

Leyden Life

Leyden, Massachusetts

December 2011

Selectboard Office Hours:

Monday 12:00 - 5:00 PM, Tuesday—Friday 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM and
Thursdays (December 8th and 22nd) 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 Thursdays, December 8th and 22nd 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:

Tue, Dec 6	7:00 PM	Agricultural Commission
Wed, Dec 7	6:30 PM	Board of Assessors
Thur, Dec 8	6:45 PM	Selectboard
Tue, Dec 13	5:30 PM	Board of Health (at Police Station)
Wed, Dec 14	7:00 PM	Planning Board
Mon, Dec 19	7:30 PM	Conservation Commission
Wed, Dec 21	6:30 PM	Board of Assessors
Thur, Dec 22	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.)

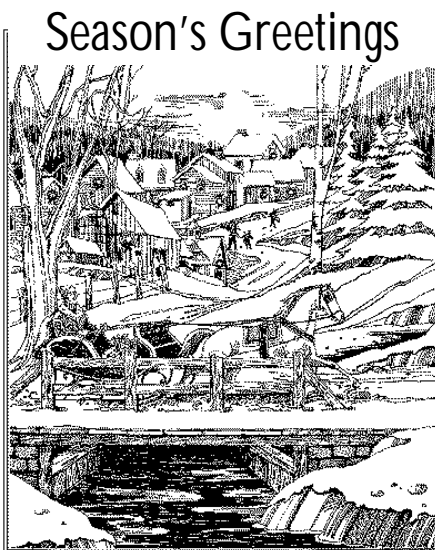
TAX CLASSIFICATION HEARING

The Select Board will hold a Tax Classification Hearing on Thursday, December 8th at 7:00 PM at Town Hall, 16 West Leyden Road. The purpose of the hearing is to set the tax rate for real and personal property for fiscal year 2012.

—Board of Selectmen

Homegrown Holiday Craft Fair

Enjoy a fun-filled afternoon and support local artists while doing your holiday shopping at the **Homegrown Holiday Craft Fair** at Leyden Town Hall, on Sunday, December 11th, from 1:00 to 5:00 PM. There will be snacks, entertainment, craft demonstrations, and children's art activity. One-of-a-kind handmade crafts, such as pottery, jewelry, fabric art, wooden bowls, photography, hand spun yarn, scarves, and more! Book reading and signing at 2:00 PM by a local children's book author/illustrator. Come support Leyden artists and friends. Email Rhonda for more info at rhondawain@verizon.net, or call, 624-5175.



Season's Greetings

Town Clerk

VITAL STATISTICS

MARRIAGES —Wendy McAndrews & David Pomerantz, September 24th.

—Bob Hardesty, Town Clerk

Town Clerk Office Hours are Mondays 8:00 AM – 12:00 NOON and every other Wednesday (Dec. 14th and 28th) 6:00 – 7:30 PM Phone 774-7769

Town Hall E-Mail Address Change
leydenselectboard@crocker.com

Board of Health—Flu Clinic

The Board of Health has 60 flu shots available, free to any Leyden resident. We will hold another clinic on Tuesday, December 6th if enough interest is made known to us. Please call Gloria Fisher at 774-7113 to be put on the list. The Mass DPH shipped these to us free after the November newsletter was distributed.

Thank you to Robin Neipp, RN, for volunteering to do both clinics.

Your local Board of Health working to keep our town safe

—Gloria Fisher, Chair

Leyden Historical Commission

One of the Leyden Historical Commission's ongoing projects is to document every house/structure in town with a photograph. We want to supplement our growing archives with photographs of old barns that are no longer standing. Given the important role of agriculture in Leyden's past, present, and future, barns continue to serve a useful and important presence in our landscape. We request that anyone who possesses photos of any of Leyden's old, no-longer-standing barns or other out-buildings allow the

Commission to copy them. We are also interested in copying other photos of Leyden, past and present that help illustrate the "Leyden way of life" for the archives and for sharing through our historical displays. Donations are also welcome! If you are able to help, please contact Ginny Rockwood at 774-2694 or Bob Snow at 772-0924. Thank you.

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.)

