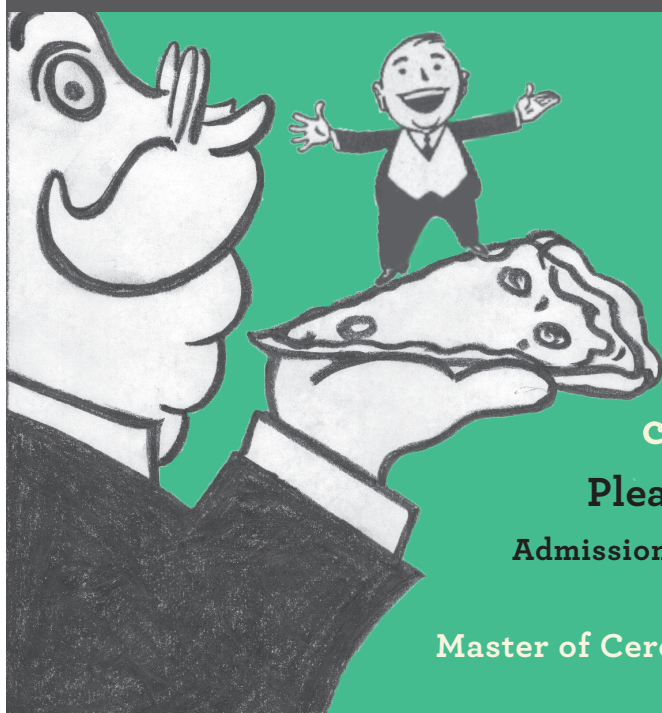




LEEDS LETTER

JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2019

LEEDS PIZZA PARTY & RAFFLE



Beat the Winter Blues!

March 16, 2019

Saturday, 4:30 - 8:00

Northampton Country Club

cash bar • free juice drinks for kids

Please bring an appetizer or dessert to share!

Admission - LCA adult member's - \$5 / LCA member's kids - \$3

NON-member's - \$10 / NON-member's kids - \$5

Master of Ceremonies, Jim Mias | D.J., Dana Collins



UPCOMING EVENTS

FEB 12- LCA Monthly Meeting

Tuesday, 7:00 PM
Leeds School Teacher's Lounge

FEB 16 - Grove Ave & the Chestnuts

Saturday, 5:30 - 7:30 PM
Bread Euphoria concert room

MARCH 12 - LCA Monthly Meeting

Tuesday, 7:00 PM
Leeds School Teacher's Lounge

MARCH 16 - Annual Pizza Party

Saturday, 4:30-8:00
Northampton Country Club
All Leeds residents welcome!

LEEDS CIVIC ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 114, Leeds, MA 01053
LeedsCivicAssoc@gmail.com
LeedsCivic.org

Please consider donating a prize for the LCA's one and only annual fund-raiser, "Beat the Winter Blues"- Pizza Party and Raffle

In the past people have donated themed gift baskets, gift certificates, wine and fancy beer, small kitchen appliances, framed art, bicycles, rowing machines, tool kits, gardening supplies, to name a few. If you have holiday gifts that you might like to re-gift to the LCA, and they are new or next to new, please contact Heidi at heidi@heidistevens.com or 585-9923. Thanks!

Solar Hot Water Systems - Amy Stamm

While Northampton has advertised various green energy programs ranging from mini-split heat pumps to photovoltaic solar electric systems, one type of green power that has been under-advertised in the past few years is solar hot water systems. These systems provide the most efficient way to heat your water, and they pay for themselves in as few as 4-6 years. After that, all your hot water is heated for free by the sun for the rest of the years you live in your home. Right now 80% of the cost of a solar hot water system is paid for through various rebates and tax credits that add up to about \$9,600, leaving you responsible for only \$2,500 for a fully installed system, including a 105-gallon tank with electric back-up. If you are interested in installing one of these systems, Spartan Solar is a reputable local installer, and you can contact them by calling 413-768-0095 or emailing spartangiordano@gmail.com. Their website is www.goSpartanSolar.com to research this topic further.

OUTDOOR ART IN LEEDS



WATCHING OVER LEEDS - Red Greene

There has been talk and inquires recently regarding the wooden man on the telephone pole going up to Yankee Hill, the hill going from Mulberry Street to Front Street. He's sort of the Leeds "Year Log Elf on a Shelf."

His story goes back many, many years and only a few people are left who know the "Real Story." Those who are left were sworn to secrecy back when Mr. Woodman was created. There are many versions of the "true story" floating around, but I can say very few come even close. He may or may not have been conceived and built by a local carpenter named [REDACTED] who lived in Leeds and with help from a local person named [REDACTED], the wooden man was put on his first pole, just up the road from where he is now. A rumor from years back said that on a really windy night he may have jumped from his perch to his new pole just down the hill, maybe for a better view of Florence Street, but it couldn't be confirmed.

I believe he may even hold the World Record for pole sitting and being at attention. Over the years he has picked up a few nicknames like Woody, Chip, P.T., and Splinter. We have to give him props ... He sits there year after year keeping watch. Think of the things he has seen in that time, how our village has welcomed so many new folks and said goodbye to many of our native residents. Some day the wooden man will fade into Leeds folklore, just a story in passing. Secrets never told—Secrets kept locked away.



ARTISTIC NATURE - Art Fan

The sculptures along the bike trail at the end of Grove Avenue are fascinating when you realize that they are made from things found close to where they are displayed. Twisted pieces of drift wood, unusually shaped branches and objects that were washed into the river many years ago are organized into unusual and yet strangely familiar sculptures. An artist's imagination starts us off and the passerby completes the story for themselves..A dancer? A running fox? A yoga pose? Each time you pass you may see something different! It's worth taking a walk and seeing for yourself. If you have visitors from out of town, check them out, it makes for great conversation. That's what art does – it moves us, gets us to think, appreciate and ponder.

They loop and they lean, they arc and they twist.

They tangle a pose in the Leeds morning mist.

Lining our path and assembled with care.

They talk to us as we take in the fresh air.

Come to our path with your bike or your dog.

Enjoy these creations of branches and log,

Of precious found objects from Mill River's edge,

Saved from the rush of the dam's mighty ledge,

And placed near the path for our neighbors to see,

And protected above by a neighboring tree. - Guy Walker



OUTDOOR ART IN LEEDS