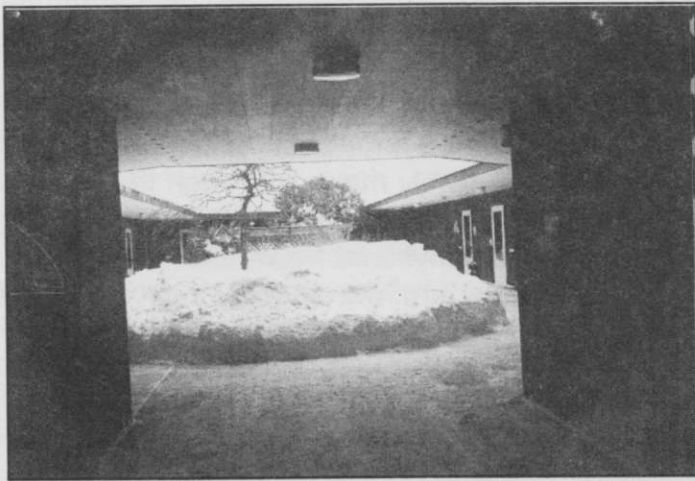
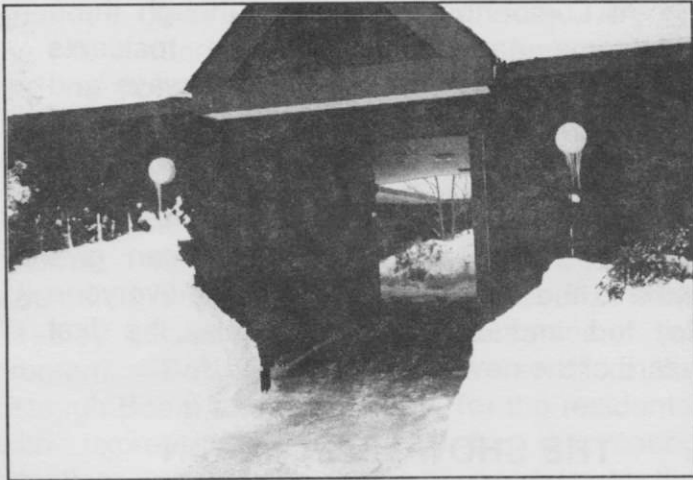




# Medford Leas **LIFE**

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APRIL 2003



Blizzard of the  
(new) Century

## BLIZZARD OF THE NEW CENTURY

by George Rubin

It started snowing on Saturday, February 15, stopped for a while and then started again on Sunday morning. When it finally left on Tuesday, almost two feet of snow blanketed Medford Leas. The center of each court looked as if someone had thrown down a large white blanket that covered all the trees and shrubs. This was the biggest storm to hit here in seven years.

**Lorraine LaPollo**, Director of Dining Services, said, "On Monday we had only 10 staff members, instead of the regular 35, who made it here. Everyone pitched in and did a multitude of different jobs." Some worked for 13 hours, and several staff people stayed over and did not go home at all. **Kim Hinkle** was the only one in her department to get in. **Brad Mauger**, Executive Chef, said, "Serving the main meal in the afternoon for two days was a big help. This gave us more flexibility and eased up the rest of the day. We were also able to feed the Medical crew after 2 p.m." Since there were no deliveries, the kitchen had to use emergency food which is a one-week supply kept on hand. It was also necessary to deliver meals to those courts which were not plowed out and to those residents who were sick. Some residents volunteered to help and were used on the buffet line to move it along. All of the staff who were here also had to be fed. The flexibility and versatility of the kitchen staff made it easy for them to perform many different jobs including, when necessary, snow shoveling. Those who did stay over were **Brian Reiley**, **Joe Filer**, and **Lennie Oman**.

The maintenance crews were constantly shoveling snow out of the courts. **Tom Birks**, **Whitney Mapp**, **Andrew Webster**, **Walt George**, **Lester Jackson**, **Bill Conte**, and **Herbe Minkes** were working hard in Court 6 when Bill commented, "No one shoveled me out at home."

**Bill Murphy**, Director of Operations, and **Jim Wolosin**, Director of Maintenance, spoke with

great pride about the work of their crews before, during and after the storm. Jim said, "We had to hire an extra 25 shovelers and an extra snow plow and tractor." There were four or five snow plows going most if not all of the time. They even used a 4-wheel drive plow known as a "Quad Runner". Bill Murphy said, "I don't have any final figures yet, but this will add several thousand dollars to our budget costs."

Not only did some of the staff stay because they could not get home but there was also a critical need, during the height of the storm, to get a resident to the hospital, which the staff carried out. At Lumberton Leas, even though there were some early difficulties, the residents praised the staff for getting the driveways and sidewalks cleared. At Woolman Commons, **Bob Costigan**, **Dennis Mason**, and **Jeff Nixon** were out with their snow blowers to clear paths.

All the residents of Medford Leas can give thanks to the entire staff for keeping everyone safe, fed and secure during this, the first blizzard of the new century.

## THE SHOW MUST GO ON

by Maggie Woodard

The blizzard of February provided residents with challenges and rewards. Rewards included looking at the beautiful scenery produced by twenty inches of snow, delicious noon meals, and piano recitals by the noted artist **Frederick Moyer**. Most residents thought he could not possibly make it through the heavy snowfall but Music Committee Chairman **Chuck Woodard** was convinced he would. Mr. Moyer arrived at 6:20 p.m. for the Sunday evening 7:00 concert. Friendly Visitors were enlisted to alert residents, and about 40 people trudged to the Auditorium through the snow that had blown into the courts. The piano recital was a spectacular performance, as always. The program was varied and included works by Bach, Beethoven, Schubert, von Dohnanyi, and Gershwin. Mr. Moyer was scheduled to perform the next day in Cherry Hill, but a State Snow Emergency was declared and he could not leave. A resident asked him if he would give

another recital that night and he agreed. Ninety-one people again trudged through the snow and were delighted. He had added some new pieces, including one written especially for him, a Toccata on Bach, which was a combination of classical and jazz music.

Life is never dull at Medford Leas!

