

Leyden Life

Leyden, Massachusetts

January 2018

Selectboard Office Hours:

Closed until further notice

Tax Collector:

Monday and Wednesday 5:30 - 8:00 PM

Assessors Office:

Wednesday 2:00 - 8:00 PM

Select Board Office

SELECT BOARD MEETINGS

The Select Board will meet on Mondays, January 8th, 15th, and 22nd at 7:00 PM in their office. To be added to the agenda email selectboard@townofleyden.com at least 72 hours prior to the meeting. Anyone not on the posted agenda is welcome to address the Select Board at the end of the meeting during the "Citizens' concerns not anticipated in advance of the meeting" agenda item time slot.

DECEMBER MEETINGS

Mon, Jan 8	7:00 PM	Select Board
Wed, Jan 3	6:30 PM	Board of Assessors
Thu, Jan 4	4:30 PM	Council on Aging
Mon, Jan 15	7:00 PM	Select Board
Wed, Jan 10	7:30 PM	Planning Board
Mon, Jan 22	7:00 PM	Special Town Meeting
Mon, Jan 15	7:30 PM	Conservation Commission
Tue, Jan 16	7:00 PM	Historical Commission (Downstairs at the church)
Wed, Jan 17	6:30 PM	Board of Assessors

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. —*Select Board*

Select Board

With the Holidays behind us we look to the new year with anticipation. With the new year comes the "budget season." All departments and committees should be thinking of getting their requests in ASAP. Tracey is in the process of sending out the request forms.

The **Special Town Meeting** is scheduled for Monday, January 22nd at 7:00 PM. The meeting will address revolving funds, funds transfers from Free Cash, and establishing the operation of Leyden's Broadband Network as an Enterprise Fund.

The vote on the Safety Bylaw is also on the warrant for this meeting. If you are a registered voter or a resident, you will want to attend this meeting, as it could affect you.

If you haven't heard, Bob Hardesty is out of the office for a few weeks, so things that normally get attended to in a timely manner may take a little longer while he is out recovering. Lance Fritz and Tracey Baronas will be covering the office on an abbreviated schedule. If you need anything please either email the office at selectboard@townofleyden.com or leave a phone message at 774-4111, Ext. 1.

The board extends to Bob our best wishes and hopes for a speedy recovery. We need you Bob.

—*Respectfully, Lance Jeff and Bill*

Town Clerk

VITAL STATISTICS

Marriages, Births, or Deaths: None reported

DOG LICENSES

DOG LICENSES Dog licenses for 2017 are still available. Fees are as follows: Neutered and spayed - \$10.00; Not altered - \$15.00; Kennel, 1-4 - \$30.00; Kennel, 5-10 - \$40.00; Kennel, more than 10 - \$50.00. Only checks or money orders are accepted. —*Thank you, Nicole Glabach, Town Clerk*

Town Clerk Office Hours are Mondays and Wednesdays, 5:30 to 7:00 PM, or by appointment.
Telephone 774-4111, Ext. 3, or Cell/Text at 413-362-9378
Email: townclerk@townofleyden.com

Happy
New Year

Contributions Encouraged!

Leyden Life has depended since its creation over thirty years ago on dedicated volunteers and contributions from its recipients. Although a majority in Leyden are now electronic subscribers, many in town, particularly senior citizens, still depend on and look forward to, hand-delivered paper copies. Please consider making a donation to *Leyden Life* so that we can stay in print. Several of our local businesses have been steady supporters, and we are very grateful. If you have benefitted from running regular ads or business cards in *Leyden Life*, we encourage you to express your gratitude with a donation! Send checks to *Leyden Life*, c/o Reid, 30 West Leyden Road, Leyden, MA 01337.

Volunteers Needed

This year, the COA will be serving coffee, tea, and homemade baked items on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month from 8:00 to 10:00 AM. If you have two hours to give as a volunteer, we would love to schedule you as a host/hostess on our Coffee Days! It might only be once or twice this year, but your help will be greatly appreciated!

If you have a very busy schedule but would like to bake a treat, volunteers are needed in that area, too. Please call Sue Howarth at (413) 774-3118 if you are interested in hosting or baking.

Robertson Memorial Library

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



Happy New Year to all! Make this the year that your town library becomes one of your favorite places to visit! Books for little ones, colorful books for beginning readers, elementary and middle school books, too, have all received starred reviews by *Booklist* or *Kirkus Review*, so you can be sure the choices are interesting, varied, and beautifully illustrated.

