

Leyden Life

Leyden, Massachusetts

November 2014

Selectboard Office Hours:

Monday 12:00 - 5:00 PM, Tuesday—Thursday 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Friday 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Tax Collector:

Monday and Wednesday 5:30 - 8:00 PM

Assessors Office:

Wednesday 2:00 - 8:00 PM

Select Board

SELECTBOARD MEETINGS

The Select Board will meet Thursday, November 6th at 9:00 AM, and Thursday, November 20th at 6:45 PM in their office. To be added to the agenda or to get a copy of it, please contact Bob Hardesty at 774-4111 or leydensselectboard@crocker.com at least 72 hours prior to the meeting. Anyone not on the posted agenda is welcome to address the Selectboard at the end of the meeting during the "Citizens' concerns not anticipated in advance of the meeting" agenda item time.

TOWN HALL MONTHLY MEETINGS

The following meetings are scheduled this month:

Wed, Nov 5	6:30 PM	Board of Assessors
Thu, Nov 6	9:00 AM	Selectboard
Tue, Nov 11	5:30 PM	Board of Health (at the Police Station)
Wed, Nov 12	7:00 PM	Planning Board
Mon, Nov 17	7:30 PM	Conservation Commission
Wed, Nov 19	6:30 PM	Board of Assessors
Thu, Nov 20	6:45 PM	Selectboard

Any changes to these meeting dates or times will be posted separately. Meetings *not* held monthly will also be posted separately.

Note: Monthly meetings are now posted on the town web site at www.townofleyden.com. Any changes or additions to meeting times and/or dates should be forwarded to Municipal Assistant.

—Selectboard

Select Board Corner

Jennifer Paris hosted a celebration of the completion of the Working Farms and Forests Initiative at Angels' Rest Retreat. In addition to local landowners participating in the conservation, Undersecretary Marty Suuberg of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, Rick Chandler, the Regional Planner for the Mass Department of Agricultural Resources, Leigh Youngblood, the Executive Director of Mount Grace Land Trust, Dave Kittredge of the New England Forestry Foundation, and Wendy Ferris, Director of Community Outreach for the Franklin Land Trust spoke, along with the Leyden Select Board. An enormous tip of the hat goes to Warren Facey, who also spoke and provided a video of now-conserved Bree-Z-Knoll Farm. This significant conservation of contiguous land would not have occurred without Warren's passion and drive. A tip of the hat also goes to Bob Hardesty, who assisting in the paperwork completion and co-ordination

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Town Clerk

VITAL STATISTICS

No births, marriages or deaths were reported

STATE ELECTION

The State Election is Tuesday, November 4, 2014. Polls will be open from 7:00 AM to 8:00 PM. Absentee Ballots are available at the Town Clerk's office. Voters must fill out an Absentee Ballot Application to receive an Absentee Ballot.

Town Clerk Office Hours are Mondays 8:00 AM – 12:00 NOON and
Wednesdays 4:30 – 6:00 PM Phone 774-7769

Planning Board

If you are interested in becoming an alternate member of the Planning Board, please contact the Board of Selectmen. The alternate member will attend meetings and be involved in all areas of discussion, but can only vote when a quorum or super majority is needed. An alternate will be selected by a joint meeting of the Planning Board and the Selectboard.

—Bob Snow, Chair

Charles Neville and The Skeletones Big Band at Town Hall

On Saturday, November 1st, at 7:00 PM, legendary New Orleans saxophonist Charles Neville will be performing with the Skeletones Big Band at Leyden Town Hall.

Most folks know Charles from the Neville Brothers Band (formed in 1977). What most people don't know is that Charles' career was up and running in 1953, touring with BB King. He has also performed with Fats Domino, Little Richard, Bonnie Raitt, the Grateful Dead, Allen Toussaint, Greg Allman, Dr. John, Sonny Stitt, Herbie Hancock, and the Marsalis Family. It is safe to say that he has performed with, recorded, managed or met virtually every major New Orleans jazz and blues artist, as well many national and international artists.

