

# Friends of Cape Henlopen State Park

# newsletter

## JULY 2021

### In This Issue

- Osprey Update
- Park Updates
- National Trails Day
- Seashore Striders Support
- Park Puzzle
- Schedule of Events
- FOCHSP Donations
- FOCHSP Borrow-A-Bike Update
- Get to Know Our Members
- Park Puzzle Answers
- Park Recreation- Disk Golf



### CONTACTS

[www.friendsofcapehenlopen.org](http://www.friendsofcapehenlopen.org)

PO Box 132, Nassau, DE 19958

Follow us on [facebook](#)

[fochsp@gmail.com](mailto:fochsp@gmail.com)

302.858.6427

## Osprey Update

Unfortunately, none of the osprey chicks survived the month; [friendsofcapehenlopen.org/ospreycam.html](http://friendsofcapehenlopen.org/ospreycam.html). While the nest continues to be occupied, another brood is unlikely to appear this late in the season. The pair has been sighted adding branches to the nest.



## Park Updates

- Tower 7 has been reopened to the public.
- New directional signage was installed at Gordons Pond to help visitors navigate this popular area.
- The Nature Center has reopened to visitors.

The Friends of Cape Henlopen State Park (FOCHSP) is a non-profit 501(c)(3) volunteer organization that works with the Delaware Division of Parks and Recreation, and staff, to support and advocate for one of the county's most unique public parks. Join now!

# NATIONAL Trails Day

## June 5, 2021

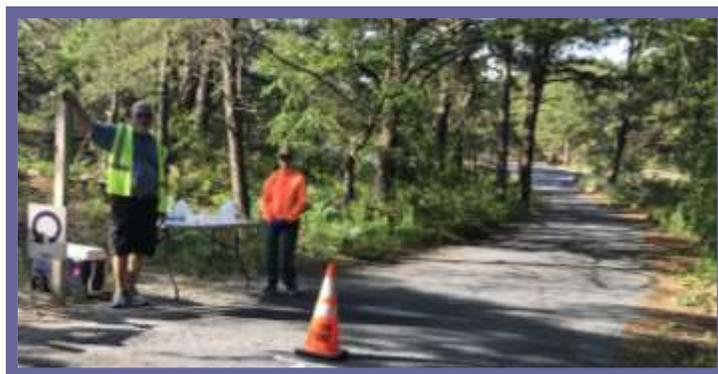
Twenty five FOCHSP volunteers came out for this year's National Trails Day. Led by members, Fran Giacomo and Gavin Braithwaite, broke up the group into two teams. One team executed pruning, sweeping and trash pickup along the 3.3 mile bicycle loop. The second team conducted beach cleanup along the main ocean beach. The beach cleanup team also reported finding cinder blocks and bricks that could not be removed. In total our twenty five volunteers contributed 71.75 hours of work. Thank You!



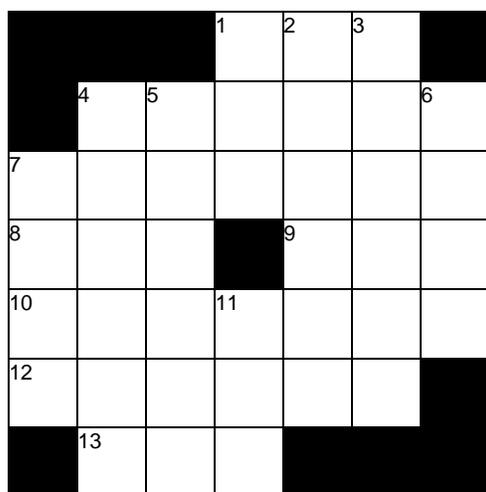
# Sea Shore Striders Five Miler

## June 13, 2021

Once again FOCHSP helped out at a Sea Shore Striders event this month. Seven Friends provided approximately 30 volunteer hours by offering directions and water to the runners.



### PARK PUZZLE by Carl Frey



### ACROSS

- 1 No --- ands or buts!
- 4 Abundant mineral on Cape Henlopen beaches
- 7 ----- David B. McBride Beach Bathhouse
- 8 It would ensure the same legal protection to all regardless of sex
- 9 Its wheels go round and round all through the town
- 10 Find out about the Friends on its -----
- 12 Piggy exclamations
- 13 Prefix meaning 'outside'

### DOWN

- 1 Ali's 3<sup>rd</sup> win over Frazier: The Thrilla in Man---
- 2 Physical training tracker gizmo
- 3 They often use Cape Henlopen campgrounds
- 4 Peaceful & park-like
- 5 Where each letter of a crossword answer goes
- 6 Londoner's keister
- 7 Makes with needle and thread
- 11 Sign of a sell-out Broadway show

## Schedule of Events

- **Youth Fishing Tournament:** September 11th. CHSP Fishing Pier 8:00 am - 11:00 am
- **Indoor Flea Market:** September 11, 9:00am - 3:00pm
- **Birdseed Sale:** Order by October 5 / Pick Up on Oct 16 (CHSP Maintenance Garage)
- **Hawk Watch:** Every day September 1 to November 30 (Hawk Watch Pavilion Lot)
- **Christmas Boutique & Book Sale:** November 13, 9:00am - 3:00pm
- **Membership Renewals Due:** January 1, 2022

## FOCHSP Donations- Dedication of Beach Access Mats at Gordons Pond June 9, 2021

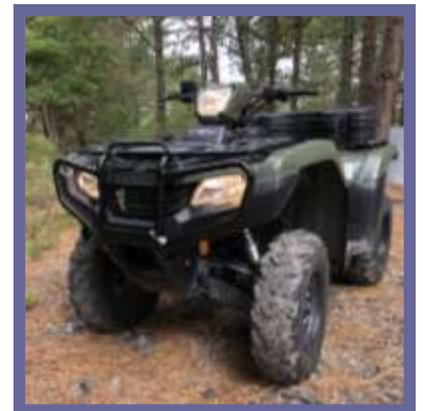
The FOCHSP was one of four organizations who donated several **Mobi-mat®** products to assist in the safe access of "Whiskey Beach" east of Gordons Pond Rehoboth.



