



# DANBY AREA NEWS

## NEW TOWN SIGNS

Submitted by Naomi Strichartz, Beautification Committee

We hope that you have noticed the new, beautiful signs on NYS Rt.96B near the Danby Hamlet: one on the corner of West Miller Road, and the other south of the corner of Michigan Hollow Road.

The Beautification Committee thanks Matt Cooper for his wonderful work making the signs and David Mastroberti and his son Eric for installing them.

Danby was honored with a grant from Tompkins County/Cornell Cooperative Extension, intended to enhance the main roads in the county. Our committee has more beautification projects planned for 2009. ❁



## GAS DRILLING MEETING

Submitted by Ric Dietrich

Over two thousand Tompkins County land owners, and thousands more in the surrounding Southern Tier, have signed leases to permit Marcellus Shale gas drilling on their property. Many expect to see drilling begin later this year, perhaps as early as summer.

While some welcome the drilling and others dread it, a common concern for all is the protection of our clean water and air, our land, and our quality of life.

NY State Environmental Conservation Law Article 23 eliminated the ability of towns and counties to regulate most aspects of gas drilling activity within their borders. This leaves many local legislators and community members wondering what they can do to protect their natural resources and infrastructure.

Sullivan County (NY) formed a Drilling Task Force to answer this question. A group of officials spent months researching the possible impacts and the authority of local municipal governments.

## CONCERT: BLAISE BRYSKI

Submitted by Bob Strichartz, Danby Comm. Council

The next event in the Danby Community Council's Concert Series will be a recital of 19th and 20th century piano music by Blaise Bryski, in the Danby Town Hall, 3pm on Sunday, May 3. The program will include works by Liszt, Chopin, Opel, and Monk.

Bryski is a graduate of the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music, and holds a Master of Fine Arts degree from the California Institute of the Arts and a PhD in 18th century performance practice from Cornell, where he studied with Malcom Bilson. He has performed locally with Ensemble X, and has been a member of Mother Mallard (the world's oldest synthesizer band) for

the past eight years. He recently was featured in the 250th birthday Clementi Keyboard Extravaganza in New York.

Admission is free. The concert series receives grant support from the Community Arts Partnership of Tompkins County. ❁

A coalition of local groups is sponsoring a public meeting, 7-9pm on Wednesday, May 6, in the Women's Community Building, 100 West Seneca Street, Ithaca. Dr. William Pammer, the Sullivan County Commissioner of Planning and Environmental Management, will describe the work of the Sullivan County Task Force.

In addition, Dr. Stephen Penningroth, the Director of Ithaca's Community Science Institute, will talk about why and how private water wells should be tested so that, should contamination occur, land owners can discover problems and have solid scientific evidence of pre-drilling, baseline water data. Dr. Penningroth believes that between 1 and 5 percent of drinking water can reasonably be expected to become contaminated near drilling sites.

For more info, contact [[shaleshock08@yahoo.com](mailto:shaleshock08@yahoo.com)] or 202.368.8753. ❁

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Email: [danbynews@tedcrane.com]

Text submissions:  
Send text in body of Email  
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mail typewritten copy, double-  
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Graphics: JPEG preferred.  
TIFF, GIF, or PNG accepted  
but discouraged. Check with  
editor before sending hard-  
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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].

## RURAL CEMETERY UPDATE

Submitted by Susan Hautala

Spring is here and it's time for the volunteers of the Danby Rural Cemetery Association to begin the work of mowing and maintaining the cemetery.

We will start with a clean-up day on Wednesday, May 6, at 4pm. The cemetery is at 14 Curtis Road, just uphill from NYS Rt.96B.

The volunteers are a dedicated group of people who mow every two weeks, keep the brush cut back, and maintain the roads. Volunteers include the Sczepanski family, the Bodas, the Hautalas, the Van De Marks, the Brewers, the Howes, Diana Van deBogart and June Pollack. We are able to mow the entire cemetery in 2-3 hours.

The Association recently purchased land adjoining the cemetery for future expansion. This year, volunteers will begin to build roads and map out new burial sites. Boundary trees have been planted, and more will to be planted this spring.

