# DANBY AREA NEWS

#### UPCOMING ROAD REPAIRS

Submitted by Ted Crane

DURING THE TOWN BOARD MEETING ON June 18, the Highway Department was authorized to spend funds (a total of \$370,000) on road repairs. The projects will be funded by the New York State Consolidated Local Street and Highway Improvement Program (CHIPS, but don't ask me how the State concocted that acronym from that name).

No schedule has been announced, but the roads to be improved are:



- Ridgecrest Road, from Muzzy to Nelson; pug-milling, stone, and double surface treatment
- Muzzy Road, from NYS Rt.96B to Troy; pug-milling, double surface treatment
- Town Line Road; drainage installed, pug-milling, double surface treatment
- VanBuskirk Road, from NYS Rt.34/96 to Tupper; pugmilling, double surface treatment
- Hill Road, from Curtis to now plow turnaround; regrading, pug-milling, and double surface treatment.

A portable pug mill, designed to mix solid materials to create a consistent blend, is a sight to behold. The Highway Department is renting one for the project.

More information may be available from the Highway Department, [highway@townofdanbyny.org] or 607.272.9169.

## This Month Inside the Danby News:

Town Clerk's Desktop	. ③
Women's Fiction	
Seeking Planning Board	. 4
West Danby Water District .	. 4
Supervisor's Update	. ⑤
Public Hearing Notice	. ⑤
Old Stones In The Woods .	6
Events 'Round Town	. 6
Town Talk	. 6
American Legion Update	. 7
Water Survey / Well Loans .	. 7
Seniors	. 🕲
Big Pumpkins Contest	. 🕲
Less Than A Penny	. 🕲
Community Library	. 🕲
Swimming in Jennings Pond	. 9
Tick-Mation	. 9
Youth Flier	_
Calandan	

### WEST DANBY SUMMER CONCERT

Submitted by Alison Christie, West Danby Community Association

JOIN US FOR A MAGICAL SUMMER EVENING of inspired music from local singer-songwriter Jennie Lowe Stearns amidst the glorious gardens at Wayne Myers home, 1071 Michigan Hollow Road in West Danby. The event takes place at 6pm on Saturday, July 28.

Jennie has been hard at work crafting her fifth al-

bum. Let's hear what she's been up to. Visit [jennielowestearns.com] to get a flavor for Jennie's style. Her CDs will be available for sale.

We've also invited Dennis' Homemade Ice Cream to join us. He'll be selling eight scrumptious flavors including a dairy-free sorbet.

Danby's Youth Program manager will be on hand to do a fun activity with youth. Bring a white T-shirt, if you have one, so you are prepared for any challenge.

> If you have never been to Wayne Myers Garden, prepare to be amazed and delighted. Come early for a stroll!

> Presented by the West Danby Community Association with support from the Town of Danby and grant support from the COMMUNITY ARTS PARTNERSHIP of Tompkins County. This event is free and open to the public.



**July 2018** 

Layout: Ted Crane

#### Count-n-Label Crew:

Diana Van DeBogart; Ted and

Pamela; Katharine and Scott;

Julie and her family; others.

#### Post Office Crew:

Julie Clougherty,

Katharine Hunter

Scott Davis

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 for photos, GIF for line graphics. PNG also works. 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.

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:**

#### COME HOME TO TENWOOD LODGE

Fabulous • Spacious • Unique Family Reunions • Vacation Rental • B&B Making treasured family memories since 2013. [tenwoodlodge.com] • 607.273.9546

#### **RETIREMENT PLANNING & INVESTMENTS**

Vince Mazzarella LUTCF • 30+ years experience Securities Offered Through NEXT Financial Group, Member FINRA/SIPC 132 Yaple Road • 607.662.5262 • [vincemazzarella.com]

#### FRIENDS:

Highland Farms Boarding Kennel and Store 168 West Miller Road • 607.273.3251 [www.highlandfarmskennel.com]

Danby Community Church "Serving God and Community" 1859 Danby Road • 607.272.1687 [www.danbychurch.org]

Jefferson Colman Custom Portable Homes 607.279.3757

Taoist Tai Chi Society of the USA Dedicated to Improving Health • Non-profit 607.277.5491 • [ithaca.ny@taoist.org]

Bankruptcy & Divorce Law Debt Relief • Atty Advertising Mark Gugino • 144 Bald Hill Road, Danby 607.319.0766 or 607.207.0888

Are you interested in becoming a sponsor? Help the Danby News build community! For info, contact [danbynews@tedcrane.com].

