



# DANBY AREA NEWS

## DANBY FUN DAY 30<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

Submitted by George Jakobson, Danby Volunteer Fire Company and Marrell Cortright, West Danby Fire Department

Save the Date! The 30th Anniversary edition of Danby Fun Day will be held on July 13, 2013, 10am-3pm, in and around the Danby Fire Station, 1780 Danby Road.

Enjoy a parade, games, live music, chicken BBQ, hamburger and hot dog stand, our Chinese Auction, our annual used book sale, and more. Come see the history exhibits, get information about fire safety and medical care, and more.

Proceeds will help support the Danby and West Danby Volunteer Fire Departments.

Vendors are encouraged to get in touch with Marrell Cortright, 607.564.0020 or [marrell11@aol.com], but here's the basic info: Vendor set up begins at 8am. Outdoors, rain or shine. You must provide your own set up, including tables and chairs, and your own tent. Vehicles must be moved to offsite parking by 10am. \$10 fee for a 10'x10' space. ❁

## ANNUAL BOOK SALE!

Submitted by Patti Meyers

The Danby Community Library is holding its Annual Open House and Book Sale on Saturday, April 27, 2013, 10am-2pm, in the big meeting room of Town Hall, 1830 Danby Road.

If the thought of rock bottom prices on books, movies, etc. isn't enough to bring you to the Library, there will be entertainment from 10:30-11:30am and, as always, our free refreshment table will be well-stocked with baked goods.

Come on down and support your local library in the Danby Town Hall and say thank you to our great volunteers! ❁

## SNAP! PERFORMANCE

Submitted by Bob Strichartz

The first free concert in the Danby Community Council's 2013 Concert Series will be held on Sunday, April 28 at 3pm in the Danby Town Hall. It's something truly unusual: a collaboration between storyteller Regi Carpenter and cellist Elizabeth Simkin called *Snap!*

Carpenter tells a true story of a young girl's experience of mental illness and her incredible journey back to sanity and freedom. It is a tale that the *Harvard Crimson* called, "harrowing, riveting and unexpectedly hilarious." Simkin accompanies the tale with cello music that runs the gamut from classical, traditional, popular and improvised music.

Carpenter is an award-winning storyteller (Parents Choice Gold Award, Parents Guide to Children's Media Award, Leonard Bernstein Fellowship to Artists in Education) who has been a featured teller at the National Storytelling Festival, the St. Louis Storytelling Festival, and the Ojai Storytelling Festival, and a teller-in-residence at the International Storytelling Center in Jonesborough TN.

Simkin is on the faculty of the Ithaca College School of Music. She has been a student at the Eastman School of Music and the Indiana University School of Music, where she studied with the internationally acclaimed cellist Janos Starker and was his teaching assistant. She performs locally with Cayuga Chamber Ensemble, Ensemble X, and other chamber groups, and has performed in several Danby concerts.

The Danby Concert Series receives grant support from the Community Arts Partnership ❁ of Tompkins County. ❁

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**April 2013**

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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 15<sup>th</sup> 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.

**BROADBAND UPDATE**

The NYS grant to provide Broadband (high-speed) Internet service to many unserved residents of the Town of Danby...came through!

Details are sketchy at this point, and we're waiting to hear about starting dates and availability.

If you would like followup information, drop me a note at [danbynews@tedcrane.com] or call 607.273.8678. I'll keep you up-to-date.

**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

*"Hello. You've reached the office of the Clown Turk, Clown of Danby."* April Fool. I've wanted to say that for several years and, if you telephoned on Monday, April 1, you might have heard it! We don't get many opportunities to play or be foolish in Town Hall. People come to our desk with serious questions and serious tasks—whether it's paying taxes, being issued a handicap parking permit, or requesting a marriage license.

Another serious, but lesser known, part of my job is swearing in all Town officials, both elected and appointed: Town Board, Planning Board, Board of Zoning Appeals, Fire Commissioners, Commissioners of the West Danby Water District, and those who serve on the local Board of Assessment Review. Who swears in the Town Clerk, you might ask? The Town Supervisor performs that duty.

Each Town official must take an Oath of Office, during which they swear or affirm to support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitu-

tion of the State of New York, and to faithfully discharge the duties of their office to the best of their ability. These sworn and witnessed statements are among the documents which must—by law—be kept permanently in the Town archives. We now assure that each Oath of Office is saved by recording them in a bound book made of archival quality paper.

I recently swore in a Planning Board member, Naomi Strichartz, for a second seven year term. There are several Boards that still need members. Nancy Medsker's term on the Board of Zoning Appeals has ended and a candidate is sought for a five-year term. The Board of Zoning Appeals arbitrates and decides requests for property variances—requests for dimensions or use that is not permitted by Danby's Zoning Ordinance. These requests have included some types of subdivision, deficiencies in setbacks or frontage for structures, commercial uses in areas zoned residential, and other building anomalies. The BZA meets on a "as needed basis," when an issue must be decided.

