



Medford Leas LIFE

VOL. XXXII, No. 10

DECEMBER 2004

HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL

by Wil Britten

Noel, Noel...the Yuletide nears –
Our spirits rise – obscure our fears.
Here at the Leas we celebrate,
the many blessings on our plate.
Each year brings a share of new events,
and a list of brand new residents.
They all have talents wide and diverse –
Perhaps one might write a better verse!
But the year has come and nearly done,
so, Santa, listen: On your run,
stop by this place and don't delay.
Leave these gifts – just as we say.
For **Rhea Bardin** in Apt. 13 –
A book of stories – keep them clean!
Help me, Santa, I'm breaking my noggin
For a rhyme for Scrabbler **Kit Ellenbogen**.
For **Annie Foxworth** dig in your sack,
Find a ticket to France – she'd enjoy going back.
And, Santa, what gift could be neeta,
Than a writing tablet for **Goldworth, Anita?**
While in the Courts you tally,
Stop with a fishtank for our **Klos, Sally**.
No steaks or chops, Santa – let me warn
for vegetarian '**Lisbeth Hagendorn!**
Over to Lumberton fly real soon,
With a plant for **Sue and Raymond Kuhn**.
Julia Lyman chose this place
especially for its open space.
So grant her a chance to enjoy the views
Before the fields are ILUs!

St. Nick, on Christmas day,
A cup of cheer for **Fran and Edie Pray**.
Your rolling sleigh must gather no moss,
deal a perfect hand for **Alice Norcross!**
Now **McVaugh's** a name we know full well,
but not as **Jack and Isabelle**.
So visit these sibling relations of Ed –
Quietly – they may be in bed!
As your reindeer brave the cold,
a prescription to **Ruth and Bob Rosvold**.
And turning down another lane,
leave gifts for **Joe and Betty Swain**.
A Santagram's better than any post –
so deliver one to **Chris and Avivah Trost**.
As the big sleigh prepares to leave,
drop off a bike for **Yanai, Steve** –
And gifts for those we perhaps omitted –
after all, we're "elderwitted"!
So a **MERRY CHRISTMAS! (make it a roar)**
For all who joined us in the year '04!



NEW DATE FOR SUSAN PETTISS RECEPTION: DECEMBER 4

The Reception and book-signing to honor **Susan Pettiss** and co-author Lynne Taylor will now take place on December 4 in the Lounge from 2:30 to 4 p.m. Susan and Lynne will give a brief talk at 3 p.m. and will also autograph books on sale during the afternoon. The book, *After the Shooting Stopped*, is the story of Susan's activities as an UNRRA welfare worker in Germany from 1945 to 1947.

HOLIDAY DECORATIONS

by Margaret Melstrom

On November 30 **Fran Webb, Jeannette Muir, Louise Stiles**, and about 20 of Santa's enthusiastic helpers transformed the usually attractive main rooms of Medford Leas into a place that shows great Holiday spirit.

The Atrium was decorated with wreaths, Christmas cards with which we greet one another, and gingerbread houses designed, baked, and elaborately decorated by Medford Leas employees. The Lounge has a Christmas tree and decorations; the Library had poinsettias added to its shelves; the Colonial and Garden Dining Rooms have special wreaths; and the hallways are decorated. The Auditorium has two live trees that will be on stage for the staff Christmas show. All these additions will remain in place until January 4, when Santa's crew will "undecorate." The only thing that we residents were asked to do was to sign a personal card, which serves as a greeting card to all our friends at Medford Leas, and leave it at the front desk between November 15 and 30. The cards were then attached to the walls of the Atrium as an important part of the traditional annual holiday decorations.

HALLOWEEN: ONE BIG PARTY

By Maggie Woodard

Halloween began early this year on October 20, when 54 fifth-grade boys and girls from two classes at Saint Mary of the Lakes school arrived at Medford Leas with 12 scarecrows which they had made. After meeting briefly with **Gerry Stride**, Director of Community Life, they joined residents from Assisted Living and John Estaugh at tables in the Activities Room. Each child had created a story about Frankenstein and printed it on a decorated paper figure. They read these stories to the residents as they enjoyed juice and cookies together. Their art teacher, Joan Harley, came with them and explained how the scarecrows were made from scraps of cast-off clothes that the children had brought from home and stuffed with paper. Several children worked on each scarecrow, each named and its creators listed on an attached card. The scarecrows were placed on benches in the covered walks around the parking lot – to be enjoyed by all residents and visitors. Mrs. Angiletta, the principal, organized the project. This is the second year the group has come to Medford Leas.



photo by Margery Rubin

During the following week, 11 more scarecrows, these made by staff and stuffed with straw, appeared in the walkways. One scarecrow, the

Monster Maintenance Man, was not made with straw. It was placed outside the main entrance. This Man, Director of Maintenance **Jim Wolosin's** idea, was made from the metal air-conditioning ducts saved from the Day Care construction work. **Walt George, George LeMunyon,** and **Ron Kleer,** Maintenance Staff, worked on it for about 15 hours, giving it flashing lights and a face that lights up at night. It was built underneath the auditorium near the pool. Nineteen and one-half feet tall, the Man required 15 men and 45 minutes to carry it up to its assigned spot. The staff's time and effort paid off, however, for the Man won first prize!

Second prize was won by Resident Services' Red Hat Society lady. Third prize went to **Gerry Stride's** "Manuel Laborer," a Mexican man with a striped blanket sitting next to a large green balloon cactus.

