

Ben Valliere for Lebanon Borough Council

I'm Ben Valliere and I'm running for an open seat on the Lebanon Borough Council.

A bit about me - I am the oldest of four children in a navy family, and due to this, I grew up in several different places during my childhood, including Virginia, New York, and Illinois. I also spent time in Indiana to attend Purdue University and Pennsylvania to attend law school at Villanova University.

In 2012, I moved to New Jersey, where I later met my wife, Danielle. We were married in June 2017 and chose to move to Lebanon Borough shortly after, in September 2017, and make Lebanon our permanent home. Our daughter, Alice, was born this last April, 2020.

Since moving to Lebanon, I have volunteered for the Shade Tree Commission, Environmental Committee, Historical Committee, and Recreation Committee. I was also recently appointed a commissioner on the Lebanon Borough Sewer Authority earlier this year. I have also been actively involved with Scouting, having earned my Eagle Award in 2002. I currently serve as the Committee Chairperson for Troop 200 in Annandale and I look forward to keeping the Scouting movement alive and well in Hunterdon County.

I currently am an in-house attorney for a fortune 100 insurance company, in Morristown, New Jersey, where I practice insurance defense, subrogation, and construction defect litigation. On the weekends, Danielle, Alice, and I can be found gardening, renovating our home, or taking Alice for walks around the neighborhood chatting with our neighbors.

There are a lot of headwinds facing small boroughs like ours right now. I want to work in a bipartisan fashion with our Mayor, Jim, to make sure we position Lebanon Borough to be prepared both financially and with our infrastructure improvements, to remain a strong independent borough. I also believe in supporting our volunteers, as we are a volunteer town. We also need to work with our planning board to promote smart growth here in town. We can do all this while being transparent and responsive to the needs of our fellow Lebanon Borough Residents. For example, I would like to see us live cast meetings and provide a user-friendly annual budget so we can see where our money goes and so residents can participate in our meetings.

Danielle and I consider Lebanon our hometown and I am excited about the opportunity to work for the people of Lebanon Borough.