



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Cape Cod National Seashore
99 Marconi Site Road
Wellfleet, MA 02667

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA



NPS staff Bob Luzi compacts dirt spread by NPS maintenance Joe McGrahan and AmeriCorps members Dave Quinn, Amanda Howe, Danielle Craft, and Mike Towle. (L to R)



Left: AmeriCorps members Heidi Fuchs, Mike Towle, and Caroline Schmitteidell fill in newly constructed flower boxes. (L to R)

Right: AmeriCorps' members Amber Stonik, Ben Winterhalter, and Heidi Fuchs clean-up the grounds! (L to R)



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This issue of the Highlands Record was created by AmeriCorps - Cape Cod member Christine Imrich with assistance from Cape Cod National Seashore's Marianne McCaffery.

For additional information concerning the Highlands Center at Cape Cod National Seashore, contact:
Lauren McKean
NPS Highlands Center Project Manager
lauren_mckean@nps.gov
(508) 349 -3785 ext. 208

The National Park Service cares for the special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

Park News



Highlands Record

July 2008

Sculptures on Display: Donald Gerola's Art in Motion

The work of nationally renowned artist and sculptor Donald Gerola embodies the mission of the Highlands Center: a fusion of art and science, a blend of simplicity and complex beauty. His monumental steel, kinetic structures are provocative, impressive, and prompt the observer to take pause and appreciate the grandeur of the natural world.



Photo Courtesy of Donald Gerola

"Debbie-D" stands 25' high and wide, weighing 5 tons. It is made of over 100 components and took an entire year to fabricate. Look for Debbie-D at the Highlands Center this summer!

Thanks to the efforts of Highlands Center Inc., who is sponsoring the transport of these sculptures, Highlands Center Partners can expect the installation of two, possibly three, such pieces in early July, generously on loan by Gerola for five years. Gerola comments on the site: "The Highlands Center is a wonderful opportunity for my 'steel' to touch those who visit. The sculptures become part of something young - a 'sacred site' with a powerful direction."

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Photo by Christina Imrich
Sculptor Donald Gerola cites his sculptures at the Highlands Center with Joyce Johnson of Highlands Center Inc.

portunity for my 'steel' to touch those who visit. The sculptures become part of something young - a 'sacred site' with a powerful direction."

Gerola's innovations have sustained his career as a full-time professional artist for more than 25 years. Building upon his early paintings and signature sand fresco technique, Gerola shifted to creating sculptures, and more significantly, sculptures in motion. Throughout the lengthy and expensive ten step process, beginning with a concept, sketches, and studies, Gerola is constantly aware of how his piece will both reflect and blend with its natural surroundings.

"I see sculpture as the link between architecture and the landscape. Its message is to remind man that we need to become more in touch with nature and its forces," Gerola comments.

Gerola now works within a collaborative of artists in Pawtucket, Rhode Island. He has a catalogue of over 90 sculptures, ranging in size, some weighing many tons. Gerola's sculptures are highly valued and have been widely displayed, including as centerpieces at the Washington, D.C. and New York International Art Expos and the Annemarie Sculpture Gardens in Solomons, MD.

Come for his official unveiling at Highlands Fest, July 12th. Gerola will be present to lecture on his work and vision at scheduled times.



Photo Courtesy of Donald Gerola

"Aerometer" is the 1st of Gerola's wind kinetic sculptures, standing 22' tall and weighing 2 tons. Its motion will match the wind speeds at the Highlands Center.

Information for this article was taken from Gerola's website: www.donaldgerola.com

Plants, Paths, Progress...

Many hands make light work! On May 19th, Barnstable County AmeriCorps Cape Cod members worked with NPS maintenance staff on several site enhancement projects. With over 20 people spread throughout the property, and assistance from NPS personnel and their heavy equipment, the day was a whirlwind of activity that ended with smiles throughout.

Starting this past winter, AmeriCorps member Christina Imrich planned this clean up event as part of her placement with NPS Highlands Center Project

Manager, Lauren McKean. Their main goal was to spruce up the entrance to entice people beyond the front gate. The improvements began at the end of April with the planting of eleven native trees, including six cherries placed along the road.

AmeriCorps members worked with NPS maintenance staff to create a path to the coastal overlook platform and to build three flower boxes made from waste lumber donated from Eastham and Wellfleet Department of Public Works. Flower boxes were filled with native plants and were placed to enhance the entrance. Other projects included: trimming



shrubs and installing a bench, solar gate light, and new fire gate. Clean-up activities were also in preparation for this year's Highlands Fest, to take place July 12th.

Cape Cod National Seashore Planning Assistant Chelsea Clarke commented on the day. "It's been very exciting to see how the Highlands Center improves each year, building upon other year's work. Everything we do to improve the site is a step in the right direction!"

Cape Cod's First and Only Wood-Burning Kiln: Heating-Up Soon!

Construction of Cape Cod's only wood-burning kiln will begin this summer at the Highlands Center! We're excited to announce that Truro Center for the Arts at Castle Hill is on schedule for their Kiln Building workshop and firing with Master Kiln Builder, Donavan Palmquest. It will be held this coming September from the 15-27th. The kiln's first firing will take place after it is built in November.

