



DANBY AREA NEWS

DANBY HALLOWEEN PARTY

Submitted by Christel Trutmann, Community Council

Get your pirate hat, your mummy wraps, your fairy wings, and catch the closest broomstick to the Town Hall 3-5pm on Sunday, October 30.

It's the Danby Halloween Party! Organized by the Community Council and with the help of some wonderful Danby residents, the Halloween Party is a fun trick-or-treating warm-up for youngsters and their grown-ups.

There'll be games, pizza, cider, snacks, candy, pumpkins, decorate-your-own cookies, and whatever else our creative Danby folks can muster! Look forward to a Bounce House and guess what Benny the Goat will look like at Halloween this year. Enjoy Halloween and seasonal songs and singalongs with Pamela Goddard.

Get a few more hours out of this year's costumes, and consider contributing baked goods, candy, or some more fun ideas to the party. Contact me at 607.342.1062 or [ctrutmann@gmail.com]. ❄

WEST DANBY CRAFT SHOW & BBQ

Submitted by Marrell Cortright

Local crafters are preparing for the Annual Fall Craft Show and Chicken BBQ at the West Danby Fire Department on Saturday, October 29. They'll be selling their seasonal wares and handmades from 10am-2pm.

We've lined up a tablefull of cider and donuts, live music by *The New West Danby Henry Ford String Throtters* and, of course, the BBQ chicken. There's trick or treating at the craft tables, free pumpkin painting for the kids and a "Yuck" table (can you guess what it is?).

The craft show and fun runs from 10am-2pm, with music from 11am-1pm, and the chicken will be ready around Noon. For more info, contact me at [marrell1@aol.com] or 607.564.0020. ❄

DCC CONCERT: LAURA ORSHAW!

Submitted by Bob Strichartz

Laura Orshaw, a near neighbor from over the border in Pennsylvania, will bring her fiddle to the Danby Town Hall for a lively, toe-tapping afternoon of bluegrass and traditional music, 3pm on Sunday, October 16. Flat-picking guitarist Tony Watt will perform with Laura.

Orshaw, who started as a kid wonder, has now been on the festival and concert circuit as a fiddler and vocalist for more than a decade. Once limited to appearances pretty close to home, she has captured the attention of a national audience and is swinging by Danby as part of a tour that includes almost every New England state. *Bluegrass Unlimited* has called her, "A significant emerging artist in the arena of traditional American music." For more information about Laura, visit [lauraorshaw.com].

Laura's tunes, a rich mix of Americana, Celtic, and bluegrass music, will be complemented by Tony Watt's backup. A flatpicker extraordinaire, he is also plays a sweet mandolin. Based in Cambridge, MA, Tony has performed throughout the United States and Europe, including the Grand Ole Opry. He is the organizer of the Podunk Bluegrass Festival in Hartford, Connecticut, where Laura is one of this year's headliners.

This free concert is part of the Danby Community Council's concert series, which receives grant support from the Community Arts of Tompkins County. ❄

This Month Inside the Danby News:

- Town Clerk's Desktop ③
- Gas Drilling Task Force ④
- Fire District Update ④
- Disaster Relief ④
- Supervisor's Update ⑤
- The Big Bang of October Color . . ⑥
- Bald Hill History Presentation . . ⑥
- Fire Co Looking for Volunteers . ⑦
- DVFC Spaghetti Suffer Benefit . ⑦
- Moonlight Musings ⑧
- Meeting Each Other. ⑧
- Vandalism in Danby. ⑧
- Seniors Update ⑨
- Dotson Park Benefit ⑨
- Pond Lifeguards Wanted ⑨
- American Legion Update ⑨
- Community Library. ⑩
- Life in Danby ⑩
- Youth Programs ⑪
- Calendar ⑫

October 2011
Layout: Ted Crane

To contribute:
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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
cannot print political material
or letters of opinion.

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DANBY NEWS NOTES

Submitted by Ted Crane

Submission Guidelines: Visit the
Town of Danby web page, and have
a look at the "Danby News" section,
[town.danby.ny.us/DAN]. If you're
thinking of sending something for
publication in the Danby News, there's
two documents to read: the *Guidelines*
and the *Submission Guidelines*.

The first document describes what is,
and isn't acceptable material for publi-
cation. If it's acceptable, we'll make an
effort to include it; *generally, we print
everything we receive!*

The second document gives some hints
about how to prepare a submission.
Following these guidelines makes the
editing and layout easier.

A very terse version of these guidelines
is presented in the column on the left
side of this page.

COMPUTER IN TOWN HALL

The first public access computer has
been installed in Town Hall. You can
cruise the web with it and check your
web-based Email. It has a DVD drive,
so you can use it to view presentations
and other DVD media.

If you're new to computers, a one-on-
one introduction/how-to is available.

Thanks go to Scott Stratton for the
donation of the eMac computer.

