



DANBY AREA NEWS

DANBY HISTORY AT FUN DAY

Submitted by Mary Ann Barr

Fun Day is aptly named! The Danby History Group made its initial appearance and it was a fun experience. Many people stopped by the booth and talked about Danby history; there are some interesting individual tales to be heard! Everyone was interested to view the photos from Danby's past, check out the artifacts and fossils, and guess the weight of the Revolutionary War cannonball. Also of interest were our items for sale—including the Danby Afghan and the Map Folio of historic Danby maps.



(photo by Mary Ann Barr)

Three winners of the guess-the-weight-of-the-cannonball contest will each receive a Map Folio as a prize. The guesses ranged from 2 to 13 pounds, but Elizabeth Teskey, Sarah Gagnon, and Ali nailed the correct weight of eight pounds. Congratulations!

Thanks to Sue Beeners and Joan Grant for providing the photo boards, to Karen Laun for the intriguing artifacts and fossils and to Mary Ann Barr for the Revolutionary War cannonball. Also many thanks to all who helped with the booth.

If you are interested in learning more about the Danby History Group you can call the Town Clerk, Pamela Goddard at 607.277.4788 or [townclerk@town.danby.ny.us]

FUN DAY 2010 THANKS!

Submitted by Christel Trutmann

This year's Fun Day had gorgeous weather and a strong turnout. We owe the event's success to the hard work and generosity of a lot of people (plus a little luck with the weather!).

What with the unfinished status of the station renovation project, even as late as one week before Fun Day, we didn't know whether we could actually use the fire station and grounds. On Tuesday, four days before Fun Day, we got the okay to begin cleaning away the construction dust and unpacking items from storage. We thank the Fire Company members who gave up their evenings for a week to move into the station and prepare it for Fun Day.

The Danby Volunteer Fire Company would like to thank the many individuals, businesses and organizations that contributed to Fun Day 2010:

Many thanks to the Parade participants, ranging from Fire Company and Highway trucks, a color guard, floats, classic cars, horses, walkers, and even a Mustang pooper-scooper!

Thanks to the vendors and exhibits; to the Salino family, who lent photos of Joe for all to enjoy; and to the Tompkins County Tourism Fund, the Danby Community Council, Cornell Cooperative Extension, the Community Arts Partnership of Tompkins County, the Danby Federated Church, and the Danby Highway Department for all their support.

Thanks to the many local businesses whose wonderful donations made the Chinese Auction and Fun Day possible: The State Diner; MaineSource Party Supply; West Candor Maple; It's the Pits; Tompkins County Historians; Ithaca Recreation Sports; Danby Quilters; Andrews Agency; Northside Wine & Liquor; Power and Paddle; Candor Market; Highland Farms; Auto Zone; Cost Cutters; Iron Kettle Farm; Hilton Garden Inn; Maxie's Supper Club; Museum of the Earth; Turkey Trot

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August 2010
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Text submissions:
Send text in the body of an
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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
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or letters of opinion.

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DANBY NEWS NOTES

Submitted by Ted Crane

Danby News Delivery

Ask your neighbor: "Did you get your
Danby Area News?" If they didn't,
we'd like to hear about it. Our goal is
"A newsletter in every mailbox."

Laws & Resolutions on the Web Site

What with the growing number of
resolutions and laws, passed or in
progress, added to the ledgers this
year, some changes to the Town web
site are coming.

Currently, resolutions appear within
the text of the minutes of the meeting
in which they were passed. A "resolu-
tion register" will be added to the web
site, containing an index of resolu-
tions— by number and brief descrip-
tion—and a link to the full text.

Similarly, existing laws are a little hard
to find. They're listed—by number—
on the Town Board page, below the
minutes. A table of titles and summa-
ries will be added.

On the other hand, it's fairly easy to
review proposed laws, prior to the
Public Hearing. The "notices" section
contains a notice of the Hearing and a
link to the proposed text.

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.

AT THE LAST MINUTE...

Is there a coupon group or club in
Danby? I've been getting hooked on
the fun—and rewarding—coupon
clipping thing. Like, all the free stuff
you can find in the RiteAid flyer every
week. I've even had stores *pay me* to
take stuff home. Drop me a line if you
know of a group, or would like to start
a community coupon exchange! ❁

TOWN CLERK'S DESKTOP

Submitted by Pamela Goddard, Town Clerk

Part of the Town Clerk's job is to assure that all the required steps, from a preliminary public hearing through proper filing with the NY Secretary of State, are made for the law to be legally adopted.

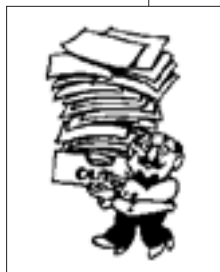
According to NYS Town Law, public hearings must be held prior to the adoption of any local law or ordinance—or a substantive change to a local law or ordinance. As I wrote in the May installment of *From the Town Clerk's Desk*, public hearings are the way for citizens to get involved in vital quality of life issues in their community. They are a prime opportunity to observe and participate in community action. Such hearings are meant to be a public forum for expressions of support or opposition to a particular action and help assure local government's accountability to its constituents.

