

DANBY NEWS

WHERE ARE THE ALIENS?

Submitted by Ted Crane, Community Council

INQUIRING MINDS want to know: Where are the aliens? Why didn't they show up last month?

Second question first: last minute COVID emergency. Now for the first question!

Danby's Community Council is itching to know the answer, and we've invited Cornell's Zoe Learner Ponterio, Manager of the Spacecraft Planetary Image Facility, to talk to us about...aliens and more.

You can Zoom to the presentation from the comfort of your favorite couch on Sunday, January 9, 3pm. Visit [danbycc.org] to find the Zoom link or, if you prefer, to the YouTube live stream of the event. If you can't make it, a link to the YouTube recording will be available at the same location.

This is going to be a popular event. Even though last month's cancellation was announced locally, a small crowd showed up anyway...from places like South Carolina, New Jersey, Arizona, and Andromeda. They'll be back again!

Spoiler alert: Zoe tells us that, while it seems a safe assumption that Earth is not the only place in the whole cosmos with life, questions like how common or rare it is, or how often it evolves into beings such as ourselves are impossible to answer...for now. But that doesn't mean we can't talk about the questions and take a few guesses.

Zoe will talk about about current and future spacecraft missions searching for signs of life on nearby worlds, and will explore the Fermi Paradox and Drake Equation. She'll help us ponder the possibility of life throughout the galaxy.

The entire family is invited to join us for another of Zoe's fun talks. But, please, if you have aliens in your attic, or your backyard..ask E.T. to phone home. ❄️

A TRIBUTE TO DEANNA BOWLES

Submitted by Katherine Anderson, Danby Fire Commissioner

DURING DECEMBER, DEANNA BOWLES, the longtime Treasurer of the Danby Fire District, attended her last official Fire Commissioners' meeting, where she was celebrated and thanked by the Commissioners, District Secretary Sharon Gaden, and Fire Chiefs John Gaden and Scott Wendt.

For the last ten years, Deanna has ably served in this important role, bringing a great deal of expertise, acumen and attention to detail to the sometimes complex job of managing the books of the Fire District in compliance with the financial and auditing stipulations for New York State municipal entities.



Deanna's involvement with and dedication to the Danby Fire District began long before she became Treasurer. She joined the Danby Volunteer Fire Company in 1987, where she assumed a number of key volunteer roles. De trained to become an EMT and went on to serve as an

Advanced EMT, exterior fire-fighter and a qualified driver on fire apparatus. In 1990, Deanne became the DVFC's first female Assistant Chief.

Her professional career as a district employee began in 2000 when she became the Fire District Secretary. In 2011, she broadened her responsibilities to include the position of Treasurer. She served in both roles until 2016, when she stepped back from her duties as Secretary to concentrate solely on her position as Treasurer.

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January 2022

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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 prior to publication date. 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 [danbynyny.org/DanbyNews]. If you're thinking of sending something for publication in the Danby News, there's two documents to read: the *Guidelines* and the *Submission Guide-*

lines at the same web location. You'll learn what is, and isn't acceptable material for publication. If it's acceptable, we'll make an effort to include it; generally, we print everything we receive! You'll find hints about how to prepare a submission. Following these guidelines makes the editing and layout easier. A terse version of these guidelines is in the left-hand column of this page. ☺

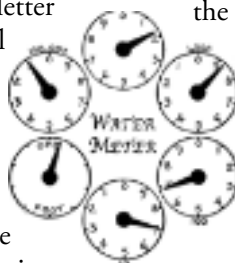
WEST DANBY WATER DISTRICT UPDATE

Submitted by Tod Sukontarak, Water System Operator

IF YOU ARE A CUSTOMER of the West Danby Water District, by the time you are reading this you will likely also have received a letter from the Water District and Town Board concerning the District's new water rate structure. I won't restate the details of that letter here but the short of it is that your quarterly bill will be significantly higher...and your tax (paid to meet unmet expenditures) will be considerably lower.

