



THE TIMBER FARMS VOICE

Neighbors working together

Vol. XXII – No. 1

February 2017

LETTER FROM OUR PRESIDENT

This year, on February 2 (Groundhog Day), Punxsutawney Phil saw his shadow on Gobbler's Knob in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania. This means six more weeks of cold weather ahead, so dress warmly. The young daffodils in my yard, however, tell me that spring is on the way.

One of our neighbors, Tom Layman, passed away suddenly in his home on January 24. I first met Tom on board the USS Flying Fish (SSN 673) in Norfolk, Virginia in the summer of 1981 while I was on a midshipman cruise. Tom moved to Timber Farms in 2012 and immediately began volunteering his time to help with Civic Association events. He coordinated or co-coordinated our neighborhood picnics over the past five years. He also helped with judging for several of our Halloween costume contests. Tom was a very good friend, and an outstanding member of our community. We all miss him very much.

February marks the start of our annual Civic Association membership drive. You should already have received a mailing with our annual membership letter. Annual dues are \$25 per household, and membership is voluntary. Your dues and donations support neighborhood social events, our quarterly newsletters, and our web site. Please join us this year! We already have 77 member households for 2017, and more than half of those new members have included an extra donation with their membership dues. Thank you all very much! Your continued support is important to us.

We will be having our annual neighborhood yard sale on Saturday, May 20. As you begin spring cleaning, remember to set usable items aside. We will send out more information as the date gets closer.

Bruce

COMMUNITY CORNER

TIMBER FARMS CIVIC ASSOCIATION

We now have the email addresses of over 340 residents in Timber Farms. We have received 2,800 emails from you during 2016. You name it, who would you recommend for electricians, plumbers, roofers, windows, heater installations, trash service, painters, landscapers, solar panels, day care, house cleaners and the response was hundreds of recommendations from your neighbors. There are still about a dozen homes out of the 269 homes that we don't have an email address from.

PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2017

Feb. 27: Newsletter "Timber Farms Voice"

April 15: (Sat.) Annual Easter Egg Hunt-Playground 11 A.M.

May 20: (Sat.) Annual Community Garage Sale-8 A.M. to 1 P.M.

May 23: May and June Graduation Notices Entrance Bulletin board

May 26: Newsletter "Timber Farms Voice"

June 7: (Wed.) Civic Association Meeting-Playground

Aug. 25: Newsletter "Timber Farms Voice"

Sept. 9: (Sat.) 24th Annual Community Picnic 2 to 6 P.M.

Oct. 18: (Wed) Civic Assoc. Meeting-Marshall School

Oct. 28: (Sat.) 25th Annual Halloween Parade

Nov. 15: (Wed.) Civic Association Meeting-Marshall School

Nov. 24: Newsletter "Timber Farms Voice"

Dec. 21: Christmas judging of Best Decorated Homes

ANNUAL HOLIDAY HOME DECORATING CONTEST WINNERS

Congratulations to the following 2016 Holiday Contest Winners:

1. The Quinn Family 512 W. Hummock Lane
2. The Chadick Family 218 W. Silver Fox
3. The Cabalza Family 540 W. Hummock Lane

Honorable Mentions:

The Oldis Family 2 Anthony Drive

The DuQue Family 37 Anthony Drive

The Evans Family 308 E. Silver Fox

The Rotenberry Family 106 Woodland Road

EARLY INFLUENCE STILL HAS ITS MARK ON TODAY

The town of Christiana has had many name variations over the years and is rich in history. Some say the town began in the 1690s, 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 Christinahammn 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 Christinahamm'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.

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The Timber Farms Voice

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

E-mail: TimberFarmsCivic@aol.com

Website: www.timberfarmscivic.org

If you aren't one of the 90% of Timber Farms residents who have already provided us with their e-mail address, please do so. It is the surest way to receive timely, updated information which affects you. Please e-mail us your address today at timberfarmscivic@aol.com

continued

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 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.

By Vanessa Spence

INFORMATION FROM COUNCILMAN TACKETT

Dear Timber Farms Residents,

I want to share with you some events that will be coming up at Glasgow Park at the corner of RT 896 and Rt 40 in hopes you will be able to find some time to join us and enjoy our wonderful park. We will be increasing our programs this year to include the First State Flea Market on the first Saturday of the month from 9am-3pm beginning in March and of course we will have our regular Farmer's Market on Fridays from 2pm to 7pm beginning in the Spring but; there are a few other things going on to keep you busy until then. The first is HISTORY QUIZTORY this FREE family friendly program that makes the battles, bad guys, heroes, and innovators from our local history come to life. The next dates are 2/23 and 3/9 (Thursdays) starting at 6:30 p.m. Next, we have Second Saturday Nature Crafts- this is also a FREE program where you can make crafts with natural materials from seed pods, pebbles, sticks and more on 3/11, 4/8, 5/13 (Saturdays) from 12:30 - 2pm. Then there is something new we started called

Fix It Café-Where you can bring that broken lamp, vacuum, waffle iron, sewing machine or any one item that you can carry and work with volunteer experts to get it working again. All these programs will be in the Bank Barn. Also, again this year our County Police will be Hosting Casting with Cops on April 22nd from 10-2pm at the Fishing Pond.