“Double Trouble,” a play written, directed, and performed by **Erin LeBlanc** and her Sunderland friend **Fiona**, was a great success. Another of Erin’s library fundraisers, this short play was full of rhyme and humor. “We had fun creating this,” Erin beamed as she donated another five dollars to support her little town library! Thank you, Erin!

Despite the fact that the library was *cold* (furnace issue and not much fun), Corey, a wonderful woman from the *Sunday Republican*, stopped in to interview six of our regular patrons to capture their thoughts about a “favorite read,” as well as their photos. **Cindy LeBlanc, Kathy DiMatteo, Carol Johnson, Judy Quinlan, Cornelia Reid**, and **Ginny Rockwood** will be featured in upcoming Sunday newspapers, so be sure to look for them. (Note: our male patrons are shy, and a “no kids” policy by the newspaper hampered my attempts at a little diversity.)

So far two kind-hearted men have come forward as our newest volunteers. **Glen Benson** and **Tommy Foster** have offered their time and talent to help on Saturday mornings. If anyone else is interested, please call or visit to join this prestigious team! Thank you Glen and Tommy.

Because I will be away visiting family in Florida, the library will *not* be open on Monday, December 12th. Instead, it will be open on Thursday, December 15th. I’ll post signs at the library to remind you.

Visit soon: Books, CDs, DVDs, and magazines are yours to borrow! If we don’t have what you are looking for, we’ll order it via ILL!

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to all.

—Chris Johnston

Artists of Leyden

Alicia Hunsicker’s 2011 series *Moments of Creation* will be hanging at Gallery in the Woods until December 31st. A heart-felt thank you to all the Leyden people who came out to the opening night! Journalist Clara Rose Thornton, who wrote an in-depth artist profile and review of **Alicia’s** show in the latest *Artscope* magazine, says “*I advise every local art lover to head out and experience a type of daring, complex work rarely exhibited in Vermont.*” The gallery is located at 145 Main St. Brattleboro, VT and gallery hours are 11:00 AM to 5:30 PM daily, Sundays noon to 5:00.

Concurrently **Alicia** will be showing work in Hampden Gallery’s *A Novel Idea: A show of Altered Books*. The opening reception will be held on Sunday Dec. 11th from 2:00 to 5:00 PM at the Hampden Gallery located in the South West area of the University of Massachusetts, Amherst campus.

Deborah Garner and **Alicia Hunsicker** will be showing in the *Light up the Night* winter exhibition juried by Worcester State University Gallerists Howard McGinn and Catherine Wilcox-Titus. The work will be showing in various locations around the city of Worcester, MA in the Worcester Windows Community Arts program. The show runs December 2011 through February 2012. Deborah Garner’s paintings will be at NU-Café, 335 Chandler St.

Deborah Garner continues to participate in a group show, entitled *Living Here* in Woodstock, NY until December 4th at the Karma Triyana Dharmachakra Monastery, which is located on the top of Meads Mountain at 355 Meads Mountain Rd., Woodstock, NY.

Cecilia Tusinski is working on a new series of *Letters/Fragments* in her studio at 32 Bridge Street, Shelburne Falls. She opened her studio for the annual Moonlight Magic event November 25th, which is sponsored by the Shelburne Falls Area Business Association. She welcomes visitors to her gallery space by appointment. Cecilia can be reached via email at ctusinski@yahoo.com or by calling 624-3436 or cell-phone at 413-325-1038.

Cecilia will show work at the MASS-L.O.C.A. gallery on Main Street in Greenfield (above the Manna House) for the month of December: probably starting on Friday, December 2nd through Friday, January 6th.

Trish Crapo will have some of her handmade blank books for sale at the Holiday Shop at Artspace, 15 Mill St, Greenfield, on December 9th through the 18th.

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 Sue and Cliff Carlson and Spirit Fire for contributions this month.

Thanks to collators Kathie Benson and Lois Feldman, 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.)

Artists of Leyden

For details on how to participate on the Artists of Leyden web site, to offer any suggestion, or if you’re having problems viewing the site, please email jnielsen@psi-ma.com, or call 773-7948. www.artistsofleyden.org, and on Facebook, search for Artists of Leyden

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 **Thursday, December 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 and Gatherings

Council on Aging

In November, we met for lunch and sharing of stories and laughter. A good time was had, as usual.

