



# Medford Leas **LIFE**

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photos by Margery Rubin

## HOLIDAY SHOW SPARKLES

by Della Williams

On a cold December night, two enthusiastic overflow audiences crowded into the Auditorium anticipating an evening of fun and nostalgia. And they were not disappointed. Two performances of the Employee Annual Show – full of song and dance, surprises, puns, hysterical goofs, and occasional flat notes – exceeded the high expectations. The Medford Leas staff members, who politely, gently, and efficiently serve residents' every need each day, that night revealed their wit, humor, and exuberance.

American Bandstand, which was broadcast out of Philadelphia from the '50s to the '80s, was this year's theme. The backdrop was a huge glittery jukebox. **Frank Simmons**, Chief Pharmacist, portrayed Dick Clark while **Helen Smith**, Dining Services secretary, and **Bob Costigan**, of Maintenance, regaled the audiences as the bobbysoxers who rated the acts.

A number of dances from the '50s and '60s were performed, often hilariously, by employee groups:

- Bunny Hop (Woolman and Estaugh staff)
- Jitterbug (**Dr. Quinton** [who can really jitterbug] and The Injectors)
- Locomotion (Resident Services)
- Mashed Potato (Dining Services)
- Monkee (Therapeutic Recreation)

A few staff members showed that they can really sing. **Geri Stride**, Director of Community Life, and **Mark Wick**, of Payroll, turned the audience all fuzzy and nostalgic with their renditions of "Dream a Little Dream of Me" and "Chances Are." **Esther Benson**, of Assisted Living, moved everyone to clap and sing along with her version of "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands."

Much of the fun was in the lyrics. Who can forget...?

- The burly men from Maintenance singing to a limbo beat of Belafonte's Banana Boat song: "Jimbo, Jimbo, two o'clock come and we wanna go home."
- Perennial favorite **Joe Doyle**, Hair Salon proprietor, crooning to the tune of "Blueberry Hill" and promising "I give good curls to Medford Leas girls."
- The Assisted Living nurses' rendition of "Splish, splash we were giving a bath, long about Saturday night."
- **Heather Foor**, Chief Financial Officer, singing The Computer Blues "Yesterday the need for backup seemed so far away/ I thought my spread sheets were all here to stay/ Oh, now I long for yesterday."

Everyone loved the costumes, particularly:

- Director of Food Services, **Bill Perham**, making his first appearance in an Employee Show, wearing a very large potato sack.
- **Dennis Koza**, CEO, **Bill Murphy**, Director of Operations, and **Miller Biddle**, President of the Estaugh Board, dressed like '60s hippies and singing a Pete Seeger song threatening to hammer and build "all over the Leas."
- The swim suits worn by members of Fitness and Aquatic Services. Each suit was a unique painting on a tee shirt, ranging from skimpy bikinis to modest one-piecers.

The most delightful surprise of the show was the cameo appearance of **Bob Wasson**, our Medford U.S. Postman. He pushed his mail cart from the back of the Auditorium, down the center aisle to the front, distributing mail as he went, while **Rachel Conte** of the Health Center sang "Please, Mr. Postman."

For the finale the audience joined the entire cast of hundreds singing "Put a Little Love in Your Heart," an apt message for the occasion.

To top off the evening, Food Services offered a party menu before and after the show. Surf and turf was followed by a dessert table the length of a football field. 'Tis the season to be jolly!

## HOLIDAY SHOWS PAST

*The Holiday shows are an old Medford Leas Tradition which began in the early 1970s with staff sing-alongs. More recent shows have had themes*

2004—All That Jazz  
 2003—Atlantic City Steel Pier  
 2002—Salute to Walt Disney  
 2001—Ed Sullivan Show  
 2000—Philly, City of Brotherly Love  
 1999—60 Minutes  
 1998—HMS Medford Leas  
 1997—Famous TV Shows  
 1996—Oscar Time  
 1995—Special Christmas Eve for Mrs. C  
 1994—Sleuths  
 1993—All I Want for Christmas

## THANKSGIVING IN ASSISTED LIVING

by Kackie Anders

Here you are, just transferred to Assisted Living. Devastated! You wonder, "Will I never cook a meal, bake a cookie or a batch of brownies again?"

Not so. It is not long before the Activities staff hustles you off to the kitchen to help prepare a three-course pre-Thanksgiving dinner: turkey, hot spiced cider, candied yams, stuffing with gravy, corn, and cranberry sauces. It is great fun to be cooking together and a real pleasure to hear the enthusiasm of the residents as they sit down to a groaning board.

Well, you are sure it will never happen again. But never fear. It won't be long till you get to make and serve homemade brownies to all your friends in the Activities Dining Room.

Thanks to a truly supportive staff, you're having lots of fun keeping up your home-making skills.

Thanks a heap! Bon Appétit!

## BRAIN AEROBICS – THE NEWEST SPORT IN ASSISTED LIVING

by Kay Cooley

Renegade residents who skip too many of their scheduled sessions in the Fitness Center are apt to get a call from one of the staff. "We haven't seen you in a while. Have you been away or ill?" the inquiry goes. Both parties know that muscles tend to atrophy and joints to stiffen if not used regularly, so exercise is important.