**TOWN OF DANBY
WEB SITE**

Have you visited [town.danby.ny.us]?

There's a lot of information about the
Town of Danby on that site. You'll
find meeting agendas, minutes, and
relevant documents. You can see the
list of happenings in Danby. And,
links to Danby-related web sites! ❁

TOWN CLERK'S DESKTOP

Submitted by Pamela Goddard, Town Clerk

Busy Times

Outside Town Hall, the first leaves are turning red on the maple tree near the mail box. As we watch Autumn unfold in the park across the street, I remember a conversation from Danby Fun Day, back in July.

A friend asked, "When's your downtime?" After a moment's thought, I replied, "Usually around now...but this year, not so much." We've had a busy summer in the Town Clerk's office, learning the new procedures

for issuing marriage licenses, keeping up with extra Town and Planning Board meetings (and their minutes), and preparing and passing local laws protecting our community from the ill effects of high impact industrial activity.

Danby's Local Law #3 of 2011, "Zoning Ordinance to Prohibit Gas and Petroleum Mining and Related Activities," was passed by the Town Board on September 12,

signed by the Town Supervisor and Town Attorney, and mailed on September 17 to be filed with the NYS Department of State Records Division. It was the final step in a long process.

Now the season has turned, and it's time to think about the Town budget. This is very much a team effort involving the Town Clerk, the Bookkeeper, the Town Board, and others. While the Board sets policy and the Bookkeeper does most of the financial figuring, the Town Clerk is responsible for maintaining a record of each year's budget.

Residents have a part in this process: they can attend budget review meetings, become informed about the financial health of the Town, and make concerns known.

We're reviewing the Clerk's portion of the budget to ensure that it reflects the real needs of the office. We have already been cautious and conservative about spending. No new equipment was purchased in 2010 or 2011, and we will do our best to make do with what we have for 2012. Some really antique equipment, like our "collectible" telephones, may need to be replaced. Hours and wages for myself and my support staff will be kept at an appropriate level. I appreciate the flexibility and efficiency shown by Mary Ann Barr (Records Assistant) and Sue McLellan

(Deputy Clerk) and the willingness of our Town staff to be creative about sharing work between offices.

Taxes are not the only revenue source collected for the Town. The Town Clerk's office accepts and records fees from building permits, marriage licenses, hunting and fishing licenses, and dog licenses. We even take donations, particularly to the Danby Reading Room Library. Several of our computers, including the ones available for public use, have arrived that way!

Local municipalities have no control over the level of some of these license fees—notably those from the Health Department (marriage licenses) and the Department of Environmental Conservation (hunting and fishing licenses). We are, however, able to set appropriate fees for building permits, Planning Board and Board of Zoning Appeals hearings, and dog licenses.

As part of the budget process, we are reviewing dog licensing costs. Towns across Tompkins County are making the same calculations, working together to adopt similar fees. Dog license fees may need to be raised to keep up with cost increases: mailing renewal reminders (and followup reminders for those who are late), the computer database system (no longer provided by the State), and the animal control officers mandated by the State.

Being Good Neighbors

Speaking of protecting the welfare of the community, I send an enormous "Thank You" to everyone who has donated food, cleaning supplies, and personal care items to the flood relief efforts for those hit in Candor, Catatonk, and Owego in Tioga County. We have sent several carloads of donations to the McKendree Methodist Church in Candor, where donations are distributed to those in need. It is expected that assistance will be needed for some time. We will continue to collect donations at the Danby Town Hall for as long as there is a need.

An African proverb says it all: "If you think you are too small to make a difference, try sleeping with a mosquito." We can all help to make the world a better place.

Autumn office hours for the Danby Town Clerk are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday, 10am-5pm, and Saturday mornings, 10am-Noon. As always we are closed on Sundays and Thursdays. And yes, the chocolate kiss bowl remains well supplied.

Questions? Call 607.277.4788 or send Email to [townclerk@town.danby.ny.us].



GAS DRILLING TASK FORCE UPDATE

Submitted by Jennifer Tiffany

This fall, the Danby Gas Drilling Task Force will hold business meetings on October 12, October 26, November 9, and December 14, all at 7pm in the Danby Town Hall. All are welcome to attend!

The zoning and comprehensive plan amendments passed by the Town Board on September 12 are an important part of the Town's response to possible shale gas extraction, but much work remains to be done. Two important areas of work this fall will be

- developing a clear and strong response to the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation's revised draft Supplemental Generic Environmental Impact Statement (rdSGEIS comments are due by December 12) and corresponding proposed regulations regarding shale gas extraction.
- supporting the Town of Danby in further work to develop a "toolkit" to address municipal governance issues raised by shale gas extraction activities.

We'll be working closely with the Tompkins County Council of Governments Gas Drilling Task Force on getting public comments to the DEC and on ensuring that Town and County activities are coordinated.

