# A Letter from the Supervisor

# **Town Government**

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Supervisor – Colleen Teal

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518-794-8889

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Chuck Geraldi

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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](mailto: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

Town of New Lebanon

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| www.townofnewlebanon.com | **August 2017** |  | Volume 1 Issue 1 |

I hope everyone is enjoying the summer. With so many activities going on, I am keeping this letter very short. I do want to remind all of our community members that there are many ways you can get involved. We always welcome your participation and input. If there is a topic or an interest that you are passionate about and you want to share that passion, please feel free to reach out to me, any of the Town Board members, or the Town Clerk. We can always find a place for you that will fit with your interests and passions. Have a safe and happy summer!

Warmest regards,

Colleen

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 8th. 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

2017-18 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 8th through October 13th AND on Friday, November 17th for any last minute purchases before opening day of the regular hunting season.

Music in The Park

The June and July “Music in the Park” concerts in the Shatford Park pavilion are behind us and were extremely successful. It is not too late to experience this wonderful community program.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS** for two more concerts:

Sunday, August 20, 2017 from 1:30 to 4:30 PM

Sunday, September 17, 2017 from 1:30 to 6:00 PM

**Performers:**

**August 20th**

August 2 The Echoes of New Lebanon 1:30 PM  
Housatonic Philharmonic 2:30 PM  
Phil N the Void 3:30 PM

Sept **September 17th**

The Berkshire Ukulele Band 1:30 PM  
Sarah Kohrs and Mark Tuomenoksa 2:10 PM  
Robin O’Herin with Andy Taylor 3:10 PM  
The Picky Bees 4:10 PM  
Adam Peterson’s Five Gun Draw 5:10 PM

**Food and Beverages:**

August 20 M&M’s Tap and Tavern

September 17 The Backwater Grille (and perhaps one other)

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 New Lebanon Town Clerk Tistrya Houghtling at 518-794-8888 or email [townclerk@townofnewlebanon.com](mailto:townclerk@townofnewlebanon.com). Any community person or organization wishing to place a **table or kiosk** giving information about their enterprise is welcome. No merchandise may be sold and no politics, please. Contact Doug Banker to secure a spot at 518-794-9764 or charlesbanker@fairpoint.net.

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**The KISS Program**

The Columbia County KISS Program will once again become available to seniors in New Lebanon from October 9 through October 27. The KISS Program 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. Much of what we toss in the trash should actually be shredded for our own safety. This is a completely free program in which seniors are able to dispose of their sensitive documents. Seniors can bring their sensitive materials (old credit card receipts, bank statements, tax records..etc) to the New Lebanon Town Hall and place them in a locked 64 gallon container. The container is kept secure until Certified Document Security removes the container and brings it to their facility in New Lebanon for shredding. Any questions, please contact the Town Clerk’s office at 518-794-8888.

Update From the Conservation Advisory Council

The New Lebanon Conservation Advisory Council hosted 25 members of the public at Town Hall on June 28 to share a draft Natural Resources Conservation Plan (NRCP), a first for the town. Biologist Gretchen Stevens of Hudsonia, our consultant and author of the draft, presented in-depth information on the town’s natural resources to a receptive and engaged audience. Many thanks to those who participated.

The draft NRCP is posted on the town’s web site for review. You will find the CAC link under “Boards and Commissions” on the home page’s masthead. Due to its length, the document is posted in five parts, with integrated maps and tables and voluminous appendices. Please note that the posted document is a work in progress. We welcome all feedback. The best method for submitting recommendations would be to leave a note in the CAC’s mail slot located in the copying room on the first floor of Town Hall. We expect that Gretchen Stevens will submit a next-to-final draft of the NRCP in late August.

A reminder as well that we encourage town residents to submit their own photographs of particular natural features in town, especially of fauna and flora. All photographs will be attributed in the final document, which would be considerably strengthened by contributions from residents who know the town best. Again, the CAC mail slot at Town Hall would be the best method for submitting photographs. Many thanks in advance for your interest and participation.

