

Medford Life Leas Life

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JANUARY 2010

ALL THINGS NEW JERSEY by Kitty Katzell

For the long-awaited Employee Holiday Show, residents came early to be sure of getting good seats, and they were rewarded. Joe Pantano started playing his keyboard music 15 minutes before showtime, and five minutes later, the movie screen started showing illustrated New Jersey facts. Some were familiar, like New Jersey being the diner capital of the world; others were less well known, like the horse being the State mammal. Most popular were those series that included pictures of staff members: Bill Murphy, among famous singers from New Jersey; Bill Conte, among comedians; Mark Wick, musicians; Gerry Stride, producers; the four members of the Fitness staff, athletes; Brad Mauger, chefs; Dennis Koza, leaders; and the Silo among famous sites.

Then the screen was rolled up and the real show began – ALL THINGS NEW JERSEY! First was the State Song, *I'm From New Jersey*, sung by Mark Wick of Human Resources.

The narrator for the whole show was Marcy Smith, Therapeutic Recreation. (Marcy is the daughter of Carmen Smith, receptionist, and the sister of Rachel Conte, who works on John Estaugh.) Marcy said she was on a mission to find the perfect holiday tree. First she stopped off for breakfast in one of New Jersey's famous diners – to the tune of Nothing Could be Finer than Food in a Jersey Diner.

Next she visited a hardware store on Mill Street run by the "Moorestown Mafia," where staff from Landscaping and Maintenance sang *It Takes* Two, telling how two can get the job done right. The tree Marcy found at the hardware store "looked like it had been put together by a committee," so she headed to Haddonfield, where she ran into a meeting of the Historical Society, reenacting the discovery of dinosaur bones. Staff of the Health Center, all dressed in black with glow-in-the-dark skeletal bones imprinted on their costumes, sang the tale of the Hadrosaurus found in Haddonfield, to the tune of *Dem Bones*.

In a tribute to lighthouses, Mark Wick sang *You Light up My Life*, with **Peggy Bamberger**, CNA, portraying the Barnegat Lighthouse.

At the mall, a group of women who work in Assisted Living at Medford Leas were out shopping. They danced and blew bubbles while they sang *Girls Just Want to Have Fun.*

Heading to the Pine Barrens, Marcy met *The Pine Baron*. It was Bill Murphy (below), Director of Operations, who sang, in his inimitable style, "I talk to the trees but they don't listen to me."



photo by Margery Rubin



In Waretown, Marcy visited Albert Hall, where she heard a bluegrass group (Resident Services) rehearsing the song *Daddy Sings Bass*. It told how "helpin' people is what we do."

A group of eight, identified only as Social Services and Friends, did a lively square dance to *Turkey in the Straw,* before Marcy headed to Atlantic City. There she met Mr. Monopoly, portrayed by Dennis Koza, CEO, who sang about building plans and strategic plans in his impressive singing voice. Marcy and Dennis met staff from Therapeutic Recreation, who sang *Hey, Big Spender,* ending with a list of their wishes: a bigger van, a new Activities Room, and a raise in pay.

Serving as a member of the Arboretum Committee, **Dolores Redner**, Health Services Administrator, read Joyce Kilmer's poem *Trees*, as Marcy headed to the Wild Woods in her search for that perfect tree. Staff of Fitness and Rehab sang *Wildwood Days* and danced. Bill Conte walked by with **Kevin Crain**, both from Maintenance, in handcuffs, prompting Marcy to remark that another corrupt New Jersey politician had been arrested.

The story goes that the Jersey Devil was born the 13th child on the 13th day and haunts the Jersey pines. Marcy came upon a whole coven of Jersey devils (staff of Woolman and Estaugh) singing *Devil with the Blue Dress*. By now she feared she'd never find the perfect tree, but she'd been hearing about Medford Trees, or was it Leas? At the Front Desk, she met **Jackie Pacheco** and **Lisa Minuto**, who were discussing three calls that were waiting. The callers were **Who**, **What**, and **I Don't Know**. The ensuing discussion followed the pattern of the old Abbott and Costello routine, which brought down the house, but reportedly was unfamiliar to many of the young people in the show.

