



DANBY AREA NEWS

THE AMERICAN BOYCHOIR

Submitted by Janet Gray

Danby Federated Church and The First Congregational Church of Ithaca are bringing the American Boychoir to the area for a concert on Thursday, December 6, 2007, 7pm, at the First CC on 309 Highland Road. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased by calling the Danby Federated Church, 607.272.1687, or at Gnomon Copy in the Tops Plaza on Meadow Street.

Now in its 70th year, the American Boychoir is regarded as the United States' premier concert boys' choir and one of the finest boychoirs in the world. It continues to dazzle audiences with its unique blend of musical sophistication, effervescent spirit and ensemble virtuosity.

Its members—boys from grades 4 through 8, from eight states and four foreign countries—reflect the ethnic, religious, and cultural diversity of our nation. In addition to maintaining an active national and international touring schedule, the ensemble performs and records regularly with world-class artists and ensembles including the Boston Symphony Orchestra, soprano Jessye Norman, pop diva Beyonce, and jazz vocalist and conductor Bobby McFerrin. ❀

WEST DANBY CAROLING

Submitted by Joel Gagnon

The West Danby Community Association will be Christmas Caroling in the hamlet of West Danby again this year on December 16. We will gather at the Old West Danby Church at 6pm. This year we will have musical accompaniment (brass!) thanks to new resident and IC music prof Richard Edwards.

Carolers are encouraged to bring cookies or other items for sharing and distribution to our venerable elders in the community.

This event is a go regardless of the weather. If it is too frightful outside, we will revel in the church. ❀

CLARINET RECITAL

Submitted by Bob Strichartz for Danby Comm. Council

The last concert in the Danby Community Council's 2007 concert series will be a recital by Richard Faria, clarinet, and Shane Levesque, piano, in the Danby Town Hall on Sunday, December 9 at 3pm. The concert features French music from the *Belle Epoque* period before WW I, including Debussy's *Premiere Rhapsodie* and Saint Saens' *Sonata*.

Richard Faria is an Associate Professor of Music at Ithaca College. He has performed extensively, including at Carnegie Hall, and is well known to Ithaca audiences for his extraordinary performances with many local chamber groups, including Ensemble X. He has made many recordings, including a recently released CD of clarinet works of Roberto Sierra on the Fleur de Son label.

Shane Levesque studied at the Peabody Conservatory, and teaches piano and music theory at Cornell where he is a D.M.A. candidate.

Admission is free. The concert series receives grant support from the Community Arts Partnership of Tompkins County. Danby Community Council has applied for another grant for next year. ❀

HEATING WITH BIOMASS

Submitted by Elizabeth Keokosky

The Green Resource Hub is presenting a talk on heating with pellets vs. heating with wood, at Home Green Home on the Ithaca Commons, Thursday, November 29, at 7pm.

Speakers will discuss the pros and cons of heating your home with different types of biomass, including firewood, wood pellets, corn, and grass pellets. They will cover stove types, fuel efficiencies, costs, and safety. Presenters include professor Jerry Cherney of Cornell University Crop and Soil Sciences Department and Michael Leach of Ithaca Stove Works. ❀

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To contribute:
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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-
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or letters of opinion.

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SHORTER NOTICES!

Universal Health Care - Pros and Cons

The keynote address at the annual meeting of the Health Planning Council on Monday, December 3, 2007, 3–4:30pm, in the Kendal at Ithaca Auditorium.

A panel of faculty from Cornell's Department of Policy Analysis and Management will describe many types of proposals and the varying impact on the health of people, the structure of the health care system and the cost of care. Registration is \$5 and includes a dessert buffet; registration deadline Nov. 28. To register call 273-8686 or contact Betty Falcao, [bfalcao@hsctc.org].



Found Cat

Small young black short-haired cat, yellow eyes, friendly, hanging around our yard lower end of Gunderman Road the past few weeks. Seeks love and warmth. Contact Jeanne Lawless, [jwlawless44@gmail.com], 607.273.6075 to claim her. Photo by Erzsebet Helmecczy. Submitted Nov 11, 2007.