## Danby News Notes

Submitted by Ted Crane

Submission Guidelines: 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 Guidelines 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.

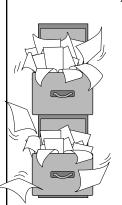
## Town Clerk's Desktop

Submitted by Pamela Goddard, Town Clerk

#### **Simply Summer**

A FEW DAYS BEFORE THE SUMMER SOLSTICE, the heat was heavy and oppressive. When heavy rain fell during the Monday evening Town Board meeting, it cleared the air and carries cool refreshment. Life can be like that--heavy with worry and care one moment and as clear and expansive as the broad blue sky the next moment. Summer is a good time for taking care of day-to-day business and watching projects unfold here in the Town Clerk's office.

Our new Deputy Clerk, Alex Pfiefer is quickly finding



her way through the various processes and is ready and able to help residents with renewing dog licenses, processing building permit fees, and answering questions about municipal life in Danby. She can also help you with library and local history questions.

I keep busy with the standard tasks of a Town Clerk:

- attending Town Board meetings to record minutes
- processing and recording marriage license information in our office and

through the NYS Department of Vital Records

- publishing notice of public hearings for the Town and Planning Boards
- issuing accessibility parking tags
- managing the Town Clerk's bank accounts and fee/ permit payments
- doing what I can to make sure that residents have information they need to be as fully informed as possible regarding local government operations and projects.

Some of those projects include an update of the Town of Danby's Code of Ethics, the intent to apply for state and federal grants for initiatives such as a Housing Needs Assessment for the Town of Danby, and consideration of local laws addressing current needs and concerns related to zoning in our Town.

Danby's Town Board passed its first Local Law of 2018 on June 18, rezoning a small portion of a formerly large parcel (AutoSalvage) on Hornbrook Road as commercial. This allowed the owners to pursue an adaptive reuse of a warehouse building on the site.

Other local laws, related to appropriate processes for timber harvesting in the Town and to whether the Highway Superintendent should be elected or appointed, will be discussed during the next few months. The Town Clerk makes sure that all legal notifications are met and proper filing with the State is completed after adoption.

The tag line of the Bangor, Maine Police Department, "Keep your hands to yourself, leave other people's things alone, and be kind to one another," always bring a smile to my face. If I were to adapt this to the perspective of the Danby Town Clerk, I'd say, "Take care of your animals (license your dog, if you've got one), pay attention to what's going on, and-- yes--be kind to one another."

Waking up to a day after an overnight rain, you wonder how anything could ruin the feeling of looking up at a clear blue sky. Unexpected things can happen. As we know, Finger Lakes weather can change moment to moment. Today's blue sky might not make one forever happy, but it can create contentment. We deserve summer days like this.

#### Office Hours

As a reminder, Summer office hours for the Town Clerk now effective. We are open Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday 10am-5pm. From now into early September, the Town Clerks' office is closed Saturday, Sunday, and Thursdays. And, thanks to resident generosity, the bowl of chocolate kisses remains full.

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

## 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!

## PLANNING BOARD VACANCY

Submitted by Pamela Goddardl, Town Clerk

Por the past several years, the Town of Danby Planning Board has been guided by the its Chair, Frank Kruppa. Frank is also the Tompkins County Public Health Director and Commissioner of Mental Health. His perspective both as a resident of Danby and as the director of public health initiatives at the County level has been invaluable. Frank has announced that he and his family are moving out of Danby to a new home in Dryden, and he has resigned his seat and position as Planning Board Chair. His last meeting was one June 21. We are sorry to see him go but happy that he and his family have their own home closer to his County office.

The Town Board of the Town of Danby invites residents to apply to fill the vacant seat on the Planning Board. While Planning Board service is usually a seven year term, the term of the vacant seat runs through the end of December 2018. Therefore, the appointee will be serving for less than six months, and would reapply for a full term starting in 2019.

The Planning Board meets monthly, on the third Thursday, to review subdivision and development applications, and to review (and revise as needed) such planning documents as the Comprehensive Plan and the Zoning Ordinance. Copies of the Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Ordinance are available on the Code/ Planning page of the Danby web site and in the Town Clerk's office.

