

DANBY AREA NEWS

DCC CONCERT: SHAPIRO & SHORE

Submitted by John Henderson

Folksingers Phil Shapiro and Carrie Shore are coming to the Danby Town Hall on the afternoon of Sunday, November 7. The free concert will start at 2pm, an hour early than is normal for the Danby Community Council's concert series.

Many know Phil Shapiro as the host of WVBR's *Bound For Glory*, but Phil has also been performing folk songs since before his musical partner was born. Together, with guitar and fiddle, the duo's repertoire is drawn from the last couple of hundred years of American traditional folk song...coupled with songs out of what Phil has dubbed the, "new folk tradition."

Whether old or new, they present sturdy songs that have stood or promise to stand the test of time. Choruses are key to almost every song in a Phil and Carrie concert, so come prepared to sing along. In addition, expect some tunes featuring Carrie's expressive fiddle. Whether they play a set of lively jigs and reels or one of the soulful waltzes that Carrie has composed, the music may draw dancers out of their seats.

Phil, from the backroads of Caroline, and Carrie, from the wilds of Binghamton, have been local favorites for more than half a decade, and in recent years they've toured through much of the Northeast. The concert on November 7, however, will be their first gig in Danby. If you've only seen Phil on the radio, now is your chance to get a good look at him and Carrie, up close and acoustic.

This free concert is part of the Danby Community Council's Danby Concert Series, and receives grant support from the Community Arts Partnership of Tompkins County. ❀

TIME IN A BOTTLE

Submitted by Pamela Goddard

The Danby History Group is pleased to present *Time in A Bottle*, Danby history as seen through glass. Tobias Dean, the current president of the Finger Lakes Bottle Collectors Association, will present a program about bottle collecting. He will bring examples of milk bottles from Danby dairies and other glass objects with a local history connection.

The program will be held on Tuesday, November 30, 7pm, in the Danby Town Hall. People are encouraged to "BYOB" (empty, please!) for bottle identification. The program is free and open to everyone—of all ages. Donations (used to cover the cost of archival materials to preserve our history) are welcome. Refreshments will be available.

The FLBCA meets every second Tuesday evening at the Veterans Fire Hall, Route 13/Elmira Road in Ithaca. According to its web site, "Despite our name, we do not collect only bottles! Our collections...range widely, such as antique Valentines, Teddy Roosevelt paraphernalia, fruit jars, cookbooks, scientific equipment, and more. If you have a collection or would like to learn more about the art of collecting, we welcome you to join our club." Visit [fingerlakescollecting.org].

The History Group is seeking volunteers to help set up and bring refreshments for the November 30 program. Everyone is encouraged to join the one-year-old Danby History Group. Future programs are being planned, including an evening of sharing memories from old photographs and a presentation of the House History Forms developed by the municipal historians of Tompkins County. To get involved, call Mary Ann Barr at 607.272.3634 or Pamela Goddard at 607.273.8678. ❀

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November 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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DANBY NEWS NOTES

Submitted by Ted Crane

Danby News Delivery: The Good News
The Post Office outdid itself in Octo-
ber, delivering "Postal Patron" copies
to lots of folks who never got them in
the past. Many of those folks had been
added to the "Directly Addressed" list
in order to have copies delivered...
which meant that they got *two* copies
of the October issue. If you're getting
two copies, please let us know?

Danby News Delivery: Please help!
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."

POLICE BLOTTER

There have been numerous reports,
of vandalism and thefts on Comfort,
Gunderman, Durfee Hill, and West
King Roads in Danby.

Take extra care to lock up valuables,
including your car! The deputy who
took my report suggested contacting
the Sheriff to ask for extra patrols.

SPEEDING THRU TOWN?

Folks read this item last month and
said, "You can say that again!" So...

The rumor is that quite a few folks—
owners of drive-by traffic, we hope—
are paying off speeding tickets to the
Danby Town Court.

Save yourself big-time aggravation,
and points on your license. Respect
the posted 40MPH speed limit on
NYS Rt.96B in downtown Danby. It's
not just a good idea; it's good sense.

When you've got half-a-dozen tail-
gaters urging you to go faster...re-
member, you're saving them from a
speeding ticket! Danby isn't just a wide
spot in the road, it's our home.

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

Town meetings are keeping this Clerk busy. In addition to monthly Planning Board and Town Board meetings, there have been hearings in front of the Board of Zoning Appeals and extra meetings for budget planning workshops. For a small town, there's a lot of things happening all at once this year.

The Town Board has had many decisions to make, with 120 resolutions passed so far this year. There are major improvements at the Highway Department, a survey of road conditions and road use laws, the establishment of a Conservation Advisory Council, and appointments to this and other Boards. The Board is struggling with ways to keep services funded at a time of financial constraints.

