

The Lumberton Campus Chronicle

October 2015

*Notes from
Medford Leas
at Lumberton*

*32nd Annual
Cranberry Festival
Chatsworth, NJ*

*Saturday & Sunday
October 17-18, 2015*

THE LUMBERTON CAMPUS GOES NUTTY
Joyce Linda Sichel
Thanks to Jean Jordan for information

Have you not noticed a black walnut tree?
They're here on campus, bearing copiously.

The trees are tall, their canopies spread.
The golf ball fruit might find your head.

Or just litter the paths and countryside
with yellow husks, a shell and nut inside.

Removing layers takes forceful breaking.
Rewards might come in holiday baking.

Can you extract two halves unbroken?
You're awarded a Lumberton token.

At very steep prices in groceries,
let's gather more from Lumberton Leas.

Just watch your head, get shellers to help.
Don't eat a lot if you want to be svelte.

By request, this month features the Cranberry Festival in Chatsworth, a celebration of New Jersey's cranberry harvest. The third largest in the United States, it offers a tribute to the Pine Barrens and the local culture. In its 32nd year, the event is considered to be one of the best festivals in the mid-atlantic region. It is colorful and fun-filled, featuring food, music and a diverse showing of many arts and crafts.



The North American cranberry industry has a long and distinguished history. Native peoples used cranberries as food, to dye cloth, in ceremonies and medicinally. In New Jersey the Delaware Indians used them as peace symbols. They got their name, "crane berries," from the early German and Dutch settlers, who thought their blossoms resembled the neck and head of a crane.

COUNCIL REPORT

Al Migdal

Council met on October 12. Prior to the meeting, many residents had a recognition brunch with Barbara Degler to wish her well as she moves to the Medford campus.

The treasurer’s report was read; details are below. The Community Center’s Great Room and other spaces are in the discussion stages with the goal of creating better usage of community center space.

Bob Rosvold discussed possible changes to scheduling events at the Community Center, including taking advantage of the Medford front desk scheduling process. He will bring this to his committee for further clarification and will also discuss with Lisa Branagan.

Traffic concerns regarding the traffic signs at the entrance to the community are being discussed with the township as they are responsible for our road. The Woodshop building needs repairs; Joe Jordan will request a work order to get the needed work completed.

FINANCIAL UPDATE FOR SEPTEMBER

Balance on August 31	\$5449.89
Income	0.62
Expenses	106.58
Balance on September 30	\$5343.93

MEET OUR NEW NEIGHBORS

text by Barbara Zimmerman

photos by Joyce Koch



After living in many places of the world, William (Bill) and Evelyn (Goldsworthy) Rohmer settled at 148 Woodside Drive in August 2015. They love the open modern feeling of their new home with access to the walking path and the woods beyond.

With daughters in Australia, Canada and Lumberton, a move within this country seemed sensible and Medford Leas at Lumberton seemed perfect. They have many friends on both campuses. They had lived for thirteen years in North East, Maryland, with a summer home on the river. However, other addresses have included Trinidad, Canada, England, Bermuda, Australia, etc.

Both Evelyn and Bill were born in Ontario, Canada. They met and married while Bill was attending the University of Waterloo, Canada’s top engineering school. His work experiences started with Procter and Gamble and W.R. Grace, followed by a 25-year career with Campbell Soup Company. He began in their Toronto plant and was transferred to Camden headquarters, assigned to their international division. This involved travel and projects in many countries including the Far East. He had many other assignments in Champion Valley Farm’s pet food division and Campbell’s Australia.

Relocating so many times and managing three daughters severely tested Evelyn’s home management skills. She did find time to be involved in many women's groups and newcomers' clubs, and to become an active bridge player and golfer.

Evelyn was involved in the founding of Interfaith Caregivers in 1985, and also belonged to the Cooper Hospital Auxiliary in Moorestown and recently was a member of the North East Civic League. Both Rohmers are returning to Trinity Church in Moorestown, where Evelyn had been a parish visitor.