Every family that owns a burial lot in the cemetery is a member of the Association. If you would like to join the volunteer group, call Jane Brewer at 607.272.0952, or Susan Hautala at 607.272.3287 and we will put you on the calling list. ❀

## 4-H QUILTING WORKSHOP

Tompkins County 4-H and the Tompkins County Quilters Guild are offering a Quilting Workshop, 10am-4pm on Saturday, May 2. Youth (eight years and older) and adults are invited to register. All participants should have basic sewing skills and knowledge prior to the class. Individuals will complete either a 9-square or *Crazy Quilt* pillow top. Each participant needs to bring their own lunch, 1 yard of neutral color cotton fabric for the quilt base and pillow back, and a 14" pillow frame. The fee (\$8; \$5 for members) includes other fabric and thread. To register, contact Sherron Brown, 607.272.2292, [scb42@cornell.edu]. ❀

## INFORMATIONAL KIOSKS

Submitted by Ronda Roaring

On April 15, Town Supervisor Ric Dietrich, Buttermilk Falls State Park Manager John Guilford, and Danby resident Ronda Roaring met with Cornell landscape architecture student Matthew Robinson. They discussed designs for the informational kiosks to be installed on

NYS Rt.96 and 96B and at Jennings Pond.

The group looked at pictures of different kiosk designs and talked about what would be posted on the Danby kiosks. It was decided that Matthew would come up with several draft designs for the next meeting on Thursday, May 7 at 7pm in the Town Hall.

If you'd like to be part of the kiosk design or

construction process, feel free to attend the next meeting or contact me at [rondaroaring@hotmail.com]. ❀



On a warm Spring afternoon, the hillside view from the Danby Rural Cemetery makes it a wonderful spot to relax among the Town's history.

## PLANT EXCHANGE

Submitted by Dan Klein

The 17<sup>th</sup> annual Plant Exchange takes place, 1-4pm on Sunday, May 17 at the Danby Fire Station on NYS Rt.96B. This free event is an opportunity to swap, donate, and try new perennials, houseplants, seeds, annual seedlings, and anything else garden related.

It is not necessary to bring a plant in order to get a plant, nor do you have to stay the whole time. It's better to divide plants in advance, so they don't suffer in the heat on the day of the Plant Exchange. So start dividing perennials, planting a few extra annuals, and taking houseplant cuttings. Please label what you bring!

For more information, contact me at 607.272.7582 or [danbydan@hotmail.com]. ❀

**Gardeners:** Will do rototilling and brushhog work in the Danby area. Contact Dave Krebs at 607.592.4454 or [doverdave\_19999@yahoo.com]. ❀



## SUPERVISOR'S UPDATE

Submitted by Ric Dietrich, Town Supervisor

The Town has looked to residents to help advise and help on a variety of projects and committees. The list seems endless: Senior Citizens, DEMPC, Beautification Committee, the Food Bank, Recreation Partnership, the Danby Area News, our web site, Hamlet Revitalization, Task Force on land use regulation, Trails, Danby Land Bank Cooperative, Danby Pond, and more. All of these are in addition to the Planning Board, BZA, Community Council, and our Volunteer Fire Department. Thank you all, your dedication to service to the Town is invaluable.

So where am I going with this? The Town would like additional help in some needed areas. An annual town-wide clean up. This is a big project and needs our neighborhoods to organize and map out a strategy. A second project is an inventory of all the gas leases on Danby properties.

The first project has already been taken up by some local groups. The Danby Pirates Club picks up regularly along South Danby Road, and some of the Colleges have taken sections of our State highways. This is a town-wide concern and any input you can give to help us organize this project will be welcome.

The second area of concern, gas leases, will need attention from individual residents. Recent conferences on gas exploration and drilling have raised concerns about the protection of our aquifer, our roads, viewscapes, historical sites, and cemeteries. The Town has been informed that it needs to take steps to protect these valuable resources within the town. It can pass local laws to require major users to post a bond against possible damages to the roads.

For instance, if we knew that there were fifteen leases on South Danby Road, we could enter into one type of agreement with Tompkins County and Tioga County, since this road is a County responsibility. In order to bond the road we need to work with these entities to have an up-to-date assessment of the present road condition. These agreements take time and money to implement.

