

September 2016

Notes from Medford Leas at Lumberton

AUTUMN IN SOUTH JERSEY

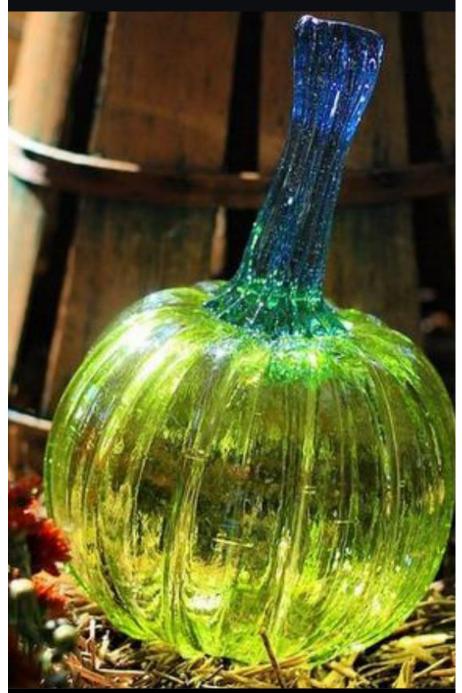
With school in full swing, and days "down the shore" waning, the fall festival season begins in September. There are many activities to enjoy, such as the **Atlantic City Seafood Festival** (September 12-13).

Depicted is the **Festival of Fine Crafts** at Wheaton Arts Center in Millville. More than 100 artists display and sell their unique creations: beautiful blown glass pieces, paintings, innovative wood sculptures, decorative ceramics, and novel jewelry. Included are artist demonstrations, hands-on family activities, specialty foods, and musical entertainment.

Millville was the center of the first glass industry in the nation. The **Museum of American Glass,** located on the Wheaton site, was built to preserve that history. The museum contains the most comprehensive collection of glass produced in America.

Many activities occur within a few minutes to a few hours from Lumberton, including the **Apple Festival at Kirby's Mill** (October 8), and several events at historic **Smithville Park** in Eastampton.

Festival of Fine Crafts October 1-2, 2016



"Hand-blown glass pumpkin shines in the afterrnoon at the Festival of Fine Crafts" -Keith Metzger

See more about year-round New Jersey events and activities at **www.visitnj.org**

COUNCIL REPORT John Sherry

Council met on September 12. A pending PIW, payment for water used for the community garden, was closed out. The installation of an electronic message board in the foyer of the community center is pending the completion of electrical work.

For safety reasons the lock on the woodshop door has been changed. To obtain a key to the woodshop please contact Art Hartwig. After the completion of a safety course the key will be issued.

Council is researching the history of the distribution of funds to the various agencies from the annual Community Services Fund Drive. A rebalancing of this distribution may be warranted.

A subcommittee of the Arboretum Oversight Committee is gathering information to clarify policy regarding the use of areas bordering the perimeter paths and within the meadow. They are also looking at resident plantings, use of flags, pot containers, statuary, utility boxes and disposal of gardening and trimming debris. It is anticipated that guidelines will be promulgated.

Important reminder: the next coffee with the Administration will be on October 18.

FINANCIAL UPDATE AS OF AUGUST 31

<u>Funds</u>	<u>Net Assets</u>
Activities Fund	\$ 6,755
Equipment Reserve	500
Community Services Fund	60
Total	\$ 7,315

WISDOM FROM THE GRID

Q. Why did the Nebraska linebacker steal a police car?

A. He saw "911" on the side and thought it was a Porsche.

MEET OUR NEW NEIGHBORS text by Barbara Zimmerman photos by Joyce Koch

Marge and Klaus Merkle

The Merkles moved to 144 WSD in June from Ridgewood, NJ, where they had lived for 37 years.



Acknowledging a need for downsizing and less upkeep, they began to look for a 55and-over community. Initial contact with Medford Leas was through Marketing's mailings. When they were able to attend a prospective residents' meeting, they were convinced that it was the place for them. And living in an arboretum sealed the deal!

They enjoy all levels of their home with office on the lower level and TV room upstairs. Lovely paintings in the living room area were done by Klaus's father, who was a commercial artist.

