

Leyden Life

Leyden, Massachusetts

July 2011

Town Hall Hours:

Monday—Friday 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM and Thursday 6:00 – 9:00 PM

Tax Collector:

Monday and Wednesday 5:30 – 8:00 PM

Assessors Office:

Wednesday 2:00 – 8:00 PM

Other hours by appointment at 774-4111

Select Board

SELECTBOARD MEETINGS

The Select Board will meet on Thursdays, July 7th and 21st at 6:45 PM in their office. Please take note of the new time. To be added to the agenda or to get a copy of it, please contact Liz Johnson at 774-4111 or leydenselectboard@live.com.

TOWN HALL MEETINGS

The following meetings are scheduled this month:

Tue, Jul 5	7:00 PM	Agricultural Commission
Wed, Jul 6	6:30 PM	Board of Assessors
Thur, Jul 7	6:45 PM	Selectboard
Tue, Jul 12	5:30 PM	Board of Health (at Police Station)
Wed, Jul 13	7:00 PM	Planning Board
Mon, Jul 18	7:30 PM	Conservation Commission
Wed, Jul 20	6:30 PM	Board of Assessors
Thur, Jul 21	6:45 PM	Selectboard

TOWN HALL CLOSED JULY 4TH

Leyden Town Hall will be closed on Monday, July 4th for the Independence Day holiday.

INTERNET CONNECTION AT TOWN HALL

The Town Hall internet connection will be secured by June 30th. Residents will still be able to use the Wi Fi connection with a password. Contact Liz Johnson at 774-4111 or stop in the Selectboard's Office at Town Hall if you need to get the password to use it. Please remember that the Robertson Memorial Library has a free and open Wi Fi connection for residents to use, as well. This is being done on the advice of the Chief of Police due to inappropriate (and sometimes illegal) use of open Wi Fi in other locations.

BUILDING PERMITS TO GO ON LINE

The Franklin County Cooperative Inspection Program (FCCIP) office will switch to on-line building permitting as of July 1st.

—Board of Selectmen

Help Wanted

The Council on Aging needs volunteers to help plan and conduct monthly meetings. You can help with presentation ideas, cooking, clean-up, whatever interests you, on a regular or casual basis. See "Council on Aging," page 3.

Town Clerk

VITAL STATISTICS

No births, marriages or deaths were reported.

OFFICE CLOSED

The Clerk's office will be *closed* the week of July 4th through July 8th.

—Bob Hardesty, Town Clerk

Town Clerk Office Hours are Mondays 8:30 AM – 12:30 PM and
Wednesdays 6:00 – 7:30 PM Phone 774-7769

Graduates

Barbara Levesque, daughter of Lori and Bobby Levesque, has graduated Summa Cum Laude from Marist College with a major in Psychology and a minor in Global Studies. She will continue at Marist College for a fifth year to receive her Masters in Psychology.

Brian Dew, son of Lori Levesque and Stepson of Bobby Levesque, has graduated from Franklin County Technical School.

Pearl Rhodes Elementary School



The PRES first and second grade class presents a plant in a painted pot to Mike Wells in thanks for volunteering.

On behalf of the Pearl Rhodes Elementary School, I would like to thank Mike and Kathy Wells for their dedication to literacy. For the past four years Mike and Kathy have come to our building every Friday to read with our students, and it has made a world of difference. Last Friday Ms. Shilling's 1st and 2nd grade class presented Mr. Wells with a plant in a hand-decorated planter. The Pearl Rhodes Community is thankful to have volunteers like the Wells. Thank you very much for your time and dedication.

—Sincerely, Eric M. Glazier, Principal

Robertson Memorial Library

Library Hours: Monday 1:30 – 6:30 PM; Wednesday 1:30 – 6:30 PM,
Saturday 10:00 AM – 12:00 NOON, Phone 773-9334 (Leave a message any time.)

The summer reading program has begun. On June 2nd, students from pre-kindergarten through grade two visited the library and signed out their first books for the program. On Monday, June 20th, the third through sixth grades visited with their teachers. The program officially began on June 2nd, and it will end on August 28th. Anyone interested in participating may pick up an information packet and 'Books Read' sheet at the library.

Vouchers to attend summer programs sponsored by the Mohawk Trail Concerts are available to anyone interested. The free tickets will be awarded when the dated vouchers are presented at the Mohawk Trail Concerts box office, the World Eye Book Store, or Boswell's Books in Shelburne Falls. A brochure and more information are available at the library. This is a great opportunity to enjoy timeless music free of charge. Best of all, children under twelve, when accompanied with a ticket holder, may attend at no cost!

