



DANBY AREA NEWS

DANBY NEIGHBORS SERIES

Submitted by Eric Banford

Thanks to numerous volunteers, we have a full line-up of May events to share with the community. If you would like to share your skills or interests with your neighbors, please contact me at 607.277.0183 or [brew_bird@yahoo.com].

Some ideas I'd like to see would be: nature walks in your favorite area, a story telling event, a talent show, more craft sharing, a poetry/reading event, farming skill share, or anything you'd like to offer. Let's get to know our neighbors better through sharing!

- Saturday, May 8, 11am-5pm, Hard-Cheese Making Workshop led by Laura Woinoski at Whitehawk Ecovillage, 5 Whitehawk Lane.
- Sunday, May 9 1-2:30pm, a tour of the organic apple orchards maintained by Brian Caldwell, Field Manager for Cornell's Organic Cropping Systems Project at 303 Gunderman Road. The tour will include information on organic apple growing in our region.
- Saturday, May 15, 10-11:30am, Becca Harber leads a walk entitled, "Plants that threaten our native biodiversity". See and learn about some of the common plants in our region that bring an end to woodland spring wildflower habitat and streamside plant communities; some are edible or have medicinal uses. Becca has served as an herbalist and nature tour guide for 25 years. Meet outside 149 Piper Road (off 96/34 between Van Buskirk Gulf and Newfield Depot). Please park alongside Piper Road. For car pooling, meet at the Danby Car Park next to the Fire Station at 9:30am.

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CONCERT: DAN BERGGREN

Submitted by Bob Strichartz & John Henderson

The Danby Community Council presents singer-songwriter Dan Berggren in concert on Sunday, May 2, 3pm, in the Danby Town Hall.

Dan Berggren sings songs that are steeped in the tradition of the Adirondack Mountains. He is a singer-songwriter, but includes many old songs in his repertoire. His gentle wit and charm is coupled with an unpretentious style and a warm, rich voice. His music has taken him across New York State and as far away as Eastern Europe and Central Africa. ❁

HAVE YOU CENSUS-ED?

Did you know that the US unemployment rate went down this Spring because the US Census was hiring workers? No kidding. Most of these workers are being trained to collect information from households that have not returned 2010 Census forms. Sure, it's the law, but it's also a very good idea.

If 100 percent of all households mailed back their US Census Forms, taxpayers would save \$1.5 billion. Let's do our part and mail back our forms.

As of mid-April, three weeks after the census date, the Census estimated that only 76 percent of Danby residents had returned their forms. While this participation is somewhat better than Tompkins County as a whole (72 percent), it's not as good as the Towns of Groton or Ulysses (both 81 percent).

Do we want Groton or Ulysses, at the other ends of Tompkins County, to receive funds that belong—by population count—to Danby? No! We need our tax dollars at home. If you haven't sent in the 2010 Census Form, please do it now. If you don't have a form, contact the census: 866.872.6868. ❁

This Month Inside the Danby News:

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May 2010
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Text submissions:
Send text in the body of an
Email message (**not** as an at-
tachment); or mail typewritten
copy, double-spaced on white
paper. Short handwritten
submissions accepted; 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.

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**DEP'T OF CORRECTIONS
DEPARTMENT**

Submitted by Ted Crane

Some readers were confused by last
month's report of Mithril mining in
the Travor Road Quarry. For the re-
cord, then:

- The occasional street sign notwith-
standing, Danby has no Travor Road.
There is, however, a Traver Road.
- The press release was dated April 1,
which, as all kids know, is April Fool's
Day. Adults may have forgotten.
- Gimli, son of Gloin is one of the nine
"Companions of the Ring", the ma-
jor characters in J.R.R.Tolkien's *Lord
of the Rings* trilogy. The three very
thick books were recently popular-
ized by a movie series.
- Similarly, the Balrog (found in the
Mines of Moria) is a Tolkien creation.
- Dwarves, elves, and dragons are gen-
erally considered folklore. They don't
exist in Danby or elsewhere. If they
were real, Dwarves would dwell in
caverns, not in prefab housing.

TOO MUCH NEWS

Joel Gagnon's *Town Observer* column
will return next month, space permit-
ting. This month, there was so much
community news that it plumb got
pushed off the page.

FUN DAY VENDORS

Another victim of the space crunch,
the application forms for Fun Day
vendors, parade entries, and more
can be found on the Town web site,
[town.danby.ny.us/FunDay].

ASSESSMENT REVIEW DAY

If your property is assessed too high,
and an informal appeal didn't work,
plan on coming to Assessment Review
Day, May 20, 3-6pm, in Town Hall.

