



Medford Leas *Life*

VOL. XLV, No.1

January 2016

BILL MURPHY RECEIVES LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD AT HOLIDAY SHOW

text by Beth Bogie, photos by Margery Rubin



Bill Murphy, director of Operations, has performed in every production of the Employee Holiday Show, which goes back more than 40 years. As this year's extravaganza approached its conclusion, **Gerry Stride**, creator and chief writer of many a show, presented Bill with a Lifetime Achievement Award. The news was greeted with great approval from the audience.

Said Gerry, "One man, Bill Murphy, has performed in every show sharing his musical talents, wearing coconuts, dressed as a hippie, wearing a zoot suit, playing Mickey Mouse and, perhaps my favorite, Sister Mother Murphy singing *Climb Every Ladder*, always with the same consistent performance, awful. But," said Gerry, "he's been an awfully good sport about it. One year he tried to sing *on key*,

which sorely disappointed the audience. He vowed never to try again. That is why," Gerry explained, "the academy has voted to present Bill with the Lifetime Achievement Award for whatever is the polar opposite of musical excellence."

To the roars of laughter, Gerry then introduced a presentation of on-screen photos of "our musical treasure" from his many performances.

On receiving his award, Bill said, "I'd like to thank the academy and all the writers who have helped me embarrass myself over the years. I'd like to thank my mother, my father, my lovely wife Dianne and all of my fans."

This award was just one very high highlight of this year's employee musical gift to residents, entitled "SoundS of Music," with the extra capital "S" to distinguish this night's music from that of the Austrian family singing in the hills far away.

The show opened with a hilarious film production by **Marcy (Smith) Stevenson** of Medford Leas Greatest Hits through the decades. A typical DJ (voice-over of **Rick Trandahl**) introduced brief clips of CEO **Jeremy Vickers** at the piano lip-syncing *Blueberry Hill* by Fats Domino; **Russ Haley** as Elvis doing *You Ain't Nothing but a Hound Dog*; and Bob Wasson, our favorite postman, as Chubby Checkers performing the Twist.

There were also the Andrews Sisters: **Irene Jones**, **Janet Sprague** and **Helen Hamilton** lip-syncing *Chattanooga Choo Choo*; and **Renee Slemmer**, **Gen Farnath** and **Eileen Danielenko** doing a routine to *Don't Sit Under the Apple Tree*.

After that rousing introduction to the evening ahead, and an audience sing-along of *Music, Music, Music*, Gerry Stride launched the program of new “themes and variations” on old familiar songs and an aria from Verdi’s *Rigoletto* that Verdi probably would not recognize (but we’re getting ahead of ourselves).

Getting the audience off to a good start, the guys in Maintenance, in jeans and white T-shirts, got the audience clapping to their lively rendition of *That Old Time Rock and Roll*.

They were followed by **Mark Wick**, who has played the piano for more than 30 Holiday Shows. Leaving the piano bench, he sang Barry Manilow’s *Write the Songs*.



On to the nurses of Woolman, dressed as winged Angels of Mercy, led by **Dr. James D’Amico** as Diablo (Devil) D’Amico, complete with horns, who sang *We Fluff the Pillows*. Who knew our new Doctor James had musical talent!

Next up, our Swing Kings of Fitness and their queen **Dana** took us back to the swing era in the 1930s and early 1940s, with dancing to *It Don’t Mean a Thing if It Ain’t Got that Swing*. They were jumpin’ as Dana put **Ken, Rick, Steve** and **Mark** through their paces.

From swing to opera, this was definitely an eclectic show. Gerry Stride, who adapted many of the original lyrics in this show, chose the aria from



Giuseppe Verdi’s opera *Rigoletto*, “La donna è mobile” as the catchy source for “I Am So Fit.” Her lyrics and her operatic garb brought down the house. She appeared as a Wagnerian Valkyrie with long blonde braids, wearing a headpiece adorned with horns and carrying a shield. (Might also have been a lady Viking warrior.) She sang:

“I came to Medford Leas, dreading some rare disease.
I came here to retire, thinking I’d soon expire.
Now I am ninety-three. They take good care of me.
I do my exercise. I know that’s very wise.
I swim 50 laps each day, four nights of bridge I play.
Friends call me on the phone, they say I’m never home.
I have 10 miles to walk, who has the time to talk.
I am so fit....no time to sit.
I am so fit....no time to sit.”

Back to Doo Wop. In 1950s skirts, Therapeutic Recreation sang and moved to *Come and Go With Me*, a phrase they may repeat several times a day as they gather folks for activities. A poster of **Nan Hanslowe** was held up briefly to proclaim her regular piano-playing presence at activities.



The next winner: Bill Murphy and Jeremy Vickers appeared as the Blues Brothers (John Belushi and

Dan Ackroyd), in dark glasses, string ties and dark hats, to sing *I'm a Soul Man*. Bill was in his best off-key form, while Jeremy repeated, "I'm a soul man" between verses. Deafening applause!



The ladies of Finance and Human Resources followed with *Jeremy's Hideaway*, based on Hernando's Hideaway. While Mark Wick sang "The Pajama Game" tune, the cast in black with red sashes (profits and losses?) moved to a choreography by the daughter of **Susan DeJacomo**.

