

# village view

by Andrea Leonard

Up-along on Main Street, at the corner where Pond Street curves off to the right, stands a concrete building, foresquare and sturdy. You really can't miss seeing it when you're leaving Osterville west-bound.

Here, sixty years or so ago, J.M. Leonard & Son operated a machine shop, gas station and auto repair service. Throughout my growing years it was the mainstay of our family.

J.M. was my grandfather; B.D. was my dad. Until Dad retired following WWII, that building and the ones immediately behind it were known as Leonard's shop. In the late 40's the property was sold and now belongs to the Aldis Davis family.

Last week a new business opened at the old shop. That these particular people are embarking upon a new venture at this location is, for me, a joy. I am, I guess understandably, prejudiced in their favor.

Peter Van Leeuwen, a lad who grew up in Marstons Mills, has opened a mower and bike shop: sales, repairs and service of bicycles and lawn mowers. If you've been around Osterville for fifteen or twenty years, you may remember Peter pumping gas and repairing cars at the Tydol station. Do you recall when it stood at the corner of Parker Road and Bay Street, where the Mole Hole is located today?

Between then and now, Pete married my niece, Judy Leonard, fathered two fine sons, Mark and William, and established a homestead down in Dennis. He's a graduate of Franklin Institute and worked for several years for Fruean Electric, operating and repairing heavy equipment.

It's so natural to step into the old shop and find part of the family doing business there. It's almost as though those concrete walls were registering a welcome of their own.

It's not the walls, I know. It's me. In my mind's eye the bench that stretched below the long row of windows overlooking Pond Street stands there still. I could walk to it and pick up a tool from its proper place.

I can see the big lathe at the back of the shop and hear the belts slapping and straining as the wheels turn and send the chuck spinning. The drillpress was up front, next to the grinding and buffing machine where Dad sharpened our ice skates in winter.

Now, fifty years later, the shop is transformed. The blackened benches, the shining machinery, the tools, the "wheels", all gone. The floor, the walls, even the ceilings are clean and freshly painted. Where Dad fixed cars, now mowers and bikes are on display.

The bicycle story begins nearly 200 years ago in Paris, France, where Count de Sivrac in 1790 built a two-wheeled vehicle with a bar to straddle. It had no steering mechanism and the rider pushed along with his feet on the ground.

In Germany a quarter-century later a similar wooden machine offered front wheel steering, but still lacked pedals. Not until 1863 did the Parisian Michaux brothers put pedals on the front wheel. The bicycle soon became a popular mode of transportation.

Experiments with wheel sizes soon brought into favor the faster, but very unstable, big wheel ordinary with its seat five feet off the ground. This bicycle's pedals drove the very large front wheel just like a tricycle.

During the Gay Nineties came the invention of the sprocket and chain drive, the development of an inflatable rubber tire, and the modern bike had arrived.

Many bicycle-oriented organizations formed over the years. A few survivors are the League of American Wheelmen which had over 100,000 members in 1889, including Orville and Wilbur Wright, Commodore Vanderbilt and Diamond Jim Brady. By 1902 the membership had dropped to 9,000 since mass-production of the horseless carriage had siphoned most of the interest in bicycles.

Membership is open to those over 16 years. Write the L.A.W. at 19 South Bothwell, Palatine, Illinois 60067.

In 1909 Richard Schirrmann founded the International Youth Hostel Federation in Germany. This organization now comprises over 4,000 hostels in 48 countries on five continents. American Youth Hostels, Inc., servicing the United States and Canada, is open to all over 13 years. For further information write National Campus, Deleplane, Virginia 22025.

As machines go — and the bike does go — it's one of the most efficient; less energy per pound per mile is needed to operate a bicycle than any other machine since the operator uses his own weight together with the force of gravity for propulsion.

Riding a bicycle is not only good exercise, but it's also satisfying transportation. You're moving yourself where you wish to go with less effort and at greater speed than walking. It's inexpensive transportation, and doesn't pollute the air.