Adult books, fiction and non-fiction, are current and come to us with high recommendations. For those of you who are

interested in good health, I'd venture to say we have one of the most up-to-date selections around. Books dealing with current research on Alzheimer's disease, diabetes, inflammatory conditions, and cancer are very popular. Medically supported diets, detoxes and cook books fly off the shelves. Biographies, autobiographies, gardening ideas, pet care and poetry, philosophy, and religion—just about anything you might want, fill our shelves. If we don't have what you want, I can order it for you through CW/MARS and interlibrary loan.

If you know of anyone who is unable to get out during the cold winter months, please let me know, and I'll make sure materials are delivered and picked up. No one needs to be out of the library loop!
—Chris Johnston

Here are some points to ponder: "The only true equalizers in the world are books; the only treasure-house open to all comers is a library; the only wealth which will not decay is knowledge; the only jewel which you can carry beyond the grave is wisdom."
—J. A. Langford

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 Irene and Mike Muka, Spirit Fire and Angels' Rest for contributions and to Liz Kidder, Michele Higgins, and Sue Howarth for collating help. Thanks to deliverers Barbara Wallace, Marie Bartlett, Marie Lovley, Pat Little and the Cafferys. (We apologize if we missed anyone.)

Democratic Committee

Leyden Democratic Town Caucus and Meeting

The Democratic Town Caucus will be held on Tuesday, February 20, 2018 at 7:00 PM at Leyden Town Hall.

Leyden Democrats will hold their annual Caucus to elect a delegate and alternate to represent Leyden at the Massachusetts Democratic Convention which will be held this spring. All are welcome.

A business meeting will follow, and bylaws will be voted on. Refreshments will be provided. For more information or ideas for the agenda please contact Pam Brown at 413.774.3216 or pambrown01301@gmail.com. (Please call to request child care as well.)

—Pam Brown, Chair, Leyden Democratic Committee



ideas for the agenda please contact Pam Brown at 413.774.3216 or pambrown01301@gmail.com. (Please call to request child care as well.)

Leyden Knitting Circle

We'll be knitting in January. Please join us every Tuesday or Thursday, 1:00 - 3:00 PM, at Town Hall. Contact Michele Higgins at 772-1924 for information.

On Friday, January 26, 6:30 - 8:30 pm, we'll be at Peggy Brown's house. Call 774-5764 for information.

All ages and all experience levels are welcome. Contact Peggy, Michele or Laura at 773-8325 to learn more about the group or to sign up for email updates.

—Laura Timmerman, 773-8325

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



Volunteers Needed

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

DISCLAIMER

Leyden Life is not an official publication of the town, nor an official source of town business. We do our best to print accurately and distribute promptly the announcements and information we receive. Please check with the town to verify information regarding town business or activities.

Leyden Life

Published monthly in Leyden, Massachusetts by a non-profit group of volunteers.

Editors: Cornelia Reid 774-5146,
Carolyn Asbury 774-2840

Layout and Design: Bob Taylor 624-8965

Items for the next issue are due to Cornelia at cr43wr41@gmail.com, Carolyn at carolyn.asbury@gmail.com, and Bob at bobxtwo@verizon.net by 5:00 PM on

Monday, January 15th.

If you cannot e-mail your submission, please leave it in the drop box at the back of Town Hall.

Donations are always welcome! Send to:
Leyden Life c/o Reid
30 West Leyden Road
Leyden, MA 01337



Leyden Café

The **Leyden Café** is open **Sunday mornings, 9:30 -12:00**, downstairs at Town Hall. Meet your friends and neighbors and enjoy Karyn's delicious baked goodies and Pierce Bros. coffee. We look forward to seeing you there!

Comments on the Proposed Safety Bylaw

A Little Slice of Heaven

It seems like most everyone at the December 4 Public Safety Hearing felt Leyden was “a little slice of Heaven.” That phrase was used several times. Yet in the meeting, one person’s idea of perfect Leyden was threatened by another’s view of what would be perfect in Leyden. Most people that hunt wanted to leave land regulations as they are and enforcement as it is, and others concerned for their own and public safety want more knowledge of who is on the land and more accountability for use violations. In summary, neither viewpoint wants to limit guns or hunting. The main issue is who has the say-so of the use of private land and town-owned land and, if the bylaw is passed, how enforcement would be implemented.

