



DANBY AREA NEWS

WIND AND WIRE CONCERT

Submitted by Bob Strichartz

On Sunday, October 14, 3pm, in the Danby Town Hall, the Danby Community Council's presents the Irish folk duo *Wind and Wire* as part of its 2012 concert series.

Nick Whitmer plays uilleann (Irish) pipes and whistle, and Jonathan Chai joins him with fiddle and concertina. The uilleann pipes are not at all the same as the Scottish Highland Pipes; for one thing, they're a gentle instrument designed to be played indoors, not on the battlefield.

Wind and Wire will perform jigs and reels in lively and reflective moods.

Please join us for this unusual and fun event. This free concert is supported by grant funding through the Community Arts Partnership of Tompkins County.

DCC HALLOWEEN PARTY

Submitted by Cole Janda

The annual Danby Community Council Halloween Party at the Danby Town Hall is happening on Sunday, October 28, 2-5pm. There will be games, cider, pizza, snacks, music and a bounce house.

Volunteers are needed to make this possible. Please call 607.272.7189 to volunteer or give ideas. See you there!

WALDORF SCHOOL OPENS ON NELSON ROAD

The Grand Opening Community Celebration at Danby's new school will take place on Saturday, September 29. The Ithaca Waldorf School's new building is at 20 Nelson Road in Danby.

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SUPERVISOR'S UPDATE

DANBY BROADBAND INITIATIVE INFO MEETING

Submitted by Ric Dietrich, Town Supervisor

I invite you, one and all, to a meeting on Broadband Internet on October 10. I will attempt to explain my journey during the past five years, all the way to our present situation...where I hope you'll be joining me and continuing forward.

Don't worry, it will not be a blow-by-blow story. You will hear about:

- The definition of Broadband from the Feds and New York State.
- Clarifying the speed numbers. What does Broadband give you that you don't have with, say, dialup access?
- A summary of two years of research by the County Legislature's Broadband Committee.
- A summary of the results of phone surveys and feedback from previous meetings with the county's residents.
- A description of two potential Broadband buildout projects that we are aware of. One of them, an extension of Cable TV service, is aimed at

only a few houses, so we'll concentrate on the other, a fixed wireless system intended to provide service to almost all unserved households.

- Sample coverage maps illustrating wireless "poles" locations, potential signal quality, and the resulting speeds. These are not the final maps, but they are good examples.
- Some words about how the project buildout can be funded.
- And, yes, some words about what households might expect to pay for the service.

The Town Board recently agreed to "partner" with a local service provider to submit a grant application to New York State. If the grant is awarded, it

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October 2012

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Text submissions:

Send text in the body of an Email message (not as an attachment); 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 generally 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: Have a look at the "Danby News" section of the Town of Danby web site, [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*.

You'll learn what is, and isn't acceptable material for publication. If it's acceptable, we'll make an effort to include it; *generally, we print everything we receive!* You'll find hints about how to prepare a submission. Following these guidelines makes the editing and layout easier.

A terse version of these guidelines is in the left-hand column of this page.

TOWN HALL: COMPUTERS FOR PUBLIC ACCESS

Three computers *for use by the public* have been installed in Town Hall. You can cruise the web with them and check your web-based Email. There are DVD drives to view presentations and other DVD media.

If you're new to computers, one-on-one introduction/how-to is available. Contact me at 607.273.8678.

DANBY WEB SITE

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

Meeting agendas, minutes, and relevant documents. Happenings in Danby. Everything in a nutshell. ♣

TOWN CLERK'S DESKTOP

Submitted by Pamela Goddard, Town Clerk

Budget...

The air is cool and crisp and the leaves are starting to turn the brilliant colors of Autumn. We may not have much in the way of apples or wild grapes to pick, but I'm busy canning and preserving peppers, tomatos, and green beans.

During this time of harvest and preparing for the next year, it's timely that we're also preparing the Town budget for 2013. I'm happy to realize that a few years of experience provides a better understanding of what we need, what we can do without, and what we can expect for the next year.



The Town Clerk works in cooperation with the Town Bookkeeper, the Town Board, and others to prepare the budget for the next fiscal year. This is very much a team effort. I hope that Danby taxpayers will know that we are doing our best to keep costs in line while assuring that we have everything in place to effectively

do the business of local government.

By adjusting numbers to reflect real need, and by a fair amount of reuse, making do, or doing without, we are looking towards a 2013 budget for the Town Clerk's office and the Town Hall itself that will be as flat as possible compared to recent years. Hours and wages for will be kept at an appropriate level. I appreciate the flexibility and efficiency of 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. We've actually been able to reduce or eliminate budget lines in some areas.

