

# A word from Wildwood

The goal of Friends of Wildwood is to preserve and support Wildwood Park and the Benjamin Olewine III Nature Center.

## Winter Wonders Camps were a HIT!

During Winter Break, Wildwood Park Staff welcomed two groups of youngsters to the Nature Center to learn and explore the outdoors. With topics surrounding hibernation, animal tracks for winter residents and snow, fun was had by all! Stories, science experiments and crafts were also a highlight. A special thank you to all parents and grandparents who shared their littles with us for a morning or afternoon.



Registration is currently available for week long and 2-day summer camps at [explorewildwoodpark.org/summer-day-camps/](http://explorewildwoodpark.org/summer-day-camps/) more on page 7.

## New Nature Center Open/Closed Sign

The Olewine Nature Center received an early Christmas present at the beginning of December. Wildwood Staff would like to extend a special thank you to Displays & Graphics for the unique graphic design and to our Dauphin County Parks & Rec Maintenance Staff for designing the post and installing it. It looks great!



## Spotted Lanternfly Egg Mass Removal by USDA

For several bitterly cold days with snow accumulation on the ground, USDA removed Spotted Lanternfly egg masses at Wildwood Park. Spotted lanternflies live through the winter only as eggs. Scraped egg masses need to be submerged in rubbing alcohol to kill them. The proper removal of a single egg mass equates killing 30-50 individual eggs.

## Birds & Coffee

What better way to start your weekend then with Birds & Coffee! In partnership with Appalachian Audubon, this new program highlighted the importance of Project FeederWatch, a winter-long survey of birds that visit backyard feeders. Register online and stop by the Nature Center on March 12 to enjoy a nice cup of coffee, tea or hot cocoa while counting songbirds at the feeders. Appalachian Audubon will also be selling their delicious, bird-friendly coffee to benefit their chapter.



## Wild About Dogs!

**Saturday, April 2 from 10:00 am–2:00 pm**

Join the Friends of Wildwood for our first ever dog event! This will be a unique opportunity to honor your favorite furry friends and celebrate the wonders of Wildwood Park. Enjoy a special sneak peak of the new Art In The Wild installations more on page 6, complete a fun scavenger hunt with your best friend, engage with local pet-centered vendors, buy some homemade tasty dog and human treats and more! Dog Memberships will be available for purchase during the event. All new and current dog members will receive a special gift. A single dog membership will be free with each human membership purchased. Dogs must be leashed, owners are responsible for and must supervise their dogs at all times. You won't want to miss this!

- Summit Search & Rescue
- Caring Hearts Pet Therapy
- Doggie Delights Bakery



## A word from *Wildwood*

is published quarterly by

Friends of Wildwood

100 Wildwood Way

Harrisburg, PA 17110

(717) 221-0292

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

Email: [wwstaff@dauphinc.org](mailto:wwstaff@dauphinc.org)

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DAUPHIN COUNTY  
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PARKS & RECREATION

Wildwood Park and the Benjamin Olewine III Nature Center are part of the Dauphin County Parks and Recreation Department. The Benjamin Olewine III Nature Center is open Tuesday through Sunday, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and is closed Mondays and holidays. Wildwood Park's trails are open from dawn until dusk. Programs can be viewed at [www.explorewildwoodpark.org/events](http://www.explorewildwoodpark.org/events) and questions directed to [wwstaff@dauphinc.org](mailto:wwstaff@dauphinc.org).

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## A Word from the President

Wow!! Thanks to you, our Friends and donors, we've crushed our original fundraising goal of \$50,000 toward the Save The Boardwalk campaign. To date, we've raised over \$63,500 in private donations and local grants toward the project. This indicates that the public truly realizes the important role the boardwalk trail system plays for Wildwood Park visitors. Thank you to each and everyone of you listed on page 4 including those of you who wish to remain anonymous.

It's not too late to make a donation as we are continuing our fundraising efforts and increased our goal. This will ensure that we have enough funding in addition to our DCNR and Dauphin County grants to complete, at minimum, the repairs to the North Boardwalk, as we are anticipating costs to be higher than originally thought. Other portions of the boardwalks also are in need of repair and require extra funds.

These warm late winter temperatures have me thinking about spring, especially since I'm more of a warm season person. Nature is starting to wake up as I hear the birds beginning to sing early in the morning. Before we know it, the Park's trails will be full again. The Friends are hoping the trails fill up with our dog visitors on Saturday, April 2nd for our first ever Wild About Dogs event. *More on page 1* This event will also offer a sneak peak for this year's Art In The Wild Exhibit *More on page 6*. The day will feature dog-friendly vendors and exhibitors, as well as a scavenger hunt and dog membership specials. We know our furry friends enjoy the Park as much as we do and this day is dedicated to celebrate them!

