

DANBY AREA NEWS

RABIES (INFO) FOR ALL

Submitted by Celeste Rakovich, Tompkins County Health Dep't

RABIES IS A DEADLY DISEASE caused by a virus that attacks the nervous system. There is no cure. There are animal cases of rabies every year in Tompkins County.

Danby's Community Council will host an educational presentation about Rabies on Wednesday, June 12, 7-8:30pm, in Danby's Town Hall.

Cynthia Mosher (Environmental Health) and Celeste Rakovich (Community Health Services) from the Health Department will be presenting. They will cover topics including the Rabies disease, what is considered a human exposure, what to do if you think you've been exposed to Rabies, Post-Exposure treatment, and how to protect your pets. ❄

BOB BECK TO SPEAK AT CAC

Submitted by Ronda Roaring

ARTICLE 12-F of the NYS General Municipal law allows a Town to set up a conservation advisory council (CAC). Danby did this in 2010. The duties of a CAC include inventorying and mapping all open marshes, swamps and wetlands; inventorying and mapping open areas; advising the Town Board on the development, management and protection of a Town's natural resources; etc.

Article 12-F also allows a Town to designate a CAC as, "a conservation board provided such council has prepared and submitted to the [Town] the conservation open area inventory and map

—cont'd on page 6 ➡

THE CANDIDATES SPEAK!

Submitted by West Danby Community Association and Danby Community Council

THERE ARE LOTS OF CHOICES for Danby voters and, this year, the choice is likely to be made in June, not in November. Unless some last-minute independent or write-in candidates appear, the hotly contested races will be between Democrats (no other parties have candidates) and they'll be decided during the Democratic Primary in June. Voting will take place on June 25, from Noon until 9pm, in the Danby and West Danby Fire Stations.

Democratic voters in Danby will choose from among 23 candidates, who are running for 13 contested "seats" in 5 offices (some offices have more than one seat) and will be on the Primary ballot. An additional 4 "seats" in 3 offices are uncontested and those candidates will go directly to the November election ballot. 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.

The West Danby Community Association and the Danby Community Council are pleased to be able to offer just this opportunity during two informative Candidates Forums on Sundays, 3-5pm: June 9 in the West Danby Fire Station (WDCA) and June 16 in the Danby Fire Station (DCC).

All candidates for the Town's contested positions (Town Supervisor, Town Councilperson, and Town Justice) have been invited to participate in this moderated forum. In addition, candidates for the contested Tompkins County Democratic Committee positions and all the uncontested positions have also been invited to attend, though they will not join the Q&A panel. All voters, regardless of political affiliation, are welcome to join the audience.

—cont'd on page 6 ➡

This Month Inside the Danby News:

- Town Clerk's Desktop ③
- Danby Rural Cemetery Assoc. . . ③
- Open House at Danby Court . . ④
- County Legislature Update . . . ④
- Supervisor's Update ⑤
- West Danby Water District . . . ⑤
- Electric Vehicles Work Hard. . . ⑦
- Coddington Road Comm. Ctr . ⑦
- Tick Talk: Put Away Matches . . ⑧
- Camping in Danby State Forest . ⑧
- Tai Chi / Brooktondale Yard Sales ⑧
- Danby Community Park Update ⑨
- Events 'Round Town ⑨
- 3rd Annual Big Pumpkin Contest ⑩
- Seniors / Mobile Food Truck . . ⑩
- Youth Programs ⑪
- Community Library. ⑪
- Jennings Pond Opens Soon! . . . ⑪
- Calendar ⑫

June 2019

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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 15th of the month. Materials may be accepted later if time allows. Submissions should generally not exceed one page. We cannot print political material or letters of opinion.

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DANBY NEWS NOTES

Submitted by Ted Crane

Submission Guidelines: 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

Local Elections

FOR DECADES, ELECTIONS TOOK PLACE in the Danby Town Hall. This was the case when I first became Clerk in 2010. Soon after that, the Board of Elections moved the Danby election site to improve accessibility. For more than eight years, primaries and general elections have been held in the Central and West Danby Fire Halls.

As most readers know, there are two ways for a political party to choose its candidates for the general election: a Primary and a Caucus. Historically, the local Democrats have chosen candidates by caucus.

A Caucus is limited to a certain time and place. During a caucus, in an hour or two, candidates make statements and only the limited number of voters present for the entire meeting can vote. This is sometimes a rough and tumble process and some people like it that way.

