



THE TIMBER FARMS VOICE

Neighbors working together

Timber Farms Civic Association
PO Box 489
Bear, DE 19701

Vol. XXVI – No. 1
February 2021

LETTER FROM OUR PRESIDENT

You recently received a mailing from the Civic Association, asking you to join us in 2021. Thank you to those that have already joined us this year. Thanks also to those of you who included a voluntary additional donation with your dues payment. We appreciate it.

Because of social distancing guidelines, we were limited to three neighborhood events in 2020: a parade for our new high school and college graduates, the fall yard sale, and the holiday home decorating contest. We were not able to have an Easter Egg hunt our annual September picnic. As a result, we have some extra funds available. We hope to have a picnic later this year, and we plan to use some of our available funds to expand food options and add additional activities. We are also considering an additional social event when social distancing requirements are eased. Stay tuned for more as the year progresses.

We want all of you to know how much we value your membership. If you were a Civic Association member last year, but your finances are a bit uncertain right now, please contact us about your membership renewal. We will gladly work with you to help maintain your membership.

The COVID-19 vaccine is free to all Delaware residents. Go to coronavirus.delaware.gov to learn more about where and when you can get vaccinated. That web site also provides updated information on staying safe while you are out in public. I encourage you to check it out.

I hope everyone continues to stay safe and healthy, and I look forward to the months ahead as things slowly return to normal. We will continue to evaluate the social situation in the coming months, and we hope to resume our community social events calendar as soon as we can safely do so.

Regards, Bruce Lipphardt, President

INFORMATION FROM REP. MADINAH WILSON-ANTON

I hope this newsletter finds you well and that you all are staying safe during this time. There are four phases in Delaware's COVID vaccination timeline, and we are now in phase 1B, which is specifically administered to people aged 65 and older, as well as those considered frontline essential workers including: police officers, firefighters, teachers, childcare providers, food processing workers, correctional officers, and postal service.

For updates on the vaccine, visit de.gov/getmyvaccine. For testing and other COVID-related information, please visit

coronavirus.delaware.gov. The pandemic has affected the livelihood of thousands of Delawareans. If you are in need of financial assistance due to unemployment, I encourage you to file an unemployment claim on the Delaware Division of Unemployment Website at ui.delawareworks.com.

The Delaware General Assembly returned to session last month, but we are currently out of session for budget hearings until March. Last month, we were able to successfully pass a measure that extends unemployment relief to residents and businesses hit hard by the pandemic. We also passed an Equal Rights Amendment to the Delaware Constitution prohibiting discrimination based on race, color or national origin. And we passed a law that raises the amount of renewable energy used in Delaware to 40% by 2035.

If you know someone in the 26th district who would like to be added to my monthly newsletter, please share this link to the sign up form with them: <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/su/moQf7MX/wilsonanton>.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact my office via phone at 302-577-5190/ 302-744-4349 or via email to my legislative aide, Leilani: Leilani.Rhodes@delaware.gov.

Sincerely, Rep. Madinah Wilson-Anton

INFORMATION FROM SENATOR TOWNSEND

Dear Neighbors,

There has been progress on the issue of power surges in our area. Due in part to our community's outreach, Delmarva Power has entered into an agreement with the Public Service Commission and the Public Advocate. This agreement requires Delmarva to report over voltage events that (1) cause damage in excess of \$10,000 to their equipment or (2) where a customer's equipment may be damaged and there has been a claim or complaint filed. Delmarva also is to study their transmission lines to determine mitigation actions. The transmission and distribution lines on the same pole are the cause of many of these over voltage events. Finally, Delmarva will include an insert in bills each year that addresses power surges and steps customers can take to mitigate these surges. These are important first steps in determining the issues, having reports filed at the Public Service Commission, and allowing a future look at the distribution system. These steps allow us to hold Delmarva accountable and find solutions.

As for speeding in the neighborhood, we continue to see members of our own community speeding, and we continue to see people walking in the streets (including after sunset but

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without reflective clothing). Please be safe and responsible. A recent DelDOT study confirmed that there is speeding along Timber Wood Blvd, and along with Rep. Wilson-Anton I am in contact with neighborhood leadership about next steps for determining whether our community wants to explore the possibility of speed humps.

Senator Bryan Townsend
bryan.townsend@delaware.gov
302-709-1516

INFORMATION FROM COUNCILMAN TACKETT

Property Tax Reassessments

Changes are on the horizon for New Castle County property owners and the property taxes we all currently pay. A lawsuit was filed, in Chancery Court, ruling that New Castle County is required to do a complete reassessment of all properties in the County before February 2023 to assure that all residents are being fairly and constitutionally taxed on their property. The last complete reassessment of property values in New Castle County was in 1983. This reassessment will more accurately reflect current property values.