If you are interested in the development, management, and protection of natural resources in the Town of Danby, you might be interested in serving on the Conservation Advisory Council. When fully "staffed" the CAC has 5 to 7 members, including, "a person engaged in agricultural use of land, a large landowner, and, op-

tionally, a youth 16 or 17 years of age at the time of appointment." The CAC currently has four members, none of whom meet those specific preferential categories. The Town Board encourages applicants who meet these categories. Members serve two-year terms. The CAC meets once a month. The next meetings are April 1 and April 29 at 7pm. Danby residents are always welcome.

In addition to these positions, the Planning Board is currently seeking a Secretary. Duties of this secretary are to attend Planning Board meetings and create minutes which will be available in Town Hall and on the Town web site, and become part of the permanent record of Danby activities. This is a paid position working closely with the Code Enforcement and Town Clerk's offices.

Applications, and more information, for all of these positions can be obtained through my office.

Spring has arrived on the calendar (April Fool?) and as Spring weather arrives in April, the Town Clerk's office will be open 10am-5pm Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday, and 10am-Noon on Saturdays. We are closed on Sundays and Thursdays. And yes, there's still chocolate in the bowl by the Clerk's office window.

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

## THIRD eMAC JOINS PUBLIC COMPUTER FACILITY

Submitted by Ted Crane

A third eMac, donated by Ramsey Brous and Ithaca Bakery, has joined the lineup of computers available for public use in the Danby Town Hall.

The Public Access facility is open for use whenever the Town Hall is open. Each computer has access to the Internet and includes a web browser (Safari) that can surf the web and do Email via webmail. In addition, each has simple word processing programs and a CD/DVD player (if you're not alone in the room, please use headphones while listening to music or video).

To bring data with you or to save files you've created on the computer, you can insert your own flash drive (thumb drive) into a USB slot. Hardcopy of documents may be available, time permitting and for a nominal fee, at the Town Clerk's Office.

Some help is available. If you're new to computers or to the web—or to something else you'd like to do with the computers—you can contact me for phone sup-

—continued on page 5 ⇨



## WD SPRING CRAFT SHOW & BBQ AND OPEN HOUSE/RECRUITMENT

Submitted by Marrell Cortright

The West Danby Fire Department will be holding its annual Spring Craft Show and Chicken BBQ on Saturday, April 27, 10am-2pm, in the Fire Hall at 47 Sylvan Lane. The chicken BBQ will be ready around noon.

We'll also be raffling off a Garden Basket full of gardening items, to benefit the Spencer Food Pantry.

This year, the event incorporates a Recruitment Day/ Open House, held in conjunction with Fire Departments all over New York State. The Fireman's Association of the State of New York has set aside April 27 as *RecruitNY 2013*. This is a statewide effort for departments to work together to get much needed volunteers. Departments can open their doors to their communities and invite them in, to learn about all the ways you can help out at your local fire department and volunteer in your community.

Many people don't realize that even though firefighters are always needed, there are many other jobs—that don't involve running into burning buildings—that need to be done to help keep your local fire department open and running smoothly. It gives you a chance to meet the members that serve you, see the equipment your tax dollars have purchased and learn how you can be a part of it.

By combining all this into one event, we feel this will be a great opportunity for our community. You can get a good meal (\$8.50 for BBQ chicken dinner) that will raise funds for our station, meet the members and be able to ask questions, get *Tot Finder* and *Pet Finder* stickers, see our station (which is a local Red Cross shelter), get a disaster preparedness booklet, enter free drawings, and shop from local vendors. Bring the kids, so they can see us in our gear, and aren't afraid of us if we ever have to rescue them.

West Danby Fire Department is a small department. We are always in need of more volunteers. We hope that you can take the time to stop and see us on Saturday April 27. We look forward to seeing you! ❧

**Give back  
to your town...  
volunteer at the  
Fire Department!**

## DVFC RECRUITMENT OPEN HOUSE

Submitted by Simon Wyatt, 3rd Ass't Chief, DVFC

Recruiting and retaining active volunteers remains one of the greatest challenges we face in Danby's all-volunteer Fire Company.

On April 27, 10am-2pm, the Danby Fire Station's doors will be open to the public as part of the third annual *RecruitNY* statewide initiative. You can learn about what it takes to be a volunteer firefighter or emergency medical provider in our community. Danby firefighters will conduct tours of the fire station and apparatus, allow visitors to try on firefighter gear, answer questions, and discuss how you can get involved in the Fire Company. ❧

## DANBY TOWN TALK

Submitted by Gay Huddle, Ithaca Journal Correspondent

I am always looking for neighborhood stories for the Danby Town Talk column. Pictures are welcome to go along with the stories. Please contact me at [[gayhuddle@hotmail.com](mailto:gayhuddle@hotmail.com)] or 607.273.6530 with your story ideas.

The column appears every Thursday in the Ithaca Journal. Thank you.

