

Civic Corner

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. My name is Janet Taylor-McDowell, and I live on Holly Cove Lane. I have lived in Timber Farms for almost six years now. I am the Civic Association President for the next two years. I have served as Secretary for our Civic Association for the past two years. I feel very fortunate to be able to serve on such a strong Civic Association Board. We are very blessed to have so many residents who really care about what happens in their community and about the value of their properties. By participating in the Civic Association Meetings, you can really make a difference.

I look forward to seeing everyone at our next General Meeting on Tuesday, March 18, 2003, at Thurgood Marshall Elementary School at 7:00 p.m. Come out and find out what's going on in your community and bring some fresh ideas to the table. I encourage all residents of Timber Farms to be active and make a difference.

Thank you,
Janet Taylor-McDowell

From County Councilwoman, Karen Venezky

Dear Residents of Timber Farms:

I am pleased to serve as your representative on New Castle County Council. I would like to take this opportunity to report some of the things occurring in your area of the county as well as some of things I am currently working on.

This is a very exciting time for the residents of the Fifth District as the County has just purchased 248 acres of land off of Route 896, near Sunset Lake, to build a Regional Park. Planning of the park will begin this month and I would love for all of you to attend these planning meetings in order to give your input. In addition, the County is currently developing a master plan for Iron Hill Park, located just

continued on page 2

From State Representative, John Viola Bill Introduced to Restrict Telemarketing

Rep. Viola, D-Newark West, is a sponsor of legislation introduced January 28 to set up a "Do Not Call" list in Delaware for people who don't want to receive telemarketing phone calls.

"I get complaints from people who receive half a dozen calls or more a day, often while they are trying to eat dinner," Viola said. "Some of the calls also come so late in the evening they wake up senior citizens." Under this bill, the calls could only be made from 8 am. to 9 p.m.

The legislation is similar to restrictions recently adopted in Pennsylvania after efforts to set up a nationwide "do not call" law failed in Congress.

Sen. Robert Marshall, D-Wilmington and a bill sponsor, said the proposal is a product of growing complaints about phone solicitors and their tactics, which he described as an "issue of home invasion by telemarketers."

The bill requires telemarketers to register with the attorney general's office and to host a bond. It does not apply to charitable groups.

Residents wishing to have their name placed on the list would contact the attorney General's Consumer Protection Division. The state would update the list quarterly. Telemarketers would have to cease contact with someone no later than 30 days after the name goes on the "Do Not Call" list.

A telemarketer who violates the provisions of the bill is subject to punitive and actual damages of \$500 or more to be drawn from the posted bond.

TIMBER FARMS MAINTENANCE CORPORATION

During our last recent snow fall (2/7/03) some residents had questions regarding the snow removal process. Written in our contract we specify that the snow is to be removed from curb to curb. According to New Castle County, the snow has to be removed 24 hours after the storm has stopped. After talking to our contractor, he explained that his first priority is to open up our development. This is accomplished by making one or two passes through the development, then returning during the same day to finish cleaning up the intersections and plowing from curb to curb. Please keep in mind that any vehicle left in the street will be plowed around. Also, if it is a trash pickup day please place your trash receptacle far enough away from the curb to allow for the plow to have access to the curb.

Thanks, Dave Schneider, President, Timber Farms Maintenance Corporation



The Officers Corner

The Officers are:

Janet Taylor, President
202 Holly Cove Lane
731-5953

Jennifer Daggett, Vice President
206 Holly Cove Lane
737-8766

Christine Verdi, Secretary
102 Woodland Road
738-7108

Bob Oakes, Treasurer
142 Woodland Road
737-0515

TFCA, P.O. Box 489
Bear, Delaware 19701

Mail your dues to:
TFCA, P.O. Box 489, Bear, DE 19701

To contact the Civic Association, see any board member or write:

TFCA, P.O. Box 489, Bear, DE 19701

To contact the Maintenance Corporation, call 792-7148 or write:

TFMC, P.O. Box 411, Bear, DE 19701

Activities – Entertainment

CABIN FEVER PARTY — The 10th Annual Timber Farms Civic Association's Cabin Fever Breakout Party has been scheduled for Saturday, March 8th. It will be held at Stewart's Brewing Company and will begin at 8:00 pm. No need to cook or clean! TFCA will provide the hors d'oeuvres! Cash bar! This is a chance for you to come out and meet your neighbors. Remember, this is for adults only! Please return the insert to Susan Lukas so we know how much food to order.

