

DANBY NEWS

Danby Fire District Meetings

Please take notice that the Organizational Meeting for the Danby Fire District of the Town of Danby, County of Tompkins, New York, will be held on January 12, 2021, 7pm, in the Danby Fire Station, 1780 Danby Road, Ithaca, NY.

This notification is being given to the news media pursuant to the provisions of Section 94 of the Public Officers Law of the State of New York.

By order of the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Danby Fire District. ❁

A BIG THANK YOU

Submitted by Katherine Anderson, Danby Fire Commissioner

AS WE RING IN THE NEW YEAR, please join the Danby Fire District Commissioners in thanking all of our wonderful volunteers. We are grateful to each and every one of them—particularly during these challenging times—for their service, time, and dedication, and for their ongoing efforts in the new year.

Depending on their particular role and abilities, our volunteers are trained to handle a variety of situations. They are on call 24/7 and are the first responders at the scene of an accident, fire or emergency. Whether they are interior or exterior firefighters, direct traffic, drive apparatus, or provide emergency medical services, our volunteers give countless hours and sometimes risk their own health and lives to keep all of us and our property safe. We salute and appreciate them.

If you would like to learn more about volunteering, contact Chief John Gaden, [jgaden@danbyfiredistrict.org], for the Danby Fire Department or Chief Scott Wendt, [swendt@danbyfiredistrict.org], for the West Danby Fire Department.

[On December 8, the annual Danby Fire Commissioner election was held. The public overwhelmingly reelected Katherine Anderson for another 5-year term. —editor]

VISIT A RAPTOR AT HOME

Submitted by Ted Crane, Community Council

IMAGINE STANDING *THIS CLOSE* to a descendant of the dinosaurs. Imagine visiting a *raptor* at home. In the raptor's home, not yours.



Once upon a time, you'd have to climb a tall tree or even a vertiginous cliff to find a raptor nest. In January and February, though, thanks to the technology brought to us by COVID-19 (an unanticipated silver lining), we're going to join Danby's Community Council for a Zoom visit to Cornell's Raptor program!

We're going to visit the private quarters of our avian stars (quietly and politely, of course)...many more raptors than you could ever get this close to in person. We'll see the birds you *can't* take out to the public, and we're going to see what it is like to feed and care for them. We might even see some birds who were injured or lost and are being rehabilitated.

The visits are planned for Sundays, 3-4pm, on January 10 and February 7. To join in, visit the DCC's web page [danbycc.org]; you'll find the Zoom link at the top of the front page and also on the events page.

Valentine's Day Concert

Even if your sweetie isn't—especially if your sweetie isn't—a raptor join the DCC for an afternoon of romantic music on Sunday, February 14, 3pm.

More info at [danbycc.org].

Annual Meeting

And, of course, the DCC has its Annual Meeting coming upon Thursday, January 14, 7pm.

More info at [danbycc.org]. ❁

This Month Inside the Danby News:

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- Calendar ⑩

January 2021

Layout: Ted Crane

Count-n-Label Crew:

Diana Van de Bogart; Ted and Pamela; Katharine Hunter; Julie and her family; others.

Post Office Crew:

Julie, Katharine, and Ted

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 unencoded, plain-text 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 hardcopy graphics.

Deadline is the 15th of the month. Materials may be accepted later if time allows. Submissions should generally not exceed 250-350 words (one column). 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 UPDATE

Submitted by Janice Adelman, Town Clerk

DECEMBER IS THAT TIME OF YEAR when we all start to look back on what was, and create our vision for what will be. As Danby's newest Town Clerk (effective September 23) appointed to serve you through December 2021, I am finally feeling some solid ground underneath me in the Clerk's office at Town Hall. With that in mind, I wanted to take this opportunity to introduce myself, to thank you for your graciousness, and to let you know how the Clerk's office is still here to serve you through these exceptional COVID times.