The Town of Danby Web Site

The Town of Danby has a web site,
[town.danby.ny.us]. If you have a
question about the Town, it's a great
place to start looking for answers. If
your answer isn't on the site, you will
find lots of contact information to
continue your search. ❁

TOWN CLERK'S DESKTOP

Submitted by Pamela Goddard, Town Clerk

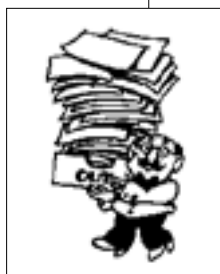
Do you ever read the “Legals” section of the Ithaca Journal? At first glance, all that tiny print seems boring and meaningless. But if you're interested in how your tax dollars are collected and spent or what your town government is up to, you might want to scan the section more regularly. The “Legals” page is where you'll find notices of jobs available for bid (such as mowing the Town property and cemeteries), information about tax collection, and notices of public hearings.

Public Hearings are the official way for citizens to become involved in town government. In New York State, towns and villages have home rule powers to enact local laws and ordinances, and the State requires municipalities to hold a public hearing prior to passing any local law. Public Hearings are also used for questions that come before the Town's Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) and for other issues that would benefit from open meetings focusing on public discussion of sensitive topics.

Public Hearings are much more than a meaningless opportunity for citizens to speak up before the Town Board acts. Public hearings are open meetings designed to gather information from the public and to survey public opinion as part of the lawmaking—or altering—process. Each hearing is targeted at a specific subject, and citizens are encouraged to speak and comment on that subject.

NYS Town Law (Section 130) outlines special requirements to assure that all public hearings are held in a legal manner. A notice of the public hearing must be published in the Town's “newspaper of record” (for Danby, the *Ithaca Journal*) at least ten days in advance of a hearing regarding local law and five days in advance of other public hearings. The notice of public hearing must include the time and place of the hearing and a brief statement of the subject or purpose. Danby's notices also include information about how to learn more (usually by contacting the Town Clerk) about the subject of the hearing, and specify how individuals may testify.

So, if you get a “neighbor notice” in the mail from the BZA about some zoning issue on your road, stay calm. This is a sign that everything is working the way it should. No decision has been made yet. Town boards, elected and appointed, are seeking your input. A legal, and civil, forum has been created for you to have your say.



While there are all sorts of rules and procedures for open meetings, our local government is dedicated to serving the community. Public Hearings give the public the full opportunity to observe and participate. They help confirm our local government's accountability to its constituents. Most importantly, such hearings assist in the complete airing of public opinion on community issues. ❁

DANBY COMMUNITY LIBRARY

Submitted by Patti Meyers

Happy Birthday, Danby Community Library! We turned 20 on April 20! We hope you came to our Open House/Book Sale on the April 24. Thank you again to our tireless volunteers who make everything happen!

Our featured author this month is Stuart Woods, a New York Times bestselling author. He writes the *Stone Barrington* and *Holly Baker* series. He lives on the Treasure Coast of Florida, on a Maine island, and in New York City. His web site [stuartwoods.com] if you want to learn more about him and his work, read an interview, and/or correspond with him. We have many of his books at the Danby Community Library!

With the closing of Hollywood Video, we were able to purchase at least 10 new DVDs for the library. Come in to check them out.

Also new this month are Books on CD and Juvenile Fiction and Nonfiction from FingerLakes Library System and Tompkins County Public Library. ❁

Danby Neighbors, continued from page 1—

- Sunday, May 16, 1-4pm, Kathy Halton and Shelly Marino will give a hands-on presentation about processing flax into linen thread and cloth. There will be a presentation about how flax is grown and prepared for spinning, a demonstration of spinning—with some hands-on spinning with spindles—and of weaving linen thread to make fabric on a small loom. Meet at 2505 Danby Road.
- Sunday, May 23, 3-4pm, in the Danby Town Hall, a discussion of Greensprings Natural Cemetery Preserve with Mary Woodsen.

For a list of updated activities visit the Danby Town web site at [town.danby.ny.us]. ❁

GAS DRILLING TASK FORCE

Submitted by Katherine Halton

Many different organizations related to drilling are coming into existence in Tompkins County, and the Task Force is trying to keep track of who, what, when and where.

ROUSE (Residents Opposed to Unsafe Shalegas Extraction) has been gathering members county-wide to meet in Brooktondale, while DRAC (Dryden Resource Awareness Coalition) is aimed, mostly, at Dryden residents. And there are several more.

A Task Force member, Andrea Hazard, has volunteered to keep track of the groups and it may be a lot of work. We are also encouraging Task Force members to attend meetings and report back to the Danby group, so that we know what others are doing in our county.

This month, we heard reports from students who are working with Professor Cynthia Bowman in the Cornell Law School Land Use Clinic. They're studying some of the legal issues involved in resource extraction. As the semester end approaches, they have put together reports on pipelines, the Clean Water Act, and Superfund clean-up, home rule, common law claims, etc.

A new report, *Unanswered Questions About the Economic Impact of Gas Drilling in the Marcellus Shale: Don't Jump to Conclusions*, by Jannette Barth, PhD, came out this past month. It refuted many of the claims—that wealth comes to the areas in which they drill—made by the gas and oil industry. Statistics on financial health from many of the counties in NYS and other areas across the country where there has been gas extraction are compared to those who have never had this industry. “While the environmental risks have been a focus of concern, many stakeholders have assumed that a positive economic impact may result. In reality, the economic impact may very well be negative. The likelihood is that gas drilling would adversely affect other economic activities such as tourism and sport fishing and hunting.” There is more research coming out on this topic every week.