I encourage everyone to stop by the Danby Community Library in the Danby Town Hall. The selection is vast and the area set up for the library is welcoming and kid-friendly. It really is a wonderful resource for our neighborhood. ❧

## FOSTER/ADOPTIVE PARENTS WANTED

If you:

- Are over the age of 21
- Want to help a child or children in need
- Have extra room in your home and heart

Then please consider attending an informational meeting to learn what the next step is to becoming a certified foster, adoptive or respite parent. At this time we have significant need for homes able to take sibling groups and teenagers.

The next meeting for those interested in caring for children and teens in their homes will be held on Thursday, April 11, at Noon in the Human Services Building, 320 W. Martin Luther King Jr. Street in Ithaca. If you are unable to attend this meeting or desire further information, please call Coral Uettwiller at 607.274.5266. ❧

## SUPERVISOR'S UPDATE

Submitted by Ric Dietrich, Town Supervisor

By the time you read this we should have caught some wind and be on our way. After a long, tense wait, our Governor has announced that Clarity Connect has been awarded several million dollars to build out broadband internet service to parts of Tompkins and Cayuga Counties, and Danby is part of those parts.

As I write, I feel that we're still in the doldrums, afloat on a vast ocean. The present situation is little more than waiting patiently for the bureaucratic clogs to click and for information and movement to begin flowing. I fully expect to hear the go-ahead from the state to proceed during the last week of March. We should have a better understanding of the next steps by the time I write to you again, next month.

The Broadband grant is a welcome addition to the roster of funding we've been awarded recently: the West Danby Water District, the biomass boiler at the Highway barns, and a no-added-cost agreement to install solar electric panels at Town Hall. They are all current projects, each presents its own unique challenges, and all need constant supervision from our staff.

Our water and air are our greatest natural resources, and residents have a right to see these vital elements protected. The completion of the USGS study of our central aquifer has given us a better picture of our water resource, and has created a new awareness of its fragility. A wider discussion about all of Danby's water is in the works: a meeting of the Town and Planning Boards is developing, and its agenda may include an Aquifer Protection plan originating from the Gas Drilling Task Force.

Meanwhile, conversations about Youth Development (programming, employment, and more) are proceeding. I've been joined by our Community Council, which oversees these programs in Danby, in meetings with other Towns and the County Youth Bureau, brainstorming ideas to ensure the long-term success of the effort. Youth programs—in the county as a whole—need to adjust to new, narrower funding streams. This process will unfold during the spring and summer.

My notebook says that, last year, ice cleared from my pond by the 6th of March. My apple trees were getting impatient...and had flowers, just before they froze. This year, the chipmunks are still digging their way to the surface, and there's a lot of snow above the fourteen-hundred-foot line. I haven't found any groundhogs

around here to ask, "What happened to the prediction," of six or eight weeks of winter left. But, I have seen my first robins today, and maybe a killdeer. The geese have been beating a path northward, although they have become less frequent; I suspect the jet stream is not doing them any favors. The cardinals getting more and more aggressive in their song, and the wife claims to have heard the blackbirds.

Well, Spring has arrived, I can see its manifestations. Now all we need is warmer weather.

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

### ➤ **Public Computer Facility, cont'd from page 3—**

port or to schedule a sit-down in front of a computer; 607.273.8678 or [[site@tedcrane.com](mailto:site@tedcrane.com)].

### **Still Looking For Donations...**

If you have an unused computer (or other related item) around the house or office, consider donating it to the Public Access Facility. Right now, we're limited to Apple computers (but if you can and want to support a PC...step right up).

### **...And A Few To Go**

If you'd like to use a computer at home, there are a limited number of iMacs (mass-market relatives of the eMac) available for loan. They are far from the latest and greatest, but can be used in the same way as those in the Public Access facility. If you're interested, contact me and I'll shine one up and load the basic software. One caveat: if you want to surf the web at home, you will have to provide your own Internet connection. ☘

## Town Hours

### **Town Clerk**

Phone: 277.4788 • Fax: 277.0559  
Mon-Tue-Wed-Fri, 10am–5pm (*Sat, 10am-1pm*)

### **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.

## APRIL'S FOOL

Submitted by Jim Reagan

Hal Bender had spent the better part of March in Paris, Barcelona and Seville, and had caught a terrible cold due to the very changeable weather in Europe. He'd also gotten soaked through and through by a torrential rain while visiting the La Sagrada Familia and El Parque Guell. Still, he wouldn't have missed the trip for anything; horrific, hacking cough notwithstanding.

Danby Hal believed wholeheartedly that the interior of La Sagrada Familia had changed his life for the better, the dramatic sparseness and approximation to Nature being so thrilling and inspirational. For a moment he had wondered whether he was roaming through the forests of his beloved stomping grounds back home at dusk. Hal half expected to hear the fluty notes of a wood thrush in the shadow of the magnificent columns fashioned like tree trunks or feel a cool humid breeze blowing on his face such as would be common while tramping about.