As in past years, we will sponsor a number of educational events and community conversations here in Danby. The first event, with Ruth Tonachel from Bradford County, PA, will be on October 21 [see sidebar]. We will also be sponsoring events on other energy issues, including energy conservation.

The public is always welcome to attend Task Force business meetings, educational events, and community conversations. For more information about the Task Force, please contact Jennifer Tiffany, [jst5@cornell.edu]; Kathy Halton, 607.273.0533 or [khalton@twcny.rr.com]; or Candace Collmer [607.257.5737]. ❁

DANBY FIRE DISTRICT UPDATE

Submitted by Matt Cooper, Fire Commissioner

In the August issue of the Danby Area News, Pat Cave-ney, Commissioner for the Danby Fire District, reported that the district had voted to upgrade the lighting in the truck bays at the Danby Fire Station and that the cost was expected to be \$398.85.

However, the actual price ended up being \$997.20. The reason for this increase is that New York state law requires all municipal entities to pay "prevailing wages" for labor costs, plus a mandatory \$250 administration fee; the first quote didn't reflect that and was therefore much lower.

The material costs remain the same, and the reasons for upgrading the lighting are still valid. The district will still realize significant energy savings, and even though it will take longer for us to see a return on the investment, it still makes fiscal sense. Additionally, the quality of the lighting is much improved and therefore the safety of the truck bays is likewise increased. ❁

WHEN HOME BECOMES A GASFIELD

A Conversation w/ Ruth Tonachel
Submitted by Marie Terlizzi

Ruth, a 6th generation resident of Towanda, PA, will talk about the ways in which the arrival of the shale gas extraction industry to Bradford County has changed daily life for her family and neighbors, and about how it has affected their sense of place.

Ruth will share both stories and photos, including images of the farm that has been in her family since 1790. Of special interest is the fact that Ruth co-owns and manages one of the largest remaining unleased tracts of land in Bradford County. Find out what has influenced her decision not to lease and what might change it in the future. Ruth also manages several rental properties and will touch on the issue of skyrocketing rents and their consequences.

This discussion, sponsored by Danby's Gas Drilling Task Force, will take place in the Town Hall at 7pm on Friday, October 21. ❁

DISASTER RELIEF

Submitted by Jody Scriber

I was in Owego this afternoon (September 14). It looks like Hurricane Katrina. People's whole lives are on the street.

There is dust from the deconstruction they are already doing and there is a stench due to the failed septic and sewage systems. There is no water for drinking or to wash safely with due to the contamination.

And yet there were signs, "We are Owego, we will rebuild." I only saw Candor and Catatonk from Rt.96 and there is damage there as well. They are in need of masks and, I am hearing, canned food. Many of the children lost their back-to-school supplies. Getting back to school adds some part of normalcy for the children. I took some pictures on the streets it is really heart breaking. ❁

[Items may be left in the foyer of Town Hall; they will be transported to Candor and beyond.]

SUPERVISOR'S UPDATE

Submitted by Ric Dietrich, Town Supervisor

Recent News Item:

NASA scientists are doing their best to tell us where a 6-ton satellite will fall later this week. The potential strike zone covers most of North and South America. Small differences in atmospheric conditions could mean the difference between hitting Dakota or Danby.

Older News Item:

Aeschylus, the father of Greek drama, was killed by a falling tortoise. He had been warned that he would be struck by a falling object, so he went into an open field to protect himself...only to fall victim to a tortoise dropped by an eagle.

No matter where you go, there you are. Life is full of surprises, revelations, and conflicting information.

Recently, the Danby Town Board passed revisions to our Comprehensive Plan and to our Zoning, in order to avoid a perceived threat to our Town. But, by trying to avoid one thing, we have run into another thing. Now that another Town's attempt to protect itself has run into a legal challenge, we will meet with our neighboring municipalities to collaborate on strategy for joint defense of our Towns way of life.

The property tax cap, recently enacted by NY State to restrict increases in local taxation, is another situation. It takes effect at the same time as the State is also cutting its support for services, transferring the burden to localities. We are reading about municipalities preparing to override the State's tax cap, just to maintain existing services.



Danby, like her neighbors, needs to understand the dynamics of cutting costs: what will be lost and what must

Halloween is Trick or Treat time, time for costumes, time for parties.

Join these intrepid fellows at the DCC Halloweed Party on Sunday, October 30, 3-5pm, Town Hall.

Or, at the Trunk or Treat on Monday, October 31, 6-8pm, DFC Parking Lot.

be continued. Please help us to understand your priorities; attend our budget meetings in October and give us your feedback.

Our biomass boiler project continues forward, but continues to encounter all the interesting twists and turns of government processes. Details should be worked out soon, aimed at a completion date in February or March. This project, along with new insulation in the Town barns, should significantly reduce our energy consumption and provide cost savings for the Town for years to come.