As Town Clerk and Secretary of the Planning Board and BZA, it's my job to keep the process of local government as transparent as possible. It's important that citizens know what went into the decision process for every action taken by Danby's boards. Minutes are taken of every meeting, including the budget workshops, and posted on the Town's web site within two weeks.

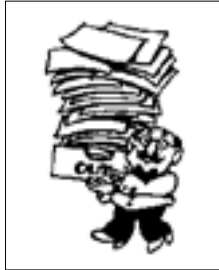
With so many time-sensitive decisions to be made, the Town Board has faced the fact that the first and second Monday of each month are both business meetings, rather than an *Agenda* meeting for planning actions to be taken and a *Regular* meeting for passing resolutions. The Board and I are working together to post agendas for every meeting online at least two days ahead of time.

We encourage all Danby residents to keep involved by staying informed. If there is a topic of particular interest to you, come to a meeting and speak your mind. Every meeting includes time for citizen comments.

Dog Count Update

Danby's Dog count is underway. Some of you have already met Richard Leonard as he makes his rounds. He will conduct a door-to-door count of all dogs residing in Danby over the next few months. New York State law adds a \$5 surcharge to the licensing fee for dogs found unlicensed during a dog enumeration. Any overdue fees (from past years) will be added to the current license fee. These fees are kept by the Town to help offset the cost of dog control.

Some have asked why a count is needed? New York State requires it, and an accurate count assures that we



pay our fair share—but no more—of dog control costs. Doesn't the Town have a current list of registered dogs? Yes, and Richard is taking that list with him as visits dog residences. If your dog is already licensed, you have nothing to worry about. The dog count is designed to get a handle on the dogs not yet licensed, and to remind dog owners that New York State requires dog licenses to be renewed every year.

Some misinformation has been shared by neighbors and even veterinarians in our area. *Yes, every dog needs to be licensed*, even if it stays inside all the time. *Puppies older than three months old should be licensed*, even if they are not yet spayed or neutered. That status can be changed once they have been altered. *If there is a medical reason why your dog cannot get the standard rabies vaccine*, we can still license the animal if your vet documents the special condition.

You may license your dog at the Danby Town Clerk's office during regular business hours, Tuesday through Friday 10am-5pm and Saturday 10am-Noon. Dog licensing and renewals can also be sent by regular mail to Danby Town Clerk, 1830 Danby Road, Ithaca NY 14850. The license fee is \$12 per spay or neutered dog and \$20 per unaltered animal.

Any questions? Call 607.277.4788 or send Email to [townclerk@town.danby.ny.us]. Either my deputy, Bob Roe, or I will be happy to help you. ❧

MAPLE SCHOOL

Submitted by Brett Chedzoy, CCE Ag Team

The 2010 Southern Tier Maple School will be held on Saturday, November 6, 2010, 9:30am-Noon in the Tyrone Fire Hall (State Route 226, Tyrone). Steve Childs, the Cornell Cooperative Extension State Maple Specialist, will present the latest information to make your sugarbush operation a success in the coming season.

Maple producers of all experience levels are welcome. Some of the topics that will be covered include: Maple Tubing Systems and Tap Hole Sanitation (The Key to High Productivity); Maple Marketing; and, Difficulties and Opportunities of Value-added Maple Products.

There is no fee for the workshop, but please pre-register by contacting me at 607.535.7161 or [bjc226@cornell.edu]. ❧

GAS DRILLING TASK FORCE

Submitted by Kathy Halton

Continuing our research into Danby's water and geology and our concerns about how hydraulic fracturing will affect it, the Gas Drilling Task Force is offering another presentation. On Wednesday, November 10, 7pm, in the Danby Town Hall, Dr. Anthony Ingraffea will talk about *Shale Gas Plays: Information for an Informed Citizenry*.

Dr. Ingraffea is a professor in Cornell University's School of Civil and Environmental Engineering. His research concentrates on simulation and testing of complex fracturing processes. This presentation is open to the public, and will be very helpful in understanding this gas extraction process.

In September, the Gas Drilling Task Force sponsored a presentation by Todd Miller of the U.S. Geological Survey, covering his current research into Danby's aquifers. Everyone seemed to really appreciate the amount of information we have on our town's geology and water. One surprising fact that came out of his presentation, besides the wonderful maps, was how little water is available.



Geologist Todd Miller at the final Danby Aquifer test well.

Aquifers tend to be thin in Danby. This would be very relevant for further development in the town, whether it be residential or industrial. We hope to have some copies of his presentation available to people who were unable to attend.

Members of the Task Force are also studying the new *Draft State Forest Strategic Management Plan* that the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation has put out for public response. The Town Board and Planning Board have sent responses to the DEC.

