
Leyden Life

Leyden, Massachusetts

February 2017

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

Select Board

SELECT BOARD MEETINGS

The Select Board will meet on Thursdays February 2nd and 16th at 9:00 AM in their office and February 9th and 23rd at 6:45 PM. (Feb. 16th is at PRES.) To be added to the agenda or to get a copy of it, please contact Bob Hardesty at 774-4111, Ext. 1, or selectboard@townofleyden.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.

DECEMBER MEETINGS

Wed, Feb 1	6:30 PM	Board of Assessors
Thu, Feb 2	9:00 AM	Select Board
Thu, Feb 2	4:30 PM	Council on Aging
Tue Feb 7	7:00 PM	Broadband Committee
Wed, Feb 8	7:00 PM	Planning Board
Thu, Feb 9	6:45 PM	Select Board
Wed, Feb 15	9:00 AM	Board of Health (at the Police Station)
Thu, Feb 16	9:00 AM	Select Board (at PRES)
Wed, Feb 16	6:30 PM	Board of Assessors
Mon, Feb 20	7:30 PM	Conservation Commission
Tue, Feb 21	7:00 PM	Historical Commission (Downstairs at the church)
Thu, Feb 23	6:45 PM	Select Board

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

Town Clerk

VITAL STATISTICS

Births: No births were reported in Nov.
Theresa Jean Barton was born Dec. 13, 2016 to Carey and Bethany Barton of Frizzell Hill Rd.
Deaths: No deaths were reported in Nov.
Elaine Call of West Leyden Rd. died Dec. 13, 2016. She was 78.
Marriages: No marriages were reported in Nov. or Dec.

STREET LISTING

The annual street list was recently mailed. The forms were printed from the Massachusetts Secretary of State's Voter Registration Information System. Please make any changes as needed or write "no changes" on the form and mail it back in the return envelope provided as soon as possible. Thank you.

DOG LICENSES

The 2017 dog licenses will be ready to issue beginning March 1st. Licenses cannot be issued without proof of current rabies vaccination. Also, residents are reminded that only checks or money orders are accepted. Please do not bring cash. Thank you.

The following license fees apply:

Male neutered and female spayed - \$10.00

Male and female intact - \$15.00

Kennel License 1-4 dogs. - \$30.00

Kennel License 5-10 dogs.- \$40.00

Kennel License more than 10 dogs.- \$50.00

FOLDING AND ENVELOPE STUFFING BEE

The Town Clerks thank Laura Schlaikjer, Lois Feldman, Amy St. Clair, Trueman Robbins, Merry Lein, Cornelia Reid, Bob Taylor, Jeff Neipp, and Michele Giarusso who were all at the Leyden Café on Sunday morning January 15th and who all took part in a form-folding and envelope-stuffing bee to help prepare the Street Listings for mailing.

—Elizabeth Johnson

Town Clerk Office Hours are Wednesdays, 6:00 to 8:00 PM.
Telephone 774-4111, Ext. 3. Email: townclerk@townofleyden.com

Select Board Office

Winter has treated us pretty well so far; road maintenance is still within budget. The sight of sugar stack smoke and steam will be a quick reminder that maple sugaring season is here. Our local producers will once again be gathering the sap for what we hope will be another good year for them. Look for your local farmer, as many products are available right here in Leyden. Eggs, milk, syrup, hay, firewood, honey, beef, lamb, vegetables, and berries are all produced in Leyden.

Liz Johnson has decided to remain as Town Clerk until the Annual Town Election in May. Bob Hardesty was asked by our Board to be her assistant until then. Anyone interested in the Town Clerk position will have to have his or her name submitted at Town Caucus, which should be sometime in March. The Town Clerk position requires a background check because a bond on the person is required to be in place prior to taking office per Massachusetts General Law.

The Select Board had two meetings in January with the towns in the Pioneer Valley School District. Present were

Select Boards from the four towns, Finance Committee members, Administrative Assistants, School Committee members, and Superintendent Ruth Miller. There was a broad range of topics regarding our school district, and it was agreed to establish an Advisory Board, with two members and two School Committee members from each town along with the Superintendent. They will look at the district agreement that was amended March 28, 1991. Since then we have seen our Leyden elementary school go from an enrollment of over a 100 students down to 23. We have 16 school choice students enrolled in our school as well.