The two receptionists introduced Marcy to some retired farmers who live here, and they sang *Mr. Mickle had a Farm*, with appropriate lyrics:

"On that farm they built a CCRC,
With a Quaker here and a Quaker there,
And a blue jay here and a hummingbird there,
Here a hawk, there a squawk,
Everywhere a hawk-squawk,
Here a Thee, there a Thou,
Everywhere a Thee-Thou,
With a white pine here and a blue spruce there,
Here a holly, there a holly,
Everywhere a holly by golly.
Mr. Mickle had a farm, and are we ever glad."

While they wouldn't let her cut down a tree in the Pinetum, they did direct her to Spotts Hardware Store in Medford, where she found the perfect tree. Everyone danced around the lovely tree as Gerry Stride, Director of Community Life, sang Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree before the finale, There's No Place like Home for the Holidays. Everyone in the show joined in the song that ended with --

"If you want to be happy in a million ways, For the holidays, you can't beat Medford Leas."

As always, it was a splendid production that was greatly enjoyed by residents and by the staff from all departments and all levels who had produced, directed, and acted in it.

WHAT ARE THEY TALKING ABOUT?

by Helen L. Vukasin

The Website Committee is ready to help residents who are not familiar with computers understand the language spoken by children, grandchildren, and the evening news. On January 20 at 11 am in the Theater, the Committee will explain the use and definition of such terms as Twitter, blog, Facebook and many others. They will also offer information about the latest useful electronics to assist seniors, and there will be a short showing of the newest items on the MLRA website for those who do not use a computer. Those who do use computers are also welcome.

DECEMBER DECORATIONS

by Kitty Katzell

Throughout last month residents enjoyed the many special decorations that brightened the halls and public rooms at Medford Leas. They were the work of a committee of 24 residents, from all parts of Medford Leas, co-chaired by **Ginny Springer**, who lives in Bridlington, and **Barbara Zimmerman** from the Lumberton campus.



photo by Barbara Zimmerman
Decorating the Gathering Room
Alex and Frannie Webb and Liz Knapp

Starting at the entryway, swags of evergreens bordered the walkway. Entering the Atrium, visitors were greeted by a decorated Christmas tree gaily-wrapped packages with beneath boughs. Nearby was a Chanukah table, with a menorah, dredel, and Chanukah gelt. All round the Atrium were other decorations: the usual ribbons bearing residents' greeting cards, small trees and seasonal figures on every surface, and Christmas needlework of former residents hung on the walls. In the Lounge, a seven-foot lighted white Christmas tree faced the entrance, and most of the Lounge decorations carried forward the white theme. The tree was a gift of

Robert and Ruth Rosvold, who live on the Lumberton campus. On the top shelf of the bookcase at the Library entrance were figures of Dickens's characters and an open copy of a Dickens volume.

Poplar Place had a variety of Christmas figures on the tables. The Holly Room had wreaths in the windows and a decorated Christmas tree. Even the Health Center "got in the mood" with a small tree bearing little pill bottles as ornaments! Each table in the Colonial and Garden Dining Rooms had a small poinsettia plant in its center. The Coffee Shop was decorated by staff with items pertaining to each of the three December observances — Christmas, Chanukah, and Kwanzaa — and meals appropriate to each were served during the month.

The week before Christmas, a long table of real gingerbread houses was set up in the Atrium. In an annual holiday tradition, the gingerbread was made by **Brad Mauger**, executive chef, and the houses were decorated by employees. Onlookers were asked to fill out a ballot listing their three favorites and prizes will be awarded to the winners. Margery Rubin's color photos of the houses are the highlight of an article at *mlra.org*.



photo by Margery Rubin

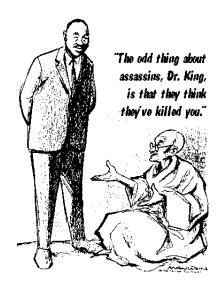
Now, with the close of the holiday season, the decorations will be put away to be brought out again next December, along with others that have been saved from prior years. This most beautiful time of the year will be fondly remembered and then reconstructed for residents to enjoy in 2010. Happy New Year!