In the future, however, a call might sound like this: "We haven't seen you playing Scrabble, doing *Sudoku* (a type of number puzzle), or studying Mozart's biography lately. Is your brain still working?" The person asking the question would not be a Fitness & Aquatics staffer but **Gerry Stride**, Director of Community Life. Gerry has started a brand new activity for Assisted Living residents – cognitive fitness. It could also be called Brain Aerobics.

Until recently, Gerry thought that the brains people have when they are aging are the hands they are dealt for the rest of their lives. Not true, she has learned. Brains can continue to produce neurons, the vital means of making connections that underlie all learning.

But to shift into a neuron-producing mode, brains must be stimulated. They physically change and grow in new environments, so Gerry has started to provide these environments at cognitive fitness sessions on second floor Haddon on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday afternoons.

Mondays feature word games. Wednesdays are dedicated to learning about cultural subjects, which in November were drawn from Native American life. Fridays offer strategic (board) games. Gerry welcomes visitors and volunteers, a few at a time. To inquire, call her at 3586.

When cognitive fitness takes hold at Medford Leas, the van may have a new use – shuttling residents to their appearances on Jeopardy or Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?

## AAHSA

by Helen L. Vukasin

AAHSA is the acronym for the American Association of Homes and Services for the Aging. The members are non-profits that work with seniors, such as CCRCs, nursing homes, assisted living facilities, and even groups like Goodwill Industries. The organization serves as a lobbyist in Washington and as an educator for management, staff, and boards of trustees. AAHSA has played a critical role in helping Medford Leas negotiate with Medicare on the new drug program that can potentially save hundreds of thousands of dollars.

I attended AAHSA's recent meeting in San Antonio, along with **Dennis Koza**, CEO, and **Heather Foor**, CFO. The theme of the meeting was Quality through Community. Sub-themes were explored by the General Session speakers:

**The Power of Partnerships.** Maya Angelou, poet, author, activist and more, interwove her text with singing and recitation of her poems about how opportunities created through connections can advance an organization's mission. Ms. Angelou was inspirational and entertaining.

**The Power of Governance.** Richard Chait, Harvard University educator, author, and researcher, spoke about governance, mostly focusing on corporate governance. However, Dr. Chait missed the important point that in the senior housing industry the stakeholders are more than just clients or customers. Many have invested their life savings.

**The Power of Teams.** Patrick Lencioni, founder of a management consulting firm, focused on organizational health. Mr. Lencioni offered some useful ideas on building a team.

**The Power of Leaders.** Kevin Carroll, a catalyst consultant and author of *Rules of the Red Rubber Ball*, energetically inspired the audience with his personal story as a model for motivation, passion, and imagination.

The education sessions I attended were AAHSA Philanthropy Network (APN), Workshop on Governance as Leadership, The Art of Creative Conflict Resolution, Older Driver Wellness, Implementing Culture Change, and Medicare Part D: Issues and Answers.

There were other unique and moving sessions:

Lily Tomlin, after giving her usual remarkable performance of characters familiar to all, came out on the stage, sitting in a simple chair and gave us Lily Tomlin: how she feels about old age, personal vignettes, and answers to some written questions from the audience.

Panel of AAHSA Involvement in Katrina and Rita. It was moving as well as informative to hear about Gulf Area CCRCs that were directly affected by Katrina and Rita. There were remarkable acts of bravery and dedication, especially in the care of assisted living and nursing home residents of AAHSA members. AAHSA itself was deeply involved in mobilizing assistance. Many AAHSA members actively assisted or donated buses, mattresses, and other needed items.

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## LET THERE BE MUSIC!

by Kitty Katzell

Medford Leas is privileged to have two organs on the premises, but no one has heard either of them in recent years. In the Auditorium there is a fine Baldwin organ, and in the Activities Room there is a Conn organ. Baldwin no longer makes organs, and Conn has gone out of business.

In November both organs were evaluated and adjusted and they are now in good working order. Residents who play the organ are encouraged to contact **Marion Burk** (3431) or **Nan Hanslowe** (3296) for further information.

## MEDITATION GARDEN

by Maggie Woodard

The Estaugh Board approved the creation of a memorial garden in June 1999. The garden, officially called the Meditation Garden, allows residents to have their ashes scattered on the grounds of this community where they have experienced many warm and caring relationships. It also represents a conscious effort to reduce the high cost for the burial of loved ones.

When **Colette Bartholomew** proposed the Garden in October 1998, she said, "It could be used by anyone who would like a quiet place for reflection, or for a family to gather for a quiet time in a serene place. It could even be used for a small memorial service, where friends could join the family, whether or not the deceased's ashes are scattered there."



photo by Margery Rubin

It is a lovely spot for meditation, located in the woods across the road from Parking Lot B. It is not within sight of the courts but it is easily accessible. There is a short paved, level path through the Garden that is suitable for wheelchairs or carts, and there are two benches. It is described on page 36 of the latest Resident Handbook.

