

# Leyden Life

Leyden, Massachusetts

February 2012

## Selectboard Office Hours:

Monday 12:00 - 5:00 PM, Tuesday—Friday 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM and  
Thursdays (February 2<sup>nd</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>) 6:00 - 9:00 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 on Thursday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> at 9:00 AM and Thursday, February 16<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.

### TOWN HALL MONTHLY MEETINGS

The following meetings are scheduled this month:

Wed, Feb 1 6:30 PM Board of Assessors  
Thur, Feb 2 9:00 AM Selectboard  
Tue, Feb 7 7:00 PM Agricultural Commission  
Wed, Feb 8 7:00 PM Planning Board  
Tue, Feb 14 5:30 PM Board of Health (at the Police Station)  
Wed, Feb 15 6:30 PM Board of Assessors  
Thur, Feb 16 6:45 PM Selectboard  
Mon, Feb 20 7:30 PM Conservation Commission

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

—Board of Selectmen

## Presidential Primary

The Presidential Primary will be held on Tuesday, March 6<sup>th</sup>. Polls will be open from 7:00 AM to 8:00 PM.

The last day to register to vote or to change party enrollment is Wednesday, February 15<sup>th</sup>.

## Save the Date!

## Sugar on Snow Supper

Saturday, March 24<sup>th</sup>

Sittings at 5:00 and 6:30 PM

Complete information coming  
in the  
issue



## Town Clerk

### VITAL STATISTICS

There were no births, marriages, or deaths reported for December or January.

### STREET LISTS

Street lists for 2012 have been mailed to each household. Please return them as soon as possible so that the residence and voting data can be updated. If you returned a confirmation notice in November, 2011, you may not receive a Street List for 2012. The returned confirmation is on file and will be entered as a 2012 update.

### DOG LICENSES ARE NOW AVAILABLE

Dog licenses are now available, and all dogs must be licensed by April 15<sup>th</sup>. Licenses may be obtained at the Town Clerk's office or by mail.

*Please note:* By vote at the Special Town Meeting of November 19, 1991, any dog owner who fails to renew dog licenses by August 1<sup>st</sup> of the current year will be subject to a late penalty fee of \$15 per license.

In addition, by vote at the Special Town Meeting of November 20, 1996, any dog within the town shall be restrained by a chain or leash unless said dog is on the premises of the owner or keeper, or within voice control of the owner or keeper, or on the premises of another person with the permission of such person.

If current rabies information is on file with the Town Clerk, you may then make out a check to the Town of Leyden (add 84¢ for return postage) and send it to: Town Clerk, 16 West Leyden Road, Leyden, MA 01337.

If you have a new dog, or rabies information needs to be updated, bring in or send a copy of the rabies certificate with the appropriate fee. For further information, call the Town Clerk's office at 774-7769.

The following fees apply:

License	Fee
Male neutered and female spayed	\$10.00
Male and female not altered	\$15.00
Kennel License 1-4 dogs	\$30.00
Kennel License 5-10 dogs	\$40.00
Kennel License more than 10 dogs	\$50.00

—Bob Hardesty, Town Clerk

Town Clerk Office Hours are Mondays 8:00 AM – 12:00 NOON and every other Wednesday (Feb. 8<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>) 4:30 – 6:00 PM Phone 774-7769

## No January Issue of Leyden Life

The holidays are a very busy and wonderful time of year, but one unfortunate side effect of the hustle and bustle is that we received very few entries for the intended January issue. After reviewing what material we had, and the cost of publishing and distributing it, we made the decision to put off publishing until the February issue. So without further ado, here it is.

## Robertson Memorial Library

Library Hours: Monday 1:00 – 6:00 PM; Wednesday 1:00 – 6:00 PM,  
Saturday 10:00 AM – 12:00 NOON, Phone 773-9334 (Leave a message any time.)

*Library Volunteers* It's time to thank the wonderful volunteers who spend parts of their Saturdays to open the library for those of you who would like to visit. A special thanks to Kathy Wells who spent more of her Saturday mornings at the RML than anyone else! Kathy is *always* willing to help out, and when I'm in a bind, it is she I call. Others who have donated many hours to help out include Kathy Ruseckas, Pat and Drake Williams, Lois Feldman, Peggy and Sarah Brown-Anson, Nick and Tracey Baronas, Linda Hill (missed by all), Holly Spatcher, Patricia Sund, Pat Little and Steve Richter, Rachel Rodgers, Cindy and Erin LeBlanc, Tommy Foster, Glen Benson, Rich DiMatteo, and Lynne Podlesney. Cheers to all of you!

