

Town of New Lebanon

www.townofnewlebanon.com

August 2018

A Letter from the Supervisor

I hope you are enjoying the summer! While it has been pretty hot, I will take this over the snow and cold any day! When I last wrote, we were dealing with widespread power outages in Town. Through the NYS Public Service Commission, we have been able to address some of the concerns with NYSEG's outages. On June 27th, AVANGRID (NYSEG's parent company) announced the development of their "Transforming Energy" plan – a comprehensive resiliency plan to address the impact severe storms have throughout their service areas. They anticipate investing \$2.5 billion over the next ten (10) years including \$500 million proposed for New York State to strengthen their grid. (Continued on Page 2)

There will be a FREE rabies clinic (donations are accepted) provided by the Columbia County DOH held at the New Lebanon Highway Garage at 14755 Route 22 on Tuesday, August 7th. Cats and ferrets are scheduled from 4-5pm and dogs are scheduled from 5-6pm. All dogs must be on a leash and cats and ferrets must be in carriers. Shots will be provided by Dr. Lisa Dietrich of the Nassau Vet Clinic.

Hunting Licenses

2018-19 hunting licenses go on sale in August (exact date to be determined by DEC) and can be purchased at the Town Clerk's Office. The Town Clerk's Office is open Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 9 am – 5 pm. The office hours are extended for hunting license sales and will be open from 9 am – 7 pm on Fridays from September 7th through October 12th AND on Friday, November 9th and Friday, November 16th for any last minute purchases before opening day of the regular hunting season.

Town Government



Supervisor – Colleen Teal
supervisor@townofnewlebanon.com
518-794-8889

Councilmembers:

Mark Baumli
mbaumli@townofnewlebanon.com

Kevin Smith, Sr.
ksmith@townofnewlebanon.com

Jesse Newton
jnewton@townofnewlebanon.com

Norman Rasmussen
nrasmussen@townofnewlebanon.com

Town Clerk – Tistrya Houghtling
townclerk@townofnewlebanon.com
518-794-8888

Did you know that the Town Clerk's office maintains an email database that receives all board meeting agendas, meeting minutes and other important documents and updates? If you would like to be added to this database please send request with your email address to townclerk@townofnewlebanon.com. Your email address will not be shared.

Regular Town Board meetings are held the 2nd Tuesday of each month at the New Lebanon Town Hall, 14755 State Route 22, New Lebanon, NY, 12125

Mailing Address:
Town of New Lebanon
PO Box 328
New Lebanon, NY, 12125

Letter from the Supervisor Continued

An important part of this plan is a more aggressive “ground to sky” tree trimming program – tree related interruptions are the main reason for outages. The plan also calls for a faster response to storm restoration and will include analyzing personnel requirements. Hopefully, these steps will help us to experience fewer outages and quicker restoration when an outage does occur.

I also want to update you on the Corkscrew Rail Trail and the property at 16 Lover’s Lane. The Town Board held a public hearing to see how the community felt about the County selling the property to the Corkscrew Rail Trail in a private sale instead of putting it up for bid for foreclosure. While most of the community that responded wanted to see the property sold to the rail trail, the Town Board recommended to the County that they put the property up for bid and the County took the board’s recommendation. However, the public support of the Corkscrew Rail Trail was substantial and it has helped them to move forward with expansion in the Town of New Lebanon. Rail trails are a great source of economic strength for a community bringing significant benefits to the entire community and I am excited about this development.

I am still working with the Town of Canaan, NYS DOT, and the Governor’s Office to get Route 22 repaved. Input from the residents to both DOT and the Governor’s Office would help with this quite a bit. While some maintenance has been done, it is still in very bad shape and I consider it a substantial safety hazard. To submit concerns to the Governor’s Office, you can submit online at <https://www.governor.ny.gov/content/governor-contact-form>; by telephone at 518-474-8390; or by mail to *The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor of New York State, NYS State Capitol Building, Albany, NY 12224*. NYS DOT, Region 8 can be contacted at 845-431-5750 or NYS DOT, Region 8, Eleanor Roosevelt State Office Building, 4 Burdett Boulevard, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603. If you suffered damage to your vehicle, you should contact NYS DOT at 845-437-3332.

