



# Medford Leas LIFE

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## A COLLECTION OF ANTIQUE DOLLS

It has been written: "Many people never outgrow their love of dolls and never lose the ability to appreciate and enjoy the artistic beauty of dolls." This certainly is true of **Winifred Badgely**, whose collection of antique dolls has been on display in the Commons Room at Woolman Commons.

Since the time years ago when she helped out in the doll hospital and antique store of her mentor, **Mrs. Mercer**, in Hyde Park, NY, Winifred has been collecting, assembling, dressing and repairing the dolls our mothers and grandmothers left behind. For some, she has connected new body parts to an enchanting bisque, porcelain or china head. For others, she has replaced frayed outfits with new clothes resembling as much as possible the original sets. Sometimes a revived wig of human or horse hair replaced one that has been worn thin by excessive hugging.

To the interested listener, Winifred explained that the dolls most sought after by collectors predate 1925 and are identified by such criteria as the mark of the manufacturer or the name of the individual makers inscribed on the back of the doll's neck or by the date or even the body parts. Dolls of certain manufacturers in Germany and France are of particular value, as are those by well known makers, such as **Madame Alexander**. Some dolls have "sleep eyes" that close when the doll is laid down, and one in the collection even has a moving tongue.

The dolls that were displayed (Winifred had more stored in closet shoe boxes) depicted a range of times and styles. A Boudoir doll dressed in high heels and a rose gown with a zipper in the back dates from the 1930's when she was created to advertise the zippers made by the Spool Cotton Company. Another advertisement doll wears the overalls and cap of a locomotive engineer. Over 100 years old, it advertises Lees overalls. Still clothed in its original skating costume, a **Madame Alexander** doll depicts **Sonja Henie** with ice skates and a head of thick curls. A Quaker doll--a woman dressed in brown homespun, matching bonnet, and olive shawl--was once owned by a **Mary Howland** (1865-1963). It was passed on to her niece, **Elizabeth Hazard**, a field Secretary of the New York Yearly Meeting. A note, handwritten in the script of the time, tells her story. Her clothes, threadbare and deteriorating, are not her original outfit, so Winifred, her loving caretaker, is searching for authentic material for yet a new wardrobe.

It has been said that the dolls that have survived for collectors are the failures of the doll world, because they did not perish from overloving in the nursery. In Winifred's collection, there are no failures, only sources of interest, charm and nostalgia. Discussion is under way to see if some of the dolls might journey to the Atrium Display Case.

Kay Cooley

WHO'S NEW

Dr. Benjamin Paradee, beloved medical director at Medford Leas from 1980 to 1991, has moved into Lumberton Leas with his wife, Shirley (Clark) Paradee, 186 Woodside Dr. (265-1344). Their long-time friends and bridge partners, Phyllis & John Pere and Marj & Milton Zimmerman, moved in a couple weeks later, so their games can go on!

Ben grew up in Merchantville and got a B.Sc. from Villanova before the outbreak of WW-II. Commissioned a Lieutenant, J.G., in the Navy, he served in the Amphibious Corps in the South Pacific. After the war, he graduated from Villanova, then did graduate work at Penn while waiting to get into medical school at Jefferson. After interning at Cooper Medical Center, he maintained a family practice in Cherry Hill with a Jeff classmate for 30 years. His home happened to be next door to that of Lew Barton, one of Medford Leas' founders. Barton persuaded Ben to interview for the job of medical director, and he took the position at the end of 1980.

Shirley's family lived in Collingswood and, after high school, she completed a laboratory technician course at West Jersey Hospital and got a job in the transfusion unit of Jefferson University Hospital. Some of her friends told her there was a good-looking young medical student coming in regularly to sell his blood for \$10 a pint, and that's how they met. They were married a year after they started dating.

Ben's recreational activities include golf, tennis, and skiing. He recently bought a computer and hopes to establish an e-mail correspondence with their four children and nine grandchildren scattered all over the country. Shirley is a crossword puzzle devotee and avid reader, and she does volunteer work at an Episcopal church.

Ellen Stimler

WHO'S NEW

William & Dorothy (Myles) Muir lived on a farm in Southampton for 35 years before they came to 7 Woodside Dr. (518-7119). Dottie and Bill met at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania where she was a staff nurse and Bill was an intern. Dottie had completed her nursing degree at the University and Bill had arrived as an intern after receiving his medical degree at Columbia University in 1954. Six years later, following completion of Bill's residency in general surgery, they moved to South Jersey.

In 1960, Bill joined the surgical staff of Memorial Hospital, Mt. Holly, where he served for 17 years as Chief of Surgery. He is a Past President of the New Jersey Chapter of the American College of Surgeons. Dottie managed the farm, and volunteered at Memorial Hospital and the Children's Home. She is still an active member of the board of the Visiting Homemaker and Health Services in Mt. Holly.

With their three sons and three daughters, the Muirs took up sailing and frequently vacationed on Chesapeake Bay and the Caribbean. Bill remains an avid sailor and outdoor enthusiast. When he retired in 1995, they moved to Shiprock, NM, to live on the Navajo reservation where Bill served as staff surgeon with the Indian Health Service.

Gardening, reading, music, and art appreciation are Dottie's present interests. Both enjoy traveling and their nine grandchildren.

Doris Brown

YOGA CLASSES

Starting March 7, yoga classes will be held in the Auditorium on Tuesday mornings from 9:00 to 10:00. There is a sign-up sheet at the Front Desk.