Public input is a vital part of Town business. While citizens are encouraged to attend any—and all—meetings of the Danby Town or Planning Boards, special “invitations” to public hearings are made through legal notices in the Ithaca Journal, and notices posted on the Town web site and bulletin boards in the Town Hall.

Upcoming Hearings for changes in Local Laws. The Town Board meeting on August 9 will be preceded by a Public Hearing on a proposal to make the Highway Superintendent an appointed position rather than an elected one. See the article by Dan Klein about this proposal and the Town Observer column. Depending on the Danby residents' input, this proposal may be presented for a public vote [general referendum] during the November election.

Other public hearings coming up include one for additions to the Road Excavation/Construction Law (including permits and fees required for different levels of construction) in September and Road Preservation Laws (additional measures to safeguard our rural country roads) in the Fall. The Town Budget process will also involve hearings and open meetings.

At a Public Hearing, comments may be made in person or in writing. Correspondence, ahead of a public hearing, is welcome and can be sent by Email to [townclerk@town.danby.ny.us] or by regular mail to Danby Town Clerk, 1830 Danby Road, Ithaca NY 14850. We look forward to hearing from you! ❧



DANBY FIRE COMPANY NEEDS VOLUNTEERS!

Submitted by Christel Trutmann

If you receive this publication, you are almost certainly covered by a volunteer fire and rescue organization, be it Danby or West Danby, Newfield or Candor. We all depend on volunteers—people with regular jobs and lifestyles who have joined and been trained as firefighters or emergency medical responders. We have printers, scientists, lawyers, students, dishwashers, and bartenders in the Danby Fire Company, and more volunteers are always needed!

Danby's volunteer firefighters and emergency medical responders join for all kinds of reasons: they want to serve their neighbors, pay it forward after their own 911 emergencies, meet great people, and gain invaluable training and experiences. Maybe one or two just want a good excuse to grow a mustache!

What exactly will you do as a volunteer? Everyone knows the fire department puts out fires, but we also respond to motor vehicle accidents (MVAs), carbon monoxide alarms, wires and trees down, medical emergencies, and other potentially life-threatening events.

What you'll do depends partly on what you want to do. There are several categories of membership to choose from:

- Exterior Firefighters are trained to work on a fire scene from outside burning buildings.
- Interior Firefighters don a scuba-like breathing apparatus and fight fire in dangerous atmospheres.

—continued on page 4

DANBY FIRE DISTRICT UPDATE

Submitted by Ralph Bowles, Fire Commissioner

Hooray, we're in the new firehouse, though chaos rules so far. We're getting moved in but there are still details for the contractors to finish and we are working to get equipment located.

The firehouse was finished enough so we could use it for *Danby Fun Day*. We appreciate the interest shown by so many folks at that event. Thanks to all who participated.

West Danby Fire Department is building a BBQ pit at its station, so we can expect more dinners there soon.

We are hosting the Farmers' Market again this year. Everyone should stop in Thursday afternoons for goodies and to support the youth of Danby. ❧

GAS DRILLING TASK FORCE

Submitted by Katherine Halton

During July, Task Force members prepared for our booth at Danby Fun Day, where we had information about hydrofracturing and surveys for Danby residents to fill out. We received about 30 new responses to the surveys, which will help us get an idea of what people in Danby think about this issue, and what information they are interested in receiving about it.

Five members are preparing to speak at a “scoping meeting” that will take place in Binghamton on August 12. The EPA will allow residents of Southern Tier towns to offer comments about what they want the its upcoming study on hydrofacturing to focus on.

The Town Board has recently passed a new law that regulates any road excavation, such as culverts or drive-ways [Details elsewhere in the Danby Area News] and is working on a road preservation law that will help us prevent or mitigate damage to local roads by large industrial trucks. While the laws apply to all industrial activity, the Department of Environmental Conservation has recommended that towns gete these laws in place before large scale gas drilling begins.

Two Town Board members are attending meetings of the Tompkins County Council of Governments, helping to coordinate laws and ordinances with other towns, and sharing our knowledge and experiences.

The New York State legislature still has to vote on several gas drilling moratorium bills in the Senate and Assembly. In addition, several proposed laws haven't even been reviewed by the relevant committees; they will probably be discussed in the Fall. The two moratorium bills differ in time frame: one would establish a one-year moratorium on high-volume, horizontal hydrofracturing, while the other that would establish a moratorium until after the upcoming EPA study has concluded. Several local legislators are following these developments at the state level but, right now in Albany, the main concern is passing the budget, which is about four months late.

We hope to have some new speakers come to Danby. Todd Miller has been studying Danby's aquifers for the past year; we'd like him to talk about the results of his work. Water contamination as a result of “fracking” is a big concern, and it would help us all if we had a better understanding of where our water supply comes from, and how we can protect it. Danby has an unusual di-

vide in our water flows: creeks in the northern part of town to the north into Cayuga Lake, and those in the southern part flow south into the Susquehanna River.