Broadband is a difficult and complicated topic. Between the NYS Public Service Commission’s requirements for Charter/Spectrum and the Governor’s “Broadband for All” Program through the Broadband Program Office (BPO), we will soon be seeing a considerable change in broadband services in our area. The deadline for the Charter/Spectrum upgrade and the Consolidated Communications (formerly Fairpoint) build-out and upgrade is December 31st of this year but many residents will start seeing improved services offered before then. The second phase of the Charter/Spectrum program is a build-out/expansion into new areas. What that will look like for New Lebanon is unknown right now but the deadline for that phase is December 31, 2020. There are a couple issues right now. One is that the Governor’s “Broadband for All” program was truly meant to be “for all” however, this program is being overseen by the BPO. Charter/Spectrum is not part of this game BUT their plans/activities have a significant impact on the success of this game. This creates an extra challenge for the BPO in fulfilling their mission. Additionally, Charter/Spectrum is failing miserably with their customer service. Residents in our area trying to get assistance through Charter/Spectrum customer service end up in an endless cycle of transfers between Spectrum, Legacy Time Warner, Legacy Charter, and any combination of these without ever finding someone who can assist them. Residents clearly in the upgrade area are still being told they will not be getting services, residents that were “accidentally” shut off from service on June 5th are struggling to try to get service back and if they somehow manage to, there is a substantial cost involved (\$35.00 reactivation fee and \$35.00 monthly rate increases). Some are being charged for boxes although Charter had provided them for free for two years and under

Letter from the Supervisor Continued

Spectrum they will be provided free for a specified time frame. If you are experiencing any issues with Charter/Spectrum please let me know and it would be very helpful if you could file a complaint with the NYS Public Service Commission (PSC). I am working closely with the PSC but input from the customers will carry considerable weight as we try to resolve these issues. I will have attended an open house with Consolidated Communications by the time you are reading this and hopefully, I will have gained a better understanding of where they are in their project.

We have held several events for the NL200 and there are more to come. The Music in the Park program on August 19th will be combined with the Community Picnic and History Day. I hope you can attend. It is a fun way to spend a Sunday afternoon. There are two other projects linked to the NL200 that the Town Board is supporting. The Tilden Monument in the Cemetery of the Evergreens will have restoration work completed this summer. Also, the Town and the Lebanon Valley Historical Society have partnered to bring "safe" spring water back to the Indian Head Fountain. This project will also be completed this summer.

On June 23rd, we celebrated the signing of the King's District document of June 24, 1776 that effectively seceded the five towns of the King's District (New Lebanon, Canaan, New Concord, New Britain and Spencertown) from the English Crown and joined them with the Colonials in the War of Independence. We took this opportunity to enter into an intermunicipal agreement with the Towns of Austerlitz and Canaan as well as the Historical Societies within our municipalities to *endorse and encourage the collaborative and cooperative promotion and preservation of the historic, cultural and recreational resources within said towns; and development of strong relationships among those individuals and organization in the towns... that control, operate, create or develop these types of facilities, sites, events or activities.* We have a wealth of significant history in our town and I hope we can begin to utilize it to benefit our community.

We are still working on improving our park. Over the last two years, we expanded the playground and redid the tennis courts. This summer, we are redoing the basketball court, the pavilion floor, building a second maintenance shed, and we have planted several fruit and deciduous trees in the park. The fruit trees will not bear fruit for the first couple years but it will be wonderful in a few years to have fresh fruit growing in our park! We are also working on the slab for the cupola from the Union Free School building. This project is being done in collaboration with the Town Historian and the Lebanon Valley Historical Society.