The Rohmers have four grandchildren and one great-grandchild, all living

abroad.

The well-equipped fitness center at Lumberton beckons to them both. Bill may explore his artistic talents, and we may expect to see Evelyn at the bridge table. Both are interested in gardening, travel, and reading, and look forward to becoming involved in campus activities for years to come.

REMEMBERING NANCY STEVENS, A DEAR FRIEND

text and photo by Claire Engle

Nancy pursued many avenues of interest during her lifetime in her quest for knowledge and the opportunity to explore a new and exciting world beyond Small Town, USA. As a graduate registered nurse from Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia, she practiced obstetrical nursing in Philadelphia and Whittier, California. She often recounted memories of those days to many of us here at Medford Leas. Eventually, Nancy worked as a research scientist at Smith Kline & French in their microbiology and virology laboratories. This is where, in 1960, I first met her. Over the past 45 years, we often had the opportunity to travel and to work together while pursuing advanced academic degrees. Nancy was awarded a scholarship from Smith Kline & French, enabling her to earn a bachelor of science degree from Douglass College with Phi Beta Kappa honors and subsequently to earn a master of science degree from the Institute of Microbiology at Rutgers. Her work experiences were varied and involved virus research, research planning, scientific information, and regu-



latory affairs dealing with the Food and Drug Administration in Washington, DC. Music was always an important part of her life as was her love of animals.

In August 2000, Nancy and I moved to Medford Leas at Lumberton with our two miniature black poodles, Sarah and Katy. Unsuccessful double knee surgery ultimately impacted her quality of life. Five years ago, with a further decline in her health and now requiring more care, Nancy moved to Assisted Living and ultimately to Estaugh. Despite her health issues, Nancy's long term memory was amazing. She remembered the words to all the "old time" popular songs, church hymns, and camp songs, and loved to sing along with the piano. She always placed first in the spelling bees held in Estaugh. Nancy preferred not to be alone and could often be found sitting outside the old Activities Room greeting everyone walking up and down the hallway. She might not remember their names or when she last saw them, but their understanding and friendship meant a great deal to her. Nancy passed away on September 11. She will be missed.

Pete's Pick

RULES

We are a community of rules. Seniors are quite good at making them—lots and lots of them. Appoint a bunch of earnest seniors to a committee, turn them loose, and they will think of all sorts of rules to cover an entire spectrum of eventualities that their vast life experiences might have encountered. And when you think that you have comported your behavior to all of the requirements, lo and behold a new group is appointed, and then more rules are created for you to learn.

When I first moved here, as a former “rule enforcer” of sorts in view of my prior life experience as a prosecuting attorney, I considered it my duty to attempt to familiarize myself with as many of our rules as possible. Back then there were three pages of “rules” for use of our Community Center which were tacked on the side of the mailboxes in the vestibule. And although I have never had occasion to use the Great Room, I spent many hours studying the rules, and trying to commit them to memory for such an eventuality. But after several years they yellowed and fell apart, and someone then removed them. I suspect that they still exist in some sheltered place, perhaps like our United States Constitution and Bill of Rights, safely ensconced in hermetically sealed cases for archival posterity. Someday I must try to find them to again familiarize myself with all of the requirements that responsible citizenship in this community seems to require.

This morning I was reminded of the complexity of all of our community’s rules when I walked around our pool, which is now drained and closed for the winter. Usually when I would go there during the summer I was aware that there were all manner of pool rules posted about in various locations. But because I would go there for the purpose of a swim, I usually left my eyeglasses at home and was thus unable to read the rules and to then attempt to commit them to memory. But this morning when I went there I had my eyeglasses in my pocket and was thus able to make some progress on that segment of our rules which I have heretofore been so negligent in mastering.

In case you have not previously noticed, many of our pool admonitions are written in very large lettering on a sign on the fence by the entrance gate before you enter. They tell you of “NO LIFEGUARD ON DUTY” and then warn you of no dogs,

glass containers, running, diving, etc. These I suspect are the “major rules,” and I suppose the pool-rule folks who at one time created them thought them important enough to let everyone know what they are before they enter the gate.

