

DANBY NEWS

SPOT THE SPOTTED LANTERNFLY

Submitted by Brittany L. Lagaly, CAC

SPOTTED LANTERNFLY (SLF) is an invasive insect from Asia. It first arrived in North America in 2014 on quarried stone shipped from China to Southeastern Pennsylvania. An isolated population of SLF was confirmed to be present in Ithaca in November 2020.



The SLF poses a severe threat to Finger Lakes vineyards, orchards, hops bines, nurseries, forests, and the billions of dollars in economic activity that these resources generate annually. We

need your help to find and destroy SLF before the local population becomes too large and widespread to control.

Egg masses are present from October to June. They appear as vertical rows of eggs covered in mud and are found on a variety of surfaces including trees, concrete, stone, rusty metal, and plastic. Nymphal development proceeds through four instar stages: the first three instars (May-July) are black with white spots, while the fourth instar (July-September) features red patches.

Adults can be found from July to December. They are 1 inch long and about 1/2 inch wide with pinkish-gray forewings dotted with black spots and a hashed block pattern near the tips. The upper portion of the hindwings are black with a white band, while the lower portions are bright red with black spots.

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ZONING: HERO OR VILLAIN?

Submitted by Ted Crane

THIS ARTICLE IS NOT ABOUT Danby's Zoning. If it were, I might be tempted to express opinions and that would not be consistent with the Danby News Guidelines. This article is about Zoning in general, and about the way people react to Zoning. It mentions an ongoing Zoning discussion in Danby, and encourages you to participate.

Government can arbitrate a balance between individual rights and the need for community health and safety. Zoning—like laws against theft, or laws protecting privacy—is a way to balance individual and neighborhood needs. On the one hand, “my home is my kingdom,” but on the other, “what you do on your property should not lead to suffering on mine.”

We don't like Zoning when it tells us what *we* cannot do—or we must do. But we don't like Zoning when it fails to prevent our neighbor from doing what *they* want (but we don't want). Can't live with it, can't live without it.

Zoning, as its name implies, tries to achieve this balance in at least two ways. Let's call them, *area* and *use*. *Area* creates zones—neighborhoods—with common standards for the size and shape of lots and structures, while *use* ensures that incompatible activities are not located close to each other.

Few people want their home surrounded by junkyards—that's *use*—and few would appreciate living in a one-family home surrounded by high-rise apartments—that's *area*.

As Zoning becomes more precise and effective, it becomes harder for a property owner to understand. It takes an effort to see the 'big picture'.

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April 2021

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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. ❁

YOUR PART IN OUR HISTORY

Submitted by M.A. Barr, Town Historian

WIDESPREAD CONSENSUS SAYS it's been a hard year all around. But how was it for you? Was 2020 the worst year? Or perhaps the best? Something in between?

There were school closures; home and remote schooling; some kids started their very first experience of school

➔ **Zoning: Hero, cont'd from front page—**

Sadly, we fear what we don't understand.

How can we make this villain into a hero? Could we redefine the words 'hero' and 'villain'? Not a good idea. An effective and useful plan is to work together to learn how Zoning works, to understand the considerations and goals that are built into Zoning, and, most of all, to participate in the process of creating Zoning that works effectively.

Danby has an ongoing *Planning Group*—including special interest committees—working to update Danby's (choose *your* adjective) Zoning to reflect today's concerns and to resolve the ambiguities and loopholes that have become apparent since it was written decades ago. Its next meeting is on April 6 (see Events, back page).

I encourage you to participate. ❄

➔ **Spotted Lanternfly, cont'd from front page—**

SLF prefers to feed on Tree-of-Heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*), but can infest more than 70 different plant species. SLFs produce a "honeydew rain" as they feed: this sticky sap coats everything below the insects, damaging outdoor structures and equipment and attracting black sooty molds. The molds harm plants, spoil fruits, and can be seen growing around the bases of infested trees.



If you believe you've found evidence of spotted lanternfly, take pictures of the insects, egg masses, and/or infestation signs (include something, such as a coin, for scale), note the relevant location, and Email

it all to [spottedlanternfly@agriculture.ny.gov].

