

Leyden Life

Leyden, Massachusetts

February 2011

Town Hall Hours:

Monday 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM, Closed Tuesday,
Wednesday 9:00 – 11:00 AM, Thursday 12:00 – 3:00 PM *and*
6:00 – 9:00 PM, Friday 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM
If you need an appointment outside of these hours, call 774-4111

Select Board

SELECTBOARD MEETINGS

The Select Board will meet on Thursdays, February 3rd and 17th at 6:30 PM in their office. To be on the agenda, or for a copy of it, please contact Liz Johnson at 774-4111 or leydenselectboard@live.com.

TOWN HALL MEETINGS

The following meetings are scheduled this month:

Tue, Feb 1	7:00 PM	Agricultural Commission
Wed, Feb 2	6:30 PM	Board of Assessors
Thur, Feb 3	6:30 PM	Selectboard
Tue, Feb 8	5:30 PM	Board of Health
Wed, Feb 9	7:00 PM	Planning Board
Wed, Feb 16	6:30 PM	Board of Assessors
Thur, Feb 17	6:30 PM	Selectboard
Mon, Feb 21	7:30 PM	Conservation Commission

FY 2012 BUDGET REQUESTS

The Selectboard would like to receive all town department FY2012 budget requests no later than Tuesday, February 15th. If you need a Budget Request Form to fill out, please contact Liz Johnson at 774-4111 or leydenselectboard@live.com.

—Board of Selectmen

Sugar on Snow Supper

The Sugar on Snow Supper is scheduled for Saturday, March 12th, and once again will feature Leyden agricultural products. It's a great opportunity to support local farmers and local organizations working to maintain rural Leyden. The meal will again consist of Rita's Famous Shepherd's Pie made with grass-fed beef from Castle Hill Farm and/or ground lamb from Leyden Glen Farm. That much is established so far, and of course it doesn't look like we'll have any difficulty finding snow for that sweet Leyden syrup. The AgCom will meet on Tuesday, February 1st to firm up plans for the supper. Watch for further details and publicity as the event nears, and plan to celebrate National Agriculture Week with us on March 12th.

—Bill Glabach

Concert and Dessert Potluck

TopHill Music presents Harmonium: Ari and Mia Freidman and Owen Marshall play violin, cello, guitar and harmonium for this all-ages community concert which will take place on Sunday, February 13th at 2:30 PM at Leyden Town Hall. Admission is \$10 adults, under 12 \$5. Join your neighbors for a wonderful concert at our town hall. Bring a dessert to share (optional).

This marks the beginning of a monthly series of music at the Leyden Town Hall. For more information e-mail Stuart or Alice Kenney at tophillmusic@aol.com

Town Clerk

VITAL STATISTICS

Births Kaylee Nikkole Adamski born December 28, 2010 to Melissa Dearborn and Nikolas Adamski

Deaths Paul Emanuelli, November 8, 2010
Kenneth Aiken, November 28, 2010

STREET LISTINGS

If you have not yet returned your street listing form, please do so at your earliest convenience. Keep in mind that it is mandated by Massachusetts General Law. *Please do not enclose any payments (tax bills, dog licenses, etc.)*

—Bob Hardesty, Town Clerk

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

New “Artists of Leyden” Website

Got Artist? Leyden certainly does, and a new website has been created to celebrate the wonderful diversity of the arts in Leyden. The goal of the site is to provide a dynamic community portal to be enjoyed by all Leyden residents (and beyond!) and to display and promote Leyden's many artists, genres, and styles. The site will contain representative, and in some cases extensive, works of (hopefully) all Leyden artists, as well listings of events, individual artist contact information, and links to other art related sites.

