

Rehoboth Beach-Dewey Beach Chamber of Commerce

"The Nation's Summer Capital"

P.O. Box 216

Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971-0216

Phone: (302) 227-2233 • (800) 441-1329

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Run through October 27, 2017

Contact: Emily Grothey

302-227-6446

**REHOBOTH BEACH - DEWEY BEACH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
28th ANNUAL SEA WITCH[®] FESTIVAL
"COUNT CRABULA" CRAWLS INTO RESORT - OCTOBER 27 - 29, 2017
OFFICIAL MEGA MONSTER SPONSOR - WRDE NBC COAST TV**

TRANSPORTATION AND PARKING RESTRICTIONS

- **SATELLITE PARKING & SHUTTLE SERVICE: \$1.00 or Donation** – Skip trying to find a parking spot, there is an easier way to get to the festival on Saturday! Shuttles will provide transportation between designated satellite parking locations and Downtown Rehoboth Beach on Saturday, October 28th from 8 AM – 8 PM. \$1.00 or donation collected as riders board shuttle to return to parking locations.
- **REHOBOTH AVENUE CLOSURE DURING PARADE**– Rehoboth Avenue will be closed to all traffic on Saturday, October 28th at 10 AM and will reopen immediately following the costume parade (approximately at 3 PM). Arrive early... 9 AM or earlier!
- **REHOBOTH AVENUE CROWD CONTROL FENCING INFORMATION FOR SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28th** – On the Median Side: crowd control fencing will prohibit parking in certain median areas. On the Sidewalk Side: any vehicles parked on the sidewalk side will be fenced in until after the parade.

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

- **TYKE BIKE RACE ON THE BOARDWALK – Don't forget your helmet!** Sponsored by Kids Cottage – Start the festival on the boards, registration begins at 2:30 PM. Children ages 8 and under are invited to cruise down the Boardwalk on their trikes and bikes. Tykes roll on Friday, October 27th from 3 – 4 PM. Donation based.
- **CHOO CHOO EXPRESS TRAIN RIDES** – All Aboard! Kids ages 2 -7 can ride on the Choo Choo Express with Engineer Larry & Conductor Rachel through Grove Park, 501 Rehoboth Avenue on Friday from 4:00 – 6:00 PM. Donation based.
- **MOVIE & FALL FUN AT THE SUSSEX FAMILY YMCA** - Make plans to participate in the Sussex Family YMCA's fall fun and movie night! Fun activities begin at 5:00 PM and include face-painting, crafts, costume contest and carnival style games. Bring your children in costume to trunk or treat safely through the parking lot. Members and volunteers decorate their auto trunks and are ready to give out goodies from 5:00 PM – 6:30 PM!
 - Lights...Camera...Action! *Beauty and the Beast* will begin at 6:30 PM and will be shown indoors. No fee. The Sussex Family YMCA is located at 20080 Church Street in Rehoboth Beach. For more information, call 302-296-9622.
- **TWO TRICK OR TREATING OPPORTUNITIES** – Calling all ghosts and goblins – Enjoy Trick or Treat in the resort area two nights in a row! Trick or Treat in Dewey Beach on Friday, October 27th from 6:30 – 7:30 PM and again with the Rehoboth Beach Downtown Merchants on Saturday, October 28th from 6:30-7:30 PM.

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- **MONSTER ART & MAGIC SHOWS IN GROVE PARK** – Join the Dewey Artist Collaboration in creating Monster Art on Saturday, October 28th and Sunday, October 29th in the Grove Park Pavilion from 12 – 5 PM. Artwork will be sent to U.S. troops overseas via Operation Gratitude. Jack Noel will perform magic in Grove Park on Saturday, October 28th and Sunday, October 29th. Shows will be held 2 – 2:30 PM and 3 – 3:30 PM each day.
- **PONY RIDES** – Saturday, October 28th and Sunday, October 29th 10 AM – 4 PM. \$5.00 Fee.
- **CRAB CLAW TREASURE HUNT** – *Sponsored by Claws Seafood House* – Sunday, October 29th 10 AM – 3 PM. Kids go on a hunt to collect letters from 6 locations in downtown Rehoboth Beach. Bring the letters back to the Information Table to receive your crab claw backpack! \$5.00 Fee.