For roads that are the Town's responsibility, it means asking our highway department to conduct an inventory and assessment so we can bond for potential damages. Each road is assessed differently and bonded accordingly. It is cost-prohibitive to do this throughout the Town; we need a better idea of where the present leases

are to take measures to protect these sensitive areas. It would be a tremendous help to our Highway Department to know which roads will receive the most traffic, so they can limit their assessment to those roads.

I have seen Town roads in Tioga and Broome Counties that were destroyed by trucking related to gas drilling. Our most expensive and valuable Town resource is our roads, and we have to safeguard these assets. Please understand this request in the context of protecting not only your own, but your neighbor's investments. Our roads take the largest portion of your tax dollars. Thank you for participating in this vital request.

It is a simple matter to contact the Town Clerk, 607.277.4788 or [townclerk@town.danby.ny.us], with this confidential information, which will only be used by the Highway Department.

Please address comments or questions to me at 607.227.2434 or [supervisor@town.danby.ny.us]. ☘

## DANBY TRAILS COMMITTEE

Submitted by Ronda Roaring

The Danby Trails Advisory Committee is up and running. We have decided to devise a 5-year plan for trails in Danby with the Jennings Pond trail as its core.

The committee is open to anyone who would like to help with the plan or is interested in creating and maintaining trails. We're meeting about every two weeks at the Town Hall. If you'd like to be on the Email notification list, contact me at [rondaroaring@hotmail.com].☘

## 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

### West Danby Water Study

During its April meeting, the Town Board agreed to contract with T.G. Miller, an Ithaca-based engineering firm, for services, to evaluate the condition of the West Danby Water District's 40 year-old components. Councilperson Gene Beavers, one of the water district's residents, has led the effort to take stock of the system's condition, so future investments can reasonably be anticipated and prioritized.

An engineering report will enable the Town to take advantage of future funding opportunities. If inadequacies are found, the firm will recommend changes, complete with estimated costs. The report will also include cost estimates for the additional water tank and well that the County Health Department has requested. The T.G. Miller contract cost will not to exceed \$11,800.

### Appointments and Upcoming Meetings

Alan Wagner, a real estate appraiser and large landowner in the town of Danby, was appointed to the Board of Zoning Appeals, but there is still one vacancy on the BZA. Ted Melchen, a Planning Board member whose term expired in December, was reappointed unanimously to the Planning Board.

Town residents are invited to serve on the Board of Assessment Review. This Board consists of two residents, a representative of the County Assessment Department, and the local member of the County Legislature. Local residents who believe their real estate assessments are unfair may make their case to an audience of peers. If you are interested, contact the Town Clerk at 607.277.4788 or [townclerk@town.danby.ny.us]. Training is provided. *Grievance Day*, as it is known, will be on May 20.

A new fee schedule for zoning and building permit applications will be the subject of a Public Hearing at 6:30pm on Monday, May 4.

### Aquifer Study Progress Report

Todd Miller, project chief of the Upper Buttermilk Creek/Danby Creek Valley Aquifer Study, recently submitted a progress report. The three-year study is now in its final year. So far, data from 118 wells, including 4 test wells, has have been compiled. The well data, mostly derived from drilling logs, is supplemented by seismic refraction surveys. These surveys use explosives to generate signals and geophones to record echoes.

Water quality is also being assessed with a sampling and analysis regime.

The emerging picture shows a fairly extensive, but thin and confined, aquifer. An aquifer is confined when overlying layers of poor permeability limit its ability to recharge from surface water. Test well yields ranged from virtually zero to 30 gallons per minute, but the 30gpm flow (at the Highway Department work area) was not sustained over time; it dropped to 5-10gpm after an hour.

One more test well may be drilled this year, and the "potentiometric surface" of the groundwater aquifer will be measured. Because the aquifer is confined, the potentiometric surface is sometimes above ground level (wells that tap the aquifer at these locations are artesian or flowing wells). Measuring the surface will also allow mapping the direction of water flow.

A completed report will be written in 2010 and will describe the general characteristics of the aquifer, how it interacts with overlying groundwater and streams, and information on its quality.

