



LEEDS LETTER

MAY-JUNE 2022

LCA P.O. Box 114, Leeds, MA 01053

LeedsCivicAssoc@gmail.com

LeedsCivic.org

A Party to Celebrate Leeds Village!

Hello Leeds friends and neighbors,

The Leeds Civic Association invites you to an outdoor party on the village green (corner of Mulberry and Main Street) to celebrate spring and our village. We live in a beautiful place, and the people of Leeds are a big part of what makes our little village special. Time to come together and have fun!

This party is not a fundraiser. It's free to attend. Bring your Leeds friends, family and chairs. Relax and listen to the music. Play a round of ping-pong, arch your back for limbo contests (or enjoy watching others do this!), meet new people, catch up with friends and neighbors.

EAT DELICIOUS FOOD!

Caravan Kitchen's panini food truck will be on-site serving delicious panini meals for \$10 (includes panini, water, pickle or chips). Both meat and vegetarian panini will be offered.

Panini Meal Tickets: A limited number of meals will be available, so we recommend purchasing your meal ticket(s) in advance at either the LCA website, leedscivic.org, or arranging to buy and pick up tickets by calling or emailing Marc Freedman, 774-219-4290, mfreedman65@gmail.com. Meal tickets also will be sold at the party for as long as supplies last. The LCA will provide sparkling water, soda and juice.

Many Layers Cake Shop is a new business in Leeds and will have delicious desserts for sale.

LISTEN TO THE MUSIC!

Phil' N' th' Blanks is a 6 member, retro-rockin' country band. Joel Emrick of Leonard Street plays the drums and Greg White, also of Leonard Street, plays the bass.

two.five is a two person band. Kaci Ruh sings and Shawn Gunderson sings and plays guitar. Their music is diverse but mostly singer/songwriter in the indie vein with a healthy dose of alt-country and classic rock, sprinkled with schmaltzy torch songs!

Duke Rushmore is a high-energy, rock-and-roll band with roots in Leeds, Florence and Easthampton, playing music designed to get you dancing.

SATURDAY
May 14
12:00 - 4:00 p.m.

LEEDS

Village Green party

LIVE MUSIC

Phil' N' th' Blanks
two.five
Duke Rushmore

FOOD

Caravan Kitchen
Panini Food Truck
(Food Tickets \$10)

Many Layers Cake Shop
Dessert Table

GAMES

Cornhole, Ping Pong,
Limbo & More

Leeds Main Street Green

Rain date: May 15

Limited number
of meals: purchase
advance food tickets at
LeedsCivic.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS

LCA May Meeting

TUESDAY, MAY 9, 7:00 - 8:00 P.M. in the Leeds School cafeteria

Leeds Village Green Party - Live Music, Food, Games!

SATURDAY, MAY 14, noon to 4:00 P.M. (Rain date, May 15)

Memorial Day Ceremony

SUNDAY, MAY 29, 1:00 P.M. in the park across from Leeds School

LCA Village Tag Sale

SATURDAY, JUNE 11, 8:00 to 1:00 in your driveway, garage or yard

LCA June Meeting

TUESDAY, JUNE 14, 7:00 - 8:00 P.M. in the Leeds School cafeteria

Village-Wide Tag Sale- Saturday, June 11

Great time to clean out your closets, garages and barns! The LCA will post a large sign at the base of Florence Street and run an advertisement in the Gazette. The sale is village-wide, so all you have to do is put a sign at the end of your street directing customers to your place!

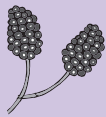
Thank You to Leeds Litter Volunteers!

On Saturday, April 23 the LCA held our annual litter pick-up along our roads in Leeds. Over 35 bags of winter trash were collected. Thank you to all the volunteers: Chris Sekaer; Nelson Geis; Joanne Kelliher; Bruce Walker; Carol Meunier; Jim Bridgman; John Coan; Margie Riddle; the Rondina family; Betsy Coddling; Ray, Bob and Laura; Tanya Dragan and Roman Voyevodka; Tina Harding, Dave and Silvia; Rob Urbank; Erin Mahon-Moore; Jon Dietrich and Kevin Hodgson and Leslie Skantz. Also thanks to David Rondina for his truck hauling.

