

# Town of New Lebanon

www.townofnewlebanon.com

May 2016

## A Letter from the Supervisor

First, I wish to thank the Town of New Lebanon for affording me the opportunity to serve as your Town Supervisor. Second, I want to apologize for the length of my letter but there is a lot I want to share with you. My first three months have been busy but exciting. I believe that New Lebanon has significant potential and nothing that I have experienced in these past three months has diminished that belief. If anything, it has been enhanced significantly as I learn more about our resources, residents, and overall opportunities. We have an incredible town nestled in a beautiful valley with magnificent vistas that we need to appreciate and protect; we have two major highways that meet in our town (Route 20 is the longest US Route in the (continued on page 2)

Want to get involved in your Town? Do you have a special interest or skill set that you would like to contribute to your Community? If so, please email [supervisor@townofnewlebanon.com](mailto:supervisor@townofnewlebanon.com).  
People getting involved grows a Community!

## New & Exciting Things at Shatford Park

### **“NEW” PLAYGROUND INSTALLATION AT SHATFORD – VOLUNTEERS NEEDED – WEEKEND OF MAY 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup>:**

In December 2015, we were provided an opportunity to acquire the playground equipment from the former Stephentown Elementary School for no cost if we removed it by December 31<sup>st</sup>. With the coordination and extensive work of Cynthia Creech, Recreation Commission member; and with the help of the Highway Department; Daren Kidney of D&J Excavating; Kent Pratt, Building Department; Cissy Hernandez, Building Department; Clayton Dobert; (continued on page 3)

## Town Government



Supervisor – Colleen Teal  
[supervisor@townofnewlebanon.com](mailto:supervisor@townofnewlebanon.com)  
518-794-8889

### Councilmembers:

Chuck Gerald  
[cgeraldi@townofnewlebanon.com](mailto:cgeraldi@townofnewlebanon.com)

Dan Evans  
[devans@townofnewlebanon.com](mailto:devans@townofnewlebanon.com)

Mark Baumli  
[mbaumli@townofnewlebanon.com](mailto:mbaumli@townofnewlebanon.com)

Kevin Smith, Sr.  
[ksmith@townofnewlebanon.com](mailto:ksmith@townofnewlebanon.com)

Town Clerk – Tistrya Houghtling  
[townclerk@townofnewlebanon.com](mailto: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](mailto:townclerk@townofnewlebanon.com). Your email address will not be shared.

Regular Town Board meetings are held the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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: Country and Route 22 is the longest north-south route and overall third longest route in the State); we have so much historic significance and our history shows that, as a community, we excel at being innovative; we have significant natural resources including the Spring in Lebanon Springs and the Shaker Swamp to name just two; and we have phenomenal resources among our residents and along with those resources, skills, and knowledge runs commitment to and passion for our town.

We may have become somewhat “stale” or “stagnant” but I know that we can change that. I compare it to putting your house on the market. You know you need to “freshen” it up if you want to sell it; well, we need to “freshen” up New Lebanon if we want to “sell” her to new commercial enterprises or potential residents. We need to spruce up our “curb appeal” and we are currently looking at zoning enforcement to clean-up our “look.” When both residents and non-residents comment negatively on how our Town looks as they drive through it, we will not be able to attract new businesses or new residents. New businesses and new residences are what will help alleviate the tax burden on our current businesses and residents; it will spread the tax liability amongst a larger pool reducing everyone’s obligation.

We also need to look at our infrastructure in the same way we would look at the well, septic, and overall structural soundness of our house. We are currently working on a County-wide initiative to expand broadband; without the technological infrastructure, we cannot attract new businesses nor the younger residents and this is a County wide issue, not just a New Lebanon issue. However, that can be a positive because as a County, we have a much louder voice than we do as a single rural community. Additionally, we have contacted NYS DOT and in mid-April, Town Board members and I will be meeting with them to discuss our commercial/industrial districts and how we can look to business and economic development along Routes 20 and 22 working in cooperation with DOT in a manner that will allow commercial expansion and not be inhibited by DOT permitting and regulatory requirements.

Finally, we need to revive or boost our community pride and show our community as vibrant and involved. I believe that it takes a community to make a community. Many of you have stopped in to see me to talk about ideas you have or to express an interest in participating in some of the events and programs we have planned or started. I welcome input from all of you. I want to know what you are passionate about and how that can play into the “revitalization of New Lebanon.”

