



DANBY AREA NEWS

THE CANDIDATES SPEAK!

Submitted by Peter Fraissinet, Chair, West Danby Comm. Assoc.

There are lots of choices for Danby voters this coming Election Day, for certain Town offices and for County Legislature (representing Danby/Caroline) as well. How to sort out who is best for each position? One good way is to have them assemble in one room and hear their statements and answers to questions submitted by potential voters.

We are pleased to be able to offer just this opportunity at a Candidates Forum on Sunday October 20, 2-3:45pm, in the West Danby Fire Hall. All candidates for the contested positions of County Legislature (Danby/Caroline Representative), Town Supervisor, Town Councilperson, and Town Clerk have been invited to participate in this moderated forum.

With this many candidates, the format will necessarily be formal, where each candidate gives a short opening statement about themselves and their qualifications, experience, and desire to run. Questions will then be taken from the audience on 3x5 cards, to be read by the moderator, as many as time allows (similar questions may be combined). The candidates will each have a chance for a one-minute response. Finally, each candidate will give a short closing statement.

Happily, we have secured the services of Kay Sharp, President of the Tompkins County League of Women Voters, to serve as moderator. Kay is an Ithaca resident and has moderated similar events in the past.

—continued on page 9 ➔



DCC CONCERT: THE GRADY GIRLS

Straight ahead, traditional Irish fiddle music comes to the Danby Town Hall on Sunday afternoon, October 20. The Grady Girls will perform with exuberance and style, but the event will start a bit later than our usual Sunday event: 4-6pm.

The ensemble will include a mix of the Grady sisters: Marie (flute), Nora (fiddle), Saoirse (fiddle), and Oona (fiddle). Tim Ball, not a Grady but still an excellent musician, has played guitar with the Girls in recent concerts.

The Grady Girls breathe new life into timeless Irish dance tunes. Music that has been an integral part of their lives since day one.

Today, their tunes are toe tapping, heart lifting, subtle, and will make you smile. Family ties are important to these women. They have traveled far and wide, to Cork, Limerick, Spain and beyond to perform and study the traditional music of Ireland and its links to different but related genres of traditional music. They're a great example of the professional musicianship springing from our rich local music scene.

All Community Council events are free and open to all. The concert series receives grant support from the Community Arts Partnership of Tompkins County. 🍂

HARVEST FESTIVAL

Submitted by Ted Crane, Danby Community Council

*What do you do with a leftover pumpkin,
What do you do with a ripe orange doorstep,
What do you do with a tired jack-o-lantern,
When Halloween is over?*

—continued on page 9 ➔

This Month Inside the Danby News:

- Town Clerk's Desktop ③
- Budget Hearing Dates ③
- County Legislature Update . . . ④
- Seniors ④
- Fire Prevention Open House . . ④
- Supervisor's Update ⑤
- West Danby Craft Show ⑤
- Town Office Directory ⑤
- Solar Panels at Twn Hall ⑥
- Dotson Park Update ⑥
- STAR Tax Exemption ⑥
- American Legion Update ⑥
- Town Wants Applicants! ⑦
- Green Buildings Tour ⑦
- Events 'Round Town ⑧
- Broadband in Danby ⑧
- Danby Community Library . . . ⑨
- Calendar ⑩

October 2013

Layout: Ted Crane

Count-n-Label Crew:

Ted and Pamela, Julie and her family, among others.

Post Office Crew:

Julie Clougherty

To contribute:

Danby Area News

PO Box 6886

Ithaca, NY 14851-6886

Phone: 607.273.8678

Email: [danbynews@tedcrane.com]

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.

The Danby Area News (DAN) is a publication of the Danby Community Council (DCC) produced by contract with the Town of Danby. All statements are those of the contributors, and do not necessarily reflect the views of the editors, sponsors, the DCC and its officers, or officials and employees of the town of Danby. All works remain © of the contributors. Please provide a SASE if you wish to have materials returned. The DAN and DCC are not responsible for typographic or other errors.