OLD FASHION BEACH GAMES

Fun for all ages! Children are invited to participate in the Old Fashion Beach Games held on the beach at Baltimore Avenue on Saturday, October 28th beginning at 2:00 PM. All participants will receive participation ribbons.

- **PEANUT ON THE NOSE RACE** – *Sponsored by WBOC TV-16*
- **KNEE KNOB WOBBLE** – *Sponsored by M&T Bank*
- **SLIPPERY SWORDS** – *Sponsored by WRDE NBC Coast TV*
- **HULA TWIST OFF** – *Sponsored by Grotto Pizza*

ENTERTAINMENT:

FREE ENTERTAINMENT ON THE REHOBOTH BANDSTAND- *Sponsored by Insight Homes*

Enjoy the sounds and entertainment of Blue Cat Blues Band, The Glass Onion Band, Neon Swing X-Perience, Nothin' But Trouble, Paul Zavinsky, Sons of Pirates, No Spare Time, Trailer Grass Orchestra, The Pantones Steel Band, Paul Hadfield, Fiddlers' Contest and more!

ADDITIONAL FUN!

- **2ND ANNUAL DOWNTOWN HOEDOWN FUNDRAISER** – Thursday, October 26th 5 – 8 PM. The Downtown Hoedown, a fundraiser for The Rehoboth Beach Fire Company, will take place at Fire Station 86 located at 219 Rehoboth Avenue. Tickets are \$35.00 per person, visit www.RehobothBeachFire.com.
- **THE FUN CONTINUES IN DEWEY BEACH** – *Sponsored by Dewey Business Partnership*
Haunted Bonfire & Graveyard - Friday, October 27th, 7 - 9:00 PM. Join the fun at the Haunted Graveyard & Spooky Bonfire in Dewey Beach! DJ, dancing, ghost story teller, snacks, refreshments and spooky fun for all ages! Located at Dagsworthy Street and the Beach. Weather dependent.
- **SEA WITCH[®] HUNT** – *Sponsored by Weis Markets*
The hunt for the Sea Witch[®] is on! Only those with both hunting skills and stamina need apply. The Hunt begins at 1 PM on Saturday, October 28th. Participants must check in with the official clue keeper and pick up a 100+ clue location list (clues run in no particular order). Hunters must turn in their best guess by 5 PM. The earliest correct guess wins a cash prize. The winner will be announced at the Bandstand on Sunday, October 29th at 1 PM.

HOW THE HUNT WORKS:

Hunters visit the locations listed on their clue location list. Each location has a clue that helps locate the Sea Witch[®].

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Sample clues and answers:

CLUE: Blue Light Special

ANSWER: Light on Police Car

CLUE: Noticeable or Proper Attire

ANSWER: Uniform

CLUE: Can be Friend or Foe – Your Choice

ANSWER: Law Enforcement

CLUE: Not Dewey, But Close By

ANSWER: Rehoboth

If you combine these answers it would have guided you to the Rehoboth Beach Police Department where the invisible Sea Witch® was hiding.

- **MOBILE CLOUD VIDEO GAMING STATION**– Calling all gamers! Try out your favorite new games and take a trip down memory lane with the classics at the Mobile Cloud Video Gaming station. Open 10 AM – 5 PM, Sunday, October 29th. Location TBA.
- **BROOM TOSS ON THE BEACH**– *Sponsored by Sweet Frog Frozen Yogurt*
All age based categories get a chance to toss their numbered broom on the beach, with the longest distance winning. All participants walk away with a ribbon, proclaiming them as an official broom tosser. Who will be the “Boss of the Toss”? The Broom Tossing Contest will be held at 3:00 PM on Saturday, October 28th.
- **SCARECROW MAKING** –Saturday, October 28th and Sunday, October 29th 10 AM – 5 PM, while supplies last. \$10.00 per Scarecrow.
- **HAYRIDES** – Enjoy a scenic ride through Rehoboth beach Saturday, October 28th and Sunday, October 29th; 1:30 – 5 PM. Tickets can be purchased at the Chamber Visitor Center located at 501 Rehoboth Ave.
- **HORSE SHOWS ON THE BEACH** – *Sponsored by Country Club Estates Property Owners Association* – Saturday, October 28th and Sunday, October 29th at 4:00 PM

5K RACE & 1 MILE FRIGHT WALK

The Sea Witch® 5K Classic Run and 1 Mile Fright Walk begins at Grove Park at 9 AM on Sunday, October 29th; registration begins at 7:30 AM. Many of the 500+ runners, including entire families, arrive in costume. Prizes are presented not only for time, but also for the best costumes. Weather Dependent. No rain date scheduled. To pre-register online or for more information, visit www.seashorestriders.com.

