



# DANBY AREA NEWS

## PLANNING A FARM?

Do you have land to use for a farm or agro-forestry enterprise? Learn how to get started at this Cornell Cooperative Extension Beginning Farmer workshop, held on two Saturdays—February 7 and 14—9am–3pm in Montour Falls.

During this two-session workshop you will learn how to choose an enterprise that suits your interests and your property's capabilities, assess what you need to get started, estimate the costs involved, and figure out markets. Each session has a farmer panel sharing stories about how they got started.

Following the workshop, participants can make an appointment with an Extension Farm Business Educator to receive one-to-one guidance about developing farm and land use plans.

The workshop costs \$25/person or \$40/couple, and that includes lunches. For registration forms and program info, contact Cooperative Extension at 607.535.7161 or [cab377@cornell.edu]. Pre-registration by February 2 is required. ❁

## FUN DAY AND PARADE: CELEBRATE 25 YEARS!

Submitted by Sue Beeners

It's had various names over the years: Danby Fun Day, Danby Field Day, Danby Fair but, no matter what you call it, Fun Day and Parade will celebrate its 25th year as our biggest community event on July 11, 2009. The event benefits our Danby Volunteer Fire Company.

We welcome ideas from all who have helped with the 25 years of this event. We also look forward to hearing from any and all people who have enjoyed this event, and who could spend a little time helping in planning and running it. It's Easy and Fun! Please contact Sharon Gaden or Sue Beeners (see info on page 10). ❁

## WEST DANBY FAIR AND BBQ

Submitted by Marrell Cortright

The West Danby Fire Dept will be holding its Annual Spring Craft Show and Chicken Barbecue, 9am–2pm, on Saturday, April 4! I am excited; some of the crafters already Emailed me to say they have already started making things for Easter/Spring and are looking forward to participating this year.

The chicken will be ready at Noon. The Fire Department sold out so fast last year (done to gone in 45 minutes!), a couple of the crafters went hungry. So this year, reserve a chicken dinner (or half) at the kitchen window just by purchasing a pre-sale ticket. The kitchen will also have donuts and coffee for sale.

Craft show vendor forms will be going out next week in the mail. The cost is still \$10.00 for a space; tables can be provided but are limited. As always, you can contact me, [marrell11@aol.com] or 607.564.0020 with any questions. I am in and out of the barn several times throughout the day; leave a message and I'll call you right back when I come inside.

Remember, this show is the weekend before Easter, so you can come to West Danby to do your holiday shopping! ❁

## LOOKING FOR EMC REP

Submitted by Dan Klein

Danby is looking for a representative to the Tompkins County Environmental Management Council. The EMC advises the Tompkins County Legislature on environmental matters. It meets once a month and the representative would need to keep the Danby Town Board informed of EMC matters.

If interested, send a letter or Email—before February 20—to the Town Clerk, 1830 Danby Road, Ithaca, NY 14850 or [danbytownclk@aol.com]. ❁

February 2009  
Layout: Ted Crane  
Mailing: Melanie Dilliplane,  
Kelly Makosch, and Nathalie  
Bessou.

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 15<sup>th</sup> 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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If you would like to become a sponsor, please contact  
Bev Fitzpatrick at 607.272.8516 or [fitzies4@yahoo.com].

## DANBY NEWS THANKS...

The Danby Area News and the Danby Community Council wish to thank Beatrice Hogben, Lynne Deuschle, and Colleen Barnes for all they've done to make sure our local news makes it into your mail box.

For several years, Bea and Lynn have arranged the newsletter for mailing...an increasingly complicated task, thanks to changing Post Office procedures and other mysteries too finicky to contemplate.

Ever since the Danby Post Office vanished, Danby mail is delivered via several post offices: Ithaca, Spencer, Willseyville, and Caroline. Sometimes it goes through Rochester and Buffalo to get from here...to here. The post office's field specialists—the delivery folks—mysteriously skip some addresses, some of the time, so we've built a list of "gray" addresses. Like, for example, the western half of Gunderman Road. Thanks to Colleen's skillful management of this list, special labels ensure that the Danby News gets to those addresses. *If you or your neighbors are missing delivery, let us know!*

Thanks also to Melanie Dilliplane, Kelly Makosch, and Nathalie Bessou for stepping up to the plate and taking on this important work. The Danby News should make its way to you, where ever you live, without interruption. ❁

## DANBY TOWN HISTORY

Submitted by Joan and Roger Grant

The nine Town Historians in Tompkins County, along with County Historian Carol Kammen, are working on a new pictorial project: a book of Tompkins County residents at work and at play.

