury Beach and the Great Salt Marsh. The task force is comprised of our legislative delegation, town officials, local business leaders, DCR, Coastal Zone Management as well as members from Citizens for Change. We meet every other month and discuss many issues relevant to Salisbury Beach. More on the Task Force in another article in this newsletter.

It looks like that the Beach center will be a hub of activity this summer. The new Visitor Center and Comfort Station has broken ground and construction is underway. In addition, our friends at the Salisbury Beach Partnership will be bringing back some of the entertainment to the Broadway Mall and the Beach Center. Saturday nights will see

the return of live music on stage at the end of Broadway and in June we will see the return of the Carousel on the Broadway Mall for families to enjoy.

All in all, we are fortunate to be where we are. We have survived one of the most devastating world pandemics in the history of modern civilization and are positioned to have a great summer and fall season. Please share your thoughts on how the SBBA can help make the beach even better. We look forward to hearing from you and seeing you on the beach this summer.

Sincerely,
Bill Greilich

**Salisbury Beach
Resiliency Task Force**

The SBBA spearheaded the creation of the Resiliency Task Force late last year and the group has met three times via Zoom since then. Members include Senator Diana DiZoglio, Representative Jim Kelcourse, Town Manager Neil Harrington, Donna Abdulla and Chuck Takesian from the Salisbury Select Board, Conservation Agent Adriane Marchand, members from the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) and Coastal Zone Management, Wayne Capolupo from the Salisbury Beach Partnership, Tom Saab and Rick Rigoli from Citizens for Change, Environmental Consultant Tom Hughes and Rachel Morrison, a North End Boulevard resident. Our mission is to advocate for the long-term preservation of our beach and salt marsh. We employ a three-pronged approach which includes emergency response to storms, ongoing and continual maintenance, and long-term strategic planning.

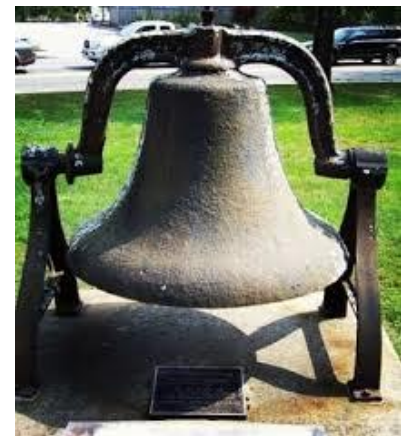
One of the major projects this spring has been to procure sand to repair damage from two nor'easters that occurred this winter which caused extensive erosion in the north end between beach access 6 and 7. Tom Saab and Rick Rigoli designed a plan for the state to fund the purchase of 4500 tons of sand for approximately \$90,000. Sen. DiZoglio and Rep. Kelcourse, as well as Senator Bruce Tarr, Representative Lenny Mirra, Neil Harrington, and Adriane Marchand have been meeting with DCR and the Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs to seek approval for funding to replace sand for that area. We are happy to report that Lt. Governor Karen Polito has approved the funding for the sand purchase. In a related matter, as part of the new State budget for fiscal year 2021 - 2022, Rep. Kelcourse has requested \$340,000 for sand dune restoration and erosion prevention for both Salisbury and Newburyport.

The SBBA also actively participates in the Merrimack River Beach Alliance (MRBA), a coalition of Salisbury, Newburyport and Newbury that discusses large scale projects regarding the coastal areas in those communities. At the March meeting, it was announced that federal funding had been approved for dredging sand from both the Piscataqua and Merrimack Rivers for both off-shore and on-beach sand placement. The SBBA is happy to report that Salisbury will receive approximately 175,000 – 200,000 cubic yards of sand from the Piscataqua River dredge, which will be overseen by the US Army Corps of Engineers (ACE). The material from the Piscataqua contains glacial till and gravel and is not suitable for onshore placement, so this material will be deposited

on Salisbury's nearshore deposit site. ACE projects that over time, approximately 50% of the finer sand will make its way to the shores of our beach. With respect to the Merrimack River dredge, which produces a finer grain sand suitable for on-beach placement, the SBBA was disappointed to hear that Salisbury will not be getting any of that sand despite a previous sharing agreement from the 2010 dredge.

***THE LEGEND OF HOPE
CHAPEL***

There were three Hope Chapels at Salisbury Beach. The first chapel was dedicated on July 7, 1889 and burned on September 16, 1901. The second chapel was dedicated on July 17, 1902 and burned October 27, 1908. The third was dedicated July 4, 1909 and burned May 29, 1966. The chapel bell originally hung in a church in Epping, New Hampshire.



