



# Medford Leas *Life*

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## LUNCH FOR TWO

by Herb Heineman

[Ed. Note: Reprinted with permission from *The Lumberton Campus Chronicle*.]

"We could share an appetizer," he suggests; I agree. His choice turns out to be three miniature dumplings in a sauce. After we have each eaten one, I cut the third in two, take one piece, and say to my lunch companion, "The rest is yours." "OK," he answers, helping himself. I watch him eat. For some reason it registers with me that he uses fork, knife, and spoon – just like everyone else.

Across from me sits Vladimir Jurowski, in town to guest-conduct the Philadelphia Orchestra. Two days later, Peter Dobrin, music critic for *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, will write, "Thursday night, in his first performance since the one that stunned musicians and listeners, Jurowski absolutely established that the magic of his debut [Oct. 2005] was no fluke."

Now 34, Jurowski has been Music Director of the Glyndebourne Festival Opera for five years; he is Principal Guest Conductor of the Russian National Orchestra and, as of next season, Principal Conductor of the London Philharmonic. His biography features an impressive list of appearances and appointments, and it's no secret that the Philadelphia Orchestra is seriously interested in him as a possible successor to Eschenbach. He likes this orchestra better than some he has conducted, but I resist probing about a possible affiliation.



Michelle V. Agins/The New York Times

I've only known him three hours, more than half of which was consumed with the orchestra rehearsal. I can't help wondering what I'm doing, offering this man the leftover half of a miniature dumpling after I've helped myself.

It's my good fortune to have a friend who's also a friend of the Jurowski family. (Vladimir is the latest in a line of four generations of prominent Russian musicians.) I owe this meeting to our friend. Per arrangement, at 10:20 a.m. I'm waiting inside the artists' entrance at the Kimmel Center, where the orchestra's artistic coordinator, Alison (Allie) Trzaska, welcomes me. Orchestra members dribble in, and in due course the maestro arrives. With a grin and a hug, he says to Allie, "Welcome back to Russia." She introduces us and, to my delight, he accepts my invitation to lunch after the rehearsal. Thereupon Allie walks me to Verizon Hall, whose parquet entrance is crowded with patrons attending the rehearsal. I have no ticket,

but I do have Allie, at whose nod the waters part. Like a celebrity, I'm guided to a seat while ordinary folks watch.

I enjoy rehearsals more than concerts, because that's where the real work is done. The gestures at the actual performance serve mostly as reminders. I do, of course, hear all the music, parts of it several times, but I'm not enough of a critic to analyze; I just enjoy. Among the spectacles, one surely not offered to concertgoers, is that of Jurowski jumping down from the stage (at age 34 a slender man takes such shortcuts with ease), walking backward halfway up the parquet floor, and listening to the orchestra from the audience's vantage point. Meanwhile the orchestra plays unconduted but in perfect synchrony.

Eventually the rehearsal is over, and the weight of my predicament descends upon me. I've pledged myself to make conversation with a great man of music and I don't have a thing to say. I resort to a desperate measure, as befits a desperate situation. Surely Allie is used to talking with maestros, so I invite her along to lunch. But she has too much work. I'm on my own.

The first place we go to is packed. Jurowski casually suggests another. I'm faintly embarrassed, and yet beginning to get the sense from his demeanor that there's no need to be. When we're finally seated in a second restaurant, I get the true measure of the man. He's casually dressed, unlike me. Over lunch he talks about interpreting a musical score as its servant rather than its slave – a subtle distinction that I try to embrace without interrupting; intellectual and emotional musicians; performers who stand, figuratively, behind the composer and those who stand in front (naming a famous example of each); what a conductor should impose on orchestra members and what he should leave to them. He talks about different orchestras and their cultures; hiring and firing practices; concert hall acoustics (he's critical of Verizon Hall). He talks about his personal background (fourth-generation musician); long absences from home; religion; psychology; our mutual friend, whose late

husband had been instrumental in facilitating his family's immigration to Germany. Throughout, he speaks with conviction but totally without affectation. Answering my question, he tells me he is fluent in five languages and names others he regrets being unable to speak. He apologizes for not calling me before I called him, and he asks me about my background. I feel easier the more we talk and I have unexpectedly little trouble with my end of the conversation, which reminds me more of a collegial visit than an encounter of the unequals that we are. At the end he thanks me for coming to his rehearsal and promises to get in touch the next time he visits.