My family and I moved to White Hawk Ecovillage in the early days of March 2020. We arrived just before New York began its response to curb the spread of

COVID-19. Honestly, we couldn't have picked a better spot to shelter-in-place. As for me, I have long been drawn to service opportunities, having volunteered and served on a number of boards and committees in my professional field. Through these experiences, I developed an interest in, one day, becoming involved with my local government. To my surprise (and delight!) that one day came back in September.

I am grateful for this opportunity to serve the Town of Danby, and I am grateful for the warm reception I have received so far. You have been patient and understanding while I fumbled around trying to learn new-to-me codes, laws, and procedures (one day I'll write about the "dough" permit conversation I had with a resident).

Although Town Hall remains locked during the day to keep us all safe, we are still at work for you. Given the recent uptick in COVID cases in Tompkins County, we encourage everyone to take care of as much Town business as you can from a distance without coming in to Town Hall. Property tax collection will be starting soon, but we will have secure methods in place for you to pay your bills online, over the phone, via postal mail, or via contactless drop-off. If you must do something face-to-face with us, please call, email, or visit [townofdanbyny.org] to get up-to-date information or make an appointment to come in.

Here's to a happy (and healthier) 2021! ❁

HISTORY REPEATING AND RHYMING

Submitted by M.A. Barr, Town Historian

KEN BURNS HAS SAID that history doesn't repeat itself; it rhymes. By that, I think he must mean that events are similar and rhyme but the details differ and don't repeat themselves—or vice versa.

One hundred and two years ago, in 1918, the people of Danby, like the rest of the world, were challenged by the Spanish Flu Pandemic. It lasted three years. Each succeeding New Year, people must have dug deep for new inspiration and solutions as January rolled around.

Today's pandemic does echo the Spanish Flu, but 21st Century technology gives us access to family and friends and to remedies in ways not available in 1918. It has made our handling of the challenges different from 1918-1920. People in quarantine in 1918-1920 could write letters and dial the telephone to keep in touch, though long-distance calling had limitations and "snail mail" took longer.

If they needed help, food, or care the response time was slower than today. Keeping the population across the whole country informed of the latest aspects of the pandemic was time-consuming. Today we get news in real time; instant information. The two different periods in our history may not be exactly the same but they do rhyme.

Though we are still dealing with the COVID-19 Pandemic, a new year can instill thoughts of a new start, new solutions and ideas for moving forward. This approach is one of the basic human characteristics seen through history that I think both repeats itself *and* rhymes. ❁

Town Office Info

Town Clerk • [townclerk@townofdanbyny.org]

Phone: 277.4788 • Fax: 277.0559

Mon-Fri, 2-6pm, by appointment only.

Highway Department • [highway@townofdanbyny.org]

93 Hornbrook Road • Phone: 272.9169

Mon-Thu, 6am-4:30pm

Planning Office • [planner@townofdanbyny.org]

Phone: 592.0417 • Fax: 277.0559

Mon-Thu, 9am-5:30pm

Appointments encouraged (or call or Email ahead).

Code Enforcement Office • [code@townofdanbyny.org]

Phone: 277.0799 • Fax: 277.0559

Mon-Fri, 8am-4:30pm

Town Court • [dgair@nycourts.gov]

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

All offices at Danby Town Hall except where noted.

CLUB

SUPERVISOR'S UPDATE

Submitted by Joel Gagnon, Town of Danby Supervisor

THE TOWN BOARD UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED the local law expanding the pool of those eligible to run for Highway Superintendent in Danby to include residents of adjoining municipalities. A variety of reasons were cited by Board members for their support prior to the vote, with expanding voter choice and eliminating a barrier to advancement for Highway Department employees prominent among them. This law could come into play in 2021 since it is an election year for local offices and the Highway Superintendent, like the Town Supervisor and Town Clerk, is elected every two years.

Budget and Tax Collection

Danby's 2021 budget also passed unanimously. The Board opted to stay within the NYS Tax Cap and filled the gap between what is in the budget to be spent and what is to be raised through taxes by reducing the balance in our savings. You will be getting your Town and County Tax bill shortly if you have not already. Because the pandemic yet rages you are encouraged to pay your taxes by check through the mail or electronically on line rather than in person if possible. Payments can be made in person, however, provided the COVID numbers don't result in the Governor ordering Danby's Town Hall to shut down again. You will need an appointment for an in-person payment. The USPS could use the support, so why not mail a check?

