



APRIL 2013

*Notes from
Medford Leas at Lumberton*

*The
Lumberton
Community
Chronicle*

TRIVIAL TRIVIA

Americans consumed over 3.1 billion pounds of chocolate in 2001, which is almost half of the total world's production.

There are no natural lakes in Maryland. All are manmade by damming rivers.

Even after centuries of effort, some 86 percent of Earth's species have yet to be fully described.

COUNCIL REPORT

Vince Menzel

Council met on April 8. Beth Bogie, MLRA Council member, and Dave Bartram, Lumberton Technology Committee Chair, were welcomed. Minutes of the March meeting and the Treasurer's Report were approved.

The fundraising effort for the Lumberton Community Service Fund resulted in 80% of our residents contributing a total of \$4,010. Donations were apportioned as follows: EMT \$1,604, Fire Department \$802, Police Athletic League \$802, and the Burlington County Library \$802.

At a recent MLRA Council meeting, Miriam Swartz reported that the spraying of the Lumberton meadow went very well. There is however some remaining evidence of mugwort plants. These will be addressed as individual plants after July 4. The meadow will look barren this summer, as there will be no new plantings until the mugwort has been eliminated.



APRIL
FOOLS
DAY



Residents are reminded that the LLRA Annual Meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 7 at 7:00 p.m. Since there are currently 145 residents, 73 attendees or proxies will be needed at the meeting to vote for the new Council member candidates.

The *Presidents Perpetual Plaque*, displaying the engraved names and periods of service of all past presidents on a wooden plaque's plates, was shown by Don Kocher. The site of the plaque mounting will be determined. Total cost was \$77.

Dave Bartram reported on the Community Center copy machine. The current copier was obtained as a refurbished unit in June/July 2009. From July 2010 through February 2013, the copier has virtually paid for itself, as the paper and annual maintenance fees (the fee is currently \$440 per year) are almost totally offset by the nominal charges for private usage by residents of 10 cents per page. Although the current copier is not in need of immediate replacement, the issue will be discussed at the upcoming Council budget meeting on April 29.

The Shawnee students' day of service will be held April 19 from 9:00 a.m. to noon. A signup sheet will be available on the Community Center's bulletin board for residents to request assistance for home chores.

Residents are also reminded that they are responsible for contacting Shamrock to arrange for seasonal maintenance on their heating/cooling systems.

The next meeting will be on Monday, May 8, at 1:30 p.m.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Balance on February 28	\$4544.15
Income	3834.94
Expense	618.31
Balance on March 31	7760.78

Pete's Pick

CONFESSIONS OF A SOAP MAN

I suppose that one of the benefits of living in a community with other senior folk is that normalcy becomes blurred and if you cling to some peculiar or outdated habit you are likely to soon discover someone nearby who is equally as weird as you.

I have never thought it would be necessary for me to confess to anything like this, but an unfortunate incident last summer has brought me to this point. So I now seek the support of those of my readers who may understand and be sympathetic to my plight. And, perhaps, there may be one or two among you with the same problem.

You see, I am a soap man. That is to say that I have yet to embrace the new body washes, liquid soaps, and other sanitizers that Proctor and Gamble and all other purveyors of such products are now promoting to my children and grandchildren. For me, an old fashioned bar of soap still seems to work just fine. After all, isn't that what those indentations in your bathtub wall are designed to accommodate?

Oh yes, I recognize that I may be among a dying breed, as those newer products increasingly occupy more shelf space in our supermarkets and my product is becoming as scarce as the Ivory Baby in magazine ads. But still, we must ask, how a dutiful Mom can ever be capable of performing her moral duty on hearing her child utter his first dirty word if a bar of Lux isn't available to stick in his mouth for the ritual cleansing.

But I stray into painful childhood memories and must, as promised, relate to you the incident that has prompted my "outing."

It all took place last summer during an overnight visit by my nine year old

grandson, Sean. Sean is an ardent and accomplished fisherman. After digging worms in the garden, we headed off to the lake next to our property. The lake, incidentally, is loaded with sizeable largemouth bass, and that evening Sean landed quite a few of them. But Sean sometimes gets carried away in his fishing enthusiasm, and that evening he pursued several of the fish into the muck of the lake so that when we got home that evening he was soaked and muddy. I had him strip down in my garage and then ordered him to run bare butt to the shower. But after going to my fridge to pull a cold brew, I heard the shower turn off and Sean appeared dripping wet in my living room demanding: "Pop Pete, where's the body wash?"

"Body wash?" I screamed, "Real fisherman don't use body wash!"