Two days later I see his picture and read the review in the newspaper. I realize how much more I would like to have heard, and I ask myself, shouldn't I at least have offered him the whole dumpling?

*(Postscript – In a radio interview on February 10, Jurowski referred to his age, citing the importance of life experience and general maturity, in addition to musical knowledge, in conducting. Some works, he feels, are not yet within his reach for that reason.)*

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## TRACKING IN THE SNOW

by Kitty Katzell

The recent light snowfalls have enabled the MLRA Trails Committee members to discover and identify several distinct animal tracks. On the trail across from Camp Darkwaters, next to a felled beech sapling, was a print of the front foot of a beaver. The back feet are webbed and often obscured by the dragging tail. Nearby, the prints of a very large raccoon were clearly visible. Along the trail were many tracks of squirrels, rabbits, and deer. The Committee is compiling a folder of mammal prints from the Internet for their future reference. Residents are welcome to join the Trails Committee on their weekly walks, Tuesdays at 8:30 a.m., starting from the Nature Center.

## EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

by Kitty Katzell

Some 150 employees, administrators, board members, spouses, and significant others were in attendance at the annual Employee Recognition Dinner held on March 2 at Charley's Other Brother.

Following the meal, there were brief remarks by CEO **Dennis Koza**, Estaugh Board member **Kitty Katzell**, and MLRA President **Chuck Woodard**. Then, Director of Human Resources **Pat Wilus** called the employees who had served Medford Leas for 3, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, and 35 years to the stage, where **Susan DiJacomo**, Human Resources Assistant, photographed each group. [The 35-year employee is **Doris Wallace**, Lead Coordinator of Environmental Services.]



Finally it was time for the highlight of the evening, the event for which everyone was waiting, the announcement of the employee of the year. In 2006, for the first time, residents and staff had nominated employees of the quarter, rather than employees of the month, so the four candidates for employee of the year were **Anna Hernandez-Ocasio**, Physical Therapy; **Rick Trandahl**, Fitness and Aquatics; **Myrna Ester**, Nursing, John Woolman; and **Mark Wick**, Human Resources. The four were called to the stage one by one, to tremendous rounds of applause, and then Dennis Koza opened the envelope and announced that Mark Wick was the winner.

Congratulations, Mark! And thanks for all you do and all you have done during your 30 years of service to Medford Leas.

## ARBORETUM COLLECTIONS

by Kitty Katzell

Medford Leas is the home of the Lewis W. Barton Arboretum and Nature Preserve. In addition to the many significant trees, most of which were clearly labeled last year, there are several important collections on the Medford campus.

Starting where one enters from Route 70 and bears left toward the Community Center, there is a collection of crabapple trees on the right, just before Parking Lot G. Continuing along Medford Leas Way, just before Parking Lot E on the right, is a slope covered with viburnums. On the left toward Bridlington is the latest addition, the collection of peonies, donated in 2006 by Dr. Dean Kinsey of Moorestown.

Proceeding toward Rushmore, on the right between Parking Lots C and B is the rhododendron collection. In the same vicinity, the courtyard planting in Court 9 is the rose collection.

In Rushmore, a collection of alpine plants can be found in a rock garden behind Apt. 635.

Closer to the Community Center, in Court 21 there is a collection of hollies, and between the Estaugh walkway and the Estaugh building is a collection of ornamental grasses.

The terrace outside the Library has two more of the Arboretum's collections, dwarf conifers and herbs.

So walk or drive through the Lewis W. Barton Arboretum and Nature Preserve and look for the various collections.