At the Federal level, there are still efforts restore controls on the natural gas industry, in order to protect our drinking water, among other things. The industry was exempted from these safeguards in 2005, and Maurice Hinchey has led an effort to have them conform to the same regulations that other industries abide by. Michael Arcuri also has proposed legislation in Congress, and we will follow these bills in the Fall.

We will also be writing letters in support of various bills, and we'll have letter writing workshops at the end of the month, when Danby residents can come in and get help (addresses, names, committee titles, and sample letters) to write to their representatives in both state and federal government.

The next meetings of the Danby Gas Drilling Task Force will be in Town Hall at 7pm on August 11 and 25. These meetings are open to the public; we encourage people concerned about gas drilling, whether they own leased land or not, to come and find out what we're doing.

If you have questions, please contact me at [khaltontwcnycny.rr.com] or 607.273.0533. ❁

Fire Company, continued from page 3—

- Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) stabilize sick and injured people for hospital transport.
- Support Staff help with events, fundraising, grant-writing, or whatever other work they are interested in, but do not respond to emergency calls.

So, there is really something for everyone.

What's involved? If you are at least sixteen years old, stop by the brand new Danby fire station any Monday night around 7pm and talk to us. Your application will be voted on at the next business meeting, the second Monday of every month (this month: August 9). Once the Company and the Fire District's commissioners have approved the application, you'll need a physical (paid for by the Company) and a clean arson check. Then we can get you signed up for County training.

If you're looking for lifelong friends, life-altering experiences, and the chance to save lives, join your volunteer fire company. The Firefighter 1 course that certifies Interior Firefighters runs in the fall and the spring, so apply in August if you want to get into the fall class! ❁

SUPERVISOR'S UPDATE

Submitted by Ric Dietrich, Town Supervisor

This month, I'll update on some issues and pass along info about new projects that you might be interested in.

During the winter, I let you know how I was doing with my wood project, to address my own fuel-oil consumption. As a part of the Town's efforts to reduce our energy consumption, we have received grants to install energy efficient lighting and programable thermostats in Town Hall, along with insulation and a wood-fired furnace for our Highway barns.

In the course of these endeavors, we became involved with the County and Cooperative Extension's efforts to help us confront energy needs and alternatives to fossil fuel consumption. The following is an invitation for those of you who might like to replicate some of the efforts we are pursuing, to your own benefit.

Cooperative Extension and the Ithaca Neighborhood Housing Service have put together an exciting pilot project for homes in Danby that are heated with liquid propane gas (LPG) or oil. Homeowners who participate in this pilot project will likely cut their heating bills in half. The project's approach is to combine energy-efficiency work with the installation of a pellet stove, and then guarantee the supply of wood pellets at a reduced price. The plan is to implement this approach in 24 homes throughout the County before November of this year, and then to monitor fuel use and overall costs of heating in those homes over the next two years.

All the energy efficiency and wood stove installation work are to be done by certified technicians and every step in the process will be under the guidance of CCE and INHS staff. Because we've been able to arrange for some small incentives and low interest financing, any homeowner who participates in the pilot project will experience a net positive cash flow: the savings on heating bills should be more than the total of any loan payments.

The homes in this pilot project will be representative of all major house types in the county's rural areas, and the results of this pilot are expected to demonstrate the feasibility of this approach for all of the different house types in the county.

The overall goal is to gather data and share it with homeowners and policy makers, and to arrange for the sharing of the experiences of the pilot's participants with other homeowners throughout the County. In the end,

it will help others take advantage of this approach to reducing heating costs.

There are about 8,000 houses, overall, in the County that heat with heating oil or LPG. If all of them used this this approach, about \$7.5 million would be saved annually...and we would switch from buying fuels that are not renewable to a fuel that can be produced right here in Tompkins County!

If you're interested, or you know someone who's interested, contact me at [supervisor@town.danby.ny.us], and I'll get you in touch with the program's organizers.

Hopefully, by the time you read this, the contracts for repairs to and painting of the outside of Town Hall and painting will have been awarded. We have been saving for this project for several years and are ready to confront the four faces of the tower and cupola, along with the East face of the building.

We are still working on Broadband (please call for updates), new road classification and permitting. The Town Board held its first public hearing and passed new legislation for our roads this month. We will be following up with more public hearings in the months to come.

Budget will be our next big project; like all municipalities, we will be very challenged this year. I am letting everyone know that we are starting to address these issues at Town Board meetings, and I encourage all residents to stay informed. Your input is encouraged to guide the Board when it faces difficult choices. ❁

TOWN HOURS

TOWN CLERK

Phone: 277.4788 • Fax: 277.0559

Tues–Fri, 10am–4pm; Sat, by chance, 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.

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT: ELECTED OR APPOINTED?