The discussion was heated but with good points on both sides of the issue; however, rather than a presentation of information of both points of view followed by discussion, emotions ran high, interruptions, personal threats and accusations were numerous, and constructive resolution couldn’t happen.

One of the major points made by hunters was how hunting provided camaraderie and sportsmanship for many; yet, that attitude was not brought to the meeting. Instead, the very aggression that makes people fear for public safety was demonstrated, whether or not

that was an intended or coordinated strategy. The fear of aggression or retaliation is exactly what makes the existing regulations that rely on reporting ineffective.

It is my understanding that before the January 22nd bylaw vote at the Special Town Meeting an informal working group with representatives of each point of view will be forming to meet *in the spirit of negotiation* to decide on reasonable changes to the bylaw that could be proposed during bylaw discussion. These changes would acknowledge and address neighbors’ concerns while at the same time not add undue burden to either hunter or landowner. An acceptable bylaw and its methods of implementation can be worked out by the committee so that both sides feel considered and honored in the solution.

A “little slice of Heaven” would be neighbors working out their differences civilly rather than unleashing the separatism that divides communities. A win-lose situation is no reason to celebrate for either viewpoint since the greater community benefit is when everyone is working for the good of all. In this situation (and for other issues that can polarize the community), a win-win solution needs to be worked out for the benefit of all in Leyden.

—Jennifer Paris

Vote No on the Citizens’ Safety Bylaw

On December 4th there was a meeting held to discuss the proposed Safety Bylaw that will be voted on January 22nd at the Special Town Meeting. I am writing to urge Leyden residents to come and vote against the proposed bylaw.

I have lived in Leyden with my wife and two children for the last nine years. I love this small western Massachusetts community. It is a great place to raise a family. It offers many great outdoor activities like hiking, biking, fishing, snowmobiling and hunting, as well as just being a beautiful place to live. As residents of Leyden we may all enjoy some or all of these activities. At the meeting a gentleman referred to Leyden as “a little piece of heaven” and I agree. It truly is a special place.

The bylaw would require anyone hunting in Leyden to carry written permission from the land owner. This puts an undue burden on hunters and land owners. Massachusetts is not a state like Wyoming or Montana with hundreds or thousands of acres of land owned by the same landowner. A hunter in Leyden may have to pass over land owned by 10 or 12 people in the process of hunting. It is just not practical for a hunter to have to carry 10 or 12 notes. Landowners don’t want the bother of people knocking on their door at 6:00 AM to ask for written permission to hunt on their land. The bylaw is being sold as a safety issue, but when asked for examples of incidents, few details are available. Proponents are trying to gain votes by using scare tactics, but hard evidence of any actual safety issues is unavailable. In my opinion the law is an anti-hunting law; this law would force an anti-hunting agenda on every hunter and landowner in Leyden regardless of their views on hunting. The bylaw has even been written to include bow hunters. Bow hunters take one precision shot on an animal usually within 25 yards or less. The chances of an arrow being a safety issue are slim to none.

I don’t choose to post my land and never will, but I respect the right to do so. If you are a landowner that doesn’t want anyone hunting on your land without your permission you can easily post it. Why propose a bylaw that makes landowners write notes to hunters when they don’t choose to post their land, and have no problem with people hunting on it? As a hunter I have never hunted on posted land and I think I can speak for the other hunters in this community. There are currently laws against hunting on posted land and the penalties are severe. According to the Mass Fish and Wildlife website the penalties for hunting on posted land are “License revoked for one year in

addition to other penalties; fines of up to \$1,000, restitutions, and/or one year in jail. Careless and negligent use of firearms carry fines of up to \$500 and/or six months imprisonment and loss of license for five years.” These penalties are far more severe than the proposed bylaw and are currently active Massachusetts laws.

I understand that not everyone is a hunter, may not understand hunting or have any desire to hunt, but I urge you to consider the issues. Our country has a long tradition of hunting that has been passed down for generations. Hunting is important for many reasons. It is a great way to harvest “organic” “grass fed” meat to feed our families. For every pound of meat I harvest and put in my freezer is one less pound of meat that I need to buy at the grocery store. It is also a great way to get out into nature and enjoy the beauty of the woods. Some seasons I don’t even harvest an animal but enjoy the time in the woods just the same. Deer populations need to be managed or they will quickly just grow past the capacity of available food and suffer and die of starvation, or end up being hit by cars on the road. A representative from Mass Fish and Wildlife attended the meeting on the 4th and recommended that the town not pass this law for many reasons, such as overpopulation of deer and turkeys, as well as other issues like tick borne illness. It is proven that bylaws like this in other towns drastically reduce hunting and these types of problems arise as a direct result of it.

