

Town of New Lebanon

www.townofnewlebanonny.gov

August 2026

Town Hall Open Hours:

Supervisor: (518-794-8889) Tues. 9:00am – 2:00pm, Thurs. 12:00pm – 5:00pm and by appointment

Town Clerk: (518-794-8888) Mon., Wed., Thurs. & Fri 9:00am – 5:00pm and by appointment if necessary

Tax Collector: (518-794-8882) for the remainder of 2026 by appointment only

Assessor: (518-794-8875) Tues. 8:00am – 2:00pm call ahead for an appointment

Building Dept.: (518-794-8884) Tues. & Thurs. 9:00am – 12:00pm & **CEO:** Tues. 5:00pm – 7:30pm

Court Office Hours: (518-794-9456) Mon. & Wed. 3:00 pm-5:00pm

Court in Session: 1st and 2nd Thursdays at 5:00pm
3rd and 4th Thursdays at 4:00pm

Historian: (518-794-8880) by appointment

2026-2027 Deer Hunting Seasons

DMP Sales: August 3rd – October 1st

Southern Zone:

Early Bow hunting: October 1st – November 20th

Regular hunting: November 21st – December 13th

Late Bow & Muzzle hunting: December 14th – December 22nd
and December 26th – January 1st, 2027

From the Office of the Town Clerk

Habitat Stamps: Please consider purchasing your \$5.00 Habitat Stamp to help preserve NY State's wildlife heritage and increase public access for fish and wildlife related recreation. The town receives \$1 of every Habitat Stamp sold.



Town Government

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Supervisor:

Tistrya Houghtling

supervisor@townofnewlebanon.com

518-794-8889

Councilmembers:

Joanne Amlaw

jamlaw@townofnewlebanonny.gov

Chris Patterson

cpatterson@townofnewlebanonny.gov

Steve Powers

spowers@townofnewlebanonny.gov

Susan Tipograph

stipograph@townofnewlebanonny.gov

Town Clerk – Marcie Robertson

townclerk@townofnewlebanonny.gov

518-794-8888

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

Regular Town Board meetings are held the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6:30pm. 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

From the Office of the Town Clerk (Continued)

Duck Stamps: The Town Clerk's office offers the Federal Duck Stamp, the cost is \$26.00. Hunters age 16 and over must purchase a Federal Duck Stamp if you want to hunt Migratory Water Fowl. You must obtain a Migratory Bird Harvest Information Program (HIP) to purchase a Duck Stamp for the purpose of hunting migratory birds.

Hunting Licenses

2026-27 hunting licenses go on sale on August 3rd and can be purchased at the Town Clerk's Office. Deer Management Permits (DMPs) can be purchased from the Town Clerk's office from August 3rd through close of business on October 1st. 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, in addition to regular hours on **Thursday, October 1st from 9:00am – 6:00 pm** and on **Friday, November 20th from 9:00am – 6:00pm** for any last minute purchases before opening day of the regular hunting season. We accept cash, check or credit card (there is a fee to use a credit card). You can be a habitat hero by purchasing a \$5 habitat stamp to improve outdoor recreational opportunities for all!

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. Karen Ringwood, Columbia County Records Clerk, is overseeing the program and can also be contacted with any questions at 518-822-0143. The next KISS program will run at the NL Town Hall from September 14th -September 25th.

Charlie's Pantry

We have so many community members and businesses that assist Charlie's Pantry and we would not be able to help so many without your support! We thank Joy Sherman; Catholic Charities of Columbia & Greene counties; Immaculate Conception/St. Joseph church community; Church of Our Saviour; Canaan Congregational Church; Northern Columbia County Rotary; Hilltop Orchards of Richmond Ma. (Lynn Bell); Lebanon Valley Senior Citizen (Mary Young, William and David); Ellen and Jimmy Dilis (Jimmy D's); Malden Bridge Community Center (Minerva); Huguette Redcross; Deb & John McLaughlin; Janice Russo; Lola Snyder; Kristen Lepore; Diane Spoto; Mark Walcroft; Rowen Henning; and many other members of our community, we appreciate everything you do for us.

We offer food and hygiene products (if available) 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. Any questions please contact Georgette 518-794-0156 or Peter 518-794-0544.

From The Highway Superintendent

If you need to contact the Highway Department regarding a non-emergency situation (such as a downed tree), the quickest way to reach Highway Superintendent Peter McCagg is by email at highwaysuper@townofnewlebanonny.gov.

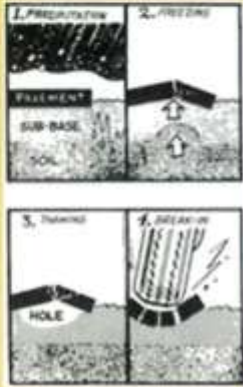
Alternatively, you can call and leave a message at 518-794-8580.

Community Corner

POTHOLES

HOW ARE POTHOLES FORMED?

- Potholes develop when two factors are present at the same time - **water & traffic**; hence potholes commonly occur in the wheel path.



Special Report 81-21 Pothole primer
By: R.A. Eaton, Mr. Joubert and E.A. Wright 10/08/01

POTHOLES IN THE ROAD. WHAT TO DO?

- Try to avoid the pothole, but avoid sharp turns of the steering wheel
- Slow down & drive carefully
- Traveling at full speed, slamming on the brakes, or sudden swerves can cause a crash

HOW ARE THEY FIXED?

