

# LEYDEN LIFE



Photo courtesy of The Recorder.

## Selectboard

Many thanks to the Recreation Committee, especially John Higgins, Brian Pelletier, and Karin Parks, for inviting Santa to Leyden for the annual Christmas program for the kids. Parents and grandparents had a great time as well. The Hardesty room at Town Hall was filled with joy for the Christmas season.

All the town offices and committees have been moved to the former PRES. Everyone has been busy setting up their offices and the town is fully in operation. All committee and board meetings will be held at 7 Brattleboro Road, Town of Leyden Municipal Offices. The bulletin board for posting announcements and meetings is located right next to the main entrance. This is the official posting board. Selectboard postings can also be found on the Leyden Website.

The Selectboard recently held its annual tax classification hearing with the assessors. A single tax rate was adopted with a tax rate of \$17.01. Leyden's tax rate went down but evaluations will be increasing slightly to com-

*continued p. 2*

## OFFICE HOURS

### Selectboard

Monday	8:30 AM - 8:30 PM
Tuesday	8:30 AM - 4:00 PM
Wednesday	8:30 AM - 4:00 PM
Thursday	8:30 AM - 4:00 PM

### Tax Collector

Monday	5:30 PM - 8:00 PM
Wednesday	5:30 PM - 8:00 PM

### Assessors

Wednesday	2:00 PM - 8:00 PM
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### Town Clerk )subject to change[

Monday	5:30 PM - 7:00 PM
Wednesday	5:30 PM - 7:00 PM

*\*For an appointment, call 774-4111, ext. 3 or call/text 413-362-9378. Calls to my personal cell phone will be answered when I am available (Mon-Fri). Thank you,*

Nicole Glabach, Town Clerk

## Notice: Town Office Meetings

Board of Assessors  
Board of Health  
Conservation Commission  
Council on Aging  
Historical Commission  
Library Board of Trustees  
Planning Board  
Recreation Committee  
Selectboard

1st & 3rd Wednesday at 6:30 PM  
As announced  
3rd Monday at 7:00 PM  
1st Tuesday at 4:30 PM  
3rd Tuesday at 7:00 PM  
2nd Tuesday at 4:30 PM  
2nd Wednesday at 7:00 PM  
1st Thursday at 7:00 PM  
every Monday at 7:00 PM (or as posted) (No meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> Monday)

*\*Changes to meeting dates/times will be posted separately. Meetings NOT held MONTHLY will also be posted separately.*

## 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.

## Selectboard *continued from p. 1*

pensate for the needs of the town annual budget. As we go into the new budget year, Leyden is in good shape with stabilization funds set aside for future planning to offset budget increases or capital expenditures.

On December 9<sup>th</sup> the Selectboard held a Special Town Meeting to address 7 warrant articles. All articles were transfers from free cash with no direct impact on property taxes. The remaining free cash of \$65,034.00 was voted into the town stabilization fund. One article that was funded with free cash was to set up reverse 911 for Leyden residents. By signing up prior to December 13<sup>th</sup> Leyden saved an additional \$2000.00. The company, with assistance from Chief Galvis, will be gathering information as to how you would prefer to be notified in case of a public emergency. It is clear that if we stay on top of the changing times with technology, grant funding will be more available to our town. We must do the set-up work to be a viable community for things coming to rural towns.

December 2<sup>nd</sup> gave us a good old northeaster snowstorm. Heavy snow of depths of 2 feet blanketed many areas of Leyden. Our highway crew did a terrific job keeping the roads open for travel. Thank you David, Bill and Eric for all those long hours removing tons of snow off the roads. We remind ourselves that during the summer months David and Bill worked rebuilding the second dump truck from top to bottom to keep our well-maintained fleet of snow removal equipment in top shape so we don't have breakdowns. Your hard work and leadership is much appreciated, David! The Town thanks your department.

The Selectboard is considering renting out unused space at Town of Leyden Municipal Offices. The Virtual Commonwealth school has sent a proposal to our office. We are reviewing their proposal and could draw up a lease agreement that could serve their needs and also benefit Leyden. They would rent the north corner classroom that overlooks Avery field for computer tutoring. We feel there would be no impact on the daily functions of the building. The lease would run from January 1<sup>st</sup> 2020 to June 30<sup>th</sup> 2020, with a possible 3-year lease.

Michele has been in contact once again with the Sheriff's inmate work program. They are slated to begin painting the town offices for us in February. This will be a great help as the building is in need of wall repair and painting. Last year they painted three buildings for the town and saved us a considerable amount of money.

The old parking area above the school is closed off for the winter. We don't need the space and will access it come spring.

