

Town of New Lebanon

www.townofnewlebanon.com

February 2023



Town Government

Supervisor:

Tistrya Houghtling

supervisor@townofnewlebanon.com

Councilmembers:

Marianna Anthonisen

manthonisen@townofnewlebanon.com

Britt Buckenroth

bbuckenroth@townofnewlebanon.com

Deborah Gordon

dgordon@townofnewlebanon.com

John Trainor

jtrainor@townofnewlebanon.com

Town Clerk – Marcie Robertson

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. The public may view the meetings via the live stream link at: https://townhallstreams.com/towns/new_lebanon_ny

Mailing Address:

Town of New Lebanon

PO Box 328

New Lebanon, NY, 12125

Ice Skating Rink To Open At Shatford Park

The ice skating rink has been installed again this year at Shatford Park under the pavilion. Ice skating, once open, will be seven days a week from sunrise to 10:00pm. Lights will be on under the pavilion for night skating. You must abide by all posted rules which are: skate at your own risk, children under 13 must be accompanied by an adult, helmets are recommended and no ATV's or snowmobiles. There are crates available at the rink for beginner skaters. We also have some donated ice skates available for use but ask that you leave them for others to use when you are done using them. Please don't take them home with you. Have fun and stay safe at this community activity!

Open Office Hours:

The Town Hall is open for business.

Supervisor: Tues. 9:00am – 2:00pm, Thurs. 12:00pm – 5:00pm and by appointment

Town Clerk: Mon., Wed., Thurs. & Fri 9:00am – 5:00pm and by appointment if necessary

Tax Collector: Tues. & Thur. 4:00pm - 6:00pm and Sat. 9:00am - 12:00pm

Assessor: Mon. 8:00am – 12:00pm and by appointment

Building Dept.: Tues. & Thurs. 9:00am – 12:00pm & **CEO:** Tues. 5:00pm – 7:30pm

Court Office Hours: Tues. 9:00am – 4:00pm, Wed. 9:00am – 4:00pm, Thurs. 11:00am – 3:00pm & Fri. 9:00am – 12:00pm (Court in session: @ 5:00pm on 1st & 2nd Thurs. & @ 4:00pm on 3rd & 4th Thurs. of month)

Historian: Tues. & Wed. 9:00am – 12:00pm and by appointment

From the Office of the Town Clerk

New Year, new recycling permit. Did you know that as of January 1st, 2023 you need to purchase a new recycling permit? If you have not already done so, you can purchase your permit at the New Lebanon Town Clerk's Office during open office hours (Mon, Wed, Thurs & Fri from 9-5) (CLOSED ON TUES). The annual fee is \$50.00 a year for County residents, \$35.00 a year for our County resident seniors over 65 years of age and \$100.00 for out of County residents.

The Town Clerk's office also sells the garbage tags for the transfer station. They come in sheets of five, \$3.00 tags are good for garbage bags up to about 30gal. and \$5.00 tags are good for garbage bags up to about 55gal.

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 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 **March 13th – March 24th**. Our hours for drop off are Mon, Wed, Thurs and Fri from 9-5. Please stop by the Town Clerk's office to sign your form for shredding.

2022 Holiday Gift Drive A HUGE Success

The 7th annual holiday gift drive was a huge success thanks to all of our generous community members and businesses! We provided gifts for 53 children in New Lebanon and everyone received everything from their need list (coats, boots, socks, etc.) and multiple things from their want list (toys, books, make-up). I want to give a special thank you to some of our local businesses and organizations who either adopted a family or donated money and/or toys: Sharon McArdle & Lenny Brown from Berkshire Hathaway, Church of Our Saviour, Larabee Fuel, Lebanon Valley Seniors, Marchese Ford, NYSP Livingston Toy Drive, American Legion Post 1236, Canaan Congregational Church, Chillin Grillin Cheez, Step In Time Training LLC, and Theater Barn. Thanks to the amazing generosity of these businesses and organizations and SO many of our community members, each child received a multitude of gifts! Thank you all so much for coming together as a community to provide much needed gifts to the children here in New Lebanon and to ensure that every family had a great holiday season!

