

DANBY AREA NEWS

COMM. COUNCIL UPDATE

Submitted by June Pollack

The July meeting of the Danby Community Council began with a visit from Rick Dobson, who expressed concern over the lack of a sidewalk along Route 96B, between Miller and Michigan Hollow Roads. He also wanted the 45MPH speed limit extended north of Miller Road, through the Danby residential area, and suggested that Danby should have permanent flags through the town.

The Council approved a resolution supporting the extension of the 45 mile per hour limit as well the sidewalk. In addition, speed monitors in Danby will be requested from the Sheriff's department. Joel Gagnon suggested that the Hamlet Planning Group could assist with these concerns.

There was a lengthy discussion of our ongoing youth programs. A youth group meets Fridays to help plan Fun Day, including the preparation of banners for the parade and games and activities for kids. The weekly Farmer's Market, 3:30-6:30pm on Thursdays, provides summer jobs for teens and fresh produce for purchase.

This year, Cornell Cooperative Extension, with Danby Community Council support, is beginning a pilot program for employment of Danby youth in a group setting. Cooperative Extension is recruiting the workers and team leader for the crew. Ric Dietrich is developing local community projects. The first project, at Jennings Pond, began on on July 14. Karen Coleman commented that the pilot program may become a yearly event.

Bea Hogben attended our meeting and spoke about the Danby Community Library. She reported that 41 books

JENNINGS POND UPDATE

Submitted by Amy Cusimano, Pond Rec. Director

Jennings Pond is now open for the season...and we are off to a great start. The July 4th attendance record was shattered when more than 100 patrons showed up!



Fun in the sun
at Jennings Pond.

—Photo by Amy Cusimano

To be more accessible to the public, the life guards are now on duty beginning at Noon. Swimming hours are Sunday-Thursday, Noon-7pm, and extended hours on Friday and Saturday, Noon-8pm.

BBQ grills, picnic tables, fishing and walking trails are available. Jennings Pond is dog friendly, but please remember: they need to be on a leash, there

is no swimming for dogs, and please clean up after your loved one. ❀

and tapes went out in one day! More books, DVDs, and CDs are always welcome for addition to the library. Bea also requested funds in the future for a youth worker for the Fire Department.

Finally, Bea reported ongoing problems with the mailing of the Danby Area News. Spencer residents receive their copy very late. Bea has spent much time and effort looking for a solution to this problem. To expedite the mailing of Danby Area News, Eloise Greene volunteered to drive copies to the Spencer Post Office each month.

Thanks to those who came to express their concerns. Danby residents are always welcome to attend our meetings. The next Council meeting is at 7pm on Thursday, August 7, in the Town Hall. ❀

August 2008
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Database: Colleen Barnes
Mailing: Beatrice Hogben,
Lynne Deuschle, and
Colleen Barnes

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-
ally not exceed one page. We
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or letters of opinion.

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Ted and Connie Merritt.

DO YOU REMEMBER 1961?

Submitted by Joan Grant, Town Historian

Here's a look back at people, places and events that made headlines.

Events

- U.S. severs diplomatic ties with Cuba.
- U.S. Bay of Pigs invasion in April.
- The 97-mile Berlin Wall is built.
- Alan Shepard Jr. becomes the 1st American in space with a 15-minute flight on May 5.
- In May, President Kennedy tells the country, "I believe we should go to the moon."
- Virgil Grissom makes 2nd U.S. suborbital flight in July.
- The Peace Corp is created.
- OPEC (Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries) is formed.

People

- Adolf Eichmann, a high-ranking WWII Nazi is sentenced to death for, "Crimes against the Jewish people, crimes against humanity, and war crimes."
- Gary Cooper, Joan Davis, Chico Marx, Ty Cobb, and Ernest Hemingway die.

Music

- Chubby Checker's *The Twist* is #1.
- New artists: Aretha Franklin, Gladys Knight, Gene Pitney, The Spinners, and the Tokens.

Movies

- *West Side Story*, a film remake of Bernstein's modern-day Romeo and Juliet story.
- Truman Capote's *Breakfast at Tiffany's* starring Audrey Hepburn.
- *The Guns of Navarone*, *Judgment at Nuremberg*, *The Hustler*, *Splendor in the Grass*, *A Raisin in the Sun*, and *The Absent-Minded Professor* (remember flubber?).

