



Medford Leas LIFE

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MILLENNIUM BASH

by Doreen B. Lee

Medford Leas celebrated New Year's Eve with style and flourish! After a delectable dinner, residents gathered in the Auditorium, festively decorated with uncounted balloons, only two of which had "escaped." The festivities started with watching the London, England, TV show at 7 p.m. EST, which meant hearing Big Ben chime in the new Millennium on Greenwich Mean Time, where time seems to start. As the hours moved along, residents paused to think of 2000 arriving at other points on its global journey.

Because of unforeseen time limitations, performances by residents were eliminated, but the **Leas Singers** did lead the singing of two parodies composed by **Matt Rodermund**. Then came entertainers from outside. First, there were **Rose & Al** with classics from the 30's and 40's. What would a party at Medford Leas be without some of **Dining Service's** scrumptious food? Without anyone seeming to lift a finger, tables laden with cheeses, crackers, fruit, cookies, and endless punch gave people a chance to mingle and add to their calorie intake.

The second piece of entertainment was the **Red Baron String Band: Mummers**, who provided an hour of Golden Oldies, to which those who felt agile danced. During the intermission, there was, of course, another opportunity for

refreshments.

The third group to entertain was the **Brian Height Jazz Band**, providing more opportunity to dance for those so inclined, and despite the carpeted auditorium floor, a surprising number showed they could still dance up a storm.

At 11 p.m., the Auditorium party broke up and about 60 hardy souls moved to the Activities Room for the last hour. **Bart Bartholomew** led some games, and then everyone gathered around the TV to watch the Times Square ball drop, counting down the last ten seconds with millions of others, and making plenty of noise after the ball had dropped. After drinking a toast to the year 2000, the party broke up, but not before a prize was awarded to the oldest resident who had stayed up for this witching hour. **Alma Hoyer**, who had turned 95 in August, was awarded a bottle of Geritol and a large goblet with "2000" in the stem.

Kate Kwiecinski, the MLRA Committee, and Dining Services deserve a hearty round of applause for their careful and imaginative planning that provided a memorable night of fun and food, in a setting of great warmth and good fellowship, to mark a point in history for all of us -- the dawn of a new Millennium!



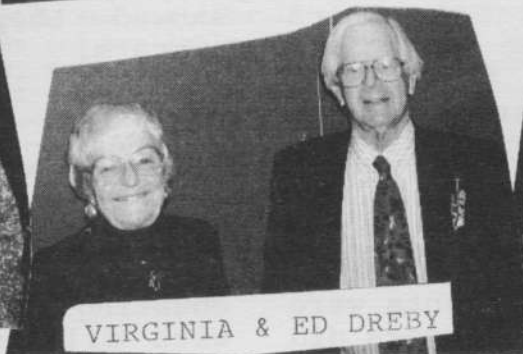
HARRY & LOIS FORREST



GLADYS GRAY & KITTY KATZELL



COLETTE & "BART"
BARTHOLOMEW



VIRGINIA & ED DREBY



BOB ANDERSON & KATE KWIECINSKI



JERRY PIDCOCK & WAYNE MARSHALL

Pictures
courtesy
of
Barbara
Ballou
and
Bea
Smolens

NEW YEAR'S DAY 2000 BRUNCH

Whether it was Oysters Rockefeller, or Baby Lamb Chops, or Farmhouse Quiche you fancied, followed by cream-cheese crêpes with fruit sauce and whole berries, lox and cream cheese on a bagel, cheese spreads, washed down with several kinds of hot or cold liquids, you could fill up nicely at our fabulous New Year's Day 2000 Brunch. If, then, you still felt up to tackling the dessert table, with its tantalizing choices of chocolate mousse torte, chocolate raspberry torte, caramel granny apple pie, various kinds of fresh fruits, and jello, and polished all this off in the half-hour before the next shift clamored for your table, you may well have said, as Scarlett did in Gone with the Wind, while shaking her fist against the sky, "I'll never be hungry again!"

Hana Stranska

OUR CENTENARIANS

Another Medford Leas resident has made the newspapers. A smiling **Ping (Ed) Follwell** was pictured on the front page of the December 31 Central Record, along with an article pointing out that we were entering the year when he would celebrate his 100th birthday. We all know that people are living longer and there are quite a few centenarians around. But do they walk five miles a day in good weather, go to exercise class three times a week, and play a mean game of bridge several times a week? Ping does -- and that's why he's Medford Leas Man of the Century!