Other energy programs are available to Danby residents, such as "energy audits" that could help you significantly cut your energy use for your home. Please call the Town if you would like more information.

The recent flood devastation of neighborhoods south of us reminds me that September is Emergency Management Month. I ask all of you to take time from your busy lives to consider steps you and your family should take to prepare yourselves.

A recent visit to Candor was a sobering experience. I was down there delivering essential materials donated by Danby residents. There are folks in Candor who have lost everything, residents who still have no electricity or running water, and who are still living in shelters weeks after the flooding.

Life happens quickly.

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

TOWN HOURS

TOWN CLERK

Phone: 277.4788 • Fax: 277.0559
Mon-Tue-Wed-Fri, 10am-5pm; Sat, 10am-Noon.

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.

OCTOBER COLOR: A BIG BANG

Submitted by Jim Reagan

Not every October in Danby can be something glorious out of a 1940's technicolor movie, but most are. It's in the Fall when the trees, tired from the sedate, respectable, business-like, and calming effect of green, opt for riotous reds, oranges and yellows. The result alternates between stupefying and exhilarating; leaving one speechless one moment and poetic the next.

Vincent Minelli, the great director of yesteryear, seems to have been at work, selecting just the right color combinations to thrill and delight, much as he did to create all of the classic movies that are now so much a part of our American—and world—culture.

One could draw a comparison between October foliage and the outrageous and excessive goings on in Rio during *Carnaval*. Both events are over the top, exciting, and stimulating; both precede a period of somber reflection and self-denial. Going out with a big bang! We wish the incredible color would never end, but we know that it has to. Nature seems to understand the old show-business adage: *Leave them begging for more*. We look forward to October's gaudy outburst and understand that its ephemeral quality and bittersweet character make it all the more poignant and appealing.

Some years ago, Randy and I drove out to a hayfield in the hills around Danby on a particularly fine October afternoon and sat, eating our submarine sandwiches, just looking, and marveling at the wonder of it all. Talking seems an interruption during times like these, most especially since words fall short of expressing the hypnotic effect of the miracle of Fall color. It's like sitting around a campfire in rapt silence, just watching the flames.

Many years ago, when I was living with a family in Spain, I showed them photos of Upstate New York. I remember their awe and surprise at the variety and vividness of our October colors. Unlike most of Spain, we are blessed with many species of trees, with rolling hills covered by beautiful forests of impressive hardwoods. Seeing through the eyes of strangers is enlightening. It reveals what we have and helps us understand and appreciate what we often take for granted.

Take a good long look at the hills around Danby this October and thank whomever you are in the habit of thanking for what you see and how you feel. We are lucky to have such a visual feast before the winter of subtle palettes and muted hues, lacking the big bang of an October in Danby. ❀

DANBY HISTORY: GETTING TO KNOW BALD HILL

Submitted, again, by Pamela Goddard

Danby may not have obvious commercial centers, but it does have close-knit neighborhoods. On Thursday, October 13, the Danby History Group invites you to learn about the history of one such neighborhood that has undergone major changes in the past 100 years.

Wayne Myers will read a chapter from his book-in-progress on the Bald Hill community and will display some of the photographs he has collected during his lifetime. The program begins at 7pm, and is free and open to all. Refreshments will be served.

The area that is now the Bald Hill section of the Danby State Forest was once a thriving micro-community with a school, active farms, and supportive interrelationships. Wayne Myers has dedicated himself to collecting and preserving the memory of the old Bald Hill community, through photographs, family histories, and other stories. His October 13 program will focus on Bald Hill "genealogy" (the relationships between familys on the Hill) and particularly on the impact of the Civil War on this community. Myers will be available for questions after his reading.

Anyone interested in Danby history is encouraged to join the Danby History Group. This informal group explores the history of people and places in Danby. The group is currently gathering information to be included in history sections of the Danby web site; it also provides articles of historical interest for the Danby News, and organizes occasional public events. Topics include house histories, relevant names for family research, and neighborhood histories including West Danby, South Danby, Bald Hill, and the central Danby hamlet. To get involved, call Mary Ann Barr at 607.272.3634 or Pamela Goddard at 607.273.8678. ❀

[This presentation was originally planned for last March. Wayne, and his new knee, looks forward to seeing you all!]

JOHANSSON PHOTO SOUGHT

Submitted by Olivia Vent

Does anyone have a pre-1960 photo of 1849 *Danby Road*? The building was once a farmhouse owned by the Johanssen family.

If you have a photo and can share it, please get in touch with me. It'd be greatly appreciated. ❀

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED BECOME A FIREFIGHTER OR EMT

Submitted by Christel Trutmann, Danby Fire Department

Every firefighter and emergency medical care provider in the Danby Fire District is a volunteer, but no amount of dedication can make up for the fact that we need more people!

The time commitment is three hours Monday evenings. Almost everybody joins with no prior emergency experience; we'll make sure you get the training you need. Depending on your interests and availability, there's a variety of ways you can get involved.

