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TREASURES OF BYGONE DAYS

Old books live between majesty and mulch.
They are a mix of mind and soil.

—John W. Ehman

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St. Moritz's "Racing on Ice" — a unique sporting festival

Since 1907 people have been racing on the frozen lake at St. Moritz, Switzerland, beginning the first week in February (ice permitting!) The festival brings together a spectacular mixture of trotting and galloping races, as well as "Skijoring" races — where drivers/jockeys are on skis and pulled by horses at a dead run. The events are preceded by the quirky "Cricket on Ice" tournament, now in its 26th year.



COUNCIL REPORT

Vince Menzel

Council met on February 11. Tammy Gerhart, Medford Leas Administration, and Jean Cronin, MLRA Council member, were welcomed.

The nominating committee for the next LLRA Council was approved. The committee consists of Jack Akerboom, Judy Obbard, and Eve Robinson.

The Arboretum Gala is scheduled for April 27 from 5:00 to 9:00 p.m.

An intra-campus transportation service between different locations on the Medford campus (not to/from Lumberton) will begin a trial on April 1.

A bus carrying up to 18 people from the Medford campus to the Rave/Ritz movie theater (probably on the last Wednesday or Thursday of the month) will be available; reservations will be via sign-up sheet.

Both of these services are available to Lumberton campus residents.

Since the county observes fewer holidays than the township, it is not always obvious when trash (township) and recycling (county) take place. The dates going forward will be listed in *The Chronicle*. See page 6.

Becky Castellanos will give a presentation on advance directives, DNR orders, and emergency information on Wednesday, February 27, at 11:00 a.m. in the Theater. Becky will touch on the Medical Information Program, which is the county's version of a vial of life program.

The Shawnee students' Day of Service takes place on April 19 from 9:00 a.m. to noon. A sign-up sheet will be posted on the Community Center's side bulletin board for residents to request help with home chores.

Pickleball games will be regularly scheduled in the Community Center. See page 5.

Next Council meeting will be on Monday, March 11, at 1:30 p.m.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Balance January 1.....	\$4516.63
Income.....	30.89
Expenses.....	231.90
Balance January 31.....	\$4316.62

SHE HAD BARELY SETTLED IN

Judy Obbard

Theresa (Terry) Costanza moved to Lumberton Leas with her husband Joe in May of 2012, and here continued her battle to regain her health. Sadly, she died on January 10, before most of the community could get to know her.

What a loss! Terry was a joyful woman who embraced life and celebrated it every day. Her cheerful disposition and her great sense of humor brightened every room she entered and every life she touched.

She loved her family dearly. Telling funny stories about how she and Joe met, proud accounts of her children, Stephen, Michael, and Suzanne, and their accomplishments, gave her unending pleasure.

Pete and I got to know Terry through her energetic involvement in the New Jersey Committee for the Philadelphia Orchestra. She not only chaired the committee with loving dedication, but brought her endless energy and creativity to many fundraising projects, including the annual Holiday Tea and Shopping Spree at the Tavistock Country Club.

To know Terry was to love her, and we will miss her endless good cheer.



REMEMBERING JOHN MIKUTA**Berta Numata**

Who was John when he was not the revered Doctor John?

He was a kind, funny, and generous man. He loved his wife, Margaret, his children and grandchildren, and his many friends and colleagues. And he was a lover of the church and its music, of fine food and drink.

He was one of the few people who could argue politics with humor, never offending those he disagreed with.



John spoke only Polish for the first five years of his life. He was very involved with his parish church and considered the priesthood before he was persuaded to become a physician. For those who sat near him in church it was a treat

to hear him sing the hymns. Once a year he read the lesson in Polish at Morning Prayer.

To be invited to visit with John and Margaret at their house at the shore was a special treat. There would be a ride out to sea in John's boat, followed by John's famous Manhattan (one part Canadian whiskey and two and a half parts each of sweet and dry vermouth), sipped slowly while watching his beloved Phillies.