The Skeletones Big Band is a 17-piece jazz orchestra, five saxophones/woodwinds, four trumpets, four trombones, piano, organ, guitar, bass, drums and three vocalists. This band will play a wide variety of musical styles—swing, rock, funk, and second line by BB King, Quincy Jones, Woody Herman, Harry James, Little Richard, Fats Domino/Dave Bartholomew, Donny Hathaway, Boz Scaggs, Lester Young, the Jazz Crusaders, the Boxtops, and more. **There is no admission charge.** Refreshments will be available, provided by the newly formed Leyden Cafe Cooperative!



This project is sponsored in part by a grant from the Leyden Local Cultural Council, a local agency that is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

WiredWest

In September, Al Woodhull and I, as your representatives to WiredWest, attended a national conference in Springfield on economic development and the importance of broadband. Each of the seminars over a three-day period dealt with various ways in which the acquisition of fiber networks increases economic development and quality of life in communities across America. It was exciting to be part of a large group of people working on this important frontier, no less important than the acquisition of electricity was nearly a hundred years ago.

Demographic studies of western Massachusetts indicate clearly that our populations are aging, our children are leaving the area to find jobs, and our schools are declining in enrollment. Our towns are full of creative people who are struggling to get small businesses off the ground. If they can't make that happen, often they have to move away from the towns they love. In Leyden alone, I think that there are at least 27 small businesses trying to grow, ranging from a retreat center to B&B's, small farms, artists, writers, and educators. Every single one of them will benefit from the fiber optic network we are developing, whether it means faster connectivity, a broader customer base, or a national or international market for their goods. That benefits all of us. As businesses grow, towns also grow in many ways.

Next month I hope to add more about what is being done to get us all connected as WiredWest, Massachusetts Broadband Institute, and Franklin Regional Council of Governments work together to complete this huge project.

One more reminder: If you have not gotten onto wiredwest.net to keep up-to-date on what is happening, give it a try. On that site, under the heading Service Request, is the form many of us have completed that indicates your interest in getting fiber optic connectivity at some point, whether it is for the internet, phones, or TV/video. The more interest from a particular community, the faster we may get it. So far, Leyden has had a wonderful response, but more is better. If you are unsure as to whether you have already filled out that form, check it out. By doing that, you are helping Leyden grow.

—Sheila Hourihan

Tax Due Reminder

The second FY 2015 property tax payment is due on Monday, November 3rd.

Select Board Corner

Continued from Page 1

necessary in the Select Board Office to get this completed!

The Town-owned grounds of Pearl Rhodes Elementary School and the Recreation area with the pavilion and ball field have had a much-needed clean-up! Mary Lou Barton of the Recreation Committee and a work party organized by Elwin Barton – Mark Hine, Lance Fritz, Nick Baronas and Josh Fritz (International Arborist) - have done a remarkable job of whacking back the overgrown brush and vines on the fence, old tennis court and overgrown bushes around the school. We will find that the bushes around the school will flourish after this way-overdue pruning. After discussion with Recreation Committee Chair, David Curtis, Dave Brooks volunteered his time to remove and dispose of bleachers on the ball field which had become a liability. Many thanks to both Davids. Please join the Select Board in thanking these residents who have given their personal time to help!

The Leyden Cafe opening presented yummy food, hot coffee and wonderful conversations and introductions among Leyden residents. If you missed this Sunday's opening, please be sure to make the next two scheduled opportunities (Nov. 1st 7-10 PM and Nov. 4th 7 AM – 8 PM). The acknowledgement of the spirit and effort behind the Leyden Cafe goes to Robin Neipp, Amy St. Clair, Karyn Brown-Weeks (awesome baker), and volunteers Cornelia Reid, Beth Kuzdeba, Holly Spatcher, and Merry Lein. What an exciting beginning for the Leyden Cafe!

As each resident attends/joins/contributes to the Town of Leyden each of us is enhanced and our beautiful Town thrives. Thanks to all!

—Select Board

(Note: See photos of these town activities in the e-edition of Leyden Life.)

