

DANBY AREA NEWS

DANBY COMMUNITY COUNCIL ANNUAL MEETING

Submitted by Dan Klein, Danby Community Council

The Danby Community Council held its Annual Meeting on January 11, 2007.

After an uncontested election, Eloise Greene and Dan Klein will continue in their roles as members of the Board of Directors along with Carol Bushberg, Asher Hockett, June Pollack, and Bob Strichartz.

An amendment to the bylaws was put up for a vote and passed unanimously. The amendment allowed the Board seat, previously designated for a resident of West Danby, to be filled by any eligible resident of Danby if no resident of West Danby steps forward to take it.

At this time the Board still has one vacant seat. If you would like more information about serving on the Board, or to receive a copy of our Annual Report, contact Dan Klein, [danbydan@hotmail.com] or 272.7582. ❀

DANBY FUN DAY AND PARADE JULY 14, 2007

Submitted by Sue Beeners

HELP WANTED: The Danby Fun Day, Parade, and Barbecue organizers need *you!*

This great community event gets bigger and better every year, and us organizers keep taking on new roles as the event expands.

We need help with items such as contacting vendors and musicians, advertising and mailings, working at the event, and coming up with exciting new features.

Please contact Sue Beeners at 607.277.0799 or [sbeeners@aol.com] if you can help. If you have enjoyed this event, then, please lend us a hand. We depend on your help! ❀

HIGHWAY DEP'T UPDATE

Submitted by Andrew Thurnheer, Highway Superintendent

I am returning to work on a limited basis after taking a leave of absence due to health issues. Carl Seamon, the deputy superintendent, has done an outstanding job of keeping the department organized and operational while I've been gone. Carl has done a good job of managing highway crew activities so I have asked him to continue in this role. I will be working on administrative activities such as preparing the work plan for upcoming summer road maintenance, negotiating with contractors on equipment and materials, and bringing the highway remediation project to a close.

Our administrative assistant, Tracy White, has become an invaluable member of the team. Tracy brought several years of highway experience with her from the Virginia Department of Transportation. During her first year with the department, she has quickly learned how to work with state and federal officials. She has facilitated over \$25,000 in FEMA aid and has worked to ensure that we receive over \$90,000 in highway improvement funds from the state. She manages all this while juggling the paperwork that comes into the office every day!

Due to the mild weather earlier this winter, the crew has been able to spend time doing important road maintenance. Activities have included ditching along East Miller, Durfee Hill, and Gunderman Roads, as well as installing snow fence on Nelson, Banks, Bruce Hill, and East Miller. As weather permits, the crew will also be working on prepping roads for spring reconstruction and doing ditch maintenance in West Danby.

I would especially like to thank our highway crew, Gary Hollenbeck, Kent McNeil, Dave Noteboom, Carl Seamon, Jim Seeley and Jeff Ward for their ongoing commitment to keeping our roads safe and sound.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding roads or the department please feel free call me at 273.3930. ❀

February 2007
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Database: Colleen Barnes
Mailing: Beatrice Hogben,
Lynne Deuschle, and
Colleen Barnes

To contribute:
Danby Area News
PO Box 6886
Ithaca, NY 14851-6886
Phone: 607.273.8678
Email: [danbynews@tedcrane.com]

Text submissions:
Send text in body of Email
(not as an attachment); or
mail typewritten copy, double-
spaced on white paper. Short
handwritten submissions ac-
cepted; please write legibly.

Graphics: JPEG preferred.
TIFF, GIF, or PNG accepted
but discouraged. Check with
editor before sending hard-
copy graphics.

Deadline is the 15th of the
month. Materials may be
accepted later if time allows.
Submissions should gener-
ally not exceed one page. We
cannot print political material
or letters of opinion.

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297 Jersey Hill Road • 272.3009 •
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Hundreds of gift items available
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THE YOGA CORNER

Community Corners,
903 Hanshaw Road • 257.3677
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Yoga classes for Middle Age /
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Johnson, Danby resident since 1976.

GRANT'S PLANTS

97 Michigan Hollow Road
272.7335 • [grantsplants@juno.com]
Greenhouse opens Memorial Day
Weekend (May 27 & 28).
Open Saturdays and Sundays, 9am-
5pm, other times by appointment.