In addition to Wild About Dogs and Art In The Wild, April and May are looking to be very busy months full of Friends'-sponsored activities including our annual Wetlands Festival and Painting at the Park events and our first ever Off the Beaten Path bus trip, on Saturday, May 21st. Looking to take advantage of some unique local opportunities? The trip will include visits to some lesser-known local attractions, including the Lost Creek Shoe Shop, which not only sells shoes but is well known for binoculars and other birding equipment. Guided tours will be provided at the Lost Creek Shoe Shop (bird watching) and at the Bower, which should be full of color by the time May rolls around. Remember, Friends' members receive a discount on the bus trip. *More on page 6*

We hope to see you soon at Wildwood and thanks for your continued support!

Heather

## Photo Contest Results

The 2021 Photo Contest has been taken down but not before the judges chose this year's winners in each of our four categories. The annual reception was held on January 16th during which the winners were announced with ribbons and cash prizes awarded. This year each winner also received a one-year membership to the Friends of Wildwood.

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A very big thank you to all of the entrants and congratulations to the winners!

### Advanced

- 1st: Sherri Hendricks, "In A Reflective Mood"
- 2nd: Sherri Hendricks, "A Not So Private Moment"
- 3rd: Curtis Meyers, "Long-horned"

### Intermediate

- 1st: Venkataram Venkatakrishnaiah, "Feeding Hungry Mouths"
- 2nd: Shalini Venkataram "Picture Perfect Portrait"
- 3rd: Michele Laucks, "What Tangled Webs We Weave"

### Beginner

- 1st: Jeremy Lopus, "Stone Wood Gold"
- 2nd: Patricia Marshall, "Pollywog Present"
- 3rd: Quinn Grimes, "Reflection #2"

### Youth

- 1st: Holden Erhard, "Morning Reflections"
- 2nd: Phoebe Humpton "Swim Noodle"
- 3rd: Maddie Marco "Profile"

### People's Choice

- Advanced: Sherri Hendricks "A Not So Private Moment"
- Intermediate: Michele Sersch "Gosling Spiked Feather Day"
- Beginner: Madelaine Weinstock "Pretty in Pink"
- Youth: Phoebe Humpton "Swim Noodle"



Winning photos, including People's Choice selections, will be on display in the Nature Center over the next few months. Please stop by the Center to view these beautiful photographs.

We thank our dedicated judges Denny Bingaman, Wes Peterson and Ellen Siddons for their time and expertise; and commend the committee members, staff, volunteers and photographers for their continued commitment to bringing the beauty and wonder of Wildwood Park to you!

Watch for some interesting changes to next year's contest.

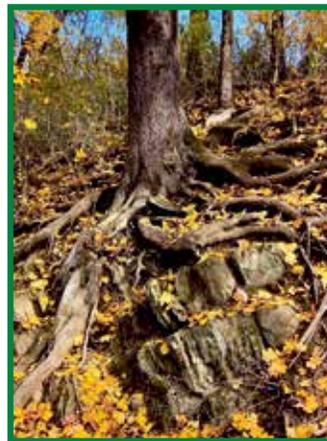
## 2021 First Place Winners



**Advanced:** Sherri Hendricks  
*In A Reflective Mood*



**Intermediate:** Venkataram Venkatakrishnaiah  
*Feeding Hungry Mouths*



**Beginner:** Jeremy Lopus  
*Stone Wood Gold*



**Youth:** Holden Erhard  
*Morning Reflections*

## Save The Boardwalk Donors

Thank you to the following contributors to the Save The Boardwalk Campaign and to all Anonymous Donors

**Lead Donors:** Kristen Olewine Milke and Benjamin Olewine IV

**Legacy Donors:** Catherine Barron, Tim & Mary Bigelow, The Bonsall Staller Charitable Fund of Thrivent Charitable Impact & Investing, Carol M. Buskirk, Phil and Carol Di Martile Fund of the Foundation for Enhancing Communities, Susan Dickinson, Carl and Susanne Donmoyer, Jane Earle, Janelle E. Egan, Enola Sportsmen's Association Inc. SGOC, Andrea Faber, David A. Frederick, JoAnne Gordon, Rudy & Ewa Gornik, Nancy Graham, Luke & Suzanne Grumbine, Linda Haldeman, Jim Heckman, Beryl Kuhr & Patrick H. Bair, McCormick Family Foundation, Matt Lavelle, Bill & Linda Neubaum, Mr. Pinder and Ms. Gambill, Tom Remsnyder, Janet Sloand, Kevin A. Spandler, Donald B. & Dorothy L. Stabler Foundation

