

# Friends of Cape Henlopen State Park

# newsletter

## DECEMBER 2024

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[CLICK HERE TO RENEW  
YOUR MEMBERSHIP TODAY](#)

## CONTACTS

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302-858-6127

Editor- John Placko

**The Bike Barn  
IS OPEN**  
for Details & Latest Hours

↓ Click-the-Link ↓

[Borrow-a-Bike](#)

## ➤ 2024 Events Calendar ◀

- Cape Henlopen Trail Days: *USUALLY* Second Saturday Monthly  
(THIS MONTH'S MEET ▶ December 14<sup>th</sup> 8:45 AM at Seaside Nature Center Parking Lot)

## ➤ **NEW** 2025 Events Calendar **NEW** ◀

- **Annual Meeting:** March 8<sup>th</sup> 9 AM to 11 AM at the Officers Club (Zoom Offering Details TBD)
- **Indoor Flea Market:** March 15<sup>th</sup> 9 AM to 2 PM **venue TBD**
- **Wine, Beer & Cheese Tasting:** April 5<sup>th</sup> 4 PM to 6 PM **venue TBD**
- **2024 Earth Day:** April 22<sup>nd</sup> **Meeting Time & Place TBD**
- **National Trails Day:** June 7<sup>th</sup> 9 AM to 1 PM **Meeting Time & Place TBD**
- **Birdseed Sale:** Order September 1<sup>st</sup> thru 30<sup>th</sup> / Pick Up on Oct 18<sup>th</sup> at Park Maintenance Garage
- **Youth Fishing Tournament:** September 6<sup>th</sup> (Rain Date Sep. 7<sup>th</sup>) CHSP Fishing Pier 8 to 11 AM
- **Chocolate Tasting:** September 6<sup>th</sup> 1 PM to 4 PM **venue TBD**
- **Coastal Clean Up:** September 20<sup>th</sup> 9 AM to Noon **Meeting Time & Place TBD**
- **Hawk Watch:** Every day September 1<sup>st</sup> to November 30<sup>th</sup> (Hawk Watch Pavilion Lot)
- **Holiday Boutique & Book Sale:** November 16<sup>th</sup> 9 AM to 2 PM **venue TBD**

**PLEASE NOTE: Park Entrance Fees are in Effect March 1 to November 30**

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## Letter from the Editor

Hello everyone. I'm John Placko the editor of the FOCHSP Newsletter. I have been editor of this publication for almost four years, and I believe it is time to get a fresh perspective on the organization's activities, hopes and aspirations. To that end, I am looking for one to two Friends volunteers to take over the reins of this most important communications vehicle. The newsletter is created in Microsoft Word and usually takes about 4 to 10 hours each month to complete. The editor is required to attend our monthly board meeting and usually takes many, but not most, of the pictures featured in the newsletter. Articles and event descriptions are usually provided by the event coordinators or guest authors. I will, of course, work with the new editor(s) to ensure that a smooth transition occurs. My last issue will be April 2025.

### INTERESTED?

Please email, call or text me at

[john.placko@friendsofcapehenlopen.org](mailto:john.placko@friendsofcapehenlopen.org) / 302-827-7809

## FOCHSP Trail Days November 9, 2024

This month's FOCHSP Trail Days had 29 volunteers in attendance working for a total of 58 hours. The group met at the Main Beach parking lot on a sunny but blustery morning and split-up into 3 groups. One group worked on the parking lot and Hawk Watch pavilion area while the other two headed north and south on the beach. We also did some work on the bike loop toward Ft. Miles. Our focus was on picking up trash and collected over 100 pounds including a beach chair and an ocean buoy.



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## VOLUNTEER(S) NEEDED!