The Task Force is also closely following the EPA hearings in Washington DC and its proposed study of the effects of gas drilling on drinking water. This is planned to be completed by the end of 2012.

The Task Force meets at least twice a month at 7pm in the Town Hall. Anyone interested in gas drilling in Danby is welcome. Our next meetings will be on

Wednesday, May 12 and Monday, May 24. If you want information about our work, please contact me at [khaltontwnc@twnc.ny.gov] or 607.273.0533. ☘

UNIQUE DANBY

Submitted by Ben Altman

Did you know that Danby contains all or part of twelve Unique Natural Areas? That sounds impressive, but a bit more information is needed to find out what it actually means.

The Unique Natural Areas Inventory is a remarkable list of 192 sites in Tompkins County, compiled and published, with a great deal of volunteer help, by the Tompkins County Environmental Management Council. The Inventory is itself unique—few other places have such an extensive catalog and body of research on environmentally sensitive areas. The initial work was done in 1976 and there have been two substantial updates, the latest in 2000.

The sites are chosen as places that represent exceptional aesthetic or cultural qualities, unusual or important habitat or ecology, rare or scarce plants or animals, or unique geology. Unique Natural Areas (UNAs) do not limit uses of the land; they were developed to help and inform towns with their land-use policies. UNAs include both public and private lands—note that the privately-owned portions are *not* open to the public!

Some highlights of Danby's UNAs include: the Michigan Hollow Swamp and Ponds which, “...may be the most species-rich forested wetland in the state,” according to the UNA description; Thatcher's Pinnacles and the West Danby Morainal Valley; and the Danby Fir Tree Swamp, which runs East of Danby Road and South from Hornbrook Road and across the Danby drainage divide between the Great Lakes and Susquehanna watersheds. In the northern part of Danby are the Lick Brook and Upper Buttermilk UNAs.

More information can be found at the Tompkins County Planning Department, 121 East Court Street in Ithaca, 607.274.5560 and [tompkins-co.org/emc/educational_materials.htm].

Also, talking of what is special about Danby, please complete this survey of the resources on your land: [surveymonkey.com/s/YourLandAndWater]. It has received a good response since it was created by the Gas Drilling Task Force a couple of months ago, so you may have seen it already. If not, it would be great to know more about what makes Danby unique! ☘

SUPERVISOR'S UPDATE

Submitted by Ric Dietrich, Town Supervisor

A fellow resident Emailed me recently to express some disappointment about how the Town appears to be characterized on YouTube. So if you can, and if you will, how about posting your videos of the Danby we all love? If you think Danby is a cool place to live, help us build a comprehensive picture of our town. Be sure to feature the words, "Danby, New York," so searches can find your footage!

Are there other places on the web where Danby has a presence? Does Danby have an image that accurately represents our town? Is West Danby included, and is it distinct from the central hamlet? Is there anything out there which describes the famous *Danby Divide*, the line in Danby that separates the headwaters of the Chesapeake Bay from the headwaters of the St. Lawrence Seaway?

Maybe you'll post a video opus from Danby Fun Day!

While I am at it, let me get you interested in the various subcommittees of Town of Danby's Gas Drilling Task Force. Among them is a group that will work with other organizations, at a countywide level, to set common priorities for projects that towns need to work on. Our common sense of united work should mean non-duplication of tasks, collaboration on projects, and common sense on templates for the adoption of local laws.

As I mentioned in the January Newsletter,

Our New Year conversation will be the first of many that we will have about our town and how it is working. We'll talk about better ways to let the public know about what's going on: publicizing agendas prior to meetings and publishing minutes promptly afterward. We'll plan to write grants for housing development, rehabilitation, broadband, and energy efficiency....

From that list, so far, we have sent one member item through Hinchey's office to help fund salt-barn project, two broadband and four proposals to NYSERDA, we received two circuit rider positions on energy and housing and one for alternative heat for the Town Barns, and we have had several meetings of Town Board with the Planning Board to talk about our relationship, to see how we can function more effectively, and to set goals for housing projects for the coming year.

Most important, the minutes of Town meetings are posted on Town web site so the public can keep up with what's going on.

In closing, I would like to honor and reflect on Joey Salino. It was a pleasure to know him from his seat on the Town Board. Joe, thank you for the time you gave our Town. You are missed. ❁

HIGHWAY DEP'T UPDATE

Submitted by Carl Seamon, Highway Superintendent

We have made it through another winter season! The Highway Department would like to thank the Town of Danby residents for their cooperation in keeping the roads clear of parked cars, making it easier and safer for us to remove snow from public roads.

We would also like to thank all of you for the numerous calls of thanks, compliments, and suggestions to the Department as we continue to work to satisfy the needs of the Town. Our lines of communication are always open and we will continue to do our best to respond to your needs.