Leyden has millions of dollars invested in the school district, especially the refurbished high school, along with our elementary school. We want to continue to have the best educational facilities available for our students. Because the school district agreement is so restrictive, it may be in the best interest of the towns to look into some changes that could help the district maintain the high standards that we all want for education now.

(Continued on page 3)

Robertson Memorial Library

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

At the end of each year, it's nice to acknowledge the volunteers who give their time to make the library available on Saturdays. Glen and Kathy Benson, Amy St.Clair, Kathy Ruseckas, Karin Parks, Steve Richter, Robbi Browning, Lois Feldman, Cindy LeBlanc, Rebecca Rodgers, and Kerry O'Dea deserve our sincere thanks. What a team! Michelle Higgins, Jennifer Van Platt, and Liz Walz have joined the group, and we are thrilled that Peggy Brown is now able to volunteer after a long hiatus. We are in business!

Despite his being eighty-eight years young, Trueman Robbins checks on the library regularly. If there is ice on the walkway, he chips away at it to make it safe and easily accessible for patrons. He visits volunteers with his pal Tucker each Saturday, too. Thank you, Trueman, for all you do.

Good news! The 2017 Clark Art Institute pass has arrived. If you are interested in visiting this fabulous museum, come in, borrow the pass, and have a great day.

We have sold all but one of the calendars published by Rowe author Kathy Heiligman. The photography is professional and the color sharp. Our library was selected for the cover as it is considered the quintessential hill-town library. The cost is \$19. If you are interested in purchasing the last copy, stop in soon. Those who purchase a calendar will be eligible for a drawing, the prize being a mug with the RML picture on it.

More good news! We have been awarded the PVRSD FEE grant to bring author Jane Buchanan to Pearl Rhodes after Lisa Armstrong's fifth/sixth grade class reads/discusses/ writes about her novel, *Hank's Story*. Jane is donating fourteen copies of her book to the school so that the curriculum Lisa and I have created can be used for several years as a language arts unit.

Happy February!

—Chris Johnston

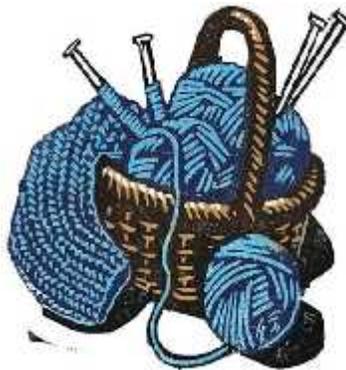
Leyden Knitting Group

The Leyden knitting group will meet three times in February: Friday, February 10th from 6:30 to 8:30 pm at Laura's house (773-8325); Tuesday, February 13th from 1:00 to 3:00 pm at Town Hall. Contact Amy St. Clair to confirm, (774-6907); and other times are to be determined.

Would you like to host a knitting time at your house? Get in touch with Peggy (774-5764) or Laura (773-8325).

All ages and all experience levels are welcome. Happy knitting! —Laura Timmerman, 773-8325
Facebook Group: "Leyden Knitting Circle."

Members sometimes post pictures of their projects here, or interesting knitting-related links.



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 Elaine Brooks, Cliff and Sue Carlson, Carol Doerpholz, Wayne and Gloria Fisher, Fred and Susan Pazmino, Sam and Marie Bartlett, Spirit Fire, and Angels' Rest for donations and to Michele Higgins, Lois Feldman, and Liz Kidder for collating help. Thanks to deliverers Marie Bartlett, Marie Lovley, Pat Little and the Cafferys. (We apologize if we missed anyone.)

Volunteers Needed

We need volunteers to help collate and distribute the *Leyden Life* monthly newsletter for those who still want hard copies. It only takes a half-hour or so once a month, and it can be fun and interesting to catch up on the gossip around town.

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

Wednesday, February 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



The Leyden Café is open
on **Sundays 9:30 AM**
to 12:00 NOON
downstairs at Town Hall.

