#### August 2017

#### FREE TO RESIDENTS

# DANBY AREA NEWS

#### NEIGHBORHOODS AND NOSHES

Info provided by John Rowley and Joel Gagnon

The end of summer is Danby's traditional season for neighborhood get-togethers and sharing. This year, the last weekend of August brings us two major gatherings: the *West Danby Picnic* and the *Bald Hill Picnic and Pie Contest*. And then...there's *Sundaes on Wednesdays*!

#### West Danby Picnic

This one-size-fits-all event on Saturday, August 26, 4:30pm in the Hatch Pavilion has a bit of everything for everyone. Everything except a swimmin' hole, that is. It's a bit like traveling back in time to Auntie Em's picnic in Kansas, except that everyone in Danby--and Kansas, too, why not--is invited.

The Hatch Pavilion is located at the corner of Short and Brown Roads in West Danby. Uphillers, the most direct route is to go down Bald Hill and Station Roads, then turn right on Brown Road.

There's food, of course, with the finest produce Danby can grow, right at the height of garden productivity. The dish-to-pass always includes salads, entrees, breads, and usually a table of desserts. There's music by local musicians, shade in the pavilion and sun on the grassy meadow. A badminton net beckons to players, who enjoy a game full of fun, furious activity, and friendly competition; sometimes all three at the same time!

This year, the event's organizers, the West Danby Community Association, are honoring long-time Danby resident and leader Gould Colman. Gould has been involved with the Community Council way back to its early years as daycare providers and continues to come up with good advice and historical gems including last year's Unidentified Found Objects program in Town Hall. He's also the best darn haywagon tour driver in town!

#### **Bald Hill Picnic and Pie Contest**

Organizers John and Jean Rowley have announced that the social event of the year (do we hear Auntie Em call-

-continued on page 3

## DANBY BICENTENNIAL DEDICATION CELEBRATION!

Submitted by Alexandra Pfeifer, Town Co-Historian

On Saturday, August 12, 10am, the Town of Danby will unveil its Bicentennial Sign at Town Hall.

2017 marks the 200th anniversary of Tompkins County, which officially became a county on April 7, 1817. Tompkins County is commemorating this milestone by

having new roadside signs, created by the Tompkins County Bicentennial Commission, for the nine towns and the City of Ithaca, as



well as for Hector and Covert, two towns that used to be part of the County.

Danby's sign, which is located in front of the Town Hall, is light blue with a dark blue border and looks very dignified from the road. When visiting the Town Hall, make sure you take a look at the inscription.

Sweet Melissa's will be at the ceremony providing free

#### This Month Inside the Danby News:

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Tompkins Swirl Ice Cream, a limitedtime special flavor made especially for the Bicentennial. History and Ice Cream—what could be better?

If you would like more information on the Tompkins County Bicentennial, visit [tc200.org].

Mark your calendars for August 12, 10am, and be a part of history!.

August 2017 ٠ Layout: Ted Crane ٠ • **Count-n-Label Crew:** •

- Julie and her family; Ted and •
- Pamela; Katharine and Scott. •
- ٠ and others. •

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Text submissions:

- Send text in the body of an
- ٠ Email message (not as an at-• • tachment); or mail typewritten • copy, double-spaced on white
  - paper. Short handwritten submissions accepted; please write legibly.

Graphics: JPEG preferred for photos, GIF for line graphics. PNG also works.Check with editor before sending hardcopy graphics.

٠ Deadline is the 15<sup>th</sup> of the • month. Materials may be • accepted later if time allows. ٠

- Submissions should gener-
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## DANBY NEWS NOTES

Submitted by Ted Crane

Guidelines: Submission Before submitting an item for the Danby News, please have a look at the Submission Guidelines. You can request them by Email from the editor at [danbynews@tedcrane.com] or find them at [danbyny.org/DanbyNews]. If you're thinking of sending something for publication in the Danby News, there's two documents to read: the

Guidelines and the Submission Guide*lines* at the same web location.

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. 💲

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# TOWN CLERK'S DESKTOP

Submitted by Pamela Goddard, Town Clerk

Did you ever have someone give you travel directions based on a business or landmark that is no longer there? This happened to me recently, when Bald Hill Road was temporarily closed, uphill from Lieb Road. It all started when a tree came down on power lines, "at the sawmill." Sawmill? What sawmill on Bald Hill Road? Oh, one that has been closed and gone for a very long time!

There's not much we can do to recapture historical



changes in Danby that have been lost to history. Perhaps, some time in the future, our new team of Historians will reach out to the memories of long-term residents. Until then, we rely on what documentation we have.