Join The Volunteer T.E.A.M (*Together Everyone Achieves More*)

For those of you who are interested, PLEASE consider volunteering, we would be happy to have you. We have so many wonderful opportunities: from being on town committees to helping a few hours at many of our events, such as food drives, town clean ups, park and county events, and much more. The opportunities are endless and wonderful. Please reach out to me to share your interest.

Marianna Anthonisen, Town Board Member

manthonisen@townofnewlebanon.com

Vacancies:

CAC: The Conservation Advisory Council (CAC) advises in the development, management, and protection of the Town's natural resources. (One open position)

CELL SERVICE COMMITTEE: The Town of New Lebanon is creating a cell service committee as an advisory committee to the Town Board to research ways to increase cell phone service throughout town. There are many residents who have a lack of cell phone service and rely on it for communication, especially in emergencies. The cell service committee will work to expand cell phone service throughout the town, researching ways that municipalities can work with cell phone providers to expand service especially in the dead zones that currently exist.

ETHICS BOARD MEMBER: (5 year term – expires 12/23/2027): Persons interested in serving in the this position must be a resident of the Town of New Lebanon. Upon the written request of any Town Officer or employee, the Board of Ethics may render a written advisory opinion with respect to the interpretation or application of the Town of New Lebanon's Code of Ethics or of Article 18 of the General Municipal Law of the State of New York. The Board of Ethics has the power and duty to conduct any investigation necessary to carry out the provisions of the Town of New Lebanon's Code of Ethics.

If you or anyone you know is interested in an open position please submit a letter of interest to the Town Clerk's office by mail, in person or email. Mailing: PO Box 328, New Lebanon, NY 12125 Email: townclerk@townofnewlebanon.com

NL Receives \$20,000 NY Main St. Planning Grant

The Town of New Lebanon has been awarded a \$20,000 NY Main Street Technical Assistance Grant for a Design Guidelines Technical Assistance Project. This is phase 1 of a 2 phase grant program. Phase 1 provides funding to create design guidelines for beautifying our downtown business district through phase 2 funding. Once the design guidelines are created and adopted by the Town Board, we will apply for phase 2 funding which provides direct funding to businesses on the Route 20/22 corridor to do external upgrades such as siding, windows, signage, landscaping, etc. with the focus on beautifying our downtown business district. Property owners in the downtown business district who choose to participate in phase 2 will receive \$0.75 on every dollar invested in external upgrades that qualify under the program.

NY Connects Is Here To Help!

NY Connects is your link to long term services and supports. Under normal circumstances a representative from NY Connects would be at the New Lebanon Town Hall every third Friday of the month from 12:00pm-3:00pm to answer questions and assist with items such as Medicare, SNAP, HEAP, prescriptions and more. Since the onset of COVID and the Seniors change in meeting location to the LVPA we have not yet coordinated an in person representative to meet with residents here in New Lebanon. Until that is organized, you may contact them directly at www.nyconnects.ny.gov or 518-828-2273.

From The Lebanon Valley Protective Association

The new firehouse construction has started. Thank you to all who have donated so far and we are still collecting donations.

Please make sure that you have had your furnaces cleaned and also your wood burning stoves and chimneys.

Please be careful using space heaters and make sure they are safely plugged into a protected outlet and the cord is not frayed.

The fire hall is available to rent, just call 518-794-9331 and someone will contact you.

The LVPA is always in search of new members. If you want to get involved in our community, what a great way to do so! If you are interested in joining the LVPA, please call 518-794-9331 and leave a message with your name and number, someone from the LVPA will get in touch with you.

If you are in need of a FREE smoke detector, CO2 detector or a fire extinguisher, please contact the LVPA.

Please stay safe and warm, your friends at the LVPA!

Hello and Happy 2023 From The Office Of The Tax Collector

By the time this newsletter arrives to your home the due date to pay your 2023 Town/County taxes interest free will have passed as this deadline was 1/31/23. If you have not paid them yet don't worry as I am collecting these taxes here in Town through the end of May though for each month that they are late a 1% penalty is added to the base amount due. Please remember that for your convenience you can view present and past Town & County tax information at the following website: egov.basgov.com/newlebanon. For questions regarding school taxes, the School Tax Collector is Lisa Kreutziger. You can reach her by email: nltaxes@newlebanoncsd.org or by phone @ (518) 794-1600. Please note that school tax information can also be viewed online at: newlebanoncsd.org.