*Toddler Reading Time* **Cindy LeBlanc** received a Leyden Cultural Council Grant that will allow her to hold a story hour for little ones and their parents on Friday mornings from 10:00 – 11:00. The first program took place on January 27, with tentative plans for February 3, 10 and 24, and March 2 and 9. Each session will include a story, a sing-along, hand play, and an art/craft activity. Best of all, Cindy's daughter Erin will be assisting her mom, so you know this will be a special hour for all who attend. Among the many benefits of attending are developing listening skills, sharing, cooperating and having fun.

*Gifts to the Library* We have received several wonderful gifts of money from townspeople who love this little library. In order for donations to be tax deductible, we have created a line number for gifts that will support library activities. If the spirit moves you, please send a check to the Robertson Memorial Library, and we'll make sure it is used wisely.

*Who Needs Libraries?* 34 million in-person visits, 58 million items borrowed! Massachusetts' libraries are something we all need. More people visit their local library each year than attend entire seasons of the Celtics, Patriots, Bruins, and Red Sox games combined. Interesting, isn't it? I hope *you* are among those millions who take advantage of your public library!

Kudos and hearty thanks to **Wallis Reid**, who researched thoroughly, purchased and installed our new dehumidifier. It was no small task, and it was done expertly. This dehumidifier will ensure cleaner air and less possibility of mold in the library. Thank you from all of us, Wally. Thanks also to the Town of Leyden for buying the library this essential item.

I'd like to thank **John Ward**, who walked all the way to the library with his coffee can of money, for his generous donation to the library. He is definitely had the Christmas spirit!

A third volunteer has come forward. **Robbie Browning** loves libraries, volunteers on Mondays in Greenfield, and signed up for the first two Saturdays in January. Wow! Talk about generosity of spirit. Thank you, Robbie!

Happy New Year! I hope to see you at the library often in 2012!

—Chris Johnston

## Contributions and Volunteers Welcome

*Leyden Life* is entirely dependent on contributions from readers. We receive no funding from the town coffers. Please consider making a donation. All gifts, large and small, are very helpful. Heartfelt thanks to our many contributors over the last year.

For those who live outside of town but enjoy reading LL, a subscription by mail is available, still for just \$8.00. Call Cornelia at 774-5146 or email to cr43wr41@gmail.com for more information. Renewal notices will be sent out to current subscribers. Subscriptions are free for those in the military or in nursing homes; please contact us if you wish us to send one to someone you know.

Collating and bagging the 320 copies we deliver takes four or five people about 45 minutes once a month. It is a sociable and easy job which we do in the Town Hall. Please call Cornelia if this would occasionally fit into your schedule—we always call each month to round up available volunteers.

## 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**.

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**.

### LEYDEN LIFE BY E-MAIL

If you are interested in receiving *Leyden Life* in PDF format via e-mail, please notify Bob Taylor at bobxtwo@verizon.net.

### THANKS

Thanks to David and Carolyn Curtis, Fred and Sue Pazmino, Ellen Coty, Carol Kuzdeba, and Linda Romano for contributions this month.

Thanks to collator Kathie Benson, and thanks to deliverers Lauren Clary, Marie Bartlett, Marie Lovley, Jeanne Breden and the Cafferys. (If we have forgotten anyone, please accept our thanks and apologies.)

## Not Hooked on Leyden Life?

Many families in town are not receiving the newsletter because there is no hook on the mailbox post. Please "hook" your box and get hooked on Leyden Life

## 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,  
Jeanne Breden 772-2861  
Design & Word processing: 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 **Wednesday, February 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

## Meetings and Gatherings

### Council on Aging

Our January meeting was canceled due to unsafe driving conditions. The origami program is postponed to a later date.

We meet next on Thursday, February 8<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 AM in the church fellowship hall. The Leyden COA welcomes Davis Bates, storyteller, singer and former Leyden resident and oral historian who will be sharing old time and family stories, New England songs and work songs, and more. See <http://www.davisbates.com/> for more information. This should be a real treat!

All are welcome to join us for the program, for the day, or at future monthly meetings. If you want to join us for lunch, please let Edith Fisher know at 773-7336 before Monday, February 6<sup>th</sup> so we can plan the meal accordingly. This month's meal will feature some of the tasty recipes from the Leyden cook books from 1984 and 1997.

Looking ahead, at one of our meetings this spring we will play Leyden Bingo (bingo with a Leyden flair). If you have a Leyden-made or Leyden-grown item that would make a nice bingo prize, please call Laura at 773-8325. Thanks.