In a nod to Motown music and a Sixties hit, *I Heard It Through the Grapevine*, the women of the Reception Desk performed *I Heard It Through the Deskline*. **Jill Hieronimus**, one of the receptionists who has sung with a band, delivered the goods in professional fashion, attesting to the accuracy of the information they come by on the deskline. Jill was backed up by **Ashley Leitner**, **Emily Schifferdecker** and **Carmen Smith**.

The nurses of Assisted Living sang, as if to their residents, *Step Forward and Roll* to the music and beat of *Shake, Rattle and Roll*. From Resident Services, **Tammy Gerhart** and drivers **Barry Sherzer** and **Jen Mengel** offered *I Get Around* from the Beach Boys. And our helpful Companions performed the *Companion Cha, Cha*, in a line dance, to the music of *Tea for Two*, led by **Agnes Santoro**.

Esther Benson of Assisted Living has often performed gospel music for Holiday Show audiences. This year she and her great granddaughter, Aliyah,

an adorable seven-year-old, sang *This Little Light of Mine*, first as a solo by the self-possessed youngster, then by Esther, and finally as a duet. This was a real crowd pleaser!

The therapy group, Tender Touch, turned the 1844 American folk song, *Buffalo Gals*, into *Medford Leas Gals & Pals*, singing:

"Medford Leas Gals, won't you come down today
Stretch out today, strengthen today
Medford Leas Pals, won't you work out today
We'll get you on your way."

Debbie Lux, whose work on our landscape keeps her busy from dawn to dusk, sang *The Song That Never Ends*.

The final act was the Ten Commandments Health Rap, performed by members of the Wellness Center, each member delivering in rap style "a principle to live your life by."

But before the curtain went down, Gerry introduced "the small but mighty team" of writers of the show: **Donna Coonley**, Susan DeJacomo, Tammy Gerhart, **Cathy Kissane**, Marcy Stevenson and Mark Wick, in addition to Gerry. They, in turn, musically invited the audience to join in the singing of *Jingle Bells* in a Christmas Hootenanny.

With that, all of the performers came on the stage and joined with the audience in holiday song. Santa Claus (Stephen Porter of Fitness) suddenly appeared to greet everyone. As in every year, it was a show to remember, and, of course, "the best ever"!



DECORATING DAY

photos by Margery Rubin



**UNDECORATING DAY WILL BE
JANUARY 5**

Top l-r **Dick Cross, Bud Stratton and Mary McKillop** toast the decorators as they start their chores. **Doreen Smith**, Fitness Center volunteer, adds tags to Employee-Giving Tree, and The Three Magi banner decorates the Holly Room. Middle: **Valerie Cross** concentrates on the tree in the Colonial Dining Room. Decorating co-chairs **Renee Slemmer and Doris Murray** check lights in the Garden Room. Bottom: **Gordon Brummer and Kevin Crain** discuss placement of a snowman sign.

Editor's Note: We are running the PIW story below a second time, because last month, when it ran the first time, we accidentally cut off the last important few paragraphs. Now it is complete. We apologize.

PUT IT IN WRITING: THE PROCESS IMPROVED

by **Betsy Pennink**

"It's important for everyone to understand the PIW process," says **Geno Mori**, who has been working to improve the transparency of this useful method of communication among residents, the MLRA Council and the administration. Here is his explanation:

A PIW is not a work order. This is what it is, or can be:

- A request to fix something used by everybody
- A suggestion to benefit the community or group
- A complaint or compliment (!) to the administration

This is what it isn't and can't be: a request to fix something in your unit. A PIW, by definition, is on paper. On the other hand, a work order is given over the phone to #3018 or by email at workorders@medfordleas.net.

There's a new PIW form. It can be found on one of the parallel shelves next to the mail boxes in the Atrium. You will find some additions, including a response section at the bottom and a description of the whole process on the back.

These are the steps in the process:

- When you fill out the form, write your name legibly or it cannot be acknowledged. (Also, unsigned forms are not considered.)
- Drop off your form at Reception.
- Have patience. The receptionist will forward your form to the vice president of the MLRA Council (at present, **Barbara Trought**). Barbara will read it aloud, without disclosing your name, at the next Council meeting. This could be several days away, since the Council meets twice a month.

- After comments, **Jeremy Vickers**, CEO, who is always present at the beginning of the meeting, will take your PIW to review and to write the name of the person who should handle the matter in the box "Referred To."
- Executive Administration Assistant **Lori Jakelsky** will take your form, give it a number from her new tracking system, scan it into her data base, and return it to the CEO.
- Meanwhile, the vice president will contact you to say your PIW has been read and you can expect a response.
- At the next Tuesday Leadership meeting, Jeremy will discuss your PIW and give it to the proper person for action.
- This person will send you a response, with a copy to Lori, who scans the reply into her database.
- Every month, Lori will check to be sure that all the PIWs have been answered. MLRA Council receives a copy of the database upon request, to review whether the matter has actually been resolved.