We would like to thank these sponsors for their help:

PATRON:

ARNOLD PRINTING CORP • 604 West Green Street • 607.272.7800
High Quality Printing Services • Recycled papers / Soy based inks
Complete Digital pre-press • Family owned and operated

SUPPORTERS:

**EASTMAN ASSOCIATES
DANNY EASTMAN, CPA**
126 Fieldstone Circle • 607.277.0881
[deastmancpa@ithacacpa.net]
Individual, Small Business tax preparation
Day Care, Non Profit and College Students

CAROL BUSHBERG REAL ESTATE
607.273.3400 • [carolbushberg.com]
Carol Bushberg, Broker/Owner
High quality customer service & innovative marketing. 25 years experience selling Ithaca area real estate. Danby resident.

**BARN-LIVIN' LLC
GREEN HOMES FOR BLUE COLLARS**
[www.barnlivin.com]
[lso@barnlivin.com] • 607.742.9464
Design • Drafting
Construction Management Services

FRIENDS:

**HIGHLAND FARMS BOARDING
KENNEL AND STORE**
168 West Miller Road • 607.273.3251
[www.highlandfarmskennel.com]
Hill's Science Diet. Treats & toys,
Embroidered Gifts.

**BIG AL'S PIZZA
MANLEY'S MIGHTY MART**
1103 Danby Road
[manleysmm.com] • 607.272.3448
Open Every Day * Home Delivery

**DANBY FEDERATED CHURCH
"A Place for All"**
1859 Danby Road • 607.272.1687
[www.danbyfederatedchurch.org]

DAN KLEIN
[danbydan@hotmail.com]
607.272.7582

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 in-

clude 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.

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 Time

Apples! If only we could run the Town on apples. This year is turning out to be a spectacular apple harvest. I've already canned dozens of quarts of applesauce and I'm cooking apples into everything I can imagine. Unfortunately, apples can't be the core of our Town's budget.

I'm happy to realize that some years of experience provide a better understanding of what we need, what we can do without, and what we can expect for the next year. 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.



The Town Board is responsible for three of the four sections of the Town Budget: the General Fund, the Highway Fund, and the West Danby Water District budget. By NYS law, the fourth section, the Fire District budget, is prepared and

passed by the Fire Commissioners; the Fire levy passes directly to your tax bill.

The Water District budget includes funds to pay the Water Commissioners and all fees related to the upkeep of the West Danby Water District. The Highway Fund includes most of the budget lines related to the care and maintenance of our roads. The General Fund includes everything else.

We are looking towards a 2014 budget for the Town Clerk's office and Town Hall that will be as similar as possible compared to recent years. We're adjusting numbers to reflect real need, to keep taxes level. Hours and wages for myself and my support staff 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 other Town staff to be creative about sharing work between offices. We've actually been able to reduce, or eliminate, budget lines in some areas.

The Town Board has set several extra meetings dedicated to budget review and planning. Meetings (all in the Danby Town Hall meeting room) are set for 7:30pm on October 7, 6pm on October 14 and 21 (prior to the regularly scheduled meetings), and 6:30pm on October 29.

The Preliminary budget should be made available for public review at the end of October, either online at [town.danby.ny.us] or via the Town Clerk's office. A formal Budget Hearing, when residents may offer verbal comment on the budget and the Town Board will vote on its adoption, is scheduled for 6:30pm on November 7. The Town Clerk is responsible for assuring that the meetings are publicized, open to all, and for keeping a record of the process.

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. 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 the Clerk's office.

Residents have a part they can play by attending budget review meetings, becoming informed about the financial health of the town, and making concerns known. Residents can prepare written comments or can speak directly to the Town Board during a Public Hearing. Either way, it's pretty informal and informative for all who attend.

Information and history about the Danby budget can be found at the Town web site. PDF versions of the budget for the past three years are located at the very bottom of the "Town Board" page, [town.danby.ny.us/TownBoard]. Scroll all the way down and you will find them there.