But once you pass through the gate and go to the area by the fence to turn on the switch that makes the spa bubble, there are a bunch of other—perhaps somewhat less critical—rules that those once empowered to create such regulations also felt the need to communicate. As with most of the rules that seniors create, they seem to reflect an attempt to cover every possible eventuality and bad thing that might happen in and around a swimming pool. They are far too extensive to cover in this brief column, but they include such admonitions as warning swimmers to tell one of the lifeguards (that the sign outside has already told us do not exist) if your child has what is euphemistically referred to as an “accident” in the pool because of a failure to use the bathroom in advance—which is another of the many admonitions that the pool-rule folk have spelled out for us. Similarly the sign goes on to warn of pool usage by anyone with any of a number of afflictions which are then listed with somewhat indelicate specificity. I find it difficult to understand why the ever so serious and cautious pool-rule folks felt it important to spell out “gastrointestinal” and “diarrhea” on their sign, and must further question whether a person in such apparent distress would ever want to spend their afternoon swimming about in a pool rather than staying, shall we say, closer to “home base.” The final admonition about swimming with any “communicable disease” also had me puzzled, and caused me to harken back to my army days when we were given our first weekend pass but only after being shown one of those military hygiene films about the horrors of what was then referred to as

“communicable diseases.” This got me speculating about whether septuagenarians, octogenarians and beyond actually have these “communicable diseases.” Maybe there are things going on in these parts that they didn’t dare to tell us about in the marketing literature.

Another of the rules prohibits pool usage by those under the influence of alcohol. But what are you supposed to do if you smell a bit of booze on the breath of the guy who is perched in the spa tub next to you? Do you summon the lifeguard that doesn’t exist? Or maybe you should call a Council member. But heck, I once served on Council and since we lack a drunk tank in our Community Center, certainly the last thing I would ever want is some lush sleeping off his ill effects on my couch.

Perhaps what we lack in these parts is a “cop” to enforce all of our many rules. But maybe that’s not the Quaker way of doing things, and I suppose that we have thus far done quite well without one. On the other hand, perhaps all that we really need is a “rule czar” to oversee—and to then curtail—the unrestrained enthusiasm of those who make up all of the rules that I have been struggling to understand and master.

—Pete McCord

**WATERCOLORS COMING TO
LUMBERTON ART GALLERY**
Joyce Linda Sichel

From the beginning of November through the end of January, one of our most talented resident artists, Marilyn Flagler, will be showing her watercolor paintings. Three of her paintings were selected for the just-concluded juried art show held in the Medford Leas Main Gallery. Marilyn has spent much of her

artistic life at the Jersey Shore on Long Beach Island. Her paintings reflect the light and colors of the shore, focusing on natural subjects and landscapes. A reception to open her show will take place on Friday, November 13, from 4:00 until 5:30 p.m. We thank the outgoing artist, Joanna Patterson, from whose photographs we derived much pleasure.

New shows are also coming to Medford Leas. In the Main Gallery, the South Jersey Camera Club will present photographs by many of their members through the month of November. Some of our Lumberton photographers will be represented in this annual show. In December, the annual calligraphy show offered by the Philadelphia Calligraphy Society (South Jersey Division) will take over the space. Their opening reception will be held outside the Theater on Tuesday, December 1, from 3:00 until 4:30 p.m. Perhaps they will again offer us complimentary holiday tags with personalized calligraphy.

Lastly, the Art Studio Gallery on the lower level at Medford Leas will have a change of artwork and photographs for the fall and winter. You will see several of your Lumberton neighbors showing their latest work, as well as many residents of Medford Leas. The opening reception for the show will take place in the Art Studio on the morning of November 2. As always when their works change, refreshments will be served.

“Being the richest man in the cemetery doesn’t matter to me ... Going to bed at night saying we’ve done something wonderful ... that’s what matters to me.”

