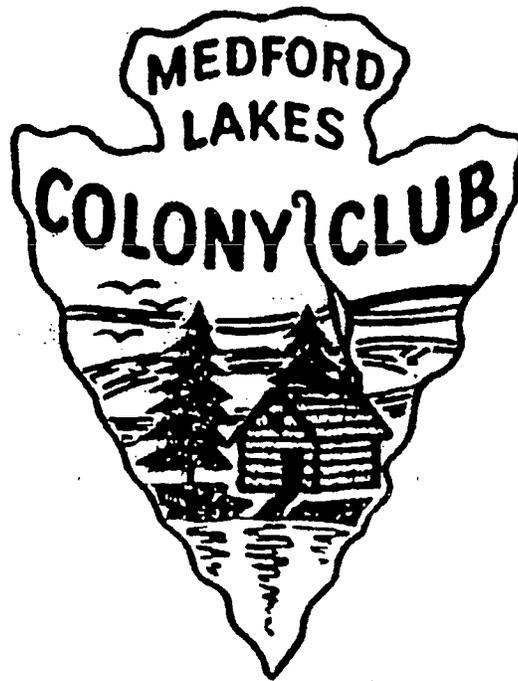
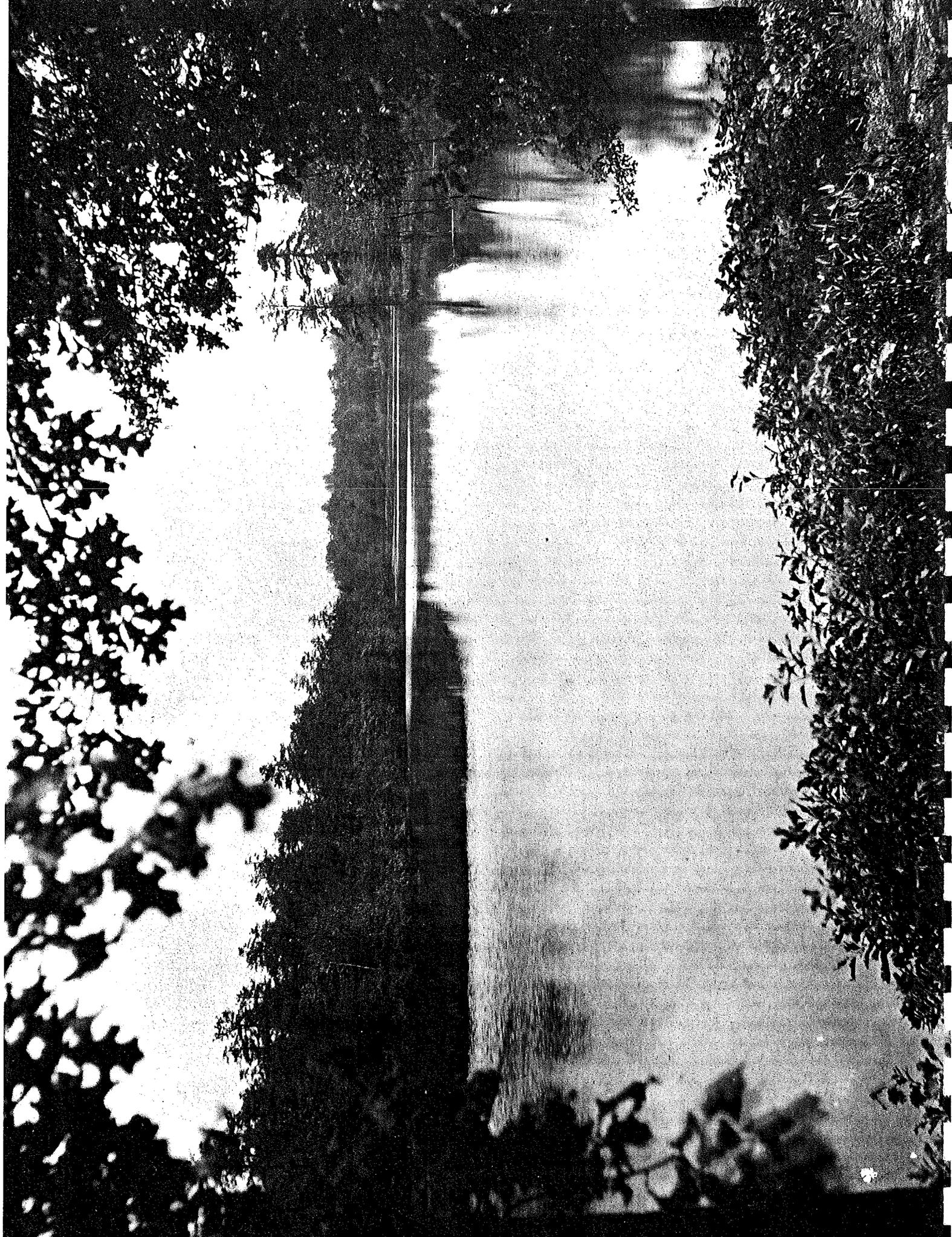


1927

1977



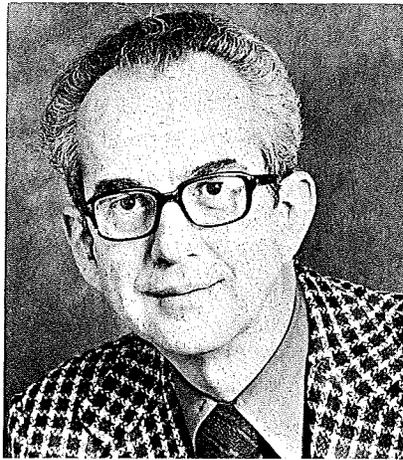
**THE
MEDFORD LAKES
STORY**



The Medford Lakes Story

1927

1977



On this occasion of Medford Lakes' Golden Anniversary, it is appropriate to pause in our many activities and reflect on this fine community and what it means to each of us.

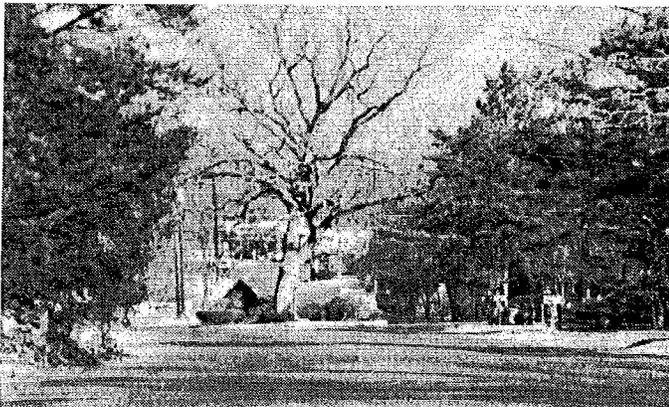
By comparison to neighboring communities, some of which date back to the birth of our country, Medford Lakes' fifty years mark it as a mere youngster. Yet, in that relatively short span of time it has grown from one man's vision to a truly unique community.

Medford Lakes' uncommon characteristics include a delightful setting of woods and lakes in the midst of the Washington-Boston megapolis, inhabited by very energetic and talented people engaged in many and varied activities. Our recreational programs and facilities, social and cultural activities provide for a very stimulating lifestyle for all age groups. These facilities and activities originate largely from the Colony Club and its auxiliary organizations, which represent a most unusual and effective community structure designed for a friendly, participative and cooperative living.

Therefore, it is with a great deal of pride that we celebrate Medford Lakes' Golden Anniversary. And that celebration would be incomplete without a deep felt appreciation for the community leaders who have preserved Leon Todd's vision during the past fifty years.

An expression of gratitude is also due to the Golden Anniversary Committee for their untiring and enthusiastic efforts in planning the many activities, including this record of Medford Lakes history.

Earl T. Hatcher



Today



Lenape Trail

Yesteryear



STATE OF NEW JERSEY
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
TRENTON

BRENDAN T. BYRNE
GOVERNOR

It is with great pleasure that I join with the people of Medford Lakes in recognizing the progress of your community and its meaningful contribution to the growth and prosperity of New Jersey.

Your history is a proud one. Medford Lakes was the site of one of the first iron manufacturing centers in the country. The Etna Furnace, established in 1766, provided a vital service to the nation during the Revolutionary War through the production of cannonballs and other war materials.

Fifty years ago Medford Lakes was just an idea; today it is a thriving, fully-developed community.

The activities planned for marking this milestone in your history including your "Golden Anniversary Booklet" and your "Expo" celebration will, I am sure, be memorable.

I extend to the people of Medford Lakes my best wishes for continued success and prosperity in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Brendan Byrne".

GOVERNOR



BOROUGH OF MEDFORD LAKES
NEW JERSEY

JOHN P. GAITENS, MAYOR AND COMMISSIONER OF FINANCE
WILLIAM G. GAFFNEY, COMMISSIONER PUBLIC SAFETY
RICHARD J. McDONALD, COMMISSIONER PUBLIC WORKS

JOHN A. WEAVER, JR., MUNICIPAL MANAGER

May 11, 1977

To My Colonist Friends:

On this, the 50th Anniversary of Medford Lakes, we have many reasons to be thankful.

Starting with the founder of our great community, Leon Todd, who had a dream and then the drive and vision to make that dream come true.

There were many people who followed, taking an active roll in the Borough, the Colony Club, and its many auxiliaries, that bring friends and neighbors together, making our town the most pleasant place to live in New Jersey.

I join the other Councilmen in our congratulations, and hope our fifty years of heritage fosters a stronger feeling with those who follow, to perpetuate and improve this place we are so proud to call 'our home'.

Serving our town has indeed been my privilege.

