



# Medford Leas *Life*

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*May 2015*

## TRIBUTE TO LOIS FORREST'S LOVE OF NATURE

by Betsy Pennink

On May 16 at 10 o'clock there will be a gathering honoring **Lois Forrest**, our Executive Director for 21 years. Originally planned for the area near the Nature Center, the ceremony will now take place in the Medford Leas Theater to accommodate all who want to attend.

The occasion is the naming of the Nature Center to be the Lois Forrest Nature Center, as approved by the Estaugh Board "in consideration of her many years of leadership of Medford Leas and specifically her efforts toward creating and enhancing the facility that will bear her name. This is a fitting honor in light of her significant contribution to the development and success of this community."



photo by Margery Rubin

When Lois arrived in 1979, Medford Leas had been created from farmland, woods and swamp into a thriving retirement community with continuing care. One of the founders, Lewis W. Barton, had been working to transform the landscape, searching out suitable plants and trees.

Lois joined enthusiastically in this effort. During this time she and Lew became good friends with the same goals and the same love of nature.

When the idea of creating an arboretum arose, both Lew and Lois jumped at it. They sought help from the Morris Arboretum in Philadelphia, and by 1981 the Medford Leas landscape was officially named the Lewis W. Barton Arboretum. From the start Lois saw the benefits to residents and the community of the beauty of nature displayed here. She remained continuously involved in the maintenance and growth of the Arboretum.

One of the many projects that took place under Lois's management was the building of the Nature Center in 1988. Lois, herself a lifelong reader, saw the library housed in the Center as a resource for anyone interested in the natural world around us. The building's name reflects her strong love of nature.

In August 1981 the Arboretum Oversight Committee was formed by Lois and **Nancy Barclay**, Lew Barton's daughter, who was on the Estaugh Board. Lois asked Nancy to be chairperson. Together they planned who should be included on the Committee in an advisory capacity. The Committee eventually met, appropriately, in the Nature Center, until it outgrew the space.

Thanks to Lois, the Arboretum with its Nature Center continues to be one of the most impressive features of Medford Leas.

## PATHWAYS IN MAY: SOMETHING ABSORBING FOR EVERYONE

by Beth Bogie

Have you always wanted to write a memoir? Would you like to participate in Facebook but want to do it safely? Did you know that an African-American woman was founding head of the Oprah Winfrey Leadership Academy For Girls in South Africa? Have you ever heard of a Dutch Jewish woman who, like Anne Frank, kept a diary that reaches out to us from the Holocaust? Her name was Etty Hillesum. Did you know New Jersey is the "Diner Capital of the World"? You'll discover these and other subjects on the *Pathways to Learning at Medford Leas* in May.

On two Fridays, May 1 and 15, Mary Danielson, a professional writer with Documented Legacy, LLC, will hold workshops on "**Writing Your Life Story.**" She will help would-be memoir writers learn how to weave their experiences and values into a satisfying fabric that can be enjoyed by future generations. Mary Danielson has background in communication, genealogy research, legacy writing and journalism. *(Workshops will be held from 10 to 11:30 am in the Holly Room. There will be a fee of \$10 for the entire program.)*

Many of us fear a loss of privacy with Facebook. Alison Eckel, owner of Promotion Savvy, which designs and builds integrated social marketing campaigns and websites, will discuss "**Connecting Safely with Family and Friends through Facebook.**" *(The program will be held on Monday, May 4, from 10 to 11 am in the Holly Room.)*

Joan Countryman, the first African-American to graduate from Germantown Friends School, who earned degrees from Sarah Lawrence and Yale and a Fulbright to study at the London School of Economics, who went on to become Head of Lincoln School for Girls in Providence, Rhode Island, will talk about "**The Oprah Winfrey Leadership Academy for Girls – Their Education is Our Tomorrow.**" She will tell us about her experience as founding head of the Academy and Oprah Winfrey's vision for educating gifted girls

who are disadvantaged. *(The talk will be held on Saturday, May 2, 11 am to noon, in the Theater.)*

In 1941, a young Dutch Jewish woman began a diary to help with her depression. She continued to write through deportation to Auschwitz, wrestling with this history and the feelings of bitterness. Her struggle, found in diaries at a yard sale by actress and drama teacher Susan Stein, will be performed by Susan in "**The Etty Play**" on Saturday, May 9, in the Theater from 11 am to noon. Susan has performed the story of Etty in theaters, libraries and schools around the country as well as abroad. She studied acting at New York Graduate School of Arts and Sciences and Purchase College, SUNY, and has taught playwriting and the history of the Holocaust.

### "A Visit to Chanticleer – A Pleasure Garden"

will be a treat offered on Thursday, May 14. Chanticleer has been called the most romantic, imaginative and exciting public garden in America. Executive director and head gardener Bill Thomas was the Lewis W. Barton Arboretum Lecturer a year ago. Lunch will follow the morning tour at Susanna Foo, who has melded traditional Chinese food with classical French technique. The meal will be a special aspect of the trip. *(The entire tour will take place from 9 am to 3:30 pm. A fee of \$75 will include bus transportation, garden entrance fee, lunch, and Arboretum Fund donation. The registration deadline is May 8.)*



On Saturday, May 30, Leas Forum will present "**The History of New Jersey Diners.**" Researcher and author Michael Gabriele will trace the 100-year history of this much loved representation of the American lifestyle and will talk about diner manufacturers, diner architecture and the people who operate classic diners. *(The talk will be held from 11 am to noon in the Theater.)*

Please see the *Pathways* Guide for additional programs.

