

## Civic Corner

Happy New Year! I'd like to start by congratulating the winners of our Holiday Home Decorating Contest. I hope you enjoyed your gift certificates to the mall. Also, thanks to all the families who participated in our Train Ride with Santa event, with a SPECIAL THANK YOU going to SANTA for always making time for his community.

One community issue that has been brought to my attention by the residents is the vandalism and trash in the playground. This seems to be a huge concern for some of the residents who reside near the playground. There is also a concern of teenagers hanging out in the playground who do not reside in our community. The playground is a wonderful addition to our community, and it is sad that it is being abused. What I would like to ask of all the residents of Timber Farms is if you see unusual activity at the playground, call the police.

Another community issue that has been brought to my attention is the use of go-carts and four-wheelers being driven through our community. Some children using these vehicles are not using helmets. There is concern about these vehicles being driven in our open spaces and destroying the grounds. Please be considerate to your neighbors and do not allow the children to use these vehicles in our community.

There are many more issues on the agenda. Come to our next Civic Meeting on Tuesday March 16th, 2004. Location to be announced.

Regards,

Janet Taylor-McDowell

## History Of The Land We Live On

*By Vanessa Manges-Spence*

Much of our civic association's focus is on land development and what might impact our neighborhood positively or negatively. Sometimes in the middle of learning about a new development plan, I wondered how families--sometimes generations of families--living along Old Baltimore Pike, Salem Church Road and Walther Road felt about our development?

That question prodded me to find out what was here before my house. To answer that question, I spent a lovely afternoon with Mr. and Mrs. Wapniarek. John Wapniarek played here on the grounds of what was his grandparent's farm before our development came to be.

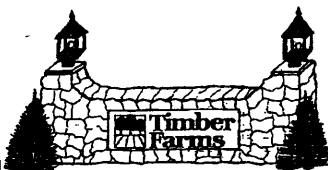
Mr. Wapniarek shared a lot of childhood memories and stories told to him by his parents. As a scrapbooker, I enjoyed learning his family history as much my own. It described a period of time when neighbors were truly concerned for family and friends. Time was spent accordingly for running the farm, supporting the family, and finding enjoyment in one another.

His grandparents, John and Catherine, bought the existing 155 acre farm in 1908 for \$5,000. Shortly after, they had to replace the original clapboard farm home with a stucco ranch home with two bedrooms. His dad was already accustomed to farm life having moved from a farm that originally sat on the corner of Salem Church Road and the development that is now Castlebar (close to Beck's Pond recreation area).

A portion of the farm extended to the other side of where I-95 now is, and it was this back end of the property that was good for crops. His grandfather would plant wheat, soybeans, oats, corn and delicious watermelons that grew along Woodland Road in the 120's area. Crops were not his chief source of income. Horses, pigs, chickens and sheep were a more common sighting here at the time. Livestock grazed in the front of our development (100-110 Woodland and West Silverfox) on fields that were approximately 20 acres.

The house and some outbuildings sat in the area of what are now the 140's on Woodland. Osage Orange trees

*continued on page 3*



## 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 731-7710 or write:

TFMC, c/o BC Consulting, 2035 Sunset Lake Rd.,  
Bldg. A, Suite 2, Newark, DE 19702

## Classified Ads

FREE to residents and residents' businesses; all others may place an ad for \$6. Call 738-7108 before May 1st, 2004. Next issue: May 2004.

**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 p.m., \$7.00. Ages 7-16 attend free along with your fee. Right here in Timber Farms. Call Vanessa Manges-Spence, 369-0493.

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

**Firewood** – Chevy S-10 Pick-up load of firewood delivered to your driveway, \$40 cash, call 737-0515.

**Child Care** – Affordable, reliable, responsible Mother, offering before and after child care for school age children, snow days, holidays no problem! First Aid & CPR certified, references available on request. Please call 738-0358.

## Activities & Entertainment

**CABIN FEVER PARTY** – The 11th Annual Timber Farms Civic Association's Cabin Fever Breakout Party is being planned. 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! Watch the entrance sign for more details.



**EASTER EGG HUNT** – The annual Easter Egg Hunt is scheduled for Sunday, April 4. 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 the community playground (end of Anthony Drive) and will begin at 1:00 p.m.

**COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE** – Date to be announced--probably a weekend in May. Any suggestions?



## From Sen. DeLuca and Rep. Viola

The 142nd General Assembly has reconvened in Dover for the second year of the session. Since the financial picture of the state has improved, much of the time this year will be spent discussing how we might use this additional money to benefit the residents of Delaware.

Senator Tony DeLuca and Representative John Viola attended the Governor's State of the State address on January 22. The Governor put forth her priorities for the coming year:

- Create a Delaware Teachers Corp to bring new teachers to the State of Delaware
- Phase in voluntary full-day kindergarten
- Reading resource teachers in all elementary schools
- Double the spending for anti-cancer initiatives
- Guarantee cancer treatment for those without insurance

Two items of particular interest to our area are Minner's pledge that the new owner of Motiva will complete the largest pollution reduction project in state history, and that she has asked state environmental officials to begin a process for reducing power plant emissions.