Leyden Life Lowdown

EASY SUBMISSION

Submit an e-mail to Cornelia Reid at cr43wr41@gmail.com, Carolyn Asbury at carolyn.asbury@gmail.com, and Bob Taylor at bobxtwo@verizon.net. (Yes, please send it to *all three* of us.)

Either attach a Word document or include the information in the body of the e-mail. If e-mail is not possible for you, hard copies of items for *Leyden Life* can be left in the book drop outside the Library. The deadline for inputs is the **15th of the month**.

If you would like to receive the **electronic version of *Leyden Life*** in PDF format, please email the same three addresses listed above.

THANKS

Thanks to Ken Lyman for donations this month. *Leyden Life* depends totally on support from its readers for its existence, so we are always grateful. Thanks to Liz Kidder and Laura Timmerman for collating, and thanks to deliverers Marie Bartlett, Marie Lovley, and the Cafferys. (We apologize if we missed anyone.)

Cultural Council

Meeting Notice

Monday, October 27, 6:00 pm
for grant application review

DISCLAIMER

Leyden Life is not an official publication of the town, nor an official source of town business. We do our best to print accurately and distribute promptly the announcements and information we receive. Please check with the town to verify information regarding town business or activities.

Leyden Life

Published monthly in Leyden, Massachusetts by a non-profit group of volunteers.

Editors: Cornelia Reid 774-5146,
Carolyn Asbury 774-2840

Layout and Design: Bob Taylor 624-8965

Items for the next issue are due to
Cornelia at cr43wr41@gmail.com,
Carolyn at carolyn.asbury@gmail.com,
and Bob at bobxtwo@verizon.net
by 5:00 PM on

Saturday, November 15th.

If you cannot e-mail your submission, please leave it in the book drop outside the Library.

Donations are always welcome! Send to:

Leyden Life c/o Reid
30 West Leyden Road
Leyden, MA 01337

Leyden Café Grand Opening!

The official **Grand Opening of the Leyden Café** is the evening of Saturday, November 1st, when we will provide refreshments for the Charles Neville Band Concert at Town Hall.

Thank you everyone for your support at the preview of the Café. If you did not get a chance to check us out, please do so on **November 1st, 7-10 PM**.

We will also be open **all day November 4th** while the polls are open. It's a great time to grab a coffee and a **flu shot** as you cast your vote. Flu shots will be available 8-10 AM and 5-7 PM.

We also would like to announce our hours for November, based on the survey we conducted. We will be open **Sundays 8:30-11:30 AM** in November, starting November 9th. Please join us. We serve coffee, baked goods, tea, hot chocolate and community!

For more information, contact Robin Neipp at jarlneipp@verizon.net.

Leyden Council on Aging COA)

Tuesday, November 4 – Election Day ~ Remember to VOTE!

This is also the final deadline for completing the **Leyden Community Survey for Seniors**. We will be at Town Hall all day to nag you.

The COA is starting an **Emergency Food Bank** at Town Hall, for the purpose of helping any Leyden individuals or families when extended power outages or other family emergencies occur. Canned and non-perishable food items are suggested. A special collection bin will be located just inside the front door of Town Hall throughout November, and there will be a special weekend drop-off day on Saturday, November 22nd, between 9:00 and 11:00 AM at Town Hall. The collected food items will be organized and stored in the Town Hall kitchen for use when needed, starting in December. If each Leyden resident could donate just one canned food item, our Emergency Food Bank would be off to a great start!

Wednesday, November 5

4:30-5:30 ~ Monthly Business Meeting of COA Board at Town Hall. Anyone may attend. Initial review of COA surveys will take place.

Monday, November 10

10:30-11:30 ~ TRIAD program from the Franklin County Sheriff's Office at Town Hall. An officer from the program will talk about this crime-prevention and wellness initiative aimed at protecting the safety and welfare of senior citizens throughout the county. TRIAD's services will be explained, as well as advice regarding personal safety and property protection.

11:30 – 12:30 ~ a light Lunch will be served.

