



# THE TIMBER FARMS VOICE

*Neighbors working together*

Vol. XVI • No. 3

September 2007

## CIVIC CORNER

### Letter From The President

The weather has been terrific lately, and I hope everyone has had an enjoyable summer. With fall approaching, there are some upcoming neighborhood events to keep in mind. On Saturday, September 15, we will have our fall neighborhood yard sale. Everyone is invited to participate. It's an excellent opportunity to get rid of some household clutter. Our annual neighborhood picnic will be held on Sunday, October 7. Please plan to attend. It's an opportunity for some good food, fun for the kids, and a chance to chat with your neighbors. Our annual Halloween parade and costume contest are also coming up in October. We will provide more details through email and our web site ([www.timberfarmscivic.org](http://www.timberfarmscivic.org)).

### More notes from the neighborhood:

It's hard to believe we've been residents of Timber Farms for over 15 years. My wife and I settled on our house in the Summer of '92, and like many of the people of the fairly new neighborhood, were eager to meet new friends and neighbors.

The Maintenance Organization did not yet exist. Maintenance was essentially the responsibility of the builder, but there was not yet a "voice" in the neighborhood for the community as a whole. Many people were interested in the well being and future of the community, and in the Fall of 1992 (at least as I recall), the first community civic meeting was held. There was a large turnout and even multiple candidates vying for officer positions.

The first President was Jim Ferguson, who was instrumental in getting the Civic Association going, as he spent much time and effort working with Karen Venezky (our previous County Council representative, prior to the change of Council boundaries.) The first Vice-President was Dan Stone (a great guy, even though he's a Redskins fan... although us Eagle fans have had considerably better times since then). The first Treasurer was Chuck Vincelette (yes...a fellow Eagles fan), and the first Secretary was Carol Soltis (although I'm not sure if I've correctly remembered her last name). Of those folks, only the Vincelettes are still residents of the neighborhood.

*Continued on page 2*

## NOTES FROM COUNCILMAN TACKETT

Dear Residents of Timber Farms,

I hope you had a long, relaxing, and most of all, safe summer. I know the first day of school came too quickly at my house and like most years we were not totally ready.

Since our community has had several code related issues, I wanted to take a minute and give you some info on our code department and tell you about a great new tool. Our code department has a total of nine code officers, seven of these are certified property maintenance and housing inspectors and two are rental code inspectors. If you own a rental or live in a rental, it must be registered with New Castle County. Failure to do so will result in hefty fines.

So far this year for code related complaints, the cases are up dramatically with an estimated 9,456 cases projected for the year. This number has sent a red flag to the county and we must find ways to get the number back down. So we have started sending a courtesy letter for many first notices. The county is also conducting more show cause hearings. We are bringing in the property owners for a meeting. We are looking at on-spot ticketing and the possibility of starting a county court to help deal with the issues.

One of the best ideas thus far is a new way to enter code complaints. This is now online at: <http://www.co.new-castle.de.us/LandUse/home/webpage35.asp>. You can enter a complaint anytime and the computer will send back to you a case number that will allow you to monitor the situation. You will not be able to get specifics, but you will be able to check on the status of the complaint.

Use this new online reporting system to report any property maintenance issues. If you do use this new feature, I would like to know what you thought of it, how easy it was to use, and if you would change anything.

As always, contact me with any questions or concerns.

Regards,

New Castle County Council  
Eleventh District  
302-395-8351  
[dltackett@nccde.org](mailto:dltackett@nccde.org)

# The Timber Farms Voice

## THE OFFICER'S CORNER



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## MAINTENANCE NEWS

Our annual Maintenance Association Meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 15, 2007 at 7 p.m. at the Christiana Fire Company, Main Street, Christiana. This meeting will include nominations and elections of officers for the Maintenance Board. Anyone interested in volunteering their time to serve on the Maintenance Board are urged to attend. Also included will be an update of all Timber Farms projects completed and pending. Maintenance Association assessments for 2008 business year will be \$165.00.

The Maintenance Association will sponsor a wood chipper and operator to be made available for Timber Farms's residents. The chipper will be on site cleaning up fallen branches that have been collecting in our open spaces. We will schedule this chipper in the October time frame: weather permitting. The date and location will be announced in the Timber Farms Maintenance News letter that will be mailed to each resident.

Any resident having questions pertaining to maintenance association policies or deed restrictions may contact a maintenance officer by addressing their concerns to [timberfarmscivic@aol.com](mailto:timberfarmscivic@aol.com)

Regards,  
Dave Schneider, President, TFMA

## CIVIC CORNER

*Continued from page 1*

Some other differences were that Timberwood Boulevard ended at Silver Fox, since that phase was just in the process of being built, and neither The Oaks, Norwegian Woods, nor Westover Woods existed yet. The Open Space by the pond was essentially a depot for construction garbage and debris, including used brick, siding, lumber, appliances, and numerous, but friendly wild cats and kittens. The most recent phase by way of Post Oak Lane was just field and trees, and was often the romping ground of snakes, deer, and even a few red foxes.