LED Street Lights Coming

The Town Board authorized, and I recently signed, an agreement with NYSEG to convert our existing street lights to use energy efficient LED (light emitting diode) sources. Our existing lights are mostly mercury vapor, with a few high pressure sodium. We have a grand total of 22 street lights in Danby. The new lights will be "warmer" than most of the old lights, closer to what old-fashioned incandescent bulbs put out, which is eco-friendlier in that it attracts fewer insects. We will continue renting the lights from NYSEG. We pay the remaining life value of the existing lights but will make up the cost in a couple of years with energy savings. Since this conversion is very popular, the switch may not take place right away--we will be scheduled in along with many others on a time-available basis. In the meantime, the facade-illuminating lights at Danby's Town Hall have been converted to LEDs. No energy savings, since the old bulbs have been burned out for years, but at very modest expense we are once again casting light on one of the most architecturally and historically significant buildings in the town—your Town Hall.

Management of Town-Owned Land

It has been a long time coming, but I am guessing that not too many of you have been anxiously awaiting the putting in place of management plans for the two Town-owned properties that can be called conservation land. The Conservation Advisory Council (CAC) is charged with preparing these plans for Town Board adoption. Public input is needed to ensure that the plans reflect what most townspeople want. There are two properties. One is about ten acres on Deputron Hollow Road, a forested hillside given to the Town by the state almost a century ago (and mostly ignored ever since). The other is in West Danby and was acquired as part of the creation of the water district in the late 1960s. It is a mostly forested hillside, but fragmented somewhat by the road up to the water storage tank and the cleared path for the water line between well and tank. Jonathan Zisk, CAC member and recently retired environmental educator, played a leading role both in coordinating others' contributions and in writing the draft that has now been endorsed by the CAC and sent on to the Town Board. A public hearing will be held on February 17, 7pm, most likely via Zoom. You can find the draft of the proposed plans on the Town's web site and the link for the hearing will be there as well.

Community Choice Aggregation

What, you may be wondering, is that? The state has enabled municipalities, either individually or collaboratively, to contract with generators of electricity and make that supplier the default for their residents. Why would we want to? The attraction is two-fold. It has the potential to provide power more cheaply to customers and, secondly, it allows for the purchase of electricity from renewable sources. The Danby Town Board has expressed interest in participating in an inter-municipal joint venture to this end, provided that both of those conditions can be satisfied. Town Board member Jim Holahan has volunteered to help with the drafting of a proposal. My involvement has been via the energy committee of the Tompkins County Council of Governments, where exploring the feasibility of this idea has been a focus this year and from which the solicitation of interest originated. What we hope to accomplish from this is to make it easier for our residents to source their electricity from renewables and consequently to move away from fossil fuels and their global warming effects. Instead of having to actively search for a supplier of green energy, one would be automatically provided unless the customer wanted to opt out. More on this initiative as it develops.

—continued on page 6 ⇨

W.D. WATER DISTRICT UPDATE

Submitted by Tod Sukontarak



THANK YOU TO TOM Westmiller for plowing around our district fire hydrants. After a major snow fall on Thursday I wasn't able to get to shoveling them out until Saturday morning. It is always more difficult to do after waiting a few days and the salt has made the snow around them icy. Well, I went out this morning to find that Tom had already done it.

His initiative made West Danby safer in the event of fire and my job easier. Thank you Tom. ❧

ASH TREES AND OTHER THINGS

Submitted by Ronda Roaring

DIRECTLY OUT MY OFFICE WINDOW is a large ash growing next to the road. I use "growing" euphemistically at this point because I can see that it has a bad case of the emerald ash borer (EAB) and is dying.