Residents or family members wishing to make arrangements for ashes to be placed in the Garden should contact **Trudy DeLacy**, Director of Resident Services. A Memorial Book is located in the Library, on the top shelf above the computer,

next to the books of past issues of *Medford Leas Life*. Within it are the names of the deceased whose ashes have been scattered in the Garden, along with dates of birth and death. Some include a short text, reviewed by Trudy DeLacy.

## MORE ON IDENTITY THEFT

by Kitty Katzell

Those who are determined to steal others' identity have more and more clever ways of doing it. Now come two new courses of action that may help residents protect their identity.

First, it is recommended that owners **NOT** sign their credit cards. Instead, write in the signature area "Ask for Photo ID." This is particularly important in restaurants, where the server takes the card and swipes it out of the card's owner sight.

The second course of action has to do with hotel room entry cards. It is advisable to take the room entry card home and cut it up or put it through the shredder. Don't leave it in the room or the room wastebasket. Don't turn it in at the hotel's front desk. Don't discard it in an airport trash can.

What most hotel occupants don't know is that those entry cards typically contain personal information about the person to whom they are issued, such as name, address, hotel room number, check-in and check-out dates, and credit card number and expiration date. When the card is later issued to another occupant, the new guest's information is electronically over-written on the card, but until that is done, the previous occupant's information is available to any hotel employee to access by scanning the card in the hotel scanner. An employee could also take a handful of cards home and, using a scanning device, download the information onto a computer.

## MEDFORD LEAS GREENHOUSES

by Ellen Stimler

At a time of year when the gardens and landscape at Medford Leas have their winter coats of brown and gray, the two greenhouses are alive with color and blooms and provide a lively place of activity for residents taking care of their houseplants.



photo by Ellen Stimler

The larger of the two greenhouses is the one located on the ground floor of Haddon; the other one is at the Nature Center. Residents usually put their plants in the one most convenient to their apartments. The Haddon Greenhouse has radiant heat and receives more sun. The Nature Center has forced air heat and more shaded areas, but can accommodate taller plants.

Use of the greenhouses is not an automatic right. For Haddon, space has to be reserved in advance, usually in mid-September, when a sign-up sheet is placed on the Front Desk. Not all plants are welcome in Haddon. Hibiscus, poinsettia, and impatiens are banned because of their tendency to attract white fly and mealy bug. Once a space in Haddon has been assigned, residents must observe the dates when they can bring their plants and must place them on a table

outside the greenhouse for spraying against disease. Every pot or container must have the owner's name attached. Only after this process is completed can the plants be placed in the assigned space.

The Haddon Greenhouse is administered jointly by **Jean Stratton** and **Ann Walker**, with the help of greenhouse users who volunteer to keep the place shipshape for one or two weeks at a time. The volunteers receive a detailed job description, which includes hosing down the floor and tables several times a week, inspecting plants for disease, and notifying residents if their plants need watering. Nobody is allowed to water another's plants without the owner's permission.

**Debbie Lux** of the Landscaping Department runs the Nature Center Greenhouse but also keeps an eye on the Haddon Greenhouse and makes suggestions as needed. Residents apply to her directly for space at the Nature Center, and some assist her with various tasks. Debbie examines plants there for disease and moves them into the right spots, depending on their need for sun or shade. The plants excluded from Haddon are accepted at the Nature Center. In the spring, Debbie uses both greenhouses to start hundreds of seedlings. In the Nature Center she has a special set-up with grow lights and bottom heat to speed germination.

Many different varieties of geraniums in standard and more unusual colors dominate the greenhouse tables. But there are many other plants, including flowering Christmas cactus, orchids, begonias, ivy, ferns, gardenias, oxalis, jade, and many hanging baskets. The Nature Center houses **David** and **Katie Lewis's** collection of 40 different cactuses.

In early spring, the greenhouses are used by a few residents who enjoy growing their annuals from seeds. It's always a guessing game, when to start so the seedlings will be ready by mid-May for transplanting into the garden. The greenhouses close for the season at the end of May and get a thorough cleaning before the next opening in the fall.

There has been much research lately into the healing and therapeutic impact of plant care. It has been likened to the benefits people derive from their relationship with pets. The residents who come to the greenhouses to nurture their plants participate in the life cycle of living things and get a sense of satisfaction and well-being from the healthy growth and appearance of something in their control.

## ATTENTION ALL RESIDENTS!

by Helen L. Vukasin

The newly formed **Resource Conservation Committee** is looking for ways residents might help to keep rising energy costs from raising monthly fees.

**Bill Murphy** has projected that Medford Leas is substantially under-budgeted for energy in the current fiscal year due to the rise in petroleum prices. Experience has proven that small adjustments to the thermostat and the use of water by everyone can make substantial savings in energy costs. Price rises at the gas pumps are already reflected in the price of almost everything delivered to Medford Leas.