During October, the Town Clerk's office will be open 10am-5pm on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday and 10am-Noon on Saturdays. As always, the Clerk's is closed on Sundays and Thursdays. Questions? Call 607.277.4788 or send Email to [townclerk@town.danby.ny.us]. ❁

FIRE DISTRICT BUDGET HEARING

Tuesday, October 15, 2013, 7pm, in the West Danby Fire Station. ❁

TOWN OF DANBY BUDGET HEARING

Thursday, November 7, 2013, 6:30pm, in the Town Hall meeting room. ❁

COUNTY LEGISLATURE UPDATE

Submitted by Frank Proto, County Legislator

The County budget season has begun! County Administrator Joe Mareane reports that his recommendation, after working with the Departments and Agencies, reflects a maintenance of services mode yielding a proposed tax levy of 3.54% and a rate change of 1.92%--a \$21 increase on an average home assessing at \$163,000.

Dealing with concerns and needs at Tompkins Cortland Community College, the Public Library, Tompkins County Area Development, and Tompkins Consolidated Area Transit (TCAT) all provided some challenges, but were able to be incorporated into his proposal. The Expanded Budget Committee will be hearing Department presentations next and these meetings are open should you like to attend. The Budget Proposal is online for review at [tompkins-co.org]; click on "County Budget."

Please forward your comments and suggestions to me, as I appreciate your input. The additional request from Youth Services has been recommended!

Regarding taxes: if you received a letter regarding the Basic Star Exemption, please be sure you re-apply! Your exemption will be lost otherwise. Also, the Health Exchange will be available starting in October. You can discuss your needs with a "navigator" by calling the Human Services Coalition, 607.273.8686. or the Chamber of Commerce 607.273.7080 to set an appointment.

The first year of Care Transitions Program was successful. Helping patients being discharged from the hospital manage the move regarding medications, recovery, and reduced re-admissions is proving to be a plus. The

partners in this program are Cayuga Medical Center, the County Office for the Aging, Visiting Nurse Service, and Hospicare. Their commitment has been very well received by the community.

Our review of the compensatory time practice extended to our management staff showed that Tompkins County was the only entity of those twelve counties, four cities, Cornell University, and Ithaca College surveyed that permitted accumulated time to be paid when an individual left County employment. The County recognizes the important role the management class plays in achieving County goals, and did not want to impact those under the current policy, but the Task Force recommended that the time be taken during employment and not be paid as a lump sum at severance. While the practice of paying for hours worked in excess of a management employee's normal work is entirely legal, it is not required. All agreed to keep the dialogue open on this topic.

Recognizing the important economic role agriculture plays in the County, the recent help from Senator Charles Schumer in getting the dairy industry recognized here was very appreciated. Knowing the roles the other segments of that industry play, not only locally, but in the State, will continue to bring a positive focus on the whole industry, and help sustain it. The Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board will be a major voice in this effort.

The status of the psychiatric centers may be determined by the end of the New York State Fiscal Year--more on that next time. If you'd like to discuss any item or have a question please don't hesitate to contact me at 607.277.4875 or [fproto@tompkins-co.org].

The Zucchini Festival was great!



DANBY SENIORS UPDATE

Submitted by Margie VanDeMark

The next meeting of the Danby seniors will be on Thursday, October 3 at Noon in the Danby Federated Church. We've shifted to winter hours for the next few months.

All seniors, 55 and over, are invited to join us for a dish to share meal and fellowship! ❁

FIRE PREVENTION OPEN HOUSE

Submitted by Simon Wyatt

For Fire Prevention Week 2013, the Danby Volunteer Fire Company will host an Open House on Sunday, October 6, 10am-2pm, at its station on Danby Road near Gunderman Road.

The theme of this year's Fire Prevention Week is *Prevent Kitchen Fires*. Cooking is the leading cause of home fires and fire injuries, particularly cooking left unattended. Stop by the Fire Station to learn more, tour the station, and help yourself to refreshments. ❁

SUPERVISOR'S UPDATE

Submitted by Ric Dietrich, Town Supervisor

This morning, as I write, I'm looking at the results of our first frost. It's unclear what survived in the garden, but we've had a clear signal that we have moved into Fall.