Television

- The ever-popular westerns included *Gunsmoke*, *Wagon Train*, *Have Gun Will Travel*, *Rawhide*, and *Bonanza*.
- Other popular shows include *The Andy Griffith Show*, *The Real McCoy's*, *Red Skelton*, *The Untouchables*, and *Perry Mason*.
- New shows: *Hazel*, *The Dick Van Dyke Show*, ABC's *Wide World of Sports*, and competing medical dramas *Dr. Kildare* and *Ben Casey*.

Sports

- Famous names in sports included the Yankee's Roger Maris, San Francisco Giant's Willie Mays, Pittsburgh's Roberto Clemente, boxer Floyd Patterson, and auto racer A.J. Foyt.

Books

Fiction: Stone's *The Agony and the Ecstasy*; Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird*; Steinbeck's *The Winter of Our Discontent*.

Non-fiction: White's *The Making of the President*; 1960; Shirer's *Rise and Fall of the Third Reich*; Lederer's *A Nation of Sheep*.

Prices

- Color TV: \$495.
- 12 cu.ft. Fridge: \$299.
- Iron: \$10.95.
- Cake mix: 4 for \$1.
- Flour: 5lb. for 49¢.
- Bread: 25¢ for a loaf.
- 1st class postage: 4¢ (delivered promptly!).

New Items

- The IBM "Selectric" typewriter, with its "golf-ball" print head.
- Coffee-Mate creamer.
- Charlie the Tuna from Starkist.
- Sprite soda.

Resources: *Reminisce*, June/July 2008.



SHORTER NOTICES!

Bereaved Parents Meeting Notice

The next meeting of the bereaved parents support group will be on Tuesday, August 12, 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, August 14, 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.



SUPERVISOR'S UPDATE

Submitted by Ric Dietrich, Town Supervisor

Because of the energy crisis in this country, gas companies are looking seriously at the Finger Lakes area for gas exploration. A bill has been passed by the NYS legislature and is being considered by Governor Paterson. It will allow horizontal drilling, which might lead to a gas boom in the Southern Tier.

Horizontal drilling is much cheaper than vertical drilling since you don't have to dig as far to get your product. The topography of Danby is suitable for horizontal drilling. So far, the Danby Town Board has not thought that drilling in the state forests or in the Town itself is good for the community. Perhaps it is time to slow down the process if we can and give town and planning boards the time to comment on this issue.

The Ithaca Journal reported that some residents are concerned that horizontal gas exploration could contaminate their water supply. Is this likely or possible? Should we put pressure on the state to tax these new enterprises? If gas is found should some revenues return to the Town? At this time of escalating fuel prices, this may become a pressing issue.

GARDEN TOUR IN DANBY

Submitted by Dan Klein

Wayne Myers extensive garden at 1071 Michigan Hollow Road in West Danby will be open to the public, 10am-3pm, on Sunday, August 3. He has six acres of rolling lawn and perennial beds containing more than 550 different varieties of perennials nestled behind and between fieldstone walls and structures. Features include a covered bridge (listed with the New York State Covered Bridge Society), a working water wheel on a hand-built-post-and-beam constructed feed mill, and a huge glass sponge fossil rock. All this is set against the backdrop of the Danby State Forest and blends in with the native wild plants of the area.

A second garden is also on that day's tour: Nancy Ridenour's Lotus Garden, 346 Warren Road in Ithaca. Admission is \$5 for each garden, or \$8 for both. For more information, visit [ccetompkins.org], call 607.272.2292.x123 or [dek22@cornell.edu].

This event is sponsored by the Tompkins County Community Beautification Program. ❁

The Danby summer work program kicked into high gear on July 14. We will be cutting a trail around the south side of Jennings Pond, removing brush from around the containment perimeter outside of the swimming area, and enlarging the footprint of the park.

Additional work during Danby Fun Days, at the highway garage, and possibly the Danby Park should make for a busy and satisfying summer for youth in the Town.

Be aware that bus passes for off peak hours are reduced to 50 cents during the summer.