With residents' help, the Committee is gathering information and ideas for a plan to which all can subscribe. The effort must be community-wide. Residents' ideas are being solicited.

In the meantime, here are some ideas for New Year's Resolutions:

- Turn off unnecessary lighting.
- Reduce the thermostat setting one or two degrees.
- Shorten showering time.
- Turn down the heat or cooling system when away from the apartment.
- Dress in layers of clothing to be comfortable whatever the temperature.

## BOOKS I HAVE ENJOYED READING

*The Time Traveler's Wife*

by Audrey Niffenegger

518 Pages

Vintage Press



Have you ever stopped, even for a moment, and thought, "What if I could go back in time and relive the past?" Would you do anything different? Now, in your maturity, could you understand the reasons for the actions and decisions you made, especially concerning those you loved the most?

This is something that Henry de Tamble has to face constantly in Audrey Niffenegger's exciting debut novel. Henry has a genetic disorder that causes him to go backwards and forwards in time. Claire ages normally, but their relative ages change. He meets Claire Abshire when she is 6 and he is 36. Later, or earlier, they marry when Henry was 30 and when Claire will be 22. Their love from the very beginning is deep and emotional.

It is Claire and Henry's story as told through their diaries. They chronicle every day, every hour, every change in their ages. Claire's challenge is to be constantly aware that her husband and lover may suddenly disappear and she is never sure when and where he will return. For Henry it is the frustration of being unable to hold on to anything, anyone for a definite time without disappearing to another place and another age.

Audrey Niffenegger has used her imaginative story-telling gifts to create a novel that is different from anything you have read before. It is a beautiful love story and a modern fairy tale.

by George Rubin

## GALLERY NEWS

by Helen L. Vukakin

January in the Medford Leas Art Gallery will be warmed by the “inner images and privately heard voices” of Patricia Walkar. Her water colors on silk and on paper have been recognized for their power, beauty, and originality. They have been purchased by collectors here and abroad.

Ms. Walkar says about herself, “I am primarily a self-taught artist. Drawing came naturally to me, and I have always been fascinated with people’s faces. From a focus on portrait painting, I moved to a rich blend of design and color that reflected a journey of the spirit. The result has been a dance with beauty that has brought joy and healing to myself.”

The opening reception will be held on Tuesday, January 10 from 3:00 p.m. to 4:30. Ms. Walkar will say a few words about her work at 3:30.



*Choosing* – a silk by Patricia Walkar

At the Lumberton Campus Art Gallery the work of **Alice Skidmore Culbreth** will remain hanging until mid-January. It will be followed by a group show featuring Medford Leas residents from both campuses who participated in the classes given in the Medford Leas Art Studio by Eileen Caporaso, a local resident.

The exhibit in the Art Studio Gallery continues. The work in all of these exhibits is available for purchase directly from the artists.

## A WEALTH OF LANGUAGES VII

by Betsy Pennink

*Ed. Note: This continues the series of residents' many language skills.*

**Minoru Endo** was born in San Francisco of Japanese parents. Min spoke Japanese at home. When he was five, he took lessons for one year from an English teacher in preparation for entering the local public school. (He continued to go to Japanese school every weekday after his regular classes, and sometimes on Saturdays, all through high school.) Min volunteered for the Military Intelligence Service Language School in Minnesota in 1942. Japanese was being taught there, and Min rose soon from student to teacher. In 1948 he volunteered for the American Occupation Army in Japan, where his work for military intelligence included reading Japanese newspapers and meeting with Japanese government officials to listen to their concerns. Min had risen to Warrant Officer by the time he was discharged. He stayed on for another year as a civilian employee of the Army. On his return to the U.S. in 1951, Min joined a company importing china from Japan. He corresponded with the Japanese manufacturers in Japanese and took care of their representatives on their trips to the U.S. Until recently Min has worked for the Philadelphia Art Museum, translating essays on Japanese art, especially for catalogs of exhibits.

**Takashi and Yuriko Moriuchi** were both born in California of Japanese descent. Tak grew up in the Christian community of Livingston, in a rural area where his father raised vegetables on 36 acres. Tak spoke Japanese with his parents at home, but otherwise he spoke English. His father wanted him to go to Japanese school after his regular classes, but Tak was more interested in playing football. Later he took a course in Japanese at the University of California at Berkeley and discovered he had to work hard to avoid flunking it. Tak graduated with a degree in business administration. Since he was an only child, Tak’s father depended on him as interpreter during discussions with canneries and shippers. As a result, Tak learned early how to negotiate deals.

(continued on page 9)



Tak and Yuri were married in 1946. They had met at a Quaker reception in Philadelphia honoring wounded Japanese American soldiers. Yuri had grown up in Los Angeles, where the Japanese school was the largest in the area. She attended Japanese classes after regular school hours through sixth grade. She also spoke Japanese at home with her parents. During the period that Japanese immigration to the U.S. was illegal, Yuri had no opportunity to keep up with modern Japanese usage. Even so, Yuri acts as interpreter for young flower-arranging teachers from Japan, who come over twice a year to give lessons at the Philadelphia chapter of the Ikenobo Ikebana Society (Flower Arranging). When Tak and Yuri visit Japan nowadays, they find that their Japanese is considered quaint. However, many more people there speak English.

