July 2024 FREE TO RESIDENTS

Danby News

Re-use and Baked Goods Sale

One of the pleasures of Yard Sales is taking home a bargain. Even better, there's real value in continuing to use a perfectly good item, rather than buying a new one. For one thing, *they don't make 'em like they used to!*

That's why the Community Church's *Re-Use Sale* sale is one of my go-to events of the year. There's always something I need around for the house, from a kitchen implement to a soft plastic yellow banana-shaped toothbrush.

It works two ways, too. I've donated old computers, video accessories, and some fantastic (to someone else, for sure) lucite knickknacks.

The Bake Sale is a sweet deal, too. Books, linens, sports gear, jewelry, and accessories are indoors and there is an outdoor "tarp" under the trees.

Visit Danby's Community Church at 1859 Danby Road on Friday, July 26, 3-7pm, or Saturday July 279am-1pm. You'll be glad you did.

Used item drop-offs start at Noon on the previous Sunday, July 21 and continue thru Thursday, July 25. (tc)

Summer Market Still Hot!

Danby's Summer Market continues its fourth year on July 19, 4-7pm. In addition to local produce and crafts vendors, there's a community yard sale every month on the 3rd Fridays in June, July, August, September.

Gather in and around the Sue Beeners Pavilion near the Danby Fire Station on NYS Rt.96B in central Danby. Enjoy an afternoon of shopping and listening to the background sound of local music from *Cielle on Solid Ground,* courtesy of Danby's Community Council You'll see neighbors and friends. Bring a blanket or picnic and relax into the weekend!

Parking is available in the lot off Gunderman Road and along Gunderman Road. (pg)

This Month Inside the Danby News:

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Danby's Community Council and Park Association Merging

In what may seem, to some, an obvious thing to do, two of Danby's not-for-profit corporations, the *Community Council* and the *Community Park Association* will merge forces, personnel, and efforts this summer.

Both organizations provide recreation and connection for residents of Danby and beyond. The two organizations have always had the same goals but have followed different paths to achieve them.

The Community Council concentrated on concerts and public events, informational programming, and publishing the *Danby News*. The Community Park Association tackled creation and maintenance of *Dotson Park*, 92 natural acres with fields and trails in the middle of the central Danby hamlet. The Park is also home to a nationally-known,18-hole Disc Golf course that winds its way across the fields and thru the forests.

During the last decade, the two organizations have followed the same path, cooperating to produce public events in the Park. The annual *Harvest Fest* takes place during the fall, featuring music, games, hay rides and park tours, fun activities for youth, and the mesmerizing Trebuchet.

The COVID years introduced change. DCC joined the Zoom revolution, moving its live events online. Gatherings in the Park became difficult, but solo explorations blossomed.

Unbeknownst to the volunteers who run the two organizations, New York State changed its laws regarding Corporate structure. One simple—and well-intentioned—change added a definition of "quorum" as applied to membership organizations. It became impossible for either organization to do certain kinds of business because their memberships were defined as *all the residents of Danby*. A meeting would have to be attended by more than 1500 people to do business.

According to some legal experts, the changes forced many non-profits to, literally, go out of business.

—continued on page 4 ➲

July 2024

Layout: Ted Crane
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Ted

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Danby Area News
PO Box 6886
Ithaca, NY 14851-6886
Phone: 607.273.8678
Email: [danbynews@danbycc.org]

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.

The Danby News (DN) is a publication of the Danby Community Council (DCC). All statements are those of the contributors, and do not necessarily reflect the views of the editors, sponsors, the DCC and its officers, or officials and employees of the Town of Danby. All works remain © of the contributors. Please provide a SASE if you wish to have materials returned. The DN and DCC are not responsible for typographic or other errors.

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Danby News Notes

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@danbycc.org] 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. (tc)

Know Your Neighbors: Tom Seaney, Finger Lakes Fabricating

Right in the heart of Danby there's a big tin man sitting on a roof. He's got a big heart. He's watching what goes by. He looks like he might want to help. That quiet "business sign" is the emblem of Tom Seaney and Finger Lakes Fabricating.