Connie Borntraeger

## WHO'S NEW

**Alfred S. & Dorothy (ter Bush) Harding** Apt. 681, moved to Bridlington from Moorestown, where Al was Township Manager for 18 years before retiring. He graduated from the University of New Hampshire with a degree in mechanical engineering, but after about five years in that field, went back to his alma mater for a Master's in Public Administration. Even before completing his degree, he was picked for a job as township manager of Bridgeton, ME. That position led to ever larger responsibilities as township manager of Hastings-on-Hudson, NY (where he met **Chuck Woodard**), Groton, CT, Fort Pierce, FL, and then Moorestown.

Dorothy grew up in Ellenville, NY, and studied business at Becker Junior College in Worcester, MA. Her first job was as a secretary in Thomas Dewey's first presidential campaign office when he ran against FDR in 1944. She managed to find interesting work wherever Al's job took the family, which later included two boys. In Moorestown, Dorothy worked as secretary in the high school's English Department for 12 years.

The Hardings are interested in gardening, reading, music, travel, and theater. Dorothy is also interested in flower arranging. They see themselves as novice bridge players and are looking for partners at their level.

**Ellen Stimler**

## WHO'S NEW

**Ellinor H. Hasson, Apt. 547**, said she wants to "reinvent" her life here at Medford Leas. For starters, she's going to learn how to send e-mail to her extended family and friends, and she's prepared to do volunteer work. Ellinor grew up in Brooklyn and received an associate degree in English literature from Brooklyn College. She worked at a variety of jobs until her retirement in 1988. One of her jobs was as executive secretary to the president of a New York company that represented American manufacturers and businesses for sales all over Asia. Her last job, which was her most interesting one, was as administrative assistant to the public relations director of the Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union. Once, when her boss was away, she had to take charge of a press conference to introduce the author of the book that inspired the movie "Norma Rae," about the trials and tribulations of a labor union organizer. Ellinor was married for 16 years and resumed her maiden name after her 1992 divorce. She loves to travel and do crossword puzzles.

**Ellen Stimler**

## WE'VE MOVED

The Medford Leas Life Office has been moved. Day Care needed more room, so they now have the space formerly occupied by MLRA Archives, the "Voice", and Medford Leas Life. The Archives and the Voice are now in a separate office adjacent to Medford Leas Life's new quarters.

Our new office is across the hall from the Pharmacy, along the same wall as the Low Vision Center. The room has a conference table and ten folding chairs, so, if no other meeting room is available, it can be used by other groups. There's a calendar on the Bulletin Board just inside the door on which reservations are entered, and the key can be borrowed at the Front Desk.

**Kitty Katzell**

WHO'S NEW

WHO'S NEW

Harris "Tom" & Alice (McAllister) Lang 75 Woodside Dr., (265-2001) are both retired teachers. Tom taught English and Science in Camden County middle schools and Alice was a primary school teacher in Stratford. They moved to Lumberton Leas from West Deptford, NJ, partly because a son lives in Lumberton and a daughter in Cinnaminson.

Tom was born in Baltimore, went to high school there, and graduated from Western Maryland College with a dual major in English and Philosophy. In the belief that ministry was his calling, he attended Princeton Theological Seminary and was duly ordained. He held positions as associate pastor in Englewood for two years, and another two years was pastor of a church in Gowanda, NY. He then decided on a career change and went into teaching in several Camden County systems. Tom enjoys piano playing and loves to improvise and to play popular songs. He got his students involved in music and directed annual student productions of popular American musicals. He is still active in the Woodbury Kiwanis Club.

Alice grew up in Audubon and received her teaching degree from Glassboro State College. She and Tom met when he was helping out with weekend responsibilities at a church where she was teaching Sunday school and singing in the choir.

At Lumberton Leas, they look forward to gardening, reading, music, theater, and spending time with their families in the area. They have three children and eight grandchildren.

Ellen Stimler

Anna (Eberhardt) Fryling, Apt. 436, married at 19, raised a son and three daughters, and now has 14 grandchildren and "about" 30 great-grands, many living within visiting distance. She grew up in Westmont and Collingswood, learned secretarial skills at Pierce Junior College, and worked briefly for an insurance company before marrying Leonard, a mechanical engineer. The couple first lived in Audubon, then in Pennsauken, and later purchased a second home in Waretown near the shore. Anna spent much of her free time volunteering at Southern Ocean County Hospital and at Deborah Hospital, doing everything a volunteer is permitted to do in assisting with patient care. After Leonard's death some 18 years ago, Anna moved to Manahawkin in Ocean County to be close to her volunteer job at the hospital.

Ellen Stimler

NEW FICTION WRITING GROUP

Sally Burrowes would like to start a "fiction writing-sharing group" for mutual support for each other's creative writing. The group, to be limited to eight regular participants, will meet every other Wednesday, from 10:30 to noon, starting on March 15, in the Medford Leas Life office on the ground floor of Haddon to the right of the Low Vision Center.

The sharing-gatherings are designed for would-be fiction writers who want to (1) fictionalize people, places, or situations plucked from their life experience or from their journals and (2) create and polish character sketches, vignettes, short stories, a novella, adventures for children, or poetry. There will be a sign-up sheet at the Front Desk starting on Monday, March 6. For more information, call Sally at 3284.

**THE GALLERY**

The big question about **Father Dennis McNally, S.J.**, the artist being featured in the Gallery for the month of March, is -- when does he find time to paint?

