

# Town of New Lebanon

www.townofnewlebanon.com

February 2024

## 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 – 3:00pm, & Thurs. 11:00am – 3:00pm. (Court in session: @ 5:00pm on Thursdays)

**Historian:** by appointment



## Town Government

Supervisor:

Tistrya Houghtling

supervisor@townofnewlebanon.com

Councilmembers:

Elizabeth Kroboth

ekroboth@townofnewlebanon.com

Steve Powers

spowers@townofnewlebanon.com

Craig Skerkis

cskerkis@townofnewlebanon.com

Susan Tipograph

stipograph@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](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. The public may view the meetings via the live stream link at: [https://townhallstreams.com/towns/new\\_lebanon\\_ny](https://townhallstreams.com/towns/new_lebanon_ny)

Mailing Address:

Town of New Lebanon

PO Box 328

New Lebanon, NY, 12125

## From the Office of the Town Clerk

New Year, new recycling permit. Did you know that as of January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 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 \$75.00 a year for County residents, \$50.00 a year for our County resident seniors over 65 years of age and \$125.00 for out of County residents.

The Town Clerk's office also sells the garbage bags for the transfer station. They come in packages of five, small, (7gal.) \$5.00; medium, (30gal.) \$15.00; and large, (40gal.) \$25.00.

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## 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 11th – March 22nd**. 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.

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## 2023 Holiday Gift Drive A HUGE Success

The 8th annual holiday gift drive was a huge success thanks to all of our generous community members and businesses! We provided gifts for 66 children in New Lebanon (the highest number yet) and everyone received everything on their need list (coats, boots, socks, etc.) and multiple things from their want list (toys, books, make-up, etc.). 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: LVPA, Lebanon Valley Seniors, Church of Our Savior, Filli's Market, American Legion Post 1236, Wastequip, Larabee Fuel, Rhonda's Reptiles, NYSP Livingston Toy Drive, Ferradino Firm, 4 C's Property Management, Just Bead It, Rotary Club of Northern Columbia County, Shaker View Farm, Trinkets & Treasures, Renegade Pigs, Sage Femme Midwifery, Unity Lodge No. 9, Step in Time Training, and Canaan Congregational Church. 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!

A special thank you to the Lebanon Valley Community Corporation (LVCC) for stepping in this year as a fiscal sponsor and taking over accepting, tracking and reporting all monetary donations! The LVCC is a newly formed non-profit organization dedicated to helping all of New Lebanon's residents and fostering the community and economic well-being of the Town. We could not have done this without you!

## From the Town Supervisor

The town has been busy working on many projects! We have seen a lot of our hard work from the past few years come to fruition in recent months and want to make sure that all of the residents know about these exciting new things. We hope you will check them all out and help spread the word to your neighbors and friends!

**We have a wonderful new town website!** Thanks to Sharon Powers for her amazing work over the past year in designing the new town website. Please check it out at [www.townofnewlebanon.com](http://www.townofnewlebanon.com) (same website address as before, but a new and improved site). We welcome your feedback! Please take the new site for a test drive and email [supervisor@townofnewlebanon.com](mailto:supervisor@townofnewlebanon.com) with any input, suggestions, or ideas.

**A community center opens at the old firehouse at 523 US Route 20!** Thanks to the kindness and generosity of the LVPA, the Town is able to run a community center on a trial basis to see if it is an asset that the community wants. Because of our generous community, we were able to furnish the community center with foosball tables, air hockey, ping pong, a pool table, dart boards, 2 video game centers, a large screen TV to watch movies on, lots of comfy furniture and a plentitude of board games and arts and crafts! Please come check it out on Tuesdays from 6:30pm - 8:30pm, Thursdays from 5pm - 8pm and Saturdays from 11am - 3pm. If the community utilizes the community center as a resource and we get a lot of people attending during open hours, the town will consider continuing to run it beyond the 12 month trial period. If you have any ideas on specific programming you would like to see at the community center, please reach out to Rob Long, our community center coordinator at [syp@townofnewlebanon.com](mailto:syp@townofnewlebanon.com). Check out the flier at the end of this newsletter and feel free to put it up on your fridge to remind you of the open hours!