Although much time has passed, many residents, neighbors, and friends have contributed greatly to the community in the last 15 years, including Bob Oakes, Dave Schneider, Janet Taylor-McDowell, Vanessa Manges-Spence, Christine and John Verdi, Alan Quaintance, Chris Cascio, the Vincelettes, the Daggetts, the Fredericks, the Finfrocks, the Stillmocks, and of course, Dave Tackett (our current County Council representative and neighbor), just to name a few. There are countless others that have contributed time and effort

to the Civic Association, Maintenance Organization, and community in general, and I apologize for the inability squeeze everyone's name within the short space of the article, but a heartfelt "Thanks" nonetheless.

I also appreciate the work of many of our county and state officials over the years, especially John Viola. I'm pretty sure he's attended even more of our community functions over the years than I have.

Lastly, a big thanks to our current TFCA board: President Bruce Lipphardt, Vice-President Christine Verdi, Treasurer Bob Oakes, and Secretary Camille Dinon.

Send them a note and introduce yourself. Even better, contact them and volunteer to help in some way, including running for an officer position!

Enjoy the wonderful fall season and have a great remaining 2007!

Len Taddei, P.E.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Community Yard Sale

Our Community Yard Sale will be held on Saturday, September 15th from 8:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m., rain or shine. A banner will be located along Old Baltimore Pike and an ad will be placed in the News Journal.

## CLASSIFIED ADS

**FREE to residents and residents' businesses; all others may place an ad for \$6.00. Call 456-9559 before October 31, 2007. Next issue: November 2007.**

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

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**Scamstress: Alterations:** alter unlined items \$6, alter lined items \$8. I do clean and excellent work. Will be done in one day if needed. I have 30 years experience. Please contact me by e-mail: rema@udel.edu. I live in Timber Farms.

**Dependable Babysitter:** Red Cross certified, mature, reliable, and eager to baby-sit or to be a Mother's Helper. Contact Cassie Vincelette at 737-5571.

**Babysitters:** Certified and live in Timber Farms. Please call Natalie and Audrey at 731-7927.

**Babysitting:** the Dynamic Duo - two for the price of one! YMCA certified. Contact Lauren and Brianna at 737-4559.

**Pet Sitter:** Reliable and trustworthy. References available. Call Alyson at 368-1696.

**Work Wanted:** Teenage boy willing to do Lawnwork, Powerwashing, Petsitting, and Babysitting. Experienced Lawnworker. I can be reached at 292-2618 or jrteed@comcast.net

**Book Club:** Meets the 3rd Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. We read for pleasure, we meet for socialization. This is not English Lit. Call Rosalind at 292-1151 if you would like to join us.

**Box Tops for Education and Campbell's Labels for Education:** I am collecting these for Newark Charter School. Please drop them off at 102 Woodland Road any time or leave them in the screen door if I'm not home. Thanks, Chris Verdi

**Spring Cleanup for Outside:** Spring Lawn Fertilization, Trees & Shrubs Planted, Mulch Bed Topping, Mulch Beds Installed, Grass Cutting, Timber Farms Resident. Call 292-1393 or 373-9599 for estimate, ask for Jim.

**Sofa for sale:** Ethan Allen sofa. Excellent condition, hardly used. Plaid jewel tone colors. \$900.00 Call Beth at 738-1014 if interested.

**Dog cage for sale:** practically brand new, only used one week, 48L x 30W x 35H (in inches), Call 368-1696 if interested.

**FREE Portable Basketball Set Up:** Backboard, rim and pole/base included. You take it away, it's yours. Good condition. Call 731-4206 if interested.

**2001 Coleman Utah Pop-up Camper for sale:** Slide-out, stove, refrigerator, water heater, sink, furnace, potty. Sleeps up to 9. Very good condition. \$5,000.00. Call Mark at 737-8766 if interested.

**7' Air Hockey Table:** single blower with electric, scoring unit, great condition, \$299/neg. 455-1577.

## MESSAGE FROM JOHN VIOLA

This past legislative session, Governor Ruth Ann Minner signed legislation that will make Delaware more attractive to businesses by lowering workers' compensation insurance premiums. Senate Bill 1 is expected to save employers between 15 and 21 percent of current costs.

Workers, insurers, and employers will benefit from this bill because it streamlines payments to workers while still allowing insurers to maintain their existing rights to contest employer's claims. Under the new payment system, doctors could receive up to 90 percent of the most common charges for medical services while surgery charges by hospitals could be cut by 15 percent.

Specifically, Senate Bill 1 creates a medical care fee schedule to outline treatment charges and will develop health care practice guidelines or medical protocols for the injury treatment. In addition, a 17-member panel including nine doctors appointed by the governor will be established to create the fee schedules. The legislation also includes provisions governing lawyers' fees in an effort to control legal costs while ensuring that injured workers understand the fees and requirements aimed at speeding up payments to doctors.

This legislation is the result of many groups working together, including labor, medical, and insurance, and I am proud to have supported it. Our state was in desperate need of workers' compensation reform.

As your State Representative, I am proud to be able to bring you news about legislation. If you have any questions about workers' compensation or anything else, please do not hesitate to call my office at (302) 577-8476.

John Viola

State Representative

26th District



# The Timber Farms Voice



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