Between the mid-1970s and today, Tom's business has made a long, but not too long, journey from downtown Ithaca to central Danby. There have been changes during the 40+ years that Tom has been doing metal fabricating. The downtown business had 8,000 square feet. The space behind the Goldenrod Depot on NYS Rt.96B, is closer to 1,500 square feet. Where he used to have a team of employees helping out, now it's just him.

It's always interesting to learn how someone came to find their calling and build a long standing business. In Seaney's case, it was almost random. Tom was studying biology in the Cornell Ag School and there were several required courses. He enrolled in *Arcs and Sparks* to learn welding and metal work for farming operations. Not long after, when he went looking for a job, these were the skills he had.

His first job in Ithaca was a welding shop. After a series of unfortunate events for the shop owner, Seaney took over the business. He was able to secure a small business loan to get him started. "There were many lean years," Tom reflected. Finger Lake Fabricating started in 1976 and is still going, though on a smaller scale.

When he decided to retire and close his downtown business, "I couldn't pull the plug. It's such a part of me. This is a way to wind down and keep doing things, using my mind. I still enjoy building things and solving problems."

It seems like no two projects are quite alike. There's auto repair and fixes to farm equipment. Work like sharpening mower blades is in progress next to custom fabrications. "I don't do big things, but I still do a lot," Tom says. He particularly enjoys designing and creating one-of-a-kind things. When we visited, he showed us a metal base he designed for a wooden table top.

At the same time, he finds repair work satisfying. "Hopefully, I can save some folks a bit of money by repairing things that would otherwise need to be replaced," says Tom. "And it helps keep stuff out of the landfill."

Our old tractor and its attachment have enjoyed Tom's repair skills. Being able to get welding work done, so close to home, keeps these repairs minor and keeps the years off a 35-year-old gem. For small farmers and rural landowners, Tom's Ag School training is still relevant today.

Yes, there were benefits to his old downtown location. It's size allowed him to work on larger projects. He could walk to the old Greenstar Market for lunch. Yet, in the years since the shop moved to the corner of Rt.96B and Gunderman Road, he's Tom has found that it's nice to be closer to home. "It's so easy to go back and forth," he says.

Another upside to the smaller Danby location is that he enjoys the simplicity of working by himself. Occasionally, he'll have his son's help. While he would not mind more work, he has no intention of hiring more staff. "I'm a one-person operation now, and I plan to stay that way."

He'd kept his business simple. No website. No Facebook page. If you've got something that needs repair on an interesting iron work project, it's best to call or eMail. You can reach Tom Seaney at **[tseaney@gmail.com]** or 607.227.1281.

Now that he's semi-retired, he's, "past the point of worrying about the money." He's more interested in problem solving projects that are both functional and creative and artistic as well. "I'm here to help people," Tom explains. (pg)

Cleaning Service Proposals Sought

The Danby Fire District is soliciting proposals for cleaning at the Danby Fire Station, located at 1780 Danby Road, Ithaca, NY 14850, and the West Danby Fire Station, located at 47 Sylvan Lane, Spencer, NY 14883.

Anyone interested in submitting a proposal should contact the Danby Fire District, 1780 Danby Road, Ithaca, NY 14850, call 607.319.4721, or go to the District web site, [danbyfiredistrict.org] for a list of requirements.

Proposals need to be submitted to the Secretary by 5pm on July 08, 2024. Mail proposal to Danby Fire District, Attn: Secretary, 1780 Danby Road, Ithaca, New York 14850, or eMail to [secretary@danbyfiredistrict.org].

Proposals will be considered during the July 9, 2024, 7pm, Danby Fire District meeting. (dfd)

Notice of Special Meeting of the Members of Danby Community Council, Inc.