## VID-U: PAST AND PRESENT

by Beth Wray

Every Thursday morning at 11 in the Linden Room, the MLRA Vid-U Committee shows an educational videotaped lecture open to all Medford Leas residents. The next Vid-U lecture series will begin on Thursday, May 7, on the topic, "The Great Tours: Experiencing Medieval Europe."

Vid-U was started in 1996 by **Elsie Lisovitch**, a bright, intellectual resident who arrived at Medford Leas in the early '70s and served as MLRA president from 1982 to 1983. She had a large collection of videotapes, purchased from The Teaching Company and elsewhere. Her collection contained various series of lectures presented by university professors on many different topics: history, religion, literature, philosophy. Elsie showed these taped lectures in the third floor Haddon Lounge to many appreciative residents. She died in 2004, leaving her tape collection and CD music collection to Medford Leas. (The CDs are in the Library for residents to borrow.)

**Kitty Katzell**, also an MLRA president from 1992 to 1993, and 2003 to 2005, followed Elsie as chairperson of the Vid-U Committee. In 2008, the venue was changed to the Linden Room in what was the new Arts and Social Wing of the Community Building. By now Vid-U used DVDs, and the original VHS tapes were discarded. When Kitty died last year, **Gil Goering** continued to run the series of taped lectures on solo piano works, which concluded on March 3. **Beth Wray** became Vid-U chairperson in March.

The new series of 24 lectures, "The Great Tours: Experiencing Medieval Europe," will be given by Professor Kenneth Bartlett of the University of Toronto and will run from May until October. The first five are:

- + The Medieval City – a Feast for the Senses
- + Rothenburg – Jewel on the Romantic Road
- + Medina —The Silent City
- + Medina and Rabat – in the Steps of St. Paul
- + Palermo — a Mosaic of Cultures

Please come and join us in viewing these magical tours of medieval Europe. The complete list of topics will be posted on the Atrium bulletin board. A small committee selects the topics to be shown and welcomes new participants.

## MLRA PLANT SALE

by Perry Krakora

Spring is finally here, and that means it's time for the Medford Leas Plant Sale!

Last year the committee made some big changes in how the sale was run. The sale was a one-day event; it was on a different day of the week; the timetable was expanded; and the venue was different. The committee was very pleased with the result, so, with some tweaks, we will be using the same format this year.

Here are the details:

**Date: Wednesday, May 6**

**Time: 10:30 am to 3:30 pm**

**Place: The carport in the Main Parking Lot**



Come and check out all the great plants we will have for sale! There will be hanging baskets, potted flowers,

bedding plants, herbs, tomatoes and peppers... everything you might need for a colorful and tasty summer garden or patio. And, as usual, we have free on-campus delivery.

A contribution to the Employee Appreciation Fund is made from the proceeds of the Plant Sale. So mark your calendars and welcome spring by joining us at the Plant Sale!

**RECITAL BY ACCLAIMED PIANIST  
FREDERICK MOYER**

by Joe Costanza

In one of many of his return engagements at Medford Leas, noted pianist Frederick Moyer will perform in a recital on Sunday, May 10, at 6:30 pm in the Theater. He is being presented by *The Guest Artist Series* of the Medford Leas Music Committee chaired by **Paul Ray**. Mr. Moyer's repertoire reflects his affinity for a broad range of classical music and jazz.



Born into an artistic family, Moyer began piano studies at the age of seven with his mother, an accomplished pianist. While in high school, he received a full scholarship to the Curtis Institute of Music. Shortly after graduation from Curtis he

made his enthusiastically received debut at Carnegie Hall, which launched him on a career that covers performances in 43 countries. He has appeared as soloist with many major orchestras, including those of Philadelphia, Cleveland, Boston and St. Louis, as well as orchestras of Europe, Asia, South America, Africa and Australia.

Moyer's wide-ranging interests have contributed to classical music in many unique ways. Moyer created art-music interpretations for art museums and regularly provides his talents to Habitat for Humanity and a music school in Haiti, where he teaches and performs. An avid computer programmer, he has written computer programs that incorporate technology into his musical regimen, helping him to analyze, memorize, practice and perform. As a member of the Jazz Arts Trio, he performs transcriptions of jazz greats such as Oscar Peterson, Bill Evans and Errol Garner. In 2009, along with Dr. Paul Green, he unveiled an

unfinished piano sonata by Robert Schumann that was widely reported in the national news media.

Mr. Moyer has recorded five Mozart concerti for the Norwegian radio and performed three Rachmaninoff concerti with the Japan Philharmonic. His 24 recordings include baroque and contemporary works. Moyer's enthusiasm, artistry and adventurous programming have made him a favorite among audiences of all ages. His delightful commentary from the stage enhances the musical experience.

Source: [frederickmoyer.com](http://frederickmoyer.com)

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**MAY MUSIC VIDEOS**

Thursdays in the Theater at 7:10 pm.

- May 7 – Chopin Piano Concerto #1 by Evgeny Kissin; Liszt Hungarian Rhapsody #2 by Valentina Lisitsa
- May 14 – Liszt Piano Concerto #1 by Marina Yakhlakova and several Chopin Nocturnes by Valentina Lisitsa
- May 21 – Chopin Piano Concerto #2, Chopin Waltz Op. 64 no. 2; Liszt Liebestraum and Liszt Campanella – all by Evgeny Kissin
- May 28 – Dixieland Jazz from the 2013 Suncoast Jazz Classic

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**MEMORIAL DAY CELEBRATION**

**Monday, May 25, from 9 to 11 am**

Join fellow residents for refreshments on the patio outside the Linden Room under two tents or in the shade of the Gazebo.

