



LEEDS LETTER

OCTOBER 2014

UPCOMING EVENTS 2014

OCTOBER 4

Mill River Greenway Walk Leeds to Haydenville

to reserve a space go to:
info @ millrivergreenway.org

OCTOBER 4

Movie Night, Frankenweenie

Saturday night 7:00
Backyard of 32 Upland.
Bring chairs or blankets, drinks and
jammies. Hot chocolate and
popcorn are provided!

OCTOBER 6

Walking Tour Leeds Rail Trail Extension

Monday, 4:30pm
meet at North end of Grove Ave.

OCTOBER 6

Community Meeting- \$190,000 available for Leeds Traffic Calming

Monday, 7:00pm
Leeds School Cafeteria

OCTOBER 14

LCA October Meeting

Tuesday, 7:00 -8:30 pm
Leeds School teacher's lounge
• Zoning Matters
• Hotel Bridge update
• Pumpkin Party planning
• Recap: Block Party, Traffic
Mitigation Meeting

OCTOBER 24

4:00 Pumpkin Carving

Friday, 4:00-6:00
Chestnut St. below Upland
Everyone welcome. Bring your
pumpkins. Bring tools if possible.



OCTOBER 25 Pumpkin Party (rain date Oct 26)

Saturday 4:30-8:30
Corner of Chestnut St. and
Upland Rd. See the flip
side for more info.

\$190,000 available for Leeds traffic calming Community Meeting Oct 6th, 7:00, Leeds School

Your comments, traffic observations, and suggestions are needed at this Leeds community meeting. We asked Wayne Feiden, Director of Planning and Sustainability, to detail the sources of the funds and where they can legally be spent. His explanation follows:

Total funds received: \$199,690 from Chestnut Extension (\$47,500) 64 Reservoir Road (\$4,000), Zoe Life Care (\$152,350)

Funds spent: DPW legal ad (\$160), DPW mitigation already made (we do NOT have a final accounting but for planning purposes assume \$10,000.)

How can the dollars be spent and where?

1. Any improvement that reduces traffic on Main Street, Florence Street, Leonard, and Front Street because that would offset increasing traffic from Zoe Life Care and Chestnut Extension. This could include rail trail on ramps at the northerly Look Park entrance and at Main Street in Leeds center. It could also include Hotel Bridge just for the \$4,000 from 64 Reservoir Road.
2. Any improvements that make roads safer in the area that we expect the traffic impacts from these projects, whether it be traffic calming or sidewalks or intersection safety improvements. For the Zoe Life Care funds that is Main, Florence, Leonard, and Front Streets and possibly East Center Street. For Chestnut Extension it could also include any of the streets north of Florence Street and east of Route 9. For the small amount from Reservoir Road it could include improvements on Reservoir Road.
3. ALL costs have to be durable capital costs. Crosswalk signs, for example, of the type we put in the middle of intersections are NOT durable and disappear and are not capital costs. All hard surface bricks and mortar projects are fine. Crosswalk and pavement markings are OK ONLY if the marking starts a process that DPW agrees to maintain but not if its a one time application that will disappear in two years.

Please take time to think about the options Wayne has laid out and bring your thoughts and ideas to the meeting.

MassCentral Rail Trail Extension Walking Tour - Oct 6th at 4:30

A walking tour of the MassCentral Rail Trail Extension project which will run along the Mill River from Mulberry Street to South Main Street in Haydenville has been scheduled for October 6th at 4:30 by Wayne Feiden. The walking tour is not a preliminary walk, it is required to be given to the hired engineering firm under the Request For Proposal. Representatives from Pro Terra Design Group will be on the tour and available to hear your input about the plan.

Leeds residents are invited to go along on the walk. Many of you may have responded to the Mill River Greenway Initiative's Leeds' survey regarding trail usage and surfacing. Some of you may have attended the public meeting about the trail project at Leeds School back in March. Attending the walk is an additional way for you to share your thoughts and concerns about how the final MassCentral Rail Trail Extension should be designed. The Mill River and the rail trail that currently runs beside it are important and unique features of Leeds. The design of a bike extension should be undertaken with as much input from Leeds residents as possible. Drainage, run off, trail width, surface choice, cost of future maintenance of the trail, who will be responsible for such maintenance, amount of trees to be lost, invasive species overtaking cleared areas are all aspects to be seriously considered and openly addressed before a responsible design can be drawn up. The walk will begin at 4:30 PM. Please meet at the north end of Grove Avenue where the bike path begins.