—Steve Jobs

LEAS FORUM**Dorothy Cebula**

We encourage you to seek out these events to appreciate and enjoy this autumn.

Leas Forum programs are presented in the Medford Campus Theater on Saturdays at 11 a.m., and are free of charge.

November 14

The Study of the Civil War: From the Centennial to the Sesquicentennial

Dr. Daniel W. Crofts, a professor at the College of New Jersey, is an expert on the history of the Old South and the North-South sectional conflict that led to war. Author of five books on the subject, including *Lincoln's Other Thirteenth Amendment: Rewriting the Constitution to Conciliate the Slave South* (forthcoming in the spring 2016 from the University of North Carolina Press), Dr. Crofts will discuss how a knowledge of the Civil War era helps us to understand the country in which we live today.

November 28

A History of Inventing in New Jersey: From Thomas Edison to the Ice Cream Cone

Many people are familiar with Thomas Edison's "invention factory" in Menlo Park, NJ, where he patented the phonograph, the light bulb, and many other innovations. Local New Jersey inventors brought sound and music to movies and built the very first drive-in theater. Such treats as the first cultivated blueberry, ice cream cones, and M&Ms are also natives. Author and lifelong New Jersey resident **Linda J. Barth** will explore the many New Jersey inventors and innovators who have changed the lives of people around the world.

CLUSTERS**Joanne Thomas**

So far, the members of **Cluster 5** have had a busy couple of days in October. On October 1, co-cluster leaders Lynn Immen-dorf and Joanne Thomas hosted a wine and appetizer social to welcome Jack and Rumi Sinunu to 125 Woodside Drive. Since the Sinunus are from Moorestown, they have several friends on both campuses, and have felt warmly welcomed by their neighbors.

On October 12, these same co-cluster leaders offered an invitation to the rest of the community to join in a brunch at the Diamond Diner, where 35 residents met to express our best wishes to Barbara Degler, who will be moving to the Medford campus on October 22. A Lumberton resident for over 15 years, Barbara has volunteered in several areas—Council Treasurer, Social Activities Committee, Pool and Fitness Committee, and MLRA Thrift Shop. She and her beloved dog Casey also made many visits to Haddon residents.

**CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS FOR
HOLIDAY CRAFT FAIR
ROAD SIGN HELP
Dino Fiabane**

The ninth annual Medford Leas Holiday Craft Fair is scheduled for Saturday, December 5, in the Holly Room. The Craft Fair proceeds go to the very worthy Medford Leas Residents Assistance Fund. In past years, resident Art Hartwig has been a driving force in organizing all aspects of the Craft Fair, as well as participating as one of the premier crafters. The current co-chairs of the Holiday Craft Fair Committee are Maggie Heineman of the Lumberton campus and Janet Jackson-Gould of the Medford campus.

I have agreed to organize this year's Craft Fair road signs setup and takedown as I did in 2014. Robert Koch, Al Migdal, Jim MacIntyre, and Geno Mori have already agreed to serve on the road crew but we could use a lot of additional help, both on the road crews and as helpers at our Lumberton Campus Woodshop staging site. As is the custom at Medford Leas, volunteer events have a way of becoming social and friend-making events. This is no exception.

Here is a breakdown of tasks where volunteers are needed. Please think of how you prefer to help and contact Dino Fiabane at dfiabane@verizon.net or 609-265-1075 by November 18.

Craft Fair Road Signs Task List:

The two days prior to sign setup date (November 19 and 20) at the Lumberton Campus Woodshop:

- Clean and touch-up 43 signs.
- Change craft fair date on signs.
- Clean and repair 43 wooden sign-holder boards, if necessary.
- Clean dirt off 86 sign holder steel T-posts, touch up the white and dark green paint on posts, if necessary.
- Stage signs and tools in the Woodshop.

Sign Setup Date (November 21):

- At the Woodshop, help load signs, holder boards, steel T-posts, and tools into road crew volunteers' vehicles.

