



ESS

2016

## [Meet Your Neighbors]

### People & Places

Fall is in the air at Hale. As the seasons change, so does the property: we're thrilled to announce that the Simches Family Pavilion, the latest addition to Hale's growing list of new facilities, is now online. The project was made possible in collaboration with Massachusetts General Hospital, Aspire, and through the generosity of the Simches family and Suffolk Construction.

Hale's Board gathered to celebrate the opening of the new pavilion in June. Designed by D.W. Arthur Associates, the 1,800-square-foot building reflects a style of architecture that is becoming ever more present around Hale: its green aluminum roof, exposed rafters, honey-stained logs, and energy-efficient windows feel both modern and rustic.

During the summer, the beautiful new space allows our camp partner, Aspire, to expand programming for children on the autism spectrum. Its movable partitions provide flexibility and privacy for participants who are sensitive to distractions. Simches also affords us extra space for general use during the shoulder seasons.

Even so, we're looking to the future. The Simches Family Pavilion has the potential to serve as a home base for the proposed Intrepid Academy at Hale. Our Advancement Team is already exploring how we can upgrade the building to do even more for Boston's students.

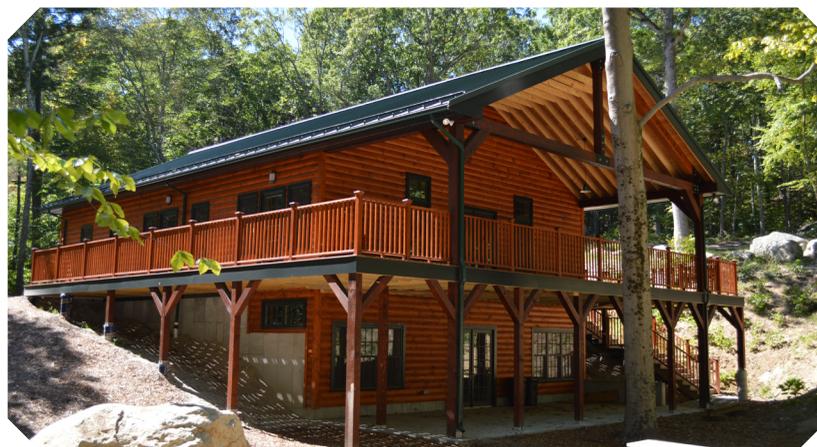
You may notice a few other improvements around Hale as well. Two remarkable Eagle Scouts, Xaverian Brothers High School senior Zaal Panthaki and

Westwood High School senior Shawn Medsker, are to be commended for those.

Panthaki secured lumber and gravel, recruited volunteers, and built a new staircase on a 65-foot path outside the JoAnn McGrath Wellness Center at Cat Rock Pavilion. The new staircase allows visitors to bypass a rocky hill when approaching the Wellness Center.

Medsker donated a number of plants and revamped the Andrew Cucchiara Learning Center's (ACLC) butterfly garden. He also created an informative sign about the plants and butterflies that visitors might see at Hale. This work was especially important given this year's drought, according to Education and Adventure Assistant Cam Miller. Little rain reduced natural

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Simches Family Pavilion

## People & Places (continued)

pollination, but with Medsker's help, the plants and butterflies will be back at the ACLC next summer.

Hale recently welcomed several corporate volunteer groups. Among them were Newton's RMR Group, whose 150 staff members spread sand, built a stage, removed a fallen pavilion, lit trees, installed two split-rail fences, and landscaped.

Finally, Membership Beach got a much-needed facelift this fall. Ian Brown, a local business owner and former Hale employee, generously donated his time and talent to landscape the property. Members will be delighted to see the picnic area's transformation when they return in the spring.

Hale is more than a place. It's defined by the people who care about it. People protect and maintain the property. People fund the programs. And people, as you'll see throughout this issue, are making great things happen on these 1,137 acres.



Hale's newest employees spent a little time on the Mohawk Walk, one of many elements that are part of our low and high ropes programming.

## Welcoming Familiar Faces

Over the past few months, Hale added new but familiar faces to our year-round staff: Cameron Miller, Greg Freed, and Patrick Francois. All three joined us by way of Hale programs.

Cam, who spent six months working as a school groups facilitator, now works on our Education & Adventure team. He is excited to address the ever-growing demand for programming. "It's a challenge to accommodate so many groups, but it's a good problem to have," he said. "I was also encouraged to learn that financial constraints rarely prevent schools from coming to Hale," referring to our fund that subsidizes schools with low-income students.