Wednesday, November 19

4:00-5:00 p.m. ~ Veterans' Services Agent Timothy Niejadlik will be at Town Hall to review old and new benefits for veterans. This is a Massachusetts state program (not affiliated with the Veterans Administration) that advocates for veterans, their spouses, dependants, widows or widowers for Veterans' Benefits on local, state and federal levels; provides financial, fuel and medical assistance to qualified individuals; and provides referral services for housing, education and employment. If you are a veteran and have never met with a Veterans Services representative, you are strongly encouraged to meet with Mr. Niejadlik.

Knitting Circle

The Leyden knitting circle will meet in November, but the dates and locations have not been set. Please call Peggy Brown at 774-5764 or Laura Timmerman at 773-8325 for more information. All are welcome to join us; no experience is needed and all kinds of handwork are fine. Even if you don't know how to knit, come along and we'll help you get started! Visitors and all ages are welcome; it's very relaxed and low-key.

—Laura Timmerman, 773-8325

Facebook Group: "Leyden Knitting Circle" Members sometimes post pictures of their projects here, or interesting knitting-related links.

Board of Health

The Board of Health will hold its annual Flu Clinic on Tuesday, November 4th. This year we will have two clinics, the first at 8-10 AM, and the second at 5-7 PM downstairs at Town Hall. We have been informed by the Massachusetts Department of Health that this will be the last year we can give free shots. Next year we will need to see insurance cards to bill for the shot. The BOH will have to purchase the vaccine.

We hope to continue providing this service to our residents depending on budget constraints. Remember that children can receive this vaccine also. We would like some feedback from the community about how you feel about paying for or using your insurance to receive the valuable flu shots. This would cost the BOH approximately \$700.

Your BOH is working for you.

—Gloria Fisher chair

Pearl Rhodes Elementary School

Astrid Sheckels, Local Greenfield Author, Visits PRES

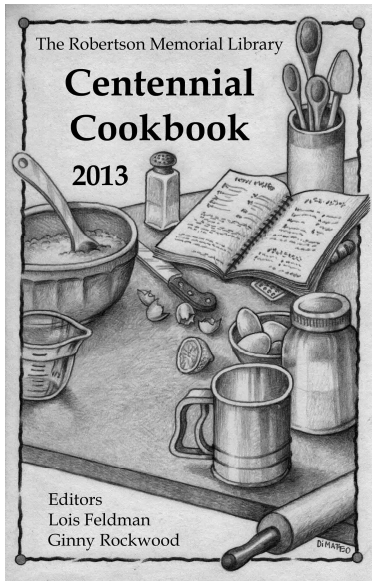
On Tuesday, October 7th, local Greenfield author, Astrid Sheckels, visited with the students in Judi Shilling's first and second grade. Astrid is an accomplished illustrator and has recently authored and published two of her own books. During her visit, Astrid spent time teaching the students how her book *Nic and Nellie* was published. She showed her early sketches and took students through the process of final completion. Later, she worked with students to develop their own writing skills of elaboration. At the end of her visit, she read her brand new book *Hector Fox and the Giant Quest*. The children enjoyed her presentation very much. Pearl Rhodes School would like to thank the FEE organization for sponsoring this event. Also, thank you to Chris Johnston for her help with writing the grant to FEE.

Art News

All students used their names to create art. Grades PreK to four learned about borders and creating complex patterns. Grades five and six used their names as a jumping off point to create an

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It's not Just a Cookbook Anymore



Looking for a recipe for the holidays, or a great holiday gift? Look no further.

The Robertson Memorial Library Centennial Cookbook is published and out to rave reviews. Not only does it contain a wide assortment of tempting recipes from Leyden residents, but, there are photos and a concise history of the library. There are additional photos of historical buildings and maps of current and previous farms in town—all in all a little gem of a book.

Leyden Cookbooks are still \$12, and available at the library during regular library hours or by calling Lois at 774-4092.

Pearl Rhodes Elementary School

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imaginative symmetrical monster. These are striking and lively, and hanging in the cafeteria.

