

JUNE 2018 DIRECTOR'S NEWSLETTER



Dear **TechStars** Families,

Best wishes to all fathers and men who are important in the lives of our **TechStars** students. We hope your Father's Day on Sunday, June 17, will be filled with fun, family and good times. In 1910, Sonora Smart Dodd convinced her community to hold a Father's Day celebration at the YMCA in Spokane, Washington. Her father, civil war veteran William Jackson Smart, was a widower who raised six children on his own. Did you know that today, the United States has more than 70 million fathers? Learn about Father's Day at <http://www.almanac.com/content/history-fathers-day>.

As we round the corner to summer, many families look forward to more relaxed daily schedules and more opportunities for togetherness. Take some of this time to play new games and explore special interests with your child. As digital natives, today's children live in a world immersed in technology. Join your child in this wondrous ever-changing digital world as you play together to discover what sparks your imaginations and brings joy and learning to your home. Visit the App Store to view a comprehensive list of quality apps for young children by Duck Duck Moose at <https://itunes.apple.com/us/developer/duck-duck-moose-llc/id303076298>. All of these apps are free because Duck Duck Moose has partnered with Khan Academy, a 501(c)(3) non-profit company whose mission is to provide a free, world-class education to anyone, anywhere. Learn more about Khan Academy and how it has developed into a personalized learning resource for all ages at <https://www.khanacademy.org/about>. After spending time together in the digital realm, remember that moderation is the best approach. Be sure to include reading books, taking walks in your neighborhood and playing at the park to round out the time your family spends together.

At **TechStars** we value "un-plugged" activities that encourage family fun and build lasting memories. We hope your family will choose to explore a few of these local activities this month:

- **Riverwalk Mini Golf** Now Open for the 2018 Summer Season. Monday – Thursday, 10 am – 9 pm; Friday – Saturday, 10 am – 11 pm; Sunday, 12 noon – 8 pm; hours subject to extreme weather. 550 Justison Street, Wilmington, DE 19810, directly behind Delaware Children's Museum on the Riverwalk. This beautifully landscaped 18-hole miniature golf course features many of the colors and plant life found along the Riverfront, including the iconic Tom Burke birdhouses. Stop by our Golf Shack after your game to enjoy a soft serve ice cream, milkshake, jumbo soft pretzel, water ice or fountain soda. Mini Golf pricing: \$8/person and free for kids under 3 years with paid adult. <http://riverwalkminigolf.com/>
- **Annual Hockessin Volunteer Fire Company Appreciation Day at Woodside Creamery** Saturday, June 2, 12 noon – 7pm. Woodside Creamery, 1310 Little Baltimore Rd, Hockessin, DE 19707. Hockessin Volunteer Firefighters will be on the farm with their fire trucks and ambulance to say hello and promote fire safety. The firefighters will be selling pulled pork sandwiches and assorted chips and drinks, with all monies from these food sales going directly to help the Fire Company. To keep with the spirit of the day, sales from the Creamery's Cow Pie Sundae (a delicious brownie from Drip Cafe, two scoops of your favorite ice cream, hot fudge, whipped cream, and a cherry for only \$5) will all be donated to the Fire Company as well. This event is meant to bring our community, families & businesses all together to get to know our

firefighters and show them how much we appreciate them keeping our community safe. Come out and show your support for the men & women who volunteer to protect our community.

<http://www.woodsidefarmcreamery.com/events-cowlender/icalrepeat.detail/2018/06/02/577/-/annual-hockessin-volunteer-fire-company-appreciation-day>