A bylaw like this will tear a small community like Leyden apart. A bylaw like this has no place in a community like Leyden. No other town in Franklin County has a bylaw like this on the books. Communities that have bylaws like this are mostly in the eastern part of the state or on the cape. These are very densely populated communities. They are not a small Franklin County town like Leyden. Communities with these types of bylaws have many other bylaws that would not fit in a small community like Leyden. Imagine if next town meeting someone was proposing a bylaw that said you can only paint your house certain colors approved by the town. Ridiculous bylaws like that are on the books in other Massachusetts communities and hunting bylaws like this lead to a very slippery slope down that path.

I urge people to come to the vote on January 22nd and vote against the proposed bylaw, and show your support for both Leyden hunters and landowners. It is important for both our long hunting tradition and our community.

—John Potter, Stephen Lane

Comments on the Proposed Safety Bylaw

Vote No on the Citizens' Safety Bylaw

As a resident of Leyden I'd like to summarize some points I made and statements I heard at the Safety Bylaw Hearing regarding the "Citizens' Safety Petition" on Dec. 4th. It was a good discussion with opinions on both sides. As one resident said, we need to respect the rights of both sides and listen to their concerns. I couldn't agree more. Let's not forget landowners have the right to decide what they want to do with their land if respect and understanding aren't achieved.

We were asked to consider adopting a by-law similar to Blandford, or Tolland, Connecticut or Rhode Island that evening that says, *"no person shall fire or discharge any firearm or weapon of any kind within the limits of any park, playground or other public property of the Town, except with the consent of the Board of Selectmen, or other Town governmental body with jurisdiction over such property. Nor shall any person fire or discharge any firearm, or weapon of any kind on any private property, except with the written consent, to be in the person's possession, of the owner or legal occupant thereof."* When this point was made I stood up and said, "I don't live in Blandford, I don't live in Tolland, I don't live in Connecticut or Rhode Island, I live in Leyden." I expressed that it's my opinion that my land really isn't *my* land. The land I live on was here long before me and will be here long after as well. I feel the only real right I have is the right to pay taxes on it. I consider land wide and open and accessible to all. I enjoy seeing someone access my land to hunt; in turn I appreciate being able to enjoy theirs. That's not to say I don't respect someone's private property and their desire to keep it as such. We as Massachusetts residents have rights to protect our land and keep anyone we wish off. It is our right to exclude hunting or shooting for that matter. The way we exercise this right is to *post* our land. This eliminates the right for anyone to access your property for the purpose of hunting and therefore discharging a weapon. The penalties are far more severe than what is being proposed in the by-law from the State of Massachusetts. I expressed the fact in the meeting that I would never *post* my land and enjoy others accessing it for hunting.

I posed this question at the meeting: If an animal that is attempted to be harvested on one property with written permission, is wounded, and travels across many properties before an attempt is finally made to harvest that animal and written permission is not had where that animal is, what is one to do? Often an animal will not fall where it was hit, they can travel 20, 50, 200, 1000 yards or more to different properties. Two different residents for the by-law said in that case it's "ok" to do the humane thing. While I agree, I argue the by-law clearly does not. If that animal travels to property without written permission and I discharge my weapon, then a crime has occurred and this opens me up to legal scrutiny. This reason alone makes this by-law poorly thought out and a legal concern.

I heard landowners telling stories of six generations of families hunting their property and would never think of placing a restriction on it or *posting*. I heard from another resident that we have plenty of state land to hunt in Leyden, and that should be enough. I tend to disagree. This could end up concentrating one area with too many people. We also heard from our long-time Mass Wildlife Rep who expressed that it was his opinion, and speaking on behalf of the Mass Wildlife Department, this proposed by-law is a very bad idea. He showed evidence of three communities just south of us, including Easthampton. All three towns have adopted something very similar to this and all are seeing devastating effects. He warned these laws do deter hunting. As a result, deer populations are way up including tick population and other issues involving deer, such as car accidents, etc. He went on to repeat this by-law is not a good idea. He stressed the fact Leyden adopting such a policy would throw off the balance in this area greatly increasing deer populations. He pointed to Connecticut and New Jersey with statewide policies and out of control deer populations with disease spreading as a result.