- The size of the pothole will determine the fix. A common successful technique for smaller potholes is known as **Throw & Roll**. Your municipality will place a modern asphalt and polymer-based patching mix in the hole. Then they will compact it with a truck tire. Slow down and give the workers room.



NEW YORK State Department of Transportation Local Technical Assistance Program

Community Corner

Slow Down and Move Over

Day in and day out, our roadway workers are putting their lives on the line in order to maintain and upgrade the roads you drive

JUST LIKE FOR POLICE, PLEASE SLOW DOWN AND MOVE OVER - IT'S THE LAW.



As soon as you see lights, vests or reflectors, check traffic around you, **SLOW DOWN** and **MOVE OVER** if safe to do so.

Highway workers are not there to inconvenience you, they are trying to do their job!



Your local highway crew is an integral part of your community. They are responsible for keeping roads clear, repairing damage, managing traffic, and ensuring that essential transportation routes remain accessible for everyone, from daily commuters to emergency responders.

They are someone's son, daughter, mother, father, brother, or sister! Don't be the reason they don't get home.



SLOW DOWN AND MOVE OVER!

NEW YORK State Department of Transportation Local Technical Assistance Program

Connecticut Local Technical Assistance Program

From The Assessor

New Lebanon has begun its yearly rolling data verification. Letters have been sent to the parcels scheduled for verification in the coming weeks. If property data cannot be verified from the roadway due to obstructed views or unsafe conditions, we will enter the driveway, attempt to make contact, and take a photo. Because workload and weather conditions change daily, appointments cannot be scheduled for these verifications. Michelle, the Assessor Clerk, and I will be the only people conducting this work. Our vehicles are a **black Nissan Rogue** and a **white Honda Passport**. We will be on **Canaan Road, Cemetery Road, Lovers Lane, and Route 9** during July and August. Please note, the next FULL reassessment is not until 2029.

Climate Smart Communities Taskforce

In 2024, with the support of the Town Board and Highway Superintendent Pete McCagg, the CSC applied for a grant to perform a Town wide Road-Stream Crossing Assessment. We did not get the grant during that cycle. Recently, CSC Chair, Steve Powers, attended a workshop on flood resiliency and met the DEC contact involved in these grants. DEC has agreed to work with the CSC and Pete to perform an onsite assessment of the 139 culverts in the town. Although they will assess all the culverts, the grant money that is available is intended for the culverts controlled by the town. Columbia County and NYS are responsible for the culverts on roads they control. Undersized culverts have the potential to get blocked in storm events resulting in damaging flooding and road wash-outs.

In addition to the assessment, a management plan will be developed as a reference resource for the Town and Highway department. This resource will allow the town to move forward with culvert management in a more resilient, timely and prioritized manner. Once Pete determines which culverts are the highest priority for replacement, the Town can apply for grants to cover the cost when the next funding cycle opens in the Fall. This program will create considerable savings to the town. Right sized culverts reduce flood risk to residents by allowing streams to flow unimpeded, which is also good for fishing.

The CSC is also collaborating with Assembly member Barrett and the Capital Region Clean Energy Hub which provides outreach, education and connection to energy efficiency resources. We are planning an in-person Utility Clinic on Saturday October 03 at the Community Center where energy experts from various NYS departments and non-profits will assist residents in finding ways to reduce their energy bills through the many NYS & NYSEG programs that are available. A NYSEG representative will also attend and review resident's utility bills. Contractors will discuss techniques to prevent heat loss from homes. Assembly member Barrett held a similar event in Dutchess County in April that was very successful.

Repair cafe

After our sixth New Lebanon repair cafe on July 11, the ColumbiaNE a repair cafe will take August off, but Seville return in the fall with two more events this fall:

September 26th, 10-2, at the Chatham Firehouse, and November 14th, 10-2 at the Canaan Firehouse. Our fixers can fix almost anything, and if they can't, it's good to know that it's okay to throw something out. If you aren't sure about your item, email us at columbianerepaircafe@gmail.com. You can also follow us on Facebook. And we love finding new fixers to join our team.

Community Center News

Did you know you can rent the Community Center for your next event?! Celebrate a birthday, an engagement, a shower, or a holiday with us! How about a fundraiser? Take advantage of our huge space for dining and playing! Your rental includes the dining area, the kitchen and the game room. For our availability calendar and to download our rental application visit the Town's website

@ <https://townofnewlebanon.com/new-lebanon-community-center/>

Weekends are filling up fast so be sure to book early. Rental apps and payment must be filled out and submitted within 7 days of booking and liability waivers are due within 2 weeks of the event.

Do you have a special skill you'd like to share by holding a class or workshop at the Community Center? If so, please contact Alissa Ross at newlebcommunitycenter@gmail.com. We have a full kitchen, perfect for a cooking class, and a large open hall ideal for art, dance or fitness classes. The possibilities are endless — let's connect!

Ongoing Programs and Events:

The Lebanon Valley Seniors meet at 1:00 PM every 1st and 3rd Friday of the month, except in January and February, when they only meet on the 3rd Friday.

Our community members love our free yoga programs. Wednesday gives you two chances to practice yoga with us. 11:00 Iyengar yoga is led by Anna Claude, a level one certified Iyengar yoga instructor. 6:30 PM Yoga Flow is led by our own resident, Jonah Millett. Yoga mats and blocks are provided, so please join us for an hour of unwinding and rejuvenation.