BLOOM'S SEWING & TAILORING

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210 Yapple Road • 272.8498
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Clothing and Home Décor. Alterations,
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Retailer for Hill's Science Diet dog
and cat food, plus natural pet treats
and Greenies. Save a trip into town.

**JEN MICALE, AUDREY
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REALTY USA**

111 Gunderman Road • 277.9280
[jmicale@localnet.com]
Hey, Danby neighbors! Give me a
call and I'll gladly assist you with any
of your real estate needs. Buying or
selling, I can help!

SIEGARD'S DAY CARE

355 South Danby Road; 1.5 miles
off Rt. 96B • 273.2003
NYS Certified—15 years. Full/Part
Time & After School, Located in the
Spencer-VanEtten school district.

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NYS Certified since 1997 • Accepting
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DANBY TOWN HISTORY

Submitted by Joan Grant, Town Historian

After the annual meeting of the West Danby Community Association on January 13, Wayne Myers of Michigan Hollow Road and Kathy Clements of Comfort Road presented an informative program and slide presentation, *The Former Bald Hill Road Neighborhood*.

Kathy's ancestors, the Slighters and Loomis, and Wayne's, the Parshalls, lived and farmed on Bald Hill. Kathy and Wayne had many photographs accompanied by interesting and often humorous stories.

One historical event mentioned that evening was a major fire that occurred on Bald Hill. The following account is from the *Ithaca Journal* in the late 1920s (unfortunately, the actual date is not known).

FIRE RAGES THRU TOMPKINS WOODS IN DANBY SECTION

**Volunteers Fight Blaze Along Two-Mile Front,
But Are Unable to Stem Advance
2,000 Acres Burned Over**

ITHACA—Along a two-mile front extending from West Danby village over the top of Bald Hill to the Danby-Spencer road a forest fire was raging so hotly Tuesday night that the tired force of less than 100 volunteers, working under Fire Marshall Howard R. Wilbur, was unable to do more than attempt to flank the fire and turn the two ends in by means of backfires and trenches.

Valuable Timber Destroyed

Starting in tinder-dry underbrush on the Dorothy Slighter farm about 10 o'clock Tuesday morning, the blaze had burned over 2,000 acres to the Sweazey farm by 6 o'clock, destroying, in addition to a valuable stand of young timber, a large acreage of young pines on the Slighter property. Only the absence of a strong wind during the day prevented the fire from sweeping thru the wooded section that extends to the Pennsylvania line.

After dark the fire cast a lurid glow in the sky, and from West Danby village the glowing embers of the fire-swept acreage lay like the many lights of a great city into the darkness, while to the south a straight wall of fire, so straight as to suggest a line drawn, was eating its way along the wooded area, consuming everything in its path.

Farmers Anxious

Taking the narrow dirt road that leads east over Bald Hill from West Danby, observers were able to skirt the fire, the smoke sweeping the other way, but the climb,

straight up it seemed, to the clouds, and apparently endless, was no longer than that wall of fire which a worn but, exhausted little force of farmers and villagers still was fighting, faces black and begrimed with heat and sweat.

Along the Danby heights road to North Spencer the occupants of six or eight farmhouses were anxious while watching the progress of the flames down the east side and over the top of Bald Hill at 9 o'clock Tuesday night. They were huddled in little silent groups on porches waiting to make a decision as to whether or not their buildings would be threatened.

About 8:30 o'clock the dreaded breeze sprang up briskly, bringing with it just a hint of rain, but far from enough moisture to dampen the powdery leaves and underbrush.

More Volunteers Called

Opinion was divided as to whether the blaze started from careless hunters or the railroad at the foot of Bald Hill on the West Danby side. From a small beginning it swept straight southeast along the Bald Hill ridge, leaving behind a blackened, charred and smoking area.

A hurry call for more volunteers took about every able-bodied man and boy in the Danby village after supper and permitted the men who had been fighting the flames all day to stagger out for supper and a brief rest. Tuesday night they were going back in, carrying bread, cheese and other edibles from the neighboring stores, prepared to make a night of it.

So far as could be learned at a late hour, no buildings had been burned or any of the fighters injured. Unless rain comes to help, it will require a larger force Wednesday to get the fire under control.