More voters are more familiar with the Primary system. Voters can cast ballots at any time from Noon to 9pm in the usual polling locations, and under the same non-partisan conditions. This year, the local Democrats have chosen to hold a primary, rather than a caucus. To the best of our knowledge, no other parties or individuals are expected to be running.

Primary and General Election

The New York Primary Election is scheduled for June 25, Noon-9pm. The General Election will be held on November 5, 6am-9pm. For the first time in NY history, there will be early voting for the General Election--October 26 through November 3 (according to the Board of Elections, early voting hours and location are "TBD"). You can find much more information at the Board of Elections web site [tompkinscountyny.gov/boe]. You will find the answers to questions like, "How do I register to vote?" "How do I get an absentee ballot?" "Where do I vote?" and "How do I check my registration status?".

Town Clerk Role

Town Clerks have a small role to play in the election process. Well before any petitioning, campaigning, or voting is done, the Board of Elections contacts municipal Clerks for confirmation of whether there are any government seats up for reelection or propositions to be

placed on the ballot. The clerk also informs the Board of Elections about length of term for each of these positions. This year, many Danby positions are on the ballot: the Supervisor (2 years), Highway Superintendent (2 years), two Justices (4 years), two Town Board Councilpersons (4 years), and the Town Clerk (2 years).

Most election records are preserved by the Board of Elections. The exceptions are the election records for School Districts (maintained by the District) and Danby's Fire District (voter registry and vote tally sheets are maintained by the Clerk in the Town Hall archive vault).

A Change In Town Clerks

Whatever happens in the primary and general election, Danby will have a new Town Clerk in 2020. I am moving forward to a new career...but don't say "goodbye" quite yet. My term runs through the end of December 2019.

Alex Pfeifer, currently Deputy Clerk, is running for the office. As of now, because she is the only candidate for the office you won't find her name on the Primary ballot. You'll see her name on the ballot--along with any Independent candidates who qualify--during the General Election in November.

As for the transition from one Town Clerk to another, this will be the smoothest transition in decades of Danby history. I will work with the new Town Clerk--before and after the New Year--to ensure all the details of "Clerk Work" are transferred.

For all services, the Town Clerk's office is open 10am-5pm Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday. Summer Hours are now in effect; enjoy your weekends while we enjoy ours. As always, we are closed on Thursdays and Sundays--and the chocolate bowl remains well supplied. Thank you for your sweet generosity.

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

DANBY RURAL CEMETERY ASSOC.

Submitted by Sharon Boda

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the Danby Rural Cemetery Association will be held on June 8, 2019, 9am. Join us in the Danby Community Church. All members and extended family are encouraged to attend. Questions? Please call me, 607.273.8241. ❁



OPEN HOUSE AT DANBY COURT

Submitted by Theresa Klinger, Town Justice

JOIN the Hon. Garry Huddle and Hon. Theresa Klinger for an open house of the Danby Town Court on Friday, June 7, 6-8pm.

Twelve years ago, the court was a 6-foot folding table and assorted chairs. All records were handwritten in docket books. Today's courtroom includes a beautiful judges bench, constructed by Matt Cooper and Tod Sukontarak of West Danby Woodworks, along with a new heating/air conditioning system, a covered entrance, new concrete steps and sidewalk, a security system complete with cameras, and a bullet- and fire-proof transaction window.

All of these improvements are the result of grant writing efforts by Huddle and Klinger, who applied for and obtained more than \$55,000 of funding from New York State.

The Open House will not feature a live session of the Court, but most court proceedings are open to the public. Court is held every Tuesday morning, beginning at 9am and continuing until all cases have been heard. The Judges hear attorneys and their clients first, then proceed to other cases. The District Attorney's Office is present on the first Tuesday of every month. Anyone is welcome to attend and may ask questions after the session has ended. ❁

COUNTY LEGISLATURE UPDATE

Submitted by Dan Klein, , Tompkins County Legislator

TOMPKINS CORTLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE (TC3) is jointly sponsored by Tompkins and Cortland Counties, and serves about 3,300 students.

Community colleges across the country are experiencing decreased enrollment due to demographics, and also due to the low unemployment rate. When the economy is bad, people go back to school to get new skills and also to "wait out" the economy until it improves. When the economy is good, a number of people skip college and go right into the job market.

Lower enrollment makes the finances for the college difficult since it has a number of fixed costs: utilities, medical facilities, debt service, etc. The college has been forced to reduce its workforce significantly to deal with declining enrollments, and also do dig deep into its fund balance.