Overall, the majority of customers will wind up paying nearly the same for their water as they have in the past, it will just be done more on consumption than in taxes levied. Again, I won't go over the details here but the rate change has been a project in progress for more than a year and is intended to be more consumption based than tax based.

On Wednesday December 14, Mark Manzari from Beyond Boundaries Land Services in Locke spent the day with our operator looking for leaks in the distribution system. Currently, approximately 16 percent of our consumed water is unaccounted for. Even though that loss is just on the cusp of where a water system would typi-



cally call for assistance, we contracted with Beyond Boundaries to help us locate the unmetered water. We did not find any leaks but leak detection is good maintenance as it requires someone to put their hands on all the valves in the distribution system, thus checking on issues that may be present. There are a few that we'll have to address. Mark will be coming out again sometime in the coming months to continue the work. In the meantime we will try to inventory and begin correcting some of the issues we found.

Candace Balmer directed us to a water engineer who we will consult to see if he can help us solve some of our brown water problems. We are awaiting a return call from him to discuss this and hoping he will be able to help alleviate the issues that some customers are having.

As of January 1, 2022, I am officially changing roles with Scott Wendt in the Water District. He will become the primary operator and I will assume his role as secondary. I will be leaving employment in the district altogether as soon as we find someone to take the secondary role. Water operation has been mostly enjoyable and I am only leaving because Sarah and I have plans to take the dogs traveling around the country for extended periods; we won't be around for the time necessary to do the work. Anyone interested in this very important and satisfying work should contact Town Hall. I would also be happy to answer questions about the position that you may have. As I am stepping aside, this will be the last Water District Update from me. Thank you, I have interacted with most of the people in the district at some point and it has most always been a pleasure. ❁

Town Office Info

Offices in Danby's Town Hall except where noted
Town Hall, 1830 Danby Road, Ithaca, NY 14850

Town of Danby Web Site: [danby.ny.gov]

Town Clerk • [townclerk@danby.ny.gov]
Phone: 607.277.4788 • Fax: 607.277.0559
Hours: Mon,Wed: Noon-2pm, 4-6pm;
Tue,Thu: 9am-2pm, Fri: Noon-5pm

Highway Dep't • [highway@danby.ny.gov]
93 Hornbrook Road, Ithaca, NY 14850
Phone: 607.272.9169 • Fax: 607.275.3264
Hours: Mon-Fri: 6am-2:30pm

Planning • [planner@danby.ny.gov]
Phone: 607.592.0417 • Fax: 607.277.0559
Hours: Mon-Thu: 9am-5:30pm

Code Enforcement • [code@danby.ny.gov]
Phone: 607.277.0799 • Fax: 607.277.0559
Hours: Mon-Fri: 8am-4:30pm

Town Court • [dgair@nycourts.gov]
Phone: 607.277.0095 • Fax: 607.277.0031
Hours: Tuesday, 9am

FIRE DISTRICT ORG MEETING

Submitted by Sharon Gaden, Fire District Secretary

Please take notice that the organizational meeting for the Danby Fire District of the Town of Danby, County Tompkins, New York, will be held on the 11th day of January 2021, at 7pm, lock p.m. on that day in the Danby Fire Station located at 1780 Danby Road, Ithaca, New York 14850.

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. ❁

SUPERVISOR'S UPDATE

Submitted by Joel Gagnon

AS I WRITE THIS, COVID-19 cases in Tompkins County top 1100, including workers in Danby's Highway Department. Mostly breakthrough cases, since vaccinations are high. The good news is that most of those getting the virus are not deathly ill, in marked contrast to the beginning of the pandemic, and hospitalizations are still low. It is looking increasingly like this is not a problem that will just go away, and with higher rates of infection we are all at increasing risk of being exposed to and contracting the virus. It is disappointing that vaccination does not confer complete immunity. We can hope that treatments will continue to improve, but the best defense available at this time is a combination of vaccination, masking, physical distancing, and mental and physical fitness. Both mask fatigue and depression from physical distancing are very real and constitute impediments to mental health. Let's hope that the longer days ahead lead to a brighter future as 2022 unfolds.