We have a number of town sponsored events planned for this summer. We invite you to participate in these and ask you to consider helping with them also. You will find additional information on each of these events later in this newsletter:

1. New Playground installation at Shatford Park – Saturday & Sunday, May 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> (rain date May 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup>); volunteers needed to reassemble and install the playground equipment;
2. Town Clean-up Day – Saturday, June 18<sup>th</sup>;
3. Playground “Ribbon Cutting” Day at the Park – Sunday, June 12<sup>th</sup> – a Community Day at the Park with the new playground equipment, a roast pig, music, and more;
4. Community Picnic – our 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Community Picnic will be Saturday, July 30<sup>th</sup>; and
5. Uke & Brew Festival – Sunday, August 28<sup>th</sup> – Ukulele playing and locally brewed beer available.

Mixed in with all of this are a few other items we are working on. We are going to be repairing the tennis courts and plan to get this done this spring/summer. Our courts are a valuable asset in our park and we

need to do our best to keep them. We are also looking at solar programs that will provide opportunities for solar at the town's facilities as a way to save money and potentially as a revenue source. In 2018, we will be celebrating the two-hundred-year anniversary of our incorporation as the "Town of New Lebanon" and we are in the beginning stages of planning celebration activities. The Town Board and New Lebanon Junior Senior High School have collaborated on a program for the Senior Class to replace the Senior Sidewalk project; this program will provide the Senior Class with a picnic table to "decorate" and use for their senior year, after which it will be returned to the Town Park. The tables will have plaques for the graduating class that decorated it. The Senior Class will also participate in an annual park clean-up day as part of this program.

There are several new committees we are working on developing. The two we are starting with are a Youth Committee and a Broadband Committee. Please see more information in this newsletter about both of these committees.

As you can see, there is a lot going on and there is more to come. I welcome and encourage anyone that wants to get involved (whether it be for two hours a year, two hours a week, or anything in between) to reach out to me. I am at the office Monday through Friday from 9:00 to 5:00 unless I am in a meeting; my office phone number is 794-8889 and my email is [supervisor@townofnewlebanon.com](mailto:supervisor@townofnewlebanon.com). With all of us working together, we will be able to accomplish so much more. It takes a community to make a community.

Warmest regards,

*Colleen*

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**New & Exciting Things at Shatford Park Continued:** Kevin Smith, Sr., Town Board Member; Kevin Smith, Jr.; and Colleen Teal, Town Supervisor; we disassembled and moved approximately ten pieces of playground equipment for a total cost of approximately \$1,900. We are now ready to install the equipment at our playground in Shatford Park. We do have volunteers with equipment to dig holes but we will need to mix and pour cement, reassemble the equipment, and lay down chips. Anyone interested in volunteering on May 14<sup>th</sup> from 10 am – 4 pm and 15<sup>th</sup> from 11 am – 3 pm (rain date of May 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> - same times) to help should contact the Town Supervisor via email at [supervisor@townofnewlebanon.com](mailto:supervisor@townofnewlebanon.com); or telephone – office: 794-8889 or cell: 518-956-2184. You do not have to volunteer for the whole weekend or even for a whole day. We will take whatever help you are able to provide. Thank you!

The Tennis Courts are being reconstructed! The Town Board passed a vote at the April meeting to fully reconstruct the Tennis Courts at Shatford Park. We are in the process of setting up dates for the reconstruction. The courts will be closed for a couple of weeks while reconstruction is underway, dates to be determined. We will post on the Town website as well as send out an email blast when we know the dates that the courts will be closed. If you would like to be added to our email blasts for board meeting agendas, meeting minutes and other important documents and updates (such as when the tennis courts will be closed), please send a request with your email address to [townclerk@townofnewlebanon.com](mailto:townclerk@townofnewlebanon.com).

## **PLAYGROUND “RIBBON CUTTING” & COMMUNITY DAY AT SHATFORD PARK:**

On Sunday, June 12<sup>th</sup> from 12 noon to 6 pm, we will be having a Community Day at the Park. We will start with a “ribbon cutting” for the new playground, there will be music and other entertainment, as well as a pig roast. If you have a special talent that you would like to share, we are looking for volunteers to provide entertainment. We are also looking for participation from all of the community – residents, businesses, organizations, and etcetera. For more information, please contact Tistrya Houghtling at [townclerk@townofnewlebanon.com](mailto:townclerk@townofnewlebanon.com) or 794-8888.