Submitted by Dan Klein, Councilperson

Danby may have a choice to make this Fall, concerning how one of our public servants are chosen. Currently, the Danby Highway Superintendent is an elected position. On Monday, August 9, 6:30pm, in the Danby Town Hall, there will be a Public Hearing to begin the process of deciding whether we want to change this position from elected to appointed. The final decision would be up to the voters of Danby this November.

The reasoning behind switching this position from elected to appointed is that it is not a political position. It is a technical position which requires the best person for the job. Currently, the only people eligible for this position are adult residents of Danby (and that is the only requirement!). No one currently working for the Danby Highway Department is eligible to run for Highway Superintendent...because they are not Danby residents.

On the other hand, Danby residents may want to keep the current system so that they have more direct control of who their public servants are. Keeping this position as elected rather than appointed could provide more checks and balances in government.

If you want to have your opinion on the record, either come to the Public Hearing or submit something in writing ahead of time. If it does go to a referendum in November, you will hear more about it before then. For more information, you can read the draft law on the Town's web site, [town.danby.ny.us] or you can contact me, 607.272.7582 or [danbydan@hotmail.com]. ❁

HAPPENING AT THE DFC

Sundaes on Wednesday—6:30-8:30pm on August 4, 11, 18, 25. Join us for ice cream sundaes and wonderful music entertainment like the Crane Hill Trio and the Salvation Army Band. Bring your own Chair.

Annual Community Yard Sale—Saturday, August 14, 9am-3pm (setup at 8am) on the lawn of the Dandy Federated Church. \$10 to reserve a table. Hotdogs and Hamburgers available. Individuals and Organizations are welcome; please, no food vendors. Registration for space due by August 11. Contact the church for information at 607.272.1687 or Ed at 607.592.8276, or at [office@danbyfederatedchurch.org]. ❁

TOWN OBSERVER

A short extract from Joel Gagnon's Broader View articles

From the June Town Board Meeting

The Town Clerk was asked to continue being an agent for DECALS (the Department of Environmental Conservation Automated Licensing Service). The new Danby town Clerk, Pamela Goddard, is already authorized by the state, and will continue the sale of hunting and fishing licenses.

From the July Town Board Meeting

Changing from an elected to an appointed Danby Highway Superintendent has been discussed for years, but never formally proposed. The idea moved to center stage in July. So, why now?

The problem at hand is the requirement that the Highway Superintendent, like all other elected officials, be a Town resident in order to run for office. In the past, the highway crew has consisted mostly of Town residents... but currently, two new hires are the only Town folk.

It is hard to propose this change without it appearing to be an effort oust the current holder of the office, but the current holder of the office is looking to retire and, with no obvious successor within the department, Councilperson Dan Klein took the initiative to suggest that now is a good time to bring the matter before the public. He further argued that, since the job is more technical than political, it would make sense to broaden the pool of applicants beyond the Town's borders.

If there is public support for the change at the hearing, the Board could pass a local law making the change, but still subject to voter approval. The question would then appear on the November ballot for Danby voters to make the ultimate decision.

Judging from discussion, support is very tentative. Carl Seamon, the current Highway Superintendent, initially was in favor but, after talking with colleagues in other Towns, has now changed his position. Other Superintendents cited a possible loss of authority.

As it is, the Superintendent has considerable latitude in how the department is run, subject to Town Board agreement on capital projects. Because the Town Board controls the money, even an elected Highway Superintendent can't get too far away from the Board's wishes.

Some questioned whether the position might become more, rather than less, political if it were appointed, with the person serving at the whim of the Board or Supervisor. In response, the Town's attorney reported

that removal from the position would be subject to civil service rules and would have to be for cause.

The matter boils down to whether the residents of the Town want the Highway Superintendent answerable to them directly—at the polls—or indirectly by way of the Town Board. Another question is whether the loss of direct control by the public is offset by the advantage of having a larger pool of qualified job candidates.

At the public hearing on the proposed Road Construction Law, the only question was whether a permit would be required every time someone wanted to put up a mail box. The answer was that the proposed law contained a specific exemption for mailboxes and similar structures. The Board proceeded to approve the new law by a unanimous vote of those present.

The way the law is structured, excavation for culverts, cross pipes, driveways, and the like will require a permit. The permit application will require enough information to allow the Town to determine the likelihood of significant impact to the road and, if an impact is

foreseen, the Town will require guarantees to protect the road infrastructure. A fee schedule has yet to be passed.

More road laws are on the way to address the impact of road use by heavy vehicles. That is proceeding more slowly because, to avoid duplicate efforts, the Board is waiting to see what that role the County will play.

The Town Board spent considerable time considering what the Planning Board should focus on. Housing, Energy, and Zoning came up repeatedly; the TB chose to ask the PB to address the hamlet zoning issue in a way that takes into account future energy costs, development options, and the need for housing upgrades. That will involve revisiting the Hamlet Plan and the Comprehensive Plan to get everything to relate appropriately.