On the roads:

- Organize and direct the road crews to each sign location.
- Drive steel T-posts into ground, wire wooden sign holder boards into place, secure silk-screen sign to board with clear tape at each location.

- Gather tools and clean up each sign site.

Sign Takedown Date (December 6):

- On the roads, crews disassemble signs, pull up steel T-posts, load everything into volunteers' vehicles at each site.
- At the Lumberton Campus Woodshop, unload road crew vehicles, store signs and wooden holders on their high shelf, and store steel T-posts in their usual location until next year. Stow tools, sweep up dirt.
- Relax!

A HARVEST TIME INVITATION

Pete McCord

for the Trails and Site Committee

It's a short walk of about 500 yards, suitable for those with moderate walking ability and with adequate balance.

So if you want to thrill to the splendor of a crisp fall day and once again experience the childhood thrill of leaves crunching beneath your feet, try venturing down the Forrest Trail. You will find the entrance to this hidden gem roughly behind the Lassen/Hartwig residences at 92 and 96 Woodside Drive. The entrance to the trail, now marked by blooming white boneset flowers and a universal sign indicating "no bikes," will take you down about 50 feet below the perimeter path. You will be able to follow a trail through the woodlands that the Trail Committee has cleared and marked out for you. It follows roughly 25 yards from and parallel to the perimeter path so that you will never be out of sight from familiar rooftops. But yet on this short trail from the trailhead to the path back up which runs from a woodpile covered by a blue tarp, you will experience a sense of isolation while still staying comfortably close to our village. Towering

oaks rise majestically above you, at this time of year plopping their acorns into the creek and sometimes onto your head (no harm ever done!). Chipmunks and squirrels scurry about retrieving them while warily watching out for sharp shinned and Cooper's hawks anxious to pick them off. Be on the lookout for nuthatches, titmice, chickadees, Carolina Wrens, white throated sparrows, juncos, and woodpeckers (downy, hairy, and red-bellied). In the spring watch for vireos, flycatchers, tanagers, yellow-rumped warblers, and grosbeaks. And stop once in a while to listen for the winsome songs of the wood pewees that sing their own name, as well as the incredibly melodious and flute-like voices of the wood thrushes which nest in that vicinity.

If you go quietly, particularly in the early morning or evening, you will likely see deer on the ridge opposite the creek by the llama farm, and sometimes wild turkeys. Beaver often venture up the creek, and I have seen red fox, raccoons, and possum scrambling about looking for food along the creek bed. To excite your grandchildren, venture down to the creek and see if they can identify the many paw prints that you will find in the mud at low tide (deer, fox, beaver, squirrels, raccoons, possum and coyote). And gently turn over a log and see if you can find a red-tailed salamander or maybe a gentle garter snake (quite harmless, as are all reptiles in this vicinity).

There's a lot to tempt the adventurous at heart in these parts, whether they be 8 or 80. And you needn't be afraid on this trail, which is always within sight of familiar places. So why not give it a try?

Still wary of doing it by yourself? That's quite understandable, and should that be the case just give me a call and I'll meet you at the trailhead and we'll do it together!

WHO WANTS TO PLAY CHESS?

Herb Heineman

Keith Gyswyt and I used to play chess regularly one evening a week. But Keith is gone now, so I need a new partner. Would anyone like to take up this stimulating and enjoyable habit with me? I have all the equipment we need.

Please email me or call 609-518-8906 if you're interested. I hope to hear from at least one person, but if there are enough we could set up a group.

TENNIS ANYONE?

Vince Menzel

Tennis players from both campuses have been playing on the Lumberton campus courts since May. But with the colder weather approaching, play will now move indoors beginning in November.

Arrowhead Tennis Club in Medford has again confirmed our special arrangements, offering residents the opportunity to play regularly at the club without having to pay membership or guest fees, but only a court-time charge. Arrowhead is located on Nelson Drive off Stokes Road in Medford near Spotts Hardware and Garden Center. Specific playing arrangements will be the same as last season—playing doubles from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday each week from November through April.