## EMPLOYEE SERVICE AWARDS

by Kitty Katzell

This year's Employee Service Recognition Dinner was held on Friday evening, February 28, at Charley's Other Brother in Mount Holly. Among the 140 in attendance, there were a few residents and members of the Estaugh Board, but, of course, mostly staff. And an elegant group they were, dressed for the occasion.

Following the meal of salad, a choice of beef or seafood with baked potato, green beans almondine, and cheese cake for dessert, **Mike Peasley** served as Master of Ceremonies of the program. **Bob Gray** spoke on behalf of the Estaugh Board and **Beth Wray** for the residents, both expressing appreciation for the caring attention that staff give to all aspects of the Medford Leas community.

Then came the "Recognition" for which everyone had attended. There were 32 employees on the list who had served Medford Leas for three years; 17 for five years; 14 for ten years; eight for 15 years; two for 20 years; and two for 25 years. A picture was taken of each group by **Susan DeJacom** as they assembled at the front of the room to receive recognition pins and hear their peers' applause. The biggest cheers were given to the three employees who have been working at Medford Leas for 30 years: **Shirley Fletcher**, in Accounting; **Bill Murphy**, Director of Operations; and **Herb Robbins**, in Maintenance. Seven of the 11 members of the Employee Council were present, and, since Susan DeJacom is president of the Council, Mike Peasley took their group picture.

The tension mounted as the time came for the announcement of 2002's Employee of the Year.

As it built, Mike called attention to the names of the 17 employees who had formerly held that position, noting that Bill Murphy had been the first Employee of the Year back in 1974. In some years, no one had been designated. And finally the moment arrived.

The Employee of the Year 2002 is **George LeMunyon, Jr.**, of our Maintenance Department. In his acceptance speech, George noted that 2002 had been the third time that he had been an Employee of the Month and that his wife had been the 2001 Employee of the Year.

Like most Medford Leas events, the Service Recognition Dinner was a warm, friendly occasion, with fun, friends, and frivolity. For a resident to be present was truly a privilege.

### Employee of the Year



George Le Munyon photo by S. De Jacomo

## HELP WANTED

### For the MLRA Board

**Recording Secretary:** Attends MLRA Board meetings twice a month, takes notes, with or without a tape recorder, and produces Minutes on a computer; distributes Minutes after they have been approved and corrected.

**Corresponding Secretary:** Attends MLRA Board meetings twice a month, helps MLRA President with correspondence and other typing. If interested in either, please call Beth Wray (3617).

### For the Auditorium Committee

**Technicians** are needed to work with audio-visual equipment once a month for a program in the auditorium. You will be trained to use the equipment. It's not difficult, it's fun! If interested, please call Joe Wray at 3617.

## CONCEPTUAL DESIGN COMMITTEE by Ellen Stimler

At the beginning of March, the Estaugh Board announced the "laying down" of the Long Range Planning Team and the Master Planning Team and the formation of the Conceptual Design Committee (CDC), to consist of members of the Estaugh Board, Administration, and a group of residents. As stated in the official announcement, "the work of the Committee will allow all aspects of this project to be coordinated in the best manner to see that the Medford Leas of the future will maintain its excellence economically, environmentally, physically, spiritually, and intellectually so that its residents, present and future, will have a desirable and secure community in which to live."

On March 12, Dr. Miller Biddle, a member of the Estaugh Board and chair of the new CDC, sent out a memo to residents and staff announcing the membership of the committee and summarizing some of its procedures and objectives. The Committee's membership is as follows:

### Estaugh Board

Miller Biddle, Chair  
Connie Brookes  
John Cope  
Bob Gray,  
Tak Moriuchi  
Coles Roberts  
Bob Williams, ex officio

### Administration

Heather McInerney  
Bill Murphy  
Mike Peasley  
Keith Quinton, M.D.  
Jane Weston  
Johanna Yurkow

### Residents

Bob Anderson  
Evert (E.Bart) Bartholomew  
Ed Ferraro  
Kitty Katzell  
Howard Kriebel  
Allyn Rickett  
Doris Shamleffer

John Sommi  
Alex Webb

The memorandum emphasized the importance of the committee's charge to communicate with and educate residents. It stated that only topics of CDC meetings that participants agreed by consensus to keep confidential would not be discussed externally. It affirmed that "openness with the residents is essential," and directed that the official minutes of the meetings be filed in the Medford Leas Library. While the CDC is refining the conceptual design, the Administration will move ahead with the approval process before the local, county, and state agencies which do not require firm site plans in the preliminary stages.

## MASTER PLAN BEFORE MEDFORD PLANNING BOARD

On February 26, 16 residents of Medford Leas attended the regular monthly meeting of the Medford Planning Board because a "working session" on the Medford Leas master plan was listed on the agenda, which is regularly posted on the special Medford Leas bulletin board next to the bank.

Residents waited patiently for two hours until the start of the "working session." Medford Leas had submitted a Memorandum on "Proposed Expansion of Medford Leas" which was presented to the Board by its Secretary. **Bill Murphy**, Director of Operations, was in the audience but did not speak.

Board Members showed great interest in that part of the proposal involving the development of 28 affordable housing units on a site immediately adjacent to Medford Leas' current property line along Route 70. During the public comment period, several residents spoke up to express concerns about the impact of the master plan on the environment. Planning Board members thanked the residents for their appearance and assured them that all environmental regulations would be rigorously applied and that all information and materials submitted to them would be available to residents in their entirety.

## RESIDENTS AS MEDIATORS

by Ellen Stimler

Mediation of citizen disputes, from neighborhood conflicts to complex child custody problems, is an important tool for U. S. court systems which do not have the resources to hold a full-fledged trial on every complaint filed with the court. In fact, here at the Burlington County Courthouse in Mt. Holly, over 90 percent of all cases filed are disposed of without a trial. In most civil matters, litigants are required by New Jersey Court Rules to submit their case to mediation or arbitration before they can go before a judge.

Mediators do not make decisions for the parties; they simply listen to their stories and then try to guide the parties to reach an agreement. This agreement is then written up by the mediator in the form of a court order, signed by all parties, and submitted to the judge for his signature. This order, when signed, is fully enforceable when violated by one of the parties. Only if there is no agreement during mediation are the parties permitted to go on to trial; sometimes they are even sent to a second mediation.