Support Members assist with events and fundraising, washing trucks, and may be called on to bring drinks or food to a long call to help rehab active members. Whatever non-emergency skills you can offer, we can probably use!

Exterior Firefighters perform all firefighting skills with the exception of donning an air-pack and entering areas with hazardous atmospheres. They use hoses, place ladders, tear apart crashed vehicles, and operate fire trucks. The training class, Scene Support (27 hours), runs two nights a week for a month.

Interior Firefighters have additional firefighting training that allows them to wear air-packs and work inside burning structures for rescue and extinguishment purposes. The required classes are Firefighter 1 (87 hours) and Firefighter Survival (8 hours); Firefighter 1 runs

in the fall and spring semester each year, two nights a week. Most people find it a transformative experience.

EMS Personnel respond to medical calls and provide care until the patient is transferred to Bangs Ambulance. Usually, we can arrive well ahead of the ambulance and provide comforting or sometimes life-saving care. Levels of EMS training range from CPR/AED (6 hours), to Certified First Responder (50 hours), to EMT-Basic (130 hours) and various Advanced EMT certifications.

All training and equipment is free to members. Joining is personally gratifying and can also create career skills and career opportunities. All of it is available in Tompkins County. We're also close to the NYS Academy of Fire Science in Montour Falls, where specialized classes ranging from Hazardous Materials Technician to Swift Water Rescue are available.

There is no such thing as a stereotypical volunteer firefighter. Our members range from teens to septuagenarians and include men and women with jobs and families and everyday responsibilities. The only thing we all have in common is our willingness to drop everything for a neighbor who's having a really bad day, and the only thing that sets us apart is our training. Please send us your questions and consider joining.

West Danby: Stop by the West Danby firehouse around 7pm on Mondays; find West Danby Fire and Rescue on Facebook.

Danby: Stop by the Danby firehouse around 7pm on Mondays; call or text 607.342.1062 or [ctrutmann@gmail.com]. ❧

DVFC HELPING TO EXTINGUISH BREAST CANCER

Submitted by Sharon Gaden, Secretary, DVFC

The Danby Volunteer Fire Company is hosting a spaghetti dinner fund raising event for company member Bonnie Compton. Bonnie is battling breast cancer and is struggling to make financial ends meet. The dinner is on Saturday, October 22, 4-7pm in the Danby Fire Station (1780 Danby Road).

The spaghetti dinner includes meatballs or a vegetarian-friendly non-meatless sauce, garlic bread, salad, dessert, and drink. The cost is \$7 for adults, \$5 for senior citizens age 55+, and \$5 for kids under age 12. Dinners can be eaten in and take-outs will also be available.

This benefit not only supports Bonnie, but acknowledges others in our community who have had breast

cancer. Buttons promoting breast cancer awareness are available for sale at a modest cost. A Bake Sale will be held during this event as well as raffles and a Chinese Auction (you may purchase tickets to win your choice of items displayed at the station; a drawing determines the winner of each item). All proceeds from this fundraiser will be given to Bonnie for her expenses.

If you would like to help us the day of the event or if you have an item for the Chinese auction, or have other ideas to offer, please contact me by leaving a phone message at the fire station, 607.272.8114, or at 607.659.3116, or [sgaden@danbyfiredistrict.org] (please put "benefit" in the subject line).

Please save the date and spread the word! See you on the 22nd and thank you for your support! ❧

MOONLIGHT ON JENNINGS POND

Submitted by Ric Dietrich

It is revealing when it comes over you, with a sigh.

You threw me into my boat,
I left with the thought of trying to see
how far up I could go up a creek,
one of those that fill and empty the pond.

You were right to get me into the water.

The creek spit me out through the grass
near another paddler, basking in the setting sun.
We chatted most pleasantly
at the end of a creek with a paddle.

I heard Geese arriving, I said goodbye,
I floated to where the geese landed.

Almost completely dark now, drifting.
No noise.

Then groups of geese all around me gliding,
crashing, surfing along the water and going
head over teakettles, splashing to the surface
with everyone swacking and geesing and everything.

Really cool! I say with a sigh,
Thanks.



[The subtle poetry of Ric's writings always amazes.]

MEET THE CANDIDATES...AND US

Submitted by Olivia Vent

Over delicious homemade muffins, pasta salad, baked beans and locally-grown peaches, residents chatted with candidates for Town office during an informal *Meet the Candidates* dish-to-pass sponsored by the Danby Democratic Committee. The event, on Saturday, September 10, was held at the Danby Fire Station, a terrific venue for community activities.

The occasion was also a great opportunity to catch up with neighbors and meet new people. Topics of conversation ranged widely, from a suggestion to reduce speed limits in ag districts to how to get more young people involved in Town government. The surprise take-away was how easy and how much fun it was to enjoy a simple meal together and feel connected to community.

