



Green Acres NEWS

Autumn
September
2022

Green Acres Civic Association • PO Box 295 • Claymont, DE 19703

www.greenacrescivic.org

Mark Your Calendars

Fall community yard sale	Saturday-Sunday, Oct. 1-2 (Tentative)	Green Acres
Large trash pickup	Saturday, Oct. 8 (Tentative)	

2021 Green Acres Civic Association Officers

Dave White, President	302-479-9221
Vice President	OPEN
Patti Powers, Treasurer	302-384-8215
Lois Helmerson	
Corresponding Secretary	302-478-1095
Recording Secretary	OPEN
Mike Curry, Newsletter Editor	302-477-1150

Important Numbers to Have Handy

<i>New Castle County Rep.:</i> John Cartier	302-395-8348
<i>New Castle County Executive:</i> Matt Meyer ..	302-395-5101
<i>State Representative:</i> Debra Heffernan.....	302-577-8476
<i>State Senator:</i> Kyle Evans Gay	302-744-4137
<i>Governor:</i> John Carney	302-577-3210

President's letter

It always feels a little bittersweet when the fun and leisure of summer come to a close, but there is much to look forward to with the arrival of fall. Let's welcome the beauty of the changing leaves, the comfort of sweaters and blankets, and the anticipation of holidays right around the corner!

Even though the pandemic won't seem to give up and go away once and for all, life this summer did seem a little more "normal" than it has for a while. We're still being careful, but we're easing up on the tendencies to retract, insulate, limit, and avoid by default. It feels hopeful. Our need to connect with each other and share our lives is fundamental.

The Green Acres Civic Association is on board with that mission, always looking for ways to build community and improve the quality of life in our neighborhood. Given the easing of public health warnings and social restrictions, conditions seemed right this summer to try a block party—the first one in quite some time. Please read elsewhere in this newsletter about that highly successful event.

In addition to planning and hosting this party, GACA has been carrying on with its usual duties of answering members' questions, working on your behalf with our utility companies and elected officials, and paying the bills. Please let us know if you have ideas for making this a better place to live, and better yet if you have some time to volunteer and help make your ideas happen!

Notable neighbors: Fay Galperin

We are lucky to still have among us some neighbors who have been here since the neighborhood was first built. One of those is Mrs. Fay Galperin, who is the original owner of her house on Tulane Road, which she moved into in 1960.

Fay is now 96 years old ("96-and-a-half!" she'll tell you), but in 1960 she was a young mother, and she and her husband were looking for a house big enough to provide the space they needed for their growing family. They had lived in Wilmington, but four-bedroom houses were not easy to find there, so they looked to the newly-expanding suburbs and found Green Acres. Fay believes their house was the last one built in the development.

When they visited the model of the colonial-style house they intended to order, Fay had some quibbles with the design. Her husband, who was trained in civil engineering, re-drew the house plans according to her requirements, and that's the way



the house was built. So, Fay's house is quite literally unique within our neighborhood!

Soon after the Galperins moved in, Fay decided to get involved with the community by joining the Green Acres garden club. One of the projects she undertook was to coordinate with a local nursery to help homeowners plant trees in their yards, as most of the big, beautiful trees we now appreciate in our neighborhood were not here at that time. Surely some of the Schwedler Norway Maples planted then (for \$20 each – approximately \$200 today, adjusted for inflation) are the ones we're enjoying today.

Fay says she is happy to observe that Green Acres lately seems to be returning to the way she remembers it when she first came here: an active community with lots of young kids and friendly people!

Block party recap

On Sunday, August 14, your Green Acres Civic Association hosted a block party open to all members. The event, which took place at the Green Acres Pool, was designed as a long-overdue chance for neighbors to talk and relax, swim, share some food, and get to know each other better. Mother Nature could not have



cooperated better, as weather on the day turned out to be clear, bright, and sunny, with a high temperature of 84 degrees.

Based on RSVPs and food consumption, we estimate that around 200 people made an appearance at some point during the party. There was a healthy crowd and a mellow but festive spirit, as a non-stop stream of children jumped in the inflatable bouncy house generously sponsored by Weather or Not Dog Walkers, and twenty-four teams vied for a cornhole tournament trophy. (Congratulations to winners Jim Morrison and Dave Wingle!) Kids whacked at a piñata and scrambled for the candy that spilled out of it. Adults drank from kegs of beer and chatted.

An impressively coordinated team of volunteer grill masters kept cheeseburgers and hotdogs flowing for the crowd, and many gallons of Fusco's water ice were ladled out for dessert. Specific shout-outs to those who helped with food: Trevor Crist, Eric Baddick, Laura and Mark Heiser, Lisa McGrath, Marty North, Toni Wilent and her daughter Lexi.

The party was paid for with GACA dues and planned through generous donations of time and energy by a combination of GACA council members (Laura Heiser and Dave White) and community volunteers Eric and Jolene Baddick, Trevor Crist, and Lisa McGrath. Thanks also to the board of the Green Acres Recreational Association for their advice and cooperation. From appreciative comments we heard throughout the day and since, there seems to be interest in making this an annual event, so we'll be looking for your input and volunteer support to take it up a notch next year!

Midterm Election

The midterm General Election will be held this year on November 8 (always the first Tuesday after the first Monday). The polling place for our community is Carrcroft Elementary School and the polls there will be open from 7 a.m. until 8 p.m. For all official information related to voting, including a full list of offices and candidates that will be on this year's ballot, visit Delaware State Board of Elections website at <https://elections.delaware.gov/>

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New owners are residents of Green Acres.

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