The process of wood firing pottery originated thousands of years ago. It has been used all over the world and is currently undergoing something of a renaissance. Unlike pottery adorned with colored glazes, the surfaces of wood-fired ceramics are determined by the natural colors of clay, the placement of the pot in the kiln, the texture and location of

wadding, or bits of clay or shell glued on the pots to keep them from sticking to the shelves, and the molten heat that marks the pieces with wood ash.

While construction of the kiln building itself is overseen by Highlands Center Inc., the programming related to the kiln will be taken on by Castle Hill. "Our board is eager to see this project succeed," said Cherie Mittenenthal, Castle Hill's Executive Director. "The addition of a wood burning kiln will foster the local tradition of working artists and craftspeople, in addition to being a wonderful benefit to the community of potters here on Cape Cod."

Truro Center for the Arts at Castle Hill has been a Program Partner at the Highlands Center since January of 2007. For more information, visit their website: www.castlehill.org.

Experience the Wonders of Wind: Third Annual Highlands Fest!

Join us at Highlands Fest 2008, a celebration of The Wonders of Wind, on Saturday, July 12th at the Highlands Center at Cape Cod National Seashore in Truro. Come rain or shine for all or part of the day and bring your family and friends! The day's free activities will be held from 9AM - 1PM, and will conclude with two Payomet evening shows for a fee.

See the unveiling of twenty-foot tall kinetic wind sculptures and hear their creator, nationally renowned sculptor DONALD GEROLA, speak about his work that blends physics and art! Learn about wind as a clean source of renewable energy. Enjoy "Portrait of a Coast," an award winning documentary film about the Cape's changing shoreline. Make kites to fly and take home! Bring a bagged lunch to our picnic grove and learn about progress that has been made on the site.

"Highlands Fest" is a celebration of the Highlands Center at Cape Cod National Seashore. Our mission is to foster the unique cultural and natural heritage of Cape Cod by engaging in an environment in which scientific research, artistic creation, and educational programs can flourish.

This year's Fest, The Wonders of Wind, is made possible by the Highlands Center Partners Collaborative, including Cape Cod National Seashore, Highlands Center Inc., Payomet Performing Arts Center in Truro, Barnstable County AmeriCorps Cape Cod, Truro Center for the Arts at Castle Hill, the Fine Arts Work Center in Provincetown, and the Provincetown Center for Coastal Studies.

Schedule of Events!

- 9- 10 AM: Payomet screening of James Gabriel's documentary, "Portrait of a Coast," with discussion led by Graham Giese of Provincetown Center for Coastal Studies
 - 10-10:30: Meet and speak with sculptor, Don Gerola
 - 10-11:30: Kite Making (Castle Hill), Poetry Reading (Fine Arts Work Center)
 - 11-11:30: Storytelling (Payomet); Meet and speak with sculptor, Don Gerola
 - 11:30-1: Wind energy lectures with guest speakers; Kids: learn about wind, make a pinwheel!
 - 5:00 PM (For fee): Kiddieshakes (Kid's version of Shakespeare's The Tempest)
 - 8:00 PM (For fee): Full length version of Shakespeare's The Tempest
- For evening performances, reserve tickets at the Payomet Box Office at: (508) 487-5400*



Enjoy a Summer Activity at the Highlands Center!

Cape Cod National Seashore

FREE Guided Walk: Truro's Cold War Past, led by a NPS volunteer. Select **Thursdays in July and August, 2 PM - 3:30PM**. Meet at the Payomet Tent.

Payomet Performing Arts Center in Truro

Payomet has an exciting summer line-up! For more information and to make reservations, visit their website: ppactruro.org or call their Box Office at: (508) 487 - 5400. Visit their website, also, for kid-friendly activities and performances. All performances are at Highlands Center at Cape Cod National Seashore. Discounts Available. Here are some highlights!

Week-Day Theater!

The Tempest by William Shakespeare, directed by Eric P. Holm, performed by *Shakespeare on the Cape*. Every Wednesday and Thursday: **July 2 - Sept. 4 @ 8PM**
KiddieShakes, Shakespeare on the Cape's one hour version of *The Tempest*. Every Wednesday: **July 9 - September 3 @ 5PM** Discounts available.
Gloves Off: Nabokov vs. Wilson, written and directed by Kevin Rice. **July 28 - August 26 @ 8PM**



Weekly Friday Night Film at 7PM!

Women of Faith, directed by Rebecca Alvin. **July 11**
Provincetown USA, film by Seth Rolbein. **July 25**
The Life and Times of Frida Kahlo, directed by Amy Stechler. **August 1**
Holler Back: (Not) Voting in an American Town, directed by Lulu Friesdat. **August 15**



Weekly Saturday Night Music at 8PM!

Patty Larkin: Benefit Concert for Payomet: **July 5**
 Cape Cod Opera, *Songs for a Summer Night*: **July 19**
 Folk musician, Erin McKeown: **July 26**
 Mass Collegiate All Star Jazz Ensemble: **August 16**



Directions to Highlands Center:

Take Route 6 to the Highland Light Exit in North Truro onto Highland Road. At the end of Highland Road, take a right onto South Highland Road. After approximately .6 miles, take a left onto Old Dewline Road. Highlands Center is at the end of the road