For those who could not attend the picnic, the Tompkins County Board of Elections has a complete list of candidates, registration information, district maps, and more [www.tompkins-co.org/boe/]. Note that "uphill" Danby voters (Districts 1 and 3) will be voting in the Fire Hall this year, rather than in Town Hall.



VANDALISM IN DANBY

Submitted by Stephen Sackett

Recently, my son was the victim of an act of vandalism that nearly resulted in grave bodily harm.

While his car was parked in our driveway at 30 Hornbrook Road, somebody cut and removed a section of the flexible hose connecting the gas tank to the filler pipe. When he attempted to add gas, my son pumped about four gallons at his feet before a bystander alerted him. Had the gas ignited, it could easily have injured or killed my son.

The vandalism occurred sometime around September 5, but went undetected until September 8.

Consider the depravity of this act, to put another person in the position of unknowingly dousing themselves with gasoline. Keep in mind that the vandals may strike again and, this time, somebody in your family might be the target. Such acts of vandalism are a threat to the entire community and the existence among us of a person misguided or malevolent enough to commit such an act can not be tolerated.

It is my hope that the members of the Danby community will have information as to who has done this. Please contact me (607.277.0014) or the Sheriff's office (607.257.1345; the original report was filed on September 9).



Kayaking on Jennings Pond

(Ronda Roaring)

DANBY SENIORS UPDATE

Submitted by Margie VanDeMark

The Danby Seniors change to Noon meetings for the fall and winter—our next meeting is on Thursday, October 6, in the Danby Church.

Our hosts for September were John & Margie VanDeMark and Ted & Connie Merritt. We were delightfully entertained by a great variety of songs by Dee Specker and the Lone Rangers!

Several of our members travelled to the Merry-Go-Round Theater on September 28 for a show, followed by dinner at the Springside Inn. Our State Fair bus on August 30 was an easy way to enjoy the NYS Fair. Playing that day in the Chevy Court was a wonderful group—the Midtown Men—who were original members of the “Jersey Boys” on Broadway.

All seniors, 55 and older are invited and encouraged to join our fellowship. We meet on the 1st Thursday of each month, except August. Our November meeting will be at Noon on November 3, including a dish to share luncheon. ❁

JENNINGS POND LOOKING FOR LIFEGUARDS

Submitted by Amy Cusimano

Jennings Pond State Park is looking for life guards for its 2012 swimming season. The season runs from the end of June until Labor Day.

All applicants must be 15 years old and hold several certifications: Lifeguarding/First Aid, CPR-adult-AED, and Waterfront. All of these courses are available—sporadically—through the Tompkins County Red Cross.

Other than Lifeguarding, responsibilities include daily maintenance of the park grounds. Trash, recyclables, bathrooms and cleaning the beach of “goose poop” (not as awful as it sounds).

I encourage all of our Danby Youth to seek Lifeguarding at Jennings Pond as a great employment opportunity and to be part of your community. For further information and or questions please contact me, [amymc@twcny.rr.com], or Mary Anne Kozak, [mkozak1@twcny.rr.com]; include “Jennings Pond Lifeguard” in the subject line. ❁

BBQ AND MUSIC FUNDRAISER FOR THE PARK

Submitted by Julie Clougherty

Do you like chicken BBQs? Do you like listening to fabulous local musicians like Sim Redmond and Peter Glanville? Do you like supporting worthwhile Danby causes?

If so, then please come to the DCPA’s First Annual Barbecue and Music Fundraiser at The Oasis, 4-8:30pm on Saturday, October 15. Tickets are on sale now at The Oasis; \$20 gets you “the works”, including a complete BBQ dinner, but if you just want to come for the music, the suggested donation is \$10.

All proceeds from the event will go toward our efforts to keep the park dream alive and growing, including the continued development of our five focus areas: trails, disc golf, pavilions, fields, and a BBQ pit. They also go toward paying organizational fees and reducing our road construction debt.

Please invite your family and friends to join us for good food and great music to help support our community park! For questions, or to find out where else to purchase tickets, contact us at [dotsonpark@gmail.com] or find us on Facebook.

Hope to see you at The Oasis! ❁

AMERICAN LEGION UPDATE

Submitted by Marvin Eastman

Greetings!

First, I would like to thank all the people who made our first dinner of the year and hope that they enjoyed it.

We will be starting our Steak and Fish Dinners in October with the Steak Dinner on October 1 and the Fish on October 21. Neither the menu nor the price has changed: Strip Steak cooked as you like it, Salad Bar, Choice of Baked Potato, French Fries, or Onion Rings, Veggie of the day, and a roll for just \$10. Serving 5:30-7pm.

The Fish Dinner will be Fish Baked or Fried, Salad Bar, Choice of Baked Potato, French Fries, or Onion Rings, and a roll. Also 5:30-7pm and again only \$10.

