

Leyden Life

Leyden, Massachusetts

May 2014

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, April 10th at 9:00 AM and Thursday, April 24th 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, Apr 1	7:00 PM	Agricultural Commission
Wed, Apr 2	6:30 PM	Board of Assessors
Tue, Apr 8	5:30 PM	Board of Health (at the Police Station)
Wed, Apr 9	7:00 PM	Planning Board
Thu, Apr 10	9:00 AM	Selectboard
Wed, Apr 16	6:30 PM	Board of Assessors
Mon, Apr 21	7:30 PM	Conservation Commission
Thu, Apr 24	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

On Monday, May 5th at 7:00 PM the Selectboard will have an informational meeting regarding the ATM warrants at Town Hall. We encourage all voters to attend, as this will be one of the busiest Annual Town Meetings that Leyden will bring to its governing body of voters. There are dozens of articles to bring forward. It's our job to get the information out there to you so that you can know all the details prior to town meeting and the role call votes. A lot of prep work has gone into this ATM, and we look forward to answering any questions that you may have. We hope to have some contractors there to answer questions about some warrant articles concerning capital improvements to our buildings. Again, please mark May 5th on your calendar so that we all may be better informed prior to voting.

As it lines up now, we will have a Special Town Meeting prior to the ATM. May 17th at 9:00 AM we will convene for a quick finish of fiscal 2014 bookkeeping at the STM. We will then close out the STM and go right to the ATM. As always, we will take a quick break around noontime for refreshments that will be served downstairs in the dining hall.

We look forward to a very busy month, and with good participation we will know the right decisions have been made. Again, we look forward to seeing a full meeting house.

—*Respectfully, Jeff, Barbara, Bill*

Town Clerk

VITAL STATISTICS

No births, marriages or deaths were reported for April.

ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION

The Annual Town Election will be held Saturday, May 17, 2014, at Town Hall. Polls will be open from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

As a result of the Town Caucus held April 2nd, the following candidates are nominated for open offices: Assessor (3-yr term) – Robert DePalma, incumbent; Board of Health (3-yr term) – Ellen White; Constable (3-yr term) – Erik Johnson, inc.; Library Trustee (3-yr term) – Cornelia Reid, inc.; Moderator (1-yr term) – Katherine DiMatteo, inc.; Planning Board (5-yr term) – Warren Facey and Lance Fritz; Planning Board (2-yr term) – Andrew Baker and William Harris (*Note:* William Harris is incumbent for this position; both candidates are currently serving on the Planning Board); Selectboard (3-yr term) – William Glabach, inc.; Tree Warden (1-yr term) – Edmund Klaus, inc.

Also, the following question will be on the ballot: “Shall the Town vote to change the Tax Collector position from elected to appointed, said position to be appointed by the Selectboard for a term of three years, beginning in Fiscal Year 2016?” This question was approved at the May 18, 2013 Annual Town Meeting. *Bob Hardesty*

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

Planning Board—Two-Year Term

My name is William Harris and I am a candidate for the remaining two years as member of the Leyden Planning Board to which I was appointed last fall after a board member resigned. This is my first time seeking elective office in town, so a short introduction seems appropriate. I built my home on Bell Road on part of my grandfather's former farm and have lived there since 1991. For over 20 years, I was employed by Silverscape Designs fine jewelry and crafts gallery, retiring as manager of its Amherst store in 2011. In Amherst, I served for five years on the Board of Directors of the Amherst Area Chamber of Commerce and two years on the Kendrick Park Committee.

In Leyden, I have enjoyed living in an area of great natural beauty, am an avid gardener and runner, and strong supporter of efforts to maintain the rural and agricultural character of the town. I have witnessed consistent support by town officials of these goals, and offer my services to continue in that direction. Thank you for your consideration as I request your vote on May 17th.

—*Best Regards, Bill Harris*

Planning Board—Five-Year Term

I am Warren Facey, resident of Leyden for 48 years, and owner of Bree-Z-Knoll Farm in West Leyden. I have been a member of the Planning Board of Leyden for 30 years, and I'd like to add at least another five years to that! My desire is to maintain the character and integrity of Leyden and carry out the wishes of the residents of our unique town.