The Conservation Advisory Council will host a virtual SLF identification workshop on Thursday, April 22, 7pm. For more information, go to Danby's web site and click on 'Calendars'. ❄

online. We lost local commercial establishments: Za-Za's, the Carriage House, and other restaurants closed.

The country club was sold to a private individual and buildings started in Ithaca stalled. Sports activities, from the international to the sandlot, and youth programs were canceled, children were separated from friends and teachers. We attended weddings, funerals and other events on Zoom, and we nurtured friendships via mail, phone, and the Internet. We purchased more online, our clothing and personal habits changed. We learned the skill of living in isolation.

The Tompkins County Historical Commission invites you to reflect on what 2020 meant to you, brought to you, or took from you. Essays up to 1,500 words (or five pages) are welcome. Mail—handwritten or typed—to the County Historian, 125 East Court Street, Ithaca New York 14850. Or Email to the address below. Essays sent online will be acknowledged.

Essays accepted until June 1, 2021. Each must be headed with the following sentence: *I give the Tompkins County Historical Commission the right to place this essay in an archive or include for one-time use in a publication or public format.* Sign your name and the date.

For more information, contact Carol Kammen, County Historian, [countyhistorian@tompkins-co.gov]. ❄

Citizenship today requires individuals be knowledgeable of public problems but, more important, have the capacity to act together toward their solutions. (Morse, 1989)

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.

CLOSED

W.D. WATER DISTRICT UPDATE

Submitted by Tod Sukontarak

DURING THE MORE THAN 50 YEARS that the West Danby Water District has existed, we have never had a Water District Policy. The West Danby Water District Citizen Advisory Committee (a new name as it is not, by State governance definition, a Board) is working hard to develop a District Policy to be approved by the Town Board.



Your Citizen Advisory Committee consists of Bruce

Richards, Anna Finley, Carl Seamon, Marrell Cortright and Skip Fairchild. They will have had a draft of the policy document sent to the Town Board for its approval during a March meeting.

There was a request to make a service connection outside of the Water District boundary. We have never had one before, and this necessitated drafting a policy for it as well as other operations. Hopefully both the policy and permission for the connection will be formalized by the time you are reading this.

Our next hydrant flushing will be scheduled during May; the last two years' weather has forced postponement from April to May. We will be reading water meters during the first week of April. The Citizen Advisory Committee meeting schedule can be found on the Calendar page of the Town of Danby web site. ❁

SUPERVISOR'S UPDATE

Submitted by Joel Gagnon, Town of Danby Supervisor

THERE WASN'T MUCH TO REPORT last month, which is why I opted to skip a month. Such is not the case for this month!

CAC Report and Management Plans Approved

Following modifications to emphasize that the intent is to minimally manage our Town-owned properties (one in Deputron Hollow and the other on which water district infrastructure is located in West Danby), allowing trees to grow old and die natural deaths, both plans were approved by the Town Board on March 8. The CAC's annual report was received and acknowledged on February 17. That report goes to the state DEC for its information.

Community Choice Aggregation

A project spearheaded by the energy committee of the Tompkins County Council of Governments (I am a member), CCA is a way for governments to aggregate demand for electricity to make renewable energy the default source for NYSEG customers. We are looking to set ourselves up to administer the program ourselves, perhaps after a couple of years of help to get it set up. The latest move is to seek funding from the Park Foundation to hire a program manager who would handle implementation and explore the future options for owning producing assets instead of just buying from others. The whole enterprise is predicated upon being able to get power from renewables for less than the current cost to customers of the utility. ➡

LEGACY OF ENDURING STEWARDSHIP

Submitted by Margaret Corbit, CAC

DO YOU KEEP YOUR EYES OUT for a favorite hawk or owl? Love to watch the critters in your yard? Delight in the spring wildflowers and the colors of fall? Take back roads to enjoy the forest and field vistas on your drive home? Admire seeing crops grow and animals graze? Then you should be concerned about the pressure of residential housing development on the country feel of the Town of Danby.