Respectfully,

*John P. Gaitens, Mayor
Borough of Medford Lakes*

PATRONS

whose contributions helped make this book possible

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& Family
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Mrs. John C. Alexander
Mr. & Mrs. Benjamin C. Ambroch
Bob Armstrong
The Fred Baker Family
Fay & Earle Bardon
Bert & Lieby Barrowclough
Jim & Jan Bednar & Family
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Bobbe & Fred Boehm
Hayes & Elie Brady
Turney & Norma Bruner & Boys
The Joseph L. Carei Family
Walter, Naomi, Chris and
Kim Cavanaugh
Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Cipriani
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Leigh, Chris & Boz Jones
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The Robert Lewis Family
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Lisa & Family
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Loesche, Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Loversidge
Roger & Diane Ludin & Family
Dinky & Howdy McClure
& Family
Mr. & Mrs. Richard McDonald
The McLoughlin Family
Richard & Barbara Macquade
& Family
Mr. & Mrs. Wayne H. MacVaugh
Rita Mariani
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph S. Markham
Bill & Nancie Martin & Family
Howard & Rose Maurer
The Medford Lakes Canoe
Carnival Lover
Mrs. Stanwood Melcher
Alfred & Doris Merkh & Family
The Art Munson Family
Mr. & Mrs. Calvin H. Neiswender
Mark & Eileen Newcomb
& Family
Lester & Dottie Obst
Peg Palese
- Mr. & Mrs. Newell S. Pangburn, Sr.
Dave & Ruth Particelli
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& Bradley Rogers
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Walter & Florence Smith
Ned & Doris Steel
The Lorren Stiles Family
Thomas L. Stokes & Family
Thomas & Doris Street & Family
The Thurber Swain Family
Lou & Caroline Sweigart
& Family
Fred B. Tappen & Family
John & Anna Tchou & Family
The R. L. Thurber & Family
R. L. Thurber, Sr.
The George Tilhou Family
Mr. & Mrs. Wm. Toplinski
Patti, Dottie & George Troup
Joe & Joan Urban & Family
Merry, David, Douglas
& Steven Wagner
Cal & Adele Walters & Family
Al, Jan and Adam Warring
The Washnock Family
David, Jenny & Rebecca Watson
Larry, Nancie & Jeff Wheeler
Bernhard & Betty Wiegand
& Family
Joan & Gary Williams & Family
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A Special Thanks to the John Schaub Family

WE DEDICATE THIS GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY BOOK THEIR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE & OUTSTANDING



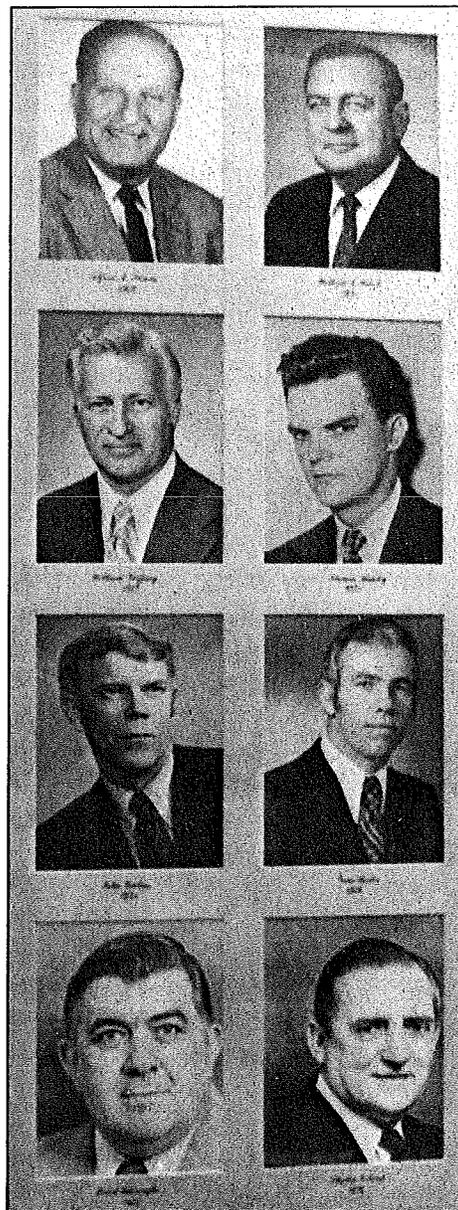
DISTINGUISHED GALLERY of Presidents of the Medford Lakes Colony Club

*Leon E. Todd, *Frank J. Young,
1928-9 C.Z. Vaughan, 1930 Wm. G. Oaks,
1931 A. J. Bartlett, 1932 Harry Maxwell,
1933 George Daub, 1934 E. E. Jackson,
1935 A. J. Volker, 1936 L.W. Scott,
*Honorary Presidents

1937 Frank Eger, 1938 A. J. Morgan,
1939-40 J.C. Alexander, 1941 Howard Bricker,
1942-3 Horace Garton, 1944 C. Kutteroff,
1945 Jim Willard, 1946 J. S. Charles,
1947 H.A. Willson, Sr., 1948 A.E. Horst,

1949 A.E. Hibbert, 1950 Tom Marshall,
1951 G.B.M. Robertson, 1952 C.B. Wingert,
1953 Arthur Lewis, 1954 A. Harold Hopkins,
1955 Wm. Kleinstuber, 1956 C.A. Walters,
1957 John A. Gillen, 1958 C.H. Neiswender,

TO ALL COLONY CLUB PAST PRESIDENTS FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO MEDFORD LAKES.....



DISTINGUISHED GALLERY of Presidents Continued

1959 Howard Banyard, 1960 Wm. Palese,
 1961 B. Barrowclough, 1962 Andy Davis,
 1963 Jack W. Todd, 1964 S. Wade Absher,
 1965 E.P. Anderson, 1966 L.C. Perkins,
 1967 F.J. Loesche, 1968 H. Landsidel,

1969 Alfred Parone, 1970 Wollard Houck,
 1971 W.G. Gaffney, 1972 Thomas Hanley,
 1973 John Gaitens, 1974 Gene Foster,
 1975 Dave Burroughs, 1976 Phillip Bird

1927- Birth Of A Haven

Deep in South-Central Jersey's pine belt along a highway connecting Trenton and Atlantic City lay 1,300 acres of wild, primeval wilderness, trees and underbrush matted in a forbidding jungle produced by centuries of neglect. Brackish streams wended their way sluggishly through the tangled, swampy mass.

That was Medford Lakes a half-century ago.

A more unprepossessing place one never saw. Few are they who could have seen it then and pictured it as the lovely sylvan haven it is today, 50 years later.

One of those few was Leon Edgar Todd, a young real estate operator in East Camden, but already a veteran of 10 years in the business.

It is said of the typical realtor that he looks upon barren fields and sees not turf and hillock but communities of homes and stores, churches and schools.

Leon Todd was more than a typical realtor—he was a leader among those men of vision and enterprise, already nationally known in real estate circles. The Medford Lakes of today is a monument to his vision, to his sagacity and perception, his energy, perseverance and personality. For Leon Todd saw in that desolate tract of pineland, assessed, at the magnificent figure of \$4,500—some \$3 an acre—and yielding the munificent sum of

\$180 in taxes annually to Medford Township, a potential multi-million dollar development that would rise as a model of gracious living.

Capitalist Chose Todd

The Camden realtor had been commissioned by the late Captain Clyde A Barbour, the lamp black king from Houston, Tex., to find a likely spot for development in which he could invest some of his fabulous fortune. The first absentee promoter soon lost interest, but his new dynamic young partner never let up the least bit on his enthusiasm or confidence. Through depression adversity and one obstacle after another that seemed well-nigh insurmountable — and would have proven so to most people—Todd worked toward realization of his dream of a pleasant community for nice folks seeking surcease from the strains and stress of city life.

The way all barriers were overcome, all problems met and conquered, is a story in itself, a saga of pluck and courage. Suffice it to say for the purpose of this narrative that Leon Todd stayed with his dream project all the way through. He literally lived Medford Lakes; for 32 years it was his heart and soul and life, its fame spread far and wide because of the amazingly large number of contacts he enjoyed around the country.

For this was no cold-blooded

promotion in the fashion of so many developments by professionals who come in, do a job, reap a financial harvest and go their way, no longer connected with or interested in the "baby".

Leon Todd never ceased to be the center and core of Medford Lakes. He lived here, he worked here, he was the Mayor of the town, he was the key to its progress, the guide to its every move. With such devoted, attentive care, so different from most promotions, Medford Lakes could not help being what it is today.

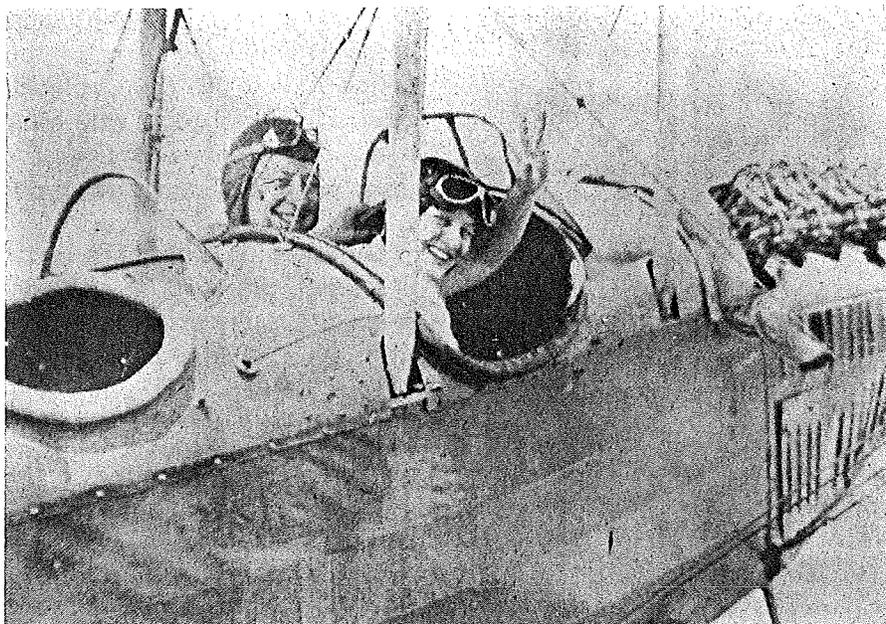
The First Minutes

A preliminary meeting of the Medford Lakes Colony Group was held at the Walt Whitman Hotel, in Camden, on the 12th day of November, 1927, for the purpose of perfecting the organization of the Medford Lakes Colony Club.

