



LEEDS LETTER

SEPTEMBER 2017

UPCOMING LCA EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 12

LCA Monthly Meeting

Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.
Leeds School Teacher's Lounge

SEPTEMBER 12

HeatSmart Kickoff Event

Tuesday, 7:00 - 8:30 pm
Northampton Senior Center
at 67 Conz St.

September 22

Exploring Robert's Hill in Leeds Walk Led by Laurie Sanders

Friday, 10:00 a.m - 12:00 p.m.
preregistration required

OCTOBER 14

Old Mosquito Road History Walk

Saturday, 1:00 - 2:30 p.m.
Advance registration required.
Please see article opposite.

OCTOBER 10

LCA Monthly Meeting

Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.
Leeds School Teacher's Lounge

OCTOBER 28

Leeds Pumpkin Contest & Party

Saturday, 4:30- 8:30 p.m.
Corner of Chestnut Ave &
Upland Road



It's never too soon
to start thinking about
what your pumpkin
entry will be!

LEEDS CIVIC ASSOCIATION

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

Frogmen on Main Street? - Heidi Stevens

One doesn't see scuba divers suiting up on Main Street every morning, which is what occurred on Wednesday, August 23. A two man scuba team from the Department of Transportation were preparing to inspect the stone substructure on the Leeds Main Street bridge (closest to Hotel Bridge). Inspections are scheduled on a qualitative basis, depending on the findings from the previous inspection. The usual schedule for bridge inspections is every three years. If any integrity issues are noted, another inspection would occur sooner than the average three year period.

Scuba diver, Stephen Ousevich (on right) was the "designated diver" on this bridge mission. John Mankowski (on left with clipboard) "water" logged Ousevich's underwater observations. Their inspection information first goes to the Boston DOT office, then to the Northampton district office where it will be made available to the public.



Exploring Roberts Hill in Leeds

Friday, September 22, from 10 am-12 pm

Join naturalist & co-director of Historic Northampton, Laurie Sanders, for a 2-hour exploration of one of Northampton's oldest conservation areas. Roberts Hill is an important wildlife habitat with an elaborate network of well-maintained trails. On the walk, Laurie will describe the changes in vegetation over time, from the early 19th century when this area was heavily cut for firewood to the present.

Co-sponsored by the Leeds Civic Association. \$8 members; \$12 non-members. Limit 20. To register, email: lsanders@historicnorthampton.org.

Directions upon registration.

Come to the HeatSmart Northampton Kickoff Event! - Penny Geis

Tuesday, September 12 from 7-8:30 pm at the Northampton Senior Center at 67 Conz St.

Learn how to reduce your heating bill, ditch the window air conditioner and reduce your carbon footprint at the same time! HeatSmart Northampton is the latest City program to help residents and businesses save on their heating and cooling costs by providing discounted pricing on cold climate air source heat pumps. Learn more about heat pumps and generous state and utility rebates that reduce installation costs, meet Northampton's competitively-selected installer, hear from your neighbors on their experiences with heat pumps, and get your questions answered!

For more information go to: HeatSmartNorthampton.org.

Eclipse Glasses to be Collected for Reuse

The City of Northampton will collect eclipse viewing glasses through September 15, 2017 for reuse. Drop off locations are at Northampton City Hall, 210 Main Street, and at the Northampton Department of Public Works (DPW), 125 Locust Street.

Pioneer Valley residents are encouraged to bring their usable eclipse viewing glasses to City Hall or to the DPW.

Transfer Station permit holders may also drop them off at the Glendale Road Transfer Station on Wednesdays from 8:00am-Noon and on Saturdays from 7:00am-Noon, or at the Locust Street Transfer Station, Monday-Saturday, 7:00 am-4:00pm.

Collected glasses will be donated to Astronomers Without Borders, which will arrange for them to be reused in South America and parts of Asia, both of which are anticipating eclipse events in 2019.

Glasses that are torn, scratched, or are otherwise rendered unusable can be recycled by removing and discarding the dark lenses and recycling the paper-board portion.

History Walk Through Old Section of Leeds - Sue Carbin

On Saturday, October 14th (rain date 21st), at 1:00pm, John Clapp will be leading a tour of Old Mosquito Road which lies within the "Lost Village of Robert's Meadow."

John will be pointing out where many of the now long-gone houses and mills were located and showing us some old cellar holes along the way. This is a not-to-be-missed adventure as the Village of Robert's Meadow is where Leeds really began.

Distance of hike: Two miles round trip, mostly level. Duration: hour and a half+. Copies of "The Lost Village of Robert's Meadow" will be available for purchase with 25% of the price donated to the Leeds Civic Association.

The walk is limited to 25 participants and embarks from 940 Chesterfield Road (look for B & B signs). Parking is available.

Sign up at: leedscivic3@aol.com

Wildlife Blind Tree Milling - Heidi Stevens

The Beaver Brook Greenway along Route 9 in Leeds is being developed by volunteers from Broadbrook Coalition and the Leeds Civic Association and is funded by a Northampton Community Preservation Act grant. Plans have been drawn, trees have been felled, a team of oxen have moved the logs so they can be milled on-site.

On a cloudy day in July, Neil Godden, timber framer and general contractor from Goshen, set up his Wood-Mizer Sawmill and trimmed the bark from each log, then sliced the logs into perfect

boards. Neil is a highly skilled member of The Timber Framers Guild. He knows his stuff! He carefully assessed each log to get the best cuts. Tree trunks weighing around a ton were maneuvered into position by three men using a dolly, saw horse and a see-saw technique. In the photo below Neil uses his weight while Matt Verson and Jason Johnson lift to pivot the trunks into position.

Healthy Eating Alternatives for Busy People

A new business offering a unique, healthy eating alternative for busy professionals and time-starved people – The Kitchen Pitch-In Personal Chef Service – is providing service in the greater Leeds and Northampton area.

"The Kitchen Pitch-In Personal Chef Service will come to your home and prepare healthy, delicious and preservative-free dinners," said personal chef Marc Freedman of Grove Ave. The service includes customized menu planning, grocery shopping, cooking, labeling and storing, and cleaning up.

Luxury or necessity? If your first thought is that this service would be an unaffordable luxury, think again. Just what is your time worth? Do you really want to have the "What's for dinner" dilemma every day?

Freedman offers a free consultation and food-preference interview to help you decide if a Personal Chef Service meets your needs. The cost of service varies, depending on the type of service selected and the number of meals, and will be determined at the interview.

Personal chef Marc Freedman is a graduate of the Culinary Business Academy and is dedicated to excellence in the industry.

The Kitchen Pitch-In also offers accommodating and personalized grocery shopping.

For more information: Contact Marc Freedman

The Kitchen Pitch-In Personal Chef Service

Phone: (508) 964-0626, Email: marc@thekitchenpitchin.com

Green Tip - Amy Stamm

A lot of our electric devices, like computers, televisions, coffee makers, modems, and microwaves, use energy even when they're turned off. This energy is called a "phantom load," and it can cost you as much as \$200 every year. One way to save both money and energy is to lessen this phantom load by plugging your appliances into power strips and turning the power strips off once you've stopped using the appliance. Another way is to turn off your internet connection at night before you go to sleep or to turn on the internet only when you are using it. It's easy to see in our neighborhood that a lot of people leave their internet on 24 hours a day, and we can change this habit together.

