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THE TIMBER FARMS VOICE

Neighbors working together

Vol. XVIII • No. 1

February 2008

CIVIC CORNER

Letter From The President

Plans are underway for this year's neighborhood events, and we are seeking chairpersons for two new committees. The Events committee will plan and organize neighborhood events. The Welcome committee will greet new neighborhood residents. We expect these chairpersons to act primarily as coordinators, since a number of volunteer committee members are available. Please consider volunteering as a chairperson, since these positions will not require an extensive time commitments. If you're interested, please contact any Civic Association board member.

You should have already received your annual dues letter. Although we've decided to keep the annual Civic Association dues at \$20 per household, please consider an extra donation to help us with rising costs.

You are probably aware that the local landfills have stopped accepting yard waste as part of your regular trash pickup. Several options for yard waste disposal are described on the Delaware Solid Waste Authority's web site (www.dswa.com). Their Pay As You Throw (PAYT) yard waste program offers curbside pickup for any resident using pink stickers to identify yard waste bags or tied bundles. Each sticker costs one dollar, and they can be purchased on the web site. The web site also has directions to two New Castle County locations where yard waste can be dropped off, and free mulch can be picked up. Your trash hauler may also offer other yard waste options.

The speed limit on all Timber Farms roads is 25 mph.

Several residents have complained about speeders in the neighborhood. If you see someone speeding, note their license plate number and call the New Castle County police non-emergency number (573-2800) to report it.

Thank you for all of your support in 2007 and for your continued support this year.

Mailbox Baseball—Not Just a Game Anymore!

Timber Farms, as well as some of our surrounding neighborhoods, have suffered a string of mailbox thefts and vandalism. One incident even required a visit from the New Castle County bomb squad. What used to be something some of us chalked up to innocent fun is not so innocent anymore.

Besides being an expensive annoyance to homeowners who must put the mailboxes back up, a lost or destroyed mailbox can mean a lot of headaches. When our mailbox disappeared (with mail inside), we had to call our creditors to check our balances so we did not fall behind on our bills. Plus, we had to worry if any of those annoying credit card offers we all receive were inside. Even if the ones who stole the mailbox wouldn't use them, if the mailbox or the mail was not properly disposed of, someone else could. All of this goes way beyond a little childish fun.

If anyone in your household has heard anyone talking about this vandalism, please consider passing this information on to the authorities so that those responsible can be apprehended. Messing with a mailbox, with or without mail inside, is a **SERIOUS OFFENSE!** Even though homeowners purchase and install the mailbox, it is considered federal property. Anyone found messing with a mailbox faces a mandatory sentence of up to \$250,000 in fines and 3 years in federal prison **FOR EACH OFFENSE!** In short, a single inning of "mailbox baseball" can add up to a whole lot of trouble.

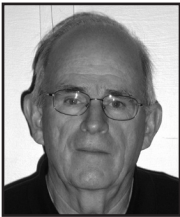
If you or anyone you know has had their mailboxes vandalized or stolen, please report it to the New Castle County Police and the Postal Inspector. It is important that each incident is reported so that, hopefully, this spate of not-so-petty vandalism will end soon.

-A concerned Timber Farms resident

THE OFFICER'S CORNER



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(302) 283-1370
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Bob Oakes, Treasurer
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Camille Dinon, Secretary
112 Woodland Road
(302) 456-9559
E-mail: secretary@timberfarmscivic.org

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

TFCA
P.O. Box 489
Bear, DE 19701
E-mail: TimberFarmsCivic@aol.com
Website: www.timberfarmscivic.org

CIVIC CORNER

WORD TO THE WISE

Artificial obstructions, such as signs and basketball hoops, are not permitted in DelDOT rights-of-way. For residential communities with streets under DelDOT's jurisdiction (like Timber Farms,) that means at least 7 feet from the street (or beyond the sidewalk, if there is one.) At last count, we have 13 portable basketball goals in the rights-of-way, including 3 that are actually in the street. Be aware that DelDOT is specifically empowered to confiscate these items, and fine the owners. Save yourself some hassle (and possibly some \$\$) by putting your portable basketball hoop away when you're not using it. Think of it as a valuable lesson for the kids in good citizenship.