I have only 1.44 acres and it's full of dying ashes. I was looking at the web site of a place called /Natural Lands/ in Media, PA (directly south of Danby) and the photos of its acres of dying and dead ashes. It makes me feel like crying. It's like this all over the Finger Lakes. My tree out by the road will need to be cut down for safety reasons, and I will cut down the ones in the immediate backyard for firewood. All the rest I will give to the birds.

We need to use this sad event to make lemonade--by trying to re-establish some of the many native trees and shrubs that are now uncommon in this area. Don Schaufler and I are going to be working on trying to grow native trees and shrubs from seed to share with Danby residents.

We're starting with the coffee tree. Don and I have found that they are relatively easy to grow from seed, especially green seed that appears in the early fall. If you like growing plants from seed, please join us in this effort by sending me an email indicating your interest in this project. I have catalpa seeds that are looking for homes. We will probably have a Zoom meeting in late winter/early spring if there's enough interest. [rondaroaring@hotmail.com].

CODE OFFICE UPDATE

Submitted by Steve Cortright, Code Enforcement Officer

AS WE ARE ENTER THE WINTER heating season and find ourselves working from from home, learning from home, and possibly confined to our homes, let us also remember that we could have a invisible killer present with us in our homes. This invisible threat is Carbon Monoxide (CO). CO will, at the very least, make you sick. It could lead to death if exposure amounts are high enough. CO in the home can happen anytime but in the winter months the likelihood is much greater.

Please note that a CO detector is a different device than your standard smoke detector. CO detectors come in two options, a standalone CO detector which will only detect CO or a combination Smoke/CO detector which will detect both smoke and CO. A device's capabilities should be indicated on the outside face of the detector by words saying Smoke Detector or Smoke/CO detector or similar phrases. If buying new devices the packaging will indicate which type of device is in the package.

Another thing to keep in mind: smoke detectors, CO detectors, and Smoke/CO detectors do have a useful lifespan, generally approximately ten years. The main reason is that the sensors in them become clogged with dust; the air drawn through them which will eventually render them ineffective. I recently purchased a new CO detector to replace one in my home, and being a newly manufactured device it came with a 10-year sealed lithium battery which is now required by code. In reading the information on the packaging I was reminded that the device has an end of life "chirp" that will let me know when to replace it. I was surprised to read that the manufacturet recommends replacement after 7 years of use.

Carbon monoxide leaks are undetectable as they are odorless and colorless. Prevention is key, and can be done by taking the following measures:

- Install a battery-operated or battery-backed carbon monoxide detector. Replace batteries once a year (if you have older versions which allow you to do this) in all CO alarms on every level of your home and outside sleeping area. Note that this is different from your smoke alarm.
- Have your home heating systems (including chimneys and vents) inspected and serviced annually by a trained service technician.

—continued on page 7 ⇨

COUNTY LEGISLATURE UPDATE

Submitted by Dan Klein, Tompkins County Legislator

I HAVE MOSTLY AVOIDED writing about the specifics of the pandemic because of how quickly things change. I thought it would be worth recounting a few aspects of our local response so far.

The County established an Emergency Operations Center (EOC) very early on. The EOC coordinates the information coming from NY State with the information coming in locally, and responds to short and long-term situations as they arise.

The EOC has worked very closely with Cayuga Medical Center (CMC) from the very beginning. CMC set up one of the first large COVID testing facilities in the state. It generally gets very high grades.

In November, as the infection rates were rising, the County and CMC collaborated on opening a second testing site downtown, in a building owned by the County that was temporarily sitting vacant.

In May, the County authorized an expenditure of \$55,000 to purchase an extra, locally-manufactured testing machine for CMC to use. We hope to have this money reimbursed by the federal government.

In August, the County authorized an expenditure of \$300,00 to make sure that any Tompkins County resident who wanted could get tested for free. This action was a little more complicated than it sounds. CMC always tries to get insurance to pay for a test. If an employer is sending large numbers of employees to get tested, the

employer needs to make arrangements for how the test is paid for. And we hope to also get a significant portion of this testing money back from the federal government.