Meet your friends and neighbors and enjoy Karyn's delicious baked goodies and Pierce Bros. coffee.

You never know who you'll find there, or what interesting things you might learn about the town or its people just through conversations.

We look forward to seeing you there!

—Amy St. Clair

Angels' Rest Bed and Breakfast Now Open

Angels' Rest Retreat is now open for bed and breakfast mid-week and some weekends. Check BedandBreakfast.com for the calendar of open dates or call direct to Jennifer at 760-672-5336 or info@angelsrestretreat.com to book rooms for friends and family or a get-away for yourself! Two hot tubs, couch and fireplace, quiet space for yoga and meditation, and a hearty breakfast are included! Rooms have twin, double, king and queen-size bed offerings and bathrooms en suite. Singles, couples, families or groups are welcome.

Ed's Sugar Shack will soon be boiling maple sap and making delicious maple syrup. Yummy!



Leyden Recreation Committee

As many of you already know, the skating rink is up and operable at the Leyden Pavilion. I have heard that lots of people have used it and love having it there. Just remember, the rink is "Skate at Your Own Risk" and is maintained by members of the Leyden Recreation Committee. Members work regular jobs, so if there is a snowstorm, it will be hard for them to get to the rink right away. So *please*, if you go to skate it would be a *great* idea if you bring your shovel just in case. We would appreciate any assistance we can get. Also, *please* don't leave chunks of wood, rock or anything else on the ice as it will melt into the ice and leave an unsmooth surface. Even a leaf or two could make a mess in the ice.

At some point, when we get more snow, we would like to host a sledding and skating party. The Leyden PTO will sell drinks and snacks, etc., at the Pavilion, so hopefully we'll get more snow.

We're still hoping that someday there will be some lights on the outside of the Pavilion. Then there can be skating in the evening. We do want the rink closed by 10:00 **PM** when we have lights. Have fun and skate often.

—Mary Lou Barton, Secretary
Leyden Recreation Department

Scholarship Awards

The Fred W. Wells Trust is an organization that provides scholarships to students graduating from high school and to those enrolled in college or an advanced educational program. Recipients are selected based on scholarship, need, extracurricular activities and recommendations.

Applications may be obtained from high school college counselors, or from the Leyden Town Clerk during normal business hours. Please note that all applications, recommendation letters and *official* transcripts now need to be postmarked no later than **March 20th, 2017**.

Please call Lois at 774-4092 for further information if needed.
—Thank you, Lois Feldman



The WiredWest Regional Broadband Solution

The WiredWest Board of Directors, meeting in Worthington on January 14th, approved a price list for the services it will offer as a regional network operator and internet service provider. Basic internet access (25 Megabits per second) will be priced at \$59 per month; a higher speed option (1 Gigabit per second) will be available at \$79. Phone service (full featured including domestic long distance) will be an additional \$19. You will be able to keep your current phone number.

Actual services will be provided by a reputable local company with experience as a Fiber-to-the-Home provider. Negotiations are still in progress with several companies, so the name of the company cannot be made public as this is being written. This and more information will be provided at a meeting on **Saturday, January 28th**. The purpose of the meeting is to inform town officials of the WiredWest option for their towns within the guidelines of the MBI Readiness & Sustainability Process. Members of town Select Boards, Finance Committees, and Broadband Committees will be invited to attend. The event will take place at the JFK Middle School in Northampton

If you paid a \$49 deposit to WiredWest during the sign-up campaign that began more than two years ago, your deposit will be applied against your first month's service. Since the original plan to build a regional network was rejected by the State and each town is now responsible for building a self-contained network, regional service will cost a little more. But compared to what you are probably paying now for Verizon phone and DSL, WiredWest can provide much better internet and phone service at a comparable price.

We are grateful to all who signed up and have been waiting patiently.

—Al Woodhull (413-773-3522) and Sheila Hourihan (413-218-6600), WiredWest Delegates for Leyden

Select Board Office

(Continued from page 1)

There will be a long process over a period of years before any changes could take place, but it's something we need to look at because we've seen a sharp reduction in numbers, as have other districts.