If you prefer music, we invite you to join or simply listen to our monthly Acoustic Jam Sessions, held on the 1st and 3rd Thursday from 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM.

Our weekly meal program meals through the generosity of Columbia Kitchen is going strong. Columbia Kitchen is dedicated to preparing and delivering nutritious, locally sourced meals, free of charge, to people experiencing food insecurity in Columbia County, NY. With the help of their dedicated team of chefs, volunteers, farmers, and partner organizations, Columbia Kitchen provides 8,000 meals each month, with one goal: ensuring no one in our community goes hungry. Our meals are currently being delivered on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons by 3 PM. In addition to Columbia Kitchen, we have fresh meals on Saturday evenings starting at 5PM and often times we have food from local farms and surrounding markets so please check in even on days we don't get meals delivered. All meals get posted onto our Facebook page as soon as they arrive. There is no sign up and it first come, first serve and we ask that you take what you need and leave what you don't for others.

The Community Fridge is located in the main hall of the Community Center.

Compost collection Wednesday and Sundays! In order to curb methane emissions, Climate Smart Community volunteers will collect residents' food scraps at the Community Center. Residents who would like to avail themselves of this service can bring their kitchen scraps to the outside of the main entrance of the Community Center between 11 and 2, and continuing every Sunday between 11 and 2 and every Wednesday between 2 and 5:30. There will be designated buckets for you to leave your scraps in. Be sure to omit any paper, such as coffee filters, or any plastics from your kitchen scraps.

Community Center News (Continued)

In addition to our special programming, our rec center is packed with fun activities and snacks for the whole family. We have tons of games and arts and crafts available during our open hours. Come play ping pong, pool, board games, and video games and even a keyboard for those musically inclined. We always have paint and Legos out and our jewelry-making station with beads is always a hit! We offer lounge areas both inside the rec room and outside if you're looking for a quieter space while your kids play. Feel free to bring some local takeout and spend an afternoon with us — we have plenty of seating. Kids 12 and older do not need to be accompanied by an adult.

It's Summer at The Free Store! This means we are now accepting larger baby items such as strollers, highchairs and small bassinets. Unfortunately, we do not have the space for cribs or crib mattresses. It is helpful to drop larger items off right as we are opening so they have more time to sit outside and get taken before we have to find room inside for them at closing. Please do not leave donations anywhere outside when we are not open. Our donations are accepted during our open hours only. We ask that all clothing donations be clean and without stains and holes. We also ask that you inspect any household items, such as dishes, utensils, electronics, etc. to make sure they are clean and do in fact work before dropping them off. We'd also like to remind everyone that the big blue bin on the corner is not ours.

Thank you to everyone who shops at and donates to the Free Store. Together we are helping each other out and keeping things from the landfill. It's a special place. If you'd like to become a Free Store volunteer, please contact Tistrya Houghtling at supervisor@townofnewlebanon.gov for more details. It's truly a fun and heartwarming atmosphere, and we'd love you to join us!

Community Center and Free Store Hours 523 US 20 New Lebanon NY 12125

Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday: 2:00-5:30

Saturday: 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM Sunday: 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM - Closed Monday/Friday

COMMUNITY CENTER EVENTS SCHEDULE

Please check the town's website and our Facebook page for updates and added events

<https://townofnewlebanon.com>

Facebook: New Lebanon Community Center and Free Store

Questions/ newlebcommunitycenter@gmail.com

AUGUST

IYENGAR YOGA with ANNA CLAUDE	AUGUST 5/12/19/26	11:00-12:00
COMMUNITY YOGA FLOW with JONAH MILLETT	AUGUST 5/12/19/26	6:30-7:30
ACOUSTIC JAM	AUGUST 6/20	1:00-3:00
LEBANON VALLEY SENIORS MEETING	AUGUST 7	1:00-3:00
KAUFMAN SHOWCASE	AUGUST 14	6:00
KARAOKE	AUGUST 15	5:30-7:30
THE BIKE GUYS	AUGUST 20	3:30-5:30
COMMUNITY FORUM	AUGUST 27	7:00

Community Center News (Continued)

SEPTEMBER

IYENGAR YOGA WITH ANNA CLAUDE	SEPTEMBER 2/8/15/22/29	11:00-12:00
COMMUNITY YOGA FLOW with JONAH MILLETT	SEPTEMBER 2/8/22/29	6:30-7:30
ACOUSTIC JAM	SEPTEMBER 3/17	1:00-3:00
LEBANON VALLEY SENIORS MEETING	SEPTEMBER 4/18	1:00-3:00
TAI CHI FOR BEGINNERS	SEPTEMBER 14/21/28	10:00-11:00
TAI CHI ADVANCED	SEPTEMBER 14/21/28	11:30-12:30
THE BIKE GUYS	SEPTEMBER 17	3:30-5:30
KARAOKE	SEPTEMBER 19	5:30-7:30