When Cornell announced its plan to bring students back to campus in September, I think it's fair to say that most locals thought this would result in a large spike in infections. Cornell consulted with the County Health Department, set up many internal systems, and did about 5,000 tests a day. To the surprise and appreciation of everyone, it worked. Cornell student infection numbers never got out of hand.

The County Health Department employs a number of nurses engaged in contact tracing. This is the one area that I feel the County has come up short on. The nurses are doing a great job, but they are severely understaffed. I have been pushing to get more nurses hired, but the County has not found a way to do this yet. These County employees are the front lines of our fight against COVID, and they need more help.

I hear stories from other counties about long wait times in contact tracing and in getting test results. These systems seem to work very well here, and everything I hear makes me glad that I live in Tompkins County. I thank those in County government, our local hospital, Cornell University, and everyone else who have helped keep Tompkins County as safe as it could be.

I think there's good reason to believe that 2021 is going to be better than 2020. Happy New Year everyone. If you have questions or comments, you can contact me at [\[danbydan@hotmail.com\]](mailto:danbydan@hotmail.com) or my home phone number, 607.272.7582. ❁

➡ *Supervisor's Update, cont'd from page 4*

Focus on Sprawl

Many of us in Danby like its rural character. Many have chosen to move here because of it. The more of us do so, the less of it there is. Sprawl is the word usually associated with residential development in rural areas that results in suburbanization. Do we value rurality enough to take action, or is rurality just a stage in the evolution of the town toward increased density not worth doing much about? The Planning Group (especially its conservation working group) has spent much time in the course of 2020 exploring the breadth and depth of this issue and is at a point where looking at options makes sense. Our new Town Planner, David West, is going to present some of the options to the entire Planning Group during its January 5, 7pm, meeting. The Planning Group consists of a core membership drawn from Town Board, Planning Board, BZA and CAC mem-

bers, with additional members being anyone else with enough interest in planning to get involved. If you are reading this and are not a core member, then you could be one of the other members. Voting members are those who regularly attend. It is a new year and this is one of the most challenging questions in planning, as well as being a critical consideration in looking to the future of our town. The broader the participation, the better the chance that whatever the Planning Group advances for consideration will reflect our collective will and vision. As we work our way through a winter of unprecedented isolation due to COVID 19, we know that spring will inevitably follow and the end of the pandemic is in sight. Let's invest in a better tomorrow together, today. Always feel free to contact me about any of the above or to share your thoughts on anything else: [\[supervisor@townofdanbyny.org\]](mailto:supervisor@townofdanbyny.org) or 607.227.4440. ❁

PARTICIPATING IN TOWN MEETINGS A BRIEF ZOOM TUTORIAL

Submitted by Ted Crane

SINCE THIS SPRING, Town Government has been happening largely by videoconferencing using Zoom. Here's how to join a meeting *in the comfort of your own Home*.

- ① If you don't have internet, you can dial in with any touchtone phone. It's a lot better with video, though.
- ② If joining with video, download Zoom from [zoom.us]. It's free. Run the program; you don't need to establish an account, but it can be convenient to do so. Most default settings are acceptable. It is worthwhile to check for updates every month or so.
- ③ If the Zoom MeetingID and PassCode aren't in the *Danby News*, try going to the Town web site calendar. Click on the event. There's usually a link there that'll run Zoom and get you into the meeting. Phone callers, you'll also find the MeetingID and PassCode on that page, along with a phone number to dial.
- ④ Turn on your audio and/or video. It's polite to keep your audio muted until you have something to say (and to wait to be recognized). It's also useful to set your *screen name*, although you don't have to.

⑤ The Town Board has recently chosen to disable Zoom's chat function. Side conversations between members of the public are still possible using text messaging (display your phone number?) and other programs outside Zoom.

⑥ Similarly, Zoom recording is not permitted by default, and you must use a third-party program to record the meeting. Screenshots work, though.

⑦ Most computers, these days, have a built-in mic. It works fine...but *any* dedicated microphone is bound to help you sound better, if that matters to you.