If you own property in the Town, you can help preserve it by donating a conservation easement to the Town for all or part of your property.

Log into the Conservation Easement Online Webinar on Thursday, May 13 to learn about the Town's flexible conservation easement program. Join us for this informal program. You will hear from neighbors who have donated a conservation easement to the Town and learn about the process and about the various options you have from members of the Town's Conservation Advisory Council. There will be plenty of time for questions and answers. ❁

Open Development Area Proposed

This scary-sounding name belongs to a mechanism for getting access to a dwelling by way of easements (rights of way) instead of with actual road frontage. It allows the issuance of building permits for work on dwellings with in-

—continued on page 5 ➡

NYS BURN BAN: MARCH 16 TO MAY 14

Submitted by Ted Crane

THE ANNUAL “BURN BAN” SEASON is upon us! As sunny, spring weather uncovers and dries last year’s plant debris, the chance for brush fires increases.

New York State prohibits open burning from March 16 thru May 14. During this period, residential brush burning is prohibited across New York State, as are all intentional fires (larger campfires, household trash, etc.). There are certain exceptions, like ceremonial bonfires.



Since the spring burn ban was implemented in 2009, the number of wildfires has decreased by more than 40 percent. Less airborne pollution, too.

The DEC has a Fire Danger map online at [dec.ny.gov/lands/68329.html]. More info can be found at [dec.ny.gov/chemical/58519.html] and [dec.ny.gov/chemical/32064.html]. ❁

TREES FOR TRIBS • BUFFER IN A BAG

Free Seedlings For Streamside Plantings

THE NEW YORK STATE Department of Environmental Conservation has announced that the 3rd Annual *Trees for Tribs / Buffer in a Bag* program is now open. Private and public landowners who qualify may apply for a free bag of 25 tree and shrub seedlings for planting near streams, rivers, or lakes to help stabilize banks, protect water quality, and improve wildlife habitat.

To qualify, landowners must have property in New York State with at least fifty feet that borders a stream, river, or lake, and provide photos or a map of the planting location. Previous recipients are encouraged to reapply to continue to build their riparian buffer. Applicants are eligible for one bag of 25 seedlings and recipients are chosen on a first-come, first-served basis. A total of 500 bags will be available statewide for this round of applications.

For info, see [dec.ny.gov/animals/115903.html]. ❁

⇒ *Supervisor’s Update, cont’d from page 4*

sufficient road frontage, including those located on landlocked, otherwise inaccessible properties. Frontage on a Town-recognized road is otherwise required to get a building permit, a requirement to assure that the residence can be accessed in the event of emergency. The prospect of using such a mechanism is somewhat scary, though, because it opens up the possibility of houses being built where we thought they could not. The Town Board has been asked (by me) to consider creating an Open Development Area for a property on the corner of Marsh and Deputron Hollow Roads for a subdivision that would allow the construction of one new house and protect the remainder of the ninety acres with a permanent conservation easement. Without an ODA, this subdivision would require building a new road with significantly greater environmental impact. By using the ODA as an alternative, access could be had by driveways rather than big new roads, in this case using an existing abandoned road that is too narrow to be used as a road under today’s standards. The Town Board has agreed to consider the creation of an ODA and referred the matter to the Planning Board for its review and comment. It comes back to the Town Board for a decision from there. There will be a public hearing before the Town Board acts—probably in a couple of months.

Subdivision Moratorium Approved

The proposed subdivision adjoining Deputron Hollow (a county-designated Unique Natural Area) brought into sharp relief the disconnect between the kind of development allowed by right in our Zoning and what is envisioned in our Comprehensive Plan. There is significant controversy over adding just one house on this lot where zoning allows the creation of 18 lots with 2 houses allowed on each lot. The Planning Group has been working for nearly a year now and is at a point where specific proposals will soon emerge for consideration. To avoid a scramble to take advantage of our vulnerability under the current rules, I proposed a moratorium on subdivisions in the Low Density Zone. I asked for a year; the Board scaled the effective period back to year’s end, about nine months. The moratorium was unanimously passed into law by the Board on March 17. The Board is committed to extra meetings to try to get the revisions done by the end of the year. It is an ambitious goal but such a rigid time line will drive the process and help focus the effort. I have reported before, but let me reiterate that the Planning Group is structured to allow anyone with an interest to engage in the planning process. There are two main working

