



# DANBY NEWS

## DCC CONCERT:

### UNCLE JOE AND RENÉE BAUM

Submitted by Pamela Goddard



and Renee Baum (a.k.a. Rosebud Ramblers) and surprise guests. This musical duo have played their instruments for literally 100 years. Banjo, fiddle, guitar, and voice will bring a smile to your face and get your toes a-tapping.

The concert will be accessible to all (via Zoom and YouTube on the internet). Visit [\[danbycc.org\]](http://danbycc.org) to find the link to the concert (and, afterward, to the recording!).

Joe and Renee have been making music together for a long time. The four piece band, Rosebud Ramblers, has played for dances across Central NY. Don't feel like dancing yourself? Their dancing limber-jack puppet will happily dance for you.

Renee specializes in fiddle tunes from northern America and Canada. while Joe is a walking jukebox of banjo songs from America's pre-Civil War past. These are family oriented, traditional folk songs that have stood the test of time. Be ready to sing along with old familiar songs.

Danby's Community Council is excited to resume its live music concerts. The 2022 series honors Robert Strichartz, founder of the series. Bob conceived a unique program in 1999, bringing high quality artistic events, appealing to a diverse range of age groups and musical tastes. Many concerts

## DANBY'S COMMUNITY

Council kicks off its 2022 music season with old-time family-friendly fun. Sunday afternoon, April 3, 3pm, we bring you Uncle Joe Chicone

## This Month Inside the Danby News:

Know Your Neighbor: Steve Selin	③
New Fire Commissioner. . . . .	④
Burn Ban; Last Pancakes . . . . .	④
Danby's Rural Cemetery. . . . .	⑤
<i>Danby News</i> Update. . . . .	⑤
Curmudgeon Corner . . . . .	⑥
Seniors Meet! . . . . .	⑥
Youth Flyer . . . . .	⑦
Community Library. . . . .	⑦
iMacs Wanted and Want Gone . . . . .	⑦
Calendar . . . . .	⑧

## EARTH DAY ROAD CLEANUP

Submitted by Ted Crane and Pamela Goddard

**T**HE 52ND EARTH DAY IS COMING UP! While the "real" date is on Friday, April 22, there'll be at least one local activity happening on Saturday, April 23: the not-quite-annual Earth Day Road Cleanup on NYS Rt.96B. The rain date is Sunday, April 24.

This activity is a great way to give to your community. It's something the whole family can (carefully!) take part in, and it's a good excuse to get out and about on a warm (hopefully!) spring day. It's social and it's healthy low-impact exercise, too.

Cleanup mostly recovers small, well-weathered trash items.

You'd be amazed how many such small items are tossed out along the road! Small items are bagged up; the bags (and larger items) are left by the side of the road for pick up by the NYS Dep't of Transportation.

Ted, Pamela, and Danby's Community Council are coordinating a group pickup on the 2.2-mile stretch of downtown Danby they tend, year-round. Flashy orange is the color of the day—safety vests are available and heavy-duty bags will be supplied. We'll meet at 10:30am in the Park-and-Ride lot of Dotson Park, across from Danby's Town Hall.

We'd love to have RSVPs if you plan to attend but there will be plenty of supplies for everyone who shows up: bags, safety equipment, and trash!

For more information, contact us at 607.319.3319 or [\[danbycleanup@tedcrane.com\]](mailto:danbycleanup@tedcrane.com). Pick-up walks can be so social and they're outdoors, but COVID-consciousness is still a good idea. ♣

feature local talent, and Danby residents have also enjoyed performers from as far away as Australia and England.

This program is made possible in part with funds from the Statewide Community Re-grants program from the New York State Council on the Arts, with the support of the office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature and administered by the COMMUNITY ARTS PARTNERSHIP of Tompkins County. ♣

**April 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 15<sup>th</sup> 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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 Help the Danby News build community!  
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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 [danbynyn.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. ☘

## KNOW YOUR NEIGHBORS:

### STEVE SELIN

Submitted by Pamela Goddard

**A**PRIL BRINGS SPRING. One visible sign of spring is blossoms on the fruit trees. Driving along Sandbank Road, you'll see an orchard full of blooms. This beauty is the fruit of efforts by the multi-talented Steve Selin.

