

**JULY 2014**



**Notes from Medford Leas  
at Lumberton**

# The Lumberton Campus Chronicle

## **INDEPENDENCE DAY TRIVIA**

In 1778, General George Washington marked July 4 with a double ration of rum for his soldiers and an artillery salute. Across the Atlantic, ambassadors John Adams and Benjamin Franklin held a dinner for their fellow Americans in Paris.

Bitter rivals John Adams and Thomas Jefferson, the only signers of the Declaration later to serve as presidents, died hours apart on July 4, 1826, the 50th anniversary of the Declaration.

## **COUNCIL REPORT**

**John Speirs**

Jane Bartram reported that The Lumberton Campus Residents Association Activities Fund drive was successful, exceeding its goal. The MLRA Activities Fund goal of \$24,000 has not yet been reached, having received \$16,000 as of July 1.

The matter of estate sales at Medford Leas has been resolved. Medford Leas does not permit estate sales, or individual or community garage sales, on its two campuses. Options are:

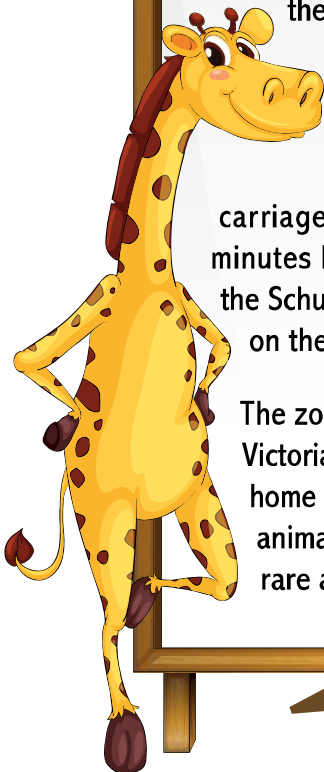
- Donate items to the Thrift Shop.
- Engage a business specializing in estate liquidation to estimate the value, then remove the items to an offsite location for disposition.
- Rent space at a local community garage sale.



The Philadelphia Zoo, the first zoo in America, opened its gates on July 1, 1874. There were more than 3,000 visitors, who paid 25 cents for adults and 10 cents for children, a rate that held for the next half century.

Visitors came on foot, on streetcars, by horse and carriage, and every 15 minutes by steamboat on the Schuylkill River, landing on the zoo's own wharf.

The zoo sits on a 42-acre Victorian garden, and is home to more than 1,300 animals, many of them rare and endangered.



Jane Weston, Director of Development and Community Relations, is finalizing plans for our meadow renovation project. The project has been discussed the past several months at Community Conversations and the Lumberton Campus Meeting with Administration in April.

Working with the Arboretum Subcommittee, Larry Weaner of Larry Weaner Landscape Associates has developed a proposal which the Committee has approved.

Work will begin soon on preparing the land for fall planting. As information and details come to fruition, Jane Weston will communicate details to the community via memo.

Good news on the home front! Most of the vacant units are spoken for; and with continuing marketing efforts, we may soon see a waiting list for Medford Leas at Lumberton.

We are nearing the long-awaited start of single stream recycling. On September 2, only one blue container will be placed curbside – the blue covered cart. Those residents anticipating a need for another cart may order it by September 1; it comes in three sizes. We will be notified in the future as to the disposal of the blue buckets.

Residents leaving on vacation should leave their containers at the front of their garage door days before scheduled trash or recycling collection, request the cluster leader or a neighbor to put them curbside on the appropriate day, and then return them to the front of the house.

The next Meeting with Administration is scheduled for Tuesday, October 7 at 7:00 p.m. in the Community Center.

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FINANCIAL UPDATE FOR JUNE

Balance on May 31	\$4232.56
Income	1426.50
Expenses	261.93
Balance on June 30	\$5397.13

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**MEET OUR NEW NEIGHBOR**

**Barbara Lewis**



Margaret Eysmans arrived at 15 Woodside Drive on April 1. New Jersey is definitely a change from Scottsdale, Arizona, where she previously lived for ten years.

Margaret is not a stranger to New Jersey. She was brought up in

Edgewater Park and Moorestown, and graduated from St. Mary's Hall in Burlington. She earned her BA from Defiance College in Ohio. She then moved on to receive her Master's Degree in Library Science, specializing in law, from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

Margaret started her career as a librarian with the law office of Morgan, Lewis & Bockius in Philadelphia. She then worked for law firms in San Francisco in the areas of library and records management. After retiring from the field of legal information management, she widened her career into property management and caring for the fiduciary needs of a disabled adult. She has also overseen the building and/or renovation of homes in the San Francisco Bay Area, Philadelphia, and Arizona.

Previously married, she and her husband amicably divorced some 20 years ago. She has a singer/songwriter son who still lives in Arizona.