His vita fills four single-spaced pages, so it is possible to give only a few highlights. Following his A.B. from Fordham, an M.A. from New York University, and a Master of Divinity from Cambridge, in 1982 he earned his Ph.D. from NYU. Since 1978, he has been chair of Fine and Performing Arts at St. Joseph's University in Philadelphia; spent a sabbatical studying Chinese, Japanese, Korean and Amerindian art; visited Costa Rica and Nicaragua as a Fulbright Fellow; studied the work of Caravaggio in a joint fellowship for the Mellon Foundation, NYU, and the Metropolitan Museum of Art. He has reading fluency in Latin, Greek, French, Spanish, Italian, and German. Between 1976 and 1991, he officiated at 200 weddings, 50 baptisms, and 20 funerals.

Oh, yes, his art: He has written numerous articles, participated in many juried shows, and sold a considerable number of his paintings. His current medium is acrylics, and his large 4'x4' abstractions have an underlying religious theme.

It was necessary to change the usual date of the reception for Father McNally to Tuesday, March 14, from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. because he will be in Barcelona before that, where he is taking a group of 40 professors and scholars to study the art there. Do come to the reception and meet this extraordinary priest/painter.

**Dorothy Tillman**

**CRYPTOGRAM**

The Cryptogram column for the February issue was left in the Medford Leas Life box before the deadline, but was not found until January 31. 'Tis a mystery. Ed.

\* \* \* \* \*

Here is the solution to the January Cryptogram.

"The wit of Jane Austen has for partner the perfection of her taste."  
V. Woolf

Correct solutions were received from: Lydia Andrews, Miriam Angle, Marion Burk, Scott Charles, Patti Hopton, Jane Hunter, Euseba Kamensky, Ruth Mavronikolas, Liliane Reynolds, Lucille Ringle, Florence Sawyer, Bob Stebbins, Ellen Stimler, and Marie Winton.

Here is the March Cryptogram:

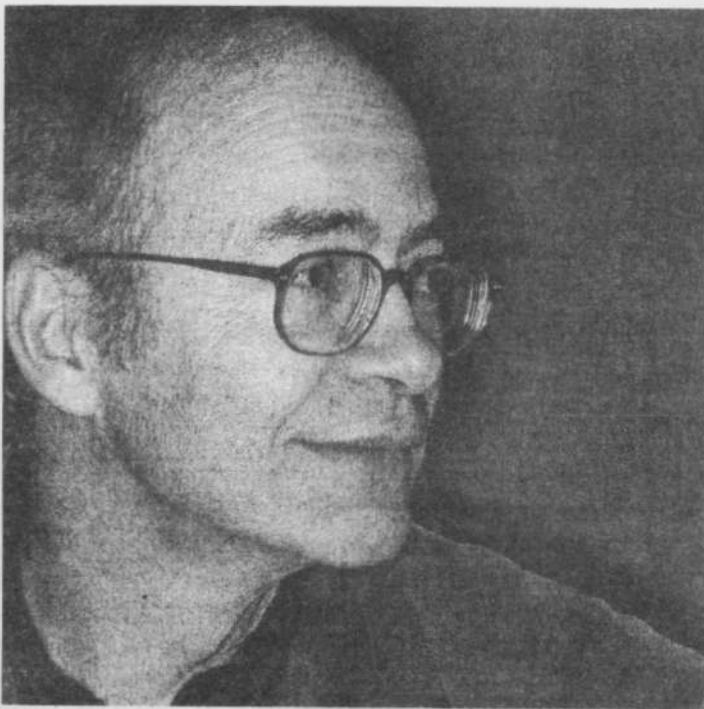
M V M P E Y R F U S F  
P U A B U X O B U Y X R Y Z D U B  
M X P N Q M C B E O M W Q  
C X P Q Z B F Q A F M P Y D  
Y R M O M V C W X E.  
W Q Z Q P U B F

Put solutions in Box 624 by March 15.  
**Russell Hill**

**PROBLEMS, PROBLEMS, ....**

My longjohns are peeping out from under,  
Tearing our entire dress-code asunder!  
Even those who consider it neither here nor there  
Don't want to look at my underwear!  
So what's a poor resident to do?  
Go to the Thrift Shop and buy something new!

**Hana Stranska**



#### NOTED WRITER TO SPEAK

On Thursday, March 16, the Leas Forum will present the Australian philosopher and author, **Peter Singer**, who is currently DeCamp Professor of Bioethics at Princeton University. His topic will be "Humans, Animals, and the Sanctity of Life." He first drew international attention with his book, Animal Liberation. His other significant books include Practical Ethics, Ethics into Action, Democracy and Disobedience, How Are We to Live?, and Rethinking Life and Death.

Professor Singer's appointment to Princeton last year was the subject of considerable controversy because of his views on the ethics of euthanasia, abortion, and animal rights. As a result, he has been receiving much media attention, including articles in the New Yorker, the New York Times Magazine, and numerous newspapers. In his talk here, he will explain his views on those subjects and describe the controversies in which he has been involved both in this country and abroad.

This special Forum is made possible by a gift from **Ruth Bonner**, which she gave in appreciation for **Raymond Katzell's** six years as Chairman of the Leas Forum Committee.

