

## Civic Corner

At our last General Board Meeting we discussed the connector road between Norwegian Woods and Timber Farms. Councilwoman Karen Venezky and a Representative from DelDot were there to answer questions. T.F.C.A. is under the impression that there will be a permanent barricade put there. But we're not sure when this will be completed.

There were questions brought up about Phase III. According to the original plans, Phase III of Timber Farms cannot begin until the realignment of Salem Church Road.

On Monday, June 23, 2003 a special Civic meeting was conducted at our community playground to address issues that our residents in the new section may have. It was wonderful to see the overflow of attendance not just from the new section but from the whole community. Our guest speakers at this meeting were State Representative John Viola and Timber Farms Maintenance Corp. President, Dave Schneider. Some issues that were brought up were a sound barrier, the barricade on Anthony Drive, turning over playground and open spaces, new streetlights and many questions pertaining to the Maintenance Corporation.

The Civic Association has been working on getting new streetlights for our community. We currently have a petition that needs to be signed by the homeowners. We will have a table set up at our community picnic in September just for this. The new streetlights will be more attractive than the ones that we currently have. This petition will also be at our General Meeting on Tuesday, September 16, 2003 for signing. If you have any question about the streetlight petition, please feel free to call me at 731-5953 or Bob Oakes at 737-0515.

I hope to see everyone at our next meeting Tuesday, September 16, 2003.

Regards,  
Janet Taylor-McDowell

## What's On the Corner

*Current development in our area and a welcome to Dave Tackett – By Vanessa Manges-Spence*

The largest and closest development, Calvarese Farms, is expected to begin at any time. This large development will be located behind Whittington stone and gravel--145 single family homes on 112 acres (1/4 acre lots). Fifty four percent of the parcel will be dedicated open space. This community will also have an entrance onto Songsmith drive, adjoining

*continued on page 3*

## From State Representative, John Viola

### Happy Summer to the Residents of Timber Farms

Delaware residents benefit from the General Assembly's membership in three national groups that assist state lawmakers in gathering information and making thoughtful decisions on issues of the day. These organizations are the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL), the Council of State Governments (CSG) and the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC). Since Delaware has a part-time legislature with only a small staff, the research and other resources these groups provide is especially helpful.

I am on the executive committee of the NCSL's National Labor Caucus and also serve on the NCSL's Labor and Workforce Development Committee and Education Committee.

I recently attended the NCSL Annual Conference where we discussed issues facing Delaware and many other states. These discussions took place in open meetings with an opportunity for everyone to speak.

The discussions often provide much food for thought. For instance, some states are further ahead than other states in addressing certain problems - for example, gaming, education accountability and others. Representatives from states that have already dealt with a problem often provide valuable insight and experience to other state representatives just beginning to address an issue, saving time and money in reacting to a problem.

There also are a number of issues where lawmakers from around the country seek to take a united stand. Many of these stands represent the states' position on issues involving the federal government.

A dispute that pops up frequently is the imposition of a federal mandate on states without providing the money to pay for it. Another problem is periodic cuts in federal funding to valuable programs such as Head Start that often carry the implicit suggestion that the state pick up the tab. I'm sure you have been reading about this in the newspaper. Another issue is the Administration's "No Child Left Behind". In Delaware we have been working for more than 10 years to improve the education of our children -yet now we don't know what implications this new program has on our programs and what changes and costs will be involved. We are all working for these answers. Also currently there is a proposal in the federal budget to cut one half billion dollars from the prep and vocational school funding.

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## 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

*Please send your \$20 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

## Classified Ads

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## Activities & Announcements

**11TH ANNUAL COMMUNITY PICNIC** - Mark your calendars and plan to attend the Timber Farms Civic Association's Annual Family Picnic, Saturday, October 4th. More information to follow.

**Civic Association Meeting** — The next general Civic Association meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 16th 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!

**Attention Timber Farms residents** - On two separate occasions thefts have occurred to two of our residents. In early May in the new section of Timber Farms a barbecue grill was stolen from a backyard. On August 3rd after 8 p.m. a generator was stolen from another residents' pickup truck. Both incidents were reported to the police. We are informing everyone of these two incidents in an effort to prevent future thefts. If anyone has any further information please call 455-1346.

Thanks!! The Civic Association would like to thank our Maintenance Corporation for the new development entrance sign. Their hard work is appreciated.

## 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.

Planning for the Bear/Glasgow Regional Park is underway. Planning and development has been fast tracked for this upcoming budget cycle with \$10 million going towards planning and construction costs. Thank you to everyone who attended planning meetings and gave their input. It is important to hear your ideas because the park is there for your enjoyment. In addition to the Bear/Glasgow Regional Park, the County is attempting to acquire additional land along Route 40 west of 896, better known as the Barzewski or La Grange Farm. This

*continued on back cover*



**Rep. John Viola, *continued from cover***

This would create additional budget problems for the State of Delaware when we have already made a number of cuts.

From discussions among elected officials attending the conference, we craft resolutions on these types of issues that are passed or rejected at the closing session attended by members from the 50 states. We use these resolutions to lobby for changes in federal policy with either the Congress or the federal administration.

Attending these conferences has given me the opportunity to become much more familiar with a variety of subjects more quickly than I ever could otherwise. It has certainly made me a more effective lawmaker in representing your interests.

JOIN REP. MELANIE GEORGE AND REP. JOHN VIOLA at Bob Evans between 7 and 7:30 a.m. on the first and third Wednesdays of the month. This is an opportunity for you to bring issues to our attention.