—continued on page 6 ⇒

COUNTY LEGISLATURE UPDATE

Submitted by Dan Klein, Tompkins County Legislator

THE COUNTY'S RESPONSE TO COVID-19 has been robust. The result has led to Tompkins County having one of the lowest infection rates, lowest deaths per capita, and highest vaccination rates in NY State.

In late February, we were among the first counties in the state to create a vaccination appointment waiting list (look for "vaccine registry" on the Tompkins County Health Department web site, or call 2-1-1). During its first week, 1,800 county residents signed up for it. Within the first month, 18,000 people had signed up.

The big story for the County Legislature in March was the Reimagining Public Safety report. This was the result of a mandate from NYS to adopt a plan for police reform and reinvention, with a focus on addressing racial inequities in policing. The proposed plan was released in late February, and was due to the State by April 1. I intend to write more about this next month.

The Tompkins County Department of Planning and Sustainability recently shared its 2021 work plan. I read through this document and felt inspired and proud. I

would have titled this document *107 Reasons to be Proud to Live in Tompkins County*.

The scope of topics they work on is broad: protection of Cayuga Lake, flood prevention, farmland protection, land conservation, hazard mitigation, energy efficiency, greenhouse gas reduction, assisting Towns with their comprehensive plans, trails, housing, tourism, broadband internet access, planning for a conference center, and more.

One of the puzzling aspects of humanity for me is how different people can look at the same set of facts and come to very different conclusions. I had a constituent once tell me that the County's energy work was, "lame." This person considers themselves an environmentalist. Check out the County Planning Department's website to see the scope of the energy and other planning work they do and I think you will feel as I do: proud and inspired.

Happy Earth Day.

If you have questions or comments, you can contact me at [danbydan@hotmail.com] or my home phone number, 607.272.7582. ❁

➡ *Supervisor's Update, cont'd from page 5*

groups—one focused on identifying special places and the rules to help protect them, the other focused on the hamlets and the rules for how to enhance them. Meetings are posted to the web site calendar. A link on the calendar takes you in by Zoom. Now that the moratorium is in place, the intense planning begins. The April 6 meeting of the Planning Group will feature a review of the current zoning and subdivision regulations—what's working, what's not working, and the process for making changes. It would be a good entry point if you would like to join in the planning process.

Possible Additions to the Agricultural District

Much, but not all of Danby, is included in Tompkins County's Agricultural Districts. Owners of properties not yet included can request that they be added during an annual enrollment period. This year, there were requests for two properties, one on Howland Road, the other on NYS Rt.96B north of Miller Road. The Town has a brief opportunity to comment before the applications are sent from the Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board to the County Legislature for ratification. Danby is objecting to the addition of the

Howland Road property because of the recent history of an industrial-scale hemp operation there. That operation has ceased, but there is a lack of communication between the owners and the neighborhood about what will be happening in the future. Danby has a Right to Engage in Agricultural Activity Law that protects agricultural activity in the Town, but it does not protect industrial scale operations. The agricultural district offers an additional level of protection for large-scale operations such as the large dairy farms that have become the norm. The Town Board would like this property to remain out of the Ag District until there is greater certainty about its compatibility with the residential neighborhood it adjoins. The other property includes a cider tasting room for a farm on East Miller Road. The Board did not object to that addition.

Other Things Potentially of Interest

A local law to do for the Deputy Highway Superintendent what we already did for the Highway Superintendent (expanding the pool of those eligible to hold the position to residents of adjoining towns) was passed at the March 17 Town Board meeting. The Board is also weighing whether to adopt the *Stretch Energy Code*.

—continued on page 8 ➡



Tom Janda checking sugar concentration with a Refractometer



About 2/3 of the water is removed from the clear sap using energy-efficient reverse osmosis... and then the traditional wood-fired boiler takes over!