Fun and exercise are the goals, while also providing players from both campuses the opportunity to become better acquainted with each other. So whether you have never played tennis, or played years ago, you'll be welcomed. Many of us never played until moving to Medford Leas, so feel free to give it a try. There's absolutely no pressure, but in addition to seeing good shots, be prepared for quite a few errant shots due to ever-present human error. If

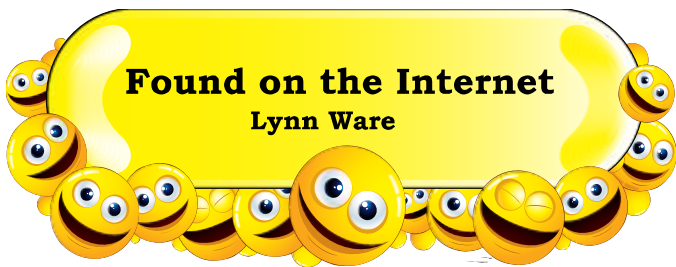
you need to borrow a racket to see if tennis is something you might enjoy, I am sure we can find an old one for you to use.

So, if you are interested in possibly playing indoors, please contact Lefty Alderfer at 609-267-7317 or Vince Menzel at 609-947-4886 for more information and scheduling details.

PICKUP DATES – NOVEMBER

Recycling: November 9, 23

Trash: November 3, 10, 17, 24



BUREAUCRACIES LIVE FOREVER

The US standard railroad gauge (distance between the rails) is 4 feet, 8.5 inches—an exceedingly odd number. Why was that gauge used? Because that's the way they built them in England, and English expatriates built the US railroads.

Why did the English build them that way? Because the first rail lines were built by the same people who built the pre-railroad tramways. And they used the same jigs and tools that they used for building wagons, which had that wheel spacing.

Wagon wheels using any other spacing would break on some of the old, long-distance roads in England, because that's the spacing of the wheel ruts.

So who built those old rutted roads? Imperial Rome built the first long-distance roads in Europe (and England) for their legions. The roads have been used ever since.

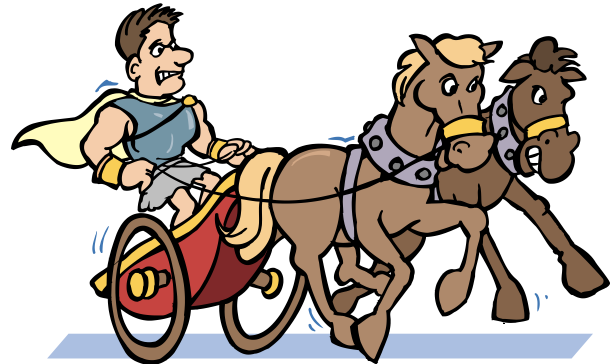
And the ruts in the roads? Roman war chariots formed the initial ruts, which everyone else had to match for fear of destroying their wagon wheels. (Since the chariots were made for Imperial Rome, they were all made alike in wheel spacing.)

Thus, the US standard railroad gauge of 4 feet, 8.5 inches is derived from the original specifications for an Imperial Rome war chariot.

The next time you are handed a specification and wonder what horse's patoot came up with it, you may be thinking exactly right, because Roman army chariots were made just wide enough to accommodate the back ends of two war horses!

Now, another twist to the story. When you see a space shuttle sitting on its launch pad, there are two big booster rockets attached to the sides of the main fuel tank.

Those are solid rocket boosters, or SRBs,



made by Thiokol at its factory in Utah. The engineers who designed the SRBs would have preferred to make them a bit fatter, but the SRBs had to be shipped by train to the launch site.

The railroad line from the factory happens to run through a tunnel in the mountains. The SRBs had to fit through that tunnel, which is slightly wider than the railroad track—and the railroad track is about as wide as two horses' behinds.