When new changes happen to property and buildings in town, information makes its way to the Town Clerk's office from a variety of sources. Property-related information is available at the Town Clerk's office because of good communication with others like Danby's Code/ Planning Office. Property sales informa-

tion comes from Assessment Department and tax-related information is shared with the County Finance office.

People often come to the Clerk's office with such questions as "What's happening at xxx address?" or, "Who is paying the taxes on the xxx house?" While we know much about what happens in Town, contrary to "conventional wisdom" we don't actually know everything. There are several types of records we *don't* have. We often don't have information about exactly who pays taxes on a property, especially if that payment is made by escrow account or if payment is made to the County after April 1. Information such as Deed records, as well as birth and death records, are kept at the County Clerk's office in Ithaca.

Information we *do* have includes sales transfers information from the County Clerk and the County Assessment Department. Their reports tell us the address, tax map number, buyer, seller, and the sale price for the property. This information is forwarded to us as an interagency courtesy. If you have more detailed questions related to property ownership, you may need to do a deed search at the County Clerk's office.

Building permits, new address notifications, and subdivision information is generated by Danby's Code/ Planning office. The Clerk's office assists with preparing public information for projects going to the Planning Board and/or the Board of Zoning Appeals for site plan review related to development projects or variance requests for actions or property. Danby-generated documents are maintained through our local records management systems.

As a reminder, the Town Clerk's office is open and accessible 10am-5pm Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday. Through early September, the our office is closed on Saturdays, Sundays, and Thursdays. Messages can be left at 607.277.4788. And yes, the chocolate bowl is still full.

You can always reach us by phone, 607.277.4788, and by Email, [townclerk@townofdanbyny.org].

#### Neighbors & Noshes, cont'd from front page—

ing again?), the Bald Hill Picnic will take place on Sunday, August 27, 4-7pm, at Jennings Pond (heavy rain location: 251 Bald Hill Road). This event has a swimmin' hole, it has a dish-to-pass nosh, and it has a Pie Contest!

Neighbors contribute pies of all kinds and the entries are judged in two categories: adult and youth under 16. If you're there, you're a judge. If you're a judge, you have to try a little of every pie. It's a tough job, but nobody complains.

Bring a dish to pass and/or pie if you can, beverages, and place settings.

Jennings Pond has benches, grills, shade, sun, fishing, and hiking trails. You can launch a canoe or kayak and, When a lifeguard is on duty, Jennings Pond even has swimming. Folks from outside the neighborhood can find it easily, by driving along (you guessed it) Bald Hill Road.

#### Sundaes on Wednesdays

Three times this summer, you can head over to the Danby Community Church for free(!) ice cream sundaes accompanied by live music. Put it on your Wednesday action plan. Here's the concert dates and times:

August 2, 7pm: Ithaca Concert Band

August 9, 6pm: Steve Southworth & Rockabilly Rays August 16, 7pm: Finger Lakes Pipe Band

Ice Cream is served 30 minutes before the music begins.

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#### A ZONING PRIMER

Understanding Danby's Zoning Submitted by C.J.Randall, Danby Town Planner

Euclidian Zoning has nothing to do with mathematics or with geometric shapes; it has everything to do with Euclid, Ohio, a small town about the size of Ithaca, It is named after the landmark 1926 court case, Euclid v. Ambler Realty, in which the U.S. Supreme Court upheld zoning.

Euclidian Zoning, also known as Single-use Zoning, is the original (and simplest) form of zoning. It is predictable because "uses" (that is, what you can use a property for) are either permitted by right or not permitted at all. The intensity of development can be locked in by minimum lot area and minimum road frontage. A property owner can look at the zoning map and be certain what would happen on adjoining properties. A developer can easily determine, in advance, whether something is permitted on a property and what standards must be met.

Sometimes, inflexible predictability can be a stumbling block. The Planned Development Zone (PDZ) concept was developed to address the rigidity of Euclidian zoning, which prohibited a whole range of designs including cluster developments, mixed-use developments, and traditional neighborhood development. In many cases, a developer submits text and site plans that present alternative standards to the Town. Approval of these plans binds the developer to follow that approach to developing the site.

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In essence, a PDZ approval creates its own zoning rules, and they differ from the underlying zoning created by a Zoning Ordinance. That's why creating a PDZ requires the same process (e.g., a law must be passed) as any other modification of a Zoning Ordinance. While there are benefits to a PDZ, the conflict it creates a small zone imposed on an otherwise homogeneous neighborhood—can complicate enforcement in future years.