### Other Board Activity

Carl Seamon, Town Highway Superintendent, was given permission to address a major engine problem (possibly a blown head gasket) with the Town's grader. Repairs are estimated to cost around \$6000.

Ric Dietrich, Town Supervisor, reported that the TC Council of Governments is arranging a collaboration between the SPCA and the Cornell's Vet School that would reduce the cost of services for dog management.

Frank Proto, the Danby-Caroline representative to the County Legislature, reported that he is proposing an exemption for cord wood and pellet fuel from the County's portion of sales tax, and he hopes the State will do likewise. At \$200 a cord, tax savings would be \$8 for each portion of the sales tax. Proto also indicated that new radios, promised by the County to the Highway Department so it can get on the new 800MHz emergency communication network, will soon be delivered. ❁

## RABIES VACCINATION CLINIC

Submitted by Beatrice Hogben

The Tompkins County Health Department has scheduled a free rabies vaccination clinic for cats, dogs and ferrets, 7-9pm on Thursday, May 7, at the Danby Fire Station. ❁

# A BEACON IN THE NIGHT

Submitted by Linda Wyatt

Imagine this. It's 3:30am and the loud beeping from your pager is a voice in the night, waking you because there is an emergency. You throw your clothes on in a hurry, hope you get your shoes on the right feet, and rush out your door.

You drive to the fire station, get in the rescue truck, and head out into the night with lights and siren. It's raining. Maybe it's foggy. Or maybe there's snow.

At the address you're heading to, someone is having trouble breathing. Maybe they also have chest pain. It might be a heart attack. You feel the urgency.

You make the last turn, onto the correct road, and quickly look at the first mailbox to see its the number. *You can't see it.*

You slow down, hoping to see the next one, and it's not readable either. There's not another house in sight, so you drive on through the night. With houses that are way off the road or hidden by trees, and no reflective sign, you can't always see where the houses *are*, let alone their number.

The next house might have a number you can see, but it's not the one you're looking for. You keep going, and have to slow down at every house, until finally, you get close, and you creep along, because you can't miss even one of the numbers, since it might be The One. If you miss it and drive past, there may not be anywhere the rescue truck can turn around for a long way.

It feels like it takes forever to drive a distance that should take only a couple of minutes. By the time you reach the house, the patient has stopped breathing.

Please. Don't let this happen to any of us—or to you.

Make sure that your house number is readable from the road; not just from right in front of your house, but for at least 100 feet in either direction along the road. We need to be able to see it before we get to you. Make sure that your neighbors—three houses on either side of you—have readable numbers, too. Best of all, of course, would be for every house to have a number sign. If we know the numbers are there to see, we don't have to slow down at all—until we get to you.

A reflective sign can be a beacon guiding us to you. The Danby Volunteer Fire Company can provide you with a large, reflective sign with your street number on it.

We'll even install it for you. The cost is a measly \$12 (\$5 more buys a post, too).

Please get one of these signs. Don't stop there: get everyone in your neighborhood to get one, too. If you have a neighbor with a limited income, consider getting one for them. Your sign also helps us find your neighbor; your neighbor's sign helps us find you. To order a sign, contact Neal Franklin at 607.273.3831 or [ifv@lightlink.com]. Do it today. Who knows what may happen tomorrow? ❀

# DANBY SENIORS

Submitted by Marjory M VanDeMark

Big thanks go out to Rollie and Sharon Boda for hosting our April meeting and to Linda Howe for cooking the Easter ham! Our bus trip to the Corning Glass Museum and the Rockwell Museum of Art on March 25 was well-attended by 34 seniors, who all enjoyed a very nice day.

On May 7, we will change to a 6pm dinner meeting schedule; Sara Jane Blake from Lifelong will be with us to speak about retirement services.

Our June 4 meeting will feature the singing voices of Danby's own Sallie Fuller and Heather Soyring; on July 2, we will gather at Merritt's pavilion for a picnic.