In addition, Medford Leas is proud of three residents who have lived in three centuries: **Adelaide Kapler**, **Vina Cooper**, and **Rebecca Clark**. Born in the 19th century, lived through the 20th, they are now looking forward to what the 21st will bring. And we look forward to four big birthday celebrations in the year 2000.

Dorothy Tillman

WHO'S NEW

Jane (Pryse) Ehlers, Apt. 455, was born in Philadelphia and has lived in the Medford area for over 43 years. Jane earned her BS at Drexel University and her Master's in Supervisory Business Education from Ryder University. During 23 years of classroom experiences, she taught at Drexel and was Teacher-Coordinator of the Cooperative Office Education Programs at Lenape High School and Mt. Holly's Rancocas Regional High School. She is a Past-President of the New Jersey Cooperative Office Education Coordinators' Association.

Jane and her late husband, **Jean Robert Ehlers**, traveled extensively, and nine years ago, they gave a slide presentation at Medford Leas on England's Chelsea Flower Show and Holland's Keukenhoff Gardens. Together, the Ehlers enjoyed hand-crafting stained glass, square dancing, and gardening. Jane has been a long-time member of the Pinelands Garden Club.

Their son, **Rob**, lives in Upper Darby, PA, in the house where Jane grew up, and their daughter, **Jeanette Bertram**, lives in England. Jane's grandchildren will keep in touch with her by e-mail.

GOODBYE 20th CENTURY, HELLO Y2K

Goodbye to the century of speed,
Of technical wonders, bottomless
greed;
Goodbye to inventions, miracle drugs,
Goodbye to hijackers, terrorist thugs.
Goodbye to holocausts, to racist
leaders,
To murderers, monsters, despondency-
feeders.
One hopes that people will see the
light
That peace is better than hatred
and fight.
But unless we change course, and
do it fast,
Our troubles will continue from
first up to last.

Hana Stranska

WHO'S NEW

Barbara (Ulmer) Zimmerman, 206 Woodside Dr. (265-2422), was born in Philadelphia and graduated from Beaver College in Pennsylvania with a degree in Psychology. During the years she lived in Moorestown, Barbara raised three children, earned her Masters in Guidance and Counseling from Glassboro State College (now Rowan University), and taught 5th graders at Westfield Friends School Cinnaminson, NJ. In 1978, she left teaching to enter hospital management at Cooper Medical Center, Camden, and Underwood Hospital in Woodbury, until retiring in 1996.

Barbara and her family spent summers at Sea Isle City, NJ, as did Bill Zimmerman and his family. He moored his sailboat at the Sea Isle City Yacht Club and was a lifeguard for the Beach Patrol. Barbara was a swimming instructor at the yacht club. Their families had been acquainted for many years. They were married in 1985.

Eager to hone her human relations skills in terms of mediation techniques, Barbara enrolled in courses at Stockton State College, and was doing volunteer work in that field when Bill was stricken with a fatal heart attack soon after they moved to Lumberton Leas. For now, she is keeping busy as part-time organizer/coordinator of office functions for Westfield Friends Meeting in Cinnaminson. Her leisure interests include reading, knitting, and improving her golf score. She still loves to sail.

Doris Brown

WHO'S NEW

Helen L. Vukasin, 199 Woodside Dr. (261-3166) moved to Lumberton Leas from New Paltz, NY. She was born and grew up in San Francisco, CA, and has lived abroad in Burma, Ghana, and Zimbabwe.

From 1979-89, Helen worked with an ecumenical coalition of 40 Christian agencies supporting community development in third world countries, based in New York City. She initiated an Environment and Development Program which focused on raising consciousness among community development non-profit agencies abroad about village level environmental problems. She produced a series of five books on the subject and coordinated national and regional workshops in Latin America and the Caribbean, South East Asia and Africa.

After retirement in 1989, Helen moved to Zimbabwe where she worked with local organizations that were training farmers in improved agricultural practices and addressing gender issues. Back home she remained on the Board of Managers of Mohonk Consultations on which she has served since 1985. On her return from Africa in 1995, Helen was elected Chair of the Board. She has agreed to remain as Chair at least until the Annual Meeting in May 2000. Helen has a son, Dr. Alex Vukasin, a daughter-in-law, Dr. Nicole Davis, and two grandchildren in Princeton, NJ.