Steve was already an active musician and luthier (doing instrument repair) when he moved to Danby with his family. He arrived with family memories of cider: his Dad enjoying cider with friends every Tuesday at the *Cider Cellar*, a farm outside of Buffalo. Years later, this professional musician and self-taught cider maker his loves together in the *South Hill Cidery* [[southhillcider.com](http://southhillcider.com)].

People driving on King Road have long been familiar with an odd, subtle sign marking the driveway for Steve's home and instrument repair workshop—a weathered piece of wood in the shape of a fiddle. It didn't take long for Steve Selin to get to know some of the renowned old time musicians. Playing in their tasting rooms, he befriended the region's many winery and cidery folks.

Steve can't help but point out the many parallels between traditional music and cider. Cider and Old-Time music were staples of American culture during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries and both were sidelined by the introduction of mechanized and industrial rivals.

Steve fell in with the regional cider community. One of those was fellow musician, apple grower, and cider-maker Peter Hoover. Selin learned about tree care in Hoover's orchard and learned the basics of cider making. This experience is precious to Steve. "Peter was decades ahead of all the cideries around here," he says.

"I'm a musician, so I would take the cider to music festivals and parties. I was making large quantities for about five years before moving to commercial production in 2014. As a musician I was playing in winery tasting rooms once a week for years. I was drinking a lot of wine, getting to know the winemakers, and getting to

know the industry. Cider-making and the wine world came together for me and that's what gave me the foundation to do it commercially."

During the same years, Steve took an interest in local land use concerns. Hanging around Town Hall, "I would always ask people if they knew of any apple trees, and someone mentioned this particular farmer to me. That's how I found a few orchards around here. There's people that know history there. It's amazing—there's tens of thousands of wild apple trees."

Eventually, Selin purchased the Sandbank Road property. He planted an orchard and started building South Hill Cider. He's still harvesting apples from abandoned orchards around the Finger Lakes, including some in Danby.

"We collaborate with neighbors to help maintain and reclaim forgotten orchards for use in

cider making. These orchards range from home-scale orchards to larger and older orchards that have not been in commercial production for decades. To that end, we started the Finger Lakes Apple Tree Project to identify forgotten local orchards from which to source."

South Hill Cidery has become a thriving social center. It's a mix of agriculture, cider sales, food, and music. There is often tasty food to go with Steve's musically inspired ciders. You might find jazz/swing from Djug Django on Monday nights, and music in the old time tradition from Richie Stearns and friends on Thursday nights. South Hill Cidery combines all of the things that mean so much to Selin. Steve himself can sometimes be found playing with musical companions.

"During the my years on Danby's Planning Board, two of the most common threads I heard were that there should be more farming and more places to meet neighbors in Danby," Steve says. "I am proud to have been able to incorporate both of those at South Hill Cider."

*Danby's Community Council wants us all to get to know each other better. This series of short profiles of interesting folks who live here in one way. Do you have an idea for someone to highlight? Let us know.* ❧



## FIRE DISTRICT COMMISSIONER APPOINTED

Submitted by Katharine Anderson

CHARLOTTE “TWINKLE” GRIGGS WAS APPOINTED as a Danby Fire Commissioner during the District’s organizational meeting in January. She assumes the remaining year of the term of Commissioner Anna Finley, a longtime Danby resident who recently moved to Pennsylvania to be closer to family.

Twinkle grew up in Southeastern Pennsylvania, in Chester County, then lived in the Connecticut River Valley for a time. She relocated to our area in 1980 when a friend needed help at Indian Creek Fruit Farm. Twinkle and her husband, Brian Caldwell, farmed together until 1998, when she started working full-time for the post office. Twinkle and her husband’s 100-acre Hemlock Grove Farm on Bald Hill in West Danby produces organic apples, hazelnuts and chestnuts. The two have long had a CSA; last year it had 130 members.

For many years, Twinkle was kept busy with work and family. She has seven brothers and sisters and loves to travel—Italy, Panama, and other global destinations. Twinkle and her husband have two children, including daughter Jenny, who just gave them a grandson.

Commissioner Grigg’s unusual nickname comes from her Dad, who bestowed this moniker on her when she was born, naming her after baseball player George “*Twinkle Toes*” Selkirk, a well-known member of the Yankees in the 1940s.

Given her long hours at the post office, Twinkle has not previously been involved in many volunteer activities in the community but she was active with the Ithaca Farmers Market. She also worked alongside Anna Finley as a West Danby Election Inspector and was intrigued by what Anna shared about the role of a Fire Commissioner.