There will be music by Joe Pantana and his Keyboard Orchestra for singing and dancing.

Both indoor and outdoor games will be available, including indoor and outdoor shuffleboard, croquet, bocce, ladder ball, pool and an amazing number of indoor board games.

**Recreation Committee**

## LEASMUSICAST: CHAMBER MUSIC FROM JERUSALEM FESTIVAL

by Beth Bogie



Seven chamber concerts from the 2008 Jerusalem International Chamber Music Festival will be presented live in HD by LeasMusiCast on Saturday, May 16, at 2 pm, in the Medford Leas Theater. The concerts will offer works by both classical and contemporary composers: Mozart, Carter, Brahms, Hindemith and Schumann.

The Festival was created in 1998 by Elena Bashkurova, its artistic director and famous pianist in her own right. It is held every year for two weeks in September and is renowned for an exceptional repertoire. First-rank soloists who usually are meeting for the first time on the same stage combine in friendly ensembles. Talented young artists perform alongside famous practitioners. There is a sense of artistic partnership and that music is the only thing that matters.

The program will include:

**Piano Trio in G major**, by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

**Esprit Rude / Esprit Doux**, by Elliott Carter

**String Sextet No. 1 in B flat major op. 18**, by Johannes Brahms

**Quartet for Clarinet, Violin, Cello and Piano**, by Paul Hindemith

**Andante with Five Variations in G major**, by Mozart

**From 4 Lauds**, by Carter

**Piano Quintet in E flat major op. 44**, by Robert Schumann

Elena Bashkurova is married to the conductor and pianist Daniel Barenboim. Elena and their son, the violinist Michael Barenboim, will perform in the

chamber ensembles. Other musicians include Israeli virtuoso violinist Guy Braunstein; Madeleine Carruzzo and Karl-Heinz Steffens from the Berlin Philharmonic; Rumanian violinist Mihaela Martin; Swedish cellist Frans Helmerson; German cellist Nicolas Altstaedt; American cellist Gary Hoffman; Russian pianist Kirill Gerstein; and Israeli musicians Zvi Plessner, Ori Kam and Guy Eshed.

Source: Festival and LeasMusiCast materials.

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### **Great Decisions: African Viewpoint**



photo- Margery Rubin

At a recent Great Decisions session, **George Rubin** hosted a mock “State Department Briefing on Africa.” Alissa S. Wilson (right), Public Education and Advocacy Coordinator for Africa at the American Friends Service Committee, and Rachel F. Madenyika, UN Representative at the Quaker United Nations Office, spoke about the current situation in Sub-Saharan African countries, the unintended consequences of U.S. policy and alternatives to militarization.

Dorothy Cebula

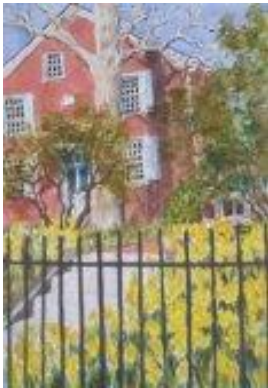
### IN MEMORIAM

|                |          |
|----------------|----------|
| Julien Eysmans | April 3  |
| Grace Schaffel | April 6  |
| Morton Yeomans | April 11 |

## WATERCOLORS AND CALLIGRAPHY

### THE LEAS ART GALLERY SCENE

by Beth Bogie and Joyce Linda Sichel



Jan Terry

New exhibits will be coming to all three Medford Leas galleries in May and June. “Two Artists, Many Media” at the Medford Leas Gallery outside the Theater will display works by Jan Terry, of Pemberton, who specializes in watercolors, and Gwynn Walker Di Pilla, of Haddonfield, who focuses on drawing in colored pencil and painting in watercolor and oil. They will discuss their work at a reception on May 5. Both women are active artists as well as art teachers in their communities. Jan Terry has exhibited at many New Jersey venues, curated shows at the Pemberton NAC gallery and at “About the Art Gallery Space” in Mount Holly, and is a founding member of Home Fine Arts Gallery in Mt. Holly. Gwynn Di Pilla also teaches adults and children. She started the children’s “Multi-Media for Young Artist Program” in Haddonfield and participated in “Art Goes to School,” teaching art history to children. She has exhibited her own work widely since 2010 and was recognized as Best Artist by *South Jersey Magazine* in 2011. She is a Signature member of Philadelphia Watercolor Society.



Gwynn Walker Di Pilla

In the Community Center Art Gallery on the Lumberton Campus, we will be treated to calligraphy by **Harry Forrest**, ready for viewing on May 1, followed by a reception on Friday, May 15, from 4 to 5:30 pm. Harry has been mentor/teacher to numerous artists in the Philadelphia area since the 1970s. This show, entitled “Harry Forrest, Man of Letters,” will feature his imaginatively pre-

sented poems and quotations, illuminated calligraphy, and decorative letters of the alphabet utilizing a variety of media, such as silver and gold leaf. There will be a piece using reverse perspective that viewers can interact with, which you’ll have fun figuring out. Another interactive display is entitled “Letter Forms through the Ages.” Harry is past president of the Philadelphia Calligraphers’ Society and for 20 years has been official calligrapher of The American Philosophical Society, founded by Ben Franklin.



The spring exhibit of resident paintings, drawings and photographs is on display in the Art Studio Gallery at Medford Leas. It opens on April 27, with a reception from 10 am to noon and the always much-anticipated homemade refreshments.