Hal would have liked to have taken his place among those who inspire awe and wonder and he imagined that he might still have a chance to move the masses. It was so important to him, but he would never be able to tell you why. It just was. Perhaps he had something to prove.

Back in Danby, amidst familiar surroundings and the usual routine, Hal wondered if he had merely dreamt the trip. Air travel still seemed rather improbable to Hal and the fact that he could be standing in front of Notre Dame on Sunday and sitting in his favorite chair looking out on his Danby garden on Tuesday morning was nothing short of incredible and miraculous to him.

Sipping coffee out of his blue and gold *J'adore Paris* mug with its prominent fleur de lis, Hal decided that the trip had actually occurred, that he had not imagined the whole experience, and that he was glad. Hal was reaching that time in life when people can get more forgetful and unsure of where they have been and what they have accomplished.

The daffodils in the front garden were reaching up through the mulch with impressive determination, just as they had done for so many years; the cold and snow only temporarily slowing down their progress. This floral resurrection always reassured old Hal and he was very determined to live through another growing season.

And besides, who would care for the gardens if he weren't around? Hal was of the opinion that nobody would or could take his place; that his world only existed through

his considerable will and expenditure of time and effort. Perhaps, in his egocentric existence, he had overestimated his importance and failed to recognize that no one is indispensable, not even Hal Bender.

Would the rooted tenants in an unattended and unloved garden let out a collective moan to the heavens above? He imagined that they would. Hal also had the peculiar notion that he had an obligation to all those who passed his flowers at 60mph on their commute to work. Wouldn't they be disappointed with an end to the seasonal progression of life and beauty which he had been offering up to them for so long?

Hal wondered why that should be so important to him to give pleasure to others. Shouldn't he only be thinking of himself? Wasn't that the smarter thing to do? Wasn't it true that the self-absorbed egotist was the only winner, the only hero, in the new millennium?

Our Hal had plans, both in the short term and some far into the future. He had always been a man who made things happen; sometimes his accomplishments were not spectacular; in fact, some might have called them merely mediocre. He wondered if he might be an April Fool and pondered the possibility that others might feel the same way as he did. Was anyone really satisfied with their life accomplishments? Hal wished that he could find out because right now he felt that he might be alone in his feelings.

Paris had been a revelation. The guy sitting next to Hal at La Palette revealed, after being treated to a moderate cognac, that this bar had been the hangout of some of the most prominent impressionists of all time. Hal had enough respect for art and talent to be impressed, humbled, and excited; he promptly bought his new friend another cognac of a slightly higher quality.

Our aging artist had to admit that he could not name most of the artists hanging in the Louvre, nor could he recall the identities of the great architects putting the most recent touches on La Sagrada Familia. He wondered if doing his best might not be good enough for right now and whether the thrill of inspiration and the joy of creation might not be reward enough...for now.

Hal anticipated another few years of activity and creativity and resolved to look at setbacks as mere challenges to be overcome. He would return to the places that he had visited and walk the streets of Gaudi and Monet; would raise a glass at the bistro where the greats congregated in the past. He would work hard and learn whatever he could. That would be enough...for now. ❁

## DANBY WINS SUSTAINABILITY AWARD

Submitted by Ted Crane

The *Danby Green Homes Tour*, which took place in April 2012, was recently awarded a *Signs of Sustainability* award by *Sustainable Tompkins*.

The *Tour* included homes with solar electric panels, solar hot water systems, geothermal installations, passive solar designs, and even small-house architecture.

Sustainable Tompkins is a citizen-based coalition working towards a more sustainable regional community. It has been a leader in laying the groundwork for resilient local economies, healthy environment, and strong social fabric.

Although the “Green” part of the Danby Green Homes Tour led to a focus on homes with energy-saving features, many visitors commented on the wonderful opportunity to observe other innovative and interesting housing ideas, and to talk with neighbors they’d never met before.

The Danby *Tour* could happen again, perhaps next fall or in the spring of 2014. Feedback is needed from everyone who’s interested:

- hosts who’d like to host again
- new hosts to offer open houses and input
- visitor’s “wish lists”: what would you like to see?

If you have feedback, ideas, or energy to work on another *Tour*, please contact me at [[danbygreenhometour@tedcrane.com](mailto:danbygreenhometour@tedcrane.com)].

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## THE SOLAR SYSTEMS OF DANBY

Submitted by Dan Klein

There are more than a dozen houses in Danby that already have solar power systems installed. This article will feature a few of them. If you have solar power and want to be featured in a future article, contact me at [[danbydan@hotmail.com](mailto:danbydan@hotmail.com)], 607.272.7582.

Steve Weissberg and Betsy Wohl on Tallow Hill Road may be the solar pioneers in Danby. They have had a solar electric system for 17 years! Originally, they were off the grid, not getting any power from NYSEG, but now they are connected. Steve says, “There’s nothing like watching the meter spin backwards on a sunny day. You can expect to get back your investment, but you’re not going to haul in cash. It’s just the right thing to do.”

