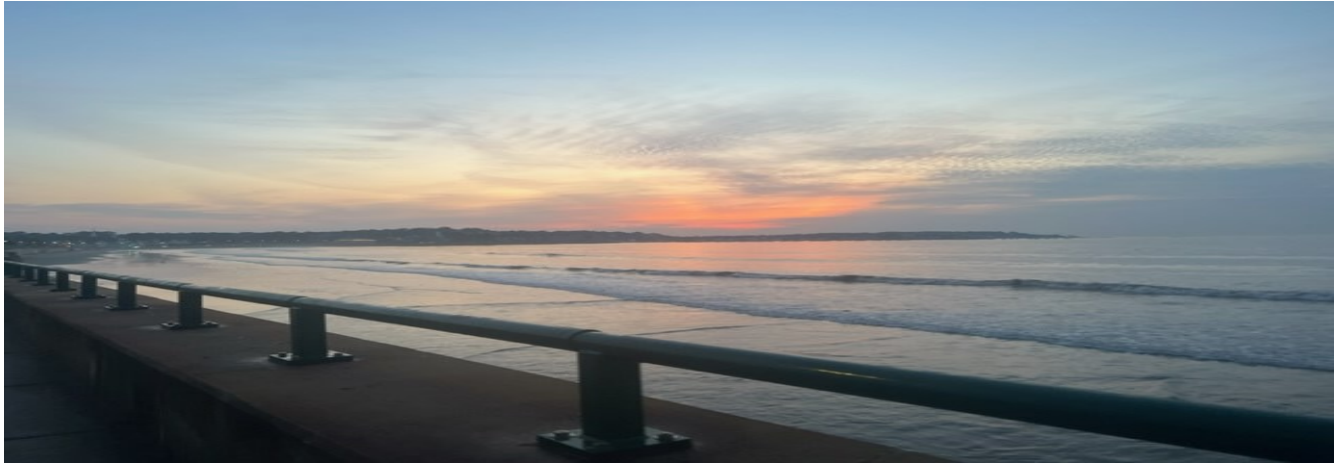




# With the Tide



## Summer Recap

Photo: Tiffany Bevis

It was a busy summer for the Friends. The Friends Concerts at Red Rock Park was a success with an average of about 150 people attending each of the Thursday evenings concerts in July and August. The Dirty Floorboards performed at the first concert on July 3rd followed by the Lynn Fireworks. Many thanks to Save the Harbor/Save the Bay and the Lynn Cultural Council for grants that contributed towards the cost of the concerts.

The Friends co-sponsored with the City of Lynn the Annual Movie Night at Red Rock Park on August 23rd. About 125 kids and families enjoyed a lovely evening watching the movie *Elemental* and the free treats and popcorn from the Friends and the City.

The Friends had a second summer beach clean-up on August 17th. About 40 volunteers cleaned the bushes and walkway along Lynn Beach Reservation and Lynn beach. Free coffee, refreshments, and a Friends T-shirt was given to the volunteers. Thanks to DCR for supplying the clean-up materials and removing the number of trash bags from the clean-up.

The Friends want to thank Senator Brendan Crighton, State Representatives Jenny Armini, Dan Cahill and Peter Capano for securing \$55,000 for Red Rock Park Reservation and \$50,000 for algae removal in earmark funding for the DCR budget. The funding will enable DCR to continue with the much needed improvements for Red Rock Park Reservation. Lynn/Nahant DCR Supervisor Michael Tomaiolo and his staff do an outstanding job keeping Lynn and Nahant Beach Reservation clean every day. A new DCR Welcome sign was installed on Lynn Shore Drive, new water fountains were installed at Red Rock Park and at Woodbury Point, some sections of the sea railing along Lynn Shore Drive were painted. DCR plans to install handrails at two staircases on Lynn Shore Drive across from Kimball Road and Greystone Road using the earmark funding.

Bob Tucker  
President FLNB

## Chris Mancini Speaks at Friends October Meeting

Save the Harbor/Save the Bay Executive Director Chris Mancini was the guest speaker at the Friends October meeting. Chris is also a member of the King's Beach Steering Committee that was formed several ago to tackle the pollution problems at King's Beach. Chris discussed a number of possible solutions to address the pollution and fielded many questions from attendees. One primary concern from those in attendance was the perceived lack of communication from the Steering Committee about its work and deliberations. Approximately a month later, the Committee published a detailed op-ed in the Lynn Daily Item which hopefully helped to address some of those concerns. The work of the Steering Committee and the issue of King's Beach pollution will continue to be of intense interest for the Friends and many residents.

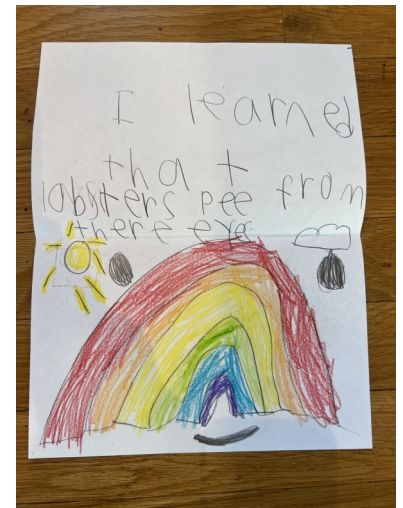
## Dennis Kelley Dedication

On June 28, a dedication ceremony was held for Dennis Kelley, the DCR Park Supervisor for Lynn & Nahant Beaches who passed away unexpectedly in February. DCR staff dedicated a bench in the front of the Ward Bathhouse and a large plaque in Dennis' memory. Dennis's family was in attendance. Friend's President Bob Tucker and State Rep. Jenny Armini spoke during the dedication.