Man does a very good job keeping the deer herd in check was the determination. This was extremely eye opening to me and one of the

most powerful statements of the meeting. The audience applauded in appreciation for his statements. We also met a Mass EP Officer who spoke. While he tried to stay as neutral as possible to the issue, he did warn the community that the vast majority of the policing and handling of complaints will fall back on the Leyden PD. In other words, every shot that's 'heard' coming from here when it really came from there will be called in and handled by the Leyden PD, not the Mass EP. This will require more policing from a town of only 700+ residents. As one Selectman asked me, if it's a law we need to enforce it, right? Two of our Selectmen went on to suggest this could lead to increasing our police budget, possibly \$10,000, \$20,000, \$40,000, \$60,000 even \$80,000. They admitted it's hard to know the number but it *will* increase our taxes. And the question is, for what? It would be irresponsible to pass a by-law that could increase taxes without first studying and alerting the residents to what amount. Let's not forget we already have a strong state law on the books right now. If you *post* your land then hunting ceases, no weapons are discharged, taxes don't increase, and your safety is preserved.

While I wish we could continue to live in a beautiful town and not see yellow signs everywhere, I will respect those rights. I will never *post* my land, and appreciate if everyone could do the same. It's the right thing to do in my honest opinion.

I heard people that night associating hunters with beer cans littering the woods. I about fell off my chair on that one. I've hunted many years with many, many different people and I never saw a time nor can imagine a hunter walking through the woods drinking a can of beer and tossing it to the ground.

I ask those reading this who knew nothing of the proposed by-law, those on the fence, or those for it to please understand this is just another layer of unnecessary rules that will undoubtedly raise taxes on top of what already is strong state law on the books. Our own Chief Dan Galvis was recently quoted in The Greenfield Recorder as saying, "If we can enforce the laws that are on the books, we don't need anymore." For this very reason I ask you to exercise your rights as a landowner if you must and *post*. But I ask that you concede not to do so for the good of the land and genuine appreciation and gift to others that you not *post*. I will always respect your land and treat it as I treat my own, and want to thank each and every one of you for sharing a piece of Leyden with me. After the meeting, three residents who had signed the initial petition, told me their opinion had changed and agreed land should be available to all and *posting* is the best solution. The by-law is not the answer for Leyden.

I feel this by-law is nothing more than an attack on generations of residents, gun owners, and hunters. It opens Leyden up to other self-interest by-laws. This will overwhelmingly give in-town hunters, for the most part, exclusive access to land, and shut out anyone with no land-owner relationships. Frankly, Leyden is better than this.

Instead of having my pockets full of permission slips, I'd rather them be full of Trail Mix. Please come out to vote on January 22nd at the Special Town Meeting and vote NO on the by-law. Show your appreciation to Leyden and its generations of people, and resist special interests' agendas. Thank you.

—David Curtis, Greenfield Road

Lifetime Resident of Leyden

As a resident of the town of Leyden my whole life I would like to see this by-law not pass. Even though I am not a hunter I have many family members and friends that do. The one's I know are good human beings that have a lot of respect for the land and the land owners. The hunters I know have a strong passion for hunting. There are laws already in place to take care of the few that get out of hand. Please stand with our hunting community!

—Jeffrey Baker, Greenfield Road

Proposed Safety Bylaw Comment

We All Want the Same Thing

Believe it or not, we all want the same thing. We want the ability to decide, within legal parameters, what to do with and on our property. My husband and I own property in Leyden, live in Leyden, pay taxes here and are registered voters here. We want, and feel we deserve, the expectation of safety when walking our property every month yearlong. We feel if we legally post “no trespassing” signs that it should be respected and the signs left alone and not ripped down. We should not have to worry about retribution.

If you want to do differently that is also your right. If this is what everyone is striving for, why can't we discuss this. In a room with Leyden residents—not people who aren't registered voters here. This does not impact them as personally as it does us. Our decision should be just as respected as your decision. There is no right or wrong, just the right to personal choice.