## MLRA COUNCIL NOMINEES

by Maggie Woodard

**Beni Taylor**, MLRA Nominating Committee Chair, announced the Committee's nominations for next year's Council members at the March 19 MLRA business meeting. She first introduced the members of the Nominating Committee: **John Caughey, Betty Preston, Helen Vukasin, and Ann Walker.**

Council members whose term expires the end of June are: **Neil Hartman, John Sommi, Beni Taylor, Alex Webb, and Chuck Woodard.** Council members who will continue to serve another year are: **Harriet Bussey, Jack Mutschler, George Rubin, Jean Stratton, Dave Swartz, and Mary Toda.**

The new Council nominees are: **Gordon Beckhardt, Wil Britten, Bob Morrow, Louise Tompkins, and Barbara Trought.**

Within one week, ten or more members of the Association may present to the Chairman of the Nominating committee written nominations of other candidates, accompanied by their written consent to serve if elected. The election will take place at the April 16 MLRA business meeting.

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## BULLETIN BOARDS

by Maggie Woodard

The MLRA Bulletin Board Committee oversees information posted on five community bulletin boards. With two exceptions, all material must be submitted to the Bulletin Board Committee for posting. Material to be posted should be placed on the Bulletin Board shelf of the horizontal mailboxes next to the Receptionist. In addition, MLRA Council policy prohibits the posting of political and activist materials, including cartoons. Unfortunately, many residents, and some outsiders, appear to be unaware of this policy. As a result, **Bernice Ahlquist**, chairman of the Bulletin Board Committee, must check the boards

almost daily to remove unsuitable material.

Following are the locations of the five bulletin boards and the kinds of material which may be posted on each:

(1) **Atrium Bulletin Board:** Obituaries and religious notices; MLRA Council, committees, and activities; information supplied by Estaugh Board members and Management, including daily menus and the monthly calendar.

(2) **Between the Gift Shop and the Coffee Shop:** Arboretum display; external events, including concerts, festivals, and trips; person-to-person messages.

(3) **Next to the Bank:** Health care issues, transportation information, and MLRA Citizens Committee notices.

(4) **Ground floor Haddon opposite the elevator:** transportation information, business cards, service notices; duplicates of menus, calendar, and activities.

(5) **Covered walkway to Courts 1-18:** Arboretum site map, Bird Club information, and Nature Center notices.

Material may be posted by residents without Bulletin Board Committee approval only in the following two locations:

(1) **The left section of the Atrium Bulletin Board:** Obituaries, notices of memorial services, and notes of appreciation. Each notice should be dated and removed, generally after two weeks.

(2) **The right section of the Bulletin Board between the Gift and Coffee Shops:** Personal resident-to-resident messages, e.g., items for sale. Each notice should be dated and removed, generally after two weeks.

It is hoped that residents, after reading this article, will place materials to be posted on the Bulletin Board shelf in the Atrium.



## MEETING CONNIE BACHA

by Ellen Stimler



**Constance (Connie) Bacha**, Apt. 561, waved away her visitor, saying she has nothing important or interesting to tell! Yet Connie, who will be 100 years old in June, recalls distinctly that she had the unusual opportunity of meeting and talking

with Mark Twain every day for several weeks during one summer back in 1910 or 1911.

At that time, Connie was a little girl of three or four, living in Tuxedo Park, NY. Some close friends of Mark Twain lived nearby, and they had suggested to Twain that he spend the summer in their home while they were traveling abroad. The friends felt Twain needed a change of scene after the death of a beloved daughter.

One morning, when Connie was playing in front of her house, she saw a tall gentleman, dressed all in white, walking past her yard. The gentleman stopped, came up to the little girl, and asked her name. Answering politely, Connie then wanted to know his name. "My name is Mark," was the response. This was the beginning of a daily routine. Twain would stop to talk with Connie, and they enjoyed each other's company for a few minutes during the rest of Twain's stay in Tuxedo Park. Connie thinks that she may have reminded Twain of his own daughter for whom he was still grieving.