—continued on page 9 ➔

## SOLARIZE DANBY

Submitted by Camille Doucet, Solarize Tompkins SE

The solar power project organized by volunteers from Danby, Caroline, and Dryden is going forward. The program is called *Solarize Tompkins SE* (SE stands for the South East towns of Tompkins County).

The program is intended to remove the technical barriers and complexities encountered by homeowners and business owners interested in installing solar photovoltaic (electric) and solar thermal (hot water) systems, as well as offering lowered pricing through bulk purchasing.

The committee has sent requests for proposals to NY-SERDA certified installers. One or more installers will be chosen by the middle of April. Community interest has been high and we are already approaching 50% of our ideal number of interested residents.

If you are interested in getting more information about a solar installation for your home, farm, or place of business, please visit our website (see below) and fill the interest survey. There is no obligation, but your completed survey lets us know your interest so we can contact you.

Six community meetings, designed to answer your solar power and installation questions, are planned. They are scheduled on

- Tuesday, April 23 and Wednesday, May 1 in Dryden
- Tuesday, May 7 and Wednesday, May 15 in Caroline
- Tuesday, May 21, 7pm, Danby Town Hall and Wednesday, May 29, 7pm, West Danby Fire Dept

The meetings are free and open to the public; you are welcome to attend any or all of them!

Following the six meetings, people who enroll in the program will have their sites evaluated by the installers to determine the feasibility of a solar installation. The signup for enrollment will close by early July. It is our goal to have all installations completed by December 2013.

For more information, contact Guillermo Metz at Coop Extension, 607.272.2292.x185 or [[gm52@cornell.edu](mailto:gm52@cornell.edu)] or visit [[solarizetompkinsse.org](http://solarizetompkinsse.org)].

*In addition to the Solarize effort, there will be an county-wide educational evening at at Coop Extension for anyone interested in knowing more about solar power systems; April 11, 7-9pm, suggested donation \$10.*

## RETIREES IN STEWARDSHIP OF THE ENVIRONMENT

Submitted by Madison Vander Hill, Ithaca College

Retirees in Service to the Environment (RISE) is a comprehensive training program for retirees who wish to become involved in environmental volunteerism and civic engagement.

The Spring 2013 RISE program commences on April 5 and is a joint project of the Ithaca College Gerontology Institute and Ithaca College Natural Lands. Participants will take part in a series of educational workshops during the spring, leading into a summer volunteer project with the IC Natural Lands. Workshop topics include land use history, permaculture, climate change, water quality, invasive species, and environmental health.

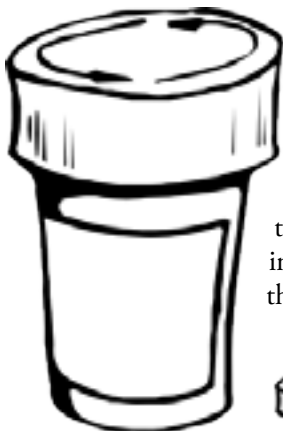
Service opportunities include natural areas stewardship and tour-guiding and garden stewardship. To register for RISE at Ithaca College, contact me at [mvander1@ithaca.edu]. For more information, visit [ithaca.edu/naturallands/stewards/rise/]. ❁

## SAFE DISPOSAL OF UNUSED MEDICATION

The Coalition for Safe Medication Disposal has set the date for its next Safe Medication Disposal Day. The event, which gives residents a chance to safely dispose of no longer needed household medications, will be held Saturday, April 27 at two locations: the TCAT garage (just off Route 13 on Willow Avenue in Ithaca) and the Slaterville Fire Station (2681 Slaterville Road). Hours are 10am-2pm.

Remember, you can also dispose of expired or unneeded medicines in the County's first

*Med Return* drop box, located at the Tompkins County Sheriff's Office, 779 Warren Road. The box is accessible 24-hours-a-day, seven days a week, year-round. Additional secure drop boxes will be installed at other locations in the coming months. ❁



## DANBY SENIORS UPDATE

Submitted by Margie VanDeMark

The next meeting of the Danby Seniors will be Thursday, April 4, at Noon in the Danby Church. All seniors, 55 and over, are welcomed and encouraged to attend. Dues are \$5.00 per year.

Ted & Connie have planned a trip to the *Merry Go Round* theater on October 1, to see the *Hank Williams Story* and many have signed up already!

We'll try and set up an early summer luncheon cruise either on Cayuga or another lake.

Since the Fourth of July holiday is on our usual meeting day, we decided to take July off from meeting this year and meet in August instead for our summer BBQ, probably to be around 4 pm with music beginning about 6 pm. ❁

## AT THE DFC...

### Chicken and Biscuit Dinner

Friday, April 12, 2013 5-7pm. Chicken and Biscuit, Squash, Green Beans, Corn, Harvard Beets, Apple Sauce, Pies and Assorted Desserts, Beverage. Adults, \$8; Children, \$4.

