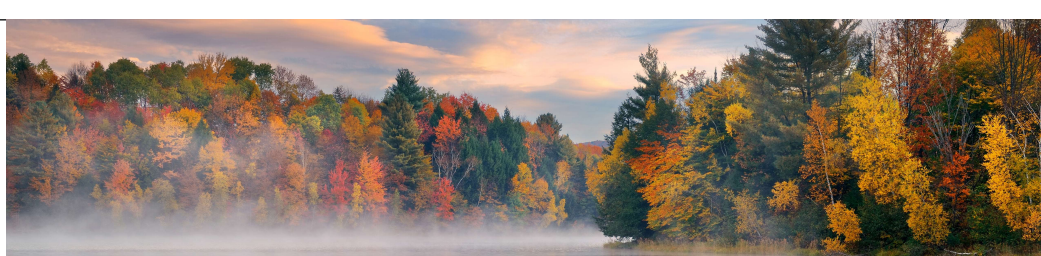


FALL 2023 NEWSLETTER

A gallery of past newsletters and this one is available at www.truesdalelake.com. Please send ideas to clarepanno@gmail.com



TRUESDALE LAKE

Est. 1927

IN THIS ISSUE:

COMMUNITY NOTE

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Dam Engineering Study
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UPDATES

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Activity Survey Results
Halloween around the Lake

AROUND THE LAKE

Moonlight Regatta
New Residents
Get Pumped
#1 Safest Small Town
in America

SPECIAL SECTION

The Sewer Initiative

HISTORY CORNER

60 Hoyt Street
Keep Your Autumn Leaves

COMMUNITY NOTE Allison Settineri

Dear Neighbors,

As we embrace the beautiful transformations that come with the fall season, we are pleased to provide you with a comprehensive update on the efforts and initiatives aimed at preserving and enhancing the health of our cherished lake.

1. Lake Drawdown: As we have done in previous years, we will be using syphons to draw down the lake level to support the health of the lake ecosystem. The drawdown will aid in managing aquatic vegetation by exposing more lakebed and permitting the frost to mitigate and/or eliminate unwanted vegetation.

2. Dam Engineering Study: Ensuring the safety and integrity of the dam is a top priority for our association. We have contracted an engineering firm to conduct a comprehensive engineering study.

This study will evaluate the dam's condition and recommend any necessary repairs or improvements. The study will also suggest ways in which we can mitigate the effects we have seen from the much more frequent heavy storms. This study is another crucial step in safeguarding our lake and community. We look forward to updating you on the findings.

3. Phragmites Treatment: The invasive Phragmites have posed a significant threat to the ecological balance of our lake and its surroundings. Our association has taken a proactive stance to combat

this issue through a targeted treatment plan. Over the coming weeks, we should expect to see the dead vegetation at our shorelines. This may not be the only treatment needed, but it is a step in the right direction.

4. Sewer District Discussions: Ongoing discussions regarding the potential establishment of a sewer district are progressing. The aim is to explore options that would ensure efficient wastewater management and environmental sustainability while meeting the needs of our community.

In addition to the article by Truesdale Lake resident Sue Enos who chairs the Lewisboro Lake coalition (LLC) published in this newsletter, we will be sending out separate communications to extend the dialog and update you on how the potential project is progressing.

We will also be hosting multiple in-person meetings to allow for Q & A and discussion. Please check your email to make sure you're in the loop as we move forward.

We encourage communication and value your active involvement in these initiatives. Please feel free to reach out with any questions, suggestions, or concerns you may have. Also, if you would like to be part of these initiatives, your involvement would be encouraged and appreciated.

Best,

Allison Settineri
tloboard@gmail.com



WATER & LAKE UPDATES

WATER CORP UPDATE

LUCILLE MUNZ

COMPLIANCE UPGRADES AND IMPROVEMENTS

BACK-UP GENERATOR FOR THE PRODUCER WELL

We are pleased to report that the Basketball Court Well backup generator improvements have been completed. The new backup generator, propane tank and electrical hookup are complete, and operational. In the event the power goes out, the backup generator will keep the water pumping.

