
Leyden Life

Leyden, Massachusetts

September 2013

Selectboard Office Hours:

Monday 12:00 - 5:00 PM, Tuesday—Friday 9:00 AM - 2:00 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 Thursday, September 12th at 9:00 AM and Thursday, September 26th 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, Sep 3	7:00 PM	Agricultural Commission
Wed, Sep 4	6:30 PM	Board of Assessors
Tue, Sep 10	5:30 PM	Board of Health (at the Police Station)
Wed, Sep 11	7:00 PM	Planning Board
Thu, Sep 12	9:00 AM	Selectboard
Thu, Sep 12	4:00 PM	Building Needs Study Committee
Mon, Sep 16	7:30 PM	Conservation Commission
Wed, Sep 18	6:30 PM	Board of Assessors
Thu, Sep 26	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.

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 Municipal Assistant.—*Selectboard*

Selectboard Corner

As the summer weeks seemed to have whizzed right by, we did seem to accomplish a lot even with time off, thanks to many volunteers. We first started with the repainting of the entire structure of PRES. As you can see, the building was painted a nice dark red and received a fresh coat of white trim. We can thank the Honor Court from the Sheriff's Office for a well-run program that saved the town a substantial amount of money. Steve Fields rebuilt the handicap walkway and replaced many boards that were wearing around the building.

Many volunteers and employees helped repaint, clean and reorganize the Selectboard office in Town Hall. A new computer and desk were added for the Town Accountant and Treasurer. This frees up our Administrative Assistant desk and allows everyone to work there during regular business hours.

The Selectboard met with Boston Freightliner and worked out the details of ordering a new truck for the Highway Department. We should take delivery sometime this month, well before the winter weather.

Brattleboro Road received a new coat of pavement from Beaver Meadow to the state line.

We are in the process of rewriting a job description for the

Continued on Page 3

Town Clerk

VITAL STATISTICS

Deaths — Barbara Elliott, July 20

Births — Luisa Grace Livingstone, June 25

LABOR DAY OFFICE HOURS

Town Hall will be closed from Friday, August 30th through Monday, September 2nd for the Labor Day holiday. This includes the Town Clerk's office and the Selectboard office.

—*Bob Hardesty*

Town Clerk Office Hours are Mondays 8:00 AM – 12:00 NOON and
Wednesdays 4:30 – 6:00 PM Phone 774-7769

Historical Commission

All the news that's fit to print. . .

August 1870: R. O. Hescox, of Beaver Meadows, has erected, this summer, a new barn 73½ x 40 feet, with 8 feet basement. We think this is the largest barn in town and shows that Mr. Hescox has not lost all his energy and enthusiasm yet.

Summer 1872: W. S. Potter of Leyden has tobacco which measured the 24 inst., 43 inches long and 21 wide, ready to cut. C. W. Stetson has just raised a new tobacco shed. David Mowry has just completed a fine one, and his two acres of the finest tobacco we have seen this season. H. Wilber and son have also two acres of very fine tobacco.

The apples and grape crop promises to be a large one. Potatoes are already commencing to rot. On the whole the crops are more than average.

September 9, 1872: William B. Alexander was arrested and brought before justice Bernard of Greenfield by Constable Severance, for [keep]ing an unlicensed dog. He was fined \$15 and costs.

November 4, 1872: J. O. Carpenter has put in a cider mill in connection with his grist and saw mill, which will turn out 15 or 20 barrels of cider a day, grinding at the rate of 100 bushels an hour. He has already got up into the hundreds of barrels made this fall.

—*the "Greenfield Gazette and Courier"*

WiredWest

WiredWest has just celebrated its second anniversary. A lot has happened behind the scenes, all of it necessary for making the push for fiber optic cable to our homes a reality. There had to be a map database of utility poles, roads, and structures. High level network design and cost estimates have been worked on, along with a lot of market research. We have worked on financial models and financial strategy development, along with economic impact studies. The survey of demand (the support cards I keep talking about) have been a very significant part of any studies we do.

The work completed has confirmed that the proposed

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Robertson Memorial Library

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

There Are a Few Left!