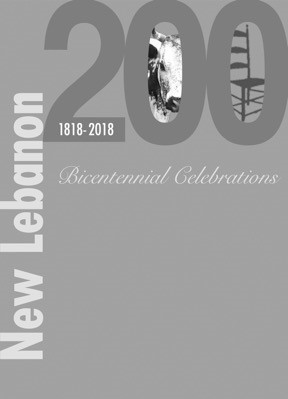
*(Courtesy Lebanon Valley Historical Society archives)*

C:\Users\David\OneDrive\Pictures\Documents\New Lebanon historic landscapes\1976-20-1-6_LebanonValley.tif

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**The Free Store**

The free store is now up and running and has some wonderful items waiting for you! It is open Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 9am – 5pm through the Town Clerk’s Office. It is open to ALL residents of New Lebanon to come and take whatever you can use for FREE! Please come check out what the free store has to offer you. A huge thank you to the volunteers that have worked hard to organize and sort all the donations and to all who have donated items. Please come help yourself to all of the amazing stuff!

From the NL 200

Historic New Lebanon

It’s Our Anniversary (1818-2018)

Let’s Celebrate!!

**SAVE THE DATE**

April 21, 2018

Opening Ceremony

Programs and Events Throughout the Day

Dinner Dance

If you wish to volunteer to help make New Lebanon’s 200th anniversary a success, or help sponsor one of the many activities and events that will occur throughout 2018, please send an email to [growthevalley@gmail.com](mailto:growthevalley@gmail.com).

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From the Building Department

**Important Message from Code Enforcement:** These blow up pools may seem inexpensive to purchase but a permit is required. These pools must meet the fencing and alarm requirements. Please check with the Building Department for more information before you purchase or set one up.



Did you know that you may need permits for things that you didn’t think you needed a permit for? Please contact our CEO/ZEO Cissy Hernandez before starting any project to find out what is required. You can also visit the building department website at http://www.townofnewlebanon.com/town-offices/buildingplanningzoning-department/

We are pleased to announce that at their July 11, 2017 meeting the Town Board appointed Mr. Jeff Hattat as the new Deputy Code/Zoning Enforcement Officer.  His many years of construction experience coupled with over 20 years serving as a Zoning Board of Appeals member, make Jeff an excellent candidate for this position and the Town is truly fortunate to have him on board as our Deputy CEO/ZEO.   While it is true that we will be losing an excellent ZBA member, at the same time, we are gaining a wealth of knowledge and experience in areas that pair very well with the department of Code/Zoning Enforcement.  Jeff will begin his official Code Enforcement Certification training this fall and in the meantime he has full Code Enforcement authority.  Welcome aboard Jeff!!

This year’s clean-up day went very smoothly with the change in where vehicles enter and wait to dump their stuff. A huge thank you to all the volunteers that helped it run so smoothly! Next year we are looking to hold the Town Clean-Up Day earlier in the year with May 5th, 2018 being held as a tentative date. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

For Our Seniors

On June 10th the Lebanon Valley Seniors held their 3rd annual tag sale/bake sale/silent auction at the Immaculate Conception Hall to benefit Charlie’s Pantry and the school back pack program. Last year they were able to present the pantry and back pack program with $657 each. This year they presented checks to Charlie’s Pantry and the school back pack program for $815.40 each which is $316.80 more than last year!

Their success is due to the support and generosity of area businesses, the people who attended the sale, use of the hall and the hard work of their members. $0 went to the Lebanon Valley Seniors and they got great satisfactions out of helping two wonderful organizations in this Town! Thank you to everyone for making it a huge success!

The Lebanon Valley Seniors have a bus trip to Saratoga for your choice of the racetrack or racino on August 23rd. Dinner will be at the Golden Corral. For more information call Pat Burnell at 518-794-7084.

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From the US Department of Agriculture

The **2017 Census of Agriculture** forms will be mailed in **December 2017**. The purpose of this census is to **count all US farms**, ranches, farm operators, etc.  **New farmers** or those who have not previously received a farm survey are **encouraged to sign up to receive** the questionnaire.

NASS recently issued this press release to kick off the Ag Census promotion.  We are interested in getting the word out about the Ag Census so we can measure all aspects of New York agriculture in the results.  The Ag Census results are relied upon heavily by those who serve farmers and rural communities.