FUTURE MAPPING & SHUT OFF WATER VALVE LOCATION PROJECT

As you may remember, we wanted the folks that are on our water system to help us locate their water valves at their homes. We had to put this project on hold as there was some discrepancy with mapping, which has since been resolved. We are now moving forward with this effort, and it will take fall and spring to pull together. After the digital maps are complete, we will reach out for help to our water systems users to help find house shut off valves. We will send out a separate email/constant contact regarding this.

WATER SYSTEM QUALITY

Our water quality and testing continue to meet all applicable EPA guidelines

and testing. A new compliance component for testing issued by the EPA is for lead testing. We are organizing the next steps for testing and documentation and will need help from our residents in documenting this testing.

WE WILL BE SENDING OUT A SEPARATE EMAIL/CONSTANT CONTACT IN THE NEXT WEEK IDENTIFYING HOW WE WILL BE DOCUMENTING THIS TESTING, AND BE ASKING FOR HELP FROM OUR RESIDENTS. VOLUNTEERING NEED HELP WITH THE WATER MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

In addition to my full-time job, the Water Commissioner volunteer position has also become my second full time job. I could use some help with organization/management, as well as tag teaming ideas and help with the lead testing project and future planning. If you are interested in helping me, I would greatly appreciate it. If you have an engineering/science background and/or very organized and have some time.

I would welcome assistance. Please reach out to me at my personal email lmunz50@gmail.com.

LAKE UPDATE

JOHN GUSMANO

LAKE HEALTH

This was our first summer in many years that we have participated in the Citizens Statewide Lake Assessment Program (CSLAP) program. I want to thank Sue and Dieter Luelsdorf who sampled our water, processed, and input the data into the website. This will provide real data as to the health of our lake. We will share the data when it's available. Overall, the water quality has been good. Our partner the Pond & Lake Connection has been very responsive, and we have managed to use fewer treatments this year.

Invasive plants continue to be a challenge both in and out of the water. It was necessary to treat the Phragmites which were rapidly spreading. The dead Phragmites will be visible when we lower the lake and can be removed.



LAKE DRAW DOWN

The TLPOA lake committee has set the lake drawdown to start the last week of October. This means we will be lowering the water level with siphons. The water will flow out of the siphon tubes over the spillway on Indian Lane into the plunge pool and stream bed which leads to Waccabuc River.

A notification will be sent out prior to siphon startup to prep your docks or haul out if necessary. This is the time to remove and winterize your boat.

Depending on the amount of rain we encounter, the water level should drop quickly over the following 2 weeks. This allows the exposed mud on the lakebed to compact and help minimize next year's weed growth in the shallow parts of the lake. Weed control is the main benefit of the drawdown, which therefore helps reduce our use of herbicides to combat invasive weeds.

The drawdown level will fluctuate during the winter based on weather and water flow, but the goal is to maintain a level up to 3 feet lower than

the dam spillway through February.

For those with waterfront homes – this is the best time to make any repairs, clean up your shoreline and remove any fallen trees from the water.

Signs will be placed on either side of the dam indicating where fishing will not be permitted during the drawdown.

There is no fishing permitted from the bridge and between the signs posted on Indian Lane.

Thank you, Scot, Harold, and Lucille. Thanks to everyone who give their time and expertise to help manage our beautiful lake.

PROPERTY & BEACH UPDATES

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

JAY VOSLER

We've been successful in maintaining our community grounds this year while keeping within our budget.

More than half of our total spend, 56% funded the removal of the dead ash trees this year. With the dead ash removed, we are planning to focus more on the common areas next year.