MARTIN LUTHER KING LECTURE by Neil Hartman

On January 9, 2010, the annual Martin Luther King, Jr., Lecture will be given by the Rev. Manish Mishra of the Cherry Hill Unitarian Universalist Church.

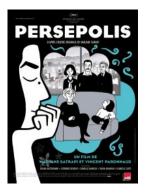
Rev. Mishra was born in Pittsburgh, PA, to parents from India. A self-described community activist, he is one of just three Hindu Unitarian Universalist ministers in North America, two in the U.S. and one in Canada. His interest in peace led him first to pursue a career with the Foreign Service with the Department of State. He has lived in a number of different countries and speaks seven languages, but he found the bureaucracy of diplomacy and the tedium of writing reports was not fulfilling. Inspired by a Unitarian minister, he decided to go into the ministry, where he felt he could make a difference in people's lives.

Mishra says that being a minority in a majority culture has created in him a real sensitivity toward injustice, discrimination, and the barriers that separate us from one another. He will speak on the influence of Mahatma Gandhi on Martin Luther King, Jr.



MEDFORD LEAS READS: 2010

by Jody Cardona



The MLRA Diversity Committee has selected *The Complete Persepolis* as its Medford Leas Reads book of the year for 2010. This memoir recounts author Marjane Satrapi's years growing up, first in Iran during the years of the Islamic Revolution, then in high

school in Austria without her family, and finally on her return to an Iran firmly under control of the imams. It ends with her departure into self-imposed exile abroad, where she lives today. The book is an international best seller that gives the reader an unforgettable picture of an outspoken woman who chafes at the oppressive control exerted by the Iranian theocracy. The author is also exceptionally honest about her own stumbling steps toward adulthood and independence.

The format of this book is another source of interest. Superficially, it looks like a comic book. However, do not expect a watered-down comic book account of a life. This is a graphic novel, a modern form, a mixture of graphic design and strong text. The combination of deceptively simple illustrations and powerful text produces far more impact on the reader than simple text could achieve, no matter how strong.

Do plan to join the Medford Leas Reads: 2010 program, and experience this extraordinary memoir of Iranian life during the change from the Shah's reign to a radical theocracy, and on into everyday life under that oppressive regime. The book was made into an animated movie in 2007. More information about Medford Leas Reads: 2010 will be distributed to residents in early January.

MEDFORD LEAS SINGING GROUPS by Ellen Stimler

"We love to sing, and that's why people come to these sessions," said **Marion Burk**, who has led singing groups at Medford Leas with talent and enthusiasm for over ten years. She took over the existing groups while she lived in Woolman Commons, the former Medford Leas satellite in Mt. Holly. She worked with both the Madrigals and the Leas Singers until 2002, when **Nan Hanslowe** arrived at Medford Leas and agreed to take over the Madrigals.

At present, there is little difference between the two groups, who meet together every Wednesday in the Linden Room at 11 am. Marion and Nan both come most Wednesdays and take turns leading the singers from a high stool or accompanying on the piano. Over the years, they have accumulated a well-organized library of songs and music that is arranged in a bookcase in the room. There are folders of songs in categories such as spring, summer, memories, Christmas, show tunes. Another section has songs organized alphabetically by **Anne Wood.** The madrigals are in separate binders, listed and tagged by number.

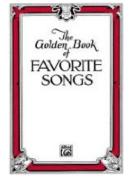
Marion has music in her blood. Growing up, she learned to sing along with her father while her mother accompanied them on the piano. She has a BA in music education from the former Trenton State College, taught music in Burlington County schools from kindergarten to high school, and directed church choirs for 15 years.

Nan has an MA in music and is also a certified music teacher. She studied singing at the Vienna Conservatory, taught singing and piano, and has been a judge in singing competitions.

Like other MLRA committees, the singing groups would like to have more members, particularly men. Marion said that it's not necessary to be able to read music, except for the madrigals, which are sung only occasionally. On two Wednesdays in October, the groups sang show tunes from popular musicals, spirituals, and se-

lections from *The Golden Book of Favorite Songs*. Nan has the ability to transpose a song to a lower or higher key to meet the needs of the singers at the time.