Geno is pleased that the system is already working well, as he believes that all PIW writers should know that their voices have been heard and that action has been taken.



MLRA MEETING, JAN 18: HEALTH CARE IN CONTRACTS

At 7:20 pm in the Theater, **Len Cebula**, chair of the Health Committee, will speak on health care access described in contracts for all areas of independent living on the two Medford Leas campuses. A question and answer period will follow. Mary Ann Flatley, director, Residential Health and Wellness, will also be present to answer questions.

Joe Costanza, president, MLRA

LEADINGAGE HONORS LOIS FORREST

by Betsy Pennink

At a breakfast ceremony on December 9, LeadingAge New Jersey held its annual awards program, at which **Harry Forrest** accepted a special award in honor of the late **Lois Forrest**. The award, a lovely crystal bowl, carries the inscription "LeadingAge New Jersey President's Award for Lifetime Achievement in the Field of Aging," with Lois's name below.

LeadingAge New Jersey is the statewide association of not-for-profit senior care organizations, of which Medford Leas is a member. So is Wiley Mission in Marlton, whose CEO, Gary Gilmore, knew Lois and her many, far-reaching achievements. When he described them to the president of LeadingAge New Jersey, Michelle Kent, she decided that a lifetime award, not often given, was the best recognition of what Lois had accomplished both as executive director at Medford Leas and in the wider community.

During Lois's time at Medford Leas the statewide organization's name was the New Jersey Association of Non-Profit Homes for the Aging (NJANPHA). Lois served on various committees and for two years as its president. She was given its Distinguished Service Award in April 1992.

At the ceremony Michelle introduced Gary Gilmore, who spoke about Lois and made the presentation to Harry and his daughter. Three of Harry and Lois's four children were able to attend. Lois's sister and her husband were also present.

Over a hundred people gathered for the event and about a dozen awards were given. In spite of practice for the Holiday Show, six members of the Medford Leas staff were there, joined by **Beverly Kannengieszer**, former director, Active Living. All seven were involved with Medford Leas when Lois was the executive director. They were: **Marianne Steely**, Marketing; **Jane Weston**, director, Community Relations and Development; **Tammy Gerhart**, director, Resident Services; **Linda Schultz**, Therapeutic Recreation; **Debbie Lux**, Landscaping; **Barry Sherzer**, Transport and Beverly. It was a remarkable tribute to a special individual.

MOIRA DWYER RECEIVES AWARD

by Suzanne Frank



Cindy, Moira and Vilma

photo by Jane Weston

If you've been to the Coffee Shop you've seen **Moira Dwyer**, a member of the Dining Services Team. On November 20, she was the recipient of an award at the 10th Annual Dubrow Vocational Celebration, presented at the Katz Jewish Community Center, Cherry Hill. The program's focus is "to help individuals with disabilities reach their highest potential through employment in our community," according to Cindy Volpin, Moira's job coach. Medford Leas was also honored for its partnership with the Jewish Family and Children's Service for employing excellent clients such as Moira.

Jane Weston, director, Development and Community Relations, and **Vilma Aldover**, supervisor, Coffee Shop Dining Services, represented Medford Leas at the awards and, of course, cheered for Moira on her big day. "She was beaming and so happy to be honored," Vilma recounted.

"She said she loved working at Medford Leas, and her parents were so grateful for her to have the opportunity to work here," Jane added. "There wasn't a dry eye in the place when she gave her speech."

Moira is the daughter of Jim and Susie Dwyer and has lived in Medford all of her 35 years. Moira shared that she was the prom queen of the Haddonfield High School graduating class of 2001, a major accomplishment. She has worked in several local establishments and currently is happy interacting with all the residents here at Medford Leas. Recalling her award she exclaimed, "I was so happy and excited." Why not give her a "congrats" when you next see her in the Coffee Shop? Her smile will make your day.

HOLIDAY CRAFT FAIR BIGGER THAN EVER

text by Beth Bogie, photos by Margery Rubin

Crowds shopping for Christmas gifts turned out early for the Ninth Annual Holiday Craft Fair at Medford Leas. Vendors filled the Holly Room, Gathering Room and half of the gallery area offering their beautiful, clever, tasty, decorative wares, all handmade. For the second year, a ticket auction was created, but greatly expanded, with 26 items to be bid on throughout the day. Overseeing it all was **Maggie Heineman**, chair, and **Janet Jackson-Gould**, co-chair, who was in charge of the ticket auction, along with **John Speirs**.



Estelle Orr

In the Gallery, customers were greeted by Doreen's Decadent Chocolates, a returning purveyor of white chocolate-covered popcorn with cranberries and every other form of chocolate imaginable. Next to her was a new vendor, Estelle Orr, owner of Happy Wanderer Bakery in Trenton. "Glad to be here," said Estelle, as she pointed out molasses ginger cookies and walnut brownies.

Just inside the entrance to the Holly Room were the quilts created by the late **Mary Barth** and the quilted "mug rugs," on which to set a mug of coffee and a cookie – all presided over by quilting experts **Jeannette Muir**, **Jane Lange** and **Betty Preston**.

