

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

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

## Mark Your Calendars

Easter egg hunt	Green Acres Pool (Sat. 4/1, rain date 4/8)
Spring yard sale	(Sat. 5/20 — Sun. 5/21)

## Current Green Acres Civic Association Officers

Dave White, President	302-479-9221
Vice President	OPEN
Patti Powers, Treasurer	302-384-8215
Lois Helmerston	
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> Sarah McBride	302-744-4147
<i>Governor:</i> John Carney	302-577-3210

## Kid Activities At Brandywine Hundred Library

*Weekly Storytime: Toddler Tales - Tuesdays 10:15am-10:40am*

- Stories, songs and rhymes for ages 18-36 months with caregiver.
- No registration.
- Free tickets available upon arrival until room limit is reached.

*Weekly Storytime: Book Babies - Tuesdays 10:45am-11:15am*

- Stories, songs and fingerplays introduce babies to language and literacy.
- Ages Birth-17 months.
- No registration.
- Free tickets available upon arrival until room limit is reached.

*LEGO Explorers - Mondays 3-5pm*

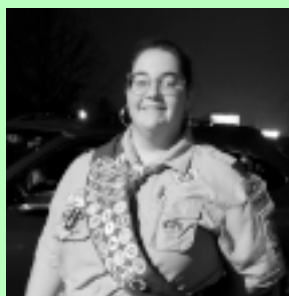
- Drop-in to explore, experiment and create with LEGO Bricks. Free build and challenges. Bring your imagination; we supply everything else!
- Ages 4+ with caregiver.
- No Registration. Drop in!



## Monkeyball Cleanup

A number of members have asked us to remind everyone to remove the sweetgum seed pods (a.k.a. “monkeyballs”) from your driveways and sidewalks. These nuisances, which drop in mass quantities from our sweetgum trees in the fall, create a serious risk to pedestrians and also clog up the gutters and storm drains. Not fun work to clean them up, but please be considerate of your neighbors!

## NOTABLE NEIGHBOR: Alaina Walter, Eagle Scout



We have a trailblazer in our midst. In December, Alaina Walter, the 18-year-old daughter of Seth and Shari Walter, reached the rank of Eagle Scout in Scouts BSA – the highest achievement that can be attained in the

organization. (Scouts BSA was known as Boy Scouts of America before it was retooled in 2019 to include girls.) Reaching Eagle Scout is widely regarded as an elite accomplishment and a reflection of outstanding discipline and character. Of its millions of members since the group was founded in 1910, only about 6% have attained this rank. Alaina is the first girl in her troop to achieve this, and only one of a handful in the Delmarva Council to do so.

Alaina was a founding member of Troop 5508, which her father helped to create. He had previously been a Cubmaster and Alaina previously had been in Girl Scouts, but she found that they seemed to be doing little more than fundraising for their trips, and she was interested in the kind of skills development and leadership experience offered in the boys’ organization.

Once the troop was formed in 2019, Alaina, who was 14 at the time, began her progress toward the Eagle rank. In addition to consistently participating in the activities of the troop and showing a commitment to leadership, an Eagle candidate must finish 21 merit badges, a significant community service project, and the Eagle Board of Review. Alaina’s project involved leading a team to build and install in a courtyard at Mount Pleasant High School two picnic tables that convert to benches for accessibility.

Females have been part of Scouts BSA for four years now. Alaina says the organization has been largely welcoming, though she has encountered a few who either object to having girls in the program or object to them holding certain roles, but it doesn’t really bother her. She says she has learned a lot about leadership from scouting, and learned to stand up for herself. “Some people don’t like to listen to youth,” she said. “In a youth-led organization, you have to learn to speak up for yourself.”

Alaina has also participated in the choir and orchestra programs during her time at MPHS. This spring she will be part of the reduced orchestra accompanying the drama department’s production of the Disney musical “Frozen.” (See “Frozen” article elsewhere in this newsletter.) Alaina says she is excited about this opportunity, and considers this score some of the most difficult music she has had to learn.