We are collecting photos (on loan only) that depict activities like plowing a farm field, sledding, swimming in the family pond, feeding the animals, a family reunion, sawing logs, baling hay, painting the house, a day at the fair...well, you get the picture.

If you have any photos that you would consider loaning to the project, please contact me at 607.272.7335. Each of the nine towns will be represented and you, your family or friends could be featured under the Danby heading of this interesting book. I will be collecting for several months, so you have time to find those old photo albums and pick your favorites. Hope to hear from you soon! ❁

## A WORLD WAR II STORY

Submitted by Beatrice Hogben

I have a dear friend, living in Danby, who was 90 years young last January 14. She, of course, has many interesting memories and this is my favorite:

A young man named Alfred lived near Warsaw in Poland. As a teenager, he belonged to the local youth group, etc., but when he was 18, after Germany took over Poland, he was drafted into the German Army. He became a communications engineer going from Hungary to other countries.

He was captured by English soldiers, spent two years attending a university in England, and became a mathematician. He also worked in the transportation office at the university.

A Polish lady living in the United States, a member of a Polish Club, sponsored Alfred to come to America. The Club paid for his passage, but he had a job within a week and paid them back. He had not wanted to return to Poland; everything was gone and he had nothing to go back to. He became an American citizen.

He met his future wife (who happened to be my friend's sister) in Florida, and it was love at first sight. They got married and settled in Chicago.

They came to Buffalo to visit my friend and her husband, Bill. My friend had worked at Bell Aircraft during World War II, helping to make fighter planes.

Now, this is what is so amazing. Alfred and Bill, during the course of a conversation, realized that they both had been involved, at the same time, with the fighting in France. Alfred was in the German Army. Bill was in the American Army. So, the two brothers-in-law were unknowingly fighting each other at that time. ❁

## SHORTER NOTICES!

### 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, February 12, 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

We've all heard the frustrating news from New York State: municipalities will no longer be entitled to receive any state aid for recreation or youth services programs. This will almost eliminate funding for local youth programs. The date for the change, January 1, is an immediate problem for Danby, since it means repealing the allocations that we've already committed to for 2008-09. We have no idea how much state aid we can expect to support ongoing programs, and there is pressure to abruptly stop all services now, while we await state and county decisions.

Our local leaders (TC Legislator Frank Proto, State Assemblywoman Barbara Lifton, and State Senators Seward, Winner, and Nozzolio) should be contacted with your opinions about youth project funding.

Since money to pay local youth who work on infrastructure projects has dried up, I have had several talks, via teleconference, with the Federal Government and have submitted three projects for consideration: one for walking trail work, two for highway projects, and one for high-speed Internet.

Once again, I'd like to remind you about vacancies on our Town and County committees and boards. We're actively looking for representatives to several venues where decisions that affect all of us are being made. If you're interested, please contact the Town Clerk.

Which leads me to thank all of you who have contacted me about the upcoming Trail Advisory Board meeting,

## DANBY SENIORS

Submitted by Marjory M VanDeMark

The Danby Senior Citizens (55 or older) meet the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of each month at Danby Church for fellowship, food, and sometimes a brief program.

The travel committee is planning some bus trips; the first will be on March 25 to Corning Glass and the Rockwell Art Museum. Call Susan Hautala for more details.

Ted & Connie Merritt are continuing the fun raffles. Hosts for the February meeting will be Barb & Carl Mosher and Cheryl & John Lawrence.

If you're a senior, come and join us! ❁

to be held February 19, the third Thursday, in the at the Town Hall at 7pm. I hope you'll all join the group.

The Town Board has referred two proposals to the Planning Board for its consideration: a "Right to Farm Law" and one that concerns the density which triggers a Planning Board review.

What are *your* thoughts for the Town? What should we work on in this new year? You elect us to serve you and, in 2009, we will be tested to protect you and to provide essential services that you have come to rely on.