#### SOME MARCH CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

- 2 - Great Decisions: Defining Humanitarian Intervention
- 3 - Bus to Phila. Chamber Music
- 4 - Movie: Home Alone
- 5 - Friends Meeting for Worship
- 5 - Vespers
- 6 - Movie: Shakespeare in Love
- 7 - Bus to Phila. Flower Show
- 9 - Great Decisions: U.S. Interests in the World
- 9 - Line & Folk Dancing
- 10 - Bus to Phila. Orchestra
- 10 - "Living Wills - Who Needs Them?"
- 11 - Bus to Penna. Ballet
- 11 - Movie: The American President
- 12 - Usual Sunday Services
- 14 - Gallery Reception
- 16 - Great Decisions: The Euro's Challenge to the Dollar
- 16 - "Weight Loss Diets"
- 16 - Leas Forum: Humans, Animals, and the Sanctity of Life, P. Singer
- 17 - Open Forum with **Lois Forrest**
- 18 - Movie: The Brink's Job
- 19 - Usual Sunday Services
- 19 - Jazz Concert
- 20 - MLRA Business Meeting
- 21 - Bus to NY Museum of Nat. History
- 22 - "Seasonal Allergies"
- 23 - Great Decisions: Russia: Report Card on Survival
- 24 - Bus to Phila. Orchestra
- 25 - Leas Forum: Bosnia, Serbia, & Kosovo, Lynn Beck, AFSC
- 26 - Usual Sunday Services
- 30 - Great Decisions: The Middle East Realignments
- 30 - Bus to Walnut St. Theatre
- 31 - "Elder Fraud Information"
- 31 - Bus to Phila. Orchestra
- 31 - "Fat Diets"

#### BELATED ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The pictures of the Employees' Holiday Show, which appeared on the cover-page collage in January, were taken by **Sue McKenna**, the wife of **Tom McKenna**. She probably thought she should be present, what with their son, **Joe**, performing and with **Kate Kwiecinski** "attempting to vamp the stoic **Tom McKenna**," as **Maggie Woodard** reported. Medford Leas Life thanks Sue, and also **Mary McGlone**, who shared the pictures for our use.

**OOPS!**

Our front page story in the February issue, on the Millennium Bash, failed to mention that **Bob Anderson** served as Master of Ceremonies for the entire event. From 6:00 P.M. on 12/31/99 until nearly 1:00 A.M. on 1/1/00, he was "on stage," introducing performers and keeping the show on the road. The picture above shows the Andersons, **Bob & Connie**, as they arrived at the party on New Year's Eve.

Kitty Katzell

**WELLNESS PROGRAMS**

The following wellness programs are scheduled in the weeks ahead:

Friday, March 10: "Living Wills and Who Needs Them," Wellness Center, 2-3 P.M.

Thursday, March 16: "Popular Weight-Loss Diets," **Pat Richards**, R.D. and **Nicole Connors**, R.D., Auditorium, 2-3 P.M.

Wednesday, March 22: "Seasonal Allergies," **Dr. Eric Bantz**, Auditorium, 11 A.M.

Friday, March 31: "Fad Diets," Wellness Center, 2-3 P.M.

Upcoming on May 5: "The Bone Connection" -- an all-day event focusing on osteoporosis in men and women. Watch for further information.

Wendi Ruddy

**LUMBERTON LEAS LIAISON**

Ever since Lumberton Leas was first conceived, it was hoped that its residents would become part of the Medford Leas family. It was, of course, expected and understood that they would have their own activities and their own committees, but, as part of Medford Leas, that they would participate in MLRA activities and committees in much the same way as Bridlington, Rushmore, and Woolman Commons.

This mutual sharing has already begun. Eleven Lumberton Leas residents use the well-equipped Fitness Room on the Medford campus while they wait for theirs to be completed, and three are involved in Pool programs. Residents on the Medford campus are looking forward to the construction of the outdoor pool at Lumberton Leas, which they hope to use in good weather.

In the December '99 issue of Medford Leas Life, it was announced that **Doris Brown** had joined the editorial staff and will collect news from Lumberton Leas for publication here. We are now pleased to announce that **Helen Vukasin**, 199 Woodside Dr. (261-3166) has joined the MLRA Gallery Committee. She has also agreed to serve on the important sub-committee of three jurors who select the art work to be shown. Since 1985, Helen has served as Chair of the Board of Managers of Mohonk Consultations where she has been active in aiding artists in various ways -- raising money, finding outlets for their work, etc. The Gallery Committee feels very fortunate to have her as a new member.

Dorothy Tillman

NEW BOOKS IN THE LIBRARY

FICTION

- Allende, I. Daughter of Fortune  
Coetzee, J. Disgrace  
Crichton, M. Timeline  
Evans, R. The Looking Glass  
Fleming, T. The Wages of Fame  
Haruf, K. Plainsong  
O'Brian, P. Blue at the Mizzen

MYSTERY

- Cannel, P. The Trouble with Harriet  
Hillerman, T. Hunting Badger  
Kellerman, J. Monster  
Sturges, K. Death of a Baritone  
Truman, M. Murder at the Library  
of Congress

BIOGRAPHY

- Bush, G. All the Best  
Diliberto, G. A Useful Woman: the  
Early Life of Jane Addams  
Said, E. Out of Place  
Schwarz, M. Morrie: In His Own Words

NON-FICTION

- Amnesty International Report, 1998  
Anderson, A. (jt.auth.) Angel Animals  
Beavore, S. American Day by Day  
Burrows, E. J. (jt.auth.) Gotham  
Cohn, M. Jewish Bridges: East & West  
D'Aquili, E. G. (jt.auth.) The  
Mystical Mind  
Dawkins, R. Unweaving the Rainbow  
Fadiman, A. Ex Libris  
Grunwalk, H. Twilight  
Hauser, R. Parkinson's Disease  
(2nd ed.)  
Old Talks, New Conversations... for  
Seniors & Their Families  
Plimpton, G. The Best of Plimpton  
Watson, T. The Rules of Golf  
Weber, A. H. The Ghost of Elizabeth  
Haddon

NEW PERIODICALS

- Consumer Report on Health  
Bottom Line Tomorrow

BOOKS RECENT AND REMEMBERED  
by Leah Levinger

Kaaterskill Falls, A Novel, by **Allegra Goodman** (1998, 324 pgs.) Goodman describes a culture utterly unknown to most Americans: prosperous, well-educated, even sophisticated, highly orthodox Jews, who summer in an ancient village in the Catskills. Every detail of daily life places them on an island in a larger society. Elizabeth seeks personal fulfillment through trying to run a Kosher grocery, following all the religious restrictions. Over three summers, she and many others in the closely knit community face painful challenges.