Thus far three Leyden artists are up on the site – Trish Crapo, with photography and collage; Rich DiMatteo, with images of mixed media including drawings, illustrations, metal sculpture, and wood carving; and Cecilia Tusinski, with images of her paintings using oil and various materials. While these artists all used images to display their work, video and text are also

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Local Cultural Council

We are pleased to announce the grant recipients for 2011:

Lea Banks (Oscillation: Poetry in Motion), David Allen (Historic Map Talk), Roger Tinknell (A Celebration of Cultural Diversity), Paul Bouchard (Big Band-Bennie Goodman's 1938 at Carnegie Hall concert), Foster Ranney (Traveling Ecology Show), Henry Lappen (Juggler Performance), Leyden Historical Commission (Leyden Historical Exhibit), Trish Crapo (Leyden Portrait Project, Part 2), Greenfield Recreation Department (Musical Fireworks Spectacular), West County Theatre Workshop (Summer Theater), Pied Potter of Hamelin (Hands-on and Demonstration “Magical Potter's Wheel”), The Art Garden (Community Exhibits) and Gregory Maichack (How to Paint Pastel Flowers).

We encourage you to watch the Cultural Council column to plan your attendance and/or sign up for these performances.

—Alice Thomas, Chair, 475-3011

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.)

Important Notices: If you are unable to come to the library and would like materials delivered to you because of poor health or cold weather issues, please call the library at 773-9334, and I'll do my best to accommodate you. If you want to request materials via ILL, you may visit, call, or email me at leydenlibrary@gmail.com with all the necessary information. I will then inform you as soon as your materials arrive.

It doesn't seem possible that we are almost into February of a new year. 2010 was a busy one at RML, and our little place looks bright and welcoming. In addition to a new DVD wall, we've created a larger area for new book displays to make it easier for patrons to view what is available. We are also adding CDs and DVDs to our collection each month. We welcome gifts of CDs and DVDs, but we have no room for donated books, videos, or audiotapes.

If the library is closed because of inclement weather, I will do my best to open on the following day. For example, storm on Monday, open on Tuesday or storm on Wednesday, open on Thursday.

I want to remind you that we have magazines which can be borrowed and that new books arrive almost weekly.

Because of the grant I wrote, author Liza Ketchum will visit Pearl Rhodes in the spring. The curriculum for each of the three books students will read is heading toward completion. Reading, writing, speaking, and listening will each play a role in the study of these novels; Liza will engage each of the three classes in writing experiences as she discusses her novels and shares her expertise as an author and researcher.

The Department of Conservation and Recreation has sent us a 2011 Massachusetts ParksPass Hangtag. Residents can borrow this pass to visit any of over fifty facilities in the state parks system that charge a day-use parking fee. Visit the RML, sign out the pass, visit a park, and return the pass so that someone else can enjoy a less expensive day at one of our beautiful state parks!

Saturdays are often slow at the library, but it is the only day in the week when some patrons can borrow materials. Volunteers donate two hours of their Saturdays to ensure that someone is here to accommodate these people. This year our volunteers have been superb. If someone has to cancel, he/she calls another member of the volunteer group and finds his/her own replacement. If the walkway needs to be shoveled, someone invariably does the heavy work to guarantee safe entry, and if a special request is made, I'll find a detailed note on my desk on Monday morning.

The trustees and I would like to thank the wonderful team who allow for our Saturday openings: Tracey and Nick Baronas, Peggy Brown, Linda Hill, Kathy Ruseckas, Kathy Wells, Amanda Smith and son Kyle, Pat Little, Steve Richter, Holly Spatcher, Pat and Drake Williams, Trish Sunday, Lois Feldman, and Lynne Podlesney.

If you are interested in becoming a part of this great team, just let me know. It's a great way to meet new people and to spend a few hours discovering the treasures that are housed in this little place.
—Chris Johnston

WiredWest Connecting Western Mass to the World

A big thank you to the 48 people who came out on a cold January evening to take a first step toward getting fiber optic cable to Leyden. Thank you as well to the Select Board, who made this happen and publicized it with signs and notices at Pearl Rhodes Elementary School. The unanimous vote was the first of two needed to form a Municipal Lighting Plant, which is really just a legal entity which would allow us to join a cooperative of 46 other towns in western Massachusetts who have made the same decision. The co-op would then become the working organization that would raise funds to bring the cable to our towns. There are so many ways that Leyden would benefit from having fiber optic cable: the best internet service possible; great phone lines; cable TV and a choice of carriers; increased real estate values; a more attractive small home business environment; educational enhancement; improved communication for police and emergency services. This is just a partial list of the advantages we already know about, but even more impressive is that the cable being brought to us is so good that it would handle all our needs for the next 75 years – even those we cannot begin to imagine!