For more information or to register for these events go to www.nccde.org/bankbarn or you can call my office (302-395-8371) and I'll send you a Happenings

Guide that has details on these and many other events and activities all over New Castle County.

Working for you,

David L. Tackett, County Councilman

TIMBER FARMS MAINTENANCE CORPORATION

The Timber Farms Maintenance Corporation held its board Meeting on January 25, 2017 to discuss general business and the fiscal budget for 2017.

Here are excerpts from the meeting taken from the minutes prepared by Linda Olds, Secretary of the Timber Farms Maintenance Corporation.

The first order of business was the review of the 2016 expenses and the proposed 2017 draft budget (both of which had been mailed to Board Members for review and were handed out at the meeting as well).

Bob also presented the proposed 2017 budget, which showed: 2017 Estimated income of \$47,545.00 which includes \$2,500.00 of income from delinquent accounts of prior years. Discussion followed on the various budgeted expenses for 2017. In particular, we discussed Security: Chesapeake Security changed their format in 2015; we hired Bayside Security in 2016 but they did a poor job and proved to be ineffective. After a lengthy discussion about the pros and cons of having Security in general, it was decided to go out for bids for a new security company this year and see what we get. Since the proposed 2017 budget did not contain any budget for security, John moved to add \$ 4,000.00 to the proposed 2017 budget for security; Linda seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion was passed.

The annual assessment for 2016 was \$165.00 per home. The Board discussed what the assessment amount should be for 2017. Based on our estimated 2017 income, the proposed 2017 budget, and the amounts that we currently have in reserve, John moved to keep the Annual Assessment amount for 2017 at \$165.00. Dave seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the annual assessment of \$ 165.00 for 2017 was unanimously approved. The annual assessment notices will be mailed out on March 1 and are due by April 30, 2017.

The board had a discussion about purchasing a storage shed to house our generator and equipment that is used for the community maintenance. This would be a 10 x 12 shed. It needs to be secure to protect it and its contents from possible vandalism (no windows, etc). We have requests out for quotes on a shed. We will discuss further when we receive the estimates for the sheds and estimates for pouring the pad.

The Timber Farms Voice

Under new business, there was discussion about the turnover of the 28 acres of open space owned by LC Homes. While there are still some violations, the County has done their inspection and seem to be very happy with it, so LC Homes is getting ready to start on the last 5 homes on Marie Court. LC Homes is putting

up a \$ 10,000 bond for trees, and then the county will give them the approval.

Regards,

Dave Schneider,
President

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Babysitter: Heather, responsible high school student, eager to babysit. Red Cross Babysitter Certified. Please call her at 302-292-6990.

I have 2 boy's 20" BMX style bicycles for sale. They are in very good condition with very little use. \$30.00 each or both for \$55.00 Call 737-9145 leave msg.

We are collecting all your old newspapers (we can use a lot) and old bags of Iams or Eukanuba dog food. Just email us and we will pick up, DaveLTack@aol.com, Mae and Autumn

Preschool/Toddlers teacher and Assistant teacher is needed for Happy Kids Academy off Old Baltimore Pike. Must have State certificate to apply. Please call 302-369-6929 and ask for Mariam.

Pressure Washing....Do you need your siding, deck or sidewalk removed of all that dirt and mold? As a Timber Farms resident, I care about your home. I do professional work for less the cost. Call me for a free estimate. Ed Gonzales, 302-463-3224.

AT&T Digital Life Home Security starting at \$39.99 monthly. Free professional installation by AT&T employees and free equipment! Protect your home this summer. Call Shelley Kruse 302-521-0280 W Silver Fox Rd

Items for sale: Cedar chest -200.00, cast iron gas heater, 12,800 Btu -150.00, G.E. Microwave wall unit, almond-100.00, High Back chairs, red and white-25.00 each. 607 Timber Wood Blvd

Item for sale: Anyone looking to bless their little girl, here it is! The Fisher-Price POWER WHEELS PINK BARBIE CADILLAC ESCALADE HYBRID with real radio! Our child has outgrown it (after VERY little use) and we are selling it for \$200.00 FIRM! It goes for \$419.00 new at Toys R US. Bonus! Optional "quick charger" is included as well! Inbox if interested. Here's the Toys R Us ad. You do the math. Local pick up only! Please call 302-545-5504 if interested. http://m.toysrus.com/skava/static/product.html?type=TRU_product_us&url=%2Fproduct%2Findex.jsp%3FproductId%3D3155640&domain=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.toysrus.com&productId=3155640

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