

“Autumn is the hardest season.

The leaves are all falling, and they’re falling like
they’re falling in love with the ground.”

— Andrea Gibson

11-1 Edison invented the electric light bulb (1879)

11-2 In 1947 Howard Hughes flew his Spruce Goose about a mile at an altitude of about 70 feet. Costing \$25 million, the 200 ton plywood 8-engine Hercules, the world’s largest airplane was then retired.

11-4 Packard introduced (1939) first automobile radio. Using it required shutting off engine and disconnecting belt from compressor

11-12 Ellis Island immigration station closed (1954)

11-13 Holland Tunnel opened (1927)

11-17 *New York Weekly* publisher John Zenger was arrested (1734) and charged with libeling the colonial governor of New York. In his trial, held in August 1735, truth was successfully used as a defense against libel—an important first step toward freedom of the press in America.

11-18 Teddy Bear birthday (1902)

11-20 In 1789 New Jersey became the first state to ratify the Bill of Rights

11-22 Edison invented the phonograph (1877)

COUNCIL REPORT

Judy Aley

NO SKATEBOARDING, ROLLERBLADING, OR BICYCLING signs have been installed at both ends of our perimeter path.

The Meadow was planted on October 15 and October 20 thanks to Miriam Swartz and resident volunteers. Debbie Lux, the horticulturist from Medford Leas, and residents Gini Mutschler and Eileen McConville planted colorful plants near our entrance on Creek Road.

The building audit took place on October 20. Items addressed: the thermostat in the Great Room will be updated with a new programmable model; the kitchen range and chairs with bad seats will be replaced.

Peter Cohen, consultant working with Medford Leas on Strategic Planning, made a presentation to the MLRA Council on October 24. It was suggested to include residents in the brain storming sessions. A session is scheduled with the MLRA Council next week. The Resident Survey is part of this information gathering process.

The Council expressed concern about speeding on Woodside Drive. They encourage drivers to wear seat belts and remind walkers to watch for traffic before they walk.

Installing nesting boxes for bluebirds in the Meadow is of interest to residents. The supply of suitable wood is being checked.

The next Coffee with Administration will be on Tuesday, December 2.

THANK YOU

John Speirs

Thanks to Debbie Lux, horticulturist, and Eileen McConville and Gini Mutschler, long-time Lumberton residents, for all your efforts to beautify our campus with fall plantings. They are much appreciated.

FINANCIAL UPDATE FOR OCTOBER

Balance on September 30	\$4895.09
Income	27.90
Expenses	207.60
Balance on October 31	\$4715.39

MEET OUR NEW NEIGHBORS

Barbara Zimmerman

Editor's Note: The authorship of last month's "Meet Our New Neighbors" was incorrectly attributed to Barbara Lewis. The author was actually Barbara Zimmerman. Apologies to all for the oversight.



After a lot of looking and listening to their many friends, Herbert D. and Jean (Ers-kine) Thomas moved into 186 Woodside Drive. They had lived in Mt. Laurel for eighteen years and were ready for a smaller size home with mostly one-floor living. They confessed that they still have many boxes in the basement!

Both Jean and Herb were born in Newark, NJ and were raised and schooled in Kearny, NJ. When Herb graduated from Hobart College (with a BA in American history and education), he was drafted into the service (Korean War). Subsequent to that, both worked at the Fidelity Union Bank and met, quite by accident, while waiting for the bus! Herb was editor of the bank newspaper and Jean was a reporter. They married in 1956.

Working at the bank was *not* Herb's ideal position and when he was asked to inter-

view for a position at the General Theological Seminary of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Manhattan, he not only took the job, but stayed for 35 years. During this time he received his MA in higher education at NYU. A special honor of this career was his recognition as receiver of the *first* Clement Clarke Moore award, in 2003, for service contributions to the seminary and the church.

Their daughter, Elizabeth, and her husband, Jim Kehoe, live in Mt. Laurel. Liz is the owner of Thomas/Boyd Communications. Granddaughter Kristen is a senior at the University of Delaware.

Jean received her AAS degree from Essex County College and was a Physical Therapy assistant at St. Mary's Hospital in Passaic for 20 years. During her time there, she attended Caldwell University and received her BA in English (when she was 60!).

The Thomases have traveled extensively in Europe and in the US. They both love to read and have enjoyed sports in the past. Inside information reveals that soon there may be a modest basement layout of trains!

Living in Lumberton allows the Thomases to continue their participation in the Trinity Episcopal Church in Moorestown. They express a feeling of gratitude to be here in our community.