**The free store moves into a bigger space and now has weekend hours!** Again thanks to the generosity of the LVPA, the town free store has moved into a much larger space at the old firehouse at 523 US Route 20. You can check out all of the wonderful items during all community center open hours as well as Wednesdays from 12-5 and Sundays from 11-2. We have so much great stuff and it is all FREE!! Don't buy new when you can reuse, reduce and recycle. The free store is full of clothing, footwear, children's items, household items and so much more! Come check it out and find that new to you treasure! If you have items to donate to the free store you can drop them off directly to the free store ONLY during open hours or you can drop them to the town hall M-F from 9am - 5pm. A HUGE thank you to Alissa Ross for her amazing organization and dedicating so much of her time to run the free store, organize everything and help everyone find what they need. Check out the flier at the end of this newsletter and feel free to put it up on your fridge to remind you of the open hours!

### **Town partners again this year for the heating assistance program**

The town has partnered again this year with Charlie's Pantry, Unity Lodge No. 9, the American Legion, Larabee Fuel and HL Fuel to help residents heat their home this year. If you are able and willing to donate to help your neighbors stay warm, you can do so in 1 of 3 ways: 1) Venmo: @CharliesPantryHeatingFund  
2) PayPal: [PayPal.me/CharliesPantryHeat](https://www.paypal.com/CharliesPantryHeat) 3) Mail a check to: Charlie's Pantry Heating Fund, PO Box 448, New Lebanon, NY, 12125. If you or someone you know needs help heating your home this winter, please

## From the Town Supervisor (Continued)

reach out to Supervisor Houghtling at 518-794-8889 or [supervisor@townofnewlebanon.com](mailto:supervisor@townofnewlebanon.com). Check out the flier at the end of this newsletter and please help spread the word!

### **Broadband Update**

New Lebanon partnered with the Towns of Ghent, Canaan and Austerlitz to apply for a Congressional earmark from former Congressman Delgado and the project was awarded the funding in March of 2022. Since then we have been working with the 4 Towns and the CEDC to process the funding through the USDA. Though we have hit many hiccups along the way, we are in the homestretch. We are hoping to have final approval and broadband being connected to every road in New Lebanon by this Spring. If you are currently unable to connect to broadband at your house, it is coming soon! In total this funding will connect over 40 homes in New Lebanon to broadband who currently do not have access. When the project is complete, every single home in New Lebanon will have access to broadband! A huge thank you to Dave Berman from Ghent and Mike Tucker from the Columbia Economic Development Corporation (CEDC) who have been working tirelessly on this project to ensure broadband for all in our Town!

### **Update on the Non-Profit Pharmacy Coming to New Lebanon**

The Pharmacy for the Public Good has chosen New Lebanon as the next location for their non-profit pharmacy. After running a successful for profit pharmacy in Tannersville, NY called Wellness RX, the pharmacist Ed Ullman and his team embarked on a mission to bring the first non-profit pharmacy in the nation to Phoenicia, NY. They are now ready to open their 3rd pharmacy and their 2nd non-profit pharmacy and have chosen to open it in our town! They have signed a 5 year lease in the Tilden Plaza next to Filli's. The town is working now with the pharmacy on trying to obtain state and federal funding to cover the start-up costs of the non-profit pharmacy. After successful meetings with Congressman Molinaro, Senator Hinchey and Assemblymember Barrett, the pharmacy staff is hard at work itemizing their budget and preparing the documents needed to apply for these state and federal funds. The pharmacy will serve as a wellness center for our community with a full service pharmacy as well as access to mental health care, addiction services, massage and acupuncture, and so much more! Stay tuned for updates as we help this exciting project come to fruition in New Lebanon!

### **Exciting Happenings in Shatford Park**

The Town has been awarded a \$500,000 park grant for a new walking trail system and accessible for all playground in Shatford Park from the NYS Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation (NYS OPRHP). The walking trail portion of the project is ready to go as the town already went out to bid and accepted a bid from Darcy Construction pending being awarded the grant funding. They will be busy working on the trails this winter. The playground portion of the project is still in its design phase and we have formed a group of community members to work with the engineer and to help decide what features we want the playground to have. If you are interested in serving on this committee, please email [townclerk@townofnewlebanon.com](mailto:townclerk@townofnewlebanon.com) before our February 13th Town Board meeting.