Diane Talty, a Court officer who coordinates the mediation program and trains the applicants, admits frankly that the Courts in Mt. Holly could not function without their volunteer mediators and arbitrators, for there wouldn't be enough judges, courtrooms, and staff, let alone money, for all the trials that would have to be held.

The work involved in helping settle disputes has attracted a number of volunteers from Medford Leas: **Elwood Cronk, Jean and Curt Henderson, Bernard Rosen, Ellen Stimler, and Barbara Zimmerman.**

Elwood created and operated a mediation program at the William Penn Center in Falsington, PA before he moved to Woolman Commons, where he could conveniently offer his mediation skills at the nearby Court House in Mt. Holly. He and Barbara do only custody mediation, which may be the most difficult of all. Parents in disagreement over custody of their children are frequently referred to mediation as a first step.. Some parents come to the mediator

with an agreement already worked out between themselves. Others come with fixed positions staked out; it is up to the mediator to explore some new solutions which may eventually be more acceptable than an expensive, long-drawn-out trial with an unknown outcome.

Barbara also mediates in Cape May County, in a different kind of program. She says Diane Talty and her staff in Burlington create a most supportive atmosphere, which is a boon on a "bad day" when conflict between the parties makes it a real challenge for the mediator to maintain objectivity.

Bernard participated in mediation of Municipal Court disputes in the Mt. Holly Municipal Court and cases in the Small Claims Court for about 10 years, but he is not doing it now. Ellen started volunteering in the Small Claims Court after she retired from her family law practice in 1992. Small Claims Court is where the parties fight over security deposits, unpaid rent, damage to apartments, unpaid medical bills, allegedly shoddy workmanship, and similar everyday problems. She remembers a case where a bride was so busy before her wedding that she couldn't keep all her fitting appointments with her dressmaker. On the wedding day, she barely managed to squeeze into her dress and was painfully uncomfortable all day. She wanted her money back, and the dressmaker wanted to get paid. They split the difference. Bernard, who is also a retired lawyer, said he specialized in cases in which both sides were represented by lawyers. He remembers a neighborhood dispute involving two gay men who were complaining about ladies' underwear hung out to dry right across from their window! The Hendersons were also mediating in the Small Claims Court for about ten years. A factor in Jean's acceptance into the program was her experience as a volunteer in the International Division of the American Friends Service Committee, where she learned about consensus building. Jean had to give it up after her assistance was needed with Curt's care. The Burlington County Courthouse has volunteer opportunities besides mediation. If interested, call the Court Resource Center at 609-518-2515.

## NEWS FROM LUMBERTON LEAS

by Helen Vukasin

Like all the residents at Medford Leas, Lumberton residents are poking through the snow to see if their tulips or daffodils have sent up any shoots. The news is good. There are little green sprouts everywhere!

Trying to forget the long, hard winter, the residents planned several activities for March. On March 8, four of the eight clusters of units following in the tradition of Bridlington and Rushmore had a brunch in the Colonial Room. There was an amazing attendance and the usual great food produced by the Dining Services Department.

On March 17, a potluck cocktail party was held with appetizers and desserts to tempt the palate. Great concertina entertainment was provided for a happy evening.

On a more serious note, the Leas Forum at Lumberton has planned a program featuring three of the fourteen Nisei residents at Medford Leas, on Thursday, April 10, 2003 at 7:30 pm in the Great Room of the Community Center.

Bare-bones camps, to incarcerate citizens of Japanese descent, were set up under Executive Order 9066 by President Roosevelt in 1942. **Bill Marutani, Tak Moriuchi,** and **Mary Toda** have each served time in these camps. They will address the following questions: What were the camps like? Was there constitutional justification to incarcerate American citizens of Japanese descent? Are we still using the same tactics for citizens of Middle Eastern descent? There will be time for questions as well.

There is a collection of interviews of Nisei residents on this subject available in the

Medford Leas Library. There will be a sign-up sheet for transportation at the Main Desk.

## MOUNT HOLLY UPDATE

by Nickie Stevenson

For several years a group of local citizens under the leadership of the Winzinger family has been working to refurbish and reinvigorate downtown Mt. Holly. The first major step was the building of Mill Dam Village, a cluster of shops just south of the Fountain Square. Their efforts permitted the town to achieve the designation "Urban Enterprise Zone"(UEZ) for the town. This was a vital step. It is a state designation which allows certain businesses to charge only 3% sales tax. The entire amount of the tax is put into a fund administered by the UEZ to finance a face-lift of the center of town and to attract new businesses to it. Low-cost loans and grants to individual homeowners and businesses may be used to paint and refurbish rundown properties.

Another step was a successful application for participation in "Main Street," a state initiative to help distressed communities. No funds are given with this designation, but the State provides experienced consultants at no cost to the community in areas of concern such as design and architecture, promotion of special events, image promotion, and economic restructuring. The project is funded by UEZ money and donations from businesses and private citizens.

At the Woolman Commons March business meeting, **Teddy Raup** introduced Tim Florence, Executive Director and the only salaried employee of the Main Street Program. The cost of the program during the first year is being borne by UEZ funds. Subsequent years increasingly will be funded by local contributions.

It was encouraging to hear Mr. Florence explain the plans and projects already under way and to know that there is a serious effort being made to restore Mt. Holly as a viable business community.

## RAILROAD HISTORY OF AREA

by Hugh Jenkins

*Author's Note: The author wishes to acknowledge the use of source material provided by the West Jersey Chapter of the National Railway Historical Society.*

It is hard to realize in today's world of automobiles, paved roads, and aircraft, that travel was not always this simple and easy. A hundred years ago things were radically different. For any distance over a few miles the main source of travel was the train, as it had been for the previous fifty years. Trains linked our cities and towns, and our freight arrived in boxcars. The transcontinental railway was only completed in May of 1869, linking the east and west coasts, and the railway system continued to expand across the country until 1916. If a town was not on the rail line, it was truly isolated and its ability to grow and provide industrial services was severely limited.

Medford and the area around it was a farming community with few industries. It was off the beaten track; it was not on the road to any of the main New Jersey or Pennsylvania towns or cities, nor on any navigable waterway.