⑧ Video participants, the control to raise your hand is located in the *Participants* panel (show it by clicking on the like-named control at the bottom). Phone callers, you can mute/unmute yourself by dialing "*6" and you can raise/lower your hand with "*9". Meeting chairs often miss raised hands so, and only as a last resort, speak up and ask to be recognized.

☑ In general, meetings have two opportunities for you to speak your mind. Almost all meetings have *Privilege of the Floor* at the beginning; three minutes to speak on *any* subject. *Public Hearings* are held specifically for you to speak on a proposed action. There may (or may not) be a time limit. ❁

⇒ Code Office, cont'd from page 5—

- Never use portable generators inside homes or garages, even if doors and windows are open. Use generators outside only, at least twenty feet away from your home.
 - Never use a gas range or oven for heating.
 - Open the fireplace damper before lighting a fire and keep it open until the ashes are cool. An open damper may help prevent build-up of poisonous gases inside the home.
 - Know the symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning: headache, dizziness, weakness, nausea, vomiting, sleepiness, and confusion. These symptoms can be mistaken for the flu. If you suspect CO poisoning, get outside to fresh air immediately, and then call 911.
 - Never ignore a beeping CO alarm. If the CO alarm rings, get outside immediately, and call 911.
- You can find these, and more, tips by checking out the Consumer Protection Safety Commission web site [cpsc.gov] and the Division of Consumer Protection web site [dos.ny.gov/consumerprotection]. ❁



CHICKEN AND EGG

Submitted by Ted Crane

HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED about the number of cashiers and checkout lines at Tops Markets?

Are there few cashiers because there are few customers, or are there few customers because there are few cashiers? ❁

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY IN DANBY

Submitted by Kartik Sribarra

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY (of Tompkins County) and Danby's White Hawk Ecovillage were awarded a \$40,000 grant by the Community Housing Development Fund. The fund, formerly known as the Housing Fund, is a joint effort of Tompkins County, the City of Ithaca, and Cornell University that seeks to ensure permanent affordability in newly constructed or rehabilitated housing units.

The grant will be used to build a modest, energy efficient home at White Hawk for one income-qualified family. White Hawk seeks to make affordable, sustainable, and community-focused living accessible to people of all backgrounds and financial means.

The home will be built using Habitat for Humanity's unique cost-reducing volunteer-based construction model. The family will work alongside TCHF's full-time Construction Manager and local volunteers, including White Hawk members, to build their home. Funds received will remain in perpetuity in the home in an effort to ensure its permanent affordability for future homebuyers.

White Hawk Ecovillage in Danby, NY sits on 120 acres, collectively owned and stewarded by community members. Homes are individually owned on 99-year leased land lots situated around a common "center circle" recreational area. The village is slated for thirty homes: eleven are completed, three are under construction, and more households are in the pipeline. The village seeks to create a diverse, affordable, caring community integrating ecologically sound principles and community sufficiency.

A household earning up to 60 percent of the area median income for its size (about \$50,000 for a family of four) is eligible to receive \$40,000 towards building a home. Interested households must go through the membership process for both organizations. ❁

[Wouldn't it be great if an existing Danby family were to go through the membership process? -editor]

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. ❁

CAC UPDATE

Submitted by Clare Fewtrell, Conservation Advisory Council

THE CONSERVATION ADVISORY COUNCIL met on December 8. We were delighted to welcome David West formally, now that he is officially on board as the new Danby Planner. Sadly, it was the last meeting for retiring member Ruth Sherman but we were pleased that a prospective member was also present at the meeting. There will be multiple vacancies on the CAC in January so, if you are interested, please apply as soon as possible. The application form is available on the Town's web site or from the Town Clerk, [townclerk@townofdanbyny.org].

After many months of work by Jonathan Zisk and others, we finally approved the Management Plans for the Town's Sylvan Lane and Deputron Hollow Road properties. They have now been sent to the Town Board and will be made available to the public for comment.