We already know about the severe state and nationwide cuts, things like the highway work, youth services, school taxes, and county mandates. In my years of service, I have never seen what is unfolding before my eyes. Danby, like all rural municipalities, must understand that it is only as good as its you—its residents—are. While we scramble to understand the magnitude of our situation, I encourage you not to retreat from these challenges but to step up to the plate and become involved in our Town.

We have a food pantry that needs support, families that are losing their homes, and we see taxes on the rise. We are the sum total of all our parts. What part are you? Help us make a difference. Email me your thoughts and concerns. Connect and participate. Strength in numbers will see us through.

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

## TOWN HOURS

### TOWN CLERK

Phone: 277.4788 • Fax: 277.0559  
Tues–Fri, 9am–4pm; Sat, 9am–Noon, closed Monday

### 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

## January Town Board Meetings

The Town Board held its organizational meeting together with its agenda meeting in January. Among other organizational resolutions, the Board appointed two law firms as Town Attorneys: Miller and Mayer along with Thaler and Thaler. Town Supervisor Ric Dietrich explained that Thaler and Thaler will be used primarily for their specific expertise in financial transaction law.

Compensation for private vehicle usage was reduced to 55 cents per mile, reflecting the IRS rate for 2009. John Sill and Tod Sukontarak were appointed to the West Danby Board of Water Commissioners. Planning Board and Board of Zoning Appeals appointments were deferred until February.

Town Justices Theresa O'Connor and Gary Huddle announced that they have received funding to build a court bench to replace the current folding table. The \$10,000 grant will allow construction of a permanent structure. The justices proposed converting their offices into a court room and using the existing conference room as offices. It is not clear that the new court room could accommodate meetings.

At the Board's regular meeting, it was reported that Larry Parlette, the Town's current webmaster, has indicated that he will not be able to devote time to web site management and has asked the town to search for a replacement. Councilperson Leslie Connors and Town Clerk Carol Sczepanski will meet with Ted Crane to explore what Ted can offer the town as webmaster.

The Board passed a towing law. Councilperson Gene Beavers had objected to a previous version of the law, stating that the possibility of jail time should be included to give the judges flexibility in dealing with egregious violations. A new version of the law was discussed during a public hearing at the Board's year-end meeting, and was passed 3 to 1, with Joe Salino absent.

Councilperson Dan Klein, on behalf of the Comprehensive Plan Implementation Task Force, submitted two proposed measures (see the Supervisor's Update). Both proposals were referred to the Planning Board for review and recommendation.

## Planning Board

At its January 15 meeting, after a public hearing, the Board unanimously approved a special permit allowing

Omnipoint Communications to add antennae to the existing communication tower on Durfee Hill Road. The new antennae will be below the several layers of already-existing antennae on the tower.

The Board considered items referred for comment by the Town Board. Dan Klein, Task Force chair, explained the changes to the proposed "Right to Engage in Agricultural Activity" law since the planning board last saw it. The changes responded to suggestions by the Tompkins County Planning Department. Since the members of the Board had not seen the revisions in advance, they voted to defer review until the next meeting. The Board also requested that the Town Justices comment on how they might handle violations.

The Board also deferred action on the second proposal sent to it by the Town Board (a revision of the subdivision regulations), but for a different reason. The Board was already familiar with its substance but only three of the regular members of the Board were present (two alternates were seated in order to achieve a quorum). It was felt that the rest of the regular members ought to participate in the review and discussion.

Finally, a public hearing regarding a proposed subdivision of a roughly-6-acre property fronting on Curtis and Danby Roads into two lots was scheduled for the Board's next meeting, at 7pm on February 19.

## Comprehensive Plan Implementation Task Force

After Chair Dan Klein reported that the Town Board has referred items to the Planning Board (above), the group agreed that, regardless of the outcome of these proposals, the Task Force focus for the rest of the year would be on non-regulatory proposals.

Ronda Roaring and Joel Gagnon are jointly exploring how to position the Town to use voluntary measures to help keep undeveloped land in its low density zone... undeveloped. Such approaches were strongly supported during early efforts by the Task Force. Roaring and Gagnon will look into the creation of a Conservation Commission, which might facilitate land preservation through conservation easements, donations of land to the Town and/or the Finger Lakes Land Trust.

Projects might include creating brochure to set forth options for land protection within the Town, a web site, and public seminars.