**Victoria Sadako Marutani** was born in Kyoto, Japan. During WWII no English classes were given at her school. She graduated from the Japanese Red Cross Nursing School when she was eighteen and worked for six months at the Red Cross Hospital. There her patients were Japanese, but when she transferred to the GI Hospital in Kyoto, everyone was American: doctors, nurses, and patients. Vicki quickly learned "broken" English. One of the patients, William M. Marutani, was a Japanese American who had been working in intelligence in the U.S. Army. He and Vicki corresponded for the next two and a half years, during his long convalescence in U.S. hospitals. Finally Bill enlisted Eleanor Roosevelt's help in bringing Vicki to the U.S. so they could be married. A bill was passed through Bill's congressman, permitting her to enter the U.S., providing the marriage took place within three months. Vicki arrived in November 1949; she and Bill were married in February 1950, after his discharge from the hospital. Bill spoke only English to Vicki and insisted that his family do so, too. With Bill's mother, however, they all spoke Japanese. Vicki learned her English by listening to what people said and how they said it. Newspapers, radio, and television were very helpful. Vicki subscribes to Japanese newspapers and likes to read Japanese books, especially "Samurai" novels. She still speaks Japanese with her brother and sister when they call from Japan.

## MEET OUR NONAGENARIANS

by Ellen Stimler



photo by Margery Rubin

**Josephine Morris, 96**, has lived in her studio apartment for 16 years. She moves and walks like one of her grandchildren, doesn't use a cane, and has no wrinkles in her face. She literally dances around in her place and is thinking about joining the folk and line dancing group.

Josephine gets her daily exercise walking to the Thrift Shop back and forth twice to collect the money left for the paperback books and to empty the donation box. She hand-sews alterations on her clothing and cooks her own breakfast and occasional meals. She has a very special recipe for the applesauce she likes.

She acquired her love of walking and hiking way back when she accompanied some of her brothers on hikes on the Batona Trail in the Pine Barrens and on walks with the family in Philadelphia's Fairmount Park. She is one of seven siblings who grew up in Philadelphia.

Almost every spot on the walls of the apartment is covered with photographs of family members, including her one surviving brother, a retired doctor in Florida; her son's family, her daughter, two grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. She eagerly talks about their lives and feels lucky that some of them live in this area and come to visit.

After many years of teaching elementary education and studying for her degree at the same time, Josephine received a B.Sc. degree from the University of Pennsylvania. She continued to work in many different jobs year-round to help support her family until her retirement at age 70. After the death of her husband, she remained in their house in Haddonfield for 12 years before coming to Medford Leas.

## TEN YEARS OF SERVICE TOGETHER

by George Rubin

On Saturday, December 10, The Extended Hand Ministries (TEHM) celebrated its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of continued service with Medford Leas (ML). This joyful, uplifting program took place in the Medford Leas Auditorium.

The celebration began with Lucille Boone, TEHM 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President, introducing the program.

**Geri Dickerson**, the TEHM Treasurer, reiterated the purpose of the organization: to provide clothing, support services (counseling, education, child care, transportation, and clinical services), and community service referrals along with emergency shelter and food, regardless of age, race, color, sex, religion, or nationality.

The audience was enthralled by Shirley Allen, who sang two gospel songs.

**Jane Weston**, Director of Marketing and Community Relations, introduced **Dennis Koza**, CEO. He reaffirmed the partnership Medford Leas has with The Extended Hand Ministries. He said, "What I find important as I reflect on this program today, and our involvement with it, is that it's all about relationships."

Gary Miller, Administrator, Burlington County Human Services, introduced the keynote speaker, Eugene Stafford, former Mayor and Police Chief of Mt. Holly. In part of his remarks, Stafford said, "The importance of Extended Hand is to help those in need. In carrying this out, it has helped to make for a better society and community not only in Mt. Holly but in all of Burlington County." He stated that, "If you believe it can be done, then you believe it will be done."

Bishop Barbara A. Davis, TEHM founder, CEO and President, spoke movingly about the partnership with Medford Leas over the last ten years. "When we had a need, be it food, clothing or an appliance, you at Medford Leas always came forward and filled it." In speaking about the organization's future plans, she told the audience

that TEHM will be joining with the Department of Veterans Affairs in Burlington County to open a new transitional housing facility in Mt. Holly that will give support services to the homeless. The community board for this new operation will include many people from major organizations in the county.

TEHM then presented gifts of appreciation to those at Medford Leas. Dennis Koza received a beautiful framed picture of a tree, representing the Medford Leas logo. When turned, the tree in the picture changes with the four seasons of the year. Also there were gifts to two whom Bishop Davis calls "her Angels" for their involvement with TEHM. They are **Jean Henderson** and **Mary-Glenn Morin**. Numerous other certificates of appreciation were given to Medford Leas staff, residents of Medford Leas at Lumberton, and members of the TEHM Community for their hard work over all these years.