1. *History of Leyden, Massachusetts (1676-1959)*: \$30. (If you are interested, please let me know as we need to order in bulk soon.) 2. RML Centennial Mug: \$10 (7 left!). 3. Leyden Directory: \$5.00. 4. The Leyden Portrait Project, Too!: \$20. 5. Centennial 'More than a Recipe Book' will soon be available. 6. Laminated art. Visit or call (773-9334) and purchase while these last!

Summer Reading Program

It's really exciting to see young people visiting the library on a regular basis to exchange books and read, read, read. Parents of little ones are reading to their children; there isn't much that surpasses this as children learn to use inflection, create language from print, and enjoy a good story. The program ends on September 4, so look for the names of gift certificate winners next month!

Be a Part of History!

If you read a poem, story, or essay at the RML Centennial Celebration on May 11, we would really appreciate a copy of your piece to preserve for posterity. Drop off a copy, mail it in, or email it to leydenlibrary@gmail.com!

Library Renovations

In this centennial year, the RML has undergone some updating. We were forced to purchase a new furnace this past winter, and Bill Maguire scraped, sealed and painted the west and south-facing facades of the building in early June. During the week of July 15, Renaissance Builders expanded the interior of the library by eliminating the indoor basement access/closet space. This will allow us to install another large bookcase as well as a one-sided bookcase along the back wall where the new books will continue to be displayed. I'll consolidate the computer and copier on the main desk, and we'll make some minor adjustments to allow for better viewing of materials by our wonderful patrons. By the time you receive this newsletter, the work and clean up should be completed, so be sure to stop in for a look-see!

The Cookbook!

This labor of love by Ginny Rockwood and Lois Feldman should be at the printers when you read this. "It's so much more than a cook book!" beamed Ginny during one of her visits to the library. Leyden town history as well as specific library history coupled with many great pictures will make this a special treat indeed. Also included will be excerpts from an 1862 diary written by Harriet Ann Severance. Well over 120 recipes will pique your interest and make this a treasure!

I'll let you know when this special item will be available for purchase. Think Christmas present, birthday present, and a present to yourself!

Free Videos

Because we are building our DVD collection for children and only a few videos are signed out by patrons, we would like to offer our existing videos to anyone who would like them. Browse and choose ones you'd like for your toddler or youngster! Any that remain after October 1 will be donated to a local library's book sale.

—*Can you believe it's already September?* Chris J

Leyden Local Cultural Council

The purpose of the Leyden Local Cultural Council is to promote and maintain the vitality of local cultural resources and to ensure these resources are offered to the greater Leyden community. It is time to apply for funds from the Leyden Local Cultural Council. Proposals are due to the council no later than Tuesday, October 15th. Council Applicants can find Word and PDF versions of the LCC Standard and Field Trip applications on <https://www.mass-culture.org/Leyden#>.

Our criteria for funding applications include but are not limited to: artistic or creative merit; thorough project design; proven track record of the applicant; and community benefit and involvement; events that take place within the physical boundaries of Leyden; and events that provide active involvement and direct participation of Leyden residents. Guidelines for submission: all sections of the application must be completed and the application signed; all applications must be typed or legible; applications must be postmarked by Tuesday, October 15th; and *seven* copies must be submitted to Leyden Local Cultural Council, Leyden Town Hall, 16 West Leyden Rd., Leyden, MA 01337.

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 bobtwo@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 the **electronic version of *Leyden Life*** in PDF format, please notify Bob Taylor at bobtwo@verizon.net.

THANKS

Thanks to William Harris, Richard Roy and Andrew and Linda Baker for generous donations. Thanks to collators Lois Feldman, Ginny Rockwood and Jeanne Breeden, and thanks to deliverers Marie Bartlett, Marie Lovley, Jeanne Breeden and the Cafferys. (If we have forgotten anyone, please accept our thanks and apologies.)