Fifth Business, by **Robinson Davies** (1970, 266 pgs.) In all his fiction, Davies deals with illusion and reality. The hero, Duncan Ramsey, a history teacher from a strict Presbyterian background, spends his life studying the lives of saints, trying to tell authentic miracles from false. Paul Demster, from the same small Canadian town, a Methodist minister's puny child, becomes a world-famous magician. Another townsman, Boy Staunton, builds a fortune and entire life on illusion. The themes are adroitly interwoven by one of the wittiest authors of our generation, provocative, irreverent, yet religiously stirring. One either grows impatient with all the erudition and paradox or falls completely under Davies' spell.

Reason for Hope, A Spiritual Journey, by **Jane Goodall** with **Phillip Berman** (1999, 280 pgs.) This renowned observer and advocate of chimpanzees, joined by a theologian, writes lucidly of her life-long rage against cruelty, passion for Nature, and personal faith. We learn to know and love the chimpanzees. Goodall's dedication grows more realistic as she grasps complex global issues and leaves the jungle to speak out through the world for her cause and faith.

## WHAT'S NEW IN THE MAGAZINES

Do genetically-engineered (GE) foods pose a threat to public health and the environment? The article in Mother Jones, Jan./Feb., by Jon R. Luoma would say "yes," mainly because the Food and Drug Administration ruled in 1992 that GE foods are similar to those produced by traditional plant breeding methods and thus exempted them from the exhaustive testing procedures applicable to food supplements and additives. He maintains that the exemption was made over the objections of some of the FDA's own experts who believed there was a "profound difference between the types of unexpected effects from traditional breeding and GE." The article argues that political influence of the bio-tech industry effectively silenced the regulators charged with safeguarding the public and blames the Clinton administration for failing to reverse the policy. With respect to GE crops, particularly corn and soybeans, there is a fear that unforeseen consequences will have an adverse impact on plants and wildlife in adjoining areas. Another cited problem is the fact that GE foods cannot be detected by consumers for lack of labeling, but bills are pending in Congress that would require labeling of all GE products.

Scientists searching for the causes of Alzheimer's are believed to have identified the progression and interaction of substances in the brain which cause the destruction of neurons and the loss of memory and other functions in Alzheimer victims. About half of all Americans over 85 are said to suffer from the disease. Tests of victims show a substance called A-beta, which normally dissolves on its own but fails to do so and folds into insoluble forms, causing plaque in the brain's neuron network. If the free radicals of the brain are unable to destroy the plaques, infection builds up and kills the neurons. Now that the process is better understood, drug makers are working to develop products to counteract or impede the progression of these damaging processes. (Newsweek, Jan.31, by Geoffrey Cowley)

Ellen Stimler

## MAUNDERINGS

In the June 1999 Medford Leas Life, I wrote that it was the last Maunderings I would write as MLRA Treasurer, but that it was probably not my last Maunderings. Well, here I am again.

Medford Leas is extremely lucky to have attracted the Park sisters to display their great talent in our Auditorium. The sisters, Pong-Hi, pianist, and Mi-Young, violinist, presented another of their Medford Leas concerts on February 12, and I hope they will come again. I'm not a music critic, but I again enjoyed their concert and I think the large audience did, too.

The program included piano and violin sonatas by Tartini and Beethoven, and five shorter pieces by Dvorak, Wieniawski, Mozart, Ravel, and Kreisler. I wish the program had included a solo by the pianist, because she was very impressive, but she showed her talent in the piano parts of the Beethoven "Spring" Sonata, and in her accompaniment of her sister's superb violin playing in the other pieces.

To illustrate how we, today, have benefitted, healthwise, from medical gains compared to the past, consider the life spans of the composers on the program: Mozart, 1756-1791, 35 yrs.; Wieniawski, 1835-1880, 45 yrs.; Beethoven, 1770-1827, 57 yrs.; Ravel, 1875-1937, 62 yrs.; Dvorak, 1841-1904, 63 yrs. Tartini lived for 78 years, 1692-1770, and Kreisler, 87 years, from 1875-1962. Life expectancy in the United States today is over 70 years for both men and women.

Matt Rodermund

### THE MAKING OF A DISPLAY

The exhibits of residents' treasures and collections are anticipated eagerly each month. Not only is the material interesting, and often beautiful, but their display is a work of art. Who does the planning and execution? Our 5-year resident, **Todd Butler**, an artist and art teacher, who spends hours preparing each display.

As soon as the material is collected from one or more residents, it is taken to Todd's "workroom," a corner of a room that's an electrical distribution center for Medford Leas on Haddon's ground floor. It is spartan, airless, windowless, and rather warm. **Bill Murphy** found the space and created a rough but exact mock-up of the Display Case shelves on one wall. Todd places objects on the shelves as he develops a plan. What principles guide him? Balance, center and side interest, and color to unite the display. Most people look at the bottom shelf, so he concentrates on that; the middle and upper shelves are above eye-level. With a large number of small pieces, he groups together items similar in color. He arranges objects so the eye will be directed to them. To carry out his design plan, he mounts some objects and frames others. He thinks about what color will work best with the various pieces. In the Kachina Doll display, for example, he used a bright yellow to bring out the sparkle of the glass mosaic Kachinas but avoided that color near the older Kachina dolls so as not to overwhelm them.