View the press release at <https://www.agcensus.usda.gov/Newsroom/2017/03_15_2017.php>

NASS is encouraging new farmers to sign up to be counted.  We’re asking any farm operator who thinks they may not already be on our list or who has not previously received an agricultural survey or census questionnaire from us to go to our website and sign up to get a Census of Agriculture questionnaire.   We’re asking them to click the “Make Sure You Are Counted” button at this Ag Census website.

View the Ag Census Website at <https://www.agcensus.usda.gov/>

From the New Lebanon Library

The trustees, staff, and patrons of the New Lebanon Library mourn the death of our much-loved Director, Jeanne Bogino. Jeannie was a visionary leader and a remarkable person. She believed that the sole purpose of a public library like ours is to serve the community by responding to the needs and interests of every single patron, regardless of their age or circumstances. She aimed for excellence and worked tirelessly to offer engaging programs, up-to-date materials, and high-quality digital equipment and education. At the same time, she was never too busy to chat with patrons, many of whom stopped by the Library simply for the pleasure of a visit with Jeannie. Curious, irreverent, warm, fun-loving, adventurous, and friendly, Jeannie made sure that the Library lived up to its motto: The Heart of New Lebanon. We will all miss her.

There will be a community celebration of Jeannie’s life on Saturday, August 26, 3:30-5 pm, in the meeting room of The Church of Our Savior (the beautiful stone church at 14660 State Rte. 22, New Lebanon). This will be an occasion to share recollections and to listen to some of the music that Jeannie enjoyed and brought to the Library. Everyone in our community is invited.

Donations to the Library in Jeannie’s memory will be used to fulfill one of Jeannie’s most cherished dreams: the creation of a cosy Young Adult Room, to be called “Jeannie’s Room.” As many of you know, Jeannie took a special interest in teenagers and had a gift for winning their trust and friendship. She always wished that the Library had a small room just for them. It will be some consolation to see her dream realized.

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From the Lebanon Valley Historical Society

The Lebanon Valley Historical Society has moved its weekend local history program outdoors for the summer.  A table and display on a local historical theme will be featured on the second Sunday of every month at the Farmers' Market (across from Blueberry Hill from 10am – 2pm) through September. The Society will also be sponsoring a rescue of the Hand cemetery in West Lebanon and another session to clean and inventory the Cypress Hill section of the Cemetery of the Evergreens.

We are also looking for photos to be scanned and included in the upcoming revised historical album to be available as part of the 200th New Lebanon anniversary celebration.  Anyone who would be willing to share images of  people, places or events that are part of our history, including recent history, is asked to please contact the LVHS on line at info@lebanonvalleyhistorical society.org or through the Town Clerk's office.

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The Abode is Busy!

Summer is in full swing and the Abode, an Eco-Sufi Village, inhabiting Mount Lebanon’s historic South Family Shaker Village, is verdant and alive.  Green is everywhere and life is bustling; we have bees, chickens, and lots of vegetables on the farm; our staff has grown to accommodate thousands of visitors and our residential community is deepening - so much going on!

The Abode recently said farewell to its parent organization in their relocation to Richmond, Virginia, which opens the Abode to immense possibilities and an exciting future. We continue to have weekly classes on Tuesday and Thursday at 7pm with dinner at 6pm from our 1831 Shaker Kitchen.  Weekly Universal Worship services occur Sunday at 11am in Quddus, our Meditation Hall, followed by 12:30pm brunch.

Our monthly calendar ([www.theabode.org/calendar](http://www.theabode.org/calendar)) continues with:

Village Visits (Abode immersion weekends) - July 28-30, August 25-27, September 22-24, October 27-29 (registration required)

New Moon Women’s Circles - 7pm on August 20, September 20, October 18

and Farm Classes - 4pm on August 17, September 14, October 12, November 16

Larger event programs that we hope you join us for are a Qawwali (Sufi Music) concert with returning group, Fanna-fi-Allah, on September 14, Rosh Hashanah on September 21, Equinox and Music weekend with Randy Weston and various healers September 22-24, and Thanksgiving Benefit Banquet on November 23.  More details will be posted at [www.theabode.org/programs](http://www.theabode.org/programs).

Many more exciting activities will be occurring at the Abode, many more friends will be joining us up the hill during the rest of the season, and hopefully many more neighborly connections will be made in the days, weeks, and months to come!