Twinkle says that she has always wanted to do something for the Fire Company. While she didn’t think she could be an EMT or volunteer firefighter, now that she is retired this form of service made perfect sense. Her primary interest in becoming a commissioner is to give back to the community.

During her first few months as a Commissioner, Twinkle has been learning the ropes and looks forward to contributing to the well-being of the volunteer fire company. ❁

## LAST PANCAKES

Submitted by Steven Hilsdorf

THE LAST drive thru pancake breakfast is the winter season is coming up on Sunday mornings, April 3, at the Danby Volunteer Fire Company, 1780 Danby Road; entrance and exit in the parking lot, no need to get out of your car! Everything for \$8! ❁

## 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.

You can find a statewide Fire Danger map at [[dec.ny.gov/lands/68329.html](http://dec.ny.gov/lands/68329.html)] and more info at [[dec.ny.gov/chemical/32060.html](http://dec.ny.gov/chemical/32060.html)]. ❁



Spring escapes its prison!

photo by Susan Franklin



## THE DANBY RURAL CEMETERY

Submitted by Sharon Boda

**L**OCATED AT 14 CURTIS ROAD, the Danby Rural Cemetery is a quiet place of beauty with a long history.

The site was originally a family burial plot owned by Lewis Beers, who came to the Danby area in 1792. The original one-acre plot passed to E.L.B. Curtis, who donated it to the newly-formed Danby Cemetery Association, incorporated under New York State law in 1871. Since then the cemetery has expanded to eight acres with ample space for new plots.

The Cemetery is open to all, for both full burials and cremations, as well as for those who are interested in its natural beauty and many historical gravestones. Governance is led by the Danby Rural Cemetery Association, which holds its public meeting each Spring. All lot sales and activities are conducted in accordance with the provisions of the laws of the State of New York.

The cemetery is maintained by community volunteers, coordinated and led by Richard "Dick" Hautala, 607.272.3287. Come join us!

Further information about the cemetery, including rates, cemetery events, and opportunities for donation, is available from Sharon Boda by eMail, [sharonmboda@gmail.com]. ❀

### Danby Rural Cemetery Association

President	Jane E. Brewer
Vice President	Roland L. Boda
Secretary-Treasurer	Sharon Boda
Trustee/Caretaker	Richard Hautala
Trustee/Excavator	Jim Sczepanski

## RURAL CEMETERY: ANNUAL MTG

Submitted by Sharon Boda

**T**HE ANNUAL MEETING of the Danby Rural Cemetery Association will be held on Saturday, April 30, 2022, 9am, in the Danby Community Church at 1859 Danby Road. All lot owners, relatives, interested parties are welcome to attend.

For more information call Sharon Boda, 607.273.8241 before April 24. ❀

## DANBY NEWS—NOT DEAD

Submitted by Ted Crane and Pamela Goddard

**L**AST MONTH, WE WROTE TO SAY that the Town of Danby had de-funded the *Danby News*. In February, the Town announced that it will publish its own newsletter. Saving money was never mentioned; the consensus from print professionals is that an official newsletter would either reduce content or raise the cost...and probably compete with the *Danby News*.

We wrote that community support would be a part of the Community Council decision whether to continue the *Danby News*...and how to pay for it. In response we've received eMails and phone calls and, even with a low-key and vague fundraising description, financial support has begun to arrive.

Many residents appear to share the feeling that the *DN* is a strong community-building force in Danby.

No, there's no firm decision yet and the Community Council isn't cashing the checks yet. We hope to present a plan to Danby's residents next month.

We ask: would you pay \$10-15 for a subscription? Maybe more to help those who can't afford it? Would you be part of *The Danby 100*, a modest group of residents willing to contribute about \$100 to provide the *Danby News* to everyone else? Let us know! ❀

## CURMUDGEON CORNER

**A** LOT OF ATTENTION has been given to the price of oil and gasoline, with its rocket-and-feather fluctuations. It rockets up, and settles slowly like a feather. Always, it seems, to the disadvantage of the consumer.

The public is getting hit with price changes in many, less obvious ways. The price of a half-gallon (well, 3/4 of a half gallon, thanks to shrinkflation, see below) of Tops house brand ice cream went up 50¢. So did the price of a frozen Wegman's house brand pizza.