We are very fortunate, again this fall, to have Cornell Law Clinic students working on aspects of law and gas drilling that will be helpful to our community. All four of them bring varied and valuable backgrounds to the clinic work, to help them understand things like roads, pipelines, the new EPA regulations, and Critical En-

vironmental Areas. Their work will be finished in December and reports will be given to the Task Force at that time. The students and their professors are a wonderful resource for our community.

The committee that is studying critical environmental areas in Danby presented an outline for the work that they will focus on in the future: identifying these areas in Danby and mapping the Town regarding them, water resources, and other types of vulnerable areas.

The public is always encouraged to attend these meetings. Anyone who wants further information should contact Kathy Halton, 607.273.0533 or [khalton@twcny.rr.com].

TOWN BRD MODIFIES MTG STRUCTURE

The Danby Town Board meets at 7pm on the first two Mondays of each month, in the Danby Town Hall. These meetings are always open to the public.

We have been calling the first meeting the *Agenda Meeting* and the second meeting the *Regular Meeting* or *Business Meeting*. Recently, we have found that the line between the two has become blurred, so we decided to stop calling them different things.

This change will probably have no impact on residents of Danby. You can find our agendas posted on the Town web site, [town.danby.ny.us], as far in advance as we can; things, however, do change. You are always welcome to contact a Town Board member or the Town Clerk to get an update or to find out when and if we are likely to vote on any given issue.

TOWN HOURS

TOWN CLERK

Phone: 277.4788 • Fax: 277.0559

Tues–Fri, 10am–5pm; Sat, 10am–Noon, Mon, closed.

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.

SUPERVISOR'S UPDATE

Submitted by Ric Dietrich, Town Supervisor

An interesting question came up during a recent meeting of the Danby Town Board: has the "Agenda Meeting" been turning into just another meeting? Traditionally, the Board has met twice during each month; an Agenda Meeting and then a Regular Meeting. Sometimes, during the fall, there are additional meetings to work on the budget for the next year.

The question wasn't completely resolved, but we will be posting agendas before any and all Board meetings, so you can see what the Board is working on.

So, what are we working on?

Our contract negotiations with CSEA (our Highway workers) have reached an agreement and are awaiting union endorsement and approval. I believe the talks centered on three areas of concern: (1) the Town's cost over the next three years to reimburse the state retirement fund, (2) The Town's contribution to the Health Care Consortium, which is now a reality, and (3) that no one in Highway makes more than twenty dollars an hour, and that the Town of Danby is committed to its workforce.

At the Highway Department itself, work on the Salt Shed is progressing well. The footers have been poured, walls are in progress, and completion is expected soon. As you know, the Town rejected all bids for this project and decided we could do the work ourselves for less money. Our Highway work force and carpenters deserve a lot of credit for their hard work on this project, which has saved the Town many thousands of dollars.

During its October meetings, the Board gave its blessing to Highway for the purchase of a front-end loader to replace our aging (20 years and more) loader. It was paid using the Highway equipment fund.

We've finished painting the east side of the Danby Town Hall. The report of the internal structural evaluation, furnished by Rick Lazarus, will be released after a Board review. Rick spent some time crawling around our historic building, evaluating the core structure.

Todd Miller, of the US Geological Survey gave an excellent presentation about his study of the Danby aquifer. It was well received, and we hope to provide an online version of the presentation on the Town web site.

Shortly after the presentation, the final test well into the aquifer, on the White Hawk property, was drilled.

The Bio-mass Boiler Project took a sharp left turn when our funding source ruled that our newly proposed fuel source—locally produced hay bales—was not compatible with the original grant specifications. We'll still get funding for the proposal, but based on the wood chip fuel originally specified. We are presently reviewing our fuel delivery system, thanks to Bruce Richards of West Danby. His knowledge and expertise in managing such systems is invaluable.

With respect to the SPCA contract, well, you all know someone is going to be knocking at your door and asking your dog questions. Please be sure your dog is licensed before the enumerator arrives!

The bottom line, as it is every year, is The Budget. The Board is committed to holding the line on costs and, therefore, on your tax payments. The Federal and State governments, however, are passing additional costs down to the County and to the School Districts, who are then going to pass down—big time—costs to the taxpayer, typically via local property taxes and fees.

Rural towns are especially challenged these days to provide top-level service in the art of running municipalities. Budget talks now require sharing of resources between Towns to help reduce overall costs. Examples of this include the Recreation Partnership, the SPCA contract, and, of course, the new Tompkins County Health Care Consortium.

The cost of these, and other, items are being shifted downward to Towns, who often must provide the services without the economies of scale that the higher government levels once enjoyed. By networking with other Towns we are working to stabilize—or even reduce—this part of our budget.