Key funding provided by Friends of Wildwood, the PA Dept. of Conservation and Natural Resources and the Dauphin County Commissioners Mike Pries, Chad Saylor and George P. Hartwick, III

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# Upcoming Events

## Online Registration!

Program registration is online at [www.explorewildwoodpark.org/events/](http://www.explorewildwoodpark.org/events/)  
It's easy! Click on the "Events" page, scroll through the list of programs, click to register.

### Dr. Seuss Science Series

Wednesdays, March 2, 9 & 16  
10:00 am–10:45 am

\$5 per child, chaperones free

Join an Environmental Educator for fun interactive Dr. Seuss story session for children ages 3-5. Stories, rhymes, and a craft/activity will introduce science through the eyes of Dr. Seuss. Classes are offered in person during 3 consecutive Wednesdays. Register online.

### Astronomy Program at Detweiler Park

Friday, March 11  
8:00 pm–10:00 pm

\$5 per participant

Join Astronomical Society of Harrisburg President, Eric Roth and other ASH members for an evening of star gazing. The evening will begin with a short 0.3 mile walk along variable terrain to the open fields. Dress for the weather and bring something to sit on. If the weather prevents the program from happening on Friday, March 11 the alternative date is Friday, March 25, 2022. Register online.

### Volunteer Work Days

Saturdays, March 12, April 9 & May 14  
10:00 am–1:00 pm

Free

### Flower Walks with Cara Martinez-Williams

Sunday, March 20, April 24 & May 22  
1:30 pm–3:00 pm

Free

### NEW Skunk Cabbage Walk

Thursday, March 24  
2:30 pm–4:00 pm

\$2 per participant

Join a Naturalist for a short walk at Detweiler Park to observe Skunk Cabbage, one of the first flowering plants to emerge after the winter cold. Learn about what makes this particular plant so unique as you observe it in its native habitat. Register online.

### NEW Kids Discover: April Pools (ages 5-10)

Tuesday, April 5  
2:00 pm–4:00 pm

\$5 per child, chaperones free

Now that the ground is thawing, there will be many places in the Park that are filling with water. These seasonal, or "vernal", pools are critical habitat for a variety of plants and animals. Some frogs, turtles and salamanders use these vernal pools as a sanctuary to lay their eggs and raise their young. Register online.

### NEW Natural Dyeing with Acorns

Thursday, April 7  
6:00 pm–8:00 pm

\$35 per participant

Join local dyer and Art In The Wild participant Carol Reed and explore the world of natural dyes. Participants will create a large 25" x 80" cotton gauze scarf dyed with acorns. After the dyeing is done, participants will have a chance to modify the color from soft brown to gray using iron water. Register online.



### Fort Hunter Conservancy Hike

Sunday, April 10  
2:00 pm–4:00 pm

Free

Join a Naturalist for a strenuous hike at the 153-acre, Fort Hunter Conservancy. Hike through woods and meadows, stopping at the top the mountain to enjoy the view. Please bring water, a snack and proper footwear as the last section of trail is very steep and has lots of loose rock. Register online.

### Kids Discover: Birds and Their Nests (ages 5-10)

Friday, April 15  
10:00 am–11:30 am

\$5 per child, chaperones are free

Join a naturalist for this hands-on program where kids will get to examine nests, search for nests in the Park and make their own small bird's nest to take home. Register online.

### Kids Discover: Pollywogs (ages 5-10)

Thursday, April 28  
2:00 pm–4:00 pm

\$5 per child, chaperones free

Join a Naturalist at Detweiler Park for a fun day of pond/creek exploration. Children will have the chance to catch and release tadpoles and other critters in Detweiler Pond using nets. Water shoes recommended but not required. Register online.

### NEW Spring Flower Walk

Tuesday, May 3  
2:30 pm–4:00 pm

\$2 per participant

Join a Naturalist for a leisurely afternoon walk within the meadows and forests of Detweiler Park in search of spring wildflowers. Register online.

### Detweiler Park Bird Walk

Saturday, May 7  
7:30 am–9:30 am

\$2 per participant

Join a Naturalist for a walk at Detweiler Park to look for migratory songbirds. May is a great time to see both migrating and breeding warblers and vireos. Register online.