EASTER EGG HUNT — The annual Easter Egg Hunt is scheduled for Sunday, April 13th. This event is a lot of fun for the children. If you are able to assist with the preparations, please call Christine Verdi at 738-7108. The Egg Hunt will be held at 102 Woodland Road and will begin at 1:00 p.m.

COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE — Date to be announced, probably a weekend in May, any suggestions??

BLUE ROCKS GAME — The Timber Farms Civic Association Night at the Blue Rocks is scheduled for Tuesday, August 19th. As usual, we will be attending during a Fireworks Night. Our past visits have been a lot of fun. Reserved seats are \$8.00 per person. Order forms will be distributed in the near future. Reservations must be received by July 18th.

Classified Ads

FREE to residents, call Elsa at 738-3446 or drop off at 535 West Hummock before April 25, 2003. Next issue: May, 2003.

Needed - Little Tykes outside equipment for licensed daycare. Will pick up. Free or reasonably priced. Call Janet at 731-5953.

Notary Service - Right here in your development. \$3.00 fee per document. Call Janet at 731-5953.

Baby-sitting - Red Cross certified, dependable, reliable, kids love her! References available. Call Valerie Lukas at 731-5510.

Creative Memories — Did you ever want to improve on your past? Scrap booking can do just that. Turn uninteresting photos into a fairy tale story of your family's past. Want to learn more? Second Wednesday and third Friday of every month at 7:00 pm., \$7.00. Ages 7-16 attend free along with your fee. Right here in Timber Farms. Call Vanessa Manges-Spence, 369-0493.

Found — Box of Phillies stuff in front of Timber Farms development. Please call 737-3073.

Baby-sitting available — Very responsible 13-year old, she is the oldest of four. Please call 737-4559.

Selling Tupperware — If you want to see a catalog, please call 738-3446.

Wood Burning By LJR — Hand-crafted clocks, key racks, toys and personalized items of your choice. If you want to see a catalog, please call 738-3446.

Found — **VERY** friendly, all black, male cat. Approximately three years old, is he yours?? If not, do you want him?? Please call Christine, 738-7108.

Karen Venezky, continued from cover
down the road on Old Baltimore Pike. I hope that you will share your input for its design as well. All interested parties should call my office at 395-8345.

In addition, with the help of the Delaware Center for Horticulture, we've recently kicked off "Tree Spree Campaign 2004." The first leg of the campaign seeks local employers to donate one tree for every employee and eventually, our goal is to have civic group involvement. We hope to have a half million trees planted by 2004, one for every resident of New Castle County. I will keep you informed as the campaign progresses.

Please feel free to call me with any questions or comments. I would love to hear from you. Your ideas and input help me accomplish your goals for a better community.

Very truly yours,
Councilwoman Karen G. Venezky



What's on the Corner

By Vanessa Manges -Spence

Development around our community is slow due to the weather and approval process the county now has in place. The largest and closest development expected to begin is Calvarese Farms, located behind Whittington stone and gravel. It will be 145 single family homes on 112 acres (approx. 1/4 acre lots). 54% of the parcel will be dedicated open space. This community will also have an entrance onto Songsmith drive, adjoining Governor's Square shopping center and Walther Rd.

The approval happened at County Council on Feb 11, 2003. Expect to see stop signs or other traffic pattern changes on Walther Rd. after the 25th home begins construction.

In our own neighborhood, we are working diligently to get more permanent barricades in place on Anthony Drive between us and Norwegian Woods. More permanent barricades will allow Anthony Road to be used for pedestrian traffic and emergency vehicles. It is open now for construction workers to travel more easily between work sites in both neighborhoods. Anthony Drive is not legally allowed to be open until Phase 3, section 2 is approved, which won't happen until Salem Church road is realigned.

Christina Towne Centre has a number of big name inquiries. Rumored are: Cracker Barrel, Target, Macaroni Grill, Olive garden and a movie theatre.

The property manager of the Christiana Towne Centre confirmed he is working with a number of soon-to-be tenants: DSW Shoes, Sports Authority, Barnes and Noble, and Bertucci's. They have had some interest from Champs, a restaurant chain, as well as Red Robbin.