Margaret attends services in Moorestown at Trinity Episcopal Church with her dad. She had become well-acquainted with Lumberton Leas when her parents, Mary and Julien Eysmans, lived here. She enjoys working with textiles and has already made window treatments for her living room and bedroom windows. She loves the space in her new home and the great view of the

meadow from her deck. The people who play bridge here have already welcomed her warmly; she also plays duplicate at the South Jersey Bridge Club in Cherry Hill.

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***Pete's Pick***

**THE MOCKINGBIRD ON MY ROOF**

I suppose my antipathy toward thievery might have had its derivations in my professional career. As a prosecuting attorney I spent over 30 years locking up those who stole the property of others. And so, perhaps, even now in retirement, my appreciation of the gentler world of avian friends still gives little tolerance to those who would purloin the sounds and voices of others.

In the avian world every bird – with the exception of the Mockingbird – has its own song. Through a process of rhythm and mnemonics I have been able to identify and commit to memory close to 100 different bird songs. The tiny Carolina Wren inhabiting the bushes along our perimeter path by the vegetable garden loudly proclaims “Tea-kettle, tea-kettle, tea-kettle, tea!” differing from the musical burst of the House Wren that sings its gurgling song from the roof at 64 Woodside Drive. In the dark woodlands along the Holly Trail I sometimes hear a winsome Wood Pewee sing its own name from high up in an oak: “pee-a-wee”. So too do other birds identify themselves to us by singing their own names. The Phoebe, sometimes seen on the garden fence self-identifies (“free-bee!”) before flying off to catch an insect. And so do the perky little chickadees in the bushes by the pumping station. Along the Willow Trail, the masked Yellowthroat Warbler sings “Withchity, witchity, withchity, witch!” while at the end of the Rancocas Trail by the creek, the Red-winged Blackbird loudly proclaims: “Konk-la ree!” In our meadow Eastern Bluebirds that

sometimes visit and wishfully sit on the boxes that they no longer choose as their homes sing a lilting and hopeful message for the future: “spring of the yee-aaar...”

This is not so, however, with the Mockingbird on my roof. He is neither lilting, nor lyrical, but rather a thief of the sounds he hears. At one time, he hears and mimics the sounds of the screeching brakes of the UPS truck that arrives early in the morning outside my house, and continues to do so throughout the entire day with a glee that only those who have no creativity or voice of their own could ever appreciate. On another day, he tries to mimic the lovely trill of the House Wren singing from the neighboring roof, but I am able to distinguish his mimicry through the occasional cackle that he adds at the end in seeming self-approbation over his felonious accomplishment. His harsh efforts in the evening to mimic the lovely and peaceful vesper song of the gentle robin perched in the maple in my backyard, is a brazen insult to the day's end and the comforting quietude of darkness.

But most disturbing is my resident Mockingbird's tendency to interrupt the nighttime peace with sudden vocal outbursts. As those who have experienced these birds in their own vicinity may have had misfortune to discover, mockingbirds become restless creatures during nighttime hours and often awaken in the middle of the night with memory of some stolen vocalization that they feel compelled to share with the rest of the world. This seems to be the case with my Mockingbird, who likes to recall the screeching of the brakes of the UPS truck at midnight. Often when I awaken to his screech I want to take a shoe and throw it at this creature and yell: “Be gone, you damn thief!” But I fear that to do so might prompt it to fly to my neighbor's roof and mimic my outburst. This could cause one of my neighbors to turn to the other and say: “Oh dear, should we call the police?”

But then the other might say: “No, I think it sounds a lot like Pete. I guess he’s just off on one of his toots again.”

—Pete McCord

## **CUBA REVISITED, A STEP BACK IN TIME**

**John Speirs**



Do you have a bucket list? One item on mine was to return to Cuba, which I had visited 57 years ago, an experience leaving a lasting impression.

Traveling to Cuba today for an American citizen is not easy. It requires a passport, a visa from the Cuban government, and an escort by a licensed agent recognized by the government for the purpose of people to people contact, including visits to cultural, educational and historic sites. The US Treasury Department’s Office of Foreign Asset Control (OFAC) requires each tourist to record his daily activities which are subject to review by OFAC for up to 5 years after the visit.

Cuba welcomes tourists from around the world, as it is a major revenue producer. No other country has any travel restrictions, so people travel to Cuba to play and spend, bringing home Cuban rum and cigars, plus other souvenirs. We were not allowed to do so; we were allowed to purchase only art, books and music.

Cuba is a small island – 776 miles long by 60 miles wide – with 11 million people, 2 million residing in Havana. Located 112

miles from Florida and 130 miles from Mexico, it is the gateway to the Caribbean.

When I was there in 1957 Batista was in power and Havana was a playground for Americans with gambling and drugs supported by the Mafia.

I remember seeing soldiers with machine guns patrolling to protect the tourists.