You will also find a new addition to our newsletter – the "FOOD ACCESS CORNER." Access to fresh food and groceries in general is a fundamental problem for our community. To address that, we are developing the "Food Access Corner" for our newsletter. Here you will find a list of those places in New Lebanon where you can buy/get food and/or groceries. Please see the new "Food Access Corner" on pages 6 & 7. We tried to be as thorough as possible but please let me know if there are any you know of that are not on the list.

Enjoy the rest of your summer and, as always, thank you for the opportunity to serve as your Town Supervisor.

Warmest regards,

Colleen

Music In The Park

It is not too late to experience this wonderful community program.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS for two more concerts:

Sunday, August 19, 2018 from 1:00 to 5:30 PM

Sunday, September 9, 2018 from 1:00 to 5:00 PM

August 19th will be a big day, combining the Town's **Community Picnic**, some **NL200** events, and Music in the Park, with four bands with Lebanon Valley roots.

Performers:

August 19	The Echoes of New Lebanon	1:00 PM
	Sarah Kohrs and Mark Tuomenoksa	2:00 PM
	Allen Livermore and the Limb Shakers	3:30 PM
	Flat Broke	4:30 PM

September 17	The Berkshire Ukulele Band	1:00 PM
	David Reed Band	2:00 PM
	Tor Krautter and the East Creek Band	3:00 PM
	The Transmitters	4:00 PM

Food and Beverages:

August 20	New Lebanon Community Picnic
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September 17	The Soldato Family
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For additional information, including band descriptions, Facebook users should like and follow our page at <https://www.facebook.com/NewLebMusic/>.

There is still time to sign up to **sponsor** a concert or a band. For details, contact Doug Banker (see below).

Any community person or organization is welcome to set up a **table or kiosk** giving information about their enterprise or sell their wares. No politics, please and selling food or beverages is not permitted.

Contact Doug Banker to secure a spot.

Source: Doug Banker

518-794-9764 or charlesbanker@fairpoint.net.

Community Picnic at Shatford Park

The Town of New Lebanon is holding it's annual community picnic at Shatford Park on Sunday, August 19th from 1pm – 5:30pm. It is being held in collaboration with our August Music in the Park and an NL 200 History Day event. Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Eckhardt's corn and beverages will be provided. Feel free to bring a side dish to share. Come hungry as food will be ready to eat at 1pm when you arrive. We are looking for grills, large pots for corn and small gas burners to boil corn on. If you have any of these items that we can borrow, please contact Joe Ogilvie at 917-207-5214.

The community picnic is a wonderful opportunity to come together as neighbors, friends and community members and enjoy a day of good food, music and company! We will be drawing one lucky community member to win an I pad from all those who submitted a completed passport to the Town Clerk's office by the August 1st deadline (if you have a completed passport and forgot to hand it in, please get it to the Town Clerk ASAP).

History Day – NL 200 Event at the Community Picnic

As part of History Day at the community picnic, the LVHS will be presenting Roger the Jester, re-creating a 19th century entertainer who appeared in local fairs (and community picnics) in the area, for the enjoyment of all who are young at heart. A variety of historical books and other material will be available, some at no cost, along with a sample of the historical photos of New Lebanon that the Society recently received and printed from early 20th century glass negatives.

Our team of genealogists will be available to answer questions about tracing ancestry and discovering house histories, and the Town Historian will be on hand to talk about the past three centuries in the Lebanon Valley. Seeing this morning's request for cooking stuff, I assume food is not being provided by a single caterer this time, so the LVHS will be offering some old-time summer desserts and other treats.

High Speed Internet Service Is Coming

In the next few months, New Lebanon will have two providers for new high-speed internet service: Consolidated Communications and Charter / Spectrum. For any new communications service issues may arise with the quality of the services provided and / or the technical support to customers. To help New Lebanon residents deal with any such problems, the broadband committee is working on two tools that residents may use if needed.