Since the first Monday in September is Labor Day, the Board decided to hold its September Agenda Meeting on September 13 and its Regular Meeting on September 20. The September 20 meeting will be in the West Danby Fire Hall, if the building is available, to make it easier for West Danby residents to attend. ❁

Danby Fun Day, continued from page 1—

Acres; ABC Carpet; Finishline Auto; Hangar Theater; Papa John's; Ithaca SufferJets; John Thomas Steakhouse; Grassroots; State Theater; Science Center; Cayuga Lake Cruises; Kost Oil Change; Rasa Spa; Castaways; Bangs Ambulance; Cat's Pajamas; Rent-A-Center; Wilcox Tire; AJ Hollenbeck; Lane's Automotive; Jack's Family Restaurant; Eastern Mountain Sports; Manos Diner; Hampton Inn; Ace Security; Lee Newhart/State Farm Insurance; Tops Market; Advanced Auto Parts; Wegmans'; Walmart; Friendly's; The Cayuga Heights Fire Department; Tractor Supply Company; Autosalvage of Ithaca, Inc.; Aaron's Rental; Sherman Williams; Flax; Eddy Advertising; Raymond Hadley.

Additional thanks to the individuals whose generosity and volunteerism are the backbone of Fun Day: Russ and David Nitchman; Heidi and Courtney McNeil; Gay, Garry, and Kasey Huddle; Mel Jensen; Kim and Jane Dunnick; Pat Smith; Mary Lauppe; Roger, Joan, Josh, and Kristin Grant; Andrea Hazard; Eric, Sam, and Sandra Stromwold; Carol Bushberg; Leslie Connors; Amy and Mason Cusimano; all the Danby Cake Wheel Bakers that braved the heat; Penny and Ric Dietrich; Yeshe Dorfield; Bill Farrell; Bernie and Beverly Fitzpatrick; Ted Jones; Ivan Kevestzes; Russ Klingler; Julie Kulik; Ted Merritt; Sophia Patt; Charlie Robinson; Jean and John Rowley; Linda and Connie Szczepanski; Tom Seaney; Laura Shawley; Laura Smith

and the Danby Summer Youth Crew; Olivia Vent; Sue and Brett Willcox; Jonathan Zisk; Sandy and Valentine Delmage; Mary and Rachel Stanion.

And a special thanks to the volunteers who planned, organized, and ran the event, especially Sue Beeners, Roger Grant, Dick and Judy Oltz, John and Sharon Gaden, Barbara Robinson, and Christel Trutmann.

So, would you like to see a 2011 Fun Day and Parade? We need your help and it won't take a lot of your time. We need people to:

- Brainstorm in early spring on ways to involve even more community members.
- Send invites to Parade folks, Exhibitors, and Vendors.
- Advertise the event.
- Help with setup and running the event.

We are all busy but, with your help--even in small ways--we can continue the Fun Day and Parade as the biggest event in Town, where we can get together and support our Danby Volunteer Fire Company.

Please contact Christel Trutmann, 607.342.1062, [ctrutmann@gmail.com]; Sue Beeners, 607.277.0799, [sbeeners@aol.com]; or Sharon Gaden, 607.659.3116, [danby071302@yahoo.com] to let us know you can help with next year's Fun Day and Parade. Not a lot of your time, and a lot of fun! ❁

WEST DANBY PICNIC TO HONOR CASTERLINE, SCZEPANSKI

Submitted by Joel Gagnon, WD Comm. Association

Plans are jelling for the 2010 West Danby Picnic. At its June meeting, the West Danby Community Association's proposed and agreed to focus the event on the long public service of two recent retirees: Roy Casterline, who, with his wife Mary, ran the West Danby Water District for 40 years, and Carol Sczepanski, who served as Danby's Town Clerk for 20 years (10 terms).

The focus will enable friends and well-wishers to express their thanks and appreciation for many years of dedicated and competent work. Both have responded to say that they can attend, and James and Diana Hatch have enthusiastically agreed to host the event again this year at their park-like grounds and pavilion on Short Road.

The picnic will be at Noon on Saturday, August 28. Lemonade and cake will be provided, as will a grill for anyone who wants to use it. Attendees are asked to bring food to share, with the picnic timed to showcase the best of what area gardens have to offer.

Music will also be provided; the committee is very pleased to have booked *Mutsu*, a local group from Newfield. The group had its genesis at Littletree Orchard, and is named for a popular apple grown there. The musicians have enthusiastically embraced the idea of an all-acoustic (that is, unamplified) event, since the site has no electricity. Their repertoire is a distinctive blend of folk, rock, and blues with an indie twist—much of it original. The Danby Community Council has committed a share of the Community Arts Partnership of Tompkins County Decentralization funding to support these young musicians.

Come, hear, and enjoy the fruits of what serendipity has assembled! ❀

FOXES AT STATION AND BROWN

Submitted by Linda Emory

We've seen foxes at the corner of Brown and Station Roads in West Danby...including one sighting of a fox with a cat in its mouth, coming from Station Road.