The next Steak and Fish dinners are on 11/5 and 11/18, respectively. Also, the Veterans Day Parade is on November 6 in downtown Ithaca. Stop down and support our veterans. And the Marine’s annual birthday party is Thursday, November 10, at the VFW in Ithaca! ❁

LIFE IN DANBY

This month's observations from Danbyites

Submitted by Julie Kulik

Welcome Autumn. Lots of changes in the air, hope you enjoy this month's findings from your neighbors here in beautiful Danby. See you in the woods!

Mammals: Coyote walking along a road, Bobcat, Deer with emerging velvet antlers, bear tracks. "We had a large porcupine at our house on the night of September 3. It was rummaging on the ground, just outside our front door! First one I've seen in Tompkins County in quite awhile, since a roadkill in front of Lower Buttermilk State Park."

Birds: Turkeys. "The barn swallows have headed south--seemed like a good year for raising and fledging young. There's been a kestrel hunting grasshoppers in the pasture for a couple of days--returns to the top of a white pine to eat them. Nice visitor. Wood ducks on the pond, also a Great Blue Heron. Ravens are calling a lot; beautiful woodblock tones sometimes." "This year's fledgling Broad-winged Hawks were seen hunting from perches along shady forest roads at various dates over the past month; Young Sharpshinned Hawks graduated from catching winged grasshoppers near their hatching site to chasing feathered prey farther afield. These youngsters may already have joined hawk migration, now getting underway."

Amphibians/Reptiles: Snapping turtles, Painted Turtles. "I have seen more pickerel frogs, American toads, and spring peepers on my property this year than ever before. The rain in May and June must have aided great reproduction this year. Does anyone else have this same impression?"

Insects: Monarch butterflies. "I notice gatherings of bumble bees in the luxuriant goldenrod that graces our fields this September. Such peaceful creatures, not at all angry, even though I sometimes plow right through them as I walk"

Please contact me with your observations at [jnk54@cornell.edu] or 607.272.2292 x222. ❀

DANBY COMMUNITY LIBRARY

Submitted by Patti Meyers

We have copies of the community read: *Homer and Langley!*

New items coming soon:

- *True Grit*, the book (now, who has the DVD and would you please return it ASAP?)
- *Bumble-Ardy* by Maurice Sendak
- *Second Nature* by Jacquelyn Mitchard
- *The Butterfly's Daughter* by Mary Alice Monroe
- Clark Howard's *Living Large in Lean Times*
- *Tangled* (DVD)
- *Rio* (DVD)
- *Sarah's Key*
- From TCPL: Picture Books and Adult Mysteries
- From FLLS: Books on CD (we have expanded our collection)

Remember, our DVD return time is now 2 weeks.

When you come in, you'll notice that the children's DVD, VHS, Books on Tape, and Books on CD are all in one area...and the 2011 copyright books are displayed separately.

See you at the Danby Community Library: Saturdays, 10am-Noon, Wednesdays, 1:30-3:30pm, and anytime the Open sign is out. Also, we are considering evening hours if we have enough volunteer coverage: potential volunteers please call me at 607.273-3878, or stop in during library hours or to our volunteer meeting the first Wednesday of the month at 6:30pm. ❀



Three Days in the Life of a Mushroom. Monday (lower left), Tuesday (lower right), Wednesday (top). The actual diameter of this fun guy is 8.5"; it's more than a foot tall. (Ted Crane)

Community Council Youth Programs Fall 2011

These programs are funded by the Danby Community Council, and are free to Danby residents. Registration is required.

Permission slips are in the Danby Town Hall, or can be found at

[ccetompkins.org/4h/rural-youth-services/danby]

Questions? Please contact: Julie Kulik, 607.272.2292. x222 or [jnk54@cornell.edu].

Lunch Bunch

Grades 6-8

Tuesdays, September 16-December 2, lunchtime at Boynton Middle School

In-school program during recess and lunch Take a break from the cafeteria! Eat exciting snacks, play games and go outside on nice days. Get to know people you usually don't sit near you in the noisy lunch room!

Lunch Bunch

Grades 4-5

Fridays, September 30-December 23, lunchtime at South Hill Elementary School

In-school program during recess and lunch. Come have lunch with others in your grade from Danby, play games, work on crafts and go outside on nice days. We will also help prepare for Orchard day and work on other service projects for school.

Primitive Pursuits

Grades 3-8

Wednesdays, 2:30-5:30pm, September 21-December 14 (no program on Nov. 23) at 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 of the day" and wear clothes that can get dirty! Bus is available from South Hill Elementary School.