If you are looking for the Blue U.S. postal box it has been moved to 7 Brattleboro Road in front of the Town offices at PRES, per the decision of the Bernardston postmaster for better convenience for them as well as us.

The freezer at PRES has been declared surplus. If interested in bidding, please contact Michele at 774-4111 and submit a bid. Bids will be opened up on January 27<sup>th</sup> at the Selectboard's meeting with the award going to the high bidder. Bidder will be responsible for removing freezer and it will be sold as-is.

In closing, the Selectboard continues to attend school committee meetings gathering information on the district's budget. One thing we're working on is Leyden's identity over at BES. The Selectboard raised the issue and our school committee members in town are addressing it. Many things are going on with the school district so follow their Facebook pages as well as the Pioneer and elementary websites to stay on top of education in our district.

Respectfully,  
Jeff, Bill and Lance



## Robertson Memorial Library

### Library Hours

**Monday 1:00 PM – 6:00 PM**

**Wednesday 1:00 PM – 6:00 PM**

**Saturday 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM**

“The horizon leans forward, offering you space to place new steps of change.” -Maya Angelou

The holidays are in full swing! If you are still looking for the perfect gift for your favorite reader, please consider purchasing our new canvas book totes. They are nice and sturdy, feature our lovely logo and have multiple pockets! Each purchase for \$20 gets us one step closer to purchasing an outdoor storage shed!

Next time you come visit, you may notice a few changes inside our building. The big table has been moved up to the town hall. Every time you head to the cafe area you'll have the opportunity to self checkout your next great read! We realize that the libraries hours aren't accessible for all, but we are hoping that this may help. With the table gone, our library is so spacious! While we wait for our window bench to be completed, please check out our New Years Resolutions display. Share your goals for 2020 and inspire your neighbors! We are also rearranging some shelves to make some more usable room. Lots of new books are coming our way and all shelves will be refreshed!

Big things are headed our way!

- December 30th at 10:30am the library is having a pajama party at the auditorium of the town hall. We will be showing the movie 'Elf' and will have fun for all ages.
- January 23rd at 11am there will be an informal meeting for all who are interested in revamping our 'Friends of the Library' group. Refreshments will be served.
- February 8th from 1-2 we will be visited by Senator Jo Comerford to discuss what she is doing on our behalf, ask questions and talk about what is going on in our community.
- March kicks off Libraries in the Woods community read. Over 20 local libraries are participating and have programs focused around one book. This years title is Braiding Sweetgrass by Robin Wall Kimmerer.

Come on in and check us out! Want to know all of the news first? Find us on Facebook! Do you have a question or are interested in volunteering? Feel free to email us at [Leydenlibrary@gmail.com](mailto:Leydenlibrary@gmail.com).

Wishing all of the best to you and yours. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

"I JUST LIKE TO SMILE. SMILING IS MY FAVORITE"-BUDDY THE ELF

JOIN US FOR A MOVIE!  
VIN ELF WILL BEGIN AT 10:30 MONDAY MORNING DECEMBER 30TH  
UPSTAIRS OF THE TOWN HALL.

EXPECT SNACKS,GAMES,CRAFTS AND GOOD CHEER!  
FEEL FREE TO WEAR YOUR FAVORITE HOLIDAY PAJAMAS AND GET COZY!

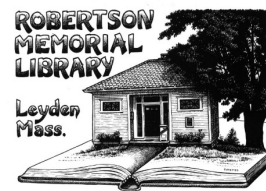
**ELF**  
*The Movie*

AFTER DISCOVERING HE IS A HUMAN, A MAN RAISED  
AS AN ELF AT THE NORTH POLE DECIDES TO TRAVEL  
TO NEW YORK CITY TO LOCATE HIS REAL FATHER.  
RATED PG  
STARRING WILL FERRELL



HOSTED BY THE LEYDEN LIBRARY, REC COMM AND COA

~Karin Parks



## Leyden Council on Aging (COA)

### HAPPY NEW YEAR!

We have some exciting things to do this month so come on down and stay warm with your neighbors and friends!

Luncheons will be held at the Town Hall **at 12 noon on Wednesdays January 8th & 22nd.**

On January 8th we will be serve homemade soup and sandwiches with cookies for dessert.

On January 22nd we will serve chicken and biscuits with cookies.

Please call Linda Allis to reserve your seat: 413-834-4417.

The coffee hours fall on **January 15th and January 29th at 10:30.**

On **January 15th** we will play Quirkle

On **January 29th** we will play Quiddler.

If you have never played, come on down and learn some fun games!