I thank you in advance for your vote!

—*Warren Facey*

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.)

“You know, for a small library, this place has fantastic books!” This comment by a patron earlier this month made my day! We are small but mighty (good)!

Early in March, Rhonda Wainshilbaum, Leyden resident and art teacher at PRES, worked with students from grades 1-6 to create decorative end caps for our tired and unattractive ‘army green’ book cases. Rhonda’s learning objective was to teach students about patterns using repeated colors and shapes. ‘Found objects’ stamping using craypas or colored pencils allowed students to create interesting designs on the purple paper background chosen by the trustees. The final thirty-eight designs have been laminated, and I’m sure you will enjoy the spark of life they bring to the library’s book cases. Thank you, Rhonda and all the students at PRES who worked on this project!

Please help me! As you engage in your spring cleaning, *please* keep an eye out for library books, DVDs and CDs that are overdue. It’s easy to forget to return something, but please help me to restore materials to their rightful places so that others can enjoy them. *Thank you!* Otherwise, I’ll have to call you (and that could be scary)!

I hope your spring is filled with good things!

—Chris Johnston

Fire Department

Due to recent changes in Federal regulations, and to questions about inspections in general, a correction to my previous article is required. Because of recent changes to Federal regulations, propane companies now send a letter to the Leyden Fire Department if any changes to a propane tank or contract occur. This makes the Fire Department’s record-keeping easier and requires inspections only when a new tank is set, a new vendor takes over or a tank becomes customer-owned. Any other propane tank inspections will be done as requested by the resident and/or as-needed basis.

The Building Inspector provides inspections for new outdoor or indoor wood-burning stoves which require permits to install. Wood stoves are only inspected by the Fire Department when there is a problem, e.g., a chimney fire. If anyone has any questions feel free to give me a call at (413) 824 8683 or call the Fire Station at (413) 773 7673 and leave a message.

—Cliff Spatcher, Fire Chief

Yard Sale in Leyden May 31st

Clean out you attics, basements and garages!

A few neighbors near the cemetery on West Leyden Road are planning a yard sale for Saturday, May 31st. Because the most lucrative sales happen when more of us have one on the same day, we would like to have as many of you join us as possible. (The Three-Mile Yard Sale of previous years is an example of one that brings in a lot of people.)

While each family will be responsible for individual ads, if you plan to participate that day, please let us know so we can say, for example, that 15 families will be having sales on that day. We plan to place our ad in the Recorder by Wednesday, May 28th, so if you could let us know your plans before Tuesday the 27th, that would be great.

Let us know by telephone at (413) 624-3695 or by email to cliff.carlson@ymail.com.

—Cliff Carlson

Keep Leyden beautiful.
Please don't litter.

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 Fran Moretti and the Apatcher Farm for donations this month. Thanks to collators Kathie Benson and Lois Feldman, and thanks to deliverers Marie Bartlett, Marie Lovley, and the Cafferys. (If we have forgotten anyone, please accept our thanks and apologies.)

Visit the Town web site at

townofleyden.com

The Selectboard email address is

leydenselectboard@crocker.com

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

Thursday, May 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

Leyden Council on Aging (COA)

We need your input! As we plan next year's activities, we need your **Monday, May 12**

10:30-11:30 ~ Taking Control of Your Future: A Legal Check-up, presented by **Attorney Pamela Oddy** of Athol. As an elder law attorney, Ms. Oddy volunteers her time in the Elder Law Education Program, sponsored by the Massachusetts Bar Association, to provide seniors and caregivers with information on common legal and financial issues facing us as we age. Her focus here will be on estate planning, and will include wills, health care proxies, durable powers of attorney, and the role of trusts in asset protection. The presentation will be held **upstairs** at Town Hall.