In late April or early May, work will begin on Gunderman Road between NYS Rt.96B and Comfort Road. Although traffic will be permitted, we hope that if you see a "Men Working" sign, you will consider a different route. It will be greatly appreciated and will make for a faster—and safer—completion time for the project.

We will also begin summer work on all Town roads by administering dust control and winter clean-up.

We hope you all have a safe and enjoyable summer! ❁

TOWN HOURS

TOWN CLERK

Phone: 277.4788 • Fax: 277.0559

Tues–Fri, 10am–5pm; Sat, 10am–1pm, closed Monday.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

93 Hornbrook Road • Phone: 272.9169

Mon–Fri, 6am–2:30pm

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICE

Phone: 277.0799 • Fax: 277.0559

Wed–Fri, 10am–5pm or by appointment

TOWN COURT:

Phone: 277.0095 • Fax: 277.0031

Tue, 7pm

All offices at Danby Town Hall except where noted.

DANBY'S HISTORIC BUILDINGS

Submitted by Karen Laun

Danby has a lot of old houses. That's probably all most people know about the buildings scattered around our rural town. These houses, churches, schools, and barns date back to the early 1800s and comprise many fine examples of Federal, Greek Revival, and Victorian styles of architecture. A closer look, however, reveals that many of these buildings have fascinating histories as well.

A renovated nineteenth-century house at 399 South Danby Road once served as a post office and store. Another early house, at 8 Valley View Road, spent many years as a blacksmith's shop. Danby was once even home to a tuberculosis sanatorium, believed to have been located at 100 Traver Road.

DANBY FIRE DISTRICT UPDATE

Submitted by Commissioner Ralph Bowles

The big news is that construction on the Danby Fire Station addition is well along. We even have doors on the new truck bays and new matching energy saving doors on the old truck bays. Inside, things are beginning to look nice; some finishing is done. We are hoping for completion in June this year.

Separately, the board recently approved updated policies for training, security, and personnel qualifications. Our new-to-us rescue vehicle in Danby is working out well.

See you at Danby Fun Day 2010, which will be in memory of Joey Salino. ❀

MOWING PROPOSALS SOUGHT

Submitted by Deanna L. Bowles, Secretary, Danby Fire District

The Danby Fire District is soliciting proposals for lawn mowing at the Danby and West Danby Fire Houses for the 2010 season. Anyone interested in submitting a proposal should contact Ralph Bowles, 592 Troy Road, Ithaca, or 607.273.2820 for a list of requirements.

Proposals will be considered during the May 11, 7:30pm, District Meeting in the West Danby Fire Station. Note should be taken of the construction currently in progress in Danby. Completion of construction should be during the current mowing season. ❀

Some houses have a lively history. A tavern and stagecoach stop at 2613 Danby Road, operated by one Leonard Hall, was built around 1811. 2720 Danby Road, also dating from the early 1800s, was the Fortner Tavern stagecoach stop.

The house at 1300 Danby Road dates from the mid-1800s and was once a schoolhouse. Our town hall was built in 1826 as the Baptist Church. Another church, the Danby Congregational Church, was built between 1817 and 1820 and is the oldest existing church in Tompkins County.

The Danby History Group, formed in November 2009, is dedicated to collecting and preserving information about the rich history of Danby. If you would like to join us or share your memories of Danby history, please contact Pamela Goddard at [townclerk@town.danby.ny.us]. Look for more articles about Danby history in future *Danby Newses*. ❀

WILDLIFE SEMINAR IN AUGUST

Submitted by Russ Nitchman

On Saturday, August 28, 3-6pm, in the Danby Firehouse, there is going to be a wildlife seminar focused mainly on deer and deer hunting.

Nationally acclaimed wildlife manager Neil Dougherty is coming to give a 3-hour presentation using a PowerPoint slide show. He is a wildlife expert and known for his professional services in "Deerscaping"--creating landscapes that better sustain deer and all the wildlife species of our town.

The \$20 of the seminar includes pizza and drinks. Reservations ahead of time are encouraged as seating will be limited. Contact either Dick Oltz at 607.273.7307, or me at [ithaca.hunter@yahoo.com].

A copy of Neil's latest book *Grow 'Em Right* has been placed at the Danby Community Library (it has a bright orange cover!). Neil also has a web site, [northcountrywhitetails.com]. It will be an informative and exciting event if you are a hunter or simply an enthusiast for wildlife who wants to improve the land for wildlife. ❀



DANBY PLANT EXCHANGE

Submitted by Dan Klein

The 18th annual Plant Exchange will take place on Sunday May 16, 1-4pm, at the Danby Town Hall Gazebo 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 is it necessary 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. Also, label what you bring if you think of it.

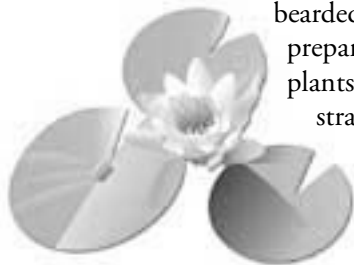
Please note that, due to construction at the Fire Hall this year, the event will take place around the Gazebo, located on the south side of Danby's Town Hall.