A new session of Independent Living Exercises will start on **Tuesday January 7th at 11:30 a.m** at the **Pearl Rhodes Elementary School.**

We welcome contributions from our subscribers, especially townspeople who advertise goods and services in Leyden Life. A donation of a few dollars will help cover the cost of printing .



Send contributions to:

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

## Climate Corner

“Kids these days!” A familiar phrase often borne of frustration. Might it be better to credit them when we encounter their informed passion and their optimism? Currently Greta Thunberg, 16 years of age, appears as a standard bearer for climate action. Cast as a “pawn” or “puppet” by naysayers, she is, to me, an intense version of many young people I got to know during more than 40 years in education. Many of those students, who have navigated a world in which some adults have discouraged their ambitions, go on to achieve quite remarkable goals. Informed passion for survival of the planet should be celebrated and encouraged, rather than looked upon with suspicion.

A few weeks ago, I visited three Ecology classes at Pioneer Valley Regional School to facilitate 90 minutes of learning and reflection on the Climate Crisis. In three parts, students first briefly referred to terms they had heard in relation to climate and what they might mean, followed next by a detailed look at trends and data, and finally, making connections to their current topic of study: the web of life. The students were thoughtful, involved and responsive. In the spring their studies will take them back to an emphasis on sustainability where they will focus on specific solutions.

Our schools are often doing a fine job of encouraging an understanding of the scientific and social issues surrounding the Climate Crisis. I base this on the fact that a significant number of the Franklin County Superintendent of Schools Award winners recently honored cited climate issues as their intended college and career focus. These outstanding seniors in county high schools want to make a difference.

“Kids these days” deserve our praise for their commitment to a better world. We can all, young and older, engage with them and offer sincere encouragement. They are not pawns; they have tremendous potential for positive change. So stay well in the New Year, and share this column with the young people in your life.

~Karen O'Neil [pkoneil@crocker.com](mailto:pkoneil@crocker.com)

## Neighbors Helping Neighbors

People are calling our help line to ask for a ride, a reference or other assistance. Please feel free to call, and we will do our best to help you out as needed.

Current needs are for light housekeeping and meal prep and for rides and snow shoveling.

We are compiling a list of people of all ages willing to lend a hand 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 a volunteer 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 774-6907.



Doris Wilder Glabach, formerly of Leyden, died on December 10. Doris was 98 years old, and had spent most of her life in Leyden before she and her husband Wilhelm moved to Northfield in 2000. "Miss Doris" was known and loved by many Leyden residents, especially children whose lives she touched through the Church Sunday School, where she was Superintendent and teacher, and the Robertson Memorial Library, where she was Librarian for some years. She was a kind, warm and fun-loving person with an exceptional sense of humor. She is survived by her sister June; son Bill, Leyden resident and Selectman, and three daughters; also many grandchildren, great and great-great grandchildren, nieces and nephews. Donations in her memory may be made to the Leyden United Methodist Church, 15 West Leyden Road, Leyden 01337.

### The "YES" in Your Year ~ Reflection Retreat with Martha Hopewell

Gift yourself (or a loved one!) a day to inspire & energize your vision for the year!

- Name your *Brightest Outcomes*
- Define your *Guiding Principles* and *Ways of Being*
- Design your *Framework for Action*
- Explore your *Sources of Personal Power*
- Identify the *Sweet Thing* you will create in 2020

This retreat blends personal work with supportive group sharing & a delicious home-cooked meal. Three group follow-up calls are included to help you keep momentum in the months ahead.

Date and Time: **Sunday, January 5 10:00 – 5:00** Location: 174 Katelly Hill Road, Leyden,

Retreat fee: \$250 **For Leyden residents, a 15% discount is offered for a fee of \$215**

Maximum number of participants: 12 (If there is a strong response, a second retreat will be offered on January 12).

*Martha Hopewell, a newly arrived resident in the Pioneer Valley, is the founder and lead catalyst of Social Mission Catalysts, LLC, a boutique coaching and consulting firm serving nonprofit leaders and their organizations. She also offers Spirit On A Mission™ retreats for thoughtful adults interested in developing their personal leadership – envisioning what is possible for their life and consciously choosing what they create, how they show up and how they relate.*

For more information and to register, please contact [Martha@socialmissioncatalysts.com](mailto:Martha@socialmissioncatalysts.com)