To the left were the Workshop Wizards, **Tom Roberts**, **Jim Knapp**, **Dick Randolph** and **Alex Webb**, with a large and varied display of wooden toys, step stools, and a small, beautifully caned chair, just the right size for a little girl or boy.



Jeannette Muir

Across the way was **Ralph Berglund** with many of his striking photographs for sale.

And on and on. Handsome handwoven scarves, soaps and pottery items of all kinds. **Rona** and **Ezra Shahn** were found shopping at Knitting and Sewing, with its display of knitted vests, infant sweaters and caps, and adorable knitted toys, and led by **Helen Hamilton** and **Wen Eby**.

One very interesting vendor was "Vintage Button Jewelry," created by Selena Braunstein, who attends 80 shows a year. "We love it here," she said. "It's one of our favorites. It's our second year." She attends auctions to find the buttons and goes through 500 *pounds* of buttons a year to make her necklaces and other jewelry.

Debbie Lux, Medford Leas horticulturist, had her much anticipated display of gift greens, ranging from gorgeous wreaths to a new item: teacups used to hold miniature gardens of tiny cacti. **Joyce Sichel** took home a beautifully planted terrarium, another of Debbie's new offerings.

"Maggie and Janet really have done a great job," exclaimed **Art Hartwig**, chairman of the previous four Craft Fairs. He noted they had obtained many more volunteers, among other things. Art was staffing his own table of bowls of varied woods, cheese spreaders made of black cherry, and letter

openers of linden. "This is a juried craft fair," he explained. "Crafters have to show what they will sell, which is important to their coming back. It keeps the quality high."

At 3:30 pm, the ticket auction began, with **Loretta**



Strassler calling numbers. Among the 26 winners were: **Lisa Heinkel** carrying off a cedar tray table; **Vince Menzel** claiming a kerosene lamp with blue ceramic base; and **Sandy** and **Sue Heath** taking home a music box that plays four popular opera arias. The success of the auction was in

part due to the six Red Apron Ladies collecting tickets all day, coordinated by **Eileen McConville**.

At the close, the tallying began. About 775 people attended, two-thirds of whom were visitors. Proceeds totaled \$8,285, including \$1,900 from the ticket auction, nearly double the amount of a year ago. Proceeds will go to the Residents Assistance Fund.

Maggie expressed appreciation for the behind-the-scenes support from Maintenance. "The setup was excellent, and the extra staff for parking and traffic was invaluable. They made it all possible," Maggie said.



Judy Norcross and Evelyn Rohmer
Red Apron Ladies

WREATH MAKERS ENJOYING A DAY

by Dorothy Cebula

The Holly Room smelled of a fragrant evergreen forest. **Debbie Lux**, our horticulturalist, dressed as a woodland nymph, had dozens of eager wreath makers under her spell. After Debbie described techniques for building a natural wreath, the group was off – headed to tables filled with piles of Fraser fir clippings, circular frames and wire. Stations with heated glue guns and glue pots were nearby.



Debbie and Edie Pray

The wreath makers, a mix of residents and people from nearby communities, excitedly conversed among themselves as they constructed their basic wreath. They then checked out objects to make their unique creation. Tables of bows, holly, juniper and other items allowed each person to tap into her own personal artistry.

At several tables neighbors discussed their approaches. Two ladies who are involved with a local gardening group used the event as an annual "day out" treat by registering for the two sessions and enjoying a special lunch in Medford in between. They each envisioned using their two wreaths to adorn the double doors at their homes.

Nancy Steelman and her daughter Diane Woloshin, an experienced flower arranger, make this an annual event. Nancy remarked that "Debbie makes it look so easy, but it is taking me time."

This offering from *Pathways to Learning at Medford Leas* has been a perennial favorite of residents and local citizenry as they bring the forest spirit to the holidays.

NEVER BE ON TIME!

by John Sommi

Although the Employee Holiday Show was held on Thursday, December 10, fun began much earlier. Like November 24, well before 8:30 am, when the tickets and dinner reservations were to become available.

You expect that some early riser will be contentedly sitting, wearing a broad self-satisfied smile at the head of the line by the time you arrive. So be it. Although I mistakenly thought tickets would become available at 8:00 am, my arrival at 7:45 am, of course, did not earn me first place in line. With much laughter, a cheerful group of some dozen fellow residents warmly welcomed me, some raising cups of coffee, with their free hands pointing to the end of the line.

I quickly found an empty chair and moved to my allotted space as a crowd of new faces moved into the auditorium lobby. Safely seated, I asked the old friend in seat number one her arrival time. "Seven thirty," was the reply, one hour before the correct scheduled time. I joined in the laughter and warm greeting of a growing group of familiar faces from both campuses as the line wove its way into the Gathering Room.

The staff, ever considerate, looked at the crowd occupying the lobby and began distributing show tickets and making dinner reservations at 8:00 am. A small cheer rose from us as the line moved forward. We would soon have tickets for another wonderful evening of warmth, camaraderie and laughter. The staff would, with much good humor, present their talent or lack thereof. **Gerry Stride** and her team would make us most welcome again.

All of this is what makes Medford Leas a wonderful place. Oh. And remember. If you're on time at Medford Leas, you're late.