A new road around the tennis courts has also been installed. This was part of the master park plan to improve traffic flow and increase parking and was approved by the Town Board in 2023 as an addendum to the skatepark slab project. There are now ample parking spots next to the tennis courts for people to park and play tennis and/or pickleball!

## From the Town Supervisor (Continued)

The Town Board has budgeted to renovate the bathrooms by the tennis courts, renovate the existing water feature in the park and add a roof to the large BBQ pit by the pavilion. These projects will be going out to bid and completed in 2024.

### Notary Services

The town hall continues to offer notary services free of charge however there is now only 1 notary in the building who is often in meetings or working from home. Although not required, appointments are recommended. You can make an appointment by contacting Supervisor Houghtling at 518-794-8889 or [supervisor@townofnewlebanon.com](mailto:supervisor@townofnewlebanon.com).

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## From The Lebanon Valley Protective Association

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!

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## 2024 Town Clean-Up Day (Dump Day)

New Lebanon will hold its annual "Clean-up Day/Dump Day" event in 2024; 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 7th, 2024 from 8:00am to 2:00pm, rain or shine.

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## Traffic Safety Report

Work on County 5 south has started to build the road to the new emergency tower. Work has been completed on Rt 9 south with new bridges and drainage ditches. I have seen increased police presence on Rt 20 by the elementary school for traffic speeding reduction. Projects for 2024 were presented at the Traffic Safety meeting on January 25th.

Submitted by Mary Young

## 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](http://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](mailto:nlrepcco2@gmail.com)  
Sarah Conley 518-794-0423 [nlrepcco4@gmail.com](mailto:nlrepcco4@gmail.com)  
Mary Young 518-794-7538 [nlrepcco3@gmail.com](mailto:nlrepcco3@gmail.com)

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.

**If you have not paid your 2024 membership dues of \$15.00 per member, please do so. You have the month of Jan. to pay.**

**Make checks payable to: Lebanon Valley Senior Citizens**

**Mail to: Cathy Shuhart**

**317 Hanky Mull Hill Rd.**

**E. Nassau, NY 12062**

Cathy will let me know who she has received dues from.

The firehouse is open as the NL community center. Seniors are invited to bingo on January 2nd. 9 to noon. The first of many activities open to seniors.

Reminder only one meeting in January and February. January 19th and February 16th. If school is closed due to weather no meeting. We will have soup and sandwiches for those 2 meetings.

We will be doing information and sign up at our next 2 meetings for a MARCH 15th, ST Patrick's lunch at 17 Cherry Plain Square.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!

Donna Moshimer



## HEAP Is Still Open for Enrollment

The Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) for the 2023-24 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 \$3,035 per month gross for a household of 1, under \$3,970 per month gross for a household of 2, under \$4,904 per month gross for a household of 3, under \$5,838 per month gross for a household of 4 and under \$6,772 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](http://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, 2023. If you are in need of EMERGENCY HEAP benefits please reach out to the appropriate agency listed above.

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## From Charlie's Pantry

Charlie's Pantry would like to thank everyone for the outpouring of donations for the holiday season: Chuck Scott Auto and Chandler Young (AMVETS) in Nassau for outstanding gifts for a grandmother and 3 grandchildren family; Kyle & Danielle Kuffel family; Joy Sherman; Larabee family; McCagg family; Dom and Anne Devaney; Kevin Smith Sr; Jack & June Nevers; Immaculate Conception/St. Joseph church community; New Lebanon Girl Scout Brownies; Wastequip employees; Lebanon Valley Woman's Club; New Lebanon Red Hats; Church of Our Saviour; Canaan Congregational church and so many other members of our community.

We would like to thank each person for the donation given to us in memory of Scott Larabee and Joe Marcello, two of our benefactors for many years. They will be missed by our entire community.

Charlie's Pantry offers free food and household supplies to New Lebanon School District residents. We are located behind the Immaculate Conception Church at 732 Route 20 and are open every Saturday 10:30am - 1:00pm. We can make an appointment for an emergency if a family runs out of food. Any questions please contact Georgette 518-794-0156 or Peter 518-794-0544.