Early Influence Still Has Its Mark on Today

By Vanessa Manges -Spence

The town of Christiana has had many name variations over the years and is rich in history.

Some say the town began in the 1690's; others say 1684. Relatively speaking, they are close enough. Christiana was named after the Swedish child queen, Christine. This little girl was a great inspiration for naming places right after the Swedish arrived in the area. Up the Christina River from Christiana was another town called *Christinahamn* and *Fort Christina*, later known as Wilmington.

Christiana was not a small town. In fact, it became the largest town and marketplace in Delaware with over 754 homes recorded in 1770. It became an economic center as the river allowed barges to transport grain from *Christinahamn's* major port. At this time, the town was known as *Christine Bridge*, sometimes appearing as *Christeen Bridge*. The differences came from spellings by the Swedish and the British settlers. The "bridge" refers to where the barges had to stop and reverse direction. Ironically, this was the center of town making loading and unloading goods easy because of the access to the "pike", now Old Baltimore Pike. The shoreline of the river also became dotted with storehouses and wharfs.

The bridge is still there today on South Main Street heading out towards the park and ride lot. The beautiful stone home next to that bridge was the home of Co. John Reed and his wife, Mary. Their son, George Reed, later lived in New Castle and became one of the signers to the declaration of Independence and U.S. Constitution. George and Mary Reed are buried in the cemetery of the Christiana Presbyterian Church.

The church holds a key to a lot of history too. Started in 1730's the congregation built their first house of worship about 1738. It was built on land partially donated and sold by John Reed. Another founding member was Samuel Patterson, a hero of the Revolutionary War and Delaware's first Treasurer. The first pastor was Charles Pennat, who was the son of William Pennat, founder of Old Log College now known as Princeton University.

The home next to the church is undergoing renovations (look for an upcoming article in The News Journal). The current owners, the Galloways, are sure to bring history back to the town as they research the home's lost records. They found that Joel Lewis built #11 North Old Baltimore Pike. He is buried on the corner of the property. Mr. Lewis became a U.S. Marshall under Thomas Jefferson for two terms. The Neil family also owned the house from 1924 through 1999. The Neil's were a black family that gained ownership only through help of a white friend who fronted the money. In that era, a black family could not own a home along the main road and in the center of town. One daughter and son still live in the town. The daughter, Lavina Cole, is responsible for the momentum and encouragement going into the refurbishment of the black one-room schoolhouse, which she attended. It was originally built by the duPont family.

The *Shannon Hotel* is in near ruins, and the owner never seems to have enough time, effort or resources to complete it. It served as a gathering place for the town and once welcomed both Gen. Washington and Gen. Lafayette for many overnight stays.

So the next time you're heading to the mall, imagine and reflect on this small town's contribution to Delaware and its strong leadership beginnings of the United States of America.



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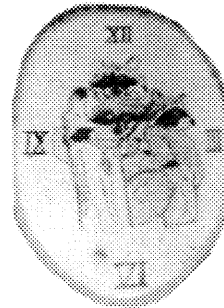


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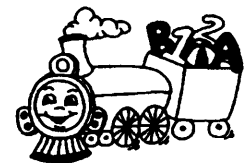
(Just off Old Baltimore Pike)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Civic Association Meeting — The next general Civic Association meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 18 at 7:00 p.m. The meeting will be held at Thurgood Marshall Elementary School. The school is located off of Walther Road on Barrett Run Road. Hope to see you there!

Volunteers needed - Volunteers are needed to circulate a petition to upgrade to the new streetlights. Currently, the improved streetlights are only available at the entrance. New lights would also be installed in the very newest sections. Please contact Bob Oakes at 737-0515 if you would like to volunteer.

Mail your Civic Association Dues Today!! The Timber Farms Civic Association requests for the 2003 dues will be mailed out in three or four weeks. It costs the Civic Association about \$300.00 to mail them out with a postage free envelope. Sending your dues in now will save your Civic Association a substantial amount of money. Please mail your \$20 dues to Timber Farms Civic Association, P.O. Box 489, Bear, DE 19701



"Start your child on the right track."

Kathy Gordon
Administrator

300 Darling Street
Newark, DE 19702
(302) 737-8990