In accordance with Section 603(c) and Section 605(a) of the New York Not-For-Profit Corporation Law, and the By-Laws of DANBY COMMUNITY COUNCIL, INC. (the "Corporation"), a special meeting of the Board of Directors and Members of the Corporation will be held on July 9, 2024, at 7:15 p.m. at the Museum of the Earth, in the Museum of the Earth Classroom, 1259 Trumansburg Road, Ithaca, NY 14850. The following business will be transacted at the meeting: 1. Ratify past acts of the Board of Directors and appoint a new slate of directors and officers. 2. Amend the Corporation's By-Laws to change membership requirements. 3. Review and approve the merger of the Corporation with and into Danby Community Park Association, Inc. with Danby Community Park Association, Inc. surviving. (dcc)

Notice of Special Meeting of the Members of Danby Community Park Association, Inc.

In accordance with Section 603(c) and Section 605(a) of the New York Not-For-Profit Corporation Law, and the By-Laws of DANBY COMMUNITY PARK ASSOCIATION, INC. (the "Corporation"), a special meeting of the Board of Directors and Members of the Corporation will be held on July 9, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. at the Museum of the Earth, in the Museum of the Earth Classroom, 1259 Trumansburg Road, Ithaca, NY 14850. The following business will be transacted at the meeting: 1. Ratify past acts of the Board of Directors and appoint a new slate of directors and officers. 2. Amend the Corporation's By-Laws to change membership requirements. 3. Review and approve the merger of Danby Community Council, Inc. with and into Danby Community Park Association, Inc. with Danby Community Park Association, Inc. surviving. (dcpa)

➲ *Merger in Danby, con't from front page*

Rather than duplicate the expensive legal action required to continue separate operations, DCC and DCPA have chosen to merge so the fix only has to be applied once.

The combined organizations will also benefit from reduced operating costs: no more duplicated insurance policies, one set of records, half the number of meetings, and the opportunity to do more effective fundraising.

DCC and DCPA expect to continue to provide, with less effort, the same opportunities for Danby residents to enjoy time together in our beautiful home.

If you appreciate the community-building efforts of these two organizations, you can do something right now, this month, to help: attend the combined special meetings of the two organizations on Tuesday, July 9. The meetings will be brief, about 15 minutes, at 7pm and 7:15pm, in a meeting room of the Museum of the Earth, 1259 Trumansburg Road (NYS Rt.96). We apologize, but after consideration, we could not identify a suitable, large enough, neutral, and free location in Danby. Hey, once you're in your car...what's another few miles?

How do we know the meetings will be brief? Because they've already happened once...to prove that a quorum was not achievable. This allowed us to approach NY's Supreme Court and ask for a waiver of the usual quorum requirement. It was granted with the condition that we repeat the meetings and repeat the actions.

As you can see from the legal notices (left column on this page), three actions must be approved for each corporation. First, to confirm the existing directors and all past actions (yes, going back years and years). Second, to amend the Bylaws to redefine "membership", and third, to approve the merger action.

Our lawyer offered us three workable alternatives for membership and the kind of organizations that use them, ranging from "Mailing list memberships" with unlimited but uninvolved members, like public radio, and all those groups that send you junk mail, to Members with strong financial relationships, like hospitals and their largest donors, to Memberships limited to a few, strongly involved people. According to our lawyer, the last option includes many viable non-profit organizations.

—continued on next page ➲

Never begin the answer to a time-sensitive question with, "...well...er...."

➲ *Merger In Danby, con't from previous page*

Our lawyer recommended the third option and the directors of both organizations agreed that it was the commonsense solution. Neither organization has—or depends on—significant donors, and the chosen option does not exclude having a non-voting mailing list membership.

The directors have already discussed a plan to continue and encourage the involvement of community members in areas of interest, like park improvement, concert planning, and collaborations with other local groups. The voting directors would be tasked—as they already are—with oversight and paperwork: filing forms and reports, budgeting, and fundraising. The formal documents allow active, involved persons to participate in the corporate governance.

The current directors of both organizations, who have been keeping the organizations going, recommend the adoption of all three actions. The current directors would become the initial directors of the merged organization.