One of the greatest tools of communication in the 21<sup>st</sup> century is the internet, and The Friends is no exception with our website: [friendsofcapehenlopen.org](http://friendsofcapehenlopen.org). People can find out about us in an instant, 24/7. Have you ever wanted to be part of this great technological marvel? Well, you can. Our webmaster for the last eight years, Rod Parsons, has decided to step down and give someone else a chance. You might be thinking this is way too complicated for me. But be assured it isn't as hard as you may think. In fact, it's as simple as using a word processing program. We are looking for one to two Friends that can volunteer their time to take over managing our website. The site is edited through site management software provided by Weebly: (A division of squareup.com) and usually requires about 8 to 12 hours a month. The webmaster(s) is/are required to update the board at their monthly meeting which is also where they usually receive any new information needing uploading. Rod is willing to work with the new webmaster(s) to ensure that a smooth transition occurs, but he is anxious that his early January departure is not compromised.

### INTERESTED?

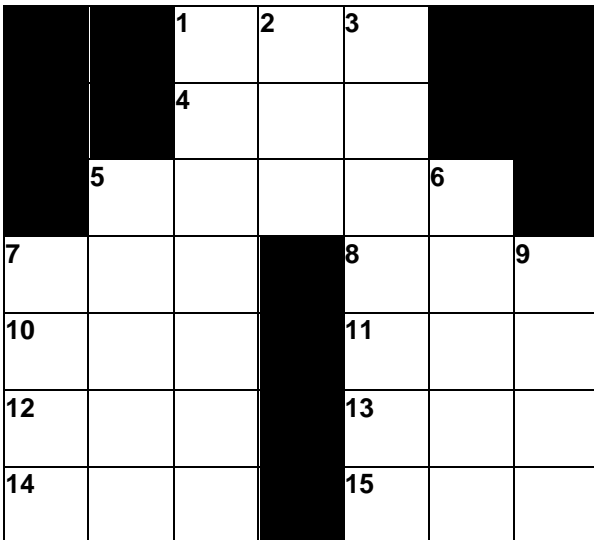
Please email Rod Parsons at [fochsp@gmail.com](mailto:fochsp@gmail.com) or call 302-858-6127 & leave him a message

## FOCHSP Supports Delaware Seashore Striders Running Event November 16, 2024

A beautiful Saturday morning found 11 FOCHSP volunteers helping Seashore Striders in their third annual Tunnel 2 Towers 5K run and walk. Tunnel 2 Towers was initiated to raise funds in support of first responders and to remember those associated with 9/11. Our volunteers staffed a water stop and provided course guidance to event participants as course marshals. They accrued 29 volunteer hours for the event.



### PARK PUZZLE by Carl Frey



Across	Down
1 Radios for long-haul truckers	1 Food for speaker of 8 ACROSS
4 In the style of	2 Macaw character in 10 ACROSS
5 Frequently regifted Christmas present (with 9 DOWN)	3 Made a promise at an altar
7 Target golf score	5 Pass out, hardly discernable
8 "What's up __?"	6 Morrison and Braxton
10 2010 animated film set in South America	7 London baby carriage
11 ' __ New York minute' (fast)	11 See 5 ACROSS
12 Cape Henlopen State Park picnic intruder	
13 When doubled, a South African antelope	
14 Land formations you won't find in DE	
15 Sugar name suffix	

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# Become a Cape Henlopen State Park Champion!

Are you passionate about Cape Henlopen State Park? Do you find joy in its beaches, fishing spots, trails, and wildlife? Are you ready to take an active role in improving and maintaining this beloved treasure?

The Friends of Cape Henlopen State Park (FOCHSP) Board of Directors is looking for enthusiastic individuals to join our team! We have three board vacancies starting in 2025 and are seeking dedicated people to help preserve and enhance Delaware's exceptional park.

## Why Join the FOCHSP Board?

- **Make a Difference:** Be part of preserving Delaware's premier natural treasure and ensuring its beauty and accessibility for generations.
- **Build Connections:** Work with like-minded individuals who share your love for the Park.
- **Enhance Natural Resources:** Help maintain and improve the vibrant coastal habitats within the Park.

## What We Do:

- **Organize Events:** Plan family-friendly activities like guided hikes, trail maintenance days, beach cleanups, and more.
- **Fundraise:** Support Park improvements and educational programs through community-driven initiatives.
- **Volunteer:** Engage in hands-on projects like pruning trails, litter removal, and habitat preservation.
- **Advocate:** Promote the Park's value and champion its protection.