On October 17, companions and volunteer residents pushed Estaugh, Assisted Living, and Woolman residents on wheelchairs, or walked with them, to view the scarecrows and the decorated and sculpted pumpkins displayed on a table in the Atrium. Prizes for these pumpkins were awarded in four categories. Two winners were judged the "Prettiest," **Karen Raynor,** Operations Secretary, and **Mary Needham,** Dining Services. **Reese Steinagle,** Dining Services, had two winners: "Scariest" and "Cutest." **Craig Gower,** Maintenance, also had two winners: "Most Talented" and "Most Original" for the large pumpkin he carved with a large spider across the top, all in one piece.

Finally, everyone went back to the Activities Room for another party, with entertainment and refreshments. A Mummer's Trio, dressed in gilt and sequin-decorated costumes and hats, played the accordion, banjo, and saxophone, singing old favorites like "Roll Out the Barrel." Staff were dressed in blue jeans. Also present were 32 children from the "Just Children" Day Care and their teachers. Many of the children had attended the Medford Leas Day Care and their teachers, Judy Bush and Kelli Braddock, had taught there. The children sang, danced, and clapped with the

Mummers. Residents clapped and sang. One three-year-old, Emily (staff member Mary Needham's daughter), lustily sang the "Grand Old Flag" word for word, followed by the Trio's playing it and everyone singing and clapping. Several of the children danced. Needless to say, refreshments were served (cider and gingersnaps) and a grand time was had by all! Life is never dull at Medford Leas!



photo by Margery Rubin

CHRISTMAS EVE PROGRAM

by Kitty Katzell

It has become traditional for Medford Leas to have a Christmas Eve program of carols and readings in the Auditorium. The program begins at 6:45 p.m., when taped music from Handel's *Messiah* is played while residents, staff, and their families are assembling. That is followed by a service composed of readings from Old and New Testament scriptures related to the birth of Jesus, interspersed with Christmas carols, for which song sheets are provided. The Vespers Committee extends a cordial invitation to all to participate in this holiday tradition.

IMPROVEMENT PLAN BEFORE MEDFORD PLANNING BOARD

by Ellen Stimler

The Medford Leas Improvement Plan was presented to the Medford Planning Board on October 27, with an indication that a Township ordinance giving the final go-ahead might be forthcoming before Thanksgiving.

While this was the first time that the members of the Planning Board were acquainted with the Medford Leas plans, the professional staff of the Board and representatives of Medford Leas Administration had been meeting over many weeks to iron out the wording of the Developers Agreement. This is the basic document that must be signed before it can be presented to the Planning Board for their approval. Then it must be submitted to the Township Committee and made into an ordinance, which is the legally binding document that can start the ball rolling. However, as has been stressed at many meetings with Medford Leas residents, the ordinance will be just the starting point. Many additional approvals are required from various county and state agencies before ground can be broken anywhere.

Bill Murphy, Director of Operations, started off the presentation with a comprehensive description of the levels of care available, the self-sustaining nature of Medford Leas, the arboretum, and the needs for improvements after 35 years, aided by large maps displayed on an easel. He talked about the affordable housing units that are part of the plan and said 60% of them would be two-bedroom units, 20% three-bedroom, and another 20% one-bedroom. In response to a question, he said that there would be no access to Medford Leas from the affordable housing complex. When he showed the line of 25 new duplex independent living units planned along New Freedom Road, he was asked whether these units could be seen from the road and also how it would be possible to absorb these new residents without first enlarging the core facilities. Bill answered that the new units would be built behind a buffer area and that there would be no problem

absorbing the new residents because the resident population previously served had been reduced by the closing of Woolman Commons and the combination of units in some Courts.

Project Manager Jim Price, of Aegis Property Group, explained that the Improvement Plan was to be built in two phases: In phase 1, expected to be completed by 2009 or 2010, 125 new independent living units would be added; in phase 2, which he said might be completed "in 2014, 2019, or never," as many as 80 could be added. Asked about the density of construction envisioned, Price said it would average four units per acre.

John Martin, the architect for the Improvement Plan, answered some questions about the design and location of the new units along New Freedom Road. He said the existing buffer along the road will not be touched and will minimize the visual impact. The units will be of redwood or cedar siding and consistent with the Rushmore design.

After the completion of these formal presentations, the chairman asked for comments from the floor. Three of the 22 residents who attended came forward in turn.

Beth Wray asked who will "own" the affordable housing and whether there are any other CCRCs known to have built affordable housing. Nobody among the Township staff or board members seemed to know of any. Dennis Funaro, Director of Planning and Zoning, emphasized at that point that "if the affordable housing doesn't go forward, there can't be any expansion."

Ed House wanted to know when the Developers Agreement might be available. He was told "in a couple of weeks."

Kitty Katzell, president of MLRA, handed Dennis Funaro a letter and then read its content to the Board. The letter reported the unanimous action of the MLRA Board and the raised-hand votes taken at three MLRA meetings at which a large majority of residents signified their approval of the Improvement Plan.

