

Leyden Life

Leyden, Massachusetts

May 2016

Selectboard Office Hours:
Monday — Thursday 8:00 AM - 3:30 PM
Tax Collector:
Monday and Wednesday 5:30 - 8:00 PM
Assessors Office:
Wednesday 2:00 - 8:00 PM

Selectboard

SELECTBOARD MEETINGS

The Select Board will meet on Thursdays June 2nd and 16th at 9:30 AM and June 9th and 23rd 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 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 slot.

TOWN HALL MEETINGS

Wed, Jun 1	4:30 PM	Council on Aging
Wed, Jun 1	6:30 PM	Board of Assessors
Thu, Jun 2	9:30 AM	Selectboard
Tue, Jun 7	7:00 PM	Broadband Committee
Wed, Jun 8	7:00 PM	Planning Board
Thu, Jun 9	6:45 PM	Selectboard
To be posted separately Board of Health (at the Police Station)		
Wed, Jun 15	6:30 PM	Board of Assessors
Thu, Jun 16	9:30 AM	Selectboard
Mon, Jun 20	7:30 PM	Conservation Commission
Tue, Jun 21	7:00 PM	Historical Commission (Downstairs at the church)
Thu, Jun 23	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 the Municipal Assistant. —Select Board

Select Board Corner

Four years ago our Town had two graduates from Pioneer Valley Regional School who were selected by our United States congressman to attend military academies. Joyce Johnson went to the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York, and Kyle Muka went to the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis, Maryland.

They both graduated this spring, and have received their next assignments. See page 3 for more information and pictures.

Congratulations from your home town. What an honor to know that these graduates are from our little hill town of Leyden. Wow!

—Respectfully, Bill, Jeff, and Lance

Town Clerk

VITAL STATISTICS

Deaths: Marie M. Loven, April 19th.

There were no births or marriages reported in April.

ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION RESULTS

Assessor (3-yr), John Rodgers; **Board of Health** (3-yr), Kathie Benson; **Constable** (3-yr), Vanessa Russell; **Library Trustee** (3-yr), Carolyn Asbury; **Moderator** (1-yr), Kathy DiMatteo; **Planning Board** (5-yr) William Harris, (2-yr), Robert Snow; **Select Board** (3-yr), Lance Fritz; and **Tree Warden** (1-yr), David Brooks.

Special thanks to the Leyden Café, the Select Board, and Gilda Galvis for having food and drinks for everyone to enjoy!
—Elizabeth Johnson

Town Clerk Office Hours are Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6:00 – 8:00 PM
or by appointment — Telephone 774-7769 or 772-3739
Email: leydentownclerk@crocker.com

Potluck Picnic & Music!

Friday, June 17

At the Pavilion at Avery Ballfield (behind PRES). All ages welcome!

5:30 p.m. - Bring a dish to share and join us. The Council on Aging will provide free drinks and dessert (Make-Your-Own-Sandwich!

7:00 p.m. - Let the music begin with...

Zydeco Connection



Leyden neighbor Steve LeBlanc on fiddle, Dikem on accordion, Steve Allison on fiddle and bass, and Tom Woods on drums. Also Melvin LeBlanc on guitar and lead guitar.

In case of rain, the event will be held indoors at Town Hall.

This program is presented by the Regional Council on Aging and the Regional Cultural Council.



Regional Council on Aging and the Regional Cultural Council
100 State Street, Suite 1100, Boston, MA 02109

Robertson Memorial Library

Library Hours: Monday 1:00 – 6:00 PM; Wednesday 1:00 – 6:00 PM, and
Saturday 10:00 AM to NOON Phone 773-9334 (Leave a message any time.)

Those who love the Leyden Library will appreciate these wise words of Carl Sagan:

“The health of our civilization, the depth of our awareness about the underpinnings of our culture, and our concern for the future can all be tested by how well we support our libraries.”

Every year several hundred books are added to our collection. I select books that have received starred reviews from *Booklist*, *The Kirkus Review*, or the *New York Times Bestsellers List*. Then each spring I do a special sort of housecleaning called ‘weeding’ the books. If a book has not been read in five or six years, the usual rule is to remove it from the shelves to make room for new materials. Why? Crowded shelves make for a very unpleasant experience for patrons who want to browse. When the shelves are too jam-packed, it’s not easy to find what one wants.

As a result of this ‘weeding’ process, there are books for sale for \$1.00 apiece right inside the door of the library. Come in and browse through not only these discards but the adult fiction shelves that are clean and updated just for you!

