

# Grains of Sandy



photo: Andy Kuether

## A word from our Assistant Director, Leea Regan...

In February I start to wonder why it isn't spring or summer yet, I have never been a skier so perhaps that's my problem. My mother always told me I looked too much to the future and I didn't focus on the here and now. So, it is in gratitude to her and to you all that I reach out with pen and paper and gather us all together with words and pictures and memories. I can share excitement for our future summer together and still accept that we have many days to enjoy all that life has to offer before we see each other again. I hope February finds you all well my dear Sandy family.



## What we are up to...

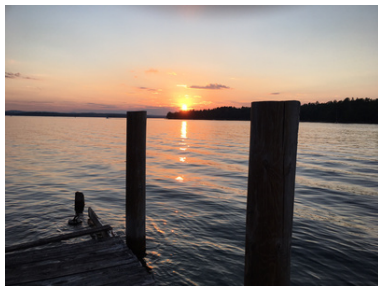


photo: Jeffrey Duquette



photo: Matthew DiStefano

### North Dock!

We have a contractor who will be renovating North Dock this spring. You can expect North Dock to be fully functional summer 2023!



photo courtesy Devon Ward

### Menagerie!

We are hoping to completely renovate Menagerie before summer 2024. We are about 75% of the way to our fundraising goal. The plan is for the new Menagerie to be a three-season cabin that is fully wheelchair/scooter accessible.

### Patterson memorial seating!

We all love the new waterfront but sometimes it can be hot and noisy. The Patterson memorial seating area will be a quieter, shadier area for camper enjoyment located near the water in center camp. We will be removing the 2 oldest shuffleboard courts to make this space. There will be 2 seating areas, one a pergola with lights and the other a fire pit with seating around it. The goal for this project is to be complete for summer 2023!

## Upcoming dates



### March 1

50% of Tuition is due for 2023 Registered Campers

### May 1

Remainder of 2023 Registration Balance Due

### May 19-21

Sandypalooza  
[Register Here](#)

### June 2-4

[Live in Love Retreat](#)

### June 9 - 11

Inaugural  
ShadesOnStayStrong  
[Learn More](#)

### June 16-18

International Weekend  
[Register Here](#)

### July 1

Season 2023 Starts

Both the Patterson Memorial Seating Project and the Menagerie project are in need of additional funding. If you would like to donate to these exciting projects, please reach out to Angelo @ [AFirenze@ymcaboston.org](mailto:AFirenze@ymcaboston.org)

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## Meet... Devon Ward

Devon Ward has been a life-long Week 6 camper at Sandy Island. His first summer (1988) was in utero!

Devon has been a member of the Sandy Island Camper Committee since the fall of 2019. When not at Sandy, Devon is a civil engineer. Devon began his career in civil engineering doing site design and land development (a super handy skill for Sandy Island), he is now involved in real estate development working on the design and permitting for large construction projects. He is the Chair of the Volunteering Subcommittee. This summer, his job is organizing volunteers and planning projects for Sandypalooza (our major volunteer-led work weekend). He is also devoting his time and talent to the planning and execution of the Patterson Memorial Seating area!

We wish Devon and his long-time girlfriend and fellow Sandy-ite Nikki Sims congratulations as they have recently become engaged!



photo courtesy Devon Ward



photo courtesy Devon Ward



photo: Katie Mcpeak,

## Podcast News

Last year Angelo created a podcast called "The Off Season"

Angelo is busy interviewing people for new episodes...stay tuned!

[View Prior Episodes Here](#)

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**Interested in sharing your time and talent?**

Devon Ward is looking for someone to take on the incredible mission of Sandy Island beautification! This involves setting up the many flower pots around the island, choosing flowers and plants that are deer-proof and easy to be maintained during the summer season. If you might be able to contribute time or finances to this much needed project, reach out to Angelo



Contact Leea Regan with any ideas or questions you may have at [lregan@ymcaboston.org](mailto:lregan@ymcaboston.org)