In Town Hall, our first board meeting on the newly re-finished floor was held on September 16. We discussed the Time-Warner franchise agreement, had an update on Youth Service budgeting, set dates for workshops on the 2014 Town budget, and talked about the property tax cap (we're well under it) and how the Affordable Care Act would impact current insurance costs.

We also received a report on the current status of the Town budget: healthy fund balances, and expenses within estimates.

My big take-away homework was the feedback we had about the proposed Time-Warner franchise agreement. The concerns were passed on to the county-wide group preparing a template agreement, and some of it will be specific to our local contract. These include:

- dissatisfaction with signal strength; presently T-W does not realistically take account of the distance to many houses receiving its service, and the distance from the poles to those houses
- slow speeds on their Internet connection, due to rural residences (that's Danby!) being the end users in the pipeline
- an apparent requirement that multiple subscribers have to report a problem (critical mass) before any action will be taken
- the switch from analog to digital; T-W has added a new fee for the rental of signal converter boxes
- changes to the assignment of channels to service tiers. For example, government access channels that moved from basic to a higher-cost optional tier.

Buildout for Time-Warner—adding cable and equipment to new neighborhoods—is expensive. The current formula for buildout is thwarted by gaps—state land, parks, ponds, gorges—that separate housing clusters. In consideration for rural towns, the countywide committee may revise the proposed language down to from 20 to 12 per mile.

It is unclear to me at this point how much of the utility provided by Time-Warner could be covered by Broadband Internet but, as I said at our Board meeting, if residents feel that a cable connection is what they want, they should let me know.

Do you have other Time-Warner concerns? If you'd like to add to the list, please Email them to me or give me a call!

Speaking of broadband, it is in the pipeline. Construction will begin later this year.

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

WEST DANBY CRAFT SHOW

Submitted by Marrell Cortright

The West Danby Fire Company's Annual Fall Craft Show and Chicken BBQ will be on Saturday, October 26, 10am-2pm, with the chicken being ready around noon. Coffee, cider, donuts will be for sale from the kitchen along with the chicken BBQ.

Come and listen to the wonderful bluegrass/folk music of our own local talented musicians with the group *The New Henry Ford String Throttlers*. They will be pickin' 11am-1pm. You can sit and listen to them play while you have lunch and then shop from many local artisans selling their handmade/homemade wares.

Crafts, maple syrup, jelly, home made candy and goodies, quilting, primitives, hand bags, door prizes and so much more...are at the West Danby Fire Station, on Sylvan Lane off Rt.34/96 in West Danby.

Need directions or info, contact me at 607.564.0020 or [marrell11@aol.com]. ☘

Town Hours

Town Clerk

Phone: 277.4788 • Fax: 277.0559

Mon-Tue-Wed-Fri, 10am-5pm; Saturday 10am-Noon

Highway Department

93 Hornbrook Road • Phone: 272.9169

Mon-Thu, 6am-4:30pm

Code Enforcement Office

Phone: 277.0799 • Fax: 277.0559

Mon-Wed, 9am-4pm; Thu-Fri, by appointment

Town Court

Phone: 277.0095 • Fax: 277.0031

Tue, 7pm

All offices at Danby Town Hall except where noted.

SOLAR PANELS AT TOWN HALL

Submitted by Matt Cooper, Code Enforcement Officer



Driving past the Danby Town Hall this summer you've probably seen the new solar photovoltaic array out in the lawn to the north of the building.

We get two main questions up here about the system, namely, "What's the capacity of those panels?" and "How much of my taxes are going towards paying for that?" Easy to answer.

It's a 21.4 kW system, sized to meet the historical electrical demand of our building over the course of a year. What's more, none of your taxes were or will be spent.

It's a leased system, and a year's worth of lease payments of \$110/month are guaranteed to be less than the amount we would have paid to NYSEG for electricity. The net result is a savings to the town, and to the taxpayer. Also, since we don't actually own the system, we're not responsible for its operating or maintenance costs.

While many homeowners purchase their solar systems and get significant tax credits in doing so, a municipality would get none of those credits...so leasing makes sense.