The Cuban Revolution began in January 1959 led by Fidel Castro and Che Guevara. With Batista out, thousands of wealthy Cubans moved to South Florida where they have been a force for Cuban independence for decades with ties to Washington DC.

In 1961 under JFK’s direction, 1400 Cuban exiles trained by the CIA attacked the island. I remember this well, as my reserve unit was called to active duty during the Cuban Missile crisis. There has been a US embargo in place since 1962 keeping Cuba isolated economically from our country.

Under Castro leadership and with no help from the US, the Soviet Union became their benefactor and trading partner until 1991 when the Cold War ended and the Russians left. This left Cuba in dire economic straits.

In order to survive, Cuba had to look elsewhere for assistance and this was evident on our tour by the presence of Russian cars and trucks and Chinese buses. An entire generation of Cubans has grown to mistrust and fear the US.

In 1961, Fidel Castro appeared before the UN Security Council and said that he would eliminate illiteracy within one year. He sent thousands of volunteers throughout Cuba teaching people to read. Today Cuban instructors travel the world teaching reading skills to developing countries.

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### **PROFOUND WORDS**

My spouse and I had words, but I didn't get to use mine.

Every morning is the dawn of a new error.

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## SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

Lynn Immendorf

### FOURTH OF JULY PICNIC



As residents gathered for the annual Fourth of July picnic, pinwheels lined the walk to the Community Center and the grills were ready to go. Everything looked very festive – tablecloths were red, white, and blue; there were fireworks on the napkins; and the centerpieces continued the theme. The mantel was decorated with flags and fireworks.

Everyone came bringing a dish to share. There were plenty of delicious items to choose from – appetizers, salads, and a variety of hot dishes. Then there was the dessert table with so many treats that it was difficult to make a selection.

After dinner Peggy Fiabane led a sing-along of patriotic songs with Tom Lang accompanying on the piano. Dave Bartram projected the lyrics on the screen for everyone to follow. Peggy arranged for lead singers to go to the tables and encourage singing; it was fun to join in. Many commented that it was a relaxing and enjoyable evening.

**Save the date:** On August 5, there will be a be Wild Wild West potluck dinner. More information will be coming soon.

## CLUSTERS

Catherine Sommi

**Cluster 7** held a reception on July 11 in the Community Center for Dr. Ben and Shirley Paradee, who were one of the first residents to move into Lumberton Leas. They moved to the Courts in Medford Leas at the end of June.

Champagne punch, fruit punch, and wine were served with many delicious hors d'oeuvres. In addition, coffee, tea and cookies were there for those with a sweet tooth.

Many residents spoke of their love for Ben and Shirley and how much they will be missed by our community. People told stories of Ben's dedication as a physician. Ben also spoke and touched all our hearts. We will all sorely miss them, but fortunately they are close enough to visit.

## LEAS FORUM

Barbara Trought

Programs will be presented in the Theater on Saturdays at 11 a.m.

### August 9

*“Unearthing Point Breeze, the Fabled Estate of Joseph Bonaparte”*

**Richard Veit, PhD.**, professor of Anthropology at Monmouth University, directs the team examining Joseph Bonaparte's Point Breeze estate in Bordentown. Here Bonaparte, the former king of Naples and Spain, built a pair of lavish houses and created elaborate gardens which were unparalleled in the region. Monmouth's scholars are revealing these forgotten landscapes using archaeological and geophysical investigations. The remains of Joseph's first mansion have been identified, as well as other landscape features including tunnels, paths, bridges, and wells. Taken together, they provide a

unique glimpse of the lifestyles of the rich and famous in 19th century New Jersey.

### August 23

Escape the heat and humidity inland; join **Harry Belangy** for a virtual vacation in Cape May. Historian for the Greater Cape May Historical Society, he will tell the stories of what some call “our nation’s oldest seashore resort”. He uses photographs of the Victorian era cottages, inns, and hotels, such as the Duke of Windsor and Chalfonte in the city’s Historic District. He’ll leave us in the 21st century while describing a few restoration projects in the District.

### September 13

#### *“Tibet Beyond the Himalayas”*

Enjoy an illustrated talk on the art and culture of Tibet by **John Brzostoski**, formerly Professor of Oriental Studies at the New School for Social Research in New York City. John’s background as curator of the Tibetan Collection, Riverside Museum, and consultant on the art of Tibet for the Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC; combined with seven trips to the Himalayas and four trips to Tibet for Chicago’s Field Museum, make his perspective unique.

### September 27

#### *“Around the World in 1910 – by Car!”*

Over a century ago, Harriet White Fisher, successful businesswoman and owner of Fisher & Norris Anvils in Trenton, purchased a 1909 Locomobile and financed a thirteen-month journey around the world. Mrs. Fisher was accompanied by Harold Brooks, her chauffeur/personal secretary, her maid, her butler, and Honk-Honk, a Boston Bull Terrier. Together they made this unique journey by motorcar from

Trenton to Europe, Africa, India, China, Japan, and finally from San Francisco back to Trenton. Granddaughter of Harold Brooks, **Rebecca Urban** will tell their tale using diaries, artifacts, and photos from the trip.

