



DANBY AREA NEWS

FUN DAY: RED, WHITE, AND BLUE...AND SAFETY TOO!

Submitted by Sue Beeners

Things are cooking along for the Fun Day and Parade on July 11, 2008. It celebrates more than 25 years of this community 'happening' that benefits our hard-working fire and emergency volunteers and brings all of us neighbors together!

Look forward to the Famous Chicken BBQ, the Wheel O'Treats, the Book Sale, live music, lots of games, vendors, and fire safety demonstrations. New games for kids of all ages will be featured—including a dunking booth—and other favorites will return. A Bounce House is sure to be a new favorite.

Take special note of the Kitchen Fire Safety Trailer, which trains adults how to quickly respond to a kitchen fire and provides important fire safety lessons for kids.

Stay tuned for more updates. Start planning your neighborhood parade float or walking group -- the Parade theme is *Red, White & Blue and Safety, Too*. Look for a parade entry form in next month's *Danby News*.

Please help us to continue this great tradition! It is easy and fun, and a couple of hours of your help will make a difference! Kids, Seniors, anyone is welcome to volunteer. How about helping our Fire Company with:

- Games running one for an hour or two
- Food helping at the Famous Chicken BBQ or make popcorn/cotton candy
- Buttons sell before and during the event
- Set-up night before and morning of the event
- Clean-up after the event
- Bake Wheel O'Treats cakes and other goodies
- Auction gently-used items, theme baskets, donations of goods and services
- Books pickup available for the Book Sale
- Vendors see contact info below

All proceeds benefit the Danby Volunteer Fire Company. Contact info is on page 6. ❀

BARE FACTS ON BEARS

Submitted by Leslie Connors

Black Bear sightings in and around Danby have become more frequent. Having bears as neighbors can be challenging. Please join us for a viewing of the award-winning, Department of Environmental Conservation video, *Living with NY Black Bear*.

This intriguing video may reveal the most important wildlife story to ever impact your life.

- Discover the history of this resilient animal in its struggle to survive the taming of the landscape.
- Explore the black bear biology that allows bears to carve their unique niche in a dwindling ecosystem.
- Learn from experts how to responsibly share your neighborhood and recreation areas with wild bears.
- Find out how to avoid and react to all types of black bear encounters.
- Walk with wildlife biologists as they wade into the sometimes dangerous and always challenging realm of managing black bears.

The video will be shown 7-8pm on Saturday, April 18 at the Danby Town Hall. After the video, David Riehlman, Sr., Wildlife Biologist with the DEC, will join us for a discussion and questions. ❀

DCC YOUTH SCHOLARSHIPS

Submitted by June Pollack

The Danby Community Council provides scholarships to Danby youth, covering a portion of the costs of programs that might not otherwise be affordable.

We are fortunate that funds have been continued for 2009, and we want to encourage experiences and opportunities for Danby youth.

Look for the application which appears in many issues of the *Danby Area News*. It is also available at the Town Hall and by mail. For more info, call me at 607.273.4744. ❀

April 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 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.

The Danby Area News (DAN) is a
publication of the Danby Com-
munity Council (DCC) produced
by contract with the Town of
Danby. All statements are those
of the contributors, and do not
necessarily reflect the views of
the editors, sponsors, the DCC
and its officers, or officials and
employees of the town of Danby
All works remain © of the con-
tributors. Please provide a SASE
if you wish to have materials
returned. The DAN and DCC are
not responsible for typographic or
other errors.

We would like to thank these sponsors for their help:

PATRON:

ARNOLD PRINTING CORP • 604 West Green Street • 607.272.7800
High Quality Printing Services • Recycled papers / Soy based inks
Complete Digital pre-press • Family owned and operated

SUPPORTERS:

CAROL BUSHBERG REAL ESTATE
273.3400 • [carol@carolbushberg.com]
cell 607.279.4530 • fax 607.330.4808
950 Danby Road • [carolbushberg.com]
Tompkins County's newest full service
Real Estate brokerage. Buy or list
with me in 2009! Sound advice for big
decisions.

**HIGHLAND FARMS BOARDING
KENNEL AND STORE**
The "Doggie B & B"
168 West Miller Road • 273.3251
[www.highlandfarmskennel.com]
Retailer for Hill's Science Diet pet food.
Pet treats & toys, Embroidered Gifts.
Featuring the WOOFER WASH dog bathing.

**MARGE HOVANEC, RE/MAX
IN MOTION REAL ESTATE**
531 Esty Street • 277.1500.x242
[marge@baka.com]
I love living in Danby!! Consult with me
in your decisions to sell or buy. "Buying
or Selling the perfect property for
people *and* their pets!"

FRIENDS:

NELSON RD SEWING & ALTERATIONS
Poppy Singer • 83 Nelson Road
273.4041 • For all your Clothing and
Home Decoration needs.

CONTENTED COUNTRY GIFTS
297 Jersey Hill Road • 272.3009 •
[contentedcountry.com]
Ted and Connie Merritt.