The subcommittee will report on its progress at the next meeting of the Task force, scheduled for 7pm on Wednesday, March 11. ❁

## THREE MINUTE WARNING

Submitted by Adam Crown

Three minutes may not seem like a long time, but a lot can happen in three minutes. You can boil an egg, jog a quarter of a mile, or throw and get hit by a lot of punches in one 3-minute boxing round.

If there's a fire at your house, you'll have three minutes—probably less—to survive. The most important thing you should know about fire is that *fire is fast*.

A free-burning fire can easily double in size every 30 seconds. In three minutes, a fire can go from the size of a match to a *flashover* that ignites an entire room and everything in it and reaches temperatures of 1200 degrees F. No living thing in that room will survive.

Fire is fast, all right, but smoke is even faster.

During those first three minutes, toxic smoke snakes its way through the structure, seeking the highest level via the path of least resistance. Visibility can rapidly go from normal to zero. The fire might be in the basement, but the smoke quickly goes upstairs to bedrooms, carrying deadly carbon monoxide. Of the approximately 3000-4000 friends and neighbors who lose their lives in fires every year, most die from smoke inhalation long before flames ever reach them.

The fire may be relatively isolated, but the smoke isn't. You don't have to breathe much of it to become disoriented, incapacitated, or unconscious.

The Danby Volunteer Fire Company is staffed by—you guessed it—volunteers. There are no firefighters at the station on stand-by, ready to roll when an alarm come in. Your 911 goes to the county dispatcher who summons (*tones out*) members of the appropriate fire company. Firefighters head to the station for trucks and equipment before going to the scene of the call.

Let's suppose your smoke alarm goes off and your 911 call happens only 30 seconds after the fire starts. Another 45 seconds passes before the fire company gets toned out and, if you're lucky, it takes two minutes for the nearest firefighters (they're fast!) to reach the station. Let's say the trucks roll out within 30 seconds of arriving at the station. A minute later (if you're only a mile from the station), you see the trucks.

Another minute passes while the firefighters grab equipment and break out a hose line. They're ready to attack the fire or search for victims.

It's now been 5 minutes and 45 seconds since the fire started. The critical three-minute mark is long gone before you're likely to begin to get help...and this is a best-case scenario. The simple truth is that for that critical first three minutes, you're on your own. You'll have to be able to self-rescue if you're going to survive. That boils down to three little words: *get out fast*.

The best way to self-rescue is to have an emergency plan already in place, and to make sure that you and every member of your household knows what to do in a worst-case scenario. That means you have to practice it, not just talk about it, and it's good to practice it more than once. Be sure to practice in the dark, because most deadly residential fires occur between Midnight and 5am.

Remember, smoke rises. The safest place is near the floor. Teach your family to *get low and go*. Have two exits from every room. If one of those is a window, install an escape ladder (and practice using it). Make sure that the smallest person in your home can reach it and that it's easily accessible.

Early detection is critical to your survival. Be sure you have a working smoke detector on every floor and in every sleeping area. Install more than you think you need...they're cheap, and it's the single most important thing you can do. ❀

## ANGEL FOOD AT DFC

Through its association with Angel Food Ministries, the Danby Federated Church can help you stretch your food costs a third way, along with the monthly Food Pantry and the Mobile Food Truck.

Danby Federated Church has become a host site for AFM, a non-profit, non-denominational organization dedicated to providing food relief and contributing to benevolent outreaches in communities throughout the United States. You can learn more about AFN at its web site, [angelfoodministries.com], where menus and prices are listed.

There are no qualifications, minimums, income restrictions, or applications. Food for each month must be ordered (via the DFC) by the 2nd Friday of the month (Feb.13, this month); it will be delivered to the Church the following week. The church has printed copies of the menu and ordering forms. If writing a check, please make it out to "Danby Federated Church". For more info, contact the Church. ❀

## USEFUL PROGRAMS AT COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

Cornell's Cooperative Extension offers many useful programs at its Education Center, 615 Willow Avenue in Ithaca.

### Save Energy, Save Dollars

Wednesday, February 4, 6:30-8:30pm  
(also Feb 12 at Noon and Feb 26 at 6:30pm)

Learn about low-cost and no-cost ways to reduce your home energy usage and programs that can help you afford energy-efficiency improvements to your home. Each participating household receives a free kit of energy-saving items worth \$15. The workshop is free, but pre-registration is required. Contact Carole Fisher, 607.272.2292 or [crf11@cornell.edu].