## **5<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL COMMUNITY PICNIC SPONSORED BY THE RECREATION COMMISSION:**

The New Lebanon Recreation Commission will be sponsoring its 5<sup>th</sup> annual Community Picnic on Saturday, July 30<sup>th</sup> from 12 noon – 3 pm at The Shatford Park Pavilion. There will be a presentation by Rhonda’s Reptiles and live entertainment. Hot dogs, hamburgers, corn, watermelon, chips and drinks will be provided. Feel free to bring a side dish to share. Hope you can make it!

## **UKE & BREW FESTIVAL:**

The Recreation Commission will be sponsoring a Ukulele & Local Brew Festival on Sunday, August 28<sup>th</sup> from 1 pm – 5 pm. This all ages event will feature music by The Ukeville Stringband and more bands to be announced. It will feature locally crafted beer, delicious food and craft vendors. This event will be held rain or shine. Stay tuned for more details in the next edition of the newsletter.

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## New Lebanon Broadband Committee

The Town is looking to create a broadband advisory committee to work on bringing broadband service to all the businesses and residents of New Lebanon. We are looking for residents with experience with broadband technology and terminology, as well as residents with a basic understanding and a willingness to get involved. Anyone interested in serving on this committee can send a letter/email expressing your interest to [supervisor@townofnewlebanon.com](mailto:supervisor@townofnewlebanon.com) or Supervisor, PO Box 328, New Lebanon, NY, 12125. We are looking at the solution of the broadband issue as a county-wide issue and there are a number of things going on simultaneously. The Chair of the New Lebanon Broadband Committee will also be a liaison to a County-wide broadband steering committee that is in the process of being developed. The County-wide committee will provide an avenue to have all the towns working together to accomplish the expansion of broadband throughout the county, working with one voice that will be larger and louder. The key component to the success of the county-wide committee (and the Town of New Lebanon) will be the commitment of each town to stay involved until the entire county is successful in this project.

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## Youth Committee

The Youth Committee will be a sub-committee of the Recreation Commission and will be comprised of high school students with an adult facilitator. The objective will be to have the students guide us in what programs and events they would like to see the town provide and then have the Recreation Commission help the Youth Committee to get those programs and events implemented. For more information or to express interest in being on this committee, students can email the Town Supervisor at [supervisor@townofnewlebanon.com](mailto:supervisor@townofnewlebanon.com).

## Town Clean Up Day

The Town of New Lebanon will be holding its 3<sup>rd</sup> annual town clean-up day on Saturday, June 18<sup>th</sup> from 8am – 2pm. Town clean-up day is a one day event held by the Town for its residents to have access, at no charge (food donations in lieu of fee), to trash dumpsters also known as roll-offs. The roll-offs (dumpsters) are set up in the Town Hall parking lot in the space between the Highway Garage and the basketball courts. This is the easterly side of the Highway Garage. In advance of town clean-up day you must obtain a punch card from the Town Clerk's Office or the Building Department at the Town Hall. One punch card per household allows two trips in any vehicle (10 foot max for truck or trailer) and up to four tires. When obtaining your punch card we will ask for proof of residency (i.e., driver's license, utility bill) and your non-perishable food donation to Charlie's Pantry.

When you load your trash onto your vehicle be mindful that the following items need to be separated out and it would be most beneficial if they were accessible first: tires, metal, Freon appliances, and car batteries. We cannot accept electronics, household kitchen waste garbage, yard debris or hazardous waste. Provided that we have enough volunteers, there is a possibility that someone may be able to assist residents who may need help with large or heavy items or need a truck. Simply call Kent Pratt at 794-8884 (or cell 518- 755-5165) well in advance to schedule and coordinate assistance as these special pick-ups must occur a day or two before the event is scheduled.

When you pull into the parking lot someone will place a number on your windshield and ask you to temporarily park your vehicle in a regular Town Hall demarcated parking spot until your number is called. This is done so that a line does not form and extend out onto Route 22 or Old Post Road. When your number is called you will then pull your vehicle into the space between the Highway Garage and the basketball court where the dumpsters are set up. Volunteers will then help you unload. Specific dumpsters will be labeled for specific materials (i.e., Batteries, Tires, Freon, scrap metal and General). As you unload your vehicle into the appropriate dumpsters you will advance your vehicle forward toward the back of the highway garage and exit on the path at the westerly side of the Highway Garage and continue out to the main exit onto Route 22.