A new Chair will be selected by the Town Board from the current members of the Planning Board.

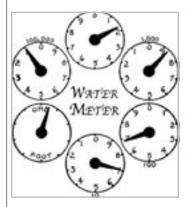
An appointment application is available through the Town Clerk's office. This form includes contact information for the applicant and three simple questions: any experience (professional, educational, etc.) which would assist in the position, a brief description of why you would like to be considered, and what you would hope to accomplish in this position.

If interested, or for more information on this position, contact Town Clerk Pamela Goddard at [townclerk@townofdanbyny.org] or 607.277.4788.

## WEST DANBY WATER DISTRICT UPDATE

Submitted by Tod Sukontarak, Water Commissioner

THE WATER DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS held a meeting on June 13 in the West Danby Fire Station.



The topic that consumed the majority of the meeting was looking at what is needed to address the imbalance between our revenue and our spending.

The water rate has never gone up since the District was formed in 1968. Instead, we have relied on taxes to makeup the shortcoming at the end of the

year. This has been an issue for a long time and is one that will require a lot of time and energy to resolve.

In an attempt to learn where to begin in changing the Water District's rate structure to reflect costs, Tod will be attending the NYRWA Water System Management training on June 26.

We are aware that it is not good news that water rates will go up. The good news is that taxes will be smaller the end of the year and people will have more control over their water bills by conserving if they wish. This will be a long process and will keep you posted on developments.

## Town Office Info

Town Clerk • [townclerk@townofdanbyny.org]

Phone: 277.4788 • Fax: 277.0559 Mon-Tue-Wed-Fri, 10am–5pm

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.

## SUPERVISOR'S UPDATE

Submitted by Ric Dietrich, Town of Danby Supervisor

THE DANBY NEWS, LIKE ANY LOCAL information platform, tries to inform its residents about topics of interest to Danby's residents. My little contributions are attempts to flesh out the details of the health and welfare of the Town as a whole.

During our last Town Board meeting in June, one of the topics was financial health. Halfway through our budget year, Laura Shawley, our bookkeeper and fincial wiz, laid out where the Town is...financially. Laura led us through where we are, suggested needed course corrections, and took questions from the Board. The budget review covers a lot of territory.

There are many accounts in each of the three sections of our budget: General, Highway, and Water, along with contingency accounts (although the Fire District budget is officially incorporated into the Town budget, we do not oversee it). The Town is in sound financial shape.

Other items on the Town's agenda include setting the dates for public hearings on proposed local law changes, Please take notice that, over the next few months, drafts of a number of proposed laws will be posted. We welcome your feedback and opinion on all of these proposals.

The Town Board also gave its approval for our Town Planner to proceed with applications for grants for a housing survey and for a feasibility study and cost projections for a Town sewer system and wastewater facility. We are currently in the process of writing grants for highway infrastructure costs.

The Town's Conservation Advisory Council will be opening conversations about draft Timber Harvesting legislation. This issue has been in the forefront of topics currently circulating and is receiving feedback from landowners, loggers, and saw mills. On the one hand, there is the view that logging is a big part of our economy and, on the other, protection of fragile infrastructure: fungi, wildflowers, peepers, and more. It seems like everyone has a opinion on this issue.

What kind of logging—it's a farm product, just like corn—do we want to have here? What does Silviculture mean to the town? If the definition of stewardship is responsible judgement of the world we inhabit and the legacy of what we are leaving future generations, then this is an opportunity to voice your opinion.

Code enforcement is also on the Town's agenda, as we have been canvassing the Town in anticipation of our

housing grant application. In the past, successful housing grants have assisted a significant number of home repair projects. This is a wait and see project that needs outside money to get off the ground. The issue surfaced when a new housing in West Danby, proposed by a developer, required a waste water facility and access to a public water system. As the Town grows, this question will come up as a possible need. The Planning Board can then have this information as part of its toolbox.

Also in the background are the Town's talks with Spectrum, the company who bought Time-Warner. I am, at least, talking with them, there will be some buildouts. Somewhere, sometime, from what I hear. In order to encourage the company toward buildout of additional infrastructure, the Town has not signed a franchise agreement for twenty years. In that twenty years, no talks of any kind have taken place, so I am not overly optimistic about present efforts.