MONDAY MORNING COFFEES

by Ellen Stimler

No more Monday Morning Blues at Medford Leas. There's something interesting and important to look forward to: The Coffee Hour with **Bill Murphy** and guests, usually at 10:30 a.m. in the Lounge.



photo by Margery Rubin

It's a new and more direct way of communication between the Administration and the residents. It's like a news conference, with Bill, Director of Operations, making brief opening remarks to tell about any new developments or plans on the campus. After that, it's open season for questions from the residents about anything that's on their minds. Usually Bill brings along one of the Medford Leas department heads or other staff, and then the questions shift to the guest's particular area of expertise. Among the staff who have been fielding question to date have been **Dr. Keith Quinton**, Medical Director; **Heather Foord**, Chief Financial Officer; **Dolores Redner**, Director of Nursing; **Jane Weston**, Director of Marketing and Community Relations; **Lorraine LaPollo**, Director of Dining Services, and **Brad Mauger**, Executive Chef; **Pat Wilus**, Director of Human Resources; and **Frank Simmons**, Pharmacist. All of them stayed as long as there were questions to answer.

Dr. Quinton, who had a standing-room-only audience, said in his opinion arthritis topped cancer and heart disease as the condition

affecting most residents and that more research was needed in this field. Lorraine responded to residents' questions about the preparation of fish, which they said lacked flavor. She promised the availability of a new sauce. She also explained at some length the temporary problem with the training of new staff in the kitchen and the dining rooms. Aspects of the Improvement Plan, the Affordable Housing Project, marketing of new and larger units, and the future supply of water and sewer allocations were among the questions discussed.

Several residents spoke up in appreciation of the Coffee Hour and the chance to get prompt answers to their concerns and check out rumors they may have heard.

WELCOME TO THE COURTS

by Ellen Stimler

Rose Cruikshank said "The wonderful breakfasts in the Coffee Shop are worth the whole move" from her prior home in Rushmore to Apartment 62 in the Courts. Rose's enthusiasm for those breakfasts applies not only to the attractive food choices but also to the very helpful and courteous staff. "The place is unique," she concluded.

Although Rose's new apartment has a well-equipped kitchen, she said she doesn't miss her own cooking but expects to do some during holiday and other visits from her two children and six grandchildren.

Rose is well known at Medford Leas for her funny stories which lighten up the annual Fitness Luncheon. She feels humor makes life more bearable and is happy that she seems to have been born with that sense of humor. Rose also likes to do research on unusual donations to the Thrift Shop. Rose doesn't drive any more, so she phones the Burlington County Library, and they find the books she needs for her research and deliver them to the bookmobile.

ELECTION DAY AT MEDFORD LEAS

by Bart and Colette Bartholomew

Thanks to the efforts of late resident **Newlin Smith**, Medford Leas is the designated voting place for District 9 in Medford. The County Board of Elections ordinarily assigns six poll workers to conduct the voting with two voting machines. Three of the workers at District 9 are residents **Colette** and **Evert (Bart) Bartholomew** and **Margaret Roberts**. One additional worker and one more machine were supplied for the recent election.

There are 1,424 registered voters in District 9, and 81 percent of them voted in this election, the largest turnout ever. Slightly over a third of the total – 498 – live in Medford Leas. Most of the morning there were two long lines of voters.

Colette, Bart, and Margaret recall these interesting incidents at this last election:

- Many children came with one or both parents. They love to go into the curtained machine and “help” mom or dad to vote. Another attraction for kids is the tank with exotic varieties of colorful fish that reside in the Activities Room.



- Some Medford Leas residents with very poor eyesight or who use electric carts vote by absentee ballot. For others with these handicaps it's a matter of pride to use the machines. The machines in Burlington County can be adjusted so that residents in wheel chairs can usually reach the board where it takes only a touch to register one's vote.
- The large turnout brought many first-time voters – not necessarily 18-year-olds but also

people who hadn't voted in other elections. It was easy to spot them. They didn't know how to operate the machines.

- Newspapers were full of stories about the importance of provisional ballots. Whereas in previous elections provisional ballots in this district varied from zero to three, this year there were 16.
- One voter who had moved to Medford from Mt. Holly, and whose name wasn't on the register, was mistakenly told that she had to return to Mt. Holly to vote. She did this, only to be told she had to vote here by provisional ballot. She was justifiably peeved at getting this “run-around.”
- At other elections the workers take turns in taking an hour off to rest or eat. This time it was so busy that no one took that much time away. Fortunately they could get something at the Coffee Shop to bring back and eat “on the job.”
- At 8 o'clock the workers started the long process of closing up. A man came in at 8:02 asking for a provisional ballot. One worker opened up the provisional envelope for him. He was grateful. But a couple walking in at 8:30 was turned away.

Who were the winners here? Republicans won all contests, although Kerry, who carried New Jersey, got more votes here than any other Democrat running for office. It was Bush 619, Kerry 529. Congressman Jim Saxton won his 11th term, and Republicans were reelected to freeholder, county clerk, and sheriff.

MEDFORD U'S WINTER SPECIAL

Medford University's first-ever winter course will be offered on six Monday afternoons from January 10 through February 14, 2005. Karen Chambers, popular lecturer of last summer's series on evolution, will return to teach it. Course descriptions and enrollment forms will be distributed in early December.

PROTECTING THE RIGHT TO VOTE

by Kit Ellenbogen

Two of my lawyer friends, Lori and Liz, and I decided to answer the call from Project Election Protection and signed up by mail, asking to be sent to Orlando, Florida. We chose Florida because of the 2000 disaster there; we picked Orlando because there was a friend there willing to host all three of us. (All volunteers were responsible for all of their expenses.)

The non-partisan Election Protection program was designed to help safeguard the right of every American citizen to register, vote, and have that vote counted. The goal was to provide 25,000 trained poll monitors, including 5,000 lawyers and law students, to watch for problems and assist voters on the spot at more than 3,500 African-American and Latino precincts in at least 17 states.