For more information contact Dan Klein, 607.272.7582 or [danbydan@hotmail.com]. ❁

DIVIDING DAYLILIES & PERENNIALS

Submitted by Patricia Curran

Spring is the right time to divide many perennials. Learn how to divide daylilies, Siberian iris, Hosta, bearded iris, Phlox, and others. Come prepared to work! This class will tackle plants from the Teaching and Demonstration Gardens at Extension and Master Gardener private gardens, but you can also bring a plant from home. Rain or shine (indoors if wet).



Dividing Daylilies and Other Perennials will be held Tuesday, May 4, 6-8pm, at Tompkins County Cooperative Extension, 615 Willow Avenue, Ithaca. Fee is \$10; pre-payment is required; limited to 15 participants. Please call 607.272.2292 for more information or registration. ❁

FREE RABIES CLINIC

Submitted by Beatrice Hogben

The Tompkins County Health Department will conduct a free rabies clinic in the Danby Fire Station, on Thursday, May 6, 7-9pm. Dogs, Cats, and ferrets, along with their human companions, are invited.

Vaccination expires in one year without provided, documented proof of prior vaccination. Rabies tags are not sufficient proof. Repeat vaccinations with proof are good for three years. New vaccinations are good for one year.

If you have other questions, contact the Tompkins County Health Department at 607.274.6688. ❁

GETTING READY FOR THE SUMMER FARMERS' MARKET

Submitted by Christel Trutmann

Planning for the Danby Farmers' Market continues. We hope to attract people to the market by combining the Cooperative Extension youth stand with weekly workshops and concerts, preferably showcasing Danby knowledge and talent.

If that makes you think of something you'd like to perform (music? magic? juggling?), or an experience you'd like to share (canning? livestock? green building?), or a friend you'd like to volunteer, come to our community meeting about the market on May 12, at 7pm in the Town Hall. Contact me at [ctrutmann@gmail.com] or 607.342.1062. ❁

HAPPENING AT THE DFC

Will chickens ever become an endangered resource?

It's *Chicken BBQ* day at the DFC! Saturday, May 15, 11am until the bird is all gone. Half chickens only, \$5, grilled by the Men's Fellowship.

Stick around on May 15 for a 7pm concert by the Skyline Boys, a Southern Gospel Quartet. Over the years, the Skyline Boys have appeared all over the country and have made a name on television and radio. Though the members have changed the message has stayed the same. Come hear this dynamic quartet and their perfect harmonies! A free will offering is suggested. ❁

PITCH IN FOR SPRING CLEANUP

Submitted by Sue Beeners, Code Enforcement Officer

The Town of Danby's Real Property Maintenance Law, along with the State Property Maintenance Law, prohibits junked or abandoned items from being stored in yards where they are visible from neighboring properties or roadways, or where they otherwise create a health or safety nuisance.

These items include vehicles, lawnmowers, appliances, and furniture in a state of disrepair, trash, old tires, and construction/demolition debris.

An additional Town law prohibits the accumulation of two or more vehicles in disrepair, or the equivalent in parts thereof, from being stored anywhere on the property, even behind a fence.

The Town Code Enforcement Office will be increasing efforts to notify property owners where such violations are found. Typically, violators are notified and given a period to comply. If no compliance is achieved, then the matter will be referred to Town Court. The laws provide that fines may be charged for noncompliance.

If you have any of the listed items in your yards, please make the time this spring to remove them and to dispose of them properly. ♣

THE LITTER NEWS

Submitted by Ronda Roaring

Roadside Clean-Up

Saturday, May 1 is May Day. Please help us celebrate by donating an hour or two of your time to help clean up along 96B and 34/96. We will need every person we can get. Children are permitted if accompanied by an adult. Orange vests and plastic bags will be provided. Bring some work gloves and something to drink. Meet at the Town Hall at 9:30am. Rain or shine.

Recliners

Someone has dumped four La-Z-Boy-type recliners on South Danby Road. If you contact me with information about this, your identity will be kept confidential.

Recycling

If you have a recycling bin but would like another...or don't have one at all...get in touch with me. If enough people want recycling bins, I will try to get a local non-profit or youth group to take on the project of providing them at a modest fee delivered to your door. Please Email me with the number of bins you'd like.

DANBY SENIORS UPDATE

Submitted by Margie VanDeMark

The next meeting of the Danby Seniors will be on Thursday, May 6 at 6pm (note time change: summer hours) in the Danby Federated Church. Everyone 55 and older is invited and encouraged to attend our dish-to-pass meal.

Big thanks go out to Barb & Carl Mosher for hosting the April meeting *and* for leading the meeting *and* for providing musical entertainment by Tom Sisler. Also thank you to Linda Howe for cooking the Easter ham!