(L-R) FOCHSP Sue Gaggiotti (member) and Margaret Bracco (member), FOCHSP board members Tony Baldino (Treasurer), Polly White (Vice President), John Bracco (President), John Placko (newsletter editor) and Rod Parsons (web master), Lingo Realtors' Carrie Lingo, Apple Electric's Dominic Prestipino and Steve Prestipino, FOCHSP Ian Friedland (Borrow-A-Bike program manager) and FOCHSP Emilie Paternoster (member).

## FOCHSP Donations- New ATV for Park Personnel June 1, 2021

The FOCHSP donated the money needed to purchase a new ATV (All Terrain Vehicle) to assist park personnel in their mission to keep the park and its visitors safe and presentable.



The Friends of Cape Henlopen State Park (FOCHSP) is a non-profit 501(c)(3) volunteer organization that works with the Delaware Division of Parks and Recreation, and staff, to support and advocate for one of the county's most unique public parks. Join now!

# FOCHSP Borrow-A-Bike Program

## June 16, 2021 Opening Day

Following a nearly eighteen month pandemic shutdown, the FOCHSP “Borrow-A-Bike” program officially restarted on Wednesday, June 16<sup>th</sup>. A “soft” opening was held on Monday, June 14<sup>th</sup> to work through new procedures intended to keep both FOCHSP volunteers and park visitors safe. Park visitors showed overwhelming enthusiasm for the reopening. Virtually every bike in the program’s inventory was lent out within 45 minutes of opening. Groups of visitors waited for up to an hour for bikes to return so they could borrow them.

Nineteen “Bike Barn Ambassadors” returned for the 2021 season and 10 new volunteers joined the group. All expressed their great joy and enthusiasm at being part of the most popular FOCHSP program.

The “Borrow-A-Bike” program started in 1997 and was the first such program within a Delaware State Park system. It has since been emulated in other State Parks and is among the most popular of the FOCHSP programs. The Bike Barn, located next to the Nature Center, was constructed in 2009 while a second building, behind the original, was built in 2016. The buildings house a full inventory of biking equipment and repair facilities. Available at no cost to park visitors (although donations are accepted) the current inventory includes 44 adult single-speed beach cruisers (two with child carriers), 12 kids single-speed bikes, and three trailers that hook up to adult bikes and can carry up to two children each. Helmets are available for adults & children and are required for kids 18 years and younger.

Visitors can borrow a bike and ride the 16.3 miles of paved / packed gravel trails throughout Cape Henlopen State Park for up to two hours. The Bike Barn is open 10AM to 3PM daily, excluding Tuesdays.

For information visit the [Friends of Cape Henlopen Bike Barn](#) website.

For questions, please contact the program manager Ian Friedland at [friedlandian@verizon.net](mailto:friedlandian@verizon.net).



## Get to Know Our Members – Fran Giacomma

Fran is a native Delawarean, born and raised in north Delaware. After graduating from the University of Delaware as a Civil Engineer, he spent 35 years in the Engineering Departments of Conrail and CSX designing, constructing, and maintaining railroad tracks and right of way. Fran spent his career working and living throughout the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic states but wanted to retire in Delaware as most vacations were spent at the Cape Henlopen State Park enjoying the beaches, trails, and camping. After retiring from the railroad in July 2012, Fran decided to move to Lewes. While attending the annual meeting in 2013, he talked to Gordon Reid about volunteering at the Bike Barn. Fran still helps out at the Bike Barn including repairing bikes. He also leads groups during Trails Days to clean-up the park's trails, beaches and recreation areas. Fran loves the park for its natural beauty, serenity and calmness. His favorite place is the beach around The Point.



Wild Turkey Near the Bike Loop

## Park Puzzle Answers

			I	F	S	
	S	I	L	I	C	A
S	E	N	A	T	O	R
E	R	A		B	U	S
W	E	B	S	I	T	E
S	N	O	R	T	S	
	E	X	O			

## Park Recreation - Disk Golf

Disc Golf is a fun, easy to play yet challenging sport for friends and family alike. The object of the game is to throw a frisbee like disc into a chain basket atop a pole. Similar to golf, the target is called the "hole". The number of throws needed to land a disc in a basket is the score for that hole.

Cape Henlopen State Park has a course with a total of 19 holes and is located between the McBride Beach Bathhouse and the Seaside Nature Center. The course is one of the oldest in the world. Designed in 1978 by Ed Headrick, one of the founders of the sport, the course is one of the most unique in the country due to its location on sand dunes.

In the last few years the Cape Henlopen State Park has constructed and helped install all new tee-off platforms. Signage is currently being replaced due to wear and tear. This year the Cape Henlopen Disc Golf Club and Delaware Disc Golf began to raise funds to secure new disc golf baskets for the course. The Friends became aware of this and offered to match funds raised by the clubs. The collaboration will allow the Park to purchase new baskets by the end of 2021 which will allow installation by local area disc golf volunteers and park personnel by the 2022 season.

Anyone interested in playing can stop at the Seaside Nature Center and pick up a course map and scorecard as well as either borrow or purchase discs for use.