- **42nd Annual Wilmington Greek Festival** Tuesday, June 5 – Saturday, June 9, 11 am – 11 pm, rain or shine daily. Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church, 808 N. Broom St, Wilmington, DE 19806. Close your eyes and imagine your family in a Greek village where locals are celebrating an annual event. Experience the aromas of authentic foods cooking, the sounds of ethnic music and the sights of the Greek Terpsechorian Youth Folk dance group. There will be plenty of “Kefi”, presence of joy and high spirits for all. Free admission. Rain or shine. All major credit cards accepted. <http://greekfestde.com/>
- **Tarzan/The Stage Musical** Fri, June 8 & 15 @ 7:30 pm, Sat, June 9 & 16 @ 2 pm, Sun, June 10 & 17 @ 2pm. The Everett Theater, 47 W. Main St, Middletown, DE. This show is based on Disney’s epic animated musical adventure and Edgar Rice Burrough’s Tarzan of the Apes. Washed up on the shores of West Africa, an infant boy is taken in and raised by gorillas who name him Tarzan. Apart from striving for acceptance from his ape father, Tarzan’s life is mostly monkey business until a human expedition treks into his tribe’s territory, and he encounters creatures like himself for the first time. Tarzan struggles to navigate a jungle, thick with emotion, as he discovers his animal upbringing clashing with his human instincts. Running Time: 2 hours 30 minutes. Tickets: \$18/Adults, \$15/Seniors & Students, \$10/12 years and younger. <https://everetttheatre.com/tarzan/>
- **St. Anthony’s Italian Festival** Sunday, June 10 – Sunday, June 17, recurring daily, hours vary. St. Anthony of Padua Church, 901 N. DuPont Street, Wilmington, DE 19805. This year the Festival will highlight the still largely undiscovered Puglia region, the “sun-bleached heel” of the “boot” of Italy, an enchanting and vibrant region! Enjoy a wide variety of delicious and authentic Italian food specialties at the various indoor and outdoor dining locations. Food, music, fun for the entire family. Admission: \$5/ages 14-61. FREE/under 14 if accompanied by a parent or guardian 18 or older. FREE/over 61. <http://www.stanthonyfestival.com/>
- **Fireworks at Hagley** Friday, June 15 & 22, Buck Road East Gates open at 5 pm. Hagley Museum, 298 Buck Rd, Wilmington, DE 19807. Don’t miss Delaware’s best fireworks show! Tickets must be purchased in advance. Members who purchase tickets are encouraged to bring a picnic dinner, blankets, coolers, and chairs. Event includes raffles and silent auction with great prizes. This event is weather dependent; check website for postponement announcements. Bad weather dates are June 16 and June 17. M&T Bank and Wilmington Trust are major contributors. **Attendance is by reservation only, with ticket sales limited to Hagley members. Your Member ID number is required to purchase tickets.** (Become a member at <https://www.hagley.org/support-hagley/membership> or call 302.658.2400.) <https://www.hagley.org/calendar/fireworks-hagley-presented-mt-bank-and-wilmington-trust>
- **Kidfest 2018** Saturday, June 16, 12 noon – 3 pm. Fort Delaware State Park, Delaware City, DE 19706. Families must ride the ferry from Delaware City to Pea Patch Island; private boats are not permitted. (Visit Fort Delaware State Park website for information on ferry schedule and fees: <http://www.destateparks.com/fort-delaware/ferry.asp>.) This make and take day is for children of all ages. Make pinecone birdfeeders, sachets and bean bags. Enjoy face painting and flower pot decorating. Fish in the fish pond or go on a scavenger hunt. Try on Civil War clothing and bring your camera for this great photo op with the kids. Pack a picnic lunch and

enjoy a day at historic Fort Delaware. Water dispensers are provided. Drink vending machines are available.

<http://www.fortdelaware.org/Kidsfest%20at%20Fort%20Delaware%20State%20Park.htm>

- **Family Fun Night at the Brandywine Zoo** Tuesday, June 19, 6 pm – 8 pm. Brandywine Zoo, Brandywine Park, Wilmington, DE 19802. Special evening hours hosted by 93.7 FM WSTW. Meet radio personalities and enjoy special games, fun activities and live animals! \$1 hot dogs and soft drinks. \$1 admission for everyone. Free parking. Rain date Thursday, June 20. <https://brandywinezoo.org/event/family-fun-night-4/>
- **New Castle County Ice Cream Festival at Rockwood** Saturday, June 23, 10 am – 7 pm & Sunday, June 24, 11 am – 5 pm. Rockwood Park, 4651 Washington St. Extension, Wilmington, DE 19809. Come out to enjoy Delaware's largest family picnic! Stroll the grounds to visit and learn about local businesses, artists and nonprofits. Enjoy free ice cream samples for all ages sponsored by HyPoint! Kids' entertainment area open all weekend long. 99.5 WJBR will broadcast live all weekend from the festival grounds. Shuttle buses leave every ten minutes from remote parking lots, delivering families for a day of fun, food and shopping. Parking locations and more information are found at <http://wibricecreamfest.com/>. Rain or shine. Admission: \$5/Adults, FREE/kids under 12 accompanied by paying adult. Cash only at the gate. <https://www.facebook.com/RockwoodIceCream>
- **Mid-Atlantic Sea Glass & Coastal Arts Festival** Saturday June 23, 9 am – 4 pm & Sunday, June 24, 9 am – 3 pm. Cape May Lewes Ferry Terminal, 43 Cape Henlopen Drive, Lewes, DE 19958. This 9th annual event features nearly 70 sea glass artists joined by other coastal artists including decoy carvers and waterfowl artists. Enjoy festive live music and delicious food all weekend. Learn the history of sea glass and bring your glass shards and bottles, as specialists will be available to identify your treasurers on-site. Admission: \$5/person each day and FREE/children under 12. <https://www.historiclewes.org/events/2018-mid-atlantic-sea-glass-coastal-arts-festivalc>

With the 2017-2018 school year coming to a close, I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your support of **TechStars**. Best wishes to all families for a safe, happy and relaxing summer. My staff and I wish our graduating students much success in all future endeavors and look forward to reuniting with many of our youngest friends in September!

Sincerely,

Roni Deely

Owner/Director

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TechStars by Computer Explorers of New Castle County



www.computerexplorers.com/de