



Medford Leas LIFE

VOL. XXIX, No. 2

FEBRUARY 2002



MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY

by Maggie Woodard

Martin Luther King Day was observed on Jan. 16 with a program sponsored by the MLRA Diversity Committee. In his welcoming remarks, **Howard McKinney** said that the program had been designed to honor Dr. King for "who he was and the leadership he gave to the struggle for equality and justice." **Rev. Barbara Davis** gave the invocation after a brief silent meditation, and **Shirley Allen**, from Tabernacle Baptist Church of Burlington, sang a spiritual. **Geri Dickerson** read passages from Dr. King's book, *Where Do We Go from Here: Chaos or Community?*, noting that the ideas expressed in the book, written 30 years ago, are relevant today. For example, he said "it is time for the world to wage war against poverty" and "poverty breeds violence."

Dr. Richard L. Deats, a United Methodist minister, was the featured speaker. His talk was organized into two sections, with Ms. Allen singing another spiritual between them. In the

first section, Deats spoke of Dr. King's spiritual development, an area often neglected, emphasizing the importance of Ghandi's thinking on King's development. In the second, he speculated about the issues that King might be addressing today, using "The World House," a chapter in the aforementioned book, as a clue. In that chapter, a widely separated family inherits a house in which they must somehow learn to live together in peace and harmony.

Before he died, Dr. King had been asked about Israel. He said that terrorism is bred in poverty and misery, and suggested a Marshall Plan be applied to the Middle East, with countries giving 2% of their gross national product to the Plan in order to eliminate poverty, misery, and disease. With respect to conditions in today's world, Dr. Deats compared the bombing of Afghanistan as a means of getting rid of terrorism to weeding a garden with a bulldozer. It is quick but there is no garden left when you're done.

Responding to a question about the part Islam should play in solving the problem of terrorism, Dr. Deats said he thought the Muslim countries, through the U.N., should be urged to wage war against poverty.

The program closed with the assembly joining hands and singing *We Shall Overcome*, led by Shirley Allen, followed by the benediction given by **Barbara Davis**.



NEW YEAR'S EVE FESTIVITIES

by Ellen Stimler

New Year's Eve, Medford Leas style, was a special dinner menu in the dining rooms. After dinner, in the Auditorium there was a dessert feast, arranged by Dining Services' **Donna Coonley**, and two videotapes: *River Dance* and *Victor Borge*. At 9 p.m., people moved from the Auditorium to the Activities Room where they were entertained by a variety show put on by **Inge Raven's** production company.

With **Marion Burk** at the piano, the variety show started with the company belting out some popular tunes with new lyrics created by Inge, gently satirizing some of Medford Leas's best-known foibles. To the tune of *It Ain't Necessarily So*, they sang about menu items that don't quite match expectations, such as "the rum in the rum cake is none, the blue in the Cordon is gone." Then *Get Me to the Church on Time* was "get me to the meals on time" with lines about eat(ing) a heaping platter, constantly get(ting) fatter, pants that no longer button, and know(ing) I am a glutton. The bumpy Medford Leas bus, the demands of volunteering, and the things that we can't do any more were all grist for fun and song.

There were dancing, refreshments, and games, ending with the singing of "Auld Lang Syne" as Inge's big cardboard clock was set to midnight at the 11 p.m. closing hour. The residents in the production company were: **Evert & Colette Bartholomew, Doris Curley, Mary Lou Mullen, Warren Sawyer, Mary Toda, and Fran Werrell.**

CRYPTOGRAM

by Russell Hill

Here is the solution to the January Cryptogram:

THE LIFE OF MAN SOLITARY, POOR, NASTY, BRUTISH AND SHORT. THOS. HOBBS

We got 18 correct answers to this one. They were from: **Lydia Andrews, Ruth Blattenberger, Mort Bregman, Marion Burk, Don Davis, Edith Ellis, Herb Heineman, Jane Hunter, Hugh Jenkins, Kitty Katzell, Helen Peterson, Betty Preston, Liliane Reynolds, Doris Salati, Nickie Stevenson, Ellen Wiener, John & Marie Winton, and Anon** (a few hours before our deadline, I received a solution with no name on it.) **Don Davis** should be given credit for solving the difficult December puzzle. In this connection, I would urge solvers not to hand in a 2" x 3" bit of newsprint. I try to be careful, but it is easy for one of those to get lost.

Here is the February Cryptogram, which should be a bit more of a challenge than January's. I predict eight correct solutions.

R L D F H M B P J C X P ' E
 C X Q G , R L D F K D D M ' E
 E Z M K - Y L D E Z P E P X Q Z ,
 K D P J K X P Y S ' E E Y F C
 X P J J Q Z A E D K
 E Y X R R Z Q Z J R L D F A L R .
 E B J P Z S

Put solutions in Box 45 by February 15.

NEWS FROM LUMBERTON LEAS

by Helen Vukasin

Lumberton Leas residents were pleased to be able to welcome so many visitors from Medford Leas and Woolman Commons at the Grand Opening of the Art Gallery in the Community Center on January 11. Works of two Medford Leas artists, **Todd Butler** and **Alice Culbreth**, and two Lumberton Leas artists, **Anne Cree** and **Rita Keiper**, have been hung in the Gallery, on the stairs, in the office, and in the Great Room. The addition of color and texture has transformed the building into a more welcoming center of community activities.