As always, if you know of an issue the Town should address, please contact me, [supervisor@town.danby.ny.us]. ☘



Construction of the new Highway Salt Barn: footers completed (left) and formwork for walls (right).
Photo: Ted Crane

VOLUNTEER FIRE CO. UPDATE

Submitted by Sharon Gaden

The Danby Volunteer Fire Company held an Open House...errrrr...*Open Station* on Saturday, October 9 as a part of Fire Prevention Week. This was an opportunity for our community to see the result of the fire station expansion and renovations made during 2010.

Fire District apparatus were on display: the vehicles that respond to emergencies in Danby and West Danby, and to surrounding communities when requested. There were displays of small equipment used in the fire and medical service, fire company history, and fire fighting equipment. Videos about fire prevention, blood pressure screening and tours of the station were available. Cider, donuts, hot dogs, and informational literature about fire prevention and education were provided.

Thank you to Bob "the Letterman" Chase for giving kids one-of-kind name signs. Thank you to everyone who helped prepare for this event and who stopped by to visit.

The ever-popular Pancake Breakfasts will occur during the winter of 2010-2011. We couldn't schedule breakfasts last winter due to the building reconstruction project. Our new kitchen, added pantry, and expanded meeting room give us more space for the prep work, cooking, serving, and eat-in meals. The first breakfast is Sunday, December 5, 8-11:30am. We are hoping to schedule several breakfasts during the winter, on chosen Sunday dates, but plans and dates are not yet finalized. Watch future issues of the DAN for more details.

Members of the Danby Fire District (West Danby and Danby) met at the Ithaca Training Tower on a recent Saturday to practice firefighting and search and rescue skills. This event was well-attended and gave us hands-on practice with strategy, personnel accountability, hoses, ladders, tools, and the thermal imaging camera (used in searches to help us see victims and hot spots).

Remember to change the batteries in your smoke, fire, and carbon monoxide (CO) detectors when you set your clocks back. Swapping batteries twice per year in conjunction with the time change is a good habit to adopt. Many of these types of detectors use 9 volt batteries (the ones that look like rectangles) so next time you are shopping, purchase these batteries and then be

TOWN OBSERVER

A short extract from Joel Gagnon's Broader View articles

Here are some of the recent happenings/actions by the Danby Town Board that are potentially of interest to Danby residents. The account is far from exhaustive. For a complete accounting, the minutes of meetings are now posted on the Town's web site, [town.danby.ny.us], in a very timely manner.

Highway Superintendent Public Information Session

The Town Board has proposed changing the highway superintendency from an elected to an appointed position. The voters will decide in a referendum on election day, November 2, whether to approve that proposal or keep the position elected.

A public information meeting on the subject was held in the West Danby Fire Hall on September 20. A small crowd of attendees saw both proponents and opponents commenting, with more in favor of the change than opposed. The main objection voiced by those present

—continued on next page



Danby Volunteer Fire Company members John Gaden and Ralph Bowles await visitors during the Open House at the new Fire Station.

sure to follow through with making the swap.

The Fire Company welcomes new members. Stop by any Monday night to meet us and see what we do. You can learn to be a firefighter (exterior and/or interior), learn to provide medical services, make or transport food and beverages to volunteers during emergencies in which our members may be committed to helping at house fires for many hours at a time, or help with cleaning and maintenance tasks needed at the fire station. Help of any kind is welcomed!



Town Observer, continued—

asserted that power would be taken away from the Superintendent if s/he were a Town Board appointee.

On the other side of the issue, Carl Crispell recounted how, when he was a resident of the Town of Truxton, the Town had trouble dealing with an unqualified Superintendent. The inability to manage a budget effectively resulted in serious overspending. While the Town Board could theoretically have disapproved the overspending, doing that without ruining the Town's relationship with its suppliers was next to impossible. Neither could they end the problem by firing the Superintendent. He supported the change.

Paul Moore, who worked under both elected and appointed Superintendents, said that he didn't see any real difference in how they related to their boards. Toni Rosenbaum noted that cities, villages, and counties all appoint and have done so for a long time. She favors the change.

One issue that was discussed was whether it would cost more to have an appointed Highway Superintendent. Some in attendance thought it would, since attracting someone with relevant training and experience is apt to require offering more money than the Town is used to spending. The counter argument is that having a well-trained person could save the Town money by using the departmental resources more efficiently and that in this tight employment environment the potential pool of competing interested and qualified persons is apt to be large, with the result that a good person could likely be found for no more money.