On Thursday, December 8th, we will meet at 11:00 AM for a special presentation, "*The Magic of Origami*". Kate Richardson of Northampton will share stories about the art of paper folding and demonstrate the making of an origami crane. She will teach simple folds to all who are interested and bring some more complex models for "show and tell". Kate has been making origami for many years, and her knowledge and skill are matched by her enthusiasm. Come to watch the demonstration, look at some really cool things, and try out origami, if you wish. After the program we will share lunch together, featuring locally grown, seasonal food.

In addition, since the holidays are approaching, all who wish to bring a batch of cookies to share are welcome to do so. Everyone who comes to the meeting can choose some cookies to bring home. If you have a favorite cookie recipe, this is a chance to share it with friends.

All are welcome to join us. We will meet in the church Fellowship Hall. If you want to join us for lunch, please let Edith Fisher know at 773-7336 before Monday, December 5th, so we can plan the meal accordingly.

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 three Fridays this month: December 2nd at Peggy's house, December 16th at Laura's house, and December 30th 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.

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

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

Kathie Benson - 773-8595

Fifth Thursday Shape-Note Singing

All are invited to share a meal and sing shape-note music at my home on Thursday, December 29th, with pot luck supper at 6:00 PM and singing from 7:00 to 10:00 PM. We'll use a variety of four- and seven-shape-note songbooks (loaner books provided). Listeners, beginners and all ages are welcome. We sing for the pleasure of singing and often go over parts. No special singing ability or experience is required. Come for all or part of the time. We really have a lot of fun and I encourage you to try it out. If you would like to try any part singing, you might like this. Feel free to call for more information.

—Laura Timmerman, 773-8325

CONTRIBUTIONS WELCOME

A sincere thanks to those who have already made contributions. Every donation is important to us, and deeply appreciated.

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.

Leyden Portrait Project

On Thursday, December 8th, (snow date Friday December 9th), I will be at Pearl Rhodes Elementary School photographing for a "Leyden's Children" section for the next book. Children will also write a few lines describing what they love about Leyden. Waiver forms will go out through the school so that I can be sure parents want their children to participate.

I will be upstairs at Leyden Town Hall on Sunday, December 11th, from 10:30 AM till 12:00 NOON. Stop by after church or on your way out to brunch and have your picture taken in the beautiful natural window light of Town Hall.

If you have extended family coming home for Thanksgiving, contact me and we can try to set up a group portrait for the book. All participants will receive a free 5x7 when the book is released. Contact: Trish Crapo at trapo@mac.com or 774-2021.



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.

Pastor's Corner

For obvious reasons the church season of Advent is a busy one for Leyden UMC. We as a church are not simply celebrating Christmas, especially the consumer-driven Christmas that is so prevalent today. Advent for us as Christians is much deeper than that. It is a preparation for God to be ushered into the world and our lives. That is much deeper and transformative than any gift you'll receive on Christmas morning. We have a gift of God in our midst through the Risen Christ. This is ultimately what Christmas is about. In Advent we are preparing ourselves and our church for this momentous change.

With this idea of preparation in mind, we have a series of events planned at the church during the Advent season. The first event will be studying *The Journey* by the Rev. Adam Hamilton on Wednesday nights at 7:00 PM at the church as we reflect on what this Advent season means together. This study begins on November 30th, and all are welcome to join us. On Friday, December 16th from 6:00 to 8:00 PM, we will have our annual Gingerbread House party to which all ages are invited. Bring a bag of candy to share in the decoration of the houses if you would like. On Sunday, December 18th we will have carol singing from 6:00 PM to 7ish. What better way for us to express our joy and love in this Advent season, than to sing? Our Christmas Eve service will be at the family-friendly time of 5:30 PM. On Christmas morning we will celebrate the coming of God into the world with an informal service at the Greenfield UMC at 10:30 AM. Advent season can be a busy time as we prepare for Christmas. I hope that you will find the time to join us for any or all of these events as you find peace in the midst of a chaotic time of the year.