By State law, each year the Tompkins County legislature and the Cortland County legislature must agree to fund TC3 to the same level. The economy and the makeup of the legislatures are very different in the two counties, and Cortland has been unwilling in the last three years to increase the allocation to TC3. So expenses have been going up, allocations have been flat, and enrollment is down. TC3 has not raised tuition in the past two years.

TC3 is asking for a five percent increase in County funding this year, which would amount to an extra \$150,000 from Tompkins County (our total allocation to them is about \$4.5 million). However, they are looking at an approximately \$1.8 million budget deficit for next year. No matter how you slice and dice it, TC3

will be in a difficult financial situation for at least the next several years.

One very interesting program that TC3 does is called "concurrent enrollment". Approximately 70 school districts in the region offer college credit from TC3 for certain high school courses. Approximately 3,800 students participated in this program last year, and some earned a 2-year Associates degree while still in high school.

The courses are taught by specially trained high school teachers, so the cost to TC3 is low. This enables the students to take the courses for free, with no cost to the school district. However, if the school district is outside Tompkins or Cortland counties, those counties pay TC3 something called a "chargeback."

If a Tompkins resident takes a class at TC3, the student pays tuition. If a resident of Schuyler County, for example, takes a class at TC3, the student pays tuition and Schuyler County pays TC3 a "chargeback" fee. Similarly if a Tompkins resident takes a class at Onondaga Community College, Tompkins County pays a chargeback to Onondaga.

TC3 has increased its enrollment of students from other countries over the past few years. This increases the diversity of the student body and also helps with finances since out-of-state students pay double the tuition.

TC3 is a valuable community resource, and Tompkins County is doing its part to keep the college viable. Hopefully its enrollment and other sources of funding will stabilize over the next few years so that TC3 can thrive.

If you have any questions or comments, feel free to contact me; [danbydan@hotmail.com] or 607.272.7582. ❁

SUPERVISOR'S UPDATE

Submitted by Ric Dietrich, Town of Danby Supervisor

AFTER TWO WHOLE DAYS OF SUN, I am impressed with the good weather. The sunshine has also revealed a ton of pending work outside; progress on the work has been problematic because it's been underwater. I know I have mentioned this before, but I have not experienced this much moisture in the past. Sun to try and dry things out is indeed welcome.

On the Town agenda this past month, the CAC has come to the Town Board for approval as a Board rather than an Advisory body. This significant event will create a new Board with the power to review and address environmental concerns. Environmental review has always been a part of both Town Board and Planning Board procedure but initial research will become the CAC's job.

The new TCAT bus shelter is up across the street from Town Hall. TCAT has planned to remove the old at the Fire Station, possibly by the time you read this.

The departure of our Planner and Code Officer has created the kind of difficulties that occur when you change horses in mid-stream. We are working to replace both positions, and this will take a while.

We met with the NY State DEC, logging operators, and Town Board members to further our understanding of how we can craft our own laws to regulate logging. The CAC is reviewing and will be putting together a draft preposal for the Town Board.

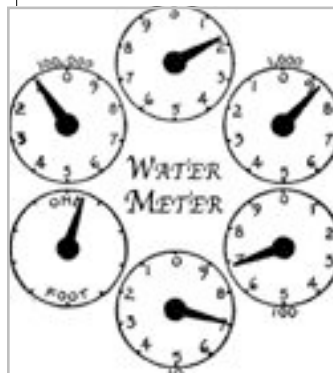
Money is again flowing from NY State to companies that have or will have agreements to continue infrastructure buildout of high speed Internet in those parts of the Town no not yet have service. A new Cable TV franchise agreement is being worked out to get some service to South Danby.

The new landscaping on the parking lot side of Town Hall is complete. I look forward to watching them mature. In side news, we have taken possession of a very old clock, pre-civil war, that we have restored. I am looking forward to its new place in our Town Hall.

If you have any questions or concerns, contact me at [\[supervisor@townofdanbyny.org\]](mailto:supervisor@townofdanbyny.org). ☘

WEST DANBY WATER DISTRICT UPDATE

Submitted by Tod Sukontarak, Water Commissioner



ON APRIL 23, the District had its annual inspection by the Tompkins County Health Department. We weren't cited for any violations but there are some areas where it was suggested we improve.

Tod will be attending the New York Rural Water Association's annual work-

shop and seminars, where he plans to research some of the requested changes. The area that we are encouraged to improve is monitoring chlorine levels. The DOH would like if we were able to monitor chlorine levels more frequently than every 24 hours.