Why is it that price hikes involve nice round numbers like 50¢? If the production and transportation cost of a \$2.99 pizza goes up seven percent, that's 21¢, not 50¢.

For that matter, why do the prices for, well, everything always end in a "9"? Obviously, the price calculation isn't precise since it always changes by a nice round number. This question has three easy answers: exact change, charm pricing, and the left-digit effect.

It all started during the 1800s, when a shopkeeper noticed that clerks were stealing from him. If an item cost exactly \$1, they would take the payment and—instead of ringing it up and making change—put it directly in their pocket. The solution was to charge 99¢. The clerk had to open a cash box (or register) *in sight of the customer* to make change.

That's when the magic started. The shopkeepers (more than one, this idea caught on fast) noticed that the same item would sell better for 99¢ than \$1, \$1.99 better than \$2. It's called "charm pricing" and it's based on the left-digit effect. In short, prices cause emotional responses, not analytic ones. Customers see the left digit—a "1" in the case of "1.99"—and don't see the price as "2".

People go to college to learn tricks like this. It's called, "marketing."

Customers hate being fooled, so marketing strategies have become more subtle. Inflated prices are painful, so marketers avoid backlash by giving you less for the same money; that's *shrinkflation*. Witness the shrinking half-gallon. A half gallon—64 fluid ounces—became 56 ounces and, shortly after, dropped to 48 ounces. If it shrinks much more...it'd be a quart.

But wait, there's more. Recent examples include

## SENIORS: GREAT NEWS!

Submitted by Margie VanDeMark

**T**HE DANBY SENIORS PLAN TO RESUME monthly gatherings in May! Always on the first Thursday of the month, we meet at noon in the Danby Community Church for a dish-to-pass luncheon. It'll be good to get together and visit!

Last year we did enjoy two times together: our chicken BBQ at the American Legion in August and our December holiday luncheon at La-Tourelle. Please share this information with your friends who may not have an eMail address. See you on Thursday, May 5, at Noon in the Danby Community Church!



The equinox has passed.  
Is spring around the corner?

Please bring a dish to share.



- *Charmin* went from 264 sheets to 244. The package claims, *More absorbent so you can use less*. Really, a sheet-and-a-half?
- *Bounty* still picks up more, but only 147 times instead of 165.
- *Snyder's* pretzels crumbled away 0.75oz to 11.25.
- Sardines are small enough already, but now *Season* gives you 3.75oz instead of 4.375.
- *Keebler* cookies with M&Ms shrank from 11.3oz to 9.75, and the family size from 17.2oz to 14.6.
- *Gatorade* spilled 4oz from its 32oz bottle; the new bottle still has 80 calories, but in a curvy shape.
- 90 is the new 100, at least for tablets in *Aleve*. May we have fewer headaches, as well.

*The Curmudgeon Corner is open to complaints of all kinds. Submit your items! Anything that's annoying in modern life is fair game except the Town of Danby and, please, no personal attacks.*



Do you live in Danby, and have youth in grades 4–8? Consider these free after-school programs for youth offered by the 4-H Rural Youth Services (RYS) programs at Cooperative Extension!

All programs are following CDC and NYS Health Department Guidelines. Some programs are inside. For programs that take place outside it is vital that your child comes prepared with proper clothing for the afternoon. Students who are not prepared will be sent home on the bus. Please let Heidi Doggett know if you need help acquiring cold weather clothing.

# Danby Youth Flyer

## Outdoor Music and Movement—grades 4-5

2-5pm, Mondays, 4/4, 4/18, 4/25  
South Hill Elementary School

Experiment with different materials to make musical instruments: a xylophone of glass jars filled with rainbow colored water, paper pan pipes, and whatever they can invent. Then we'll add in movement like jumping, stretching, dancing, follow-the-leader, storytelling, spinning and swirling with sticks and ribbons, or whatever youth would like to try. At the end of the program, they may put together a short performance based on their favorites. That depends on what they want!

## Dungeons and Dragons, Magic: the Gathering, and Board Games—grades 6-8

3:30-6pm, Tuesdays, 4/5, 4/19, 4/26  
Boynton Middle School

Join a D&D campaign, bring your Magic deck, or choose a board game. We'll have new options every week, including WizWar, Unstable Unicorns, Sushi Go, and of course outdoor games. Maybe you just want to make your own? Grab a snack and give it a shot.