It takes about 60 gallons of sap to make 1 gallon of tasty syrup.



Maple Sugaring with Russell and Kim Nitchman at Tenwood Lodge, Danby

photos by Ted Crane

DROP OFF SHOE DRIVE

Submitted by Cindy Ceracche

DO YOU HAVE SHOES you no longer need or want? Can you help raise money for the Twin Tiers Honor Flight? It's easy! Would you ever think that donating your gently worn, used or new shoes could help raise money to take our Honored Veterans to Washington D.C? Well they can and here's how.

We ask that you donate shoes that are outgrown, out of style, or out of season. We accept sneakers, dress shoes, high heels, sandals, flip-flops, crocs, bedroom slippers, rain boots, snow boots, and work boots. They can be men's, women's or kid sizes.

It's hard to believe that 600 million pairs of shoes will go into landfills across the U.S. annually. The majority of these shoes can still be worn. The shoes we collect will be kept out of the landfills in our country and will help others in developing nations start micro-enterprises that will create sustainable incomes for their families. At the same time, we raise much needed funds for TTHF!

I will have a covered trash can at the end of my driveway, 338 Gunderman Road, from April 1, through April 30, 2021. Drop off your donated footwear anytime of the day or night. Shoes can also be dropped off at the American Legion on Danby Road or at the Danby Church during the month of April.

For more info, try [twintiershonorflight@gmail.com] or contact me at 607.339.9269. ☺

➔ **Supervisor's Update, cont'd from page 6**

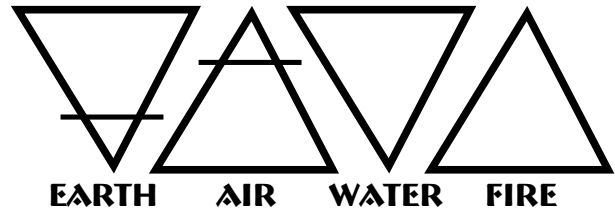
This is a more stringent set of standards for new construction that makes effective immediately provisions in the state code that would not otherwise take effect for a couple more years (stretching ahead, so to speak). Steve Cortright, Danby's Code Enforcement Officer, addressed the Town Board on March 17, explaining the provisions so the Board can weigh the benefits against the additional cost of compliance for builders. Even though the additional measures pay back within 5-7 years, they add to the upfront cost of building a house and would require learning new ways of doing things. We will probably accompany adoption, if we do adopt, with resources to help those engaged in construction to learn the new procedures.

As always, please feel free to contact me, [supervisor@townofdanbyny.org] or 607.227.4440, about any of these matters or anything else on your mind. ☺

HEAT PUMPS: EARTH, AIR, WATER, FIRE

Submitted by Ted Crane, Energy Navigator

GREEK PHILOSOPHY DESCRIBED the universe as being composed of four *temperments*: Earth, Air, Water, and Fire. Modern technology has created Heat Pumps that embody that ancient system: ground-source (earth) and air-source (air) pumps that both transfer heat (fire) using a liquid medium (water).



What's The Impact?

In New York State, conventional heating and cooling systems are responsible for 37 percent of all energy consumption and 32 percent of greenhouse gas emissions.

Heat pumps are 2 to 4 times as efficient as conventional heating. They are also a safer and healthier choice for homes, with no combustion of fossil fuels, fuel storage, or carbon monoxide emissions (source: NYSERDA).

What's The Same?

Both ground- and air-source heat pumps (GSHP and ASHP) move heat from one place to another. Both can be used for heating and cooling. Both typically use electricity and a refrigerant to transfer heat.

Both heat pumps can distribute warmth (and chill) using ductwork, radiant heat, and standalone radiators and ductless ventilation units. *Both pair well with Solar PV systems, further reducing the operating costs and reliance on fossil fuel sources.*

What's Different?

GSHPs use the earth itself as a heat source and sink, while ASHPs use lots and lots of outside air.

GSHPs are more energy-efficient than ASHPs.

Air-source Heat Pumps

ASHPs are becoming widespread because they're easy and often less expensive to install.