While the Town Board sets policy and the Bookkeeper does most of the financial figuring, the Town Clerk is responsible for recording and maintaining a record of the budget for each year. Preliminary and final versions of each annual budget are available through our office. Many are also available via the Town web site.

Residents can play a part in the process by attending budget review meetings, becoming informed about the financial health of the town, and making concerns known. It's not so different from what each of us does for our home budgets. We take a careful look at what we need, conserve as much as possible, and hope for solid reserves to carry us into the future.

Hunting Season - Deer Management Focus Area

In September, I reported that the NYS DEC had adopted a *Deer Management Focus Area* for a sizable portion of Tompkins County. According to the DEC web site, the purpose of such Focus Areas is, "to enable intensive management of over-abundant deer populations in defined areas." At that time, very little information was available about the Deer Management Focus Area... particularly what role (if any) local licensing agencies (such as Town Clerk's offices) have in the issuing of Focus Area permits and carcass tags. We've been keeping our eyes and ears open, and still don't know anything more than what was reported in September. Hunters and other residents with questions should contact the Department of Environmental Conservation directly via [dec.ny.gov].

Autumn office hours for the Danby Town Clerk are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday 10am-5pm, and Saturday mornings from 10am to 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]. ❀

DANBY FIRE DISTRICT WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

Submitted by Deanna Bowles, DFD Secretary Treasurer

The Danby Fire District has recently welcomed several new members. In June, Steven Hilsdorf and Tyler Dorn joined the Danby Fire Co., and Aaron Becker joined the West Danby Fire Co. Benjamin Blakely joined the Danby Fire Co. in July, and Thomas Sessler and Lisa Bradley joined the Danby Fire Co. in August. Their interest in serving the community through the fire service is very much appreciated. ❀

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.

WHAT IS FIXED WIRELESS?

Submitted by Ted Crane

Let's face it: if you're like me, you're probably more comfortable with a wired handset on your telephone than with a cordless. When you connect to the outside world via the Internet, you'd rather have a wire leading into your house, not an antenna.

Sadly, two or three miles outside of an urban area, the houses get farther and farther apart and the utility companies become less and less anxious to run wires for miles and miles. If you live in the parts of Danby known as the "gap", the digital wilderness, having Internet delivered to you by wire...may be pie in the sky.

Many of us have turned to stopgaps including satellite service, tethering computers to cellphones, and to using Mi-Fi (devices that convert a cellphone signal to a wireless, Wi-Fi signal; they work almost anywhere, but signal quality varies widely). A surprising number of cars are parked outside Town Hall with one or more occupants connected to its public access Wi-Fi signal.

Let's bring wireless communications into the picture. Many of us are used to *mobile* wireless, also known as "cell phones", but few realize that *fixed* wireless has been around a lot longer. All those big microwave towers, part of the backbone of national data transfer, are a form of fixed wireless. What's new in the fixed wireless toolkit is the ability to economically scale *down* to the residential level.

While cellphones ("mobile wireless") and fixed wireless are both radios, that's more or less where the similarity ends. They use different technology to communicate and have different strengths and limitations.

The bandwidth (data carrying ability) available to fixed wireless systems has far exceeded the capacity of mobile wireless. It uses different frequencies to better penetrate trees and other water-based interference. Its antennas are directional, less prone to interference and more able to deliver a good-quality signal using less power. This not only ensures better download speed (from the Internet to you), but lowers latency (the time it takes to make a round trip from your home to the Internet and back), and provides more upload capability (from you to the Internet) speed. Upload speed is vital for interactive uses (web- and mail-servers, two-way communications, and, yes, gaming).

Cellphone networks are designed to be flexible, to handle a wide variation in the number of simultaneous

users—up to hundreds or thousands—while a fixed wireless systems are pre-planned for a specific job.

The bottom line is that fixed wireless has many of the strengths of a mobile wireless, but few of the weaknesses. Line-of-sight (can my antenna see the "central" antenna?) is an issue for both.

The downside of wireless systems is that a lot of "central" antennas may be needed to ensure coverage in hilly regions like Danby. However, fixed wireless equipment and towers need not be nearly as large or as expensive as cellphone towers. More important, though, is that "a lot" may be a smaller number than you'd think.

Modern fixed wireless equipment can be mounted on forty- or fifty-foot telephone poles, just the same as those that carry electric and telephone wires. These mini-towers are inexpensive enough to serve five or ten households in a hidden valley.

A fixed wireless pole (a.k.a. ,a tower) typically has the capacity to handle 30 to 40Mbps; 80Mbps is not unusual and leading-edge systems are much faster. At 40Mbps, a typical issue of the Danby News would download in less than one-quarter second.