HAPPY NEW YEAR

Another year has come and gone;
A new one's just beginning.
There has been joy, there has been pain;
And yet the world keeps spinning.

The purpose of our day to day
A mystery, there's no doubt.
To give our lives some special meaning
Is what it's all about.

Be thankful for your many blessings;
Faith, charity and love.
Learn to handle life's frustrations,
With help from up above.

Forget what's happened in the past
Which may have caused confusion.
There's always hope for better times,
It's not a mere illusion.

Plant a seed and watch it grow,
Or make a brand new friend.
Whatever effort this will take,
Is worth it in the end.

Take the time to make a plan,
Then add a hope and dream.
The secret lies in your intent,
Not hard as it may seem.

By: Yolanda Guastavino

**LEASMUSICAST PRESENTS
THE MERRY WIDOW**
by Beth Bogie

One of the most popular operettas, *The Merry Widow*, by the Austro-Hungarian composer Franz Lehár, will be presented by LeasMusiCast on Saturday, January 16, in the Medford Leas Theater. This performance was recorded live in 2004 in the Zürich Opera House, whose chorus and orchestra are led by Franz Welser-Möst, conductor.



German operatic soprano Dagmar Schellenberger appears as the wealthy and pretty widow, Hanna Glawari, who has inherited a fortune from her late husband in the imaginary state of Pontevedro. She has been invited to a ball by the Pontevedrian Ambassador to Paris. The ambassador is determined to defend her from Parisian dowry-hunters, while also wishing to rescue her fortune for his bankrupt country. He assigns this patriotic task to Count Danilo Danilovitch, played by American baritone Rodney Gilfry.

Danilo rejects the ambassador's request. He and Hanna had been in love, but forbidden to marry because of class, before her marriage to her late husband. However, he agrees to protect her from other bachelors. Complexities increase when the ambassador's wife flirts with the Count of Rosillon, French attaché to the embassy, who in turn is interested in Hanna. But Hanna has rediscovered her feelings for Danilo. Then word has it that the widow will lose her fortune if she remarries. Danilo feels he can ask Hanna's hand now that she is poor.

There is a happy ending. Danilo and Hanna find love. The ambassador and his wife are reconciled.

And Hanna's fortune, it is discovered, will not be lost but instead go to the man she remarries!

The music is lively, memorable and exuberant, with the best known number *The Merry Widow Waltz*. Composer Lehár wrote a number of operettas between 1893 and 1904, but his first real international success was *The Merry Widow*, premiered in Vienna in 1905. Today we would say it went viral! Its "robustly tuneful" qualities are seen influenced by his background as a military bandmaster. Librettists Viktor Leon and Leo Stein based the story on an 1861 comedy, *The Embassy Attaché*.

The conductor Franz Welser-Möst, originally from Linz, Austria, came to international attention in 1986, and was music director of the London Philharmonic Orchestra from 1990 to 1996, before taking up the post of principal conductor of the Zürich Opera.

Dagmar Schellenberger in her early years won acclaim for her Mozart roles, but her repertoire today ranges from Bach to Wagner. She sings the role of Blanche in the acclaimed DVD of the La Scala production of *Dialogues of the Carmelites*, by Francis Poulenc. She is praised for her nuanced acting as well as singing.

Rodney Gilfry has given guest performances at opera houses the world over and played interesting roles, such as Stanley Kowalski in André Previn's *A Streetcar Named Desire*, Nathan in Nicholas Maw's *Sophie's Choice* at London's Covent Garden, and Tsar Nicholas II in the world premiere of Deborah Drattell's *Nicholas and Alexandra*. He also presents his own radio show out of Los Angeles, called "Opera Notes on Air."

Sources: *MusicWeb International*, *First Principles Web Journal*, *JR Blog*, *Wikipedia*, *DVD liner notes*.

IN MEMORIAM

William "Bill" Carson	November 23
Jean Scattergood	November 23

ELEGANCE STRING QUARTET RETURNS TO MEDFORD LEAS

By Joe Costanza



The suave sounds of the Elegance String Quartet will return to the Medford Leas Theater on Saturday, January 9, at 7:30 pm. With a repertoire that includes classical and popular pieces, they were received here enthusiastically last year. They have become one of the Delaware Valley's favorite ensembles.

Cellist Ray Bicolli, a member of Symphony in C, formed the quartet in 2000 with the intention of presenting classical music and music of our time. He began international tours at the age of 15 as a rising young artist with the renowned American Music Abroad, and has traveled Europe since as a soloist and orchestra principal.

Other members of the quartet include violinist Aisha Dossumova, currently a member of Symphony in C and a faculty member at Temple University. Aisha has participated in various international music festivals as a soloist, including the prestigious Mozarteum Summer Academy in Austria and the International Laureates Festivals in Taos and Los Angeles.

Violinist/violist Alfi Latypova, an active performer, is a first-prize winner in several international competitions. She also was a performer at the Mozarteum Academy. Violinist/violist Seth Rodriguez, who began his musical studies at the age of eight, is another prizewinning soloist who made his debut

as a chamber musician at the Weil Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall. He has also served as concertmaster for international orchestras.