First is a procedure to do speed testing to confirm that the internet service provider is delivering the level of service promised. This will be made available on the town website for download or printing.

The second tool will also be accessed via the town website and will give residents a means of reporting issues to the broadband committee for analysis and resolution. Information provided by the resident will help the committee and the providers work through any problems.

Watch for additional information about these tools in the next few weeks.

Repair of the Tilden Monument Begins Soon

The historic monument holding the remains of Samuel J. Tilden in the Cemetery of the Evergreens is in need of repair. The Board of Trustees of the Cemetery of the Evergreens, the Lebanon Valley Historical Society and the New Lebanon Town Board are jointly working on this project. An estimate of \$22,800 has been obtained from R. L. Moore Restorations, LLC, a well-respected preservation masonry firm. The scope of work was reviewed by Richard Pieper, an architectural conservator specializing in the documentation of historic architectural technology and the conservation of metals and masonry materials. Mr. Pieper is a resident of the Town of New Lebanon and donated his time for the review.

Mr. Moore has scheduled his work to begin in August. It should be completed in approximately eight weeks. Fundraising conducted over the past few years, with a special appeal begun in the fall of 2017, has raised over \$19,000 for this work. If you have already donated to the project, thank you. If not, there is still time to donate – contact cemetery trustee Doug Banker at 518-794-9764 or charlesbanker@fairpoint.net.

NL 200 Closing Event at the Speedway

On Saturday, September 1st from 4pm – 10pm we will be having a "New Lebanon Bicentennial Night" event at the Lebanon Valley Speedway to close out our NL 200 Celebrations.

MR. DIRT TRACK USA

Saturday, September 1, 2018

4:00pm-10:00pm

UPSTATE GM DEALERS & ABELE TRACTOR PRESENT

THE \$17,500 TO WIN MR. DIRT TRACK USA

100-LAP MODIFIED SUPER DIRTcar SERIES MODIFIED EVENT ALONG

WITH THE KING OF DIRT SPORTSMAN SERIES

(Purestock & Prostock Feature Only - No Small Block Modifieds)

For the closing event, thanks to Howard Commander's generosity, all New Lebanon residents will be admitted to the speedway free of charge. Please bring proof of residency with you. Non-residents will be required to purchase tickets.

We had a year of amazing events to celebrate the 200th Anniversary of our Town. A huge thank you to all the amazing volunteers who dedicated so much time and energy to make all of the wonderful events happen throughout the year to celebrate the Town's 200th birthday! And thank you to all the people who came out to the events to celebrate the history of our amazing town!

Volunteers Needed for Shatford Park

We are beginning work on a new maintenance shed for Shatford park and are in need of volunteers to form the pads and construct the shed. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Councilmember Kevin Smith at 518-653-3623.

Food Access Corner

Access to fresh food as well as groceries in general is a fundamental problem for our community. Here is a list of all the places in New Lebanon that you can get various grocery items.

Abode Farm, 5 Abode Road (CSA)

Email: AbodeCSA@gmail.com

Phone: 518-794-9776

Vegetable, herbs, flowers; large & small shares; sliding scale

Artemis Farm, Cemetery Road (CSA)

Email: ccreech@gmail.com

Grass fed Beef

Blueberry Hill Market Café, 515 US Route 20

7:00 AM – 4:00 PM Daily

Market

Charlie's Pantry, Immaculate Conception Church, 732 US Route 20

Tues: 3:00 – 6:00 PM; Sat: 10:30 AM – 1:00 PM (and by appointment)

Phone: 518-794-0544

Food Pantry

Climbing Tree Farm, 436 West Hill Road (CSA)

Email: Info@climbingtreefarm.com

Phone: 413-884-3446

Pork, Poultry

EZ Mart, 492 US Route 20

7:00 Am – 9:00 PM Daily

Convenience Market

Family Dollar, Valley Plaza, 500 US Route 20

8:00 AM – 9:00 PM Daily

Grocery

Hawks Roost Farm, 237 Wadsworth Hill Road, East Chatham

Email: hawksroostfarm@yahoo.com

Phone: 518-794-9136

Pork, Poultry, Beef, Lamb, Turkeys

Hilltown Country Smokehouse, 786 US Route 20

Thurs., Fri., Sat. 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Email: hilltowncountrysmokehouse@gmail.com

Phone: 518-794-4011

Meats, smoked cheese, jerky, and more.