Emerald Ash Borer

During the same September meeting, Mark Whitmore, a forest entomologist from Cornell, addressed the Board and the public on the imminent threat of the non-native, invasive Emerald Ash Borer. *The depressing future, he said, is for total destruction of the native Ash tree species, since none of them show any resistance to this pest. Where it has gained a foothold, mortality is 100 percent within a few years.*

Unlike many insects and diseases, where the oldest and sickliest trees are killed off, this insect attacks the fastest growing and healthiest trees first. The target is the cambial layer—the living tissue just below the bark. Tunneling in this layer prevents energy produced by the top of the tree from reaching the roots, starving them. Death follows within a few years.

So far, efforts to deal with this insect are limited to trying to slow its spread. There are no known predators, although efforts are underway to find a parasitoid. The prospect is sufficiently dim that there is a concurrent project to collect seeds to start a colony in South America, just to save the genetic material from total destruction. *The only effective way to kill the insect is to chip the trees!*

Dog Licensing Law

The State of New York is getting out of the dog licensing business. Its role has been to manage a database of all licensed dogs. Local municipalities are still mandated to license the dogs, but now they will have to keep track of the licensing themselves. In order to take over this function, a local law needs to be passed to create the structure for the Town Clerk to administer. That is a work in progress, with the Town's attorney charged by the Board to review material gathered by the Town Clerk. Ideally, the new law should be in place by January 1, 2011, when the State stops doing its part. A County-wide database is being looked at, as a possibility to avoid each Town having to have its own, with the associated limitations when trying to find the owners of lost animals.

Front End Loader Purchased

The Town Board authorized the highway department to trade in its front end loader and buy a new one under the state contracted price. The cost with the trade-in will be \$115,000. \$85,000 of that will come from the equipment reserve, \$20,000 from the machinery and equipment line of the highway budget, and \$9,575 from the fund balance.

Youth Services

The proposed 2011 County budget axes funding for youth services, with the exception of the Recreation Partnership. The County funding pays for the program managers who implement the programs in each municipality within the county. Eliminating the program managers puts the programs themselves at risk, even though they are mostly funded with local money.

Rural towns are especially hard hit with this proposal since they have little in the way of paid staff apart from the County-supported program managers. How to respond to this situation has the Town Board weighing what to do in the event the cut in funding is not restored while at the same time lobbying to restore as much as possible. Since the County budget is on much the same timeline as the Town's, figuring out how to budget to deal with this situation is a vexing dilemma. ❁

HAPPENING AT THE DFC

Trunk or Treat Halloween Party

On Sunday, October 31, 6–8pm, the community is invited to come and distribute trick or treat goodies from from a car (the trunk part) or from a table in the Hall.

This is a safe alternative for families to come to one place for trick or treating instead of going around the dark roads of Danby. Please consider coming to the church to give out your treats.

Holiday Craft Fair

On Saturday, November 6, 10am–3 pm, the DFC Women’s Fellowship—and vendors—will have craft and gift booths, along with lunch. The Fellowship will feature baked goods, jams, pickles, gifts, and dried flowers.

Vendors, including people from our church, will offer various crafts. (Vendors reserve your table; \$15 without electricity or \$20 with electricity.)

Other offerings include kid’s games, raffles, and a drawing for the quilt *Cottage Rose* to benefit the Danby Food Pantry. A soup buffet, including chili, breads, salad, and pie by the piece will be offered. Needed: people to bring in a crock pot of soup or chili or some type of bread for the lunch!

Stop the Flu Before It Stops You!

The Tompkins County Health Department will be at the Danby Federated Church on Tuesday, November 9, 2010, 2pm, to administer adult flu shots. Pneumonia shots available by request.

Call for an appointment, 607.274.6609, 9:30am to 3:30pm. Medicaid and Medicare B cards will be accepted. If you do not have insurance, the cost is \$35 cash/check for your Flu Shot at the time of service. For more info visit [tompkins-co.org/health]. ❀

YES, THERE IS A REASON TO VOTE

Just a reminder! The 2010 General Election takes place on Tuesday, November 2. Danby residents vote at either the Town Hall or the West Danby Fire Department, depending on where they live. The polls are open 6am—9pm.

There are 11 National, State, and County races, and *on the back of the ballot*, one very important proposition for Danby voters. Read it now, and vote on November 2! ❀

DANBY SENIORS UPDATE

Submitted by Margie VanDeMark

Thanks to Dawn & George Parks, Mary Maynard, and Mary Oltz for hosting our October meeting! Our speaker was Sue Olmstead, of the Health Planning Council, who talked about a new six week *Healthy Living Workshop* for folks with chronic health conditions. If enough folks are interested in this program, it will be starting in Danby on October 25.

Our November 4 meeting will be at Noon in the Danby Federated Church. Linda Howe will be cooking our “Thanksgiving” turkey; please bring dishes to compliment. Several signed up to bring pies so we could use more veggies, potato dishes, and salads.