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### **PICKUP DATES – AUGUST**

*Recycling:* August 4, 18

*Trash:* August 5, 12, 19, 26

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### **ANNUAL REPORTS**

#### **RESIDENTS COUNCIL**

This has been a busy, interesting, and productive year for Medford Leas at Lumberton and the Council which represents its residents. It is fifteen years since the first “pioneers” moved onto Woodside Drive with the dust, dirt, and confusion of ongoing construction. The community has grown and matured in those years – the trees are bigger, our homes older and ready for some refurbishing, and the meadow ready for a redo. As CCRC indicates, some of our residents have moved on to the main campus and we welcome an influx of new and vital residents.

The Lumberton Residents Handbook revision was completed. After member and Council approval, it was distributed in February. Instead of the previous booklet, the format is 8 ½” x 11” sheets which go into the front of the Medford Leas Residents Handbook. The advantages are ease of revision and readily available access. Many thanks to Vince Menzel who led the Handbook Revision Committee and continues to monitor the Handbook for changes as necessary.

Our treasurer, Jane Bartram, conducted two successful fundraising campaigns. One

was the Lumberton Community Services Fund Drive, which supports the Lumberton EMT Squad, Lumberton Fire Department, Lumberton Police Athletic League, and the Burlington County Library Bookmobile.

The other was the Activities Fund which provides the monies needed by our committees during the year to fund our activities. A replacement copier designated fund has been established so that, when needed, the money will be available. During the holiday season we again collected items for Crossroads, a Burlington County program targeting at-risk youth.

We also supported the Employee Appreciation Fund for all Medford Leas employees. Lumberton residents are very generous, and your Council thanks you.

Single stream recycling, eagerly awaited, will begin September 1. All materials will then be placed in one cart. Residents can request a second cart. The contact number is 609-499-1001. Burlington County has frequent and well-publicized days for shredding and recycling of other items.

At Geno Mori's suggestion, a "Council's Corner" was established on the Community Bulletin Board. The monthly Council minutes are posted, allowing easy access to all residents.

There were five bimonthly Meetings with Administration. Jeremy Vickers and Bill Murphy have kept us up-to-date and well informed about the new construction and changes on the main campus. In addition, Jeremy presented a complete financial review of Medford Leas, and the finances are in excellent shape. Residents voiced their concerns about ongoing maintenance and updating here on Woodside Drive, particularly since we have reached our fifteenth anniversary. New move-ins have a complete update. Scheduling for deck replacement is underway and items such as water heaters and roofs are being monitored. The pool will have a makeover after this season. Larry Weaner, of Larry Weaner Landscape Design Services, has

been contracted to restore our meadow to the lovely and sustainable area we all envision. Ken Hutz, local arborist, will be doing all the pruning on our campus.

Three of our neighbors passed on and five moved to the main campus. But we welcomed twenty-two new residents bringing different talents, perspectives, and vigor to the community. Judy Aley, Conant Atwood, and Joe Jordan have been elected to serve on Council for the next two years. They join Bill Beitel, John Speirs, and Barbara Stiles. Geno Mori, Jim Suplee, and I are retiring. My personal thanks to each Council member, committee chair, committee member, and to each member of the community for your unwavering support. It has been my honor and pleasure to serve as your President these last two years.

Janice Saibel, Outgoing President

## COMMUNICATIONS

Below are reports from the other three chairs of our subcommittees and me. I would like to thank each of them and all the members of our respective teams for their efforts in seeing that information flows properly to ensure residents are kept abreast of happenings in our community. It has been rewarding to work with such dedicated and cheerful people. Thankfully, the chairs and their teams will remain intact during the coming year.

Vince Menzel, Chair

### *Campus Mail Subcommittee*

Just a reminder to all residents – I can only distribute those items given to me at the Medford Reception Desk. Some days the daily sick list has not been updated, as that can only come from an authorized person. I pick up the mail at least six days a week, and for many weeks on all seven days. Bob Rosvold helps each week and fills in when I am away. We are open to any suggestions that would help residents. I also place

posters in the Community Center that we receive from the Medford campus, and return them after the event has occurred.

Charlie Morrow, Chair

### *Chronicle Subcommittee*

The past year was my first as editor of our community's newsletter, which was so ably led by Herb Heineman for the previous ten years. Thankfully and fortunately, Herb and Ruth Gage have continued to share the work with me as associate editors, while Lynn Ware has also continued providing interesting front pages, photos, and articles. So it definitely has been business as usual.