The Leyden Council on Aging is dedicated to providing programs that support healthy and independent living for local seniors and is funded and supported by the Massachusetts Executive Office of Elder Affairs. Their funding allows the COA to offer delicious meals and interesting programs and to help support the newsletter and more.  
—Laura Timmerman, 773-8325

### Knitting Circle

The Leyden knitting circle will meet two times in February, Friday, February 10<sup>th</sup> at Laura's house and Friday, February 24<sup>th</sup> at Kathie Benson's house.

We meet from 6:30 to 8:30 PM and enjoy a relaxed evening of handiwork and the company of our fellow stitchers. All are welcome to join us; no experience is needed and all kinds of handicrafts are fine. Visitors and all ages are welcome. Call ahead to RSVP and confirm the location. If you would like to be on an email group for the Knitting Circle, get in touch with Laura.

Facebook Group: Leyden Knitting Circle at <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=115188595195087>

—Laura Timmerman - 773-8325, Kathie Benson - 773-8595

## Leyden Portrait Project

A fun and successful photo session of the children at Pearl Rhodes Elementary School in early December has fattened up the book enough for me to begin laying it out. Even in these final stages, I will still welcome a few more portraits if you contact me quickly. I've made a fair number of calls and left messages that have not been returned, and at this point, I am considering that I am starting from square one. If you wish to be in the book, please call me at 413-774-2021.

A few people still owe me the answers to my three questions: How did you come to live in Leyden? What do you love about the town? Is there anything you'd like to see in Leyden that's not here now? These can be sent to me via email: [trcrao@mac.com](mailto:trcrao@mac.com).

Watch for notice of the book launch party in March's newsletter! And thanks to everyone, and especially the members of the Leyden Cultural Council, for your patience and support.  
—Trish Crapo



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.

## Artists of Leyden

**Alicia Hunsicker's** work was included in an Art & Science Exhibition during the ScienceOnline 2012 "unconference" which took place January 19 - 21 at the McKimmon Center on the campus of North Carolina State University in Raleigh, NC and in conjunction with Duke University. Her work was projected onto a large cinematic screen during the conference and viewed by over 450+ scientists, science journalists, science artists and science advocates. This show also has an online exhibition component at <http://scienceonline2012.com/>. The conference focuses on making scientific topics and conversations accessible to a wide spectrum of the public, from policy elites to consumer audiences, exploring how companies, organizations and individuals can convey their messages with transparency and credibility.

**Alicia Hunsicker** and **Deborah Garner** are continuing to exhibit in the *Light up the Night* winter exhibition juried by Worcester State University Gallerists Howard McGinn and Catherine Wilcox-Titus. The works are showing in various locations around the city of Worcester, MA in the Worcester Windows Community Arts program. The show runs through February, 2012. Deborah Garner's paintings will be at NU-Café 335 Chandler St. – Alicia's at Hanover Theatre for the Performing Arts, 2 Southbridge Street.

**Deborah Garner** will also be creating new work in January and February to display at a feature exhibition at Gallery in the Woods from March 2 through April 30, 2012. The gallery is located at 145 Main St. Brattleboro, VT and gallery hours are 11 to 5:30 daily, Sundays noon to 5.

After an extended break for the holiday season, **Deborah Garner** and **Cecilia Tusinski** will be resuming participation in the UMass Hampden Gallery artists critique group which is run by the gallery curator, Anne Seuthe Laprade. *"We are looking forward to discussing new work of our own and of other artists in the group, exploring ideas and exchanging information on materials, techniques and presentation of finished work."*

**Trish Crapo** has three poems in a new anthology called *"Open Field: Poems from Group 18."* The anthology celebrates 25 years of a Northampton poetry critique group that has included many well-known and prize-winning poets including Genie Zeiger, Jack Gilbert and Linda Gregg.

**Trish** also continues to publish collages on the War and Peace Project blog <http://warpeaceproject.blogspot.com/>

For more information about these and other Leyden artists and their events, please visit [www.artistsofleyden.org](http://www.artistsofleyden.org), and on Facebook, search for Artists of Leyden.

Town Hall E-Mail address  
Has changed to  
[leydenselectboard@crocker.com](mailto:leydenselectboard@crocker.com)

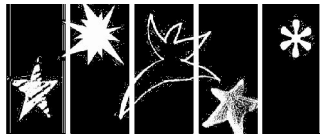
## Leyden Local Cultural Council

See the table (right) for the 2012 recipients of grants from the Leyden Cultural Council, funded by the Massachusetts Cultural Council.