After settling on a plan, Todd draws a sketch to guide him in putting the objects in the Display Case. Pieces must be placed from the sides; there is no front opening. Often a coat hanger is needed to push objects into position.

Todd describes himself as a scavenger. In his workroom are scraps of various sizes and shapes of cardboard rolls, rolls of colored paper (plain and with designs), and pieces of fiberglass and wood. These are called "furniture" and he uses them to make the mountings and frames.

Crucial to the success of the displays is Todd's sense of design and color and his "good eye." His talent and skills can be attributed to a combination of an inborn sense of design and his training and experience. He worked in Lord & Taylor's display department for two years in New York, studied Interior Architecture at the Parsons School of Design for three years, and studied oil painting for three years at l'Academie Jullian in Paris. For some 46 years, he conducted art workshops for adults in New Jersey, and now has one student again.

The displays are always accompanied by explanatory papers, which Todd writes. He says people love to learn and he loves to teach. Medford Leas is indeed fortunate to benefit from all that he has to give.

**Maggie Woodard**

**Medford Leas Fifth Olympics  
are coming  
Watch for announcement in early April**

**FLOCKS OF WINTER ROBINS**

Those residents who have reported an unusual number of robins this winter were among many observers. The Cornell University Laboratory of Ornithology, in conjunction with the National Audubon Society, has reported this phenomenon on its Bird Source Web Site.

Birds, including robins, will stay north as long as there is winter food; for robins, various fruits and berries like hawthorne, mountain ash, crab-apples, and, when all else is gone, holly berries. Even if there's snow, if it's less than 5" the birds can find food and they'll stick around. Unusual numbers of winter robins were reported all over the U.S. in the 1998-99 winter. 1999's Great Back Yard Bird Count, Feb. 19-22, reported some 10,000 of them. This year's, Feb. 18-21, should show even more.

Residents have been seeing them around patios and courts, especially where there is open water in bird baths, usually maintained in frigid weather by electric heaters. We saw one bathing when it was 20° outside.

As we know, there are crabapple trees all along the perimeter of the main parking lot. During late January and early February, anyone walking down the corridor from Court 11 to 5 would see robins eating the crabapples. And diners in the Garden Room and swimmers in the Pool could see them in the hawthorne trees, working their way from top to bottom. In the past, cedar waxwings have cleared these fruits and berries; this year they have competition from the robins.

Robins and mockingbirds will eat white bread crumbs, apples, raisins and currants, the last two soaked in water for a few minutes. Flocks of robins do seem strange in the snow. Were they fooled by our warm December and sudden snowy January? We have always had a few, but not in such numbers. We wish them well, and hope that they survive.

**Gertrude Marshall**

**IN THE ARBORETUM**

The Lewis W. Barton Arboretum at Medford Leas is becoming increasingly popular. In the coming months, at least four major events will bring sizable groups to tour the woodlands and the courts.

On April 18, the Landscape Architects and Master Gardeners of the Delaware Valley will be visiting.

April 22 is Medford Township Earth Day, and Medford Leas is represented on the committee that is planning the activities for the day, including tours of the Medford campus.

On May 6, members of the Delaware Valley Fern and Wildflower Association are coming for tours of the woodlands and the courts.

The Pennsylvania Horticultural Society will be here the afternoon of June 11.

Our Arboretum is one of the special features of Medford Leas, so invite your friends and acquaintances to visit. Those who live here know that there are plants, large and small, to be enjoyed in every season of the year.

**Kitty Katzell**

**THE BLIZZARD OF '96**  
by **Howard McKinney**

Snow soft white  
falling -- falling.

Snow soft white  
swirling -- swirling.

Hour after hour  
inch by inch

Snow soft white  
imprisoning.

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MEDFORD LEAS LIFE

The Thrift Shop is perhaps the best known and least understood of Medford Leas volunteer activities. Residents have even been known to complain that since the stock is all donated, the prices are too high -- at \$2 a dress, or \$10 a Pendleton suit!

The Thrift Shop was organized by **Mr. Monetta**, then head of Housekeeping, to provide a fair and organized way for staff to acquire items from the estates of residents, as well as discarded clothing and other possessions from residents, since staff are not allowed to accept gifts from them.

The shop opened in 1975 in one room with a small staff of volunteers. There are now four rooms on the ground floor of Haddon. Room 1 offers ladies' clothes, accessories, and jewelry; Room 2 carries kitchen and household wares, men's clothing, and electrical appliances; Room 3 is devoted to china and glassware, linens, gifts, stationery and books, and seasonal specialties; and the fourth room is for furniture. Originally, the proceeds of sales went to the Reserve Fund, which helps residents whose personal funds are no longer sufficient to cover their needs. When that Fund had grown unnecessarily large, contributions were shifted to the Nurses' Scholarship Fund. In 1993, when that Fund's income was large enough to meet demand, the proceeds started going to the newly established Staff Scholarship Fund. Since that fund is not restricted to dispensing interest only, as is the Nurses' Fund, each year's Thrift Shop profits go directly to scholarships, mainly for the wait staff, who might not be able to attend college without this help. In the 1998-99 fiscal year, the Thrift Shop contribution to that Fund was \$20,780.