Bereaved Parents Meeting Notice

The next meeting of the bereaved parents support group will be on Tuesday, December 11, 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. For more information about the group, please contact Carlo Troise at 607.255.9470.

Foster Care/Adoption Informational Meeting

Considering becoming a foster parent or adoptive parent? The Tompkins County Department of Social Services will hold an informational meeting at the Human Services Building, Room 142, 320 West State Street, on Thursday, December 13, Noon–1pm. Tompkins County has a special need for foster families in the Ithaca City School District.

Please call 607.274.5266 for more information.

The Holidays Aren't Always Wonderful

On December 12, at Noon, Hospicare and Palliative Care Services of Tompkins County hosts *Grief—Coping*

DANBY TOWN HISTORY

Submitted by Joan Grant, Town Historian

The History of Christmas Cards

The first Christmas card was created by John Calcott Horsely (1817–1903) of London, England. He was commissioned by his friend, Sir Henry Cole, a wealthy British businessman, to create a greeting card that could be proudly sent to friends and professional acquaintances. These were people that Cole cared for but didn't always have time to visit.

The card Horsely created depicted an English family raising their glasses to toast Christmas. The card read, "A Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year" and was sent during the 1840 Holiday season.

In 1843, Horsely offered his first card to the public. One thousand were sold that year—at a shilling each—starting a tradition for Horsely and England.

Almost twenty years later, in 1860, the first Christmas card was offered for sale in the United States. Louis Prang, a German immigrant lithographer in Boston, produced the first color cards with scenes of winter tales, for Christmas and New Years.

During the civil war, Abraham Lincoln commissioned Thomas Nast, a political cartoonist, to illustrate a card for those serving in the army and militias. It depicted the Union troops with Santa Christmas (Santa Claus) to bolster their spirits.

"Throughout time, Christmas cards have continued to evolve and have become a staple of Christmastime celebrations for nearly every household. They represent warm wishes and thoughts of peace towards those we know and care for. While some people don't see the reasoning behind the Christmas card tradition, most believe that Christmas cards are a way of being inclusive to those whom we miss over the holidays.

"Christmas cards today, while still outsold by Valentine's Day cards, are highly popular and hold fast to tradition."

Resources: [collectorcafe.com], [funandgames.org],

with the Holidays, a DVD presentation about healing techniques and activities designed to support those who are grieving during what can be a difficult time of year.

Participants are invited to bring a brown bag lunch. Beverages will be provided. Registration is optional; for info, contact Laurie Konwinski at 607.272.0212 or

DEMPC UPDATE

Submitted by Sue Beeners, for the Emer Mgmt Plan Cmte

Holiday Gifts!

Looking for creative and meaningful gifts that are beyond *bling*? Here's a partial list of basic emergency supplies that are great gifts and stocking stuffers, to show your family and friends that you care:

- flashlights, batteries
- address signs
- battery-operated or hand-crank radios
- NOAA Weather Radio with tone alert
- emergency food and water
- first aid kits
- security boxes for important papers
- a deck of cards and/or other entertainment.

How About A Neighborhood Holiday Gathering?

Have holiday fun, while making contacts as "Neighbors Helping Neighbors" and arranging to help each other during an emergency event.

Help Our Community To Be Ready!

- Fill out the Disaster Response Survey if, you have not already, available on the Town website, [town.danby.ny.us], or at the Town Clerk's office at Town Hall. The Survey is confidential, for use only by emergency responders.
- Get an Emergency Preparedness Info. Kit at the Town Hall, for your household, and to give to your neighbors.
- Look at emergency preparedness information on several websites, including TompkinsREADY.

Address Signs -- Help Us Find You!

State Law effective January 1 requires that all occupied properties have address numbers clearly visible from the street. The numbers must be 4 inches high, and on a contrasting background. Please upgrade your address numbers to meet this State requirement. Address numbers should be visible from both directions on any road.

- Our Emergency Responders need to find you.
- The Code Enforcement Office will issue notices to properties without compliant address numbers in the near future—your installation of proper address numbers will help a lot!

If you choose, you can purchase address signs through the Danby Fire Company 607.272.8114 or the West Danby Fire Company 607.564.7303. Both Fire Companies can help with installation of these signs. ❀

DANBY FOREST RULES!