The ever-active Activities Committee scheduled a two-night pot luck to accommodate the whole community on January 22 and 23. So far, these events have tended to be fully subscribed, but the January event was a little sparse. It turns out we have many snow birds who fly off to Florida or other warmer climes. Additional dates are scheduled for a Super Bowl party and a March Madness Happening.

The new workshop is up and running, even with the disadvantage of a building without heat. The experienced wood workers are offering a short course for a small number of interested residents. The new services offered also include small repairs and knife sharpening.

The Trails Committee is preparing to place identification markers on the beautifully articulated and bridged trails. Bridge devotees play on the mezzanine of the Community Center twice a week. The Book Exchange is an active space, and the afternoon and evening book groups meet once a month. Tennis goes on indoors off-campus, except for the occasional warm day that brings the players out on the home courts.

EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTHS

by Kitty Katzell

Betsy Walsh was July's Employee of the Month. When Betsy came to Medford Leas in June, 1998, she worked at the Front Desk. Two years later, she transferred to the Accounting Department, where she works part-time.

Gisela Ledell was August's Employee of the Month. Gisela has worked in the Child Day Care Center for almost nine years, where she started in the Infant Room but now is in an "on call" position where she works with the children of all ages from six weeks to five years.

Jeff Nixon was September's Employee of the Month. Jeff came to work at Medford Leas in 1991 in the Landscaping Department. He has also worked in Environmental Services and, since May of 2000, in Maintenance.

Mary Gunter was October's Employee of the Month. Mary has worked in Assisted Living since August, 2000, so you may not have had the pleasure of her acquaintance, but she is much loved by those she serves.

Alice Le Munyon was November's Employee of the Month. Alice has been working in Environmental Services since 1985 and has won the award before. She has worked in all areas of Medford Leas, but is usually assigned to the Laundry area. She was recently married to one of our Maintenance employees.

Lydia Gregorio was December's Employee of the Month. Lydia came to Medford Leas as a part-time hostess in the dining room nearly four years ago. During 2001, she transferred to a position as full-time Lead Server.

Congratulations to all! And thank you for your caring attention to the needs and desires of Medford Leas residents.



2002 BIRD CENSUS

by Gertrude Marshall

January 9 was a chilly winter day, temperature ranging from 34° to 44°, skies cloudy with occasional rain and even a bit of sleet. It was not the best for a bird census, and the results bore this out. There were 23 participants compared with 29 last year, with 26 species seen, compared with 32 in 2001. But total sightings were up: 934 compared with 883. The figures seem to show that the birds seen in greatest number were even more plentiful this year, Canada geese being the greatest, with 286 sightings, 130 European starlings, and 91 American robins. House finches were down, 101 this year compared with 131 last. This decline is noted all over the east, as these finches are suffering from an eye infection. Many residents have been seeing unusual numbers of robins. They come to our area in winter when there is more than 2" of snow to the north.

The most unusual bird seen during the census was the peregrine falcon, which one observer saw flying high above our campus. This bird has made a remarkable comeback from near extinction, which had been caused by widespread use of DDT around the middle of the last century. Its use was abandoned after many efforts by biologists, including Rachel Carson and her book, *Silent Spring*. Also seen during the week of the census, but not on the day, were two Eastern bluebirds.

Many thanks to those who participated, and especially to **Jane Bouquin, Wayne Marshall, and Arthur Steitz**, who walked in the woods and fields on that chilly, damp day. A census was also scheduled to be held at Lumberton Leas on January 16.



AMARYLLIS PHENOMENON

by Betsey Hoskins

By car, on foot, by electric cart, and by bicycle or cane they came to apartment 34 to see the amaryllis with 17 blossoms! The last stalk was still to open, with 5-6 more blossoms expected. In all, 68 people viewed the beauty of the plant, with exclamations of Gorgeous!, Fantastic!, Unbelievable! Awesome! The blossoms were 7½" across and the tallest stalk was 30" high.

When I phoned to invite someone to see the plant, often that person would tell me about another I should call, so the numbers grew. Since many staff park in Lot A, I had visitors at 8:30 a.m. on the way to work or at 9:15 p.m. on the way home from the reception desk. Most who came said, "Thank you for sharing." Those who made it from distant courts said, as they left, "It was well worth the trip!"

On a rainy day, too bad to go out to play, 10 pre-school children and their two teachers came. Their visit ended with a song and hugs from all.

Many people said, "**John Siminski and Debbie Lux** should see this!" Finally, when the blossoms were down to seven, John came and took pictures on his digital camera. He planned to put them on the Web, but he is on vacation until some time in February, so it has not appeared yet. Several people took pictures, but they were not ready in time to appear with this account.

Since I had only moved here in July and three members of my family have died since August, I can't think of a better therapy than to have had something beautiful to share with so many Medford Leas friends among residents and staff.

END OF LIFE SERIES CONT'D

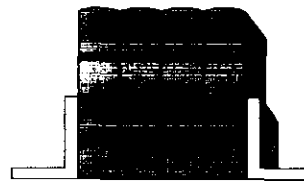
by Kitty Katzell

In September, 2000, Medford Leas presented the four-part TV program, "On Our Own Terms: Moyers on Dying in America," followed by discussion sessions with a leader from Samaritan Hospice. Then, as a follow-up to the Moyers series, in September, 2001, there was another meeting at which was presented a combined Advanced Directive and Power of Attorney form that had been developed by a committee of staff and residents. In the weeks after that meeting, residents met with aides (residents and staff) who had been trained to assist them in this function.