Thanks to Jeanne Breeden

Special thanks to Jeanne Breeden who has been a *Leyden Life* editor for several years, and who has helped collate and deliver the newsletter during this time. She and Jim are moving to Easthampton, and they will really be missed in 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 Breeden 772-2861

Design & Printing: 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 bobtwo@verizon.net by 5:00 PM on

Sunday, September 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

Senior Activities Coordinator (COA)

Leyden's Council on Aging has been resurrected one more time, thanks in part to the services of Dianne Cornwell, Director of the Bernardston COA. She has agreed to be Leyden's Senior Activities Coordinator for one year, while we figure out how best to continue services for a wide range of ages—from people in their 50s to people in their 90s.

She has a wealth of resources and experience to draw on, and state funding will continue for the next year. However, she is quick to point out that every town has different interests, and her first and most important mission is to find out what Leyden people want. A small group of residents is hoping to give her direction, but we need your help. We need as many of you as possible to come to *just one meeting* on Tuesday, September 10th, at 4:30 PM in the Town Hall, and share your ideas and suggestions about what services or programs would be helpful to you.

Just a brief discussion of the possibilities has been eye-opening. We could focus on health and wellness, such as a walking group followed by breakfast, tai chi or yoga classes, foot clinics, or nutrition classes. Or the focus might be on entertainment, such as a lunch club with programs such as quilting, painting, and singing; or on transportation, to programs in Leyden or Bernardston, or to Greenfield or beyond for shopping, appointments, etc.

We're sure there are many other ideas out there as well. We need to hear them, so we can direct Dianne's efforts and make the right choices. If you can't get to the September 10th meeting, please share your thoughts ahead of time with Gilda Galvis, Bob Hardesty, Beth Kuzdeba, or Dianne Ryan. (Or you can email them to dianne.ryan34@gmail.com).

There are currently 231 people over the age of 60 in Leyden! Come and let us know how you would like to see the Leyden Council on Aging develop in the coming years.

Knitting Circle

The Leyden knitting circle will meet two times in September, on the 13th and 27th. The locations are still to be decided, so call for more information if you want to join us for the evening.

We meet from 6:30 to 8:30 PM and enjoy a relaxed evening of knitting and the company of our fellow stitchers. All are welcome to join us; no experience is needed and all kinds of handicrafts are fine. Even if you don't know how to knit, come along and we'll help you get started! Visitors and all ages are welcome.

If you would like to be on an email group for the Knitting Circle, get in touch with Laura at laurat@crocker.com.

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

Facebook Group: "Leyden Knitting Circle" Members sometimes post pictures of their projects here, or interesting knitting-related links.

Selectboard Corner

Continued from Page 1 Highway employee vacancy that we hope to have filled by October. The advertisement should be out shortly (it may already be on the town website).

The state finally came through with the figures for minimum contribution. Leyden saw a 6.88% reduction, which is around \$70,000 less than town meeting approved. It shows that our district agreement works. DOR approved the necessary changes that will reflect a decline in your tax rate for fiscal 2014.

We are also working with our Tax Collector and Treasurer on tax collection issues regarding excise and personnel property tax. As was mentioned in the April 2013 newsletter, the Town of Leyden is now using the firm of Arthur P. Jones Associates, Inc. as Deputy Collector (www.apjones.com). Delinquent excise taxes have been given to Art Jones to collect, and warrants have been served. The web site <http://www.sec.state.ma.us/cis/cisexc/excidx.htm> provides detailed information on the Commonwealth of Massachusetts excise tax law, process and fees.

If you have received a warrant for unpaid taxes which you believe have been paid, please provide a copy of the front and back of the check showing payment to the Tax Collector. The delinquent personal property taxes will now also be sent to Art Jones. While the delinquent tax collection efforts may cause some residents confusion, this is a critical process to get our tax collection up-to-date. We regret that the process is difficult for some residents and thank you for your understanding.

WiredWest

Continued from Page 1

network will be a very complex endeavor with a total estimated cost of \$100 million, with a financing and build-out estimate of at least two years. It will probably involve a combination of financing resources, including state grants, low-interest government loans, private capital, and bond issuance by the WiredWest Cooperative. We are all taking part in something that will change our hill towns for the better, something really quite historic.