PAUL YAMAN CONSTRUCTION
Danby-Ithaca Rep: Jim Hovanec
277.0171 • [www.paulyaman.com]
327-2644 • [jim@jimhovanec.com]
Roofing, windows, additions,
remodeling, decks, and *new* homes.
"Building to make exceptionally
satisfied customers since 1979."

THE GUGINO LAW OFFICE
29 Lieb Road • [markglaw.com]
277.5605 • [mgugino@twcny.rr.com]
Legal services including Criminal,
Real Estate (sale and purchase),
Bankruptcy, Personal Injury,
Family Court, and Business Services.

MAGICAL GARDEN PRESCHOOL
351.8809 • [magicalgarden@toast.net]
[magicalgardenithaca.com]
Whole Foods, Peaceful Playground,
Music, Watercolors, Gardening,
Story and Movement Circles,
Animals, and Seasonal Crafts

NATURE'S SONG RETREAT CTR
217 Peter Road, Willseyville
659.3909 • [www.naturessongretreat.com]
[www.sound-energy-healing-work.com]
The only sound & energy healing center in CNY.
Board/staff meetings, family reunions, private
conferences and workshops, solitary and
group retreats, weddings and receptions.

DANBY FEDERATED CHURCH
"A Place for All"
1859 Danby Road • 272.1687
[www.danbyfederatedchurch.org]

If you would like to become a sponsor, please contact
Bev Fitzpatrick at 607.272.8516 or [fitzies4@yahoo.com].

HISTORY OF THE BICYCLE

Submitted by Joan Grant

Baron vonDrais' "walking machine" was invented in 1817. It was surprisingly similar to a modern bicycle, with two same-size, in-line wheels, the front one steerable, mounted in a frame which the rider straddled. The rider, however, alternately pushed his feet along the ground (like a two-wheeled scooter) and glided. The all-wood "Draisienne" enjoyed a short-lived popularity due to a lack of smooth roadways or paths.

The "Velocipede" ("fast foot") appeared on the scene in 1865. It resembled the walking machine, but had pedals attached directly to the front wheel, like a modern child's tricycle. The Velocipede was popularly known as the "bone shaker". It was originally made solely of wood; later on, metal tires replaced the wooden ones.

In 1870, the first all-metal machine—and the first to be called a bicycle—appeared. The pedals were still attached to the main wheel and the spoked tires were made of rubber, yielding a much smoother ride. It was also known as the "high-wheel", thanks to its large front tire (and much smaller rear wheel). The bicycle could travel much farther on a single rotation of the front wheel, but it did have a drawback. Because the rider sat so high above the center of gravity, if he hit so much as a rut or stone in the road, he would be tossed forward over the wheel—with his legs trapped under the handlebars—to land on his head, "taking a header". This bicycle reached its peak popularity during the 1880s.

Design improvements came in the form of reversing the position of the wheels. Placing the small wheel in front helped to eliminate "taking a header." The new, reversed design was known as "high-wheel safety" while the older design was called the "ordinary."

The next improvement to the bicycle, "the hard-tired safety", was a return to the earlier design of two wheels of equal size. A chain and gear system allowed this new bicycle to go as fast as the huge high wheel. Front and rear suspensions made the ride somewhat more comfortable, and it also had a foot brake system.

Comfort and safety were combined in the pneumatic-tired safety (air filled tires), another improvement during the 1890s. The bicycle was what made the Gay Nineties gay. It was a practical investment for a working man's transportation, and gave him greater flexibility for leisure. As women's interest in cycling grew, the bustle

and corset era died and "common-sense dressing" for women was instituted. In 1896, Susan B. Anthony said that, "The bicycle has done more for the emancipation of women than anything else in the world".

Bicycling became so popular that the League of American Wheelman was formed (now called the League of American Bicyclists) and the League lobbied for better roads. It literally paved the road for the automobile.

After World War I, several manufacturers including Montgomery Ward, Sears & Roebuck, and Mead (Schwinn came along slightly later) introduced the kid's bike. These were called "classics" and had features resembling the designs of automobiles and motorcycles. These heavy, balloon-tire styles were popular into the mid-50s, when they were gradually replaced by leaner, simpler, and lighter-weight versions like the English 3-speed.

The 10-speed derailleur became popular during the 1970s, and today a 21+ speed, ultra light-weight, multi-suspension bicycle is commonplace.

The bicycle has come a long ways.

Resources: *Collecting and Restoring Antique Bicycles*, G.D. Adams. FYI: The History Center in downtown Ithaca has a High-Wheel on display just inside its entry doors. Check it out! ❧

INFORMATIONAL KIOSK MTG

Submitted by Ronda Roaring

The Town is planning to install three identical informational kiosks, one at the pull-off parking area south of the hamlet on 96B, one at Jennings Pond and one on 34/96. The kiosks will provide tourist information (brochures, maps, notices of events, and businesses) to visitors to the town. A meeting of residents interested in helping with this project has been scheduled for Wednesday, April 15, at 7pm in the Town Hall.