It would be helpful for Ms. Oddy to know how many informational packets she should bring with her. Please contact Dianne Ryan at 624-0225 or dianne.ryan34@gmail.com if you know you'll be there. But if you can't commit until the last minute, that's okay too.

11:30-12:15 ~ A light lunch will be served. All are welcome to stay for lunch.

Monday, May 19

4:30-5:30 p.m. ~ Council on Aging monthly meeting. Anyone is welcome to attend.

Thursday Evening, May 22 (NOTE DIFFERENT TIME!)

6:30 p.m. ~ Coffee, dessert, and time to chat. Upstairs at Town Hall.

7 p.m. ~ Eve Brown-Waite talks about her book *First Comes Love, Then Comes Malaria: How a Peace Corps Poster Boy Won My Heart and a Third World Adventure Changed My Life!* Part witty memoir, part travelogue, part book discussion, Eve will talk about her life in Ecuador with the Peace Corps and later in Uganda with CARE. From intestinal parasites to guerilla warfare, she covers the dangers and absurdities of global humanitarian life.

This is a perfect spring read, and we encourage you to read the book beforehand, although it is *not* required. Free, autographed copies of Eve's book will be available at the Leyden Library on a first-come, first-served basis. If all are gone, Chris Johnston will happily borrow copies for you from other libraries.

Transportation needed to COA meetings? Amy St. Clair has volunteered to drive anyone who needs a ride. Call her at 774-6907.

A Suggestion from one of our Council members: As we all enjoy the warmer weather and take more walks, let's consider bringing a plastic bag (and maybe a disposable glove) and pick up small trash along the roadside as we walk. This is a great opportunity to make the town look neat and clean. —Dianne Ryan

Knitting Circle

The Leyden knitting circle will meet twice in May, on the 9th at Laura Timmerman's house (773-8325), and the 23rd at Amy St. Clair's house (774-6907) from 6:30 to 8:30 PM. All are welcome to join us; no experience is needed and all kinds of handwork 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.

—Laura Timmerman, 773-8325

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

Historical Commission

The Leyden Historical Commission now has a web site. It is still in progress, but will contain its meeting agendas and minutes, updates on its projects and various historical information. Go to:

leydenhistoricalcommission.weebly.com

Easter Egg Hunt a Success

I had a fabulous time at the Leyden Methodist Church Easter Egg Hunt and with all the kiddos and meeting new faces in town and meeting new grandchildren to some of our Leyden residents. It was a *great* time and I just had to write to thank Emily Herron-Clark and her sister Kim for all the neat arts and crafts activities, and the Leyden Rifle Club for all the neat Easter toys that the children had fun picking out. Last but not least to thank my wonderful granddaughter Ryleigh for assisting as the Easter Bunny—you did a great job, and I know the children had fun giving you hugs and high fives.

Living in Leyden is a heart-warming experience.

—God Bless you all, Mary Lou Barton

PRES Upcoming Events

May 1

6th grade orientation at PVRs

May 5 - 9

Teacher Appreciation Week

May 6 & 7

Grades 3/4 Math MCAS

May 8

FCU Banking Day (final)

May 8 & 9

Grade 5 Science MCAS

May 13 & 14

Grade 5/6 Math MCAS

May 20

PRES Spring Concert, 6:30 pm @ the Leyden Town Hall

May 26

No School – Memorial Day



WiredWest

Why WiredWest is Asking our Member Towns to Pay a \$1,000 Fee for FY 2015

Since our formation almost three years ago, WiredWest has worked diligently on behalf of our member towns to bring “last mile” fiber-optics broadband to your residents and businesses. We are now at a pivotal point in that project, actively pursuing financing opportunities, and we need your continued support.