## AN OPEN INVITATION

The Medford Leas Friends (Quaker) Worship Group welcomes everyone of all beliefs who would enjoy quiet worship or meditation. We meet on Sunday mornings in the Holly Room from 10 to 10:30, but it is fine to come at 9:30 for a longer period of worship.

Quakers do not have a creed, nor do we proselytize. Sitting in silence, we wait for the guidance of Spirit (however one conceives of Spirit). Sometimes, if someone feels they have been given a message intended to share, that person will stand and say a few words. Whatever your spiritual or religious life, some time spent quietly with others in the Holly Room with its lovely views is nourishing and replenishing.

**Judy Kruger**

## “WE ARE STILL HERE”

By Dorothy Cebula

What group has lived in South Jersey for more than 10,000 years and currently consists of 3,000 people who are living among us but are rarely seen or recognized? On Saturday, April 4, more than 100 Medford Leas residents and their guests learned about the history and current status of the Nanticoke Lenni-Lenape Tribal Nation through the efforts of the MLRA Diversity Committee.



Representatives of the Lenni-Lenape Nation spoke about the history of this group of Native Americans and shared symbols of their culture through honor songs, dances and descriptions of their regalia. Trinity

Norwood, a 25-year-old self-described citizen of the Lenni-Lenape Tribal Nation, spoke about her program aimed at raising awareness of the history and present situation of members of the Nation who are considered the “Original People” by many other Native American tribes. She created the program when a student at Moorestown High School and presents it at schools, civic and social organizations as well as communities like Medford Leas. Assisted in the presentation by her parents and grandmother, she gave a most enthusiastic explanation of tribal significance.

**Sally Klos** prefaced the program by announcing that the Diversity Committee has chosen Native Americans as the focus for this year’s theme, since many people are not aware of the many injustices directed toward tribal members throughout the United States today. The Leas Reads program this year will include discussion of two relevant books: *Genocide of the Mind: The First Navajo Woman Surgeon Combines Western Medicine and Traditional Healing*, and *Scalpel and the Silver Bear: New Native American Writing*.

## NEW EMERGENCY CALL PROCEDURE

by Suzanne Frank

If you need to make an emergency call now, **Russell Pepe**, manager, Information Technology, has reassuring news for you. Due to his efforts, multiple calls coming into 3666 at the same time will now roll over to another line, register the caller’s ID and pass the information to the proper on-call staff member, who will respond promptly.

Because the phone lines date back to the beginning of Medford Leas, Russell needed to search old documentation written in Japanese to find out how a rollover would work with this system. In his research he determined that he needed a 15-year old switch, so he found one, installed it and tested it to see if it would do the job. As he said, he kept tweaking it again and again until it worked. Of course, he did not want to use the 3666 number to test this procedure but instead used another line.

Emergency: Call 3666  
or 0 for Reception Desk  
or 9-911 to get outside Medford Leas  
Obtain decal sticker for phone  
With emergency number  
at the Reception Desk.

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## MOVIES IN THE ACTIVITIES ROOM OPEN TO ALL

Movie classics on Tuesday evenings at 7:15,  
complete with popcorn

Movies for May are:

May 5 A Star is Born  
May 12 Little Women  
May 19 The Lady Eve  
May 26 Show Boat

Sharon Conway, Therapeutic Recreation

## LOTS TO DO WITH MEDFORD LEAS “GRANDPARENTS”

text and photos by Betsy Pennink

“The children love coming here,” says **Gerry Stride**, director of Therapeutic Recreation. “It’s like visiting their grandparents.” In a little over a month, the Activities Room was the venue for five intergenerational events, each with young people of a different age level.

On February 26 there was a celebration of National Tell-a-Fairy-Tale Day, which featured a real Mother Goose (**Nan Hanslowe**), dressed in a cape with a bonnet and reading glasses. Sitting in a chair, she read familiar rhymes and tales out loud, including “Humpty Dumpty” and “Jack and the Beanstalk.” The children were pre-kindergarten, from Just Children, the day care center nearby. They were mostly four years old, although Receptionist **Taryn Ericson’s** son Landon has turned five. The boys came as princes, wearing crowns, and the girls were princesses in their pointed Renaissance hats.



The event included the singing of favorite nursery rhyme songs (“Mary Had a Little Lamb”), coloring pictures along with the residents, and having pretzels and punch. The children said a charming goodbye, weaving among the residents to shake hands, and singing “Make new friends but keep the old,

one is silver and the other gold.”

The regular visit from the Sequoia High School juniors and seniors took place on March 19. There were about seven students, whom **Marcy Smith**, Therapeutic Recreation, prepared for the day’s activities with an introduction to the population they would be working with. She gave the vis-

itors a piece of paper headed “Who am I?” to fill out in their one-on-one conversations with their residents.

Making Easter door hangers was the craft of the day. The students were primed to help, but essentially let the residents do the work themselves. The young people were enthusiastic. One boy went to the piano and played a piece especially for **Bob**

**Thode**. Marcy’s judgment: These students “get” the importance of the interaction both for themselves and for the residents.



The title of the visit on March 26 was Fun and Games with the Chatsworth Junior High School National Honor Society. Features of the event: 12 eighth-grade students; four tables, each with a different game (Old Maid, Go Fish, Deal Me In, and Horseracing); and only 30 minutes of play allowed at a table. Both students and residents enjoyed themselves and all looked forward to two more visits in April.