SPECIAL MEDICAL PROGRAM

On Thursday, February 17, at 11:00 AM, Michelle Greer, MSPT, will be speaking in the Auditorium, under the auspices of our Medical Services. The title of her talk is "Urinary Incontinence -- You May Not have to Live with It." If this is a subject of concern to you, be sure to circle it on your calendar.

WHO'S NEW

Louise Tompkins, 203 Woodside Drive (267-5574) grew up in North Jersey, and graduated from Vassar College with a degree in political science. Her first job was at Princeton University, as a secretary in their Center for International Studies. Heeding a call to the West, she worked in various jobs in Denver, then moved on to the University of California in Berkeley. There, she first did secretarial work in the Political Science Department, then went for a masters degree in library science. In 1966, she returned to Princeton University as Librarian of the Pliny Fisk Library of Economics and Finance. At Princeton, she met Eleanor Weld, a colleague reference librarian, who told her about Medford Leas. Louise retired in 1993. Interested in bird-watching and related travel, she has already made contact with the birders at the Medford campus. Louise also volunteers at the Rancocas Nature Center and is preparing an index for New Jersey Audubon's Magazine.

Ellen Stimler

A NATURE STORY

At dinner recently, a highly respected farmer in residence here told us that the severity of a winter can be predicted in the fall by looking at the coat of "woolly bear" caterpillars, which are brown at both ends and black in between. Supposedly, the more black, the worse the winter. As proof he told of seeing a woolly-bear that was almost all black just before the horrendously wicked winter of 1994. AND, this past fall, he saw one with almost no black in its coat. That should mean an open and easy winter for all of us, "a consummation devoutly to be wished," as Mr. Shakespeare would say.

Barbara Nelson

WHO'S NEW

Milton & Marjorie (Prickett) Zimmerman moved from Cherry Hill to 210 Woodside Drive (518-3599). Marge was born and raised in Medford and graduated from Rancocas Valley Regional High School. Bell Telephone Company in Mt. Holly hired her in 1938 as a telephone operator. Milt, born in Indian Mills, also graduated from Rancocas Valley Regional, and, following graduation, attended Pierce Business College in Philadelphia. Christmas Eve 1999 marked their 58th wedding anniversary. They were writing their wedding invitations on Dec. 7, 1941, when the news of the attack on Pearl Harbor was broadcast. Soon after their marriage, Milt enlisted in the Air Force and served as a fighter pilot. After the war, he studied at Temple University, Rutgers, and M.I.T. At M.I.T., he earned his Masters in Industrial Management and then applied those skills at various locations of the Campbell Soup Company, ending up at corporate headquarters in Camden as Vice-President of Personnel, Vice-President of Operations, and Assistant to the President. Meanwhile, the Zimmermans raised a family of three, two now living in Ohio, one in California, and they have 10 grandchildren.

Since 1967, Marge has been financial secretary of the St. Andrew's United Methodist Church in Cherry Hill. When not involved in church-related activities, she turns to needlework, bowling, and reading. Milt spends leisurely hours on the golf course, at the computer, or reading.

Doris Brown

NEWS FROM WOOLMAN COMMONS

No one likes to celebrate more than a Woolman Commoner. So this year, having decided it was no longer practical to meet for dinner before the Employee Holiday Show (in 1998 the restaurant required a 3:30 start), 27 residents gathered on December 14 at the Cafe Gallery in Burlington for a leisurely luncheon overlooking the Delaware River. If boats were scarce, food and conversation were not. Since the change seemed successful, it is likely to become a tradition.

On December 20, residents gathered for their annual carol sing. **Marion Burk** led and accompanied the group on the electric piano, while **Nancy Darling** assisted on the recorder. Behind the singers stood a brightly decorated Christmas tree donated by the son of **Mary Frances Dentworth**. Tea followed the singing.

New Year's Eve brought the community together for a special carry-in dinner in the Commons Room. The tables were decorated with candles and pine needles tastefully arranged by **Carolyn Terrell**. A tempting buffet of ham, turkey, vegetables, salads, and beverages was dispatched with gusto, while desserts (usually an elaborate, calorie-laden part of any Woolman Commons party) were omitted in favor of the anticipated dessert buffet at Medford Leas. Omitted also was the singing of "Auld Lang Syne," which usually concludes community New Year's parties, but still there was a sense of gratitude for the gift of togetherness in the past year and hope for the new year to come.