### Detweiler Park Photo Hike

Thursday, May 12  
8:30 am–10:30 am

\$2 per participant

Experience the natural beauty and ecology of Detweiler Park while practicing the art of photography. Guided by a knowledgeable photographer and naturalist, learn how to apply outdoor photography concepts including aperture and composition. All photographers welcome. Register online.

### NEW Ikebana: Japanese Flower Arranging Workshop

Thursday, May 12  
6:00 pm–7:30 pm

\$60 per participant

Join Dolores McGee, owner of D McGee Design Studio, for an evening workshop. Dolores will provide a brief history about the art of Japanese Ikebana and basic techniques for designing your own creation using locally resourced materials. The materials will include a beautifully designed Ikebana container from Pam Cummings, a local potter. Register online.



### Sign Design Workshop

Saturday, May 14  
11:00 am & 1:30 pm

\$35 per participant

Design your own decorative wooden sign using Black Walnut sustainably harvested from the Park. Everything needed for each participant to create their own nature-themed sign will be provided.

### NEW Kids Discover: Things with Wings (ages 5-10)

Sunday, May 15  
1:30 pm–3:00 pm

\$5 per child, chaperones are free

Join a Naturalist at Lykens Glen Park to discover what animals have wings. Discover three types of animals that have wings and how they have adapted to life in the sky. Program will occur completely outdoors. Register online.

### NEW Kids Discover: Songbirds

Saturday, May 28  
10:00 pm–11:30 am (ages 4-6)

1:30 pm–3:00 pm (ages 7-10)

\$5 per child, chaperones are free

"What kind of bird was that?!" Have you ever heard or seen a bird and wondered what it could be? Join a Naturalist and learn about our local songbirds and characteristics that make them easy to identify. Become an amateur birder and make your own field guide! Register online.

### Volunteer Spotlight:

#### A few memories from our dedicated Volunteer Work Day Crew

“I started to come to Wildwood in the late 1930’s to see the Zoo. During the 1940’s I lived in uptown Harrisburg and would walk to Division Street and then cross the railroad tracks on the Pedestrian Bridge to get to the Park to fish. For the past 43 years, I have lived off Linglestown Road. Wildwood’s 3.1 mile loop is my source of exercise. I have been a regular at the 2nd Saturday work days and at the Wetlands Festival for a few years, recently I received my fifteen year volunteer pin last year.” –**Harold Pacey**

“Since I lived nearby and used the Park for walking, it only felt natural to give back. I have been volunteering at Wildwood for the past fifteen plus years, and have worked a variety of jobs from Saturday morning volunteer days to helping with event set up’s parking and tear down. The projects are endless but rewarding when done well. The work is not always easy but it’s nice to work along with friends who also enjoy giving back. And they always reward us with snacks!” –**Patrick Atkins**



Please consider joining Harold and Patrick the second Saturdays at Wildwood Park from March through November from 10am–1pm. We kick off this year’s Volunteer Work Days on Saturday, March 12 with an all-park Litter Clean-Up. We hope to see you there!

## Art In The Wild

### Exhibit Opens & Meet the Artists

*Sunday, April 3 from 1:00 pm–3:00 pm*

Visit naturally inspired trailside creations along Wildwood Park’s wandering trails and wetlands. This year’s theme is “Sunlight and Shadows.” A map-brochure about the exhibit will be available online, at the kiosks or inside the Nature Center.



Explore Wildwood Park’s treasured wetlands! Join us for a day of free, fun, and educational activities with special musical guests. Celebrate Earth Day and enjoy wildlife exhibits, displays, walks, talks, as well as a great representation of local and regional environmental organizations. There is something for everyone!

### Painting at the Park: Saturday, May 7 from 10am-12pm



Please join the Friends of Wildwood for our 5th annual Painting at the Park, directed by Jenn Brown from Jenn’s Craft Parties. Jenn will lead participants through the creation of a piece highlighting a natural element that is near and dear to our hearts... the lotus flower! All experience levels are welcome, and all materials will be provided. Proceeds benefit the Friends of Wildwood. Workshop is limited to 20 participants. Cost is \$25 per participant. Pre-registration is required by Saturday, April 30, 2022.