To generate this money requires a staff of about 45. The primary staff are those volunteers who come in on Monday mornings, 8:00 to 11:00, to receive and sort contributions. Everything is examined for cleanliness, serviceability, and appropriateness to customer needs. Soiled washables are taken home and laundered by volunteers who have washing machines in their apartments. Soiled garments otherwise in good condition but in need of dry cleaning are sold

for a dollar or two "as is." Out of season clothing is given to Friends Service Committee for shipment abroad.

Because of the space limitations of the four rooms, many excellent garments are given away. When new stock comes in, garments that have not sold in the past month are sent to Good Will, Extended Hand, St. Vincent's Thrift Shop, and various churches, in addition to AFSC. Occasionally, individuals who have suffered sudden disaster, such as fire or theft, are provided with necessities, including clothing, household equipment, and furniture. When there is more than can be handled in the one morning, volunteers come in on other days of the week to cope with the overflow.

Delivery of the excess items requires its own special staff. **Sam Burgess** has been taking the AFSC contributions to Philadelphia since 1981. Each month a different person takes the Good Will bags to the pickup point in Mt. Laurel. Members of the Extended Hand Church call every Monday for whatever has been readied for them. **Dorothy Test**, **Margot Hinman**, and others take garments for their churches, and various volunteers take things to St. Vincent's.

The Shop is open Tuesdays from 10 to 12:30. It is also open every other Wednesday from 8 to 9 p.m. for sales to "Night Owls," staff who otherwise could not enjoy the benefits of the Shop's low prices. **Dorothy Test** originated and still manages the Night Owls. She was one of the earliest volunteers and has worked in the Shop for nearly 25 years.

Furniture that clearly needs minor repair to make it salable is repaired by the Residents' Workshop. Most furniture is sold at bid. Purchasers bidding on furniture in the hall or on view in Room 4 can find bid forms on the bid box by the door of Room 4. The completed bid form should then be placed in the box, which is opened after closing time on Tuesday. High bidders are notified by phone, so name and phone number must be legible.

A new service has been inaugurated, stringing of beads. The charge is 5¢ per bead; knots are 10¢ each; supplies are at cost. Residents may bring beads to be restrung to the Shop on Monday or Tuesday mornings.

**A LITTLE TRUE STORY**

In 1949, Mimi Tyler and her second husband, Rudolph Koschka, felt very lucky when they completed all the paper work required to adopt a German orphan after WW-II. Finally, they were told to meet 7-year-old Freia at LaGuardia Airport and then take her home to be their daughter. Rudolph spoke German and was immediately asked by the baffled U.S. Customs officer to come into the examining room and help persuade this tiny pig-tailed child to open her little suitcase and also let him unzip her free airline bag. Every attempt by the officer and Freia's new father was met with a tighter clutch on her precious possessions and a firm "Nein." Rudolph was finally able to persuade the Customs officer that this little girl was not bringing contraband into the U.S. and the new family was able to get into a taxi and head home to Rancocas, NJ. As soon as they were safely settled in the cab, Freia gave her parents an impish grin, pulled a key on a string out of her dress, and opened the suitcase to show off her doll and some tattered clothing. She then explained to Rudolph that she had been told not to let anyone open her bag until she was with her new family. Score: Freia, 1; U.S. Customs, 0.

**Nancy Darling**

**BULLETIN BOARD TREASURES**

Weary of winter? Need diversion? Scan the bulletin boards. There you can find day trips with the Medford Recreation Department, Friday night fish fry dinners from \$5 to \$6.50 at the VFW post near Kirby's Mill, or a Conference on Building a Culture of Peace sponsored by Pendle Hill's Religion & Social Issues Forum and Bryn Mawr College at the Burlington Conference Center March 16-19.

There's all kinds of useful and interesting information on the three residents' bulletin boards: in the Atrium, next to the Bank, and opposite the double elevator on the ground floor of Haddon. Reading them regularly will keep you informed and broaden your horizons.

If you have an item to contribute, put it on the Bulletin Board Committee's shelf next to the Atrium mailboxes. And, if you want to know more about MLRA Committees, like who's the chair and who's the sponsor, and what's the committee's correct name, there's a committee list on the Atrium Bulletin Board, so you can look it up.

**Kay Cooley**

**ART GALLERY BUS TRIP**

On April 28, there will be an excursion, on the Medford Leas bus, to the University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology in Philadelphia. The focus of the visit will be a special exhibition of over 100 Pomo (California) Indian Baskets, some of them art objects rarely seen. There are also galleries exhibiting artifacts of other cultures, including American Indian, Eskimo, ancient Egyptian, Oceanian, and Near Eastern.

The bus will leave about 9:30 A.M. and return in time for dinner. Final details and an application to join the tour will be distributed during March.

**Warren Kamensky**

**BOOKMOBILE SERVICES AT MEDFORD LEAS**  
by Ellen Stimler

Book-loving residents are doubly blessed by having our own wonderful libraries as well as access to every book in print through the Burlington County Bookmobile, which stops at the main entrance for about 45 minutes every Monday, except holidays.

According to **Sarah Thompson**, who supervises Bookmobile services, the Bookmobile functions just like a regular library branch. Thanks to a \$15,000 grant from Bell Atlantic Access New Jersey, the Bookmobile was equipped with a wireless communications system that works like a cell phone and links the computers in the Bookmobile with those in the rest of the system. This enables staff in the Bookmobile to search for any book requested by a resident, check its status, and place a hold on a book that's out on loan, putting the resident in line when the book is returned. At that time, an automatic signal is sent to the phone system to put the next person in the "queue" for the book, and eventually the resident will receive an automated phone call advising that the book is ready for pick-up.