Belated 90th birthday wishes (April 26) go out to Frank Haskins! Even more belated best wishes to Charlotte Hautala for a milestone birthday on January 21. ♣

DANBY LAND BANK COOP

Submitted by Elizabeth Keokosky

The Danby Land Bank Cooperative is still accepting 2010 members. Come to our meeting on May 15 at 11am in the Town Hall to find out more about having your fields mowed for biomass, getting agricultural assessment on your taxes, the status of biomass boiler for the Town Barns, and the grass and wood pelletizing plant in our area.

Members and haven't yet signed their leases are also encouraged to attend the meeting. ♣

Recycling is everyone's responsibility. Did you know that you can recycle computers, television sets, VCRs and other similar equipment for free at the Tompkins County Solid Waste facility in Ithaca? Just ask at the booth for directions to electronics dropoff.

Tires, too, can be recycled. It will cost you \$2 per tire, but it's worth the expense. The tires must be off their rims, but the rims and other metal—everything from clean jar lids to old fencing—can be left for free at the Solid Waste facility.

Bicycles can be dropped off at RIBs—Recycle Ithaca's Bicycles—at 530 West Buffalo Street [velonet.org/ribs/]. Clean toys can be dropped off at the Danby Food Pantry at the Danby Federated Church on 96B. Stuff like light switches, file cabinets, chandeliers, etc., can be donated to Finger Lakes ReUse at the Triphammer Mall [fingerlakesreuse.org].

Contact me at [rondaroaring@hotmail.com] or 607.589.4031. ♣

PERSPECTIVE

Submitted by Adam Crown, Fire/Life Safety Educator

As we all know, the events of 9-11 claimed 2,973 lives, including 343 of my brother firefighters. Without doubt, it was a spectacular event and a staggering loss of life. But did you know that in the same year, 42,443 men, women and children were mercilessly slaughtered on America's highways? That's 14 times the number of fatalities on 9-11 or, to put it another way, the equivalent of one 9-11 a month, every month for a year...with a couple extra for the holidays.

Since 2001, about every third word out of the mouth of every politician and pundit is "terrorism." You'd think there was a terrorist on every street corner in America, taking us out in big batches. But the fact is, between 2001 and 2006 (the most current year for which the statistics are available) homicide didn't even make the Top Ten in the Causes of Death category. It ranked a mediocre 14th, well behind Respiratory Disease, Diabetes, Alzheimers, the pop duo of Influenza and Pneumonia, Nephritis, Septicemia, Suicide, Liver disease and Hypertension. Of those homicides that did occur, 65 percent were committed with firearms.

While 177,757 firearms deaths (an average of 29,626 per year) is nothing to sneeze at, that number pales beside 260,611 motor vehicle accident (MVA) fatalities during the same period, an average of 43,435 MVA fatalities a year. That's 47% more MVA fatalities than firearm deaths.

So the good news is, if you've been chewing your nails to the quick worrying about terrorist attacks or getting gunned down in the street, you can pretty much relax. It's not likely to happen; the real bad news is those MVAs.

Indeed, between the ages of 1 and 44, accidents are the number one cause of death, and MVAs account for around half of those accidental deaths. For the 15-24 age group, it's nearly 70 percent. It starts to taper off a little after that. For 35-44 year-olds, MVA deaths drop slightly below 40 percent. By the time you're 45-54, accidental death drops to the third most prevalent cause of death, with MVAs making up about one third of those fatalities. By age 55 accidents fall to 6th place, and by age 65 to 9th place.

Maybe that's evidence that you really do get smarter as you get older. I certainly hope so.

There's no big mystery to motor vehicle safety. It boils down to a seven simple things:

- Never operate a motor vehicle while under the influence of Any perception-altering or judgment-altering substance, whether that substance is legal or illegal, over-the-counter or prescription.
- Always wear your seat belt, and make everyone else in the vehicle wear theirs, too.
- Slow Down. Better someone should refer to you as the so-and-so who was late, than the late Mr. or Ms. So-and-so.
- Always keep your vehicle in good repair: air bags and seatbelts working, tires with good treads and properly inflated, lights operational, windows clean and unobstructed. If you wear glasses, be sure your prescription is current.
- Eliminate distractions. Don't try to drive while eating breakfast, talking on the phone, putting on your make-up, changing clothes, hunting for your favorite CD, or displaying affection for your true love.
- If you haven't done one in a while, take a defensive driving course and brush up on how to look out for the other guy's mistakes as well as correcting your own.
- Keep an emergency kit in the car: flares, flashlight, cell phone, fire extinguisher, first aid kit. Season to taste.

If you have kids in your vehicle, there are a couple more considerations.

- Children 12 and under should ride in the back seat in a child safety seat, booster seat or safety belt (adult seat belts alone won't protect a child who weighs less than 80 pounds).
- Infants should ride in a rear-facing infant seat until they're about a year old and weigh at least 20 pounds.
- Use a convertible or forward-facing seat up to about age 4 and when the child weighs at least 40 pounds.
- When a child outgrows the child safety seat, use a booster seat unless the child is at least 4'9" tall. If the shoulder strap of the seat belt comes across the child's neck, rather than chest, use a booster seat.