Modern technology has created ASHPs that heat when the outside temperature is as low as -13°F, but the operating efficiency falls off a lot at low temperatures and during extremely hot weather. This kind of cold is becoming less frequent in the Finger Lakes and, if

—continued on next page ➔

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. ❁

➔ *Heat Pumps, cont'd from previous page—*

Climate Change happens, seasonal cold spells may become unusual—to be replaced by more hot days?

ASHPs use more energy than GSHPs (at extreme temperatures, a lot more) ...but not more than fossil fuel.

The outdoor compressor for an ASHP is an easy install, but always visible and somewhat noisy (outdoors).

ASHP life expectancy? About 15 years (NYSERDA).

Ground-source Heat Pumps

GSHPs have a reputation of being expensive to install, thanks to trenches (horizontal systems) or drilling (vertical systems) required to bury the outdoor pipes. The pipes can be installed more easily during new construction, eliminating most of the extra cost.

GSHPs generally save more energy. Like the Post Office, *neither snow nor rain nor heat or gloom of night* affect the operation of a GSHP. The below-surface temperature of the earth is constant, year 'round. Heat transfer from/to this stable environment allows for a

simpler mechanism...and the indoor mechanism is not subjected to bad weather and storms.

GSHPs are generally installed in a basement or utility area. They produce more noise than, say, a refrigerator, but quieter ones are always coming to market.

GSHP life expectancy? About 25 years (NYSERDA).

Both Are Winners

No single heat pump best fits every situation.

In new construction, a GSHP is cost competitive and gives you a more stable, energy-efficient result.

When upgrading an existing structure, an ASHP may be a better choice. Less upfront cost, but higher operating cost. Still way better than fossil-fuel heating.

Incentives And Financial Assistance

Looking for ways to lower the cost—perhaps right down to zero—of energy-upgrading your home? Check out [solartompkins.org/climatefund.html] or contact Lisa Marshall [lisa@heatsmarttompkins.org]. ❁

CAC UPDATE

Submitted by Clare Fewtrell, Conservation Advisory Council

DANBY'S CONSERVATION ADVISORY COUNCIL had another rather long but productive meeting on March 9. A large part of the meeting was devoted to a discussion of a proposed logging ordinance that has been under consideration for several years. We reviewed the progress so far and agreed on what we are hoping to achieve. We encouraged the logging subcommittee to consult with the Code Enforcement Officer and Highway Department as soon as possible, since they would be responsible for enforcing any logging ordinance.

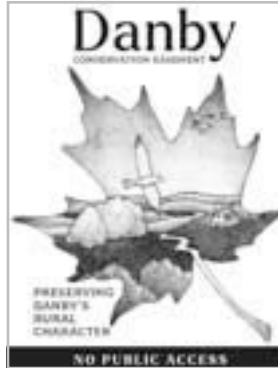
A major focus of the CAC is Conservation Easements; we will be presenting a webinar on Thursday, May 13 (see separate *Danby News* article).

We are currently working on a web page on the Town web site describing the Danby Conservation Easement Program and we expect this to be posted soon.

Invasive species expert and CAC member, Brittany Lagaly is planning to present two webinars: one on the spotted lanternfly, which has recently been reported in our area, and the other on highly invasive plants, including Japanese knotweed, garlic mustard and others. These presentations will be announced in the *Danby News*.

For several months, we have been mulling over two very different designs for a sign to be displayed on Danby's conservation easement properties. We finally decided on a bold and more utilitarian design by former CAC member, Ruth Sherman. We hope to use the attractive design by Camille Doucet on our easement web page.

The CAC meets on the second Tuesday of the month. Our next meeting will be held (via Zoom) on April 13, 7pm. ❀



RURAL CEMETERY ANNUAL MTG

Submitted by Sharon Boda

THE DANBY RURAL CEMETERY ASSOCIATION will hold its annual meeting for 2020 on Saturday, April 24, 2021, 9am, in the Danby Community Church. Please note the change from the traditional June date.