We meet the first Thursday of each month (except August) at the Danby Federated Church and all senior citizens, 55 and older, are invited to attend! ❀

## Danby Fun Day - July 11, 2009

### FUN DAY CONTACTS

- Parade: Sue Beeners (see below)  
Amy Cusimano [amymc@twcny.rr.com]
- 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]

## SPECIAL NEEDS WORKSHOP

Submitted by Bev Fitzpatrick

On March 30, Danby Volunteer Fire Company hosted a talk on autism spectrum disorders, given by Dr. Karen Fried from the Franziska Racker Centers. The Centers provides intensive services to pre-schoolers with autism and to their families. Dr. Fried is a local psychologist and Centers' Director of Autism Services and head of its Partnership Program.

Dr. Fried geared her presentation to include strategies and advice for first responders who may be faced with an emergency situation involving an individual with autism. There were many questions, leading to a lively discussion by the community members and Fire and Rescue workers in attendance.

Dr. Fried's advice included tips on developing a rapport and seeking cooperation in a rescue setting. She shared thoughts for both the Fire and Rescue volunteers and families about how to be prepared in an emergency situation. In addition, Dr. Fried spoke about the importance of finding out what motivates people on the autism spectrum, in order to gain their trust and cooperation quickly in an emergency and how to best communicate with them. Dr. Fried also suggested that emergency vehicles should contain a book of pictures to assist communication with individuals who have difficulty with spoken language.

Dr. Fried commended the Danby Fire and Rescue for being among the first of its kind to request this type of information and for fostering a partnership with the Centers that promises to have great future potential.

If you have a child with special needs, it is important to contact your local first responders at 607.272.8114, so that they can be prepared to help you in the event of an emergency. You can leave a message for Peter Goodman, the EMS Director, at that number.

For more information on the programs and services provided by Franziska Racker Centers, call 607.272.5891 x224 or visit [[www.rackercenters.org](http://www.rackercenters.org)]. ❀



Dr. Karen Fried addressing attendees during the workshop at the Danby Volunteer Fire Company.

## JENNINGS POND 2009

Submitted by Amy Cusimano, Jennings Pond Director

With summer vacation on our heels, it's time to think, "Swim Season." The Jennings Pond swimming season opens on Saturday, June 27, the weekend after the public schools let out.

Two cleanup days are scheduled for Sundays, June 14 and June 21, with both days starting at 10am.

Jennings Pond Park is sponsored by the Town of Danby. We rely on volunteer efforts to keep our park clean and free to the public. I encourage everyone who picnics, swims, or walk their dogs—and I know that there are a lot of you—to participate during the cleanup days.

If you can't join on these days, you can help out by picking up trash that you may find while visiting.

New swim lines and buoys were purchased last year, but they arrived late in the season. They will be strung on June 21 and put in place for this year. New mulch for the trees and flowers will be planted on June 14. On both days, we will be dredging the pond of weed and debris. This is a tough job and all hands are needed.

If you are able to help on either day, please contact me at [[amymc@twcny.rr.com](mailto:amymc@twcny.rr.com)]. Refreshments will be provided.

Jennings Pond is monitored and owned by the NYS Parks Department and follows the state guidelines and regulations. All NYS Park rules apply. Water quality is tested weekly to ensure a safe environment for all. As a reminder, please clean up after yourselves and your pets. I am looking forward to a great summer. ❀

## GIRLS' B-BALL FUNDRAISER

Girls Travelling Basketball is holding a Cookie and Cake Walk to raise money for their activities, 1-4pm on Saturday, May 2 in the West Danby Fire Hall. For more information, contact 607.592.1673. ❀

## DANBY NEWS MAILINGS

Do you know anyone in Danby who doesn't receive the Danby Area News every month? We'd like to fix that! Tell us about it at [[danbynews@tedcrane.com](mailto:danbynews@tedcrane.com)] and we'll fix the problem.

Also, those of you receiving pre-addressed copies of the Danby News will see a change to "Danby Resident" on the label. This is to comply with P.O. requirements. ❀



# DANBY FUN DAY & PARADE SATURDAY, JULY 11

Submitted by Sue Beeners

## *Red, White, and Blue...and Safety Too!*

Celebrating more than 25 years of this community get-together, and helping our hard-working fire and emergency medical volunteers.

### What's Cooking Up?

Famous Chicken BBQ, Wheel o'Treats, Book Sale, Live Music, Lots of Games, Vendors, and Fire Safety Demonstrations, Dunking Booth and a Bounce House.