From The Assessor's Office

Useful information:

- Exemption renewals were mailed in December and are due BY March 1st
- Tentative Roll is published May 1st each year. Final Roll is published July 1st.
- Grievance Day is only held 1 day each year. In New Lebanon that day is the Wednesday following the 4th Tuesday.
- The Reassessment for 2023 is postponed until 2024. However, there will be an overall increase to the assessments for 2023 in an effort to maintain our current level of 90%. Notices of changes will be mailed May 1st.
- If your mailing address changes please contact the assessor with the new information.
- Most questions can be answered by visiting the Assessors page on the Towns Website.

New Lebanon Library News

The New Lebanon Library is open, with no appointment needed to visit! Check out our ongoing programs. For details, please visit our website at www.newlebanonlibrary.org or call us at 518-794-8844.

News from New Lebanon Senior Reps

The Office of the aging of Columbia County continues to provide services for seniors via the office in Hudson. Some of the programs available are: Meals on Wheels, transportation to and from MD appointments and stores, assistance with meeting fuel and air conditioning costs, assistance in obtaining health insurance with or without Medicare. Assistance in obtaining home healthcare services which allow seniors to stay in their home. These services and more can be obtained by calling 518-828-4258. Leave your name and number and someone will call you back and assist you. The office also has a newsletter, the Scoop, which is available online at www.columbiacountyny.com/newsletter and gives updates about programs, new and old.

Brochures are also available at the Town Hall and assistance is available from New Lebanon Senior Reps.
David Russell 518-794-0273 nlrepcco2@gmail.com
Sarah Conley 518-794-0423 nlrepcco4@gmail.com
Mary Young 518-794-7538 nlrepcco3@gmail.com

New Lebanon Seniors meet the first and third Friday of the month at 1pm at the Lebanon Valley Protective Association New Lebanon Station. They will be meeting on the 3rd Friday January & February only. Anyone 55 and older is welcome to join. For more information contact Mary DeFreest 518-733-0009 or see the announcement in the Eastwick Press or Columbia Page papers.

Exercise for Seniors: There is a group who exercise every Monday & Thursday morning from 9-10am at the Hall of the Church of Immaculate Conception. The exercises are developed by the Silver Sneakers program with a physical therapist. You will need a mat and an exercise chord. Everyone is welcome to come.

All of the representatives for the Office for the Aging, the town board of New Lebanon and its residents are here to provide support for any of our seniors who need it. We offer many services that are tailored to the needs of our seniors which are meant to help keep you safe, healthy, and happy. We provide you with peace of mind by offering daily in-home security calls from the Columbia County Sheriff Department. Seasonally, we offer double the amount of farmers' market coupons for fresh, local fruits and vegetables. On the other hand, we offer home weatherization and support through the Home Energy Assistance Program to keep you warm during our Northeast winters.

From The New Lebanon Business & Economic Development Committee (BEDC)

The Business and Economic Development Committee has welcomed six new members recently. Hello to Becky Segal, Chris Jansson, Silke Fuchshofen, Rae Gilson, Rochelle DiRe, and Eileen Raab! We have five main projects now: outreach and marketing; setting up a not-for-profit organization; and research into childcare, news, and remote work services. Does one of those sound fun or necessary to you? Drop new chair Josh Young a line at joshuayoung@gmail.com.

2023 Town Clean-Up Day (Dump Day)

New Lebanon will hold its annual "Clean-up Day/Dump Day" event in 2023; however, rather than being held in the Spring, it will be held in early Autumn. Please stay tuned as more information will become available for the May and August newsletters. Save the date September 16, 2023.

HEAP Is Still Open for Enrollment

The Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) for the 2022-23 season is still accepting applications. You can pick up an application at the New Lebanon Town Clerk's Office. If you received a regular benefit last year and are over 60 years old, you should have already received your application. If you are receiving food stamps, you are automatically enrolled in HEAP.