Submitted by Ronda Roaring

A couple of years ago, Norm Jensen, the DEC forester for this region, retired and was replaced by Joan Staples. She is interested in resolving several long-standing problems in the Danby State Forest. Two of them are as follows:

Target Shooting: Target shooting has been going on for years at both quarries—Traver and Bald Hill roads—as well as elsewhere. The DEC had made attempts to stop target shooting at the quarry on Traver Road by cleaning up the mess, planting trees, and placing boulders around the area. That didn't work. Staples will now be ticketing people who target shoot in the forest.

ATVs: There are no roads in Danby where it is legal to ride ATVs, yet people still do it. The problem is exacerbated by the fact that the Town of Candor allows the riding of ATVs on some of its roads around Danby. ATVs are not allowed in any state forest in the region. Staples will be ticketing people who ride ATVs in the forest.

Staples is interested in hearing from anyone who has knowledge of target shooting, ATV riding, trash dumping or other violations. She can be reached at 607.798.1797. ❀

Danby Fun Day - July 12, 2008

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.

PLANNING BOARD UPDATE

Submitted by Sue Beeners, Zoning Officer

At its November 15 meeting, the Planning Board adopted a resolution supporting a County-wide Water and Sewer Evaluation. The Tompkins County Council of Governments initiated this project; Danby is a Council member.

In Danby, the project would help revitalization of both the Central and West Danby Hamlets. It would look at housing and commercial needs,



White Hawk Road

Photo by Ted Crane

prospects for water and sewer in Central Danby, and prospects for improvements and expansion of the West Danby Water District.

The Planning Board also endorsed an application for a NYS Small Cities Technical Assistance Grant, for the development of a Community Development Plan.

This \$25,000 grant would provide professional assistance for continued work on plans for Central and West Danby Hamlet revitalization, with lots of input from members of the entire community on what we all want in Danby.

The NYS Department of Environmental Conservation invites public input on a draft *Rapid Waters Unit Management Plan*. The Plan would look at physical, social, and recreational resources of the Danby State Forest and the Shindagin Hollow State Forest. The Danby State Forest is our most important resource.

The Planning Board will be accumulating ideas to send to DEC after its December 20th meeting. Any ideas from the Danby community are invited. Please look at the DEC website or contact Sue Beeners at the Town Offices, 607.277.0799, for more information.

Congratulations to the *Friends of Bald Hill*—including Wayne Myers and Kathy Clements—for their hard work on documenting the settlers of the “Lost Community of Bald Hill” which is now within the Danby State Forest. Friends of Bald Hill is recognized by DEC as a Volunteer Partnership in the DEC Adopt-a-Natural Resource Program! ❁

SUPERVISOR'S TOWN NEWS

Submitted by Ric Dietrich, Town Supervisor

So very much is happening in our town of Danby. Two new roads have connected to Route 96B in town; one leads to the park and its nascent baseball fields, while the other goes uphill to the White Hawk eco-village subdivision.

The first test well for our aquifer study was drilled on highway garage property, and a second will be located on the park site. The information we receive from these will become part of the data gathered for a small grant application that is going out at the end of November.

The information will also help us make recommendations for the future development of West Danby and the central Danby Hamlet. We are studying the possibility of affordable housing and the subsequent need for water and sewer systems to support it.

We are looking into ways to make health insurance affordable by applying together with other towns. This can potentially save us a lot of money.

Thanks to the dedicated residents who sat at the tables many hours on election day, answering questions and helping to make our election happen.

Whether you celebrate Christmas, Hanukah, Kwanzaa, or all three, have joyful holidays and a happy new year! ❁

FIRE COMMISSIONER ELECTION

The Annual Election of the Danby Fire District will take place on December 11, 2007, 6–9pm at the Danby Fire Station located at 1780 Danby Road, and the West Danby Fire Station located at 47 Sylvan Lane.

One Commissioner will be elected for a five (5) year term, commencing January 1, 2008 and ending December 31, 2012. All residents who register with the Tompkins County Board of Elections by November 19, 2007 are eligible to vote.