It is our hope that all of Leyden will find these *seventeen varied selections* interesting, and that you will take full advantage of this *free-to-you* offering. You may contact the LCC at Town Hall for specifics of registration or attendance, or email: anthomas5@comcast.net.

—Alice Thomas, Chair

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Massachusetts Cultural Council

Artist/Sponsor	Program
Leyden Historical Commission/ Virginia Rockwood	"Leyden History"
Linda Romano	"Healing Arts Workshops, Part 2"
John Root	"Edible Wild Plants Walk"
Rhonda Wainshilbaum	"Sculpy Pins and Jewelry" and "Junk Sculpture Faces"
Memorial Hall Association	"A Family Opera for Franklin County"
Cynthia LeBlanc	"Story Adventures"
Chris Maguire, PRES	"Storytelling with Classroom Writing Partnership"
The United Arc	"Enjoying Nature" and "For the Birds"
Gregory Maichack	"Que Sera, Seurat! Pastel Painting Optically"
Museum of Our Industrial History	"Summer Sundays—Plus"
Mary Lyon Foundation, Inc.	"Raising the Flag: A Celebration of American History"
The Art Garden	"Community Exhibits at the Art Garden"
Mohawk Trail Concerts, Inc.	"Cross Currents and Special Anniversaries"
Lenny Zarcone	"LennyZarcone Music and Entertainment Concert"
GAN-e-meed Theater Project	"Touring production of 'Two-Headed', by Julie Jensen"

## PVRS District FY2013 Budget Process

After the November/December annual reorganization of the PVRSD (School) Committee, activity surrounding the building of the FY2013 budget picks up significantly between December and the public hearing scheduled for February 9<sup>th</sup>. The Budget Subcommittee recently held a meeting to discuss the FY13 budget process with representatives from our member towns; three of four towns sent representation. Budget Subcommittee members articulated their understanding of the towns' tight finances and their own challenge to deliver to students the best educational opportunities possible, emphasizing their acute recognition that the towns' PVRSD annual assessment cannot break the backs of district taxpayers. It seems timely to provide information about the process that will take place in what continues to be a very difficult economy. It is important we keep the lines of communication open throughout. You are invited to both raise questions and concerns, as well as provide thoughts, reactions, ideas, and suggestions to inform the process. Budget subcommittee meetings are open to the public and will be posted to the district website. Phone numbers and email addresses can be found at the district web site: [www.pioneervalley.k12.ma.us/PVRSD/](http://www.pioneervalley.k12.ma.us/PVRSD/) or by calling 413-498-2911.

The PVRSD budget building process can be thought of as divided into two phases, the expenditure phase and the revenue phase. From now until the February 9<sup>th</sup> budget hearing, the spending needs (expenditure side of the budget) are defined and quantified. The District Agreement mandates that the budget hearing takes place the second Thursday in February annually. Unfortunately, at the time of the budget hearing, there is simply not enough information available to the Budget Subcommittee about the level of the various funding sources to determine what the consequent cost to towns would be. In effect, the budget represents what the school committee believes is needed to run the schools, but cannot be converted into a reliable prediction of the assessments required of each town to fund the budget until

later.

Throughout February and into early March, much more information about the various sources of revenue for the budget becomes available including state aid figures, state-set minimum contribution requirements of the towns, and refinements of local aid revenue projections. Accordingly, the Budget Subcommittee can then balance educational need with input from the towns' select boards, finance committees, and citizens to determine what a reasonable assessment to the towns would be (revenue side of the budget.) It is only during this period that a decision can be made to keep the budget passed at the budget hearing or reduce it. State law prohibits increasing the budget above the level passed at the budget hearing, so, in recent years, the School Committee has always considered it wise to set the budget at the level needed to support existing programs and services at the February meeting, but be able to adjust to a lower number that the towns can support, if needed.

This year, the towns and the budget subcommittee have agreed to add an additional budget subcommittee meeting between the budget hearing and the school committee meeting at which assessments will be voted. This will allow an opportunity expressly for the sole purpose of discussing the capacity of the towns to fund the district budget, to inform the School Committee's assessment-setting vote at their March 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting. Following the assessment-setting vote in March, the budget approval process passes from the district to the towns that use the information in preparing their annual town meeting warrants. An affirmative vote of three of the four towns determines the district's operating budget. Each of the towns vote on their own elementary school's capital budget while a unanimous vote of the towns is required in support of capital projects at the Central Office or PVRS.