Here is what we accomplished or is in progress for completion thus far:

Maintenance:

- Weeding chipping Howe well
- Weeding backside dam
- Weeding and mulching front entrance
- Added sand to Gilbert shoreline to eliminate the muck for launching boats
- Beach trees, lake grass

Removed dead ash trees/branches:

- Gilbert/Lakeshore
- Hoyt boat launch
- Basketball Court and area
- Lakeshore TLPOA Lot

Repair/Replace

- Fence repair at the beach
- Replaced swim line with buoys
- Front entrance plants

Annual Twig & Branch removal

Please note that neither the TLPOA nor the Town picks up fall leaves. Please do not mound on the sides of our streets, or dispose of your leaves in the lake or on any association property.

THERE ARE NO TRASH CANS OR PORTA POTTIES AT BEACH

BEACH CLOSED FOR THE SEASON

MARTIN ROZARIO

We really enjoyed our beach this year. Families and friends came out in numbers to enjoy our beautiful beach. Kids played on the clean sand and swam to the buoys and back.

Adult residents enjoyed the beach even without kids; the fire pits were a blaze on many a lovely evening. There were several small parties by our members.



Peter Vincitore 2



Christian Piddington 8, Chase Vosler 10, Marilyn Vincitore 3, Peter Vincitore 2, Gus Bubaris 10.

While the weather did not cooperate for our beach clean-up this year, we were able to get a lot done on Sunday October 8th. Resident volunteers cleaned out both the toy chest and the shed and cut and cleared the twigs and bushes. We pulled out the buoys and brought the dock back to the shoreline to rest for the season.

Many thanks to Rebecca Rozario, Allison Settineri, Kathy Lyness, Matthew Lyness, Ron Kormis, Manu Gastard, Alex Grigor, Stephanie Grigor, Mike and Jennifer Vincitore

ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

OCTOBER

26 Lake Draw down begins
28 Annual Halloween Parade 10am
28 Oktoberfest 3pm
29 Halloween Party with the Wolves
(South Salem Wolf Conservation Center NYWOLF.org
not a TLPOA event)

NOVEMBER

02 Election Day
11 Veterans Day
12 Raven Rocks Run
23 Thanksgiving Day

DECEMBER

7 1st Day of Hanukkah
15 Read Your Water Meter
TBD Caroling & Luminary
Fundraiser
25 Christmas Day
31 New Year's Eve
TBD Polar Bear Plunge

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The 2023-24 season is upon us and we need volunteers to keep our events calendar packed with fun times, and our neighborhood beautiful. Our resident survey resulted in many great ideas for social activities and community events.

Here are just a few of the areas we could really use your assistance with:

- Lake Event Photographer(s)
- Articles for newsletter
- Roads Petition coordinator
- Sunshine committee
- Water Commissioner Support
- Beach crew
- Front Entrance garden

Please reach out to:

Marissa - marissa.carrio@gmail.com
Clarepanno@gmail.com

Social & Events

PLEASE WELCOME MARISSA CARRIO



We are delighted to welcome Marissa Carrio our new head of the TLPOA social committee and the newest member of our board.

Marissa, her husband, David Hartman, and their two children, Auden (4) and Roland (6) Hartman, moved to Truesdale Lake in 2020. Marissa is a Pediatric Occupational Therapist by trade and enjoys hiking, foraging and mushroom hunting, poetry, and brewing.

"I am very excited to be a part of this dedicated and very active social committee. Please join our committee of neighbors and friends who get together to generate ideas and plan social events for this wonderful lake

community. Everyone is welcome to attend; it is not a formal group. Please come for the next meeting or come for all of them. We love to see new faces!"

All meetings will be announced via email. If you cannot attend a meeting but have ideas or wish to help with our social events, feel free to contact me

marissa.carrio@gmail.com"

AND THE SURVEY SAYS...

We conducted a survey of residents to evaluate our current activities and to get some ideas as to other activities our community might enjoy. This visual displays the items with the most commonality and mentioned most frequently. It was wonderful to learn how many people were ready to help out. We will be using these results in planning our 2024 calendar of activities.