The project has a minimal budget, so the kiosks should be rustic, long-lasting, and low maintenance. They will probably be set in concrete and landscaped with small stones, pavers, or other materials to prevent weed growth.

Residents who have design ideas or would be willing to donate materials, construction skills, or equipment are invited to come to the meeting, or contact me at 607.589.4031 or [rondaroaring@hotmail.com]. ❧

SUPERVISOR'S UPDATE

Submitted by Ric Dietrich, Town Supervisor

It sure seems like there's a lot going on in the Town of Danby: Hamlet Planning, Land Bank, American Recovery, and Reinvestment, and the Fire Station. There's the impact of NY State budget cuts, staying on top of the Department of Conservation as it tries to protect our drinking water from potential gas drilling, working on the Danby Health Insurance Project, and the Danby Trails project.

Keeping the public informed is an important part of all of these tasks. There's even a project to update and improve our Town's web site, to use it to tell residents about what's going on. Speaking of which, all of us owe the outgoing webmaster, Larry Parlett, who has given so unselfishly of his time over many years, a big thank you for his work with the Town.

As I've described to you in past reports, the Town Board worked diligently in 2008 to reduce existing Town debts and minimize new ones. We've narrowed the funding requested under the American Reinvestment and Recovery program (a.k.a., "the Stimulus") to two items: the Bald Hill-Station Road connector and Broadband Internet infrastructure. If funded, the Town will complete two vital projects without local tax dollars--and with no debt.

The Danby Land Bank program is growing. More and more residents are seeking information on incentives for open space and for production of biomass in the town. Danby is doing its part as the country works toward energy independence. Please stay posted, as this is—literally—a growing resource for the Town.

Our Town participates in the County's environmental management committee, EMC, and is staying on top of aquifer studies, gas drilling, and other similar projects. Roberta Dixon is our new EMC representative. She comes to us with a substantial background in sustainability, smart growth, and community outreach. Many thanks to our outgoing representative, Anni Scholar.

Appointment of a new Planning Board member has been delayed so that additional candidates may be interviewed. The Town Board has been discussing the direction the Town should be taking on land use. We have Board Members who would like to see more conservative views for the Town, while others feel we need to take a more holistic approach.

The Town is now receiving additional applications for this important position (see page 4 for the Town Clerk's contact info).

The Hamlet Revitalization project is still in progress. There has been a fair amount of talk about different potential approaches. The Steering Committee recently had a productive meeting with the consultants and the draft report is being rewritten to reflect the positive feedback that was given. It will be available soon for our review.

The flowers are up, it can't be long till the grass starts to grow. Please address comments or questions to me at [supervisor@town.danby.ny.us] or 607.227.2434. ❁

NY PRESCRIPTION SAVER CARDS

Starting April 1, the Prescription Saver Program run by NY State will provide a pharmacy discount card to enrolled individuals. The discounts on prescription drugs are available to New York residents who are not already receiving Medicaid, have limited income (less than \$35,000/\$50,000 for singles/married), and are disabled or between the ages of 50 and 64.

Savings will vary but, in general, enrollees can expect 30-40 percent off generic drugs and at least 25 percent off the full retail price of brand-name drugs.

You can learn more about the program at [nyprescriptionsaver.fhsc.com/]. Individuals can submit an enrollment application via the web or through the mail. Call 800.788.6917 for more information. ❁

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

A short extract from Joel Gagnon's Broader View articles

Town Board

At its "Agenda" meeting on March 2, the Town Board heard a presentation describing a recently-proposed Municipal Health Insurance Consortium. This county-wide pool would realize a substantial savings by driving down the overhead from 15-20 percent to 5-10 percent, and by being large enough to have considerable leverage when negotiating with providers. A governing structure for the pool consortium would strike a balance between the larger stakeholders (Tompkins County and the City of Ithaca have, by far, the most participants in the plan) and the smaller Towns and entities. With firm commitments, operation might begin in calendar 2010.

The status of contract negotiations between the Town and the CSEA union was discussed.

Opportunities for Broadband Internet service were also discussed. Last year's NY State funding went to the Town of Dryden, and it appears to include a tower on East Miller Road that would provide service to Danby's Coddington Road as well as parts of Caroline...and could serve as a prototype for Danby. Board members suggested investigating all the options for high-speed Internet.

The Board discussed two legislative proposals from the Comprehensive Plan Task Force during its "Regular" meeting on March 9. The Planning Board has recommended approval of these measures, albeit with changes. Sue Beeners, the Town Code Enforcement Officer, is preparing these measures for formal Board consideration. Gene Beavers voiced his strong opposition.

The Board

- nominated Asher Hockett, the Danby Comm. Council Treasurer, for a seat on the County Youth Board
- nominated Roberta Dixon, for a seat on the County EMC
- reappointed Christine Decker to the Board of Zoning Appeals (there is still a vacant seat)

In a surprising development, neither candidate for a seat on the Planning Board was appointed. New candidates are now sought; see the Supervisor's report.