If you would like to apply for HEAP and did not receive it last year, you must have an interview and may opt for an in person or phone interview. To qualify for HEAP you must make under \$2,852 per month gross for a household of 1, under \$3,730 per month gross for a household of 2, under \$4,608 per month gross for a household of 3, under \$5,485 per month gross for a household of 4 and under \$6,363 for a household of 5. New applicants must have proof of each household member's identity, proof of applicant's social security number and for each household

member, proof of residence, proof of fuel and/or utility bill if you pay for heat or proof that you pay rent which includes heat, and proof of income for all household members. If you need assistance applying you can contact Columbia Opportunities (if under 60 years old) at 518-828-4611 or Office for the Aging (if over 60 years old) at 518-828-4258. You can also contact the Department of Social Services at 518-828-9411 with any questions. You can also apply online at www.mybenefits.ny.gov. For more information about HEAP go to <http://www.ny.gov/services/apply-heap>.

If you are eligible for HEAP, you may also be eligible for the Columbia Opportunities Inc. Weatherization Program. COI provides energy audits to eligible homeowners and renters to find the best way to make their homes more energy efficient. Weatherization measures - such as furnace repair or replacement, wall and attic insulation, air sealing, energy efficient refrigerators - are installed to make residences safe, comfortable and less expensive to heat. Most people see a 20% reduction in their home heating bills after the weatherization work is done! Please call 518-828-4611 or 518-672-7268 for more information and an application. They are also on Facebook and Instagram - @columbiaopportunities

The Emergency HEAP benefit opened November 1, 2022. If you are in need of EMERGENCY HEAP benefits please reach out to the appropriate agency listed above.

From Charlie's Pantry

Charlie's Pantry offers free food and household supplies to New Lebanon residents. We are located at the Immaculate Conception Church at 732 Route 20. Our current hours are every Saturday 10:30am - 1:00pm. We can make appointments for emergencies or if a family occasionally runs out of food and cannot come when we are open. You can call Peter at 518-794-0544 or you can call Georgette at 518-794-0156.

News From The Recreation Commission

Your Recreation Commission has been busy adding more activities to get our community together and we're planning more events for 2023. We're considering adding a Bocce court in Shatford Park.

If you'd use it, let us know. If you have event ideas or requests, please let us know by emailing nlrecreation03@gmail.com we'll try to make it happen.

Events we added in 2022:

The first Food Truck Music Night had a fantastic performance by our High School's band, 2 Year Delay, led by their wonderful teachers Val Synakowski and Robert FitzGerald. The first Fancy Dance in June, DJ'd by Bill Buckenroth, more of you need to come this year, it was fun! Monthly Community Walks

News From The Recreation Commission (continued)

began in July - join us to see more of our beautiful town. We held the first Newcomers Night in October, at the library. We had the first Outdoor Movie Night in October, sponsored by the library.

You asked, we made it happen:

Pickleball lines were painted on the Shatford Park tennis courts. Thanks to Nina Keller, Kathleen Millett and Joanna Ezinga! Bring your racquet and a partner, it's first come, first served.

The ice rink is back in the park, the weather hasn't been cooperating. As soon as it's ready for skating, we'll let you know. Thanks to Jesse Newton, Steve Houghtling, Norm Rasmussen Joe Ogilvie and Adrian Shoobs for putting it up and getting it ready!

New for 2023:

Shatford Pool Open Swim (Tuesdays 6:45-8:15) is \$3 per person/\$10 per family of four in 2023, grab a friend and hop in!

Joe Ogilvie is offering Aqua Fit classes on Monday nights at 6PM for \$5 (\$3 for seniors) all profits go to the Train Depot project.

We're setting up a monthly town playgroup! Please email nlrecreation04@gmail.com with the day/time you'd prefer. Please include your name and best contact info, your child's name/age and any allergies or special needs. Snacks will be provided at each session.

Planned 2023 events:

Food Truck Music Night with the school band, 2 Years Late, will be back this spring at the Shatford Pavilion - date TBD

Town Fancy Dance - date/location TBD

Bring your family or a friend and your best dance moves! Soft drinks and snacks will be provided.

Doug Banker Memorial Music in the Park - Sunday, July 16th at Shatford Pavilion, Noon to 4, music begins at 1PM. We'll have a food truck on site. Roaring 20's will have beer and wine for sale.

If you have a local band and want to be considered to play at one of the MITP events, please contact nlrecreation03@gmail.com

Town Picnic and Music in the Park - Sunday, August 20th, Noon to 4. The town and local businesses supply: hamburgers, hot dogs, corn and soft drinks. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share. Roaring 20's will have beer and wine for sale. We'll also have bounce houses!