While this bandwidth is shared by the users of a pole, typical fixed wireless installations in our area have fewer than 50 users. This ratio compares very favorably to our local cable service, with its 20 to 40Mbps capacity divided among up to 200 users.

Service providers use mapping software that takes geography, trees, and ground cover into consideration. The software predicts what an antenna will "see" and how well it will see it, resulting in a "coverage map." Maps are color-coded to indicate signal quality.

Unfortunately, because these programs aren't perfect, test equipment is used to measure actual signal strength before residential equipment is installed. Unlike mobile-wireless-based systems, most users of fixed wireless links know what they're going to get...in advance.

The height of a residential antenna is a big part of the service equation. The small, flat plate antenna can be mounted in a window or higher up on a home. If necessary, a homeowner might mount it on, say, a pole near the residence.

Locally, the Town of Dryden recently installed a fixed wireless system to serve many hundreds (more than a thousand) households. All the reports, so far, say that it's been a success. Attend the information meeting on Wednesday, October 10, to learn about proposals to provide Broadband Internet to the "gap" in Danby. ♣

➤ **Supervisor's Update, cont'd from front page—**

➤ **Internet Meeting, cont'd from front page—**

would pay as much as 80 percent of the buildout cost. During the meeting, we also expect to discuss alternative paths we could take if we do not get the grant. If we decide to do it ourselves, what would that look like?



Some of you have asked me why I am so hot on this Broadband issue, and others have challenged me about the product I have come to believe can provide good service for a reasonable cost to the majority (I am trying for 100 percent!) of residents in Danby.

I strongly believe that a high-speed Internet connection to every household is a worthy goal—an essential ingredient—to all who live in Danby. It's a quality of life issue. It will affect who lives here, how they connect (literally) to the rest of the world, and why.

I expect and hope for a strong turnout from Danby residents who have been waiting for Internet access, or for more speed, better quality, or more reasonable costs, and would like to hear "details". I would also like to hear from people who might see things differently than I do, and from those who want to learn about the exciting possibilities Broadband can open up for all of us.

Also on the simmering burner...

I'm also spending effort on a sidebar issue: ongoing work on a new Cable TV franchise agreement with Time-Warner. Unlike Internet services, which are unregulated, Cable TV suppliers must be awarded a franchise; many municipalities in the County are working together to obtain a more favorable agreement with T-W. So far, our talks have not progressed to the point where T-W has offered a cost-effective Broadband service comparable to what we plan to talk about during the meeting. All that will be addressed at another, later meeting.

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

DANBY FIRE DISTRICT HEARINGS

Submitted by Deanna Bowles, DFD Secretary Treasurer

A PUBLIC HEARING will be held at 6:45pm at the West Danby Fire Station, 47 Sylvan Lane, in the Town of Danby, State of New York on October 16, 2012 for the consideration of the Fire Protection Contract Renewal with the Brooktondale Fire District.

Pursuant to Town Law 176, the Board of Fire Commissioners must hold a public hearing before entering into the contract. The contract is a 4-year renewal of an existing contract with a 2% increase each year.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Proposed Budget of the Danby Fire District of the Town of Danby, State of New York, will be presented to the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Danby Fire District, for its consideration.

A PUBLIC HEARING will be held at 7pm at the West Danby Fire Station, 47 Sylvan Lane, in the Town of Danby, State of New York on October 16, 2012. (The Budget hearing must be held annually on the third Tuesday in October.)

Pursuant to Town Law 181, the Board of Fire Commissioners must hold a public hearing on the budget, make the proposed budget available to the public prior to the public hearing, and allow the public to comment on the budget at the public hearing. This public hearing must be held to allow maximum public participation in the hearing.

The purpose of the public hearing is to allow any person to be heard in favor of or against the proposed budget as it is submitted, or for or against any item or items contained in the proposed budget, and hearing all persons interested in the subject concerning same. ☘

WIND TOWER WORKING GROUP

Submitted by Dan Klein

A group of Danby citizens interested in helping to craft a local wind tower ordinance met in September to explore ideas of what should and shouldn't be in our local law.

We will be meeting again on Thursday, October 11, 7pm, in the Danby Town Hall to continue that work. If you are interested in this project, feel free to join us that night. If you would like to receive some background material in advance, contact me, [danbydan@hotmail.com] or 607.272.7582. ☘

Waldorf School, continued from front page ➡

The board-and-batten building with its red roof was designed by Waldorf School parent and designer Kristin Bartholomew working with architect Claudia Brenner. Kristin is also a Danby resident. The highly insulated building was constructed with SIP panels and finished largely with local pine.

The celebration begins at 6pm with tours of the new school building. It will feature a ribbon cutting for the new building, music, door prizes, and culminates with a fireworks display at dark. The fireworks, operated by Proximity Pyrotechnics LLC, is the first legal fireworks show in the Town of Danby.