Local art at the library: Standing beside Mike Wells' 'Silent Sentinels' are oils on canvas of sheep grazing along Weatherhead Hollow Road, a white horse of unknown history, one of Barbara and John Wallace's Romney sheep, and a perky hen belonging to the artist, Pat Little. Another interesting piece captures the essence of vibrant spring tulips. All have elicited praise from appreciative patrons!

In the past, Pat's work was primarily done using water colors, but over the last year or so she has focused her energies on oils as she continues to study at the River Gallery in Brattleboro. If you are interested in Pat capturing one of your pets in oils, she'd love to talk to you. If you would like to purchase one of her existing pieces, feel free to call her at 774-7952.

Johan Livingstone has been awarded the job of erecting a new entrance railing for the library. Work will begin this summer when Johan has completed several other projects. His design will incorporate wrought iron to fit the age and feel of our little library.

We extend a special thank you to **Holly and Ken Spatcher**, who, for the second year, have donated flowers for our library window boxes. Prior to our planting them, my husband, Fred Johnston, repaired and painted one of the boxes that had rotted out (Thank you, Freddie!). Trustee Trueman Robbins helped me to reset the repaired box and plant the flowers that will enhance our building for the summer season.

The **Town of Leyden Open Space and Recreation Plan 2010** is available at the library.

If you are interested in lighter reading, countless titles await you as well as great CDs and DVDs. Why spend money if you can borrow a treasure from your own town library?

May your summer be the best ever!

—Chris Johnston

Leyden Portrait Project

Well, a rainy May has slowed things down but I plan to take portraits throughout the summer and into the early fall if need be. The new book will be out in time for Christmas.

If you contacted me already, you are on my list—never fear, I will be in touch with you! If you haven't contacted me, please consider doing so, as I'd love to get as many people as possible into the new book.

If we spoke casually about the project in passing, please call my home phone or email me and get yourself officially on the list, as I don't want anyone to fall through the cracks. Much appreciated!

—Trish Crapo, 413-774-2021 or tcrapo@mac.com



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.

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 **15th 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 the Spatcher Farm for contributing this month.

Thanks to collators Sue and Cliff Carlson and Lois Feldman, and to deliverers Lauren Clary, Marie Bartlett, Marie Lovley, Jeanne Breenen and the Cafferys. (If we have forgotten anyone, please accept our thanks and apologies.)

Please "Hook" Your Post!
Please put a hook on your mailbox post for delivery of Leyden Life. We don't want you to miss out!

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 Breenen 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

Friday, July 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

Meetings, Gatherings and Announcements

Council on Aging

Our June meeting was interesting and fun. Zeke Hecker from Guilford, spoke to us about his thoughts and experiences composing musicals. Thanks so much, Zeke!

On Thursday, July 14th at 10:30 AM, we will watch the documentary "Awake, My Soul, The Story of Sacred Harp", a film by Matt and Erica Hinton. Sacred harp singing is an important part of my life, and after the film I will answer questions and perhaps share a song or two. After that we will share lunch and visit. You are welcome to join us, no matter what your age. The Council on Aging is all about building community connections.

We will meet in the church fellowship hall. If you want to join us for lunch, please let Edith Fisher know at 773-7336 by Monday, July 11th so we can plan the meal accordingly.

I am actively looking for people to help with planning and carrying out our monthly meetings. If that's something that appeals to you, on a regular or casual basis, please let me know. Your help can be as large or small as you wish; ideas for programs, cooking, set up and clean up, are a few of the possible ways to be involved.

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 July, first on Friday, July 8th at Peggy's house and again on Friday, July 22nd at Laura's house. Both times are from 6:30 to 8:30 PM. All are welcome to join us; no experience is needed. Knitters, stitchers, spinners, menders, quilters—all kinds of handicrafts are fine. Just come along for a relaxing evening. We look forward to spending time with you!

Facebook Group: Leyden Knitting Circle

—Laura Timmerman, 773-8325 & Peggy Brown, 774-5764

Leyden Art Group

Our July meeting will be held at Rhonda Wainshilbaum's home on River Road in Leyden on Thursday, July 28th at 6:30-8:30 PM. Plan to bring an art project to work on, or just come to chat and visit. Call Rhonda at 624-5175 to RSVP.

Calling all artists! Meetings are currently scheduled on the fourth Thursday of each month. If you are able to host at your home, please email Peggy at nianticgirl@yahoo.com or call 774-5764. We are still looking for art to share at the Robertson Memorial Library.

Linda Romano at 624-3334 and I are currently planning seasonal visits to local museums, including local Gallery Walks. We plan to carpool from the Leyden Town Hall. More dates and details will be in next month's *Leyden Life*. Thank you.