Newcomers - Did you recently move to our wonderful town, or are you looking to make new friends and finally meet some neighbors? We want to meet you too! Planned for May 12 and September 15 - (dates may change, location TBD). Snacks and soft drinks will be provided. Please contact nlrecreation03@gmail.com for details. If you can't make it, we can add you to the notification list for the next one.

Outdoor movie night at the Shatford Pavilion:

It will be on a Summer Friday or Saturday - date TBD. Email your favorite movie to: nlrecreation03@gmail.com. Popcorn and soft drinks will be provided.

Monthly walks will run from March to October - what days and times are best, what's your favorite walking path or the best view?

Email nlrecreation03@gmail.com with ideas or to be added to the contact list.

News From The New Lebanon Conservation Advisory Council (CAC)

Please join us in thanking David Farren who retired December 31, 2022 after ten years of service to the CAC. His decade on the committee saw the growth of the CAC and many goals were achieved in that time, including the publication of Natural Resource Conservation Plan, numerous grants for the CAC and other town projects, DEC Trees for Tribes projects, and the creation of several Critical Environmental Areas.

As evidenced by the results of a town-wide poll last year, our natural resources, underground water sources, forests, streams and rivers and the overall beauty of where we live is of great importance to everyone who lives here, and the CAC continues to preserve and protect and honor our land. Among many projects we are working on in 2023 is our continuing to look at water health in town. The CAC just received the final copy of the New Lebanon Source Water Protection Plan – it has been sent to the Town Board for approval and then the state will need to approve the document. This plan, created for New Lebanon by Steve Winkley of the NY Rural Water Association, gives us a complete guide to how to protect all of our water sources and will be made available to the public after the State approves it. One of our 2023 goals is to create a Critical Environmental Area designating our main aquifer as a location to be sure to protect and preserve.

The CAC is helping the Town with water studies and we are partnering with the Business and Economic Development Committee on the Waste Water Study Committee. Part of our Waste Water work, among other things, will be offering free water testing to residents around town who will share their results with us – and the Waste Water Committee will be looking to test along the Rte 20/22 corridor where wastewater is being studied in particular. Please reach out to us if you are having concerns over your well water and any other water concerns and we will be happy to talk to you and share our plans and see if you are in our areas of interest. Much more will be shared on this soon as well. The Waste Water Committee consists of Josh Young, Deb Gordon, and Peg Munves – and we have been working with Candace Balmer of RCAP Solutions on how to apply for a grant for the Waste Water Study. Nineteen businesses and property owners along the Rte 20/22 corridor would like to see the wastewater study done and we hope to complete this by mid-year so we have much more information on its feasibility. Please feel free to contact Peg Munves with any comments, questions, or concerns at nlcac.munves@gmail.com

Update From The NL Climate Smart Communities Task Force (CSC)

Silver is on the minds of members of New Lebanon's Climate Smart Communities Task Force this winter: Silver Certification from the NY State Climate Smart Communities Program. Just as it did in order to earn Bronze Certification, the town must complete a series of actions that curb climate change and/or help residents adapt to its effects. The variety and extent of projects that members of the Task Force are taking on – from running repair cafes to fixing bikes – puts the town close to earning the Silver this year, Only 5 towns in NY State, all considerably larger than New Lebanon, have earned it so far.

With grants already earned for installing heat pumps in Town Hall and other actions, the Task Force will provide for the installation of solar panels on the Town Hall roof. This action also brings the town closer to Silver Certification, which brings more grants. In addition, the town will profit for years from the resulting decrease in heating and lighting bills.

Another major project is a town-wide food scrap collection program. A partial, preliminary survey about residents' interest in this idea, conducted at Shaker Village in West Lebanon, was overwhelmingly positive. Over half of the respondents volunteered to help monitor the collection buckets.

Update From The NL Climate Smart Communities Task Force (CSC) (Continued)

Both the Eastwick Press and the Columbia Paper recently printed coverage of what the Eastwick Press called New Lebanon's "Continuing Climate Success." Though it's hard to imagine what "climate success" looks like in this warming world, members of the Taskforce are committed to the "continuing" part.