My next task will be to ‘weed’ the adult non-fiction area, then all of the kids’ materials, CDs, and DVDs...wish me luck!

Please help! There are a number of books, CDs, and DVDs that have not been returned. It would be great if, during your spring cleaning, you searched for ‘lost’ pieces and returned them to the library...there is no late fee, but I will be contacting people with replacement prices soon. Thank you!

Happy June to you!

—Chris Johnston

Leyden United Methodist Church

The Methodist Connexion Our little white church on the hill in Leyden is not only Christian, not only Protestant, but also United Methodist. This denomination does things a little differently than others. The two most distinctive characteristics are the itinerancy and the connexion. Itinerancy means that our pastors promise to move when the Bishop appoints them to a new church. Appointments are made for a year at a time and there is no set amount of time, minimum or maximum that a pastor may serve a local church.

The connexion defines the ways in which we exist in community, not only with local church members, but also on a district level. Leyden is a part of the Connecticut/Western Massachusetts District. The next higher level is our New England Conference which includes all six New England states (except for the western part of Connecticut). We relate together with other conferences in the Northeast Jurisdiction and then all of the Conferences throughout the world make up the global church.

The United Methodist Church is governed by a Book of Discipline which is revised every four years by the action of the worldwide General Conference. The Book of Discipline prescribes how committees work and the fact that the local church building and property is actually owned by the conference and managed by the local trustees. The Book of Discipline also contains an outline of social principles, refined each quadrennium, on positions on issues as wide-ranging as war, gambling and reproductive issues. (Read more at www.umc.org/what-we-believe/social-principles-social-creed.) United Methodists have a diverse range of positions on political issues. We are not united by our positions. We are united by our methods, that is, spiritual disciplines like prayer and Christian conferencing. We respect each other’s differences and we pray together to arrive at common ground on difficult issues.

As I write this, delegates from conferences throughout the world are meeting at General Conference, which is held every four years, this time in Portland Oregon. The purpose of General Conference is to vote on legislation that rules the global church. One very contentious issue again this time around is LGBTQ rights: the right of LGBTQ individuals to be married by the church and the right of gay and lesbian pastors to publicly live as their authentic selves. Whether you take the conservative or progressive side of this argument, it is an important discussion between passionate delegates. If you’re interested in livestreaming the sessions or seeing highlights of the Conference, go to www.umc.org/topics/general-conference-2016.

Rev. Cheryl L. Meachen

Pastor Cheryl preaches at the Leyden United Methodist Church which holds inspired worship at our new 9:00 AM time each Sunday morning at 15 West Leyden Road, across from Town Hall. Our facilities are handicap accessible, and we offer Sunday School during our worship services. Come as you are, there are no fashion police. We welcome everyone to share communion on the first Sunday of each month. After worship every week you are invited to join us in our downstairs Fellowship Hall for delicious fresh baked goodies and friendly conversation. Our new pastor, Nami Yu, will begin on July 1st. Pastor Nami will also visit and meet our congregation for the first time on June 5th, sharing communion with us alongside Pastor Cheryl. Join us!

Leyden Life Lowdown

EASY SUBMISSION

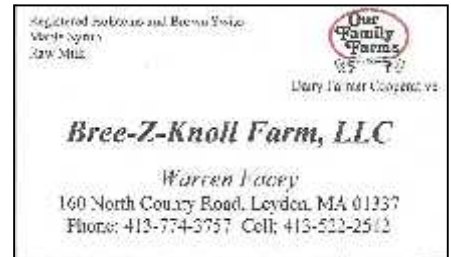
Submit an e-mail to Cornelia Reid at cr43wr41@gmail.com, Carolyn Asbury at carolyn.asbury@gmail.com, and Bob Taylor at bobtwo@verizon.net. (Yes, please send it to *all three* of us.)

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 Barbara and John Wallace, The Farm Stand, Linda Romano, Spirit Fire, and Angels’ Rest for donations. Thanks to Ann McNelly for help with collating, and thanks to deliverers Marie Bartlett, Marie Lovley, Pat Little and the Cafferys. (We apologize if we missed anyone.)



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 bobtwo@verizon.net
by 5:00 PM on

Wednesday, June 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



2nd Lt. Joyce Johnson

Joyce is the daughter of Gina and Erik Johnson on Kately Hill. She recently graduated from the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York, and has been commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in the United States Army.

Joyce will now go to Oklahoma for artillery training.