In the interim, staff have had training in pain management, volunteers have been trained to sit with residents who are dying without nearby family, and volunteers have assisted over 300 residents to prepare or update advance directives incorporating their wishes regarding care (living will) and designating proxies to protect their interests and act for them if they are unable to make critical life decisions (power of attorney). As a result, Samaritan Hospice has indicated that Medford Leas's joint staff/volunteer team has accomplished more than any other group in the tri-county area.

The remaining step is for residents to provide appropriate and necessary information (in addition to legal wills) to those who must handle residents' affairs after death. To that end, the final phase of the End-of-Life series will be held on **Tuesday morning, February 4, at 10 a.m.** in the Auditorium. At that time the joint staff-resident volunteer group will address various topics such as funeral preferences, prepayment of funeral expenses, body and organ donation, specifying whereabouts of important documents and the disposition of possessions, Medic Alert bracelets and necklaces, and the like.

This will be an important and instructive session, one that everyone should try to attend.



LARGE PRINT LIBRARY ADDITIONS

Ruth Hayes, Librarian

FICTION

- Balducci, D. *Wish You Well*
 Beaman, S. *Rebecca's Tale*
 Burns, O. A. *Cold Sassy Tree*
 Deveraux, J. *Sweet Liar*
 Evans, R. P. *The Christmas Box Miracle*
 Flagg, F. *Fried Green Tomatoes at the Whistle Stop Cafe*
 Grisham, J. *Skipping Christmas*
 Lewis, B. *October Song*
 Ogilvie, E. *The Ebbing Tide*

MYSTERY

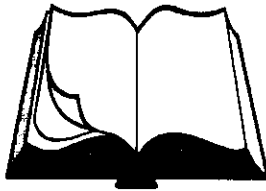
- Christie, A. *The Unexpected Guest*
 Grimes, M. *The Blue Last*
 Herriot, J. *Every Living Thing*
 Roberts, N. *Midnight Bayou*
 Talley, M. (ed.) *Naked Came the Phoenix*
 Tey, J. *Brat Farrat*

NON-FICTION

- Forsyth, F. *The Day of the Jackal*
 Goodall, J. *Reason for Hope*
 Lowe, J. *Billy Graham Speaks*
 Osgood, C. *See You on the Radio*

BIOGRAPHY

- Erickson, C. *Alexandra, the Last Tsarina*



NEW BOOKS IN THE LIBRARY

Becky Monego, Librarian

FICTION

- Beauman, S. *Rebecca's Tale*
- Carr, J. *A Month in the Country*
- Diamant, M. *Good Harbor*
- Drabble, M. *The Peppered Moth*
- Duncan, P. *Moon Women*
- Eisner, M. *The Crusader*
- Eggers, D. *A Heartbreaking Work of Staggering Genius*
- Franzen, I. *The Corrections*
- Grisham, J. *Skipping Christmas*
- Karon, J. *The Mitford Snowmen*
- Lindsey, J. *Home for the Holidays*
- Morgan, R. *Gap Creek* (Oprah's book club)
- Naslund, S. *Ahab's Wife*
- Palmer, C. *A Victorian Christmas Keepsake*
- Roberts, N. *Heaven and Earth*
- Salzman, M. *Lying Awake*
- Sparks, N. *A Bend in the Road*
- Wood, D. *Old Turtle . . .*

MYSTERY

- Baldacci, D. *Last Man Standing*
- Bradford, B. *The Triumph of Katie Byrne*
- Clark, C. *Fleeced*
- Cornwall, P. *Isle of Dogs*
- Cussler, C. *Valhalla Rising*
- Davidson, D. *Sticks and Stones*
- Dziemianowicz, S. *Crafty Cat Crimes*
- Greeley, A. *The Bishop and the Beggar Girl of St. Germain*
- Grimes, M. *The Blue Last*
- Le Carre, J. *The Russia House*
- Ludlum, R. *The Sigma Protocol*
- McBain, E. *Money, Money, Money*
- Mankell, H. *Sidetracked*

- Paretsky, S. *Total Recall*
- Robinson, P. *Aftermath*
- Sheldon, S. *The Sky Is Falling*
- Weber, K. *The Music Lesson*
- Woods, S. *Cold Paradise*

BIOGRAPHY

- Bodansky, Y. *Bin Laden*
- Colas, E. *Just Checking*
- Fraser, A. *Marie Antoinette*
- Milford, N. *Savage Beauty*

NON-FICTION

- Armstrong, K. *Islam*
- Cameron, J. *God Is No Laughing Matter*
- Dershowitz, A. *Supreme Injustice*
- Dove at the Window: Last Letter of Four The Martyrs*
- Evans, R. *The Christmas Box Miracle*
- Gopnik, A. *Paris to the Moon*
- Halberstam, D. *War in the Time of Peace*
- Hugins. *Experiencing Peace Corps as a Volunteer*
- Kinzer, S. *Crescent and Star*
- Lundy, D. *Godforsaken Sea*
- Morris, E. *Theodore Rex 1901-1909*
- Oxford Dictionary of Quotations, 5th Ed.*
- Persico, J. *Roosevelt's Secret War*
- Pinker, S. *Words and Rules: the Ingredients of Language*
- Rampersad, A. *Collected Poems of Langston Hughes*
- Rashic, A. *Taliban, Militant Islam*
- Solomon, A. *The Noonday Demon*
- Stahl, L. *Reporting Live*
- Uys. *Riding the Rails*
- Webster's New World Computer Dictionary*
- Weisenburger, S. *Modern Medea*
- Winchester, S. *The Map That Changed the World*
- Winik, J. *April 1865*