<https://www.columbiapaper.com/2023/01/our-towns-confront-climate-change-smartly/>

If you would like to join the Task Force, please contact Chair Steve Powers at nlcac.powers@gmail.com.

News From The Climate Smart Repair Café

Do you have an old lamp or fan, a broken chair, a clock that won't tell time properly? Do you have jeans needing a patch or a sweater that the moths thought was their dinner? Maybe a necklace with a clasp that no longer works, or a vase in need of gluing? A toaster? A lawnmower? Do you need help with your mobile phone or computer? Come to a repair café, where volunteers from the community will consult with you about your needed repair, and in almost all cases, fix it. For free!!! A side benefit is the chance to socialize with your neighbors and learn something about repair.

The Columbia NE Repair Cafe, a collaborative effort by members of the Climate Smart Communities Task Forces of New Lebanon, Chatham, Austerlitz, and East Nassau, has four events scheduled in 2023. We hope you'll join us - as a fixer, if you have skills to share, as a volunteer, if you would like to help us on any of the days of the events, but most of all, as a visitor with something to fix.

Here is our tentative calendar -

Austerlitz: Saturday, March 4, 2023, 10 AM - 2 PM location TBD.

New Lebanon: Sunday, April 30, 2023 12 PM - 4 PM, at Darrow School. This will be a special event with students teaming up with our experienced fixers, along with a technology section. Stay tuned for details!

Chatham: Saturday, June 24, 2023, 10 AM - 2 PM, Chatham Firehouse.

East Nassau: Saturday, September 23, 2023, 10 AM - 2 PM at Hoags Corner Firehouse on Route 66.

More information about how to sign up in advance and possible schedule changes will be posted in future town newsletters, on the town website and bulletin board, in Grow the Valley newsletter, and the Climate Smart Communities Facebook page. We will also put up flyers around town. If you have any questions about what we can fix, please contact Adelia Moore, at Adeliamoore@gmail.com or Bruce Shenker, at Bshenker@gmail.com. We will publicize our advance signups, but walk-ins are always welcome. We hope to see you there! And bring a friend.

History Happenings – From the Town Historian

Update on the Revolutionary War Veterans in Cypress Hill Cemetery Project

"Born a British citizen; Died an American Patriot"

Engraved on a Revolutionary War veteran's stone

Who is here?

Veterans from the Creek Indian Wars, the Revolution, War of 1812, and the Civil War call Cypress Hill their final resting place. US Congressman John King's marker is also in need of TLC. Help find these stones! Over 200 cemetery stones are located on this hill. Let's show our veterans the respect they earned.

History Happenings – From the Town Historian (Continued)

What has been overlooked until recent years has been the oldest section of the Cemetery of the Evergreens, Cypress Hill, which is where the earliest burials including, perhaps, three dozen Revolutionary War veterans are located. About a decade ago, they were largely unknown, until then-town-historian Sharon Moon started investigating. What she found was a long-overgrown, poison-ivy-infested hilltop. She set to work to minimize the poison ivy and to find and preliminarily mark graves from two centuries ago. She researched existing documentation indicating veteran burials. Now, the poison ivy has receded significantly, and the vegetation has been reduced to manageable levels.

So began a new consortium of workers, in identifying and honoring these veterans, many of whom helped establish the town over 200 years ago. This group includes the Hendrick Hudson Chapter NSDAR, the Cemetery of the Evergreens, George Clark, veteran and member of the Floyd Carleton American Legion Post, the Town of New Lebanon, the Lebanon Valley Historical Society, and Moon. It's a continuation of an earlier effort that also included Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, and the New Lebanon Central School District. It may well engage them again.

After meeting with community and DAR members, it was agreed to apply for a DAR historic restoration grant of identified Revolutionary War veterans. Current New Lebanon Town Historian Elizabeth Sheffer-Winig, who is also a Hendrick Hudson DAR Chapter member, said the project will "identify, catalog, and honor those who served in the American Revolution. We intend to restore the stones, research the lives and military service of the patriots buried there, and produce a booklet about them. The project's culmination will be a grave-marking ceremony by the Hendrick Hudson Chapter that will honor each patriot."

Hendrick Hudson Chapter Historian Doris Harrington said "Placing veterans' markers is a tangible way for our chapter and the town to honor and connect with Revolutionary War veterans, and maybe even some descendants. The markers will highlight and publicize the life and service of these patriots, some of whom are listed in the NSDAR's extensive genealogy. They will become part of the legacy of the Revolutionary War, and we will archive their information in our chapter's genealogical and historical library."