The Lenni-Lenapes

According to "Jersey Wagon Jaunts" by Alfred Heston, the first settlers in the new Medford Lakes area were Lenni-Lenape Indians. Stokes Road which goes on to connect with the White Horse Pike at Hammonton was originally an old Indian trail. A 200-year-old oak between the Todd and Palese cabins was the point where tribes from Indian Mills separated on their way to different sect meeting places. Indian Mills was the first reservation in the country.

They Started The Trek



Leon and Helen Todd are shown with the single-motor open craft that made them a pioneer in aerial appraisal of real estate. This photo was taken after a flight from Camden which circled the Lakes area just prior to Todd taking over Medford Lakes in 1927. The pilot ran out of gas but managed to glide to a forced landing, narrowly escaping a crash. Had the fates been less kind that eventful day in 1927 there might be no Medford Lakes colony today. From that start inspection of land from the air has become commonplace, more particularly as to engineering and community planning.

Other Cabin Owner Pioneers

O. W. Aichele
 Doug Allen
 A. R. Baralt
 Wesley Bauck
 Wm. H. Beaver
 Julius J. Bednar
 Helen Campbell
 Bettye Chapman
 Robert W. Chew
 L. W. Cowan

George F. Daub
 Thos. J. Davis
 Stanley Geiple
 Lewis Van Gordon
 Mary A. Haas
 Ernest Hardwick
 E. Earl Jackson
 Roy Jackobs
 David Johnson
 E. M. Kalehoff

Anna W. Keefe
 George J. Kraus
 Frank J. Loesche
 Louis A. Loesche
 Wm. H. McConkey
 Peter J. McGuire
 C. B. Muste
 L. A. Parkhurst
 Axel W. Paulson
 Thomas W. Penrose

Florence A. Rahme
 Robert Rundle
 F. J. Schwartz
 Anna B. Scott
 Fred B. Tappen
 Zackary Taylor
 Estelle Treftz
 Henry Tyson
 A. H. West
 Walter Wolfkiel

The First Officers

(Elected Nov. 19, 1927)

President: Charles Z. Vaughan
 Vice-president: William G. Oaks
 Vice-president: Charles Schuck
 Vice-president: Harry Taylor
 Recording Secretary: Charles J. Ottenthal
 Financial Secretary: Clifford J. SHEMELEY
 Treasurer: Dr. William C. Smith

Original Chairmen Of Standing Committees

(Appointed Dec. 11, 1927)
 Athletics: Thomas R. Allen

Bathing Beach: W. H. Stiles
 Civic: George C. Dillard
 Club Historian: Mrs. H. Towle
 Entertainment: F. A. Sulzer
 Finance: J. C. Middleton
 Fire: A. J. Bartlett
 Kiddies Club: Mrs. K. E. Crossman
 Lakes: Joseph F. McConaghy
 Membership: William G. Oaks
 New Building: Leon E. Todd
 Property: A. H. Uueckert
 Sanitation: Dr. A. H. Martin
 Shade Tree: Arthur B. Gill
 Skating: William X. Huber
 Trap Shooting: Albert D. Stiles
 Water Sports: John A. Small
 Woman's: Mrs. C. Z. Vaughan

Hannah Behnke

Secretary to Leon Todd before the development of Medford Lakes began, it was she who dispatched all details in the development of the community. Until the municipal manager plan started in 1946, she handled all the executive work in connection with the affairs of the Colony Club and other community units.

She retired in 1962 and lives in Medford Lakes.

THE DREAM CAME TRUE

There was no such thing as standing still in the makeup of Leon Todd. He was not one for resting on laurels, although the amazing transformation of Medford Lakes from swamp to Shangri-la would be satisfaction enough for the ordinary man.

But progress and growth are the watchwords at Medford Lakes, always with a jealous, zealous eye to the tone of the community.

Today, the achievements of the past are being celebrated. The dream has come true.

The overall Todd plan called for an ultimate population of between 6,000 and 7,000. Capacity would be 1,600 cabins, allowing an average of three lots per cabin. The full potential is in excess of 4,500, since there are that many lots, but there must be plenty of wide open space in Leon's scheme of things.

The modest goal of 1,600 is almost realized and the 21 lakes are fully developed.

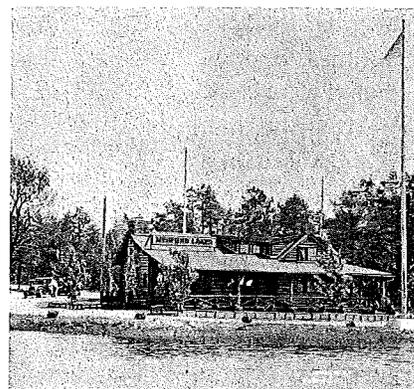
It was Leon Todd's great ambition to live long enough to see the whole development completed.

At his death in 1959, he did see 60% developed. His Great Venture survived such uncontrollable factors as the depressions and two wars. His son's, Jack and Harrison have continued The Plan and today we see close to 100% of Medford Lakes completed.

Delighted residents are Medford Lakes' best advertisement. They think there's no place on earth like it. It isn't only the cool nights in humid weather, the healthful, majestic beauty of towering pines, cedars, birches and maples, the wildflowers and waterfalls. Or even the golf course, the baseball diamonds, the tennis courts, athletic fields, playgrounds and bathing beaches, the boating and fishing, nor yet the community houses, center of social activities, or even the children's camp.

These factors assure for Medford Lakes a splendid future. How can it miss? Tranquility and peace of mind are here for the taking. There is calm, placid, passive living for those who want it that way; plenty of activity for those who want things going on.

Despite its informal, rustic demeanor, its aura of nostalgic simplicity, every possible modern utility is here-transportation, sewers, water, electricity, telephone, every ingredient for comfort and ease.



Administration Building — 30's



Across Ballinger Lake — 1929



Hunter's Lodge — 1928 — Country Club Later

1977 ——— TODAY 50 YEARS AFTER

Medford Lakes today, 50 years after its beginning is still loved and cherished by all who live here as a quiet oasis in a sometimes not so quiet world. Sometimes it goes unappreciated, until we have to leave, no matter how far or for how long, we soon see the reasons for our feelings and gain a replenished fever for never wanting to leave it on a permanent basis.

Our year round resort in the pines is still the envy of neighboring communities, our water carnival unlike anything, anywhere, our camp facilities, Athletic Association, Tennis Club and Log Cabin Playhouse are unmatched anywhere by any other town our size, or larger for that matter. The facilities we have

available to us, such as, our 21 lakes, athletic fields, community hall and tennis courts are not the only reasons for this uniqueness. A town can have these ingredients and still not be a close knit community unless it has one more important ingredient . . . people!!

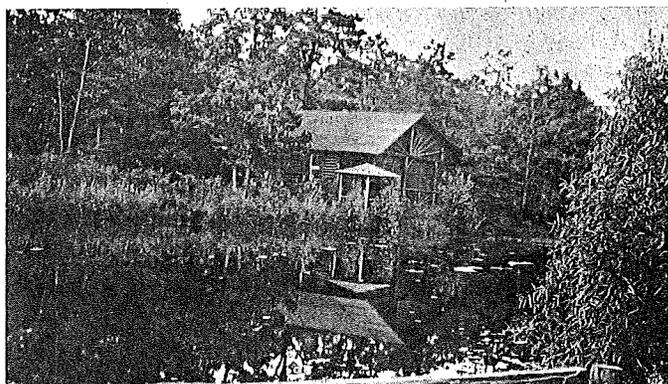
In Medford Lakes we have people, people who care, people involved, people doing and helping. These people, you, me, and our neighbors, have grown into a living, vibrant being, known as the Colony Club. It's the social point of activity. It generates enthusiasm and purposeful deeds, through its auxiliaries known as the Lions Club, and Jr. & Sr. Women, a group of people devoted to one thing. . . .helping.

We will soon be entering the start of our third quarter of a century and must continue this spirit, work and togetherness that all past Colony Club presidents and colonists alike have displayed over the years. We must continue our effort, so we can overcome today's problems that surround our oasis. We must keep vandalism, water pollution, an increasing crime rate and a growing traffic problem from destroying what we have known as Medford Lakes. We must have the same vision, energy, spirit and creative effort that once formed Medford Lakes, so that we may continue our story and celebrate many more anniversaries. This is where Medford Lakes has come and now we must continue our successful story towards year 2002.