Target Missed! Zoning Update Still To Be Approved

The Town Board had hoped to approve the zoning revisions before year's end and before the expiration of the moratorium on subdivisions in the low density zone. Didn't happen. It came to light that a requirement of NY State enabling legislation for transfer of development rights is that a generic environmental impact study be conducted in conjunction with considering this feature and making it a part of our zoning law. Doing such a study will take time--at least a couple of months. Rather than extend the moratorium to allow for the study to be conducted and including TDR in the zoning revision, the Town Board is expected to opt to delete TDR (we can look at adding it later in 2022) and consider passing the rest of the package in January. I expect a public hearing on the scaled-back proposal to be scheduled for January 4. There is no plan to extend the moratorium, but the Board could still opt to do so if my recommendation does not find favor. We will post updates on the Town's web site to clarify what path has been chosen and there will be a public hearing on any option the Board chooses to pursue.

Solar Farm Update

The Norbut Solar team has responded to concerns by Planning and Town Boards and the engineering firm hired by the Town to review Norbut's application. What is proposed is a roughly 15-megawatt array to be located

north of Bald Hill Road near the center of the Danby hamlet. A new wetland delineation has been conducted and the panels reconfigured as a consequence. There is some loss of the total count of panels as a result--on the order of 200. The interconnect facility has also been moved from north of the barn on the Roe property close to 96B to a location across the creek west of Danby's Town Hall. These accommodations reduce the potential adverse environmental impacts and so also reduce the chances that the Town Board will find a significant impact (a finding that there is a potentially large impact would trigger a need for an environmental impact study--large expense and time are associated therewith).

Workplace Violence Prevention Study/Plan Approved

Credit Matt Ulinski. He chaired the group that interacted with Gina Lord, the very capable consultant that we contracted with to help us identify risks and propose ways of addressing them. The Town Board approved the report she prepared and also the plan of action, directing me to work on implementation. Some of the recommendations include adding security cameras for Danby's Town Hall (the Town Court already has cameras that cover its area), better physical barriers between the Town Clerk and Code offices and the public to reduce their vulnerability. Sad that we even need to concern ourselves about these things, but worker safety deserves priority. A Threat Assessment Team will be created to monitor progress in achieving the goals, assist in investigating workplace violence incidents, and periodically reassess whether the plan is adequately meeting the needs identified. The first appointments will be made in January.

Broadband Survey Authorized

The contract has been signed and the work of identifying where wired broadband is available in Danby will be completed by mid-February at the latest. This study will also identify where wired broadband is not available, which is the real objective. Once we know that, we can identify options for hooking up those who lack access. Most expedient will be to extend service from nearby suppliers at public expense. That will be faster than Dryden's approach of installing municipal fiber-optic cables and then letting internet service providers compete for customers to hook to them. That approach, a public-private collaboration, offers the potential for better service at reduced cost, but it will take a couple of years to im-

—continued on next page ➞

➔ **Supervisor, continued from previous page**

plement. It would take Danby much longer, since Dryden had already been working on this issue for several years before the pandemic hit. Danby may ultimately be able to piggyback on Dryden's system.

Vacancies Yet Unfilled

The Town Board will have acted in December to fill some vacancies due to resignations, but as of this writing no one has applied for the open position on the Board of Zoning Appeals. This is an important board! It hears appeals from those who feel that the strict application of our land use regulations is unreasonable and can grant variances if they agree. It can also hear appeals from Code Official determinations where a resident feels that the Code Official has misinterpreted the code. No law can be written to be fair in all situations; the BZA is an important avenue of relief. Board members serve in a quasi-judicial capacity. Members need to have good judgment and a willingness to carefully examine the facts before ruling. While the requirements are significant, the job does not typically involve a lot of time. The Board only meets when there is an appeal--on average a few times a year. This is a good job for someone willing to help out but concerned about the time required. Application is easy. Form on the website.