An important milestone arrives in 2026 which will celebrate the 250th anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration of Independence. Immediate Past Chapter Regent Jeane LaPorta said, "Completing this project in advance of 250-year celebrations will be gratifying to many. The DAR's goals are historic preservation, education, and patriotism. With this effort we refuse to let slip into the dustbins of time the heroic deeds of veterans. As importantly, we are Daughters of the American Revolution, and as such we feel strongly about the heroic and substantial efforts by the women of that day, whether they be veterans themselves or the mothers, wives, daughters, or siblings of veterans. Without their contributions, the War for Independence surely would have failed. Keeping memories alive and honoring the foundational struggles of men and women is vitally important." The current Chapter Regent Virginia Martin, is enthusiastic for the project and looks forward to the Chapter's part in the project. Christopher White of Albany Grave Digger Genealogical Services and Gravestone Restoration will be retained by the Hendrick Hudson Chapter and the board of the Cemetery of the Evergreens oversee the restoration process.

History Happenings – From the Town Historian (Continued)

The Hendrick Hudson Chapter of the DAR was chartered in 1896. A nonpartisan organization welcoming eligible women without regard to race, creed, or religion, it includes 130 members who trace their lineage back to a patriot in the American Revolution—whether serving as soldier, shopkeeper, or seamstress. In accordance with the National Society DAR, members work to perpetuate the memory and spirit of the women and men who achieved American independence, to promote the development of an enlightened public opinion, and to foster patriotic citizenship. The chapter owns and maintains its meeting house, the Historic Robert Jenkins House, at 113 Warren Street in Hudson. The chapter and the chapter house can be [accessed online](#), by emailing hendrickhudsonchapterdar@gmail.com, and by calling (518) 828-9764.

The grant application will be submitted this year, 2023. The group of dedicated workers will be seeking matching funds which will make the work sustainable. The group will be meeting to develop of plan of fundraising.

Want to help with cleaning stones with D2, digging + raking, attacking the poison ivy, searching for stones, setting stones with our professional Chris White, help cutting dead wood and branches, pulling sapling roots, loading debris to be hauled away with our tractor? I'm sure you could find something to suit your skills. Please email historian@townofnewlebanon.com if you are interested.

Meeting Dates

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE of the meeting dates, times and locations for the Town Board Meetings, Other Board Meetings and Committees.

The Following will be meeting at the Town Hall, 14755 State Route 22, New Lebanon, NY and live streamed at: https://townhallstreams.com/towns/new_lebanon_ny

Town Board meets the second Tuesday of each month at 6:00pm

Planning Board meets the third Wednesday of each month, as necessary, at 7:00pm

Business & Economic Development Committee meets the first Monday of each month at 6:30pm

Zoning Re-write Committee meets the fourth Monday of each month, as necessary, at 7:00pm

Conservation Advisory Council meets the second Monday of each month at 6:30pm

Climate Smart Communities Task Force Committee meets the first Wednesday at 6:30pm

Quality of Life Committee meets the fourth Friday at 9:30am

The Board of Ethics does not have a standing meeting date and time, only when needed.

The Following will be meeting at the Town Hall, 14755 State Route 22, New Lebanon, NY:

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

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

The Following will be meeting at the Lebanon Valley Fire Department (LVPA), 523 US Route 20, New Lebanon, NY:

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

Calendar Of Events

February Regular Town Board Meeting: Tuesday, February 14, 2023

Holiday – President’s Day – All Town Offices Closed – Monday, February 20, 2023

Exemption Renewals Deadline: March 1, 2023

Daylight Savings Time: Sunday, March 12, 2023 – (Set clocks back on Sat. 3/11/23)

Kiss Program Dates: March 13 – March 24, 2023

Happy St. Patrick’s Day – Friday, March 17, 2023

New Lebanon Library: Many events – see page 4 for details

HEAP Application Deadline: No deadline as of now

Save the date – Music In The Park – Sunday, July 16, 2023

Save the date – Town Picnic – Sunday, August 20, 2023

Save the date – Town Clean-Up Day – September 16, 2023