OCTOBER

IYENGAR YOGA WITH ANNA CLAUDE	OCTOBER 7/14/21/28	11:00-12:00
COMMUNITY YOGA FLOW with JONAH MILLETT	OCTOBER 7/14/21/28	6:30-7:30
ACOUSTIC JAM	OCTOBER 1/15	1:00-3:00
UTILITY CLINIC	OCTOBER 3	10:00-2:00
LEBANON VALLEY SENIORS MEETING	OCTOBER 2/16	1:00-3:00
TAI CHI FOR BEGINNERS	OCTOBER 5/12/19/26	10:00-11:00
TAI CHI ADVANCED	OCTOBER 5/12/19/26	11:30-12:30
THE BIKE GUYS	OCTOBER 15	3:30-5:30
3 RD ANNUAL PUMPKIN PAINT & CARVE	OCTOBER 17	3:00-5:00
KARAOKE	OCTOBER 24	5:30-7:30

Lebanon Valley Senior Citizens

LVS meets the first and third Friday of each month except in the winter, January through March meet only the third Friday of the month at the old firehouse, at the corner of Route 20 and Shaker Road: 523 US Route 20 New Lebanon, NY 12125. As always anyone 55yrs or older is welcome to become members. Membership is only \$15.00 a year and free to anyone 80yrs or more. If you would like to join, just email Donna Moshimer at LebanonSeniorCitizens@gmail.com with your address. If you have any questions, please call William Shannon (518) 938-1039.

Meals on Wheels Program

The Columbia County Office for the Aging wants to get the word out about our home delivered meals. Home delivered meals are for those who are 60 years of age, or older, who are essentially homebound and unable to prepare their own main meal of the day. It has nothing to do with income. Hot meals are delivered Monday through Friday between 11 am and 12:30 pm. The meal generally consists of a hot entrée, vegetable, fresh bread, fruit and milk. Persons receiving a hot meal may also receive frozen weekend meals if needed. For information on the Meals-on-Wheels Program please call 518-828-4258.

From the Lebanon Valley Protective Association

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.

From the Columbia County Office of the Aging

It has been an exciting year for Seniors in Columbia County. Our Administrator Nina Benevento has been working hard at developing new connections, improving the present programs and growing new programs. More Senior Centers programs are opening, more Farmer's Market coupons were available, and more trips were added. Look up the Office For the Aging Columbia County web site for information and the latest news.

The day respite center in Canaan is **ONLY open Friday** at the Canaan Congregational Church. The program provides a place for Senior family members to go weekly in addition to the Senior programs in Canaan and New Lebanon to allow caregivers time to do things for themselves. An additional center is open at St, James Church in Chatham.

HEAP will open the first part of November to help Seniors with heating costs, if you had HEAP last year watch for applications in the mail, if you need assistance contact the Office for the Aging for an application.

Open enrollment for Medicare starts in October but if you are turning 65 before then check out the OFA Web site for various programs available to you to start now. If you are new to Medicare and need assistance, the Office for Aging has people to assist you, contact them at 518-828-4258.

Would you like some new recipes to give you ways to use those fresh vegetables from your garden or the Farmers Market. Check out the Office for the Aging Facebook page for recipes to enjoy.

The New Lebanon Seniors has been enjoying many programs giving us, education, information and fun. We had a wonderful program put on by Angel's Trumpet, Ashley gave us all tips on how to keep our flowers fresher longer and make beautiful arrangements. Coming up in August is our annual picnic and this year we celebrate 50 years of being a group. We meet on the first and third Fridays of the month. We would like to invite anyone 60 and over to join us for continued fun.

From the Webmaster

We now have a section on the website for Volunteer Opportunities available with the Town of New Lebanon. If you are interested in volunteering, we could use your help. If you are on a town committee that needs assistance or has a spot needing to be filled, send your listing to newlebweb@gmail.com. You can see the current listings at <https://townofnewlebanonny.gov/volunteer> or by clicking the Volunteer icon on the home page.

From the Outreach, Marketing & Communications Committee

The Outreach Marketing & Communications committee is updating its business directory. Anyone who has a business in New Lebanon is welcome to be listed in the printed (2027) and online (September) directory with the following information: (Not all information is mandatory.) Freelancers and non-profits welcomed!

Name of Business, Address, Phone, Email, Website, Up to 25 word (175 characters) description of your business. (If there is any of that information you do NOT wish to be printed, please advise us of such. For example, you can give us your phone number so we can reach you if we have questions, but do not wish it to be made public.)

The most current directory is at: <https://townofnewlebanonny.gov/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/2024-04-OM-biz-directory-v3.pdf>

Send your new or updated listing to newleweb@gmail.com by August 31 to ensure your place in the directory. Be sure to write Business Directory in the subject line.

Shaker Preservation Committee (SPC) Report

The SPC has been working for more than nine months to make changes and improvements to the proposal package for a Historic District. Major emphasis has been given to include points made at the public feedback meetings in July 2025. We expect to present vastly improved documentation to the Zoning Re-write Committee in the course of this August for review. We hope to have several public discussion meetings in September to present the revamped version to the wider public.

Respectfully submitted
Winfried Fuchshofen, Chair

TEXT MY GOV

The town uses a service called text my gov to alert residents via text of issues that need urgent attention. We also have a separate Events group which sends out notices on town board meetings and other special events in town. If you are on one list, it doesn't automatically make you a member of the other. To sign up for Town-wide alerts text "NEW LEBANON" TO 91896. To sign up for upcoming community events, text "NEW LEBANON EVENTS" to 91896.