We are an all-volunteer organization comprised of a Board of Directors, with one delegate from each town; an Executive Committee of nine members elected from the Board; and many others who have contributed their professional expertise and dedicated effort. Working together, we have leveraged about \$130,000 in grants and donations with volunteer labor to accomplish these essential tasks:

Formation of WiredWest Communications Cooperative Corporation, expansion of our membership from 22 to 42 towns, and adoption of policies and procedures governing our operations; Retention of an Executive Director on a contingent-fee basis tied to the success of WiredWest; Development of a GIS database identifying every single utility pole structure (over 70,000 of them), and road in our territory; High-level engineering and cost estimates for building the last-mile network; Development of a comprehensive and dynamic pro forma financial model for construction and operation of the last-mile network; Research and evaluation of potential financing strategies; Study of the regional economic impact of deploying the last mile; Research on the market for and pricing of broadband services such as internet connectivity, digital phone service and video programming; Acquiring signatures on over 12,600 “Support Cards” of people interested in using such services, and building a database of contact information for future sales and marketing efforts; Ongoing outreach to our delegates, town officials, residents and volunteers; Continuing communication of the WiredWest story through traditional and online media; Advocacy with state and federal officials on broadband issues affecting our member towns.

We estimate the value of volunteer work provided to WiredWest thus far to be more than \$1,000,000. Every month going forward about 500 hours of volunteer labor will be contributed to the project on behalf of our member towns in furtherance of our mission of “bringing broadband home.”

Under the WiredWest bylaws, upon joining the co-op each town paid a one-time membership fee of \$1,000. Those bylaws also provide that the Board may, if it deems necessary, assess on a year-by-year basis an annual fee from each town of up to \$1,000 to provide operating capital for WiredWest. We did not assess such a fee in our first three fiscal years.

However, in December, the Board voted unanimously to assess a fee of \$1,000 for Fiscal Year 2015, beginning July 1, 2014. To keep the project moving forward at this critical time, we require services from legal counsel and other professionals which are vital to the project but for which we must pay. We also have some out-of-pocket expenses, but rest assured that we operate on a very stringent fiscal basis.

WiredWest believes our member towns have received—and will continue to receive—outstanding value for your investment in the initiative. We understand that your town’s budget is tight, but the long-term social and economic benefits of the last-mile network to your town and the region will be significant. Can you imagine a bright future for your town and its citizens without 21st century broadband service?

—Sheila Hourihan

Pearl Rhodes Elementary School

Notes from Technology Class

Grades 5/6 have been working on creating graphs and charts using Microsoft Excel. We created a graph to track the progress of our keyboarding/typing skills, a graph of our classes’ birthdays and spelling tests using formulas to calculate totals and averages. Upcoming classes will include using Microsoft PowerPoint and good digital citizenship. The class has also created a digital journal that they write in periodically.

Grades 3/4 have created a Microsoft Word document using various features of the program such as font styles, headers, headings, text boxes and word art. Students were asked to develop questions they have about the extreme weather condition they are studying in class, and then use the internet to find answers and pictures. Website addresses are then brought into their document to give credit to the source. This was our introduction to copyright issues and tools to narrow Internet searches.

Grades 1/2 just finished typing interesting facts they researched in class into a Microsoft Word document. We are now moving into projects that relate to their ancestors. We are using the paint program to draw pictures of their families and Google Earth to visit the countries where their ancestors came from. Each student printed a picture from the country he or she visited.

Please keep in mind that most of the Web 2.0 tools that we use during class are accessible on the PRES website under Cara’s Classes. Cara’s Classes can be accessed through each classroom page. Students are encouraged to practice the typing lessons outside of school if possible. The link can be found on Cara’s Classes Home page.

PVRSD Preschool Screening

As part of the federal requirements under the Special Education Law, the school district is required to offer preschool screening to families of young children, ages 3 – 5 years. Preschool screening is a brief look at your child’s skills in the areas of speech/language, small and large motor development, and pre-academic skills – knowledge of colors, shapes, counting, and memory. Preschool screening is recommended to parents who have concerns or questions about their child’s development.

Preschool screening is not required as part of the preschool application process. All children enrolled in the public school preschool programs are screened within the first 45 days of preschool.

If you are interested in having your child screened on Thursday, May 1st, please contact the Early Childhood Office, 413-498-2660, for an appointment (by appointment only).