There seem to be two foxes, a mother and cub, and are probably more. Keep your smaller house pets indoors, and you can use an airhorn to frighten away unwanted visitors! ❀

DANBY SENIORS UPDATE

Submitted by Margie VanDeMark

There is no regular meeting in August. The next regular meeting—with a dish-to-pass dinner—will be at 6pm on Thursday, September 2 in the Danby Church. Seniors is not a church group—it's a community group for all those age 55 and over. Come and join us for good food and fellowship!

Big thanks go out to Ted & Connie Merritt for hosting our July 1 BBQ at their place. We had beautiful (cooler!) weather and a great turnout. The chicken was delicious and side dishes abundant, including desserts. Ted & Connie donated nice painted slates and a shelf for raffle prizes and Jean & Tim Miller donated beautiful fresh flower bouquets. There were many happy winners that day. ❀

TOWN TALK AND THANKS, TOO!

Submitted by Gay Huddle

(1) Thank you to those who donated baked goods to the cake wheel. All proceeds benefit the Danby Fire and Rescue Squad. I had wonderful helpers and it was great seeing the happy faces of those winning cakes, pies, cupcakes, cookies and brownies!

(2) Thank you to the Salino family for sharing pictures of their Joey.

(3) Thank you to the Ferris family for participating in the parade with their bright yellow race car with a tribute to Joey Salino on the hood.

The Danby Town Talk column appears every Thursday in the Ithaca Journal. I am looking for YOUR stories--about your gardens, your vacations, good books you are reading this summer, any historical background of your homes, memories you have of past events in Danby such as rodeos, fairs, etc., special birthdays or anniversaries or awards, and so on. Send pictures along, too.

I know there are lots and lots of stories just waiting to be shared! In future columns please watch for features on new Danby neighbors, summer events at the Danby Federated Church and Town Hall, and Library events from both Danby and Newfield.

Please remember that I now cover not only Danby, but the West Danby, Newfield, and upper South Hill neighborhoods too! ❀

CONSERVATION ADVISORY COUNCIL CREATED

Submitted by Joel Gagnon

During its June meeting, the Danby Town Board created a Conservation Advisory Council (CAC). The role of the CAC incorporates features requested in a series of well-attended town meetings in 2004, and is based on the NYS enabling legislation for CACs: to inventory and map “open areas” and assess their ecologically suitable use.

The breadth of the charge given to the CAC goes well beyond the minimum provided for in the State legislation. The Board has tasked the CAC with identifying the lands most desired for retention in an undeveloped state and given it the tools to work with landowners to protect the land—using entirely voluntary measures. These include the use of conservation easements (the gift or purchase of the rights to develop the land) as well as the actual acquisition—again by gift or purchase—of actual parcels for conservation purposes.

Land protected by easements is not necessarily open to the public, unless desired by the land owner; Town-owned conservation land would be. In addition, for Town-owned land, the CAC will develop management plans to enhance and preserve those features that are judged to be most valuable. The Town Board will oversee all activities of the CAC and Town Board approval of proposed acquisitions and management plans is always required. Public comment and assistance will be a part of all aspects of the CAC’s work.

Now that the resolution has passed, the next step is to appoint members to the CAC. Five to seven Danby residents with a demonstrated interest in preserving land are required. If possible, these will include a farmer, someone with a history of working for the protection of natural resources, one or two Town Board members, a large landowner, and someone 16 or 17 years old at the time of appointment. ❧

You can read the resolution that created the Conservation Advisory Council on the Town web site, [town.danby.ny.us]. It’s part of the minutes of the June 14 Town Board meeting.



BOARD SEEKS CAC MEMBERS

Submitted by Dan Klein, Councilperson

In June, the Town Board established a Conservation Advisory Council in Danby. The purpose of this group is to “...advise in the development, management, and protection of the Town’s natural resources.” This can take many different forms, including conducting research, coordinating other organizations with similar purposes, educating residents and legislators on conservation opportunities, and preparing management plans for municipally-owned land.

The Town Board is seeking members for this new group. Potential members must be Danby residents and have a demonstrated interest in preserving land in Danby. We are particularly interested in appointing people involved in agriculture, large landowners, and people known to advocate for natural resource protection. There is also an optional youth slot for someone 16 or 17 years old at the time of appointment.

If you’re interested in joining the Conservation Advisory Council, submit something in writing to the Town Clerk, either to [townclerk@town.danby.ny.us] or via US Mail to 1830 Danby Road, Ithaca, NY 14850. Deadline is August 6. ❧

TAMARACK LEAN-TO REBUILD

Submitted by Ronda Roaring

More than thirty people—from as far away as Buffalo, Rochester, and Syracuse—came to Danby recently, to help the Cayuga Trails Club (CTC) construct a new Tamarack Lean-to in the Danby State Forest. Construction was funded in part by an award of \$2,213 from Eastern Mountain Sports (EMS) on Meadow Street in Ithaca.

The Ithaca EMS store raffled off a Perception kayak. “The contribution from the EMS kayak raffle helped a great deal and, when combined with a challenge cost share agreement with the National Park Service, and logs and lumber donated by DEC, all our costs were covered,” said CTC vice-president Gary Mallow. Logs and lumber were delivered by the DEC. Many volunteers stayed overnight at Camp Badger on Fisher Settlement Road, which provided housing and meals at no cost.