George Adams, from our logging ordinance subcommittee, reported that he is still working on a preliminary draft of the *Harvesting Guidelines*, and hopes to send it to members sometime in December.

At our last meeting we proposed adding an additional *Use Zone* in our Easement Template, provisionally named the *Restricted Forest Use Zone*. This would protect against wholesale logging but would allow such things as trail maintenance and selective logging for forest health and firewood for personal use. Ruth Sherman had drafted a description of this zone with examples of allowable and restricted activities. Much of our discussion focused on tightening up the example of, "tree harvests that enhance wildlife, recreation, forest health, and other forest benefits," as it seemed rather general and open to unscrupulous interpretation. There were a number of valuable suggestions on this and other parts of the proposal and Ruth will draft a revised description for our next meeting.

We briefly discussed progress on easements. Two property owners with whom we are currently negotiating easements are interested in utilizing this additional zone, as are others that are beginning to think about easements on their properties.

The CAC meets on the second Tuesday of the month. Our next meeting will be held (via Zoom) at on January 12, 7pm. ❁

Community Council Youth Programs

November/December programs have come to an end. I had a lot of fun with both the 4th/5th grade group and the middle school group exploring Dotson Park, building fires, sledding, throwing snow balls, and creating holiday crafts in our new home at the South Hill Business Campus.

I have decided to suspend indoor programming for the next several weeks, following the Ithaca City School District's decision to take a break from in-person learning.

I'm looking forward to resuming in-person, indoor learning as soon as it feels safe again.

In the meantime, I will be offering a combination of online and outdoor programs. Please consult the program offerings listed below.

If you would like to sign your youth up for programs, or if you have any questions, visit [www.danbycc.org/YouthPrograms] or contact me, 585.236.6304 or [mas759@cornell.edu].

—Melis Schildkraut



What's for Dinner? - Grades 6-8

Mondays, 4:30-6:30pm: 1/11, 1/18, 1/25, 2/1, 2/8, 2/22
Meet on Zoom

Join me for a guided cooking experience as we make dinner together! Recipes will be primarily vegetarian

and will be provided several days in advance to allow time for families to gather ingredients. This program is a collaboration with Beth Bannister of JYC, and material drop-offs will be made available upon request.

Light My Fire - Grades 4 & 5

Tuesdays, 2:30-4:30pm: 1/12, 1/19, 1/26, 2/2, 2/9
Dotson Park

When it's cold and dark outside, knowing how to build fires is a critical skill. During this program, we will build our own bow drill kits, complete fire challenges, prepare food, and practice the burn-out method of creating bowls and spoons.

Crafting in the Woods - Grades 6 - 8

Wednesdays, 2:30-4:30pm: 1/6, 1/13, 1/20, 1/27, 2/3, 2/10
Dotson Park

Although winter brings the earth into a period of hibernation, the woods still have much to offer us! This program will focus on the use of hand tools, fire, & materials found in our environment at Dotson Park to create usable crafts. Projects will include burnout spoons & wooden mallets.

Outdoor Adventures - Grades 4 & 5

Thursdays, 2:30-4:30pm: 1/7, 1/14, 1/21, 1/28, 2/4, 2/11
Dotson Park

Outdoor adventures continue! Get outside with your friends to play games, make fires, and play in the snow. The structure of this program will be fairly open-ended, allowing youth to experience self-directed play in a safe environment.

DANBY COMMUNITY LIBRARY

Submitted by Cindy Parlett

IF YOU AREN'T ABLE to access our online library but would still like some books or movies, we would be happy to provide a bundle of items chosen by our volunteers. Just give us an idea of your wishes; a favorite author or genre and we'll try to put together some things for you to enjoy. You can leave us a message by calling 607.277.4200.

Hillbilly Elegy by J.D.Vance is a memoir that has recently been made into a Netflix movie. It's always better to read the book and it is available for you from our library.