Ava (Aafje) van Baaren moved to 135 Woodside Drive at the beginning of September. She and her late husband, Gilbert, lived in Medford for 37 years, but drove

around our neighborhood and thought it looked a little like Holland with its peaked roofs! As you might have guessed, the lovely accent is from the Netherlands! The

van Baarens lived in the northwest part of the country near the North Sea.

Ava had been a teacher in her homeland (second and third grades), but when she and Gil arrived in Caldwell, NJ in 1962, her teaching degree from Alkmaar Teachers College was traded for a dental assistant position.

North Jersey became South Jersey when Gil worked as facilities manager for Lockheed Martin, Moorestown, for 20 years. Living in Medford allowed Ava time to work at the Medford Library for 10 years. She also volunteered at the Shawnee Library and for Interfaith Caregivers.

Two of our Lumberton Leas families, the Wythoffs and the Gyswyts, were already friends of the van Baarens. Ava and Antoinette (Wythoff) used to play four-handed piano together. These days Ava plays for her own pleasure.

A Rya rug depicting the Rune stone was handmade by Ava and hangs in her bedroom. There are lovely touches of family throughout the home. Plants ("if they grow") seem to thrive in her sun-flooded sunroom.

Ava has a son with four children in Pittsford, NY. She describes them as "a lively family"! A daughter who lives and works in Philadelphia has offered much help and advice about furnishing and decorating her new home.

Ava describes herself as a fan of "natural nature," so the pull toward living in an arboretum was perfect.

She loves the outdoors and has joined the Trails Committee.

She enjoys the physical beauty and friendliness of Lumberton Leas. She describes the reputation of Medford Leas as "unparalleled." While she is still deciding on various placements of handwork and pictures, Ava's home is a lovely combination of the past and present.

REMEMBERING OUR FRIEND**JUDY OBBARD**

Carol Ferraro



Lumberton Leas lost a precious jewel when Judy passed away. At the time of her death she was at her family home in Southwest Harbor, Maine. She leaves her husband, Pete, four children, and seven grandchildren.

Judy's family was very important to her, and she managed to stay close to her children and grandchildren across many miles. She was also the keeper of a great deal of family history. She traced her paternal side, the Rhoads family, back to Quakers who settled in Springfield Township, PA, in 1699. Her mother's family, the Eckfords, came from Mississippi. Her mother, an artist, painted and co-founded an artist studio group in 1936. Judy and Pete's home in Lumberton is full of family antiques and memorabilia.

Judy was a lively spirit with a great sense of humor. Her energy and enthusiasm carried over to those of us who had the opportunity to work with her, and many of us had a difficult time keeping up with her. She was a friend to everyone she met, willing to open her home and heart to many people. We all remember the first snowfall of each winter and the blizzard parties. According to Pete, these parties will continue!

Judy loved her family home in Maine, and was an active member of the community there. She was a master gardener, and she planned and helped plant the garden there. Two years ago, she decided to dig up a number of bulbs. After a summer of work, she ended up with more than a thousand and donated them all to others in her community. Here in Lumberton, we benefit

from the beautiful landscaping of the yard behind 139 Woodside Drive, also planned by Judy.

Judy would choose a task, plan it out in great detail, and then see it through to completion. This was particularly evident in her quilting work. This summer she completed a number of quilts. As recently as September she found time to instruct a neighbor who was learning how to quilt.

Judy served on the Estaugh Board for seven years in the late 1980s to early 1990s, having been recruited by the late Tak Moriuchi. She also served as the Clerk of the School Committee at Moorestown Friends School.

There are many descriptors for Judy – energetic, creative, passionate, gracious, loving. We will miss her very much.

Pete's Pick**CHANCE ENCOUNTERS**

This month I find myself reflecting a lot about life in Medford Leas and more particularly our separate yet quite attached life here on the Lumberton campus. I suppose that this is because, like many of you, I spent considerable time completing the survey that was sent to us. It was, I "strongly agree," a good exercise in assessing the various components of the experiences that enrich our lives. And the process that it required has helped me to now articulate a response to inquiries by curious friends on the outside about the ineffable quality of life that we experience in these parts.