Prior to 1869 the Camden and Amboy Railroad and Transportation Company operated the Mt. Holly, Lumberton, and Medford Railroad Company. The Philadelphia, Marlton and Medford Railway Company was incorporated in 1881 by the Camden and Atlantic Railroad Company and it opened the track between Camden and Medford via Haddonfield and Marlton the same year, linking it with the Mt. Holly, Lumberton, and Medford RR. Co. which was run by the Pennsylvania Railroad Co. It was built to provide an interchange link for the C & A. All these railroads were finally merged in 1933 into the Pennsylvania Reading Seashore line, which exists today.

There were two rail spurs, one from Mt. Holly and the other from Camden, which met in Medford. After the Camden-Medford line was discontinued in 1931, the Mt. Holly-Medford line continued for freight only until the 1970's and made two stops on the way, one in Lumberton and one at Wilkins

Station, giving its name to the road behind Merritt's Service Station.

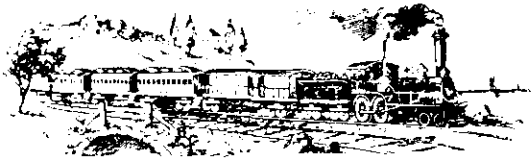
In 1884, four trains a day travelled in each direction between Camden and Mt. Holly via Marlton and Medford, and on Sundays one round trip ran between Camden and Medford, and one ran a round trip between Camden and Mt. Holly via Medford. From the beginning most of the traffic was of a local nature, mixed passenger and freight, and there were 20 stops in each direction. It took 1 ¼ hours to travel the 25 miles between Camden and Mt. Holly.

The usual Medford train consisted of six or eight freight cars loaded with feed, coal, building materials, and, of course, "less than carload lots," which in those days was a very big business for the railroads, prior to common carrier trucking. During the winter months before 1905, ice was cut from Tinsdales Run and shipped in carload lots from Freeman Station, just a little south of Haddonfield. Up to the end of WWI marl for use as fertilizer was shipped by the Atlantic Potash Company from a siding close to Marlton. Most of the freight generated along the line was from the farmers in the area who also used the line to ship their milk to the city. The first train from Medford each weekday morning bound for Camden carried a milk car in addition to the other cars. Most of the stations on the branch had a short raised wooden platform in order to facilitate the loading of milk cans which held 40 gallons and were quite heavy. The mid-afternoon local would return the milk car back to Medford, dropping empty milk cans at stations along the way. Another source of revenue for the railroads was the U.S. mail.

With the advent of better roads and trucks and the ready availability of automobiles, railroad traffic declined. The milk and mail services were both discontinued in the mid-20's., and the passenger service was reduced to six a week. The last passenger train on the Medford Branch ran on September 24, 1927, and the Medford Branch was officially taken out of service in 1931.

Most of the track has now been torn up and is no longer visible. The station in Medford still exists at 68 North Main Street, but the tracks are gone

and the building is now used as doctors' offices. The rights-of-way are still around but often chopped up by new roads and buildings. And few people give this old system a thought as we travel along smooth paved roads at high speed in our cars.



## RESIDENTS, STAFF IN THE NEWS

**Mary Cullen**, holding up a "Peace on Earth" sign, and **Helen Vukasin**, holding up her umbrella, were among a group of anti-war protesters who marched in front of the Medford Friends Meeting House on a cold, rainy Saturday and were in a photograph in the *Burlington County Times* on February 16. **John Brzostoski**, who also participated in the peace demonstration, told the newspaper reporter that "this war is just a distraction from the problems we are having hunting down terrorists."

**Os Cresson** announced the publication of a book, based on journals and photographs of his parents, Rebecca and Osborne Cresson, during their two-year stay in Afghanistan in the late 40's. Rebecca wrote her journals while teaching and homemaking, and Osborne took pictures. All proceeds from the sale of the book will be donated to the Afghanistan Reconstruction Program of the American Friends Service Committee.

**Mary Eysmans**, a resident of Lumberton Leas, had her picture in the *The Philadelphia Inquirer* (March 9, p. L4), holding up a batch of 2002 federal income tax forms, as she and other AARP volunteers were getting ready to help seniors fill out their tax returns. She is one of thousands of volunteers nationwide who annually help more than 27 million people prepare their returns at over 10,000 sites. Mary and other Burlington County volunteers work at the Mt. Laurel Library and other locations in the county.

## MEET OUR NONAGENARIANS

by Margaret Melstrom

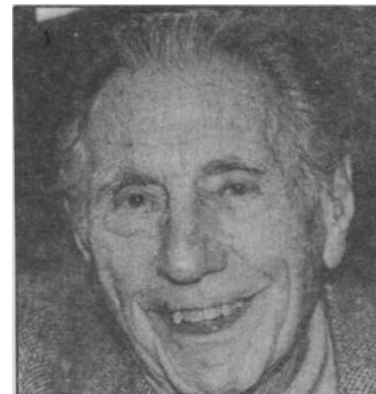
**Walter Haase**, Apt. 68, looks years younger than his age. When people ask him how he stays so young, he always says that it is his genes. But his life shows that it is more than genes. He actively uses his spirit, body, and mind in his daily life.

After marrying his wife, **Joyce**, Walter became a Quaker over 50 years ago. His religion gives him the spiritual support he needs.

Walter works out at the gym three times a week. He has been following this regimen for 12 years, and his fit, trim appearance shows the benefits of physical exercise.

He also keeps mentally active. Joyce says, "Walter has a never-ending interest in the things around him." Walter says, "I have never lost my sense of curiosity and like to continue learning."

Walter lived for long periods of time in Germany and Italy before coming to the U.S. In all three countries he has been interested in music, literature, history, and the culture of the people. He keeps up his language skills by reading German, French, and Italian newspapers on the computer as well as U.S. newspapers and magazines to keep up with world affairs. Walter and Joyce go to Europe almost every year – most often to Italy for his "Italian fix." And the Haases often go to Philadelphia for concerts and other cultural events. Indeed, Walter does have many interests and is much involved in the world.