John C. Handfield, Chairman Golden Anniversary Committee



#1 Beach in 30's & 40's

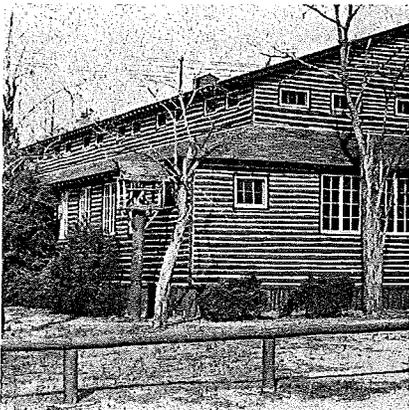


L.E. Todd Excursion Bus From Camden to Aetna Way Entrance on Stokes Road

To Quote from June 19, 1929
Colony Club News:

“THAT CHURCH BELL—The splendid new church bell that called us to worship on Sunday morning last is the gift to the Colony Club of Mr. & Mrs. Louis Loesche, Jr. This bell is known to be over 100 years old, having descended through the family of Mr. Loesche and is now presented to us with his kind wishes. Now that we know its history, its beauty and its sound, his gift is appreciated by us all”.

Our bell rang from the Pavilion to call us to all functions held there, for church, dances, card parties, meetings and gatherings of every description. Included was the toll to start camp, the lunch ring for afternoon camp, swim time, and camp ending. Fires and emergencies sometimes had its toll sing out. It stopped tolling, for a short period, after a 1938 Thanksgiving snow storm collapsed the Pavilion. In 1939 the bell was re-installed while the Vaughan Community House was being completed. The bell continued to be used until about 1969 when it fell for the 5th or 6th time when the pole holding it rotted away. Mr. Loesche is the uncle of Mr. Frank Loesche, Jr.



Medford Lakes Iron Mill Helped Defeat Redcoats

Medford Lakes made a vital contribution to the Revolutionary War through the manufacture of cannon balls and other war material at Etna Furnace.

Charles Read established the furnace about 1766, and it later came into possession of the famous Richards family. It was one of the first iron manufacturing centers in the country, and the ore came from bogs in the area. Located on what is now the garage of the Todd cabin, it was the place where the first square-head nails in America were made.

Also a part of the industrial life of what now is Medford Lakes was the saw and grist mill erected by John Haines. The power was supplied by the creek that bears his name.



The Way it Was

UGH! HEAP MOUTHFUL

Not the least intriguing of Medford Lakes' many features is the array of fascinating names given to lakes and trails that conjure up visions of the aborigines who inhabited the area. Roll these around on your tongue:

Mudjekeewis, Shingowack, Chickagami, Mishe Mokwa, Wau-wauskaske, Mushkodasa.

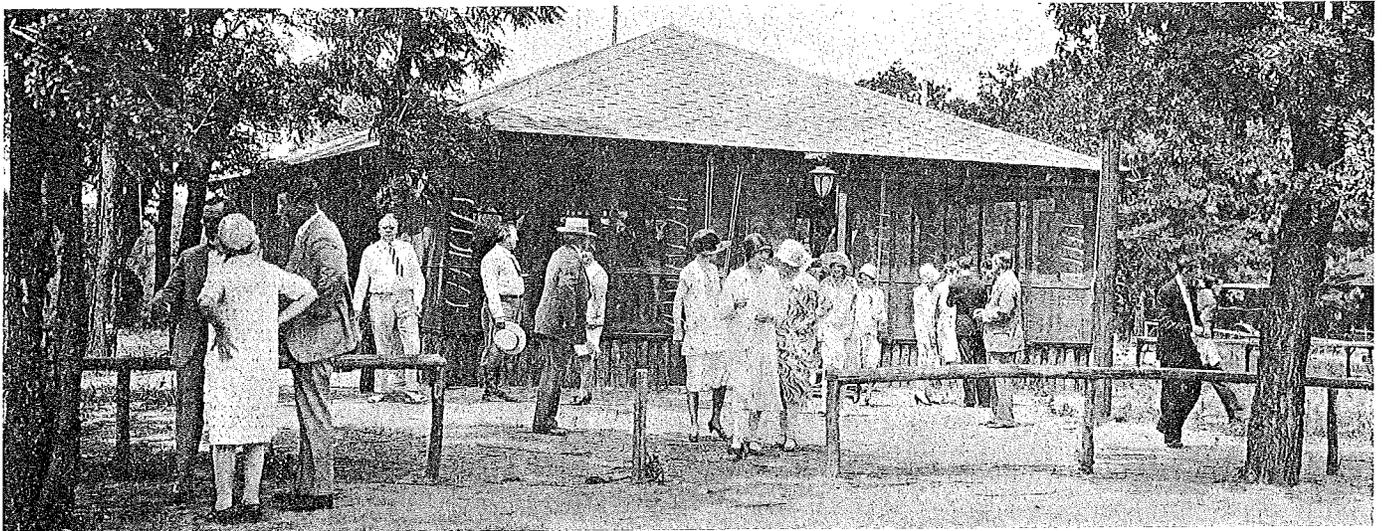
They're all here, they and many equally unpronounceable. No wonder the Indians grunted so much!

Most of the names are better known, made famous by writers like Longfellow and Cooper or recorded in the turbulent early history of our country. All the tribes and great chieftains are represented: Mohawk and Mohave, Pocahontas and Powhatan, Hiawatha and Seneca, Sitting Bull, the Sioux, Cheyenne, Piute, Lenape, Navajo, Iroquois, Cherokee, Cayuga, Apache, Natchez, Minnetonka, and many more.

Mayor Todd himself is an honorary Indian Chief with the name *Bear Talk*, bestowed on him at ceremonies incidental to the 1950 water pageant.



Planning for Development



1928 — First Community House

PRO—LOG

Smart modern touches abound in the cabins that make up Medford Lakes, but externally, every building had to adhere to the idea of every American which characterized the original dream of Developer Todd.

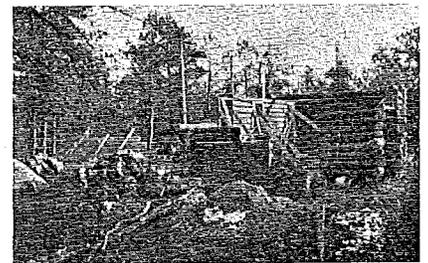
The Mayor later relented somewhat from his early insistence that all buildings must be of full log construction. Veneer and debarked logs began making their appearance, and later simulated logs. Finally knotty pine and similar appropriate woods became in vogue, and the development company relaxed its regulations to this degree:

All lake front property must give the appearance of logs. Cabins off the lake must be rustic in appearance.

The result has been greater variety without the addition of any discordant notes in the primitive mode. And most of the wood still comes from the forests of Burlington County.

Public buildings remain all-log:

The Lodge, Oaks Hall, Vaughan Community House, Administration Building, the Trading Post. It is doubtful if any similar concentration of log cabins exists anywhere. And needless to say, the structures are a far cry from the rude cabins of Lincoln's day.



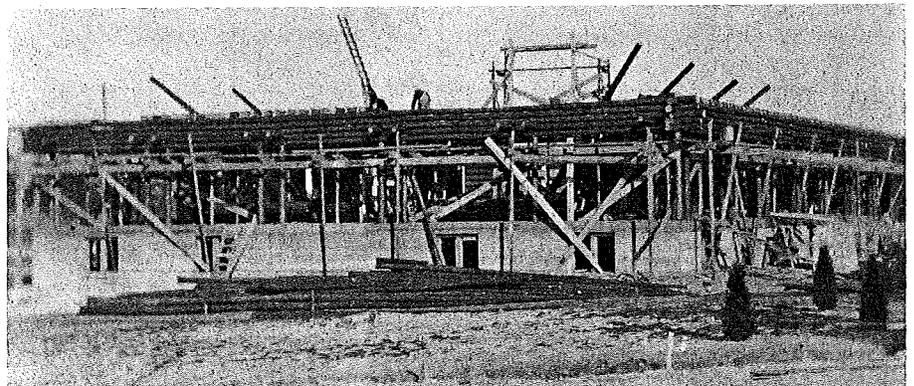
Building a Log Cabin

Mancill Gager LOGMASTER

The development of Medford Lakes as the log cabin center of the east is linked closely to the career of the late Mancill Gager, whose sons carried on in the family tradition.

Mancill was the pioneer builder of log cabins and constructed

more than all the other contractors combined who ever did work at the Lakes. Starting with the Administration Building, he erected cabins on contract, buying up cedar groves within a radius of 15 miles, hauling and cutting and fashioning the fragrant forest into the sturdy, handsome, highly livable homes that abound throughout Medford Lakes.



Building "Log Cabin Lodge" 1929

INDIAN INTERLUDE

The 25,000 beauty lovers who thrilled to the 1950 edition of the annual water pageant received an added treat through the cooperation of U. S. Senator Robert C. Hendrickson.

The Senator's secretary, Mrs. Mary Thompson, residing on Lower Aetna Lake, transported Chief Thunderbolt and 10 other Montana Indians from Washington to perform on her canoe carnival entry and to present a program of authentic tribal dances and songs at the Community House afterwards.

It was during the latter feature that Chief Thunderbolt bestowed a trophy upon Mayor Todd and made him an honorary chief of the Montanas with the title *Chief Bear Talk*.

How!

SWEEPING CURVATURE

Medford Lakes' topographical layout, featuring the curvature theme, was developed by Charles

W. Darling, an outstanding city planner of Haddonfield. The sweeping motif is adhered to strictly, with streets wide enough to make sidewalks and curbs unnecessary. Parking areas, circles and triangles are interspersed.

Except in the business center, there are no street lights, thus eliminating distracting glare and following out the softly pleasing, restful idea.

OUR LAUREL IS SPECIAL

Every Spring we are treated to the natural beauty of our wild laurel growing so profusely in our woods. We are most fortunate to be located in the midst of the South Jersey laurel belt.

This belt only stretches for about seven miles altogether. So, as we enjoy this magnificent splendor, remember we cannot pick the laurel — it is there for us to admire ONLY.