—Pastor Ken Mantler

DiMatteo Interview

Peter Tusinski, host of the "Focus" program which airs at noon on Sundays on the UMass radio station WMUA, 91.1 FM, interviewed Katherine DiMatteo on Sunday, November 20th. The subject was genetically modified seeds and foods (GMO's) and the ongoing effort ("Right2Know") to have such GMO food products clearly labeled as such. Ms. DiMatteo is the former Executive Director of the Organic Trade Association, and is now a senior partner in Wolf, DiMatteo & Associates. If you are interested in hearing this interview, a CD could be made available; call Peter at 413-624-3436.

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 holiday visitors. Please check the website 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!*

Christmas Trees & Wreaths for sale: All trees \$20 each with \$5 from each tree sold going to the Food Bank of Western Mass. Plain wreaths \$10 each. 250 South Count Road. For info call Jim Muka at 774-6975.

Studded Snow Tires for Sale: Four studded snow tires, size P205 65R15, \$25. Call Linda at 773-8088.

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. Remember, the holidays are just around the corner!

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.

Thank you for purchasing Persephone's Garden Honey this year. We appreciate your business! We are now sold out of honey, and look forward to another honey harvest in 2012. Barbara and John Wallace.

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.

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.



JEFF'S HOME IMPROVEMENTS

Carpentry • Renovations • Home Repairs

Masonry and Tile • Home Organization
Painting • Property Caretaking
Organic Garden & Landscaping Services

FULLY INSURED • 20 YEARS EXPERIENCE • EXCELLENT REFERENCES
10 ROLLING LANE • LEYDEN, MA 01337 • 413-773-9597

Timmerman Farm CSA

EGGS: I sell organically grown (not certified) eggs for \$4.00/dozen. Call or email me for availability or to be on my Egg Email List.

2012 FARM SHARES will officially be on sale in January, but it's not too early to reserve a farm share for 2012 (perhaps this would make a special gift for someone?). If you would like to be contacted directly when shares become available next year, please let me know.

Laura Timmerman, 413-773-8325,

laurat@crocker.com,

<http://lastingimpressionscsa.blogspot.com/>

Linda Romano

Fall yoga continues till 12/12/11; winter yoga begins on 12/19/11. Holiday gifts: massage/ bodywork/ Yoga certificates will be available with discounts. Herbal Body products include bath salts, lip balm, eye pillows and sprays.

If anyone is interested in a Friday AM yoga class around 7-8:15 AM or later, please let me know. Happy Holiday's!

Call Linda at 413-624-3334 or e-mail, lindalla239@hotmail.com.

Web site: holisticserviceswithlindamromano.com.

MUNICIPAL ASSISTANT

The Town of Leyden, (pop.736) with a budget of \$1.6 million, is accepting applications for the position of Municipal Assistant. The position is appointed by the Selectboard, to perform administrative and clerical support. The position includes responsibility for budget preparation, procurement of supplies and services, personnel administration, grant writing, preparation of annual and special town meeting warrants, publishing the Annual Town Report, maintaining and updating the Town's official web site (located at www.townofleyden.com), insurance administration, legal issues, research on issues for the Selectboard and other town departments, and other duties as determined by the Selectboard. This is a 32-hour per week position with salary negotiable. Associate's or Bachelor's degree, or three to five years' experience in a Municipal Administrative position is required.

A detailed job description may be obtained by contacting the Selectboard office by mail, in person, or by email at leydenselectboard@crocker.com.

Please submit a cover letter, a resume and references to: Leyden Selectboard, 16 West Leyden Road, Leyden, MA 01337, by 2:00 PM December 15, 2011. The Town of Leyden is an Equal Opportunity Employer



CAROL KUZDEBA
OWNER

CJ DESIGN JEWELRY

PO BOX 552
BERNARDSTON, MA
01337-0552

cjkuzdeba@yahoo.com

Rhonda Wainshilbaum

STONEWARE POTTERY
microwave, dishwasher, and oven safe
413-624-5175
rhondawain@verizon.net
Leyden, Massachusetts

Livingstone Carpentry

Traditional Craftsmanship, Quality Service

~SPECIALIZING IN~

WINDOWS • DOORS • FINE CARPENTRY
WEATHERIZATION • FIRE & WATER RESTORATION
NEW CONSTRUCTION • RENOVATIONS

Free Estimates
Fully Licensed
and Insured

Johan D. Livingstone
Leyden, MA
(413) 475-0771