HALLOWEEN AROUND THE LAKE

The Halloween parade will start at 10am leading from the library to the beach for refreshments and the pumpkin carving contest. Oktoberfest, our 1st Bavarian themed adult event, will start at 3pm.

**HALLOWEEN PARADE &
PUMPKIN CARVING**
10/28, 10am - Meet at Library

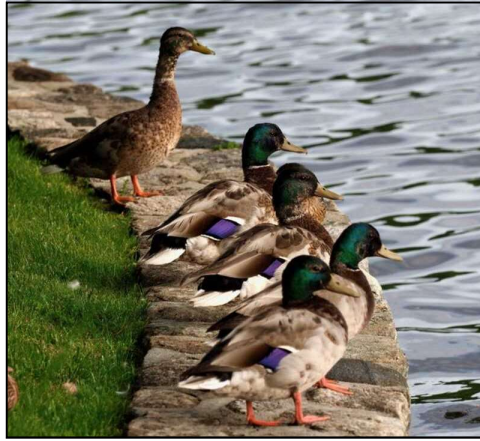
Oktoberfest 2023
Adults Only Please
10/28, 3-7pm at the Beach



AROUND THE LAKE



The Rasamny family Lee, Bree, Cameron & Casey ready for the Memorial Day for the Race Around the Lake



The Boys of Summer and their Lady friend

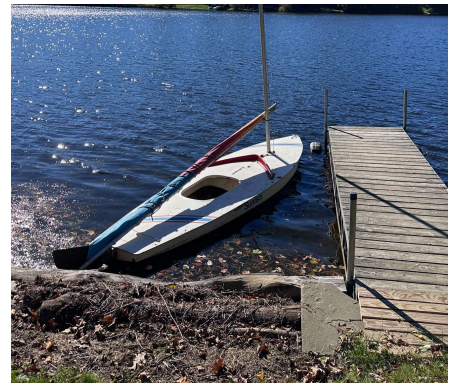
NEW RESIDENTS



New Pirate Island resident Eaglet and a sibling hatched this spring. Bald eagles mate for life, returning to nest in the general area from which they fledged. Once a pair selects a nesting territory, they use it for the rest of their lives.



New Hoyt St resident Black Bear moved in Oct 13 - sometimes visits friends on Main & Boway



On October 4th a little Sunfish lost its' way and found refuge in the Rogers' dock. This lost little one has no registration sticker so we can't notify the owners that it has been found. The Sunfish is in good condition and now in foster care at the Hoyt St. Neighborhood Boat Launch. The centerboard is in the cockpit. We are hopeful the owners will come rescue and register this boat because... winter is coming.

MOONLIGHT REGATTA

On Saturday August 26th we rowed and paddled to the middle of Truesdale Lake. Old friends and new, from TLPOA and TEA, we gathered to witness the Waxing Gibbous phase of the Moon.

On this day, the moon was 10.17 days old and 74.15% illuminated with a tilt of 123.405°. The moon was approximately 370,155.94 km away from Earth to the moon is 370,155.94 km and the moon sign was in Capricorn.

While the full moon followed Wednesday 8/31, we enjoyed the moonlight the Saturday before when most residents were available to light up boats, floats and paddle boards.



New residents Dana & David Cotterman with son Crosby and daughter Piper



20 year resident Corey Panno

AROUND THE LAKE -2

GET PUMPED!! Septic that is

The Town of Lewisboro requires that Lewisboro residents must pump their septic tanks at least every 5 years. If you live on or close to the lake, you should pump every 2-3 years.