Connie went through the Tuxedo Park schools, excelling in sports and having star status on the basketball and swim teams. After she graduated from Oneonta College with a teaching degree, the only teaching jobs offered to her were in one-room school houses in small towns where she knew nobody. So she decided to go into nursing and earned an R.N. in a teaching hospital in Orange County. She met her future husband,

John Bacha, at a party where he was serving drinks at the bar. She remembers that she asked for ginger ale, and John was surprised that she didn't want "anything in it." The next day, John called her at work to make a movie date. The wedding was soon afterwards.

The Bachas had two daughters, and there are now five grandchildren. They lived in Orange County throughout their marriage. Connie worked most of the time, on the night shift. John was an electrical engineer, working at one time on the plane that dropped the atom bomb on Hiroshima. He died many years ago.

Connie misses the many friends and activities she used to enjoy inside and outside of Medford Leas. She still goes to the Fitness Center twice a week, plays cards, and reads *The New York Times* in the Lounge. Her memory and her active brain make her seem years younger.

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## GOING GREEN

Going Green! It's the "in" thing to do,  
Say business, government, and newcasters too!

Medford Leas management has joined the game  
With equipment **Bill Murphy** is proud to explain.

And what can we, the residents do?  
Use less water as we bathe and shampoo.

Adjust heat 'n cold when going away,  
And use CFL bulbs at the end of the day.

Newspaper, plastic, and cardboard, too  
Go in the trash closet nearest to you.

Containers: glass, plastic and tins  
Go outside to the brown painted bins.

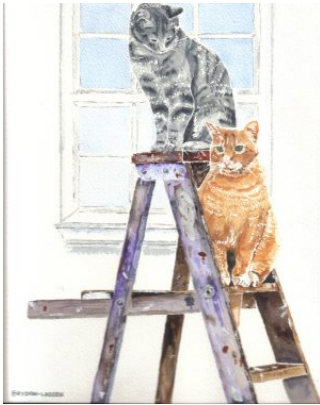
Recycle, reuse, don't throw it away.  
Help save our planet. Go Green today.

by Gwen Crawley

## ART GALLERY NEWS

by Helen L. Vukasin

It's Spring! And that heralds the best party on the block – the opening of the Art Studio Resident Exhibit in the Art Studio Gallery outside the Fitness Center.



Brydon-Lassen

Every six months, artists who have been hard at work in the Art Studio or in their apartments present a new show that exhibits the many different talents that lie hidden in Medford Leas. Besides the exciting and sometimes surprising works of art, the Art Studio Group offers the best homemade goodies ever.

The date is Monday, April 16, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the Art Studio Gallery. Take the stairs or elevator in the Atrium to find the Gallery.

Meanwhile, the Art Gallery Committee has been busy seeking the best artists of New Jersey and elsewhere to display their works in the new Art Gallery that will open in the fall of 2007. The Committee recently took a trip to Smithville to select potential exhibitors from the exhibit "Voices in Vision, celebrating artists and cultural contributions of African American artists in Burlington County." Again this year, the Medford Leas Gallery Committee will choose an artist from the prestigious Perkins Center for the Arts Watercolor Exhibit to award a showing of the artist's work at Medford Leas.

The Committee is challenged to work with a virtual-reality gallery as they imagine walls coming down or being moved to create the new gallery space, when the entrances to the Garden Room are reconstructed.

In the Lumberton Art Gallery, the well-received show of the work of Relatives of Residents will come down in mid-April. For those residents with

talented relatives who missed showing this time, we expect to repeat the show with different paintings in a year or two.

An exhibit of the work of **Alice Skidmore Culbreth** and **Rita Keiper** will open later in April. There will be no official opening and Medford campus residents are encouraged to pick up a key in the Atrium and visit the Lumberton campus to view the exhibit. If it is a warm day, bring a swimsuit! The pool will open on April 15, with the Polar Dip on April 24.