In other business, the Board approved its annual agreement with the Danby Senior Citizens, approved the use of the Town Hall for free Spanish lessons for youth by Cheryl Botts, approved a memorandum of understanding in support of Clean Communities of Central NY,

a green energy initiative, and approved hiring a consultant for the upcoming talks with the CSEA union.

Planning Board, February and March

The Planning Board considered two proposals originating from the Comprehensive Plan Task Force and referred to it by the Town Board.

The *Right to Engage in Agricultural Activity* proposal found general support, but the County Planning Department has noted that provisions in the local law that are more restrictive than State Ag and Markets law would not apply within the State Agricultural Districts that are part of the Town. Specifically, the proposed Danby law states that CAFOs (confined animal feeding operations) are not welcome, but State law permits them in Ag Districts. The Board recommended passage of the law, but with the addition of a disclaimer from the County Planning Department.

The Task Force also proposed a change to the Town Subdivision Regulations, to restore the original requirements for subdivision-by-permit that were recommended by the Task Force and the Planning Board (the Town Board significantly relaxed those requirements when it passed the Regulations in July, 2007).

The Planning Board did not support that proposal, but voted to recommend a compromise set of numbers (summary: unlimited lots larger than 8 acres, and smaller lots once every 3 years) to the Town Board. In any case, the minimum lot size remains at 2 acres and other subdivisions can be applied for via the Planning Board.

In other action, the board approved the subdivision of a 6.7-acre parcel on the north side of the intersection of Curtis Road and NYS Rt.96B into two lots: 3 and 3.7 acres. No one appeared at the public hearing, and the only written communication by a neighbor indicated neither support nor opposition.

Planning Board/Hamlet Planning Committee

Sue Beeners, who is coordinating the Town's input to the Hamlet Planning Project, reported at the Town Board meeting that she, Robert Roe (Planning Board and Steering Committee chairperson), and Olivia Vent (Steering Committee member) had had a productive meeting with the project consultants. The consultants are preparing a revised report which incorporates feedback received from numerous parties including the Planning Board, the Steering Committee, and the public. To allow enough time for that, the Planning Board/Hamlet Planning meeting was rescheduled from March 19 to April 2. ❀

TWO AMBULANCES?

Submitted by Linda Wyatt

If you've ever needed to call 911 for an ambulance in Danby (but not West Danby) for yourself or a family member, you may have been surprised when not one, but two ambulances arrived. Or at least that's what it looked like. You're right, it *would* be strange or wasteful, most times, to send two ambulances.

But look carefully. Appearances can be deceiving.

The truth is that there aren't two ambulances. The differences that may be obvious to the rescue squad are not so obvious to people who aren't familiar with ambulances and hope never to need one!

Although the Danby Volunteer Fire Company has a rescue squad, we are not a "transporting agency." Most of the time, because we are already *in* Danby, we are able to get to your house much more quickly than an ambulance. We park so that the ambulance has room to get as close as possible to you, we provide emergency medical care until an ambulance arrives, but we are not set up to take people to the hospital.

We do not have a stretcher or an ambulance. What we have is our rescue truck, which *looks* like an ambulance because, in a former life, before it came to Danby, it *was* an ambulance. Now, it carries more than just medical equipment; it has items we need for other rescue emergencies, such as the "Jaws of Life" for a car accident, traffic control cones, flares, signs, and other safety equipment. It also carries the things we need to take care of our firefighters at a fire scene, and it provides a place where they can rest if necessary. This can be very important when it is either very hot or very cold outside.

Bangs Ambulance provides transportation for people in Danby who need an emergency trip to the hospital. They are sent automatically, whenever we are called to anyone's house or to a motor vehicle accident. When they arrive, we transfer care to the paramedic or senior EMT with the ambulance, and give them all the information we have gathered in order to help you. They take care of you on the way to the hospital. We stay behind, and can make sure that your doors are locked and that the cat didn't get out.

Danby is not unique in this arrangement. Several other towns in Tompkins County (Newfield, Enfield, Cayuga Heights, Lansing, Ithaca and part of Brooktondale) all have automatic response from Bangs Ambulance. Other towns are covered by either Slaterville Ambulance,

Dryden Ambulance, Groton Ambulance, or Trumansburg Ambulance.

All of the Fire Companies have rescue trucks, but most of them don't look like ambulances. West Danby's truck doesn't look like an ambulance.

But on this side of the hill, Danby's does. I guess we're just special. ❀

DANBY SENIORS

Submitted by Marjory M VanDeMark

The Danby Senior Citizens will meet at Noon on April 2 in the Danby Federated Church. Entertainment will be a violinist, accompanied by piano.

On May 7, we will change to a 6pm dinner-time meeting, and Sarah Jane Blake from Lifelong will speak to us about retirement services.

Our June 4 meeting will feature the singing voices of Danby's own Sallie Fuller and Heather Soyring.