That said, we are in a unique situation, with the State also pushing on this issue. so I am pretty sure something will emerge from all of this and will keep you posted on any progress and where this progress will take place.

I do wish everyone a great summer.

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

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

THE TOWN OF DANBY WILL BE APPLYING for grant funding to complete an updated Housing Needs Assessment, The assessment will identify housing in need of rehabilitation or demolition, particularly that of low- and moderate-income Danby residents.

Funding will be requested through New York State's Office of Community Renewal Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG). The Town intention is to update the 1998 Town-Wide Housing Rehabilitation Project, was also funded through CDBG. That project identified and characterized (and eventually helped repair) 13 unsafe buildings in the Town.

A Public Hearing on the application will be held on July 9, 2018, 7pm, in Danby's Town Hall. For further information, please contact Town Planner and Fair Housing Officer C.J. Randall, at 607.277.2400 or [cjrandall@townofdanbyny.org].

All persons will be heard either in writing or in person. \$\frac{1}{3}\$

## **OLD STONES IN THE WOODS**

Submitted by M.A. Barr, Danby Town Historian

EVERY NOW AND THEN someone calls and reports finding piles or lines of rocks and stones somewhere on their property. I recently got a call from a person whose daughter and a friend found an old well, way back in the woods on their property. There were also some pieces of iron and a very large, very old Lilac bush.

It sounded like an old homestead to me and the family and I arranged to hike into the woods so I could see the place. The stones in the woods did delineate what used to be a house, complete with a stone well...with water still in it.

Our curiosity was piqued so now some research needs to be done to learn the history of this intriguing spot. There may be a good story to tell in an upcoming issue of Danby News.

The Civil War encampment and other activities on the weekend of June 23 and 24 was a great way to learn about central New York participation in the Civil War and what life was like during that time. Danny Wheeler and his organization, The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, planned and ran the programs. They deserve a big hand for bringing the past to life. I hope a lot of people got to join in "living history" right here in Danby.

If you are interested in learning the history of neighboring towns, check out Walk & Talk tours hosted by Historic Ithaca. We have one here in Danby at the Danby Community Church on July 14, 11am. After that, one is scheduled in Lansing on July 21, then one in Trumansburg on July 28, then in Robert H. Treman State Park on August 4, and finally in Freeville on August 11. Learn details online at [historicithaca.org/walk-and-talk/]. These are great summer outings for history buffs.

## SOUTHERN TOMPKINS TOWN TALK

Submitted by Gay Huddle, Ithaca Journal Columnist

 ${\bf P}^{\rm LEASE}$  remember to send your stories to me for the Southern Tompkins Town Talk column that appears every other week 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.

## **EVENTS 'ROUND TOWN**

This column appears 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!

#### West Danby Community Association

Summer Concert: music by Jennie Lowe Stearns. Saturday, July 28, 6pm, Wayne Myers Garden, 1071 Michigan Hollow Road.

#### The Gathery

Yoga Brunch: Sunday, July 8, 9:30am-Noon. Join Rachel VerValin of Heart Thread Yoga for a morning flow yoga class, suitable for all levels, followed by brunch, bubbly and good times! Tickets and info at [danbygathery.com].

Kundalini Yoga with Jai Hari: 6-week series, Thursdays, July 12-August 16, 9-10:15am. Certified Kundalini Yoga instructor. \$90 for 6 weeks or \$20 drop in. Please register with [jai@thisinspiredlife.today] or call 607.760.5386.

#### The Great Room at Slow Lane

Contra Dancing: Most Fridays, 8pm. Beginners welcome, no partner needed, dances taught. Info: 607.273.8678.

Scandinavian Dancing: music by Stefhan Ohlström and Stephen Ellner. Info 607.273.8678.

#### **Danby Community Church**

Tai Chi Classes: Continue on Mondays and Wednesdays, 11am. Check it out, if you've never heard of it.

*Tour of Historic Danby*: July 14, 11am, at the Danby Community Church.

Red Cross Blood Drive: Friday, July 20, 1:30-5:30pm. Walk-ins welcome.

Sundaes on Wednesdays: Return of our favorite munchies and music event! Starts July 25 with the Ithaca Concert Band, continues on August 1 and 8.