The lean-to was built of pressure-treated logs, galvanized bolts, and roofing, and completed on July 1, 2010. Mallow hopes it will last as long as the old one: almost 45 years. ❧

DANBY COMMUNITY LIBRARY

Submitted by Patti Meyers

What a great summer! Did you go to Danby Fun Day, take in a festival, or just kick back with a good book?

Our volunteers have been busy setting up our new BookCat computer system to catalog all of our materials. Give them a big pat on the back when you see them. Two of our volunteers were honored for their service to the community at the Danby Fun Days: Beatrice Hogben and Dawn Parks.

Two new donations of note:

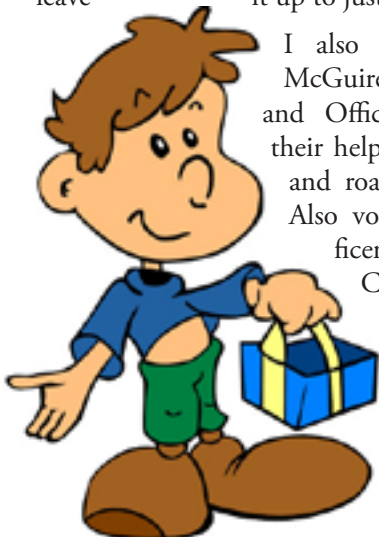
- *In Beaner's Backyard* by Brandon Beebe Graves (you might have seen the article about it in the Ithaca Journal)
- *Grow 'Em Right—A Guide to Creating Habitats and Food Plots* by Neil and Craig Dougherty (also available for signout at the Danby Fire Department on Aug.28, 3-6pm during a presentation by Neil). ❁

BIG THANKS FROM RICK DOBSON

This letter is a big "Thanks" to all who made the Danby Fun Day Parade a success. I am so proud of those who were in the parade and those who put in countless hours to make it happen, including myself. This is history in the making, let's keep this alive for the next generation.

Let's start now: "Greetings!" I now hereby draft all Danby residents. It is your duty to volunteer; don't leave it up to just you know who?

I also want to thank Mike McGuire, Officer Alan Boda, and Officer Shane Spencer for their help in preparing the lawns and roads for the parade area. Also volunteers like Code Officer Sue Beeners and Fire Chief John Gaden for their dedication, stress, and many hours, and all those who invested their time and dollars to make *Danby Fun Day 2010* (Joey Salino) a success story. ❁



WILDLIFE MGMT SEMINAR

Submitted by Russ Nitchman

Hunters and wildlife enthusiasts: Neil Dougherty, professional wildlife manager and author, wants you to have better hunting, harvest mature bucks, with benefit to all wildlife through sound property management.

Mark your calendars and sign up today for his 3-hour Whitetail seminar Saturday, August 28, 3-6pm, in the Danby Fire Hall.

Improved wildlife does not just happen, but needs to be both created and planned. It is fun to improve and transform a piece of property and watch all wildlife species benefit, and greatly improve your hunting. Come and gain valuable insights that will help you in this endeavor.

The \$20 charge goes to cover the speaker, the pizza and drinks, with any extra proceeds being donated to Flashing Feathers for its *Send A Kid To Camp* fund. Seating is limited, so advanced registration is highly recommended. Call Dick Oltz at 607.273.7307 or Russ Nitchman at 607.273.9546. Neil's book *Grow 'Em Right* is also available at the Danby library. ❁

100TH SPENCER PICNIC!

Submitted by Marrell Cortright

August 18-21 is the 100th Annual Spencer Picnic (Wed-Thu, 6-10pm; Fri, 6-11pm; Sat 11am-11pm). Free entertainment nightly in the Grandstand, Fireworks on Friday night, a Parade on Saturday morning, then the Tractor Show, Car Show, and Motorcycle Show.

Saturday night come to picnic for a free concert from National Recording Gospel Singer Scott Krippayne. See [spencerpicnic.com] for a list of all the attractions, schedule, and more. ❁

WHITE HAWK OPEN HOUSE

Submitted by Joe Italiano

White Hawk Ecovillage has an open house on August 8.

Stop by to see our progress and chat with neighbors. There will be a house tour, showcasing some of the eco-friendly features of our homes, and a land walk.

We are also planning of having a local stonemason on hand for a demonstration project, so any interested in rolling up their sleeves and learning how to dry-stack stone is welcome. Snacks will be provided, too.

Check out [whitehawk.org] for more information. ❁

Danby Youth Flyer

Community Council Youth Programs Summer 2010

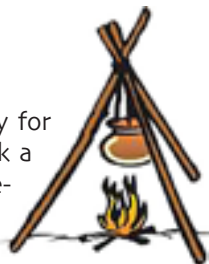
After School Programs require pre-registration and are open for youth living in Danby. Contact Laura Smith, Danby Youth Program Manager, with any questions, concerns or requests for a form: 607.272.2292.x225 or [ljs257@cornell.edu].