*The Chronicle's* electronic version (available for the past 18 months) continues to be emailed to approximately half of Lumberton campus households, as well as a number of Medford campus readers. The number has been growing as new residents move in and established residents opt to convert. E-recipients enjoy benefits such as speed (beating print copy by up to a week) and color. Also, due to the email distribution, significant printing cost savings in our community's budget continue to be realized. Readers may sign up for an electronic copy at any time, so please consider doing so. If you would like to receive the latest copy by email just to see if you might like it delivered that way, simply contact Herb, Ruth, or me. Note to new residents – the smiley face stickers on our internal mailboxes indicate those households receiving electronic copies. They facilitate distribution of the newsletter to those preferring a print copy.

Vince Menzel, Editor

### *Clusters Subcommittee*

This was the year that the Lumberton Campus moved in 22 new residents, the most since it opened in 1999. In the last twelve months, thirteen units were

refreshed and made ready for their new residents to move into. It is a rare cluster that did not enjoy welcoming a new neighbor, or even two or three. Cluster leaders gladly mentored and introduced new residents to the community.

Not only did the cluster leaders help with questions such as when is trash picked up or whom do I call for help, but they planned some mighty good parties. This is our Lumberton Campus system working at its best.

And of course the fun part of the tasks – social events. Clusters came together to go to restaurants, the Shore, Grounds for Sculpture, Philadelphia, and several other locations. Dinners and get-togethers were held at several different homes. Introductions were made for new residents (some who are already taking on the roles of cluster leaders for the coming year) and goodbye to other residents who have moved to the main campus.

And we are making sure we are ready for several additional new residents who are scheduled to move into the community this coming year.

Judy Atwood, Cluster Coordinator

### *Resident Directory Subcommittee*

Our process has worked well over the past year. Six "new resident" items were prepared for *The Chronicle* – bios by Barbara Lewis and photos by Barbara Degler, which were then forwarded to Lynn Ware for formatting for the Resident Directory template. A color page was printed for the Master Resident Directory, which resides in the Community Center.

Following issuance of *The Chronicle*, copies of the Resident Directory page were distributed to all residents. Our copier's lighten/darken feature helped us achieve the best possible overall photo/text quality.

Residents can have an updated bio and/or photo published by emailing them



to Lynn Ware at lynnandridge@verizon.net. Requests will be handled on a best-effort basis – first come, first served. The new page will be inserted in the Master Directory and in the new residents' directories.

Mary Noll, Chair

## COMMUNITY CENTER

The Community Center is always a bustling spot, as we enjoy social contact, fitness, small group meetings, cluster parties, movies, seminars, and residents' private events.

Thank you to everyone who helps to keep the mailbox area uncluttered. Special thanks to Charlie and Shirley Morrow, who do a great job of maintaining the bulletin boards, supplying seasonal decoration and removing expired notices.

This year, the Social Committee voted to assume the responsibility of overseeing the kitchen and being financially responsible for the consumable items in the kitchen, i.e., coffee, tea, sugar, and dish detergent. They also help set up rules for the use of the tablecloths. The Community Center Committee will continue to oversee and take care of the physical aspect of the kitchen.

Medford Leas Administration conducts several programs for Pathways in the Great Room. We also regularly host the Boy Scouts, Cubbies, the Mt. Holly Garden Club, Friendship Force International, the Rancocas Conservancy, the Mystery Book Club, and the Natural Sciences Club. Thank you to Tom Krainik and his team for their fine work in keeping the calendars organized.

We were pleased to note that two of our local Scouts attained the rank of Eagle Scout; their celebrations were conducted in the Great Room in December and January.

The exterior staining of the building was done this year, and new tile work in the ground-level locker rooms is completed. Following the spring building audit,

Medford Leas ordered a new ice maker for the kitchen.

Special thanks to Debbie Lux of the Medford Leas Landscaping Department for the hanging flower baskets on our front porch. Thanks also to Ethel Cebra, Judy Aley and Lynn Immendorf for plant care in the summer months.

It has been my pleasure to serve as Community Center Chair; in the 2014-2015 year, Janice Saibel will join me as Co-chair.

Linda Gaylord, Chair

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### *Art Gallery Subcommittee*

The purpose of the Art Gallery Committee is to enhance the Community Center with fine art by residents and other local artists. The hallway leading to the Fitness Center has been established as a gallery. Artwork on loan has been hung in other areas of the center. During the past year, the following exhibits have been mounted in the gallery:

August-October: "Hanging Together", a group of five artists.

November-January: Janet Cebular, a fabric artist.

February-April: Artists from both Medford and Lumberton campuses.

May-July: Gianna Constantine's modern art with oils, and pen and ink sketches.

Eve Robinson, Chair

## LIBRARY

The nine-member committee met in May to cull the library of older books (copyrights 2004 and earlier) and to reorganize the nonfiction. Books removed from the collection will be donated insofar as possible. Video tapes were removed to be stored until the next Medford Leas Community Day. A few audio tapes and DVDs are available on the top shelf. The committee requests that jigsaw puzzles no longer be donated as space for them is

limited. During the year committee members process donations, shelve books and generally keep things in order.