Please address comments or questions to me, [danbysup@hotmail.com] or 607.227.2434. ❁

DANBY COMMUNITY LIBRARY

Submitted by Patti Meyers

So Lyra's life had been, before the day she decided to hide in the Retiring Room, and first heard about Dust—from *The Golden Compass* by Philip Pullman, Book One of the Dark Materials trilogy and now a major motion picture.

Free! Join us at 6:30pm on Wednesday, August 6, for *Tips for Successful Gardening* at the Danby Community Library. Cornell Cooperative Extension will have an informal Q&A, and provide two pH tests on soil samples. Come and get your questions answered...and check out our selection of gardening books at the same time.

How are you doing on your Summer Reading list? ❁

TOWN HOURS

TOWN CLERK (SUMMER HOURS, JUL.1-AUG.16)

Phone: 277.4788 • Fax: 277.0559
Mon, 9am-12:30pm, Tue-Fri, 9am-3pm

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT (SUMMER HOURS)

93 Hornbrook Road • Phone: 272.9169
Mon-Thu, 6am-4:30pm (closed Jul.4 thru Jul.11)

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

All offices at Danby Town Hall except where noted.

TOWN OBSERVER

Submitted by Joel Gagnon

Town Board

The local law amendments to increase the fees for dog licensing and for towing of vehicles that are creating a traffic hazard were both approved.

On the towing and storage fees matter, it was clarified that the driving force for the change in the law was a disparity between what is normally charged by towing companies and what Danby's local law allowed to be charged. Also, fees are not as standardized as had been implied by the language of the law. Fees vary depending on distance to be towed and the manner of towing, for example. The law sets a ceiling on the charges but does not preclude lower charges.

The dog licensing law change elicited both on and off-topic discussions about dogs. The dog fee discussion centered on clarifying that there is no difference in fees between purebred dogs and what were termed mongrel dogs. Somehow the information in the Danby News seems to have created the impression that a fee structure that would distinguish between dog types was proposed. It wasn't, and Danby has never had any such differential fee structure.

Enforcement of the dog control ordinance was also discussed. The board was pressed to clarify whether the town is willing to use the town attorney to enforce the ordinance, or whether complainants are on their own. According to a speaker, the town attorney has indicated that she would not prosecute violations on the town's behalf. Ric Dietrich, Town Supervisor, said he would investigate further.

The Town Supervisor was authorized to sign a contract with Tompkins County to enable receipt of a grant approved by the county for, "Recognizing Danby's Rural Cemeteries". Joan Grant, town historian, is the moving force behind this. The money will pay for adding information about the cemeteries to brochures about Danby used to promote tourism. Money for the grant comes from county room tax revenues.

In other action, the board increased the mileage allowance for town business from 50.5 cents (in place since the beginning of the year) to 58.5 cents/mile, mirror-

ing a similar increase in the federal mileage reimbursement rate. The Town Court was authorized to apply for state grant money up to \$30,000 for improvements to court facilities.

Comprehensive Plan Implementation Task Force

The Task force met on July 9. The meeting focused on the, *Local Law Related to the Right to Engage in Agricultural Activity*, Danby's proposed and somewhat broader version of a Right-to-Farm law.

In response to comments on an earlier draft made by the County Planning Department, the group considered simply substituting the state definition of sound agricultural practices for the definition previously included in the draft law. The Danby definition mentioned environmentally sustainable practices, a phrase absent in the state definition. The state definition of sound ag practices, however, is basically whatever the Commissioner of Agriculture says it is.

The group decided to include the state definition, but to augment it by broadening the section, peculiar to the Danby law, that explicitly describes the agricultural practices determined to be sound within the Town of Danby, including a new one termed, "sustainable agricultural practices". Those are practices which, if engaged in indefinitely in their appropriate and careful usage, would not result in the net loss of soil or other serious environmental damage. The group then set that draft aside pending feedback from the Town Board.

The balance of the meeting was a discussion of possible future initiatives. Joel Gagnon floated a proposal for lots by permit that would integrate flag lot regulations into a simplified set of standards based on frontage, acreage, and visibility. This prompted a brief discussion of whether such a significant change should be pursued at this time or whether "changing a few numbers" in the subdivision regulations might be more expedient.