## Primitive Pursuits—grades 4-5

2:30-5:30pm, Wednesdays, 4/6, 4/20, 4/27  
Dotson Park

Learn outdoor skills with a Primitive Pursuits instructor: build fires, cook snacks, make shelters, learn wilderness survival and spend time exploring outdoors.

## You've Got Options— grades 6-8

3:30-6pm, Thursdays, 4/7, 4/21, 4/28  
Boynton Middle School

What should we do today? Choose from crafts, games, and outdoor activities. Maybe a walk to Stewart Park to cook a snack on the BBQ, putting together a treasure hunt, learning some puppetry, binding a book, or making Dan houses (if you know, you know).

## Play-in-a-Day

Grades 4-5: 8am-Noon, Monday, 4/11  
Grades 6-8: 9am-1pm, Tuesday, 4/12  
Dotson Park

Bring your ideas! You've got four hours to write and perform your own play. We'll take a break to make snacks, of course. You'll have a pile of odds and ends for making your own costumes and props. If youth agree to it, we'll record the result so they can show their friends and families.

## Stewpot Stomp—grades 4-5

11am-1pm, Saturday, 4/30  
Dotson Park

Make fire, make stew, make gremlin critter mischief. On the docket: create weaving masterpieces between the trees, construct cookie toadstools, and go Frog Bowling. Then we'll stomp around the stew pot before settling down to eat.

## iMACS: WANTED AND WANT GONE

Submitted by Ted Crane

**D**O YOU HAVE an unused iMac...or do you need an inexpensive computer?

If you have an iMac lying around, I can fix it up and pass it on to someone who needs one. If you need one, I can help you turn a used gem from Craigslist or FB Marketplace into a useful household tool. No fee, just for fun.

Email me at [\[box.888@danbyny.org\]](mailto:box.888@danbyny.org).



## COMMUNITY LIBRARY

Submitted by Cindy Parlett

**J**UST A REMINDER: all of the items in the library are available for viewing by going to the Town of Danby web site. Once there, choose Departments and then the Public Library link. To browse our selections click on or enter [\[cloud.collectors.com/201255\]](https://cloud.collectors.com/201255).

We have hundreds of books and DVDs on the shelves. You can request items by sending an eMail to: [\[library@danby.ny.gov\]](mailto:library@danby.ny.gov).

Our hours are Tuesday, 1-3pm; Thursday and Saturday, 10am-noon.





Apr 2022

## DANBY NEWS: EVENT CALENDAR

Apr 1 • Fri

All Day Everywhere • Day of the Fool

Apr 2 • Sat

9am Town Hall • Library Volunteers Meeting

Apr 3 • Sun

3pm Zoom • Community Council Concert  
 Uncle Joe Chicone & Renée Baum

Apr 5 • Tue

7pm Zoom • Town Board Meeting

Apr 6 • Wed

5pm Zoom • West Danby Water District Mtg

Apr 7 • Thu

7pm Zoom • Danby Community Council Mtg

Apr 11 • Mon

7pm DVFC Station • Fire Dep't Meeting

7pm West Danby Fire Station • WD Fire Dep't Mtg

Apr 12 • Tue

7pm DVFC Station/YouTube • Fire District Meeting

7pm Zoom • Conservation Advisory Council Mtg

Apr 19 • Tue

7pm Zoom • Planning Board Mtg

Apr 20 • Wed

7pm Zoom • Town Board Meeting

Apr 21 • Thu

4pm Community Church • Danby Food Pantry

Apr 24 • Sat

10:30am Dotson Park • Earth Day Road Cleanup!  
 Do your bit to beautify downtown Danby

Apr 26 • Tue

7pm DVFC Station/YouTube • Fire District Meeting

May 3 • Tue

7pm Zoom • Town Board Meeting

May 4 • Wed

5pm Zoom • West Danby Water District Mtg

May 5 • Thu

Noon Danby Community Church • Seniors!

7pm Zoom • Danby Community Council Mtg

May 7 • Sat

9am Town Hall • Library Volunteers Meeting

May 9 • 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

3<sup>rd</sup> 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	Apr 5	980 8515 9868	754633
CAC	Apr 12	972 1566 0090	423584
Planning Board	Apr 19	958 0817 5336	245871
Town Board	Apr 20	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