Of special note: Flax, our local business, is generously sponsoring the Kitchen Fire Safety Trailer, which trains adults how to quickly respond to a kitchen fire and provides important fire safety lessons for kids.

### Parade

Look forward to your neighborhood parade float or walking group. The parade theme is *Red, White & Blue and Safety, Too*. (See the Parade Entry Form in this issue and on the Danby News web site.

### Calling For Helpers

Can you help 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 • run one for an hour or two.
- Food • help at the Famous Chicken BBQ, or make popcorn and cotton candy.
- Button Sales • before and at the event
- Set-up • on the night before and the morning of the event
- Clean-up • after the event
- Bake for the Wheel of Treats - Cakes and other goodies welcome
- Chinese Auction • Gently-used items, theme baskets, donations of goods/services are sought
- Book Sale • pickup available.
- Vendors • see contact info on Page 6 (there's also a form on the Danby News web site)

Let's keep this community tradition happening! All proceeds benefit the Danby Volunteer Fire Company.

Danby Fun Day contact info is on page 6. ❁

## Danby Parade 2009 Entry Form

Name of Entry \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Entry (circle one):

Business • Classic Car • Band • Group/Club • Animal • Other

Name of Business, Club, Group, etc.: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone and Email: \_\_\_\_\_

I agree not to hold the Danby Fun Day, the parade committee, the Town of Danby, or the parade responsible for any injury due to my (our) participation in the parade.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
(Required; for those under 18, parent or guardian must sign)

## Fun Day Theme: Red, White and Blue and Safety, Too; 25+ Years

### • Parade Date: Saturday, July 11 •

Necessary information in detail: Vehicle, animal breed, musical group, float, walkers, bikes, etc.:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

All animals must be under control at ALL times. Leash, lead, or harness.

Line up at 9:30am at Dobson's Danby Motors  
Parade begins at 10:30am

Drop off completed forms at the Danby Town Hall or mail to 1830 Danby Road, Ithaca, NY 14850.  
Questions? Email A. Cusimano , [amymc@twcny.rr.com] or call Sue at the Town Hall, 277.0799.



## FIRE DISTRICT UPDATE

Submitted by Deanna Bowles

This year, the District has welcomed three new members and one member has returned from overseas college. Several members have gained their EMT ratings since last fall, making us quite strong on the emergency medical front.

Our firehouse addition project for Danby has not done as well. Since being priced out in the fall, we have reduced our requirements, re-designed, and then solicited new bids. They came in still too high. The building committee and commissioners are exploring alternatives with the Architect and Project Engineer to remain within the approved budget. Let's hope for the best.

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

## COMPOST WORKSHOP

Submitted by Adam Michaelides

Hospicare Garden staff and Master Composters from Cornell Cooperative Extension are offering a free and fun compost workshop, Noon-1pm on Saturday, May 2, at Hospicare, 172 East King Road.

The workshop will include demonstrations showing compost techniques and discussions about how you can set up and manage a compost system of your own. You are invited to come with questions, bring kids, your friends, and family. To register or for more information, contact Adam Michaelides, 607.272.2292.x124 or [acm1@cornell.edu]. ❧

## DANBY CHURCH DOINGS

The theme for the upcoming King's Daughters dinner at the Danby Federated Church is *Fancy Shmancy*. It's a time for women and girls of all ages to pamper themselves with the "good life".

Dinner will be served by the Men's Fellowship "butlers" and there will be door prizes, activities, and a skit. Wear your favorite fancy jewelry and be prepared to talk about it at your table.

The dinner starts at 6pm on Saturday, May 2. Please RSVP by April 27 to Bonnie Rathbun at 607.272.1606 or [brathbun@twcny.rr.com]. Indicate how many children will be in your group. ❧

## DANBY COMMUNITY LIBRARY

Submitted by Patti Meyers

*But that night Georgia dreamed of her grandmother, holding her dead mother across her lap-like a Pieta- and weeping inconsolably. And when she woke in the dark in the bed she shared with Ada, Georgia's face too was wet with tears.*—from *The World Below* by Sue Miller.