Another group seeking a new member is the Hillview Road Landfill Citizens' Advisory Committee. This is a County advisory group focused on the Hillview Road landfill, located just over Danby's south border in West Danby. It has been closed and capped since 1993. To protect water quality, monitoring wells nearby are still sampled every year. The committee's main job is to review the results of the samples. It meets with County officials two or three times per year. If you have an interest in real-world environmental protection, please contact Brian Caldwell, [hgfororganicapples@gmail.com], or me. Since the open position is at large, you can also apply directly with the County.

As always, please feel free to contact me, [supervisor@danby.ny.gov] or 607.227.4440. About any of these matters or anything else on your mind. ❁



CAC UPDATE

Submitted by Margaret Corbit, Conservation Advisory Council

THE CONSERVATION ADVISORY COUNCIL (CAC) met on December 14 via Zoom. We discussed two easements that are in the works in South Danby. And we made plans for our new signs to be posted on existing easement properties this winter.

Betsy Keokosky shared her plans for the Thursday, January 13, 7pm, Regenerative Agriculture webinar program. This session will give us a look at changing ways that people think about the relationship between farming and conservation. See her article for more details and plan to join via the Town Calendar to hear from experts from the County, Cornell Cooperative Extension, and regional farmland conservation initiatives.

Brittany Lagaly will be presenting a talk on gardening with native plants via Zoom on Thursday, February 10.

We are also very interested in recruiting new members, and were happy to have one interested person join in this month's meeting. We encourage you to join our meetings using the link posted on the Town Calendar. You will be welcomed and we want your input on issues currently under discussion. You will be given three minutes at the beginning of the meeting to share your ideas during the Privilege of the Floor. This month, Ronda Roaring began the segment by pointing out the importance of legal oversight—on behalf of both the owner and the Town—of each easement process.

The CAC meets on the second Tuesday of the month. Our next meeting will be held (via Zoom) on Tuesday, January 11, 7pm. ❁

PANCAKES AND FIXIN'S To Go

Submitted by Stephen Hilsdorf, DVFC

Sometime around the end of January, cabin fever will drive you out of your home. You'll be ready to dig your way out through the snow for some fresh, hot, pancakes with all the traditional pancake sides.

The Danby Volunteer Fire Company is having another drive-thru pancake breakfast on January 30! The price is \$6 for scrambled eggs, home fries, and choice of (1 or 2) pancakes, french toast, and sausage patties.

The entrance and exit will be thru the parking lot in front of the station. No need to get out of your car! ❁

COUNTY LEGISLATURE REPORT

Submitted by Dan Klein, Tompkins County Legislator

THE NEW YEAR IS A TIME to mark changes and take stock of the good and bad. Despite all the craziness, there are many positive changes going on in the world of local government. Today I am going to write about something not so good.

As of January 1, 2022, my term as Chair of the TCAT (Tompkins Consolidated Area Transit) Board of Directors is over. This is a role I will not miss. I am strong supporter of TCAT bus service. Despite the severe disruption to public transit, TCAT was still able to provide one million rides in 2020 and two million rides in 2021. The conversion to an all-electric fleet has begun. The TCAT staff are heroes in my opinion.

The trouble is with the structure of the organization. It is jointly operated by Tompkins County, the City of Ithaca, and Cornell University. The County and the City have one goal: provide good bus service to as many people as possible. Cornell's goal is to provide good bus service to Cornell. And therein lies the problem.

I have lived in Tompkins County for 35 years. Of course I have heard stories about Cornell being a bully. But I had never experienced it firsthand until I became Chair of the TCAT Board.

When Cornell students and staff get on a TCAT bus, they don't pay for the ride themselves. Instead, Cornell makes a bulk payment to TCAT for this system, and also gets increased service to campus. It is a good deal for both entities. The system operates under a 3-year contract.