## What We're Looking For:

We welcome individuals with experience or interest in:

- Nonprofit operations
- Project development
- Event planning
- Fundraising and finance management
- Grant proposals

## Board Meetings and Responsibilities:

Our Board has a maximum of 11 members, meeting monthly at 2 PM. We have plans to hold a few evening meetings to encourage broader participation. As a board member, your responsibilities include:

- Attending board meetings
- Actively participating in decision-making and organizational business
- Supporting fundraising efforts and special events
- Collaborating with park staff on projects and initiatives
- Advocating for the Park's preservation

## How to Apply:

If you're ready to make an impact, submit a **letter of interest** and **brief resume** to [fochsppresident@friendsofcapehenlopen.org](mailto:fochsppresident@friendsofcapehenlopen.org) by **Friday, January 10, 2025**.

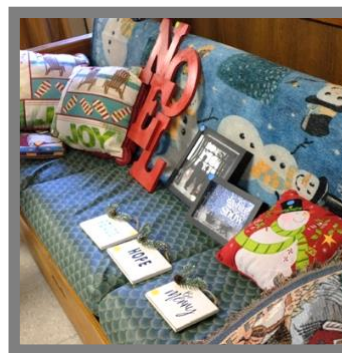
## Our Mission:

Friends of Cape Henlopen State Park is a non-profit 501(c)(3) volunteer organization that works with the Delaware Division of Parks and Recreation staff to support and advocate for Delaware's premier state Park. Working with Park staff we promote the protection, preservation, restoration and wise management of the diverse natural resources and activities within Cape Henlopen State Park for the benefit of all.

**Join us in making a difference for Cape Henlopen State Park and its future.  
Together, we can protect this extraordinary coastal gem!**

# FOCHSP Annual Holiday Boutique and Book Fair November 16, 2024

The Friends of Cape Henlopen State Park had its annual Holiday Boutique and Book Fair on Saturday Nov. 16<sup>th</sup>. Setup took place the Thursday and Friday before. Thursday had 11 members who provided 25.5 hours of volunteer time with Friday's 32 collectors/displays/pricers performing a total of 155 hours of volunteer time. Event day found 35 members that delivered a total of 206.5 volunteer hours. The FOCHSP Board is extremely appreciative of all the hard-working volunteers who made this year's event one to remember. See you next year on Saturday, November 15<sup>th</sup>.



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# FOCHSP Annual Holiday Boutique and Book Fair RAFFLE



## Get to Know Our Members – Jo-Anne Wazlowski

Jo-Anne Wazlowski was born and raised in Northboro, Massachusetts, but lived in the NY/NJ area for 7 years after retiring as a homecare physical therapist. During that time she also volunteered in Central Park NYC. Before Jo-Anne and her husband moved to Sussex County Delaware, she researched volunteer organizations in the area and found the Friends of Cape Henlopen State Park. They joined The Friends shortly after arriving in 2022 and began working on the black pine removal project. Most recently Jo-Anne has been working with Julie Callahan on the Monarch Butterfly Waystation Garden next to the Biden Center. She also volunteers at the DE Native Plant Society through the University of DE campus in Lewes and is working on becoming a Delaware Master Naturalist. One of Jo-Anne’s favorite places in the park is Herring Point where just a few days ago they saw dolphins, surf scoters, red-throated loons and bald eagles. She is also really excited about the wildlife that already showing up at the Monarch Butterfly Waystation Garden and looks forward to continuing to learn and share more about this wonderful place with others. Jo-Anne loves that the park is so family and nature oriented and thinks the Bike Barn program is brilliant. “The best thing about volunteering is meeting the best people and I'm grateful for the opportunity.” We agree with Jo-Anne and look forward to seeing her progress within the organization.



## FOCHSP Bike Raffle WINNER

L - R Paul Montgomery- Winner, Bob Callahan- Friends Treas.



## Park Puzzle Answers

	C	B	S			
	A	L	A			
	F	R	U	I	T	
P	A	R		D	O	C
R	I	O		I	N	A
A	N	T		D	I	K
M	T	S		O	S	E

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