The event marks the opening of the first elementary school in Danby since the Danby Elementary School closed its doors about 30 years ago.

Visitors are encouraged to bring a picnic dinner to enjoy on the land. Light refreshments will be provided. This event is free and open to the public, and off-street parking is available on-site. For more information, visit [ithacawaldorf.org]. ❀

LAND BANK MEETS COMMUNITY BIOMASS

Submitted by Betsy Keokosky

The Danby Land Bank has combined forces with Community Biomass Energy and is researching a business plan for small scale grass pellet production and combined heat and power. A feasibility study with SUNY/Cobleskill will be done around the end of September. We will have a meeting with members and all those interested in this initiative in the Danby Town Hall on Saturday, October 13, at 10:30am.

For more details and information read the "DLBC September 2012 Update" on the "Resources" page of [danbylandbank.com].

Our plan is to start small and learn, and Cobleskill is working on a niche market for us. A business plan is being written this fall and, depending on financing and marketing, we will be starting up next summer. So, please save the second Saturday in October, to attend the meeting in Town Hall to discuss this study and next steps and how we can leverage our strengths as a group to produce a working example of an alternative energy business in rural upstate NY.

Join us and make it happen! Please RSVP to [evk1@cornell.edu] or 607.342.5430. ❀

FIREFIGHTER APPRECIATION SUPPER

Submitted by Peter Fraissinet, West Danby Community Association

An Appreciation Supper is planned to honor the volunteer firefighters and emergency personnel who serve Danby and West Danby. This will be a served ham supper (vegetarian option, too) with savory sides and desserts provided by your friends and neighbors.

The particulars: Saturday, November 3, 5-7pm, West Danby Fire Hall, Sylvan Lane. \$7 suggested donation (no one turned away), under 12 free.

Nothing makes one more appreciative of our FD volunteers than a response to a personal emergency, but the overall peace of mind of knowing they are there, trained, and ready to answer a call makes us all thankful. So let's celebrate Thanksgiving a little early and give honor and thanks in person to our hometown heroes.

See you there!

PS: Anyone interested in helping in the kitchen during the afternoon of Nov.3, your talents will be most welcome. Contact me [pf13@cornell.edu] or 607.564.0030, evenings. ❀

BARLEY STRAW, FISH, AND OLD TIRES

Have a pond? Want it clear? Want it full of fish? Or, maybe, you have old tires cluttering up your yard?

The Tompkins County Soil and Water Conservation District has several items on sale that'll help you improve the look and utility of your property. Its web site [tcsacd.org] has info about several events: the 2012 Fish Sale, Tire Collection Day, and a Barley Straw Sale.

Both sales require prepayment in early October, with pickups about a week later. The Tire Collection Day will be on Saturday, October 13, 9am-



1pm, at the Lansing Highway Department. A small fee will be charged for every tire.

For more information, contact TCSWCD at 607.257.2340. Call for order forms, if you can't get them from the web site. ❀

AMERICAN LEGION UPDATE

Submitted by Marv Eastman

Well, it's been a busy summer for us here at the Ithaca American Legion. We've completed our pavilion, put a new roof on the building and changed the front entrance with a new door and steps. The pavilion works great, as we have had two holiday parties in it.

We are gearing up for the fall / winter dinner season that kicks off October 6 with our first Steak Dinner. Our menu has not changed dramatically but rising costs have forced us to raise our price a little.

On October 6, 5:30-7pm, it's Steak Dinner, and on October 19, 5:30-7pm, it's the Fish Dinner (Baked or Fried). Both dinners include a choice of Baked Potato, Onion Rings, or French Fries, the Salad Bar, Dessert, Coffee, Tea, and all for only \$12.

I would like to thank all that have supported the post in the past and hope to see you at the dinners this fall. A special thanks to the people and business that contributed to making our annual Block Party a success.

If you need a place for that special meeting, party, or banquet, and your home or garage isn't big enough... give us a call. We can help.

Don't forget that November 4 is the Veterans Day Parade in Downtown Ithaca and on November 11th there will be a Veteran's Day Memorial Service at Dewitt Park in Ithaca.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to our servicemen and women serving our country and hope that they return home safely. Remember, Freedom is not Free. ❧

GAS DRILLING TASK FORCE UPDATE

Submitted by Jennifer Tiffany

From the Gas Drilling Task Force: Attendance has been low but activism has been high for the last few months.

On Wednesday, October 17, 7-9pm, in Town Hall, the Task Force will hold a planning meeting to look at how best to do our work: community education, advocacy, aiding in the development of town policy, and getting the word out to other towns.