Sean was then shoved back in the shower where he was introduced to soap in the bar form. Needless to say he wasn't happy. Nor was his mother (my daughter) when she returned, or for that matter his four aunts (also my daughters) when they learned of the incident. I was repeatedly lectured over the next several months about the new sanitizing technologies, etc. And sure enough, that Christmas the "man who has everything and wants nothing" was gifted with countless bottles, jars, tubes and pumping devices of that new stuff. I put one in the shower for future visits by Sean, but my cellar is now loaded with products I will never use. I was also bequeathed with what my children call "poofs" – those spongy things that they claim must replace my perfectly new and usable wash cloths.

And so, in barter, I am now offering one of the numerous bottles of body wash that are in my cellar for soap in its bar form that any of you may still have around. I'll even throw in a "poof" or two if you wish.

And should we discover that there are more than a few of us around these parts

who still cling to soap bars, perhaps some sort of Soap Person Support Group could be established to advocate against all those body wash folk who believe that their products are superior to ours.

—Pete McCord

BOOK CLUB

Barbara Lewis

For the past three months we have been discussing a varied selection of books at the regular monthly third Wednesday meetings at 2:00 p.m.

Simon Winchester's book: *A Crack in the Edge of the World*, has a subtitle: *America and the Great California Earthquake of 1906*. This is an unusual book filled with lots of amazing geological information, aided by Winchester's sense of humor. At one point, he started looking at Iceland's thermal situations and that led him eventually to the well-known California San Andreas Fault. His journey led him to many interesting places. Even with the heavy science, it turned out to be a marvelous discussion for us.

Lone Wolf by Jodi Picoult was a true change of pace for us. The book, based on the work of an Englishman who really did do it, was the story of a man who learned how to live with wolves. Beyond that strange occupation, the author also addresses what effect it has on the family (wife, two children) as they try to cope with a husband/father who prefers to be in the pack of wolves rather than in a human family. It was a well-researched book that captured our imagination.

Sara Gruen wrote a fascinating story, based in the Depression era, of a circus train, called *Water for Elephants*. The train was the home of the *Benzini Brothers Most Spectacular Show on Earth*. Do you remember as a child your first visit to the circus? It's all here in this book: the side-

show complete with freaks of all varieties, the smells of popcorn and cotton candy, the midway with games of chance, and of course the menagerie - with chimps, lions, tigers, and all the rest. The characters are well-defined, as are the trials and tribulations of a moveable world that is the circus. They have one-night stands all across the Midwest. Just think of the work of setting up and breaking down a circus every day. Last, but not least, you will meet the Ringmaster complete with his star-spangled outfit, and Rosie, the elephant. Enjoy!

ART GALLERY
Helen Vukasin



In the Art Gallery of the Lumberton Community Center, the fabulous photos of birds by Joseph Costanza will be mounted for the months of May and June. Joe is a resident of the Lumberton campus and an avid birder. He was trained and had a career as

an architect. Later he became an award-winning nature photographer.

Please join us for the opening wine and cheese reception on Friday, May 10 from 4 to 5:30 p.m. Joe will say a few words about his photos at 4:30 p.m.

The month of May will see a new exhibit in the Medford Leas Art Gallery by two distinguished local artists, Jane Gifford King and Carol Kirkwood. The show will open on Tuesday, May 7 with a reception from 3:00 to 4:30 p.m. The artists will speak about their work at 3:15 p.m.

Jane Gifford King studied at the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Art and the University of Pennsylvania. She earned a BFA from Moore College of Art. For many years she was an illustrator and graphic designer for Strawbridge and Clothier department stores. Ikebana, the art of Japanese floral design, is also one of her talents. She holds a degree of Teacher 3rd grade from the Sogetsu School of Ikebana. All of her professional experiences inform her current paintings.

Carol Kirkwood was born and educated in England. She earned a degree in fashion and textile design from the Leeds College of Arts. In the early '90s, she spent three years in Thailand and the unique landscape and culture inspired her to learn to paint. She studied with the renowned Thai watercolorist, Charlee Sudprasert. In 2001-02 she spent the year in Hanoi, Vietnam, where the unique architecture inspired some of her Asian paintings. In Philadelphia she studied Portraiture at Incamminati Studio which led to a current project doing a series of portraits of teenagers.

A small side bar to the main exhibit is the three pictures provided by the Orchard Friends School hanging in the hallway near the Poplar Room. Students challenged by learning differences that make their communication a daily struggle are saying "Here I am" as part of a project called "A Child's View from the Orchard." The

students were challenged to incorporate the concentric circles and lines of symmetry of Kandinsky and to explore the concept of negative space.

If you missed the busy opening of the Art Studio Gallery exhibit on April 29, all 27 artists' works are still showing for your pleasure for the next six months. Don't miss a stroll through the halls on the ground floor of the Arts and Social Wing.