Signups for our June 9 trip to see *The Full Monty* at the Merry-Go-Round Playhouse (and dinner at Lasca's after) are due by April 20. Contact Margie VanDeMark 607.273.8046 to sign up.

Senior citizens, 55 and older, are invited to join us! ❀

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)
	Mary Oltz	607.273.2950 [maryloltz@twcny.rr.com]
Everything Else:	Sue Beeners	607.277.0799 [sbeeners@aol.com]
	Sharon Gaden	607.659.3116 [danby071302@yahoo.com]

DANBY FIRE UPDATE

Submitted by John Gaden

The Danby Volunteer Fire Company held three pancake breakfasts during January, February, and March. Attendance at all three breakfasts was excellent and we greatly appreciate your support. We are hoping that the planned renovation of the fire station will continue to progress along and that, next winter, the breakfasts will occur with the benefit of a larger kitchen facility and a larger meeting room space to accommodate diners. If you've sat in the meeting room during breakfasts you've no doubt observed how cramped the cooks and servers are in our small kitchen. We're really looking forward to the improved facilities. Please plan to attend the breakfasts during 2010!

We'd like to thank the following community members who gave their time to help during the breakfasts: Sue Beeners, Earl Ekdahl, Joan Grant, Kristin Grant, Garry Huddle, Aaron McNeil, Dan McNeil, Jean Miller, Tim Miller, June Pollack, Sheridan Sager, Connie Szczepanski, Linda Szczepanski, Sarah Wyatt, Peter Mazza-rese, and Colleen Muldoony.

Other fire company news: During February, Danby volunteer fire company members responded to 1 fire call, for a total of 7 so far this year, 5 emergency medical calls, for a total of 14 this year. Will Fox became a full member of the fire company during March. Welcome Will!

In March, we turned our clocks ahead, and that's a reminder for us all to replace the batteries in smoke detectors.

With the snow mostly melted, please take a few moments to evaluate the numbers that identify your address on your mailbox and home. Are they large and visible from both directions along the road? Can emergency responders find you? Danby and West Danby fire stations sell inexpensive reflective number signs that will help us find you when you need us. Seconds count, so please consider whether your address is easy to locate. ⇨



Enthusiastic work by volunteers is vital to the success of events like the pancake breakfasts. In West Danby, Tod Sukontarak animatedly demonstrated his quality control technique. Just fooling.

WEST DANBY FIRE UPDATE

Submitted by Marrell Cortright

We had a really great turnout on a beautiful Saturday morning for the St. Patrick's Day Green Pancake breakfast in the West Danby Fire Hall.

We want to thank everyone who came and supported us. A *huge* special thank you to Phil Ryan and Anni Davenport of West Danby, for donating the syrup for the pancakes. Everyone who at the breakfast got a special treat of Maple Syrup--made fresh on Friday and still warm when it was delivered to the station for Saturday's breakfast. It is very appreciated.

The continued support from the community is a big part of having a successful event. Thank you! from the West Danby Fire Department.

In other news, there are still a couple of tables left if anyone is interested in selling their wares at the West Danby Spring Craft Show and Chicken BBQ. \$10 gets you a space and 8-foot table. Contact Marrell Cortright 607.564.0020 or [Marrell11@aol.com] Everyone else, mark your calendars for April 4, 9am-2pm for wonderful crafts, baked goods and chicken BBQ. Come, visit, shop, and have lunch! ❀

In 2008, the Danby Fire District applied for a FEMA grant program that funds fire companies. We applied for a new fire truck

to replace our aging apparatus, but were rejected. We also applied for a new air bottle fill system (for bottles used with the self-contained breathing apparatus worn by our fire fighters) and sets of firefighter protective clothing (called "turnout gear") to help us replace aged and worn pants and jackets. We were recently informed that this second grant application scored above average but was not funded. However, it's may still be funded, in full or partially, by the end of the year if FEMA identifies available monies. We remain hopeful. ❀

FIRE DISTRICT UPDATE

Submitted by Ralph Bowles, Fire Commissioner

The Danby Fire District has had several requests from townspeople to extend the voting time at the Commissioner's Election so that they could vote on their way home from work. At the February meeting, it was unanimously decided to extend the voting time one hour, to 5-9pm. This is more time than New York State mandates. The State mandates our date and time but allows more time if desired. Voting will be on December 8, 2009. See you there. There will be reminders in the fall.

Regarding the new addition to the Danby Fire Station, we have been very busy this past fall and winter revamping plans for the addition. Since the original plans resulted in much higher construction costs than our budget allowed, we have been trimming the plans and perfecting what was left. There have been very frequent meetings with the architect, engineer, financial folks and regulators.

The revised plans will go out for bid this month, with a Bid Opening on April 7. At the same time, we have been beating the bushes to get more competitive bids.

We are hoping for continued support from our friends and neighbors. ❀

DANBY CHURCH DOINGS

There's a full schedule of events at the Danby Federated Church. It's all open to the public!

Chicken and Biscuit Dinner on Friday, April 3, 5-7pm (note date change!). Free to all or by donation. Bird and bread, mashed potatoes, squash, green beans, corn, harvard beets, applesauce, assorted pies and desserts.