Garage Sale: Friday and Saturday, July 27, 7-9pm, July 28, 9-Noon. Contact Sharon Boda, 607.273.8241.

## AMERICAN LEGION UPDATE

Submitted by Marvin Eastman

Well, It's Already July and we're halfway thru the year. Where did it go? It seems like just yes-

terday, we had snow on the ground, not that I'm complaining. The dog days of summer are upon us.

Looking for a break, on July 4, at 1pm, we will be having a Party on the Patio

(Pavilion). We will be serving Hamburgs, Hot Dogs, Sweet and Hot Sausage, Rib Ends, and various salads,

all for \$8. We will also be serving Clams (price TBD). Come check us out. A good time had by all last year.

On July 5 we will be hosting the Danby Seniors for their annual Summer Picnic.

Looking for a place to have a special event and the garage is too small or you just don't want to deal with the hassle of setting up and the cleaning up? Stop by and see what the American Legion 1231 Danby Road can do for you.

## Water, Water, Everywhere Survey of Quantity & Quality

Submitted by Ted Crane

RETURNS CONTINUE TO ARRIVE from the Water Survey included in last month's *Danby News*. If you haven't filled ours out yet, now's a good time to do it.

The easiest way to take the survey is online, at [danbyny.org/WaterSurvey/]. That URL will take you to a form fill-out web site.

The survey mostly contains multiple-choice opinion questions like, "Is there always enough water in your well?" If you know details of your well, there are a few questions about its construction (depth, etc.).

It only takes a few minutes to answer all the questions, but the online survey contains useful information about residential water wells that might hold your attention for a bit longer.

If you don't have web access (yes, that happens in Danby) or the online form doesn't work for you, you can always find a paper copy at the Town Clerk's

office, or a copy of last month's *Danby News* at [danbyny.org/DanbyNews/].

#### What's The End Result?

The value of the survey comes from being able to see the answers to the questions laid on a map. Where is the water with minerals? Are there neighborhoods where there are seasonal water issues? Neighborhoods where residents believe water is becoming scarce...and for what reason?

All of this depends on knowing the location of the well, so it's important for responses to include this informa-

tion. If you provide contact information (name, phone, Email), it will not be distributed unless you give permission. It would, however, be useful to help clear up any questions about the information on your survey.

The results will be available to Danby residents and, of course, to the Town for planning purposes.

#### Thinking About Having Work Done On Your Well? Low Interest Loans Are Available!

Thanks to a grant from the US Department of Agriculture, the Water Well Trust is providing low-interest loans for the rehabilitation of an old well, or the drilling of a new one.

The WWT is a non-profit based in North Carolina,

An online version of the

[danbyny.org/WaterSurvey].

survey is available at

dedicated to ensuring that people have access to safe drinking water. Tompkins County is included in the current project area of the Water Well Trust.

The Water Well Trust is currently accepting applications from Tompkins County until September 30, 2018. More information and the application can be found at [waterwelltrust.org/how-to-apply/]. Priority is given to households where health risks are imminent, to those with minorities, elderly, children, or disabled persons, including disabled veterans. Additionally, the resident must own the home and property.

More information about the Water Well Trust program is also available from the Tompkins County Health Department.

## DANBY SENIORS UPDATE

Submitted by Margie VanDeMark and Nancy Gould

The NEXT MEETING of the Danby Seniors will be on Thursday, July 5 at the American Legion, for our Chicken BBQ. There is a \$5 charge and signups are required. Call Margie, 607.273.8046 for information.

A group of us enjoyed a lovely lunch and music show at the Beeches in Rome, NY on June 13. The next trip will be July 26 to Steamtown in Scranton, PA. Call Ann for information, 607.539.7928. For the September Cortland trip for "The Rat Pack Lounge" show and dinner, contact Pat at 607.539.6477.

We thank our June hosts, Ted & Connie Merritt, assisted by the exercise ladies...they always pitch in!

## LESS THAN A PENNY A MILE

Submitted by Ted Crane

About five years ago, as part of one of the countywide efforts to install Solar PV systems, I took the plunge and went net-negative-emissions. I'd intended to cover more than 100% of my electric usage and, thanks to two power needs that never materialized, ended up selling quite a bit of electricity to NYSEG. The generated power saves more trees than my woodstove uses.