As a member of the Forum Committee, he invited faculty members from the University of Pennsylvania to Medford Leas. They spoke on such issues as the history of birth control, the art of medicine, and other informative subjects.

At home, John was always a genial host to family and friend.

His footprints are large, and he will be missed.

Pete's Pick**THE 6 O'CLOCK NEWS**

I'm not really sure why I'm drawn in, but the 6 o'clock news has become one of the highlights of my day. Perhaps it's the familiarity of the personalities on the set. Or maybe it's the predictability of the roles they play. Or maybe it's their always cheerful dispositions and the fact that without fail they get along so well. It's quite unlike the dynamics we all once experienced in our workplaces or maybe even within our own families. Comity and good cheer are universal requisites and if you can't present the news of the day – bad as it may be – in this format you'll never make it in what seems to be universally demanded in today's evening news format. In many ways, I find that watching the 6 o'clock news is like watching a "Leave It to Beaver" or "Ozzie and Harriet" segment from the '50s, where everything begins and ends on a cheerful note even though sandwiched between there may be a murder or two or a car wreck. Despite such unpleasant realities in the world outside, those in the TV studios always remain upbeat and smiling.

The roles that those in the various network studios play are quite predictable, and seem not to vary from network to network. There are "lead anchors," usually paired and chosen for ethnic and gender diversity in an effort to showcase the network's allegiance to accepted norms. But any differences matter not to the audience, since the pair always seem to be "married" – not by traditional bonds, but in their ability to show kindness and caring for each other. We are often told by one partner when the other is celebrating a birthday or the arrival of a child – cheerful notes that bring us in and enable us to share in their unity.

Then there are the sub characters, equally predictable in their diversity and equally scrupulous and attentive to the

comity and friendliness of the anchor team and the “happy family” format. The weather guy or gal is always subject to good-natured ribbing by the lead anchors, as they lead us through segmented step-by-step revelations on what our meteorological future will bring. He or she always comes on like the “cat that swallowed the canary,” with a knowing grin that tells us that he or she is holding something back. But the “secret” is never revealed in one sitting. Instead it is given to us like a Tom Mix serial – segment by segment. In one segment we might be told that the night will be “cold and snowy,” but then the smiling weatherperson tells us, “When I return, I will tell you about the surprise you will be in for when you wake up tomorrow.” We are thus left anxiously hanging and not daring to change the channel or go for another cocktail for fear of missing out on the shrouded mystery the weatherperson is unfolding for us. And so we sit attentively through intervening commercials awaiting the answer – something that must be pleasing to the network and that they have probably scripted in their quest to boost their advertising revenues.

And then we are treated to the sports guy or gal, who like the others is always smiling, friendly, and of good cheer – even when the home teams have lost. But we love their loyalty because that’s how we want to feel, even though we know that the teams they are defending really stink.

Then there are the equally familiar personalities that come to us from outside the network studios, tethered to satellite news trucks that travel from region to region. We love them because they bring us instantly current conditions and news from our communities. When hurricanes blow, we see them in their slickers leaning against the wind. When it snows, we see them standing in drifts with cars skidding behind. It’s all instantly real and dramatic,

in contrast to the peace and comity of the studio, where the anchors are warm and dry, condescendingly caring and concerned about their co-workers, and warning them to “stay safe” or “get warm.” Perhaps the unexpressed thought lurks that if they were to ever screw up or fail to be of good cheer, this could be their fate.

Oh sure, in my more cynical moments I often question whether the cheerleaders who bring me my 6 o’clock news are really what they seem to be. And sometimes I speculate whether this one is jealous of that one, or whether the sports person secretly despises the weather person. But such is the nature of today’s 6 o’clock news programming. Some may find this current format more palatable than when we were forced to watch Edward R. Murrow deliver the news through clouds of cigarette smoke during the ’50s, or Chet Huntley and David Brinkley’s droll, rarely smiling format that droned on for so many years. But do I miss them?