Walter Haase

photo by M. Rubin

## BIRDS AND THE BIG SNOW

by Gertrude Marshall

The blizzard of 2003 coincided with the Great Backyard Bird Count, the latter organized annually and tallied by the National Audubon Society and Cornell University with participants all over North America, including a number of Medford Leas residents. The storm also coincided with a visit from our daughter Libbie, a Eugene, Oregon, resident where snow is rather rare.

A big snowstorm brings in all kinds of birds, the usual visitors but also rarities to gladden a birder's heart. February 16 and 17 were days when we and the birds were challenged for our food: we in long lines to the buffet provided by our devoted food staff, the birds crowded around our patio door and the nearby feeders. We kept refilling our bird bath as water is essential, and our defroster could not keep up with the cold and snow.

The snow kept falling, six inches, twelve inches, eighteen inches. Our daughter kept shoveling out a bare space on which to put seed for the ground feeders and restocking the tube and hanging feeders. Along with the birds were those opportunists – gray squirrels – rats with furry tails to birders, needing food and reassurance just as we. As Libbie kept shoveling out a bare space for food, we could hear and see the Medford Leas crew, six or seven strong, shoveling clear the walkway in our court.

The sight from our patio was beautiful beyond description, the snow falling silently making a soft white cover over everything, and birds both drab and colorful staying close: Cardinals, House Finches already turning raspberry, Robins, three kinds of Woodpeckers finding our suet on the trees. Among the rarities were a Fox Sparrow (bigger than other sparrows), a female Red Winged Blackbird, a female Purple Finch, and a Brown Creeper. We saw eighteen species at one sitting, a record for us. We were filled with awe and reverence at the beauty and power of nature.

## WHO'S NEW

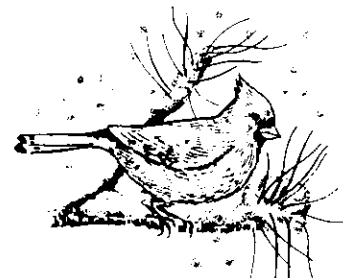
Sylvia Friedman and Bernard Rosen, Apt 16, feel that they have finally arrived home in Medford Leas after making three moves in the last twelve months. Both had very long, productive marriages and lost their spouses in the same year, 1994. Two years later Bernie asked Sylvia to drive him home from the doctor's when his leg had just been put in a cast, and the two decided to cast their lives together.

Sylvia grew up in Manhattan and taught elementary school there for a few years before moving to South Jersey with her late husband, Alfred. She became a school psychologist and worked in New Jersey and Philadelphia public schools. She later earned a doctorate at Penn and began to practice marriage and family therapy. During these busy years she brought up two sons and was active in many organizations concerned with human rights and mental health; she also had a keen interest in fitness programs and the arts.

Bernie grew up in Baltimore, attended Maryland Law School, and practiced law for five years before joining the law department of the U.S. Department of Defense, from which he retired in 1985. He served in the infantry and artillery in W.W. II for four years and for two years was in the Korean emergency in the Department of Defense legal branch. Bernie had just come off the board of Planned Parenthood in Camden, where he and his wife had been active for many years.

Together Bernie and Sylvia have three children and four grandchildren. They have traveled to Europe together and enjoy theater, music, and ballet in Philadelphia. They expect to enjoy swimming and bird watching at Medford Leas.

by Margaret Maelstrom



## OF DUCT TAPE AND PLASTIC SHEETING

by Hana Stranska

The Department of Homeland Security's advice on how to fortify our homes against terrorist attacks by laying in supplies of duct tape and plastic sheeting has been received by some media and members of the public with less than high seriousness. It reminds me of a World War II experience I'd like to share with you:

It happened during the London Blitz of 1940, while bombs were raining down on us. Mrs. Ford, our kindhearted landlady, had me and other tenants of her modest boarding house sitting together in her basement living room, which served as our air raid shelter night after night. The locale was Bayswater, a district not far from London's West End. Lord Gort, as usual, sat on my lap, gently purring. The name, I might add, was that of an illustrious British military leader, bestowed by patriotic Mrs. Ford on her now aging overweight cat. "I got 'im so 'e should chase mice, but 'e's too lazy now. Anyway, where are the mice to go, now that we use the basement as our shelter? They 'ave to live somewhere, the poor dears." I daresay many of us tenants could have supplied forceful ideas as to where the mice should go, but we refrained. Nor did we say anything when later a German bomb shook the whole house, and Mrs. Ford moaned: "Why, that poor German pilot up there; 'e 'as a mother, too."

Lord Gort, shaken up by the commotion, had left my lap for an object near the window, which now came crashing down with a loud clatter. "What was that; what happened?" gasped the more excitable among us, thinking that another bomb was about to send the whole house down on our heads.

It's all right, don't fret, it's only the Hoover," said Mrs. Ford. Following her glance, I saw that her vacuum cleaner had indeed crashed to the floor. I also saw that her ping-pong table, its legs folded up, its green surface turned toward the window, stood on its edge, and I deduced that

the collapsed Hoover had probably stood propped up against the table. I looked at the other tenants, and we all shook our heads. Before any of us could ask why a vacuum cleaner and a ping-pong table should be paired in such a peculiar way, Mrs. Ford blithely supplied the explanation.

"I read in the paper that people stick strips of tape crisscross over the windows to keep out blast and falling glass splinters. I 'ate sticking anything over my windows, so I thought if I put the ping-pong table up against the window, that would keep the splinters out."

"But didn't you think the table might be blown into the room by the blast?" I asked.

"Yes, of course. That's why I put the Hoover there, to hold the table."

We all shrugged our shoulders and said nothing. What would have been the good of hurting the feelings of this gentle "architect" of our air raid shelter? Mrs. Ford, as if guessing our feelings, now smilingly removed both Hoover and ping-pong table and suggested that we pray to the dear Lord instead.

Sound advice, equally applicable to our present situation?



## EASTER EXHIBIT

by Hana Stranska

Appropriately for Easter, a rich collection of decorated eggs has been made available by **Nancy Martin** and her daughter for display in the Atrium glass case. As always, the exhibit is thoughtfully selected and organized by **Cynthia Mott**, and artfully displayed and arranged by **Todd Butler**. A history of the collection will appear in the basket next to the glass case. Enjoy the display!