Calling All Gardeners - Pick What Appeals to You

The beauty of Leeds extends beyond our backyards and into the public spaces. The LCA requests your help to care for the village gardens and planters. The goal is to find enough volunteers willing to adopt a garden section or planter and tend it at their convenience. You can partner with a buddy or your family members to adopt one or part of the areas described below. If you live near Hotel Bridge that option may work for you. The Mulberry garden is large but is broken up into several small manageable sections and the maintenance is minimal. The Flood Memorial garden on Main Street needs seasonal weeding. The City gave Leeds three large black planters, similar to the ones seen downtown and in Florence. To find out the planter locations, contact Edna Green (email below). Here is a list of adoptable spots and what is needed. Please reach out to the contacts below and join in!

Mulberry Street Garden



- Adopt a small section
- Spring weeding/pruning
- Seasonal work parties

Contact Lora Sandhusen:
lorasandhusen@gmail.com



Hotel Bridge Planters

- Adopt 3 planters
- Purchase flowers (LCA funded)
- Plant flowers
- Water when needed

Contact Heidi Stevens:
heid@heidistevens.com

City Planters



- Adopt 1 of 3 planters
- Purchase flowers (Donate or submit receipts to LCA.)
- Plant flowers
- Water when needed

Contact Edna Green:
egreene20@comcast.net



Flood Memorial Garden (Main Street)

- Adopt a section
- Spring weeding
- Sweep paver stones

Contact Jason Johnson:
friendsoftrasheddrivers@gmail.com

Hotel Bridge Update

Some Leeds folks have seen workers on Hotel Bridge and were wondering what was happening. Department of Public Works engineer David Valeta sent us this update:

The workers that have been on the bridge are subcontractors to Greenman-Pedersen, Inc. (GPI), our bridge engineering consultant. They are doing testing on the steel pins that join some of the bridge members so that they can gather more information on the condition of the structure. There will be another crew on site in the coming weeks using a boat in the river to access pins underneath the structure that can't be accessed from the deck. The results of the testing will allow GPI to refine the scope of work for a potential rehabilitation project.

The LCA appreciates the effort the DPW has been making over the years to figure out how to safely open the bridge to pedestrians. The LCA continues to advocate for its opening and has never lost hope that we will be able to enjoy walking and biking over the bridge again. The DPW will continue their efforts and are also hopeful that they can get this to happen!

Green Tip- E-bikes by Amy Stamm

As spring unfolds and the weather becomes warmer, one way to live a greener lifestyle is to ride an electric bicycle. E-bikes emit 30-60 times less carbon dioxide per mile than electric cars, which, in turn, emit far less carbon dioxide than gas-powered cars, and e-bikes cost only about a penny per mile to charge. In addition, because e-bikes are so much lighter than cars, they help to preserve roads, which saves resources and reduces the pollutants used in road repair. Also, when you ride an e-bike, you do not create noise or air pollution. E-bikes have even been called greener than non-electric bikes because they are more able to replace car rides since they give riders an extra boost that helps with longer commutes. In addition, e-bikes provide a number of health benefits. They improve blood circulation and coordination, release stress, build core muscle strength, and connect people to their neighborhoods. Finally, e-bikes are so fun to ride that you'll never want to stop! So get out there and start saving the world by ditching your car!

Leeds E-bike Station Update

The back-ordered chip for the Leeds ValleyBike station located on Main Street finally arrived a month or two ago and was installed after a six month supply chain delay. The next step is for National Grid to provide an electric service to the station. The Northampton Planning Department has requested the service connection but is not certain how long it will take. As soon as the power goes live, the City will have their vendor complete the installation. The installation shouldn't take more than two weeks once National Grid turns on the power.

Donations to the Medical Supply Drive for Ukraine

Дякую! Thank you to all of you who dropped off donated emergency medical supplies to one of four boxes, which were located at Leeds Elementary, the Rockett family's Leeds porch, High Five Books and Cooper's Corner. Thousands of bandages, exam gloves, gauze pads, and other medical supplies were collected. The initiative was started by a Leeds Ukrainian-American family, the Voyevodkas. Constantine Voyevodka and Tanya Dragan along with their children, Roman and Mykola will be sorting and packaging the items for shipment to Ukraine via *Razom for Ukraine* (Together for Ukraine), an organization which works with partners on the ground in Ukraine to deliver tactical medicine items, hospital supplies, and tech-enabled emergency response supplies where needed. Дякую to the Voyevodka family!

Memorial Day Ceremony

On Sunday, May 29 at 1:00, a celebration honoring our veterans will be held at Memorial Park across from Leeds School. Activities will include a color guard from VFW Post 8006, a wreath laying ceremony and the playing of taps. A Leeds Elementary School student will read the Gettysburg Address, and the plaque honoring Korean War veteran Brad LeVay will be unveiled. If it rains the ceremony will be held in the Leeds School cafeteria. Please join us May 29th to honor our veterans.