Telephone Story — Once Very Progressive

Electric current was brought

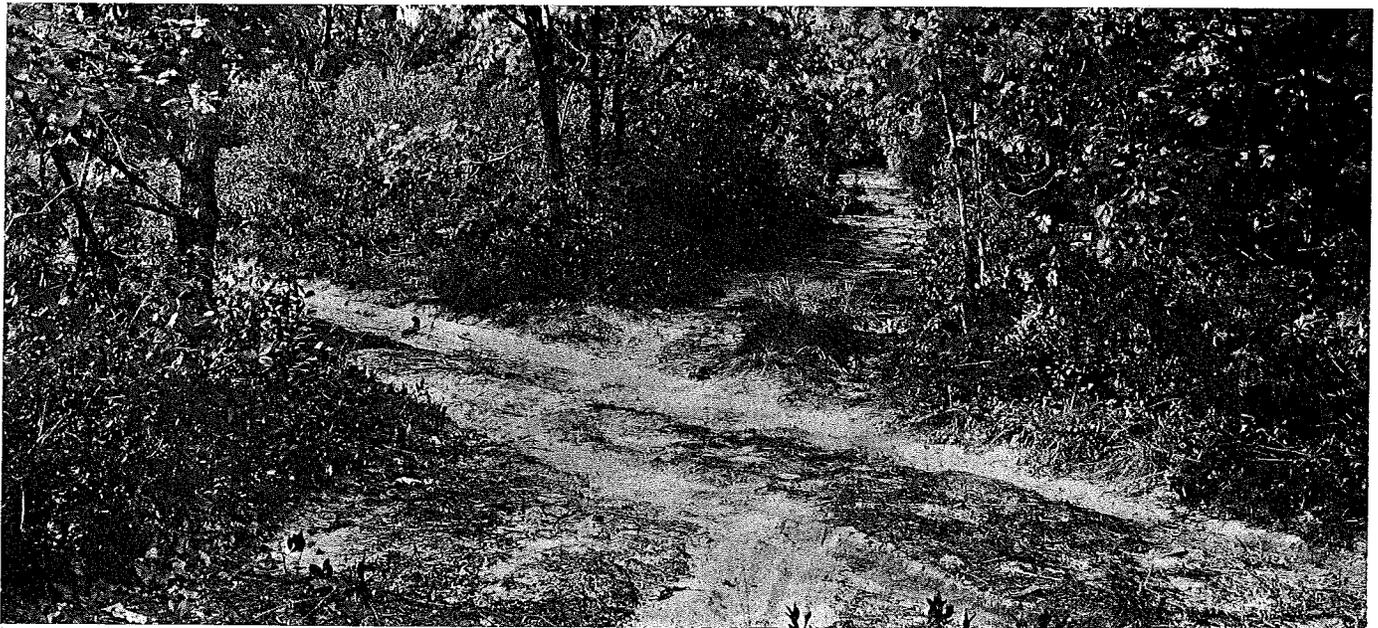
down from Medford and served the whole community.

The story of the telephone in Medford Lakes is a most interesting one.

Original service was one farmer's line serving 16 parties. And one of the 16 was Camp Ockanickon, busy as it is in summertime!

From that humble and chaotic beginning, telephone service was advanced to the point where Medford Lakes was a pioneer, used as a model by the company. For example, the first dial system in this entire area was installed in Medford Lakes. Local residents enjoyed this convenience long before Camden and many other large cities.

Another first for Medford Lakes was the equipment for long distance dialing. The new phones that made it possible to dial all the way to California was here, awaiting only the inauguration of the cross-continental system to go into effect.



Our Trails in 1927

MEDFORD LAKES -The Municipality

Medford Lakes became a municipality when a bill setting it off from Medford Township was passed by the Legislature and signed by Governor A. Harry Moore as Chapter 60 of the laws of 1939.

A special election to implement the act was held June 27. Leon E. Todd, developer and father of Medford Lakes, was unanimously chosen mayor. Elected to Borough Council were Pierson A. Anderson, Kenneth R. Fay, Dr. Howard E. Bricker, George T. Morgan, Thomas J. Bethel and W. Glenn Pearce. Walter F. Wolfkiel was named tax collector and Harold K. Remington assessor.

On Aug. 12, 1941, at a special election the form of government was changed to a 3-member commission. The subsequent election, Sept. 16, named Leon E. Todd, George T. Morgan and Frank A. Eger commissioners. At the organization meeting Todd was designated Mayor.

In May of 1946 the final change was made to the form of government actually sought at the start but unobtainable at the time—Municipal Manager. E. Paul Anderson and George B. M. Robertson were former councilmen.

We are governed by a three-member Borough Council. One of the members is the Mayor. Borough Council also employs a full time Borough Manager, John A. Weaver, Jr. (since 1953).

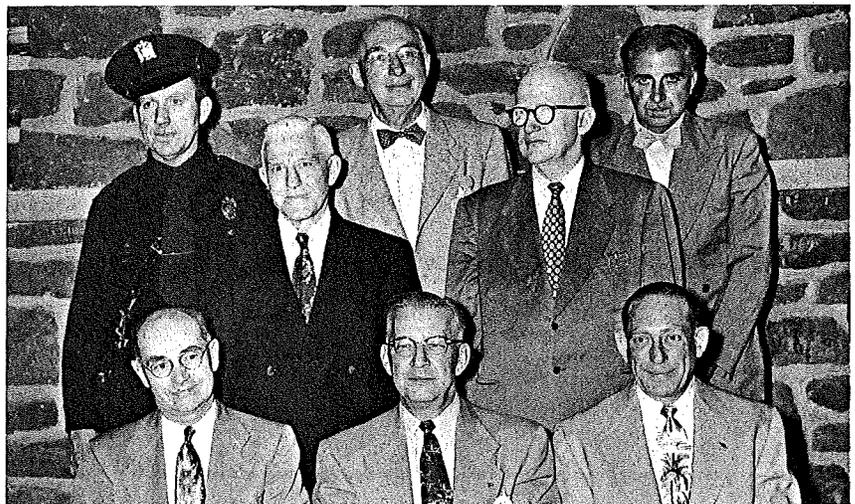
Borough Council makes our local laws which are called ordinances. Other Borough officers assess and collect our taxes and sewer rentals. The Borough's Department of Public Works repairs our roads, removes our trash and leaves, operates our sewer plant, and inspects buildings and plumbing for compliance with our zoning and building codes.

The Borough's Department of Public Safety, which includes our Police and Fire Departments, also conducts our Violations Bureau and Municipal Court; employs our dog catcher (or warden), and makes bicycle inspections. Residents also go to the Borough office for marriage licenses, dog licenses, voter registration and welfare problems.



An historic moment in the Medford Lakes Story: Mayor Todd receives the first oath of office from Supreme Court Justice Ralph W. E. Donges.

Mr. Todd remained Mayor until 1954 when Mr. Horace M. Garton took office. In 1967, Mr. William J. Palese was elected Mayor. Clarence B. Wingert, Jr. was acting Mayor during Palese illness for 13 months in 70 and 71. Earl Ritchie became Mayor in May of 1974 until June, '75 when John Gaitens was chosen acting Mayor until elected Mayor in 1976 and remains so today.



Borough management in 1952, was handled by this group of dignitaries. Seated in the center is Mayor Leon E. Todd. Flanking him are the Councilmen, Horace M. Garton (left) and Calvin A. Walters. Standing left to right, are Police Chief Leon E. Gager, Municipal Manager O. M. Hopkins, Assessor and Building Inspector J. C. Alexander, Solicitor Furman A. DeMaris and Superintendent of Property Paul Shaffer.

THE ADVISORY COUNCIL

A setup that was the envy of much larger municipalities was the Medford Lakes Advisory Council which provided continual service to residents.

The Council was a cooperative venture that integrated all phases of community administration into a central whole. The various units—Colony Club, Country Club, Borough, Development Company, Board of Education, Church, Lions Club, Sewerage Corp., Savings and Loan—all designated a representative to it and contributed financially to its support.

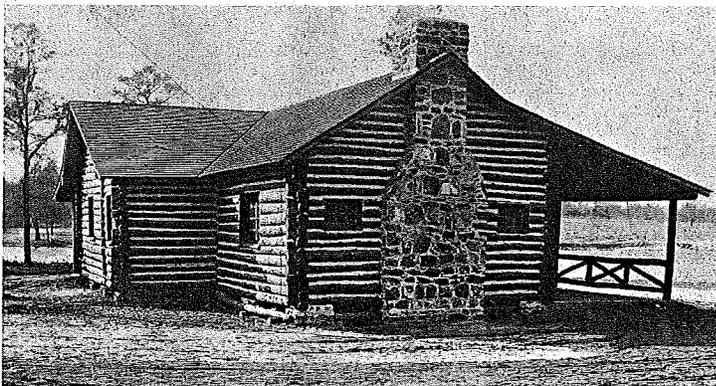
Through this system all facilities were concentrated in the administration building for the convenience of the populace, and the office was open every day in the week, including Sunday. No other municipality, even the largest of cities, offered such complete service.

The Council for 1952 was headed by Mayor Leon E. Todd, company representative. J. S. Charles, who with Clarence B. Wingert represents the Colony

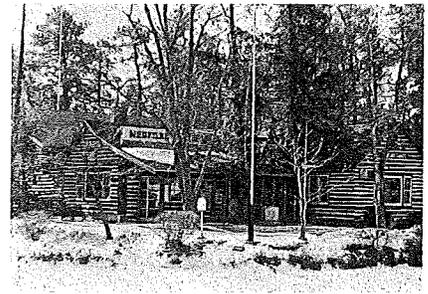
Club, was vice-president; O. M. Hopkins, executive manager of the Borough, was secretary and treasurer.