Summer Programs are intended for youth going into grades 4-8 unless otherwise noted.

Campfire Cooking

August 9-12, 10am-1pm
43 Hornbrook Road

This program is a great opportunity for kids to learn different ways to cook a meal, give them a chance to be creative with fresh ingredients, all while being active and in the outdoors. Cooking in a group also requires a lot of teamwork, cooperation, and problem solving. We will make a variety of meals on campfires and the youth will do all of the prep work and tend the fire. The group will learn about dutch ovens, roasting techniques, and experiment with pudgie pie recipes.



Farmers Market

Thursdays, July and August, 3:30-7pm
Kick-off at Fun Day
For youth going into grade 5-12

This program is an opportunity for youth not yet fourteen years of age to volunteer, and for two employed youth to spend time at a Farmer's Market. They will sell produce, learn the ins and outs of running a produce stand and other skills that will help them get jobs later on. Each market day, the group will also participate in nutrition lessons and prepare the produce they are selling into samples to entice purchasers. ❁

DANBY COMMUNITY PARK

Submitted by Julie Clougherty

Two yard sales will be held this month under the Park Pavilion. Both are fund-raisers to benefit the Park: Saturdays, August 7 and 21, 9am-1pm. If you'd like to donate any items for the sale, contact me at 607.272.7189.

The Park entrance has received some welcome beautification with the help of Dave Mastroberti, Martha Taras, and seven Danby kids in the Community Council's Youth Program. Thanks, Dave, Martha, Sam, Gabriel, Sandra, Raven, Zoe, Anna, Ashley, and Laura! More planting is yet to come.

Any park questions or concerns may be directed to me at 607.272.7189 or [janderty@yahoo.com]. ❁



Summer Spotlight on Service. "Team Fun" contributed to the Danby community in a variety of ways to kick start the summer. Along with trail maintenance, Fun Days preparation and picnic table painting, the group planted trees at Dotson Park, pictured here. (photo by LJ Smith)

Adoptive/Foster Parenting Meeting Notice

Foster Homes or Respite Homes Needed! Become a respite parent—you could be qualified to provide short-term care for children in your home. If you relate well with teens, this may be an opportunity for you!

The next meeting for qualified persons interested in caring for children and teens in their homes by providing respite, foster care, or adoption will be on Thursday, August 12, at Noon in the Human Services Building, 320 West State Street, Ithaca. Please come or call Judy Voorheis at 607.274.5266 for more information. ❁

Postal Patron

DANBY AREA NEWS: EVENT CALENDAR

- Aug 2 • Mon
7pm 🏠 Town Hall
Town Board Agenda Meeting
- Aug 4 • Wed
6:30pm 🏠 Danby Federated Church—Sundaes on Wed
- Aug 5 • Thu
No **Danby Seniors' Meeting**—gone Cruisin' on Keuka
5pm 🏠 Danby Fire Hall—**Danby Farmer's Market**
7pm 🏠 Town Hall—**Danby Community Council Meeting**
- Aug 7 • Sat
9am 🏠 Danby Park—**Yard Sale** to benefit the Park
- Aug 9 • Mon
6:30pm 🏠 Town Hall—**Public Hearing: Hwy Sup't**
7pm 🏠 Town Hall
Town Board Regular Meeting
7:30pm 🏠 Danby Fire Hall
Danby Fire Department Monthly Meeting
- Aug 10 • Tue
7pm 🏠 West Danby Fire Hall
Danby Fire Commissioners Meeting
- Aug 11 • Wed
6:30pm 🏠 Danby Federated Church—Sundaes on Wed
7pm 🏠 Town Hall—**Gas Drilling Task Force Meeting**
- Aug 12 • Thu • 5pm 🏠 Danby Fire Hall—**Danby Farmer's Mkt**
- Aug 14 • Sat
🏠 Danby Federated Church—**Community Yard Sale**
- Aug 17 • Tue
7pm 🏠 West Danby Fire Hall
Danby Fire Commissioners Meeting
- Aug 18 • Wed
6:30pm 🏠 Danby Federated Church—Sundaes on Wed
7pm 🏠 Town Hall
Planning Board Meeting
- Aug 19 • Thu • 5pm 🏠 Danby Fire Hall—**Danby Farmer's Mkt**
- Aug 21 • Sat
9am 🏠 Danby Park—**Yard Sale** to benefit the Park
- Aug 25 • Wed
6:30pm 🏠 Danby Federated Church—Sundaes on Wed
7pm 🏠 Town Hall—**Gas Drilling Task Force Meeting**

- Aug 26 • Thu • 5pm 🏠 Danby Fire Hall—**Danby Farmer's Mkt**
- Aug 28 • Sat
Noon 🏠 WD Hatch Pavilion
West Danby Community Association Picnic
7pm 🏠 Danby Fire Hall
Property Management for Wildlife
- Jul 9, 2011 • 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