Whether or not you can attend the meeting, please share your ideas by completing a short survey at [surveymonkey.com/s/DanbyGDTFPlanningSurvey2012].

Thanks. Hope to see many of you in the Danby Town Hall on October 17! ❧

COMMUNITY CELEBRATION AT WHITE HAWK

White Hawk Eco Village, on Danby Road, is hosting a community celebration on Saturday, October 13. The celebration is running in conjunction with the county-wide Green Homes Tour, sponsored by Tompkins County Cooperative Extension, which features several of the residences at White Hawk. While the tour runs from 10am-6pm, the White Hawk homes will be open from 10am-4pm.

When you're visiting White Hawk's green homes, stick around for music by *Answer the Muse*, the *Crow Weaver Band*, and *X10* on a solar-powered performance stage.

In the food department, *Sol Kitchen* (Joey Gates proprietor) will be cooking with solar energy while the sun shines.

For more information, contact 607.330.2609 or [whitehawk.org]. ❧

MAPLE SUGARING

Submitted by Pat Curran, TC Cooperative Extension

Learn about maple sugaring with Sapsquatch founder Josh Dolan. This class will explore the history, lore, and current state of affairs of the maple syrup industry in the US and Canada. Participants will learn the basic principles of tapping and harvesting syrup, and will be introduced to the basic tools of the trade. Maple syrup will also be available for sale.

Maple Sugaring will be presented on Wednesday, October 3, 6:30-8:30pm, at Cooperative Extension, 615 Willow Avenue, Ithaca. The fee is \$5 and pre-registration is preferred. Please call 607.272.2292 for more information or registration. ❧

BALD HILL PIE CONTEST RESULTS

Submitted by Jean Rowley

We had a fine picnic and an even finer pie baking contest on September 2. We apologize to those who either couldn't make it or got confused by the last minute change of dates.

David Studwell was awarded the top baker in the adult category for a stunning peach, cherry, apricot pie with a beautiful crust. Please keep coming back David! Sophie Patt was awarded the top baker prize in the very competitive under-16 category for a butterscotch cream pie. [*An unexpectedly happy result of the contest: nobody went home hungry. -editor*] ❧

UTILITY SERVICE: GETTING WHAT YOU PAY FOR?

Submitted by Ronda Roaring

I live on South Danby Road, where both telephone and internet service are provided by Frontier Communications. In addition, I have a cell phone with service provided by Verizon. Like almost all Danby residents, my electric power is provided by NYSEG.

Not long ago, I was having a lot of trouble with my Internet service going off-line on a regular basis. I called Frontier and was told there had been no other reported outages and that, therefore, it must be my computer. I checked with some of the people in my area only to find that they, too, were having the same problem at the same time.

I called Frontier back and said that others in my area were also having problems. They refused to do anything, saying they needed to hear from these people directly. It took all of these people complaining to get the problem, whatever it was, fixed.

I get no cell phone service at my house. Not just zero bars but a message that says, "Searching for Service." I thought that, perhaps, based on my success with Frontier, I might have the same success with Verizon Wireless. I called. Again I was told that I was the only person complaining and that they would do nothing about the matter.



If you pay for cell phone service from Verizon and feel that you are getting inadequate service or even no service, please call the phone number on your bill. Ask that a trouble ticket be created. Ask that an engineer be assigned to the matter. Only if we all

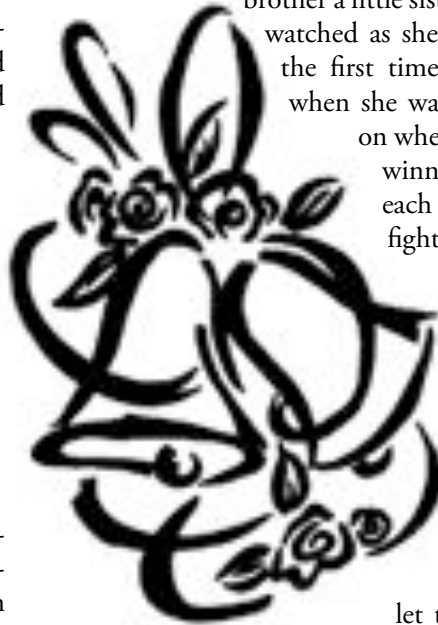
complain, complain, complain will we get these large companies to take us seriously.