Other Council members, Frank Eger, Earl P. Bardon, Horace M. Garton, George B. M. Robertson and Dr. Howard E. Bricker.

The origin of the Advisory Council goes back to 1942, when Mayor-Developer Todd suffered a severe heart attack. While he was hospitalized it was realized how much everything at Medford Lakes revolved around him and how hamstrung operations were in his absence. The advisory group proved an ideal answer; it permitted decentralization of work and responsibility, relieving Mr. Todd of much of the burden and bringing into existence a well organized, smoothly functioning group of representative leaders who work together for the common interest. The machinery provided a continuing method of supervision that was not dependent on any one individual, even "Mr. Medford Lakes" himself.



"Pine Lodge" 1928 — Part of Boro Offices Today



Oaks Hall Added 1948

OAKS HALL

Nothing exemplifies the transition of Medford Lakes from a summer resort to a year-around community more than Oaks Hall.

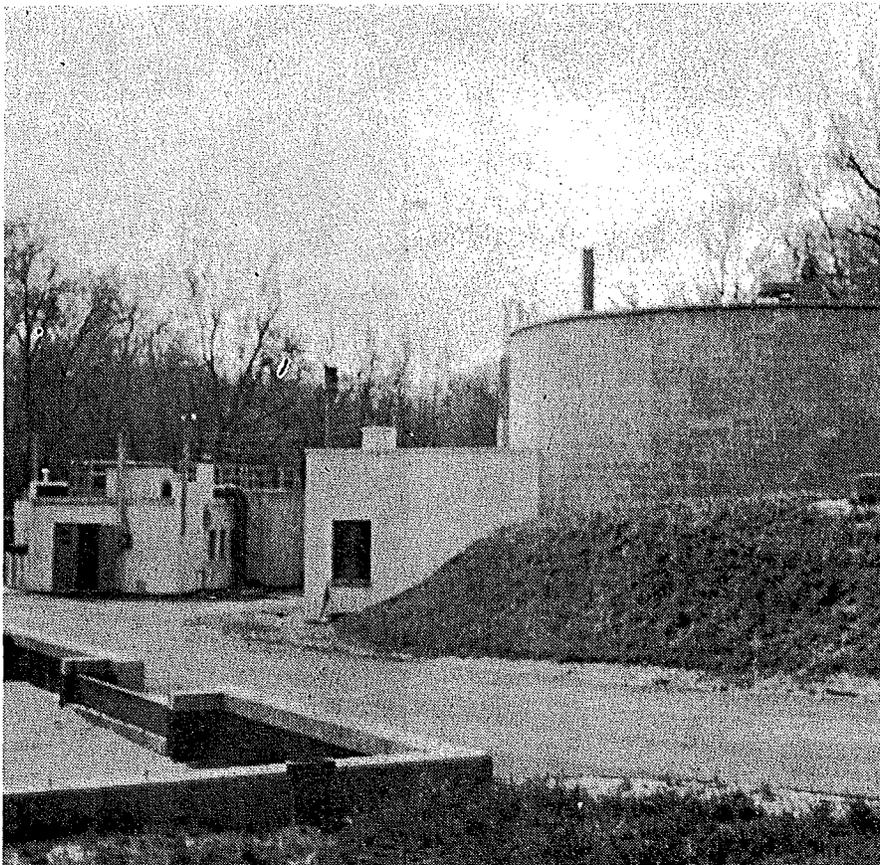
Built in 1946, it is a completely self-contained unit with its own heating plant adjoining the Administration Building. It was financed by the colonists and underwritten by the Development Company. Various units of the Colony Club held functions of all kinds within its spacious log walls.

When the time for official dedication approached, there was no debate concerning the name. William C. Oaks was one of the great pioneers in Medford Lakes' growth. An original officer and early president, he devoted his time and energies to building up the Colony Club and the community.

As our community expanded, the need for more space for Borough activities was evident. In November, 1971, Oaks Hall was purchased by the Borough to be used as a Town Meeting Hall; Police Department and office facilities.

BOROUGH GARAGE

The Borough has its own garage for storage of equipment and rolling stock, including fire-fighting apparatus, trucks and other vehicles. Their housing in a common garage has been a wise investment in prolonging life of equipment and facilitating its use.



SEWERAGE SYSTEM

Almost unique among resort communities, Medford Lakes has its own sewerage system which has virtually replaced entirely the old chemical facilities once commonly in use.

The \$175,000 sewage treatment and disposal plant adjoining the borough garage was built in 1937-38 with WPA assistance and became borough property when Medford Lakes was separated from Medford in 1939.

The Sewage Plant was expanded in 1965 at a cost of \$345,000. A Federal Grant of \$90,000 supplemented the financing of the plant which includes a primary and secondary system, currently, an additional phosphate removal system will be added.

Police Department

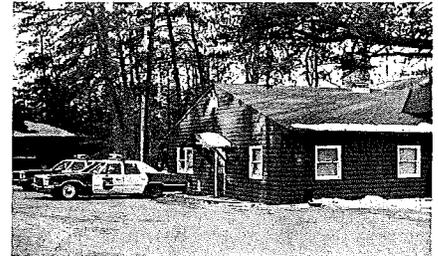
The early history of the Medford Lakes police department consisted almost entirely of Chief, Leon Gager and a Model A Ford. Except for occasional aid from part time men, he was the police force until 1967 when three full time men were added to his staff.

By December of 1971, when Chief Gager retired, the staff had grown to seven members, headed by Present Chief Thomas S. Smith, Jr., and has since reached a complement of eight plus a civilian secretary.

At first there was no real police headquarters. Officers used space in both the administration building and the borough

garage. October, 1975 saw an addition on Oaks Hall include general offices, a chief's office, communications area, squad room, locker room, and dark-room.

Today's officers undergo fourteen weeks of basic training before they are permanently appointed. This prepares them to handle a complicated job where equipment now includes up-to-date investigative, photographic, photodeveloping, riot control, radar equipment and counter-sniper weaponry. It's a far cry from the old days! Training is further supplemented by periodic attendance at advanced schools plus in-service training with the department.

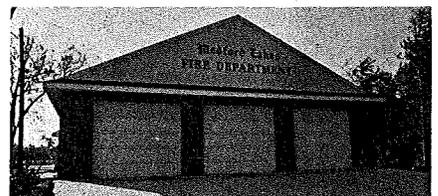


1977



Bicycle Inspection

second Walter Minzer, and the present official is Floyd Cranston.



1977

Fire Department

Over most of its history Medford Lakes received its primary fire protection through arrangements with Medford. Until quite recently, that arrangement was maintained, although the history of the local fire group actually began between 1941 and 1945.

As a part of the scene of World War II, the Lakes acquired an air raid siren providing the first audible local fire alarm, on top of the church. A volunteer group also purchased an old tow truck chassis and built its own rudimentary fire truck.

A community fire organization was established under civil defense in 1945 but it wasn't until after 1958 that a regular fire truck was purchased second hand and real training got under way.

In 1965 the "Medford Lakes Volunteer Fire Department" became a formal organization and acquired a brand new fire truck that could pump 500 gallons a minute and had a 1000 gallon water tank. From then, until 1973 the department grew and training was intensified to meet underwriter's requirements.

Then, beginning in 1974, the new fire house was completed, a new 1974 fire engine acquired, and finally, in 1975, the protection contract was terminated with Medford and the Medford Lakes Fire Company was incorporated with John Lenhart its 1st President.

In the years since it began as a "paper" organization, the fire company has had three chiefs. The first was Paul Shaffer,

CATHEDRAL OF THE WOODS

Early in the summer of 1928, immediately after the building of the original Colony Club Pavilion (The forerunner of the Vaughan Community House), religious services became a regular part of the weekly program. Formal church services followed and a Sunday School, was undertaken through the efforts of Mrs. Stanley Geipel and Miss Ethel I. Tappen.

At the close of the 1930 summer season, the Religious Committee was determined to build a Church structure in keeping with the Log Cabin architecture.

The first meeting of the Board was held in Mr. Todd's Camden office on May 7, 1931, a charter was adopted, and six lots accepted as a gift from the Medford Lakes Corporation, and a contract given.

The formal dedication took place on Sunday, June 21, 1931, when Rev. F. A. DeMaris, D.D., preached the opening sermon.

Rev. Cornelius B. Muste, A.M., D.D., was the first summer pastor. He filled the pulpit in all but the dedicatory service and one other service the first season, during his 30 year pastorate.

1945 saw the first Memorial Window, the roof insulated, and a heating system installed.

The Congregation expanded and held its first full year's services during the 1946-47 season. Communion Services were held on a quarterly basis and more

Sunday School rooms were added.

A Reed organ and electronic carillon were installed the latter part of 1947.

The 1949 Thanksgiving Service marked that of a formal congregation. Charter membership was established, Church Register founded, and membership solicited. Mrs. Esther Wingert organized Cathedral Guild.

In 1950 the Church joined the Advisory Council of Medford Lakes.

In 1951 lavatory facilities were installed in the Church basement, which greatly assisted the Sunday School.

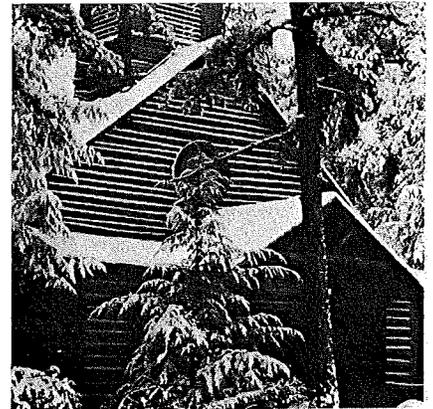
Rev. William H. Ford, D.D., was the first associate winter pastor, from 1947 to 1949, followed by Rev. T. St. Clair in 1949; Rev. Wayne Harison in the winter and spring of 1950 and Rev. Kenneth R. Timken who was winter pastor to the close of the 1951-52 season.