### Inviting all Seniors and Non-Seniors!

Mondays, April 15, at Noon, join us for lunch and stay for board games, fellowship and fun with friends! Soup, bread, dessert and beverage are provided.

All events at the Church, 1859 Danby Road. ❁

## PLANNING BOARD SEEKS SECRETARY

The Planning Board of the Town of Danby is seeking applicants to fill the now-vacant position of Secretary to the Planning Board.

Duties include: attendance at Planning Board Meetings and Public Hearings (generally two hours, on the fourth Thursday of each month), and the taking of and timely preparation of meeting minutes which include Planning Board motions and resolutions. Pay for this position is \$20 per hour and will include time spent preparing minutes.

Applicants should submit a letter of interest to the Town Clerk, Town of Danby, 1830 Danby Road, Ithaca, NY 14850 or by Email to [townclerk@town.danby.ny.us]. For more information, call 607.277.4788. ❁



### ➤ *Youth Programs in Danby, continued from page 11*

done during 2011. Unfortunately, she resigned at the end of the year, but we have replaced her with another wonderful leader, Simone Lackey, whose programs for the spring are already underway.

Julie's 2012 Annual Report was presented to the DCC during its March meeting. Here's some of the highlights:

- A total of 78 Danby youth participated in one or more of the 22 programs offered during 2012, up from the 68 youth in 2011.
- Participants' ages ranged from 8 to 18, with the majority being 9 to 11 years old.
- The programs were held at several locations: schools attended by Danby youth (South Hill Elementary and Boynton Middle), Dotson Park, the Town Hall, Bald Hill Road and Jennings Pond, and Three Swallows Farm.
- Many programs had a specific theme, such as helping with Fun Day or the Halloween Party, crafts, history, community service, and exploring Danby.
- Some programs were offered jointly with the Town of Ithaca (exploring the larger area) or other Towns' Youth Programs (homesteading).

These programs were more than recreational; they were super fun and had more than one adult wishing they could participate!

A perennial favorite has been Primitive Pursuits, held both spring and fall. It brought in staff from Coop-

erative Extension's hugely successful program, and provided a local version for Danby youth—at no cost to parents. This program got kids outside, learning a huge variety of skills in the woods and fields of June Pollack's property and Dotson Park while having tons of fun together.

The South Hill program included children identified by the school's social worker as needing extra help in social skills. It emphasized communication and problem solving while working as a group on special projects. The middle school programs helped Danby youth find each other in the crowd, building trust and working on communication and conflict resolution skills while having social fun together.

Programs like these are important for kids, but especially for the kids in Danby, who attend school in several different districts and have no other way to find each other and spend time together in groups.

Time spent with positive adult role models like Julie and Simone, learning and practicing the skills mentioned above plus many more, will impact these kids immediately and well into the future—in ways they cannot imagine. This kind of investment in youth, year after year, pays dividends to more than just the youth and their families—it helps build a community.

The Danby News usually contains a page describing the Youth Programs currently being offered. ❧

### ➤ *Solar Systems in Danby, continued from page 7*

Anne Stork and Gordon Rowland of Gilbert Road have had their solar electric system for just over a year. Anne collects the data from her system and would be happy to share her findings with anyone. She can be contacted at at [[annehotcayenne@yahoo.com](mailto:annehotcayenne@yahoo.com)].

Suzy and Todd Rose, 115 Marsh Road, have had their solar electric system for over 10 years. Todd says, "Reducing electricity usage is just as important as, if not more important than, generating electricity from alternative sources. We use compact fluorescent light bulbs, energy-efficient appliances, a relatively small refrigerator, etc, and we try not to leave things turned on (lights, computers, etc) when not necessary. A penny saved=a penny earned; a watt saved=a watt

generated." They are considering doubling the size of their solar system. Todd and Suzy can be contacted at [[toddroseguitars@gmail.com](mailto:toddroseguitars@gmail.com)] or 607.277.8133.

Steven Hilsdorf on Danby Road has had a solar electric system for about a year and a half. Steven says, "When I was deciding to put up the solar panels, a friend of mine said the cost seems high, but you would pay that much for a new car. But your new car will not pay you back. With the tax incentives it brought the cost of the system in half, and it was nice at the end of the year to get some of my tax money back. I like that my electric bills are a third of what they were and it's good for the environment." You can contact Steven at 607.273.5440 or [[tinamarie007@twcny.rr.com](mailto:tinamarie007@twcny.rr.com)]. ❧

## DANBY COMMUNITY LIBRARY

Submitted by Patti Meyers

A little blurb on a local author

Dorothy F. Cotton is a lifelong activist and visionary dedicated to social justice. During the civil rights movement, she was the Director of Education for the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. She lives in Ithaca, where the Dorothy Cotton Institute of Cornell University was recently launched as a tribute to her legacy. See more at [[dorothycotton.com](http://dorothycotton.com)].