Greg is another facilitator who joined our full-time staff this summer. As the latest addition to our growing Advancement Team, he's eagerly building awareness of Hale and looks forward to managing a variety of fundraising efforts. "Outdoor education is so important," said Greg. "It's something I've incorporated throughout my career, but I love being able to give it my full attention at Hale. And it's so rewarding to rally support for innovative programming."

Patrick is Hale's newest employee. He first joined us this summer to work with Hale Outdoor Learning Adventures (HOLA) campers and stayed on in a new role. Patrick will serve as a point of contact for HOLA families and Boston Public Schools representatives, and will assist Hale's Afterschool initiative. He remarked, "I really appreciate how open Hale is to sharing this resource with other communities that might not otherwise have an opportunity to come here."



## Hale's Centennial

Hale is gearing up for our Centennial and we are looking to gather a group of people who were involved at Hale in one way or another. We are looking for former employees, members, campers, scouts, visitors and the like.

It doesn't matter if you were here last year or 70 years ago, if you have a Hale history, we would love to have you join us.

Email Paula McLaughlin at [pmcloughlin@halereservation.org](mailto:pmcloughlin@halereservation.org) or call 781-326-1770 ext. 18.



## A Letter from the Executive Director

Dear Friends,

Growing up, Mr. Rogers was a regular in our house. His values, manners, and welcoming nature resonated in my childhood home. His neighborhood was widely regarded as a model community, and when he passed away, my mother felt as though she had lost a dear friend.

While I no longer spend time watching Mr. Rogers (or the show's modern equivalent, Daniel Tiger's Neighborhood), the concept of a supportive community is still important to me. I feel very lucky to be a part of Hale's neighborhood. It is a neighborhood that includes nearby streets, but also stretches to visitors from Norwood, Dedham, West Roxbury, Wellesley, and beyond. It includes Mary Lyons School students, who visited this fall to build an inclusive culture. Its reach even extends to the North Shore, which is home to a number of athletes who compete in our triathlon. Our neighborhood includes our campers, too – they hail from 70 local communities. Our family members, our walkers, our mountain bikers, our school partners...the list goes on.

We all feel lucky to be part of Hale's neighborhood, and we appreciate your involvement in our community. As you browse this issue of the Powissett Press, I hope you learn more about the scope of our outreach, and that you take pride in being part of this great neighborhood.

Thank you for your support,

A handwritten signature in orange ink, appearing to read "Eric".

Eric

P.S. To see how a few of Mr. Rogers' themes live on at Hale, check out our Core Values. You can find them on our website.





"I liked this field trip because it was out of my comfort zone and it was fun. I thought it was so cool that I actually went up the tree, went on the ropes course and didn't freak out. I felt like I was supported throughout the trip and I met new friends that had some things in common with me."

– 7th grade student

Learn more at [www.halereservation.org](http://www.halereservation.org)!



## Meet Our Athletes

Promoting exercise and healthy living is a big part of what we do here at Hale. We like to start with our youngest participants; our campers get lots of exercise. Just walking around the acres of beautiful land at Hale from one activity to the next, campers log several miles each day. Additionally, we offer wellness programming ranging from teaching the kids about the importance of hydration to presenting a demonstration of the work of therapy dogs, reminding them that healthy minds are just as important as healthy bodies.

Hale also enjoys partnerships with other fantastic organizations who strive to promote good health. As an official charity of the Boston Athletic Association, we are fortunate to have a team of runners representing Hale in the Boston Marathon for the fifth straight year. Led by our fantastic coaches, the father-daughter duo of Scott and

The Honey Badgers celebrate their team win at this year's Endurafest. This is the fifth year that the team competed.

Beth Lennox, over 50 people (some repeat runners) have taken part in what many consider the world's best marathon. Together the team has raised over \$400,000 through their herculean efforts.

The Rodman Ride for Kids also offers us the opportunity to raise heart rates and funds to support our campers and Hale has enjoyed a partnership with Don Rodman and his team for the past eight years. Each year a team of riders partakes in 25, 50, or 100 miles all in the name of Hale.

## Hale's Board President

Jen Antonucci is guiding our dynamic board of directors at Hale. With years of professional experience in education and a deep appreciation for the outdoors, she is poised to lead Hale into the future.

### 1. How did you hear about/first come to Hale?

When we moved to Westwood in 2006, some new friends (with their four kids) invited us for a cookout. They were a Membership Beach family and as their four kids and our three boys tore up the yard for the next several hours, the mom handed me a Hale brochure and told me all about Membership. I was amazed at the place she was describing and basically signed up the next day.