PVRSD Kindergarten Registration

If your child is currently enrolled in preschool at PRES, enrollment information will be sent home in our Thursday folder in the next few weeks.

For new Kindergarten students who are not currently attending PRES, registration for the 2014/15 school year will be held May 5 - 16 at Pearl Rhodes between 9:00 AM and 2:30 PM. Please call for an appointment.

In order to pick up a registration packet, you must bring your child’s birth certificate to prove age eligibility for kindergarten entry. The age must be 5 years of age by September 1, 2014, and the child must be a resident of the Town or apply for school choice.

Registration materials are due back to the school by Friday, May 23, 2014.

townofleyden.com

leydenselectboard@crocker.com

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.

Spatcher Farm will have a full range of plants for sale this year at Foster's Supermarket in Greenfield. Look for early pansy, viola, and herb plants. Thanks for supporting local agriculture. **Holly Spatcher Dog Walker Wanted** Tucker the Spaniel needs someone to take him for walks! Trueman Robbins would like to hire someone to walk his English Springer Spaniel. If you would like to earn some money while getting some exercise, please call Trueman at 774-3890.

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.

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. 10% of all purchases made in November and December will be donated to the Warm the Children Fund.

Maple Run Farm: Persephone's Garden Raw Honey will hopefully be available in the fall of 2014. We are searching for replacement nucs. 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, Land clearing, installing and repairing driveways, septic systems, drainage, field mowing, snow-blowing and sanding driveways. Also sweet maple syrup. Allis Construction 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.

Sweet Morning Farm CSA

2014 FARM SHARES starting soon! It is so wonderful to be working in the garden again! Peepers, wood frogs, pussy willows, and crocuses are in full swing. Peas, spinach, onions and apple trees are being planted. There is just enough time to sign up for your share of Leyden-grown vegetables and flowers before they start up by the end of May. (Mini Shares start June 5.) Pick-up will be on Thursdays at the farm, and all shares include flowers and pick-your-own pole beans, snap peas, and cherry tomatoes. Our farm is not certified but we are committed to organic practices.

We are already picking yummy mesclun, arugula, and sorrel in the hoophouse and the ducks starting laying again. Sign up for our Egg & Extras Email List for weekly notices of what's available.

Full Shares - \$650.00 (20 - 22 weeks, weather dependent);
Half Shares - \$350.00 (20 - 22 weeks, weather dependent);
Mini Shares - \$105.00 (16 weeks - starting June 5); **Extended Mini Shares - \$130.00** (20 weeks - starting June 5). (Only 4 Mini shares left!)

For details call or email me. Check out our farm blog and Facebook page for news and pictures. Farm brochures are available at the library.

EGGS: Organically grown chicken eggs for \$5.00/dozen.

Laura Timmerman, 413-773-8325

laurat@crocker.com, <http://sweet-morning-farm.blogspot.com/>
<https://www.facebook.com/SweetMorningFarm>

Linda Romano

Gift certificates: For Mother's/Father's Day, half-hour and one-hour for massage/bodywork.

Spring yoga continues on Thursdays 5:30-6:30 PM until new sessions in June. New: yoga for the gardening season Tuesdays 5:30-6:30 PM begins on 4/29/14.

New: drawing-from-nature, or Zentangle, class for six-week session beginning on Wednesday, April 30th, evenings 6-8 PM. New: free reiki session for cancer patients.

Free stair-stepper exerciser (must be picked up).

Call, Linda Romano at 413-624-3334

Green River Lawn Fully Leyden, MA

**Services Include: Mowing, Trimming,
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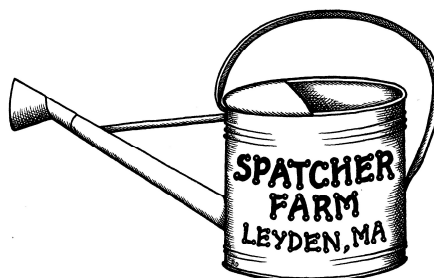


Dairy Farmer Cooperative

Bree-Z-Knoll Farm, LLC

Warren Facey

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



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