Klaus came to the United States from Metzingen, a small town in Germany, at the age of 18. He joined his brother, who helped with the formalities. An early graphic arts job was soon followed by the National Guard, where he spent four years. Some years later, Klaus and three others formed their own company, Marke Communications, on Madison Avenue, New York. Many of us probably had catalogs from this direct response agency. Marge hails from Scotland and arrived in Riverside, CT, as an *au pair* for a (too) lively family of five. This was short-lived and she went to New York City as an executive secretary. She later worked for A. C. Nielsen Company in their food and drug division prior to the birth of their three sons.

The two met at The Lorelei, a German beer hall in New York. After dating for a few years, they were married in Marge's homeland of Scotland.

A "Medford Leas moment" occurred when a fellow resident at the main campus introduced Marge to Mary McKillop. It turned out that Marge and Mary are both from the same small town, Helensburgh, Scotland. Surely many get-togethers will be in their future.

The Merkles' sons all live relatively close: Craig in Newton, NJ, Jeffrey and his wife and their two sons in Blairstown, NJ, and Stephen, who will marry this fall, in Brooklyn, NY.

Marge is the gardener, while Klaus does the shrubbery. Their work awaits! Klaus isy also a member of the trails committee. So far, they've enjoyed some of the many social activities of our Lumberton campus.

Louisa Wright Khanlian

Louisa moved to 92 WSD in July from nearby Moorestown. Her parents, "Tommy"



Harold Wright, and had been residents on the main campus for several years and she was a frequent visitor. An additional connection was that her father had once worked for Lew Barton and was a business partner of Tak Moriuchi for many years.

She especially loves her sunroom and deck, both of which look out onto tree-lined paths.

Louisa was born in Philadelphia and grew up in Moorestown. She attended Moorestown Friends School and graduated from Earlham College with a BA in psychology/family relations. She later earned a M.Ed. degree from Temple University

Her eclectic career took her from social work to guidance counselor. She was laid off after one year and found a twenty-year stint as a technical writer, writing computer software manuals and doing user training.

Son David teaches fourth grade at Kirby's Mill Elementary School in Medford. The grandchildren will be frequent Lumberton visitors. Her other son, Jonathan, an actuary, lives in Jersey City and works in New York.

Lovely period furniture from her parents and grandparents graces her home. The pewter atop her kitchen cabinets belonged to her grandmother.

Louisa belongs to Moorestown Monthly Meeting and is on "lots" of committees there. In the past, she has volunteered for the board of the League of Women Voters, Moorestown Friends School committee, CONTACT of Burlington County, STEM (Save the Environment in Moorestown), the Democratic Committee of Burlington County, and the board of Cadbury Continuing Care at Home.

She expects to attend exercise and yoga classes here on the Lumberton campus and would also be interested in ballroom dancing. Travel and gardening are on her short list of things to do.

WISDOM FROM THE YOUNGER SET

Q. What happens on a date?

A. On the first date, they just tell each other lies and that usually gets them interested enough to go for a second date.

–Martin, age 10

Pete's Pick

SUMMER'S END

Perhaps by the very title of this month's "Pick" I have needlessly raised my readership's expectations for something profound and pithy about the end of summer. So let me now apologize for what follows. You see, there is a lot of ambivalence at play within my innermost psyche about the loss of summertime's carefree disorder and the necessary return to a more disciplined lifestyle that inevitably will follow. Probably much of this turmoil relates to recurrent boyhood memories of this time of year that invariably find Tommy O'Connor and me idly sitting on the front stoop of my Germantown home. Like two condemned prisoners on death row, we are counting the days and hours until future pedagogical discipline exorcises the demons of our free spirits and bring an end to our carefree davs.

But in juxtaposition to these nightmares from a boyhood long past is my present life in retirement with its seemingly endless carefree days, in which I frequently experience frustration with how slowly things seem to evolve about me. Baseball, which formerly occupied the summertime days of Tommy and me, now often bores me with its slow pace. I shudder as I watch my beloved Yankees play the dreaded Red Sox while an overpaid pitcher dawdles between pitches, first tugging at his cap, then picking up the rosin bag and later limply throwing over to first base, while the batter leaves the box and scratches a body part that in my playing days we were forbidden to touch. Three hours later I watch in disgust as the Sox prance off the field after bringing the game to a victorious conclusion for their fans with a tenth inning walk-off home run. Movies, too, I have decided, are much too long. Last week I went to a $2\frac{1}{2}$ -hour show with my grandson, and couldn't wait to escape from the air-conditioned box in which we were required to sit and get back into the searing August afternoon sun. Then there are the books that I read. A 992-page tome about President Truman is much too long. I think even old Harry would agree with that.