The process has several steps. The first will be for New Castle County to hire a contractor that has experience with large-scale reassessments like this.

I know that the idea of a County-wide tax reassessment can create some anxiety. Try to keep in mind that roughly the same amount of tax revenue will be billed throughout the County, but the distribution of those taxes may shift for some property owners. Not many details are available yet, but the process has started.

We will have many updates and lots of information available between now and February 2023, and I will do my best to get this information out to you as soon as I can—I will use social media, email distributions, and updates on my webpage at www.nccde.org/Tackett.

New Castle County is currently developing a webpage that will provide updated information and I will share that link as soon as the page goes live.

It's important to be patient right now as the details are being worked out, but know that I am diligently seeking the information so I can share it with you.

Feel free to check in with me any time.

David L. Tackett
Eleventh District, New Castle County 302.395.8351

TIMBER FARMS MAINTENANCE CORPORATION

The Board of the Timber Farms Maintenance Corporation held a Zoom meeting on January 25 to review the balance sheets for 2020 and to develop and approve a budget for 2021.

The Maintenance Corporation's income in 2020 was \$49,321. This amount includes the total assessments paid by our

residents and unexpected court-ordered reimbursements for liens placed eight and 10 years ago. We spent \$43,781. This amount was lower than budgeted due to low snow removal costs in 2020 and lower expenditures on maintenance of the plantings at the entrance and of the playground. A complete list of expenditures can be found on our website (<http://timberfarmscivic.org/maintenance/maintenance.html>). The budget for 2021 assumes income of \$45,905 and expenditures of \$49,747. The deficit, if it should materialize, will be made up from our reserves. The budget was approved unanimously by the Board members and can also be viewed on our website.

A motion to keep the assessment for each Timber Farms home at \$165 was also approved unanimously. The Board hopes that in 2021, 100% of all homes in Timber Farms will pay their maintenance assessments on time. Please contact any one of the Board members if you should have questions regarding the 2021 assessment. (Contact information available on the Maintenance Corporation website.) It is the policy of the Timber Farms Maintenance Corporation to assess late fees for assessments not received on time. Residents are also advised that they are responsible for paying attorney's fees should it become necessary for the Board to take legal actions in case of non-payment. The main reason why we have been able to keep the maintenance assessment at the same level for many years now is the very high rate of residents' compliance with the requirement to pay the assessment.

The 2021 assessment bills will be mailed out to all homes on March 1, 2021 with a due date of April 30, 2021.

Addressing a different subject, some residence contacted us after the snowstorm on January 31 – February 1 asking why the roads were not plowed. The Board decided against snow removal because less than 4 inches had accumulated, and the snow on the roads was expected to melt relatively quickly. Four inches is the threshold at which the State will reimburse 75% of the snow removal costs. At less than 4 inches, we will be responsible for the entire bill which usually amounts to about \$1,500.

Regards, Rolf Joerger, President

COMMUNITY CORNER

2020 HOLIDAY CONTEST WINNERS

Congratulations to the following 2020 holiday decorating contest winners. Great job everyone!

The Chadick Family	218 W. Silver Fox Rd.	\$ 50.00
The Carosino Family	116 Woodland Rd.	\$ 50.00
The Donahue Family	152 Woodland Rd.	\$ 50.00

Honorable mention

The Banoub Family	213 Michelle Court
The Singleton Family	137 Woodland Rd.
The Teed Family	146 Woodland Rd.
The Rutherford Family	500 W. Hummock La.

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TIMBER FARMS CIVIC ASSOCIATION

Planned Activities for 2021

Feb. 1 Civic Association membership Drive
 Feb. 21 Newsletter - Timber Farms Voice
 April 3 (Sat.) Annual Easter Egg Hunt - Playground
 May 11 (May and June) Graduation Notice's - Bulletin Board
 May 15 (Sat.) Community Spring Garage Sale
 May 23 Newsletter - Timber Farms Voice
 June 3 Joint meeting at the playground Civic/Maint.
 Aug. 21 Newsletter - Timber Farms Voice
 Sept. 11 26th Annual Community Picnic

Oct. 16 (Sat.) Community Fall Garage Sale
 Oct. 1 Civic/Maint. Meeting Thurgood Marshall Sch. 7 p.m.
 Oct. 30 27th Annual Halloween Parade - Christiana High Sch. Band
 Nov. 10 Civic Association Meeting - Thurgood Marshall Sch. 7 p.m.
 Nov. 20 Newsletter - Timber Farms Voice
 Dec. 21 Judging of the Best Decorated Homes

CLASSIFIED ADS

FREE to members of the civic association and their businesses; all others may place an ad for \$6.00.