For more information, including a detailed list of what is and is not accepted, please visit our website at <http://www.townofnewlebanon.com/town-clean-up-day-faq/> or call the building department at 794-8884.

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## From the Conservation Advisory Council

As a compliment to the New Lebanon Open Space Inventory completed May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2014 the CAC is beginning to work on the Town's first Natural Resources Conservation Plan. The initial segment of this project consists of QGIS mapping of ancient forest patches and water resources. Many previously unmapped intermittent streams, woodland pools and wetlands have been discovered and plotted. The CAC is hopeful that New Lebanon landowners will be willing to allow access to their property for on-site visits to verify findings. There are numerous extraordinary natural resources in New Lebanon and the CAC will work with and for residents to record them for future generations.

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## Defensive Driving Course Offered

Presented by Empire Safety on Saturday, July 16<sup>th</sup> from 9am – 3pm at the New Lebanon Town Hall, 14755 State Route 22, New Lebanon, NY, 12125. To sign up contact Viktor Bujanow at 518-784-5009 or [vbujanow@fairpoint.net](mailto:vbujanow@fairpoint.net).

## Grocery Delivery to Your Door

Did you know that New Lebanon residents can receive their groceries delivered to their door from Shop Rite? Just go to [www.shoprite.com](http://www.shoprite.com) and in the shop online box click order groceries and enter your zip code and check box for online grocery delivery. Then you just do your grocery selection online and they collect all your items (including produce, deli, dairy and EVERYTHING that you can purchase in the store) and deliver them to your door. The fee is \$12.90 which includes them doing the shopping for you and the delivery fees.

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## Free Rabies Clinic at the Town Highway Garage

The Columbia County Department of Health is offering a free rabies clinic for dogs, cats and ferrets at least 3 months of age or older. It will be held on Tuesday, August 9<sup>th</sup> at the New Lebanon Highway Garage, 14755 State Route 22. Cats and ferrets will be from 4 pm – 5 pm and dogs will be from 5 pm – 6 pm. All dogs must be on a leash and cats & ferrets must be in carriers. Shots will be administered by Dr. Lisa Dietrich from the Nassau Vet Clinic. Donations are accepted.

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## 2016 Hunting & Fishing Licenses

Fishing Licenses can be purchased at any time of year at the Town Clerk's Office and are good for 1 year from date of purchase. Spring Turkey season runs from May 1<sup>st</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> and Turkey licenses can be purchased at the Town Clerk's Office for this year's season. 2016-17 Hunting licenses go on sale in August (exact date to be determined and will be posted in the next newsletter) 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 and office hours will be extended for fall hunting license sales. Stay tuned for the next newsletter coming out in the beginning of August for our exact extended hours.

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## 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 7:30pm

Zoning Re-write Committee meets the fourth Tuesday of each month, as necessary at 6:00pm

Recreation Commission meets the third Tuesday of each month, as necessary at 7:00pm

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

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

If you are interested in serving on any of the various Boards and Commissions, please contact the Town Clerk at [townclerk@townofnewlebanon.com](mailto:townclerk@townofnewlebanon.com) to see if there are any openings.

## For Our Seniors

### **LEBANON VALLEY SENIOR CITIZENS:**

The Lebanon Valley Senior Citizens meet the first and third Friday of each month with a few exceptions. The meetings are held at 1pm in the New Lebanon Town Hall meeting room, 14755 State Route 22. Anyone 55 years of age is eligible to join. If only one member of a couple is 55, both are eligible to join. Come check them out – you'll meet new friends, enjoy interesting speakers, great trips and refreshments at each meeting. Yearly dues are \$10. For more information please contact Pat Burnell at 794-7084.

Did you know that our website has a page named Lebanon Valley Senior Citizens at <http://www.townofnewlebanon.com/lebanon-valley-senior-citizens/> where you can find a schedule of all their meetings and special trips. You will also find contact information for programs and organizations for Seniors in Columbia and Rensselaer County.