From the Building Department – Town Clean-Up



Town Clean-Up Day is Coming – Please Note Important Changes

The Town of New Lebanon's annual **Town Clean-Up Day (Dump Day)** will be held on **Saturday, September 12, 2026 from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., rain or shine, at Shatford Park.**

If you've attended in previous years, please take a moment to review this year's updates. **There are important changes to the Resident Punch Card limits.**

Important Changes This Year:

- The tire limit has been reduced from **four (4) tires to two (2) tires** per household (24 inches or smaller). Rims must be removed.
- The mattress allowance has changed. Each household may now dispose of **either one mattress and one box spring, two mattresses, or two box springs** using their Resident Punch Card.

New to the community or first time attending the event? Here's what you need to know:

- Each household is limited to **two trips** using a vehicle no longer than **10 feet**.
- Each Resident Punch Card allows disposal of **up to two (2) tires** (24 inches or smaller) and **either one mattress and one box spring, two mattresses, or two box springs.**
- Electronics collection is available during the event. If you're bringing electronics, they will be your **first stop** upon entering the site.
- When obtaining your Resident Punch Card, please bring **one non-perishable food item** for Charlie's Pantry and if you are a new community member, we may not yet know you so please also bring **proof of Town residency** (a driver's license or utility bill will suffice).

Did you know?

If you or someone in your household has a medical or physical limitation and may need assistance unloading, please contact the Building Department before the event. We may be able to arrange volunteer help

Resident Punch Cards will be available beginning in August 1st at the **Town Clerk's Office** or the **Building Department** during regular business hours.

To help make your visit as smooth as possible, please review the complete FAQ, accepted materials list, and event map on the **Building Department webpage** under the **Information** section before attending. Hard copies of this information will be available when picking up your punch card.

The Best Way to Pack Your Vehicle This Year (due to dumpster layout)

- Bottom: Metal items (last dumpster in the row)
- Next: Regular trash items (center dumpsters)
- Next: Tires (second dumpster in the row)
- Next: Mattresses/Box Springs (first dumpster in the row)
- Top / most accessible: Electronics (first stop upon entering the site)

Any questions regarding this event or if you are interested in volunteering with us, please contact: BuildingDept@townofnewlebanonny.gov

Thank you for helping us keep Town Clean-Up Day safe, organized, and successful. We look forward to seeing you there!

From the Building Department – Town Clean-Up (Continued)



Columbia County Hazardous Waste Collection One Day Event

The 2026 Collection event will be on Saturday, October 10th, 2026 starting at 8:00am to 12:00pm at 50 Grandinetti Drive, Ghent, NY.

➞ **For More Information:**

**Columbia County Solid
Waste Department
518-828-2737**



Understanding Local Government



Building Department | Citizen's Guide Series

August 2026 issue: Is Your Summer Project Really Finished?

As another busy summer construction season comes to a close, many of you are putting the finishing touches on decks, garages, sheds, additions, roofing projects, site work from your site plan approvals and other improvements. While construction and site work may appear complete, there are still a few important steps before your project is officially finished.

One of the most important is completing the required inspections. These inspections help verify that work complies with approved plans and applicable building and zoning requirements, while also helping identify potential issues before they become more costly or difficult to correct. Some inspections must be completed before insulation, drywall, concrete, or other finished materials cover the work, and others before opening an approved business.

✓ Although your contractor will often coordinate inspections, the property owner is ultimately responsible for ensuring they are completed. Staying in communication with your contractor and the Building Department can help keep your project moving smoothly and avoid unnecessary delays.

Once all required inspections have been completed, the appropriate Certificate of Occupancy, Certificate of Compliance, or other approval can be issued, officially closing out your project. Keeping these records is important—they are often needed years later during property sales, refinancing, insurance reviews, future renovations or projects.

At the Building Department, our role extends beyond issuing permits and conducting inspections. We are here to answer your questions, explain the process, and help you navigate your project with confidence. Our goal is to protect your safety, your investment, and the long-term value of your property. If you're ever unsure about a project or have questions along the way, please don't hesitate to contact us. We're always happy to help.



Key Takeaway

A project is only complete after all required inspections are finished and the final certificate has been issued.



Learn More - This article is part of the *Understanding Local Government – Building Department Citizen's Guide Series*. For more detailed information, visit the information section of the Building Department page on the Town's website to view the full Citizen's Guide.

Did You Know?

If your project requires Planning Board approval, a site inspection is typically required after approval and before the new use begins. This inspection helps verify that the approved site improvements have been completed and that the project is ready for occupancy.

News from the Conservation Advisory Council

New Lebanon Conservation Advisory Council Five Year Report Card – Trees for Tribs: Benefiting New Lebanon and the Entire Hudson River Estuary Watershed Downstream Since 2021.

Our creeks and streams and surface water are all part of the Hudson River Estuary watershed which spans 5,300 square miles from the federal dam at Troy to the Verrazzano Narrows in New York City. Since 1987 the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) through a variety of programs has managed the estuary and its adjacent watershed through the Hudson River Estuary Program and protects water quality, sustains fish and wildlife, restores eroded streambanks, and promotes community resilience.

The Hudson River Estuary watershed contains roughly 65 major tributaries and over 3,600 miles of streams. In total, including all minor feeder streams that drain into the estuary's network, there are hundreds of individual streams like ours which spread across the region's vast geographic footprint. We are 30 miles from the Hudson.