We arrived in Orlando in the afternoon of Sunday, October 31, rented a car, and drove to Winter Park, where our friend lived. It was agreed in advance that there would be NO discussions about the upcoming election.

Election Protection had established two headquarters in Orlando: one in the Latino precincts and one in the African-American precincts. Our instructions requested our presence on Monday, November 1, 2004, for an all-day session at one of the headquarters located in a large empty storefront. At 5:00 p.m. the 28 lawyers who had come from outside Florida met at the Embassy Hotel to be paired with Florida lawyers who would be the drivers the next day. Each team was assigned to approximately five precincts. We were to monitor and provide legal assistance to the volunteers posted at each precinct.

At 7:00 p.m. all Orlando volunteers reported to a large Jehovah's Witnesses Church for a two-hour training for the next day. How to deal with the most commonly asked questions, how to

deal with poll workers who were violating election laws, rights of the disabled, rules governing first-time voters, when provisional ballots should be used, and proper procedures for resolution were outlined. At the end of the meeting, the organizers asked all lawyers to stand, then all those from the South, the East, the West and the North. It was inspirational.

Election Day: Our Florida lawyer, Kim, picked us up at 6:30 a.m. We had five precincts to cover, all of which were about 10 minutes from each other. We arrived at our first precinct, #616, at 6:55 a.m. to find about 70 people waiting in line and a major parking problem. After taking care of the parking, we were called to precinct #615, where we found these problems: No signs to the Handicapped Accessible entrance, registered voters turned away for lack of picture IDs (not required), voters not knowing which was their precinct, the elderly and disabled left to stand in the sun in 90-degree temperature, and many voters told they could only have provisional ballots (which may or may not be counted) because of lack of ID or change of address. We soon found out that these problems existed in each one of our five precincts. Our day, from 7:00 a.m. to 8:30 p.m., was spent in resolving these and many other complaints. Each one was written up on complaint forms and submitted to headquarters for study and possible future action. In addition, in a number of cases, the Commissioner of Elections had to be contacted to instruct poll workers to cease certain practices. Many of the voters thanked us and asked, "Where were you in 2000?"

Kim drove us back to Winter Park, where we learned that the poll workers provided the elderly with chairs in line as well as water and juice. Election Protection, where it existed, could only assure the right to vote, nothing more. In the end, we had the satisfaction of knowing that in five polling sites in Orlando, the registered voters exercised their right to vote. Wednesday morning three tired volunteers returned to cool New Jersey.

THE ESTAUGH BOARD

by Kay Cooley

The October 27 Annual Meeting of the Estaugh Board marked the beginning of their new year and initiated several changes in the Board's officers and trustees. **Bob Williams**, President, retired after serving 30 years, nine of them as President. Vice President Miller Biddle, M.D., has succeeded him. **Tom Zemaitis** has been named Vice President. **John Cope** and **Kay Cooley** have been appointed to serve another year as Treasurer and Secretary, respectively. Kay had been serving as Recording Secretary, but became Secretary upon her appointment to the Board. **Coles Roberts** retired after 28 years as a trustee.

Currently, the 13 members of the Board are: Miller Biddle, M.D., endocrinologist; Thomas E. Zemaitis, attorney; John L. Cope, builder-contractor; Kay Cooley, resident, former business manager, former secondary school teacher; **Nancy B. Barclay**, horticulturist and daughter of **Lewis Barton**, founder of Medford Leas; **Susan Cunningham**, Master Gardener, former owner-operator of catering business; **Walter E. Evans**, realtor, former bank vice-president; **Edward Ferraro**, resident, former corporate vice president and CFO; **Robert W. Gray**, resident, former career in American Friends Service Committee; **Takashi Moriuchi**, resident, a founder of Medford Leas, former head of Farmers Home Administration; **William C. Schmidt**, First Vice President, Legg Mason; **Doug Springer**, Management at Campbell's Soup Company; and **Janet S. Thomas**, nurse, Director of Education, Kennedy Health System. There are two vacancies.

Earlier in the year, the Board made significant changes in its method of governance. Some of them are: It changed the required percentage of Quaker members from 100% to 50% plus one. At least one trustee must be a resident. Terms will be limited to three three-year periods for all new members, and the President and Vice President will serve for only three years. The Board will "control the organization by their careful establishment of broad written policies" rather than by involvement in administrative detail. It regards these changes as "the beginning of an ongoing process to improve Board structure, function, and effectiveness."

NEW SPECIALS IN COFFEE SHOP

by Ellen Stimler

Dining Services has revived the special table in the Coffee Shop where interesting dishes using a combination of unusual ingredients and spices will be available one or two days a week during the lunch period.

Malynda Ratcliff will be showcasing her talents when she starts operating the table by herself, said Executive Chef **Brad Mauger**, who trained Malynda for this position and stood by her the first week to give her extra support.



photo by Ellen Stimler

Malynda grew up in a family of food lovers. Her parents own and operate The Hedger House restaurant in Chatsworth, where Malynda helps out at times. She graduated from the Burlington County Institute of Technology with a major in culinary arts. She has worked at Medford Leas for 2½ years, progressing from line server to cook's assistant.

In her first week at the table, Malynda's welcoming smile and interesting display attracted plenty of customers eager to try one of her four different varieties of chicken or tuna Caesar salad, with tasty dressings and garnishes.