Naomi Strichartz proposed that the group look at wind and other alternative energy with an eye to enabling these. Efforts to promote tourism, to improve broadband access, and to investigate the feasibility of a Danby Post Office were also suggested.

The list will be revisited at the next meeting, scheduled for 7pm on August 13, in the Town Hall. ❁

Danby Fun Day - July 11, 2009

YARD SALE DAY!

1st Annual Danby Community-wide Garage Sale

Plan to be at the First Annual Danby Community-wide Garage Sale. It'll be held 9am-3pm, Saturday, August 16, 2008, on the lawn of the Danby Federated Church.

If you have something to sell, you can reserve a space. The \$10 fee covers all the advertising...you sell your garage sale items and keep the proceeds.

Contact Ed Enstine [eenstine@aol.com] or the Church, [info@danbyfederatedchurch.org] or 607.272.1687.

Old Towne Village Neighborhood Garage/Yard Sale

...and while you're in the mood to pick up some useful bargains...on the same day, same hours...head up north on 96B to the Old Towne Village neighborhood for its garage and yard sale. It's just off 96B, just north of Danby. ❀

RECREATION PARTNERSHIP: FALL REGISTRATION OPENS

Submitted by Liz Vance

Registration is open for fall sports and programs at the Ithaca Youth Bureau. Sports include: Small Fry Football (starting 8/18), Rotary Soccer (grades 2-12 sign up by 8/22; grades grades K-1 by 9/5), Cheerleading, tennis, Tae Kwon Do and Fencing. Expressive Arts programs include: Pottery, Show Time, Youthatre, Improvmania, and Learn to Play Chess. For more information, see [www.ithacayouthbureau.org] or call 607.273.8364. ❀

T-SHIRTS! T-SHIRTS!

Submitted by Sharon Gaden, Danby Fire Dep't

The Danby Volunteer Fire Department is selling Tee shirts to help raise money for the fire station renovation.

The Tees come in either white or light blue, and each has the proud statement, *I built a firehouse for the Danby Volunteer Fire Company* on the back, along with a picture of the proposed new station. They're available for \$10 in sizes from M to XL, or \$12 for 2XL and 3XL. Please see any member to purchase your Tee shirt.

The Fire Company thanks Gold Screen Printing, our Danby neighbor at 804 West King Road, for donating the screen set-up for the artwork. ❀

DANBY FUN DAY UPDATE

Submitted by Sue Beeners

By the time you read this Danby Fun Day will have come and gone. We hope you enjoyed the Parade, BBQ and other food, festivities, and fun at the Danby Fire Department's annual fund raiser.

A big *Thank You* goes to all of the people who helped with this year's event! More news will follow in the next issue of the Danby News.

Let's all continue to rally together to support our fire and emergency volunteers and to celebrate our Town. In these changing times, we need to stick together.

We could use your help in planning for next year. It's simple, easy, and fun! Please contact us (directory in this issue). And save the date for next year: July 11, 2009. ❀



Fun Day Parade!

-Photo by Ted Crane

FUN DAY CONTACTS

Parade:	Sue Beeners	(see below)
Wheel O'Treats:	Gay Huddle	607.273.6530 [gayhuddle@hotmail.com]
Kids Games:	Andrea Hazard	607.272.8791 [ahazard@twcny.rr.com]
Book Sale:	Leslie Connors	607.277.1717
Vendors:	Sue Beeners	(see below)
	Sharon Gaden	(see below)
	Marrel Cortright	607.564.0020
Everything Else:	Sue Beeners	607.277.0799 [sbeeners@aol.com]
	Sharon Gaden	607.659.3116 [danby071302@yahoo.com]

Community Council Youth Programs August 2008

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].

Danby Youth Flyer

We would love to have more vendors and more customers. So if you want to sell locally-made or grown items or if you want to buy such items, come on down.

OWLS (Our World Learning and Service)- Grades 4-8

Danby Town Hall
Fridays, August 1 and 29 (9am-2pm);
other times TBA

We are a youth-run service learning leadership development group, dedicated to helping out the Danby Community. If you want to make a difference, we are still open to new participants who want to join. If you are interested, call Tom, or just show up for one of our meetings.

Coming soon: YOUTH TUBE: a party for Danby youth. During the party, we will be gathering your ideas about what you want your community center to be like, and about your idea of a great after-school program.