Later Jacob Spaulding bought the church at his own expense, and had it moved to Salisbury Beach to replace the one which had burned.

The first organist at this chapel was a Mrs. Berry until 1921. In 1921 Beatrice A. Rollins, who had just graduated from high school, became organist, and continued until the chapel closed around 1963. James Hunt was the treasurer for ten years. A few

years after the chapel closed, it burned. The bell was displaced and forgotten until William Evans, owner of the Riverview Restaurant on Bridge Road, asked if he could use it as part of his decor. During Salisbury's 350th Celebration, Chip Davis of the Historical Commission felt the bell should be in a central location of town for all to enjoy. He asked the new restaurant owners if they would return it back to the town. Thomas Makris agreed. Davis, with the help of his son, Gregory Davis, and Charles Johnson Jr., Charles Johnson III, and Timothy and Samuel Johnson, retrieved the bell and placed it on a cement platform in the park in Salisbury Square. A marble plaque stored in the East Parish Methodist Church was attached to the base. In a ceremony On the Green on September 18, 1988, the bell was re-dedicated. The temporary plaque on the bell was presented to James Hunt, by Chip Davis, spokesman for the Historical Commission.

Source: Salisbury History - Carolyn Sargent published by the Salisbury Commission in 1991



Today the SBBA has taken on the task of again restoring this historic bell. We have been fortunate enough to receive assistance with the innumerable repairs from many people, as well as receive a grant from the Historical Commission.

We have also researched a possible new location for all to view and it is our hope that it be placed near the new Visitor Center on Broadway.

“The SBBA wishes to thank the Salisbury Cultural Council for their generous \$1,000 grant towards the completion of this project”.

Anyone wishing to contribute to The Hope Bell Restoration can mail a check to SBBA P.O. Box 5508, Salisbury Ma.01952 or go to our website SBBA.us.

Ray Champagne

Winter Visitor The Snowy White Owl

The Snowy White Owl has been a frequent visitor to many Salisbury Beach roof tops. His departure signifies Spring is here!



Annual Meeting

The SBBA Annual Meeting will be held on Monday, August 23, 2021 at the Blue Ocean Event Center on Salisbury Beach. The Board is working on providing informative guest speakers for the meeting.

Scholarships 2021 Our Annual Scholarship Fundraiser



There's No Way Around It!

YES, our scholarships are being awarded again for 2021. (Closing date was May 1) And we hope to continue this program for many

years to come. But we can't do it without your help. Please *make your gift today* -- the graduates of tomorrow thank you.

Thinking Positive

Our MOTOWN Oldies Music Event has been rescheduled for **Friday September 10th at the Blue Ocean Event Center.**

Center Stage Motown Revue

will bring you back to the Motown era with music of The Temptations, The Four Tops, Marvin Gaye, The Spinners, Smokey Robinson and more. Does this conjure up some memories and bring you back to a simpler time??? Then be sure to save the date! You won't be disappointed AND you will be contributing to our children's future. To purchase tickets, you can order on our website: WWW.SBBA.US or contact Donna Champagne 978.462.1086, Ann Marie Guilmette 978.462.8361, Wilma McDonald 978.462.2098 or Jeanne Bernhart 978.465.3989. (If COVID restrictions are not lifted, our event will be cancelled, and we will provide refunds to ticket purchasers.)

Donna Champagne

SBBA Scholarship Chair



Advertising in the SBBA

Newsletter - Anyone interested in advertising in the SBBA Newsletter should contact Bill Greilich @ 508-450-3943 greilich@comcast.net Thank you to our advertisers who are helping defray the cost of the newsletter!

Membership Committee

The SBBA just completed its biggest Member drive ever and would like to Welcome our more than 150 new members! In a year that has been anything but easy, we appreciate your commitment to the SBBA and the work we are doing.

Your membership supports such activities as flags hanging along North End Blvd; the flowers planted in many pots around the beach; the Beach Clean-up days and the Resiliency Task Force, all of which contribute to the vibrant energy summer at the beach brings.

Thank you for showing your commitment to the SBBA and WELCOME!

Maribeth Timony

Chair Membership Committee

Marketing Committee

Thankfully, 2020 is the rear-view mirror and the light is at the end of the tunnel. Summer is right around the corner when days are warm, the nights are short, and we are ready to celebrate. Let's hope the summer of 2021 is one for the ages.

Check out our new website sbba.us. It is bigger and better! This past year we shared pictures of the recent winter storms that wreaked havoc on the beach. We also displayed pictures of our fabulous sunsets and memorable full moons. If anyone wishes to share pictures on the SBBA website, Facebook page or Instagram, feel free and send us a DM to our Facebook page or email us at admin@sbba.us.