A reminder that the TCHD Flu Clinic will be held at Danby Church on Tuesday, November 9. You need to call 607.274.6609 for an appointment.

There will be no regular meeting in December; instead, we’ll have our annual Holiday Luncheon out at the Oasis at Noon on Saturday, December 4. Please call me to sign up or for details. ❀

BENEFIT FOR HEATHER SOYRING

Submitted by Janet Gray

On September 24, Heather Soyring was injured while riding her horse. For an unknown reason, her horse reared up and fell on her. She was taken to the emergency room at Robert Packard where, fortunately, no head or neck injuries were found, but she did break her one ankle and has a large hematoma on the other leg.

The Soyrings do not have health insurance and face a large hospital bill. Heather is out of work for awhile as well. The Danby Federated Church Worship Team (which Heather is a member) and their musician friends will present a benefit concert at the church for the Soyrings in November, date to be announced.

Please look in the the concert date at the Town of Danby web site, the church and town announcement boards and various printed media. ❀

PROPOSAL NUMBER ONE, TOWN PROPOSITION NUMBER ONE

Shall there be approved and adopted in the Town of Danby, a Local Law entitled "Local Law No. 5 of 2010" as approved by the Town Board of the Town of Danby, to change the Town Highway Superintendent from an elected position to a position appointed by the Town, effective January 1, 2012?

BEFORE THERE WAS DANBY

Submitted by Karen Laun

The first in a five-part series about the history of Danby. Much of the information in these articles is drawn from a 1998 report by Historic Ithaca and the web site [nytompki.org].

A quiet, rural community like Danby might be thought to have a boring history, one where nothing much of importance ever took place. Digging a little deeper, however, reveals Indian conflicts, ambitious entrepreneurs, abolitionists, and CCC camps. Danby has quite a story to tell.

The history of the town of Danby begins in the late 1700s, but there is much of interest in this region that extends back millennia before the arrival of European settlers. In addition to the attraction of the gorges, waterfalls, and woodlands, Danby is home to an unusual geological feature, the Danby Divide, also known as the St. Lawrence Seaway Divide. This line separates two watersheds, one flowing north to the Great Lakes and the other south to Chesapeake Bay. The divide passes under Jennings Pond, which drains in two directions.

The first settlers or visitors to this area may have been the Mound Builders, an ancient people who built earthen mounds for ceremonies, burials, and housing. Their civilization dates back around 3,000 years in this region.

Much later, the Cayuga tribe, members of the Iroquois Nation, set up farms and orchards near Cayuga Lake, hunted in the woods, and fished in the waterways. The

Cayugas built temporary summer villages near Jennings Pond and planted corn, beans, squash, and tobacco. A historical marker by the pond reads: "Cayuga Indian Village—probable birthplace of Chief Logan (TAH-GAH-JUTE)." Many of the original Indian trails still exist today, paved over for automobile use.

In the early 1700s there were an estimated 1500 members of the tribe in the area around Cayuga Lake. When the Revolutionary War began, most Iroquois Nation members allied themselves with the British, although others fought for the colonists. In 1779 General George Washington launched the Sullivan Campaign to eliminate the threat posed by the Iroquois Confederacy. Villages, crops, and orchards were destroyed, forcing many of the local Cayuga Indians to flee to Canada and Ohio. In this area, a village of about twenty-five houses was burned down near what is now West Danby. Later on, tribal members in Ohio were forced out once more and sent farther west. Today, the Seneca-Cayuga Tribe of Oklahoma is federally recognized and very far from their ancestral home. Other Cayugas remain in the Finger Lakes area to this day.

Part II will look at the next wave of settlers to this area and the creation of the town of Danby.

The Danby History Group is collecting old photos of the people and places of Danby. If you are interested in donating or lending us these photos so that we can photocopy them, please contact me, [karen_laun@hotmail.com] or 607.272.6293. ❀



Tina, Elizabeth, Lucas, and Hailey visit "the dummy" during the Danby Volunteer Fire Company Open House.

ADOPTIVE/FOSTER PARENTING MEETING NOTICE

Foster Homes or Respite Homes Needed! Tompkins County DSS announces a new initiative to make a positive difference in the lives of children. 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.

Informational meetings for those interested in caring for children and teens in their home by providing respite, foster care, or adoption are held each month in the Human Services Building, 320 West State Street, Ithaca. The next Meeting will be held on November 10 at Noon. Please come or call Judy Voorheis at 607.274.5266 for more information. ❀

DANBY DISC GOLF

Submitted by Kenny Makosch, DCPA

The Danby Community Park Association (DCPA) is excited to announce the opening of the sixth and latest Ithaca area disc golf course. The 9-hole course is located within Dotson Park (a.k.a., The Danby Park) in the heart of Danby.