For more info, contact me at my land line, 607.589.4031 or via [rondaroaring@hotmail.com]. ❧

WEDDING WISHES

Submitted by Gay Huddle

Everyone has a role to play in the cast of characters of a wedding party. Being parents of the bride doesn't make us the stars, but it sure does put us in an important role. We are, for example, the ones who got to bring this lovely person into the world to begin with, the ones who became a family of four with her birth, gave a big



brother a little sister. We are the ones who watched as she went off to school for the first time, who wiped her tears when she was sad, who cheered her on when she became an award-winning hairstylist. We gave each and every boyfriend a fighting chance, and if they

made the cut, we welcomed them into our home, but if they didn't, we had no other choice but to make our feelings known. We shared in her grief of losing a young friend and we stepped back and

let the school dish out the discipline when we found out she had not been going to swim class. We stepped up, however, when she was bullied and injured and saw it through to the end, when the judge demanded doctor bills be paid by the other family. We brought her home, along with her beloved cat, when the true love she counted on turned out not be dependable after all. We helped settle her in a new place, where we knew she was safe and looked after by a kind and caring landlord who became such a good friend. Eventually we all celebrated when she bought her first house, and it was there, when she least expected it, and maybe had even given up hope a little of it ever happening, she fell totally and completely in love with a good man.

We wish our daughter, Kasey, and her sweetie, Ky, a lifetime of happiness and love and kisses and smiles. The joining of these two brought more grandchildren into our lives and we are so happy about that!

Happy Wedding Day Kasey Huddle and Kyron Spada, October 5, 2012. We love you. From the parents of the bride: Garry and Gay Huddle. ❧

DANBY SPINNERS TURN TO FIBERS, TOO

Submitted by Kathy Halton

The Danby Spinners' group met this past Sunday, and decided that we would like to expand our group to include anyone working with fiber: knitters, weavers, quilters, etc.

Our next meeting will be on Sunday, October 14, 3-5pm, at my house, 2505 Danby Road. Contact me for directions, [khalton@twcny.rr.com] or 607.273.0533.

Bring projects for show and tell...and enjoy hearing a lot of Oohs and Ahhs and Wows. ❀

DOTSON PARK NEWS

Submitted by Julie Clougherty

Looking for something to do on a sunny day this fall? Why not check out your community park and walk one of its trails, or try your hand at a round of disc golf?

Discs are available to borrow at the Danby Community Library across the street from the park entrance on NYS Rt.96B. There's no charge—just sign them out in the binder and bring them back when you're done!

For more information or to keep up-to-date on park happenings, join our Facebook Group, or contact us at [dotsonpark@gmail.com]. ❀

DANBY SENIORS UPDATE

Submitted by Margie VanDeMark

The next meeting of the Danby seniors will be on Thursday, October 4 at Noon in the Danby Church. We change to a mid-day get-together during the winter months.

Thank you Rollie & Sharon Boda for hosting our September meeting, which was candlelit...no power! Barb Wernham went back home to bring us some water as we couldn't make coffee or draw water. Ted did his usual raffles and three lucky winners went home with pretty mum plants.

Ted Merritt outlined the October 15 trip to MerryGoRound theater to see *Nunsense*, with dinner following at the Springside. Contact Ted regarding availability.

Seniors is not a church group and is open to all Danby seniors 55 and over. Come and join in the fellowship! ❀

4TH ANNUAL WEST DANBY FALL CRAFT SHOW

Submitted by Marrell Cortright

Live music! The pickers will be playing! Coffee, donuts, cider, and chicken BBQ will be for sale in the kitchen. The show happens on Saturday, October 13, 10am-2pm, and the *New West Danby Henry Ford String Throttlers* are live, 11am-1pm.

Vendors and crafters: the fee for one spot is \$10, with a table and 2 chairs provided. And you can buy advance sale tickets (when you arrive) to reserve a chicken BBQ dinner! Table space is limited and will be assigned on a first come, first served basis. Please, no flea market or resale items, hand made items only.

Proceeds benefit the West Danby Fire Company. The Fire Company will be holding its annual chicken barbecue. The kitchen will be open, selling chicken dinners or halves and drinks, throughout the day.

Any questions? Please don't hesitate to contact me, [marrell1@aol.com], [flywestprims@aol.com], or 607.564.0020. ❀

AT THE DFC...

Dinner and a Movie, Friday, October 12, 5-7pm

The Dinner: Meatloaf, Garlic Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Bread Beverage and Pudding, all for \$8. The Movie, at 7:30pm, is about a miraculous encounter; it's free, with free snacks and free child care.

Flu Clinic, Tuesday, October 16, 4-8pm

CVS will bill Medicaid or Medicare.

Trunk or Treat Party, Wednesday, October 31, 6-8pm

Treats from car trunks in parking lot and indoors; games and refreshments inside. Hand out treats to trick-or-treaters at DFC instead of having kids go around the darker roads of Danby. All Welcome!

Election Night Dinner, Tuesday, November 6

Holiday Craft Fair, Saturday, November 10, 10am-3pm

This year's Holiday Craft Fair is a fundraiser for our Women's Fellowship, which uses the funds for missions and programs.