So, a major space shuttle design feature of what is arguably the world's most advanced transportation system was

determined over 2,000 years ago by the width of two horses' behinds.

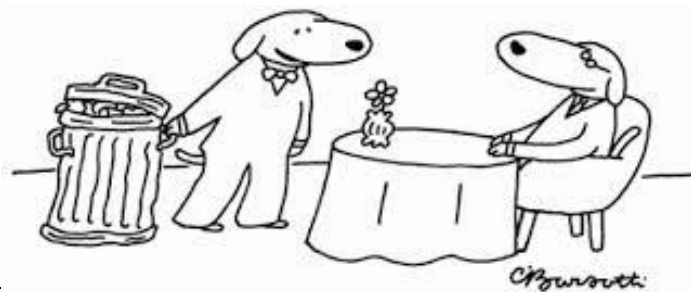
Does the statement, "We've always done it like that" ring any bells?

Thinker's Corner



Cartoons

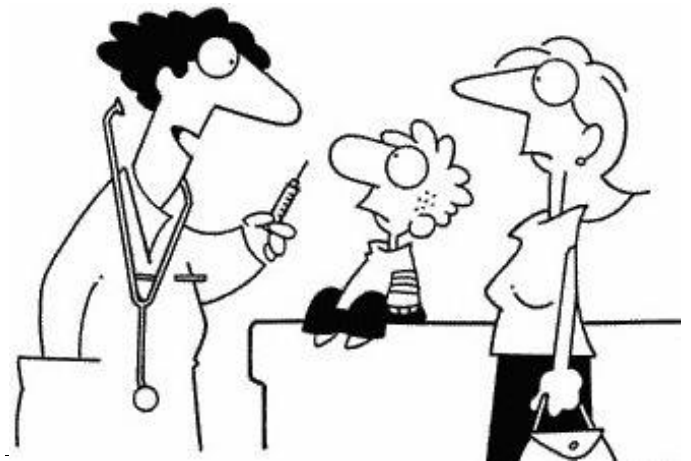
This month's cartoon:



Write your caption:

“ _____ ”

Last month's cartoon:



Last month's captions:

"Please don't worry; it only hurts badly for 30 seconds."

"This will be the first of four today, so get used to it."

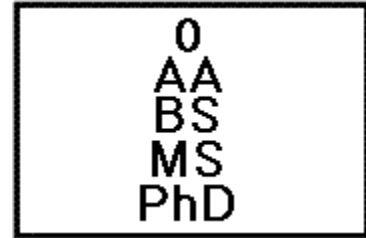
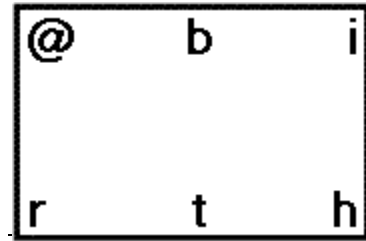
"Why do you ask if I have another one in my right pocket?"

"Did you just say, 'Let's postpone until next week?'"

"How about if you get to keep it when we're done? And there'll be another one every time you come back!"

Rebus Puzzles:





For the Eagle-Eyed



Solution to last month's challenge:

Tree branches at top

People on the path

An additional post under circular railing around globe

Absence of three rivets on the front of railing

Tall building at top left

Two cracks or seams in the concrete base: one in front of the tuft of grass, the other to the left of it.

Photos from Lynn's Friends



The High and Low of the Bay of Fundy
(Keep in mind when using a Lumberton campus canoe)

Editor:

Herb Heineman

Associate Editors:

Ruth Gage

Joanne Thomas

Vince Menzel

Cover Design:

Lynn Ware

Photo Feature:

Lynn Ware

Council:

Conant Atwood,
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, November 13. All residents and other interested parties are encouraged to contribute.

Email your submission to hsheineman@gmail.com, with copies to ruthbgpersonal@comcast.net, thomasjm@comcast.net, hehahn1@verizon.net, and vince267@gmail.com.

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