Our Shatford Park area needs deep rooted plants to protect our stream from pollution and chemical runoff from autos and most importantly to stem erosion and contain floods. The stream has its own habitat and needs support to sustain itself while at the same time it is very important to residents for its beauty, calming effects, and access for cooling off and fun. This is why in 2021 we partnered with Trees for Tribs, one of the NYSDEC programs. They offer free plants and stakes and tubes and assistance with species and siting.

In the big picture, the plantings have begun to stem some erosion and to enhance flood protection. They are adding much needed shade and food for birds and insects and people.

Our gorgeous and beloved stream in Shatford Park was secretly ailing – for decades it had been stripped almost bare of deep rooted plants. Aquatic life was minimal. Continually taking away native grasses, sedges, trees, shrubs and soil holding plants from the banks makes for creating lovely scenic vistas but is very detrimental to water quality and the entire aquatic and terrestrial ecosystem. Continual mowing and weed whacking at stream edge and around the stream further degraded the soil and allowed erosion to go unchecked. It has been an important goal in New Lebanon to find a balance between healthy stream and important public access and use.

Planting trees and shrubs along the stream creates (or recreates) a "riparian buffer" that acts as a natural shield, both keeping floodwaters in while encouraging wildlife to live and thrive in the park. You can see a true buffer at each end of the stream in the park: The stream in those places is well within its banks with minimal to no erosion whereas the denuded stream bank is very eroded in many spots.

The specific ways trees and shrubs protect and enhance stream ecosystems include:

- **Preventing Erosion:** The dense, deep root networks of native trees and shrubs bind the soil together, securing stream banks against fast-moving water and preventing land loss.

News from the Conservation Advisory Council (Continued)

- **Filtering Pollutants:** Vegetation acts as a natural sponge, absorbing excess nutrients (like nitrogen and phosphorus) and filtering sediment and farm chemicals from surface runoff before it reaches the stream.
- **Cooling Water Temperatures:** Tall, overhanging trees and shrubs provide shade, which prevents the water from overheating during the summer. Cooler water holds more dissolved oxygen, which is essential for fish and other aquatic organisms.
- **Managing Floodwaters:** Riparian buffers slow down the velocity of floodwaters. As the water slows, it drops its sediment payload, mitigating damage to downstream communities.
- **Providing Food and Habitat:** Leaves and fallen branches provide crucial food and shelter for aquatic insects, amphibians, and fish.

In June, NYSDEC Trees for Tribs Streamside Restoration Technician Dustin Meany and his super colleague Anna visited us in Shatford and said that ours is one of the best projects he has seen 5 years in! He was impressed with the health and amount of surviving plants and the maintenance that has been done. We also looked at the invasive knotweed in the stream and started coming up with a plan to remove that.

Our Town park crew has been wonderful over the years as has the Town Board who approved this project in 2020. The CAC gratefully acknowledges the variety of help for the project over the years so far, the volunteers who come and mulch and weed especially. Thank you to Joanne Amlaw for tree help and Chris and Danielle Patterson for support and creating pathways to the stream. The park crew have been so helpful and supportive and do a super job keeping the park looking beautiful while learning about stream health. All of us are learning how to support a resilient stream and its habitat while the public enjoys the park's beauty.

We are now working on delineating clear paths to and from the stream and will be shoring up the stream banks with willows this fall. Five years in we see many more birds and insects in the park now and there are plenty of fish and aquatic insects in the stream. We still have much work ahead in Shatford, like keeping plants alive and removing invasives, but re-establishing the buffer is well underway.

The New Lebanon Conservation Advisory Council is: Bill O'Neill, Co-Chair, Peg Munves, Co-Chair, Steve Powers, Donald Lamonaca, and Bruce Shenker. Please reach out to us if you want to help with the plants or anything else we are doing! Peg is at nlcac.munves@gmail.com

SEE BROADWAY'S NEXT
STARS BEFORE THEY
GET SWELLED
HEADS

KAUFMAN
SONGWRITER
SHOWCASE

Friday, August 14th at 6pm
New Lebanon Community Center
COMPLETELY FREE!

Community FORUM

FOR RESIDENTS OF THE LEBANON VALLEY

Thursday, August 27th, 2026
at the New Lebanon Community Center
523 Route 20
Doors open at 6:30pm
Conversation 7:00-8:30pm

Respectful conversations about what is going on in New Lebanon.

SNACKS PROVIDED AND RAFFLE PRIZES!

Meeting will be livestreamed. Info for livestreaming will be disseminated shortly before the meeting via Facebook, email and on the website.

Questions may be asked anonymously via index cards or out loud via microphone. Short questions or suggestions for topics to be covered may be sent in advance to newlebweb@gmail.com by August 25.

Please indicate if you want your emailed question to be anonymous.

Hosted and moderated by the New Lebanon Outreach, Marketing & Communications (OMC) Committee.

News from New Lebanon Senior Reps

We have three Office of the Aging Representatives for New Lebanon and we are working together to assist the eligible population of New Lebanon to know about the benefits available to them through the State, County, Town and their neighbors. Please see our contact information below.