If you think this is a Second Amendment issue, read it. This is *not*.
Thank you, —Ken Medvetz and Beth Kuzdeba

Leyden Recreation Committee

We had a pretty good turnout at our Christmas Cookies with Santa last Sunday. The children all seemed to have a great time and a *big* Thank You to Santa and three of his elves for getting to the Leyden Town Hall. We also want to thank the Leyden Rifle Club for their generous donation and to thank the 7 South Bakery for offering to make the Christmas Cookies for Santa. Unfortunately with the crazy, snowy weather on Saturday, I wasn't able to get over to Bernardston to pick them up, but the kids did receive some cookies.

I see that Brian and John are working on getting the skating rink set up down at the Pavilion, so more information will follow next month about the Town Wide Skating and Sliding Party in February. I will try to get something into the Greenfield Recorder when the rink is all ready to go skating on.

Happy New Year.

—Mary Lou Barton, Secretary, Leyden Recreation Committee

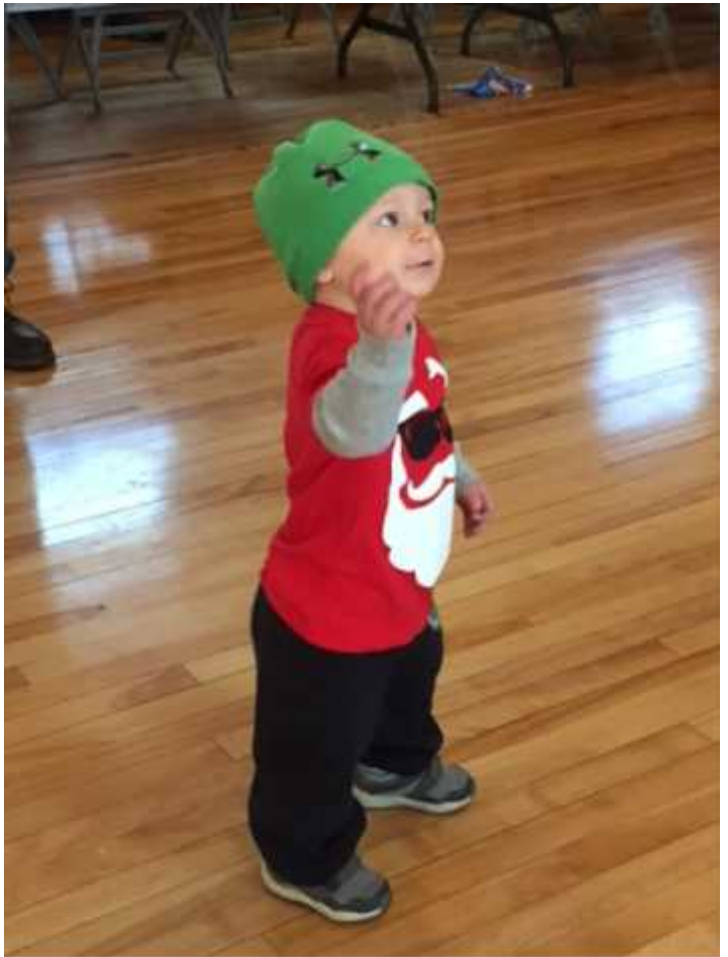
New Leyden T-Shirts Available

New Leyden T-Shirts are available. Adult sizes are \$20, and are available in S - M - L - XL - 2XL - 3XL. Colors are magenta and royal blue.

Children's sizes are \$15, and are available in S - M - L. Color is royal blue only.

All profits go to support the Leyden United Methodist Church.

Please Note: These shirts are only available in lots of ten. Please notify Mary Lou Barton at 773-3548 if you are interested so that she can make up orders of ten at a time.



*Meeting
Santa Claus*

Council on Aging (COA)

LEYDEN JANUARY NEWSLETTER ARTICLE

The Council on Aging hopes that everyone had a joyous and enjoyable Christmas and New Year holiday, and all are looking forward to perhaps a better year ahead in 2018.

We would like to mention that Nan Rolstad's Quilling workshop was a great success; all participants had a lot of fun trying out this unique art form. Needless to say, Nan's work, which she brought in to demonstrate what can be done, was absolutely stunning! Stay tuned for the possibility of some upcoming Quilling classes in the near future.