We are also requested to remove two dying trees near the water tank that appear to be leaning toward the tank. Neither appear imminently ready to fall, so we will wait until after the bird nesting season to schedule the removal.

TCDOH also assessed Scott Wendt's work in the pump house the same day as the inspection. Scott did well and his application to be certified as a C System Water Operator has been sent to NY State. ☘

Town Office Info

Town Clerk • [\[townclerk@townofdanbyny.org\]](mailto:townclerk@townofdanbyny.org)

Phone: 277.4788 • Fax: 277.0559

Mon-Tue-Wed-Fri, 10am-5pm, Summer hours until September: closed Saturday.

Highway Department • [\[highway@townofdanbyny.org\]](mailto:highway@townofdanbyny.org)

93 Hornbrook Road • Phone: 272.9169

Mon-Thu, 6am-4:30pm

Code Enforcement Office • [\[code@townofdanbyny.org\]](mailto:code@townofdanbyny.org)

Phone: 277.0799 • Fax: 277.0559

Mon-Wed, 9am-5pm; Thu, 12:30-5:30pm

Town Court • [\[courtclerk@townofdanbyny.org\]](mailto:courtclerk@townofdanbyny.org)

Phone: 277.0095 • Fax: 277.0031 • Tue, 9am

All offices at Danby Town Hall except where noted.

➤ **Bob Beck Speaks, cont'd from front page—**

which are accepted and approved by the [Town]....”

The CAC recently completed the inventory and map, called the Natural Resources Inventory. The Town Board is now considering designating the CAC a Conservation Board. The general duty of such a Board is to, “assist [the Town] in the development of sound open area planning and assure preservation of natural and scenic resources on the local level,” among other things.

To help the CAC and the Town Board make the decision as to whether the CAC should be designated a Conservation Board, the CAC has asked Bob Beck to speak to the CAC at its next meeting. Bob is an excellent speaker and the author of *The Journey at Maloryville Bog*, a detailed story of how Bob and other

members of the Dryden Conservation Board worked to preserve this unique site, which is now under the protection of The Nature Conservancy. Bob has served on Dryden’s Conservation Board for many years in various capacities and, as chair of Dryden’s Rail Trail Taskforce, has spearheaded a new trail that connects the villages of Dryden and Freeville, using what used to be a Lehigh Valley rail bed. This 20-mile-long trail also includes the Jim Schug Trail and the East Hill Recreation Way. Learn more about Bob at [bobbeckauthor.com]. Learn more about the Dryden-Freeville Trail on the Town of Dryden web site [dryden.ny.us].

The public is invited to Bob’s talk to learn more about the role of a conservation board and how it can protect Danby’s open spaces and rural character. The meeting takes place on June 11, 7pm. Hope to see you there. ♣

➤ **Candidates Speak, cont'd from front page—**

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.

More questions can be asked of candidates for all positions after the formal questioning session has ended.

Happily, we have secured the services of the Tompkins County League of Women Voters, to serve as moderator and provide guidelines for the conduct of the forum.

So who are the candidates? In the order as appearance as they will appear on the ballot:

Town Supervisor

- Ric Dietrich
- Joel P. Gagnon

Town Councilperson (two seats)

- Leslie A. Connors
- Sarah A. Schnabel
- Ted Crane
- Jack L. Miller, Jr.

Town Justice (two seats)

- Garry J. Huddle
- Deawn Hersini
- Theresa H. Klinger

Democratic Committee District 1 (four seats) (uphill Danby, mostly west side of 96B)

- Dale L. Billington
- Ted Crane
- H. Katharine Hunter
- Patricia A. Woodworth
- Jack L. Miller, Jr.
- Frank J. Holahan
- Daniel E. Klein
- Jonathan L. Zisk

Democratic Committee District 3 (four seats) (uphill Danby, mostly east side of 96B)

- Joseph B. Schwartz
- Sarah A. Schnabel
- James C. Sorrentino
- Leslie A. Connors
- Matthew D. Ulinski
- James R. Rundle

Uncontested (November ballot only)

- Town Clerk: Alexandra Pfeifer
- Highway Superintendent: Carl Seamon
- Democratic Committee District 2 (West Danby):
Joel Gagnon, Dennis Perkins

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

Light refreshments will be provided.

The West Danby Fire Station is on Sylvan Lane, off NYS Rt.34/96 in West Danby. The Danby Fire Station is on NYS Rt.96B, 1780 Danby Road, in downtown Danby. For more info, [programs@danbycc.org]. ♣

ELECTRIC VEHICLES WORK HARD

Submitted by Ted Crane

IF EVs (ELECTRIC VEHICLES) COULD TALK, they would tell you that Ithaca, NY is a nightmare. It would be a loud chorus of misery, because there are so many EVs around here.