## News From The Recreation Commission

The Recreation Commission has been busy adding more activities to get our community together and we're planning more events for you. If you're interested in helping out with an event, leading a walk, or have event ideas or requests, please let us know at [nlrecreation03@gmail.com](mailto:nlrecreation03@gmail.com) we'll try to make it happen.

Monthly Community Walks run March - October, join us to see more of our beautiful town.

We held two successful Newcomers events this year, welcoming new people to town. Please join us for the next one if you're new here, or if you'd like to make some new friends.

**You asked, we made it happen:** Did you know that the Shatford Tennis courts have Pickleball lines? Racquets and balls were recently donated to the upcoming Library of Things program if you want to try it out for free.

Open swim nights are at the Shatford Pool on Mondays and Wednesdays for a small annual fee. On Thursday nights, Joe Ogilvie teaches water aerobics, classes have a small fee. Here is the link to the Community Ed Website. <https://sites.google.com/newlebanoncsd.org/nlcommunityeducation/home>

The ice rink is back in the park, the weather cooperated and it was ready for skating on January 17th. Hopefully we'll have more skating days than last year. We have a new and improved multi-year durable liner, fabricated by Pete McCagg and his team.

### **2024 planned events:**

Monthly walks begin in March and run through October - what days and times are best for you, what's your favorite walking path or the best view?

In warmer weather we're planning to have a monthly meet-up for kayaking/canoeing on Queechy Lake. Email [nlrecreation03@gmail.com](mailto:nlrecreation03@gmail.com) with your ideas or to be added to the contact list.

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

Newcomers Meet and Greet events - Did you recently move to our wonderful town? Are you looking to make new friends and finally meet some neighbors? We want to meet you too!

Planned for May and September - (dates and location TBD) Snacks will be provided.

Please contact [nlrecreation03@gmail.com](mailto:nlrecreation03@gmail.com) for details and to be added to the notification list.

Town Picnic and Music in the Park - It will be on an August Sunday from Noon to 4. The town and local businesses supply hamburgers, hot dogs, corn, watermelon and soft drinks. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share with your neighbors. Roaring 20's will have beer and wine for sale. We'll also have bounce houses too! We could use some face painters and a group of helpful volunteers.

Doug Banker Memorial Music in the Park - is planned for a September Sunday, probably September 15th. At Shatford Pavilion, Noon to 4, music begins at 1PM. Notorious B.I.T.E. will be selling food on site.



## News From The Recreation Commission (Continued)

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](mailto:nlrecreation03@gmail.com)

Town-Wide Garage Sale - new for 2024 - is planned for this summer, probably on a July or August weekend. We'll make announcements when we set a date. We plan to have a list available of the sale locations so shoppers can find you. Contact [nlrecreation03@gmail.com](mailto:nlrecreation03@gmail.com) to be added to the contact list, or to help us plan it.

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](mailto:nlrecreation03@gmail.com) Popcorn and soft drinks will be provided.

We hope to see everyone at an event this year!

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## Office of the Aging and Senior Report

The next meeting of the Advisory council for the Office of the Aging was held on January 17th. At that time new programs will be announced and hopefully the senior survey will be accepted and be ready for the next step.

Anyone who is 65 and older and needs help paying fuel costs can contact the Office of the Aging for assistance in applying for the HEAP and weatherization programs in the County.

You can find out what kinds of programs and assistance are available in Columbia County on the web at Columbia County Office of the Aging and or pamphlets that are available in the Town Hall. Assistance is available for many things we need to age in our homes safely.

New Lebanon Seniors enjoyed a Holiday Party at the Wood Life farm and market on Old Rt 20 in December. They gave holiday cards to the Veterans and residents of local nursing homes and sent 300 cards to service personnel overseas to Iraqi via Gary Flaherty and the Columbia County Veterans program. They gave a donation to the Holiday gift drive in town and donated money towards holiday meals for veterans in Columbia County.

For January, February, and March we will be meeting on the third Friday of the month only at 1pm in the Community Center on Rt. 20. We will be serving soups and sandwiches in Jan. and Feb. and then have a St. Patrick's Day dinner on 3/15 at the Cherry Plain Square restaurant.