Kay Cooley

THE GALLERY

Marlene Craig, the artist who will show her work in the Gallery for the month of February, has been painting for 27 years. She likes to do house portraits and historic places and has painted many historic sites in Burlington County and South Jersey. Her paintings are in permanent collections at the Medford Township and Burlington County Offices. Since 1996, she has been commissioned to do the art work for calendars and cards for Cape May and Ocean City. These are sold in gift shops at the shore. An Associate Member of the Garden State Watercolor Society, her work has been shown in numerous galleries in the area.

The reception for Ms. Craig is scheduled for Tuesday, February 8, from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Please join us and meet this local artist who is capturing on canvas some of the history of our area.

Dorothy Tillman

BETTER PHONE COMMUNICATION

Did you know that Maintenance has a simple, inexpensive gadget that will allow you to raise the volume of telephone communication so you can hear what your caller is saying? I discovered this by accident when I found that I couldn't catch everything I was being told on the phone and had to ask for louder repetitions. I thought there must be some device that raises the volume of phone talk, so first we investigated electronics stores. They had the gadgets, all right, but there was a bewildering variety. How to choose? Then we thought of **Bill Murphy**, and called him. Sure enough, within hours, one of his men came and, within seconds, hooked up to the phone a 2" x 3" box, which allows me to adjust the volume to nine different settings. The price? \$35.00. Maintenance has a supply of them, so, if you want one, put in a work order.

Ellen Stimler

RESULTS OF BIRD CENSUS

The 13th Annual Medford Leas Bird Census took place on January 5, a cold, windy day. Birds don't like wind, so there were fewer sightings. Six residents reported no sightings at all. Birds were much more numerous the next day when the winds had diminished. Numbers of species seen were 33, compared to 1999's 34, even though there were 31 observers as compared to 26 last year. Sightings were down markedly from 1095 in 1999 to 721 in 2000.

Most numerous were the starlings at 200, followed by house finches at 99 and mourning doves, 46. It is noteworthy that 20 robins were seen, and residents have been reporting numbers of them; the effects of global warming have reached the robin population, so more of them stay north. The starlings were observed at sundown on the wires along Wilkins Station Road. Suddenly, just at dusk, they all took off and crowded into our silo through a small hole. They had been preceded by a few rock doves (pigeons) and we wonder about the sleeping arrangements. A kestrel (sparrow hawk) was also observed nearby, and apparently also spends the night in the silo.

There were no unusual species, but a couple of such were observed at other times at **Marshall's** feeding station: a European goldfinch on January 1, and a female northern oriole on January 9. The European goldfinch had been introduced, and a few are known to exist. Although the northern oriole is a resident summer bird, it has been banded occasionally in the winter.

A 4-hour bird count was also held on the morning of the 12th at Lumberton Leas. That day, it was clear and somewhat windy when six birders set forth. They reported 87 sightings and 17 species. It is hoped that a census can be held at Woolman Commons at a later date.

Gertrude Marshall

MEDFORD LEAS IN HEIDELBERG

Until **Barbara Ludwig's** presentation in the Auditorium on December 3, 1999, many residents were unaware of the long contact between Medford Leas and Heidelberg, Germany, resulting in the exhibition of Life in Medford Leas in Heidelberg's City Hall.

Barbara, a student of Gerontology in Heidelberg, came to the U.S. to study CCRCs. Having been here only one day, she was heading to Toms River when her rented car broke down in Cherry Hill. The garage people got the car going and, when they heard her plans, told her she must visit Medford Leas. She continued heading for Toms River, but the car broke down again on Route 70, right in front of Medford Leas. A guest room was vacant and management made it available to her. She stayed a few weeks, developing friendships and studying how we did things here.

Back in Heidelberg, she persuaded the authorities to hold an exhibition in their City Hall. The Camera Club got involved, gathering pictures of life here, and matching them with negatives when they could, so enlargements could be made. Rather than trust the pictures to the mail, **Liesel Marcus** and **Inge Wolf** carried them directly to Barbara. The exhibition was a success and questionnaire responses indicate that many citizens of Heidelberg would find such a community of benefit to their city.

Lois Forrest suggested that it might be helpful--and fun--to develop an on-going relationship with Heidelberg, and several residents have indicated an interest in working toward that end. And, if an all-expenses-paid trip is necessary, a number have said they are willing to serve.