All students are now working on projects for the Original Works fundraiser. Ask a kindergartener to tell you about warm and cool colors. They are practicing cutting and gluing skills with tissue paper. First and second graders are using tissue paper and newspaper to create an abstracted face, inspired by a Paul Klee painting. Older students are using a tree motif, using a formula for drawing a tree that they just learned. This lesson focuses on the use of negative space, (the important shapes between the branches), and blending color to make a gradation.

We are collecting coffee cans and small boxes for a project in coordination with the Leyden Library. P.S. I love Fridays at our school! We are having a *great* year! —Yours, Mrs. W.

Upcoming Events

November 3 - 7 - Scholastic Book Fair

November 11 - Veteran's Day, No School

November 13 - PT Conferences, Early Release at 12:00, no lunch served

November 14 - PT Conferences

November 21 - PT Conferences

November 26 - Early Release at 12:00, no lunch served

November 27 - 28 - Thanksgiving Recess

December 24 - Jan 2 - Winter Recess

Deliverers Needed

Would you like to help deliver *Leyden Life*? We need delivery people, especially on Greenfield Road and Brattleboro Road. It needn't be each month; whenever you can volunteer would be welcome. Call or contact Carolyn at 774-2840 or carolyn.asbury@gmail.com. Thanks!

Leyden United Methodist Church Relevant Rituals

Life is full of rituals that pervade our lives.

For some of us, ritual includes rising at an early hour and milking the cows or feeding the chickens. For others, it means making a pot of coffee and reading the newspaper. There is ritual in everyone's life. The dictionary definition is "a series of actions performed according to a prescribed order." We don't necessarily give a lot of thought to the order or intentionally prescribe it, but the rhythm of our lives is inevitable. We put our pants on one leg at a time, because to do otherwise would make us fall over. (You just imagined yourself trying that and giggled, didn't you?)

Rituals in our lives come about for practical reasons but they also often come from places of deep meaning. We make our mom's favorite recipe and as the house fills with the aroma of delicious cooking, we remember her gentle touch and happy childhood moments. Or maybe, we get together for Thanksgiving and have the same argument with Uncle Al about whether the best cranberry sauce is jellied or whole berry. It's more than just a habit, it's a ritual. That conversation is precious, albeit contentious, because it reminds us that we matter enough to each other to come together each year to share this same meal.

Church is full of rituals too. Rituals of baptism and weddings and worship services like Christmas and Easter and funerals. Each of those services is wrought with meaning and memories. We come together at times of great joy and great sorrow because relationship is vital to our lives and when we welcome a baby or join a couple in marriage or celebrate the birth and death of Jesus or the death of a dear friend or family member, we need people to be with us. We need them to laugh with and cry with and talk things over with just to sort things out.

The ritual provides the structure within which we hold that relationship. We gather together at the church or the hospital or in a barn, in the case of some recent beautiful weddings, and we say words and sing music and throw rice or bring gifts, because it's what you do. It's a framework of familiar things that helps us process our feelings and celebrate the times of our lives.

Some rituals are like breath to us. We need them to survive. Eating our meals ritually at morning, noon and night or taking our medication at evenly spaced times, are crucial to our well-being. For some of us, coming to church is a necessity of life too. We need that break from the rest of the week, from our ordinary lives, to come and see each other, share our stories and sing hymns. Our religious ritual is a structure within which we hold our precious relationships. It's not a mandate, "You better come or else..." it's more like an invitation, "Come, share the love." We who come to the Leyden church have simply agreed to meet in a certain place at a certain time to do a familiar thing and just love each other, just the way we are. You're welcome to come too in that pretty white building on the hill, 8:45 on most Sunday mornings.

On November 16th at 10:00 AM the Leyden congregation will travel to share a union worship service with their sister church in Brattleboro at 18 Town Crier Drive. On that day, the church will have left the building, but the rest of the time, we'll be there with the coffee on and our arms open to welcome you.

—Cheryl Meachen

Unclassified Ads

Unclassified Ads Policy Statement

We welcome unclassified ads from Town residents, and will run them free of charge (though a small donation of \$1 or so is always appreciated). We will normally run an ad for one issue only, unless requested to extend it.