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From Mountain Road School

Mountain Road School has room for your child.  If you have been thinking about a change for your family, come see what sets Mt Road apart.  Small, multiage classrooms, a focus on the natural world, individualized curricula, with a heartfelt and compassionate understanding of community.  Students thrive at Mt Road School and lay the foundation for lifelong learning. Most of all, they love their school. Come see what it's all about. Call to arrange a tour [518.794.8520](tel:(518)%20794-8520) or email [director@mountainroadschool.org](mailto:director@mountainroadschool.org).  Learn more at [www.mountainroadschool.org](http://www.mountainroadschool.org).

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From The New Lebanon Farmer’s Market

The New Lebanon Farmers Market is on Sundays from 10am – 2pm and runs from June thru October.

NEW LOCATION is in the center of downtown New Lebanon, on ROUTE 20/22, across from Blueberry Hill.

The market is a community gathering place to access locally grown and produced food, goods, education, art, and entertainment. This year the market proudly welcomes SNAP/EBT, FMNP, WIC, Senior Coupons, and Credit Card purchases! Live music and hot/prepared food available every week!

New vendors, farmers, artisans, and musicians can apply by emailing [newlebanonfarmersmarket@gmail.com](mailto:newlebanonfarmersmarket@gmail.com). Interested community groups, educators, and volunteers are encouraged to contact the market. There is opportunity for free tabling, workshops, and skill shares. Check out the NLFM website to stay up to date:<https://www.facebook.com/newlebanonfarmersmarket/>

Come have fun and support your locals!

From Shaker Museum І Mount Lebanon

**August Programs & Events**

****Make a Difference in 2017!** *Call for Volunteers*

**Our volunteers are tremendously valuable to us.**Your time and efforts directly support our mission of preserving the history of the American Shakers. We have numerous opportunities available for those looking to donate their time to Shaker Museum | Mount Lebanon. Below are just a few examples of the diverse and rewarding opportunities available.

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| **Annual Benefit Gala\***   * Check In Staff * Silent Auction Assistants * Setup/Tear Down Crew * More... | Site Work   * Landscape preparation * Site cleanup * Grounds labor tasks | Administrative   * Preparation of program inserts for Annual Gala * Post-event mailings | Collections Cleanup   * Aid in the cleaning of casting patterns. * Work directly with the curatorial team on various collections-related projects. |

**Landing Day Celebration**

*August 6 from 11-1pm at the historic site*

Free tours at the historic site plus product demonstrations, museum shop sales, and a giveaway!

**Annual Benefit Gala**

*August 19, 2017 featuring award-winning actress Frances McDormand and NYC theater collective The Wooster Group.*

Our gala is our largest fundraiser of the year; its success is vital to the health of our organization. Help us preserve the history of the Shakers by joining the Annual Benefit Gala Committee! Visit shakerml.org or call 518-794-9100 x220.

To volunteer, book a tour, or purchase tickets to our Annual Benefit Gala, please contact Shawna Fitzsimmons, Operations Manager at **programs@shakerml.org | 518-794-9100 x220**

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Drug Take Back Event

Got Drugs? Turn in your unused or expired medication for safe disposal. A drug take back event sponsored by the Rensselaer County Sheriff’s Department will be held at the Stephentown Memorial Library on Saturday, August 12th from 10am – 12pm. For more information please visit [www.RenscoSheriff.com](http://www.RenscoSheriff.com).

Calendar of Events

Sometime in August (date TBD by DEC) – Hunting Licenses go on sale through the Town Clerk’s Office

August 8th from 4pm – 6pm – Free Rabies Clinic for Cats, Dogs & Ferrets at The Town Highway Garage

August 12th from 10am – 12pm – Drug Take Back Event at the Stephentown Memorial Library

August 20th from 1:30pm – 4:30pm – Music in the Park at Shatford Park

August 26th from 3:30pm – 5pm – Celebration of Life for Jeannie Bogino at The Church of Our Savior

September 17th from 1:30pm – 6pm – Music in the Park at Shatford Park

October 9th – October 27th – KISS Program at the Town Hall (Free shredding of documents – M, W, Th, Fr 9-5)

April 21st 2018 – NL 200 Opening Ceremony (Stay tuned for more details and schedule of events)

May 5th 2018 – Tentative Date for Town Clean Up Day (Stay tuned for exact date and time)