JULY, AUGUST, AND SEPTEMBER EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH

Susan DeJacamo was Employee of the Month for July. Fun, friendly, dedicated, and multi-task oriented, she began her career at Medford Leas as a receptionist in April 1996. In April 2001 she was promoted to be the Assistant Director of the Human Resources Department. This position keeps her very busy and uses her many skills.

Patrick Dura, Employee of the Month for August, has worked at Medford Leas since December 2001. He has completed and maintains courses at Burlington Community College in anticipation of starting the RN program in January 2005. Residents and staff in John Woolman find him pleasant and fun; residents state that he is very caring, kind, and compassionate and will make a "terrific nurse"!

Debbie Farley, Employee of the Month for September, is quite versatile and has worked in several different departments since she was hired four years ago. Her present job is in the Health Center. She is organized, a computer whiz, and able to file at the speed of lightning. She is especially valued for her sense of humor, compassion and devotion to her job, coworkers, and residents.

Congratulations, Susan, Patrick, and Debbie, and many thanks for your good work at Medford Leas!

CORRECTION

In the article on Service in the Dining Rooms in the November issue on p. 7, the names of two veteran staff members were inadvertently omitted. They are **Terry Brudon**, 15 years, and Jackie **Lucas**, 13 ½ years. We also failed to mention that **Susan Callahan** substitutes as leader for Lydia when she is away. We apologize to these devoted employees and sincerely regret these omissions.

GLAMOUR FOR THRIFT SHOP DRESS

by Nannette Hanslowe

Going through the women's clothing donations one Monday morning, a Thrift Shop volunteer came upon a long silver velvet gown with the famous Laura Ashley label. Admiring and appreciating the beautiful gown, the volunteer speculated about the glamorous occasions where the gown had been worn and wondered just who among residents and staff might now have use for such an elegant dress.

The next day, when I wandered into the Thrift Shop, the volunteer, who happened to be a good friend and knew of my involvement with voice and musical competitions, showed me the dress and suggested that it was perfect for me. But I didn't even try it on, feeling I had too many dresses already.

Once back home and after reviewing my calendar, I realized that very soon I would be attending a debut recital at Carnegie Hall, followed by a dinner buffet at the Waldorf. So I went back to the Thrift Shop on Wednesday evening, tried on the dress, and acquired the designer gown for \$3.00!

On the recital night, there was an unexpected change of seating at Carnegie Hall, and I was seated in the front row with the main dignitaries. I had a full view of the pianist, who was Itzhak Perlman's accompanist. He had volunteered his services for the brilliant young violinist Christina Castelli, the winner of a prestigious award.

After the concert, I was whisked to the Waldorf in a silver limousine with a champagne bar. At the appropriate time during the impressive dinner buffet, I was asked to rise to acknowledge the appreciation of the guests for my work as committee chair of the competition won by the violinist. It was at that moment that I was very grateful to the Thrift Shop for making me feel like a queen on this very special evening.

MEET OUR NONAGENARIANS

by Ellen Stimler

Harold (Hap) Haskins, who reached the 90-year milestone in November 2004, is the resident who gets the most mail at Medford Leas. Bob Wasson, our mailman, told him that if he got any more mail they would have to hire an assistant for him. Hap says it all started four years ago when he made a contribution to the Republican National Committee. Since then, he has received letters, mostly asking for campaign contributions, from Republican candidates from coast to coast. These solicitation pleas are, of course, in addition to his regular mail and requests for donations from charities all over the world.



photo by Margery Rubin

Hap gets about 45 to 50 letters a day, and he usually spends two hours in the afternoon opening and reading them. Some of them contain coins or dollar bills to encourage his donations. He got 63 letters with dollar bills during the summer. "Those dollar bills drive me nuts," he exclaimed. He sends the money back with a letter. After the November election, Hap indicates, he is going to take some action to stop the letters, if possible. He even got a letter from the Republican National Committee telling him that his "membership" had lapsed and requesting \$1,000 for a renewal. Hap decided against it.

Hap has a very supportive relationship with **Betty Macpherson**, whom he visits every morning, and they have dinner together in the Colonial Room when Betty feels well enough.

Hap and his late wife, Lucy, operated a dairy farm in North Jersey for many years, until it was purchased by the State under the Green Acres program. Hap is proud of the gold certificate he received from Rutgers as an award for an unusually productive cow in his stables. Lucy died two years after they moved to Medford Leas. Hap's son in Sussex County and daughter in Boston are now nearing retirement age. He has five grandchildren and four great-grands.

Although he's a devoted Republican, he said he did vote for a Democrat once, a neighbor who was running for Township Committee and won the election by one vote.

NEW DONATED TALKING BOOKS

by Myra Binstock

Fiction

Bradford, B.	<i>Three Weeks in Paris</i>
Chevalier, T.	<i>Girl With a Pearl Earring</i>
Fforde, J.	<i>The Eyre Affair</i>
Tan, A.	<i>The Bonesetter's Daughter</i>

Non-Fiction

Barrett, M.	<i>Irving Berlin: Daughter's Memoir</i>
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Mystery and Suspense

Hart, C.	<i>The Christie Caper</i>
Horn, S.	<i>Law and Gravity</i>
Mortimer, J.	<i>Rumpole Rests His Case</i>
Perry, A.	<i>Seven Dials</i>
Rendell, R.	<i>Babes in the Woods</i>
Sayers, D.	<i>Unnatural Death</i>
Tey, J.	<i>A Shilling for Candles</i>
Whitney, P.	<i>Feather on the Moon</i>

NEWS FROM LUMBERTON LEAS

by Doris Brown

Volunteers **Art Hartwig, Doris Klaver, Tom Krainik, Sue** and **Ray Kuhn, Al Lewis, Bill Lindeman** and **Jack Mutschler** left Lumberton Leas at 5:00 a.m., October 9 for the Kirby's Mill Apple Festival to assist participating crafters with unloading as they arrived and to lead trailers and cars to parking areas. The whole thing was reversed at the end of the day when crafters packed up and reloaded their trailers. Art and others worked diligently with George Ney, Medford Historical Society President, to make this day a successful one. Many of the present membership of about 100 reside in Lumberton Leas. The MHS welcomes interested individuals to their meetings.