—Peggy Brown, 774-5764

Artists of Leyden

Alicia Hunsicker is currently showing work in the historic Hanover Theater at the Worcester Windows exhibition. In the studio she is working on a new body of paintings that will be shown at Gallery in the Woods this November and December, and she is welcoming studio visits to preview her paintings in progress. You can see examples of Alicia's work at www.artistsofleyden.org/Artists/Hunsicker and on Facebook at Alicia's new page "Alicia Hunsicker - Visual Artist".

Cecilia Tusinski is opening a new studio/gallery at 30 Bridge Street in Shelburne Falls, and is looking forward to welcoming the public to an open studio day, to be announced at a later date. Cecilia has also been invited to display two examples of her work in the new closing room of the Franklin County Registry of Deeds, soon to be dedicated to Walter Kostanski, former Register. You can view examples of Cecilia's work at www.artistsofleyden.org/Artists/Tusinski.

Deborah Garner and **Trish Crapo** are both exhibiting at the Atlantic Works Gallery in East Boston, from July 21st through August 20th. Atlantic Works is a member-operated collaborative gallery and the show, entitled "With a Little Help from Our Friends", invites the public thus:

"This time, it's not all about us. We at Atlantic Works are about community. We are inclusive. We're welcoming. So this July we invite you to see not just our artwork, but work by some of the artists we think will blow you away. They and we come from all over the world, and have all different ways of seeing. Our Friends show will delight and ravish you with something that maybe you've never seen before."

Gallery hours are Fridays through Sundays 2:00-6:00 PM. The opening reception July 21st, 6:00-9:00 PM, and the closing reception is August 18th, 6:00-9:00 PM. For more info, go to www.atlanticworks.org.

You can view examples of Deb Garner's work at www.artistsofleyden.org/Artists/Garner, and Trish's work, including collage at www.artistsofleyden.org/Artists/Crapo and on Facebook by searching for "Trish Crapo, Collage & Photographs".

Rich DiMatteo has provided several more examples of his fine pencil artwork, which can be seen at www.artistsofleyden.org/Artists/DiMatteo.

Trish Crapo will be participating in the War and Peace Project, spearheaded by **Lola Baltzell**, who lives in Brookline, MA and also owns a home on East Hill. The project is taking Baltzell, her husband Mark Natale, Christiane Johnson, an artist from Atlanta who has been making collages for the project, and Trish Crapo to Yasnaya Polyana, the estate of Leo Tolstoy, in Tula Province, Russia this August. They will be looking at the museum there to make plans to show all 750+ collages from June - Sept 2012, and leading collage workshops for young people from Tula.

You can find out more about the War and Peace project at <http://warpeaceproject.blogspot.com/> or by searching for "War and Peace Project" on Facebook. For details on how to participate on the site, to offer any suggestion, or if you're having problems viewing the site, please email to jnielsen@psi-ma.com, or call 773-7948.

See www.artistsofleyden.org, and on Facebook, search for Artists of Leyden

Did You Know That...

Gazette & Courier - Monday, May 10, 1875

LEYDEN -- The spelling match and sugar and oyster party on Mayday eve. was a very pleasant and enjoyable occasion. Notwithstanding the threatening weather a fair company turned out and had a "sweet spell" up to the hour of returning, when the rain poured down through pitchy darkness and the "spell" was broken. However, we hear of no one that would exchange the pleasure of the evening for a lost friz or feather, or a whole box of Day and Martin [wax boot polish]. The first match in spelling (C.W. Severance, master) was by tally, resulting in the triumph of the side chosen by Miss Belle Newcomb. Then came the repast in that famous long hall, tabled the whole length and supplied with an abundance of hot oysters and warm maple syrup. This fare proved perfectly adapted to enliven and sweeten the speciality of the company, and lead to a few toasts and speeches. [Anyone ever hear of a sugar and oyster party? Or ever taste that combination?]

The last match was for spelling down, the sides being headed by D. Mowry and M.L. Williams. The story is a short one with a long sequel. A few rounds from "Saunders Union Speller" left all quietly seated excepting a youth of about 70 pounds avoirdupois, whose head was now about level with his competitors as regards altitude, and a little more so in spelling. This was Eddie E. Pixley, a boy living with S.B. Buddington. He spelled on near half an hour all the crooked words the master could find, the latter calling for volunteers to help down him. The crowd gathered around like a wrestling ring, peeking over shoulders to see how he did it, while several searched the spelling book for "clinchers". He finally tripped upon a simple word of four letters, "teal", a web-footed fowl, which he had confused with "tell", a lime tree.