The celebration concluded with a final testimony to the close relationship that The Extended Hand Ministries has had with the Medford Leas community. It is not only what has been accomplished over the last ten years but what the two communities will do together in the future.



### IN MEMORIAM

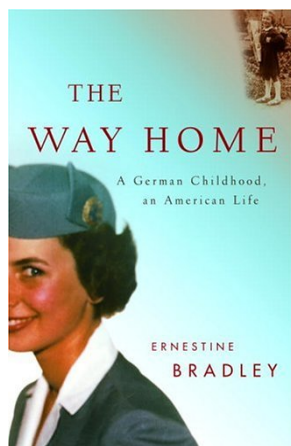
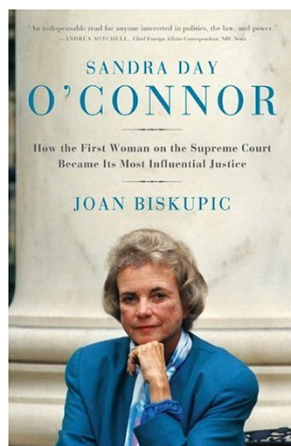
<b>Virginia Coe</b>	<b>November 28</b>
<b>Alice Letchworth</b>	<b>December 15</b>
<b>Jane H. Parker</b>	<b>December 15</b>

## NEW BOOKS IN THE LIBRARY

by Joanne Greenspun and Bob Hambleton

### Biography

Biskupic, Joan	<i>Sandra Day O'Connor</i>
Blackman, Ann	<i>Wild Rose: Rose O'Neil Greenhow</i>
Bradley, Ernestine	<i>The Way Home</i>
Didion, Joan	<i>The Year of Magical Thinking</i>
Moehringer, J. R.	<i>The Tender Bar</i>



### Non-Fiction

Berendt, John	<i>City of Falling Angels</i>
Buchwald, Art	<i>Beating about the Bush</i>
Dowd, Maureen	<i>Are Men Necessary?</i>
Flood, Charles B.	<i>Grant and Sherman</i>
Goodwin, Doris Kearns	<i>Team of Rivals</i>
Grogan, John	<i>Marley &amp; Me</i>
Harr, Jonathan	<i>The Lost Painting</i>
Peters, Charles	<i>Five Days in Philadelphia</i>
Vonnegut, Kurt	<i>Man without a Country</i>

### Fiction

Boxer, Barbara	<i>A Time to Run</i>
Clarke, Richard	<i>The Scorpion's Gate</i>
Doctorow, E. L.	<i>The March</i>
García Márquez, Gabriel	<i>Memories of My Melancholy Whores</i>
Ghosh, Amitav	<i>The Hungry Tide</i>
Karon, Jan	<i>Light from Heaven</i>
Ludlum, Robert	<i>Amber Warning</i>
McCarthy, Cormac	<i>No Country for Old Men</i>
Shreve, Anita	<i>A Wedding in December</i>
Tan, Amy	<i>Saving Fish from Drowning</i>

### Mystery and Suspense

Baldacci, David	<i>The Camel Club</i>
Beaton, M. C.	<i>Perfect Paragon</i>
Connelly, Michael	<i>The Lincoln Lawyer</i>
Cornwell, Patricia	<i>Predator</i>
Grafton, Sue	<i>S is for Silence</i>
James, P. D.	<i>Lighthouse</i>
Leon, Donna	<i>Blood from a Stone</i>
McBain, Ed	<i>Fiddlers</i>
Parker, Robert	<i>School Days</i>
Patterson, James	<i>Lifeguard</i>
Rendell, Ruth	<i>Thirteen Steps Down</i>
Truman, Margaret	<i>Murder at the Washington Tribune</i>

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### Library Rules

The Library doesn't have many rules, so it would be helpful if everyone would try to follow the few it has. This would help both the volunteers and the patrons.

1. All books must be checked out. The Library needs to know who has taken the book so the staff can process reservations made by other readers and circulate the books so more residents can enjoy them.
2. The correct way to check out books is to stamp the date in two places: #1 on the book pocket, and #2 on the book card where you write your initials and apartment number. The book card should then be placed in the tray on the checkout desk.
3. Books are being kept too long. Some are never returned. A 14-day sticker is placed on recently published books. This is a signal that the book is new. It should be read promptly and returned quickly to give other residents access to it.
4. Book jackets should not be removed. On occasion a book is returned without the jacket. The book looks bare and unattractive, and without the jacket there is no way of knowing anything about the plot or contents. So the book sits on the shelf, unread, dead. It never goes out.

## A BAD LUCK DAY

by Ellen Stimler

It looked like a perfect weekend plan in October. I would take the bus to New York on Saturday, visit my friend Grete, who was recovering from a knock-down by a bicyclist; then take the bus to Princeton, stay overnight with my friend Hannah, and on Sunday go with Hannah to Pennswood to celebrate my brother's 78<sup>th</sup> birthday.