On October 20, despite a very drizzly morning, Lumberton Leas golfers challenged the Medford Leas team at Little Mill Country. Residents participating in the events of the day were **Jim McConville, Ben Paradee, John Mikuta, Jim Cox, Wil Britten, Dave Taylor, Bill Conte** (staff), **Milt Zimmerman**, Jack Montgomery (ML wait list), and eight guests. Jim Cox won second prize for the shot closest to the pin.

"Oktoberfest" was celebrated with high spirits on Oct. 26 at the Community Center. **Phyllis Pere** and **Lucile Reeves** planned the affair with a typical German feast catered by Medford Leas. In addition to good food, beer was offered, followed by a lusty sing-along led by Ben Paradee and **Alice Lang. Tom Lang** accompanied the singing at the piano. Who needs a German band?

Tennis enthusiasts never let a change in seasons slow down their game. On November 2 they began their indoor tennis program together with Medford Leas players at Racquets on the Lake in Medford.



STOLEN WALLET STORY

by Evert (Bart) Bartholomew

After attending a theater performance at the Walnut Street Theater, I returned my borrowed FM hearing aid, collected my driver's license I had given as security, returned my license to my wallet, and stuck my wallet in my back pants pocket. Then I quickly walked through the departing throng of playgoers to get to the waiting Medford Leas bus.

The next day I couldn't find my wallet. Since I periodically misplace it, only to find it later, I didn't panic. Later that afternoon, I got a call from my credit card company asking whether I had made a \$600.00 purchase at Lord & Taylor's in the Cherry Hill Mall. The caller had a heavy foreign accent and I couldn't quite understand what he said, so I took no action. But then I got another call from PNC Bank, telling me in clear English that someone had charged \$1,000 worth of merchandise in the same mall to my debit card.

At that point, I realized, of course, what had happened to my wallet. Both cards were invalidated and I was told I would not be charged for the purchases and would receive new cards.

The story had a happy ending for me. The Moorestown police caught the thieves, and I was able to retrieve my wallet with all 12 cards in it at the Moorestown police station. I had no money in my wallet. The obvious moral of the story: Men, don't put your wallet in your back pocket (mine was even left unbuttoned). When you *think* you've lost a credit or debit card, act immediately. If they're found later, it was still better to have been safe than sorry.

Ed. Note: On October 29, **Jack Allen** couldn't find *his* wallet when he returned from the Acme after having last used it at the cash register. He had put it into his back pants pocket and walked to his car very close by. Just to be on the safe side, Jack cancelled his credit card and notified the Medford Police.

WHERE THE BIRDS ARE

by Sally Miller

On a cold, damp morning 12 hardy souls drove off to the Manasquan Reservoir to see birds. Some were on their first excursion; others had been birding since childhood. The trip took an hour, and by then the weather had cleared so with binoculars and a telescope they set off through the woods along the edge of the lake. At the end of the day their bird list totaled 24, some quite interesting.



Two huge, white Mute Swans swam placidly, their necks curved into an S shape.

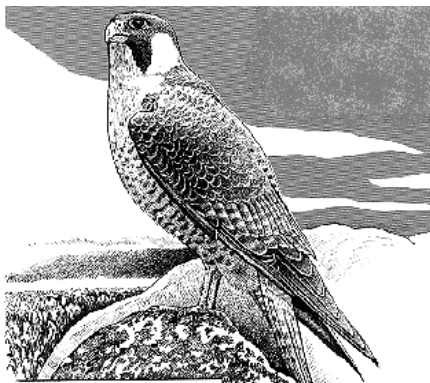
A Great Blue Heron stood still as a statue until striking out to pierce a fish with its bill



An American Widgeon, also called a Baldpate, swam hidden among a group of Mallards, but was given away by the distinctive white patch on its head.



The Osprey had migrated, but one Peregrine Falcon perched in the empty nest.



A Cormorant sat on rocks by the shore and occasionally stretched out its neck to gobble a fish. Sometimes he held out his wings to dry because these birds have no oil on their feathers for waterproofing.

A Kingfisher sat bunched up on the top of a snag.

Floating up and down in the waves was a dark blob. Even with binoculars no markings could be made out, but an experienced birder identified it as a Pied-Billed Grebe by its short body and thick, rounded bill. The Grebe is not a duck. Peterson calls it a chicken-billed diver.



A Bald Eagle flew through the woods to land on a tree near its nest. First it showed off a lovely white head and powerful bill. Then it turned around to show off its white tail. The Eagle makes the nest larger each year, building and building. They court in the fall.

After lunch at picnic tables in the Visitor Center, the group went to the Environmental Center. People did more viewing. This is where the Pied-Billed Grebe was identified on the water and some common birds at feeders. One life-size diorama showed the Screech Owl in its woodland habitat. Over a period of minutes the diorama light changed and with it sounds, including the owl's mournful wail, running down the scale. People played with interactive exhibits and studied displays on ecology and geology. There were even live animals such as frogs, turtles and snakes, nicely enclosed in glass cases.