So, please, if you appreciate the community-building efforts of these two organizations, attend the combined special meetings of the two organizations on Tuesday, July 9. The meetings are expected to be brief.

Successful conclusion of the meetings will guarantee the future of several cherished Danby institutions: continuance of Dotson Park *as it is*, continuing entertainment and informational programming for Danby residents, and continued publication of the *Danby News*. (dcc/dcpa)

Support The *Danby News*

If you want information beyond official, sanitized announcements in expensive, tax-dollar-funded publications, the *Danby News* is the place to go.

We try to include a mix of event announcements, features about life in Danby, public service information, and brief, but in-depth explanations of the things that Danby residents need to know about their community.

We have to keep asking for your help and you've been responding. Paid subscriptions ($15 or more per household) are appreciated. If you can afford it, help keep your neighbors in touch with our community; larger contributions support our community-building efforts. Join the **Danby 100**!

Please make checks payable to *Danby Community Council*, note *Danby News* in the memo, and mail to P.O.Box 6886, Ithaca, NY 14851-6886. (dcc)

Art and Nature for Kids

Danby art and nature program has room for more kids!

In this fun and relaxed outdoor program—on a 42 acre homestead right here in Danby—children ages 5-13 are guided in inspiring explorations of nature and creative self-expression. They are encouraged to discover their own artistic interests, ideas, and styles in painting, drawing, and mixed media. They are also free to use the time for other creative pursuits, such as journaling and building fairy houses in the woods (a perennial favorite!).

There are nature trails, sheltered outdoor spaces for art making, a play structure, chickens to feed and collect eggs from, and more.

Each one-week session runs Monday through Friday, 9am-Noon. The two August sessions also offer an extended hours option, 'til 2:30pm.

July 1-5	Aug 19-23
July 8-12	Aug 26-30
July 22-26	

Tuition is $210 per week, or $375 with the extended hours option in August. Preregistration is required. Discounts are offered for multiple weeks or multiple children from one family. Scholarships are also available based on need.

Individual lessons and options for adults are also available.

Visit `[dreamingrosesecobnb.com/suzys-art]` for more info or contact me at `[dreamingrosesbnb@gmail.com]` or 607.242.5498. (sr)

**English doesn't borrow from other languages.
English follows languages down dark alleys,
knocks them over, and goes through their pockets
for loose grammar.**

Reminiscing #23

I went back to my Ithaca Journal column of July 20, 2006 to share some "reminiscing" with you here.

The Danby Seniors were headed to Auburn for dinner and a play, and it's so cool that this group is still doing the same thing in 2024. What a great bunch of folks!

A chicken barbecue was in the works for July 22 at the Danby Community Church. Proceeds would benefit the church's youth group. (Note: be sure to mark your calendars with all the Church's summer events, see page 7.) I wrote about the Fiesta Vacation Bible School, which would be held from July 30 through August 3, 2006 at the church, for children grades K-5.

Jennings Pond was lucky that year to have had three seasoned life guards. Two of the guards, Scott Kozak and Mason Cusimano, were Danby residents. Scott was an Ithaca High Senior with two older sisters and three younger brothers. Mason, also a senior at Ithaca High School, had an older brother in the Marine Corps. They were neighbors and lived across from the pond. All three guards were certified by the Red Cross.

I wanted to share an idea from the early days of summer 2006 in Danby. We painted our house and added some of those great barn stars to the shutters. I'd always admired the way they looked on Sherry and Tom Clement's house up the Gunderman Road a bit, and I confessed that I borrowed that idea from them!

That summer of 2006, we watched fireworks, sat around a bonfire, and took naps in the hammock. We felt sixteen again during a reunion weekend with old friends. We spent a wonderful day helping out at Danby Fun Day where the parade, cake wheel, raffles, music, games, food, demonstrations and the huge display of Danby historical pictures were enjoyed by all. Those firemen cooking the chickens out behind the fire station in 90-degree weather were our heroes! Two beautiful quilts made by the Danby quilters were raffled off and won by Andrea Hagbert and Cathy Darrow, and the quilted wall hanging was won by Cindy Parlett.