## Leyden United Methodist Church

15 W. Leyden Rd, Leyden Ma 01337, Leyden Center

Pastor: Lawrence Lake

**Sunday Service** 9:00 am **Sunday School** offered shortly after the start of the service for children 3 and over.

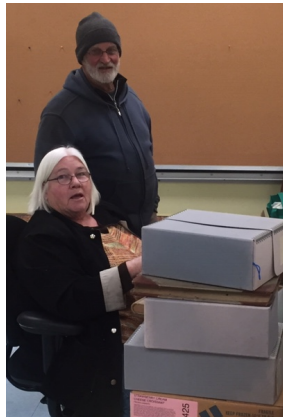
For prayer or visit request, call 413-774-6441

Facebook- Leyden United Methodist Church

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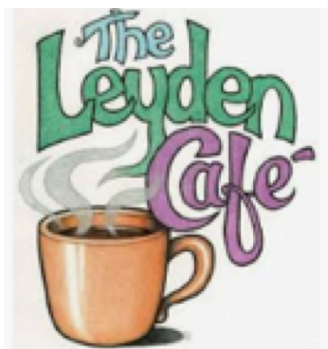
All historical artifacts have been moved into the school.

Bill and Nannette talk Leyden history.



Police Chief Galvis urgently requests that all residents choose the method they wish to be contacted for reverse-911 announcements. **The choices are by landline phone, cell phone, text message email or any combination of these.**

Please email Municipal Assistant Michele Giarusso at [muniasst@townofleyden.com](mailto:muniasst@townofleyden.com) with your choices; be sure to include your phone number and/or email address.



**Café Hours**  
Every Sunday 9:30 AM – 12:00  
PM  
Downstairs  
in  
Town Hall

## LEYDEN LIFE LOWDOWN

### Easy Submission

Submit by email to Cornelia Reid at [cr43wr41@gmail.com](mailto:cr43wr41@gmail.com) and Carolyn Asbury at [Carolyn.asbury@gmail.com](mailto:Carolyn.asbury@gmail.com). Attach a document, preferably in Word format, or include the information in the body of your text. If email is not possible, call Cornelia at 774-5146.

Entries must be submitted by 5:00 PM on or before the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month.

### Distribution

To receive *Leyden Life* in digital or print copy, email Cornelia and Carolyn or call Cornelia (see contact info above).

Digital copies will get to you quicker, are colorful, and save time and money.

We still send a few copies by USPS to former residents & Leyden lovers in other places. A year's subscription is \$9. Subscriptions are free to those in nursing homes or the military. A few extra copies may be found at the library.

### Thanks & Appreciations

Thank you Lisa Limont & Lois Feldman for collating this month. Thanks to Ruth Bellows and Don Clark, Shirley and Ken Lyman, and Spirit Fire – we appreciate your contributions.

We could not exist without the help & generosity of our townspeople.

### What We Are

*Leyden Life* is published and delivered monthly in Leyden, MA by a non-profit group of volunteers. We rely on donations to cover the cost of the print copies.

## UNCLASSIFIED ADS

**Fruit tree pruning:** We can help you restore abandoned fruit trees & maintain trees of any age. One-on-one lessons and consults available. Contact Ruth and Robin 413-773-8325, [robinc23@yahoo.com](mailto:robinc23@yahoo.com)

**2014 Prius - One Owner:** Very good condition, silver, kept in garage since new, 40,000 miles. \$14,500 Call Liz 624-5523.

**Ball/Freshtech Electric Water Bath Canner & Multi-cooker:** Only used once. Cooks & cans in large batches. VIRTUALLY BRAND NEW. All documents included. Asking \$75. Great Christmas present for anyone who cooks for large groups or likes to can w/hot water bath. Electric. No stovetop needed. Call Beth 413-774-2820.

**Free treadmill.** Needs tune up. Call Peggy @ 774-5764 or email [nianticgirl@yahoo.com](mailto:nianticgirl@yahoo.com)

**Wood for Sale:** Maple & oak boards, rough cut 5/4" thick, minimum 8" wide, various lengths. Call Peggy @ 774-5764 or email [nianticgirl@yahoo.com](mailto:nianticgirl@yahoo.com)

**Leyden Life Delivery Volunteers Needed:** We are looking for help delivering our paper copies. If you would like to help in your neighborhood while walking your dog or just driving home, call Cornelia at 413-774-5146.

**Leyden Pottery Studio Offering Classes:** Call Rhonda @ 624-5175 or email [rhondawain@verizon.net](mailto:rhondawain@verizon.net)

**Potter's wheel classes:** Learn to use the pottery wheel to make dishes you can use. Learn to create, decorate & glaze pottery. Tuesday or Wednesday 7-9 pm. **Kids clay hand-building & wheel-throwing classes:** Tuesdays 4-5:30 pm. **Sunday afternoon one-day workshops:** \$50 includes instruction & materials. Call to discuss what you would like to make. Classes are \$175 for 6 classes, which do not have to be consecutive. This includes all supplies! Learn to make pottery in a friendly supportive environment.