I’m not sure.

—Pete McCord

ART GALLERY

Helen L. Vukasin

On the Lumberton campus, the work of the Philly Five, a group of artists who regularly meet to work together, was hung in the Art Gallery on February 11. The artists in the group, Reta Sweeney, Tony Cirineo, Patrick Monaghan, Doris Paltzman, and Susan Barnes, have brought us 29 magnificent oil paintings. This is an exceptional group of local painters. Join us for the opening wine and cheese reception in the Gallery on February 22, 4:00-5:30 p.m. The artists will comment on their work. The exhibit will be open through April.

“Home Fine Arts” comes to Medford Leas Art Gallery on Tuesday, March 5, featuring eight artists from the Home Fine

Arts Co-operative Gallery, located in the Mill Race Village of Mt. Holly in a residence built in 1825.

The eight artists are Pamela K. Levin, Maureen Gass-Brown, Ben Cohen, Michael Block, Tracy Nuskey Didsib, Jan Terry, R.J. Haas, and Robert Chappell. Their work varies from photography to watercolor, pastels, multimedia, oils, acrylics, and collage.

At the opening reception, 3:00–4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 5, Pamela K. Levin will talk about her process of art making. Other artists will also comment on their approaches. The exhibit is open through March and April.

On Monday, April 15, 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., the Spring Resident Exhibit will open in the Art Studio Gallery. As usual, the reception will feature homemade goodies. Photographers must get in touch with **Hannah Wilson**, Chair of the Photography Committee, for instructions.

RETURN OF A TREASURED TRADITION

Ruth Gage

After a winter of no real snow, February 8 provided a howling wind and significant accumulation of the white stuff to qualify as a blizzard. This set into motion the Judy and Pete Obbard Specialty: THE BLIZZARD PARTY. Invitations went out the next morning, and at 4:00 p.m. a sizable representation of the community arrived at 139 Woodside Drive. Fortunately, by this time the weather had evolved into a bright sunny day, so struggling against the elements was not a prelude to the conviviality that ensued. A plethora of goodies emerged from neighborhood kitchens on short notice, as well as an array of pleasing libations that added to the general jollification of the afternoon's pleasures. Guests returned to

their homes at the end of the afternoon convinced that this had been a great success in a long line of Blizzard Party successes.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

Ed and Carol Ferraro

On February 12, residents got together for a soup and salad meal provided by Medford Leas, followed by Bingo with Girl Scout Troop 23388. The room was decorated with stuffed animals from Eve Robinson's and Carol Ferraro's grandkids. Table decorations were animal treats and more stuffed animals. All the animal treats and paraphernalia donated by residents were given to the Scouts, who in turn forwarded them to the Burlington County Animal Shelter.

On March 19 there will be a dinner celebrating **St. Patrick's Day**, with musical entertainment. Mark your calendars.

PICKLEBALL PLAYERS WANTED

Geno Mori

Pickleball is a racquet sport which combines elements of badminton, tennis, and table tennis. The net is similar to a tennis net but is mounted two inches lower. The game is played with a hard paddle and a perforated plastic ball similar to a whiffle ball. It is a fast-growing sport and a perfect game for seniors – good for cardio exercise and hand-eye coordination.

Rules for playing and dimensions of the court are posted on the bulletin board in the Community Center. New players will also be shown how to play by the "experts."

Come out and enjoy a spirited game of pickleball at the Lumberton Community Center on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.

TECH NOTES**Martin Klaver**

from Marty's blog <snr.tech.org>

Obsolescence Comes Quickly Nowadays

Often residents [at Willow Valley Retirement Communities] request help with devices or software that are already obsolete.

Obsolescence nowadays can happen in only a matter of months.

For example, much has been moving to the Internet cloud. New devices are dependent upon the cloud and software has been rapidly moving there.