The course was designed to take advantage of the unique natural characteristics of the park and to accommodate future growth. Each hole has 2 tees (one long and one short) to support different skill levels and to add variety to the course.

All the work to create the course was generously donated by the local disc golf club, *Disc Ithaca* [discithaca.com]. The course was designed by Pat Govang of Ithaca, the former Commissioner of the Professional Disc Golf Association (PDGA). "I've had the pleasure to design over a dozen courses from beginner-levels to those hosting World Championships competitions. Working with the DCPA Board we've created a wonderful course that offers fun and challenge for all skill levels, and it's already generating buzz in the state's player community as a destination course."

With basket loaned by the club, the total cost to establish the initial course was limited to the cost of the tee mats, which were purchased for safety considerations. This tremendous level of volunteerism, along with the support of the DCPA Board, has granted us our first (of, hopefully, many) park activities.

Ok, so I'm guessing a few people are wondering what the heck is disc golf? Disc golf is played much like traditional golf but players use a disc ("Frisbee") instead of a ball and clubs. Both golf games share the same structure: the goal is to complete the course in the fewest strokes or throws. A golf disc is thrown from a tee area to a basket, the "hole". As a player progresses down the fairway, he or she must make each consecutive shot from the spot where the previous throw has landed. The trees, shrubs, and terrain changes located in and around the fairways provide challenging obstacles for the golfer. Finally, the "putt" lands in the basket and the hole is completed.

Its unique combination of challenge, fun, and affordability has made it one of the fastest growing sports in the world. Disc golf is inexpensive to play, easy to learn,



DANBY COMMUNITY LIBRARY

Submitted by Patti Meyers

You've read the book, now we have the DVD!

- | | |
|---|---------------------------|
| Blade Runner | The Lovely Bones |
| Dear John | Alice in Wonderland |
| Last Song | Diary of a Wimpy Kid |
| New Moon | Hachi—A Dog's Tale |
| Fantastic Mr. Fox | Julie & Julia |
| Shutter Island | Girl with a Dragon Tattoo |
| Twilight | Iron Man 2 |
| Sunshine's Surprise: The Tale of a Red Hawk Who Hatched Chickens (a film by Kara Hagedorn, formerly of this area) | |

Speaking of new DVDs, they are in demand so please return them as soon as you watch them. We are anticipating the return of the *The Blind Side* and *Avatar*. We are also missing *A Good Year*, a Book on CD owned by FingerLakes Library System.

Several new books have also been purchased:

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| Safe Haven | Nicholas Sparks |
| The Widower's Tale | Julia Glass |
| Ape House | Sara Gruen |
| Freedom | Jonathan Franzen |
| Wicked Appetite . . . | Janet Evanovich |
| Half Broke Horses | Jeannette Walls |



and a great lifetime sport that everyone can enjoy. In addition, where the conventional golf game modifies the landscape to create challenge, disc golf uses natural features such as trees and elevation for challenge with minimal impact on the environment...and it can be played year-round in all climates.

Members of the DCPA Board along with local Disc Golf Pros will be on-hand at Dotson Park on Saturday, November 6, Noon-2pm, to field questions, offer tips, and to demonstrate the sport. Loaner discs will be available—free—to allow anyone to give it a try. This is open to anyone interested in learning more about the sport, course, or the park. A 9-hole tournament will follow the information session for anyone interested in playing or watching.

The entrance to Dotson Park is directly across the street from the Danby Town Hall. The tee for the first hole is at the end of Daisy Lane, on top of the hill. Course maps and score cards can be found in the mailbox near the first tee.



Community Council Youth Programs Fall 2010

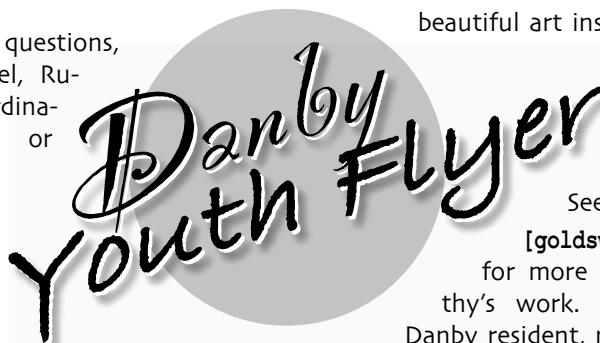
Yes, Laura Smith has gone to graduate school and we all miss her so much! But, youth programming is continuing!

For permission forms and questions, please contact Linda Schoffel, Rural Youth Services Coordinator, [ljs48@cornell.edu] or 607.272.2292.

Primitive Pursuits

Grades 3-8
Mondays, 3-5:30pm;
November-December 20
June Pollack's (43 Hornbrook Road)

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! Primitive Pursuits instructors will lead the program.