Seasonal Outdoor Work: We're looking for someone to help with seasonal outdoor chores such as lawn mowing, weed whacking, fire wood stacking and raking snow off the roof. If interested in earning extra money, call Paula or Karen at 774-3897.

Timber Frame Buildings small, custom-designed and assembled. Locally milled lumber. Cabins, sheds, workshops, studios, pool houses, greenhouses, etc. Contact Patrick at Single Bay Timber Frames at 413-834-4285 or message me on Facebook at Single Bay Timber Frames.

Ed's Sugar Shack has fresh local maple syrup for sale. Available in gallons, half gallons, quarts and pints. Call 773-7619, Ed and Carol Johnson, 72 South County Road, Leyden. Member of Massachusetts Maple Producers Association. **Natural Lamb** is available again from the Petersons at Orchard Valley Farm. No growth-enhancing hormones or antibiotics. Usual cuts generally available. Special orders on request. Call 624-5562 or email ovfarm@verizon.net. Like us on Facebook at Orchard Valley Farm.

Maple Run Farm: A limited supply of Persephone's Garden Raw Honey should be available late fall. One hive is thriving and we'll know honey availability soon. 2015 should be a great year. Pigs were raised this year, but what we have is spoken for. Natural Romney yarn is for sale for knitting or weaving, processed chemical-free at Green Mountain Spinnery in Putney, VT. Call Barbara Wallace at 774-7780.

PVRS Class of 1969

Invites PVRS alumni to join us at the
Marriott Hotel

423 Russell Street (Route 9)
Hadley

Saturday, November 15, 2014
8:00 - 10:00 PM

A small donation to the Class of '69
Treasury would be appreciated.

Sweet Morning Farm CSA

FARM SHARES are over for this year, but we still have eggs, daikons, radicchio and leeks. For weekly updates about eggs and vegetables, email us to be placed in the Eggs & Extras email list.

—Laura Timmerman, Rob Creamer
Sweet Morning Farm, 413-773-8325,
aurat@crocker.com, <http://sweet-morning-farm.blogspot.com/>
<https://www.facebook.com/SweetMorningFarm>

Spirit Fire

Free Online Meditation Practice on M/W/F. Sunday World Service Meditation.

Tuition Online Courses: Esoteric Astrology 101 beginning September 22, Esoteric Astrology 201 beginning on November 11. Registrations are still open for both classes. To register please visit us online: www.spiritfire.com or call 413-624-3955 for more information on the classes.

Interested in learning how to meditate? Please come join us at Spirit Fire on Tuesday evenings at 7:00 PM for a free guided meditation.

—Details for all are at SpiritFire.com or call 624-3955.

Linda Romano

Fall tune-ups: Shiatsu, body sculpting, Reflexology, chair massage. Detoxing options are Swedish with aromas or salt rubs. Self-care sessions for individual or group, take home options for health and wellbeing.

Tuesday morning Yoga class, AM Awakening at 7-8 AM. call Linda Romano at 413-624-3334 C/L MT CYT. Enjoy! PS: Ask about discounted programs, call for appointment, RSVP, or info.

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Leyden, Massachusetts



Leyden Café Opening
In the kitchen and enjoying good company



Elwin Barton ready to clear brush
at Pearl Rhodes Elementary School



Astrid Sheckels at
Pearl Rhodes Elementary School

Parental Rights & Responsibility Workshop

**The Special Education Parent Advisory Council
invites all parents to attend!**

The workshop will provide families with an introduction to their rights and responsibilities under:

- *The Individuals with Disability Act •*
- *Massachusetts Special Education Law •*
- *No Child Left Behind*

This workshop is designed to help parents learn to be effective partners with their child's school when making decisions regarding Special Education Eligibility, programming and monitoring progress.

Date: Thursday, November 13, 2014

Location: Pioneer Valley Regional School
97 F. Sumner Turner Rd.
Northfield, MA

Time: 6:00pm Pizza and child care provided!

RSVP contact: Please call the Office of Special Education, 648-5450 to register for the workshop and let us know if you will be joining us for Pizza and if you need child care.

PAC President: Jennifer Chabott, 413-824-7319 chabott@hotmail.com