LUNCHEON FOR ELSIE'S VID-U

by Ellen Stimler

Elsie Lisovitch was honored at a luncheon on January 17 by the regular participants in what she calls Vid-U, a series of taped lectures by outstanding professors in their fields. Recent series topics have been *The History of Western Literature* and *Great Ideas of Philosophy*. The video courses are produced by The Teaching Company in cooperation with the National Geographic Society. Each course consists of several individual tapes, which are shown every Thursday (except on holidays and during the Great Decisions series) at 11:00 a.m. in the Third Floor Haddon Lounge.

Elsie was one of the Medford Leas "Pioneers," having moved here with her husband in 1973. She was among the first staffers of *Medford Leas Life* when it started as a typewritten newsletter, and she remained with it for 18 years, ending up as Editor. She also served as President of MLRA. When her eyesight was deteriorating in the 90's, she searched for something that she could listen to for intellectual stimulation and found the tapes of The Teaching Company. She has since accumulated a tremendous library of courses on a wide variety of subjects, and she has generously shared her tapes for the enrichment of the Medford Leas community.

As a token of residents' appreciation, Elsie was given an "award certificate" that praised her contributions in the words of Medford Leas' poet laureate, **Hana Stranska**:

*When we come to the Lounge on Haddon 3 --
Some on time, some late and stealthy --
There, through it all, sits our Vid-U Queen,
The great unflappable Elsie!
She takes us through Socrates, Aristotle, too
(While Saul attends to the TV snafu,
and afterwards puts in his bit or two.)
Are we rational? Are we Stoic?
Are we dismal, virtuous, heroic?
What's "Eudaimonia"? Does anyone know?
What can we explore to make it so?*

*Elsie's initiative helps us find
In the locked recesses of our mind
The response to such questions,
and many more --
We look forward to other treats in store.*

*So we thank you, Elsie, for your devotion,
And all of us here second this motion.*



MASTER GARDENERS' NEWS

by Susan Cunningham

The Master Gardeners of Burlington County have extended an invitation to all Medford Leas residents to visit their office, which is located in our Nature Center. They are there every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday morning from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. to answer horticultural or gardening questions.

In addition to their on site consultation services, they will be offering informative lectures throughout the year. The first of these, held on January 16, was on Orchids. Master Gardener **Dr. Sarel G. G. Ablaza** brought a lovely array of colorful orchids and talked about their cultivation. The weekly calendar will carry notices of future scheduled events.

The Master Gardeners want to express their thanks to residents for allowing them to share this lovely campus.

LONG RANGE PLANNING

by Kitty Katzell

As readers know, Medford Leas is making plans for its future. There seems to be some confusion about the names of the various teams and committees that are involved in preparing the plans. As they say, "You can't tell the players without a program," so keep this page handy so you'll know who the players are.

First, there's the Long Range Planning Team (LRPT). This is an oversight group whose mission is to develop plans that will retain and enhance the values and characteristics that make Medford Leas special and at the same time prepare to meet the future needs of current and future residents.

The LRPT will establish Goal Area Teams that will focus on different areas of concern in the planning. Some of those areas are: Skilled Nursing, Assisted Living, Adult Day Care, Child Day Care, Therapeutic Recreation, Health Center, Fitness & Aquatics, Human Resources, Information Technology, Arboretum, Dining Services, Community Spaces & Access, Contract & Apartment Offerings, and Social Responsibility & Public Relations.

The Estaugh Board established the Master Planning Selection Committee to select the professionals with whom Medford Leas will work to bring the ideas of the long-range plan to fruition.

The Master Planning Development Team (MPDT) (which is different from the Long Range Planning Team) has the mission of designing a master plan to embody the ideas that were expressed in the LRPT Report approved by the Estaugh Board in July, 2001.

The Long Range Planning Team has twelve members. Three are members of the Estaugh Board: **Jane Weston**, **John Cope**, and **Elizabeth Johnson**. Three are residents: **Kay Cooley** from Woolman Commons, **Bob Gray** from the Medford

campus, and **Chuck Morrow** from Lumberton Leas. Three are members of the staff: **Kate Kwiecinski** from Administration, **Marianne Steely** from Residency Planning, and **Gerry Stride** from Assisted Living. Three are ex officio members: **Bob Williams** as President of the Estaugh Board, **Tak Moriuchi** as Vice President, and **Mike Peasley** as Executive Director.

The Master Planning Selection Committee was composed of seven people. From the Estaugh Board: **Bob Williams**, President; **Jane Weston**, convener of the LRPT; **Connie Brookes**, Chair of the Finance Committee; and **Coles Roberts**, Chair of the Building Committee. From the staff: **Mike Peasley** and **Bill Murphy**. The seventh member was a consultant, **John Martin**, an architect who has worked with Medford Leas on other projects.