1952 saw night time lighting on church windows installed.

1953, the outside drive was surfaced with macadam, and a Hammond organ was installed.

1955, first midnight Christmas carol service.

Dr. Richard Say received the call to be the present minister in March, 1960 and moved to Medford Lakes in June, 1960. In November 1961 two Sunday ser-



vices were inaugurated.

The two-story Christian Education Building was dedicated on Palm Sunday, 1964.

In 1966 the Church purchased Vaughan/Lewis/Oaks cabin for parsonage.

Michael Myers was called to the church in March, 1975, as Assistant Minister. The church steeple was improved in memory of Marion Dobbs. The new Narthex was built in memory of Helen M. Todd. It enlarged the seating capacity by forty.

In January, 1977 a nine rank 604 Moeller Pipe Organ was dedicated.

ST. MARY OF THE LAKES

During the beginning years at Medford Lakes, Mass was offered in the old Pavilion each Sunday morning by the late Rev. Thomas Whalen of Camden and Rev. John F. Foley of Mt. Holly Parish.

Land was donated by the Development Company, and in July, 1931 the original St. Mary's was dedicated, and St. Mary's became a mission of Mt. Holly.

From 1934 to 1943, the Rev. J. Arthur Hayes, of Mt. Holly served St. Mary's during the summer months. Winterizing in 1943 provided year round service for Catholic families over an extended area.

1943 saw Rev. Paul A. Grieco as Pastor.

February 1944 a Parish House was purchased on Lower Aetna Lake and the Development Company donated additional land for parking.

Rev. Raymond T. Hurley was appointed Pastor in 1948.

Rev. William Campbell replaced Rev. Raymond Hurley in 1959. The old St. Mary's Log Cabin Church was closed in 1967. It was later purchased by the Protestant Community Church of Medford Lakes in 1969. It was re-named Memorial Hall.

In November, 1966, the new St. Mary's Church on Jackson Road, Medford, was dedicated. The cruciform structure has a seating capacity of 1,000 persons.

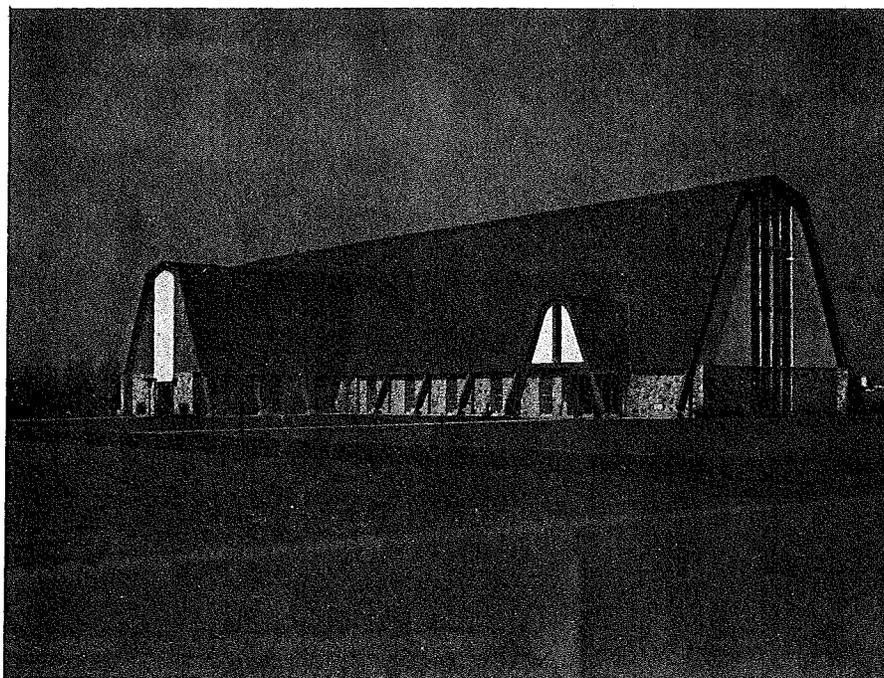
The new church was built entirely of stone and wood.

The wall, that is seen behind the main Altar, which elevates itself to a 50' height, is made of

stone and wood. Supported from the stone center panel is a 30' wood carving of the Father, The Son and Holy Spirit. Another beautiful feature is a 50 foot faceted glass window depicting the Mother of Jesus.



Early 1930's

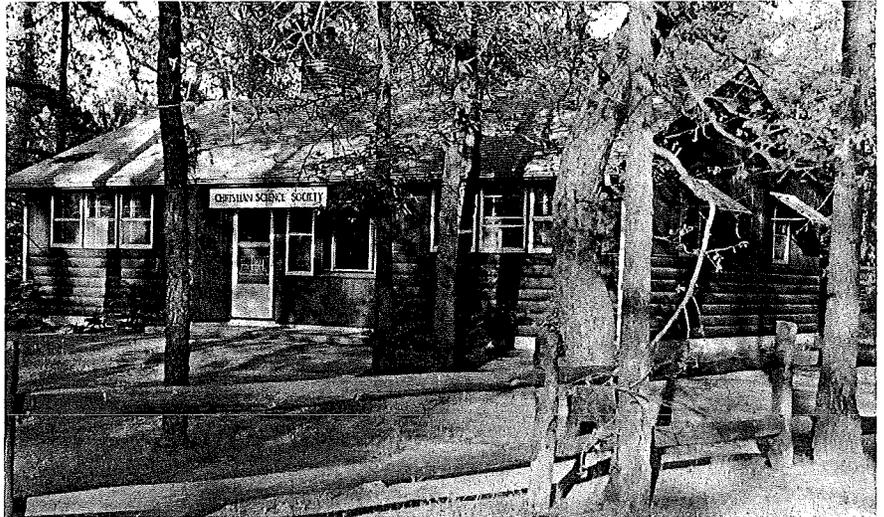


Other Organizations Operating Within Medford Lakes

American Association of University Women
American Legion
Duplicate Bridge Club
Hiawatha Women's Club
Home and School Organization
Jaycees
Kiwanis Club
Lakes Registered Nurses Club
League of Women Voters
Medford Lakes Garden Club
Republican Club
Senior Citizens
Sweet Adelines, Inc.
V F W
Volunteer Fireman

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE SOCIETY

Chartered in November, 1960, with services held in Vaughan Hall and Community Church. In February, 1961, 126 Tabernacle Road was purchased. Sunday AM services and Wednesday evening meetings were held until mid 1977. Members now go to near by town's for services.



PIONEER RECALLS THE BEGINNING

Colonist Mrs. Anna Geipel, to our knowledge, is the oldest living pioneer residing in Medford Lakes at this time. She tells about the days in 1927, when the Stanley Geiple's came to their cabin on Pocohantas Trail with their two children.

During those settler's days, housekeeping in cabin No. 9 was far from the ease of today. At first there was no electricity except for a few lights at one beach. No plumbing, but an outhouse did the trick. They hand pumped water for cooking and washing. A kerosene stove served to cook and heat. Clothes were washed on a scrub board and hung out to dry. More heat was supplied by a Franklin chunk stove and fireplace-after you had chopped and sawed your own wood supply. Kerosene lamps and candles provided light. On early Spring and

late Fall weekends they heated bricks, wrapped them in newspapers, moved them around under the bed covers and then put the children-and themselves to bed.

Mrs. Geipel said the early settlers had a true pioneer spirit and the close knit summer colonists all worked and prayed together. Everyone chipped in with hammers and saws and built the Pavilion, the forerunner to

Vaughan Community House. At that time both Protestants and Catholics held services in the Pavilion.

Also recalled was an Indian named Chief Strongwolf who taught beadwork in the craft shop, a small building on Tecumseh Trail behind the Pavilion. The Chief lived in his Tee Pee on the Horse Desert where Neeta School now is. Some of the first camp shields were made in the Geipel garage.



MEDFORD LAKES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT



On December 1, 1939 the voters of Medford Lakes approved the establishment of a school district. From that time until 1955, the School Board's major function was to secure voter approval for finding the total expenses of the District's school children attending Medford Public Schools and the Rancocas Valley Regional Schools. When our host schools would not be able to continue this relationship, two major decisions were made by the Medford Lakes residents; 1. In September 1955 regionalization with neighboring school districts for purposes of educating secondary school pupils was approved. The Lenape Regional School District was born.

2. A bond issue for the construction of a nine room school at the end of Nokomis Trail was approved in October 1955. Meanwhile the Board of Education then composed of Esther D. Wingert, President; Anthony DeMarco, Vice-President; Marjorie G. Rauch, Secretary; Howard R. Banyard; and Andrew M. Davis

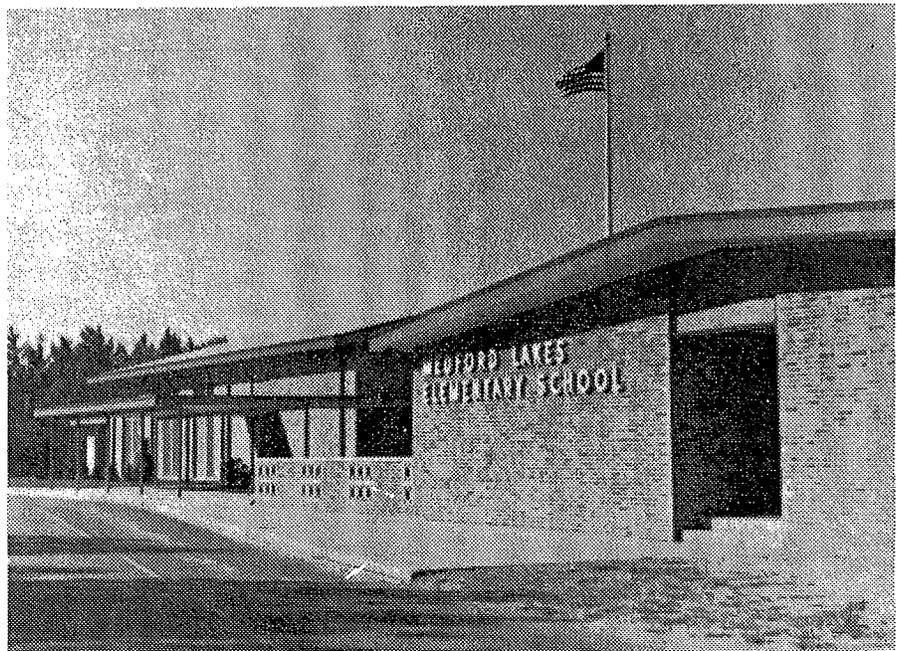
made provision for the kindergarten class to be housed in emergency facilities at Oaks Hall during 1955-56.