Affordable alteration contact: Jayshree Sheth 302-250-4397 • any saree to add fol/stitching • any dress/chudidar stitching • any pant stitching • need to add/remove sleeves on dress • anything else just call

A family Affair Tent & Party Rentals (Timber Farms resident), Weddings, Graduations, Birthday Parties, Reunions, call 302-733-0408

Healing Touch Energy Therapy: Great for pain management, relaxation, stress reduction, reducing anxiety/depression, strengthening the immune system, enhancing recovery from surgery, supporting cancer care, easing acute and chronic conditions, etc. Reasonable rates, flexible hours, Call Judie Rodgers, HTPA, on 302-273-2447

Professional Video Services since 2004. Memories For a Lifetime Productions...Professional video collages, set to music. Also, we can transfer your treasured VHS tapes to DVD's. Call Lisa at 299-5579.

Pet Care: available evenings and weekends. Caring and Reliable. Call or text Paige at 302-463-0489

Lawn mowing and trimming at reasonable rates. If interested please call or text David at (302) 463-6817

Empowered Beauty, Healthy Living. I help women create a lifestyle that improves their overall health, so they feel beautiful in their skin and empowered to be their best self. We have high performing products made with safer ingredients. Visit www.beautycounter.com/jenniferjohnson4 or call/text 407-230-3349. Follow me on Facebook at @Empoweredbeautyhealthyliving.

Professional voice over actor. Can deliver deep, sincere tones; fun, cartoon-like voices; accents; impersonations. Can read commercial and narrative copy. MFA in Theater. Experience as a planetarium lecturer. Please check out my demo at www.outsidevoicebox.com 503-539-9551

Evergreen Waste Services are offering Timber Farms residents a special offer. Weekly Trash & Recycle Collection on Tuesdays. Because we're the number one trash collector in Timber Farms we can offer you a great price (\$19.00) per month.) Call Evergreen now at 302-635-7055 to start taking advantage of the discounted services for Timber Farms Residents.

Legal Services: Stephanie Emmanuel-DeLuna, Esq. Legal representation in the areas of domestic/family law, personal injury, workers compensation, small business law, immigration, and wills/probate Stephanie@thecastrofirm.com

In need of calligraphy services for weddings, gifts, or decor? Search "Katelyn's Calligraphy and More" on Facebook or call Katelyn at (302) 584-4339 for more information.

I am available to clear driveways and sidewalks in the case of snow this winter. My name is Ash Verdi. I live at 102 Woodland Road. My phone number is 302-229-9533 (I would prefer to be contacted through text messages if at all possible as I am more likely to respond.

I would be available for snow shoveling this Winter - Paige Barnard 124 woodland 302-463-0489

My son, Tom is available for yard work, some landscaping and snow shoveling this winter His contact number is 593-7803. Thank you.

Rising Hope Therapy provides mental health services to adolescents, individual adults, couples and families. We provide a supportive and non-judgmental environment where clients can identify, explore and begin to overcome various life struggles. If you would like more information or to schedule an initial session please visit our website and/or contact us by email or telephone. www.risinghopetherapy.com Admin@risinghopetherapy.com 302-273-3194

My name is Alison Hawtof and I'm a high school student interested in babysitting. I love playing and reading to children (as young as 2). During the school year, I am available Friday evenings, Saturdays, and Sundays. In the summer, my hours are flexible. Please contact me at (302-257-8369 if you are interested.

Shola Coker Phillip, Realtor/Home Designer, REMAX Associates, 668 Yorklyn Road, Hockessin, DE 19707. www.sholasellshomes.com, Cell: 302563-3784, Office: 302-234-3800, efax: 877-408-7952

An experienced lawn mower and a second year college student. I can bring my own mower if needed. Thank you, David Hawtof 302 463 6817.

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 than the cost. For a free estimate, call Ed. Gonzales, 302-463-3224

If you are interested in joining a women's bible study for our neighborhood, please send your name and number to Doris Griffin, drdorisgriffin@gmail.com. This is a great way for some of us to get together virtually and develop connections. It would be great if we could start in September. I hope to hear from you. Thank you!

Chiropractor - Dr. Anthony Giantinoto. Conveniently located for Timber Farms Residents in the Commonwealth Building of the University Office Plaza - 260 Chapman Rd, STE 104E. Private health insurance accepted as well as Medicare and Medicaid. Call us at 302-294-1832, or find us online at 302relief.com.

If you need help to upgrade your computer, or recover data from an old device please reach out to me at 516-236-0859. (Timber Farms Resident)

Made By McFadden My name is Brittany McFadden and I have turned a hobby into making gifts for others. I make various baby items - blankets, bibs, swaddles, and onesies, as well as headbands for your mask, regular headbands, rag quilts and scarves. You can contact me on Facebook, Instagram @madebymcfadden or Etsy https://www.etsy.com/shop/MadeByMcFadden?ref=search_shop_redirect

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