**NEW LIBRARY BOOKS**

by Becky Monego

**Fiction**

- Allende, I. *City of the Beasts*  
 Crichton, M. *Prey*  
 Drabble, M. *The Seven Sisters*  
 Enger, L. *Peace like a River*  
 George, M. *Mary Called Magdalene*  
 Karon, J. *Esther's Gift*  
 Krentz, J. *Light and Shadow*  
 McCullough, C. *The October Horse*  
 Mason, D. *The Piano Tuner*  
 Trevor, W. *The Story of Lucy Gault*  
 Walker, A. *The Way Forward with a Broken Heart*

**Mystery**

- Biehl, M. *Doctored Evidence*  
 Brown, R. *Hotspur*  
 Brown, S. *The Crush*  
 Connors, B. *Tailspin*  
 Coulter, S. *The Fenwyth Curse*  
 Fairstein, L. *Cold Hit*  
 Follett, K. *Hornet Flight*  
 Greeley, A. *The Bishop in the West Wing*  
 Haig, B. *The Kingmaker*  
 Hillerman, T. *The Wailing Wind*  
 Kelley, J. *Wrong Beach Island*  
 Kellerman, F. *Stone Kiss*  
 Koontz, D. *In the Light of the Moon*  
 Magnan, P. *Innocence*  
 Sloan, S. *Act of God*  
 Smith, M. *December 6*

**Non Fiction**

- Dollemore, D. *Seniors Guide to Pain-free Living*  
 D'Souza, D. *What's So Great About America*  
 Friedman, T. *Longitudes and Attitudes*  
 Gore, A. *Joined at the Heart*  
 Hakim, J. *Freedom: a History of the U.S.*  
 Mathis, M. *Cherry Hill, New Jersey (p)*  
 Prose, F. *The Lives of the Muses*  
 Rogers, N. *Halloween*  
 Roberts, J. *Hardball on the Hill*  
 Safina, C. *Eye of the Albatross*  
 Sheindlin, J. *Keep It Simple, Stupid*  
 Shell, E. *The Hungry Gene*  
 Trump, D. *The America We Deserve*  
 Williamson, M. *Everyday Grace*  
 Woodward, B. *Bush at War*  
*World Almanac 2003*

**Biography**

- Giuliani, R. *Leadership*  
 Morgan, E. *Benjamin Franklin*  
 Roosevelt, D. *Grandmere*

**SPRING COURSE AT MEDFORD U**

by Kay Cooley

"Our Founding Fathers" taught by Dr. H. Robert Hedrick will be the offering of Medford University this spring. With so much interest generated in this period of American history by recent bestsellers, this course is sure to be engrossing.

Dr. Hedrick's three lectures last summer linking Thomas Jefferson, F. Scott Fitzgerald, and Ayn Rand in a study of the American Dream were immensely popular. He returned in November for a class on Ernest Hemingway.

In this six-class series, Dr. Hedrick will devote a lecture to each of five Founding Fathers: Benjamin Franklin, George Washington, John Adams, Alexander Hamilton, and James Madison. An introductory lecture will set the stage and define the milieu, not only of the colonies but also of seventeenth and eighteenth century intellectual thought as it influenced the Founders. Thomas Jefferson will serve as a linking thread throughout the course.

Classes will meet in the Auditorium on Tuesdays from 3:30 to 5:00 P.M. on April 15, 22, and 29, and May 6, 13, and 27. Enrollment flyers and forms were distributed in March. Extra copies are available at the Front Desk. For more information, call Kay Cooley at 518-0109.

**Glimpses of Spring**

Forest is furry with little new leaves  
 that reach and swing in April's breeze  
 to tickle the cumuli riding high.

Spent spring storm  
 left flooded stream  
 and smoke-pocked  
 evening sky

Fog covers the meadow.  
 Croci fold their kirtles close.

S.J.B.

## WHO'S NEW

**Susan (Wheeler) Arnold** already feels quite at home in Apt. 68, because about 30 of her friends and acquaintances from Moorestown are just a short walk away. She and her late husband, David, lived in Moorestown for over 45 years and before that in Philadelphia for 13 years.

Susan grew up in Geneva, IL, graduated from Smith College, and was married right after college. David worked in advertising and fundraising while Susan raised a daughter and son. After the children were in their teens, Susan went back to school and got an M. Ed. degree in psychology from Temple and did two additional years of graduate work. She then held positions as a school psychologist in the Northern Burlington Junior and Senior High School and, following retirement, worked as a long-term substitute at Evesham, Lenape, and Indian Mills schools.

In addition to seven trips to Australia to visit with her daughter's family, the Arnolds attended Elderhostels and enjoyed independent travel during school vacations.

David died in 2002. Susan's children and son-in-law helped her get settled in her new home. Susan has four grandchildren whom she hopes to visit this year. Favorite leisure-time activities are knitting and sewing, reading, and traveling.

by Ellen Stimler

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## ANNUAL PLANT SALE

by Dottie Kriebel and Ellen Wiener

The annual plant sale will be held on Thursday, May 8 in the Estaugh Mall from 8:00 a.m. until noon. Residents and staff are encouraged to postpone buying their spring plants until then, so that the plants are less likely to suffer in the cold nights still ahead.

The sale will be offering hanging baskets, geraniums, New Guinea impatiens, petunias, ageratum, and other varieties of flowering plants

as well as herbs, tomatoes, and peppers. Prices will be below retail. Profits from the plant sale will help pay for flowers in the public rooms during the season when there are no flowers in the cutting garden.

Once again, residents using wheeled vehicles and walkers may choose their plants the night before, May 7, between 6:30 and 7:30 p.m.

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## MEDFORD LEAS AQUARIUM

by Kitty Katzell

Before **Ray Katzell** moved to Medford Leas, he had had an aquarium of tropical fish in his home. Once here, he got permission to install the 29-gallon tank that is in the Activities Room. Over the years, he tended it, with assistance from other residents and from staff. At one time, there were at least 20 fish in the tank, and it is enjoyed by residents, Day Care children, visitors, and staff.