More discussions took place at the December Board meeting with representatives of the Franklin Regional Transit Authority regarding bus service for Leyden. The ball is now in our court to figure out what the best format would be, and what people would like to have available. If you have not already done so, please complete one of the "Bus Surveys" which are available on the tables downstairs in the Community Room of the Town Hall or call a member of the board and just say what you would like to see happen.

The COA is continuing with the current format of Wednesdays for lunches and coffee mornings, as follows:

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 3: Mini-luncheon of Clam chowder, sandwiches and salad at Noon in the Community Room of Town Hall

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 10: Coffee morning from 8:00 to 10:00 AM, to be followed by a PINE NEEDLE BASKET MAKING Workshop to be led by Karen Loomis, from 10:00 AM to 12:00 NOON in the Community Room at Town Hall.

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 17: Main monthly lunch of Chicken and biscuits – mmm! Be sure to call Sue Howarth at

774-3118 to reserve your place or indicate any food allergies you might have!

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 24: Coffee morning from 8:00 to 10:00 AM, followed by a second PINE NEEDLE BASKET MAKING Workshop with Karen Loomis to complete and ornament baskets begun in the previous session. This will once again be from 10:00 AM to 12:00 NOON in the Community Room at Town Hall.

EXERCISE CLASSES with Linda Allis will resume on Monday, January 8th at 12:00 NOON upstairs at Town Hall, a six-week session running through to Monday February 12th. Then there'll be a short break and classes will resume for a second six-week session on Monday, February 26th running through to Monday April 2nd. Thanking Linda in advance for keeping us moving!!

MOVIE NIGHT RETURNS on Friday, January 19th at 7:00 PM upstairs at Town Hall on the BIG SCREEN with POPCORN!! We will be showing 'DUNKIRK', a World War II thriller about the 1940 evacuation of Allied troops from the French city of Dunkirk as they are being surrounded by Nazi troops. Tom Hardy, Kenneth Branagh and Mark Rylance co-star. The film has received a Golden Globe nomination for Best Picture and has been named one of the top ten films of 2017 by several film societies. Rated PG-13.

Karen Loomis will take over from Cecilia Tusinski as Assistant to the Council on Aging in January. She has lots of energy and ideas and you can expect to have some interesting presentations and workshops under her guidance. Welcome, Karen!
—Cecelia Tusinski

Neighbors Helping Neighbors

The Leyden COA is compiling a list of people of all ages willing to help out occasionally with either indoor or outdoor chores for seniors or disabled persons. Indoor chores might be helping out with cleaning or minor indoor repairs. Outdoor chores might be snow shoveling or yard help. This can be on a volunteer basis or fee for service. Our goal is to help seniors and people with disabilities on limited incomes to be able to age in place and stay in their homes. Advocates to drive and go to medical appointments and help people without family nearby are also needed. Call Amy at 774-6907.



A visit with Santa Claus



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.

Neighbors Helping Neighbors: Are you looking for some help?

I can clean your house; help with laundry and any other household chores. I'll run errands and do shopping. I also offer light PCA work if you have any need for home care. I will prepare meals; offer companionship, read a book, play cards. I am responsible, dependable and affordable. Thank you, and I look forward to hearing from you. Please call me at 413-834-3843. Melissa Sims

Free: 4-drawer dresser, General Altimax Arctic tire with worn studs 205/55/16, house hardware—white pull knobs for cabinets, small brass hinges, 75 watt flood lights. Call Jennifer at 760-672-5336.

For Sale: double 6" deep stainless steel sink with faucet \$25, Briggs and Stratton (White) heavy-duty, 8.5 HP, 33" deck, self-propelled lawn mower (needs some work) \$150. Call Jennifer at 760-672-5336.

Quitting books and Cookbooks for sale. Many of each available. Many in new condition. Call Gloria at 774-7113.

Glenbrook Structures: Need a chicken coop or a dog kennel at a reasonable price? Various sizes and designs are available. Call Michelle Barton or Chris Kemp at 774-4545 to place an order. We're also on Facebook and Craigslist.

Fire Wood for Sale: I have one cord of split, stacked, seasoned hard wood for sale. 12-24 inches in length (majority is 16-18 inches long). The customer will need to pick it up, and I will help load it. The price \$175. Call Ken and Beth at 774-2820.

Stall Clean-outs: We are looking for manure, bedding, and other compostable materials such as old hay, leaves, etc. Call Robin or Laura at 773-8325.