Car wrecks are a lousy, stupid, wasteful way to die. Be careful out there. ❖

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY SPRING BOOK SALE

The Friends of the Tompkins County Public Library Spring Sale will be held on three long weekends, May 8-10, May 15-17, and May 22-25 at 509 Esty Street, Ithaca. Hours are 8am-8pm on the first day, Noon-8pm the last day (bag day) and 10am-8pm all other days. ❖

DANBY FUN DAY: JULY 10, 2010 IN MEMORY OF JOEY SALINO

Submitted by Christel Trutmann

This year's Fun Day will honor Joey Salino, a beloved community member and businessman who died unexpectedly on March 31.

Joey contributed a lot to the Danby Volunteer Fire Company over the years, from hamburgers and cooler space for Fun Day, to gift certificates for the Chinese Auction and sauce for spaghetti dinners.

If you've never come back to the firehouse with icicles on your turnout gear after hauling hoses around all night, you can only imagine how much we appreciated the pizzas Joey sent us after exhausting calls. In addition to his thoughtful generosity with the fire company, Joey served on the Town Board for four years and was known for being approachable and good humored.

Fun Day brings Danby together once a year to enjoy our families, neighbors, and friends, while supporting the Danby Volunteer Fire Company. Look forward to games, delicious grilled food (vegetarian options available!), an opportunity to explore the expanded firehouse and learn about firefighting and keeping your household safe.

So much in our town is accomplished by volunteers and supportive community members like Joey—including our emergency services and putting on Fun Day.

It might seem distant now but the nicer the weather gets the faster the weeks go by. Contact us now about

being a vendor, having a float or walking group in the parade, or helping out on July 10—kids, adults and seniors are all welcome and appreciated. Please consider:

- Running a *game* for an hour
- Helping to serve the *barbequed chicken*, or to make *popcorn* and *cotton candy*
- Helping with *setup* or *cleanup*.
- Baking cakes or other goodies for the *Wheel of Treats*
- Donating books to the *book sale* (Pickup available)
- Donating theme baskets, goods or services to the *Chinese Auction*

Mark your calendars now, and stay tuned for more Fun Day news in the coming months! ❀

FUN DAY CHINESE AUCTION

Submitted by Sharon Gaden, Secretary, Danby VFC

Auction attendees during Fun Day browse all the available items and purchase raffle tickets to try to win the items of their choice. A drawing is held and winners are notified of the item(s) won.

Last year we had neighbors and families who donated handmade items, and some created theme baskets by placing similar items into a basket or suitable container. Here's a few basket ideas: cat lover's, coffee, reading, sports.

The kids also have a Chinese Auction, they enjoy trying to win, too. Ideas for a children's basket: a dress-up basket or a science basket. The ideas for a basket are unlimited.

Anyone with new or gently used items who would like to donate them to the Chinese Auction, please contact me, 607.659.3116 or [danby071302@yahoo.com]. All donations are greatly appreciated and help us continue to offer the popular Chinese Auction at Danby Fun Day. Thank you. ❀

HELMET/CASH RAFFLE

We still have some tickets left for the authentic Nascar helmet signed by all of the Roush Fenway drivers and the team owner, Jack Roush, himself. The 2010 Daytona 500 winner, Jamie McMurray, signed it as a driver for Roush Racing in 2009.

Or you could win one of the monetary prizes of \$250 and \$100. A limited number of tickets are being sold so your chances of winning are greater. All proceeds benefit the Danby Volunteer Fire Company. Contact any Danby Fire Company member, or reach me at 607.659.3116 or [danby071302@yahoo.com] for more information. Thank you for your support! ❀

Danby Fun Day Contacts

Vendors	Mary Oltz	607.273.2950 maryloltz@twcny.rr.com
	Sue Beeners	607.277.0799 sbeeners@aol.com
Parade	Amy Cusimano	amymc@twcny.rr.com
	Sue Beeners	(see above)
BBQ	Christel Trutmann	607.342.1062 ctrutmann@gmail.com
Games	Andrea Hazard	607.272.8791 ahazard@twcny.rr.com
Wheel O'Treats	Gay Huddle	607.273.6530 gayhuddle@hotmail.com
Chinese Auction	Sharon Gaden	607.659.3116 danby071302@yahoo.com
Book Sale	Leslie Connors	607.277.1717
Questions	Christel Trutmann	(see above)

Danby Youth Flyer

DANBY YOUTH AWARD FUNDING

Submitted by Laura Smith

"...and because it will make Danby a more beautiful place," Sandra Stromswold concluded her presentation about why the youth group chose the Danby Park Association as one of its grant recipients.

Seven weeks prior to this presentation, a group of five Danby youth assessed applications from these three organizations and worked as a group to divide the \$3000 United Way grant as they saw fit.

At a full Danby Town Board meeting—followed by a small refreshment reception—the youth awarded Suicide Prevention & Crisis Service \$600 for Community Based Suicide Prevention Training for residents of Danby. The

Danby Community Park Association, Inc. received \$1,000 for a Commercial-grade picnic table and recycling receptacle in Dotson Park. The Town of Danby / Volunteer Fire Company received \$1,400 for Street address number signs to be posted at the entrances of driveways or attached to the mail boxes of individuals with disabilities or low income and the senior population.