CIVIC CORNER

Next Civic Association Meeting:

Wednesday, March 12, 2008
Thurgood Marshall Elementary School

MAINTENANCE NEWS

The Board of Directors of the Timber Farms Maintenance Corporation would like to remind all lot owners in Timber Farms about the importance of adhering to the deed restrictions and procedures established in Timber Farms. Deed restrictions are a legal contract accepted by all lot owners upon the acceptance of the deed. Lot owners are bound by the restrictions placed upon the deed. All lot owners should have received a copy of their deed restrictions at settlement. It is important to remember that the deed restrictions call for approval by the Architectural Review Committee of the Timber Farms Maintenance Corporation prior to any change to the exterior of any structure, including decks, fences, sheds or walls. Such approval should consist of a submission, in writing, of plans and specifications showing the nature, kind, shape, color, height, materials, and proposed locations of the addition, alteration, or change. Such submissions should be sent to Timber Farms Maintenance Association, PO Box 489, Bear, De. 19701.

CLASSIFIED ADS

FREE to residents and residents' businesses; all others may place an ad for \$6.00. Call 456-9559 before April 30, 2008. Next issue: May 2008.

Firewood for sale: Delivered and stacked by the truck load \$150.00. Call (302) 981-7106.

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

Real Estate Appraisals: Cardinal Appraisals, Bill N. Waugaman, IFA, 1607 East Newport Pike, Wilmington, DE 19804; phone: 302-999-0909, fax: 302-999-1999, email: cardinalapp@msn.com.

Seamstress: 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.

Certified Babysitter: very experienced with all ages. Available after school, evenings and weekends. Call Lauren at 737-4559.

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.

Babysitter available: age 15. Comes from a large family, lots of experience. Call Brianna at 737-4559.

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

Pet Sitter or Dog Walker: Will pet sit in your home. Experienced with references available. Contact 737-4559.

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

CLASSIFIED ADS

continued from page 2

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

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

Olympic weight set and bench: For sale \$400.00. Excellent condition! Bench: 3 position iron (flat, incline & decline), adjustable bench press safety rails, leg attachment, preacher curl attachment, lat pull down attachment, bar & cables. Weight set: 35 lb. Olympic bar, Olympic curl bar, 2 dumbbell bars, 255lb. of solid iron plates, plate rack. Call 737-5571.

Snow shoveling: Will shovel walkways, driveways and sidewalks. Call 737-4559.

Babysitter available: Stay at home mom looking to babysit for extra cash. Days, nights or weekends. Call cell # 610-809-9020.

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Volunteers Needed: The Timber Farms Civic Association needs volunteers to help pass out flyers on Arrowood Lane. Please e-mail timberfarmscivic@aol.com if you can help. Thank you!

RECENT EVENTS

Holiday Home Decorating Contest

Congratulations to the following holiday decorating contest winners:

- 1st Place: The Rossillo family
41 Anthony Drive
- 2nd Place: The Barone family
315 East Silver Fox Road
- 3rd Place: The Kowal family
412 Post Oak Lane

Train Ride with Santa

The train ride with Santa was lots of fun again this year! We would like to thank all of the volunteers that make this event such a big success. And, of course, a big thank you goes out to Santa for helping to make the day extra special.



RECENT EVENTS



MESSAGE FROM JOHN VIOLA

Drainage and Stormwater Assistance

New Program Now in Effect!

Thousands of drainage and stormwater concerns are expressed each year in Delaware! An assistance program has been requested at the recommendation of the Governor's Surface Water Task Force to aid residents statewide with their unique drainage and stormwater concerns.

Residents can call the number below or send an email to report their concerns when convenient. Once an individual's information has been logged into the system, the concern will be assigned to the proper agency.

If you are unsure of who to call, this program will allow you to have one central point of contact when seeking solutions to drainage and stormwater concerns!

Drainage and stormwater concerns include:

- Water Runoff
- Standing Water
- Stormwater Ponds
- Tax Ditches
- Restoration Opportunities
- Stream Bank Stabilization
- Beaver Dams

For drainage and stormwater assistance, please call: (302) 855-1955 or email dnrec_drainage@state.de.us.

John Viola

State Representative

26th District