### **FREE SERVICES OFFERED TO SENIORS IN OUR COMMUNITY:**

1. Catholic Charities is at the meeting hall of the Catholic Church located at 732 US-20, New Lebanon, NY 12125 every third Wed. from 10am – 2pm. They can help you prepare and submit your paperwork to apply for programs that are available to senior citizens in our community.
2. Transportation is available to help senior citizens in our community get to and from grocery shopping, doctor's appointments, other appointments, etc.
  - Contact Dan Lynch at 1-646-522-9108 for grocery shopping and doctor's appointments – he will drive you to Pittsfield, Albany, Hudson or Chatham.
  - Contact Consortium Hudson at 518-828-8952 and speak to Jim Funk. They are very busy, so please call as far in advance as possible as soon as your appointments are booked.
3. Phyllis Hulbert is available to assist you with food stamps; meals on wheels; dealing with insurance companies for medicines; contacting visiting nurses to see if you qualify for services; elder abuse services; contacting Columbia County office for the aging; filling out medicare or medicaid forms; setting up hospice care; answer any questions you may have about any of the programs available. She can come to your home and answer questions and assist you in any way possible. Contact Phyllis at 518-794-7995.

### **MEALS ON WHEELS:**

Home Delivered Meals, popularly referred to as Meals on Wheels, are for those who are 60 years or older, essentially homebound and unable to prepare their own main meal of the day. The meals are designed to provide one-third of the USDA Recommended Daily Intake of nutrients. These meals are approved by a Registered Dietician specializing in the nutritional needs of older adults. Modified menus are available for participants with doctor-ce1iified restrictions with regards to concentrated sweets. Religious substitutions are also available. Hot meals are delivered Monday through Friday between 11:00am and 12:30pm. The meal generally consists of a hot entree, vegetable, fresh bread, fruit and milk. Persons receiving a hot meal may also receive frozen weekend meals if needed. Frozen meals can be provided for weekly delive1y and consist of five to seven planned dinners. These include, but are not limited to, a frozen entree, fresh bread, fruit and milk. Participants need to have a working refrigerator or freezer and some type of oven to heat the entree (a toaster oven or microwave can be used). To sign up please contact the Office for the Aging at 518-828-4258.

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE: June 20<sup>th</sup>**

**June 27<sup>th</sup> - August 19<sup>th</sup>**

**8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday – Friday**

**at Shatford Park Pavilion, Old Post Road, New Lebanon, NY**

Open to: Children registered for Kindergarten through and including age 13

**Registration Fees:**

**Fees are determined by residency and the number of children per family participating in the program:**

**Resident (Town & County Taxes Paid to Town of New Lebanon):**

\$300/1 child    \$450/2 children    \$550/3 children    \$625/4 or more children

**Local Non-Resident (Children attend NLCSD but Town & County Taxes Paid to an abutting Town):**

\$500/1 child    \$750/2 children    \$1,000/3 children    \$1,200/4 or more children

**Non-Resident (Children do not attend NLCSD and Town & County Taxes are not paid to Town of New Lebanon):**

\$1,000 per child

There are additional fees for field trips and swim lessons. Both are optional.

*Activities*

- |                  |                       |                          |            |          |
|------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|------------|----------|
| Crafts           | Board games           | Cards                    | Puzzles    | Legos    |
| Tennis           | Basketball            | Soccer                   | Playground | Bike Day |
| Softball         | Volleyball            | Ping Pong                | Kickball   | Art      |
| Football         | Golf                  |                          |            |          |
| Capture the Flag | On-Site Presentations | Team Building Activities |            |          |

**Field Trips:**

Great Escape \*    Zoom Flume    \* Bowling

For more information, contact Michelle Bienes, Camp Director @ 794-7774 or 788-1150.

Registration Packets are available at the Town Clerk’s office at the Town Hall or online at:  
<http://www.townofnewlebanon.com/summer-youth-program-registration-forms-now-available/>

## Calendar of Events

May 14<sup>th</sup> from 10am – 4pm & 15<sup>th</sup> from 11am – 3pm – Shatford Park New Playground Installation

May 21<sup>st</sup> from 10am - 4pm & 22<sup>nd</sup> from 11am - 3pm – Rain date for New Playground Installation

June 12<sup>th</sup> from 12 noon – 6pm – Playground Ribbon Cutting & Community Day

June 18<sup>th</sup> from 8am – 2pm – Town Clean Up Day

July 16<sup>th</sup> from 9am – 3pm – Defensive Driving Course

July 30<sup>th</sup> from 12 noon – 3pm – Community Picnic

August 9<sup>th</sup> from 4pm – 6pm – Free Rabies Clinic for Cats, Dogs & Ferrets

August 28<sup>th</sup> from 1pm – 5pm – Uke & Brew Festival