### 2. What made you decide to get more involved and join the board?

I often ran into Maureen Erickson at Membership, and we would talk about raising boys, many other common interests, and our mutual appreciation for what Hale meant for our families. She was on the BOD, and asked if I'd ever be interested in getting involved. I was honored and agreed to meet with Eric and tour the larger property. Again, I was amazed at what lay across the pond - in particular, discovering the programs that aimed to develop self-confidence and a love of nature, adventure and learning. I grew up on a campground on the Cape and spent a good deal of my childhood outdoors - in the woods or on the beach. I treasure that time in my life, and knowing that I could help provide the opportunity for other children to have similar formative experiences and memories was a very powerful idea. I honestly felt that I had something to offer, given my background in education, my personal love for the outdoors, and a belief that every child (and adult) is better off when they spend time every day climbing, swimming, hiking or just getting a little dirty.

### 3. What's your vision for Hale as it crosses into its second century?

I think that social emotional wellness and mental health issues are at the forefront of most everyone's consciousness, and the programmatic work that is happening at Hale can make tremendous positive impact in these arenas. In addition, we clearly have an opportunity - and obligation - to demonstrate leadership in protecting an incredibly unique natural resource. Preserving the resources of Hale - and using those resources to significantly improve the educational opportunities and quality of life for children and adults in the Greater Boston region - is about the best one-two punch I can envision.

### 4. What's your favorite thing about Hale?

The diversity. In terms of the landscape, the trails, the activities, the creatures... you can hike, boat, fish, climb, bike, snowshoe, etc. In every season the landscape and activities change. It is impossible to be bored. There is always a new vista. In terms of the people, they are as varied as the landscape - you meet some of the most interesting and unique individuals you can imagine. People who gather or wander at Hale are from all walks of life, all ages, different ethnicities, from the city and suburbs alike. Again - impossible to ever be bored!

### 5. Why should people get involved and how can they?

If I've learned one thing in my time at Hale, it's that there are many incredibly talented and generous people who step up over and over again to support Hale with their time, talents and treasures. They get involved because they're needed, because they share the same values that Hale espouses, and because they know their efforts to strengthen Hale will in turn strengthen our community in so many ways. I'd encourage anyone who is new to Hale to start by taking a walk on one of our many trails, talking to a neighbor or friend who knows about Hale, checking out our website and publications, or attending one of our community events.



## Looking Back in Time

In the early 1900s, Robert Sever Hale began to acquire acres of land in Westwood and Dover. Over several years, he amassed quite a parcel and he wanted it to be used for the express purpose of providing opportunities for outdoor living by Boy Scouts and other youth. Hale was a prominent member of the national and international Scouting Movements. In 1918, he formalized his relationship with the Scouts and that is the year that the area that is now known as Hale was founded.

By 1926 he established the original camp, which was named "Camp Storrow" in honor of James J. Storrow, who was at one time President of the National Council of Boy Scouts of America. The campers needed to be able to swim, so a dam was built on the east side of "Goat Island" (the large rock on the shores of Storrow Pond) and on August 12, 1926, Robert Sever Hale turned the valve which checked the flow of "Wilson's Brook" (now Powissett Brook) and Storrow

In each issue of the Powissett Press leading up to our centennial, we will give readers a glimpse into Hale's history.

Pond was created. In May 1926, a headquarters cabin of split cedar logs was erected on the shores of Storrow Pond. In 1928, a fireplace was added. Years later the building was lost in a fire, but the fireplace can still be seen by visitors to Storrow Pond.



“

*Our Education & Adventure team has continued to grow ... we welcomed 8,800 participants, an increase of 10% over the previous year.*

”

## Coming Soon

Change is in the air. We can see the leaves turning and falling, and know that winter will be here before we know it. While these months are the quieter ones here at Hale, we are always at work!

Over the next several months there will be continued work on our facilities, including new grading and landscaping at North Beach, where the majority of our summer campers have lessons and free swim. There is also an effort to reinforce and strengthen Noanet Dam.

In summer 2016 we nearly doubled the participation in the Hale Outdoor Learning Adventures (HOLA) program for Boston elementary school students. The addition of MATCH Charter School to our roster of six Boston Public Schools meant that nearly 160 students

spent four or five weeks at Hale, combining traditional camp activities such as swimming, boating, and arts & crafts with 90 minutes of English Language Arts and 90 minutes of mathematics instruction each day. In 2017, we hope to see the total enrollment in this program at 200 students.