Starting a little over a year ago, Cornell stopped making monthly payments on its contractual obligations. Its reason? Cornell said that, since TCAT drivers were getting paid by the Federal pandemic relief money at that time (the PPP, for those who remember), why should Cornell also have to pay? There are many reasons why this is a faulty argument, including that the Federal money was meant specifically for drivers' paychecks and not to subsidize Cornell, and also because TCAT still had to pay for buses, parts, gasoline, insurance, etc. There is also tremendous irony: Cornell itself received tens of millions of dollars of Federal pandemic relief funds and was not willing to use one dime of that money for TCAT.

Another aspect of this situation is that the funding agreement for TCAT states that if TCAT operates at a loss, the County, the City, and Cornell all must chip in equally to bail out TCAT. It has never come to that. But now, since Cornell has pulled out money from TCAT for its own use, if there is ever a deficit, County and City taxpayers will be subsidizing Cornell's action.

At one point, Cornell sought over \$800,000 from TCAT. After months of negotiations, and after Cornell simply stopped payment on its contractual obligations, TCAT settled for giving Cornell \$315,000 to end the stalemate.

Cornell received \$712 million in donations in 2020.

There are several other chapters to this story about Cornell's bad behavior but I have already gone over my word limit. Let me just say again that TCAT is a great community asset that should be supported by all who benefit from it.

You can contact me at [danbydan@hotmail.com] or my home phone number, 607.272.7582. ❄

➡ *Dee Bowles, continued from page 5*

Sharon Gaden, the current Danby Fire District Secretary, who has worked with Dee closely for many years, acknowledged that it is difficult to put into words, "how much I learned from her, not only when I joined the Fire Company but when I became District Secretary," adding, "I wish her the best retirement with an abundance of fun!"

Described by New York State fire district trainers as the *gold standard* for district Treasurers, Dee will be missed by all those who had the privilege of knowing her and benefiting from her knowledge, commitment and good humor.

During retirement, Dee plans to spend more time with her husband Ralph Bowles, who also had a storied career with the Danby Fire District. Both individually and collectively, Dee and Ralph have made truly invaluable, long-lasting and greatly appreciated contributions to the Danby Fire District and our community.

Following Dee's official retirement on December 31, Deputy Treasurer Sharon Gaden will assume the role of Treasurer with the assistance of Danby resident Bonnie Hart, our Treasurer-in-Training. Bonnie will assume the official role of Treasurer during the District's organizational meeting on January 11. ❄

AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION SERIES

Submitted by Betsy Keokosky

Preserving Farmland

Q: Why would you Zoom in on farmland protection?

A1: Because climate change, new perceptions, fire, and draught are changing the world so rapidly that we have to pay attention.

A2: Because Danby is re-zoning to maintain a rural aspect and open space, and working farmers provide one of the best ways to do that.

This presentation focuses on the community interests of farm conservation, preserving open space, and fair outcomes for farmers. General topics to be covered are:

- Conservation Easements
- Encouraging new farmers
- Purchase of development rights
- Incubator Farms
- Solar Farms
- How climate change uncertainties make it important to keep options open.

The Importance of Preserving Farmland and Transitioning to New Farmers is the last in the series of agricultural discussions that began in October with the presentation on *Local Partners and Common Misperceptions* and continued in November with *Regenerative Agriculture: Soil Health and Climate Change*.

Speakers for this presentation are:

- Scott Doyle, Tompkins County Planning Department
 - Monika Roth, former CCE expert on farms, food, and gardening
 - Molly Johnston-Heck, from American Farmland Trust
- Date is January 13, 7pm. Find the Zoom link on the Danby Calendar. For additional questions contact the Danby Town Clerk. This presentation is sponsored by the Danby Conservation Advisory Council. ❁



Sliced Eggplant

—Ted Crane

DEAR SANTA, ABOUT MY MAIL

Submitted by Ted Crane

THE FOLLOWING LETTER TO SANTA didn't arrive at the North Pole until too late for inclusion in the December issue of the Danby News.