Set up starts at 8am; cost per table is \$15 includes a 6-foot table and two or more chairs. For info or an entry form, contact 607.272.1687 or [brathbun3@gmail.com]. ❀

DANBY COMMUNITY LIBRARY

Submitted by Patti Meyers

Thank you to Lee McDuffee who donated the tables and chairs, located outdoors in front of the Town Hall doors, designated for Wi-Fi users and library readers.

New books are coming to the Danby Community Library, including local authors and the bestseller-list acclaimed *The Light Between the Oceans*.

Are you interested in graphic novels? Let us know as we are considering featuring a selection of these for fans.

We have a couple of new volunteers interested in finding out how they can serve the library, but are always looking for more to lighten the load of our regular, dedicated volunteers. Contact us at 607.277.4200, [library@town.danby.us] or come to our volunteer meeting on the first Wednesday of the month at 6:30pm. ✂

NOT YOUR OLD-TIME COMICS

Submitted by Mrs. Mystery

In the beginning, there were comics.

One of the early talking motion pictures, /Skippy, starring Jackie Cooper, was based on Percy Crosby's comic strip. Anyone can name ten movies based on a comic within seconds. A current television series, /The Walking Dead, began in comic form.

Comics with a complete story are also graphic novels. The characters are not just steroid abusers clad in skin-tight costumes with don't-ask-don't-tell masks. The creators put whole worlds of possibility inside your skull using flat paper and pencil strokes to make old stories new.

You re-read it and see details you missed the first time. You marvel at how simple tools can convey so much, and you think, "Hmmm...I have paper and pencils, too." It's all in your hands.

The Danby Community Library is planning to start offering graphic novels in 2013. You can make requests at [library@town.danby.ny.us]. Donations are welcome as long as the stories are bound in volume form, soft- or hard-cover.

In the meantime, Tompkins County Public Library has a trove of graphic novels in the 741.5 stacks. ✂

LIFE IN DANBY

Submitted by Julie Kulik

It's been awhile! I am hoping that your summer was full of wonder! It is nice to be back in touch with folks and hearing about what they have been seeing in the Danby area. I love to hear about what you or your children have seen out there! Contact me at 607.272.2272x222 or [jnk54@cornell.edu].

As always, to protect the innocent, I will not publish the location of your sightings, but will keep a record of where/when they took place. Here is what was sent to me recently:

Birds: Several bluebirds, pheasants, "Enjoying, and now missing, our resident swallows and hummingbirds (I swear the biting bug population went up just after the swallows left)."; "We have a barred owl in the woods next to the house and we had a lengthy conversation at 2am last night."; "Up until about two weeks ago, was hearing Screech Owls almost every night. One night there were at least 3 in the same area, all talking to each other. Lots of turkeys, including hens taking large groups of growing chicks on field trips."; "We have numerous young bluebirds flying around our yard, two batches fledged from our bird boxes this year. And there are Goldfinch galore enjoying the seeds on our wildflowers and catnip. A male Northern Harrier continues to cruise the fields, hunting for rodents. But most of the summer residents have sadly moved on."; "We were briefly puzzled by a sound in the night that turned out to be a begging cry of a juvenile barred owl."; "Many herons in a rookery."



Cottonwood Dagger

Insects: Luna moth, Cottonwood Dagger—dines on poplar and willow, Giant Swallowtail, "Had an abundance of Painted Lady butterflies in our yard this year."; "A wild-looking caterpillar hanging out on a young birch tree proved to be a cercopia moth caterpillar—never got to see the moth itself."

Mammals: baby skunks, many twins, and triplet deer, "Almost all-white skunk with a limp."; "During the 3rd week in August, a bobcat ran right in front of my car."; grey fox.

—continued on next page ➔

Community Council Youth Programs Fall 2012

These programs are sponsored by the Danby Community Council and are free to Danby Residents. Registration is required. Please send child with lunch and water bottle each day. Spaces are limited and fill up quickly, so register early!

Boynton Lunch Bunch (grades 6-8)

Wednesdays, September 19-December 19.

An in-school program, during lunch time. Take a break from the cafeteria! Eat exciting snacks, play games and get to know people you usually don't sit near in the noisy lunch room.

South Hill Lunch Bunch (grades 4-5)

Fridays, September 21-December 14.

In-school program at South Hill during lunch. Come have lunch with other youth from Danby in your grade, play games, do crafts and go outside on nice days.