Dorothy Tillman

LENAPE TUTORING PROGRAM

Every Monday afternoon, a resident drives the Medford Leas van with a dozen or more residents to Lenape High School, where they meet their student matches for an hour of tutoring in algebra, geometry, accounting, and English as a second language. Planning for the program started last September, and the first sessions were held in mid-December. **John Furgione**, principal of the school, came to Medford Leas with key staff to announce his commitment to the project. At an orientation session, details were discussed with interested residents. At that meeting, residents learned that a state law requires that every person working with a student be finger-printed and fill out a background check form. An officer from the Medford Township Police Department came to Medford Leas for the finger-printing.

Each tutoring session has its joys and disappointments. There is great satisfaction when a student catches on to a concept or finds out how to attack a problem and shares his success with his tutor. But sometimes, a student doesn't show up, although every effort is made to remind them on tutoring day. Also some residents who volunteered to teach English haven't been matched with students to date. The greatest need is for tutors in algebra and geometry.

After this tutoring program is solidly entrenched, the inter-generational relationship with the school will be expanded to include one-time talks by residents on special experiences they want to communicate to the students.

The residents currently eligible to participate in the tutoring are: **Barbara Ballou, Alice Black, Dorothy Clayton, Ruth Hayes, Elaine Heinzelmann, Ed House, Jane Hunter, Mary Lou Mullen, Charles Peck, Grace Schaffel, Bea Smolens, Ellen Stimler, Saul Stimler, and Dorothy Tillman.** Residents who wish to join the group may call Ellen Stimler (3116).

Ellen Stimler

FIFTH ANNUAL FITNESS DAY

The announcement said:- Join in or just observe; meet new friends and make a commitment to get fit! Celebrate a sense of 'Well Being'. And on January 12, residents did all of those things.

In the Atrium, there were books and leaflets on fitness topics for which residents could sign up; posters and albums showed photos of residents engaged in all kinds of fitness activities; and a videotape showed Tai Chi. Down in the Pool, two lively teams competed in Water Volleyball games, while admirers watched. In the Activities Room, there was a Posture and Abdominal Workshop, and the Fitness Center held Open House.

The Fitness Luncheon, attended by over 130 residents and staff, was tasty, sociable, and entertaining. **Beverly Kannengieszer** was mistress of ceremonies, extending a welcome and later announcing awards and recognition; **Colette Bartholomew** reported for the Fitness Committee; **Wendi Ruddy** taught everyone how to "Celebrate Exercise" in sign language; and **Gerry Stride** led a Fitness Sing-Along.

Lunch was followed by the Fitness Follies, directed by **Colette Bartholomew** and **Beverly Kannengieszer**, and MC'd by **Chuck Woodard**, before a full house in the Auditorium. **Gerry Stride** opened the show singing "The Lament of Three Reluctant Exercisers." Then the Water Exercisers exercised to the tune of "Splish, Splash, I was Takin' a Bath" while **Kitty Katzell** told of the joys and benefits of water exercise. Next **Rose Cruickshank** reported on her "Life as an Athlete." (She even had medals to prove it!) The **Bowlers** showed how they spend Wednesday afternoons, and **Kackie Anders** shared some of **Ruth Carver's** Mouse Letters. **Line and Square Dancers**, led by **Bart Bartholomew**, demonstrated their special fitness activities, and **Gerry Stride** led another round of Fitness Tunes. After a skit brilliantly performed by **Janet, Nancy, Linda, and Charity** from Medical, the Follies (and Fitness Day) ended with a Grand March of all the performers.

WHAT'S NEW IN THE MAGAZINES

In advance of Black History Month, Ebony Magazine (January) conducted a "power poll of Ebony's most influential Black Americans" to elicit their predictions about some of the important race-based changes expected over the next 50 years. A majority were optimistic about achieving improvements in equal rights, employment opportunities, capital accumulation, and mastery of new technologies. But 70% of the respondents said they did not believe Black males would substantially increase their rate of college graduation. On the future of Black male-female relationships, about half said they would get stronger; the rest expected them to get weaker or remain the same. But almost 66% of the respondents said black/white relationships would become more prevalent.