If you have more questions, you may call me in the Code Enforcement Office, 607.277.0799, or [mcooper@town.danby.ny.us]. ❀

RE-REGISTER FOR NYS STAR PROPERTY TAX RELIEF

Excerpt of a letter from Jay Franklin, County Tax Assessor

The state of NY is making all 2.7 million Basic STAR recipients re-register by November 30 of this year. In Tompkins County, about 19,500 recipients are affected.

Seniors receiving "Enhanced STAR" exemptions aren't affected by this change, but must continue to apply annually.

The Tompkins County Assessment office will have very limited ability to answer questions or register people outside of the online application. The phone number at the State to call is 518.457.2036.

The deadline for applications is November 30, 2013. ❀

DOTSON PARK UPDATE

Submitted by Michele Lenhart

Fall is a great time to enjoy a walk in the park! While you are there, you can check out the work that several volunteers have put into Dotson Park recently.

The Danby Community Park Association would like to thank the Disc Ithaca crew who recently moved a mountain of wood chips to raise the disc golf tees and improve drainage. We'd especially like to recognize Peter Farley for making two beautiful benches for people to enjoy: one near the pavilion and one near the fifth tee. Peter and Cutter have been mowing the course all summer, and June Pollack has been mowing walking trails on the eastern side of the park.

The DCPA appreciates all of the volunteers who have contributed time and effort! If you are interested in adopting a section of the park to take care of, please email us at [dotsonpark@gmail.com].

The next big event in the park is the Spooker on Saturday, October 26. Disc golfers can test their skills by playing during the daylight hours, and then after dark, using glow sticks and other aids. Watch the park sign for details, or check out our webpage: [dotsonpark.org]. See you in the park! ❀

AMERICAN LEGION UPDATE

Submitted by Marv Eastman

Well, October is upon us with a nip in the morning air and that means it's time for the dinners to start up at the Legion.

October 5, we will kick off the season with a Steak Dinner, 5:30-7pm. The meal will feature a mouth-watering steak cooked to order with mushrooms/sauteed onions, salad bar, and a choice of onion rings, french fries or baked potato. We also will have bread, coffee, tea, and water, and dessert, all for only \$12.

October 18 will be a Fish Dinner (Broiled or Fried) with your choice of baked potato, onion rings, or french fries. Add the salad bar, coffee, bread, and a delicious dessert...and still only \$12.

On October 26 we will be having a Halloween Party from 6pm on. There will be music, snack food and a good time to be had by all.

Don't forget that if you need a special place for that Holiday Party stop by and see us for or call 607.272.1129. Just a room we can help, food we can do that for you as well. ❀

TOWN SEEKS APPLICANTS FOR APPOINTMENTS

Submitted by Pamela Goddard, Town Clerk

Advanced Notice for 2014

Have you ever thought about getting more involved in local government? It's not too soon to think about Town appointments for 2014.

The Danby Town Board will seek applications for several Boards, including a seven-year term on the Planning Board, five-year terms on the Board of Zoning Appeals and the West Danby Board of Water Commissioners, two-year terms on the Conservation Advisory Council, and a two-year term representing Danby on the Environmental Management Council. Two seats open for one-year terms on a Board of Assessment Review. The Town Board will also review applications for persons interested in serving as Town Historian, a one-year term.

Immediate Need for Applicants

The Danby Town Board is seeking applications *right now* to replace immediate vacancies on the Board of Zoning Appeals and the Tompkins County Environmental Management Council.

The Town of Danby has been without a representative to the County EMC since Bill Halton resigned his two-year term to become a Commissioner of the Danby Fire District. The Town is also seeking a replacement for Al Wagner's position on the Board of Zoning Appeals. The BZA term runs through the end of 2015.

The Town of Danby is sad to lose Al Wagner as Chair of the Board of Zoning Appeals. Al served on the BZA for several years, with careful thought and consideration as to how the needs and desires of property owners can be in balance with the long term good of the town. Al resigned from the BZA to pursue an MBA. He has received a scholarship for these studies and has a heavy course load to manage in addition to his business as a property appraiser.