On March 27 the walls of the Activities Room were bulging with the sound of voices and squeals of excitement when the two fifth grades (50 children in all) from St. Mary’s of the Lakes, Medford, came to play Jingo with the residents. The children and residents were spread out among all the tables, each person with a Jingo card, showing 25 faces and names of famous people instead of numbers. Marcy, holding the pack of cards, read the clues to the eager crowd. Not daunted by some of the more obscure personalities, the children even retained the information on the cards the next time around. Winners chose between candy and a small stuffed animal. All made sure that the residents at their table filled in their cards properly after each call.





photo by Lea Beckett

The finale was “We’re off to see the Wizard,” sung by a group of green-shirted youngsters who were taking part in the play “The Wizard of Oz” that night. The energy level of these fifth graders was palpable!

The fifth occasion was when the Medford Moms, a play group, brought their very small children to Medford Leas on April 1. It was a perfect time to celebrate both Easter and April Fool’s Day. The atmosphere in the Activities Room, as the residents gathered, was set by Gary The Balloon Man (from Premier Parties), who came with his supply of colored balloons and created every kind of hat and animal and tree that one could imagine.

When the little ones first arrived, they hunted for Easter eggs (the colorful egg-sized plastic ones) to fill the baskets they had brought. Then the Easter Bunny bounced into the room to much applause. Marcy, inside the costume, welcomed one and all to sit on her lap for a photo op. After that, everyone sang the Hokey Pokey, led by Gerry, wiggling the bunny’s ears, whiskers. When all the masks, hats, moustaches and other props were brought out for everyone to try on and wear, it was obvious the tomfoolery had begun.



## LARGE PRINT LIBRARY MOVING ON

by Mary Dennen

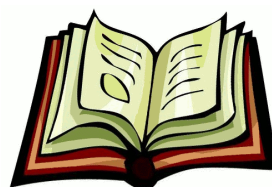
If you happen to walk down the corridor to Haddon Pavilion and Woolman, watch for a lovely painting of a rock-bound seacoast on the wall to your right. You will have found the site (on the other side of the wall) of the future home of Medford Leas’ Large Print Library, currently in Haddon. If you continue walking along, you will promptly find the current library location in a pleasant nook on your left opposite the Haddon elevators.

Librarian **Virginia Mattice** expects the move will occur late this year and is currently winnowing from the library’s collection those books no longer being read. She reports that there are more than 450 books: 156 mysteries (the most popular group); 191 fiction; 46 biographies; 40 non-fictions; and nine Western novels (a favorite of many readers). She has a small collection of reference books and some books are occasionally donated.

Virginia’s budget allows her to buy recent books from Center Point, a specialty book vendor in Maine. She plans in the future to start a Book of the Month Club to highlight a particular subject or author.

**Margaret Eysmans** is currently working to computerize book listings from Large Print, Nature Center and Lumberton Libraries. When completed, lists of all these books will be available to residents on their computers.

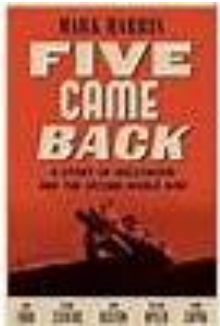
Although located near and readily available to Assisted Living, Virginia wants us to know that the Large Print Library is available to everyone at Medford Leas. Come see – and happy reading!



**Books to Enjoy**

**FIVE CAME BACK**  
**A Story of Hollywood**  
**and the Second World War**  
 by Mark Harris

For all of those who grew up on movies, this excellent book will bring back memories and reveal things you did not know.



After Pearl Harbor, the Roosevelt Administration felt an important need to involve Hollywood in its campaign of propaganda and patriotism, in order to tell the American people why we were fighting. The campaign enlisted five of the most prominent film directors to carry out this assignment. All were having wonderful careers before the war. They were: John Ford, already known to audiences for *Stagecoach*, *Young Mr. Lincoln*, *Grapes of Wrath* and *How Green Was My Valley*; William Wyler for *Mrs. Miniver* and *Wuthering Heights*; John Huston for *Maltese Falcon*, *Sergeant York*, *High Sierra* and *Dr. Ehrlich's Magic Bullet*; George Stevens for *Woman of the Year* and *Penny Serenade*; and Frank Capra for *Mr. Deeds Goes to Town*, *Mr. Smith Goes to Washington*, *You Can't Take It With You* and *Arsenic and Old Lace*.

These men all felt the need to tell the American people, through film, what this war was all about. For the Armed Services they produced training films that included *Why We Fight* and *Know Your Enemy – Germany and Japan*.

Now in uniform, these directors would have to confront bureaucratic conflict, as well as hostility in the form of anti-Semitism, racism and censorship, from both Washington and Hollywood. But they took their assignments very seriously to give Americans a true picture of the war, from the battlegrounds of Europe to the Far East. Their final films produced during the war years were more creative than anything done before or after.

None of them came back the same after the war. Their lives had been changed by what they saw and lived through from 1941 to 1945. The senior member of the group, Frank Capra, would make only one major movie after the war, *It's a Wonderful Life*. Its poor reception ended his career. Wyler went on to relive his own war experiences and depression with the making of *The Best Years of Our Lives*. Stevens, who had been with the Army from Normandy to VE-Day, including the liberation of Dachau, looked at war reels after the war only briefly. He then stored them away, and they were never opened until after his death.

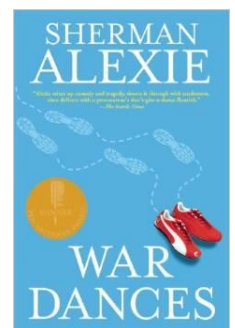
Mark Harris writes, "Decades later, at the end of their lives, they were garlanded with honors and life achievement awards for their enduring contribution to art and entertainment. But privately, they would still count among their most meaningful accomplishments a body of work they most admired that is long forgotten or never [has been] seen at all. As long as they lived, the war lived with them."