Life at 79 Woodside Drive is indeed good. Like so many in our vicinage there had been a period of adjustment from the sadness surrounding the sudden death of a life companion and the solitude that was suddenly thrust upon me. But just as time's passage has a way of ameliorating the immediate bitterness of love's loss, so

too, has the resulting solitude offered opportunities to tap into unrealized and maybe even unappreciated personal resources. With five daughters and a busy professional life, solitude and silence were never a part of my past. Human engagement was always a sustaining force both at home and in my daily courtroom experience. But now, more frequently than not, I rise and go to bed in solitude. And while I still feel that human engagement is a preferable form of existence, I sometimes amaze myself in my ability to grow and be sustained in silence. Was it not Henry David Thoreau who once posited: "I have never found a companion as companionable as solitude"? Now I sometimes actually believe that in silence I can, perhaps for the first time in my life, actually hear my own thoughts. Maybe this is the Quaker experience that, unspoken, and certainly never proselytized by anyone that I have encountered here, is so fundamentally a component of what enriches us all in Medford Leas.

Yet while solitude exists in abundance in my new life, I am frequently reminded that its antithesis – companionship – exists just outside my door. Whether it be at one of our community suppers, a cluster gathering, the jocular frivolity at the Fitness Center, volunteer work on the main campus, or one of a plethora of entertainment and educational opportunities that our MLRA sponsors, the opportunities are limitless. But frequently, despite all of these artfully managed and well thought-out activities that life here affords, I find that it is the "chance encounters" that enrich my life.

So what, you might ask, are "chance encounters"?

Unfortunately, I myself am not exactly sure of what they are. But I will now try to explain – perhaps with an example.

I suppose a chance encounter does involve some randomness – something that

when you awake in the morning you do not expect to happen. But then on the flip side of the notion of "chance" there comes an element of risk – "taking the chance," or abandoning what has seemed the safer and more comfortable way that you have done things for maybe 60, 70, 80, or even 90 years of your lifetime.

And so back several years ago following the loss of my beloved Karen, I found myself alone, as I often was at that time, on one of our woodland trails experiencing the comfort of quiet and solitude that can only be encountered in communion with nature. "Yo-ho!" a bellicose, yet quite friendly voice, suddenly shouted out, shattering the silence and solitude. "Hope I haven't frightened what you were watching." He had, since at that moment I was watching through my binoculars an elusive wood duck that took off at his cry. But I was politic and told him that he had not. He was a new resident, one that I had not previously met, and after the customary introductions, I told him that he was the first human encounter I had experienced in my regular walks on the trails since moving into the community. I then asked him what brought him into the woodlands, and he explained to me his interest in botany. And so we ambled on, I showing him the birdlife that I know so well, and he the flora which, it became immediately obvious, he had studied well and was knowledgeable about.

And when our walk and digression into our lives in Medford Leas inevitably came to an end that morning, plans were made for additional walks. Since then there have been many more. And it was thus that a new friend and limitless opportunities were discovered.

I suppose that this is what I have referred to as a "chance encounter." Chance played its part, but so much more was gained that day that would not have been possible had not the chance been taken. And so for the opportunity that the

day provided as well as for bounteous opportunities in the days that followed that day, I now express my gratitude at this time of our Thanksgiving.

– Pete McCord

LEAS FORUM
Barbara Trought

Program will be presented in the Theater on Saturday at 11:00 a.m.

December 6

“Pinelands Today and Tomorrow”

Carleton Montgomery, Executive Director of the Pinelands Preservation Alliance, lays out challenges and opportunities for citizens who appreciate the unspoiled virtues of the Pine Barrens. Competing pressures from developers and other players in the economy continue to threaten this globally significant ecosystem. PPA is the only nongovernmental organization solely dedicated to the protection of the natural and cultural resources of New Jersey’s Pinelands.

**WELCOME RESIDENT ARTISTS
 OF THE ART STUDIO**
Helen Vukasin

At the Art Gallery in the Lumberton Community Center there will be a welcome return of the work of resident artists. The artist planning to exhibit for November through January was taken ill. The Art Studio group has agreed to step in and help by sharing some of their work with Lumberton. The show will be up from November 17 through January. Don’t miss it. Your neighbor may be one of the exhibitors.

December is the month that we welcome the Philadelphia Calligraphy Society to the Medford Leas Art Gallery. This tradition

started long ago in the 90s when renowned calligrapher and teacher Harry Forrest brought his own imaginative work and that of his promising students to share the Christmas Season with Medford Leas. At that time and for some twenty years, his wife, Lois Forrest, was the Executive Director of Medford Leas. Now the Forrests are residents, and Harry’s legacy to us has been the continued presence of the artists he mentored in Philadelphia.