New Leaf Farm, Crystal Spring Drive, Lebanon Springs (CSA)

Email: nynewleaffarm@gmail.com

Phone: 518-794-0084

Vegetables, Flowers, Fruit, Berries

New Lebanon Farmer's Market, Valley Plaza, 500 US Route 20

Sundays 10 AM – 2 PM, June through October

Email: newlebanonfarmersmarket@gmail.com

Vegetables, Fruit, Meats, and more

*Double Up Bucks, Market Match

Powell Ranch, 115 Schoolhouse Road, West Lebanon

Email: wespowell333@yahoo.com

Phone: 518-794-0225 Cell: 518-339-4008

Beef, Pork

Stewart's Shop, 479 US Route 20

4:30 AM – 12:30 AM Daily

Convenience Market

Windswept Farm, 36 Old Route 20

M-F 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM; Sat/Sun 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Phone: 518-378-7079 / 518-794-9264

Vegetables, Fruit

*Many of the above accept SNAP, EBT Cards, Senior Discounts, WIC, WIC-FMNP, Senior-FMNP, Fresh Connect

#CSA: Community-supported agriculture (CSA) is a system that connects the producer and consumers within the food system more closely by allowing the consumer to subscribe to the harvest of a certain farm or group of farms.

The Next KISS Program at the Town Hall

The Columbia County KISS Program is once again available to seniors in every town in Columbia County. The KISS Program, founded by Columbia County Clerk Holly Tanner, stands for Keeping the Identities of Seniors Safe. It was designed to protect the identities of our seniors while assisting them in the shredding of their sensitive materials. Seniors are encouraged to contact their local Town Hall for hours of operation and more information on the program. Justin Weaver, Columbia County Clerk's Records Services Manager, is overseeing the program and can also be contacted with any questions at 518-822-0143. The next KISS program runs at the NL Town Hall from September 10 – September 21. Please stop in the Town Clerk's office first before putting your papers in the shred bin.

HEAP Applications

HEAP applications usually begin to be accepted in late October or early November. Please keep an eye out for an announcement of the 2018-19 season deadline.

From the New Lebanon Farmers Market



Support LOCAL FARMS and SMALL BUSINESSES!

Come get fresh, healthy, and local groceries. Offering fresh fruits, vegetables, beef, pork, chicken, eggs, jams, pickles, ferments, cheese, baked goods, maple syrup, & more.

The New Lebanon Farmers Market is a place to build community, promote and exchange ideas, socialize, eat, drink, and...

🎵🎸🎹🎷 ENJOY FREE LIVE LOCAL MUSIC EVERY SUNDAY! 🎷🎸🎵

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USE FREE DOUBLE UP FOOD BUCKS FOR NEW YORK-GROWN FRUITS AND VEGGIES

UP TO \$20 A DAY

Have questions? DoubleUpNYS.com | 1-800-682-5016 | info@doubleupnys.com



From the New Lebanon Library

The Library is delighted to announce that we have received a generous grant from the Bank of Greene County. This gift will allow the Library to continue—and enhance—our many programs for our patrons.

The Library is also hosting a Theater Barn fundraiser and selling tickets to the dress rehearsal of “She Loves Me” on August 8th @ 7PM. All proceeds will benefit the New Lebanon Library and help expand its offerings to the community. Tickets are \$25 apiece and can be purchased at the library.