Fridays At The Farm

Grades 3 and up

Fridays, 2:30-5:30pm, September 30-November 4 (no program on Oct. 28) at Three Swallows Farm, 23 Nelson Rd

Danby Come join us at the farm, where we will have the fields, and the barn at our disposal for games, stories, and farm work. Together we may make pesto, har-



vest and freeze vegetables, make jam. These foods will be used by area schools for lunches! We will also take time to explore the woods and fields around the farm where we can use natural materials to create crafts and collaborative "earth art" sculptures, make a cozy campfire, and cook over it! For more information about the Youth Farm program that we will be helping, see <http://youthfarmproject.weebly.com/about.html>

Danby Halloween Party Prep

Ages 10 and up

Friday October 28, 2:30-5:30pm; Sunday October 30, 3-5pm at Danby Town Hall

We will get the Town Hall ready for the Halloween Party on Sunday, create decorations, carve pumpkins, and prepare games for our younger Danby neighbors. On Sunday, October 30 from 3-5, we will meet back at the Town Hall and help run the games and events at the Halloween Party.

Friday Holiday Crafts

Grades 3-8

Fridays, 2:30-5:30, November 18-December 16 (no program on Nov.25) at Danby Town Hall

We will get together to create gifts for our friends and family. Some of the projects planned are working with SewGreen (to create with "new to you" fabric and clothing), knitting and crocheting (with the help of some Danby fiber experts), card making, and jewelry making. Come with ideas of your own as well! ❁

TRUNK OR TREAT AT THE DFC...

Come and trick or treat inside or out at the trunks of cars in the parking lot. It's the annual *Trunk or Treat* event on Halloween, October 31, 6-8pm.

Bring your goodies here and treat the kids who may not get to your house on the dark roads of Danby. Refreshments served inside the Fellowship Hall. ❁

Postal Patron

DANBY AREA NEWS: EVENT CALENDAR

- Oct 1 • Sat
10am 🏠 Dotson (Danby) Park • **Trail Work Day**
5:30pm 🏠 American Legion Post 221 • **Steak Dinner**
- Oct 3 • Mon
7pm 🏠 Town Hall • **Town Board Meeting**
- Oct 5 • Wed
6pm 🏠 Town Hall • **TCAT Information Meeting**
- Oct 6 • Thu
Noon 🏠 Danby Federated Church • **Seniors Meeting**
7pm 🏠 Town Hall • **Community Council Meeting**
- Oct 8 • Sat
11am 🏠 Town Hall • **Danby History Group Meeting**
- Oct 10 • Mon
7pm 🏠 Town Hall • **Town Board Meeting**
7:30pm 🏠 Danby Fire Hall
Danby Fire Department Monthly Meeting
- Oct 11 • Tue
7:30pm 🏠 West Danby Fire Hall
Danby Fire Commissioners Meeting
- Oct 12 • Wed
7pm 🏠 Town Hall • **Gas Drilling Task Force Meeting**
- Oct 13 • Thu
7pm 🏠 Town Hall • **Bald Hill History Presentation**
- Oct 15 • Sat
4-8:30pm 🏠 Oasis • **Community Park Ass. Fundraiser**
- Oct 16 • Sun
3pm 🏠 Town Hall
Community Council Concert: Laura Orshaw
- Oct 17 • Mon
7:30pm 🏠 Town Hall • **Conservation Adv. Council Mtg**
- Oct 18 • Tue
7pm 🏠 West Danby Fire Hall
Danby Fire Commissioners: 2012 Budget Hearing
- Oct 20 • Thu
3-7pm 🏠 Danby Federated Church • **Food Pantry**
7pm 🏠 Town Hall • **Community Park Association Meeting**
- Oct 21 • Fri
5:30pm 🏠 American Legion Post 221 • **Fish Dinner**
7pm 🏠 Town Hall • **“When Home Becomes a Gasfield”**

- Oct 22 • Sat
4-7pm 🏠 Danby Fire Hall
Fundraiser to Extinguish Breast Cancer
- Oct 26 • Wed
7pm 🏠 Town Hall • **Gas Drilling Task Force Meeting**
- Oct 27 • Thu
7pm 🏠 Town Hall • **Planning Board Meeting**
- Oct 29 • Sat
10am-2pm 🏠 West Danby Fire Hall
Fall Craft Show and Chicken BBQ
- Oct 30 • Sun
3-5pm 🏠 Town Hall • **Halloween Party**
- Oct 31 • Mon
6-8pm 🏠 DFC Parking Lot • **Trunk or Treat Party**
Jul 14, 2012 • Sat • **Danby Fun Day and Parade**

ONGOING EVENTS

- 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.
- West Danby Volunteer Fire Company** 🏠 WD Fire Hall
2nd Monday, 7pm.
- Military Family Support Group** 🏠 Federated Church
2nd Thursday, 6:30pm.
- Danby Fire Commissioners** 🏠 Fire Hall or WD Fire Hall
3rd Tuesday, 7:30pm.
- Seniors Strength Training Group** 🏠 Federated Church
Mondays, 9am.
- AA Meeting** 🏠 Federated Church
Wednesdays, 7pm.
- 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