### Friends of Wildwood Bus Trip

The Friends of Wildwood invite you to join them on **Saturday, May 21 from 8:00am–5:00pm** for a bus trip to a few local gems. From the comfort of a chartered minibus, you will be transported to and experience:

- Guided birding with Lost Creek Shoe Shop’s own bird enthusiast, Mr. Troyer (Mifflintown)
- Lunch and time on your own in the quaint town of Newport
- The Bower, Native Garden & Sculpture Park with owner visionary team Bill & Jane Allis (Shermans Dale)

All participants will receive a hand-crafted journal made of recycled materials to capture memories from your special experience. Covid protocols will be observed based upon recommendations at the time of the trip. Space is limited. Pre-registration required. Cost is \$50 for members [**use FOWW2022 at checkout**], \$60 for non-members. Register online.

### Save The Date: Volunteer Appreciation Event

All Friends of Wildwood Volunteers are invited to a special event at Fort Hunter Park on the evening of Tuesday, June 28 with a rain date of Thursday, June 30.



**Nature Explorers Day Camp (ages 6-8)**  
Monday, June 20–Friday, June 24

**Nature Explorers Day Camp (ages 6-8)**  
Monday, June 27–Friday, July 1

**Junior Naturalist Day Camp (ages 9-11)**  
Monday, July 18–Friday, July 22

**Outdoor Week (ages 12-14)**  
Monday, August 1–Friday, August 5

*Most camps are \$165 per child and run 9:00 am–3:00 pm  
Camps repeat, space is limited, register online at  
explorewildwoodpark.org/summer-day-camps/*

**NEW Summer Nature Camp at Wiconisco Creek Park (ages 6-8)**

Tuesday, June 21 & Wednesday, June 22  
9:00 am–2:00 pm

Cost is \$25 per child, per day

**NEW Enviro-Sampler Mini-Camp (ages 15-17)**  
Thursday July 7 & Friday, July 8

9:00 am–3:00 pm

Cost is \$35 per child, per day

**NEW Little Sprouts Mini-Camp (ages 4-5)**  
Tuesday, July 26–Thursday, July 28

9:00 am–12:00 pm

Cost is \$50 per child

## In Memory of John Maxwell

John Maxwell, a long-time volunteer and dear friend of Wildwood, recently passed away. John loved to help out on festival days with set-up and tear-down. You could always count on him during the holidays to help collect ornamental hollies and Osage orange for winter wreath workshops. John's upbeat presence and dedicated service will be dearly missed.

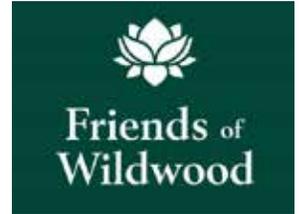
## Thinking of Giving to Wildwood?

Here are 7 easy ways to give to Wildwood.

All are tax deductible.

Details at [www.explorewildwoodpark.org/support/](http://www.explorewildwoodpark.org/support/)

1. **Become a Member** or give the gift of membership
2. Make a Donation
3. Make a Bequest
4. Purchase a Memorial Brick
5. Contribute to Wildwood's Endowment
6. Sponsor a Program
7. Volunteer your Time



## Membership Benefits

Your membership supports the ongoing environmental education programs and conservation efforts of Wildwood Park and the Benjamin Olewine III Nature Center.

Your Membership provides the following:

- Reciprocal membership with more than 125 nature centers throughout the country that participate in the Association of Nature Center Administrators
- Subscription to *A Word From Wildwood* quarterly newsletter
- 10% discount off all Nature Shop purchases
- Knowing you:
  - Support Environmental Education programs reaching 10,000 people annually
  - Have a direct impact on local and migratory wildlife, wild plants and the diverse people living in our community
  - Preserve Wildwood Park, now and for future generations

## Sign up to receive the newsletter electronically

*A Word from Wildwood*

can be sent electronically to Friends of Wildwood members.  
Email [wwstaff@dauphinc.org](mailto:wwstaff@dauphinc.org).



**Help save paper and money! GO GREEN!**

## Have you considered Wildwood Park in your estate planning?

The Friends of Wildwood is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization listed with the PA Bureau of Charitable Organizations, and incorporated within the Commonwealth of PA. It is an advocate for Wildwood Park through preservation, education and financial support.

Friends of Wildwood  
100 Wildwood Way  
Harrisburg, PA 17110  
(717) 221-0292  
[www.explorewildwoodpark.org](http://www.explorewildwoodpark.org)

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Mark your calendars for  
these upcoming events!

Wild About Dogs

Sat. April 2

10:00am—2:00 pm

Wetlands Festival

Sat. April 23

10:00am—4:00pm

Sign Design

Sat. May 14

11:00am & 1:30pm



30% Recycled post-consumer fiber