A busy year for the library – over 600 books were borrowed and 116 donated by residents. It's a wonderful resource for the community.

Jean Ricketts, Chair

### *Book Club Subcommittee*

The Book Club at Lumberton includes people from both campuses. We meet every third Wednesday from October to June, except December. The conference room at the Community Center is the place from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. This report is to give you a quick sentence or two about the books we have read in this past year.

We read two classics this year. *Prin* by Vladimir Nabokov was our book in October. This dated story of a poor Russian professor who came to America and was a consistent loser. In May, the classic was *Journey to the Center of the Earth* by Jules Verne. We were surprised at author Verne – how well-traveled, well-read, and knowledgeable he was in science, geology, and personalities. In the book, a professor, his nephew, and an Icelandic guide have many adventures traveling down into a volcano to the “center of the Earth.”

November found us consumed by information on war and politics. Since we all lived through the Vietnam War era, this book, *The Nightingale's Song*, by Robert Tinberg, brought us to a stimulating conversation. We recommend it highly. Who was the Nightingale? Hmmm.

*Defending Jacob* by William Landay is the fictional story of a 14-year-old boy who is accused of murder. It includes his subsequent trial, and is a book with many questions and few answers. “Was Jacob indeed innocent?”

The *Gardens of Covington* by Jean Medlicott is the second of a three-part story of three women “of a certain age” who

decide to change their lives drastically. The three have different personalities and have had dissimilar life paths. Yet they form a family that works together to solve each other's worries. This is a light book with expected solutions, but enjoyable reading.

Helene Cooper's ancestors were part of a group of free African-Americans who took advantage of the offer to go back to their homeland in Africa in 1821. Many years later, Helene, her family, and assorted hangers-on are faced with the failure of the native Africans to agree to the former Americans running the government and becoming landowners in Liberia. *The House at Sugar Beach* is a fascinating story, well worth the time to read it.

In April we spent the meeting sharing books, articles, and authors that we are enjoying.

In June we read the 1977 reissued book, *I Capture the Castle*, by Dodie Smith. She wrote it originally in 1946. It is primarily the written journal of a 17-year-old girl who lives in a castle in Great Britain with her unusual family. This book led to a discussion of journaling, so popular nowadays, and simply writing in one of those 5-year diaries that used to be the rage for young girls. Dodie Smith captures the castle with vivid words and descriptions which made us laugh at times, and sigh at others. There is a copy in the Lumberton Library.

Over the summer we are reading *Gone With the Wind* by Margaret Mitchell. It will be our 2014-2015 classic. Join us when you are able.

Barbara Lewis, Chair

### **POOL AND FITNESS**

Both the outdoor pool and fitness areas saw increased activity throughout 2013-14, reflecting our greater resident numbers and a return to fully-staffed classes.

POOL: Pool class attendance in 2013 started slowly but increased in large part

thanks to our resident Ann Naulty's decision to put together an informal Saturday pool class. Her admirable efforts demonstrate how our community can adapt and act upon seemingly adverse situations. As for this year, we held our 11th Annual Polar Bear Dip despite chilly April temperatures, and looked forward to formal pool classes and water volleyball beginning in June. After the pool closes around Labor Day, major pool renovation is scheduled to begin.

**FITNESS:** New fitness equipment arrived in the fall of 2013, and Rick Trandahl provided hands-on training. Locker rooms have been renovated, and the exercise room tidied up with the removal of obsolete TVs and other equipment. Our fitness room was featured in the *Burlington County Times*. We have returned to three-day-a-week fitness classes with the arrival of Mark Labajo. Finally, the 7th Annual Ann Naulty Diner Walk was attended by residents of both campuses, with part of the proceeds going to the Reserve Fund.

Conant Atwood, Chair

## **SOCIAL ACTIVITIES**

Sizzling summer...patriotic picnics... reminiscing with old family pots, pans, and treasured recipes...bidding summer good-bye and welcoming fall...saluting the abundance of fall gardens...celebrating diverse December holidays with a catered cocktail party...calling all car owners... enjoying our salads, sandwiches, sweets, and songs of Rancocas Valley High School Chamber Choir and Women's Ensemble... solving celebrity mysteries...learning Burlington County history from Carol Suplee during the annual Spring Brunch in the Holly Room, all very much enjoyed this past year..

To create interesting, informal dining events while encouraging community interaction is a daring, fun assignment for the committee volunteers. Ten months of

the year a small subcommittee of two or three members choose a theme, design clever invitations (sometimes with Lynn Ware's expertise), and an eye-catching poster, decide appropriate decorations for the Great Room or Holly Room, designate a floor plan for food and guest tables to efficiently move 60 to 99 people about the room, and plan a program for the event. Listed above are the activities of the past season. How did we do?