The Library has been hosting a showcase of fun programming in honor of this year’s Summer Reading program theme: Libraries Rock! With a mix of different events, we have been programs to suit all ages and interests.

Some special musical events for the summer reading program for the month of August include:

Jim the Spoonman on August 3rd @ 1:30PM—Bringing you the groove with the spoons!

MaryAnn and First take on August 5th @ 2PM—They can sing it all!

The Science Tellers on August 6th @ 1:30PM—Telling stories with science!

The Sound Explorers on August 8th @ 2PM—Learn about the world of sound with ordinary objects!

The Beeline Ramblers on August 10th @ 6:30PM--A husband/wife duo bringing in the folk music!

Annie Guthrie & Jane Doe on August 12th @ 2PM—The granddaughter of Woody Guthrie and her talented songwriter friend make a dynamic duo.

The Long Lost Radio Rounders on August 16th @ 6:30PM—2 Cowboys with classics and jokes!

The following events are planned for the next few months:

Monday Mornings (Starting in September) @ 10:30AM-Gentle Hatha Yoga

Monday evenings @ 5:45—Kripalu Yoga

Wednesday mornings @ 10:00: Small wonders and Pre-School Story hour with Miss

Anne.

Wednesday evenings on July 25th, August 22nd and September 26th @ 6:30: Open Mike Poetry night. For all the poets in the surrounding area, the New Lebanon Library is proud to host our monthly open mic poetry night. Bring your best works to share. There will be light refreshments for this event.

Ongoing: the first Friday of every month @ 6:30: Coffeehouse with Linda Worster.

These are just a few of the programs the library offers. To find out more go to the

New Lebanon Library web page at <http://newlebanonlibrary.org> and click on the calendar.

Backpack Program at the New Lebanon Elementary School

The backpack program is designed to meet the needs of hungry children on weekends when other food resources are not available. The program provides bags filled with food that is child-friendly, shelf-stable, and easily-consumed. Bags are packed each week by school staff and discreetly distributed to participating children every Friday afternoon. By supporting New Lebanon's Backpack Program, you help provide children in our community with six meals each weekend throughout the school year. Every little bit helps. Each week, the cost per bag for each student is \$6.10. Donate \$183 and support one child for an entire year of meals. The cost per year to serve 15 students is \$2,750. If you would like to donate to the backpack program, forms are available at the Town Clerk's office or can be emailed to you by reaching out to the Town Clerk at townclerk@townofnewlebanon.com.

Meeting Dates

Town Board meets the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00pm

Planning Board meets the third Wednesday of each month, as necessary at 7:30pm

Zoning Board of Appeals meets the first Tuesday of each month, as necessary at 7:00pm

Zoning Re-write Committee meets the fourth Tuesday of each month, as necessary at 6:30pm

Recreation Commission meets the third Tuesday of each month, as necessary at 6:30pm

Conservation Advisory Council meets the second Monday of each month, as necessary at 6:30pm – CAC meetings are held at Darrow School at the Samson Environmental Center

Lebanon Valley Senior Citizens meet the first and third Fridays each month at 1:00pm

All of the above meetings, unless otherwise specified, are held at the Town Hall, 14755 State Route 22, New Lebanon, NY, 12125.

Calendar of Events

Saturday, August 4th – Shaker Museum/Mount Lebanon event – all beef sausage making with Phoebe Young – contact Shaker Museum at 518-794-9100 to sign up – registration is required

Sunday, August 19th – Music in the Park, Community Picnic & History Day at Shatford Park from 1 – 5:30pm

Saturday, September 1st – NL 200 Event – *New Lebanon Bicentennial Night* at the Speedway from 4 – 10pm

Sunday, September 9th – Music in the Park at Shatford Park from 1 – 5pm

Monday, October 15th – Open House at Mountain Road School from 10am to 1pm – reservations suggested but not required – call 518-794-8520 to register