## SKYPE: THE VIDEO PHONE

by Ellen Stimler

When my daughter, Lynn, called me from her home in Hawaii to ask me to get Skype, I thought at first that she wanted me to buy some new kind of fish. But after listening to her explanation, I learned that Skype is a free phone program that would allow me to see her and my two grandchildren on my computer screen, while talking and listening to them on my headset. She made it sound very simple. All I had to do was to install this Skype program and buy a headset with a microphone. That would allow me to see them, but if I wanted them to see me, I would also have to get something called a webcam, which is really a computer camera. It sounded exciting, and I said I would like to try it.

The first thing I did was call **David Wagner** of the IT Department. He confirmed everything Lynn had said and offered to hook up the headset and webcam. I asked him if other residents had Skype. The only ones he knew about were **Karel** and **Betsy Pennink**, who use it to talk to their daughter in Holland.

I ordered the headset and webcam from Amazon, and they were delivered in two days. All I had to do to download Skype was type in the name, and it installed itself. David came and put the various cords into the right places. I never could have figured it out, because of all the cords bunched up at the back of the computer. The webcam was not working properly and had to be returned.

(continued on next page)

Meanwhile, Lynn and I agreed on the best time of day to try our first Skype visit. There is a six-hour time difference between Hawaii and New Jersey, but 7:30 p.m. worked for both of us. At the appointed time I had the program up on my computer. It was nine-year-old Spencer who told me which buttons to click on in succession until, miraculously, a black screen opened in the middle of my computer screen, and within seconds, I could see Spencer sitting at the computer, with the headset on, and his sister, Emily, waving wildly on one side. Lynn was smiling broadly in the back. Emily brought her knitting and embroidery to show me, and Spencer was clowning around and jumping up and down. It was the most exciting thing that's happened this year, for sure!

## IT'S GEEK TO ME!

by Kay Cooley

A **Geek** is "a technically obsessed person who spends so much time with the computer that other dimensions of personality, such as social skills, are poorly developed." (*Webster's New World Computer Dictionary*, 9th ed., 2001.) I am not a Geek. It's safe to say that few, if any, Medford Leas inhabitants are Geeks. So how do residents keep up with the jargon of modern computers and other gadgets designed for electronic communication?

Some individuals are fortunate enough to have grandchildren who initiate them into the mysteries of such devices. Others seek the help of **Don Bernard** (the P.C. Guru) and **Anne Harkin** (the Macintosh Wizard) or take refuge in books, the assistance of friends, or the patient tutelage of the IT department.

These sources, however, cannot cover everything. Gaps inevitably materialize. *Medford Leas Life* wants to help close the gaps by printing an article from time to time in which some of the most common terms related to computers and cell phones are explained. Items will be listed randomly, which is the way one runs into them (or they run into one).

Terms being defined are printed in bold. Terms within the description that will be defined subsequently appear in italics. The information source leaned on heavily by this writer is *Webopedia*, a computer dictionary at [webopedia.com](http://webopedia.com)

**Blog:** a Blog is a *Web* page that is an individual's personal journal accessible to anyone who cares to read it. Updated frequently, it reflects the opinions of the author. A person who **blogs** is a **blogger**. Blogs can be used to carry on rapid electronic conversations. In this mode they are sometimes used for political purposes.

**Web:** short for **World Wide Web**. The Web refers to a system of Internet *Servers* that support documents written in a specially formatted language called *HTML*. HTML (HyperText Markup Language) allows documents in one site to be linked to documents, graphics, audio, and video files at other sites. This enables one to jump from one document to another with a click of the mouse. To access the Web, one must be connected to an Internet Server.

**Servers:** A server is a computer or a device on a *network* that manages network resources such as *files*, printers, or networks. Medford Leas provides an Internet server for residents with [medleas.com](mailto:medleas.com) email; Comcast provides the Internet server for those with a [comcast.net](mailto:comcast.net) address. Whereas residents store files on their own computers and use their own printers, the various departments on the Medford Leas *network* may share files and printers by using the file servers or print servers of the IT (Information Technology) Department.