Applications for these positions are due on October 11.

How To Apply

Persons interested in serving in these capacities should fill out an application (available at the Town Clerk's office) or write a letter of intent listing professional, educational, or other experience that would assist the applicant in serving and answering the following questions: Why you are interested in this position? What you hope to accomplish in this position? Include mailing address, Email address, and telephone contact information. More information about application deadlines will be in the November and December issues of the Danby Area News.

More information about each and any of these appointments is available at the office of the Town Clerk at the Danby Town Hall, 1830 Danby Road, Ithaca NY 14850 or [townclerk@town.danby.ny.us]. ❁

GREEN BUILDINGS OPEN HOUSE

Submitted by Guillermo Metz, Cooperative Extension

On Saturday, October 5 and Sunday, October 6, 10am-4pm each day, see how other homeowners near you have implemented green building methods, materials, and technologies!

Twenty-five homes throughout Tompkins County that feature renewable energy and/or eco-friendly building practices will be open to the public for self-guided tours during this two-day event. Homeowners and/or builders will be on-hand to discuss their work and answer questions about photovoltaics, wind power, geothermal, solar hot water, straw bale construction, timber framing, non-toxic finishes, local and reclaimed materials, and more!

Visit [ccetompkins.org] for more information, including an interactive map and individual pages for each site, which day they're open, photos and a list of features. Pick up your fold-out brochure the week before the tour at locations throughout Tompkins County.

Please show your support for the Open House and help us make it support itself financially by buying a wristband. Just \$5 gets you into as many houses as you can visit over the two days! Under 18 free! Buy your wristband before the event at Cornell Cooperative Extension of Tompkins County (615 Willow Avenue, Ithaca), Home Green Home (on the Commons), Greenstar Cooperative Market, the Sustainability Center, or during the event at select sites on the tour. ❁

EVENTS 'ROUND TOWN

This column will appear monthly, featuring brief descriptions of events—current and upcoming months—around Danby. If you have a non-profit event that the general public is invited to...send a notice to the Danby News!

At the DFC, 1859 Danby Road

Meatloaf Dinner: Friday, October 11, 2013. Meatloaf, mashed potatoes, gravy, peas, glazed carrots, rolls, dessert, and a beverage.

Flu Shot Clinic: Tuesday, October 15, 2013, 3-7pm.

Trunk or Treat: Thursday, October 31, 2013, 6-8pm. Trick or treating inside and from cars!

Holiday Craft Fair: November 9, 2013, 10am-2:30pm. Lunch served. Vendors contact Bonnie Rathbun [brathbun@gmail.com] to reserve your table

Red Cross Blood Drive: November 15, 2013, 1-6pm.

Pancake Breakfast Season Opens in West Danby

Saturday, November 9, 2013, 8-11am. The Annual Fall Pancake Breakfast at the West Danby Fire station, Sylvan Lane in West Danby. Pancakes, sausage, bacon, homefries and eggs made to order. All the serving and cooking is done by the firefighters.

Danby Harvest Festival

Sunday, November 3, 2013, 3-6pm, in the Danby Community (Dotson) Park. Treats, food, outdoor games, and Punkin' Chunkin' with our homebuilt trebuchet! See separate article. ❀



The Last Days of Summer—Janet Steiner and Edward Kokkelenberg spent the last day of August at Danby's own Jennings Pond.

BROADBAND IN DANBY UPDATE

Submitted by Ted Crane

With Fall already here, winter is just around the corner, and some of us are thinking of curling up near the wood stove with ice cream and a good web browser. How fast will those pages load?

It's been several months since the NYS broadband grant award to a local business, Clarity Connect, was announced. What's been happening? Here's a summary of info from the Tompkins County Broadband Committee, occasional conversations with Clarity and some of Clarity's prospective customers, and even what I hope are good guesses.