In the past residents have enjoyed hearing about one another's life experiences, and potluck dinners have been the favorites, probably due to the delicious varieties of food generously shared by everyone. Early next season a community survey will be circulated by the committee to learn the current residents' preferences.

Twenty-six residents compose the committee which meets monthly. We are eager to add new members who bring helping hands, useful talents, and myriads of experiences to incorporate into events. Come join us!

The Social Activities Committee shares a \$1,500 budget with the Welcome and Kitchen Subcommittees. Biodegradable cups, bowls, glasses, and plates continue to be purchased in bulk for our events. Bill Murphy sends the Medford Leas work crew to set up and take down furniture at no cost to the committee.

Sue Kuhn, Chair

## **TECHNOLOGY**

The Technology Committee continued to provide support for electronic equipment at the Community Center for residents and outside groups. Included are copier, computer, printer, audiovisual equipment (including projector), and low vision equipment. Resident groups and events that were provided help included monthly Social Activities Committee events, cluster parties and movie nights, and the CEO's bi-monthly conversations.

Outside groups which received assistance include, among others: Friendship Force, Mount Holly Garden Club, Burlington County Natural Sciences Club, West Jersey Rose Society, and Rancocas Conservancy.

Dave Bartram, Chair

## TENNIS

As usual, the Lumberton campus tennis players joined forces with the Medford campus players for an active indoor winter season at Arrowhead Tennis Club in Medford. Sign-up emails were sent monthly to tennis players on both campuses for scheduling purposes; we had one or two courts filled on Tuesdays and Thursdays from November through March. The integrated program provided players from the two campuses the opportunity to become better acquainted with each other.

In April we began outdoor play at Lumberton on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. With the cool weather in April, we began play at 1:00 p.m.; in May, we began at 9:00 a.m. We continue to look forward to a good turnout from both campuses.

Lefty Alderfer, Chair

## TRAILS AND SITE

The entire Lumberton Campus is included in the Barton Arboretum and Nature Preserve. The Trails and Site Committee assists Medford Leas Administration in maintaining the campus in two ways: through resident volunteer work, and by bringing issues to the attention of management. Meeting the challenges of the site is a “work in process,” to adopt a phrase often, and aptly, used by Jane Weston, Director of Development and Community Relations, who is also the staff representative for the Arboretum Oversight Committee, a committee of the Estaugh Board.

During the past year, Medford Leas has hired three additional outside businesses to work on the Lumberton Campus. Ken Hutz is now taking care of the trees and bushes on this campus, including the foundation plantings. Larry Weaner, who has done an assessment of the meadow, made a formal proposal to the Arboretum Oversight Committee on June 18 concerning steps to be taken and their costs. Michael’s Country Nursery was given the job of dealing with the bamboo growing behind the pool, among other things.

As of last summer about a quarter of the trees on Woodside Drive have identification signs like those on the main campus. Kudos to Miriam Swartz for steering this project throughout – from advocacy through implementation.

Medford Leas routinely assists with the Community Garden – plowing and providing bales of straw. This year Ken Hutz pruned branches that were encroaching on the farm and last year the weed patch between the farm and the perimeter path was replaced by lawn.

The challenges of the perimeter path need to be dealt with. Because the path is the boundary between landscaped and natural areas and because of disturbance associated with construction of the path, the path is bordered by invasives: catbrier, honeysuckle, and bittersweet vines; various weeds including poison ivy; and opportunistic trees, including sassafras and ailanthus. A plan needs to be developed which spells out what volunteers are able to do, what Medford Leas will do, and what will be let go.

Resident volunteers on the Trails and Site Committee are Joyce Akerboom, Conant Atwood, Judy Atwood, Joe Costanza, Don Davis, Dino Fiabane, Art Hartwig, Davis Henderson, Maggie Heineman, Pete McCord, Judy Norcross, Pat Potts, John Speirs, and Miriam Swartz.

Maggie (that’s me) became Chair in July 2012, two months after joining the

committee. Mostly what I do is find out what the long-time members have been taking care of for years and write reports.

Miriam Swartz, who has 14 years of experience dealing with the challenges of the meadow, participates in the meetings between Medford Leas and the meadow consultant, Larry Weaner. Planning is being done now; the first planting will likely occur in the fall. While most of mugwort is now gone, there is still some in the meadow, alongside the perimeter path, and in residents' gardens. This summer Miriam, Judy Norcross, and Maggie will be using spray and clippers to make sure that, at the very least, none of it goes to seed.

Pete McCord and Don Davis are coordinators for the Community Garden, assigning plots and acting as liaisons to management.

Davis Henderson and Pete McCord replace fence rails and posts as needed. The materials are supplied by Medford Leas; Maggie removes catbrier and such from areas of the fence that need repair so that Davis and Pete can do their work.