—Sheila Hourihan, Leyden representative to WiredWest and Mass. Broadband Institute

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**.

ELECTRONIC LEYDEN LIFE

If you are interested in receiving *Leyden Life* in PDF format via e-mail, please notify Bob Taylor at bobxtwo@verizon.net.

THANKS

We had a cornucopia of contributions this month! Thanks to Phyllis Aiken, Kathleen Anderson, James Brodeur, Bernice and Richard Brooks, Judy Carter, Roger and Catherine Cayer, Gordon and Claire Cobb, Ellen Coty, Caryl Dyer, Carol Doerpholz, Pat Garanin, Estelle Goldman, Dorothy Howes, Agnes Huber, the McNelly Meslohs, Fran Moretti, the Pazmino-Brook Family, Dianne and Bob Ryan, and Barbara and John Wallace. This generous support keeps us in print and delivering!

Thanks to collators Susan Howarth and Laura Timmerman, and to deliverers Lauren Clary, Marie Bartlett, Marie Lovley, Jeanne Breeden and the Cafferys. (If we have forgotten anyone, please accept our thanks and apologies.)

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 & 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 **Tuesday, February 15th**.

If you cannot e-mail your submission, please leave it in the book drop outside the Library.

Donations are always welcome! Send to:

Leyden Life c/o Reid
30 West Leyden Road
Leyden, MA 01337

Meetings, Gatherings and Announcements

Council on Aging

Our January meeting was cancelled due to snow. We will meet this month on Thursday, February 10th at 10:30 AM for some laughter and time with friends. We will be watching some older comedy acts on film and perhaps a more modern comedy as well. Come along on the 10th for a “movie morning”!

After the film, we will have lunch together, focusing on locally grown, organic food. You are welcome to join us for lunch, but please let Edith know at 773-7336 by Monday, February 7th so we can plan the meal accordingly. Everyone is welcome, including first time and occasional visitors. If you are interested in helping out with the planning, cooking, and thinking for our monthly meetings, please let me know.

The Leyden Council on Aging is dedicated to providing programs that support healthy and independent living for local seniors and is funded and supported by the Massachusetts Executive Office of Elder Affairs. Their funding allows the COA to offer delicious meals and interesting programs and to help support the newsletter and more.
—*Laura Timmerman, 773-8325*

Knitting Circle

The Leyden knitting circle will meet two times in February, once on Saturday, February 12th at Laura's house and again on Friday, February 25th at Peggy's house. Both times are from 6:30 to 8:30 PM. All are welcome to join us; no experience is needed. Knitters, stitchers, spinners, darners, quilters—all kinds of handicrafts are fine. Just come along for a relaxing evening. It's fun to spend time visiting, stitching and sharing our knowledge and interest in needle arts. We look forward to spending time with you.

Facebook Group: <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=115188595195087&ref=mf>

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

Leyden Art Group

Laura Timmerman is hosting our February Art Group Meeting on Thursday, February 24th at 6:30 PM, at 910 Greenfield Road, Leyden. You can RSVP at 773-8325 or email Laura at laurat@crocker.com

Do you have art work to share? Contact Peggy Brown at nianticgirl@yahoo.com to display your work at Robertson Memorial Library or call 774-5764.

—*Laura Timmerman, 773-8325*

Artists of Leyden

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welcome.

An open invitation to all Leyden artists: Please consider contributing examples of your work. The benefit to you is more visibility for you and your works, and if you have a web site it will be published as well. To Leyden citizens, please visit and enjoy! This site is intended to be a window on the art and artists of our town. And, to all, please provide comments and any suggestions for the site you may have.