More books from the Friends of the Library:

<i>The Boy</i>	<i>The Bitter Season</i>
<i>Cold Cold Heart</i>	<i>Kill the Messenger</i>
<i>Dark Horse</i>	- All by Tami Hoag

Moriarty and The House of Silk by Anthony Horowitz

<i>A Wanted Man</i>	<i>One Shot</i>
<i>Worth Dying For</i>	<i>Nothing to Lose</i>
	- All by Lee Child

Children's books:

<i>The Paperbag Princess</i>	<i>Dinosaurs</i>
<i>Polar Bear and the Rainbow</i>	<i>The Little Snowplow</i>

Outdoor pick up for all library items available Thursday and Saturday. Go to the Danby web page and click on the Community Library link to view our full collection of books and DVDs.

DANBY NEWS: EVENT CALENDAR

- Jan 2 • Sat
9am 📍 Town Hall • **Library Volunteers Meeting**
- Jan 4 • Mon
7pm 📍 Zoom • **Town Board Meeting (not listed)**
- Jan 5 • Tue
7pm 📍 Zoom • **Planning Group Meeting**
- Jan 6 • Wed
5:30pm 📍 Zoom • **WD Water District Meeting**
- Jan 7 • Thu
Noon 📍 Community Church • **Seniors (cancelled)**
7pm 📍 Zoom • **Danby Community Council Mtg**
- Jan 10 • Sun
3pm 📍 Zoom • **Danby Community Council presents
At Home With The Raptors (part 1)**
- Jan 11 • Mon
7pm 📍 Zoom • **Town Board Meeting**
7pm 📍 Danby Fire Hall • **Fire Dep't Meeting**
7pm 📍 West Danby Fire Hall • **WD Fire Dep't Meeting**
- Jan 12 • Tue
7pm 📍 Danby Fire Hall/YouTube • **Fire District Meeting**
7pm 📍 Town Hall • **Conservation Advisory Council Mtg**
- Jan 14 • Thu
7pm 📍 Zoom • **DCC Annual Mtg**

- Jan 19 • Tue
7pm 📍 Zoom • **Planning Board Mtg**
7pm 📍 Danby Fire Hall/YouTube • **Fire District Meeting**
- Jan 21 • Thu
4-6pm 📍 Community Church • **Danby Food Pantry**
- Feb 2 • Tue
7pm 📍 Zoom • **Planning Group Meeting**
- Feb 3 • Wed
5:30pm 📍 Zoom • **WD Water District Meeting**
- Feb 4 • Thu
Noon 📍 Community Church • **Seniors (cancelled)**
7pm 📍 Zoom • **Danby Community Council Mtg**
- Feb 5 • Sat
9am 📍 Town Hall • **Library Volunteers Meeting**
- Feb 7 • Sun
3pm 📍 Zoom • **Danby Community Council presents
At Home With The Raptors (part 2)**
- Feb 8 • Mon
7pm 📍 Zoom • **Town Board Meeting**
7pm 📍 Danby Fire Hall • **Fire Dep't Meeting**
7pm 📍 West Danby Fire Hall • **WD Fire Dep't Meeting**

Meeting	Date	Zoom Mtg ID	Pcode
Planning Group	Jan 5	954 0523 2483	064352
Town Board	Jan 11	994 0317 5139	171603
CAC	Jan 12	972 1566 0090	423584
Planning Board	Jan 19	958 0817 5336	245871
Town Board	Jan 4?	931 8776 1905	735426
Zoning Appeals	None	986 3534 5196	281804
To join a meeting by telephone, call 646.876.9923			

ONGOING EVENTS

- Danby Community Library** 📍 Town Hall
Books available via curbside pickup.
Can be returned in drop box.
- Danby Food Pantry** 📍 Danby Community Church
Wednesdays, 6-8pm
3rd Thursday, 4-6pm
- Food Scrap Recycling** 📍 Town Hall 🔄🔄🔄🔄
Saturdays, 9am-Noon
- Seniors Strength Training Group** 📍 via Zoom
Mondays and Thursdays, 9am
Contact [jmchurch@twcnv.ny.us] for info.