Kid's Easter Egg Hunt Party on Saturday, April 4, 2-4pm. Ages 2 to 5th grade. Besides the egg hunt, expect games, snacks, and the story of the first Easter. No charge, and parents are welcome to stay.

Special Easter Week Services: Maundy Thursday (4/9, 7pm), Good Friday (4/10, 7pm), and on Easter, breakfast at 8:30am and a service at 10am.

The Skyline Boys, a Southern Gospel Quartet, perform on Friday, April 24, 7 pm. Since 1995, the Skyline Boys from the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains have appeared all over the country. Come hear this dynamic quartet and their perfect harmonies! ❀

DANBY COMMUNITY LIBRARY

Submitted by Patti Meyers

The day I laid Robert Morgan to rest was remarkable for two reasons. First, even though it was August, the sky overhead was as rough and cold as a January lake; and second, it was the day I started to shrink.—from *The Little Giant of Aberdeen County* by Tiffany Baker.

We are now open 11:30am-1:30pm, every Saturday! New collections this month: Mysteries and Large Type. Any interest in a monthly book discussion group? Email me at [pmeyers1@twcny.rr.com].

Our Open House and Book Sale will be 10am-2pm on Saturday, April 25. Come in for book bargains, refreshments, and entertainment. We will also have John Simon singing *Read Along Stories*. Watch for more info: on posters posters, articles in the paper, and, of course, the Danby Area News.

This month's Dinner and a Movie:

DVD: 27 Dresses

Dinner: Fresh Greens with Champagne Vinaigrette, from [about.com]: Home Cooking

Ingredients:

1 cup mild olive oil

¼ cup champagne vinegar

½ cup champagne

salt and freshly ground pepper

pinch sugar, optional

Method:

Whisk together olive oil, champagne vinegar, and champagne (you may use a blender). Season to taste with salt and pepper. If the vinaigrette tastes too sharp, add a pinch of sugar and whisk until dissolved.

Refrigerate any leftover salad dressing and use within one week. Yield: 1½ cups, enough for 6 to 8 salads. ❀

2-1-1 HELPS FIND HELP

Need help finding the local food stamp office or employment services? Who can you call to find housing and foreclosure prevention resources? Just remember three digits: 2-1-1.

Dial 2-1-1 to find health care, housing services, mental health services, legal assistance, employment services, food resources, consumer information, transportation, and other community services.

Its free, confidential, consumer-focused, and non-judgmental. Interpreter Services are available. ❀

DANBY PARK UPDATE

Submitted by Danby Community Park Association

The Danby Park and Community Center welcoming volunteers to its Spring-Summer 2009 outdoor projects in the Park. Your help is needed to design and build:

- Woodland nature trails
- Children's playground
- Pavilions, using technology developed by National Park Service for emergency shelter. We'll complete the Hypar Pavilion (visible from Danby Road) and begin construction of a new pavilion at a picnic site
- Barbecue pit and tables, benches
- Clearing and rough grading of playing field area, seeding, laying out an initial baseball diamond, soccer field, and parking lot

No previous experience is required, just your hands, leadership, and know-how. Contact Julie Clougherty, 607.277.0354 or [janderty@yahoo.com] and explore which project(s) you are interested in joining.

We hope to organize teams to start work on one or more projects by mid-April and will work through the summer. ❀

LEARN TO PRUNE

A series of workshops on how to prune trees and shrubs will be offered during April by Tompkins County Cooperative Extension, the Cornell Urban Horticulture Institute, and the City of Ithaca Parks & Forestry Department.

Classes are open to the public. The \$5/class fee is waived for those willing to continue on as volunteers with the Citizen Pruner program. Citizen Pruner volunteers prune City trees and shrubs during weekly work sessions that are held from May to October.

Workshop dates and topics are:

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| April 6, 7-8:30pm | Trees for Urban Landscapes with Nina Bassuk, CUHI Director |
| April 13, 7-8:30pm | Pruning Shrubs with Monika Roth, TCCE educator |
| April 20, 7-8:30pm | Pruning Trees w/ Andy Hillman & Lewis Ward, Forestry Dept. |
| April 27, 5:30-7pm | Tree & Shrub Assessment, an outdoor class to look at pruning needs and demonstrate practices. |

For a volunteer application or to register, contact Monika Roth at 607.272.2292 or [mr55@cornell.edu]. ❀

WEST DANBY CRAFT FAIR

Submitted by Marrell Cortright

See the local craftspeople and their creations at the annual West Danby Spring Crafts Fair (and Chicken BBQ), 9am-1pm on Saturday, April 4, in the West Danby Fire Hall!

You'll find wreaths, floral arrangements, jewelry, folk art decor, primitive home decor, woodworking, quilting, and photos and note cards.

Theres "Stampin Up" paper crafts and rubber stamps, Finnish coffee bread, "Tastefully Simple" mixes, quilted tote bags, beading, sewn baby items, machine embroidered items, locally made maple syrup, quilling, and maybe even pottery.