How many ways does Ithaca make life tough for an EV? In spite of everything, why are there so many around here and why are they still less expensive to operate than a traditional fossil-fuel vehicle?

An EV—whether it's today's automobiles or tomorrow's pickup trucks and construction equipment—is at its worst when the temperature is low, when going up and down hills (mostly, going up), and when stopping and starting for red lights, speed bumps, and traffic.



Cold batteries perform poorly. The smallish battery in a Prius Prime loses 20% or more of its travel range in the winter, down from 25+ to a paltry 20 miles. Smaller EV batteries are emptied before they warm up but empty batteries still work as storage devices for recovered energy. This is a big plus for hybrid vehicles. Sadly, traditional engines don't do too well, either, until they warm up.

Cold weather haters complain that it takes extra battery power—miles lost—to heat the steering wheel, seat, and passenger compartment. They forget that a traditional engine offers no creature comforts until it warms up, unless energy is stolen from gasoline to power heaters.

EV travellers coming downhill to Ithaca often observe little or no *net* loss of battery energy. The energy recovered while coming downhill offsets energy used to cross the rural flats. Traditional engines continue using gasoline even when the vehicle is coasting downhill.

Going uphill, battery energy is used rapidly. Every tenth of a mile, the “remaining mileage” meter seems to drop two or three tenths of a mile. A safe rule of thumb is, *You can never recover the energy spent going uphill by going down the same hill.* It's almost as frightening as watching the dashboard of a traditional engine when it says “5 MPG” while climbing Ithaca's steep slopes.

Starting and stopping is a lot like going up and down hills, only the ground is flat. Energy lost when speeding up is never fully recovered when you slow down. An EV has a small advantage here. Some energy, at least, is recovered by regenerative braking; a traditional engine can't turn exhaust fumes back into gasoline.

A high-MPG fossil-fuel vehicle might travel 40 miles on a \$3 gallon of gasoline but the same \$3 could buy 20 kWh...and an efficient EV can go 80 miles on that electricity. Hills, red lights, and traffic affect both kinds of vehicles. Cold weather takes its toll on batteries, but even 80% of a battery still propels an EV more than 60 miles for the cost of a gallon of gas. Even in wintry, hilly, traffic-ey Ithaca.

Ask an EV, and it surely would rather be operated in sunny, flat, no-red-lights Nevada. It's going to hate Ithaca, but it's still going to be cheaper to operate than a fossil-fueled vehicle. ❁

CODDINGTON ROAD COMMUNITY CENTER CELEBRATES 70 YEARS

Submitted by Heather Mount, Coddington Road Community Ctr

ON MAY 9, the children, staff and families of the Coddington Road Community Center (CRCC), located in the South Hill area, kicked off its 70th year of providing community and youth programming to the greater Ithaca region.

Attendees enjoyed a variety of games and toys at an old fashioned birthday party that highlighted traditional activities from the last 70 years. Coddington Road Community Center is a nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting families by providing children, youth and adults with exceptional care in a warm, accepting, and safe environment.

CRCC currently offers childcare (8wks-6 years), school age care afterschool, during school breaks, and full day summer camp including youth employment as well as a variety of recreational programming. It's located on a beautiful 12-acre site just three miles outside of downtown...and near to Danby. Info: 607.277.1434 or [coddingtonroad.org]. ❁

PUT AWAY THE MATCHES

Submitted by Mary Woodsen.

ALL THOSE TICK-CONTROL TACTICS you've been told...don't believe them for a minute.

Take the idea of suffocating a tick with petroleum jelly, for instance. That tick breathes as little as three times an hour. True, it's run out of chances to make babies; for that we are grateful. But it's also had plenty of time to eject its payload of potentially toxic saliva into your body.

As for fingernail polish, rubbing alcohol, and that aforementioned match stick? Not only does that tick stay put, but you've ticked it off. For retribution? Tossing its cookies inside you...which is not what you need right now.

Putting it through the laundry or soaking it off in a hot tub won't do it in, either. What will? Putting it in the dryer on high heat for as little as ten minutes...or flushing it down the toilet.

Something I mentioned last month bears repeating: the best all-round method for getting ticks off you is with a simple, inexpensive pair of super-pointy tweezers. Put yours in your backpack or your handbag when you're out and about. Just a couple of weeks ago I spent less than a minute in a patch of high grass and later found a tick drilling into the back of my leg. It can happen that fast.