Primitive Pursuits (grades 3-8)

At June Pollack's (43 Hornbrook Rd)

Wednesdays, Sep.19-Nov.14, 2:30-5:30pm

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

Crafts and Games (grades 6-8)

Boynton Middle School

Wednesdays, November 28-December 19, 3:10-5pm

Come create holiday crafts and play games after school. This is a joint program with Town of Ithaca youth. Just in time to make holiday gifts!



Exploring Old Bald Hill Road (age 10+)

Friday, October 5, 10am-3pm

We will meet with historians, explore old foundations, learn the history of the now extinct South Danby village, find a hidden GeoCache! Cooperative Extension van will pick up in Danby and West Danby locations.

Holiday Craft Program (age 9+)

Danby Town Hall

Monday, November 12, 10am-3pm

Come work on holiday gifts together! We will have a variety of craft materials available, and bring your own! Do you have a craft you really want to show others how to do? Bring that too, and let me know of materials I should have on hand.

Family Bowl Workshop

Danby Town Hall

Friday, November 30, 5:30-8pm

Come join us for a pizza dinner, then create a family bowl that represents what your family values and loves to do together! The bowl will be fired in a kiln and then returned to you at a later date. Limited to 8 families, please register early! (This is not a drop off program, children of all ages need to be accompanied by an adult to work on this collaborative project together.) ❁

➤ Life in Danby, continued from previous page

Reptiles/Amphibians: snapping turtles, "Whenever we got some rare rain we saw lots of red efts including many 'babies.'"; "Tree frog living on side of house - comes out at night."

Mystery of the Month: "I was walking along the road and spotted glowing points of light in the ditch. They were small crawling bugs about ½" long or less, sort of pointed at each end--leaf shaped with a bioluminescent hind end. Larvae of fireflies? This was just last week on a warm night."

Compiled by Julie Nichols Kulik, who can often be found in the woods with Danby children or the children of Earth Arts. To learn more about these programs, visit the Rural Youth Servics page of [ccetompkins.org] or [earthartsithaca.org]. ❁

Postal Patron

DANBY AREA NEWS: EVENT CALENDAR

- Sep 29 • Sat
10am-2pm 🏠 Danby Community Park • Work Day
Evening 🏠 Waldorf School • Grand Opening
- Oct 3 • Wed
6:30pm 🏠 Town Hall • Library Volunteers Meeting
- Oct 4 • Thu
Noon 🏠 Danby Federated Church • Seniors Meeting
7pm 🏠 Town Hall • Community Council Meeting
- Oct 6 • Sat
5:30pm 🏠 American Legion • Steak Dinner
- Oct 8 • Mon
7pm 🏠 Town Hall • Town Board Meeting
7pm 🏠 Danby Fire Hall • Fire Department Meeting
- Oct 9 • Tue
7pm 🏠 West Danby Fire Hall • Fire District Meeting
- Oct 10 • Wed
7pm 🏠 Town Hall
Broadband Internet for Danby: Info Meeting
- Oct 11 • Thu
7pm 🏠 Town Hall • Wind Tower Working Group
- Oct 13 • Sat
10am-2pm 🏠 West Danby Fire Hall
4th Annual West Danby Craft Show and Chicken BBQ
10am-4pm 🏠 White Hawk Ecovillage • Celebration
10am 🏠 Town Hall • Danby Land Bank Coop
- Oct 14 • Sun
3-5pm 🏠 Town Hall • Wind and Wire Concert
4-6pm 🏠 2505 Danby Road • Danby Spinners Meeting
- Oct 15 • Mon
7pm 🏠 Town Hall • Town Board Meeting
- Oct 16 • Tue
4-8pm 🏠 Danby Federated Church • Flu Clinic
7pm 🏠 West Danby Fire Hall
Fire District Budget Hearing
- Oct 17 • Wed
7pm 🏠 Town Hall • Gas Drilling Task Force
- Oct 18 • Thu
3-7pm 🏠 Danby Federated Church • Food Pantry
7pm 🏠 Town Hall • Park Association Meeting

- Oct 19 • Fri
5:30pm 🏠 American Legion • Fish Dinner
- Oct 22 • Mon
1-2pm 🏠 Danby Federated Church • Mobile Food Truck
7:30pm 🏠 Town Hall • Conservation Adv Council Mtg
- Oct 25 • Thu
7pm 🏠 Town Hall • Planning Board Meeting
- Oct 27 • Sat
10am-2pm 🏠 Danby Community Park • Work Day
- Oct 28 • Sun
2-5pm 🏠 Town Hall
Community Council Halloween Party
- Oct 31 • Wed
6-8pm 🏠 Danby Federated Church
Trunk or Treat Party

Jul 13, 2013 • 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!
- West Danby Volunteer Fire Company 🏠 WD Fire Hall
2nd Monday, 7pm.
- 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
🏠 American Legion Post 221 • 1231 Danby Road