## Brickett School Thank You Notes

The Brickett Elementary School PTO shared some Thank You notes that children made after TJ Cullinane, the Friends Outreach Coordinator, and Northeastern University's Marine Science Center visited the school to teach students about the ocean. I think we can all agree that the student who drew TJ as a Paul Bunyan-like character truly captured his likeness. And the other student will never forget that lobsters pee out of their eyes. And now neither will you!



## Friends Sponsor August Clean-up

On August 17th, the Friends sponsored a Clean-up of Red Rock Park and Kings Beach. Over 40 individuals spent 1-2 hours picking up litter and tidying the area. A big thank you to DCR for providing supplies and removing the bags of trash. We hope to sponsor two clean-ups again in 2025.





**Portly Spider Crab, *Libinia emarginata*, Leach, 1815. This specimen washed ashore alive on Nahant Beach in April 2024. (Photo by TJ)**

Dear Friends,

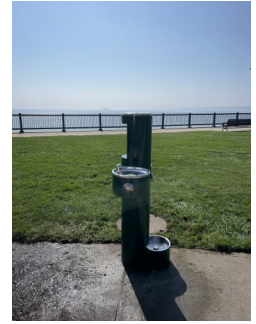
One would be hard pressed to find a homelier critter than the spider crab. Gangly, unkempt and frankly hideous looking, perhaps it's biggest offense is that it is inedible. There is no amount of breadcrumbs, "Old Bay" seasoning or squeezed lemon that could distract you from their grotesqueness. Conversely, in Europe, related species are highly sought after and require fisheries protection to prevent overharvesting. Different strokes for different folks as they say....

Portly Spider Crabs are distinguished from their closely related cousins, the Longnose Spider Crab (*L. dubia*) by the number of spiny knobs found running down the center of its shell or carapace. The Portly Spider Crab has nine, while the Longnose has six. Both of these crabs are so-called decorator crabs. Small hairs growing on the carapace encourage algae and invertebrates to colonize the shell providing a source of fresh and ever renewing camouflage for young crabs. As the crab grows larger, predators are less likely to feed on them and the need for camouflage lessens. The shell of the Portly Spider Crabs can grow to four inches wide with its long legs giving it a leg span of 12 inches.

Like lobsters, portly Spider Crabs can taste with their feet. They feed on algae and detritus and have shown a strong liking for starfish. The ones I came across this spring after heavy storms and wild surf, arrived onshore cocooned in sea grass. How this happened I'm uncertain, but the Spider crabs seemed to have avoided being "washing machined" like their red-shelled cousins. All the crabs strewn across the beach were vulnerable to gull predation, but again, the Spider crabs in their slimy capsules seemed to fare better. Spider crabs appear much more numerous than I recall from youth. And as my fetching good looks have begun to fade, I have found myself becoming quite partial to my fellow ugly duckling. Happy Holidays Friends! Stay safe and take a walk on the beach.

## DCR Installs New Water Fountains

This summer, DCR installed two new water fountains— one at Red Rock Park and one at Woodbury Point. Each have a bowl at the bottom to feed thirsty dogs. A big thank you to DCR for improving the visitors experience at the park— both human and canine!



## Friends Support Lynn Tech's Festival of Trees

The Friends supported the Lynn Tech Alumni Association's Annual Festival of Trees held at the Lynn Tech Annex in November. People, organizations, and businesses donate decorated trees and wreaths that visitors to the Festival try to win in a raffle. The Friends have donated a beach-themed tree for the last several years. This year the decorating team were Friends members: Ginger Cahill, Douglas & Duncan Maitland, Tiffany Bevis, Jane Cahill, TJ, Becky Suci, and Doreen Foley. All of the money raised goes towards scholarships for Lynn Tech graduates.



## Friends Engagement

The Friends have many ways to stay in touch. We have 4,300 followers on Facebook, 804 on Instagram, and 550 on X (formerly known as Twitter). We have 216 paid memberships— including 25 new members this year. We communicate with members about events and meetings on email and social media. Members who haven't shared their email address with us miss out on the email communications. If you haven't shared your email address with us, please consider doing so by sending an email to [lynnnahantpres@gmail.com](mailto:lynnnahantpres@gmail.com). We do not share our email lists with anyone.

## Membership in the Friends of Lynn & Nahant Beach

Yes, I would like to join or renew my membership in the Friends of Lynn & Nahant Beach.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### Membership

Senior: \$15

Individual: \$25

Family: \$50

I am already a member. Please accept my gift of \$\_\_\_\_\_.

Mail To: Membership

Friends of Lynn & Nahant Beach

P.O. Box 2264

Lynn, MA 01903

You can pay online at [www.lynn-nahantbeach.org](http://www.lynn-nahantbeach.org) or mail a check.