Everything about me seems to be screaming: "Get on with it!"

And yet I sense—and indeed know all too well after spending more than 75 years spinning about on this planet—that change is imminent. I see flashes of red and orange in the trees of our woodlands, and the nights have become much cooler. In a week NFL football returns with games that, unlike baseball, are timed. Soon I will receive excited calls from my grandchildren telling me about their first day at school. The hummingbirds that I now feed from my hand will depart for their slow journey south, and my birding skills will once again be challenged as I watch the migration of warblers with their confusing fall plumage. Dinnertime will require that I turn on the kitchen light, and I will swap my shorts and T-shirts for blue jeans and flannel shirts. The withering tomato plants that I put in in May will be pulled and their cages will be put in the shed until next spring. Snow will fall and after a bit of excitement over the stillness and beauty of winter I will leaf through my Burpee catalog and dream of spring and the garden I will plant.

Perhaps the wisdom of Ecclesiastes—"to every thing there is a season"—which is too often reserved only for our weddings and funerals, deserves greater contemplation. Time and seasonality do have their place in the greater scheme of life. Perhaps my impatience about how slowly matters now seem to evolve about me also deserves new perspective. But is that not the opportunity that life in retirement—and more particularly life here in a thriving senior community—have so generously afforded me?

-Pete McCord

BOOK CLUB Barbara Lewis

At a meeting this summer, several members of the Book Club discussed selections for 2016-2017. I am including here a list for you to peruse. Also, we decided that since there were so many books, and not enough meeting dates, to add a group that we recommend to you for some further good reading. There are so many good books out, I'm sure there are still many not on this list. We all have different favorites and differing tastes in good writing. However, we'd love to hear from you about marvelous books that you've read and we'll pass that on to our members at our regular meetings.

Here's the list:

- October 19: A Spool of Blue Thread by Anne Tyler
- November 16: LaRose by Louise Erdrich
- January 18: *Two Years, Eight Months, and Twenty-eight Nights* by Salman Rushdie
- February 15: *The Care and Management of Lies* by Jacqueline Winspear
- March 15: *The Rosie Project* by Graeme Simsion
- April 19:Between the World and Me by
Ta-Nehisi Coates

May 17 is our sharing literature meeting; and on June 23, our classic for this year, the incomparable *Alice in Wonderland* by Lewis Carroll.

Recommended books include:

From Fright to Fight to Farm: a Journey of Survival by our own Ernest Kaufman The Boys in the Boat by Daniel James Brown

Being Mortal by Atul Gawande Crazy Rich Asians by Kevin Kwan First Women by Kate Anderson Brower The Things They Carried by Tim O'Brien.

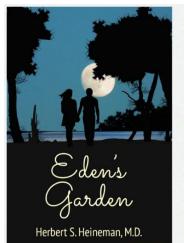
Here's to good reading all around!

A NOVEL GOES ONLINE

Herb Heineman's novel *Eden's Garden* is now accessible online. Please visit:

www.herbheineman.com

You will find the following "cover" (larger and more legible) on the home page:



When a horrendous and totally preventable tragedy—the death of their teenage daughter Eden—befalls the Averys, they have good reason to file a lawsuit. Karen, herself a lawyer, seeks a court victory more for its therapeutic value than for the money, but Alan, a physician, resists, because unforgotten, damning events in his past are sure to be brought out at trial. Unbeknownst to both, the responsible intern's conscience leads him to prescribe such severe self-punishment that a trial would never take place.

As parents and intern each suffer their grief, anger, and guilt in isolation, healing comes about through the pastoral skill and goodwill of a Roman Catholic priest and the love of a Jewish college freshman, who together show the sufferers the way to a reconciliation far more meaningful and far sweeter than revenge.

A PIANO EXCHANGE Joanne Thomas and John Welch

John Welch and Gerry Stride worked out the details of an event that took place on August 30.

The background is that a better piano was needed in the Linden Room at Medford Leas, and the Story and Clark piano that was located in our Community Center has been moved to that room.

One benefit of moving this piano to the Linden Room is that somewhat less piano relocating is involved there. Even though the Story and Clark has good metal wheels, they are small and the front legs are somewhat fragile, so that moving involves some risk of damage to the instrument. In addition, Joanne Bryan, the Medford Leas resident who originally donated the piano, is pleased to have it moved where she can see it, hear it, and even play it herself!