Contacts: David Russell: Chair - 518-794-0273 - nlrepccofa2@gmail.com
Sarah Conly: - 518-794-0423 - nlrepccofa4@gmail.com
Mary Young: - 518-794-7538 - nlrepccofa3@gmail.com

We are always updating our list of residents over the age of 55 with name, address, phone number and email address in order to notify you of programs available to you and to be able to check on you in an emergency. Please email Sarah or call at the above number if you would like your name added to our list.

The State, County and Town offer programs to us to assist in maintaining our health, independence and home. Columbia County has the third oldest population in the State of New York with the numbers rising every year. We are a rural community with limited public transportation and many of our residents do not drive. We have programs to assist you to get services, groceries and to appointments as well as services which come to you.

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.

Community Events (formerly the NL Recreation Commission)

We have lots of great events planned for you! Note that our email address has changed: NLEventsChair@gmail.com is the correct one.

Sunday, August 9th, 12-4

The Town Picnic - at the pavilion in Shatford Park. The New Lebanon Farmer's Market and Grocery is supplying most of the food. Stewart's is supplying the drinks. Roaring 20's will be selling beer.

Please bring a side dish or a dessert to share with your neighbors! We'll have a bounce house, games and crafts for the kids. The musical acts are The Beeline Ramblers, Mike Duffy and our Town Supervisor's newly expanded band The Echoes! We could use help with setup and cleanup, please email Abbie to volunteer. Does anyone know a face painter?

Sunday, September 13th 12-4

Doug Banker Memorial Music in the Park- at the pavilion in Shatford Park. The bands are Generation X Rock, Sugar Blues and The Beaks. We'll have a local food truck and someone selling drinks.

Sunday, August 16th at 10AM

Community Walk at Sassafras 194 Darrow Road. Walk the trails of the Ruins at Sassafras, led by the owner, the delightful Carol Reichert. Please park across the street. We'll meet in front of the big yellow Chair Factory building.

RSVP to NLEventsChair@gmail.com

Community Events (formerly the NL Recreation Commission) (Continued)

September 12th –2-4PM

Newcomers Meet and Greet event. Meet under the tent at Woodlife on Old Route 20, by the High School. We'll provide sweet and savory snacks. You'll buy your own beverages.

Please RSVP to NLEventsChair@gmail.com

Planned Community Walks, Hikes and Paddles:

If you'd like to lead one or have a favorite destination you'd like to share, please let us know.

These events all need an RSVP to NLEventsChair@gmail.com

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 6:30pm

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

(On Pause) - Business & Economic Development Committee meets the first Monday of each month at 6:30pm

Comprehensive Plan Committee meets the 3rd Monday of each month at 7:00pm

Zoning Re-write Committee meets the third Monday, bi-monthly at 7:00pm

Conservation Advisory Council meets the first Monday of each month at 5:00pm

Climate Smart Communities Task Force Committee meets the first Wednesday of each month at 5:00pm

(On Pause) - 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

Playground Design Committee meets the first Tuesday of each month, at 6:30pm

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

Events Committee meets the third Tuesday of each month, as necessary at 6:30pm

Recreation Commission meets the third Tuesday of each month, as necessary, at 5:00pm

Outreach, Marketing & Communication Committee meets the second Monday of each month at 7:00pm

Board of Assessment Review meets once a year on the fourth Wednesday after the fourth Tuesday in May

The Following will be meeting at the Community Center, 523 US Route 20, New Lebanon, NY:

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

New Lebanon to Celebrate Grand Opening of Enhanced Community Playground

The Town of New Lebanon is proud to announce the completion of its new and enhanced Shatford Park playground, a project made possible through a combination of state grant funding, generous community donations, and countless volunteer hours. A ribbon-cutting ceremony to celebrate the playground's opening will be held on Saturday, August 15th **at 10:00am at Shatford Park, 14755 Route 22, New Lebanon, NY.**

The playground project was supported by a **\$500,000 grant from New York State**, along with significant contributions from local businesses, organizations, and residents who shared a vision of creating a vibrant, accessible place for children and families to gather, play, and connect.

The Town extends special recognition to its sponsors and donors whose generosity helped bring the project to life.

Bronze Level Sponsors (\$5,000–\$9,999)

- **Bearfly** Designs
- Conrad and Donna Coon, in memory of JoJo and Kaytlin Coon
- Darcy Construction
- Grasshopper Gardens, Inc.
- Stewart's/Dake Family
- Troy Sand and Gravel

Friends of Shatford Playground Sponsors (\$1,000–\$4,999)

- A. Colarusso & Sons Inc.
- Jon Kalos
- Marchese Ford
- Roaring 20s Brewery & Taphouse

The Town also wishes to thank the many individuals and organizations whose support was instrumental throughout the project:

- **Lebanon Valley Community Corporation (LVCC)** for serving as the project's fiscal sponsor.
- **Assemblymember Didi Barrett** and **State Senator Michelle Hinchey** for supporting the grant application and advocating for the project.
- The dedicated volunteers of the **Playground Design Committee** for their hard work, vision, and commitment.
- **Town Engineer Paul McCreary** for generously contributing his time, expertise, and guidance throughout the planning and implementation process.

The new playground reflects years of planning, fundraising, and collaboration among local leaders, volunteers, businesses, and residents. Designed to provide a safe, engaging, and welcoming space for

New Lebanon to Celebrate Grand Opening of Enhanced Community Playground (Continued)

children of all ages, the enhanced facility represents a significant investment in the quality of life for families across the community.