Upcoming live concerts of the *Guest Artists Series* include the Broad Street Brass on February 14 and the Wind Symphony of South Jersey on March 13. Both of these will be held on Sunday afternoons as matinee performances.

The concert is part of the *Guest Artists Series* of live performances presented by the Medford Leas Music Committee chaired by **Marion Norcross** and funded by the Activities Fund.

MUSIC VIDEOS: AT YOUR REQUEST

In 2016, on the first Thursday of every month, we will play music which has been requested by audience members. Shostakovitch's 11th Symphony has been requested by **Jayne Bodner** for January. On the 4th and 5th Thursdays, there will be jazz.

Programs start at 7:10 in the Theater.

January 7: Shostakovitch's 11th Symphony
"The Year of 2005"

January 14: Schumann's Piano Concerto;
Fantasy for Violin and Orchestra

January 21: Schumann's Symphony #3;
Concert Piece for Four Horns

January 28: Jazz: Jeff and Joel's House Party #5
October 2014

Maggie Heineman

Emergency: Call 3666
or 0 for Reception Desk
Obtain decal sticker for your phone
with emergency number
at the Reception Desk.

NEW BOOKS IN THE LIBRARY

Fiction:

Allende, Isabel, *The Japanese Lover*
 Atwood, Margaret, *The Heart Goes Last*
 Brooks, Geraldine, *Secret Chord*
 Eco, Umberto, *Numero Zero*
 Ferrante, Elena, *The Story of the Lost Child*
 Franzen, Jonathan, *Purity*
 Grisham, John, *Rogue Lawyer*
 Groff, Lauren, *Fates and Furies*
 Hijuelos, Oscar, *Twain & Stanley Enter Paradise*
 Irving, John, *Avenue of Mysteries*
 Karon, Jan, *Come Rain or Come Shine*
 Lagercrantz, David, *The Girl in the Spider's Web*
 Moyes, Jojo, *After You*
 Pamuk, Orhan, *A Strangeness in my Mind*
 Sparks, Nicholas, *See Me*

Mysteries:

Baldacci, David, *The Guilty*
 Clark, Mary Higgins, *All Dressed in White*
 Connelly, Michael, *The Crossing*
 Evanovich, Janet, *The Scam*
 Francis, Felix, *Front Runner*
 George, Elizabeth, *Banquet of Consequences*
 Gingrich, Newt, *Duplicity*
 Kellerman, Faye, *The Theory of Death*
 Kellerman, Jonathan, *The Golem of Paris*
 Patterson, James, *Cross Justice*
 Rendell, Ruth, *Dark Corners*
 Scottoline, Lisa, *Corrupted*
 Smith, Alexander McCall, *The Woman Who Walked in Sunshine*
 Woods, Stuart, *Foreign Affairs*

Non-Fiction:

Carman, Irin, *Notorious RBG*
 Coates, Ta-Nehisi, *Between the World and Me*
 Kaplan, James, *Sinatra: The Chairman*
 Kilmeade, Brian, *Thomas Jefferson and the Tripoli Pirates: The Forgotten War*
 Meacham, Jon, *Destiny and Power*

Myers, Steven Lee, *The New Tsar*
 Oates, Joyce Carol, *The Lost Landscape*
 O'Reilly, Bill, *Killing Reagan*
 Schiff, Stacy, *The Witches: Salem, 1692*
 Steinem, Gloria, *My Life on the Road*
 Vowell, Sarah, *Lafayette in the Somewhat United States*
 Winik, Jay, *1944: FDR and the Year That Changed History*
 Woodward, Bob, *The Last of the President's Men*

LEAS FORUM IN JANUARY

The Leas Forum Oral History Series is proud to invite you to “**Conscientious Objectors: Two Stories**” on **Saturday, January 9, at 11 am** in the Medford Leas Theater. What happened to men who refused to fight during World War II when the draft was popular and the majority of the country believed in the need for this conflict? **Neil Hartman** and **Warren Sawyer** will speak about their experiences as conscientious objectors in the 1940s. The two men had a series of roles, including participation as volunteers in hepatitis experiments, work as attendants in a hospital for the mentally ill, and efforts to rebuild Europe's and Asia's food supply at the end of the war.

On Saturday, January 23, at 11 am in the Theater, **Dr. Art McMorris, ornithologist** and past president of the Delaware Valley Ornithological Club, will speak about how the Pennsylvania Game Commission was able to re-establish a self-sustaining and secure population of Peregrine Falcons after this native North American wildlife species suffered almost complete extinction in the mid-20th century. He will discuss the history of the Peregrine Falcon and talk about current conservation projects.

Dorothy Cebula, chair

THOMAS KIMBALL'S ART IN JANUARY

THE LEAS ART GALLERY SCENE

by Joyce Linda Sichel

The Medford Leas Theater Gallery will be the venue for a posthumous multimedia show by New Jersey artist Thomas Kimball, Sr. Until his death in September, he was a prolific producer of paintings and drawings spanning 50 years. A "memorial reception" will be held on Tuesday, January 5, at 3 pm. The artist's family will be present, and son, Matt (who was trained in art by his father) will be able to answer questions.