PDZ regulations are intended to provide for residential, commercial, industrial, or other land uses (or a mix thereof) in which economies of scale, creative architectural or planning concepts, and open space preservation may be achieved in furtherance of a Town's Comprehensive Plan and its Zoning Ordinance.

Thus, a review is underway of all 19 of Danby's Planned Development Zones. Many of the PDZs are defunct (never used or currently unused) or no longer necessary given other considerations, such as the agricultural protections afforded by parcels within Countydesignated Agricultural Districts.

If you are interested in learning more about Danby's Planned Development Zones—or planning and zoning in general—the Town will be holding a public information session on Thursday, August 31, 6-9pm in Town Hall.

If you have specific questions about your property or about any of Danby's PDZs, please contact me at [cjrandall@townofdanbyny.org] or 607.277.0799.

Dan	by run l	Day Contacts
Vendors	Linda Hansen	hansenzool@aol.com
Chinese Auction	Kim Nitchman	kimnitchman@gmail.com
Dime Toss	Linda Wyatt	hilinda@lightlink.com
Popcorn & Cotton Candy	Ellie Angers	esaandjjs@yahoo.com
Publicity	Ted Crane	site@tedcrane.com
Book Sale	Leslie Connors	lconnors@tompkins-co.org
Cake Wheel	Gay Huddle	gayhuddle@hotmail.com
Everything Else	John Gaden & George Jakubsen	gaden461@yahoo.com george.jakubson@cornell.ed



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## SUPERVISOR'S UPDATE

Submitted by Ric Dietrich, Town of Danby Supervisor

How aggressively should the Town interpret its role in defining what a good steward should be? Your present Town Board board is committing the Town to aggressively pursuing any and all avenues that might lead to decreased energy consumption and reduced costs.

Toward this end, we have been implementing solar energy collection and use. Our efforts have not stopped there, and the following is an overview of our present situation.

Holes for the frame of our solar installation are being dug this week! This will cap a three year push, from conception to actuality.

We have several local initiatives to reduce our carbon footprint.

Danby is committed to exploring ways to move actively on the issue of global warming, The Town Board has passed a resolution to stay committed to the Paris accord. Our dedication to climate smart communities is important to us.

We are in the process of working with other municipalities to convert all of the Town's street lighting fixtures to LEDs.

WEST DANBY WATER DISTRICT UPDATE Submitted by Tod Sukontarak, Water Commissioner

I will be away this summer during the week when we normally do our August hydrant flushing, so we are going to postpone that flushing until September. There will be notification in the September issue of the Danby News for the specific dates.

### DANBY FUN DAY 2017

Set aside September 23 for Danby Fun Day 2017!

More than a dozen people have stepped forward so far, and the committee is looking for more volunteers. If you can help, please contact the people listed on page 4. A little of your time makes fun for lots of Danbyites!

You'll be hearing more about the event in the September issue of the Danby News. Keep the date available and get ready for Fall Fun.

Our position is also focused on what Danby discharges to our neighbors. We sit on a regional divide; some of our water runs North to the St.Lawrence Seaway and some runs South to Chesapeake Bay. Its called the Danby Divide. Irresponsible consideration of runoff can affect countless people's—those downstream of us—water quality.

A grant we received from the County helped fund a study of the types of problems we face with unstable creek banks, such as the water flowing along Brown Road. These efforts help us plan strategies to set meaningful and achievable goals.

Not all goals manifest themselves in the same way. Things like setback requirements and zoning issues related to property rights can affect runoff. Let's not forget the NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets rules and restrictions that supercede local laws within the Agricultural Districts that cover most of Danby.

So, there are visible manifestations, like our solar projects, there are State legislative issues, and there are property rights issues...and all of those call on our local legislative leaders. Sorting through the issues will not be a walk in the park. There will be pushback on what the role of the Town should be, versus the rights of the residents.

Some of our goals will take years to implement. If these are important topics for you, we are asking for your support.

If you have any questions or concerns, contact me at [supervisor@townofdanbyny.org].

## Town Office Info

Town Clerk • [townclerk@townofdanbyny.org] Phone: 277.4788 • Fax: 277.0559 Mon-Tue-Wed-Fri, 10am–5pm; Saturday, 10am-Noon Highway Department • [highway@townofdanbyny.org] 93 Hornbrook Road • Phone: 272.9169 Mon–Thu, 6am–4:30pm Code Enforcement Office • [code@townofdanbyny.org] Phone: 277.0799 • Fax: 277.0559 Mon–Wed, 9am–5pm; Thu, 12:30-5:30pm Town Court • [courtclerk@townofdanbyny.org] Phone: 277.0095 • Fax: 277.0031 • Tue, 7pm

All offices at Danby Town Hall except where noted.