Submitted by Mary Young

From The New Lebanon Conservation Advisory Council (CAC)



**CAC**  
Conservation  
Advisory  
Council

**Learn about New Lebanon's Water Source Protection Plan, the Importance of Well Testing and more**

**Presented by the New Lebanon Conservation Advisory Council and New York Rural Water Association**

**February 10, 2024, 1:00PM**

**New Lebanon Library**

**550 Route 20**

We will discuss and answer your questions about:

- The Goal of the Water Protection Plan
- New Lebanon's Aquifers and Other Water Sources
- Well maintenance
- Whys and hows of testing your water
- Free water testing for residents

Presenters include Mary-Theresa Julien, Source Water Protection Specialist, New York Rural Water Association and members of the NL CAC.

For more information, please email [nlcac.munves@gmail.com](mailto:nlcac.munves@gmail.com)

From The New Lebanon Conservation Advisory Council (CAC)  
(Continued)

## Learn about Regenerate NY: Funding For Private Landowners to Grow Forests of the Future



**CAC**  
Conservation  
Advisory  
Council

Presented by the New Lebanon Conservation Advisory  
Council and New York State Department of  
Environmental Conservation

March 16, 2024, 1:00PM

New Lebanon Library

550 Route 20

Anyone with 5 acres of land or more is welcome to attend this presentation with the New Lebanon CAC and DEC's Forester Tyler Levy. We will learn about Regenerate NY.

Young forests in New York face many challenges today that did not exist a century ago, the most significant being wide-spread damage caused by increased white-tailed deer populations and competition from invasive vegetation. The purpose of this grant program is to support the regeneration of forests so they may continue to deliver vital services such as mitigating climate change, protecting air and water quality, supporting the economy and habitat to native plant and animal species. Active management of the land is essential.

Tyler will discuss the program, eligibility, awards, reimbursement, application process, match requirements and answer all of your questions.

For more information, please email [nlcac.munves@gmail.com](mailto:nlcac.munves@gmail.com)

## News From The NL Climate Smart Communities Task Force (CSC)

The CSC submitted the final docs to the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation for Silver designation in the Climate Smart program on Jan 5. If approved, we will be notified around Feb 23. Achieving Silver will also get us 1400 points in NYSERDA's Clean Energy Communities (CEC) partner program. The CEC program has recently been revised to allow towns to get more points for other energy-saving actions already performed including the solar panels on Town Hall. So, after achieving Silver we will have enough points to get a \$175,000 grant for energy upgrades on the town buildings. And, if we use that grant money strategically, we can put ourselves in line for the next level which is a \$250,000 grant. **Thanks to Cornell grads Michelle Parks, Alejandra Limon and Marc Anthonisen for their help getting us to Silver!**

Members of the Climate Smart Communities Taskforce continue to look for ways to improve both our daily lives and our environment by making small changes in our use of resources.

On January 6, Frieda Pearce made a Zoom presentation, hosted by the New Lebanon library, to inform residents about energy-efficient options when buying refrigerators, washing machines, and dishwashers. She also discussed the pros and cons of induction vs. gas cooking, noting NYS recommendations about the harmful effects of the use of gas for home cooking.

The subcommittee on composting is extending its reach. While continuing to collect coffee grounds and egg shells from Maverick's, volunteers will provide a bucket for food scrap collection at the New Lebanon recycling center (located by the county highway garage behind the Gallup Inn). Beginning January 26, residents can bring their food scraps there on Wednesday and Saturday mornings until 11:45. This kitchen waste will be transported to Greenport, where an "EcoRich in Vessel composter", recycles food waste on site, without odors or pest problems, thereby reducing our dependency on landfills. Meat and dairy can be included among these food scraps. HOWEVER, coffee filters, paper or plastic products, "recyclable" plastic bags, yard waste are NOT to be included.

The Free Store, now relocated in the former LVPA Station, 523 US Route 20, is gaining traction. The Store is stocked with plenty of nice things from clothing for everyone, lots of winter coats and accessories, shoes, some kitchen items, children's books and baby items. Shoppers are encouraged to come and browse from 12 noon to 5PM on Wednesdays and 11 to 2 pm on Sundays, or whenever the Community Center is open. Clean donations can be dropped off during the Free Store's open hours (including Community Center hours) and the Town Hall during business hours. Please, NO large items and NO books other than children's books.