MLRA PLANT SALE

Perry Krakora

Mark your calendars and welcome spring! The annual MLRA plant sale will be held on Thursday, May 9, in the Estaugh walkway from 8 a.m. until noon. Residents needing wheelchairs, scooters, or walkers may purchase plants the evening before, Wednesday, May 8, between 6:30 and 7:30 p.m. The sale will again have a wide variety of offerings, including beautiful hanging baskets, potted flowers, bedding plants, herbs, tomatoes and peppers. A contribution to the Employee Appreciation Fund is made from the proceeds of the plant sale.

To help out on either sale day, please call Elly Elmendorf at 654-3251.

TECH NOTES

Martin Klaver

from Martin's blog snr.tech.org



Which computer is easiest to use?

This question is often asked by those starting to use a computer or going back to a computer after a long time away from computers.

The question is really two questions. The first is what is easiest to learn to use and the second is what is easiest to use after you have learned.

Tablets are probably the easiest computers to use but do take some time to learn to use.

If you have familiarity with Windows or Macs, you might want to use a familiar version of these. You might want to avoid Windows 8 or XP and stick to Windows 7, but all Windows and Mac computers have problems. Both require maintenance and have limited support for seniors.

A better alternative than either would be the Chromebook, which resembles Windows or Mac and is more intuitive to use and more free of trouble than Windows. As for the Mac, it is a whole lot cheaper.

If you have an old Windows or Mac computer, it is even possible to make it work like either simply by plugging in a specially prepared USB stick with Zorin, which is free.

Even better, if you're daring, you could plug in a new \$60 so-called PC stick between a display or TV, and a keyboard, to create the latest least-cost PC. If you are comfortable with Android cell phones, or are a quick learner, this is the best and cheapest way to go. If you do that using a TV, you also get big screen access to all of the huge library of video and recorded TV on internet.

Now, once you have learned the basics, then the choices are different. Tablets are clearly the best choice for ease of use for access to information, while keyboard devices are better for document creation. The lowest cost keyboard device which requires the least learning and periodic maintenance would again be the Chromebook. (Chromebooks are totally

dependent on WiFi and require wireless printers.)

Tablets now start at \$150. For the long term, while tablets are the best choice for ease of use, they do require that initial learning. That learning is worthwhile in order to get the full benefits.

But if all you want is email and web browsing, a reasonable choice for someone starting back into using computers again would be the familiar looking least cost Chromebook laptop, and later a tablet. The high maintenance and cost of Windows and Macs would be avoided.

PICKUP DATES

Recycling: Mondays, May 13, 27

Trash: Tuesdays, May 7, 14, 21, 28

**CLASSIFIED ADS
FROM UK NEWSPAPERS**

FREE PUPPIES

1/2 Cocker Spaniel, 1/2 sneaky neighbour's dog.

FREE PUPPIES

Mother is a Kennel Club registered German Shepherd. Father is a Super Dog, able to leap tall fences in a single bound.

JOINING NUDIST COLONY

Must sell washer and dryer £100.

WEDDING DRESS FOR SALE

Worn once by mistake. Call Stephanie.

FOR SALE BY OWNER

Complete set of Encyclopaedia Britannica, 45 volumes. Excellent condition, £200 or best offer. No longer needed, got married, husband knows everything.

Thinker's Corner



Sudoku

Last month's puzzle *Clue:* Following every night for the next three months.

L	O	N	G	E	R	D	A	Y
R	G	Y	A	D	L	N	E	O
D	E	A	N	Y	O	R	L	G
A	L	E	D	R	G	Y	O	N
O	Y	G	L	A	N	E	D	R
N	D	R	E	O	Y	A	G	L
Y	N	D	O	L	E	G	R	A
G	A	L	R	N	D	O	Y	E
E	R	O	Y	G	A	L	N	D

Cartoons

This month's cartoon:



Write your caption:

“ _____ ”

Last month's cartoon:



Last month's captions:

“Whose turn is it to get me a glass of water?”

“I just had a dream that I was walking into your bedroom in the wee hours.”

“Hi. It's 3:00 a.m. I can't sleep. Do you want me to read you both a story?”

“Excuse me. I was just wondering what time we are getting up in the morning.”

“I thought I would open your door and leave the hall light on so you won't be afraid in the dark.”

“Do you want me to stand guard here all night to save you from the dragon?”

Riddles

What comes once in a minute, twice in a moment, but never in a thousand years?

Write your answer:

“ _____ ”

What year comes next in this sequence: 1973 1979 1987 1993 1997 1999

Write your answer:

“ _____ ”

What is in seasons, seconds, centuries and minutes but not in decades, years or days?

Write your answer:

“ _____ ”

A Photo from Lynn's Friends



1910 Ford

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, May 17. 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.**

Editor: Herb Heineman

Associate Editors: Ruth Gage, Vince Menzel

Front-Page Design: Lynn Ware

Photo Feature: Lynn Ware

Council: Janice Saibel, President

Printed by Minuteman Press, Berlin, NJ