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### DANBY SENIORS UPDATE

Submitted by Margie VanDeMark

The next meeting of the Danby Seniors will be on Thursday, September 7, Noon, in the Danby Community Church, for a dish to share luncheon. All seniors, 55 and over, are welcomed to attend. [We do not meet during August.]

We had a lovely picnic on July 6 at Myers Gardens in Spencer. We thank Wayne & Donna for their help and for the garden tour. Also we appreciate the American Legion letting us cook the delicious chicken there and Jon Mosher & John VanDeMark for the grilling.

We had a beautiful day for our June 21 trip to Villa Roma Resort to hear the talented Beach Boys tribute group. We enjoyed touring the extensive grounds and had a nice luncheon.

Contact Nancy Weitzel at 607.272.6570 to sign up for our August 22 trip to Auburn for the theater, Lasca's, and Seward House.

#### THE CAKE WHEEL SPINS!

Submitted by Gay Huddle

The Huddle family will be spinning the Cake Wheel again this year during Danby Fun Day, held on Saturday, September 23. We invite you to bring in cakes, pies, cookies, brownies, sweet rolls, breads, cupcakes, etc. so we have a nice selection to offer for each spin.

All proceeds from the wheel go to our Danby Fire and Rescue Department. If you would like to take a shift at the wheel, please let me know and thank you.

## Southern Tompkins Town Talk

Submitted by Gay Huddle, Ithaca Journal Columnist

Please remember to send your stories to me for the Southern Tompkins Town Talk column that appears weekly in the Ithaca Journal.

I cover the neighborhoods of Danby, West Danby, Brooktondale, Newfield, and Upper South Hill. Pictures (in JPEG format) are always welcome.

Please contact me at [gayhuddle@hotmail.com] or 607.273.6530.

#### WOMEN'S FICTION

Submitted by Joanne Farbman

The Women's Fiction Book Club of Danby is currently meeting on the second Tuesday of each month at 1 pm. Since it's a pretty new group, this schedule could change.

So, anyone interested in this new group should contact me at 607.280.3069 or [jsfarbman@gmail.com]. We'd love to have you!

## DANBY BOOK CLUB

Submitted by Janice Beal

The Danby Book Club meets on the third or fourth Sunday of each month, 4pm, at one of our homes.

We read mostly non-fiction and are very focused on discussing the book. Refreshments are served.

Please join us! New members are always welcome. Questions? Contact me, 607.279.1480 or [beal.janice.e@gmail.com].

# AMERICAN LEGION UPDATE

Submitted by Marvin Eastman

We've had a slow summer so far and all the rain has not helped, but we managed to get in a Fourth of July Party on the Patio (Pavilion). The picnic/party was a great success and all that attended did not leave hungry or dissatisfied.

We will be having a Benefit Chicken BBQ on August 19, starting at Noon. The cost will be \$10 and you get a half chicken, salt potatoes, BBQ Beans and a dinner roll. The BBQ is a benefit for the Wounded Warriors Rally 10K Run held annually in Washington DC.

If you need a place for that special party or get together give us a call 607.272.1129.

A special shout out to Danby residents Bob and Nancie McBride on their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.



AUGUST 2017 •

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# Community Council Youth Programs

The Danby Youth Program is committed to offering quality, stable, uninterrupted programs to the youth of Danby. Our search for a permanent manager continues as of press time and we are aiming to resume programming in September. For updates, check us out on the web at [danbycc.org/YouthPrograms].

# DANBY COMMUNITY LIBRARY

Submitted by Cindy Parlett

It's time for summertime vacations and trips. Check out our summer reading displays as well as the gardening books we have available.

Don't forget to look at our Books on CD for those long car trips; nothing makes the trip go faster than listening to a book while driving!

Welcome to our new volunteers: Lynn Eastman, Faith Chase, and Donna Mosher. We are always looking for new volunteers so feel free to stop by and visit us to find out more about helping at the library.

When the *Open* flag is flying outside Danby's Town Hall, there will be a Librarian on Duty Tuesdays, 5-7pm, and Fridays, 1:30-3:30pm. As always feel free to use the self-checkout whenever Danby's Town Hall is open, 10am-5pm, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday. The outdoor book drop can be used for returns at all times.