When it comes to ticks, prevention is your best defense. At the very least, wear light-colored clothing and stuff your pants-leg into your socks. Of course, real tick gear--permethrin-treated gaiters, for instance--is what you need if you plan on hiking or gardening. You can find no end of info at [tickencounter.org]. ❧

BROOKTONDALE FOR SALE

TRAVEL ACROSS HILL AND DALE to Brooktondale on Saturday, June 8 for its Community Yard Sale!

The Caroline Valley Community Church, 546 Valley Road, is among the participants. It is requesting donations from the community; items in good shape. Please, no clothing or TVs. Drop off at the church, Monday-Thursday evenings, June 3-4-5-6, 6-7:30pm, or call 607.539.6477 to make an appointment. ❧

CAMPING RULES IN DANBY STATE FOREST

Submitted by Ronda Roaring

I HAD AN OPPORTUNITY to talk with Joan Oldroyd, the DEC Forest Ranger, recently. She said that new rules for camping during hunting season have been instituted in the Danby State Forest (DSF). These rules are designed for people who live near the DSF and have been having trouble with hunters camping wherever they like and leaving trash.

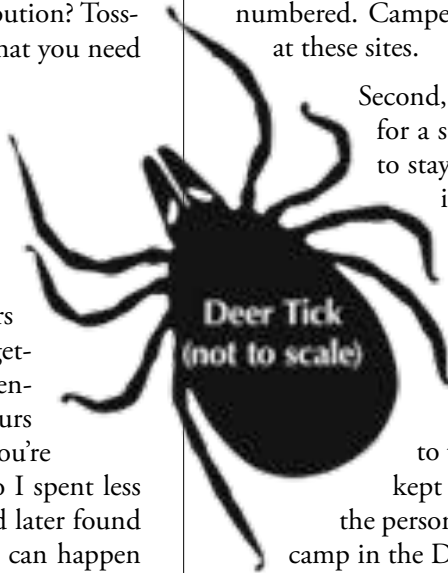
First, campers will longer be permitted to camp just anywhere. Instead, twelve sites have been chosen and numbered. Campers will be permitted to camp only at these sites.

Second, campers will be required to sign up for a site--no matter how long they want to stay. This must be done prior to hunting season. If all sites are spoken for, the individual will not be allowed to camp in the DSF.

Third, identification must be presented to sign up for a site.

Therefore, the person camping at a particular site will be known to the forest ranger and, if the site isn't kept clean or if trash is left at the site, the person will be fined and not permitted to camp in the DSF again.

Questions or possible violations should go to Joan at [joan.oldroyd@dec.ny.gov] or 607.798.1797. ❧



TAI CHI OPEN HOUSES AND CLASSES

Submitted by Margo Yntema

THE TAOIST TAI CHI SOCIETY will hold two Open Houses; one at its main studio in downtown Ithaca, 1201 North Tioga Street, on Saturday, May 25, 11:30am-1pm, and a second on Tuesday evening, May 28, 5:30-7pm.

In Danby, classes will begin a new cycle, starting on Monday June 3. Both beginning and continuing classes are offered, Mondays and Wednesdays, 11am-Noon. For more information please call call 607.277.5491 or, to view the full class schedule, please visit [taoisttaichi.org]. ❧

DANBY COMMUNITY PARK UPDATE

Submitted by Julie Clougherty, DCPA Board

Bridges, Benches, and More

CONSTRUCTION of the long-dreamed-of Natural Playground is finally underway at Dotson Park!

Eight volunteers constructed a 50-foot boardwalk at the entrance to the playground area, put together six benches based on a design by Aldo Leopold, and cleared brush during the first construction weekend in May.

Just a few days later, during a welcome break in the rainy weather, project leader Tom Janda pounced on the chance to start moving piles of soil and rocks. Those piles will form the climbing hills and boulder scramble that make up a big part of Phase One of the Natural Playground project.

Come pull up a bench and check out the progress, try out the new boardwalk, and send us an Email, [dotsonpark@gmail.com], if you want to get in on the rest of the installation (happening later this month). It's *your* park!



Tom Janda and Ted Crane finish the first bench under the watchful eyes of the rest of the volunteers.

Photo by Julie Clougherty

If you have a question for the DCPA, Please contact [dotsonpark@gmail.com], and we'll get back to you right away! ♣

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!

Conservation Advisory Council

Bob Beck Speaks: Tuesday, June 11, 7pm, Town Hall

Community Council

All About Rabies: Wednesday, June 12, 7pm, Town Hall.