If you're not sure when you last pumped, Westchester County records the pump out service dates for every property in the County. Note:

these records are not always 100% correct, sometimes septic pump out companies fail to submit accurate data on the required forms. Even so, you can access septic pump out records on



TLPOA AND TEA
your property through this link; <https://gis.westchestergov.com/> Type "Septic pump out" and the year you want to access in the search window. Enter your street address on the GIS map. (Please note; Data from 2023 is not yet available. If you pumped this year, it hasn't been published)

If you haven't pumped, schedule an appointment to pump out your septic tank. A list follows of some local companies used by many Lewisboro residents. Keep a copy of your receipt. Thank you in advance for "Getting Pumped" this fall!

East Coast Septic Sv 914-922-0854
Gary E. Powell 914-234-7455
Kaiser Batisone 914-774-1952
Katonah Septic 914-755-8836

Ronnie's Septic Tank 914-774-1952
Vogler Brothers Septic 914-232-5535
Westchester Septic Service
914-232-3943 (Kenny Munoz)

CAR BREAK-INS IN THE SAFEST SMALL TOWN IN AMERICA

The Town of Lewisboro has again been named the safest small town in America, and yet we continue to experience car break-ins. these simple recommendations, we can deter the criminals from haunting our neighborhood:

1. **Lock your vehicles** - criminals are looking for easy access
2. Do not leave keys or key fob in your vehicle - **all the vehicles that have been stolen had the keys in the cars**
3. **Remove your valuables** - take your wallet or purse inside or hide them from view. If the thieves can't see anything, they'll move on.
4. **Park your car in your garage** - don't give car thieves an opportunity to upgrade!
5. Report suspicious behavior to the police by dialing 911.

Source: Safewise 2022 for populations 5,000-14,999

TOWN OF LEWISBORO SAFEST CITY IN AMERICA 2022

Lewisboro NY was again ranked as the safest town in America 2022.

SafeWise analyzes the latest available violent and property crime data from the FBI. Despite alarming headlines about rising violent crime and gun violence across the US, there are still plenty of hamlets that remain relatively immune to the crime trends plaguing America's largest cities.

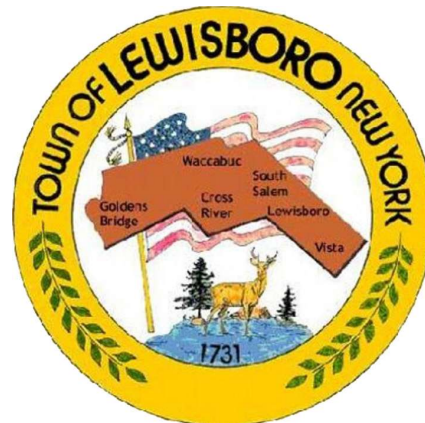
The 100 cities and towns that made our list this year bucked nationwide trends, showing a collective drop in both violent and property crime rates. Comparatively, the US violent crime rate jumped 5% year over year.

Here are the 10 Safest Cities in America for 2022

1. **Lewisboro Town, NY**
2. Wayland, MA
3. Rye, NY
4. Broadview Heights, OH
5. Franklin, MA
6. Norfolk, MA
7. Sparta Township, NJ
8. Hasbrouck Heights, NJ
9. Berkeley Heights Township, NJ

The Town of Lewisboro has ranked the #1 safest small town in America 2021, 2020, 2019

Source:
<https://www.safewise.com/safest-cities-america/>



THE SEWER INITIATIVE - Part 1

Our very own Sue Enos is the Chairman of the Lewisboro Lakes Coalition (LLC). This group is made of members of our seven lake communities, and supported by Tony Gonçalves, Town Supervisor; NY State Representative, Chris Burdick; and NY State Senator, Peter Harcham. One of the LLC's main missions has been to find funding sources for solutions to mitigate septic pollution in our lakes. This article is the first of a series of information pieces that will be published monthly to our entire lake community.

Hi Neighbors,

Truesdale Lake has been my home for many years, and I care deeply for this lake and my community. For this reason, I have recently become involved in a Town wide effort with the Lewisboro Lakes Coalition to reduce pollution, specifically septic pollution, in the Town lakes.