1st Edition - 1915

21st Edition - 1985

"I just enjoy singing with other people, and the sociability that comes with it," said **Fran Stoll.** For **Philetta Lobo**, "singing is so invigorating, like singing in the shower."

GREEN UPDATE

by Bill Murphy as told to Suzanne Frank

Some residents have had questions about what is being done at Medford Leas to further our "green initiatives," so we asked **Bill Murphy**, Director of Operations, to give us an update and this is what he said:

Our goal is to be as green as possible so everything we're doing now is green. It is almost impossible today to buy materials that do not conform to green standards. Current rules and regulations require that, when we retrofit space, we need to be in compliance with the new green code.

The *carpet* we installed not too long ago in the Atrium and elsewhere is made of recycled and reprocessed nylon fibers and is the greenest we can purchase.

The *paint* we use is also as green a product as we can get, and the *tile* in the Activities Room is made from recycled tile material.

We've also installed *low-flush toilets*, *special showerheads*, and *energy efficient light bulbs and fixtures*.

Power management and **co-generation** have been part of Medford Leas' effort at reducing consumption for well over 30 years. I don't know what our electric bills would be like today if we hadn't instituted these cost-saving measures. And I might mention that we had huge input from what was then our resident Energy Committee.

Energy consumption, which remains a large concern, has been greatly reduced through our computerized power management system. In other words, we have about 110 pieces of equipment connected to a computer that enables us to regulate and maintain temperature levels according to need. Also, besides replacing light bulbs, a 50% cost saving has been achieved by lighting only every other fixture on campus. We've also set timers so that only a certain number of lights are lit at specific times throughout the evening and nighttime hours.

The Estaugh Board is extremely proactive and was instrumental in our getting co-generation – an engine used in conjunction with our private energy provider – which produces 60kw of electricity and all the hot water necessary for the Community and Estaugh buildings. The initial cost of the unit was about \$81,000; it rewarded us with enough energy savings in the first 16 months of usage to cover its total cost.

As for the future, whatever new construction is initiated will surely be as green as we can make it.

IN MEMORIAM

Ruth Truncer Rebecca Robinson Alice Corcoran Jack Murray November 29 December 7 December 11 December 12

KINDLE: THE LIBRARY-TO-GO by Kay Cooley

When **Bob Schneider**, our part-time bus driver, takes residents to a concert or a play, he reads books until it is time for the trip home. But no novel or mystery story will be seen near him. He reads books on his Kindle.

Kindle is the name of a hand-held device about the size of an 8.5" x 5" memo pad. It displays the contents of entire books on a 6" screen. It is wireless and is powered by a battery that lasts up to two weeks on a single charge. This means it can be taken everywhere in a pocket or a purse. It weighs 10.2 ounces and is only 1/3" thick.

Kindle is ideal for the visually challenged. The print size can be enlarged, and through its Text-to-Speech feature, it can read material out loud. It simulates real paper and has no glare, even in bright sunlight. Best of all, it can hold up to 1.500 books.

Kindle items are purchased from Amazon's Kindle Store, which contains titles of more than 360,000 books, U.S. and international newspapers, magazines, and blogs. *New York Times* Best Sellers and New Releases cost only \$9.99, about a third of the retail cost. Other titles cost more, while some are free. Customers may download books wirelessly in 60 seconds without being computer savvy, and they may read first chapters for free before deciding to buy an item.

Currently Amazon charges \$259 for Kindle 2 and offers free shipping. Some lower prices are offered on the Web, but be sure to get Kindle 2, the second edition, to get the Text-to-Speech feature and the longer-lasting battery.

Among other products on the market, Sony offers the Sony Reader, which has different prices and features, and which is carried by Borders Books.

Kindle was first introduced to readers in the November 2009 edition of *Medford Leas Life*.

A 1931 MEMOIR

by Ellen Stimler

About a year ago, I needed to find someone in Stuttgart, Germany, who could help me obtain some documents from what would be a County Clerk's Office in the United States. A friend in New York City gave me the name of one Willy Heils, and Willy turned out to be just the right person for the job. During that year, we emailed back and forth and got to know each other. Willy refused to accept any kind of compensation for his efforts but was appreciative of the fancy food basket I ordered for him last Christmas.