**Network:** A group of two or more computers linked together. A network that connects computers located within small distances, such as the rooms of a home, is called a LAN (Local Area Network). Networks are governed by protocols, a common set of rules and signals used by the computers in a network to communicate. A commonly used protocol used by LANs is called Ethernet.

**File:** A collection of data or information stored in a computer.

## A TURKEY VULTURE EVENT

by Rona Keilin

On a recent morning, I was drawn to the window by the barking of my Kerry Blue Terrier standing with her front paws on the sill looking out on the lawn. I was surprised to see a huge vulture waddling across the lawn toward New Freedom Road. There was quite a lot of traffic and I feared that there would soon be a dead bird so I went out to see what was drawing the carrion eater. As I opened the door, the vulture flew off. In the road I found a very large dead possum, which I brought onto the lawn so I could watch the vulture when it returned. I watched all morning but the bird did not come back. I soon realized I had done a really dumb thing. I now had a large carcass on my lawn and the day was growing warmer.

I went to the Community Center for a couple of hours and when I returned, there was much fluttering and squawking at the top of a nearby oak tree: Red-Tailed Hawks were mating, but there was no sign of the vulture. The dog continued to look out the window and after about an hour she began to bark. When I went to look, there, at last, was a vulture. Then there were three! Two of them were spreading their wings to warm and dry them and one was eating. Hooray! The dead body was being taken care of. Then two more vultures flew down.

More and more and more appeared until there were ten of them squawking, flapping, squabbling, and chasing each other about the lawn.

In the late afternoon, the ten vultures were seen standing a respectful distance from a large bird that was on the body. With my binoculars, I saw that it was a Red Tailed Hawk. The vultures stayed back until the hawk flew away. Then the tumult resumed.

They stayed until almost dark. I could see their outlines in the trees and thought that they had gone, but when the dog and I went to the mailbox, I was surprised when she chased one that was still at the carcass. The huge bird flew up to the telephone pole in the dark.

The next morning five of them came back. It was a Saturday with runners and bikers on the road who might have scared them off. In any event, by early afternoon all the big birds were gone and calm returned to the lawn. There was still some meat on the bones and three days later two vultures returned, but there have been none since.

## A MYSTERY BIRD

by Jane Bourquin

A beautiful bird appeared at my suet feeder the first week in January. It was mostly dark pink, smaller than a robin, had a sharp bill like a woodpecker, a perky tail like a wren's but longer, dark wings with two pink bars, and no crest.



Mystery bird

photo by Jane Bourquin

I set up my camera, started a timetable to record appearances, and called **Art Steitz**, a prime birder and a close neighbor. Arthur came, looked, and was mystified. He suggested **Miriam Swartz**, who came, looked, and was mystified. Next I called **Louise Evaul**, who suggested Paul Driver, the New Jersey Audubon Society's identifier, so I emailed him the picture of the bird. Meanwhile, **Perry Krakora** came and suggested it was an oriole.

Paul Driver emailed that it was indeed a Baltimore Oriole, who should have been in South America by that time. He also said that they are often reported on the Christmas bird count but not later than that.

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The mystery bird disappeared after February 6. I hope it will be like the Mockingbird which I first saw about 1950 and have been seeing ever since. He didn't belong here either.

*Ed. Note: Late word is that the mystery bird is most likely a Western Tanager.*



Western Tanager

photo from the Internet

**“RARE BIRD” ALERT**

by Barbara Heizman

During a recent frigid spell, I sat watching the usual carnival of juncos, white-throated sparrows, mourning doves, and squirrels busily eating seeds and peanuts while I ate my lunch. I literally jumped when I spotted the pure white head and neck of a small bird with its back to me. I had a short but good look at it through my binoculars before it and a house finch, with which it seemed to be interacting, flew away. Its chalk-white head and neck sloped down to brown feathers that covered the rest of its body like a mantle.