Maureen Peters is the chair of the group, and she will be accompanied by other members of the Society at the opening reception on Tuesday, December 2, from 3:00 to 4:30 p.m. in the Gallery in the lobby of the Theater.

The opening of the resident exhibit in the Art Studio Gallery of paintings and photographs was an overwhelming success. Over one hundred visitors attended on October 27 for the art and photo exhibit and the homemade refreshments.

The addition of several distinguished new resident artists produced an upscale show. New resident Roberta Foss’ versatility with media and content created a lot of interest.

In the photographic section of the exhibit, the works of Ralph Berglund and Joe Costanza added a new quality.

Do not miss the show. It is located on the ground floor of the Arts and Recreation Wing.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

**Room Fills with Fun-loving,
 Costumed Diners**
Sue Kuhn



Many masks – colorful, funny, creative – adorned Halloween revelers for the late October fun Social Activities Committee dinner.

Buffet tables, resplendent with delicious, bountiful foods, stood in the Great Room decorated in bright autumn colors. Every seat was taken, and spirited conversation filled the evening. Community judges were immensely challenged in awarding prizes for the three most outstanding masks. The three prize winners were Peggy Fiabane for most comical because she was hilarious! Trish Mori was given the award as easily the most distinguished. Barbara and Chuck Lassen were recognized as the most creative attendees. Each winner received a \$5.00 ShopRite gift certificate.



Watch carefully for information about the popular Holiday Cocktail Party occurring in early December.

CLUSTERS
Claire Engle

Any day at Grounds for Sculpture is enjoyable, but the **Cluster 6** trip on November 12 to view the Michael Graves Exhibition was truly special. The large exhibition, which is housed in the Museum, Domestic Arts Building, and Welcome Center is a celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Michael Graves Design firm. Michael Graves is an artist, designer, and architect of extraordinary talent – a true visionary as well as a humanist whose primary concern is the people who will inhabit his buildings or interact with the objects he designs. His

designs are often a bit whimsical in nature and very colorful. On display were several design products sold at Target – toilet brush, telephone, clocks, toaster, chess set, and the famous Whistling Mickey teakettle.

Michael Graves became partially paralyzed in 2003 and began focusing on better designs of health care products. On display were colorful walking sticks and user-friendly bathing wands. He also designed patient room furniture for Stryker Medical with an eye toward solving problems such as the spread of infection, patient falls, and clinical back strain. On display was the award-winning ergonomic “Prime TC” chair designed for patient transport in hospitals, an outstanding piece of equipment. It would be nice to have a few available for use here at Medford Leas.

Twelve cluster members gathered for a delicious lunch at Rat’s Restaurant before heading back home. It was a perfect ending to a perfect day!

The Michael Graves Exhibit: Past as Prologue will be on exhibit at Grounds for Sculpture until April 5, 2015.

THE LUMBERTON MEADOW PLANTING PARTY
October 2014
Miriam Swartz



After spraying, mowing, spraying, and mowing again, the Meadow on the Lumberton campus was ready for planting.

The whole meadow was seeded with a great mix of grasses and wildflowers. The

seed was spread by hand. Using wet, shaved, wood pieces like ones used for gerbils or rabbit bedding, the small seeds, some as small as dust, were raked into and stuck to the shavings, making them easier to distributed evenly across the meadow, and the shavings being a light color helped the workmen to see the areas already seeded. Some areas were designated to have a special mix of seed with a higher concentration of showy plants.

Twenty residents with trowels in hand were ready to plant on Wednesday, October 15, a day ahead of schedule due to a predicted storm on Thursday. Rebecca with The Larry Weaner Associates, staked out where we were to plant with pink flags. The plantings were done in the already seeded areas. Cardinal flower, spiderwort and button snakeroot are among the plants that will produce tall drifts of color. We began on the southeast end of the Meadow with one more tall drift planted on the northwest side. There were hundreds of plants, but we accomplished our project for the day in two hours. The rain came and watered them all!

Monday morning, October 20, at 9:30 a.m., we met Rebecca once again to plant hundreds more plants in three more tall drifts on the west end of the meadow. Two areas were close to the perimeter walk, but one area down near the drainage ditch was puddly and very wet. The resident planters persevered and finished the whole planting project, planting rushes, irises, mallows, and other wet-loving plants right in the puddles. One resident remarked, "I have not played in the mud or made mud pies in a very long time."

Wooden stakes have replaced the pink flags; these will remind us where our many baby plants have been placed.