Boer Goat Meat is available at Frizzell Hill Farm. Goat is quite tasty, low in fat and cholesterol, and high in protein and iron. Give it a try! Visit frizzellhillfarm.com for information and a price list. Thanks for supporting local Leyden farms!

Bill Maguire Painting: Serving the Leyden area's paint and staining needs since 1978. Interior, exterior, deck refinishing, window sash work, power washing, dirt and mildew removal. Call 413-774-5330.

Erik's Handyman Service: Let me help you with your "to do" list. Property maintenance, brush control, lawn mowing, rototilling, odd jobs, and miscellaneous projects. If you could use some help, give me a call at 413-774-9948 and ask for Erik, or e-mail to erikshandy1@yahoo.com. Reasonable rates. Insured.

Ed's Sugar Shack has fresh local maple syrup for sale. Available in gallons, half gallons, quarts and pints. Call 773-7619, Ed and Carol Johnson, 72 South County Road, Leyden. Member of Massachusetts Maple Producers Association

Natural Lamb is available again from the Petersons at Orchard Valley Farm. No growth-enhancing hormones or antibiotics. Usual cuts generally available. Special orders on request. Call 624-5562 or email ovfarm@verizon.net. Like us on Facebook at Orchard Valley Farm.

Sweet Morning Farm CSA

We have fresh Leyden-grown greens, root crops, eggs, pork and chicken, available at the farm or the Greenfield Winter Farmers' Market (Sat. 1/6/18 at Four Corners School). You may sign up for our email list about available items or just stop by the farm. We always have eggs and usually have some Leyden-grown greens as well.

2018 Farm Shares will be available soon!

We wish you all the best for a joy-filled, healthy, and peaceful 2018.

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

sweetmorningfarm@gmail.com
<https://www.facebook.com/SweetMorningFarm>
<http://sweet-morning-farm.blogspot.com/>

Angels' Rest

January 13–15, 2018 Carolyn Ruzala Yoga Retreat: "connect with other women, deepen your yoga and mindfulness practices, share delicious meals together, have time to relax, and take care of you."

Contact Carolyn for reservations at <https://www.wetravel.com/trips/a-women-s-winter-weekend-yoga-retreat-in-western-massachusetts-carolyn-ruzala-leyden-08834236>.

Bed and Breakfast availability at Angels' Rest, January 25–28, 2018. Please contact Jennifer for reservations at 413-772-0648.

Did you know Angels' Rest is on Facebook and Instagram? You can find us at: Angels Rest Retreat Center

Happy New Year!

New Leyden Telephone Directory

Do you want your phone number listed in the new Leyden town directory? Do you not want your number listed in the directory?

Either way, please contact Amy at amy.woodsprite@gmail.com or 774-6907. If you wish to be included, please give your name and address and your phone number, or specify non-published if you do not. Thank you for your help with this.



Leyden Business Advertisements

Leyden businesses are welcome to submit an ad to the new Leyden Directory. Please send to amy.woodsprite@gmail.com. Price will be around \$25 to cover the cost of printing.

—Amy St. Clair

Thanks from Bob & Bob

Thank you to all who have given us best wishes and "get well soon" for Bob Hardesty's leg injury and surgery.

Thanks also to the many people who have brought such good dinners and treats. (We're getting fattened up for winter.)

We always knew Leyden was a great little town, but this really hits home and proves it! —Bob Hardesty and Bob Taylor

New Fire Chief
Matthew Muka
Was sworn in
On December 10th



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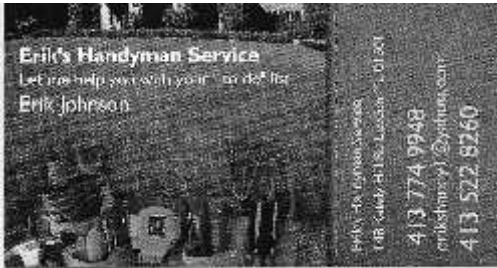
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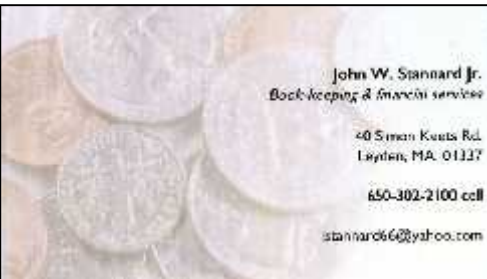
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