At the March 7 meeting of the Medford Leas Bird Club, I hesitated to report my “find,” but the responses were positive. **Gertrude Marshall** said that in the past a white-headed bird had occasionally been seen with house finches. **Bettina Frost (Frostie)** added that she had

recently spotted a white-headed bird in a flock of finches. Later I learned that **Teddy** and **Gene Raup** had seen such a bird at their feeder. A bird of this description has also been seen in the Bridlington area this year.

At this time, a definitive identification of this visitor cannot be made but it seems plausible that it may be a house finch in which a form of albinism has affected its red pigmentation. Residents are asked to keep checking their bird feeders and to record sightings on the Bird Club's checklist in the Atrium.



Female Albino Finch

photo from the Internet

**IN MEMORIAM**

<b>Bonnie Schilling</b>	<b>March 3</b>
<b>Winifred Howard</b>	<b>March 6</b>
<b>Katharine Anders</b>	<b>March 10</b>

## VETERANS AND LOCAL PROPERTY TAXES

by Jim McConville

Anyone who has served in the Armed Forces during war/conflict is, in the eyes of New Jersey, an Armed Forces Veteran. However, New Jersey does not apply that same status to veterans living in a CCRC if they request property tax credit from either Medford or Lumberton. As explained by local tax supervisors, the state considers that "only veterans duly registered as property owners qualify." Medford Leas is the registered owner of all associated properties, so CCRC veterans do not qualify. This reasoning seems somewhat problematic since federal and state governments allow property tax as a legitimate deduction for CCRC residents. Why then does New Jersey make such a distinction at a local level?

The question was broached with two local elected officials, who explained that their hands were tied. They did, however, express support and said they would approach state representatives on veterans' behalf. They believe that all elected representatives at the state level would rally to the support of CCRC veterans of WWII, Korea, and Vietnam.

As a first step in this State education effort, **Jim McConville** has volunteered to ascertain the number of veterans who would qualify at Medford Leas' two campuses. Those numbers could serve as a base to estimate the count of CCRC vets across New Jersey.

Residents who are willing to join this quixotic journey are asked to send their names and dates of service to Jim McConville at 151 Woodside Drive, Lumberton, NJ 08048.

As a point of information, veterans' credit in both Medford and Lumberton Townships is \$250/year.



## IN HER OWN VOICE: TALES OF TRIUMPHANT WOMEN

by Kitty Katzell

Do you have an amazing story to tell? Carrie Chambers and Tara Rook of Medford believe that women everywhere will benefit from hearing how other women overcame prejudices and adversity in their lives. Their goal is to record, for posterity and for inspiration to others, the life stories, conflicts, and triumphs of women

They would like to photograph residents, record interviews with them, and write and publish their stories, keeping as close to the facts as possible. Their objective is to publish a collection of stories from women of all situations to give the world a perspective on the resilience and strength of the female spirit. They chose Medford Leas because they knew that it was home to many women who had triumphed over adversity.

To help focus the message and story, participants are asked to think about their answers to the following questions:

1. What story do you want to tell? (The details will be brought out at the taped interview.)
2. Where does the story take place?
3. Who are the major characters in the story? Give a short description of each.
4. In what time frame does the story take place?
5. What positives do you feel this experience taught you?
6. What negatives did this experience teach you?

Participants are free to revise, edit, add, or delete information as they see fit. It is understood that there may be circumstances too painful to exhume, but it is hoped that participants will be able to tell their complete, detailed stories as accurately as possible, including their opinions and advice to others.

Anyone who thinks she might be interested in this project should contact **Kitty Katzell**, Box 56, 3056, or [kittyk@medleas.com](mailto:kittyk@medleas.com). She will put residents in touch with the women who will be handling the interviews and producing the publication.

## WHO'S NEW



**Elsie Behmer** felt at home immediately when she moved into Apt. 692 in Bridlington from a condo in Moorestown. She grew up in Piscataway, NJ, and went to the University of Bridgeport, CT, for a B.A. in fine arts. She next earned an M.A. in Journalism at Syracuse.

For a few years she was a journalist for the *Daily Record* in Long Branch, NJ, then went to the Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania for an M.B.A.