**Erik's Handyman Service:** Let me help you with your "to do" list. Property maintenance, brush control, lawn mowing, roto-tilling, jobs & projects. If you could use some help, give me a call at 413-774-9948 and ask for Erik, or email to [erikshandy1@yahoo.com](mailto:erikshandy1@yahoo.com). Reasonable rates.

**Pet Care Services & Beyond:** Pet sitting, drop-in visits, and "doggy daycare." Serving Franklin County & Southern Vermont. Please contact Ruth Ayers via email at [ruth.a.ayers@gmail.com](mailto:ruth.a.ayers@gmail.com) or call 413-773-8325. Feel free to inquire about references & rates.

**Digitize Your Old Slides:** Your old 35mm slides scanned and digitized at 20¢ per slide. (\$20 minimum order). You will provide a blank SD card or thumb drive to which the scanned images will be saved. Call Jerry Levine at 624-5546.

**Massage Service:** Engage in your wellness & treat yourself at West Woods Massage in Greenfield. Whether you are looking for general relaxation or have a specific focus, I am here to support you. Call Abbi Pratt at 413-281-1755 or email [awestwood@massagetherapy.com](mailto:awestwood@massagetherapy.com)

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

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

**New in Town?** 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 - [amy.woodsprite@gmail.com](mailto:amy.woodsprite@gmail.com) or 774-6907. Please give your name, address & your phone number, if you wish to be included or specify non-published if you do not. Thank you, Amy

## UNCLASSIFIED ADS - THANKS FOR SUPPORTING LEYDEN FARMS!

**Angus Beef for Sale:** Locally raised grass-fed Angus beef. No hormones nor drugs used. Minimum order 10 lbs. Call Jeff Neipp at Castle Hill Farm, 624-5512.

**Boer Goat Meat:** Available at Frizzell Hill Farm. Goat is quite tasty, low in fat & cholesterol, and high in protein & iron. Give it a try! Visit [frizzellhillfarm.com](http://frizzellhillfarm.com) for information and price list.

**Ed's Sugar Shack:** Local maple syrup available in gallons, ½ gallons, quarts & pints. Call Ed & Carol Johnson at 773-7619, 72 South County Road. Member of Massachusetts Maple Producers Association.

**Maple Syrup:** 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.

**Natural Lamb:** Available from the Petersons at Orchard Valley Farm. No growth-enhancing hormones nor antibiotics. Usual cuts generally available. Special orders on request. Get your holiday orders in now! Call 624-5562 or email [ovbecky324@gmail.com](mailto:ovbecky324@gmail.com) Like us on Facebook at Orchard Valley Farm.

**Sweet Morning Farm:** It may be winter, but we still have Leyden-grown greens, root crops, eggs, pork & beef. All are available at the farm or the Greenfield Winter Farmers' Market. (Next market: Sat. 1/4/20 @ Four Corners School). You may sign up for our email list about available items or just stop by the farm. We always have eggs & meat, and usually have some Leyden-grown greens as well. Our farm accepts credit cards and ebt cards, but we must be here to process your card. Call or email if you have a special request or questions.

-All our animals are raised on pasture & organic feed, although we are not a certified organic farm.

-Our vegetables are organically grown as well, & we practice no-till methods to support soil health.

-PORK: We sell Pork Bundles, 20 pounds of the cuts you like. If you are interested, get in touch for details.

-2020 FARM SHARES will be available soon!

We wish you all the best for a joy-filled, healthy & peaceful 2020.

Rob Creamer and Laura Timmerman

413-773-8325

<https://www.facebook.com/SweetMorningFarm>

<http://sweet-morning-farm.blogspot.com/>

[sweetmorningfarm@gmail.com](mailto:sweetmorningfarm@gmail.com)

@sweetmorningfarm on IG



Snowbanks have narrowed the roads. Walkers beware that car traffic counts are up and poor visibility in the morning with snow and sun leads to accidents.

## Knitting Circle

Leyden knitters meet every Tuesday afternoon, 1- 3, at the Leyden Town Hall. We will also meet on Sunday, January 12 at 6:30 at the home of Laura Timmerman. (773-8325).

All are welcome to our knitting times ~ beginners, experts and other crafters. Is this the winter you learn to knit? Come visit. We will help you get started.

For information, contact Laura 773-8325, Peggy 774-5764, or Michele [manerelejo@gmail.com](mailto:manerelejo@gmail.com)

## Santa's visit to Leyden