After our business was completed, I didn't hear from Willy again - until early November this year when I received an envelope from him containing no letter but the most unexpected reminder of an award I had received as a 12-year-old girl in 1931. The local newspaper had held a storywriting contest for sixth graders in all Stuttgart public schools, and I had won first prize for a story about a dream and had received a bicycle as my award. Willy sent me the original brochure the newspaper distributed with my picture and a copy of the story. I remembered about the bicycle, but I was surprised by the story. Naturally, I thanked Willy profusely for sending this and begged him to tell me how he found out about it. To date, I haven't had a reply. Here is a copy of the story in English translation:

* * * * *

FIRST YOU HAVE TO RESCUE ME!

I was lying in bed and let the pictures of the day's events pass through my mind. It was like at the movies. What wonderful pictures, I thought, and suddenly I was no longer at the movies but at the edge of a lake. The cloudless sky extended above and reached all the way to the other side of the lake. All around were wonderful flower beds and small pebbled paths led through them. I saw the sun reflected in white spray-decorated water. And, what was that?

A wonderful village emerged under the water. The houses looked magical and freshly painted. They were decorated with beautiful stones, and marble steps led into lovely gardens. I was so completely engrossed in a castle of white marble that I did not realize that I was sinking ever deeper into the lake. Some unstoppable force was dragging me down.

Finally, I arrived at the water village. The clear water flowed into all the houses, and people got around in small glass boats. I looked around, and a boat was coming toward me already. I got in, sat down, and the boat was floating through the water passages toward the castle. I was quite blinded by the light surrounding the castle. A personage stood at the portal. She didn't move and stretched her arms in a protective manner over the portal.

"Do you want to go into the castle," I heard in a high voice.

"Yes, if I am permitted," I responded.

"First, you have to rescue me," she said, and at the same time my boat was anchored.

"What do I have to do?" I asked.

"Smash your boat into pieces."

"I can't do that, if I do, I'll drown"

"Do it," the person said, and with that she and the castle disappeared.

In desperation, I picked up one oar and smashed my boat. I sank deeper and deeper. "I need to come up, see the light," I cried. "Where are my parents, I have to get to them." But I sank deeper and deeper.

Suddenly a tender hand touched my face. I opened my eyes. – Am I seeing straight? – My Mother and Father are standing before me. They just returned from the theater. Everything is still as behind a curtain.

Where is my boat, my castle, didn't I rescue her? Oh! I had such a wonderful dream.

ART GALLERY NEWS

by Helen L. Vukasin

In January and February 2010, the Art Gallery Committee will present the photographic work of Reginald Wickham. Wickham started his career as an adolescent in New York, taking pictures of weddings, parties, and banquets. For recreation he photographed clouds, nature, and animals in the wild.

During his military service, he was assigned to the Air Force as a photographer. Later, he studied with the School of Modern Photography and subsequently worked in a color laboratory and in imprint preparation. He has published internationally and in 1999 received the John Dorsher Memorial Award for Excellence in Photography, a coveted award of the Photographic Society of America. He has been a juror, teacher, and leader of workshops for portraits. He subscribes to the view that classic photography is black and white.

The opening reception in the Art Gallery will be held on Tuesday, January 5, from 3 to 4:30 pm. Mr. Wickham will say a few words about his work at 3:30 pm.

Downstairs in the Art Studio Gallery, the residents' art exhibit will continue until spring. In April an entirely new show will be hung.

In the Lumberton Art Gallery a diverse exhibit of the photographic work of **Rolfa Rogers** will open in January for three months. Rolfa has traveled extensively and photographs artistic views she finds.

The Medford Art Center (MAC) on Main Street in Medford has invited Medford Leas artists to submit paintings to a juried show limited to Medford Leas. The exhibit can be viewed from January 15 to February 14. The opening reception will be on January 16 from 3 to 5 pm at 18 N. Main Street, Medford. All are welcome.