Use and abuse of personal information on the Internet is the subject of a symposium in Harpers (Jan.). **Colin Harrison**, Deputy Editor, questioned four experts about a range of problems and their answers appear in the article. Excerpts: Total privacy and anonymity will be for sale on the Internet for those who want it. "Privacy firms" will obtain goods and services for customers without suppliers knowing personal data of customers. In surveys, 55% of users

worry about government invasion of privacy, 44% cite concerns about private businesses. Yet millions of users voluntarily tell their Internet server "everything" of a personal nature, because without the information they can't receive the personalized services they want. The question is whether the company that receives the information for a specific purpose will then sell it for purposes not disclosed to the original customer. Even if the U.S. were to ban such information transfer by law, there is no way to stop access by foreign companies. Some Internet firms even offer to pay customers 2/3 of the fee received for sale of their personal data.

"American soldiers write home," is the title of an extraordinary collection of thus far unpublished personal letters written by American servicemen during wartime service going back to the Revolution. Over 15,000 have been collected by **Andrew Carroll**, a 30-year old historian and editor of The Legacy Project, which hopes to collect, catalog, and store thousands more of these letters, and possibly publish portions eventually. Letters from the wars of the past 100 years appear in the New Yorker double issue (Dec. 27/Jan. 3).

Ellen Stimler

OOPS!

I apologize to any who were confused by discrepancies among the Calendar Highlights in the January issue of Medford Leas Life, the Official Calendar distributed to residents, and what actually took place. I prepare our Highlights from advance copies of forthcoming calendars, graciously supplied each month by **Floss Brudon** and **Helga Ayres**. Sometimes additions, corrections, or revisions reach them after we have gone to press. The Official Calendar is what its name implies, Official.

Kitty Katzell, Editor

NEW TALKING BOOKS

FICTION

George, E. In Pursuit of the Sinner
Leonard, E. Be Cool

NON-FICTION

Bryson, B. Neither Here Nor There

DONATED

Rabbi Zeller, The Tree of Life
Kuralt's American Moments
Radio Classics, Jack Benny

Elaine Heinzelmann

BOOKS RECENT AND REMEMBERED
by Leah Levinger

Eminent Victorians by **Lytton Strachey** (1918, 341 pgs.) Strachey was highly critical of the plodding, overly documented biographies of his day (still a problem in our times). He did not hesitate to express his own views of his subjects, which he bolstered by quotes from letters. In this book, he chose four influential figures, all incredibly industrious, energetic, obsessively focused and deeply religious. There is a churchman, Cardinal Manning; Rugby's headmaster, Thomas Arnold; the fanatical General Gordon; and Florence Nightingale. She emerges as more complex and powerful than the "Lady with the Lamp." Strachey writes movingly of her tenacious conflicts with the War Department and British hospital system, a struggle that continued for 50 years after the Crimean War. From an invalid's bed, she directed friends high in the government to fight tirelessly for her cause. Strachey's approach delivers characters that stand forth as living people, unencumbered by trivia.

Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban by **J. K. Rowling**. Illustrations by **Mary Glander**. (1999, 435 pgs.) The third volume on Harry's apprenticeship as a wizard is as comic and thrilling as the first. It might make fantasy accessible to you.

East of the Mountains by **David Guterson** (1999, 435 pgs. Also large print edition.) Guterson maintains the lyrical descriptions of the northwest found in Snow Falling on Cedars and creates an indomitable hero, Dr. Ben Given. Now widowed, retired, with terminal colon cancer, he decides to commit suicide by faking a hunting accident. This resolve changes gradually as he desperately fights to protect his dogs and his own survival. His dedication as a physician asserts itself. A highly engrossing tale.

LARGE PRINT LIBRARY ADDITIONS

FICTION

Andrews, V. C. Misty
Cookson, C. The Mallen Streak
Cornwell, P. Black Notice
Evanovich, K. High Fire
Evans, R. P. The Looking Glass
Lewis, B. The Crossroad
Scott, P. Staying On
Sparks, N. A Walk to Remember
Wick, L. Every Little Thing About You

MYSTERY

Brown, S. The Alibi
Cadell, E. Game in Diamonds
Clancy, T. Clear and Present Danger
Clark, M. H. A Cry in the Night
Clark, M. J. Do You Promise Not to Tell?
French, N. Killing Me Softly
Hillerman, T. Dance Hall of the Dead
Mrazer, R. J. Stonewall's Gold
Reader's Digest. Select Editions

BIOGRAPHY

Plath, S. The Bell Jar
Reeve, C. Still Me
Reader's Digest. Select Editions

NON-FICTION

Bombeck, E. A Marriage Made in Heaven
Ferrell, R. H. Truman & Pendergast
Friedman, T. The Lexus and the Olive Tree
John Paul II. Crossing the Threshold of Hope
Schuller, R. H. Turning Hurts Into Halos
Wakefield, D. How Do We Know When It's God?