Cotton has written a new book called *If Your Back's Not Bent (the role of the Citizenship Education Program in the Civil Rights Movement)*. I recently attended a talk she gave at Buffalo Street Books and came away with a copy of her book, dedicated to the Danby community Library. Stop in and check it out!

We also have Jodi Picoult's new book, *The Storyteller*.

In March, we will be adding to our DVD/book collection based on Academy Award nominees: *Argo*, *Lincoln*, *Anna Karenina*, *Life of Pi*, *Wreck It Ralph*, *Les Misérables*....

Also check out our gardening book display and also look for books on local hikes.

Explore the world through books, media, and right outside your door. Happy Spring!

Save the date for our Annual Book Sale and Open House, April 27, 10am-2pm. That's this month! ✨

## INTERESTED IN BEING A FULL-TIME LIFEGUARD?

Submitted by Mary Ann Kozak

Summer is just around the corner. If you are a Danby resident, over sixteen years old, and you are interested in becoming a lifeguard for the Jennings Pond Swim Program during July and August... contact Amy Cusimano, [[amymc@twcny.rr.com](mailto:amymc@twcny.rr.com)], or me, [[mkozak1@twcny.rr.com](mailto:mkozak1@twcny.rr.com)]. We will interview you and sponsor your lifeguard training, if you are eligible. Get a jump on the summer! ✨



## WALDORF SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

Submitted by Jamie Levesque

Danby's new school, the Ithaca Waldorf School, is hosting an open house in its new building at 20 Nelson Road on Saturday, April 13, 11-2pm.

In addition to information about registration for pre-school to grade 7 kids, there will be a puppet show at 11:30am and music at 1:30pm. Come visit the Ithaca Waldorf School with its unique classrooms! See student work and meet the teachers.

The Ithaca Waldorf School offers programs from Early Childhood through 7<sup>th</sup> grade. School life centers around teachers' commitment and collaborative work, an active parent body, and a curriculum that awakens a love of learning in children. The uniqueness of Waldorf education lies in how the children are taught. Whether the subject is fractions, local geography, Egyptian mythology, or cursive writing, the class teacher brings learning to life through vivid stories, active inquiry, and absorbing hands-on experiences that heighten students' curiosity and engage their feelings, motivation, and intellect.

For more information, contact me at 607.256.2020 or [[ithacawaldorfrenrollment@gmail.com](mailto:ithacawaldorfrenrollment@gmail.com)] or visit [[ithacawaldorf.org](http://ithacawaldorf.org)] ✨

## GRAPHIC NOVELS:

Submitted by Mrs. Mystery

It sometimes happens that we face defeat but wrest victory because of a change in perspective.

One of our graphic stories is about a fellow, much like us, who gets in a jam but eludes trouble. I refer you to page 39 of *Get A Life*, by DuPuy and Berberian. The authors have intersected cartoon with high art. In four wordless panels of simple colors you see a shift from the ordinary to the sublime, from the mundane to the surreal, as our hero ends up in the car of the very people he hoped to elude.

No worries. With a genius twist of perspective, you see that the thugs have settled into the long night drive, their faces underlit by the dashboard lights, a rosary dangling from the rearview mirrors.... Check it out. ✨



## Community Council Youth Programs March-April 2013

# Danby Youth Flyer

Hi! My name is Simone Lackey and I am excited to introduce myself to you as the new Danby Youth Program Manager, taking over for Julie Kulik. I am looking forward to getting to know you and your children and have lots of fun ideas of programs to offer.

I would also love to hear from you so I can create programs that serve you best. I have created an online survey to gather that information, so if you can, please take 5 minutes to fill it out at [[surveymonkey.com/s/DFTWQF5](http://surveymonkey.com/s/DFTWQF5)]. Your answers will help for future planning. For now, here is the information you need to know for upcoming programs:

Program flyers and permission slips are in the Danby Town Hall or can be found at [[ccetompkins.org/4h/rural-youth-services/danby](http://ccetompkins.org/4h/rural-youth-services/danby)]. Questions? Contact me at 607.272.2292 x222 or [[sc1223@cornell.edu](mailto:sc1223@cornell.edu)].

Also, please check out our web site later in March to find out about exciting programs that will be offered during the Spring Break week of April 1-5.

### Primitive Pursuits (Grades 3-8)

Mondays 2:30-5:30, March 18-April 29 (no pgm 4/1)  
Meets at June Pollack's (43 Hornbrook Road)

Back by popular demand! Come learn ancestral living skills such as shelter building, fire building and nature awareness. Explore the outdoors, look for cool animals

and tracks, and play fun nature games. Please dress for the "weather of the day" and wear clothes that can get dirty! Bus is available from South Hill

Elementary School.

### Lunch Bunch at Boynton Middle School (Grades 6-8)

Wednesdays, Lunch time, March 6-April 24 (no pgm 4/3)

Meets in cafeteria In-school program during lunch and recess time.

Do fun crafts, play games, eat exciting snack and go outside on nice days. Get to know people you usually don't sit near and enjoy a change in your lunch routine!