We estimate that the economic impact on the region will be significant. It may retain up to \$75 million a year in telecommunications services revenues alone for the 45 towns in the project. This includes \$50 million in revenues for service that currently leaves the region each year. It will mean the growth of existing and new businesses, creating local jobs—

from the network itself, from expanded business hiring, and from increased household spending. We estimate that it will increase the revenue output of local businesses and create an additional \$1.8 million in tax revenues for local and state governments.

I can't tell you how much I appreciate all of you who have submitted support cards, either by calling me to add your names or by doing it yourselves at wiredwest.net. This show of interest for Leyden's Internet capability goes a long way when we go for funding. I am so happy to hear from any of you who might want to add your names, or who just want to check to see if you have already been added to the list. Leyden's response has been very significant, but we need to add every name we can. Thank you so much for your interest in this incredible project!

—Sheila Hourihan, 774-5922

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.

Facey's Bree-Z-Knoll Farm & Sugarhouse invites you to think sweet thoughts! We have pure Leyden maple syrup in all size containers. Call ahead any time at 774-3757.

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.

Maple Run Farm: Persephone's Garden Raw Honey is available in lovely gift-appropriate jars – 26-oz for \$14.00; it's a limited supply, so order soon.

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

The Log Cabin Bed & Breakfast can provide comfortable space for your out-of-town visitors. Please check the website at 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 does unique one-of-a-kind designs of natural stone, pearls, furnace glass, etc. Brides, graduation, birthdays or just because. See what is available, or special requests can be accommodated. Call Carol at 774-4491 or send an email to cjkuzdeba@yahoo.com.

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 Wainshilbaum 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.

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.

Tablecloths Available for Use

About five years ago, Leyden's Council on Aging purchased ten beautiful batik cotton tablecloths, in colors of green, teal and pink, and measuring roughly 42"x100". Because the Council on Aging is not currently operating in town, Marie Bartlett is storing them at her house. If you wish to borrow them for a special event, please contact Marie at 624-3953.

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Ryan Clary and Steve O'Hare
E-mail greenriverlawn@yahoo.com

Sweet Morning Farm CSA

EGGS & EXTRAS

I sell organically grown chicken eggs for \$5.00/dozen. Duck eggs are \$3.00 a half dozen. To get weekly updates about eggs and vegetables, email me to be placed on the Eggs & Extras Email List. It's planting time for fall and winter vegetables and I hope to have kale, leeks, salad greens and more in the coming months.

FLOWERS

I am growing flowers for bouquets for the shares. However, the cut flowers are also my gift to the town. If you want to stop by and pick a bouquet for yourself or a friend, you are most welcome. Week-ends are a good time to find some flowers. If you feel like making a donation, that's fine, but not required. Just share the joy!

—Laura Timmerman, 413-773-8325, laurat@crocker.com

Linda Romano

Fall sessions begin the second week in September. Massage, bodywork and Yoga sessions for seasonal balance. New clients special: \$10.00 discount. Monday Yoga private therapeutic sessions; Thursday chair Yoga 1:00 to 2:00 PM, 5:30 to 6.30, beginner's class; Friday 3:00 to 4:00, restorative yoga.

Fall talk on "living your balanced life" on September 11th from 6:00 to 7:00 PM. Coming soon—Zumba or Yoga dance class; date to be determined. Winter season—mindful-based meditation training for six weeks. Call for appt./info/registration. All programs are portable, for group, or event

Free stair stepper exerciser available; call for info.

—Linda Romano, 624-3334

Livingstone Carpentry

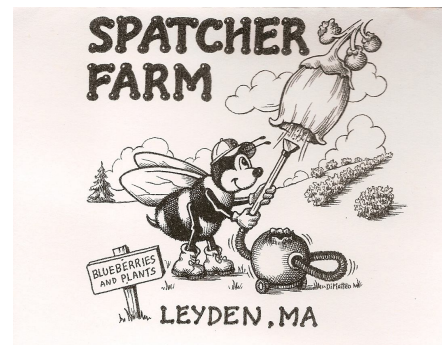
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