IN THE DISPLAY CASE

by Maggie Woodard

The Display Case currently holds a delightful, large collection of cobalt blue glass pieces belonging to **Beverly Brush**, a resident who lives in Lumberton with **Stan**, her husband. In addition to the 80 pieces included in the exhibit, she has 27 more at home. She also has a collection of plates with cobalt blue designs hung on the walls of their home.

Beverly has been collecting for many years. She estimates the pieces to be 30 or 40 years old, or older, but none are antiques. Her collecting began when she started looking for small pieces to put on the window sills of two large windows in their home. Later, walking in Seaside Park on Long Island Sound, she found blue glass wine bottles in the trash bins, discarded after picnics. Some pieces, several from Iran, were contributed by friends.



Mike Carrell photo

The pieces on display range in size from very large to very small, and include wine bottles, small liquor bottles, a bottle shaped like a violin, a small lamp with a shade, and a small hurricane lamp. Other small items in unusual shapes are a shoe, turtle, rabbit, rooster, squirrel, swan, thimble, two birds, and an eye cup. Don't miss the hand with a ring on a finger and the vase with a leaf at the bottom, a stem going up from the base, and flowers climbing round the bowl.

Be sure to take time to enjoy this beautiful collection in person or at *mlra.org*.

A friend is someone who knows the song in your heart and can sing it back to you when you have forgotten the words.

Author Unknown

PROFILE IN FITNESS

by Suzanne Frank

(This is the fifth in a series of articles profiling residents whose decisions to benefit from Fitness and Aquatics programs have resulted in significant improvement in the quality of their lives.)

"When we came here," said **Betsy Snope**, "we certainly did not consider asking about the effectiveness of the fitness program. Now, three years later, I can say that exercise has become a major component of my life at Medford Leas. I have more endurance, I feel stronger, I have more energy and I have better balance and control over my body.

"When I go to New York City and navigate my way through the subway carrying my loom, I used to have to stop a few times on my way up the stairs. Now I don't need to rest. And this is kind of my own test for being stronger and having more endurance."



photo by Margety Rubin

Betsy loves water aerobics and strength training classes and tries to do some kind of exercise six days a week. "On Sunday, I don't do anything." If she misses a class, she just goes to the Fitness Center – although she really prefers the interaction of the group sessions. "I used to walk, and that was about it. I never was much into sports and athletics," she confided.

"I've always been stoop-shouldered and I think because my back is so much stronger, my posture has improved noticeably. When I first began my exercise program, I was using 2-lb. weights and now I'm comfortable with 5-lb. ones. And I feel my sense of balance is much better in that if

I trip, I can recover very readily." This aspect of Betsy's fitness is really rewarding for her, as she claims to have been rather klutzy all her life.

Betsy is amazed at the quality of the **Aquatics** and **Fitness** staff. "They take time with you, and give you personal advice. It's like having a personal trainer and, as a bonus, we all have fun at the same time."

WELCOME TO THE COURTS

by Ellen Stimler

After having lived alone for four years, following the death of his wife Mary in 2005, **Julien Eysmans** moved from the Lumberton campus into Apt. 274 and said he's "doing fine." He's no stranger here; he has been a health volunteer on the main campus while at Lumberton.

Now that he doesn't have to commute any more, he is determined to continue all his volunteering on and off the campus. In addition to transporting residents to and from the Fitness Center and the Pool, Julien helps out regularly at Moorestown's Trinity Episcopal Church. He works in the church office, takes communion to homebound members, hospitals, and nursing homes, and also participates in a homeless feeding program in Camden.

Julien enjoys new places and new activities. After reading about a pilot who sailed a Chinese junk to the West Coast, he had one of those junks built in Hong Kong and delivered to Riverside; he sailed it in Chesapeake Bay. After living in Moorestown for some time, he built the first solar house on land behind his house on East Main Street and even ran it as a Bed and Breakfast for a while. The couple traveled all over the world, including 35 Elderhostels. To avoid the high real estate taxes in Moorestown, they traveled the country in an RV and lived in Johnson City, TN, for 11 years. To help him get over Mary's death, he took flying lessons at the South Jersey Airport.

Julien and Mary raised three children, who now live in Connecticut, Arizona, and North Carolina. All of them helped with the move.