### Lunch Bunch at South Hill Elementary (Grade 4-5)

Stay tuned on our web site for specific day and dates

In-school program during lunch and recess time. Come have lunch with others in your grade from Danby, do fun crafts, play games, and go outside on nice days.

### Wacky Wednesday (Grades 3-8)

Wednesdays, 2:30-5:30, March 6-April 24 (no pgm 4/3)  
Meets at Danby Town Hall

Gather together to do unique arts and crafts, play games and make art with your food before putting it in your belly as a snack. Bus is available from South Hill Elementary and Boynton Middle School. ✿

## YOUTH PROGRAMS IN DANBY

Submitted by Julie Clougherty, Danby Community Council

Youth Development in Tompkins County is a hot topic these days. Efforts are underway to assess and define youth needs and to develop and fund programs that will achieve the goal of giving kids what they need to succeed...in the face of drastically reduced funding. This kind of effort is happening on the Town level, too, so expect to hear more about it in the future.

Most, if not all, of our Danby-specific youth development programs are offered through the Danby Youth Program, managed by the Danby Community Council. In fact, youth programs make up almost half of the DCC budget and are primarily funded by the United Way and the Town of Danby. Most of this funding pays

for a half-time Youth Program Manager, who develops and runs seasonal programs throughout the year. The Manager works as an employee of Cornell Cooperative Extension, with whom the DCC contracts for this purpose. Other funding is used to employ Danby teens during the summer, giving them a chance to gain valuable work experience while providing excellent help on the job, including at the Town Hall.

Let's look at what went on with the existing Youth Program in Danby during 2012. Julie Kulik was the Youth Program Manager, continuing the great work she had

—continued on page 9 ⇨

Postal Patron

## DANBY AREA NEWS: EVENT CALENDAR

- Apr 1 • Mon  
7pm 🏠 Town Hall • **Conservation Adv Council Mtg**
- Apr 3 • Wed  
6:30pm 🏠 Town Hall • **Library Volunteers Meeting**
- Apr 4 • Thu  
Noon 🏠 Danby Federated Church • **Seniors Meeting**  
7pm 🏠 Town Hall • **Community Council Meeting**
- Apr 8 • Mon  
7pm 🏠 Town Hall • **Town Board Meeting**  
7pm 🏠 Danby Fire Hall • **Fire Dep't Meeting**  
7pm 🏠 West Danby Fire Hall • **WD Fire Dep't Meeting**
- Apr 9 • Tue  
7pm 🏠 West Danby Fire Hall • **Fire District Meeting**
- Apr 12 • Fri  
5-8pm 🏠 Danby Federated Church  
**Chicken and Biscuit Dinner**
- Apr 13 • Sat  
11am-2pm 🏠 20 Nelson Road • **Waldorf Open House**
- Apr 14 • Sun  
3-5am 🏠 100 South Danby Road • **Danby Fiber Group**
- Apr 15 • Mon  
Noon 🏠 Danby Federated Church  
**Lunch, Board Games, and More**  
7pm 🏠 Town Hall • **Town Board Meeting**
- Apr 16 • Tue  
7pm 🏠 West Danby Fire Hall • **Fire District Meeting**
- Apr 18 • Thu  
3-6pm 🏠 Danby Federated Church • **Food Pantry**  
7pm 🏠 Town Hall • **Park Association Meeting**
- Apr 22 • Mon  
1-2pm 🏠 Danby Federated Church • **Mobile Food Truck**
- Apr 25 • Thu  
7pm 🏠 Town Hall • **Planning Board Meeting**
- Apr 27 • Sat  
10am-2pm 🏠 Town Hall  
**Community Library Annual Book Sale**  
10am-2pm 🏠 Danby and West Danby Fire Halls  
**RecruitNY 2013 - open house and recruitment**  
10am-2pm 🏠 West Danby Fire Hall  
**Spring Craft Fair and Chicken BBQ**

- Apr 28 • Sun  
3pm 🏠 Town Hall  
**Snap! Storyteller with Cello** (Carpenter and Simkin)
- Apr 29 • Mon  
7pm 🏠 Town Hall • **Conservation Adv Council Mtg**
- May 1 • Wed  
6:30pm 🏠 Town Hall • **Library Volunteers Meeting**
- May 2 • Thu  
Noon 🏠 Danby Federated Church • **Seniors Meeting**  
7pm 🏠 Town Hall • **Community Council Meeting**
- May 13 • Mon  
7pm 🏠 Town Hall • **Town Board Meeting**  
7pm 🏠 Danby Fire Hall • **Fire Dep't Meeting**  
7pm 🏠 West Danby Fire Hall • **WD Fire Dep't Meeting**

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!
- Seniors Strength Training Group** 🏠 Federated Church  
Mondays and Thursdays, 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

The Town of Danby has a web site with lots more info.  
Check it out: [<http://town.danby.ny.us>] 🌐

Find the Danby News on the web!  
[<http://town.danby.ny.us/DAN>] 🌐