The bad news is that NYSEG pays very little for my excess power—maybe ½ of what they insist that you pay to buy what I sell to them. The good news is that the excess means that the annoying "service charge" is covered every month. My NYSEG bills are...zero.

Now, some bad news that turned into good news. At the end of last year, my '06 Prius (285,000 miles, and still getting 50+ MPG) failed inspection and I was told that the cost to pass was about 10 times what the car was worth. Yes, our government in action. So I traded up to one of the plug-in Prius models, with a battery big enough to travel, oh, maybe 25 miles.

Now the math begins, and the good news emerges. It takes about 6kWh to fully charge that battery. Thanks to my excess PV generation, for which NYSEG grudgingly pays about 2.5¢/kWh, that full charge costs me about 15¢. That's enough for a typical excursion from Danby to downtown Ithaca and back. Compare to several dollars worth of gas.

Today, I filled up the tank—well, I added 5 gallons, anyway—for the first time in about 6 weeks. The car

## 2<sup>ND</sup> Annual Danby Big Pumpkin Contest

By Bill Evans, Community Council

THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL IS AGAIN sponsoring a contest for the largest pumpkin grown in Danby. 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). Weight in pounds and girth in inches will be used to determine the largest pumpkin. The weigh-in & measurements will be made during the Danby Harvest Festival in mid-October.

A limited supply of seedlings from last year's winner (a nearly 100 pounder!) are available, contact Bill Evans at [wevans@danbycc.org].

## Danby Community Library

Submitted by Cindy Parlett

I was recently reading an article from the Washington Post about the decline of reading for pleasure. It said that people are too busy and more interested in their cell phones. Well, summer vacation is the perfect time to come and browse our selection of books. Reward yourself with the time to enjoy reading one for pleasure!

We also have several new DVDs available: *I, Tonya*; Murder on The Orient Express; Five Nights in Maine; Ferdinand; Jumanji; Black Panther; The Greatest Showman.

traveled about 810 miles on that 5 gallons (plus about 120 kWh of my homegrown electricity).

OK, here's where I get to brag a bit. The combination of gas and electricty, viewed in miles per gallon, comes to about 161MPG. Six months of experience shows that I'm getting about 4MPkWh (miles per kilowatt hour of electricity), which works to a lot less than 1¢/mile. On longer trips, when the gas engine takes over, it's still averaging over 60MPG, or about 5¢/mile.

Now that's for fuel (gas or electricity) alone. To be sure, the AAA estimates additional costs of driving a car at well over 50¢/mile. But that isn't exactly, "out of pocket," at the pump. And that's the good new.

[Sometimes there's a few inches of space in the Danby News, so I fill it.-editor]

# Community Council Summer Youth Programs

Hello Danby youth and parents!

Here is the list of programs that I will be offering. All Danby youth entering grades 4 through 9 are welcome to participate.

The programs are free, but the Community Council will happily accept donations to cover costs.

If you're interested in signing up for any of these offerings, please contact me, [mas759@cornell.edu] or 585.236.6304, or find the full flier at [danbycc.org/YouthPrograms]. Please stay posted for possible additional programing during the first and last weeks of August. I look forward to hearing from you! —Melis, Danby Youth Program Manager

#### Choose Your Own Adventure!

Monday-Wednesday, July 9-11, 9am-4pm Cooperative Extension, Willow Avenue, Ithaca

Join myself and Beth Bannister of the Joint Youth Commission for an open-ended program. We will meet downtown, where we will have access to many adventures including: the Science Center, the CCETC kitchen, and the Ithaca farmers market!

#### **Community Herbalism**

Monday-Thursday, July 16-19, 10am-4pm Danby State Forest

Hike and learn while collecting medicinal plants to transform into naturally healing body products. At the end of the week, we will share our products with the Danby community at a location TBA.

#### Art & Soul

Monday-Thursday, July 23-26, 9am-3pm Dewitt Middle School

Throw yourself into a week of artistic exploration as we join Beth Bannister and JYC youth to complete various arts and crafts.

#### Fishing & Canoeing

Tuesday-Wednesday, August 7-8, 9am-3pm Jennings Pond

Fish, swim, and canoe on Danby's own pond! Lifegaurds will be on duty for swimming time in the afternoon.