Time for another Leeds Pumpkin Party! October 25th, 4:30 -8:30



carving tips

We are mixing up a few things, and keeping some things the same. The LCA volunteers who plan this shin-dig kindly request this year that each family carve at least one pumpkin. Carve more if you can, as many as you like to make the pumpkin display the biggest and best ever. We have no specific requests of our beloved seniors, simply that they come and enjoy what the party has to offer. If seniors want to contribute by carving a pumpkin...by all means, go for it! The more the better.

Friday, October 24th, the day before the party there will be tables set up on Chestnut Street just below Upland where individuals and families can carve together. (We really are trying to make this easy for you!!) Bring your pumpkins and if possible, bring your tools.

The biggest change to this years' party is ...No Voting! Instead, there will be three grab bag categories: kid pumpkin, youth pumpkin, and family pumpkin. If you bring at least one pumpkin creation you get a grab bag prize. Who knows what your prize will be, could be something silly, delicious, or even valuable! Individual adult carvers will be eligible for the homemade apple pie raffle.

There will be hot cider and warm homemade soups to taste, and baked potatoes with the all the fixin's to eat. Please sign up to bring a soup, bread, side dish or dessert by going to the LCA website LeedsCivic.org and clicking on the SignUp Genius link. For those who do not have internet access, you may contact Amy Quinn at 413-586-0283.

The kid's wild and wonderful pumpkin roll will start at 4:30. There will be a prize for both first and second place. Hot food will be available after the pumpkin roll. The grab bags and apple pie raffle will be over by 8:00-ish. Plenty of time for everyone to get a good nights' sleep!

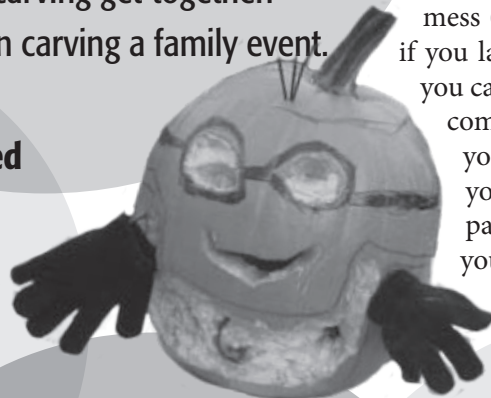
With a good attitude, carving a pumpkin can be really fun whether you do it alone or with family or friends. We suggest you make an event out of it. Don't let the potential of making a mess (or mess up) stop you. The clean up can be made easy too, if you lay down several layers of newspaper on your work surface you can just roll it up when done and throw it away or put it in the compost. Even if you don't consider yourself creative we know you can do this! Don't forget to bring something to light up your pumpkin at the party! Drop your pumpkins off at the party site between 3:00 and 5:00. Remember to check in, so you can be part of the grab bag and raffle!

Tips for how to get it done

- Mark OCTOBER 25 on your calendar...NOW! (raindate is October 26th)
- Start thinking about what you might create.
- Go get a pumpkin (or more than one).
- Collect your tools.
- Decide where you will carve.
- Start the night or day before the party.
- Go to the group carving on Oct 24.
- Create your own carving get-together.
- Make the pumpkin carving a family event.

What you will need

- A positive attitude
- A pumpkin!
- Idea of what to carve or how to decorate, or... just dig in!



Why you should bring a pumpkin?

- Because its a pumpkin party!
- Our terrific community has kept this annual party happening for 21 years! The pumpkin YOU bring this year will help the tradition continue.

Tools and supplies:

- Covering for your work surface
- Crayon to draw shapes + designs
- Wet rag to erase crayon
- Various sized knives for carving
- Big metal spoon to scrape out "pumpkin guts"
- Stuff to attach
- Pins, toothpicks, wire to attach stuff