Inscribed on the front of the article is, "This was last Tuesday the 10th, all out now." ❖

COOKING WITH GEORGE & ELK

Let George Foreman cook your next meal! We have no use for our G5 large George Foreman grill; brand new, never opened or used. Five interchangeable plates to grill, griddle, bake, or make waffles. Retail cost \$130; we're asking \$100. Call Beatrice Hogben 272.5294. ❖

Danby folks might like to stop in to see the new Elks Lodge, now located in the former Coddington Road Restaurant, 124 Coddington Road. While many events are only for members, the Lodge is also open to member's invited guests during the Friday night fish fry, Wednesday night Wings 'n Things, Tuesday night Pizza for \$1 per slice, and other special nights. (GH) ❖

NOTICE TO RESIDENTS OF THE WEST DANBY WATER DISTRICT

Submitted by Carol Sczepanski, Danby Town Clerk

An error on your Town and County 2007 Tax Bills has been corrected.

The new bills, with the correct West Danby Water District Tax have been mailed to you. Please pay the amount on your corrected bill. Thank you for your patience in this matter. ❧

DANBY FIRE COMMISSIONERS

Submitted by Deanna Bowles

The Danby Fire District Board of Fire Commissioners will meet monthly on the 3rd Tuesday at 7:30pm.

Meetings alternates between the Danby and West Danby Fire Stations: odd months (Jan, Mar, etc.) in Danby and even months (Feb, Apr, etc.) in West Danby. The next meeting is Feb.20 in West Danby. All meetings are open to the public.

The Commissioners and their elected terms are:

L. Patrick Caveney	2003..2007
Richard Oltz	2004..2008
Ralph Bowles	2005..2009
Wayne Holden	2006..2010
Matt Cooper	2007..2011



ADOPT/FOSTER INFO MTG

To anyone who may be considering becoming a foster parent or adoptive parent and wants more information, Tompkins County Department of Social Services will hold informational meetings at the Human Services Building, Room 142, 320 West State Street in Ithaca on Thursday, February 8, 2007, Noon-1pm.

Please call 274.5266 for more information. ❧

BEREAVED PARENTS MTG

The next meeting of the bereaved parents support group will be on Tuesday, February 13th, 5:30-7pm at Hospicare on East King Road in Ithaca.

This is a peer-run group serving parents or grandparents who have lost a child or grandchild. Please contact Carlo Troise at 255-9470. ❧

APPOINTED BY THE BOARD

Submitted by Carol Sczepanski, Danby Town Clerk

To the Planning Board:

- David Mastroberti of 798 Comfort Road, Spencer, NY, reappointed for a seven year term.
- Robert Roe, appointed as Chairperson.

To the Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA):

- Russell Klinger of 11 Hill Road, Ithaca, NY, reappointed for a five year term.
- Ted Jones, appointed as Chairperson.

As West Danby Water Commissioner:

- Carl Seamon, reappointed for a five year term.

As Deputy Town Clerk:

- The Town Board acknowledged the appointment, by the Town Clerk, of Linda Howe as the Deputy Town Clerk.

As Town of Danby Town Justice:

- Theresa Klinger, appointed to fill a vacancy. Theresa has served as Danby Court Clerk for over nineteen years. ❧

LYME DISEASE SUPPORT

The NYPenn Lyme Disease Support Group meets on Monday, Feb 12 at 7pm at the 1st Cong. United Church of Christ, 171 West Pulteney Street in Corning. Those affected by or interested in Lyme disease, are invited to attend. There is no fee.

For information, contact Suzanne at 607.329.1849 or [roots@stny.rr.com]. ❧

TOWN HOURS

TOWN CLERK

Phone: 277.4788 • Fax: 277.0559

Tue-Fri, 9am-4pm; Sat, 9am-Noon

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

93 Hornbrook Road • Phone: 272.9169

Mon-Fri, 6am-2:30pm

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICE

Phone: 277.0799 • Fax: 277.0559

Wed-Fri, 10am-5pm or by appointment

TOWN COURT:

Phone: 277.4788 • Fax: 277.0559

Tue, 7pm

DANBY COMMUNITY LIBRARY

Tue & Thu 3:30-5:30pm, Sat 9:30am-2:30pm

All offices at Danby Town Hall except where noted.