As lakes age they undergo the gradual natural process of eutrophication or degradation as nutrients slowly accumulate. This change is greatly accelerated by manmade pollution, predominantly too much phosphorus, which negatively impacts the quality and health of the lake. The good news is that eutrophication can be significantly abated if septic pollution is reduced or eliminated!

Currently, Truesdale Lake is on New York State's list of "Impaired and Threatened Waterways" because of high phosphorus levels.

There are many things that contribute to phosphorus in our lake. Phosphorus, which you may know as an ingredient in fertilizers, stimulates weed growth and is responsible for the harmful algae blooms. Soil naturally contains phosphorus so runoff from streams, roads and lake banks contribute to nutrient levels. However, septic contamination is by far the largest contributor of phosphorus in our lake. This was documented in an engineering study by Woodard and Curran Engineers commissioned by the Town last year. <https://bit.ly/3tMz0LR>

Phosphorus accumulates at the bottom of the lake, which has a compounding effect year over-year. We have all seen more frequent algae blooms, which are the result of excessive phosphorus concentration which combines with algae. Algae blooms impair our water quality and interfere with swimming, boating, fishing, and the aesthetic enjoyment of our lake. Phosphorus accumulation, coupled with increasing climatic high heat events, has the potential for toxic blue algae blooms as well.

Over many years as lake caretakers, we have assembled a toolbox of solutions. For example, we currently treat the lake annually with chemicals to eliminate excessive weed growth and suppress algae blooms. We also lower the lake in the winter to inhibit weed growth and reduce organic matter. These remediations have helped, but they are not enough to keep up with the high nutrient load and keep our lake healthy. We are treating the symptoms and not the fundamental cause, septic pollution. Reduction and/or elimination of phosphorus contamination from failing and substandard septic systems is the only cure for phosphorus overload and the restoration of lake health.

Septic contamination gets into the lake in several ways. Aging septic tanks and leach fields, that have exceeded their useful life or haven't been maintained properly, contribute to pollution. Septic tanks that are full and don't get pumped regularly (every 2/3 years) are another contributor. Unless you have regularly had your tank pumped, you may not know if your tank and/or leaching fields are failing.

Also, many the lakefront properties have high water tables. By today's engineering standards they would not be acceptable for conventional septic systems. They are also prone to failure especially during a high flood event. The findings of the 6/8/2023 Woodard and Curran Engineering Summary, cited above, conclude that conventional septic systems are not ideal for properties with any of these characteristics; small in size, steeply sloped, having poor soil percolation, or in a flood plain. Many or most of the properties in the Truesdale Lake community fit this description.

The average life expectancy of a septic system, without major repair, is about 60 years. Over half the septic systems on our lake are well over this age. Many lakefront and lakeside properties were built in the 1920's. The average repair cost and/or upgrades to failing or substandard systems may cost up to \$35,000 or more according to people to have had septic systems installed

recently.

Please heed the yard signs placed around the lake and "Get Pumped"! Use the QR code for a list of local septic pumping companies.

Our Town, County, and State representatives, along with the Lewisboro Lakes Coalition, have worked collectively to assess the problem of septic pollution in all the 7 Town lakes and propose effective solutions.

One current proposal includes building a new wastewater treatment plant and low-pressure sewer system that would collect sewage from a portion of the homes on the west side of our lake as well as portions of Lakes Waccabuc, Oscaleta and Rippowam. Using a low-pressure sewer system, instead of relying on conventional septic systems, is the most efficient way to keep pollutants from entering the lake.

The Town of Lewisboro recently applied for two separate NY State grants to fund building a sewer system. We are extremely hopeful that this funding will be granted and supplement other funding available through NY State and Westchester County.

The sewer project is intended to be the first phase of a multi-phased plan to connect a sewer system to other Truesdale homes as well as many properties on Waccabuc, Rippowam and Oscaleta.