The Master Planning Development Team is composed of people from the Estaugh Board, residents, and staff, as well as various specialists. From the Estaugh Board: **Bob Williams**, President; **Jane Weston**, Chair, LRPT; **Connie Brookes**, Chair, Estaugh Finance Committee; **Coles Roberts**, Chair, Building Committee. Residents: **Sam Howarth**, President, MLRA; **Kay Cooley**, Past-President, MLRA. From staff: **Mike Peasley**, Executive Director; **Bill Murphy**, Director of Operations; **Johanna Yurkow**, Director of Health Services. Master Planners/Architects: **John Martin**, **Gregory Jones**, and **Tye Campbell**. Environmental Design: **Lorraine Hiatt** and **Jack Carman**. Marketing Feasibility: **Maria Dwight**. Finance & Feasibility: **Christopher Keysor**, **Jennifer Mayeux**, **Tommy Brewer**, and **Brandon Powell**. Planning Consultant/Project Coordinator: **Jim Price**.



OPEN FORUM ON FUTURE PLANS

by Dorothy Tillman, Kay Cooley, & Ed House

A special Sunday Open Forum was held on January 13. I saw two empty seats that could only have been reached by climbing over half a dozen residents. Many chose instead to stand in the back or against the side walls. Such a full house is an indication of residents' interest in Long-Range Planning and the future of Medford Leas.

The guest speaker was **Maria Dwight**, who is the President of Gerontological Services, Inc., and who has 30 years experience in programming and planning facilities and services for older people. She will be working with our newly established Master Planning Development Team to analyze and define our market and determine market feasibility.

Her talk, in essence, consisted of what she saw as changes in the wishes and demands of the next generation, which we must address if we are to remain competitive in this fast-growing field. One of the changes she has seen is a greater interest in services provided than in cost. This is a generation that has lived well and is willing to pay to continue doing so. Space is a major concern and she asked why people should be put in boxes, stripped of the things they love, just because they're older. She noted that men are living longer, and we have to have a place to put them -- along with a computer and a TV -- and, in general, the demand seemed to be -- More! -- Bigger! -- and Better! She did point out, however, that when more than a thousand people are

involved in a CCRC, there is a loss of the warmth and congeniality that means so much to us here at Medford Leas and she would not recommend anything larger.

She is planning a survey that will go to all current residents as well as to what she considers to be our market area. It will attempt to assess the needs and desires of current as well as future residents -- if priorities are shifting, just where and how much. The survey will be completely anonymous and residents' input will be given careful consideration.

It is Ms. Dwight's opinion that when people reach the age where they are considering a CCRC, they are well settled with family and friends in their communities and do not wish to move away. The external survey, therefore, will go to those living in the area around Medford Leas, an area in which some 800,000 people reside.

The discussion from the floor reflected some of the concerns of current residents. It was pointed out that for many, the entrance fee didn't weigh as heavily as the fact that Medford Leas was debt-free and financially sound, and it was noted that the inevitable higher cost would make economic and ethnic diversity more difficult. The hope was also expressed that New York City would be included in the survey of our market area. The discussion was lively.

Ultimately, two big challenges face Medford Leas:-- Getting younger elders, aged 65-75, to move before they need nursing care, and reconciling what current older residents want with what new generations want.

SCIENCE FICTION

by Hana Stranska

[The aim of this poem, written some 30 years ago, was to satirize two events of the period: the preoccupation of scientists with possible life on Venus and Mars, and the simultaneous controversy in Britain as to whether there should be commercial TV channels in addition to the Government's BBC.]

The Atom- and the H-bomb fell
in the appointed place;
The earth, gravity's bond unleash'd,
came hurtling into space.

The only creatures left alive
were -- strange though it may be --
A scientist in diver's suit,
and fishes in the sea.

And, as the Earth came tumbling on,
by-passing Mars and Venus,
Thought scientist: My pals would be
amazed, could they have seen us.

From both these planets came the sounds
of radio and TV,
Though advertising shamelessly,
unlike the BBC.

Among the products that they praised,
there was an anti-shrinker,
Which instantly appealed to our
great scientific thinker.

For it had worried him enough
that, robbed of gravitation,
The oceans of the world might shrink,
spelling annihilation

For all the fishes, and for him;
how tragic it would be
If, having just survived,
they met with such catastrophe!

So, in his diver's suit at once
to work he gaily set,
To keep his spirits flying high --
and all the oceans wet.

The anti-shrinker, finished now,
instantly was applied,
And once again the seven seas
expanded far and wide.

And all the little fishes that
afraid had been to die
Lived gaily. But our scientist
had other fish to fry.

His life's work, which had always been
to speed up evolution,
Inspired by his present state
was nearing its solution;

And soon, before his very eyes
there grew familiar shapes,
From fish through fowl and missing link,
to dinosaur and apes.

Until "success at last" he sighed,
for -- hard though to believe --
Out of a flying saucer steps --
none other than his Eve!

And so the tale unfolds again,
in all its bitter glory.
The moral? But for TV-Dot-Com,
there would have been no story.

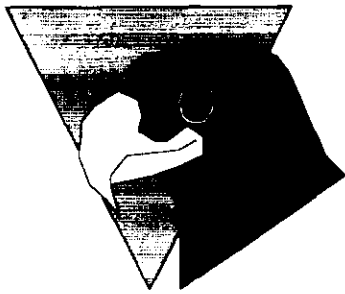
"Prelude to Spring" Tea

Tuesday, February 26

2:30 to 4:00 p.m.