Thomas Kimball was born and attended art schools in Newark. Most recently, he resided in Chesterfield, NJ. His work has been shown at many New Jersey galleries, and he was the recipient of dozens of awards. His later work was mostly done in the outdoors, known as "en plein air." His favorite subjects were street scenes and musicians. The show will include works in watercolor, oil and acrylic, as well as pen and ink drawings.

On the lower level of Medford Leas, the Art Studio Gallery walls are still filled with exciting original art and photographs by residents of Medford Leas. Give yourself an enjoyable experience walking through this exhibit while it continues through the winter.



Continuing in the Community Center Gallery on the Lumberton campus are works by **Marilyn Flagler**. Watercolors predominate in this beautiful show, with scenes from nature and other landscape features. Her exhibit will continue through January.

WHO'S NEW

photos by Margery Rubin

Mary Donahue married **Bill Reifsteck** on October 24, and they are settling in together at 696 Bridlington.

Nancy Barclay had a hunch that these two people she knew might enjoy each other. Three years ago at a Bridlington dinner party, she asked Bill Reifsteck if he would like to meet a friend she had known for years in her book club. Then, when she ran into Mary, she planted the idea of meeting Bill, a retired attorney and highly sociable person. Both were neutral about the idea but didn't refuse Nancy. The meeting took place at a luncheon sponsored by The New Jersey Society of Pennsylvania. Eventually their wedding took place in Cinnaminson for 80 close friends and family members.



Mary was born in Dushore, PA, a town in the beautiful Endless Mountains, where she attended the local parish school for 12 years. She then became an English major at the College of New Rochelle. Still an avid reader, Mary looks forward to talking about

books again, once she has unpacked and become used to her new surroundings.

With her first husband, Mary lived in Phoenix, Boston, Washington, DC, Chicago and, finally, Moorestown in 1977. Their three children, who were raised in the last two locations, now live in Davidson, NC, San Francisco and near Windsor on Thames, England. Once the children were grown, Mary taught fourth and fifth grades at St. Charles Borromeo School in Cinnaminson and at the public school in Merchantville.

Mary and Bill enjoy playing golf and bridge together. They also love theater and the orchestra in Philadelphia, as well as trips to New York City. They have already traveled to Alaska and plan to visit England next summer.

To stay fit for those jaunts, Mary likes the water aerobics class. As to the level of fitness encouraged at Medford Leas, she says, "I'm impressed by the people who come to the pool for this workout after already having participated in an earlier exercise class."

Judy Kruger

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An outdoorswoman from the word go, **Edith (Williams) Swallow** grew comfortable with nature in her birthplace outside of Detroit. Called Edie, she lived in rural Michigan on a lake and now, after a full life of adventure, has decided to live in cozy comfort in Apt. 61.



Edie says, "I learned to love the outdoors and had a great deal of independence. However, the schools in my area were not good, so I was sent in 11th grade to an Episcopal boarding school in New Hampshire, where I learned to study. I then went to Swarthmore for three years but, in my senior year, switched to the University of California at Berkeley." There she earned a BA in math and astronomy, had a great experience with beach and skiing available, and met her future husband, Naval Officer Chandler Eastman Swallow.

"We bounced around the U.S. for 30 years with our four children," Edie says. Her husband had three ship commands, resulting in time spent in Newport, Norfolk, Coronado, San Francisco and Washington, DC. Edie was thrilled to join her husband twice while he was in the Mediterranean.

Edie and Chandler retired to St. Michaels, MD for 35 years, where they enjoyed sailing up and down the Chesapeake Bay. Edie recounts that she did a lot of volunteering for Girl Scouts, mental health organizations and the Unitarian Universalist

Church. Revealing that she loved working with her hands, she naturally joined her husband in the always ongoing maintenance and improvement projects about the property.

"For fun, I do waste a lot of time on puzzles, word games and such," Edie said. She chose to live at Medford Leas because of its Quaker influence and Sunday suppers with her youngest daughter and family, who live in nearby Shamong.

Suzanne Frank

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WELCOME TO THE COURTS

by Joyce Linda Sichel

Barbara Degler moved to Apt. 412 in early November after 15 years on the Lumberton campus. I found her apartment to be a gem. She says she saw the apartment and fell in love with it. She has already done a lot of unpacking and making it comfortable, although she has her rolling suitcase handy for regular trips to the Thrift Shop to donate overflow from the move. She is starting to develop new social contacts on the Medford campus. Now that her beloved dog Casey has recovered from a walking problem, they are going out together, getting to know the campus, and meeting new people and pets.

Before retirement, Barbara practiced occupational therapy in hospitals and home care. She is continuing several long-time activities. She is a member of the Friendship Force travel group and has been part of the Unitarian Universalist Church in Cherry Hill for many years. She is also very interested in her family, which now includes two great-grandchildren. She says that as she settles in further, "I will probably volunteer for something, but I don't know what yet." Leaving her closest friends at Lumberton has been hard, but, once she decided to move, she has been working on making a good adjustment.

