

Council on Aging (COA)

LEYDEN NEWSLETTER JUNE 2017

THE COA would like to extend heartfelt thanks to all those people who have worked together and helped our Board members to make our programs and presentations a success over the last year. A big “thank you” to **Robbie Milner, Karen Loomis, Lou Becker and many other volunteers** who have cheerfully helped with setting up, cooking and serving lunches and cleaning up afterwards; to **Dan Galvis** for his great help setting up and running the projector for our monthly movies (which will resume in the fall) and also for driving a group to ‘Bright Nights’ in Forest Park last winter; and to **Bill Glabach, Lance Fritz, Nan Rolstadt and Linda Lutz** for driving the Cadillac and making the Transportation Service a reality. Also thanks, **Bill and Lance**, for leading the ‘Leyden Historical Tour’!

Thanks to **Lisa White**, our County nurse, for her friendly and helpful ‘Wellness Clinics’; to the **Triad** officers for cooking for us and explaining what they do to help seniors; to **Carol Johnson** for faithfully posting our events in the Greenfield Recorder; to **Bob Taylor** who sends out all the reminders via email and is patient when we are not right on time with Newsletter submissions; to **Bob Hardesty** who somehow finds the time to keep the Town Hall calendar updated with our events; and to **Peggy Brown** for sending out our monthly Birthday greeting cards.

Thanks also to the following program presenters who have one way or another enriched our lives over the last few months: **Linda Allis**, for her awesome exercise classes, and keeping us all laughing; **David Sund**, for his excellent and educational painting classes; **Linda Romano** for a great workshop on gentle stretching, exercise and nutrition; our stargazing neighbor **Robin Symonds** who gave us such a wonderful presentation on our unfolding universe; Attorney **Kate Downes** on her excellent program on MassHealth long-term care and asset protection; **Lorraine-York Edberg**, Director of the ‘SHINE’ program for her very helpful explanations of the various health insurance choices for seniors; The **Greenfield Community College Chorus** for our Winter Concert, led by **Margery Heins** and accompanied by **Marilyn Berthelette**; and Naturalist **John Root** for his delightful program on local Songbirds;

Thanks to **Pat Leuchtmann** for her well-attended program on Planting for Pollinators, and to **Chris Wayne** of the Franklin County Beekeepers Association. Lastly, many thanks to the group of **Eventide Singers** who came and sang so beautifully and touched all who heard them; and to **Peter Row** and **Ajay Sinha** for their concert of Indian music performed on Sitar and Tabla at the end of May.

If I missed anybody, I apologize! But we thank you, one and all.

No ‘mid-month’ lunch or movie this month, **BUT** we are hosting a **GRAND END** of the **SEASON POTLUCK PICNIC** followed by **DANCING to “PATTY & THE CAKES” ON FRIDAY, JUNE 16TH** at the **EVERY BALL FIELD**.

The Potluck picnic will begin at 5:30 PM. Please bring a hot or cold main dish or salad. Drinks, plates, cutlery, napkins and a special dessert will be provided by the COA. **Music will begin around 7:00 PM** – bring your dancing shoes!

About Patty and the Cakes:

‘Patty and the Cakes’ is a homegrown, rockin’ dance band. **Patty Carpenter**, vocals and keyboard, is widely known to local audiences for her work in a number of different musical genre-bending forms including Blues, R & B, Jazz, Americana and original compositions. She studied jazz at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst with the great Archie Shepp and Max Roach, and was heavily influenced by many great women artists ranging from Joan Baez and Roseanne Cash to Billie Holliday and Carmen McCrae. She also works and performs as a singer-song-writer together with her long-time friend, local Vermont poet Verandah Porche. Their compositions are rooted in their lives in Vermont. Patty divides her time these days between Guilford, VT and Brooklyn, NY. As she says “I have a home and a band in each place, so I feel very lucky. It is truly the best of both worlds.”

The “Cakes” also feature the great New Orleans influenced vocals and guitar work of **Tony Hecht, Jeremy Gold** on fiddle, **Dave Fuller** on harmonica, all underscored by the driving rhythm combo of **Wim Auer** on bass and **Lou Trombley** on drums.

Thursday, June 1, at 4:30 PM: The Council on Aging holds its monthly Board meeting. Members of the public are welcome to attend; please notify the Chair, Gilda Galvis at 413-773-7932 if you would like to be put on the agenda. It is with regret that the Council is saying farewell to **Dianne Ryan** who will be leaving the Board. Thank you, **Dianne**, for your dedication and many hours of service over the past four years. The Board will be actively seeking new members to join us in the fall. Please come to the June meeting if you have an interest in being on the Board, or call one of the Board members, Amy St. Clair, Gilda Galvis, Paula Sayword, Michele Higgins, Sue Howarth, Kathy Fritz, or Linda Baker if you prefer.

Speaking of the Fall: Artist David Sund will be returning to host more painting classes, dates not yet set but likely a six-week period ending the week before Thanksgiving; Movie Nights will continue with a fixed Friday date each month (to be determined at the next meeting) and exercise classes will also continue, with days/dates also yet to be determined. So stay tuned!

Not forgetting a big thank-you to all who have attended any of the COA events—you make it happen! **Thanks!**
from the Leyden COA! —Cecelia Tusinski