### Landowners' Rights Regarding Oil and Gas Leases

Wednesday, February 18, 11am-1pm

A NY State Attorney General's Office representative will make a brief presentation, then consult with individuals on unresolved consumer problems until 1pm. Free and open to the public. No appointment is needed.

This presentation is taped and broadcast on Cable Access Channel 15 on Mondays at 7am, 1pm, and 7pm.

### Making Ends Meet

Thursday, February 19, 10am-Noon  
(also Feb 23 at 6:30pm)

An overview of the process for developing and using a household spending plan. Explore ways to maximize resources and reduce energy use. Free, open to the public, refreshments and door prizes. Attendees receive a money management tool kit. Information also provided about the *One-on-One Program* for households that would like individualized instruction. Limited class size is limited, advance registration required. Contact Helen Ranck 607.272.2292 or [hkr24@cornell.edu].

### Beginner Maple Producer Workshop

Saturday, February 28, (time to be announced)  
at Hamley's Maple, 1242 Oak Hill Road, Barton, NY

Stephen Childs, NYS Maple Extension Specialist at Cornell University covers a variety of topics including: why we make maple syrup, tree identification, tree health, tapping, sap collection and handling, boiling, energy efficiency, finishing and grading syrup, canning, marketing and regulations.

This workshop is aimed at the small or beginning maple producer and will be useful to a homeowner looking to tap a few trees in the backyard. Fee: \$10 per family. Contact Brett Chedzoy at Schuyler County Coop Extension, [bjc226@cornell.edu] or 607.535.7161. ❄

## 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 \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Name of camp/program \_\_\_\_\_ Program Dates: \_\_\_\_\_

Address of camp/program \_\_\_\_\_

Camp/Program Contact Info: \_\_\_\_\_ Total Cost: \_\_\_\_\_

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 June Pollack  
43 Hornbrook Road  
Ithaca, NY 14850

Questions? Call 273.4744 or  
Email [dpollack6@twcny.rr.com]

## ADDRESS SIGNS, ANYONE?

Submitted by Sue Beeners

### Address Signs: Can We Find You?

Could our fire and emergency personnel find your house in an emergency? Do you have address signs that clearly identify your home? You've read about this many times, so please upgrade your address signs if you haven't already. Talk to your neighbors and make sure they have good signs, too!

NY State Code requires that all properties be identified with address numbers that are a minimum of 4 inches in size, on a contrasting background, and clearly visible from both directions of travel on the road.

When you're travelling, note how large, reflective address signs make a difference to finding a house, compared to a neighborhood with tiny, non-reflective numbers on the mailboxes...or no numbers at all.

If you want, you can order reflective address signs that meet State requirements from the Danby or West Danby Fire Companies, and even get help installing them! Contact the Danby Fire Company 607.272.8114 or the West Danby Fire Company at 607.564.7303. Why not order a sign at the upcoming Danby Fire Company Pancake Breakfasts? ❀



## INFO ABOUT AGING SERVICES

Are you wondering about services for senior citizens? From questions about Medicare to concerns about an older relative, the staff at the Tompkins County Office for the Aging can help you.

The TCOA offers information on a wide variety of services for senior citizens and their caregivers. If our office cannot help you, we can refer you to others who can help. Please call us at 607.274.5482, or visit [www.tompkins-co.org/cofa](http://www.tompkins-co.org/cofa). Info About Aging Services. ❀

## DFC EVENTS

You've all heard about the great Chicken and Biscuit Dinners at the Danby Federated Church: bird and bread, mashed potatoes, squash, green beans, corn, harvard beets, applesauce, assorted pies and desserts. There's another one coming up 5-7pm, Friday, February 13, 2009. \$8 for adults, \$4 for children.

The DFC Pioneer Club meets on Fridays, 6-8pm, on February 6, 20, and 27.

There'll be a Children's Valentine's Day Party for pre-school through 5<sup>th</sup> grade, 2-4pm, on Saturday, February 14. Games, activities, and party fun; open to all!

For the adults on Valentine's Day, a Dinner and Dance, 6-9:30pm, Saturday, February 14. It'll be a sweetheart of a meal! \$5 for the meal and dancing.