Our Education & Adventure team has continued to grow our year-round programming for schools, colleges and businesses for the 12th year in a row. In 2016, 39 new schools joined our growing list of clientele and we welcomed 8,800 participants, an increase of 10% over the previous year.

Hale is also looking ahead to several new initiatives, including the establishment of a semester program for high school students called Intrepid Academy. We dream of bringing 60 students each semester to trade their traditional classrooms for 16 weeks of experiential, holistic learning, and are investigating possible collaborations with Boston and Westwood Public Schools to make this a reality in 2018, just as we celebrate our centennial year!

## Hit the Trails!

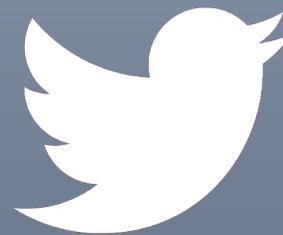
Hale's new map is now available. With detailed descriptions including distances and levels of difficulty for eight unique trails, there is a path for every visitor. Pick up your map at the Main Office or download it from our website:

<http://halereservation.org/visit/trails-maps/>

Be sure to review our public use guidelines (also included with the map) to make the most of your visit.



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connected ...



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## End Your Day the Hale Way!

Afternoon visitors to Hale may have noticed increased activities among teens and tweens. In 2015, we began to offer after school programming that can only be found at a place like Hale. Our activities span a wide range of topics and interests, including wilderness survival skills, ropes course challenges, archery, aquatics, hiking, environmental education, arts and crafts, and science and engineering. Our students discover hidden talents, develop new skills, and gain both confidence and higher self-esteem.

"Usually I don't like trying new things, because I'm afraid I won't like it. But at Hale, I try new things all the time and it's really fun!"

– After School Participant



**Explore**

[Monday]

**Build**

[Tuesday]

**Thrive**

[Thursday]

**Connect**

[Wednesday]

**Create**

[Friday]

## Events & Rentals

With acres and acres of beautiful open space and several new buildings available for rent, Hale has quietly become the preferred rustic destination for brides and grooms, corporate groups, and families celebrating reunions and birthday parties. We are currently booking events through 2017. Contact Shannon Obey at [sobey@halereservation.org](mailto:sobey@halereservation.org) to check availability and see if Hale is the right spot for your special occasion.



The Powissett Lodge is just one facility available to rent at Hale.

## A Classroom Among the Trees

Every summer, students and teachers from several elementary schools in Boston nestle into tents and pavilions throughout the woods of Hale. As lifeguards, counselors, and facilitators lead campers in our traditional activities, these teachers blend academics and adventure in the Hale Outdoor Learning Adventures (HOLA) program.

One of these educators, Pat Scialoia, has been an elementary school teacher at the William E. Russell School in Dorchester for 22 years and spent his fifth summer at HOLA this year. He refers to his summer experience as “therapy for teachers” since it gives him an opportunity to teach kids in a different setting and at a different pace than during the academic year. For five weeks, students spend three hours per day in math and English language arts classes. For the remainder of their time, campers can be found taking part in swimming lessons, on the ropes course, and enjoying all that Hale has to offer.

“My favorite thing about Hale is being able to teach in a low-stress, casual atmosphere in the middle of the woods,” said Pat. He also sees a difference in the students when they return to the classroom after a summer at Hale. “The impact on the kids is fantastic. HOLA gives my students the ability to experience new things, make new friends, and tackle new challenges.”

To learn more about HOLA, visit [www.halereservation.org](http://www.halereservation.org).



Mr. Scialoia and his students love the outdoor classrooms at Hale.



## Sunshine in My Pocket

Over the summer, children and adults from several partner camps danced around the property to Justin Timberlake’s summer hit, “Can’t Stop the Feeling!” With guest choreographer Kristyn Wajsgas leading the way, campers learned various dance combinations and began to express themselves by freestyling.

Inspired by a grant opportunity from the Marta Heflin Foundation, and since dance is a favorite activity among campers, we decided to offer dance lessons that would bring together children from several communities. Everyone was quick to choose Timberlake’s upbeat, universally appealing song. Kristyn was a natural choice for choreography, as she had volunteered with Hale’s campers before and had availability to join us again.

“It was lots of fun to work with these campers,” she remarked. “They were so enthusiastic about learning the choreography. We have some very talented dancers here at Hale!”