A "committee" takes care of feeding the fish: **Linda Schultz**, Therapeutic Recreation staff, weekday mornings; **Jerry Pidcock**, Saturday mornings; **Tina Mecray**, Sunday mornings; Courtyard Dining staff, Monday to Saturday evenings; and **Kitty Katzell**, Sunday evenings. Kitty also shops for food and supplies.

While Ray was in good health, he regularly checked the acidity/alkalinity of the water, and did the things required to maintain a healthy tank. Since his illness, those duties have been neglected because no one on the "committee" knew what to do. There are now only three or four fish left, most having died of old age or perhaps an imbalance in the water.

Because the aquarium is enjoyed by so many, it is desirable to maintain it. So this is an appeal to readers. If you would be willing to take over the chair of the Aquarium Committee, please call **Kitty Katzell**, 3672. The other committee members can continue to perform their functions, or not, if someone who knows about the care of tropical fish will just come to their rescue.

## ALL ABOUT PURPLE MARTINS

by Elmer Rowley

A Purple Martin will consume 2,000 mosquitoes a day. True or false? Despite this widely held belief, this is false, according to Allen Jackson who spoke to the monthly Bird Club meeting on Wednesday, February 5. Jackson is a senior biologist who recently retired from the Federal Fish and Wildlife Service and who, as a member of the Purple Martin Conservation Association, is now devoting his full time to the maintenance of or the establishment of new colonies of Purple Martins. He dispelled the myth by pointing out that martins generally feed in flight about 100 feet above ground and prefer larger prey, such as dragonflies. And, anyway, mosquitoes are mostly out during the early morning or evening hours when the martins are not feeding.

A number of interested members of the club braved one of the coldest mornings of the winter and met with Jackson at the vegetable garden area behind the Nature Center where several residents maintained Purple Martin houses. He made extensive recommendations for improvement. He found in the half-dozen houses little evidence of Purple Martin activity but extensive evidence of Starlings and House Sparrows. He recommended that the area be cleared of some of the scrub growth and that all of the houses be removed except for three belonging to **Wayne Marshall, Robert Minter,** and **Elizabeth Wakeley.** For these he suggested some important modifications. With these changes and monitoring by the three Purple Martin "landlords," and/or other members of the club, there is a good potential for a thriving colony. Location in the midst of the "farm" poses no problem, for the martins thrive where there is human activity. A colony of from a dozen to 24 pairs would be a desirable target.

Purple Martins are migratory and spend the winter largely in Brazil. They begin their northern migration to reach the South in March and arrive here in early April. Their return flight starts in August. About 35 percent of the fledglings survive to return the next year.

Jackson offered to come back from his home in Millville whenever we need him to follow up on his recommendations. We were privileged to have him as our speaker and to share his expertise. He maintains two Purple Martin colonies and proudly tells of fledging 300 birds last year. He is a licensed bird bander and has now banded over 3,000 Purple Martins. In addition to his own colonies, he advises and assists about 70 other "landlords" in southern New Jersey. In recognition of his energy and devotion, the Purple Martin Conservation Association named him national "Purple Martin Landlord of Year 2002." All of us felt that the award was well deserved.

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## ART GALLERY NEWS

by Helen Vukasin

Medford Leas Art Gallery has an innovative exhibit for April, 2003: The Photography and Poetry of Marcia Windness Coward. Marcia will share some of her poems and many of her photographs.

Marcia studied at the University of Wisconsin. She also studied in France where she learned the techniques of the stereo camera that produces two images per slide for a three-dimensional perspective. She has done public relations for the Philadelphia Orchestra, the Philadelphia Theatre Company, the Philadelphia Ad Club, the Moorestown Friends School, Friends of Coriell Institute and many others. Her work has been exhibited at the Moorestown Library and juried exhibitions at the Center for the Arts of Southern New Jersey and the Perkins Center for the Arts, where she won a Juror's Award.

Marcia Coward's grandparents, the late Charles and Jessie Coward, were Medford Leas residents, and her brother and sister-in-law, Paul and Judy Coward, live at Lumberton Leas.

The opening reception is on Tuesday, April 8, 3:00 to 4:30 pm.

## BOOKS WE ENJOYED READING

*Ed. Note: In this space we share comments on books we found worth reading, and we encourage our readers to send us brief reviews of the books they liked especially.*

**The Clouds Above**, by Andrew Greig (in ML library). Today the perimeter wires are rusted over on a forgotten airfield in Britain, and the Nissan huts are empty shells, but the author returns us to this place in the summer of 1940 to recreate the wartime life among the young flyers.

This is a novel of love and war the writer has reconstructed from old diaries, letters, and photographs, giving a very accurate picture of wartime Britain. He makes us feel and sense the time in a warm July and the start of the Battle of Britain. This is a beautiful love story of an RAF pilot, Ken, and a RAF radar operator, Stella. The story captures their youth, hopes, desires, and fears. The battles in the sky above are so real that the reader becomes a part of it all and shares their experiences, knowing that their lives will never be the same again. In the end, there will only be black/white pictures to remind us that their lives and days were colorful with excitement and anticipation about the future. Andrew Greig's gift as a story teller is so compelling that it will not be easy to forget, Ken, Stella, their families, and friends. **By George Rubin**

**Sea Glass**, by Anita Shreve (in ML library). A young bride and her husband start their married life in a rented house by the sea. It is the summer of 1927. Nearby lives McDermott, a drifter and loner, who works in the mill with Alphonse, a young boy who lives with his mother and is part of a large family. With labor problems looming at the mill, the young couple's lives will intersect with that of a young wife, Honora, whose closest friend is Vivian, a free spirit and socialite from Boston.

While trying to hold on to the things in their lives that matter most, all of the characters find they are changed both by circumstances they cannot

control and the flaws that can be fatal in their own personalities. They all are searching for love and understanding, but it eludes them like the tide going out to sea, leaving only pieces of glass in the sand. Anita Shreve, as she has done in *The Pilot's Wife* and *The Last Time They Met*, among her other novels, makes the reader experience the joys and sorrows of people. The individual characters in this book are as colorful as the sea glass that Honora will hunt for on the beach and possess forever. **By George Rubin**

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## SEVENTY YEARS AGO

by Gertrude Marshall

This year, March 4 was Mardi Gras, but my mind went back seventy years to March 4, 1933. That was the day Franklin Roosevelt was first inaugurated as President, and his first act was to close the banks, many of which were in a perilous state owing to the Great Depression. I was a junior at Bryn Mawr College, and a friend and I were planning to go to Philadelphia that night to hear the New York Philharmonic Orchestra perform its last concert in the city. We had no tickets, but figured we would have an easy time getting them, because no one would have cash for a concert. But when we got there, a long line snaked around Broad Street and west on Locust, past the Academy of Music. In spite of our worries, we eventually got tickets for dollar seats in the amphitheatre. My memory of the program is a bit less clear, but I think it was Bruno Walter conducting Schubert's C Major Symphony, a treat well worth the long wait and our hoarded cash.