I'm writing this before our Open House/Book Sale, but you'll probably receive it afterward. I'd like to say, "Thanks for coming," in advance! A big show of appreciation for all of our volunteers who put in many hours making this event possible.

New collections this month: Books on CD, DVDs and *The Vanishing Act of Esme Lennox* by Maggie O'Farrell.

What's on your wish list? Mine has Michael J. Fox's new book, *Always Looking Up, Prayers for Sale* by Sandra Dalla, *The Geometry of Sisters* by Luanne Rice, and *Hotel at the Corner of Bitter and Sweet* by Jamie Ford.

**This month's Dinner and a Movie:**

Freaky Friday and Freaky French Fries:

Baked French Fries (from Bodybuilding Recipes Muscle eBook at [criticalbench.com])

**Ingredients:**

1½ cup raw onion  
2 large potatoes  
2 servings cooking oil spray  
½ tsp fresh ground chili pepper  
1 tsp garlic salt

**Method:**

Cut potatoes lengthwise (like french fries). Preheat oven to 375°F. Combine garlic salt and red chili pepper. Arrange potatoes strips in a single layer in a glass baking dish. Coat the potatoes with the vegetable oil spray. Flip them over and spray the other side. Sprinkle with garlic salt and red pepper seasoning. Bake for one hour. ❧

## DANBY PARK MEETING

Submitted by Esther Dodson, DCPA

You're invited to an open board meeting of the Danby Community Park Association. Help us plan and organize summer projects.

Come join us. Contribute your ideas and energies on Thursday, May 14 at 7pm, in the Danby Town Hall. ❧

## WEST DANBY CRAFT FAIR

Submitted by Marrell Cortright

A huge thank-you to everyone who participated in the West Danby Fire Department's Spring Craft Show and Chicken BBQ. We sold out of chicken again this year!

Thanks to everyone who came for lunch, thanks to everyone who came, shopped the craft show, and supported our local crafters. Some people already reserved their spots for the Fall show and some new people have put their name on the list to be included for the Fall show. We are so excited to be able to keep this local outlet for crafters happening. ❁

## WILDLAND FIREFIGHTING

Submitted by Marrell Cortright



Crafter Marrell Cortright adjusts her window-frame mirror during the West Danby Spring Craft Fair.

Seven West Danby Firefighters recently completed their NYS/DEC Wildland Firefighting basics class. Over a three-week period, the group travelled repeatedly to the Burdett Fire Department in Schuyler County to take the classes. The final day, Sunday, April 5, was an all-day class that in-

cluded live fire training.

The topics covered by Wildland Firefighting included planning the initial attacks, techniques for extinguishing the fires, tools and safety for fighting grass and forest fires, how weather, and how precipitation and topography can affect, feed, and change the direction of these types of fires.

Members completing this course were: Scott Wendt, John Smith, Tod Sukontarak, Matt Cooper, Steve Cortright, Marrell Cortright, and Nigel Dyson-Hudson. ❁

## 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.

The application (see below) is also available at the Town Hall and by mail. For more info, call me at 607.273.4744. ❁

### 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]

## Community Council Youth Programs May 2009

Programs run from the week of April 20 through the week of June 15 (no programs during the week of May 25). Unless otherwise indicated, all programs run 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.

### Lunch Bunch

Mondays, April 20-June 15

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, April 21-June 16, 3-6pm

At June Pollack's house

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! ⇨

### Giving Back

Wednesdays, April 22-June 17, 3:30-5:30pm

Boynton Middle School (meet at main office)

This service program is an opportunity to give back to the Ithaca community. Come get dirty at the Ithaca Children's Garden, bake goodies for Hospice and much much more!

### Uncover Ithaca

Thursdays, April 23-June 18, 3:30-5:30pm

Boynton Middle School (meet at main office)

Discover a whole new side of Ithaca. Go on scavenger hunts in the Commons, climb the stairs of Cornell's clock tower...and that's just the beginning!