The process was all caught on video by Camden Arnold, who took on the summer project as a way to expand his own experience as a budding film maker. Using various camera and editing techniques, Cam produced a video that has had nearly 3,000 views on YouTube! Check out the summer fun:

[bit.ly/halecantstop](http://bit.ly/halecantstop)

Be warned, however, that you might find yourself tapping your toes and wishing for warmer weather.



# Summer Memories ...



## Hale Day Camp



"I enjoyed my daughter's excitement for the outdoors - she has never shown interest in hiking or camping before. Hale sparked her interest and got her to try new things. She loved it."

-HDC Parent

We believe in continuing camping traditions such as being outdoors with your friends all day, getting plenty of exercise and swimming in our natural ponds. Here at Hale Day Camp we also provide a hands-on experience that recognizes the campers' need for a nurturing environment where they can mature socially, emotionally and intellectually.

### Join us this summer!

#### 2017 Open Houses:

January 9 • February 6 • March 5  
April 2 • May 14 • June 4

Open Houses run from 1-3 pm at Hale's Powissett Lodge. Come and learn about the programs we offer, meet staff members and other campers, and take a tour of our beautiful facilities.



#### 2017 Session Dates:

Session 1 | 6-26 - 7/7  
Session 2 | 7/10 - 7/21  
Session 3 | 7/24 - 8/4  
Session 4 | 8/7 - 8/18  
Session 5 | 8/21 - 8/25  
(One week options available. Call 781-326-1770 for more information.)

**2017 Rates Coming Soon**  
[halereservation.org](http://halereservation.org)

"After trying many other camps, Hale had the greatest understanding of my kids. We like that it is a 'camp' camp - outdoors, swimming, nature..."

-HDC Parent



## Membership Beach



"We just love being there. It is a friendly, homey and safe environment where we feel comfortable and happy. It is the best bargain out there and we can't wait to get back."

-Member

At Membership Beach, we cultivate strong family relationships and a wholesome outdoor community that encourages a genuine appreciation for the natural environment. This private beach is open to members seven days a week for 100 days of summer. A full membership includes access to all activities!

### Join us this summer!

#### Your Membership Will Include 8 Weeks Of:

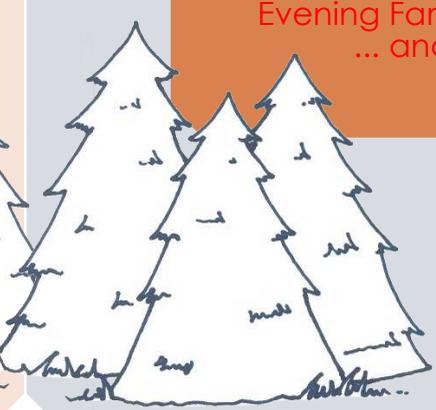
American Red Cross Swim Lessons  
Boating Lessons  
Archery  
Arts & Crafts  
Games  
Campouts  
Movie Nights  
Evening Family Events  
... and more!

#### Beach is Open 5/27 - 9/4

#### 2017 Session Dates:

Session 1 | 6-25 - 7/8  
Session 2 | 7/9 - 7/22  
Session 3 | 7/23 - 8/5  
Session 4 | 8/6 - 8/19

2017 Rates Coming Soon  
[halereservation.org](http://halereservation.org)



Membership Beach is proud to offer two unique programs. **Guppy Gang** offers our littlest Hale enthusiasts (ages four & five) an opportunity to get outdoors, explore their natural surroundings and gain friendships with fun themed days. The **Tween & Teen Program** is based on a free-play model designed to facilitate new friendships and allow 6th – 9th graders a chance to spend their summer outside in a rewarding and enjoyable program.

## Second Annual Hale-a-Bration

Nearly 300 people gathered on Membership Beach this fall to celebrate Hale's success and raise funds in support of programs. The evening started on the Beach while guests enjoyed steel drum music with PJ Adamson of Calypso Hurricane and took chances on our necklace raffle courtesy of Dolabany Jewelers. The party then moved to the newly renovated picnic area at the Beach and Auctioneer Neal Fay had the crowd bidding on items including sports memorabilia and private parties. The evening closed out as party goers enjoyed a taste of Americana with music from Just Another Guru.

As one guest said, "Hale-a-Bration is quickly turning into my favorite party of the year. The setting, the food, the entertainment, everything about it is fun. It is nice to be able to support an organization in such a cool and relaxed atmosphere."



Guests at Hale-a-Bration enjoyed a night of food, fun and fundraising.

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