Dennis Winge and Michelle Gordon: Sunday, Jul 21, 3pm, Town Hall.

Harvest Festival: Sunday, October 13, 1-5pm, Dotson Park. It's not too early to begin planning for Danby's premier outdoor event.

Candidate Forums

WDCA presents: Sunday, June 9, 3pm, West Danby Fire Station. Candidates for Town office in Democratic primary.

DCC presents: Sunday, June 16, 3pm Danby Fire Station. Candidates for Town office in Democratic primary.

Danby Rural Cemetery Association

Annual Meeting: Saturday, June 8, 9am, Danby Community Church.

The Great Room at Slow Lane

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

Danby Community Church

Red Cross Blood Drive: Friday, July 19, 1-6pm.

Sundaes on Wednesdays: coming on July 31.

Danby Gathery

Restorative Yin Yoga with Katie Arnold: Wednesdays, 7-8:15pm. Join Katie for a slow moving, meditative and restorative practice. Info: [danbygathery.com/events].

Tickets and more info at [danbygathery.com].

Moon Gatherings

Community potluck, nature connection, meditation, songs, story sharing at each New Moon, for all ages. For dates and directions, contact [honeysharmony@gmail.com]. ♣

3RD ANNUAL BIG PUMPKIN CONTEST

Submitted by the Danby Community Council

THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL is again sponsoring a contest for the largest pumpkin. 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 champion. The weigh-in will happen during the Danby



The 2018 Big Pumpkin Winners

Harvest Festival in Dotson Park on October 13. All contestants will receive a certificate of participation and awards will be given for the top three largest pumpkins, the most beautiful pumpkin, and other categories to be determined.

Seeds from last year's winner are available from the Town Clerk's office. We recommend planting indoors around May 15 and transplanting outdoors after June 1. Seedlings will be available during the Community Council meeting at Town Hall on June 6, 7-8pm, or by contacting Bill Evans at [wevans@danbycc.org]. ❄

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 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. ❄

MOBILE FOOD TRUCK

Submitted by Margie VanDeMark

MOBILE FOOD TRUCK visits Danby on Monday, June 24. Please bring your own bags or boxes! ❄



DANBY SENIORS UPDATE

Submitted by Margie VanDeMark and Nancy Gould

THE NEXT MEETING of the Danby Seniors will be on Thursday, June 6 at Noon in the Danby Church, for a dish to share luncheon.

We thank our hosts for May: Bill & Judy Cuyle, Donna Donnelly, Paul Moore, and the Senior Exercise gals (Sharon S., Sarah S. & Pauline H.). We enjoyed three games of Bingo after our meeting.

The travel committee outlined the upcoming trips: June 27 (see below), July 30 for a Merry-Go-Round Theater followed by dinner, and September 11 to the Genesee Country Museum.

Since July 4 falls on our usual meeting date, we'll gather for our July BBQ on Wednesday, July 3, at Noon, in the American Legion. Signups are required; please contact me, 607.273.8046 for information.

On Thursday, June 27, 2019, the Danby Seniors will travel to Alexandria Bay, to enjoy a buffet luncheon at Riley's by the River and then take Uncle Sam's Two Nation Boat Cruise. The day will include a stop on the way home at the Super Cream Dairy Bar in Homer (at your expense).

The bus leaves from the Danby Community Church at 7:30am and will return around 6:30pm. Cost: \$40 for members, \$45 for non-members. For more info: Nancy Weitzel, 607.272.6570, or Nancy Gould, 607.273.8705 or [ngould1@yahoo.com]. ❄



Community Council Youth Programs

Danby youth enjoyed some sunny and some rainy days of outdoor BBQ and yard games. Both the elementary and middle school youth were able to participate in programs where they practiced their culinary grilling skills and learned the rules of some of the more popular backyard games, including bocce ball.

Spring programs continue to be up and running, and there is still space if additional youth are interested in seeing what Danby Youth Programs have to offer. More information can be found at [danbycc.org/Youth-Programs] or by contacting Maddie at [mu33@cornell.edu] or 607.379.0245.

Birds, and Bees, and Butterflies - Grade 4 and 5

Mondays, May 27-June 24, 2:30-5pm

Danby Community Church

Gardening, bird house building, pollinator habitat exploration.

Lunch Bunch - Grade 4 and 5

Fridays during school year

South Hill School cafeteria

Outdoor Adventure - Grade 6, 7, 8

Fridays thru June 21, 4:30-6:30pm

Danby Community Church

Made possible by a grant, the program is focused around the book series, "My Side of the Mountain." There will be outdoor skills and crafts as well as exploration.