Coffee and donuts will be for sale in the morning, followed by the ever-popular (and frequently sold-out, so don't be late!) Chicken BBQ. ❀

DANBY AL BLOCK PARTY

Submitted by George Blanchard

Each year, our local American Legion hosts a community Block Party. While this event is Post 221's largest yearly fundraiser, it is also offers a great opportunity for local residents to get out, spend some time with friends and family, and to meet other community residents.

Proceeds from past events have benefitted local organizations including the Ithaca Red Cross, Hospicare, the Syracuse VA, and the Salvation Army.

This year, we'd like to extend an invitation to all Danby residents to join us, eat well, and have some fun with us on July 18.

The usual, hamburgers, hotdogs, sausage, salt potatoes chips and beverages will be available the entire day. Club Members and local residents also donate a variety of salads and deserts.

Raffles, Music, and a Live Auction are mainstays for this event. Additional opportunities for fun are in the planning stages.

If this date does not fit your schedule, please consider donating to this worthy cause. Donations of money, gift certificates, or auctionable items in new or like-new condition, are now being accepted for the Live Auction. For info, contact Ian Guest, 607.272.1129. ❀

DANBY LAND BANK COOP

Submitted by Elizabeth Keokosky

The Danby Land Bank Cooperative will hold its third meeting at 7pm on Thursday, April 16 in the Danby Town Hall.

This meeting is for people who are ready to commit to putting their land in the Land Bank Cooperative. There is no penalty for withdrawal. We are starting to build a relationship with a biofuels company, Mesa Reduction, and need to begin collecting field information that they need to proceed, so think in terms of at least three years.

Membership in to Cooperative is free this first year. The Cooperative needs to gross \$10,000 for one year (as a new entity) before its members qualify for an agricultural assessment for next year. Forms can be filled out in April 2010 and will only count toward School tax next year. After that, if the Cooperative continues to gross \$10,000 or more, members will continue to receive agricultural tax assessment on fields and/or woods that can be applied to School tax and to Town and County taxes.

The Cooperative's income might be \$1-10/ton of hay but, since most fields are unimproved, cutting may initially yield as little as 1 ton/acre, but the cutting and brush hogging is free. Profits will probably be small this first year, but they will be shared as the membership determines. Cutting for biofuels is in late July and August.

Membership is divided into two categories: people who want their fields or woods managed, and people who want to start their own agricultural enterprise or enlarge their own home-grown food options. Folks in the latter category are also welcome at this meeting and they will be asked to commit at least 10 hours/year to help other members in the Land Bank Cooperative in some capacity.

For more info, contact me at 607.277.1284 or [evk1@cornell.edu]. ❀

COMMUNITY BIOMASS: ENERGY FOR THE FUTURE

Submitted by Krys Cail

Biomass is becoming an important alternative to fossil fuels used in the generation of electricity and for home and commercial heating. Where in Tompkins County is nonfood biomass--grass or wood--available for harvest? Where are the lands that might potentially be used to produce biomass for energy use? Which of your neighbors might be interested in harvesting biomass, either on their own land or from somebody else's land

that they leased for that purpose?

At a meeting in the Danby Town Hall, 7-9pm on Thursday, April 23, Cornell Cooperative Extension staff will share some interesting maps of grasslands and forests taken from publicly available data, along with a preliminary analysis of potential biomass production areas in Danby.

The staff will also ask you to join with your neighbors in helping to better identify and understand which lands in your neighborhood may currently be underutilized, having fallen out of active agriculture or forest management. Are you

aware of pastures in your town that have grown up to brush, or woodlands in need of forest stand improvement cutting? Commercial biomass harvesting may be viable in places where enough acreage of this type is available in one area. Learn about emerging opportunities for landowners, contract harvesters, and farmers in the coming biomass market.

For more info, contact Guillermo Metz, 607.272.2292 or [gm52@cornell.edu]. ❀



At a recent Land Bank meeting, inventor Ken White described the biomass powder burner under development by his company. It burns inexpensive fuel as cleanly—and as easily—as propane.

Community Council Youth Programs April 2009

Programs run from the week of February 23 through the week of April 6. Unless otherwise indicated, times for all programs are 3:30-5:30pm. Every program is free, requires pre-registration, and is open to youth living in Danby, ages 8 and up. Contact Laura Smith, Danby Youth Program Manager, with any questions or concerns: [ljs257@cornell.edu] or 607.272.2292.x225.

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

Lunch Bunch

Mondays, Feb.23-Apr.6
Boynton Middle School, Room D141, lunch periods

This *in school* program is a great escape from the cafeteria! Try new and tasty foods, go and play outdoors, converse with friends and do quick crafts!

Primitive Pursuits

Tuesdays, Mar.17-Apr.7, 3:30-5:30pm
Boynton Middle School, Room D141

Learn ancestral living skills such as shelter building, native crafts and nature awareness. Explore the outdoors, go hiking and get moving! Please dress for the weather and wear clothes that can get dirty! ⇨

CALLING ALL KIDS!