Four main types of bicycles are commonly seen today. The middle weight runs around 50 pounds, is sturdy, and familiar since it's the kind most of us learned to ride.

The play bike is primarily a toy, and not for highway use or serious transportation. It has high-rise handlebars, a banana seat, balloon tires and small wheels.

The English racer offers three speeds, hand brakes, a wicker basket, is usually painted black, and weighs 35 to 40 pounds.

The latest development in bicycles is the ten-speed light weight, at between 19 and 25 pounds. These bicycles were developed for racing, have dropped handlebars, a narrow saddle, high pressure tires, and have brought riding back as a popular sport.

Twenty years ago children rode bicycles, but adults rode in automobiles. Today Americans buy more bicycles than automobiles, and there are approximately 70 million bikeriders of all ages in this country.

Osterville may soon be the first village in the Town of Barnstable to have a bike path constructed at the same time that its highway improvement work is done. Plans for rebuilding the stretch of road between the Wool Shop and Route 28 include a bike path at the present time.

A few words of caution before you rush out to the Osterville Bike and Mower Shop and equip your entire family with two-wheelers: oversize bikes are the primary cause of riding accidents among children. Be sure, when you buy your child a bicycle, to choose the proper frame size and have the seat adjusted to fit the length of the child's legs.

Make certain the bike is in good repair and that its rider is careful to follow the rules of the road. He shares the highway with "dangerous weapons" — automobiles — and in any collision, the bikerider is certain to come out the loser.

Bicycle safety depends on the rider, his equipment, and his behavior, as well as upon the drivers of cars.

Be careful. And have a marvelous summer of riding!

# Somebody you know?

by **Andrea Leonard**

Do these names mean anything to you? Tallulah Bankhead, Humphrey Bogart, Jack Carson, George M. Cohan, Gary Cooper, Cedric Hardwicke, Sonja Henie, Judy Holliday, Gertrude Lawrence, Ed Sullivan, Sophie Tucker, E. Wynn.

What do all those people have in common? They were all in the entertainment field; yes. They are all dead; yes. They all died of cancer. Yes.

How about this group? Marie Curie, Tom Dooley, Enrico Fermi, William Menninger, Richard Shope.

What do all those people have in common? They were all in the field of science; yes. They are all dead; yes. They all died of cancer. Yes.

Do you recognize any of the following? Ludwig Bemelmans, Van Wyck Brooks, Rachel Carson, T.S. Eliot, Edna Ferber, Erle Stanley Gardner, John Gunther, Lorraine Hansberry, James Hilton, Aldous Huxley, Damon Runyon, Gertrude Stein, Jacqueline Susann.

Do they have something in common? Oh, yes. They were all in the field of literature, they are all dead, and all died of cancer.

In the field of communications, the story is the same: Rube Goldberg, Quentin Reynolds, Walter Winchell. In the field of sports, the picture is no better: Ty Cobb, Walter Hagen, Willie Hoppe, Fred Hutchinson, Frank Leahy, Vince Lombardi, Barney Ross, Babe Ruth, Casey Stengel, Dick Tiger, "Pop" Warner, Babe Didrickson Zaharias.

And cancer strikes down people who aren't famous or nationally known, as well. Scarcely a family that hasn't lost loved ones to this disease, that the threat doesn't exist, can be found anywhere in the world.

More important than the lists of those who have been lost to cancer, however, are the growing lists of those who have had the disease and are alive today, and cured.

Names we all know include John Wayne, William Powell, Glynis Johns and Van Johnson, Betty Ford, Happy Rockefeller, Shirley Temple Black, Marvella Bayh, Roy Wilkins, Richard Rodgers, William Gargan, Beverly Sills, Arthur Godfrey, Jack Pardee, Gene Littler, and the list continues to grow.

As barriers to cancer diagnosis, treatment and cure begin to fall, people we know are surviving and being cured of cancer. There are lots of us who've been down the road, through the valley, and climbed the hill to full good health again.