#### Baking & Breadmaking

Thursday-Friday, August 9-10, 9am-3pm location TBA

Learn how to bake bread, pizza, and sweet things, too! On Friday we will take a fieldtrip to a local bakery.



#### **Outdoor Cooking**

Tuesday-Wednesday, August 14-15, 9am-3pm

Danby State Forest

Hike in the Danby State forest while learning to feed yourself in the great outdoors.

#### **Book-Making**

Thursday -Friday, August 16-17, 9am-3pm location TBA

Learn a variety of book-binding techniques while creating plain notebooks or stories of your own.

#### Finger Lakes National Forest Overnight

Monday-Wednesday, August 20-22

drop-off (8am) and pick-up (2pm): Coop Extension

Join youth from around Tompkins County on a 2-day overnight trek.

## TICK CLAYMATION

Submitted by Kenny Makosch

Cornell graduate student Max Helmberger created a short claymation video to help explain the life cycle of the black-legged tick and how it transmits disease to humans.

It's been described as, "interesting," "informative," and, well, "slightly gross." It's about ticks, after all. Well worth watching, for its artistic merit, if nothing else. Visit [youtu.be/k5 5vM5aub4].

## SWIMMING AT JENNINGS POND

JENNINGS POND IS A BEAUTIFUL POND and wildlife area that is part of Buttermilk State Park. It is situated right off Bald Hill Road in Danby.

People fish, kayak, and canoe on the 40-acre Pond. The Town of Danby funds lifeguards for swimming in the summer. These are Danby area lifeguards serving our community. Come swim at Jennings Pond all summer when lifeguards are on duty.



## Danby Area News: Event Calendar

Jul 4 • Wed

1pm American Legion • Picnic In The Pavilion

Jul 5 • Thu

??? American Legion • Seniors BBQ

7pm A Town Hall • Danby Community Council Mtg

Jul 7 • Sat

9am Town Hall • Library Volunteers Meeting

Jul 9 • Mon

7pm Town Hall • Public Hearing: Housing Needs

7pm Town Hall • Town Board Meeting

7pm A Danby Fire Hall • Fire Dep't Meeting

7pm West Danby Fire Hall • WD Fire Dep't Meeting

Jul 10 • Tue

7pm Danby Fire Hall • Fire District Meeting

Jul 14 • Sat

11am Danby Comm. Church • Tour of Historic Danby

Jul 17 • Tue

7pm Danby Fire Hall • Fire District Meeting

Jul 19 • Thu

3-6pm Danby Comm. Church • Food Pantry

7pm Town Hall • Planning Board Meeting

Jul 20 • Fri

1:30-5:30pm Danby Comm. Church • Blood Drive

Jul 23 • Mon

Noon Danby Comm. Church • Mobile Food Truck
7pm Town Hall • Conservation Advisory Council Mtg

Jul 25 • Wed

6:30pm 🛍 Danby Comm. Church

Sundaes on Wednesday: Ithaca Concert Band

Jul 27-28 • Fri (7-9pm)—Sat (9am-Noon)

Danby Comm. Church • Garage Sale

Jul 28 • Sat

6pm 🕰 Myers Garden, 1071 Michigan Hollow

West Danby Summer Concert

Aug 1 • Wed

6:30pm Danby Comm. Church • Sundaes on Weds

Aug 2 • Thu

7pm Town Hall • Danby Community Council Mtg

Aug 4 • Sat

9am Town Hall • Library Volunteers Meeting

Aug 8 • Wed

6:30pm Danby Comm. Church • Sundaes on Weds

Aug 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

Aug 14 • Tue

7pm Danby Fire Hall • Fire District Meeting

Aug 20 • Mon

7pm Town Hall • Town Board Meeting

#### **ONGOING EVENTS**

Danby Community Library Open Town Hall Tuesdays and Fridays, 1:30-3:30pm,

and when the Open sign is out!

Saturdays, 9am-Noon

Seniors Strength Training Group Danby Community Church Mondays and Thursdays, 9am.

Tai Chi Classes Danby Community Church Mondays and Wednesdays, 11am.

AA Meeting Danby Community Church Wednesdays, 7pm.

Danby Quilters Group \$\overline{\text{Coup}}\$ 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 Drive, off Rt.34/96
- Danby Community Church 1859 Danby Road
- American Legion Post 221 1231 Danby Road