Mrs. Mary Davies was engaged as the first professional employee to teach in the Medford Lakes School District. Dr. William A. Shine was employed the District's first chief school administrator in January 1956.

Nokomis School was completed in January 1957 and after a year's respite, the voters approved a six room addition to the building.

The community continued to grow and in 1962 Neeta School was built on 18 acres of property annexed from Medford Township. Two years later the first addition to Neeta School was approved and in 1971 the second addition to the school was completed.

Presently the school district maintains Neeta and Nokomis Schools, has 960 pupils and utilizes over 80 regular employees. The present Board of Education consists of Dr. James Allen, President, Dr. Donald Wright, Vice-President, Carol Cassidy, Clarence Wingert, Jr., Dr. Roger Ludin and Joseph E. Butcher, Superintendent.



LOG CABIN LODGE (Now Settlers Inn)

A Medford Lakes landmark, and built in 1931 at a cost of \$120,000, it has incorporated into it some of the most interesting features to be found in any structure anywhere.

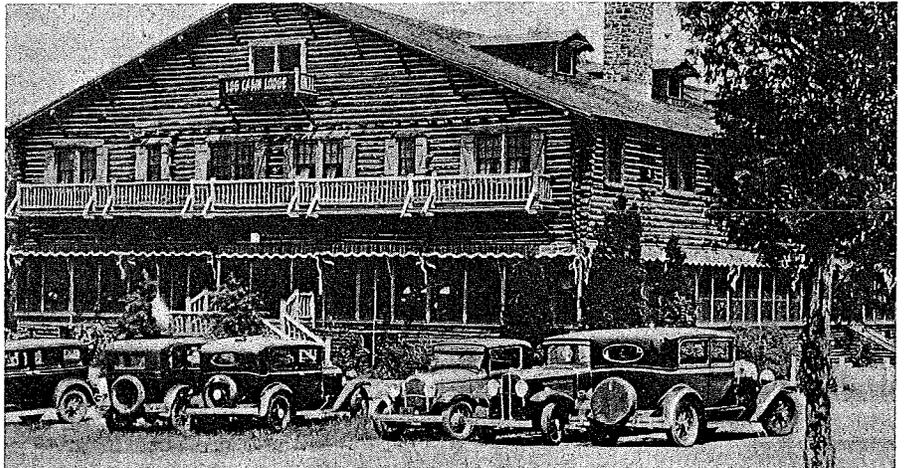
It is the largest full-log constructed building in the United States. Its central fireplace is the largest ever built. A total of 232 tons of stone was hauled and placed into position, stretching to a height of 75 feet, with a width ranging from 10 to 15 feet. Two massive stones opposite the keystone weigh a ton each.

A huge clock is built into the chimney, the largest of its kind outside Yellowstone Park. The pendulum is over 6 feet long. Its steady swing, synchronized with the constantly moving hands, presented a fascinating sight.

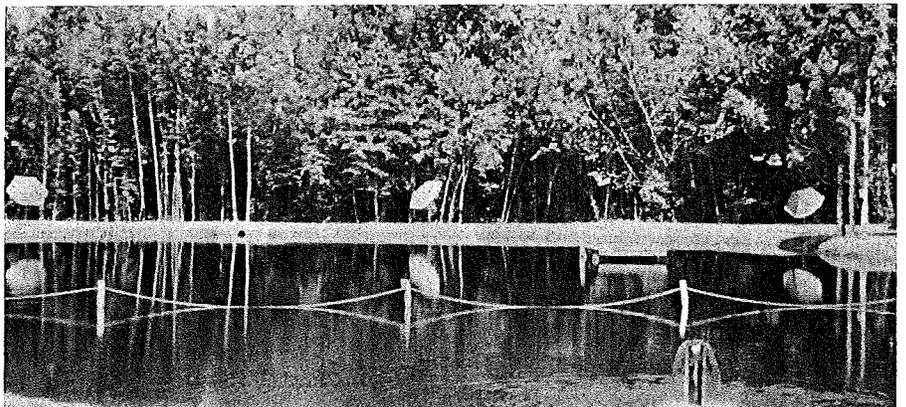
For 18 months the development company operated the Lodge. It was managed by Mr. J. Nelson Moorehouse. By then Medford Lakes' fame had so spread that it no longer was needed as a trial balloon, so to speak, and requests began coming from outsiders for an opportunity to dine and dance in these colorful surroundings. There-upon the Lodge was leased to John and Mary McGarrity, in 1932. This wonderful couple remained until 1945 when Mr. J. Robert Simpson took charge. In 1954, Robert Wilson became the new proprietor. The Lodge was renamed the Log Cabin Hotel in

1959 when the group of Chester Beaston, John Schlicher, Henry DiChurch, and Ben Ashby became its new operators. Mrs. Teresa Budd and son Harold, took over in 1972.

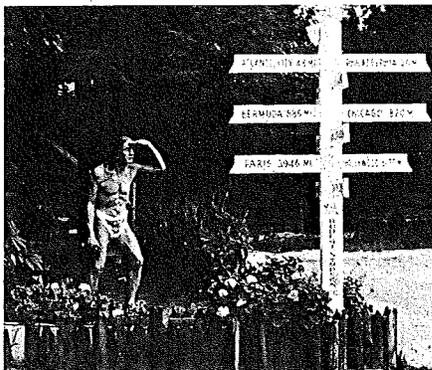
Another name change came when Messrs. Gutry, Guarino and Hilt became owners and renamed it The Settler's Inn in 1976. The new owners have completely renovated the main dining room.



Early 30's



Former Hotel Lake - 1953



Bygone Landmark



The "Lodge" Today

WHAT MAKES IT TICK

Colony Club Key To Community's Success

The story of Medford Lakes is the story of the Colony Club. Through this device, standards are maintained, exclusiveness is preserved, discipline is possible. It is not enough to own or rent a cabin in Medford Lakes; membership in the Colony Club is necessary to use any of the community's facilities, and without that privilege, any resident would be a virtual hermit.

All public property, including the lakes, dams, parks, community houses, beaches, playgrounds, camp and other features that make Medford Lakes the finest resort community in the world, are owned by the Colony Club.

The Colony Club has a definite responsibility to protect the community and the investment of each individual member. This protection is afforded through neighborhood consciousness and attention given to opportunities for entertainment, recreation, and social contact of a high type. Culture in a community is perhaps the most important of all social functions.

In a colony such as ours, proper facilities for regulated play must be provided for the children and their safety watched over by trained personnel. There must be a fusion of interest without a feeling of suppression and a readiness to sacrifice individual preference for the common good.

That the club has accepted and effectively met the challenge responsibilities is evident from the very success and popularity of Medford Lakes. All social, athletic and recreational functions are in direct charge of the club. It operates Vaughan Community House, the camp and craft shop, the beaches, supervises all swimming, boating, fishing, sponsors all bazaars, card parties, festivals, water pageant — everything, with certain exceptions.

One is the golf club, run by the Country Club, a counterpart of the Colony Club; another is the official activity of the municipality, which is in charge of the governing body, Board of Education, Board of Health and related units.

Great credit is due the club's leaders down through the years for this amazingly successful experiment in friendly, co-operative living. The adherence to these principles in the future or failure to follow them will be the success or failure of Medford Lakes.

The Medford Lakes Colony Club

The Colony Club actually started many years before Medford Lakes became a Borough.

Our Colony Club is a private club for residents of Medford Lakes. It conducts social and recreational activities for our community. It also owns and

maintains the facilities for these functions including the Vaughan Community House, Vaughan Annex, the Craft Shop, five beaches, three ball fields, eight tennis courts and E. Earl Jackson Park.

Our Colony Club is responsible for the water in our lakes. It maintains our dams, provides life guards at our beaches, and rules on the construction of private docks and bulkheads. Beach tags are required at minimal cost to insure the privacy of our beaches for club members.

Our Colony Club sponsors year 'round activities for all members including our Canoe Carnival, summer camp, and the President's Dinner-Dance. It also sponsors special-interest organizations for all ages such as the Woman's and Junior Woman's Auxiliaries, the Medford Lakes Athletic Association, Log Cabin Playhouse, Tennis Club, Fishing Club, 87 Club and many teenage activities.

An elected Board of Directors and their officers supervise the operation of our Club. Elections are held at the Annual Members Meeting in October. The Board of Directors meet once a month. Our Club is supported financially by our annual dues. The staff in our Colony Club office works under the jurisdiction of our officers and directors.

Colony Club members are kept informed each week of club activities through the Colony Club News. Any other news from the Borough, the schools, or any other organization is printed as a courtesy.