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**Catherine** and **John Sommi** moved to Apt. 228 on November 3 after 16 years of residence on the Lumberton campus. They were part of the “pioneers” who developed a real community out of the new Lumberton development. Catherine was instrumental in creating the system of “clusters,” and both she and John served two-year terms as president of the Lumberton Residents Association Council. John also served on the Medford Leas Residents Association Council for two terms.

They are originally from New York City. After John was drafted and began military service, they married and the couple spent 1955 living in Germany with the American military. After discharge, John pursued a career in education, first teaching and then as an administrator. When he earned his doctoral degree, he was tapped to be Superintendent of Schools for districts in Connecticut and Long Island. Catherine was also very busy as mother of seven children and an active community volunteer. Later she went to work in data processing. Both had retired by 1991.

The move to the Medford campus kept them busy since they had accumulated so much furniture and household goods, and also heartbreaking to sever their long ties with their Lumberton house, garden and friends. “It was hard to leave our wonderful friends in Lumberton,” Catherine said, “but we will still see them and we have friends here too.”

Their nearly completed apartment arrangement reflects their desire to make a very relaxing home. She is enjoying the freedom from meal planning, grocery shopping and cooking most of their meals. They both enjoy dining at Medford Leas and attending concerts and the Monday night movies. John will be rejoining the Writers Roundtable and is looking forward to getting started as a reporter for *Medford Leas Life*. He also intends to play water volleyball regularly, now that the indoor pool is right here. Catherine enjoys water aerobics.

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Helen Vukasin moved to Apt. 242 on November 10 after 16 years on the Lumberton campus. She, too, was one of the “pioneers” there, very active in helping to develop the community. She and **Bar-**

bara Zimmerman co-wrote the Lumberton handbook. She was the first president of the Lumberton Council, has served two terms on MLRA Council, and is still the recording secretary for Council meetings.

Helen had a large role in planning the design of the Lumberton Community Center. She also used her strong artistic sense to form the Gallery Committee to create exhibits in the main Medford Leas Gallery. She and **Alice Culbreth** sought out artists by attending art shows in the area and convincing good artists to mount shows for us. Helen has also headed the Design Committee on the staff of Leas Lit. She finds resident artists to do original illustrations to complement the writing of residents in the magazine.

Helen is in the process of decorating her handsome new apartment. She had the walls painted pale yellow and pale blue, and intends to display her large collection of sculptures on her sun porch. She owns works by artists from all over the world, including Africa, Southeast Asia and America, many from places where she lived in the past. She looks forward to meeting with her friends, having already known many people on the Medford campus.



A distraught senior citizen phoned her doctor’s office.

“Is it true,” she wanted to know, “that the medication you prescribed has to be taken for the rest of my life?”

“Yes, I’m afraid so,” the doctor replied.

There was a moment of silence before the senior lady continued.

“I’m wondering, then, just how serious my condition is, because this prescription is marked, ‘NO REFILLS!’”

JANUARY CRYPTOGRAM

by Herb Heineman

**M BWUEORMVN TB UWN UO SUK'B
 PUBA OZMSTRN LZNMATUWB, XJA
 RUUV EFMA AFNC LMW KU EFNW AFNC
 BATLV AUSNAFNZ!**

Identify the author:

**PUFMWKMB SMWKFT
 WNRBUW PMWKNRM
 WNTAFNZ UO AFUBN**

Below is the solution to the December cryptogram.

**BEETHOVEN'S LAST QUARTETS WERE
 WRITTEN BY A DEAF MAN AND SHOULD
 ONLY BE LISTENED TO BY A DEAF MAN.**

**SIR THOMAS BEECHAM
 SIR YEHUDI MENUHIN
 VLADIMIR HOROWITZ**

The correct solution was received from the following readers:

Catherine Barry, Mary Chisholm-Zook, Alice Culbreth, Doris Curley, Harry Forrest, Roberta Foss, Neil Fowser, Barbara Heizman, Pat Heller-Dow, Yolanda Guastavino, Sue Isaacs, Doris Q. Murray, Betty Preston, Doris Salati, Peg Scott, Joanne Thomas, Ellen Wiener, Barbara Zimmerman. Twelve correctly identified the author.

Please send your solution via campus mail to **Herb Heineman**, 121 WSD, Lumberton, or email it to hsheineman@gmail.com by January 10.

MEDFORD LEAS LIFE

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Production: Dorothy Cebula, Dave Bartram

Distributors: Ruth Podolin, manager; Gretchen Betz, Marion Norcross, Gloria Pinto, Fran Walker

Recorder: Betty Taylor

Medford Leas Life is published monthly, September through June, by the Medford Leas Residents Association. Copies are distributed to all residents and administrative staff. Subscriptions are available to others at \$15.00 a year for ten issues by writing to Medford Leas Life, One Medford Leas Way, Medford, NJ 08055. Medford Leas can be reached by phone 609-654-3000; FAX 609-654-7894 or 609-257-0050. When using FAX, specify the name of the person to receive the message. The Administration website is medfordleas.org. The Residents Association website is mlra.org.

Deadline for submissions:
 10th of the month preceding publication