Goldsworthy and Games

Grades 4-8
Wednesdays 3-5pm;
November 3, 10, 17
Danby Town Hall

Inspired by Andy Goldsworthy's work, we will create earth art together using rocks, sticks—and maybe snow and ice—then play cooperative games both inside and out. Some of the outdoor activities include using the Disc Golf course at the Town Park, and creating beautiful art installations around the Town Park and by the Town Hall. Please come to class with clothing and footwear appropriate for the weather.

See

[goldsworthy.cc.gla.ac.uk/extracts/] for more information on Andy Goldsworthy's work. Instructor: Julie Nichols Kulik, Danby resident, naturalist and instructor at Earth Arts in Ithaca.

Dungeons and Dragons Fans

Are you interested in reviving the game sessions organized in the Spring? Are there any parents out there interested in helping with the supervision of this group? Please contact me! ❁

YOUTH SERVICES...ELIMINATED?

Submitted by June Pollack

For many years Danby youth have benefited from programs offered through the Rural Youth Services Municipal Youth programs. Cooperative Extension has provided the program manager and infrastructure for the programs. Recent proposed cuts to the County budget *eliminate*—not just reduce—the entire program. This is a cut from the budget of \$282,560. While this appears to be a large amount, the cost in tax to a property worth \$200,000 would be about \$8 per year. More than 2,300 county children would be affected.

Danby has had a number of varied activities for youth, some shared with other communities. Here is a partial list of the programs that would be no longer available: Dungeons and Dragons, Photography, Learning

about Dance, Exploring New Foods, Campfire Cooking, Animal Exploration, Discover Danby, work at the Farmer's Market, training in nutrition, an overnight in the Syracuse zoo, and Primitive Pursuits.

Several programs have emphasized service to our community, such as helping on Fun Day and the annual Halloween party, planting trees and clearing trails for the Danby Park, constructing the excellent trail at Jennings pond, choosing and awarding FOCUS grants to activities in Danby.

Please take a moment to let the legislators know how important these programs are for our community. Our County Legislator is Frank Proto, 2585 Slaterville Road, Slaterville Springs, NY 14881; 607.277.4875; [fproto@tompkins-co.org]. ❁

Nov 2010

Postal Patron

DANBY AREA NEWS: EVENT CALENDAR

- Oct 31 • Sun
3-5pm 🏠 Danby Fire Hall • **Halloween Party!**
6-8pm 🏠 Danby Federated Church • **Trunk or Treat!**
- Nov 1 • Mon
7pm 🏠 Town Hall
Town Board Meeting
- Nov 2 • Tue
6am-9pm 🏠 Town Hall / WD Fire Dep't • **Elections!**
- Nov 4 • Thu
Noon 🏠 Danby Federated Church
Danby Seniors' Meeting
7pm 🏠 Town Hall
Danby Community Council Meeting
- Nov 6 • Sat
10am-3pm 🏠 Danby Federated Church
Holiday Craft Fair
Noon-2pm 🏠 Dotson [Danby] Community Park
Disc Golf Intro and Tournament
- Nov 7 • Sun
2pm 🏠 Town Hall
Concert: Shapiro and Shore
- Nov 8 • Mon
7pm 🏠 Town Hall
Town Board Meeting
7:30pm 🏠 Danby Fire Hall
Danby Fire Department Monthly Meeting
- Nov 9 • Tue
7:30pm 🏠 West Danby Fire Hall
Danby Fire Commissioners Meeting
- Nov 10 • Wed
7pm 🏠 Town Hall
Gas Drilling: Professor Dr. Anthony "Tony" Ingraffea
- Nov 14 • Sun
8-11am 🏠 West Danby Fire Hall
Annual Harvest Breakfast
- Nov 16 • Tue
7:30pm 🏠 West Danby Fire Hall
Danby Fire Commissioners Meeting
- Nov 18 • Thu
7pm 🏠 Town Hall • **Danby Community Park Assoc.**

- Nov 17 • Wed
7pm 🏠 Town Hall
Planning Board Meeting
- Nov 20 • Sat
11am 🏠 Town Hall • **Danby History Group**
- Nov 30 • Tue
7pm 🏠 Town Hall
Time in a Bottle—the Road Show for glassware!
- 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.
- Military Family Support Group 🏠 Federated Church
2nd Thursday, 6:30pm.
- Danby Community Park Association 🏠 Town Hall
2nd Thursday, 7pm.
- Danby Fire Commissioners 🏠 Fire Hall or WD Fire Hall
3rd Tuesday, 7:30pm.
- Danby Food Pantry 🏠 Federated Church
3rd Friday, 4–6pm, Thursday the-day-before, 6–8pm
- 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