Ruth Hayes, Librarian

A VISIT TO TIBET
by Dorothy Tillman

Buses are always taking off from Medford Leas to interesting places. On January 6, a busload of intrepid travelers took off for Tibet -- well, Newark, NJ, actually -- but once inside the doors of the newly refurbished Newark Art Museum, it felt as if we were in Tibet.

How did the "largest exhibition of secular and religious Tibetan art and cultural material ever mounted in the United States" open at the Newark Museum? It all started in 1910. Edward Crane, a Founding Trustee of the Museum, met Albert Shelton, who had just returned from spending many years in Tibet. When Crane saw the arts and artifacts Shelton had brought back, he quickly went to work arranging an exhibition so the public could see this remarkable work. The first exhibition was held in 1911 and 18,000 people (an astonishing number for the time) came to see the art of far off Tibet.

The world-renowned Tibetan holdings became the property of the Museum. Newark has not been exactly a cultural center over the years, but today, after five years of planning and construction, 300 Tibetan art works, many that had never before been exhibited, were presented as part of the Museum's 90th Anniversary.

The exhibit was divided essentially into two parts. The first floor was devoted mainly to the secular art. There were blown up photographs show-

ing the average Tibetan wrapped in burlap and animal skins, attempting to eke out an existence in that barren, isolated world. In contrast, the rulers and nobility of the country were dressed in magnificent silks and furs. A full size tent, beautifully embroidered and appliqued, showed a different life style.

The second floor was devoted to the religious aspect of Buddhism. The central and most important piece was a Tibetan Buddhist altar, a sacred space to house images of the Buddha and his teachings. The altar had been created as part of a special project, "Tibet, the Living Tradition, 1988-1991." His Holiness, the 14th Dalai Lama, performed a consecration ceremony for the altar in 1990.

Unfortunately, the special exhibit closed on January 20, but many Tibetan artifacts are on permanent display at the Museum, and a visit allows one to see the wonderful changes taking place in Newark. Now, we have not only the Metropolitan Museum in New York and the Art Museum in Philadelphia, but also a fine Museum of Art in Newark.

As a footnote, when **Kitty Katzell** moved to Medford Leas, she gave the Museum Tibetan objects her mother had acquired when they lived in India. Several of Kitty's schoolmates were Tibetan girls sent to study in the American school in Darjeeling, where her mother was principal.

IN MEMORIAM

Wayland Hier
Sara Eynon

January 2, 2000
January 15, 2000

FEBRUARY CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

- 1 - Thrift Shop Valentine's Sale
- 3 - Vid-U (also Feb. 10 & 17)
- 4 - Managing Diabetic Medications
- 5 - Movie: Operation Petticoat
- 6 - Friends Meeting for Worship
- 6 - Vespers
- 7 - Open Forum with Lois Forrest
- 7 - Movie: Mussolini
- 8 - Winter Ice Tea
- 8 - Gallery Reception, **Marlene Craig**
- 9 - Music Video: Perlman at Penthouse
- 10 - Folk/Line Dancing
- 11 - Complications of Diabetes
- 12 - Lincoln's Birthday
- 12 - Forum: Restoring Old Homes and Barns
- 12 - **Park Sisters** Violin/Piano Concert
- 13 - Usual Sunday Services
- 14 - Valentine's Day
- 15 - Armoire
- 15 - Catholic Mass
- 17 - Incontinence Update
- 18 - Opera: Cinderella
- 18 - Shopping for the Diabetic
- 19 - Movie: Dr. Zhivago, Part I
- 20 - Usual Sunday Services
- 21 - Presidents' Day
- 21 - MLRA Business Meeting
- 23 - Music Video: Vienna Philharmonic
- 24 - Great Decisions: Africa's Place in the World
- 25 - Shopping for the Diabetic
- 26 - Movie: Dr. Zhivago, Part II
- 27 - Usual Sunday Services

MEDFORD LEAS LIFE

EX OFFICIO: Evert Bartholomew, MLRA President; Kay Cooley, MLRA Sponsor

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