Few residents are probably aware that they are supporting the Bookmobile services with their contributions to

the Community Service Fund. The Fund has made contributions to County library services for years, but in 1998 made a major donation of \$2400 specifically for improved service in the Bookmobile. The money was used to purchase a flat-screen monitor, a copying machine, and handrails for the wheelchair lift. Residents who are unable to mount the steep steps into the Bookmobile can access it via the wheelchair lift, but they must come in a wheelchair. In 1999, a contribution of \$2400 was spent on large-print books at the Pinelands branch.

In addition to books, the Bookmobile has a collection of videos, talking books, and large-print books, about 4,000 items at any time, and the collection is rotated frequently. Items checked out through the Bookmobile are exempted from the usual fines for failure to return them by the due date.

Two staff members run the Bookmobile: **Lee Hoisington**, who has worked on the Bookmobile for many years so she knows preferences of many residents and helps them select their favorite genres, and **Lloyd Price**, who believes that the computer system he works with is one of the most advance in the nation.

**IN MEMORIAM**

|                          |                          |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Wing-Wen Poon</b>     | <b>January 27, 2000</b>  |
| <b>Thomas Cunningham</b> | <b>January 28, 2000</b>  |
| <b>Lucy Haskins</b>      | <b>January 31, 2000</b>  |
| <b>Rebecca Clark</b>     | <b>February 7, 2000</b>  |
| <b>Ethel Parker</b>      | <b>February 17, 2000</b> |
| <b>Alice McCone</b>      | <b>February 19, 2000</b> |

**MEDICATION ERRORS? I'M NOT WORRIED ABOUT MEDFORD LEAS!**  
by Maggie Woodard

Recent newspaper articles have headlined the "stunningly high" rate of medical errors in the U.S. The National Academy of Sciences reported that more than 7,000 Americans die each year as a result of "medication errors," including the prescribing of the wrong drugs. Most medical errors, it said, "result not from individual recklessness, but from basic flaws in the way hospitals, clinics and pharmacies operate." Michael Millenson, in his recent book on medical quality, said that "the number one cause of medical mistakes is not incompetence but confusion" -- and poorly designed systems.

Unlike most CCRCs, Medford Leas has its own pharmacy. **Frank Simmons**, in his 12 years as its Manager, has worked constantly to improve the way the Pharmacy operates -- and to change systems as new technologies develop -- in order to provide Medford Leas residents and employees with a first-rate facility.

Who are the personnel in the Pharmacy? None is a Medford Leas employee. Frank is a registered pharmacist. There are also three other registered pharmacists and two technicians. The technicians, trained personally by Frank for about a year, fill and label each order. To prevent errors in dispensing prescribed drugs, one of the pharmacists checks each item before it goes out to make sure it is the drug, ointment, or whatever that was prescribed for the person receiving it. Delivery of drugs to the nursing units is carefully monitored, using a system designed by Frank.

The Pharmacy and the Health Center work together to address the concern that residents take the drugs prescribed for them. Frank has several ways of checking. He prints out the medications that are delivered to a resident, and that printout is put on the front of the person's chart.

When the resident comes in for a checkup and brings his or her medications, the Health Center checks the bottles against the chart. Also, if the pharmacist notes that a prescription has not been reordered by a resident, the Health Center is alerted.

For residents with memory problems, the Pharmacy prepares individual containers with a week's supply of pills. The containers are filled according to the days of the week and sometimes the time of day. If a container is returned empty, it is assumed that the resident is taking the medication. Some residents come to the Health Center daily for their medications, allowing the staff to see more often people who need help, and to see if they are losing weight, dressing appropriately, etc.

There are other checks the Pharmacy carries out to ensure proper and safe medication for residents. Each resident and each employee has a drug profile in the Pharmacy computer. In this file are recorded all the medications currently taken or once taken, back to 1995. Included are medications prescribed by outside physicians, if approved by Dr. Quinton. When a new prescription is entered in this file, the computer alerts the pharmacist to any possible difficulties related to the person's age or possible negative drug interactions, using one of the largest data bases in the country to check for interactions. The Pharmacy immediately calls the Medical staff if the computer indicates a possible problem. For each new prescription, the computer also prints out a sheet, which is given to the patient, telling of possible side effects from the medication and proper procedure for taking the drug, another hedge against error.

On average, about 150 prescriptions are filled each day. The medications

most prescribed are for the heart, blood pressure, and arthritis. The drugs, purchased from a wholesaler, are stored in the original manufacturer's container. Some are refrigerated. Expiration dates are checked four times a year.

Dr. Quinton, Dr. Hoffman, and Nurse Practitioners Wendi Ruddy and Janet Rumble work with Frank as a medical team to try to improve the efficiency of the health care system in Medford Leas. They usually meet twice a month and, in addition, communicate constantly by phone. At their meet-

ings, they discuss journal articles and new drugs and report on pertinent peer discussions. They tend to be conservative in their use of new drugs; they don't want to experiment on residents. Generally, they wait to see what happens with the use of new drugs in the outside world before using them here. Dr. Quinton makes the final decision.

It is said that nothing is perfect, but Medford Leas provides the best health care that I have read or heard about!

**MEDFORD LEAS LIFE**

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EDITORIAL STAFF: Kitty Katzell, Editor; Doris Brown, Kay Cooley, Nancy Darling, Doreen B. Lee, Leah Levinger, Gertrude P. Marshall, Ellen Stimler, Alix Szilasi, Dorothy Tillman, Maggie Woodard

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