The Lumberton Campus Chronicle

The Community Center now houses a professional-quality institutional (church) model Yamaha piano that features four sets of double rubber-wheeled casters, which allow for easier moving with less marring to the floor, as well as sturdy front legs that pose less risk to the piano.

This piano was originally a gift from John to his ex-wife and their children. She is currently downsizing and no longer needs it. However, it needs tuning, cleaning of its interior mechanisms, regulating, and freeing of one sticking note. John will tend to those needs and continue to keep both pianos in tune and working properly.



Gerry Stride's office will cover the moving costs.

ART GALLERY NEWS Joyce Linda Sichel

Both campuses will be overflowing with fresh and imaginative artistic offerings. The Main Gallery outside the Theater on the Medford campus displays a solo show of collages and other mixed media works by artist Deborah Pey.

After a career spent teaching art in elementary schools, Deborah has become especially involved in paper-making and collage assemblages. For those attending her opening reception in September, she demonstrated the use of pulp, water and a screen to produce richly textured papers. She also dips threads into the pulp and adds purchased papers, and paper lace, embossing with objects, acrylic paint and colored pencils to make her exciting pictures. We have chosen to show you a photo of her work titled *Purple Mountains*.



The show will continue until the end of October and you won't want to miss it.

The halls outside the Art Studio on the lower level of the Arts and Social Wing on the Medford campus will be filled with more autumn and winter delights. Many resident artists and photographers will be opening their new biennial show on October 24 at 10 a.m. in the Art Studio with refreshments.

My works will also be featured including the picture displayed on the invitation. The photo of this colored pencil work titled "Orchid Medley" is shown here.



As usual, these shows will span a wide range of subjects and media sure to be enjoyed by viewers.

Art by a small group of Art Studio participants featured last month in this column will continue to be shown on the walls of the Lumberton campus Community Center until the end of October.

CLUSTER 6 LUNCHEON Evelyn Rohmer

On August 23, cluster 6 met at Ginger Restaurant for a lunch to meet our new neighbors, Judith and Ken Fenimore and Klaus and Marge Merkle. Cora Lee Page came from the shore with her 9-year old granddaughter, Sam, who kept us entertained with her many fun comments. It was also good to see everyone back from vacation. Eighteen of us enjoyed an interesting and delicious variety of Asian cuisine, starting with a variety of soups and spring rolls. We then passed around an array of scrumptious dishes, including beef, pork, seafood, chicken, and fried rice, followed by watermelon and, of course, fortune cookies. We had a lot of laughs reading the fortunes; many were apropos!

All members of our cluster have contributed to the assembly of the "Games" theme basket for the Golf Outing in October. Eve Robinson was pleased with our selections, from bridge cards to puzzles, and a variety of recently issued games.

We are looking forward to more events in the autumn, and will be planning our Holiday Party in December.

FREE GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP COMING TO LUMBERTON Joyce Linda Sichel

A series of eight weekly support group sessions will begin in the conference room at the Community Center on October 19. Intended for those needing help to deal with a loved one's past or coming death, the Visiting Nurse Association (VNA) of Moorestown will offer 1½-hour group meetings led by a social worker on Wednesday mornings from 10:30 a.m. to noon. Any residents interested should contact Cathy Martin, our Social Worker, at (609-654-3119) or at cathymartin@medfordleas.net.

The groups will also be open to residents of the main campus and to some community members screened by the social workers.

LABOR DAY TAILGATE POTLUCK text by Davis Henderson photos by Joyce Koch

The weather "experts" had predicted intermittent rainsqualls and high winds from the backwash of Hurricane Hermine for Labor Day, September 5. But that was not enough to stop 76 Lumberton Leas residents and friends. They came to the Community Center porch, fired up the grills and started cooking their Fenway Franks, bratwursts and burgers. Savory smoke was everywhere. Others arrived with splendid salads and tempting desserts. In fact, the skies were clear and the breezes were gentle. It was perfect weather for a Labor Day potluck.



Rookie party organizers Conant Atwood, Geno Mori, John Speirs, Lefty Alderfer and Davis Henderson, under the watchful eyes of the Social Activities Committee, orchestrated a tailgate-themed event. "Mantel Man," John Speirs, with input and help from Kathy Riley and Judy Norcross, decorated the Great Room mantel with team jerseys, a *real pick-up tailgate*, bags of "guy" snacks and picnic gear. The individual tables were covered with the sports sections from newspapers and miniature model cars. Many of the attendees sported the attire of their favorite team.