THE WEBFOOTERS WALK & BIKE

Looking for a slower pace? Take part in the family-oriented, non-competitive 5K or 10K First State Webfooters Walk or a 25K bike on the Junction & Breakwater Trail. Participants start the walk or ride from the Henlopen Hotel (511 North Boardwalk, Rehoboth Beach) on Saturday, October 28th between 8 AM and 2 PM; all participants must be finished by 5 PM or on Sunday, October 29th between 8:00 AM and 2:00 PM; all participants must be finished by 3 PM. Group bike rides (with lead and end riders) offered Saturday at 1:30 PM (meet at 1 PM) and Sunday at 9:30 AM (meet at 9 AM).

COSTUME PARADE

Join the Woodland String Band mummers, thousands of costumed participants, local bands, decorated cars, & the Nur Shriners for the 28th Annual Sea Witch Halloween & Fiddlers’ Festival® Costume Parade. This year's costume parade will kick off at 11 AM on Saturday, October 28, 2017. The parade will be led by the 2016 Business of the Year – Seaboard Hotels & the Simpler Family. Parade judges will award trophies to Top 25 Walking, Top 10 Rolling/ Motorized, and Judge’s Favorite Bands. See below for NEW parade staging guidelines:

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NOTE: Rehoboth Avenue will be CLOSED to traffic on Saturday, October 28th beginning at 10 AM and will reopen after the end of the Costume Parade (approx. 3 PM).

- **WALKERS:** Registration for the costume parade will take place on Saturday, October 28th beginning at 9:00 AM. It will be held on the Grub Grocery parking lot at 305 Rehoboth Avenue. Costume parade walkers will register and line up on 4th Street (adjacent to Grub Grocery). The costume parade steps off at 11:00 AM and will begin and end at 4th Street. Donation Based. Mobile restroom facilities will be located on the Beachside Bar & Grill parking lot at 251 Rehoboth Avenue.
- **BALLOONS: SEAHORSES, SPIDERS, AND FISH... OH MY!** Your favorite Macy's Day style parade balloons join the classic Sea Witch® as they make their way up and down Rehoboth Avenue.
- **ROLLERS: Pre-Registration Required.** Floats, bands, and large walking groups will begin lining up on State Street at 9 AM. The accepted groups will then follow the walkers from State Street. They will proceed east on Rehoboth Avenue (toward) the Bandstand, turn at the Bandstand, and continue westward. The motorized vehicles will continue out of town at the end of the parade.

LIVE BROADCAST OF THE ANNUAL SEA WITCH® FESTIVAL COSTUME PARADE –

The Costume Parade will be televised LIVE on Saturday, October 28th on WRDE NBC Coast TV. The parade is planned to re-air on Sunday, October 29th from 11 AM-2 PM on MyCoziTV.

PARADE BAD WEATHER PLAN

THERE IS NO SCHEDULED RAIN DATE FOR FLOATS OR MOTORIZED VEHICLES

In the event of INCLEMENT WEATHER, the walking portion of the parade may be POSTPONED until 11 AM on SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2017. In the event of postponement ONLY WALKING PARTICIPANTS who can meet the requirements of the Boardwalk size, etc. may participate in the costume walking parade on the Rehoboth Boardwalk. For information regarding a cancellation or postponement- call the Chamber of Commerce at 302-227-2233 ext. 12 for recorded updates, visit the Chamber's Facebook page and tune in to local radio stations.