For info, call Charlene Testut, 273.0759 or the Church, 272-1687, for reservations. ❀

## A BLOCK PARTY?

Submitted by Gay Huddle

Those of us who make Danby and West Danby our home are very lucky to have so many nice neighbors. The problem is, however, that many people simply don't know each other. We have in this community those who were born here, those who settled here many years ago, and newcomers! So, what can be done to promote getting to know each other better? H'mmm, let's see.....how about a summer block party? Sue Beeners, Denise Benjamin and myself were discussing this idea at the recent Danby Fire Department breakfast, and we are in agreement.....we are going to plan a block party and everyone is welcome! This is what we were thinking and we'd like to hear from you with feedback: with approval from the Ithaca School District, we would set up on the grounds of the former Danby Elementary School (next to the playground), possibly the Saturday after the school year ends, putting up tents/tables/chairs. Each family brings its own meat, rolls, beverages and tableware, along with a dish to pass. We'll work on setting up a few grills for hotdogs, hamburgers, hot sausage, chicken, etc, with each of us preparing our own. We certainly can use ideas, suggestions, and more volunteers to help us pull this together. Please call me at 607.273.6530 or [\[gayhuddle@hotmail.com\]](mailto:gayhuddle@hotmail.com).

This can be the first, ever Danby Community Block Party, with another to follow each year if we are successful! ❀



## FIRE DEP'T UPDATE

Submitted by Sharon Gaden

During calendar year 2008, the Danby Volunteer Fire Company responded to 45 fire-related emergencies and 84 medical emergencies. These numbers do not include West Danby Fire Department's incidents. Within the Fire District as a whole, the total number of emergencies for 2008 was approximately 190.

Due to a scheduling conflict, our the March pancake breakfast has been moved forward, to Sunday, March 1. We were thrilled by the number of folks who braved the snowstorm and attended our January 11 breakfast! Thank you so much and we hope to see you on February 8 and March 1.

During December, the Company elected officers for 2009:

President	Wayne Holden
Vice Pres	Ralph Bowles
Treasurer	Jessica Remais-Sager
Secretary	Sharon Gaden
Trustee	Beatrice Hogben
Chief	John Gaden
1st Ass't Chief	JoAnne Oliver
2nd Ass't Chief	Peter Goodman
3rd Ass't Chief	Roger Grant
4th Ass't Chief	Andrew Dunnick
Continuing Trustees:	
	Richard Oltz, Barbara Robinson ❧

## PARENT & TEEN NIGHTS

Submitted by New Roots Charter High School

Is your teen enrolling in 9th or 10th grade for the 2009-2010 school year? Will a hands-on education at a small high school benefit your teen?

New Roots High School, a tuition-free public high school in downtown Ithaca that is now enrolling Danby students, among others. Come to an information night at the Danby Town Hall, 6-8pm on either Thursday, February 5, or Monday, February 16, and hear how New Roots School could be right for your teen.

Dinner and child care will be provided. For info or to sign up, check out [[newrootsschool.org](http://newrootsschool.org)] or contact 607.339.6994 or [[newrootsschool@gmail.com](mailto:newrootsschool@gmail.com)]. ❧

## DANBY COMMUNITY LIBRARY

Submitted by Patti Meyers

*From Dawsey to Juliet: 7th February, 1946*

*Dear Miss Ashton,*

*I'm certain the Guernsey Literary Society would like to be included in your article for the Times. I have asked Mrs. Maugery to write to you about our meetings, as she is an educated lady and her words will sound more at home in an article than mine could. I don't think we are much like literary societies in London.*

—The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows.

As of this month, we have begun to receive Tompkins County Public Library and Finger Lakes Library Service collections. Please remember that you are responsible for replacement fees for lost items; return materials promptly. Some of the materials, such as DVDs, will only be available to check out from a Danby Community Library volunteer.

At our monthly volunteer meeting, expanded hours were discussed in order to better serve the community. If we have enough volunteer time, we are considering staffing the Library every Saturday 11:30am-1:30pm in addition to the current two Wednesdays a month. Please give us some feedback.

This month's recipe and a movie features *Afghan Chicken Kabobs* and *The Kite Runner*.