Candidates for District Office of Commissioner must submit their request to be placed on the ballot, in writing, to Deanna Bowles, Danby Fire District Secretary, PO Box 6600, Ithaca, NY, 14851-6600, no later than November 21, 2007. Request shall include office sought, candidate's printed name, signature, address, and date. ❁

DANBY COMMUNITY LIBRARY

Submitted by Patti Meyers

I have been standing on the side of life, watching it float by. I want to swim in the river, I want to feel the current. ... So writes Mamah Borthwick Cheney in her diary as she struggles to justify her clandestine love affair with Frank Lloyd Wright—from Loving Frank by Nancy Horan

Happy Holidays to all. Just a reminder that you will not be able to return TCPL items through the Danby Community Library after December.

Everyone is invited to our “workbees” the first Wednesday of each month at the Danby Library at 6:30pm starting in January. Come and see what the library is all about. A special thanks to Nancy Stoehr at Tompkins County Public Library for being our liaison all these years.

Library Volunteer of the Month

Who? Beatrice Hogben. Married 55 years; 3 children, 7 grandchildren, 2 great-grandchildren, and another on the way.

What? Has worked at GLF, Cayuga Medical, Immaculate Conception School, and as Danby Deputy Town Clerk. Plays piano and organ (in church and for weddings and funerals), loves to read novels, walk, knit, use the computer, and is family oriented. 22-year volunteer for the Danby Fire Department.

When? Has been volunteering at the Danby Community Library since they stopped the Bookmobile deliveries.

Where? Born in Sidney, NY; Schooled in Guilford and Binghamton, NY (Ridley Business School). Has lived in Danby for 55 years.

Why? I volunteer at the library because there is a huge selection of books from which to choose. It also gives me purpose in my life. I feel like I’m contributing to the betterment of Danby. The added bonus is that I get to meet some wonderful people and get to see my neighbors.” ❁

FOOD STAMP ELIGIBILITY

Submitted by Ellin Corrigan, NOEP

Are you or someone you care about having trouble paying for food? A five minute conversation with me might make a huge difference.

Last month, the Food Stamp Program marked its 30th year of helping Americans put food on their table. In NY, almost two million residents, including more than 724,000 children and 300,000 adults over age 60, use food stamps to help afford food each month.

GADENS’ THANK YOU

We would like to let all of our neighbors in Danby and the surrounding towns know how much your thoughtfulness means to us. A heartfelt thank you to the Danby Volunteer Fire Company, the West Danby Fire Company and the community members who took time out of their busy lives to plan and host the Spaghetti Dinner Benefit on behalf of Erik Gaden. Thank you to the neighbors who worked that day, to the bakers of those delicious brownies, to all the individuals, local businesses and organizations who donated items for the raffle and dinner.

And a thank you to all the neighbors who bought a raffle ticket, sent a donation or came and enjoyed the wonderful meal and music.

Sincerely, All Of The Gaden Family ❁

DANBY TOWN TALK

Submitted by Gay Huddle, Ithaca Journal Correspondent

As we celebrate at this time of the year, I hope to hear from Danby folks with stories of how you spent the holidays, recipes, funny happenings, decorating hints, and so on ~ stories to share in my Ithaca Journal Danby Town Talk column. Please mail them to me at 65 Gunderman Road, or send via e-mail to [gayhuddle@hotmail.com]. Pictures are always a welcome addition. Thank you.

Mrs. Helen Emery called me to tell me about the passing of her daughter, Barbara Emery Dutton, on October 16, in Utica, New York. Helen has received many calls about Barbara, but being in poor health, has been unable to get an announcement in anywhere until now. Barbara, 56, grew up with her family on the Danby Road. ❁

Unfortunately, only half of New Yorkers who are eligible for food stamp benefits actually receive them. In order to help eligible people get the nutrition they need, the Nutrition Outreach and Education Program (NOEP) is available in 32 upstate counties and New York City to help people sign up for food stamps.

Tompkins County is very fortunate to have a NOEP. As the local NOEP coordinator with Catholic Charities, I am available for free and confidential pre-screenings. Please contact me at 607.272.5062. ❁

Community Council Youth Programs October 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 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].