We continue to work to meet your needs. If we can be of assistance, please contact us.

Senator Anthony DeLuca  
Representative John Viola



## Timber Farms Maintenance Association Update / January 2004

### Maintenance Association Consulting Firm

The Timber Farms Maintenance Officers have decided not to renew the contract with B&C Consulting. B&C Consulting is the consulting firm that managed our maintenance contract for the last three years. This decision was based on shortcomings regarding B&C's performance. Last month the maintenance officers met with New Castle County Land Use Department regarding their development maintenance program. After the county's presentation of this program, the committee decided to arrange with the county to help manage our maintenance organization. The one major change regarding each homeowner is that New Castle County will bill each resident individually. The maintenance fee will be collected by New Castle County and deposited into our maintenance bank account. Each resident will be sent a letter of introduction from New Castle County regarding this new business process. The community should receive this letter by mail in the February 15th time frame. Along with the letter, you will be receiving the yearly maintenance association fee, with mailing instructions.

### Common Violations of Deed Restrictions

The maintenance officers would like to thank the residents who are abiding by our deed restrictions. The intent of these restrictions is to maintain a strong property

value of our homes, which is one of our largest investments. It has been brought to the attention of the committee in recent months that some of the restrictions are being overlooked. The maintenance committee, with the assistance of a retained attorney, will be addressing members who are in violation. The cost of the attorney is paid out of our maintenance fees. If there are any comments or concerns regarding the deed restrictions or other issues, please contact an officer. Your concern will be placed on the agenda of the upcoming maintenance meeting.

### Illegal Motorized Vehicles

ATV's and other motorized vehicles are not normally the concern of the maintenance committee. I have received complaints from residents regarding the use of these vehicles in our open spaces. Our maintenance dues pay to maintain these open spaces, and there was a case last fall where the maintenance committee was financially back-charged from the landscaper for damage caused by these vehicles. According to New Castle County Police, any non-licensed motor vehicle is not permitted to use the development roads and open spaces. Any non-licensed vehicle caught using the open spaces or parkland will be issued a citation and will be responsible for any damage to the grounds.

Regards,

David Schneider , 368-5643  
Bob Oakes, 737-0515

Mike Trembl  
Mike Lucas  
Yvonne Hunt

### *History, continued from cover*

were brought in from Texas to create a hedgerow that separated the Wapniarek's farm and Woolyhan's (Norwegian Woods) that are still evident behind some homes. It was against the hedgerow where the original lane to the farmhouse was. Our present entrance was created during development.

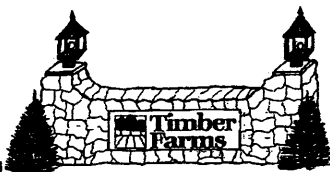
His father, William Wapniarek, would commute to Wilmington and worked in a leather factory. Each morning he would cut through the woods onto Salem church Road and over to Red Mill Road, where he caught the train to town. Now the high-speed line is there. That area was actually a small town, Ogeltown, marked by Frenchie's country store complete with penny candy. The Ogel's owned a large parcel of land, and their home is now the gift shop near Bob Evan's on Rt. 273. In 1927, his dad married Helen and moved to Wilmington.

He told me that the pond was a natural pond, but it typically dried up each summer. In the winter, it was shallow enough to freeze over, and they would ice-skate.

What is now Holly Cove was a low spot and was often wet. The builder set pipes below it to help dry it up and moved the water further towards Silverfox and the low 100's on Woodland. Along the 120's-140's on Woodland from the farmhouse and buildings a steady creek moved along the lane and hedgerow up towards Old Baltimore Pike. It seemed all the water liked to settle in what is Phase I of Timber Farms.

In other areas of Timber Farms, he remembers the beekeeping area that sat mostly near my home at the end of Timber Wood Boulevard and West Hummock. Trees were sparse on the front end of the property, and it was mostly open fields the builder converted to build our neighborhood.

There was much more he shared with me about neighbors and how neighbors' children found their influences from this early neighborhood. Let me just say that if we, as neighbors, could be as embracing, everyone would want to live here.



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## Announcements

**Civic Association Meeting** — The next general Civic Association meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 16th at 7:00 p.m., location to be announced. Hope to see you there!

**Congratulations!!** The winners of the Holiday Home Decorating Contest were:

1. 41 Anthony Drive
2. 36 Anthony Drive
3. 208 Holly Cove

Each received a gift certificate to the Christiana Mall:

**Mail your Civic Association dues today!!** Please help your neighbors support the good work the Civic Association does for you and the community. Please send your \$20 dues to:

Timber Farms Civic Association (TFCA), P.O. Box 489, Bear, DE 19701

**County Councilwoman Karen Venezky** can be reached at 395-8345. Residents are encouraged to call if they have any questions or issues they need help on.