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Music on the Hill Continues

Join us for an evening of fiddle and piano as the Music on the Hill series continues at the Leyden Town Hall. We are excited to bring you this wonderful evening of music, community, and of course dessert potluck! Our next event is on Sunday July 10th at 7:00 PM. Everyone is welcome. Here's a bit about our artists in July.

Betsy Branch and Mark Douglass, of Portland, Oregon, have been playing for dances and concerts together for 15 years, combining Betsy's dynamic and driving fiddling with Mark's jazz and gospel chops on piano. Whether they are playing a fiery or flowing tune, or singing a beautiful folk song, their powerful music often causes people to look around the stage for where the other musicians are hiding. They delight in sharing their infectious joy of music with dancers and listeners alike. Betsy and Mark are excited to make their East Coast debut with this concert as a duo, at Leyden Town Hall. Their playing can be heard on their CD Picassiette, and Betsy's fiddling is also featured on a twin fiddle recording with David Kaynor.

Admission is \$10 adult and \$5 under 12. Hope to see you there!

—Stuart and Alice Kenney— Top Hill Music



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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.

High School Senior Portraits: Several people have contacted me about doing high school senior portraits this summer and I would love to offer this service to the rest of the town. I can come to your home or location of your choice, or we can arrange a portrait session at my studio in Greenfield. Keep me in mind for family portraits or event coverage as well; I am your own hometown photographer! Please contact me about pricing. —Trish Crapo, 774-2021 or terapo@mac.com

Leyden Playgroup: I'm a mom of a 1-yr and 4-yr-old. I'm interested in starting a Leyden Playgroup for the summer months of July and August. If interested, please email Lauren Clary at Rae2577@yahoo.com or call 624-3949.

Blueberries for Sale: Organically grown, high-bush blueberries for sale by the case (12 pints) at Spatcher Farm. Please call 624-3247 to pre-order yours. Crop starts in July and goes through mid-August. Holly & Ken Spatcher.

House Sitter Available During July: Teacher, reliable and mature, will be teaching summer school in the area and needs accommodation for any part of July. Contact Cornelia Reid at 774-5146.

2011 Leyden Hay For Sale 1st and 2nd cutting. If interested, please call Jim Muka at 774-6975 for details

Old Fashioned Buffet for Sale: Carved front, 3 cupboards, 3 drawers, \$100. Leave "rustic" or refinish. Call Jennifer at 413-624-3955 or mntnhiker@sprintmail.com.

Leyden Honey for Sale: "Persephone's Garden Honey" from Maple Run Farm, \$14 for 26-oz., suitable as a gift. Available while it lasts. Barbara Wallace, 774-7780.

Spirit Fire

Free online meditation by webinar, podcast, or join us at the Retreat Center Mon-Wed-Fri at 8:15 AM. Online Classes: Summer Lecture Series: July 14 "Angels and Devas;" July 28 "The Way of White Magic". Quietude, A personal retreat, July 24-26. You can contact Donna for more information on all programs at 413-624-3955 or info@spiritfire.com. Check out the website: www.spiritfire.com. You can also register for classes online!

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Local Grass-Fed Beef for Sale at Castle Hill Farm in West Leyden. All our cows are raised and bred on the farm here, no hormones or antibiotics are used, and all food is produced on the farm. Our USDA certified beef is vacuum packed and labeled for quality and great taste. For a price sheet, e-mail antlerjhd@verizon.net. Call Jeff Neipp at 624-5512.

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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.

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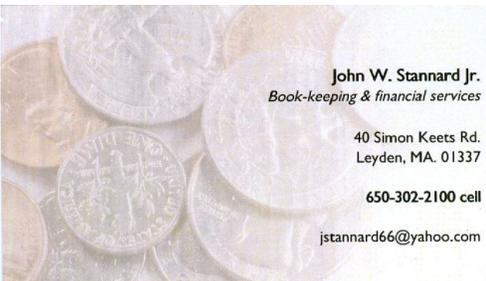
Laura Timmerman, 413-773-8325,
laurat@crocker.com,
<http://lastingimpressionscsa.blogspot.com/>

Linda Romano

New cooling summer Yoga session starts on Tuesday, July 12th, 6-7:15 PM at Spirit Fire in Leyden. Please, RSVP ASAP. Call 624-3334. This session continues for six weeks till August 16th.

Return of monthly massage/bodywork special; schedule one monthly session and receive a \$10.00 discount. Seasonal sessions will offer special menus. Summer is the time of abundance, warmth and new experiences. ENJOY! Call for appointments/gift certificates at the Healing Sanctuary.

—Linda Romano, 624-3334



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