When you finish this book you will understand how true this statement is.

**WAR DANCES**  
 by Sherman Alexie

Sherman Alexie is bound to make you laugh, cry and even shake your head in disbelief. He is a writer who works in every genre. This small collection of short stories, poems, and in part his own personal memoir reveals what a gifted writer he is.

As a Native American, he relates the struggle his father has with alcoholism. In one of the best stories in the book, "War Dances," he describes the personal cost of being a dutiful son and the desire to find answers for his own health. It will make you laugh and cry and teach you how to bring closure both for the living and the dead. His poetry reflects on what it means to be human. Everything he writes from



the perspective of his American Indian ancestry is filled with irony and insight.

Sherman Alexie is winner of the National Book Award for Young People's Literature for "The Absolute True Diary of a Part-Time Indian." He also wrote the award-winning screenplay for "Smoke Signals."

In his poem "Ode to Small-Town Sweethearts," part of it goes: "...So you park the car and trudge through the snow...why are you out in this stuff. 'For a girl,' you say...Mortals have always fought the gods and braved epic storms for love/or lust. So don't be afraid to speak honestly about how you obeyed beauty's call, and though your triumph was small, you can still sing of your teenage odyssey."

I urge you to follow this odyssey and read "War Dances."

*These books are in the Medford Leas Library.*

George Rubin

## MARL, AS IN MARLTON

by Judy Kruger

Residents living on about half the grounds of Medford Leas may discover that digging with a shovel produces weirdly hard and oddly green marl. The rest of the grounds simply reveal normal topsoil. Where is the marl? **Debbie Lux**, Medford Leas horticulturalist, explains that marl is found in areas such as Rushmore and the outskirts of Bridlington which have been less disturbed over the years, or not covered over with topsoil.

"Dry marl is just awful to dig in if you are starting a garden." **Jane Weston**, director, Development and Community Relations, groans and rolls her eyes. "And when it is wet," agrees Debbie Lux, "it scoops like water ice, heavy and grainy."

"Marl is green and it is not a rock," says Rich Bizub of Pinelands Preservation Alliance, whose background is in geology. "It is more of a hard soil

that you can break in your hand." Marl is also known as greensand. In fact, marl is the same green color that has traditionally represented the Philadelphia Eagles team.

"It is rather rare," said David Parris, a curator of natural history and an expert on marl at the New Jersey State Museum in Trenton, in a 2003 *Philadelphia Inquirer* article. "There are only a few places in the world — and only a few places in all geological history — where it's been fairly common."

Marl was originally formed in seawater on coastal margins. It is a calcium carbonate or lime-rich mud or mudstone (glauconite-bearing soil) that contains variable amounts of clays and silt. Sometimes mixed into soil because of its calcium, phosphorus or potassium content, marl is not actually a fertilizer. It is properly called an amendment. It helps to break up clay so that soil can be farmed. It also helps soil absorb nutrients and retain moisture. As early as the 1760s in southern New Jersey, marl was applied to farm fields.

There used to be large marl pit industries around southern New Jersey, especially in Marlton and Marlboro (Monmouth County). Inversand Company, a subsidiary of Hungerford & Terry of Clayton, operates the last working marl mine in New Jersey, located in Mantua (Gloucester County).

Debbie Lux remembers when local people dug small marl pits on their properties, probably not legally, to make a bit of extra money.

Rich Bizub adds, "From a geological perspective, marl is fascinating because it is filled with small cretaceous-age fossils. That is the period just as dinosaurs went extinct, 60 million years ago. Paleontologists were really excited about an area outside of Vincentown. If you go to the pizzeria in Vincentown and look at the old photographs on the wall, there is a photo of a marl pit being mined." The dinosaur bones that were discovered in Haddonfield were excavated from a marl pit on the Hopkins farm.

When you break out your shovel this month, don't be surprised if you see green.

## HOW'S YOUR POSTURE?

by Ken Roland

When I was a kid my father would say, "Kenneth, stand up straight." I always thought he was just yelling at me. Turns out he was offering excellent advice. I'm sure that many of you can recall a person in your life who said those exact words. Standing up straight is not the end-all to maintaining proper posture. It also includes how you sit and lie down. Proper posture at all stages of life is essential to maintaining a healthy back.

**Practicing proper posture can be done at any time of the day.**

### When standing:

+ Stand with your back against a wall, with your feet about shoulder-width apart and about six inches from the wall. Arms are at your sides, and toes pointed straight ahead.

+ Touch the back of your head to the wall; tuck in your chin and look forward.

+ Pull the lower abdomen up and in, flattening your stomach and pressing your lower back to the wall.

+ Gently straighten up, allowing your upper back to touch the wall.

+ Hold this position for about 10 seconds. Relax and remember to breathe. Try this 3 times.

### When Sitting:

+ Sit in a high-back chair with your upper and lower back against the back of the chair. Arms are resting on the armrests, with feet flat on the floor and pointing straight ahead.

+ Tuck in your chin and look forward.

+ Pull the lower abdomen up and in, flattening your stomach and pressing your lower back to the chair.

+ Gently straighten up, allowing your upper back to touch the chair.

+ Hold this position for about 10 seconds. Breathe normally. Try this 3 times

### When Lying Down:

+ Lying on your side is the most recommended position because it puts less stress on your spine.

+ Place a firm pillow between your knees, bend your knees toward your chest.