The Marketing Committee continues to look for volunteers, so if you are interested or know someone who is interested, please contact the SBBA for more details. This is a fun way for college and high school students to earn college credits and volunteer to learn how to market a non-profit.

Be on the lookout for our new T-Shirts. These hot sellers will be available soon for purchasing. You do not want to miss out on our new design. We hope when people go back south for the winter, they can share our T-shirts and proudly tell people you are a member of the Salisbury Beach Betterment Association.

The SBBA is still looking to fill out our Board positions. We currently have two open seats on our board, and we are looking for motivated people who can contribute their ideas for a better Salisbury Beach. Our board meets once a month so if you have some time to donate, please consider joining the SBBA.

As always please don't forget to like and follow us on Facebook at Salisbury Beach Betterment Association. Follow us on Instagram at [sbba.ma](https://www.instagram.com/sbba.ma) to enjoy even more of our videos and pictures. Keep commenting and liking our pages, the feedback is much appreciated.

Derek DePetrillo

Chair, Marketing Committee

Beautification Committee

The Committee has been busy working on a few things: Flowers are being planted along North End Blvd, the Center, and the Triangle to welcome in the Summer of 2021. We have ordered new flags and poles that will be up along North End Blvd.

for Memorial Day. Special thanks to Peter Benoit for your hard work every year.

Based on our successful 2021 Beach Clean-up day, we have scheduled four Beach Clean-up days for this Summer. Tables will be set up by the Tent in the Center with gloves and plastic bags. Come for an hour and grab a trash bag, walk around the center area, and pick up some trash. Dates are Saturday, May 22, June 26, July 24, and August 28 from 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.

We have decided to cancel our annual House Tour fundraising event for 2021. Mark your calendars for the 2022 House Tour on June 18, 2022.

Welcome to our two new committee members! Volunteers are always needed to plant, water, weed and help with the fundraiser. Please email Maribeth Timony at mbtimony@comcast.net if you are interested in volunteering.

As always, we appreciate your continued support and Thank you for your generosity.

Maribeth Timony

Chair SBBA Beautification Committee

Candidates Night - 2021

Your Salisbury Beach Betterment Association along with SCTV and the Daily News sponsored the recent candidate forum featuring the three candidates for the Salisbury Board of Selectmen.

Incumbents Donna Abdulla, Chuck Takesian and challenger Rob Roy Jr. appeared in the live broadcast moderated by Daily News editor Richard Lodge.

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Town Meeting - Sand, Resiliency, Parking

The May 21 Special & Annual Town Meetings addressed several articles of interest to SBBA members. The long-planned Piscataqua River dredge in New Hampshire, an article offered by Town Manager Neil Harrington, approved \$50,000 which will supplement previously committed Town and State funds. This funding will cover the cost of depositing between 175,000 to 200,000 cubic yards of sand offshore from Salisbury Beach. This is an Army Corps of Engineers project. Town meeting also approved bonding up to \$5,100,000 to provide resiliency against flooding in the Ring's Island neighborhood. The Town will also be applying for grants to reduce the cost to the Town under the State's Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness program. Two articles related to parking fines in the beach area were indefinitely postponed because they need more work before they can be acted on.

Welcome Center & Comfort Station

Yes, Salisbury Beach Center will be getting new, modern bathrooms for residents and visitors. In fact, we will be getting two such facilities. At the time of this writing, site preparation is underway, and pilings are being driven. One bathroom will be located in the municipal parking lot to service the needs of visitors arriving in the parking lot or leaving for the day. That facility will also have outdoor rinsing stations to make that ride home more pleasant. The other facility will be located on the west side of the mall. That facility will also have a large stadium style seating area on the east side of the building where visitors can relax in an attractive shaded area which abuts a children's play area. This building will also contain a staffed visitor center where visitors can obtain information on attractions in the area such as restaurants, lodging, bike trails, etc.



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The two facilities are designed to accommodate up to 5,000 beachgoers per day with 22 rest rooms, baby changing stations, outdoor rinse stations at the parking lot site, and handicap accessibility. Also, two bathrooms will be open during the winter months. The total cost of the project is estimated to be \$5.2 million dollars to be financed through a combination of borrowing and grants. No tax override is anticipated.

An initial opening date of early summer 2021 has been delayed due to the unanticipated discovery of underground sewer lines and electrical conduit which did not show up on any town drawings. This was discovered during early site preparation and will delay the opening to late fall 2021. So, we will have to live with the current bathrooms a bit longer, but good things are worth waiting for. Architectural renderings depict two attractive buildings which will dramatically enhance the Beach Center and provide modern 21st century facilities for residents and visitors for decades to come.



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