Meanwhile, many seniors have just learned of something that is already obsolete and are unaware of what is really new. What is worse, the old way may be fraught with learning problems and other shortcomings.

Frequently doing it the old way takes a lot more time than the new way and the results are disappointing. It may be hard to convince seniors that what was new just six months ago is now primitive. This happens when the old way, which was hard to learn then, is now comfy. People are sometimes afraid they may fail.

The result is that to be helpful it is necessary to explain the shortcomings of the older technology and the benefits of the newer.

Consequently, it takes more time to move ahead than earlier. It may require some new learning, both for the resident and for the teacher. What helps move things along, though, is younger visitors, children or grandchildren, who come in with the new technology and sometimes leave it with their elders.

So keeping up is an ongoing and constant effort, if only to avoid teaching residents how to use old technology that was abandoned not too long ago and requires too much time and effort to learn.

To keep up I use Google Reader to sift through dozens of publications for information on new technologies and tools to do things in better ways. One major source is Lifehacker, and there are many others that are checked for me every day.

Then I need to evaluate them and learn to use them, first as a guinea pig before exposing others to them. I usually need to look at all options. Then I can offer the best tool to do the job, once we have clearly defined what that job is, and recognizing that there will also be a better way coming.

Whatever you learn today, whatever device you buy, will become obsolete soon, and it will be a lot easier and less time-consuming to use the newer ones.

RECYCLING AND TRASH PICKUP DATES**The Council**

To make it easier for residents to plan, each month Council will be listing the upcoming recycling and trash pickup dates. The county is responsible for recycling and the township for trash, but their holidays do not always coincide, thus sometimes causing confusion.

Recycling: Mondays, February 18, March 4, March 18

Trash: Wednesday, February 20; Tuesdays, February 26, March 5, 12, 19, 26

Dan was a single guy living with his father. When he found out that he'd inherit a fortune on his father's death, he decided to find a wife to share it with. One evening he spotted the most beautiful woman he'd ever seen.

"I may look like an ordinary guy," he said to her, "but in just a few years my father will die and I'll inherit \$200 million."

Impressed, the woman asked for his business card; three days later she became his stepmother. (*courtesy Ruth Gage*)

Thinkers' Corner



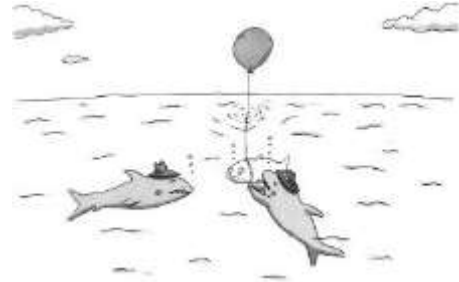
Sudoku

Clue: What we celebrate on Presidents' Day.

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Cartoons

This month's cartoon:



Write your caption:

“ _____ ”

Last month's cartoon:



Last Month's captions:

“Uh, I like you and all that, but I really don't think we're ready for this.”

“Good thinking, pal. I have to get mine cleaned too before the next ice age.”

“People just don't dress up anymore.”

“I told you not to send my suit to the cleaners. It shrank!”

“I'm tired of the same old black and white. I've ordered something new in purple and sequins.”

“It froze! I can't get it back on!”

“Our old ice floe had a closet. Now where am I going to hang this up?”

“Ready for global warming?”

*A Photo from
Lynn's Friends*

Sweet!



The Lumberton Campus Chronicle is a monthly publication featuring articles, poems, and other works by residents of Medford Leas at Lumberton and other writers. Subject matter is not limited to our community; it only needs to make good reading for our residents. The date of each issue is timed to include the report of the Council meeting, which is held on the second Monday of the month. Next deadline for submissions is Friday, March 15. All residents and other interested parties are encouraged to contribute. Email your submission to the editor, hsheineman@gmail.com, with copies to ruthbgpersonal@comcast.net and vince267@gmail.com. **We cannot accept handwritten, typed, faxed, or printed copy.**

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