The Manasquan Reservoir is the largest public access lake in central New Jersey, surrounded by 300 acres of woodland and marsh. Even in winter 100 different species of birds can be found in Monmouth County. We will have to go back to find the other 76.

WHAT AAHSA CAN DO FOR US

by Helen L. Vukasin

Imagine, if you can, a gigantic atrium under which orchids, gardenias and bougainvillea flower, waterfalls bubble over rock formations, fish swim in ponds, and 2,800 rooms have entrances into the tropical paradise. This was the venue, in Nashville, Tennessee, for this year's meeting of the national association to which Medford Leas belongs: AAHSA – The American Association of Homes and Services for the Aging.

The purpose of the annual meeting is to strengthen and improve the not-for-profit organizations that serve seniors. To meet the objectives of the theme, "Quality through Leadership," some 213 concurrent educational sessions, four general sessions, and a myriad of other opportunities for learning were provided.

Medford Leas annually sends staff and MLRA sends a resident. Sometimes the Estaugh Board sends a representative. This year I was privileged to represent MLRA. **Dolores Redner**, Director of Nursing, attended for management.

Here are a very few of the ideas that were shared through case studies of health-care facilities and presentations by CEOs and other professionals.

- **Rehabilitation and Redevelopment** requires innovation, understanding, transformation, and teamwork. Residents may not want the changes that they foresee but they may be happily surprised by the results.
- **Accreditation of CCRCs** is being improved under a merger of two accrediting groups. Under the new system, currently being tested, the focus is on education and improvement based on self-evaluation. One result is the empowerment of residents.
- **Cultural Diversity** discussions tended to focus on ethnic diversity and not include the income diversity to which it is related.
- **Expanding the Resident Income Mix** depends upon getting per-unit costs down to affordable levels. This is an important point for developing both ethnic and economic diversity.

- **Communicating Financial Information to Residents** guiding principles are: trust, regular communication, respect, honesty and transparency.

Some 4,000 participants from all over the United States attended. The participants were members of boards of trustees, CEOs and other staff. Only around 75 of the total were residents. Residents got together at a luncheon sponsored by the Conference. In a talk-show type forum we discussed issues from the resident perspective with the AAHSA President-elect and a member of the Board.

AAHSA offers an opportunity to learn from organizations in other regions and to put Medford Leas into a national and even international perspective. I hope MLRA will continue to budget for a representative to attend this worthwhile annual event.

RESIDENTS IN THE NEWS

The Knitting and Sewing Group has had a change in leadership. **Joy Cronk** and **Grace Schaffel**, outgoing chairs, were honored at a splendid "retirement luncheon" in the Red Room on October 27. They announced that four members of the group would take over different areas of their activities. They are: **Helen Anderson**, **Wen Eby**, **Helen Hamilton**, and **Joy Moll**.

Sally Klos attended a reception and awards banquet on November 6 at the Washington Club in Washington, DC, where her late husband, **The Rev. Frank Klos**, was honored with the Wittenberg Award, together with his creative team, for founding the *Davey and Goliath* television series. Pastor Klos wrote the first script for the series, named Davey's sister after his wife Sally, and completed a doctoral dissertation which evaluated the TV program's impact in the U.S. and internationally. The awards were sponsored by the Luther Institute, whose mission is to promote the role of faith and ethics in public life.

ART GALLERY NEWS

by Helen L. Vukasin

It's December! It's time to welcome back **Harry Forrest** and his calligrapher associates to the Medford Leas Art Gallery. We are fortunate to have close ties with such a talented group of artistically and technically proficient artists. All of those exhibiting are members of the Philadelphia Calligraphers' Society.

The opening reception date is December 7 at 3:00 p.m. At 3:30 there will be a few remarks from the artists about the work they are exhibiting.

At Lumberton Leas, the Second Annual Staff Exhibit continues until January 15, 2005.

The show includes many staff people you may meet daily in the halls of Medford Leas: **Judy Braddy**, Reception; **Colleen Conine**, Food Services; **Heather McInerney Foor**, Finance; **Beverly Kannengieszer**, Fitness; **Lenny Oman**, Food Services; **Dr. Joel Porter**, Health; **Dr. Keith Quentin**, Health; and **Dr. Christine Torigian**, Health. The exhibit includes acrylics, oils, and photographs.

JAPAN HOUSE IN PHILADELPHIA

by Sumi Kobayashi

Surrounded by the sights and sounds of a busy 21st century city, the Japanese House and Garden in Philadelphia's Fairmount Park is an island of serenity. The house and garden provide a place to slow down and experience the pace and feel of an earlier time and a different culture.

Steve Yanai, a past President of the Friends of the Japanese House and Garden (FJHG), has guided the house and garden through several years of repairs and improvements. Periodic

maintenance is necessary to keep the exhibit from deteriorating. New events are added to better interpret Japanese culture to Philadelphians and tourists. Other Medford Leas residents who preceded Steve as officers and board members of FJHG are **Hiroshi Uyehara**, **Min Endo**, and **Yuri Moriuchi**.



photo by George Nista, shofuso.com

Known as Shofuso, or Pine Breeze Villa, the seventeenth century style villa would be appropriate for the home of an educated member of the upper class. The house was designed and built in Japan and presented by the America-Japan Society of Tokyo to the Museum of Modern Art in New York for exhibition in 1954-55. It was given to the City of Philadelphia and reassembled at the current site in 1958 with a garden designed by a Japanese garden designer. Residents **Ed Young** and **Min Endo** were involved with the America-Japan Society at the time of its exhibition in New York.