+ If lying on your back is more comfortable, place a pillow under your knees

+ Lying on your stomach is not recommended for good posture while you are sleeping, because your lumbar spine and neck tend to arch.

Even with these simple practices, posture sometimes needs the additional assistance of special equipment such as supports, shoes and even mattresses. For additional recommendations, please feel free to contact me at ext. 3312.

The back we were given is the only one we will ever have, so take care of it and "stand up straight."

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## WHO'S NEW

photos by Margery Rubin



**Ann Marie Labriola Galante** moved into Apt. 257 in the Courtyards on March 19. She had been living in a senior community in Toms River, NJ, with her husband, James, and was his caregiver before he died in 2006. She was active in her church as well as with the community newspaper and as a tutor. Eventually, she learned of Medford Leas from her daughter, Francine, who lives in Marlton.

Ann was born in Jersey City in 1929, one of three sisters, and attended school there. In 1950 she graduated from New York University and then, for

about three years, worked for Eastern Airlines as a trip planner. Ann and James met in 1953 and were married a year later. They lived for 47 years in Bogota, NJ, where James was a TV technician and musician in the U.S. Army Band.

The Galantes raised three children: Francine in Marlton; James, a father of two in Florida; and Camille, who lives in Mahwah.

With a desire to teach, Ann soon left Eastern Airlines and became an elementary school teacher while she studied for her master's in education for the neurologically handicapped. She went on to work with these special-needs children in the public schools of Mahwah, Leonia and Hackensack. She also taught religious education in her church and English as a second language to people of Korean heritage in Bergen County.

In 2000, Ann and James moved to Toms River. After James died, Ann traveled extensively with her two sisters to Kenya, Egypt, China, Japan and many parts of Europe as well as going on an African safari. James had never wanted to travel beyond Canada and Alaska, because he had spent much of WWII fighting in Europe.

Ann has always had a particular love of opera and classical music. She is looking forward to Philadelphia Orchestra concerts and other musical adventures, as well as making new friends and enjoying new experiences at Medford Leas.

Mary Dennen

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To quote **Jane Mahorter**, Apt.178, "I'm a feminist through and through. It's my essence."

She comes from Runnemede, NJ, and earned a degree in psychology from Rutgers University. Her list of accomplishments includes being a parole officer, heading Careers for Youth in Camden for the New Jersey Labor Department, and then working with computers as a designer and pro-

grammer for the State of New Jersey Judiciary for 25 years.



Being a bit of an original thinker, she bought a model house which caught her eye and, after searching around the area, found a wooded lot in Maple Shade, NJ, on which to situate it. Jane was married for awhile, had a son, Mark, and divorced. She then mar-

ried a Brit who was "an interesting man but annoying." They divorced after 14 years. "I kept my house through two divorces," she exclaimed proudly. Speaking of houses, Jane has a small place in Biloxi, MS, where she has been going off and on for ten years to be near her son and his family.

Years ago Jane was president of the South Jersey National Organization of Women (NOW) and has been very active in the women's movement which she declares is "my claim to fame." She started the Women and Religion group at the Unitarian Church in Cherry Hill 30 years ago and runs a number of well-attended courses on feminist theology there. For a few years she was a member of the Friendship Force of Southern New Jersey, an international friendship organization that holds its meetings in Lumberton and has been a longtime member of NOW.

She says that the death of her brother and some of her own physical issues propelled her to decide to come to Medford Leas. And, in keeping with her feminist leanings, Jane has a collection of small statuettes of goddesses in her home and a statue of Athena outside of her apartment. The women here can only benefit!

Suzanne Frank

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**Fred H. Pond** moved from Easton, MD, back to his old stomping grounds of Medford Lakes and Marlton by moving into Apt. 136 on March 22, and he certainly is comfortable in his new surroundings.

Fred was born in 1932 and raised in New York City. He received his BS in mechanical engineering from Bucknell University. Shortly after marrying he entered the Army and, typical of Army life, moved about, but always remained stateside, working on the Nike missile program.

Fred ultimately settled in the Medford/Marlton area, where he was a partner in the prominent home building firm of Pond & Spitz. His first wife died in 1976, and he later married his second wife Sharon. With the two wives, Fred has raised five children who are now scattered to California, North Carolina, Pennsylvania and New Jersey with his 12 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

One of Fred's great joys has been his annual family reunions, held every July since 1978 and attended by as many as 33 family members covering four generations. He smiled while relating the tale that several years ago a granddaughter was planning to marry about a month after that year's reunion – until she was told her fiance could not be in the annual family photograph at the reunion until they were married. The rule that only true family members could be included in the photograph was inviolate. So the granddaughter advanced her wedding date to precede the reunion. She and her brand new husband attended the reunion, and have not missed a reunion since.

Now Fred has a new problem confronting him. His 10,000-square-foot. home in Easton, MD, easily accommodated all family members. His Courtyard Apartment won't quite handle the crowd this summer: his five children, Karen, Gary, Gregg, Laura and Mark, their five spouses, plus

12 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Since Sharon died in 2008, he has been finding that age has been making it more difficult for him to enjoy his pastimes of golf, swimming and boating, but he still has his piano --. although he will miss piano-playing at an Easton hospice.

Walt Dennen

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**Tom and Yolanda Mazza Guastavino** may have set a new Olympic record for the time taken to move into a Medford Leas Courtyard Apartment when they took possession of their new home, Apt. 271, on March 23. Their move was simplified by the fact that they moved from nearby Hainesport.

