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Like us on Facebook: fb.me/FOCHSP

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!!

Welcome to 2021. We are hoping you are enjoying our wonderful Park to rejuvenate your spirits and calm your souls. Cape Henlopen State Park offers many special places to explore. As you take in its many wonders remember you are welcome to share your discoveries, thoughts or musings through this newsletter. Send along a poem, a small piece of writing or a picture of what you have seen or discovered, or your favorite spot. This newsletter is about Cape Henlopen State Park and what you, as Friends members see, hear, experience or happen upon. It is our great fortune to be so close to such a special treasure. Share your experiences! Send along what you discover to the address or email above with the heading “newsletter”.

Through your membership and donations, we are able to fund special projects and Park employee wishes that may otherwise not be able to get done. We thank you for your support and contributions, both financial and as volunteers to our organization. Membership renewal time is here, please visit our website for membership renewal information or to become a member. Our Trails Day volunteers continue to trim and clean trails and beaches and generally meet the second Saturday of each month at 9am at the Bike Barn. Our Bike Barn will remain closed for now until we get further directions regarding limitations due to COVID-19. Our Borrow-a-book program remains very popular in the Park’s campground. Our new Beach committee focuses on improving the safety and enjoyment of our park’s beaches. And from time to time we assist other organizations with their events, such as running groups who may need guides or staffing of water stations.

We look forward to 2021 and the new adventures that lie ahead. Save the following dates and we will send updates and details as the dates get closer as they could change depending on COVID restrictions.

March 6	Annual Meeting
March 27	Indoor Flea Market with set-up March 25, 26
April 17	Wine, Cheese, Beer Tasting with set-up April 15-18
June 5	National Trail Day
TBD	Tour De Friends Bike Tour
September 11	Youth Fishing Tournament
September 11	Chocolate Tasting
October 16	Bird Seed Sale
November 13	Christmas Boutique with set-up Nov 11-13

FOCHSP NEWS

We welcome new members and volunteers who can help us support and maintain the Park we all love. Contact the Friends of Cape Henlopen State Park via our website (www.friendsofcapehenlopen.org), by email (FOCHSP@gmail.com), or by phone (302-858-6127). *Please like us on Facebook at: [fb.me/FOCHSP](https://www.facebook.com/fb.me/FOCHSP)*

*Check out the stock of used bikes for sale on our website!

*AmazonSmile customers can support Friends in the Amazon shopping app or at: smile.amazon.com

***Bike Barn Update. Due to the upsurge in Covid cases the Bike Barn will be closed until further notice. We will keep you updated if there are any changes.**

*The Board of the FOCHSP is excited to report that we have established a new committee - the **Beach Committee**. The mission of this committee is to identify opportunities to improve the aesthetic, safety and comfort of Cape Henlopen State Park. Committee members will monitor and report suggestions for improvements. They will also source funding for approved projects. This committee will be led by members - Emilie Paternoster and Sue Gaggiotti. If you are interested in joining the Beach committee, please email Board member Polly White womo99@gmail.com.

*We will have an opening on our Board in March 2021 due to the retirement of our longtime Board member Edna Lemiska. If you are interested in joining the Board please contact John Bracco, President of FOCHSP at the email address listed above.

*Check out the new **HawkWatch Page** on the FOCHSP website. By clicking on this link to that page you now get to a site that gives a detailed overview of the migration counts. Click here: <https://www.friendsofcapehenlopen.org/hawkwatch.html>

PARK UPDATES

For latest updates and Covid-19 restrictions at Cape Henlopen State Park and all Delaware Parks please go to their website at: <https://destateparks.com/covid19>

- Park will have a full compliment of Park Rangers (4) for the 2021 season.
- Starting December 16th the Park will issue print-on-demand Park entrance and surf fishing passes. For park passes go to this link: <https://destateparks.com/Know/PassesTagsFees>
- The Park is having the Officers Club siding & decks renovated
- The Main Beach boardwalk and Gordons Pond boardwalk railings are being fixed.
- The Cape Dorm-windows are being replaced and the pump house is being overhauled which will alleviate Pinelands Trail flooding.
- Bag stations in the park will transition from plastic to paper.
- The entrance area on Rehoboth Beach side of the Park will receive a general spruce up and the wash stations renovated.

