

# 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 6<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM, and Thursday, November 20<sup>th</sup> 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 [leydenselectboard@crocker.com](mailto:leydenselectboard@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](http://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 1<sup>st</sup>, 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 3<sup>rd</sup>.

## 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. 1<sup>st</sup> 7-10 PM and Nov. 4<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:cr43wr41@gmail.com), Carolyn Asbury at [carolyn.asbury@gmail.com](mailto:carolyn.asbury@gmail.com), and Bob Taylor at [bobxtwo@verizon.net](mailto: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 **15<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:cr43wr41@gmail.com), Carolyn at [carolyn.asbury@gmail.com](mailto:carolyn.asbury@gmail.com), and Bob at [bobxtwo@verizon.net](mailto:bobxtwo@verizon.net) by 5:00 PM on

**Saturday, November 15<sup>th</sup>**.

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 1<sup>st</sup>, 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 1<sup>st</sup>, 7-10 PM**.

We will also be open **all day November 4<sup>th</sup>** 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 9<sup>th</sup>. 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 22<sup>nd</sup>, 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 4<sup>th</sup>. 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

*Continued on Page 4*



## 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.

## 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](http://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](http://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.

## 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.

Registered Holsteins and Brown Swiss  
 Maple Syrup  
 Raw Milk



Dairy Farmer Cooperative

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Donna & Alain Mollard  
 OWNERS



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](mailto:chabott@hotmail.com)