Lounge & Atrium

MEDFORD LEAS



THE EAGLE'S AERIE

by Elmer Rowley

December's "short trip" to the Woodford Cedar Run Wildlife Refuge was climaxed with a stop at the new aerie for "Orion," the American bald eagle, acquired a year ago after extensive investigation and approval by the federal office for endangered species. The eagle was first housed in a large temporary cage until the new aerie could be built. It was completed early in December, and now 7-year-old Orion enjoys a spacious home that was professionally designed and constructed to become one of the foundation structures in the new Refuge master plan. Orion performed beautifully for our group, hopping from the ground to the aerie's several perches and scooting back and forth. Local markets are cooperating by providing an ample supply of fish. We were told that Orion has actually become rather particular and now wants only the whole fish, turning up his nose, so to speak, at fillets.

The bus from Medford Leas and cars from Lumberton Leas arrived at the Education Center and were greeted in front of the fire in the Great Room, where coffee and Danish awaited. After looking around, checking the reptile room and the classroom, we were welcomed by **Jeanne Woodford**, who is carrying on her mother's work as Chairman of the Board. She was followed by **Janet Jackson-Gould**, the executive director, who told us that, in addition to the operation of the animal rehabilitation center, the Refuge is also a nature center with emphasis on New Jersey Pine Barrens education. Some 10,000 people a year are served through its various programs.

Before leaving the nature center for the rehabilitation compound across Cedar Run Lake, we were spellbound by naturalist **Val Pullen**, a retired teacher and Cedar Run volunteer. He introduced us to four birds that could not be returned to the wild by reason of either permanent injury or imprinting. First was "Hunter," the great horned owl, perched comfortably on Val's thick leather glove. Then came "Clack," the delightful, minuscule screech owl, aptly named for the clacking sound it makes. Another predator was a streamlined Cooper's hawk, distinguished from the sharp-shinned hawk by its squared off tail feathers. Last, but not least, came "Bingo," the common crow. While far more common than the other birds, Bingo proved equally interesting by exhibiting signs of intelligence.

The trip to Cedar Run had been rain-delayed from the week before. Happily for all who made the trip, we were favored by a nice day to add to the pleasure of this morning in the Pine Barrens, and all give thanks to the staff of the nature and rehabilitation centers.

IN MEMORIAM

Kathleen Messel	December 28, 2001
Marion Irons	December 30, 2001
Naomi Howe	January 1, 2002
Kenneth Flavell	January 4, 2002
Irene VanWagner	January 4, 2002
Alix Szilasi	January 10, 2002
Saul Stimler	January 13, 2002
Maureen Condon	January 16, 2002
Leah Levinger	January 21, 2002



GREAT DECISIONS 2002

by **Chuck Woodard**

It's again time for Great Decisions -- our annual presentation and discussion of eight topics selected by the Foreign Policy Association. A paper on each topic, prepared by an authority on the subject and commissioned by the Association, will be found in the Great Decisions briefing book for this year. The books are available at a price of \$10. Please contact **Gary Raven** (3272) or **Chuck Woodard** (3663).

Following are the topics and speakers:

- March 7 -- *Middle East Peace Process*
Chuck Woodard
- March 14 -- *International Food Policy* (no paper)
Joe Wray
- March 21 -- *Russia Re-examined*
Dan Seeger
- March 28 -- *Colombia and Drug Trafficking*
Walter Zwarg
- April 4 -- *Why Do They Hate Us? The Roots of Terrorism* --
Grace Blackburn
Ed House
Don Tillman
- April 11 -- *South Asia: Focus on India*
Allyn Rickett
- April 18 -- *AIDS in Africa*
Evert Bartholomew
- April 25 -- *Energy and the Environment*
Curtis Johnson



FROM THE HEALTH CENTER

by **Wendi Ruddy**

February is American Heart Month. Look for information on prevention of heart disease in the Health Center.

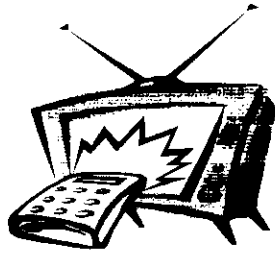
Dr. Seth Keller will be speaking on *Stroke Prevention and Treatment* on Wednesday, February 20, at 11 A.M. in the Auditorium.

TWO MOUSE TALES

by **Doreen Lee**

I used to live in Tudor City in New York and sometimes ate in the Tudor City restaurant. One evening a mouse ran across the floor, so a patron told the waiter. Without batting an eye, the waiter replied disarmingly, "Oh, that's George." How can one get annoyed about a mouse with a name?

I told that story at dinner one evening, and it reminded **Rae Sammis** of when she was a child and found a mouse under her bed as she reached down to turn off her radio. She went in to tell her father, who said the mouse wouldn't hurt her. But, as she seemed reluctant to sleep in the room, he volunteered to let her use his bed and he would sleep in hers. In the morning, Rae's mother told her to go and waken her father. She was much amused to find him sleeping with the broom clutched in his hand. So much for mice who are no problem!



AS SEEN ON TV-17

by Colette & Evert Bartholomew

"Bart, could you and Colette get down here to Town Hall in about an hour? A crew from TV Channel 17 wants to do a report about *Medford Eve 2002* tonight, and I need a performer for them to interview." It was **Beth Richmond**, Medford's Recreation Director, calling a few days before the New Year. "But Beth, you know we don't perform. We get the crowd to do simple folk and line dances." "O.K.," she replied, "bring some music, and we'll get some people from the town office to dance."