On Saturday, on my way to catch the 8:15 a.m. bus from the Greyhound station in Mt. Laurel, I ran up against a roadblock at the intersection of Mt. Laurel Road and Route 38 and had to turn back and use a circuitous route to get there. I was in the bus line when an announcement came that the bus was "delayed" until 9 a.m.

At the Port Authority I found my way to the subway token booth. By showing my Medicare card, I got a one-way Metrocard for \$2.00 and a printed slip for a free return ride.

At the gate to the trains, the turnstile rejected my swiped card three times. A young man showed me how to do it and got me through. Once inside, all the signs pointed to "downtown," but I had to go uptown to 110<sup>th</sup> Street. Nobody seemed to know about "uptown," so back I went into the line of the token clerk. She told me to go to the far end of the passage, but when I got to the gate, it rejected my card for "insufficient funds." When I appeared before the token clerk a third time, she said "This is your last time," and admitted me through a special gate.

On the uptown platform, there were two trains, and a map that told me I had to take the "C" train. The map also showed me that there were two different lines uptown, and that I was taking the one I had not taken before. Getting off at 110<sup>th</sup> Street station, all the signs pointed to the exit at 109<sup>th</sup> Street. Outside, the scene was a circle under construction. A kind passer-by pointed out 110<sup>th</sup> Street. From the house numbers, I realized I had to turn left. In a few minutes I got to Grete's building and went up to the 9<sup>th</sup> floor. There were two sets of doors on each side, no names, and I rang the wrong bell the first time. Finally Grete

opened her door. She had been worried about my delay.

During lunch the phone rang, and it was Hannah's son in Princeton. He was calling to tell us that Hannah had to be taken to the hospital after a night of excruciating abdominal pain. This meant that I was going back to Medford after my visit.

I had no trouble getting back to the Port Authority in time to catch the 3:30 p.m. bus, except that there was no bus until 4:00 p.m.

I got back to Medford Leas at 6 p.m. Just for fun, I looked up my horoscope for the day in *The Philadelphia Inquirer*. It said: "Sometimes you take your responsibilities too seriously. Could this be the case now? Change plans to make yourself more comfortable."

I called a driver to take me to Pennswood and back the next day.



## EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

by Maggie Woodard

**Martha Gillis** started working in the Accounting Department in September 2004. Her fabulous organizational skills enabled her to improve the efficiency of the department. Her hard work plus her pleasant and positive attitude have made her a much-valued member of the Accounting staff. She was named November's Employee of the Month. Congratulations, Martha, and many thanks for your service to Medford Leas and its

residents.

## WHO'S NEW

**Joan Dixon Tietz's** large family moved, with the assistance of an aunt, from England to Ft. Meyers, FL, when Joan was 13. All the children worked after school and contributed their pay to the family, sacrificing college, but Joan took accounting courses at night and became an accountant.

She and her lawyer husband, Frederick, had no children, but they had many nieces and nephews, and one family is especially close to Joan. Both Joan and Frederick were avid golfers. Frederick played 18 holes almost every day, and for years Joan also played 18 holes regularly. In addition, she volunteered in the golf course's office.

Joan has moved into Apt. 67, which she likes very much. She expects a visit soon from a nephew, a niece, and the niece's husband.

by Margaret Melstrom



**Marion Jalbert Norcross**, who has moved into Apt. 179, says that during the 40 years her family lived in Moorestown, she "had the best of both worlds." To her, that meant playing and teaching the oboe and also being home for her children.

During her school years, Marion lived in New Milford, NJ. She started playing the clarinet in sixth grade because she liked the sound of it. She switched to the oboe in tenth grade on the advice of a beloved music teacher. She played in the High School and All State orchestras. During her college years at Trenton State she had some lessons from Marcel Tabeteau of the Philadelphia Orchestra, considered "the best oboist in the

world."

On her student teaching assignment at Riverside High School, she met the art teacher, Harry Norcross, and they were married after Marion received a B.Sc. degree in music education. When Harry was hired as art teacher in the Moorestown elementary and middle schools, the couple moved to Moorestown. While raising two children, Marion gave private oboe lessons and played in the Haddonfield Symphony, the Cherry Hill Wind Symphony, the Philharmonic of South Jersey, and in area church music programs.

Currently Marion still has seven students and plays at the Moorestown Presbyterian Church. There she also attends a Bible study class (Precept upon Precept) that she had taught for many years. Marion has some very special tools and equipment permitting her to make reeds for the oboe, from purchased tube cane, for herself and her students. It's an old art, and it takes about one hour to make each piece.

Harry died in 2004. Each of Marion's two children is married and has four children.

by Ellen Stimler



**George and Katherine (Kate) Nicklin**, Apt. 71, lived in Garden City and on Shelter Island, Long Island, for over half a century, but they have good friends at Medford Leas: **Shammy Shamleffer**, **George and Marge Rubin**, **Barbara Heizman**, and others, from earlier Quaker contacts.