Joyce Akerboom monitors the perimeter path. She weeds, sprays poison ivy, and notifies me of things that need to be brought to the attention of the maintenance department. She is also one of several committee members who have worked over the years, and again this year, on weeding the slope behind the path (near the pool) where invasives compete with daffodils and sedum. On our May 15 workday, Don Davis also trimmed the bushes in the rocks border behind the pool lawn and Davis Henderson worked on vines covering the rail fence.

I live near the bottom of the meadow and so I have made a project of keeping the drain and the gutter clear so that the retention basin empties out properly after a heavy rain. Recently students doing community service at Medford Leas did some gutter clearing with Miriam and Joe Costanza.

We led trail walks for members of the Rancocas Conservancy last fall and we were to have led a trail walks for Pathways this spring, but that was cancelled because the trails were under water. We have been scheduled by Pathways for a walk on October 11.

This year Art Hartwig and helpers Don Davis, Davis Henderson, Pete McCord, and Joe Costanza, have been working to stabilize bridges. It's an interesting technique – the decks of bridges rise during flooding and then can easily be reset between the posts when the water subsides.

Twice a year Judy Norcross and various helpers (Art Hartwig, Conant and Judy Atwood and other friends) do a creek cleanup to keep the channel clear for canoeing. This involves removal of grasses, logs, and tree branches.

And yes, the Trails and Site Committee does maintain trails. Judy Norcross (with help from Pat Potts) has placed freshly painted trail signs throughout the trail system. Clipping of branches, clearing of grasses, and spraying (especially of poison ivy) are done by many committee members on an ad hoc basis. Don Davis supplies wood chips and Art Hartwig uses a chain saw.

Art and Don have made an enormous contribution to our trail system over the years, both in time and expertise. We really do need new residents, younger residents, to join the committee. We especially need residents who will become apprentices to these two men.

Maggie Heineman, Chair

## **WOODSHOP**

The Woodshop has continued to be a busy place. Twelve projects for residents were completed between June 2013 and May 2014, generating deposits of over \$900. These projects included expert knife sharpening, lamp rewiring, chair and table



repairs, and support shelf construction and installation.

The highlight activity was the construction and installation of a large set of book-cases in the loft of one of the residents, all along one inside wall, approximately eighteen feet long.

This year we have been rearranging the layout of the equipment and workbenches in order to create more work space and improve access to all the equipment.

The local Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts have utilized our equipment and skills for cutting out racecar patterns for some of their activities. We used the power tools most of the time, except where the age and maturity of the child, as well as parental permission, allowed them to use the band-saw (with very close supervision by us).

In addition, we have supported the activities at Kirby's Mill including modifications to three showcases, demonstrations on the large wheel lathe and shaving horse techniques during Country Day at the Mill.

The Holiday Craft Fair was supported by the construction of wooden bowls, cutting boards, spreaders for dips, business card and napkin/letter holders, wine-cork trivets, and side/end tables.

It is worth noting that about 35 large bags of turnings and shavings were spread over the trails to retard weed growth and avoid adding to the local landfill. The Medford Leas Woodshop has also provided support for our trails by pointing handrail posts used on the bridges.

Our donation activities (funded primarily through craft item sales) included continuing support of the Reserve Fund at Medford Leas.

Art Hartwig, Chair

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# Thinkers' Corner



## Cartoons

This month's cartoon:



Write your caption:

“ \_\_\_\_\_ ”

Last month's cartoon:



*"Better watch out. There are cats up ahead."*

*"You're out way past your curfew."*

### *Do You Know?*

Although accused of Nazi associations during WWII, he served as Secretary-General of the United Nations from 1972-81, then was elected president of Austria in 1986. Who was he?

In the board game, Clue, which is the only weapon piece that stands upright?

The first time humans ever saw "it" was 1959, when a Russian satellite first photographed it. What was it?

*Answers next month*

Last month's captions:

*"You know you're supposed to do at least 40 on the Interstate."*

*"Where's your inspection sticker?"*

## *For the Eagle-eyed*

Last month's pair:



*Differences:*

Time on clock

Pin in woman's hair

Cabinet door knobs

Contents of cabinet shelf

Shape of mountain in wall picture

Photo on wall

Girl's tongue

Object in cat's left hand

Sock on girl's right foot

Shape of cookie in pan

Face on bottom shelf plate

Number of bananas

Collar of adult's shirt

Number of hand shapes left of pan

## *A Photo from Lynn's Friends*



Three's company

**Editor:**

Vince Menzel

**Associate Editors:**

Ruth Gage,  
Herb Heineman

**Cover Design and  
Photo Feature:**

Lynn Ware

**Council:**

John Speirs,  
President

***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 submission deadline is Friday, August 15. All residents and other interested parties are encouraged to contribute.

**Email** your submission to the editor, [vince267@gmail.com](mailto:vince267@gmail.com), with copies to the associates, [ruthbgpersonal@comcast.net](mailto:ruthbgpersonal@comcast.net) and [hsheineman@gmail.com](mailto:hsheineman@gmail.com).

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