Community members are encouraged to attend the upcoming ribbon-cutting ceremony and help celebrate this exciting milestone.

Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

Date: Saturday, August, 15th

Time: 10:00 am

Location: Shatford Park Playground, 14755 Route 22, New Lebanon, NY



About the Playground Project

The enhanced community playground was developed through a partnership of local volunteers, municipal leaders, community organizations, businesses, and residents. The project was funded through a combination of New York State grant funding and private donations, reflecting the community's commitment to creating lasting recreational opportunities for local families.

From the Lebanon Valley Seniors

August 7th- A regularly scheduled meeting day and we will also have Story Teller Ron Gabriel returning with World War II stories that are sure to entertain. As always if able please bring food/ snacks to share with your neighbors. (We're also waiting for the school supplies list needed for both the elementary and high school).

August 21st- Activity meeting with Bingo. During this meeting we will also be finalizing plans for the Lebanon Valley Senior Barbecue and the 50th Anniversary of the LVS Group. This will be the last time to

From the Lebanon Valley Seniors (Continued)

sign up if you're attending. Sign up with coordinator Linda Moshimer (518)794-8169. Also bring the school supplies discussed at the August 7th meeting.

August 28th -Barbecue at Shatford Park Pavilion and 50th Anniversary of the Lebanon Valley Seniors with a few surprises at 1pm. chicken, burgers and dogs are provided by the club—if able coordinate sides to share with Linda.

September 4th -Regular meeting-If able, bring food to share with neighbors. This will also be the last day for any submissions of a love one, family or friend that will appear in the Remembrance Program Book. This can be anyone who you wish to remember. Coordinator of this event is Mary Young, who can be reached at (518)794-7538.

September 18th- Remembrance Luncheon- This is a catered event and you must notify Mary Young in advance to attend.

October 2nd- Regular meeting-If able, bring food to share with neighbors.

October 16th -Halloween Party. This is a Halloween themed pot luck so bring your spookiest dish to share with your friends and neighbors. Costumes are not required but strongly recommended. There will be a costume competition for various categories with prizes awarded. We're also asking all who attend to bring a donation for the Humane Society.

November 6th -Regular meeting-If able, bring food to share with neighbors. Guest speakers TBD. Also at this meeting those members who've volunteered to bake a ham or turkey for the Thanksgiving Luncheon will be given either one to prepare for the event. The members of the nominating committee will announce those individuals who are seeking positions on the executive committee. Please talk to Sheryl Roden, Ann Marie Smith or Georgette Tefoe if you would like to nominate someone prior to this meeting. The voting for said individuals will take place during the December Holiday Luncheon. This meeting will be the first opportunity for members in good standing to sign up for the December Holiday Luncheon on December 4th. This event will take place at the Old Daily Inn on Crooked Lake. The cost is \$25.dollars for members and your seat is not secure until paid in full. Remember we have limited seating. Event coordinator is Cathy Shuhart, reachable at (518)766-5673.

November 20th - Thanksgiving Celebration Luncheon- bring sides to share that you signed up with Linda please note that this event will start at 12noon! Event coordinator is Linda Moshimer. 518 794-8169.

December 4th- Holiday Luncheon at the Old Daily Inn on Crooked Lake. This event is limited seating and you are not reserved until paid. Voting for officers will also take place at this time.

December School Choir date-TBD

December 18th- the last meeting of the year will be a celebration of friendship and comradery. We'll be doing a cookie swap, listening to music and enjoying each other's company. Members are asked to bring something to be shared with others. Please contact Irene Marcello at 518 766 5514 to let her know if you will be participating in the cookie swap and what cookies you will be bringing—pls., don't forget gingerbread men.

As a reminder the Lebanon Valley Seniors is a social club and we welcome all those 55 years and up to attend. We've been told that in our community there are people (seniors) who are in need of assistance for travel, food, or day to day tasks that others take for granted but seniors struggle with. If you know of someone that fits that description please refer them to the LV Seniors on our Facebook page or contact President William A. Shannon at (518) 487-4565 or Mary Young at 518 794 7538.

Calendar of Events

Hunting Licenses & DMP's go on sale – Monday, August 3, 2026

Town Picnic and Music in the Park - Shatford Pavilion - Sunday, August 9, 2026 12:00-4:00pm

August Regular Town Board Meeting: Tuesday, August 11, 2026 @ 6:30pm

Playground Ribbon Cutting Ceremony – Shatford Park – Saturday, August 15, 2026 @ 10:00am

Community Forum – Thursday, August 27, 2026 7:00-8:30pm

Holiday – Labor Day – All Town Offices Closed – Monday, September 7, 2026

September Regular Town Board Meeting: Tuesday, September 8, 2026 @ 6:30pm

Town Clean-Up Day – Saturday, September 12, 2026 from 8:00am-2:00pm (rain or shine)

Doug Banker Memorial Music in the Park: Sunday, September 13, 2026 from 12:00pm – 4:00pm

Kiss Program Dates: September 14, 2026 - September 25, 2026

Last Day to Purchase DMP's – Thursday, October 1, 2026

CC Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day – Saturday, October 10, 2026 from 8:00am-12:00pm

Holiday – Columbus / Indigenous People's Day – All Town Offices Closed – Monday, October 12, 2026

October Regular Town Board Meeting: Tuesday, October 13, 2026 @ 6:30pm