CONGRATULATIONS MILITARY ACADEMY GRADUATES

Ensign Kyle Muka

Kyle is the son of Joyce and Jim Muka of South County Road. He recently graduated from the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis, Maryland, and has been commissioned as an Ensign in the United States Navy.

Kyle will now go to Pensacola, Florida, for flight training.



Council on Aging

Leyden Council on Aging News

We would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the efforts of outgoing COA Board members Carol Johnson and Sue Howarth. They have given innumerable hours and energy on behalf of the seniors of Leyden, and their contributions have been much appreciated.

The Transportation Service will continue throughout the summer for seniors who need a ride. Call Gilda Galvis (773-7932) at least 24 hours in advance.

If you are available to give a ride, whether regularly or just occasionally, please call Gilda Galvis (773-7932) for more details.

DID YOU KNOW...that the National Park Service has a Senior Pass program? If you are 62 years of age or over, you qualify for a lifetime pass to any national park or historic site managed by the National Park Service, for a one-time fee of \$10. New England parks may lack the spectacle of the vast western parks, but they still offer their own natural beauty and provide a fascinating insight into our region's history. Nearby places include the Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site (Cornish, NH), the Springfield Armory Nat'l Historic Site (Springfield, MA), and the Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller Nat'l Historical Park (Woodstock, VT). In Massachusetts alone, there are 20 sites to visit, including the ever-popular Cape Cod National Seashore beaches, Boston Harbor Islands, New Bedford Whaling Museum, and numerous other parks, trails and historic houses – all for a one-time fee of only \$10! And summer is the perfect time to take advantage of this amazing resource. Check it out at www.nps.gov/findapark.

Wednesday, June 1

4:30-6:00 p.m. ~ Monthly Business Meeting at Town Hall. Anyone is welcome to attend.

Friday, June 17 Potluck Picnic and Concert with Zydeco Connection ~ All ages welcome!

5:30-9 p.m. ~ at Avery Ballfield. *In case of rain, the event will be held indoors at Town Hall.*

5:30 p.m. ~ Bring a dish to share and we'll provide drinks and dessert (Make-Your-Own Sundaes-yum!)

7:00 p.m. ~ The music begins....with **Zydeco Connection!** Using traditional instruments such as the button or piano accordion and a form of washboard called the rub board, this band from Western Mass. has been bringing the irresistible sounds and driving rhythms of Louisiana zydeco to New England since 2004. Zydeco has its origins in Cajun music, and incorporates Rhythm & Blues sounds into a unique and spicy mix of waltzes, two-steps, blues, and boogie woogie. Dancing is encouraged! Come join Leyden neighbor Dave LeBlanc on bass, Lil'Cyn on accordion, Eileen Almeida on rubboard and lead vocals, Mike Rose on drums, and Roland LaPierre on rhythm and lead guitar.

This program is sponsored by the Leyden Council on Aging and the Leyden Cultural Council

The COA will be taking a summer break from lunches and programs but we look forward to another good year in September.

—Dianne Ryan



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.



The Leyden Café

Open 9:00 to 11:30 AM

Sundays downstairs at

Leyden Town Hall

Come to the Café as part of your Sunday morning routine and enjoy the great coffee and Karyn's wonderful goodies while you visit with your friends and neighbors. Some people are bringing their knitting! You never know who you will meet here, but you

will certainly see friendly faces and get a welcome chance to catch up with your neighbors, with the news, and with your town."

June 12th — Amy is sharing pictures of her trip to Morocco at 10:00 AM.

June 19th — Closed for Firemen's Fathers' Day Breakfast.

The Café will be closed all of July. We thank our patrons, our baker, Karyn, and all of our volunteers for a wonderful year. We will re-open on **August 7th, with new hours, 9:30 to 12:00!**



WiredWest

At the Annual Town Meeting on May 14th, there were two warrant items and a resolution regarding broadband, which showed strongly that the issue is quite urgent to the majority of our residents. Several people spoke about the problem of real estate values; some spoke about how difficult it is to run a home-based business with the level of DSL that some of us have now. It was agreed that we need to put money aside to make sure that we are ready when it is time to lay the fiber.

There are differences of opinion as to how this will happen, but clearly it has to happen. It can be argued that everything we discuss and vote on in town meetings points back to the issue of our ability to be on the right side of the digital divide. We are an aging population which can't attract younger people without great broadband. Our schools are dropping steadily in enrollment. Our real estate values are plummeting because no one now will buy a home without broadband. Some of our residents worry about the tax consequences of building a fiber network, but the real tax issues lie in a diminishing population that has to carry the burden of paying for our town's expenses.