Speaking of small changes that can make a big difference, the Taskforce's collection of batteries and clean plastic film is ongoing. (Cartons for batteries are located in Town Hall, the Library, both Post Offices, and County Squire Hardware. and a bin for plastic film is in Town Hall). By making a small change in the way they dispose of these items, residents help reduce landfills and enable the recycling of valuable materials.

## News From The Climate Smart Repair Café

The Columbia Northeast Repair cafe group, with organizers New Lebanon and three nearby towns will begin our 2024 calendar in early spring with a café at the Austerlitz Town Hall on Saturday, April 13th, from 10:00am to 2:00pm. Do that spring cleaning and find those broken but fixable and cherished items needing fixing!

Our skilled fixers make free repairs of all kinds: clocks, lamps, bikes, sewing, glueing, furniture, knife sharpening, and more. And there are refreshments and plenty of socializing with your neighbors. No registration is necessary, but if you would like information, or to volunteer, please email us at [ColumbiaNERepaircafe@gmail.com](mailto:ColumbiaNERepaircafe@gmail.com). Or visit our new Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61550228762699&mibextid=LOOJ4d>

We always welcome new volunteer fixers and helpers as well as new visitors.

Other dates this year, all Saturdays 10-2, will be: June 8th or 15th (stay tuned!), at Hoags Corner Firehouse in East Nassau on Route 66; September 14th at the Columbia County Climate Carnival at the fairgrounds in Chatham; and November 16th at the New Lebanon community center. Information about other repair cafes in the region can be found at: [repaircafehv.org](http://repaircafehv.org)

Adelia Moore

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## New Lebanon American Legion Post 1236 Announcements

We trust this message finds you in good spirits. As we embark on a new year, American Legion Post 1236 in New Lebanon, NY, is delighted to announce a series of upcoming fundraisers, providing delightful moments and an opportunity to support our community.

**1. Spaghetti Dinner - Tuesday, January 30th, 5:00 PM - 7:30 PM:** Join us for a delicious Spaghetti Dinner on Tuesday, January 30th. Bring your friends and family to savor a delightful evening filled with good food and camaraderie.

**2. Pancake Breakfast - Sunday, February 25th, 8:00 AM - 11:00 AM:** Kick off your Sunday morning with a hearty Pancake Breakfast on February 25th. Join us for a morning of delectable pancakes and warm conversations.

**3. Corned Beef Dinner - Tuesday, March 12th, 5:00 PM - 7:30 PM:** Celebrate St. Patrick's Day with us at the Corned Beef Dinner on Tuesday, March 12th. Indulge in a traditional Irish meal and enjoy the festive atmosphere.

**4. Cubans and Reubens Night - Wednesday, April 17th:** Mark your calendars for Cubans and Reubens Night on April 17th. Experience a culinary adventure with these classic sandwiches, expertly crafted for your enjoyment.

In addition to these exciting events, we are proud to announce a collaboration between the American Legion and the LVPA (Lebanon Valley Protective Association). Together, we will be working towards building a new meeting hall and offices at our new location on Mill Road and State Route 20. This collaboration represents a significant step forward in enhancing our community facilities and services.

## New Lebanon American Legion Post 1236 Announcements (Continued)

We are pleased to share that our post membership has seen a significant increase, currently standing at 47 members. This growth reflects the dedication and support of our community, and we are grateful for each and every member.

As part of our commitment to education, we are launching the High School Senior Scholarship program. This initiative aims to support local students in their pursuit of higher education. For more information on this program or any of our upcoming events, please feel free to contact Brian Sedgewick, our Post Commander, at 518-669-7620.

Before we conclude, let's take a moment to explain what the American Legion is. The American Legion is a patriotic veterans organization focused on service to veterans, service members, and communities. We are dedicated to fostering a strong sense of community, providing support to those who have served, and promoting patriotism and national security.

We look forward to your continued support and participation in our upcoming events. Thank you for being a vital part of American Legion Post 1236.

We hold our monthly meetings at the Old Fire House on Route 20 the first Saturday of each Month at 0900. Feb 3<sup>rd</sup>, Mar 2<sup>nd</sup>, Apr 6<sup>th</sup>, May 4<sup>th</sup> All veterans are welcome.