And that's what we did. The TV reporter interviewed Beth, Colette, and Bart; Beth gathered colleagues from other town offices; and the camera rolled as we did a Virginia Reel. Sure enough, we were on the 10 o'clock news as the reporter described the activities that several towns in the Delaware Valley would be having in what most towns call "First Night." Medford has its different name, but it's the same idea. A committee hires musicians, actors, dancers, comedians, and other entertainers and places them in schools, churches, and various halls for New Year's Eve. Residents buy buttons for \$8 each, which give them access to any performance during the night, and there are fireworks at midnight. The rule is **no alcohol**, and it's a great activity for families. Our event, billed as a "Barn Dance," has been on the program at Medford every year since it started four years ago. For the ten years before that, we did the same thing in Montclair, our hometown. It was fun to see ourselves on TV.

THE GALLERY

by
Dorothy Tillman

January 15 was the opening of the memorial exhibition of the sculpture of the late **Paul Zelazny**. It will continue until the end of February. Paul, a long time supporter of the Medford Leas Gallery, generously contributed the gift of his sculptures to benefit the Thrift Shop.

The sculptures will be sold by silent auction. Each piece to be auctioned will have a sheet in the Gallery with a starting bid noted. Each prospective owner can bid as many times as he/she wishes, raising the price by increments of at least \$25. On Thursday, February 14, the final name and bid on the list will be the owner of a lovely piece of sculpture.

So, if a piece of Paul's sculpture is calling out to you, check the list frequently and make sure your bid is the last listed on February 14.

Questions? Confusion? Call **Debbie Troemner**, Gallery Chair, at 261-9994.



OVERHEARD IN THE DINING ROOM

by Doreen Lee

One young waitress to another: "She wants non-decaffeinated coffee."

WHO'S NEW

Jean (Woodruff) Cronin, Apt. 57, grew up in Monmouth County, close to the ocean, went to local schools, and then moved to New York City. There she took business and accounting courses at Queens College and elsewhere to upgrade her skills in business practices and procedures. She held "Girl Friday" jobs for a variety of companies and eventually landed in the accounting department of a Fortune 500 concern. There she met and married a fellow employee, Joseph Cronin, but they divorced after about 15 years. It was a time of company mergers and consolidations, and Jean had to move to Morristown when her company was bought out. She was persuaded to accept an early retirement package and moved to Brick, NJ, which was close to her sister. In 1988 she visited Medford on the suggestion of a cousin in Toms River, fell in love with it, and moved to a Medford condo. After that, she did part-time work for a manpower agency and a publishing company. Jean has been a member of NOW since the '70's, and once in this area, she volunteered at the restoration of the Alice Paul home to make it into a leadership and conference center on women's issues. She also volunteered for six years for Interfaith Caregivers. Currently, she does the bookkeeping for the Alice Paul Centennial Foundation. Jean likes movies and ballet and wants to participate in Medford Leas activities as time permits.

Ellen Stimler

Norma (Buzzelli) D'Alonzo, who moved into **Apt. 163** from Mt. Laurel, enjoys a hobby of making wreaths out of all-natural materials. A beautiful example is on her coffee table -- a thick red candle encircled by a wreath of many different pine cones, berries, and other finds, lightly glazed with a preservative. Her workshop is a friend's garage, where they store the materials they collect in woods and fields. They sell some and give others away.

Norma grew up in Niagara Falls, NY, and attended Mercyhurst College in Erie, PA. She married after WW-II and raised three children, who gave her six grandchildren. After living in Philadelphia and Wayne, PA, for a time, she finally settled in Mt. Laurel. Her main interests, besides wreath-making, are antiques, low-fat gourmet cooking, and decorating. Once a week she volunteers in the Moorestown Friends School Thrift Shop, where she found out about Medford Leas and "satisfies her love of the unique and the antique."

Ellen Stimler

Geraldine "Geri" (Braxton) Dickerson, 46-A Buttonwood St., Mt. Holly, (609-702-0013) moved here from Alameda, CA, but she grew up in Philadelphia where she lived part of her childhood with her cousin, **Barbara Davis**. She joined the Air Force in 1957 and flew the Pacific routes out of Travis Air Force Base in California, sometimes bringing back wounded Korean War veterans. There she met and married Don Dickerson, a career officer in the Air Force. He later was assigned to Pease Air Force Base in New Hampshire, where their children, Lisa and Mark, were born and eventually the family lived on various U.S. air bases. After her divorce, she finished her bachelor's degree in business administration and her M.Ed. in pupil personnel at Antioch in Philadelphia. She worked as a guidance counselor in Philadelphia, served as a substitute teacher in Mt. Holly, helped Barbara found the Extended Hand Ministries, and counseled residents at the Mustard Seed residence.

After her two grown children persuaded Geri to join them in California in 1994, she took a "temporary" job as an engineering administrator with WindRiver Systems in Alameda, where she worked for seven years until retirement. The firm grew from 120 employees to some 6,000 during her time there.

Since her move to Woolman Commons, Geri is once more heavily involved with Extended Hand Ministries and Barbara Davis's church, Christian Community Center in Mt. Holly. Geri sings in the Medford Leas chorus and the madrigals, and enjoys both jazz and gospel music. She also knits, crochets, sews, and enjoys playing bridge.

Nancy Darling

Emily (McCornack) Johnson, 48 Woodside Dr. (609-702-1910) lived in Haddonfield for 40 years before moving to Lumberton. She was born in Chicago and received a BA in history from Denison University in Granville, Ohio. She met her husband, **Howard**, on a blind date, and they were married in 1942. Howard and Emily were married for 57 years before he passed away in 1999.