Catskill Trip - Grade 6, 7, 8

June 27-29

Overnight outdoor exploration, based on the outdoor adventure program focused around the book series, "My Side of the Mountain."

Pokemon Go, Hiking, and Board Games - Grade 6, 7, 8

Thursdays, thru June 20, 3:25-6:20pm

Boynton Middle School

A continuation of the popular games programs. Danby youth will join with JYC youth to play board and cards games, as well as outdoor activities. New players are always welcome!

Lunch bunch - Grade 6, 7, 8

Thursdays during school year

Boynton Middle School Cafeteria

Lots of fun! ❧

Danby Youth Flyer

JENNINGS POND SUMMER OPENING

Submitted by Mary Kozak

OUR BEAUTIFUL DANBY Recreational area, Jennings Pond, is set to open for free swimming sometime in the latter part of June.

Jennings Pond, a part of Buttermilk State Park, is at the headwaters of Buttermilk Creek. The creek flows through Danby to Treman Lake and Buttermilk Falls in Ithaca. Not only is it a great place to kayak and fish, but a wonderful place to enjoy nature's serenity.

Hope you come and enjoy free swimming when our lifeguards are on duty! Jennings Pond is a beautiful place to relax! ❧

DANBY COMMUNITY LIBRARY

Submitted by Cindy Parlett

SUMMER HOURS are now in effect until September. Along with the Town Hall offices, the library will not be open on Saturdays.

The annual Finger Lakes Libray sale is always exciting for us to attend. Some of the items we added to our collections:

Diary of a Wimpy Kid series

Dork Diaries

Tales from a Not-So-Fabulous Life by Rachel Renee Russell

Big Nate by Lincoln Pierce

DVD: *Avengers* movies from Marvel Studios

More books on CD will be arriving from TCPL this month. ❧



DANBY AREA NEWS: EVENT CALENDAR

- Jun 1 • Sat
9am 🏛️ Town Hall • **Library Volunteers Meeting**
- Jun 3 • Mon
7pm 🏛️ Town Hall • **Town Board Meeting**
- Jun 6 • Thu
Noon 🏛️ Danby Comm. Church • **Seniors**
7pm 🏛️ Town Hall • **Danby Community Council Mtg**
- Jun 7 • Fri
6pm 🏛️ Town Hall • **Danby Court Open House**
- Jun 8 • Sat
9am 🏛️ Danby Comm. Church
Danby Rural Cemetery Association Annual Meeting

Jun 9 • Sun
3pm 🏛️ West Danby Fire Hall • **Candidates Forum**

- Jun 10 • 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**

- Jun 11 • Tue
7pm 🏛️ Danby Town Hall • **Bob Beck Speaks**
7pm 🏛️ Danby Fire Hall • **Fire District Meeting**
7pm 🏛️ Town Hall • **Conservation Advisory Council Mtg**

Jun 12 • Wed
7pm 🏛️ Danby Town Hall • **All About Ticks**

Jun 16 • Sun
3pm 🏛️ Danby Fire Hall • **Candidates Forum**

- Jun 18 • Tue
7pm 🏛️ Danby Fire Hall • **Fire District Meeting**

- Jun 18 • Thu
3-6pm 🏛️ Danby Comm. Church • **Food Pantry**
7pm 🏛️ Town Hall • **Planning Board Meeting**

- Jun 24 • Mon
Noon 🏛️ Danby Comm. Church • **Mobile Food Truck**

- Jul 1 • Mon
7pm 🏛️ Town Hall • **Town Board Meeting**
- Jul 3 • Wed
Noon 🏛️ ALP #221 • **Seniors Summer BBQ**
- Jul 4 • Thu
7pm 🏛️ Town Hall • **Danby Community Council Mtg**
- Jul 6 • Sat
9am 🏛️ Town Hall • **Library Volunteers Meeting**
- Jul 8 • Mon
7pm 🏛️ Town Hall • **Town Board Meeting**
7pm 🏛️ Danby Fire Hall • **Fire Dep't Meeting**
7pm 🏛️ West Danby Fire Hall • **WD Fire Dep't Meeting**

ONGOING EVENTS

Danby Community Library 🏛️ Town Hall
Open whenever Town Hall is open!
Librarian on duty when the **Open** flag is out.

Food Scrap Recycling 🏛️ Town Hall 🔄
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 ☎️ 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