—Dayle Doiron, Superintendent of Schools, November 22, 2011

## 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.

**The Log Cabin Bed & Breakfast** can provide comfortable space for your out-of-town visitors. Please check the website at [www.LeydenLogCabin.com](http://www.LeydenLogCabin.com) or call 773-8595 to check availability or to make a reservation. *Please be sure to ask for the Leyden discount of \$50 off the nightly rate for Leyden residents and their guests!*

**Beaded Jewelry for Sale:** Carol Kuzdeba dba CJ Design has beaded jewelry for sale at Himalayan Views gift shop in the Tibetan Plaza, 265 Greenfield Road, South Deerfield. Unique one-of-a-kind designs of natural stone, pearls, furnace glass, etc. Stop by to see it. Special orders upon request.

**Maple Run Farm** has farm-fresh brown eggs for \$2.50/carton. The girl's are Hubbard Golden Comets. The Hubbard Golden Comet has been widely acclaimed in all areas of the world where brown eggs are preferred. The reason is simple: The Golden Comet pullet is easily one of the finest brown egg layers available today. They mature early and lay eggs of excellent size and quality. She is an extremely quiet bird, that seems to be able to withstand the colder, non-insulated, laying houses of the small flock owner, better than most breeds. Try our eggs. Call Barbara at 774-7780.

**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 MassMaple Producers Association.

**For Sale:** Beautiful handmade stoneware functional pottery for sale. Mostly blues, greens, and purples. Microwave, oven, and dishwasher safe. Commissions accepted. Come check it out. Also would like to barter for housework. Call Rhonda at 624-5175.

**LPs and Cassette Tapes to CDs:** Will convert your favorite (or even your not-so-favorite) LPs and/or tapes to CDs. \$7.50 per CD. Call Jerry at 624-5546, or e-mail at [jlevine4@verizon.net](mailto:jlevine4@verizon.net).

**Natural Romney yarn for sale** for knitting or spinning. Processed at Green Mountain Spinnery in Putney, VT, and chemical free. Call Barbara Wallace at 774-7780.

**Excavating and Carpentry:** Site work, driveways, land clearing, field mowing, septic systems, drainage, trucking loam and gravel products, backhoe, dozer or excavation work. Rich Allis at 624-5582.

**Bill Maguire Painting** serving Leyden's interior and exterior needs for 28 years. Staining, power washing, trim work, deck refinishing, paper hanging. Insured. Call Bill at 774-5330.

## Timmerman Farm CSA

2012 FARM SHARES: Farm memberships are on sale and people have already started reserving their share of locally grown, organic vegetables, fruits, and flowers. Shares come in three sizes to suit a variety of needs and are the same price as 2011. Pick up is at the farm on Thursdays.

Full Shares - 20 - 24 weeks - \$600.00 - \$675.00, sliding scale; Half Shares - 20 - 24 weeks - \$300.00 - \$350.00, sliding scale; Mini Shares - 16 weeks - \$100.00

EGGS: I sell organically grown (not certified) eggs for \$4.00/dozen. Call or email me for availability or to be placed on the Egg Email List. I invite you to become part of my exciting and joyful adventure.

Laura Timmerman, 413-773-8325,  
laurat@crocker.com,  
<http://lastingimpressionscsa.blogspot.com/>

## Linda Romano

Winter yoga will continue till March Monday's at 6-7:15 PM. Meridan, seasonal focus. Massage/bodywork, for sinusitis, depression, insomnia, using special oils.

Save the Date! **Saturday, March 10<sup>th</sup>** for Mandala II, for insight, healing, self-expression, 1-3:15 PM at Leyden Town Hall. Funded by a grant from Leyden LCC.

Restorative new yoga class starting on Friday, 7-8 AM or 10-11 AM. RSVP ASAP. Valentine specials: Couples massage—special scented oil. Mini-spa massage, tea, salad, chocolate. 1 1/2 hour session. Private yoga session- your home or my studio for health/wellness. Indian head massage—1/2-hr. chair session, shoulders, neck, head. Feng shui—a room to create a special focus, feeling in that space, also new year tips.

Bath salts, heat pillows, eye pillows, lip balm, hand balm, sprays for sale. Have a healthy, happy new year!

Call Linda at 413-624-3334 or e-mail, [lindalla239@hotmail.com](mailto:lindalla239@hotmail.com).  
Web site: [holisticserviceswithlindamromano.com](http://holisticserviceswithlindamromano.com).



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OWNER

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01337-0552

[cjkuzdeba@yahoo.com](mailto:cjkuzdeba@yahoo.com)



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