Ingredients:

1 cup	plain yogurt
½ tsp.	ground pepper
1½ tsp.	salt
3 cloves	garlic, finely minced
1½ lbs.	chicken breasts, boneless, in 1" chunks
4 slices	pita bread or flour tortillas
3	tomatoes, sliced
2	onions, sliced
2	lemons, quartered (or 4 limes)
	cilantro to taste

Mix yogurt, pepper, salt, and garlic in a bowl. Mix chicken with yogurt and marinate 1-2 hours at room temperature, up to 2 days refrigerated. Thread chicken on skewers and grill over barbecue. Place bread on plates (if using tortillas, toast briefly over flame), divide meat among them, top with tomato and onion slices and cilantro and fold bread over. Serve with lemon or lime quarters for squeezing. Yield: 4 Servings. ❧

## SNOW PLOW COWBOYS

Submitted by Ted Crane, West King Road

Do you own a snow plow? You know, those blades that hang awkwardly from the front of your truck?

Plowing a driveway requires some special skills. Plow owners learn them quickly to avoid getting stuck in snow, and to prevent burning out the truck's clutch.

Driving a front-mounted plow on public roads is an entirely different set of skills and, sadly, plow owners seem not to spend much time practicing this art. It's tricky to maintain situational awareness of several hundred extra pounds of steel, hanging several feet high and a few feet wider than the truck's hood.

Maybe that's why so many mailboxes end up as victims to snow plow cowboys. Mine has gone down more than once; most recently a month ago. There was no evidence of actual plowing (so it wasn't the Town plow!), but there was a deep gouge in the heavy metal box, right at raised-plow height. The box was torn from its post, in spite of the swinging post which had, indeed, swung when it was hit.

No, there was no apologetic note. Not even an offer to plow my driveway.

Please, snow plows are unconcealed weapons. Drive slowly and carefully, and aim to miss everything. Including my mail box. Thanks. ❄️



## MASTERING COMPOSTING

Submitted by Adam Michaelides

Become a Master Composter! Get involved and have fun volunteering in the community. Learn all about composting and then teach others. Training involves ten Wednesday evening classes, February 11-April 29 (no class on March 18) and related volunteer work. The application deadline is Friday, January 30.

For more information or to request an application, call the "Rotline" at 607.272.2292, Email me at [acm1@cornell.edu], or stop by Cooperative Extension at 615 Willow Avenue in Ithaca. ❄️

## STORIES FOR TOWN TALK

Submitted by Gay Huddle

Hello, everyone! I hope your Christmas was merry and bright, and I hope you will be enjoying a healthy and happy 2009.

Now, who has a holiday story for my *Danby Town Talk* column in the *Ithaca Journal*? Funny, sad, traditional, not so traditional, hectic, quiet...all stories are welcome and if you would like to send a picture as well that would be great! Please include your complete name with your story, and the names of anyone in pictures that you might send as well. ❄️

### Danby Fun Day - July 11, 2009

### 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 February 2009

Danby Youth programs are intended for middle school aged youth living in Danby. They are free and usually on weekdays between 3:30 and 6:00pm. Detailed brochures are available by contacting Laura at [ljs257@cornell.edu].

It's not too late to join these after-school programs!

### Cultural Cooking

Wednesdays, January 14-February 11; 3:30-5:30pm.  
Boynton FCS room

Have you ever eaten an African dish with your hand? Or cooked Indian food that will spice up your life? Come explore the world of cooking through a variety of international meals that you cook yourself!

## WINTER CAMP

Submitted by Melissa Mueller

Cornell Cooperative Extension's /Primitive Pursuits/ program, part of 4-H Youth Development, is now accepting registrations for its Winter Camp.

This outdoor program will get kids into the woods during school break, from Monday through Friday, February 16-20. The outdoor fun will include practice in the skills of shelter, water, fire, and food in a frozen world. We will build fires, track animals, play games, and learn about the season of rest before collapsing on our couches back home.

The daily program runs 9am-3pm (supervision available 8:30am-3:30pm) at 4-H Acres, 418 Lower Creek Road in Ithaca. Participants, ages 6-14 will be divided into similar-age groups. There are two, three and five-day options: Mon-Fri \$195-250 (self-determined sliding scale), Mon-Tues \$95, and Wed-Fri \$145.

Contact me, [mjm463@cornell.edu] or 607.272.2292 x195, for more info, or you can find a registration form at [www.primitivepursuits.net]. ❄️

*Note: the Danby Community Council offers scholarships for this, and other, activities. See the form on page 7 of this month's Danby Area News.* ❄️

# Danby Youth FLYER

### Lunch Munchers

Mondays, January  
12-February 9; all lunch  
periods

Boynton Room D141

Come try something new during your lunch hour! Games, quick crafts, healthy snacks and more await you!