This is obviously a very big project, and it is precisely because it is so big that we absolutely have to get it right the first time. Fiber to the home will carry us for many decades to come. We cannot come back in five years and say oops we need to redo this whole thing, we didn't go quite far enough. The urge to do a project that seems to be quicker and cheaper is understandable. There are wireless proposals that seem quite attractive at first glance, although no one can really say that they will actually turn out to be cheaper and faster.

After almost eight years of study and work, and the knowledge that comes with watching several of our hill towns struggle unsuccessfully to implement wireless technologies, one thing that WiredWest can say with certainty is that wireless simply is not adequate for our topography. It works pretty well on flat land and with a much denser population than ours, but it will never cover all our residents, nor will it cover any of our residents as reliably as necessary. Our towns simply cannot spend the kind of money we are talking about, and say, it's too bad, but we just can't cover some of you. It would be like bringing electricity to Leyden and saying that 40 of our homes just won't be able to be connected.

WiredWest was created out of this need and is dedicated to doing it completely of, by, and for our towns, and keeping the proceeds at home. Because it is made up of people from our towns, it has the advantage of being more flexible, able to listen to the concerns of our residents. As issues are raised, we bring them to the board meetings for review and discussion.. There are issues being discussed all the time that shape and change the direction we take. That cannot be said about any other entity at the table. We understand that doing it cooperatively, with neighboring towns in the same predicament, gives us economies of scale, bargaining power, strength in numbers, and a sense that we are united in something quite historic. There have been books written about the Rural Electrification projects all over this country in the 1920s and 1930s. We are now part of something that historic in the 21st century. Pretty exciting, don't you think?

WiredWest has revamped its web page at <http://wiredwest.net/>. As this is being written, the top article on the website is an analysis of the cost advantage of a regional network over stand-alone town networks. Also linked on the website is a study of WiredWest from the Berkman Center for Internet and Society at Harvard University, which reviews the history of WiredWest up to the last few months. The entire website has been reorganized for better access to information.

Contact our Leyden representatives, Albert Woodhull, delegate, 773-3522, or 413-348-1932 (cell) and Sheila Hourihan, alternate, 774-5922, or 413-218-6600 (cell) for more information.

—*Sheila Hourihan, alternate delegate, and Al Woodhull, delegate to WiredWest*

Leyden Knitting Circle



The Leyden Knitting Circle will meet two times in June; Tuesday, June 14th from 1:00 to 3:00 PM at the Leyden Café, and Friday, June 24th 6:30 to 8:30 PM location TBA.

You are welcome to join us! Bring your knitting, mending, embroidery, crocheting, or any craft work you enjoy.

Please call Peggy (774-5764) or Laura (773-8325) for more information.

—*Laura Timmerman, 773-8325*

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

Pearl Rhodes Elementary School Upcoming Events

June 1

PRES Spring Concert, 6:30

June 3

3/4 Field Trip to T.F. Fishway

June 7

Elementary Band Concert, 7:00
@ PVRs

June 9

Field Day & Picnic

June 10

6th grade Graduation, 6:00PM

June 17

Last Day, Noon Release

August 31

First Day of School

September 5

No School, Labor Day

September 13

School Picture Day

North County Electric
All Work done after 4:00 and weekends
Todd D Sessions
Owner
413 773-8094 Home
413 218-2005 Cell
ttsimarrn@yahoo.com
409 North County Road
Leyden MA 01337
MA,VT,&NH Licensed & Insured

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.

Summer work wanted for two high school students: I have two teenagers looking for summer work. Both are very responsible kids. Girl would be a great mother's helper or babysitter and help with work around the house. Boy would be able to do work around the house and yard that you may need help with. Please call 774-0019 if interested in talking to their Mom about the possibilities. We are here in Leyden. Sorry, but I have purposely omitted names.

For Sale: Logitech wireless computer keyboard and mouse set. Like new, in original box. \$85 value, will sell for \$20. Call Bob Taylor at 624-8965.

Wanted: Leaves, wood chips, manure, waste hay, etc. for compost. Please call Robin or Laura at 773-8325.

Boer Goat Meat is available at Frizzell Hill Farm. Goat is quite tasty, low in fat and cholesterol, and high in protein and iron. Give it a try! Visit frizzellhillfarm.com for information and a price list. Thanks for supporting local Leyden farms!

Bill Maguire Painting: Serving the Leyden area's paint and staining needs since 1978. Interior, exterior, deck refinishing, window sash work, power washing, dirt and mildew removal. Call 413-774-5330.