WHO'S NEW photos by Barbara Degler



Richard Cooper moved to 35 Woodside Drive from a beachfront condominium in Ventnor, NJ, where he had lived for nine years. Earlier, he had lived in Alabama, Texas, Kentucky, and Tennessee for more than twenty years before returning to South Jersey in 2000.

Richard grew up in Woodbine, NJ. He graduated from Millville High School and attended the George Washington University School of Medicine. His internship-residency program was interrupted by a two-year stint in the Air Force at the Strategic Air Command based in Grand Forks, ND. It was finally completed at Mountainside Hospital in Montclair. There he became Chief Resident of Internal Medicine. Richard later became Director of Ambulatory Care at St. Michael's Hospital, Newark, and was also made a member of the faculty of the College of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey.

Richard served as a management consultant, a founder and CEO of a medical utilization-review company, and as a senior officer in several managed care organizations. He has self-published an employer guide to health care cost containment and several volumes of aphorisms.

Richard retired in 1994. He collects paintings and sculpted figures and his selections are displayed on the walls, the deck, and the front step of his home. Richard is a prolific writer and a "foodie." He maintains a blog, *Telltale Droppings*, and has a passion for discovering exciting new eateries. He is also an avid reader and enjoys classical, folk, and Celtic music.

Doris Brown

Christine (Castellano) Elmer moved to 191 Woodside Drive from Morristown, NJ. She was born and raised in Havertown, PA, and is a graduate of the Jefferson Hospital School of Nursing (now Thomas Jefferson University). There she met her husband Alfred,



who was a premed student. They married in 1954. She joined the nursing staff at Upper Darby Hospital while he completed med school and interned at Misericordia Hospital in Philadelphia. They moved to St. Paul, MN, for a year, where Alfred was stationed at Snelling Air Force Base. Upon moving to Bridgeton, NJ, Alfred began his general practice, later specializing in obstetrics/gynecology in Springfield and West Orange, and eventually settling in Morristown. Alfred died in 1989.

Eager to become knowledgeable in fields other than medicine, Christine attended Fairleigh Dickinson University in Madison, majoring in fine arts with a minor in anthropology. An adventurous spirit and a love of the outdoors led her to enroll in the Earthwatch Institute program, which offers an opportunity to accompany a professional staff of scientists involved in field research or conservation projects. She volunteered to travel to biodiverse spots throughout the world to assist in various projects.

Christine enjoys hiking and has participated in tours in the Swiss Alps and the Pyrénées Mountains. She has done volunteer work for the Red Cross Disaster Service and was a docent at the Morris Museum. Her hobbies are theater and gardening, and she looks forward to growing a few vegetables in the community garden on the Lumberton campus in the spring.

Doris Brown

JANUARY CRYPTOGRAM

by Elizabeth Platt and Ellen Stimler

OCMJR PN DI **EVDG** VIY RZ NCVGG NODGG **GJQZ** TJP . . . **GJQZ** DN OCZ JIGT **AJMXZ XVKVWGZ OMVINAJMHDIB** JA VI ZIZHT DIOJ AMDZIY. -HVMODI GPOCZM FDIB EM.

Here is the solution to the December cryptogram by Ellen Stimler:

AT CHRISTMAS, I NO MORE DESIRE A ROSE THAN I WISH A SNOW IN MAY'S NEWFANGLED MIRTH, BUT LIKE OF EACH THING THAT IN SEASON GROWS.

- SHAKESPEARE

The correct solution was received from the following readers:

Ken Anderson, Jane Bartram, Ruth Blattenberger, Judy Braddy, Alice Culbreth, Doris Curley, Geri Dickerson, Liz Dill, Betty Donahue, Alan Gaylord, Herb Heineman, Barbara Heizman, Sally Klos, Mary Mason, Eileen McManimen, Mary Ann Metzger, Alice Norcross, Helen Peterson, Betty Preston, Ruth Quackenbush, Warren Reeves, Doris Salati, Ellen Wiener. If your name was omitted by mistake, please call Ellen Stimler (3162).

Please put your solution in an envelope in Box 162 or email it to estimler@medleas.com no later than January 10. We welcome suggested cryptograms from our readers.

MEDFORD LEAS LIFE

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