Another request: Many of you may remember that Rich DiMatteo's art graced the covers of Leyden Town Reports for fifteen years, and he has several other drawings of historical significance to the Town, some of which are displayed on Artists of Leyden. Some of Rich's original drawings were donated over the years to various fundraisers. If you happen to own a DiMatteo original, please consider allowing it to be digitally captured and included in Rich's work on Artists of Leyden (with attribution, of course!).

My name is Jim Nielsen, and I am donating my time to this project, and my business, Perfect Solutions, Inc., is donating money to cover the costs of site-hosting for 2011. It is my hope that we can all have some fun with this, promote our town, and share and enjoy the Artists of Leyden.

For questions on how to contribute, to offer any suggestion, or if you're having problems viewing the site, please email me at jnielsen@psi-ma.com, or call 773-7948.

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

Leyden Recreation Committee

The ice skating rink is all ready for anyone to skate on. Thanks to John Rodgers for cutting and piecing together the wooden frame to hold the liner, also to Carey Barton and John for getting the liner installed and filled with water from the brook and to David Annear for all his help in assisting Carey and myself and Carey's wife, Beth, to remove the snow and do the plowing. My future son-in-law, Jim Chabot came up from Greenfield one day to give us a hand also after the *big* storm. The Leyden Fire Department has been down several times to flood the ice to make it smooth again. Our own Zamboni! Any other help will be greatly appreciated also.

Because we had such good vibes from the Sledding/Skating party last year we are holding it again on Saturday, February 19th from 11:00 AM until 3:00 PM at the Leyden ball field. It will be the Town of Leyden's 202nd birthday! The Fire Department will be selling hamburgers, hot dogs and David's infamous French fries for a modest charge. The Leyden Church will be having baked goodies, hot chocolate and hot cider. I am presently in negotiations about having the school open so the restrooms can be utilized. We are also planning a warming pit that day.

If anyone, when going through their winter gear, has any ice skates that are in pretty good condition but you don't intend to use any more, please consider donating them to the Leyden Recreation Committee to be used at the skating rink. I am planning to obtain a big box for storage, which will be taken down the Leyden Pavilion; so if you want to do this, please drop them off at my house at 24 Old Frizzell Hill Road (the big green house behind the old "Barton's Garage"). Many thanks in advance! Mary Lou Barton

Any questions or concerns should be directed to Mary Lou Barton at 773-3548.

Leyden United Methodist Church

As we emerge from the Christmas and Epiphany seasons in the church, we enter into the cold dark winter. And yet, we just celebrated the coming of light into darkness. It is in this dichotomy that we live out the winter months, as we are torn between the darkness of the world and the light of Jesus Christ. As I write this, we are fresh off the horrific scenes from Tucson, AZ. There is nothing better to show this dichotomy. On the one hand we have the rampage of a psychotic person. On the other hand, we have the country coming together to mourn and heal. It is unfortunate that it takes tragedy for us to come together. And although I don't believe the toxicity of our political scene nationally had much to do with the acts of a madman, it is a stark reminder that in democracy we are to come together with civility to overcome our differences.

Jesus had some radical notions for his time on how to overcome those differences. The Sermon on the Mount is His declaration of those philosophies, and they are still radical for us today. During the month of February we will engage in a sermon series on the Sermon on the Mount that explores the Jesus Way as outlined for us in the Gospel of Matthew. So join us on Sunday mornings at 10:00 AM for this sermon series.