Primitive Pursuits—Grades 4-8

Danby Federated Church

Mondays, September 17–December 17 (3:30-6:30pm)
(bus drop-off is available from Boynton)

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!

Let's Do Lunch!—Grades 6-7

Boynton Middle School

Tuesdays during lunch,
(dates TBA)

Join us during lunch period for a more relaxed, enjoyable experience with your friends. We'll go to our own room and do whatever we want as we eat. We could play games, do arts and crafts, or just chat about whatever is on your mind. You will find that lunch at school can be more healthy and happy than you thought.

Video Visions—Grades 4-8

Boynton Middle School

Thursdays, September 27–December 13 (3:30-5:30pm)

We all see the world through different lenses. Wouldn't it be fun to share how you see the world by making your own video? Join us for this exciting new program as we use a hand-held digital video camera to explore, capture, and share the world around us. We will get to use cool video editing programs on the computer to help turn your raw footage into the video you want it to be. We'll also visit different spots, using video recording as a new way to view "community," and as a way to share your video vision with the rest of the world.

Tom adds, *"The more the merrier, so please don't hesitate to try these wonderful free programs. Home-schoolers are more than welcome. Wherever you are, in or near Danby, just come! See you soon!"* ❧

A special thanks to the young people who helped with the Halloween party.

Gingerbread Construction

Come for this wonderful community event to build and decorate creative gingerbread houses. December 21, 2007 (time and place to be announced). All ages are welcome. ❧

DCC HALLOWEEN THANKS

Submitted by Andrea Hazard

Thanks to Italian Carry Out, Cornell Orchards, and Three Swallow Farms for their kind donations, to the members of Danby Fire & Rescue for use of the fire hall, to Tom Archibald and the Danby Youth for running games & crafts, and to all the adult volunteers who helped out. Also, thanks to Cooperative Extension for paying for the bounce house. It was a great party! ❧

JORDANS' THANK YOU

Submitted by Pam Jordan

Thank you all who helped me search for my 9-year old daughter Julianna, who wandered off on October 26. What could have been a disaster ended up with a happy reunion.

Special thanks to Peter and Rogan Moore, and Connie Merritt. A very special thanks to the person who stopped by and said they saw Julianna down by the old Danby school. It was amazing to see all the people stop to help who didn't even know us.

It's comforting to live in a community where people pull together in a time of need. ❧

Postal Patron

DANBY AREA NEWS: EVENT CALENDAR

Dec 3 • Mon

6:30pm 🏛️ Town Hall
Town Board Agenda Meeting

Dec 6 • Thu

8pm 🏛️ Town Hall
Danby Community Council Meeting

Dec 9 • Sun

3pm 🏛️ Town Hall
Danby Community Council Concert:
Richard Faria, clarinet, and Shane Levesque, piano

Dec 10 • Mon

6:30pm 🏛️ Town Hall
Town Board Meeting

Dec 11 • Tue

6–9pm 🏛️ Danby and West Danby Fire Stations
Fire District Elections

Dec 12 • Wed

2pm 🏛️ **Danby Senior Citizens Luncheon**, Sunset Grill

Dec 14 • Fri

5–7pm 🏛️ Danby Federated Church
Chicken and Biscuit dinner

Dec 16 • Sun

6pm 🏛️ Old West Danby Church

Dec 20 • Thu

7pm 🏛️ Town Hall
Planning Board Meeting

Dec 21 • Fri

Gingerbread House construction (time/location TBA)

Dec 24 • Mon

7pm 🏛️ Danby Federated Church
“A Celtic Christmas” / Xmas Eve service

Jan 12 • Sat

5pm 🏛️ West Danby Fire Station
West Danby Community Assoc., Mtg and Dish-to-pass

Jan 27 • Sun

🏛️ Danby Fire Station
Pancake Breakfast

Jul 12, 2008 • 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 Friday, 4–6pm, Thursday the-day-before, 6–8pm

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 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

The Town of Danby has a web site:
[<http://town.danby.ny.us>] 🌐

The Danby Volunteer Fire Company has a web site:
[<http://www.danbyfiredept.com>] 🌐

Find the Danby News on the web!
[<http://danbynews.tedcrane.com/>] 🌐