Erik's Handyman Service: Let me help you with your "to do" list. Property maintenance, brush control, lawn mowing, rototilling, odd jobs, and miscellaneous projects. If you could use some help, give me a call at 413-774-9948 and ask for Erik, or e-mail to erikshandy1@yahoo.com. Reasonable rates. Insured.

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: 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

2016 FARM SHARES

Shares are starting very soon and last 20-22 weeks. 11 shares include a wide variety of vegetables, and flowers plus pick-your-own pole beans, snap peas, and cherry tomatoes. Our farm is not certified but we are committed to organic and sustainable practices.

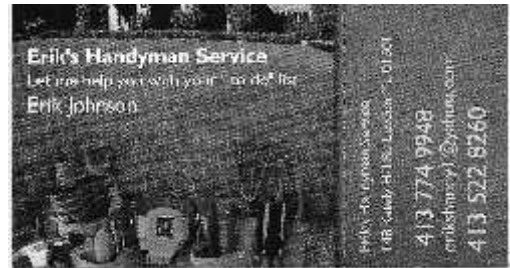
EGGS: We sell organically-grown pasture-raised chicken eggs for \$6.00/dozen. Call or email to be placed on our News & Extras Email List.

Just a few shares left!

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

Linda Romano

Spring healing sessions continue through the season: Mindfulness Meditation and activities, Thursdays, 6:30-7:30 PM, with private or group sessions, and Reiki I attunement, 6/4/16 from 10:00-2:30 PM. Call or message me on Facebook: Linda Romano or Massage & Holistic Services. Phone 413-624-3334, or romanohealing@gmail.com.



Massage & Holistic Services
Diverse Therapeutic Massage and Bodywork & Exercise Techniques Treating Injuries, Stress Related Conditions & Promoting Wellness
Linda Romano BSW, LMT
(413) 624-3334
Gift Certificates always available

Green River Lawn Fully insured
Leyden, MA
Services Include: Mowing, Trimming, Property Clean-Up, Brush Removal, Water Features and More
(413)329-2221 (413)325-1235
Ryan Clary and Steve O'Hare
e-mail greenriverlawn@yahoo.com

Livingstone Carpentry
Traditional Craftsmanship. Quality Service
—SPECIALIZING IN—
Windows • Doors • Fire • Cabinets • WEATHERIZATION • Floor & Wall Restoration • New Construction • Remodeling
Free Estimates Fully Licensed and Insured *John B. Livingstone Leyden, MA (413) 473-9777*



The Farm Stand
108 West Leyden Road, Colrain
The freshest vegetables—tomatoes, zucchini, summer squash, melons and more—available fresh daily. Self-serve, open early and late.

Spring plant and flower sale

NO August Leyden Life

The July issue of Leyden Life will have an extended due date of Monday, June 20th to accommodate input for August (if you have any) as well as July.

NATIONAL GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS DAY

THURSDAY JUNE 2, 2016

WEAR ORANGE

Hunters wear ORANGE in the forest to protect and keep them safe.

Join on the Leyden Town Common 6-8 PM

**Information on Gun Safety, Massachusetts Gun laws and Common Sense Gun
Legislation will be available.**

Share stories of "Innocents Lost " and safety in the home.

**This National Event is sponsored by EVERYTOWN for Gun safety and
MOMS DEMAND ACTION for Gun Sense in America.**

**You can easily go to their websites and read about their ideas for action and
Education at EVERYTOWN.org and momsdemandaction.org**

**We all have families and children that we want to protect and keep safe.
We are a small rural town and we can participate and take this opportunity to
make our community safer thru education and discussion.**

**S'Mores to be shared on the Leyden Town Common also!
IF you are interested in helping with this event, please
contact Robin Neipp @ 413-530-3165**

Potluck Picnic & Music!

Friday, June 17

At the Pavilion at Avery Ballfield (behind PRES). All ages welcome!

5:30 p.m. ~ Bring a dish to share and join us. The Council on Aging will provide free drinks and dessert (**Make-Your-Own-Sundaes!**)

7:00 p.m. ~ Let the music begin with...

Zydeco Connection



*Leyden neighbor Dave LeBlanc on bass, Lil'Cyn on accordion, Eileen Almeida on rubboard and lead vocals, Mike Rose on drums, and Roland LaPierre on rhythm and lead guitar
~ bringing the sounds of Louisiana's Cajun music to Leyden.*

***In case of rain, the event will be held indoors
at Town Hall.***

This program is sponsored by the Leyden Council on Aging and the Leyden Cultural Council



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.