### IN MEMORIAM

<b>Robert A. Peterson</b>	<b>February 14</b>
<b>Evelyn Gusky</b>	<b>February 18</b>
<b>William Walker</b>	<b>February 22</b>
<b>Ruth Lightfoot</b>	<b>February 23</b>
<b>Jean Ewing</b>	<b>February 23</b>
<b>Alice Spinney</b>	<b>March 3</b>
<b>Elizabeth W. Burton</b>	<b>March 8</b>
<b>Richard W. Goslin, Jr.</b>	<b>March 8</b>

## THE CHILD CARE CENTER

by Maggie Woodard

One of the delights of living at Medford Leas is occasionally seeing groups of happy, beautiful young children walking or riding through our halls. These children attend the Gloria C. Bregman Child Day Care and Pre-School, housed on the ground floor of the Community building. The program was started fifteen years ago primarily for the children of the staff. It has been ably and creatively directed by **Bea Chawla** for the past ten years. Mrs. Chawla graduated from Mt. Holyoke College, *magna cum laude*, having majored in psychology, with a minor in education. She also earned a master's degree from Teachers College, Columbia University. After teaching fourth and fifth grade for three years, she ran her own nursery school while raising two daughters.

Mrs. Chawla's goals for the children differ according to their ages, but in general she wants them to grow and develop at their own rate, be happy, and see the joy in learning. She emphasizes that there is a planned program, that it is not just baby-sitting. The infants are given room to grow. They sit on the floor, free to move and explore, when not napping. With the toddlers, language and sensory activities are important, as well as learning to get along with each other and follow directions.

All groups have art and music experiences. The two-to-five year olds' curriculum includes science, language, and numbers. The Pre-schoolers (ages 3½ to 5) are introduced to letters and sounds, with weekly themes beginning with the letter of the week. Learning is mainly "hands on."

The children play outside every day, weather permitting. There is a fenced play area for the Toddlers and Pre-toddlers which is equipped with a sandbox, swings, tree house, barrel to crawl through, two slides, a helicopter, and a car which moves.

Promoting intergenerational relationships is an important goal of the program. Toddlers interact

with Estaugh residents and Pre-schoolers with Haddon and Estaugh residents twice a week. Dancing, music, art, and cooking activities are planned by Therapeutic Recreational staff (**Linda Schultz, Pam Fake, Kathy Skeenes, and Gerry Stride**.) Games, including some played with a parachute and balloons, are also enjoyed by all.

The staff consists of eight full-time and two part-time workers, plus Bea. **Renee Jerome-Schwarz** is the Assistant Director. Fifty-five children are enrolled; some attend every day, some part-time. The children are divided into four groups:

- 12 Infants, ages 6 weeks to 18 months
- 6 Pre-toddlers, ages 18 months to 2 years
- 15 Toddlers, ages 2 to 3½ years
- 22 Pre-schoolers, ages 3½ to 5 years

The Center admits children from the outside, on a room-available basis, at full tuition; staff pay a discount rate. The hours are 6:45 A.M. to 5:15 P.M. Monday through Friday.

Eight residents volunteer time with the children, using their special talents to add new activities. **Becky Monego** and **Sally Eynon** read to groups. **Betsy Hoskins** reads to individual children. **Mort Bregman** comes every day; he sits and visits with the children; he is "grandpa" to everyone. **Cynthia Mott** plans special art experiences every week. **Nanette Hanslowe** and **Inge Raven** offer special music activities. **Bea Smolens** provides a variety of creative activities; her unique contribution is the little books with photographs and rhymes which she makes. In the past, **Gertrude** and **Wayne Marshall** have brought their enthusiasm and expertise on birds to the children, and many other residents have shared hobbies and experiences. This program is first-rate; residents can be very proud of it!

*Note: Mrs. Chawla would welcome additional help from residents. She suggests sharing areas of expertise with the children (rock and other collections, travel, et cetera). This might entail one hour of time for a visit; even one visit a year would be welcome. Additionally, someone to stay with the children during nap-time (12:30-2:30P.M.) would be very helpful, enabling staff to attend meetings. Mrs. Chawla can be reached at extension 3039.*

## MEDFORD LEAS LIFE

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the World Web at [www.medfordleas.org](http://www.medfordleas.org). The e-mail  
address is <[medleas.org](mailto:medleas.org)> When using FAX or e-mail,  
specify the name of the person to receive the message.

**Deadline for submissions: 10<sup>th</sup> of the month preceding  
publication**

## CRYPTOGRAM

by Russell Hill

Here is the solution to the February Cryptogram:

**NOR ROUGH, NOR BARREN, ARE THE  
WINDING WAYS OF HOAR ANTIQUITY,  
BUT STREWN WITH FLOWERS.**

T(homas) WHARTON

This was a tough one. Even the relatively few who solved it  
correctly said it was difficult. They were:

**Lydia Andrews, Joan Bellman, Ruth Blattenberger,  
Florence Brudon, Don Davis, Lorretta Elkin, Barbara  
Heizman, Helen Peterson, Betty Preston, Doris Salati,  
John Winton and Marie Winton.** Whoever solved this one  
deserves to be mentioned.

Here is the March cryptogram:

**FDWBV NBRNQV UEDZC N  
MNLEJBYW ENV UEJ ENXXDJVU YH  
NBB BDSJV. MJLNTVJ UEJQ UEDZC  
VY, UEJQ RNZU UY JZK UEJ ANZ'V  
LYZKDUDYZ.**

Please put answers in Box 45 by April 10.