There was much friendly conversation recounting the events and travels of the past summer. Some folks thought they were detecting hints of fall. And many said they were bracing themselves for the final weeks of the Presidential campaign. Attendees were reminded that the next potluck is Tuesday, October 25, when we celebrate Oktoberfest.

The event ended with a moment of silence and a request to the men in attendance to consider organizing the Labor Day potluck next year. Maybe a "man cave" theme with a panel discussion on why we feel we are not from Mars?

Courage is what it takes to stand up and speak; courage is also what it takes to sit down and listen.

—Winston Churchill

COOL HAND UKES SET NEW TREND Carol Suplee

Q: Is a G-string really proper at a Medford Leas at Lumberton affair? A: Tsk, tsk. Seems that way.

Let's face it. The G-string is definitely "trending" here—along with the C-string, Estring and A-string. And, make no mistake, there are more people involved in this string affair than you might think. Blame Conant Atwood. He is responsible and he, with no sense of shame, happily admits that his class of Cool Hand Ukes (the ukulele band on campus) has been actively and publicly engaged in that "string thing" since the spring.

Under Conant's patient tutelage, the musicians, representing varying stages of expertise and experience, surprised themselves (and the community) when they played their first gig at the Leas Luau in August. In Hawaiian shirts, leis and muumuus, the ukers' repertoire perfectly fit the occasion. With the big screen showing the words (and chords just in case) the well-fed crowd sang along to Tiny Bubbles, Blue Hawaii, and the beloved Aloha Oe. Resident and Cool Hand Uke member Marty Smith gave a visual presentation of Hawaiian music and dance groups on the big screen, embellished with her own memories of time in Hawaii.

The history of the group has been previously well publicized in *Medford Leas Life*. The beginnings were humble, as is Conant about his status as a world-class ukulele maestro. Wife Judy describes Conant's relationship to ukulele playing as his "love affair." So now it's out in the open.

When word got out that he was involved in an outside ukulele group that actually played for audiences, folks in these parts began to come out of the shadows. They've been dusting off old ukes (or buying new ones) and showing up at the Wednesday 3:30 p.m. sessions in the Great Room. The number is still growing. So find a ukulele with a tuneful set of strings, and join in the fun.

LEAS FORUM PROGRAMS IN OCTOBER Len and Dorothy Cebula

From the baseball diamond to the world's largest wetlands, this month's programs tap a wide range of interests.

Both programs will be held in the Medford Leas Theater on Saturdays at 11:00 a.m.

October 8

Becoming American: Baseball's Place in the Assimilation of Immigrants

Dr. Stanton Green uses his dynamic approach to look at the long-standing issue of incorporating newcomers into our society. His presentation looks at the way our national sport helped to embrace people from other cultures over the years. We are delighted to note that this program is funded by the Horizons Speakers Bureau of the New Jersey Council for the Humanities, a state partner of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

October 22

Exploring the Brazilian Pantanal

Photojournalist **Joanna Patterson** will return to Medford Leas with her latest slideshow presentation of award-winning photographs. An expedition to these massive Brazilian wetlands allowed her the opportunity to photograph jaguar, the almost-extinct Caiman, and close to 1,000 species of birds that inhabit the area.

CHRONICLE PHOTO FEATURE

Residents in the Contilia Retirement Group in Essen, Germany, published a calendar with seniors recreating famous movie scenes. The shoot was done with professional stylists and photographers. The Chronicle Photo Feature will periodically include one of the months (not necessarily the month of the current issue).

> **JANUARY** James Bond



Wilhelm Buiting, 89

ANNUAL TICKET AUCTION SEEKS DONATIONS Janet Jackson-Gould

Downsizing and wondering what to do with Aunt Tillie's crystal vase? Or just moving in and lacking a space for that pretty pottery piece you bought in New Mexico? Well, John Speirs is collecting donations for the Holiday Craft Fair auction and welcomes contributions.

Last year the auction raised a nice sum for the Residents Assistance Fund. Top "sellers" included an antique Swiss music box, a stunning pair of large Murano glass bookends, framed paintings, photos, wooden trays, cutting boards, a Waterford crystal eagle, and decorative and useful treasures in glass, ceramic, metal and wood. John says we only have limited space for 25 unique and beautiful objects. So dig out your would-be donation and call John at 609-267-2482 to set up a visit.