What comes next? One more spraying of the grass along the drainage ditch. This will be seeded with a low-growing, native

grass that will only need mowing a few times a year.

More than twenty-five residents in all participated in this Planting Party; many had recently moved into our community. Other residents were enthusiastic about the project and wanted to help but had commitments. We are all looking forward to a beautiful native wildflower meadow, knowing that it will take a couple of years for it to come to its full glory.

APPRECIATION FUND

John Speirs

At this holiday period when we think of sharing, please remember the Medford Leas employees who contribute to our lives on a daily basis. We are not permitted to tip for service in our community, so annually we are asked to show our appreciation.

The 2014 Employee Appreciation Fund is distributed to the staff on December 12, so if you have not made your contribution, please do so by Monday, December 1, by making a check payable to MLRA marked Appreciation Fund. Place the envelope in Charlie Morrow's box, # 23.

Contact your cluster leader with any questions regarding the program.

PICKUP DATES – DECEMBER

Recycling: December 8, 22

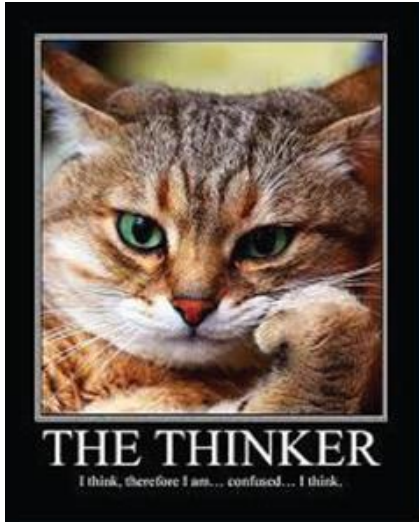
Trash: December 2, 9, 16, 23, 30



TRAGEDY STRIKES!

For all those residents who have encountered computer problems, be consoled! Your problems are nothing compared to the dilemma that has struck a well-known celebrity with such impact.

Thinker's Corner



Cartoons

This month's cartoon:



Write your caption:

“ _____ ”

Last month's cartoon:



Last month's captions:

(this cartoon evidently resonated with our readers)

“You can stop dieting now, your cholesterol is zero.”

“Come back in ten years for a follow-up.”

“Feel free to call me anytime you feel well.”

“What would you say if you were the doctor?”

“Does your wife know about this?”

“My accountant says it's not in my interest to give you a good prognosis. It has something to do with billing you according to how much longer you'll live.”

“I don't think it is anything serious, but just to be sure, I'm going to bill you as if it is.”

“If I tell you the truth, will you get angry with me?”

“If your wife was here, what would she say your problem is?”

“If you hurry, you can buy a lottery ticket before I admit you to the hospital later today. Maybe it will bring you some luck – you're going to need it.”

“Why do you ask if I have ever been wrong?”

“I don't have a clue what your diagnosis might be. Do you want me to give you a wild guess?”

What Do You Know About Queens?

Who is the first queen mentioned in recorded history?

Who was the queen who went to visit King Solomon in order to test his knowledge and wisdom?

Who was the only known female “emperor” of China?

Who was the Celtic queen in Britain who led a hard-fought uprising against the Roman occupiers?

Who was the Egyptian queen who, along with her husband, created a religious revolution by establishing the worship of only one god?

Who is known as “Queen of the Amazons” in Greek mythology?

What queen was the last of the Ptolemaic dynasty and liked to represent herself as the reincarnation of the Egyptian goddess, Isis?

What queen went on a crusade to the Holy Land with her husband?

What queen conspired in her husband’s murder and later became empress of all the Russias?

What queen was the only female ruler of the Hapsburg dominions and the mother of Marie Antoinette?

What queen, along with her husband, sponsored the voyages of Columbus and initiated the Spanish Inquisition?

Who has been the longest reigning queen of a Western kingdom until being challenged at the present time?

Who was queen of a small island kingdom that defeated the Spanish Armada and realigned the balance of world power?

Firsts.

Do You Know?

Who was the first US president born west of the Mississippi?

Answer: Herbert Hoover. 1874 in West Branch, Iowa

Who was the first woman pictured on a US postage stamp?

Answer: Martha Washington. The 8-cent stamp was issued in November 1902.

Who was the first African-American US television host?

Answer: Nat King Cole. “The Nat King Cole Show” in 1955.

Who was the world’s first billionaire?

Answer: John D. Rockefeller, achieving that status in 1916 largely through his ownership of Standard Oil.