#### Librarian on Duty•New Hours Tuesdays 5-7pm Fridays 1:30-3:30pm



#### Youth Grants

Submitted by Susan Franklin, DCC Youth Grant Coordinator

**Do** you have a child going to camp or participating in another program during the next few months? Financial assistance is available for Danby youth up to age 21, in the form of grants of up to \$100 per youth per year.

Grants are awarded quarterly for lessons, after-school programs, and more. The deadline is September 15 for programs beginning (or with payment deadlines) in October thru December (but please check about grants for July-September programs).

Funding is provided by the United Way and the Town of Danby. Families who qualify for free or reducedprice lunch are especially encouraged to apply.

For more information and applications please contact [youthgrants@danbycc.org]. You can also find applications on the Town Hall bulletin board.

# DANBY BIG PUMPKIN CONTEST

The Community Council is sponsoring a contest for the largest pumpkin grown in Danby in 2017. A competing pumpkin must be grown in Danby and cared for by the contestant or their family.

If it looks like a pumpkin, we will call it a pumpkin (no gourds allowed!). Only one pumpkin can be submitted per contestant (multiple contestants per family okay). A point score of weight in pounds times the maximum girth in inches will be used to determine the largest pumpkin.

The measurement date is October 8. Pumpkins can be brought to Town Hall on the 8<sup>th</sup> for measurement or a representative of Danby Community Council can come to the site of the pumpkin and make the measurement.

Contestants are encouraged to register—at any time—via Email to [wevans@danbycc.org]. Seeds from the Big Max pumpkin variety are available at the Town Clerk's Office.

All competing pumpkins are welcome for display at the Danby Harvest Festival in October with entrants receiving a certificate of participation and the top three winners an award.

Danby Community Council Danby Area News 1830 Danby Road Ithaca, NY 14850



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# Danby Area News: Event Calendar

Jul 28-29 • Friday 3-7pm, Saturday, 9am-Noon Danby Comm Church • Rummage/Yard Sale

Aug 2 • Wed 7pm 🕰 Danby Comm Church Sundaes on Wednesdays: Ithaca Concert Band

Aug 3 • Thu

No Seniors
7pm A Town Hall • Danby Community Council Mtg
Aug 5 • Sat
9am A Town Hall • Library Volunteers Meeting

Aug 8 • Tue 7pm 健 Danby Fire Hall • Fire District Meeting Aug 9 • Wed

6pm 🝙 Danby Comm Church Sundaes on Wednesdays: Steve Southworth & Rock Rays

Aug 12 • Sat 10am 🙀 Town Hall • Bicentennial Celebration

Aug 14 • 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

Aug 15 • Tue 7pm 🕰 Danby Fire Hall • Fire District Meeting Aug 16 • Wed

7pm 🛱 Danby Comm Church Sundaes on Wednesdays: Finger Lakes Pipe Band Aug 17 • Thu

3-6pm A Danby Comm. Church • Food Pantry 7pm A Town Hall • Planning Board Meeting Noon A American Legion • Chicken BBQ

Aug 21 • Mon 7pm 🙀 Town Hall • Town Board Meeting

Aug 26 • Sat 4:30pm 🙀 Hatch Pavilion • West Danby Picnic Aug 27 • Sun 4-7pm 🙀 Jennings Pond • Bald Hill Picnic & Pie Contest Aug 28 • Mon Noon-1pm 🙀 Danby Comm Church • Mobile Food Truck 7pm 🙀 Town Hall • Conservation Advisory Council Mtg Aug 31 • Mon 6-9pm 👜 Town Hall PDZ Zoning in Danby: Informational Meeting Sep 2 • Sat 9am 🙀 Town Hall • Library Volunteers Meeting Sep 7 • Thu Noon 🙀 Danby Comm Church • Seniors 7pm 🙀 Town Hall • Danby Community Council Mtg Sep 11 • 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 Sep 12 • Tue 7pm 🔁 Danby Fire Hall • Fire District Meeting **ONGOING EVENTS** Danby Community Library Open 🚑 Town Hall Tuesdays, 5-7pm, Fridays, 1:30–3:30pm, and when the **Open** sign is out! Seniors Strength Training Group 🙀 Danby Community Church Mondays and Thursdays, 9am. AA Meeting 🙀 Danby Community Church Wednesdays, 7pm. Danby Quilters Group 🖀 607.273.2950 Call for Info. 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 Community Church • 1859 Danby Road

American Legion Post 221 • 1231 Danby Road