You can imagine the mound of paperwork and ground-work needed to bootstrap the project, as well as the unexpected obstacles. Work on the first towers—there are a very small number of traditional, tall towers and approximately 60 small, telephone-pole towers—was expected to begin in late September. Clarity will be learning just how fast it can install and equip the telephone poles. *They expect to be able to bring two or three poles online per week.* Danby will have somewhat less than ten poles—not towers—out of the total of about sixty.

During October, work will concentrate on the construction of a traditional, tall tower west of Ithaca. That tower will directly serve part of Danby and relay to other parts via poles. Pole work will resume when the big tower is ready, perhaps by November.

The big question for everyone is, which towers and poles should be brought online first? The most efficient approach is to base the decision primarily on the density of people who have signed up for service—the more that have registered in a given area, the sooner its service pole will be brought online...but with some allowance for low density areas (like Danby). In other words, an area that has 15 people with everyone signed up might get put in before an area with 60 households but only 20 signed up.

Lansing and Genoa have the highest densities, but Danby isn't far behind. It's possible that installations in our town will begin in November or December. Clarity hopes to put a "project status" page on its web site. Even allowing for the weather, Clarity expects the project to be 100% operational by next June.

If you're a possible customer, you can help tilt the priorities in our favor by indicating your interest to Clarity: 607.257.8268 or [clarityconnect.com] and ask about wireless connection! ❀

➤ *Candidates Speak, continued from front page*

So who are the candidates? In no particular order:

County Legislature, District 7

- Frank P. Proto (Republican, incumbent)
- Dan Klein (Democrat)

Town Supervisor

- Frederic Dietrich (Democrat, incumbent)
- Joe Freedman (Danby First)

Town Clerk

- Robert Roe (Danby First)
- Pamela Goddard (Democrat, incumbent)

Town Councilperson (two seats open)

- Ted Melchen (Danby First)
- Rebecca Brenner (Democrat)
- Jim Holahan (Democrat)
- Herb Sheffield (Danby First)

We hope a good many Danby residents will take advantage of this opportunity. It is truly the nitty-gritty of the democratic process.

Light refreshments will be provided.

The West Danby Fire Hall is on Sylvan Lane, off NYS Rt.34/96 in West Danby. For more info, contact me at [pf13@cornell.edu] or on weekdays, 607.255.0443. ❁

DANBY COMMUNITY LIBRARY

Submitted by Patti Meyers

Well, our books are back on the shelves and we are ready for you! The power of volunteers!

Thank you to the patrons who returned books to our outdoor book drop while we had to be closed—it was full!

New Books:

The Husband's Secret by Liane Moriarty

Moon Over Manifest by Clare Vanderpool

From the TCPL, we have new Mysteries (arrived 23-Sep) and Large Type Fiction will arrive on October 28.

A fond farewell and good luck to our TCPL liaison, Nancy Stoehr as she retires. Lots of good reading to catch up on, Nancy! ❁

➤ *Harvest Festival, continued from front page*

*Put it in a trebuchet, throw it far away,
Put it in a trebuchet, chuck it far away,
Put it in a trebuchet, hurl it far away,
When Halloween is over!*

*When does it happen in our community,
When does it happen in Dotson Park,
When does it happen in the Danby Park,
On November Third, a Sunday!*

[sung to the tune of *What Do We Do With A Drunken Sailor*]

Since time immemorial, the Danby Community Council has hosted a Halloween Party and Harvest Festival in Danby. This year, Halloween falls midweek, far from our typical Sunday events. The DCC is taking this opportunity to put the focus more on the Harvest than the Halloween, and the event will happen in Danby's Community Park on Sunday, November 3, from 3-6pm in the afternoon.

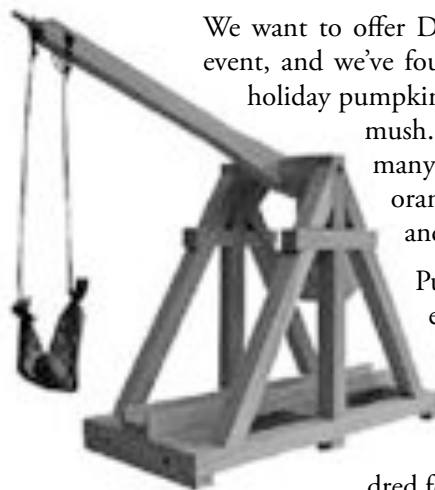
We want to offer Danby residents a unique and fun event, and we've found a way to enjoy those leftover holiday pumpkins before they sag into post-winter mush. After all, you can only make so many pumpkin pies. So bring a your orange—or no longer orange—squash and gourds to the park.