On to a note regarding where we stand on Broadband: We continue to look at all solutions that will best serve the Town. We are inching ahead and making progress. Things are changing at every level, and no firm decisions will be made until we are all satisfied with what will work best for Leyden. The Broadband Committee continues to look at all means, as do our delegates from WiredWest.

—Respectfully yours, Jeff, Bill and Lance

Lewis Muka's sugar house has produced delicious maple syrup. Yum!



Council on Aging (COA)

The Council on Aging would like to begin this New Year by thanking all those who have attended the monthly lunches, all those great people who have given their time and energy by volunteering and helping out, all who have run classes for us and given presentations and performances, drivers for the transportation program, and most of all, the people of Leyden who have generously supported the activities of the Council on Aging. So to all of you – Happy New Year (once again), and thank you all very much!

SOUP & SANDWICH LUNCH: The new Soup & Sandwich Winter Break Lunch will continue in February, and will be held downstairs in the Community Room at Town Hall on **THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2nd from NOON to 1:30 PM**. Do join us for a casual lunch of chili, cornbread, salad and a light dessert – save the date! Take some time out of your busy day of work, errands, laundry or other household chores to enjoy a satisfying midday meal served with a smile! Everyone is welcome, so bring family and friends along. The lunch break will be followed by:

EXERCISE CLASSES: OK! So now the holidays are over—it's time to dust off those sneakers and come to exercise classes, starting up again (on **TUESDAYS** this time) on **TUESDAY FEBRUARY 7th from 12:00 noon to 1:00 PM** upstairs at Town Hall, led by **Linda Allis**. Prepare to have fun while moving and grooving! This session will run for 12 weeks, through April 25th, giving us plenty of time to get in shape for outdoor activities in the Spring.

AWESOME ASTRONOMY: We are very fortunate indeed to have **ROBIN SYMONDS**, a leading astronomer and former Director of the Charles Hayden Planetarium at Boston's Museum of Science present a fascinating program upstairs in Town Hall on **THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9th, from 7:00 to 8:30 PM**. (The snow date is Thursday, February 23rd.)

Robin will talk about "**The New Solar System**". She says: "The Solar System most of us grew up with – nine neatly organized planets, a few inert moons and an occasional comet – is no more. (We now know that it never was!) In the last twenty years or so, our understanding of our home in the universe has changed dramatically, revealing a complex, dynamic and gloriously diverse system."

Robin served on the Education Advisory Committee for the Hubble Space Telescope from 2005 to 2010. She is now semi-retired, living in Leyden since last Spring (luckily for us!) and teaches astronomy part-time at the Springfield Science Museum.

ACRYLIC PAINTING CLASSES: Art Classes, led by **David Sund**, which began in January, continue during the month of February on **TUESDAYS, from 1:00 to 3:00 pm** downstairs at Town Hall. This class has proven to be very popular and is fully subscribed by those of us in search of our inner artist! Thank you, Mr. Sund!

LEYDEN LUNCH: Invite your best friends to lunch on **WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15th from 12:00 NOON to 1:30 PM** at Town Hall. Show them how much you care with a delicious meal of **lasagne, garlic bread, salad, and cherry pie**.

Of course there's no limit to the number of friends you invite, so fill up a table and celebrate the joy of friendship together! Please call Sue Howarth at (413) 774-3118 to reserve your place, and let her know if there are any special dietary concerns for yourself or someone in your party.

MOVIE NIGHT!: Check out the Big Screen, new sound system, and even an old-timey Popcorn Machine on **FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17th** upstairs at Town Hall, **from 7:00 to 9:00 PM**

with a showing of "**THE SECRET LIFE OF PETS**" (2016), a hilarious and fast-paced animated movie about the lives our pets lead after we leave for work or school. Rated PG: *All ages welcome!*

LOOKING FOR A GOOD TIME? Please call.... (oh, just a minute now...). That is, *volunteer* with the Leyden Council on Aging. We always need help with meals (set-up, serving, clean-up, etc.), movie nights (pop that popcorn, learn to run the projector) special events, making baked goods, including sugar-free/gluten-free items, etc. and we *always* have fun!