Stay tuned for more info! ❁

Danby Farmer's Market—Grades 5-11

Pavilion at Danby Fire Hall

Saturday, June 7 (1-3:30pm at Coop Extension)

Thursdays, June 26–August 28 (1:30–6:30pm)

Are you 14 or older? Do you want a fun summer job?
GET PAID to help run the Danby Farmers Market!

FUN DAY: AN INCOMPLETE HISTORY

Submitted by Pamela Goddard

Danby Fun Day is a decades-long tradition, supporting the Danby Volunteer Fire Department and bringing the Danby community together for a day of food and games, music, and celebration. A relatively small number of dedicated people have organized this for several years. To keep the spirit of Danby Fun Day strong, they hope that more people will get involved.

Since at least the 1970s, Danbyites have gathered together in July for a one-day event known variously as the Danby Carnival, the Danby Fair, and Danby Fun Day. A full history of the Danby Fair, gathering information from everyone involved would be a wonderful thing.

In the 1970s and 80s, a community-wide parade kicked off the Danby Fair. The tradition slipped away in the 1990s and was revived in 2002 by the Danby General Store owners, Toni McBride and Judy VanDermark. Their friends and co-workers, Amy Cusimano and Sue Beeners have kept the tradition alive ever since.

Danby Fun Day has always been a family event. Five

years ago, Andrea Hazard and her family got involved by making child friendly games including the duck race, bean bag, and ring toss games. They emerge from garage attic storage each year for Fun Day. In her fifth year as a Fun Day volunteer and organizer, Hazard is happy to play a role coordinating children's games. "This is easy, as Tom Archibald does most of the work," Hazard says.

The Danby Youth, with the help of Youth Program leader Tom Archibald, now do much of the planning. They design signs and T-Shirts, plan activities, and run the games during Fun Day.

Many Danby Fun Day activities are planned by members of the Danby Fire Department. Popular elements, including the Chicken BBQ, Cake Wheel, and book sale are all fund raisers for the emergency volunteers.

Sue Beeners has recognized the need for a community connection, "When I started to be involved...the event was on the shoulders of the Danby Fire Department and...community volunteers had dwindled," Beeners says. "This is the only town-wide event where residents get together to have fun...show support for our fire and emergency medical volunteers.... It's also a time for our town to get to know each other as neighbors." ❁

Postal Patron

DANBY AREA NEWS: EVENT CALENDAR

Aug 4 • Mon

6:30pm 🏛️ Town Hall
Town Board Agenda Meeting (tentative)

Aug 6 • Wed

6:30pm 🏛️ Town Hall
Community Library: **Tips for Successful Gardening**

Aug 7 • Thu

Danby Senior Citizens: No meeting.
7pm 🏛️ Town Hall
Danby Community Council Meeting

Aug 11 • Mon

6:30pm 🏛️ Town Hall
Town Board Meeting (tentative)

Aug 13 • Wed

7pm 🏛️ Town Hall
Comprehensive Planning Task Force

Aug 16 • Sat

9am-3pm 🏛️ Danby Federated Church
1st Annual Danby Community-wide Garage Sale
9am-3pm 🏛️ Olde Towne Village
Olde Towne Village Garage/Yard Sale
3pm 🏛️ American Legion Hall
6th Annual Community Block Party

Aug 21 • Thu

7pm 🏛️ Town Hall
Planning Board Meeting (tentative)

Sep 4 • Thu

7pm 🏛️ Town Hall
Danby Community Council Meeting

Sep 7 • Sun

3pm 🏛️ Corner of Short and Brown
West Danby Picnic

Jul 11, 2009 • Sat

Danby Fun Day and Parade

ONGOING EVENTS

Danby Community Council 🏛️ Town Hall
1st Thursday, 7pm

Danby Community Library Open 🏛️ Town Hall
1st and 3rd Saturdays, 11:30am-1:30pm,
2nd and 4th Wednesdays, 1:30-3:30pm,
and when the **Open** sign is out!

Danby Community Library Volunteer Mtg 🏛️ Town Hall
1st Wednesday, 6:30pm. Public Welcome.

Danby Community Store 🏛️ Town Hall
Last Wednesday, 7pm.

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 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

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



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