In 1982 the Friends of the Japanese House and Garden was organized to preserve the facility. The structure and garden are owned by the city, but the Friends, a volunteer organization, oversees and raises funds for needed repairs, maintenance, tour guides, festivals, and children's programs. Volunteers clean and prepare the house for opening in the spring and closing in the fall. Members also spruce up the garden to keep it inviting for a stroll.

From time to time the tatami (straw) mats need to be replaced. A major project to repair the roof was begun under the leadership of Hiroshi Uyehara and continued after Steve Yanai became president. The effort took place over a period of years. Harvesting of Hinoki bark in Japan used for the roof took three years, and eight roofers from Japan spent two months in Philadelphia, starting in September 1999, to resurface the roof.

The Japanese House and Garden is open May through October every day except Mondays and major holidays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. Guided tours are included in the price of admission: \$4, \$3 for senior citizens and students with ID. Demonstrations of the tea ceremony and flower arranging are given.

Special festivals are held during the season beginning with Children's Day in May. The summer festival combines Tanabata, or Star Festival, with O-bon, when the spirits of departed ancestors are welcomed back for a visit. For the past few years the area Japanese American community, including **Vicki Marutani, Yuri Moriuchi, Mary Toda** and **Grayce Uyehara**, has prepared bento (lunch) boxes for sale at the summer festival to raise funds for FJHG. The season ends with Moon Viewing in the fall.

During the O-bon Festival children are shown how to make paper boats; at the end of the day tiny lighted candles are placed in the boats and floated in the garden pond. In Japan they would be set in the current of a river or on the outgoing tide to escort the spirits back to their resting places until next year. Vicki Marutani, who grew up in Kyoto, still remembers the large bonfires that were lighted on a mountainside overlooking the city to guide the spirits back home.

The website shofuso.com provides information about the history and activities/programs conducted at Shofuso by Friends of the Japanese House and Garden and directions on how to get there.

A PLEA FOR PEN PALS

by Gerry Stride as told to Kay Cooley

Recently, an article appeared in *The Central Record* on the Film Studies class offered this fall by Medford University, our college-course on-campus program. It described the course and included a couple of pictures of the students.

Shortly after, the teacher of a third-grade class at Cranberry Pines School in Medford called, inquiring if students of the Film Studies class would be willing to write to her eight- and nine-year-old pupils as part of a program to teach them writing skills. A memo about the pen pal project was distributed to Medford Leas residents who were students.

Any interested resident is invited to participate in the program, whether or not they were in the Film Studies course. The commitment involves answering one or two letters each month until the end of the school year. At some time during the year, the third graders hope to visit and meet their pen pals.

All correspondence could be left with the Receptionist for **Gerry Stride**, who would mail it to the school each month. Likewise, the children's letters would be sent to Gerry, who would distribute them to the proper mailboxes.

The children are very excited about the prospect of writing to their very own pen pals here at Medford Leas. Any resident wishing to participate in the program should phone Gerry at 3586. Remember, it is not necessary to have been in the Film Studies class.

IN MEMORIAM

Cornelia C. Peck	October 28
Mona C. Berman	November 1
William Marutani	November 15

CRYPTOGRAM

by Russell Hill

Here is the solution to the November cryptogram:

IN FRANCE, ON SUNDAY, YOU HAD TO BE PREPARED FOR A COOK'S TOUR OF A GASTRONOMICAL ORGY OR A BACCHANAL.

The correct solvers were: **Kenneth C. Anderson, Mort Bregman, Florence Brudon, Marion Burk, Scott Charles, Liz Dill, Betty Donahue, Lorretta Elkin, Louise Evaul, Mickey Gray, Herb Heineman, Barbara Heizman, Euseba and Warren Kamensky, Sally Klos, Mary Hope Mason, Alice Norcross, Helen Peterson, Betty Preston, Liliane Reynolds, Doris Salati, Florence Sawyer, Hana Stranska, Ellen Wiener, John and Marie Winton, Gladys Wynkoop.**

Here is the December cryptogram:

HSV HSRMTJ HSZH R SZW
 MLH LGTSH HL
 R WL YVXZGJV RFV TLHHL
 ELHHSVSVPP ELHHSVSVPP
 ZMW R VMW
 ERHS NC UZFLKRHV NLHHL
 HLGQLGKJ TZR HLGQLGKJ
 TZR
 NZKDGRJ

Please put solutions in an envelope and leave on the Medford Leas Life shelf by December 10.

MEDFORD LEAS LIFE

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Recorder: Florence Sawyer

Medford Leas Life is published monthly, September through June, by the Medford Leas Residents Association. Copies are distributed to all residents and to those on the waiting list. Subscriptions are available to others at \$7.50 per 10-issue volume by writing to Medford Leas Life, 144 Medford Leas, Medford, NJ 08055. Medford Leas can be reached by phone at (609) 654-3000; by FAX at (609) 654-7894; on the World Wide Web at www.medfordleas.org. The email address is information@medleas.org. When using FAX or email, specify the name of the person to receive the message. The Medford Leas Residents Association has a separate website at www.mlra.org.

**Deadline for submissions:
 10th of the month preceding publication**