DANBY COMMUNITY LIBRARY

Submitted by Patti Meyers

An essential Community Meeting will be held at the Danby Town Hall on Tuesday February 6th at 5:30pm to discuss the future of the Danby Community Library. All interested parties are invited to attend.

The Tompkins County Public Library, with the support of the budget approved by the Danby Town Board, will fund the operation of the Danby Community Library through this year. In 2008, we will have to decide how to continue the operation of our community library. Please come to share your opinions or Email Patti Meyers at [pmeyers1@twcny.rr.com].

The Danby Community Library is trying to develop a DVD collection for circulation. We will be accepting donations of popular DVDs during library hours, Tue/Thu, 3:30-5:30pm and Sat, 9:30am-2:30pm.

"It's hard being left behind. I wait for Henry, not knowing where he is, wondering if he's okay. It's hard to be the one who stays." from *The Time Traveler's Wife* by Audrey Niffenegger.

Gay Huddle adds:

I stopped in the Danby Community Library to check out a few books and stopped to visit a while with Margie VanDeMark, the volunteer on duty.

Did you know that, in addition to Internet access, you can return books that you checked out from the downtown Tompkins County Public Library? Or that if you don't see the book you want on the shelves, you can put it on reserve?

I don't think we realize what a convenience this small Library is for Danby. It's a great resource for readers, and hopefully we can begin to utilize it more often. Volunteers are always needed! Stop by and leave your name.

Here's an idea I had—just tossing it out there—how about a story hour on Saturday mornings? Members of the Danby Senior Citizen group could read to Danby children. Seniors and kids is a winning combination as I've seen first-hand. I'd be glad to help get something started if there is any interest out there. ❀

Alternatives Federal Credit Union is in its fifth year of offering free tax preparation services. Its goal is to help all eligible workers claim the credits (ex: Earned Income Tax Credit) they deserve without paying high fees! For info, contact Amy Audetat, 607.216.3459 ❀

DANBY VFC DOINGS

Submitted by Beatrice Hogben, Trustee

Our next pancake breakfast is scheduled for February 18th at the Fire Station, from 8am-Noon.

During 2006, the volunteers responded to 21 fire calls and 81 rescue calls. Here's the numbers for the last six months of 2006:

Month	Fire	Rescue
July	—	5
August	3	7
September	2	4
October	—	11
November	2	8
December	3	6

Please join us in welcoming our new member, Adam Crown of Coddington Road. ❀

INTERNET SERVICE UPDATES

Eloise Greene says:

A big *Thank You* to the Danby households that expressed interest in wireless broadband Internet. Your contact information has been forwarded to local companies Clarity Connect and Lightlink, so you may be contacted regarding a site survey. The issue of broadband internet access in rural areas of Tompkins County was explored in an Ithaca Journal article January 13.

Town Supervisor Ric Dietrich says:

Recent commitments from the state and advances in technology have opened the doors to new options for the Town of Danby. The Danby Town Board is seeking residents who would be willing to advise the Town on high speed internet connections.

Please reply to town supervisor Ric Dietrich, [danbysup@hotmail.com], 607.227.2434, or write to the Town Hall, 1830 Danby Road, Ithaca, NY 14850. I look forward to hearing from you. ❀

DEP'T OF CORRECTIONS

The article about the Full Plate Farm CSA, in the January issue of the Danby Area News, contained incorrect contact information.

You can learn more about the Full Plate Farm CSA at [fullplatefarms.org] or by calling Katie Church, the CSA coordinator, at 607.342.7632. ❀

DANBY COMMUNITY PARK

Submitted by Joanne Church

The Danby Community Park Association (DCPA) is excited to announce an agreement with the Ithaca Babe Ruth Association to develop four Cal Ripken/Babe Ruth playing fields in the park. We expect work on the fields to start this spring.

During this time of examining budgets and planning for the coming year, the DCPA wants to remind the Danby community that the purchase of the land and all of the expenses related to the development, materials, and construction of the Park and Community Center are being supported solely through donations and grants. No local taxes are being used for this project.