We didn't do it without a lot of help, and probably without a little luck, as well. In most cases luck came first with early diagnosis, for once well-advanced, reversing the course of cancer-growth is beyond our medical capacities today.

Help came from surgeons, nurses, laboratory technicians, therapy technicians, and doctors who have followed us over the years since the disease was first identified and treated.

Behind the medical specialists are years of research, public education, professional education, patient services, community services, and the management and general operation of the American Cancer Society.

Since 1944 when the Society raised \$800,000 to fight cancer, the American public has responded generously to the annual appeal, and in 1974 donated more than \$97,000,000.

Where does the American Cancer Society spend the money contributed to the crusade? Based on the 1974-75 budget, the ACS dollar is divided as follows: 28.7¢ goes for research, 17.2¢ to public education, 10.6¢ to professional education, 13.5¢ for patient services, 8.2¢ for community services, 11.9¢ for fund raising activities, and 9.9¢ for management and general operation of the Society.

**Does cancer research do any good?** Of every six people who get cancer this year, two will be saved and four will die; but of the four who die, one might have been saved with earlier diagnosis and prompt treatment. The other three of the four will die of cancer which cannot yet be controlled.

Only research can save these three patients in the future. This means that half of those who develop cancer could and should be saved.

One person in every four now living in the United States will eventually have cancer, or 54,000,000 cases. During this decade there will be 3.5 million cancer deaths, 6.5 million new cases, and more than ten million people under medical care for the disease.

**Does public education do any good?** More people die of cancer which could have been cured or prevented than of cancer for which a cure has yet to be found.

Left untreated, cancer cells eventually spread; death is then almost inevitable. Early detection, before it has spread, so it can be treated promptly by surgery or radiation or chemotherapy, or a combination of these methods is the target of public education.

**Does professional education do any good?** ACS brings the latest developments in cancer to the medical community. If you had cancer, wouldn't you want your doctor to be informed about the latest and most effective treatment methods? That is the purpose of professional education.

Clinical fellowships provide for training in the diagnosis and treatment of cancer; clinical professorships provide for teaching improved cancer treatment techniques in medical schools.

Finally, professional education includes maintaining the world's largest reference center for the collection and dissemination of data concerning unproven methods of cancer management. This information is made available to physicians, science writers, editors and the general public to assist them in evaluating claims made for unproven methods of cancer prevention, detection and treatment.

The Committee on Unproven Methods of Cancer Management is actively involved in strengthening and encouraging passage of state legislation to control the use of worthless cancer remedies and tests.

If you were a cancer victim, would you deserve to be protected from worthless practices — while your disease progressed beyond the point of treatment and cure?

Patient services include counseling for the patient and his family, a variety of equipment loans and services depending on the need. In 1975 over 300,000 patients were assisted through various ACS Service and Rehabilitation programs.

Community Services include diagnostic clinics and information centers where cancer patients and their families can get answers to questions and help with problems.

Raising money costs money. Appeals letters must be written, printed, folded, inserted in envelopes, and mailed. Informational material accompanying an appeal letter must be developed, printed and inserted in the envelope with the appeals letters. Therefore about 12¢ of every dollar you donate to the Society is spent in raising more money.

And one dime is spent for professional salaries and operation of the offices of the American Cancer Society, a voluntary organization of 2.3 million Americans united to conquer cancer.

The Society is composed of a National Society with 58 chartered Divisions and 2,792 local Units. The National Society is responsible for over-all planning and coordination; it provides technical help and materials to Divisions and Units; it administers programs of research, medical grants and clinical fellowships and is charged with carrying out public and professional education on the national level.

The 58 Divisions are governed by medical men and laymen. The units cover 31,350 counties in the United States. There are over 68,445 community leaders directing the Society's programs at this level. The basic strength of the Society lies in the loyal ranks of volunteers fighting cancer in their communities.

This, then is the organization you support with the dollars you donate to the American Cancer Society. Please support the Cancer Crusade of the American Cancer Society by participating in the Fair, on Saturday, June 5, in Osterville.