

New Lebanon & Nassau News

NEW LEBANON

Barking, Bathrooms and Broadband

by Chris Tergliafera

Proposed Local Law #1 of 2021 was approved at the April 13 New Lebanon Town Board meeting. The Law, which identifies what constitutes a dog causing a disturbance due to habitual barking etc., will now be sent to the New York Secretary of State for filing. The Pavilion Bathroom contract has received an extension until the end of May. All of the supplies are ordered and the project is coming along nicely. However, FRP panels that are part of the project can only be installed when the temperature is above 50 degrees consistently for a period of about two weeks. The panels should be able to be installed in early May.

New Lebanon is seeking a Community Project Funding Grant for Broadband along with Austerlitz, Canaan and Ghent. The four towns will work together to apply for funding to provide broadband to all unserved or underserved households in these towns.

New Lebanon’s share of the cost could be zero, or could come out of COVID-19 funding or maybe a future town budget line item. For now the Board is simply looking for approval to apply for the grant through Congressman Antonio Delgado’s office. If approved, then the amount New Lebanon would need to contribute would be determined and the town could then decide to move forward or not.

The Board is looking into the possibilities of what a potential 33 acre land donation to the town can be used for. Some suggestions were for a kayak

launch, town swimming area, and of course, fishing. The property runs along Wyomanock Creek. A strip of land that is currently owned by someone else separates 17 acres of the land from the rest, however the town is going to look into the possibility of obtaining that piece of land so there would be no break in the donated property.

New Lebanon is waiting for guidance from the Treasury Department on how it can delegate incoming Federal funding. Once that guidance is received, the Board would like to schedule a public input session to get ideas as to what people would like to see done with the money. Some suggestions from the Board included helping people and small businesses who have suffered hardships during the COVID-19 pandemic and improving infrastructure.

An internet upgrade at the LVPA will allow events to be livestreamed for those who still may not feel comfortable attending meetings in person.

The owners of a new potential business on Darrow Road have met with the Planning Board. However, input from the Town Board was necessary as the property and much of the surrounding property pre-dates current zoning laws. The property in question is said to already be used for the same purpose the new business would be, but what that business is wasn’t specified. A motion to move the possibility of rezoning along Darrow Road to the Zoning Rewrite Committee was approved.

NEW LEBANON

Which Logo Will You Choose?

The town recently contracted with a logo designer to come up with a new look for New Lebanon. The logo will be used on Town official documents and marketing materials, as well as our social media postings.

We have three choices and we would love your input as to what works best for New Lebanon. Please vote for your favorite by emailing the Town Supervisor at supervisor@townofnewlebanon.com.

If you do not have email access, call her at 518-794-8889 and leave a message with your name and vote: #1, #2 or #3.

All responses must be received by 9 am on May 10.

Logo #1:



Logo #2:



Logo #3:



NEW LEBANON AND NASSAU AREA NEWS AND NOTES

Bake Sale

On Saturday May 8, the Lebanon Valley Woman’s Club will be having a bake sale. It will be in front of the Family Dollar, 500 US Route 20 in New Lebanon. The time is 9 am to 3 pm. There will be a delicious assortment of homemade baked goods. The proceeds will go to the Lore Squier Memorial Scholarship Fund. The scholarship and awards will go to New Lebanon High School students. We also support many other charities. Hope to see you there.

The rain date is Saturday, May 15.

Next Food Giveaway

The next Community Food giveaway will take place on Thursday, April 22 in the parking lot of the New Lebanon Town Hall. These events are co-sponsored by the New Lebanon Central School District and the Town of New Lebanon, in conjunction with the Regional Food Bank of Northeastern NY.

The food giveaway is completely free and open to any and all families in New Lebanon and surrounding communities who can use the food. Food items will include produce, dairy products, frozen meats and fruits and non-perishable products. Free masks and hand sanitizer are also available.

Nassau Tailgate And Plant Sale

The 10th annual Town of Nassau Tailgate Sale will be held on April 24, from 8 am until noon at the Highway Department, 599 Central Nassau Road, County Route 16 in East Nassau. Vendors are encouraged to contact the Farm Committee at farms@townofnassau.org or 518-766-3559 ext 2 option 1 to reserve a spot, which is free. Note: Masks are required and social distancing.

Vendors of small livestock such as chickens, ducks, rabbits, piglets, goats and sheep should bring crates for sale or a suitable carrier for buyers of their livestock. Vendors with garden or yard plants, seedlings, inspected packaged local meats, jams and jellies, honey and maple syrup are encouraged to attend. Vendors, please comply with applicable rules and regulations.

Admission to this event is free and it will be held rain or shine.

State Of Emergency

Columbia County Board of Supervisors Chair Matt Murell has extended the State of Emergency in the county due to the COVID-19 pandemic through May 12. This is a 30 day extension from the previous end date of April 12. The order can be modified or revoked at anytime.

Summer Youth Program

The New Lebanon Summer Youth Program will go forward as scheduled this year, beginning on June 28 and running through August 20. To receive a 20 percent discount, children must be registered by June 15. The final registration date is July 1.

For more information please contact Program Director Michelle Bienes at 518-788-1150.

Saving With Community Solar

The New Lebanon Climate Smart Community Task Force has begun a campaign to make community solar electricity available to the entire community. The launch meeting/information session will be hosted by the New Lebanon Library and held via a Zoom platform on Thursday, April 22 at 7 pm. Please contact the library to reserve your place.

NEW LEBANON

Looking For Volunteer Firefighters



The New Lebanon Valley Protective Association will hold an open house and recruitment drive on Saturday, April 24, from 1 to 5 pm at the firehouse at 523 US Route 20. Come meet the volunteers who help keep your community safe and learn how you can become involved. Free hot dogs, hamburgers and drinks will also be available.

RHINEBECK

Delgado Pushes Broadband Legislation

Representative Delgado Press Release

U.S. Representative Antonio Delgado (D-NY-19) and Representative David B. McKinley (R-WV-1) introduced bipartisan legislation to help end the digital divide and deliver affordable, quality broadband service to rural Americans. The Community Broadband Mapping Act addresses flawed federal broadband mapping practices and empowers local communities to dispute inaccurate Federal Communications Commission (FCC) internet service status claims.

“Flawed service maps compiled by the FCC paint an inaccurate picture of upstate broadband access,” said Rep. Delgado. “The Community Broadband Mapping

Act gives our communities the ability to collect their own data on broadband coverage so that they can challenge the FCC’s inaccurate mapping. This is the first step to ensuring families, farmers, small businesses, and students across New York’s 19th Congressional District can access secure and affordable broadband service. It is unacceptable that in the 21st century, in the wealthiest county in the world, folks are living without a reliable internet connection. As the pandemic has made even more clear, broadband service isn’t a luxury—it’s a necessity.”

The congressman’s office also says he has reintroduced legislation to help end the digital divide and

deliver affordable, quality broadband service to rural Americans. The Broadband Speed Act would require internet service providers to report annual, accurate speed data to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC).

“Our rural communities need broadband internet that is accessible, reliable, and matches their internet needs,” said Rep. Delgado. “Slow broadband speeds are untenable for our young students taking classes online, web-based small business owners, and families working from home. The Broadband Speed Act would require internet service providers to deliver accurate speed data – not inaccurate estimates.”