**What's on the Corner, *continued from cover***

Governors Square shopping center and Walther Rd.

The plan is recorded. Nothing is stopping them from sending in the backhoes. Expect to see stop signs or other traffic pattern changes on Walther Rd. after the 25th home begins construction.

The biggest news is the Bear/Glasgow regional park, which will be located on open land near the intersection of Rts. 40 and 896. It encompasses about 185 usable acres. The goal is to open in 12-18 months.

So far the first trail system's parking plan has been approved by Land Use. The second is in review. The park also plans to include a variety of sports-related activities. Space is planned for sports fields, tennis and basketball courts, playgrounds, picnic space and ponds. It is also stated to include a lawn to accommodate festivals and park concerts. Most exciting is a proposed interactive water feature for children. I have even heard a rumble in favor of a skateboarding area.

In front of Leisure school are pad sites for six restaurants encompassing 33,000 square feet. It will be called Elizabeth Plaza. The builder began construction now to avoid having time run out on his approved plan.

The decision surrounding development, sewer and water, county taxes and appropriations all centers around our New Castle County Council member Karen Venezky.

One major change for our development comes next November when county council will grow from five members to 13. Our development will fall into a newly drawn district. The wonderful news is that Dave Tackett will file to run on the ballot. So far he will run unopposed. Dave has purchased a house in our development. Dave, his wife, April and his four little girls will say good-bye to Varlano and become residents of Timber Farms. When you're out on your walk down East Silverfox, please welcome Dave and his family.

**Legislative Briefing from State Senator, Tony DeLuca, 11th District**

The General Assembly recessed on June 30, 2003. Working in bipartisan fashion several key pieces of legislation were passed into law this year, including:

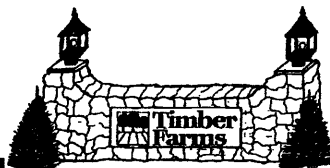
- ☐ Budget—The Fiscal Year 2004 budget includes a combination of \$141 million in budget cuts and savings and \$145 million in revenue generation.
- ☐ Employment—Legislation preventing a decrease in the maximum weekly unemployment insurance benefit and preventing an increase in the unemployment tax paid by employers.
- ☐ Environment—Increases in criminal penalties that can be assessed against individuals working for companies that violate environmental laws.
- ☐ Land Use—Involving the state in local land use planning decisions at an earlier stage than under current law.
- ☐ Seniors—Increases in financial penalties assessed against those who commit consumer fraud against senior citizens and disabled persons.

*Highlights of bills I sponsored this year include:*

- Transportation—Senate Bill 118 addresses an increasing problem throughout Delaware where private vehicles are parked on State rights-of-way and labeled for sale. One area in our community that seems to be popular for this is the intersection of Old Baltimore Pike and Rt. 273. SB 118 allows for such vehicles to be towed at the owner's expense. This bill awaits the signature of the Governor.
- Development—Senate Bill 43 gives the public the right to know the identity of all persons with an interest in applications for rezoning, variances or subdivision approval. SB 43 passed the Senate in June and awaits action in the House of Representatives.
- Health Insurance—SB 106 requires health insurers to coordinate with one another to determine their respective obligations when more than one insurer provides coverage for a claim. This would take the burden off the policyholder - the patient - and put it on the insurance companies. SB 106 is in the Senate Insurance & Elections Committee.
- Labor—SB 147 would require medical coverage for all employees performing work under public works contracts. This bill is in the Senate Small Business Committee.
- Privacy—SB 97 prevents the State of Delaware from disclosing personal information about those who access the State's Internet site to private companies who use that information for commercial purposes. The Governor signed SB 97 in July.

As always, I appreciate the positive relationship I have with the Timber Farms community and am grateful for the opportunity to provide this information to the civic association's newsletter. As always, please contact me if I may be of assistance to you, concerning Senate or civic issues at 737-4929 (home) or 577-8542, the Senate office in Wilmington.

Sincerely,  
Tony DeLuca



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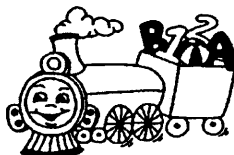
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**Councilwoman, Venezky, continued from page 2**

property is extremely valuable historically, with civil war bunkers said to be located on the property as well as a farmhouse and granary that date back to the early 1800's. I will keep you informed of any updates.

I recently introduced several pieces of legislation and am currently seeking input. The first, Ordinance 03-069, will provide standards for the redevelopment of brownfields. The second, Ordinance 03-070, will limit adverse impacts commercial kennels can have on neighboring residential properties. The third, Ordinance 03-071, will revise the limited use standards of the Unified Development Code to allow greater protection for residentially zoned land adjacent to daycare centers. In addition, this ordinance will clarify circulation and drop off at daycare centers. All three pieces of legislation will be discussed at the Planning Board Hearing on Tuesday, September 2, 2003 in the City/County Building, First Floor Council Chambers, 800 French Street, Wilmington. The meeting will begin at 7:00pm. If you would like to offer your comments on any of these Ordinances, you may attend the meeting or you may call me at 395-8345. You may also request copies of the Ordinances by calling my office. I welcome your suggestions.

As always, please feel free to call me at 395-8345 with any questions or comments. I look forward to hearing from you.

Very truly yours,

Councilwoman Karen G. Venezky  
New Castle County Council, Fifth District