This event was successful last year because of the generous donations made by Medford and Lumberton residents. Please help it surpass that benchmark in 2016 by contributing an eye-catching item from your own home.

Thinker's Corner



Cartoons

This month's cartoon:



Write your caption:

Last month's cartoon:



Last month's captions:

"No! The rattling hasn't died down any."

"Do I hear a murmur?"

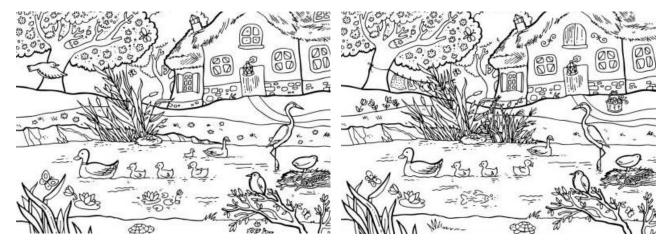
"You have a dirty mind."

"What does this have to do with my rash?"

"You are the proctologist, aren't you?" "OF COURSE IT HURTS!!!"



Find at least 14 differences

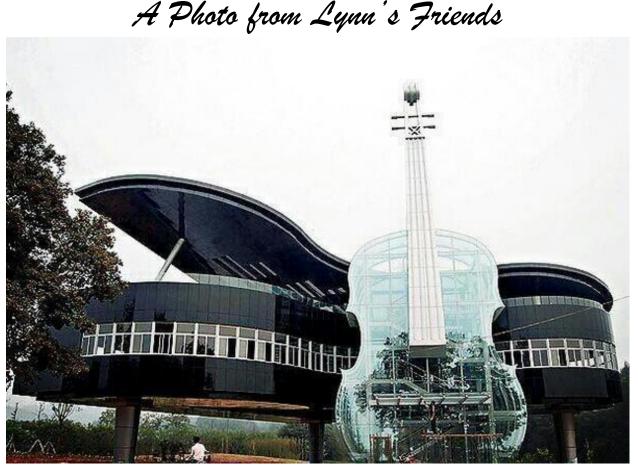


- 1. Bird in front of tree is missing in right drawing.
- 2. Circular prints on the pathway are missing in the right drawing.
- 3. Flowers appear above this path in the right drawing.
- 4. Farthest duck is minus her duckling in the right drawing.
- 5. Clothesline with laundry attached to tree suddenly appears in right drawing.
- 6. Tall bird changes direction in right drawing.
- 7. Last duckling of three changes direction in right drawing.
- 8. Butterfly in lower left leaves changes direction in right drawing.
- 9. Turtle in lower center advances to the right in right drawing.
- 10. Turtle changes direction in right drawing.
- 11. Blades of grass in front of turtle are in back of turtle in left drawing.
- 12. Second-floor window is shuttered in right drawing.
- 13. Bucket of flowers/water appears in right drawing.
- 14. Metalwork on sides of shutters in right drawing.
- 15. Fish between bank and ducks.
- 16. Larger tuft of grass on far bank in right drawing.
- 17. Flowers on near side of tree trunk.

Maybe more.

This month's riddles

- 1. What can travel around the world while staying in a corner?
- 2. What has a head and a tail, but no body?
- 3. What gets wetter and wetter the more it dries?
- 4. What kind of room has no doors or windows?
- 5. What gets broken without being held?
- 6. Which word in the dictionary is spelled incorrectly?
- 7. Feed me and I live, yet give me a drink of water and I die? What am I?
- 8. How many of each species did Moses take on the ark?
- 9. Forward I am heavy, but backward I am not. What am I?
- 10. Take off my skin—I won't cry, but you will. What am I?



A conservatory of music in China

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Photo Feature: Lynn Ware

<u>Council</u>: Dino Fiabane, 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, October 14. All residents and other interested parties are encouraged to contribute.

Email your submission to <u>thomasjm@comcast.net</u> with copies to: <u>ruthbgpersonal@comcast.net</u>, <u>hehahn1@verizon.net</u>, <u>hsheineman@gmail.com</u>, and <u>vince267@gmail.com</u>. **We cannot accept handwritten, typed, faxed, or printed copy**.

Printed by Minuteman Press, Berlin, NJ