After serving in the U.S. Navy in WW-II, Howard joined RCA and retired as a Vice President. He and Emily moved many times with RCA, raising three children. Emily has three grandchildren and two great-grands.

Emily was active in the community as a PTA President and as a member and President of the Women's Board of Cooper Hospital. For over 25 years, she volunteered in the Cooper Thrift Shop and worked on the Charity Ball, June Fete, an Horse Show.

For special interests, she enjoyed tennis and traveling, particularly an Interhostel trip she and Howard took to Great Britain. Now Emily enjoys Medford University and her Lumberton Leas neighbors.

Helen (Halliday) Hamilton, Apt. 243, has traveled the world during her professional career and still travels all over to care for her grandchildren when their parents are absent or otherwise in need of her help. She grew up in Winnipeg, then moved to Toronto, where she went to high school with her future husband, Lawrence. They met again at Toronto University, where Helen got a degree in physical and health education, and married after Lawrence returned from service in the British Fleet Air Arm. During the war, Helen was director of physical education at the YWCA in London, Ontario, and later in Toronto. When Lawrence was offered a position teaching at Cornell, the couple and their two sons moved to Ithaca where, eventually, two girls joined the family.

After her youngest was in school, Helen went back to teaching physical education. Her big break came when Cornell appointed her associate director of Cornell's Adult University, which organized educational programs for alumni and their children. Drawing on faculty expertise in many fields, she created programs that took her and the attendees to the corners of the globe, including the Pine Barrens and Cape May. Helen stayed in Ithaca for a time after her divorce, but then moved to Haddonfield where one of her daughters needed help with a young family. Helen joined the Unitarian Church in Cherry Hill, where she learned about Medford Leas and met several current residents. She did volunteer work for the Unitarian Church, Interfaith Caregivers, and the Contact Exchange, a consignment shop in Haddonfield.

Ellen Stimler

AFTERWORD

The cover story of the January issue omitted mention of Wendy Evans, who played the role of Topo in the employee holiday show.

FEBRUARY CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

- 1 - Bus to Philadelphia Orchestra
(also 8, 15, & 22)
- 1 - *Meal Patterns & Calorie Needs*
- 1 - Bus to Kimmel Center
- 2 - Meeting re: Cable TV & Internet (also 5)
- 2 - Movie: *Orchestra Wives*
- 3 - Friends Meeting (also 10, 17, & 24)
- 3 - Vespers: **Rev. Ronald Rathje**, LL Resident
- 4 - End-of-Life Program: *Where Is Your Stuff?*
- 5 - Game Night (also 19)
- 5 - Square Dancing (also 12, 19, & 26)
- 6 - Bird Club
- 7 - African-American Art
- 7 - Vid-U (also 14, 21, & 28)
- 7 - Chinese New Year Celebration Dinner
- 7 - Folk & Line Dancing
- 8 - Video: Vienna Philharmonic
- 8 - *Complications of Diabetes*
- 9 - *Ancient Technology*, **Mike Carrell**
- 9 - Bus to Ballet - *Coppelia*
- 9 - Movie: *Farmer's Daughter*
- 9 - Violin & Piano Concert: **Park Sisters**
- 10 - Vespers: **Kitty Katzell**, ML Resident
- 11 - Social Dancing
- 12 - Lincoln's Birthday
- 12 - Armoire
- 12 - Mardi Gras Celebration Dinner
- 13 - Ash Wednesday
- 13 - Child Day Care Annual Bake Sale
- 14 - Valentine's Day
- 14 - Art Gallery: Closing Day for Silent Auction
- 15 - *Carbohydrate Counting*
- 16 - Movie: *Follow the Fleet*
- 17 - Vespers: **Rev. Champion Goldy**, Methodist
- 18 - President's Day
- 18 - MLRA Monthly Business Meeting
- 19 - Bereavement Group
- 19 - Catholic Mass
- 19 - Camera Club
- 20 - Bird Club trip, Barnegat Light (Rain Date, 21)
- 20 - *Stroke Prevention & Treatment*
- 22 - Washington'd Birthday
- 22 - Video: *Richard Tucker Opera Gala*
- 23 - Leas Forum: *Cranberries & Charcoal Making in the Pines*, **Ted Gordon**

- 23 - Movie: *Pillow Talk*
- 24 - Vespers: **Rev. Philip Olson**, Evangelicals for Social Action
- 26 - "Prelude to Spring" Tea
- 27 - Caregivers Group
- 27 - Bus to Wilma Theater: *Yellow Man*
- 27 - Bus to Kimmel Center
- 28 - Program at LL: *Bio-Ethics*, **Jon Merz**

MEDFORD LEAS LIFE

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Deadline for submissions: 20th of the month preceding publication.

The bottom of the page features several logos. On the left is the 'Medford Leas' logo, which includes a stylized tree and the text 'Medford Leas' in a script font, with 'MEDFORD, NEW JERSEY' written below it. To the right are four smaller logos: the Equal Housing Opportunity logo (a house with an equals sign), the Open Housing logo (a circular seal with 'OPEN HOUSING' and '1964'), the AAHSA logo (two hands holding a heart), and the NJANPHA logo (a house shape with 'NJANPHA' and 'founded 1931' below it).