All lot owners and interested people are welcome to attend. For more information please call me, 607.273.8241 ❀

DANBY COMMUNITY LIBRARY

Submitted by Cindy Parlett

THANK YOU FOR THE RESPONSES to our online community survey. We would love to hear any feedback/suggestions/ideas from those of you without computer access. Answer any or all of the questions and place in our outdoor book drop or leave a message on our phone, 607.277.4200.

- What I've been reading lately...
 - Care to share a 'book report'?
 - Book or DVD requests
 - What I like or would like changed in the DCL
 - Name and Contact info: Email, mail, phone

Once Danby's Town Hall opens to the public, patrons may be able to enter the library as well. We will keep you posted on when that may happen.

"Bundles" Available

Let us know an age range, author, or genre and we'll try to put together some items for you.

New Books

- *The Paris Hours* by Alex George
- *The Topeka School* by Ben Lerner
- *Heavy: An American Memoir* by Kiese Laymon
- *Girl, Woman, Other* by Bernardine Evaristo
- *Winterdance: The Fine Madness of Running the Iditarod* by Gary Paulsen

DVDs

- *They Call it Myanmar: Lifting the Curtain-A Robert Lieberman Film*
- *Angkor Awakens-An Inside Look at Cambodia* ❀



'We've moved a few things around. Travel books are in the Fantasy section, Politics is in Sci-Fi, and Epidemiology is in Self-Help. Great luck.'

Community Council Youth Programs

Spring is finally on its way. Its arrival is a reminder of the one-year anniversary of our descent into the COVID-19 pandemic. I'm happy to say that despite the hardships that COVID has bought, Danby's youth programs are going strong! In the month of March, we built Rube Goldberg Machines, learned about maple sugaring with Russ and Kim Nitchman, and explored Dotson Park together.

Looking forward into April, I'm excited to announce that we will be running an 8-week theater program centered around youth voice and creativity. Thanks to a grant from the United Way, we will be working with Noah Elman, a local artist and an expert on guiding youth through the process of creating original works of theater. As always, I am available by phone or email if you have any questions about ongoing or upcoming programming.

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 ❧

Danby Theater Program

South Hill Business Campus

Grades 4-5: Mondays, 2:30-5pm, 4/5-12-19-26, 5/3-10-17-24

Grades 6-7-8: Wednesdays, 3-5:30pm, 4/7-14-21-28, 5/5-12-19-26

Join us and become a part of Danby's first ever theatrical production! During this 8-week program, we will

be joined by two experienced actors & creators, Noah Elman and Jorin Clougherty. With their guidance, we will get to know each other through theater games and script reading, and we will write original one-act plays to perform for your families.

NO THEATER EXPERIENCE IS REQUIRED AND EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

Performance

Friday, May 28, Time and Location: TBA

Build-Your-Own Garden - Grades 6-7-8

South Hill Business Campus

Tuesdays, 4:30-6:30pm, 4/13-20-27, 5/4-11-18

Have you ever had a garden that you could call your own? If not, now's the time to start! Join me as we start seeds for post-frost transplant and build wooden planter boxes for you to take and install right outside your home. No gardening or carpentry skills required—we will learn along the way!

Spring Has Sprung - Grades 4-5

Dotson Park and Jennings Pond

Thursdays, 2:30-5pm, 4/15-22-29, 5/6-13-20

April and May are great months of transformation, as the earth wakes up from its winter slumber and hints of green begin to emerge from the ground. During this program, we will explore a variety of different things including: safe and ethical consumption of wild edible plants, documenting the spring landscape through artwork, and sit-spots and observation. We will also leave time to let loose and play some games! ❧

Danby
Youth FLYER

JENNINGS POND NEEDS LIFEGUARDS

Submitted by Amy Cusimano

JENNINGS POND PLANS TO OPEN for the 2021 season. We are in need of lifeguards!

All guards are required to carry current lifeguarding certifications as well as waterfront certification. The Town of Danby will reimburse you for training costs. The part time positons require a minimum age of 16

years. The swim season runs from the fourth week of June until Labor Day.