Elsie worked for Merck in Rahway, NJ, in the Public Affairs Department, and later for Johnson & Johnson (where she was part of the public relations and marketing team that dealt with the Tylenol tampering). She moved to New York City and was president of a small marketing company until she retired in 1992. Since her retirement Elsie has pursued two major interests. With her wire-haired fox terrier and Welsh terrier, she has participated in earthdog trials sponsored by the American Kennel Club. The terriers are trained to track groundhogs and rats in over- and underground terrain.

Currently Elsie is a facilitator at Burlington County College in RSVP, a program for retired executives and professionals. The group provides free management consulting in marketing, general management, and board development to non-profits in Burlington County such as Cedar Run, Whitesbog, the United Way of Burlington County, and others.

Elsie has also traveled widely. She has been to every continent and to places as remote as Tibet. This fall she will go to Yorkshire and Cornwall. She considers herself to be busy, lucky, and happy.

by Margaret Melstrom

**Mary Showers Bergman**, who has moved to Apt. 134 from Marlton, has always been a very busy person. She grew up in Reading, PA, graduated from Penn State a home economics major, and served several years as an adjunct professor at the laboratory high school of Penn State.



She met her husband at Penn State, and they had three sons. Her two surviving sons live in Hamilton and Mount Laurel, and she enjoys helping to care for her three grandchildren.

When her marriage ended, Mary returned to school and earned a graduate degree in Nutrition from Drexel. There followed an exciting career, including positions as Assistant Director of the Burlington County Women's, Infants', and Children's (WIC) Nutrition Program, as a nutritionist in the New Jersey Department of Developmental Disabilities, and as Assistant Professor of Cooperative Research and Education at Rutgers.

Mary has also been active in church work, helping to found Little Acres, a Day Care Center in Vineland, assisting the Newcomers Club in Moorestown, and mentoring homeless mothers in Marlton.

When she is settled, Mary plans to garden, enjoy the Pool and the Fitness Center, attend musical events, and improve her skills with the digital camera. She also plans to renew her acquaintance with **Sally Klos** and **Marion Norcross**. She will continue to be a busy person.

by Della Williams



## APRIL CRYPTOGRAM

by Betty Donahue

S HL DNF X GNHACWO UCF QIN  
 FSMIQO HVJ ASKNFQSNO CU LX  
 TCWVQFX; HVJ QIN ANHOQ  
 NVTFCHTILNVQ CV QICON  
 YFSDSANMNO SO HYQ QC LHZN  
 LX KACCJ KCSA NBTNNJSVMAX.  
 --LFO. JCMCCJ  
 (KNVGHL SV UFHVZASV)

Here is the solution to the March cryptogram by Betty Donahue.

THERE IS A QUALITY TO BEING ALONE THAT IS INCREDIBLY PRECIOUS. LIFE RUSHES BACK INTO THE VOID, RICHER, MORE VIVID, FULLER THAN BEFORE. —ANNE MORROW LINDBERGH

The correct solution was received from 34 readers: **Miriam Angle, Connie Bacha, Ruth Blattenberger, Judy Braddy, Florence Brudon, Marion Burk, Scott Charles, John Caughey, Gwen Crawley, Anne Cree, Alice Culbreth, Liz Dill, Louise Evaul, Mary Fenimore, Mickey Gray, Mary Haines, Herb Heineman, Barbara Heizman, Eleanor Horner, Jane Hunter, Ariel Hollinshead Huyn, Sally Klos, Mary Hope Mason, Ruth Mavronikolas, Dottie Mulholland, Alice Norcross, Helen Peterson, Betty Preston, Alfred Rudrauff, Doris Salati, Miriam Ward, Ellen Wiener, Della Williams, Gladys Wynkoop.**

Please put your solution in an envelope in Box 116 by April 10 or send it by email to [estimler@medleas.com](mailto:estimler@medleas.com). Slips of paper or index cards get lost in the mailbox.

## MEDFORD LEAS LIFE

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