Submitted by Sue Beeners

Hey, kids, come get together with our Danby Volunteer Firefighters for a Photo Shoot. We're taking pictures for the Danby Fun Day Poster at 10am on Saturday, May 9, in the Danby Fire Station.

Refreshments will be provided. For info, contact the Danby Fire Department, 607.272.8114, Barbara Robinson, 607.273.8987 or [danbyclown@aol.com], or Sue Beeners, 607.277.0799 or [sbeeners@aol.com]. ❁

DFC EGG HUNT

Missed the early-morning Pirate Eggs? Here's a second chance! Danby Federated Church, 2-4pm on April 4, followed by games and snacks. ❁

Artistic Creations

Wednesdays, Feb.25-Apr.8, 3:30-5:30pm
Danby Town Hall

Come and make buttons, take pictures, paint boxes and frames and create beautiful jewelry. Options are endless! Exercise your creative side in the colorful world of art. Boynton students will receive bus passes to ride bus 57 to the Town Hall.

Be a Photographer

Thursdays, Feb.26-Apr.9, 3:30-5:30pm
Boynton Middle School, Room D141

Learn how to take great pictures, go on fun field trips for a variety of shots and beautiful scenic spots. Program will end in a take home picture project!

Coming this summer...

Danby Farmers Market returns! Youth of all ages are welcome to participate in this weekly event. Youth aged 14 and up can gain work experience and earn money! Call Laura with any questions. ❁

Danby
Youth Flyer

PIRATE EGG HUNT

Submitted by Jim Yarbrough

Arrgh, matey, it's Easter. Where'd ya' hide 'dem yeggs? Un'ner 'dem flapjacks, wot, arrgh?

OK, you'll have to visit the Danby Pirates Club to hear more. You'll have to be there, 7:30-9am on Saturday, April 4 for a buffet style breakfast with all-you-can-eat pancakes. Only \$5, and kids under 5 eat for free.

Stick around for the big Egg Hunt at 9:30am. It's for children, 0-10 years old. There's prizes and candy but, Arrgh, there's no plank at this club. Or is there? ❁

WEST DANBY EGG HUNT

Submitted by Joel Gagnon, WD Community Assoc.

Missed the early-morning Pirate Eggs and the DFC Eggs? Here's a third chance! The West Danby Community Association holds its Easter Egg Hunt at 11am sharp on Saturday, April 11, in Hatch's Pavilion, near the intersection of Brown and Short Roads.

The hunt bears some resemblance to a race...which is why punctuality is rewarded. Late arrivals will find very few eggs left undiscovered! ❁

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

NON-PROF ORG
ECWRSS
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit No. 352
Ithaca, NY 14850

Postal Patron

DANBY AREA NEWS: EVENT CALENDAR

Apr 2 • Thu

Noon 🏛️ Danby Federated Church
Danby Senior Citizens Luncheon (w/ violin & piano)
7pm 🏛️ Town Hall
Danby Community Council Meeting
7pm 🏛️ Town Hall
Hamlet Planning / Planning Board Meeting

Apr 3 • Fri

5–7pm 🏛️ Danby Federated Church
Chicken & Biscuit Dinner

Apr 4 • Sat

7am 🏛️ Pirates Club
Breakfast, Egg Hunt at 9:30am
9am–2pm 🏛️ West Danby Fire Hall
West Danby Spring Craft Show and Chicken BBQ
2–4pm 🏛️ Danby Federated Church
Easter Egg Hunt

Apr 6 • Mon

6:30pm 🏛️ Town Hall
Town Board Agenda Meeting

Apr 8 • Wed

7pm 🏛️ Town Hall
Comprehensive Planning Task Force

Apr 11 • Sat

11am 🏛️ Hatch Pavilion, corner of Brown and Short
WDCA Easter Egg Hunt

Apr 13 • Mon

6:30pm 🏛️ Town Hall
Town Board Meeting

Apr 15 • Wed

7pm 🏛️ Town Hall
Town Kiosks Planning Meeting

Apr 16 • Thu

7pm 🏛️ Town Hall
Danby Land Bank Cooperative Meeting
7pm 🏛️ Town Hall
Planning Board Meeting

Apr 18 • Sat

7pm 🏛️ Town Hall
Bare Facts About Bears - Video and Discussion

Apr 21 • Tue

7:30pm 🏛️ WD Danby Fire Hall
Danby Fire Commissioners Monthly Meeting

Apr 23 • Thu

7pm 🏛️ Town Hall
Community Biomass Resource Mapping Workshop

Apr 24 • Fri

7pm 🏛️ Danby Federated Church
Skyline Boys - Southern Gospel Quartet

Apr 25 • Sat

7pm 🏛️ Town Hall
Danby Community Library Book Sale

May 3 • Sun

3m 🏛️ Town Hall
Danby Community Council Concert: Blaise Bryski

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.

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.