Please call Cecilia Tusinski at 413-624-3436 with any questions about the COA programs listed above, or if you would like to volunteer – there's always plenty going on as you can see!

As always, the Leyden Council on Aging thanks all those who help to make our programs happen, including board members, volunteers, drivers and of course, all the Leyden residents who attend the lunches and classes. Thank you all!

Please note: when School is cancelled owing to inclement weather, there will be no COA events taking place, either. 'Snow dates' will be announced, whenever possible.

—Cecelia Tusinski

LEYDEN COUNCIL ON AGING FEBRUARY CALENDAR

CHILI, CORNBREAD & SALAD LUNCH
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2ND, NOON

COA BOARD MEETING
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2ND, 4:30PM

CORE FITNESS EXERCISE W/LINDA ALLIS
TUESDAYS: FEBRUARY 7TH, 14TH, 21ST & 28TH
NOON TO 1:00 PM

ART CLASSES W/DAVID SUND
TUESDAYS: FEBRUARY 7TH, 14TH,
21ST AND 28TH FROM 1:00 TO 3:00 PM

AWESOME ASTRONOMY
W/ROBIN SYMONDS
THURSDAY FEBRUARY 9TH, 7:00 TO 8:30 PM

LEYDEN LUNCH CLUB
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15TH, 12:00 NOON to 1:30 PM

MOVIE NIGHT
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17TH at 7:00 PM
THE SECRET LIFE OF PETS: 2016

ALL EVENTS HELD AT LEYDEN TOWN HALL

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.

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.

Sweet Morning Farm CSA

2017 FARM SHARES

Shares are on sale! It's not too early to reserve your share of Leyden-grown, organic vegetables, fruits, and flowers. We offer two share sizes to meet your needs—regular and mini. Regular Shares include a weekly assortment of vegetables and flowers, plus pick-your-own pole beans, snap peas, and cherry tomatoes. Mini Shares include your choice of two items a week plus flowers and PYO privileges. Our farm is not certified but we are completely committed to organic and sustainable practices. *Signing Bonus:* All who pay in full for their share before March 20th receive a free dozen eggs as our thank-you.

Planning and planting are happening now for lots of delicious food for us all. Kale, chard, lettuce, tomatoes, peppers, beans, shell beans, spinach, carrots, onions, leeks, garlic, beets, flowers, duck, chicken, and so many more delicious, nutritious, and beautiful crops are on their way. For details call or email Laura or Robin, and check out our farm blog and Facebook page for news and pictures.

EGGS: We sell organically grown eggs. Call or email to be placed on our News & Extras Email List. Currently we have spinach, and leeks available as well as eggs, and we'll have greens and mesclun in the early spring. You can also find us at the Greenfield Winter Farmers' Market (next market Feb. 4) and the Leyden Cafe Market.

We invite you to become part of our little farm.

—Laura Timmerman and Rob Creamer
Sweet Morning Farm—413-773-8325

laurat@crocker.com

sweetmorningfarm@gmail.com

<https://www.facebook.com/SweetMorningFarm>

<http://sweet-morning-farm.blogspot.com/>



Bob Taylor

Harvesting maple sap the old fashioned way.

Linda Romano

Valentine's Day specials: Give the gift of Love! Buy 1-3 sessions for massage/bodywork and get a half hour free. 30-90 minute sessions are available.

Other gifts include rose massage cream, candles, and bath salts. I'm also giving three free 10-minute chair massages free to new clients. Contact me at 413-624-3334.

—Linda Romano 413-624-3334
romanohealing@gmail.com



Enjoying the COA luncheon on January 18th



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stannard66@yahoo.com

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The freshest vegetables—potatoes, zucchini, summer squash, great corn, melons and more—plus a variety of tomatoes available fresh daily. Convenient to Leyden residents. Self-serve, open early and late.

CLOSED FOR WINTER



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Daily Farm Cooperative

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Warren Facey
160 North County Road, Leyden, MA 01337
Phone: 413-774-3757 Cell: 413-522-2512

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Owner

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