### Winter Explorations

Mondays, January 12-February 9; 3:45-5:30pm  
Danby Town Hall

Cold is no excuse to stay indoors! Try snow-shoeing and snow fort building. Or we will make our own snow in the form of ice sculptures, edible ice slushies and more! If you enjoy Primitive Pursuits or simply like being outside, this is for you! ❄️

## GROTON WINTERFEST / RECYCLED TOBOGGANS!

Do something fun for Valentine's Day! Come to the 2nd annual Groton "Recycled Toboggan" contest! It's part of the free Groton Winterfest on Saturday February 14, 10am-4pm at the Elementary School, on Elm Street in Groton.

Re-use and recycle your old "stuff" to make a cool sled. Lots of great prizes and a fun way to beat those winter blahs! Other events include a 9am Pancake Breakfast, sled dog rides with professional dog musher Roy Smith, Home Depot's "Team Depot", free XC-Ski rental, a bounce house, games, crafters, raffles, sledding and more!

For info--or a toboggan contest entry form with rules and guidelines—check out [grotonny.org/park.html] or call Viola Fitzgerald at 607.898.4569. ❄️

## DANBY TOWN SIGN GURU

Submitted by Gay Huddle

Thank you to Jeff Huddle for keeping the Danby Town Sign updated for the past two years. Thank you to Walt Reimers for agreeing to take over this duty now. Please contact Walt at 607.273.5742 with information on your community events. ❄️

Danby Community Council  
Danby Area News  
1830 Danby Road  
Ithaca, NY 14850

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## DANBY AREA NEWS: EVENT CALENDAR

Feb 2 • Mon  
6:30pm 🏛️ Town Hall  
**Town Board Agenda Meeting** (tentative)

Feb 5 • Thu  
Noon 🏛️ Danby Federated Church  
**Danby Senior Citizens Luncheon** (also Mar.5)

Feb 8 • Sun  
8–11am 🏛️ Danby Fire Hall  
**Pancake Breakfast** (also Mar.1)

Feb 9 • Mon  
6:30pm 🏛️ Town Hall  
**Town Board Meeting** (tentative)

Feb 12 • Thu  
7pm 🏛️ Town Hall  
**Danby Community Council Meeting** (tentative)

Feb 13 • Fri  
5–7pm 🏛️ Danby Federated Church  
**Chicken & Biscuit Dinner** (also Mar.13, Apr.10)

Feb 14 • Sat  
8–11am 🏛️ West Danby Fire Hall  
**Valentine's Day Sweetheart Breakfast and Raffle**  
6:30-9pm 🏛️ Danby Federated Church  
**Valentine's Day Dinner and Dance**

Feb 17 • Tue  
7:30pm 🏛️ West Danby Fire Hall  
**Danby Fire Commissioners Monthly Meeting**

Feb 19 • Thu  
7pm 🏛️ Town Hall  
**Trail Advisory Board Meeting**  
7pm 🏛️ Town Hall  
**Planning Board Meeting** (hearing: Curtis/Danby Rd.)

Mar 11 • Wed  
7pm 🏛️ Town Hall  
**Comprehensive Planning Task Force** (also Apr 8)

Apr 4 • Sat  
9am–2pm 🏛️ West Danby Fire Hall  
**West Danby Spring Craft Show and Chicken BBQ**

Jul 11, 2009 • Sat  
**Danby Fun Day and Parade**

### ONGOING EVENTS

**Danby Community Council** 🏛️ Town Hall  
2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday, 7pm

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

**Danby Community Library Volunteer Mtg** 🏛️ Town Hall  
1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday, 6:30pm. Public Welcome.

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

**West Danby Volunteer Fire Company** 🏛️ WD Fire Hall  
2<sup>nd</sup> Monday, 7pm.

**Danby Fire Commissioners** 🏛️ Fire Hall or WD Fire Hall  
3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday, 7:30pm.

**Danby Fire Company** 🏛️ Fire Hall  
Mondays, 7pm; monthly mtg 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday, 7:30pm.

**Danby Food Pantry** 🏛️ Federated Church  
3<sup>rd</sup> 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/>]