We've been living with an unusual gift in our part of Danby: mail delivery on Sundays. OK, we understand that the gift comes from the USPS and not from your workshop. We're hoping you can bestow a gift on the USPS that will make it possible to resume delivery of Saturday's mail on Saturdays.

Here's the scoop: for months, mail for the "uphill Danby" part of the 14883 ZIPcode (Bald Hill, Comfort, Gunderman, and nearby Roads) has been arriving after dark, sometimes hours after sunset. Very often, it's long after residents have returned from work and other daily activities.

In this rural area, mailboxes can be a 5- or 10-minute walk from the front door. Unless someone is willing to hike out to the mailbox at 7 or 8pm—in the dark and cold and snow—the mail doesn't "arrive" until the next morning.

Please, Santa, can't you figure a way to have mail delivered around mid-day, like it used to be?

The Spencer postmaster is aware of the problem and is apologetic. "Uphill" is only a mile or two from the West Danby valley as the crow flies, but it's about 600 feet higher and only one or two unpaved goat trails connect the few mailboxes up here to the far greater number of delivery locations down there.

Maybe, Santa, you could deliver an extra postal carrier to Spencer? Or maybe you can magically convince the USPS that the "uphill" parts of 14883 served by the Spencer Post Office would be better served from Ithaca in 14850? After all, including *any* part of Danby in the 14883 ZIPcode means that we get the phone book from—of all places—Elmira, that insurance companies think we're in Tioga County, and that our junk mail is aimed at a completely different demographic than the 14850 where we pay taxes and do our marketing.

Even you, Santa, can't prevent junk mail...but can you help us get the *right* junk mail? And not a day late?

If you can solve this one, Santa, next year I'll write to you about world peace. ❁



Ted Davenport
photo by Margie VanDeMark

DANBY SENIORS!

Submitted by Margie VanDeMark

THE DANBY SENIORS will not meet monthly until later in the spring at this point. We'll keep you posted.

We had a lovely holiday luncheon at LaTourelle on December 2. Christina and her staff did an excellent job on the decorations and food prep. Ted Davenport entertained us with his wonderful harp music. It was so good to get together again! ❀

VOLUNTEER FOR THE DANBY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Submitted by Cathy Darrow

Interested in giving back to your community for a few hours a month? The Danby Community Council (DCC) has open seats on its Board of Directors!

The non-political DCC organizes concerts, community events, and informative presentations, supervises Danby's youth programs, offers grants for youth attending other programs, and more. It publishes the Danby News to keep us all connected to Town affairs and events.

All Danby residents are automatically members of the DCC, but much of the planning falls to the Board of Directors. Directors serve a 2-year term, and meet once or twice a month (the regular meeting is on the first Thursday of the month, 7pm, via Zoom; there may be additional committee meetings).

Directors cannot be elected or appointed officials or employees, but all other members are eligible for election during the DCC's annual meeting (tentatively scheduled for Sunday, January 23, 7pm). The meeting will also include reports on 2021 activities and finances along with proposed bylaw amendments.

And, of course, anyone can volunteer to help with programs or even bring a program idea to the DCC for its support! We'd love to see more participation from West Danby!

Help us support every corner of Danby. A few hours a month of your time would really help us deliver great local activities. For more information, check out [danbycc.org] or contact [ContactUs@danbycc.org]. ❀

MISSING LIGHTS (PSA #4,724)

Submitted by Susan Franklin

Driving at night? Notice any lights missing? Especially on vehicles?

This is a recommendation that any—all—drivers should double check your vehicle lights before law enforcement helps you out...with a ticket. Having a second person assist you makes it faster and easier to double-check your vehicle's lights (headlights, tail lights, marker lights, and don't forget your license plate lights).



Having your car's lights checked once a year when you get an inspection is not enough. Personally, I suggest once a month.