### Coming this summer...

Here's a preview of just some of the summer offerings:

- 🍏 Primitive Pursuits: July 20-23, 9am-Noon
- 🍏 Water Wizards: July 6-9, time TBA
- 🍏 Summer work experiences in Danby: Now is the time to plan for summer work! Contact Laura Smith for more information *or* come to a recruitment night on Thursday, May 7, 5:30-7pm at the Danby Town Hall.
- 🍏 Danby Farmers' Market: If you are 14 years old and looking for a job, or if you are younger and are looking for a great volunteer experience, the Farmers' Market is it! You will help out with the weekly Danby Farmers' Market, meet lots of people, learn job skills, practice cooking and more. The market will happen on Thursdays, 1:30-6:30pm throughout the summer. Training begins in June.
- 🍏 Danby Summer Work Crew: The work begun at Jennings Pond will be continued this summer! Youth will be hired to work about 20 hours per week for about 6 weeks. The primary work location will be Jennings Pond, where the crew will extend the trail they worked on last summer. There may also be building projects included. The job will include paid staff trainings. Priority will be given to youth 14 years and older who live in the Town of Danby and are looking for a first-time work experience. Youth should be willing to be outside, doing hands-on work. We are also seeking a crew leader, who could be an older youth, a teacher, or an interested adult with some related experience. ✨

## SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS

Submitted by Ted Crane

If your tax bill is like most, the largest chunk of your property tax bill goes to the Ithaca City School District. Even so, turnout for School Board elections is usually far less than other elections.

The folks you're electing are in charge of a lot of your money, not to mention your childrens' education. Take a few minutes on May 19, Noon-9pm, and vote! ✨

## CALLING ALL KIDS!

Submitted by Sue Beeners

Please join our Danby Volunteer Fire Company for a Photo Shoot...and meet other kids We're taking pictures for the Danby Fun Day Poster at 10am on Saturday, May 9, in the Danby Fire Station.

Free fire hats and refreshments. It won't take long and it *will* be fun. RSVP appreciated. For info, contact Sue Beeners, 607.277.0799 or [sbeeners@aol.com]. ✨

Danby Community Council  
Danby Area News  
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Ithaca, NY 14850

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## DANBY AREA NEWS: EVENT CALENDAR

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

May 4 • Mon  
6:30pm 🏛️ Town Hall  
Public Hearing: New fees for permit applications.  
Town Board Agenda Meeting

May 6 • Wed  
4pm 🏛️ Danby Rural Cemetery  
Cleanup Day  
7pm 🏛️ Town Hall  
Board of Zoning Appeals

May 7 • Thu  
6pm 🏛️ Danby Federated Church  
Danby Senior Citizens Dinner: retirement planning  
7pm 🏛️ Town Hall  
Danby Community Council Meeting  
7pm 🏛️ Town Hall  
Kiosks Working Group Meeting  
7pm 🏛️ Danby Fire Hall  
Rabies Vaccination Clinic

May 11 • Mon  
6:30pm 🏛️ Town Hall  
Town Board Meeting

May 13 • Wed  
7pm 🏛️ Town Hall  
Comprehensive Planning Task Force

May 14 • Thu  
7pm 🏛️ Town Hall  
Danby Community Park Association: open Board mtg

May 17 • Sun  
1-4pm 🏛️ Danby Fire Hall  
17<sup>th</sup> Annual Plant Exchange

May 19 • Tue  
Noon-9pm 🏛️ Town Hall  
Ithaca City School Board Elections  
7:30pm 🏛️ Danby Fire Hall  
Danby Fire Commissioners Monthly Meeting

May 20 • Wed  
3-6pm 🏛️ Town Hall  
Grievance Day - Board of Assessment Review

May 21 • Thu  
7pm 🏛️ Town Hall  
Planning Board Meeting

June 1 • Mon  
6:30pm 🏛️ Town Hall  
Town Board Agenda Meeting

June 4 • Thu  
6pm 🏛️ Danby Federated Church  
Danby Senior Citizens Dinner: songs by Fuller & Soyring  
7pm 🏛️ Town Hall  
Danby Community Council Meeting

June 14 • Sun (and June 21)  
10am 🏛️ Jennings Pond  
Cleanup Day

June 27 • Sat  
Jennings Pond Opens for the Summer

Jul 11, 2009 • Sat  
Danby Fun Day and Parade

### ONGOING EVENTS

Danby Community Council 🏛️ Town Hall  
1<sup>st</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.

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

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.