PARK PUZZLER

by Carl Frey

1	2		3	4	5
6		7	8		
9			10		
11				12	13
		14			
15	16		17		
18				19	

ACROSS

- 1 *From Here -- Eternity*
- 3 Bird nest occupant
- 6 What beach drivers let out
- 8 --- Milk?
- 9 Defib team announcement
- 11 Stars of Friends web cam
- 14 Musical group of eight
- 15 Sandy shoal
- 17 Film technique: --- - mo
- 18 Abbreviated sandwich
- 19 12 in. diameter vinyl disc

DOWN

- 1 Tex-mex snack in a shell
- 2 Lubricates
- 3 Skinny Gordons Pond residents
- 4 Monopoly corner
- 5 The Ford that beat Ferrari: -- 40
- 7 Weather ----- or news -----
- 10 Circle circumference segment
- 12 Raise your voice
- 13 Sign at Park road intersections
- 15 King of the blues
- 16 -- Gore or -- Roker

Answers to Park Puzzler on page 4



Have you been to the Nature Center lately and noticed the pond which was updated last year with Friends funds? There are many birds who visit that area and it is nice to listen to the water fall.

Tom Blakely took a picture while walking the bike loop on December 1 of what appears to be a pod of whales a half mile offshore! Keep a lookout as you explore the Park, there are all sorts of surprises you may encounter!



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Saying Good-bye and Thank you to FOCHSP member Edna Lemiska (see May 2020 FOCHSP newsletter “Getting to Know” section)

It is hard to be a member of the Friends of Cape Henlopen State Park and not have ever interacted with Edna Lemiska. Edna is a vibrant energetic soul with a love and passion for Cape Henlopen State Park. She has been an integral part of the Friends of Cape Henlopen State Park for 15 years, having served as president and chairperson for many of our events. Edna was key to the success to many of our projects, including the funding for the Playground that the Friends had built. Her enthusiasm for the Friends has drawn many of us in to join her as a volunteer. Edna has decided to leave her home in Delaware and move to New Jersey to be closer to her family. With this decision, Edna is leaving the Board of Directors of the FOCHSP.

Although, this will slow her volunteering for the Friends, she promises to still come to our future events. We will miss her guidance and wish her well on her new adventures in New Jersey. The Friends would

never have achieved as much as it has if not for Edna’s longstanding contributions to the Friends of Cape Henlopen State Park.



Getting to know our Park employees: Richard Julian

Richard has been the Interpretive Programs Manager at CHSP for the past 15 years. He was born and raised in West Hartford, Connecticut and has worked all over the coastal United States from Massachusetts south to South Carolina, along the Gulf coast and in California and Washington. Richard oversees all the environmental education, nature public interpretive programming and summer day camps in the park. He is in charge of the Seaside Nature Center and the operations of the aquariums and exhibits, as well as coordinating and leading many state-wide trainings for the interpretive staff. Richard has been involved with the Children’s Fantasy Trail, the Residential Ecosystem Exploration at Cape Henlopen (REECH

program) and renovating the Nature Center exhibits. His favorite place in the Park is the Gordons Pond Trail. Richard says “Although it can get crowded, I love this trail because it takes you through just about the entire coastal ecosystem (maritime forest, dunes, fresh and brackish wetlands), and offers some spectacular views. Cape Henlopen is a beautiful place and I enjoy connecting visitors to this special resource”.

Answers to Park Puzzler

T	O			E	G	G
A	I	R		G	O	T
C	L	E	A	R		
O	S	P	R	E	Y	S
		O	C	T	E	T
B	A	R		S	L	O
B	L	T			L	P

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Trails Day December 12, eleven FOCHSP volunteers participated in cleaning up the Pinelands Trail. See below picture of the volunteers along with an after picture of part of the trail work they completed. FOCHSP volunteers ready to work: Carl Frey, John Dean, Vic Moran, Tom Nelson, Rich Suszko, Gavin Braithwaite, George O'Shea, Rod Parsons, Dale Pease, Bob Wallace, Dennis Clements.



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