Punkin' chunkin' has become an exciting and amazingly popular pastime around the country. Giant trebuchets regularly throw small objects more than 1,000 feet...or small cars a few hundred feet.

We're not aiming that high, not this year, anyway, but let's see what our inventive folks can come up with! We're forming a crew to construct a medieval-style trebuchet. If you'd like to join the crew, contact [trebuchet@danbycc.org].

When you're not watching the flying jack o'lanterns, there will also be outdoor games suitable for children yet interesting to adults as well, free snacks and perhaps more substantial food for sale.

Stay tuned for more details, coming next month in the November issue of the Danby News. ❁



Postal Patron

DANBY AREA NEWS: EVENT CALENDAR

- Oct 2 • Wed
6:30pm 🏠 Town Hall • **Library Volunteers Meeting**
- Oct 3 • Thu
Noon 🏠 Danby Federated Church • **Seniors Meeting**
12:30pm 🏠 Town Hall • **Community Council Meeting**
- Oct 5 • Sat
5:30pm 🏠 American Legion • **Steak Dinner**
- Oct 6 • Sun
10am-2pm 🏠 Danby Fire Hall
Fire Prevention Open House
- Oct 7 • Mon
7:30pm 🏠 Town Hall • **Town Budget Workshop**
- Oct 8 • Tue
7pm 🏠 West Danby Fire Hall • **Fire District Meeting**
- Oct 11 • Fri
5-7pm 🏠 Danby Federated Church • **Meatloaf Dinner**
- Oct 14 • Mon
6pm 🏠 Town Hall • **Town Budget Workshop**
7pm 🏠 Town Hall • **Town Board Meeting**
7pm 🏠 Danby Fire Hall • **Fire Dep't Meeting**
7pm 🏠 West Danby Fire Hall • **WD Fire Dep't Meeting**
- Oct 15 • Tue
3-7pm 🏠 Danby Federated Church • **Flu Clinic**
7pm 🏠 West Danby Fire Hall • **Fire District Meeting**
Of interest: 2014 Budget Public Hearing
- Oct 17 • Thu
3-6pm 🏠 Danby Federated Church • **Food Pantry**
7pm 🏠 Dotson Park • **Park Association Meeting**
- Oct 18 • Fri
5:30pm 🏠 American Legion • **Fish Dinner**
- Oct 20 • Sun
2pm 🏠 West Danby Fire Hall • **Candidates Forum**
4pm 🏠 Town Hall • **Concert: Grady Girls**
- Oct 21 • Mon
6pm 🏠 Town Hall • **Town Budget Workshop**
7pm 🏠 Town Hall • **Town Board Meeting**
- Oct 24 • Thu
7pm 🏠 Town Hall • **Planning Board Meeting**
- Oct 26 • Sat
10am-2pm 🏠 West Danby Fire Hall
Fall Craft Show and Chicken BBQ
Day & Nite 🏠 Dotson Park • **Spooker in the Park**
6pm 🏠 American Legion • **Halloween Party**
- Oct 28 • Mon
1-2pm 🏠 Danby Federated Church • **Mobile Food Truck**
7pm 🏠 Town Hall • **Conservation Adv Council Mtg**
- Oct 29 • Tue
6:30pm 🏠 Town Hall • **Town Budget Workshop**
- Oct 31 • Thu
6-8pm 🏠 Danby Federated Church • **Trunk or Treat**
- Nov 3 • Sun
2am 🏠 Everywhere • **Clocks Fall Back**
2-6pm 🏠 Dotson Park • **Harvest Festival**
- Jul 12, 2014 • 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>] 🏠