Stay tuned for more information as it becomes available. We are very excited about the potential of this project and are very thankful to our Town, County, and State officials for advocating on behalf of the community!

For more information, please visit Truesdalelake.com and the "Lewisboro Lakes" page under "Community" on Lewisborogov.org.

Sue Enos
Chairman, Lewisboro Lakes Council
Truesdale Lake Resident

Truesdale Lake History Corner

The Truesdale Lake Corporation, a real estate development company, was incorporated in April 1926. The corporation flourished for several years, but as the Great Depression settled in, real estate sales slowed dramatically. By the end of the 1930s, only a few new homes were being built on the lake. One of these homes was on Hoyt Street and has quite a wonderful story attached to it.

Elmer Sheets, an executive at Chanel, married Carol Cotton on August 3rd, 1934 in New York City. Carol was one of the original Radio City Rockettes and became Mrs. Carol Cotton Sheets. They honeymooned on Cape Cod.

In 1936, the Sheets rented a house on Hoyt Street for the summer and enjoyed it so much, they decided to build their own home on the lake, replicating the Cape house they loved from their honeymoon. The July 1st, 1937 Tarrytown Daily News reported, "The lakefront plot on the easterly shore of Truesdale Lake formerly owned by David W. Richardson was recently acquired by Elmer Sheets, who will shortly start erecting a cottage in a setting of white pine."

The Sheets' beautiful lakefront home was valued at \$15,000 in 1940. They kept it as a second home through the eventual bankruptcy of the Truesdale Lake Corporation



and formation of the Truesdale Lake Property Owners Association. Mrs. Sheets was the 2nd person issued a Membership Certificate in the newly formed TLPOA in 1944. Carol Cotton Sheets kept the cottage on Truesdale Lake until her death in 1990.

The cottage was bought by Jonathan and Cindy Rodgers in 1991 (only the second owners in 85 years).



By Priscilla Luckow
Cindy said "When we moved in, Carol's relative left us a note saying the house had seen many happy years and her hope was that we would experience this too."

She left us the "wishbone" from the first

Thanksgiving in the house in 1938. I still have the wishbone!"

The Rodgers have enlarged the home twice, keeping the front of the house essentially the same as it appeared in 1937. After the first addition in 1998, the home was featured in the Home Supplement to the Hersam Acorn newspapers.

Cindy and Jonathan still have many of the Sheets' original plans and receipts for the house, including the building blueprint and the contractor's agreement (the house cost \$9,900 to build). They cherish the history and old stories of their Hoyt Street treasure.

FALL LEAVES ORGANIC GOLD

Our leaves are this season's most abundant crop, organic and free. The trees have mined minerals from deep in the subsoil and brought them to the surface. Leaves are a rich source of calcium, magnesium, phosphorus, potassium, and more.

The leaves of one large tree can be worth as much as \$50 worth of plant food and humus. Pound for pound, leaves contain twice the mineral content of manure. The huge amount of organic matter they offer can be used to improve soil structure:

1. Leaf humus can lighten heavy clay soils.
2. They feed earthworms and beneficial microbes.
3. Leaves increase the moisture retention of dry, sandy soils.
4. They make an attractive mulch in the flower garden.
5. They are a fabulous source of carbon to balance the nitrogen in your compost pile.
6. They insulate tender plants from cold.

THERE IS NO LEAF PICK-UP BY TOWN OR TLPOA

TLPOA BOARD MEMBERS

President
Treasurer
Secretary
Lake

Allison Setteneri
Ted Bloch
Bree Rasamny
John Gusmano

Water Corporation
Beach Management
Property & Roads
Welcome Wagon

Lucille Munz
Martin Rozario
Jay Vosler
Jill Wishner

Social & Events
Community Relations
Community Advisor

Marissa Carrio
Clare Panno
Daniela Tuohy