Tom and Yolanda grew up on Staten Island and, while not childhood sweethearts, they knew one another. Tom's plans were interrupted by WWII; he enlisted in the Navy, spending most of his time as a quartermaster/helmsman aboard the light cruiser USS Macon. Following his discharge, he enrolled at Wagner College on Staten Island, where he earned both a bachelor's degree in chemistry and a master's in business. He also earned many credits for his interest in Yolanda, for they were married in 1953.

Over the succeeding years, Tom developed a high proficiency in chemistry specialties, such as synthetic and analytic chemistry, polymers and carbohydrate fuels. Although he worked for various employers, his last before retirement was the Federal Aviation Administration, where he commuted to Pomona, NJ, for 11 years from their Hainesport home. He holds three patents.



In the early years of their marriage, Yolanda managed the home front and tended their two children. Subsequently, she joined South Jersey's largest law firm, Archer & Greiner in Haddonfield, where she spent 23 years as a secretary

and paralegal in taxation and estate planning.

Their son Tom and his wife live in Pottsville, PA, where he is a doctor; their children live in Los Angeles and Phoenixville, PA. Their daughter Susan holds an MS as a nurse practitioner, is married with two children and lives in Medford. She has been employed in various areas of medicine including director of nursing for Virtua Hospital, and patient education in Philadelphia's Jefferson Hospital. Her husband, John C. Grady, is an attorney and partner in Craig, Annin & Baxter law firm, Haddonfield.



Deedy and Christopher met at a Quaker Weekend Work Camp in West Philadelphia. They were married during a snowstorm in 1967 and spent the beginning of their Pinelands honeymoon at **Hannah Wilson's** home in New Lisbon. Deedy noted that early in their marriage Christopher's company sent

them to England, where she gave birth to their daughter, Alice, in an old Tudor farmhouse. Later, they were transferred to Zambia, where their son, Jamie, was born. The family returned to the United States for the children's education and moved to Deptford, NJ. Alice, a graduate of Moorestown Friends School, currently lives in France with her family, and Jamie resides in Hawaii.



Both Tom and Yolanda have been active for many years in various volunteer efforts, Yolanda currently focuses her efforts at the Mount Laurel Public Library, while Tom has spread his time and talents among such organizations as the New Jersey State Aquarium in Camden and Virtua Hospital in Mount Holly.

At the moment he is searching for committed pinochle players at Medford Leas.

Walt Dennen



**Edith "Deedy" Engle Roberts** recently moved into 634 Rushmore, the same apartment that her maternal cousin **Anne Wood** called home for 17 years before her death last November. Deedy grew up in Haddonfield, where The Estaugh was a part of the Quaker community. Medford Leas, with its roots in The Estaugh, has become a desirable and happy transition for her.

Deedy graduated from Albright College with a major in sociology. Her late husband Christopher was born in Wales and raised in Britain where he obtained his degree in engineering. He came to the United States when offered a job. Over the years he worked for several construction engineering firms, including Modjeski & Masters, Alaimo, and McDonnell Douglas.

When the family returned to the Philadelphia area, Deedy took graduate classes at Temple University and received teaching certification. She taught French in Chester County for a short time and English as a Second Language (ESL) at Camden Schools for 22 years.

When Deedy and Christopher retired in 2005, they took a world tour traveling to areas where they could participate in service projects as well as see old friends and family. Sequentially, their travels included Wales, France, India (Mumbai and Kerala), Sri Lanka, China, Japan, Hawaii, Canada's West Coast, Germany, Denmark, Norway and then back to Wales.

Deedy has a passion for singing. She reports that her mother sang to her while she was still in the womb. As a result, she has been singing all her life, Deedy laughs. She was a member of The Singing City Choir and now is interested in the Medford Leas Singers.

Deedy enjoyed the bucolic nature of her Deptford home that backed up to a beautiful site adjacent to Timber Creek Park. Now, she enjoys a similar view from her apartment.

Dorothy Cebula

**MAY CRYPTOGRAM**

by Herb Heineman

**NQB YGIRN YAINW WBTIR AY XGYB  
FGCB KR NQB NBDN; NQB UBDN  
NQGINW RKOOXW NQB VAEEBUNTIW.**

Underline or flag the author's name

**ETA MBZAUF****TINQKI RVQAObUQTKBI****RGRNBI CGIFGUGT EVFTIIW**

**O.R. UANQGUF QTOOBUR TYNBI RBCBU-  
NW. – QRQ**

Below is the solution to the April cryptogram.

THERE IS NO GLORY IN STAR OR  
BLOSSOM TILL LOOKED UPON BY A  
LOVING EYE; THERE IS NO FRAGRANCE  
IN APRIL BREEZES TILL BREATHED  
WITH JOY AS THEY WANDER BY.

WILLIAM C. BRYANT  
KOBE BRYANT  
BEAR BRYANT

The correct solution was received from the following readers:

**Helen Anderson, Catherine Barry, Ruth Blattenberger, Mary Chisholm-Zook, Alice Culbreth, Doris Curley, Liz Dill, Roberta Foss, Linda Gaylord, Barbara Heizman, Pat Heller-Dow, Sue Isaacs, Doris Q. Murray, Betty Preston, Florence Sawyer, Peg Scott, Miriam Swartz, Joanne Thomas, Ellen Wiener, Barbara Zimmerman.** All except two correctly identified the author.

Please send your solution via campus mail to **Herb Heineman**, 121 WSD, Lumberton, or email it to [hsheineman@gmail.com](mailto:hsheineman@gmail.com) by May 10.

**MEDFORD LEAS LIFE**

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