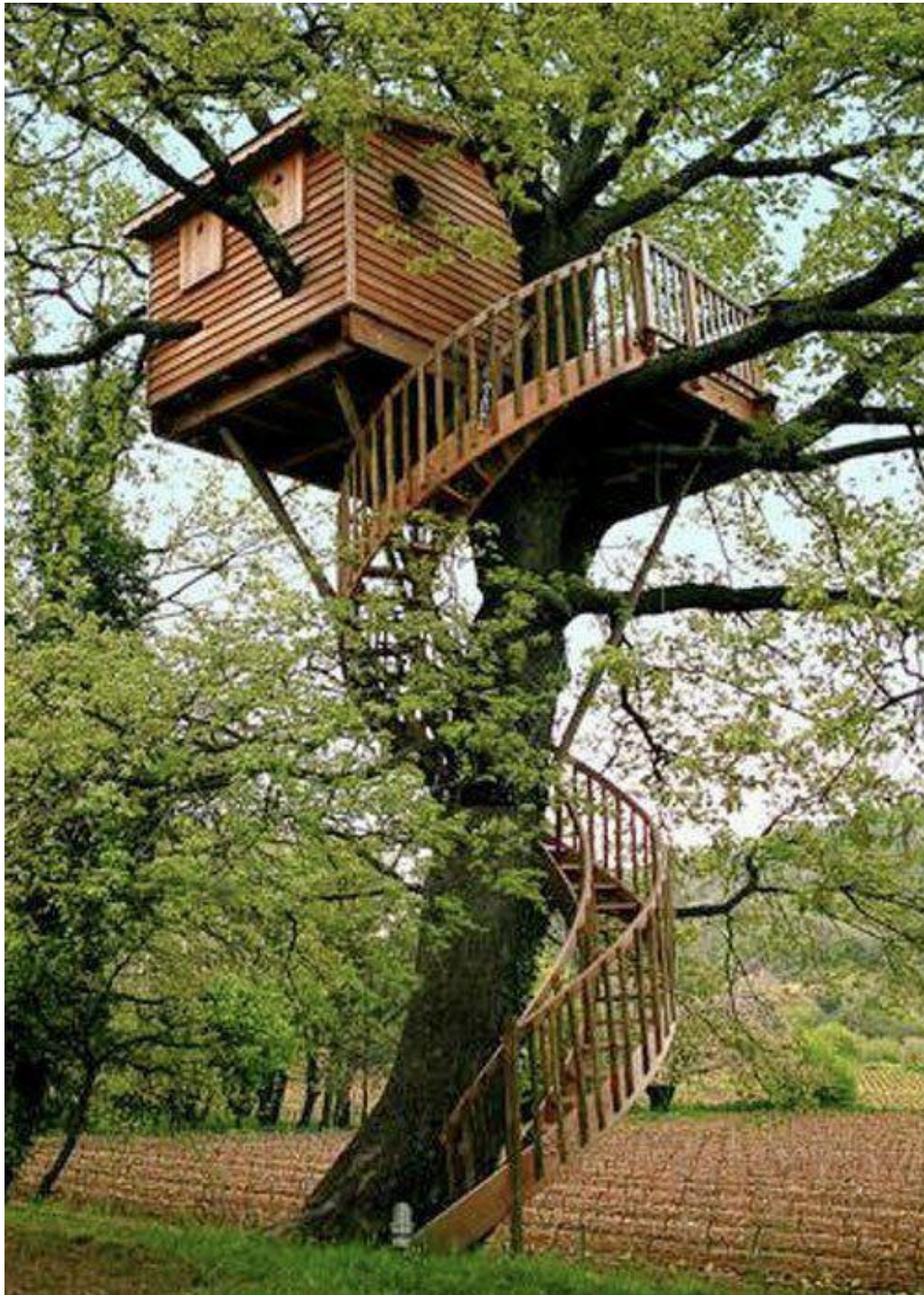
Who was the first Roman emperor?

Answer: Augustus, the first emperor, was careful to maintain the façade of republican rule, taking no specific title for his position, calling the concentration of magisterial power Princeps Senatus (the first man of the senate).

Which state was the first to secede from the Union?

Answer: South Carolina (seceded December 20, 1860).

A Photo from Lynn's Friends



Really High Living

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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, December 12. All residents and other interested parties are encouraged to contribute.

Email your submission to the editor, vince267@gmail.com, with copies to the associates, ruthbgpersonal@comcast.net and hsheineman@gmail.com.

We cannot accept handwritten, typed, faxed, or printed copy.

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