We're gearing up for a busy year of fund-raising, planning, and construction. If you're interested in being a part of the process, either by serving on a committee, making a contribution, or volunteering your help, then we'd love to hear from you!

Contact Ken Horst at [khorst@hiagritech.com], 607.266.0181, 277.6474, or Joanne Church at 277.3574, 257.3882, [jmchurch@twcny.rr.com]. ❄

Are you wondering about services for senior citizens? The folks at the Tompkins County Office for the Aging can help you. For information, try 274.5482 or [www.tompkins-co.org/cofa]. ❄

TRASH COUNT!

Submitted by Phoebe Shalloway, age 10

Over the course of 3 weeks, two children ages 9 and 10 counted litter out the bus window on their way from South Hill Elementary School and Danby (Bald Hill Road). Each day, they sat on opposite sides of the bus and counted pieces of trash out the window. During the first week they counted 574 pieces, and 726 during the second week.

This tells us that the amount of litter increased about 152 pieces in one week! This is a big problem! If you can go on a trash pick up or simply pick up a can or paper when you can, these simple things can help save the world! ❄

DANBY STORIES

Submitted by Gay Huddle, Ithaca Journal Correspondent

Readers tell me how much they enjoy the "folksy" news from Danby that appears in my Ithaca Journal column every other Thursday. Stories about special trips taken, anniversaries, memories of life in long ago Danby, or future events that are unique to a small, rural neighborhood. I write the column but want to fill it with *your* Danby stories. Contact me by Email to [gayhuddle@hotmail.com] or by mail to 65 Gunderman Road, Ithaca, New York, 14850. Thank you! ❄

Danby Community Council Scholarship Application

The Danby Community Council provides scholarships to youth who are Danby residents and need financial support to attend special camps/programs (sports, computer, art, dance, music, etc.). Funds are limited, so please apply quickly.

Youth's Name _____

Date of Birth _____ Telephone & Email _____

Address _____

Parent/Guardian's Name _____

Name of camp/program _____

Address of camp/program _____

Is the youth currently eligible for a free or reduced cost lunch program? _____

I verify that the information provided on this application is accurate.

Signature of Parent/Guardian _____ Date _____

Please send the application, with proof of enrollment in program and (if applicable) payment of deposit, to:

Danby Community Council
c/o Carol Bushberg
908 Steam Mill Road
Ithaca, NY 14850

Questions? Call 273.3400!

Community Council Youth Programs February 2007

Programs are for youth who live in or near Danby; the age range is listed for each program. All programs are free. Look for brochures and registration forms in the Danby Store, at the Town Hall, and on the web.

For Tom's programs, to have a brochure mailed or faxed to you, please contact Tom Archibald, 607.272.2292 x222, [tga4@cornell.edu], or visit [http://www.cce.cornell.edu/tompkins/rys/local.htm].

For Julie's programs, contact Julie Kulik, 607.277.0062 box #2, or [flicker_dharma@yahoo.com].

Primitive Pursuits—Grades 4-8-w/ Tom

Danby Federated Church

Mondays starting January 22 (3:30-6:30pm)

(Special bus drop-off is available from Boynton)

We will continue with this wonderful and popular program. New participants are very welcome, too!

Youth learn ancestral outdoor survival skills including shelter building, knife safety, fire building, cord making, orienteering, outdoor cooking and much more. This popular program is an extremely valuable occasion for youth to get away from the fast-paced lives they often lead and relearn how to look at the world (natural and man-made) through a different lens. The future benefits are multiple and diverse, for both the environment and the youth. This time around, we will focus on working towards an overnight in the woods!

Movie Making—Grades 4-8-w/ Tom

meet at Boynton Middle School

Wednesday, January 10-March 7 (3:30-5:30pm)

Now that we just wrapped up a great photography program, we're ready to take it to the next level. Come join us as we have fun while making our own creative movies. We'll write scripts, shoot footage, and dabble in film editing on computers. Everyone will go home with a DVD of some of the movie's we will make. Hollywood has got nothing on us!

Culture Club—Grades 4-8-w/ Tom

Danby Federated Church

Saturday, Jan 6 & 20, Feb 3 & 17 (10am-1pm)

Explore the cultures of the world without leaving Tompkins County! We will learn about and enjoy the food, music, celebrations, and more from diverse cultures from around the globe. We begin by focusing on African culture, and will be eager to dive into any culture that interests you!