As for events at LUMC, the Gingerbread House Party was extremely fun and fellowship hall was full of children (and parents) decorating their houses. I think the parents may have eaten more candy than the children did. In February, we are planning to help Mary Lou Barton and the Leyden Recreation Committee with the sledding and skating party. The church will provide baked goodies and hot beverages such as hot chocolate and cider for those in attendance. The following month we are planning on having a Mardi Gras party at the church that is a family event. It is tentatively scheduled for March 4th, probably at 6:00 PM. Be on the lookout for more details on this event.
—Grace and Peace, Pastor Ken

Sunday School

I would like to thank Renee Baker, Mary Glabach and Emily Herron-Clark for helping me with Sunday School. We have been rotating by the month. I will be back to teaching Sunday School in February, my favorite month—Love Month! All children, three years of age and up are gladly welcomed at our Little White Church on the Hill. Jesus loves “us”, this I know, for the Bible tells me so. Come and join us for worship at 10:00 AM, and Sunday School is during Church time.

God loves you, and so do I. *Mary Lou Barton, Sunday School Superintendent*

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.

Free Chairs: Six oak dining chairs. Call Bob at 624-8965.

LPs to CDs: Will convert your favorite (or even your not-so-favorite) LPs to CDs. \$7.50 per conversion. Call Jerry at 624-5546, or e-mail at jlevine4@verizon.net.

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

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.

Wanted: Horse person to clean stalls and do some farm chores. Would consider keeping a pony or horse in exchange for stall cleaning and other horse and garden chores. Call Barbara Wallace at 774-7780.

For Sale: Belgian “massive oak” furniture 1930s vintage in beautiful condition. Dining table seats 6 (\$450), 2 chair sets of six (\$450), oak buffet (\$500). Priced slightly less for complete dining set. Antique rectangular oak table with 2 leaves, decorative legs, top needs some work. Seats 8 with leaves \$200. Almost new Ikea Malm double platform bed \$150. White metal twin-full bunk bed frame \$50. Call Jennifer at 760-672-5336 or email mntnhiker@sprintmail.com.

Spirit Fire

Free online morning meditation by webinar, podcast, or join us at the Retreat Center Mon. - Wed 9 AM. Online classes: Food and your Health begins January 19 at 8 PM. Chakras: Amazing Universes Within, Begins Monday, February 7th at 8 PM. Esoteric Psychology starts November 2011. Contact Donna for information on all programs at 624-3955 or info@spiritfire.com. www.spiritfire.com. “Change yourself—change the world!”

Leyden Portrait Project books are still available at the Library during regular hours or at my home. The price is \$18, which includes MA sales tax. Prints of your portrait are also available in black & white or color. Prices are: \$15 for a 5x7; \$20 for an 8x10. Larger sizes or wallet sizes are available as well. Call me for prices: Trish Crapo, 774-2021.

Wool Blankets: Massachusetts-grown and made wool blankets for the cold weather. These are long throws, measuring approximately 72" long by 44" wide, wonderful for the recliner or rocker. The price is \$90. Call Becky at 624-5562.

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.

Timmerman CSA

I just want to give you all a heads up that, yes there will be *farm shares* available this year from my little farm. However, I will not be increasing the number of shares that will be offered, so if you are thinking about getting a share, now is a good time to get in touch with me. I will be contacting all prior farm members and interested people soon with details about the farm shares for 2011. As in the past, there will be three sizes of weekly shares, to meet a variety of vegetable needs, and I will be growing a wide assortment of vegetables and flowers. There are already baby leeks and onions growing in the house and lots of garlic started last fall. Yum!

Dreaming about the summer on a winter's day—Laura Timmerman, 773-8325, laurat@crocker.com, <http://lastingimpressionscsa.blogspot.com/>

Angels’ Rest special weekend retreat of Taoist Meditation and Chi Kung. Explore the mystery and healing power of chi, build a more intimate relationship with your energy, immerse yourself in the Tao practice and be refreshed and renewed! www.bostonhealingtao.com, 781-570-9694.

Linda Romano

Valentine special—buy two gift certificates get a free chair massage or bath salt. Hot stone massage available. Workshop dates confirmed for February 26th, 10-12:30, and March 26th, 10-12:30 in Leyden. Mandala II, create your life- vision board. Yoga & world beat dance- classes. RSVP 413-624-3334.

Happy Valentine’s Day, Linda Romano.