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### A Message From The Highway Superintendent

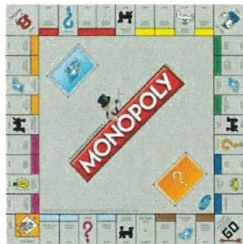
As the Highway Superintendent it is my job and duty to keep the Town Roads clean for public safety. During our busy winter months, it is especially important that all mailbox meet the regulations set by the state. We always do our best to avoid any damages but, in the event, we are not responsible for mailboxes/posts that are damaged if they do not meet these regulations. In addition, please be mindful of keeping garbage cans free from roadways to allow for plowing. Thank you for your help and understanding, if you have any questions regarding the regulations, I would be happy to assist. I can be reached at 518-794-8580 or [highwaysuper@townofnewlebanon.com](mailto:highwaysuper@townofnewlebanon.com).





# THE COMMUNITY CENTER

*Town of New Lebanon  
(Old Firehouse Rte.20)*



***Come On Down  
Unwind, Have Fun, &  
Make New Friends!!***

## **HOURS OF OPERATION:**

Tuesday's 6:30pm-8:30pm  
Thursday's 5:00pm-8:00pm  
Saturday's 11:00am-3:00pm



**Sponsored by the WBH PTA**



## **NEW LOCATION & LARGER FREE STORE!!**

**OPEN HOURS:**

**TUESDAYS 6:30PM – 8:30PM**

**WEDNESDAYS 12PM – 5PM**

**THURSDAYS 5PM – 8PM**

**SATURDAYS 11AM – 3PM**

**SUNDAYS 11AM – 2PM**

**LOCATED AT THE LVPA BUILDING AT 523 US ROUTE 20, NEW LEBANON**

**DONATIONS CAN BE DROPPED TO THE FREE STORE DURING OPEN HOURS OR  
TO TOWN HALL MON, WED, TH & FRI FROM 9AM – 5PM & TUES 9AM – 2PM**





**The Town of New Lebanon is collaborating with Charlie's Pantry, Unity Lodge No.9, The American Legion, Larabee Fuel & H.L. Fuel to help residents heat their homes this winter.**

**3 Ways to donate:**

- 1) Venmo @CharliesPantryHeatingFund**
- 2) PayPal: PayPal.me/CharliesPantryHeat**
- 3) Mail a check to:**

**Charlie's Pantry Heating Fund  
PO Box 448  
New Lebanon, NY 12125**

**If you (or someone you know) needs help heating your home this winter, please reach out to Tistrya Houghtling @ 518-794-8889 or [supervisor@townofnewlebanon.com](mailto:supervisor@townofnewlebanon.com)**

## Calendar Of Events

CAC Presentation – New Lebanon Library – Saturday, February 10, 2024

February Regular Town Board Meeting: Tuesday, February 13, 2024

Ash Wednesday & Valentine’s Day – February 14, 2024

Holiday – President’s Day – All Town Offices Closed – Monday, February 19, 2024

American Legion – Pancake Breakfast – Sunday, February 25, 2024

Daylight Savings Time: Sunday, March 10, 2024

Kiss Program Dates: March 11 – March 22, 2024

March Regular Town Board Meeting: Tuesday, March 12, 2024

American Legion – Corned Beef Dinner – Tuesday, March 12, 2024

CAC Presentation – New Lebanon Library – Saturday, March 16, 2024

Happy St. Patrick’s Day – Friday, March 17, 2024

Palm Sunday – March 24, 2024

Good Friday – March 29, 2024

Easter Sunday – March 31, 2024

April Fools’ Day – Monday, April 1, 2024

April Regular Town Board Meeting: Tuesday, April 9, 2024

American Legion – Cubans & Reubens Night – Wednesday, April 17, 2024

HEAP Application Deadline: No deadline as of now

Date TBD – Town Picnic – August Sunday 2024

Date TBD – Music In The Park – September Sunday 2024

Save the date – Town Clean-Up Day – Saturday, September 7, 2024

## 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](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 third Monday of each month, as necessary, at 7:00pm (changed to quarterly in June, but will meet as needed on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday )

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 meets the third Monday of each month, as necessary, at 12pm

**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

Outreach & Marketing Committee meets the fourth Tuesday of each month at 10:00am

**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