Be sure to come for the first meeting, January 6, so your voice will be heard. We may also have special guests or go on short field trips to visit places of cultural importance.

Tom adds, *"The more the merrier, so please don't hesitate to try these wonderful free programs. Homeschoolers are more than welcome. Youth who don't go to Boynton are also more than welcome to come to the program that meets there. Wherever you are, in or near Danby, just come! See you soon!"*

The following classes are offered by Julie Kulik from Earth Arts. There is a \$20 fee for each 4 week block of classes. Scholarships are available through the Danby Community Council (see application, page 6).

Mudpups—Ages 3+ and a Caregiver-w/ Julie

Location TBA (in Danby)

Mondays, January 8, 22, Feb 5, 12, (10-11:30am)

In this class, a caregiver and a young child to participate together. For part of the class we will work on a collaborative clay sculpture of something related to that day's theme (tree houses, picnics, playing in the snow). Then the children will go off with the instructor, listen to a story, have a snack, and explore the outside world together, while the caretakers stay and work on a clay project of their own (vase, bowl, hot-plate, etc.).

Nature, Stories, and Crafts—Ages 5-7-w/ Julie

Location TBA (in Danby)

Mondays, Feb 5, 12, 26, Mar 5, 12, 19 (2:15-4:30pm, when the school bus arrives)

This class will include games and scavenger hunts, indigenous stories and songs from cultures around the world, going outside to explore and track signs of local animals and the changing seasons, and mindfully collect natural materials for a craft activity. ❧

Danby
Youth Flyer

Postal Patron

DANBY AREA NEWS: EVENT CALENDAR

Feb 1 • Thu

Noon 🏛️ Danby Federated Church
Danby Senior Citizens Luncheon
7pm 🏛️ Town Hall
Danby Community Council Meeting

Feb 5 • Mon

6:30pm 🏛️ Town Hall
Town Board Agenda meeting

Feb 6 • Tue

5:30pm 🏛️ Town Hall
Community Meeting: Danby Community Library

Feb 12 • Mon

6:30pm 🏛️ Town Hall
Town Board Meeting

Feb 13 • Tue

10:30–11:30am 🏛️ Market
Meet Your Representatives—County Rep Frank Proto
and Town Supervisor Ric Dietrich

Feb 15 • Thu

7pm 🏛️ Town Hall
Planning Board

Feb 18 • Sun

8am-Noon 🏛️ Danby Fire Hall
Danby Volunteer Fire Company Pancake Breakfast

Mar 1 • Thu

7pm 🏛️ Town Hall
Danby Community Council Meeting

Mar 18 • Sun

8am-Noon 🏛️ Danby Fire Hall
Danby Volunteer Fire Company Pancake Breakfast

Jul 14 • Sat

Danby Fun Day and Parade

ONGOING EVENTS

Seniors Strength Training Group 🏛️ Federated Church
Mondays, 9am.

West Danby Volunteer Fire Company 🏛️ WD Fire Hall
2nd Monday, 7pm.

Danby Fire Commissioners 🏛️ Fire Hall or WD Fire Hall
3rd Tuesday, 7:30pm.

Danby Fire Company 🏛️ Fire Hall
Mondays, 7pm; monthly mtg 2nd Monday, 7:30pm.

Danby Food Pantry 🏛️ Federated Church
3rd Thursday, 6–8pm, 3rd Friday, 4–6pm.

Danby Community Library Reading Group 🏛️ Town Hall
4th Tuesdays, 7pm.

Danby Quilters Group ☎ 273.2950
Fridays, 9–11am.

WHERE THINGS HAPPEN

🏛️ Danby Town Hall • 1830 Danby Road

🏛️ Danby Community Library • 1830 Danby Road

🏛️ Danby Market • 1774 Danby Road

🏛️ Danby Fire Hall • 1780 Danby Road

🏛️ West Danby Fire Hall • Sylvan Lane, off Rt.34/96

🏛️ Danby Federated Church • 1859 Danby Road

🏛️ American Legion Hall • 1231 Danby Road

Did you know you can find the Danby News on the web? [<http://danbynews.tedcrane.com/>]