BEST COSTUMED DOG PARADE – Sponsored by Rehoboth Beach Animal Hospital

The Best Costumed Dog Contest is set for Sunday, October 29th. Dogs and owners will parade down the Boardwalk letting the crowds get an eyeful. Registration begins at 2 PM. Costumed dogs only and their owners will register at Lake Avenue, next to the Henlopen Hotel, where they will receive their entry number and parade ribbon. **The registration fee is \$5.00 per dog.** Dogs will be judged immediately following registration. All registered participants will line up at the North end of the Boardwalk parallel to the beach. The 1 ½ mile parade route will start at 3:00 PM from the Henlopen Hotel, and continue down the Boardwalk to Laurel Street where walkers will exit and return on First Street to Rehoboth Avenue. Winners will be announced at the Rehoboth Bandstand at 4:30 PM and showcased on stage: floats, wagons, etc. may be used on the Boardwalk, if they meet the size requirements of the Boardwalk, but may not be brought on to the Bandstand. **SPECIAL NOTE:** No livestock, wild animals or reptiles are permitted in the contest.

OFFICIAL SEA WITCH® VITTLES

- Official Crab Cake – Woody's Dewey Beach Bar & Grill; Official Caramel Popcorn – Dolles Candyland; Official Coffee – Mug & Spoon; Official Donut – Fractured Prune-The Donut Shop; Official Ice Cream – The Ice Cream Store; Official Pizza – Grotto Pizza; Official Ribs – Beachside Bar & Grill; Official Sushi – The Cultured Pearl; Official Whoopie Pie – Makin' Whoopie Pies

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JUST A FEW OF SEA WITCH® FESTIVAL'S AWESOME AWARDS

- Winner of Delaware Tourism Awards: "Outstanding Special Event" & "Annual Hall of Fame Event"
- Winner of Business News "Top 250 Events"
- Five time winner of the American Bus Association National "Top 100 Events"
- Winner of Delaware Today's "Best Annual Event"
- Proclaimed Delaware State's Official Fiddler's Festival

2017 TOP SPONSORS:

- WRDE – Official 2017 Mega-Sponsor & Insight Homes – Official Bandstand Sponsor
- Delaware Today Magazine – Perfect Wave Sponsor, Grotto Pizza – Perfect Wave Sponsor, M & T Bank – Perfect Wave Sponsor, Weis Markets – Perfect Wave Sponsor
- DART First State - Barrel Wave Sponsor, Discover Bank – Barrel Wave Sponsor, The Resort at Massey's Landing – Custom Barrel Wave Sponsor
- Applied Bank – Swell Wave Sponsor, Atlantic Liquors/ Crosswinds Motel – Swell Wave Sponsor, Atlantic Sands Hotel & Conference Center – Swell Wave Sponsor, Berkshire Hathaway – Swell Wave Sponsor, Bewitched & Bedazzled – Swell Wave Plus Sponsor, Big Fish Grill & Seafood Market – Swell Wave Sponsor, County Bank – Swell Wave Sponsor, Creative Concepts – Swell Wave Sponsor, Custom Mechanical Inc. – Swell Wave Sponsor, Jack Lingo Realtor – Swell Wave Sponsor, Jeanine O'Donnell – State Farm Lewes - Swell Wave Sponsor, Maplewood Dental Associates – Swell Wave Sponsor, Schell Brothers – Swell Wave Sponsor, Seaboard Hotels – Swell Wave Sponsor, Sussex County Association of Realtors – Swell Wave Sponsor, Sussex County Women's Journal – Swell Wave Sponsor
- Affinity Energy Management – Rip Wave PLUS Sponsor, Fractured Prune- The Donut Shop – Rip Wave PLUS Sponsor, Mobile Cloud Gaming – Rip Wave PLUS Sponsor, 7 – Eleven – Rip Wave Sponsor, Arena's Famous Deli Bar – Rip Wave Sponsor, Atlantic Transportation Services – Rip Wave Sponsor, Boulevard Ford – Rip Wave Sponsor, Buffalo Wild Wings – Rip Wave Sponsor, Clear Space Theatre Co. – Rip Wave Sponsor, Cape May – Lewes Ferry – Rip Wave Sponsor, Fulton Bank – Rip Wave Sponsor, Hyatt Place Dewey Beach – Rip Wave Sponsor, Kilwins Rehoboth Beach – Rip Wave Sponsor, Pieces of Time – Rip Wave Sponsor, Trinity Logistics – Rip Wave Sponsor, WSFS – Rip Wave Sponsor

Visit our website, www.beach-fun.com for complete program information. For more festival or area information, please contact the Rehoboth Beach-Dewey Beach Chamber of Commerce at 800-441-1329 x12, 302-227-2233 x12, or via email at rehoboth@beach-fun.com.