The presentation to the Danby Town Board, the grant applications, awards, and decision-making process, were all part of a collaborative effort by United Way and the Danby Youth Programs. The United Way Focus On Community and Understanding Service (FOCUS) program offers youth in rural municipalities an opportunity to award grant money to organizations that will benefit the local community. The Park Foun-

Community Council Youth Programs May 2010

After School Programs require pre-registration and are open for youth living in Danby. Contact Laura Smith, Danby Youth Program Manager, with any questions, concerns or requests for a form: 607.272.2292.x225 or [ljs257@cornell.edu].

Primitive Pursuits

Mondays, May-June, 3-5:30pm
at June Pollack's in Danby

The adventure continues at June's house once the weather warms. Explore the world of tracking and awareness while playing games and gaining understanding of the wilderness around you.

Funky Furniture—grades 5-8

Tuesdays, in June, 3:30-5:30pm
at Boynton

Create a bulletin board, paint a step stool, add your own artistic flair to furniture pieces, both large and small.

Animal Explorations—grades 3-8

Thursdays, May-June, 3-5:30pm
at Danby Town Hall

Visit the SPCA, bake your own dog treats, and learn about a variety of animal careers and hobbies with hands-on experience and field trips! ❁

dation, along with individual donors, generously provided funding for this program. The program stresses decision-making skills and teamwork, and provides a space for youth to consider the needs of their community and to practice their public speaking skills.

Meg Cole, Chief Program and Information Services Officer of the United Way of Tompkins County, worked closely with the group. She encouraged group discussions focused on assessing Danby's needs, and guided the group through the lengthy grant applications. Cole said the group was "very sharp" and that she was "impressed" with their work.

As families of the participants munched on grapes and cookies, the youth posed for pictures in their matching LIVE UNITED T-shirts. They joked with the Suicide Prevention and Crisis Center representative as he walked by with his over-sized check. As they laughed the world did, for a moment, feel united. ❁



Photo By Laura Smith

Postal Patron

DANBY AREA NEWS: EVENT CALENDAR

- May 1 • Sat
9:30am 🏠 Town Hall—Danby Roadside Cleanup Day
- May 2 • Sun
9:30 🏠 Town Hall
Danby Community Council Concert: Dan Berggren
- May 3 • Mon
7pm 🏠 Town Hall
Town Board Agenda Meeting
- May 6 • Thu
6pm 🏠 Danby Federated Church
Danby Seniors' Meeting
7pm 🏠 Town Hall
Danby Community Council Meeting
- May 10 • Mon
7pm 🏠 Town Hall
Town Board Regular Meeting
7:30pm 🏠 Danby Fire Hall
Danby Fire Department Monthly Meeting
- May 11 • Tue
7pm 🏠 West Danby Fire Hall
Danby Fire Commissioners Monthly Meeting
- May 12 • Wed
7pm 🏠 Town Hall—Gas Drilling Task Force Meeting
7pm 🏠 Town Hall—Farmer's Market Meeting
- May 15 • Sat
11am 🏠 Danby Federated Church
Chicken BBQ
11am 🏠 Town Hall
Danby History Group
11am 🏠 Town Hall
Danby Land Bank Coop Meeting
- May 16 • Sun
1-4pm 🏠 Town Hall
18th Annual Danby Plant Exchange
- May 18 • Tue
12-9pm 🏠 Town Hall
Ithaca City School District Elections
- May 19 • Wed
7pm 🏠 Town Hall
Planning Board Meeting

- May 20 • Thu
3-6pm 🏠 Town Hall
Grievance Day: Tax Assessment Review
- May 24 • Mon
7pm 🏠 Town Hall—Gas Drilling Task Force Meeting
- Jul 10, 2010 • Sat
Danby Fun Day and Parade

ONGOING EVENTS

- Danby Community Council 🏠 Town Hall
1st Thursday, 7pm
- Danby Community Library Open 🏠 Town Hall
Saturdays, 10am–Noon, Wednesdays, 1:30–3:30pm,
and when the Open sign is out!
- Danby Community Library Volunteer Mtg 🏠 Town Hall
1st Wednesday, 6:30pm. Public Welcome.
- Danby Fire Company 🏠 Fire Hall
Mondays, 7pm; monthly mtg 2nd Monday, 7:30pm.
- 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 Community Park Association 🏠 Town Hall
2nd and 4th Thursday, 7pm.
- Danby Food Pantry 🏠 Federated Church
3rd Friday, 4–6pm, Thursday the-day-before, 6–8pm
- Military Family Support Group 🏠 Federated Church
2nd Thursday, 6:30pm.
- Seniors Strength Training Group 🏠 Federated Church
Mondays, 9am.
- Danby Quilters Group ☎ 273.2950
Fridays, 9–11am.

WHERE THINGS HAPPEN

- 🏠 Danby Town Hall • 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