I have often thought of asking local car dealers (and repair shops) to have a lane through the parking lot where they can do a speedy check with you. Good for the dealer's business and safer for you and everybody else on the road.

Think of that, the next time you see a one-eyed monster coming down the road. There are not that many motorcycles on the road, especially at this time of year! ❀

SENIORS STRENGTH CLASS

Submitted by Joanne Church

The Senior Strength Class is taking place via Zoom only during winter months. During the spring, we expect to go back to hybrid or in-person.

Stop by to check it out: We're a friendly group with 4-6 regular attendees. All the exercises are simple, designed for seniors, and easily modified to fit individual limitations.

Here's the Zoom links for the classes; just enter them into your web browser and join us:

Mondays, 9-10am, [zoom.us/j/84819023648];

Thursdays, 9-10am, [zoom.us/j/87163913959].

All are welcome, it's friendly and easy-going. Questions? Call me at 607.277.3574. ❀

LIFE IS WHAT HAPPENS

WHEN YOU'RE BUSY

MAKING OTHER PLANS.

— JOHN LENNON

Danby Youth Flyer

Danby Community Council Youth Programs

Danby youth had lots of fun at the Community Council's Youth Programs during November and December. The Fall 2021 sessions wrapped up at the end of December. Here are just a few examples of activities we tried: making plastic out of milk, building marshmallow catapults,



mixing up some cocoa slime, pouring candles, playing tag, building fires, crafting hats and fairy doors, building shelters in the woods, and cooking biscuits over a grill.

With input from program participants, we've been working

out a list of programs for 2022. Some samples of what we've got coming down the pipeline:

- more outdoor cooking
- Paper making and bookbinding
- sewing and crafting using upcycled "trash"
- self defense
- sledding
- scavenger hunts and treasure maps
- creative percussion circle w/ movement & stretching
- theatre
- making our own soda, sweets, and salves using herbs and edible flowers

Danby residents can expect Winter 2022 programs to begin during the first and second week of January. Look for Winter info at [danbycc.org/YouthPrograms] (follow the links) or [youthprograms@danbycc.org]. You can also contact the Youth Program Manager, directly at [hd289@cornell.edu] or 607.272.2292.x137 (voice-mail 268). — Heidi Doggett ❀

COMMUNITY LIBRARY

Submitted by Cindy Parlett

MORE NEWLY PURCHASED BOOKS!

Adult Fiction

- The Aviator's Wife Melanie Benjamin
- The Exiles..... Christina Baker Kline
- On Wave and Wing..... Barrett Tillman
- Apples Never Fall Liane Moriarty
- Crossroad Jonathan Franzen
- Damnation Spring Ash Davidson
- Simon the Fidler..... Paulette Jiles

Children's Books

- Pete the Cat and the Bedtime Blues.....James Dean
- Pete the Cat's Groovy ImaginationJames Dean
- Pete the Kitty and the Groovy Play Date ..James Dean
- Sloth to the Rescue..... Leanne Shirliffe

Thanks to the Tompkins County Public Library for our new, weather-proof outdoor sign. As always our hours are Tuesdays, 1-3pm; Thursdays and Saturdays, 10-Noon. ❀



GALACTIC QUEST

FAMILY STEM CHALLENGE

Submitted by Zoe Learner Ponterio

HI SPIF FANS! This year's 4-H STEM Challenge is Galactic Quest and, once again, Cornell's Spacecraft Planetary Imaging Facility (SPIF) is supporting this all-virtual event for youth aged 8-14 and their families. You'll receive a free kit (while supplies last) with materials and instructions for fun, astronomy-themed activities,



as well as invitations to participate in online events and webinars. Registration is

open to all and the sign-up deadline is January 14.

The New York State Family STEM Challenge program brings together youth and families from across New York to join live virtual events and share their family's space explorations. We'll have activities led by professionals, teen leaders, and campus partners like SPIF.