Green Acres congratulates Alaina for her accomplishments and for the role model she has become. She is “unselfish in service and devoted to the welfare of others.”

## MPHS Drama Performs "FROZEN"



Mount Pleasant High School Drama will be performing Disney's "Frozen: The Broadway Musical," March 30 through April 1. Sounds like fun, right? It is more extraordinary than you might realize: only one school in each state has been granted the rights to produce this show while the Broadway production is still touring. Ordinarily, licensing for a show is not available until it is no longer on Broadway, touring, or in regional professional theaters.

According to MPHS Drama director Christopher Turner, they had to compete for the performance rights by showing the school would use the production to strengthen their school community, provide outreach to underserved groups, and support inclusive and diverse theatre programs. They also had to commit to using a live orchestra. (See "Alaina Walter" article elsewhere in this newsletter.)

Mr. Turner said "Frozen" has been the program's most demanding production. Because the show is not yet officially licensed, the usual printed music and digital rehearsal tracks are not provided, which creates challenges for rehearsal. And since they are the only school in the state to perform the show, there is extra pressure to do a great job, despite a limited budget. "We want kids to come and feel the magic," Mr. Turner said. "I also want middle-schoolers to come see this and go: 'Man, I want to go to Mount!'"

Reserved seating tickets must be purchased in advance at <http://www.mphsdrama.com/>. They will be in short supply by the time this newsletter hits the streets, but it could be worth a try! (The performance on Saturday April 1 will have an ASL interpreter.)

Our other district high school drama programs also produced musicals this season. Brandywine performed "Little Shop of Horrors" March 2-4, and Concord did "Legally Blonde" March 16-18.

## Local Parks

We have been pleased to see many families with young children moving to Green Acres in the past few years. We hope this list of local parks with playgrounds helps you discover some new favorite spots to enjoy with your families as the weather gets warmer!

Delaware State Parks (annual pass or daily entry fee required March 1 to Nov 30)	
Bellevue State Park	800 Carr Road
Can-Do Playground	4631 Weldin Road (Alapocas Park)
Fox Point State Park	End of Lighthouse Road (Edgemoor)

New Castle County Parks (no pass required)	
Bechtel Park	1301 Naamans Road
Blue Rock/Fairfax North Park	130 Alders Drive
Bonsall Park	3000 Silverside Road
Chatham Park	1248 Faun Road (South Graylyn Crest)
Lynnfield Park	15 Ridgeland Road
River Road Park	610 River Road
Talley Day Park	1308 Foulk Road
Woodley Park	300 Mt. Lebanon Road
Woods Haven Kruse Park	100 Darley Road (Claymont)

Upcoming Festivals		
Wilmington Flower Market	May 11-13	Rockford Park
Wilmington Grand Prix	May 19-21	Monkey Hill & Downtown Wilm.
Bellefonte Arts Festival	May 20	Brandywine Boulevard
Shadfest	May 20	Brandywine Park
Juneteenth Freedom Parade & Festival	June	date & details TBA
Clifford Brown Jazz Festival	date & details TBA	Rodney Square
Ladybug Music Festival	June 2	location TBA
Holy Trinity Greek Festival	June 5-10	808 N. Broom Street
Separation Day & Vintage Market	June 9-10	3rd & Delaware, Old New Castle
Delaware Pride Festival	June 10th	Legislative Hall, Dover
Delaware Contemporary West St Arts Festival	June 11	200 S. Madison Street
St. Anthony's Italian Festival	June 11-18	9th and Dupont
Rockwood Ice Cream Festival	June 24	4651 Washington St. Ext.

# DOUBLE D

## HOME IMPROVEMENTS

**Dan Dunfee**  
**(302) 293-2873**

Roofing ■ Siding ■ Soffit ■ Gutter ■ Spout ■ Repairs

ladunfee7@verizon.net

Steve Shanus  
2211 Silverside Rd.  
Wilmington, DE 19810  
Cell 302-893-2219  
Office 302-475-0800  
Email [Steve.Shanus@psre.com](mailto:Steve.Shanus@psre.com)

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Wilmington, DE 19803

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