After graduating from Haverford High School in 1943 with a pre-med course, George was immediately drafted into the infantry. Following a first aid course, he was a medic for 60 days. He

was wounded, hospitalized for a year, then discharged in early 1946. After completing college at Haverford, he entered Columbia University Medical School.

Kate was always a New Yorker. She went to public schools and Brooklyn College and did graduate work in social work at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland. Partly because she was fluent in German, she was employed by an immigration agency, helping refugees after World War II get established in the U.S.

George and Kate met on a bicycle trip on Cape Cod. They later married, and during George's two-year residency at Cooperstown, NY, Kate set up the first social work program at that hospital. She also became active in the American Friends Service Committee.

In 1953, the Nicklins moved to Long Island, where both pursued their careers, brought up their four children, and worked for the AFSC. George is board-certified in psychiatry, psychoanalysis, and neurology. He has practiced psychiatry for 51 years, had taught at NYU Medical School and Bellevue Hospital, and was a founder and trustee of Friends World College and a trustee at Westbury Friends School. Kate worked for 22 years, until 1990, at an early childhood center in the Westbury, NY, public school system.

George's hobby is writing books. He has written three so far. His *Doctors in Peril* is on sale at book stores and a copy will be in the Library. Kate's avocation is committee work for AFSC. The Nicklins are happy to be in this area where two of their children live nearby.

by Margaret Melstrom



**Richard** and **Sandra Say** lived in Melfa, VA, before moving to 148 Woodside Drive, Lumberton Campus, some months ago. Catching up to them in between their frequent trips to Long Beach Island plus a Mediterranean cruise required perseverance. Sandra was born in Yonkers, NY, attended the Bellevue Schools of Nursing, and eventually earned her BA in School Nursing at Glassboro State College (now Rowan University) in 1976, when she and Rick were living in Medford Lakes.

Rick was raised in Grove City, PA, joined the Army after a year at Grove City College, and did his tour of duty in the Army of Occupation in Japan. Following his discharge, he spent a year in France as the Youth Director of the American Church in Paris. At the same time, he pursued classes in French cultural studies at the Sorbonne. By 1954, he had received his BA from the University of Pittsburgh and graduated from Union Theological Seminary in New York City. While attending seminary, he met Sandra. She was a teaching assistant in the Sunday School of the church where Rick was a student associate.

They married in 1957 and settled in Pompano Beach, FL, where Rick was Assistant Minister at the First Presbyterian Church. Two years later, they moved back to New York City where Rick was Assistant Minister at West End Collegiate Church. Succeeding that was a call to the Cathedral of the Woods in Medford Lakes in the early '60s. After the birth of their second daughter, Sandra took a school nurse position at Tabernacle School and also taught classes in health.

The Says retired in 1994 to Melfa, VA, on the Eastern shore. Sandra quickly designed and planted her garden there and has already accomplished much in cultivating plants around her Lumberton home. They are both avid antique collectors and have a showcase in Lahaska, PA, a mecca not too far from here for collectors and dealers. It is no surprise that their home is plentifully furnished with antiques. They both like to travel and look forward to a cruise through the Panama Canal in January.

by Doris Brown

A PORTFOLIO IN PEN & INK LINES  
of Medford Leas Covered Walks  
Apartment Entrance Decorations

Drawings by Lili Wronker

Signs



73



218



28



408



297

## JANUARY CRYPTOGRAM

by Betty Donahue

FDGHOIB SOHQ VGOMIAX OX  
 HMEFRGDGT AMDHQ, DX DZZ  
 AMDHQ OX, SM XMM IR ERGM  
 HQMOG VDWMX, IRG QMDG  
 HQMOG LROWMX, XDLM OI  
 EMERGT. — Q. S. ZRIBVMZZRS

Here is the solution to the December cryptogram by Sally Klos:

I WANT TO BE WISE WHEN I'M OLD, NOT WACKY. I WANT TO BE RELAXED, NOT RAVING. I WANT, WHEN PEOPLE ASK ME WHAT I'M DOING THESE DAYS, TO BE ABLE TO ANSWER, HAPPILY, GUILT-FREE, AND POSITIVELY: "NOTHING, NOTHING AT ALL."  
 MICK JAGGER

The correct solution was received from 29 residents: **Ken and Helen Anderson, Miriam Angle, Ruth Blattenberger, Judy Braddy** (employee), **Mort Bregman, Scott Charles, Liz Dill, Betty Donahue, Louise Evaul, Mickey Gray, Herb Heineman, Barbara Heizman, Eleanor Horner, Jane Hunter, Hugh Jenkins, Kitty Katzell, Mary Hope Mason, Bob Morrow, Alice Norcross, Betty Preston, Warren Reeves, Alfred Rudrauff, Florence Sawyer, Louise Styles, Ellen Wiener, Della Williams, John and Marie Winton, Gladys Wynkoop.**

Please put solutions in an envelope in Box 116 by January 10 or send it by email to [estimler@medleas.com](mailto:estimler@medleas.com). We are interested in getting submissions of cryptograms for future use.

## MEDFORD LEAS LIFE

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



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