This event is open to all New York State youth, aged 8-14. Youth need to have an adult present with them when they join live virtual activities. Visit the Galactic Quest web site, [nys4-h.org/2021] for more information and a video introducing this year's experience. ❀



DANBY NEWS: EVENT CALENDAR

- Jan 1 • Sat
 All day 📍 Everywhere • Bird Count
 9am 📍 Town Hall • Library Volunteers Meeting
- Jan 4 • Tue
 7pm 📍 Zoom • Town Board Meeting
- Jan 5 • Wed
 5pm 📍 Zoom • West Danby Water District Mtg
- Jan 6 • Thu
 7pm 📍 Zoom • Danby Community Council Mtg
- Jan 9 • Sun
 3pm 📍 Zoom • Where Are the Aliens?
 The Search For Life In Space • link at [danbycc.org]
- Jan 10 • Mon
 7pm 📍 DVFC Station • Fire Dep't Meeting
 7pm 📍 West Danby Fire Station • WD Fire Dep't Mtg
- Jan 11 • Tue
 7pm 📍 DVFC Station/YouTube • Fire District Meeting
 7pm 📍 Zoom • Conservation Advisory Council Mtg
- Jan 13 • Thu
 7pm 📍 Zoom • Agricultural Education Series
- Jan 18 • Tue
 7pm 📍 Zoom • Planning Board Mtg
- Jan 19 • Wed
 7pm 📍 Zoom • Town Board Meeting
- Jan 20 • Thu
 4pm 📍 Community Church • Danby Food Pantry
- Jan 25 • Tue
 7pm 📍 DVFC Station/YouTube • Fire District Meeting

- Jan 30 • Sun
 8-11am 📍 DVFC Station • Drive-Thru Pancakes
- Feb 1 • Tue
 7pm 📍 Zoom • Town Board Meeting
- Feb 3 • Thu
 7pm 📍 Zoom • Danby Community Council Mtg
- Feb 5 • Sat
 All day 📍 Everywhere • Bird Count
 9am 📍 Town Hall • Library Volunteers Meeting
- Feb 8 • Tue
 7pm 📍 DVFC Station/YouTube • Fire District Meeting
 7pm 📍 Zoom • Conservation Advisory Council Mtg
- Feb 14 • Mon
 7pm 📍 DVFC Station • Fire Dep't Meeting
 7pm 📍 West Danby Fire Station • WD Fire Dep't Mtg

Ongoing Events

- Seniors Strength Class 📍 via Zoom
 Mondays, 9–10am: [zoom.us/j/84819023648]
 Thursdays, 9-10am: [zoom.us/j/87163913959]
 Contact [jmchurch@twcny.rr.com] for info
- Danby Community Library 📍 Town Hall
 Tuesday, 1–3pm; Thursday & Saturday, 10am–Noon
 Curbside pickup available; can return in drop box.
- Danby Food Pantry 📍 Danby Community Church
 3rd Thursday, 4-6pm
- Food Scrap Recycling 📍 Town Hall 🗑️👉👈👉👈
 Saturdays, 9am-Noon
- AA Meeting 📍 via Zoom: [zoom.us/j/8209358263]
 Wednesdays, 7pm
- Danby Quilters Group 📞 607.273.2950, Call for Info

Meeting	Date	Zoom MtgID	Passcode
Town Board	Jan 4	980 8515 9868	754633
CAC	Jan 11	972 1566 0090	423584
Planning Board	Jan 18	958 0817 5336	245871
Town Board	Jan 19	971 0723 2988	535713
Zoning Appeals	None	986 3534 5196	281804
To join a meeting by telephone, call 646.876.9923			

Where Things Happen

- 📍 Danby Town Hall • 1830 Danby Road
- 📍 DVFC Station • 1780 Danby Road
- 📍 WDFD Station • 47 Sylvan Drive, off Rt.34/96
- 📍 Danby Community Church • 1859 Danby Road
- 📍 American Legion Post 221 • 1231 Danby Road