Please contact me, [myemail607@gmail.com], if interested. Jennings Pond follows all NYS Parks Department regulations and will be following the NYS Health Department regulations regarding COVID-19. ❧

PRE-WARMED VEGETABLES

Submitted by Ted Crane

THE ENTRYWAY DISPLAY OF CUCUMBERS, peppers, citrus, and more at a major local supermarket seems to offer a surprise to the unwary: pre-warmed vegetables.

The combination of afternoon sun and the hot-air-blast curtain protecting the entrance raises the food temperature noticeably. The veggies feel warm for quite a while—more than long enough to exchange them for cooler packages in the main veg and fruit department.

Do a few hours of gentle heat harm veggies? Maybe not. But why wonder? Leave them to cook. Find your really, really fresh produce further inside the store. ❧

Apr 2021

DANBY NEWS: EVENT CALENDAR

Ἡ Δεσφὴ Ἐκκλησιαστικῆ • Δεσφὴ οἰκουμῆνος

ἄρτι 1 • Πρῶτ

Apr 1 • Thu
 Noon 📍 Community Church • Seniors (cancelled)
 7pm 📍 Zoom • Danby Community Council Mtg

Apr 2 • Fri
 7pm 📍 Zoom • Not-Hamlet Zoning Committee

Apr 3 • Sat
 9am 📍 Town Hall • Library Volunteers Meeting

Apr 6 • Tue
 7pm 📍 Zoom • Planning Group Meeting

Apr 7 • Wed
 5:30pm 📍 Zoom • WD Water Board Meeting
 6pm 📍 Community Church • Danby Food Pantry

Apr 12 • Mon
 7pm 📍 Zoom • Town Board Meeting
 7pm 📍 Danby Fire Hall • Fire Dep't Meeting
 7pm 📍 West Danby Fire Hall • WD Fire Dep't Meeting

Apr 13 • Tue
 7pm 📍 Danby Fire Hall/YouTube • Fire District Meeting
 7pm 📍 Town Hall • Conservation Advisory Council Mtg

Apr 15 • Thu
 4pm 📍 Community Church • Danby Food Pantry

Apr 16 • Fri
 7pm 📍 Zoom • Not-Hamlet Zoning Committee

Apr 19 • Mon
 7pm 📍 Zoom • Town Board Meeting: Zoning

Apr 20 • Tue
 7pm 📍 Zoom • Planning Board Mtg

Apr 21 • Wed
 7pm 📍 Zoom • Town Board Meeting

Apr 24 • Sat
 9am 📍 Community Church • Rural Cemetery Meeting

Apr 27 • Tue
 7pm 📍 Danby Fire Hall/YouTube • Fire District Meeting

May 1 • Sat
 9am 📍 Town Hall • Library Volunteers Meeting

May 4 • Tue
 7pm 📍 Zoom • Planning Group Meeting

May 5 • Wed
 6pm 📍 Community Church • Danby Food Pantry

May 6 • Thu
 Noon 📍 Community Church • Seniors?
 7pm 📍 Zoom • Danby Community Council Mtg

May 10 • Mon
 7pm 📍 Zoom • Town Board Meeting
 7pm 📍 Danby Fire Hall • Fire Dep't Meeting
 7pm 📍 West Danby Fire Hall • WD Fire Dep't Meeting

May 13 • Thu
 7pm 📍 Zoom • CAC Conservation Easement Webinar

ONGOING EVENTS

Danby Community Library 📍 Town Hall
 Books available via curbside pickup.
 Can be returned in drop box.

Danby Food Pantry 📍 Danby Community Church
 1st Wednesday, 6-8pm
 3rd Thursday, 4-6pm

Meeting	Date	Zoom Mtg ID	Pcode
Planning Group	Apr 6	954 0523 2483	064352
Town Board	Apr 12	980 8515 9868	754633
CAC	Apr 13	972 1566 0090	423584
Planning Board	Apr 20	958 0817 5336	245871
Town Board	Apr 21	971 0723 2988	535713
Zoning Appeals	None	986 3534 5196	281804
To join a meeting by telephone, call 646.876.9923			