I ended that 2006 column writing about July this way: *Fireflies floating in the field, the smell of roasted marshmallows and the taste of dripping ice cream, the touch of a breeze and a handful of wildflowers, the drone of a fan and the sight of a pink sky at sunset, the laughter of children and the quiet of a summer walk. Does life get any better than this?*

I hope everyone is having a happy summer so far. The lazy, hazy days fly by way too fast. (gh)

Seniors Update

The next meeting of the Danby Seniors will be its annual BBQ (and 50/50 raffle) on July 11, Noon, at the Eagles Club, 161 Cecil Malone Drive, Ithaca. If you would like to join us, please sign up ASAP so we can give an accurate head count.

Members cost is $10; non-members cost is $12. Please make checks payable to Danby Seniors, and mail to Tammy Lopez, 68 Hornbrook Road, Ithaca, NY 14850. Questions? Email Tammy at **[tml24@yahoo.com]** or Theresa at **[tklinger617@gmail.com]**.

Our August meeting will be held on the August 1, Noon, for a dish-to-share meal in the Danby Community Church. We are planning to play a few games of Bingo with prizes! Don't forget to bring your own table service and a utensil to serve your dish.

Have you paid your membership dues? If not, send your check for $10 (payable to Danby Seniors) to: Cindy Ceracche, 338 Gunderman Road, Spencer,

NY 14883. Call her for info at 607.339.9269. Those 80 and over are considered Lifetime Members and no longer need to pay dues but may donate if they wish.

Save The Dates

The Travel Committee has been busy confirming upcoming trips. We are working on an overnight trip in September to Lancaster, PA, to the /Sight and Sound Theatre/. A fall foliage train excursion is being scheduled for October, and don't forget the Rockettes Christmas Spectacular in NYC on December 4. (tk)

Our wonderful town:
The Vandemark barn on Comfort Road photo by Ted Crane

Voting is power.
Want your complaints to be ignored? By all means, then, think that civic involvement is a waste of time.

Community Library

If your child would like to improve their reading skills, come cuddle up and read to some furry friends. Cornell Canine Companions will be at the Danby library Saturday, July 13, 10:30-11:30am! Dogs are patient, nonjudgmental, and can help kids with their confidence in reading.

Pick out a book to enjoy on vacation. Here are more books from the recent Friends of the Library sale:

- *The Exchange* ..... John Grisham
- *Half of a Yellow Sun* ..... C. Adichie
- *The Lightning Keeper* ..... S. Lawrence
- *Finding Dorothy* ..... E. Letts
- *Every Heart a Doorway* ..... S. McGuire
- *Our Missing Hearts* ..... C. Ng
- *Ambush* and *The Fall of Crazy House* . J. Patterson
- *Mad Honey* and *Handle with Care* ..... Jody Picoult
- *Killers of a Certain Age* ..... D. Raybourne
- *The Book of Cold Cases* ..... S. St. James
- *We Are Not Ourselves* ..... M. Thomas
- *The White Lady* ..... J. Winspear
- *Clock Dance* and *Ladder of Years* ..... A. Tyler
- *Too Much and Never Enough* Mary Trump
- *Sing, Unburied, Sing* ..... J. Ward ..... (cp)

Wings and Wheels

Are you a auto aficionado? Check out *Wings and* Wheels at Danby's Community Church on Saturday, July 20, 1-4pm.

Bring your favorite ride to show off and enjoy free wings and root beer.

This Issue's Writers

- cc .... Cindy Cerrache
- cp .... Cindy Parlett
- dcc .. Comm. Council
- dcpa Park Association
- dfd .. Danby Fire District
- gh ... Gay Huddle
- pg ... Pamela Goddard
- sr ..... Suzie Rose
- tc .... Ted Crane
- tk .... Theresa Klinger

Sundaes on Wednesdays

A summer favorite returns to Danby's Community Church at the end of July! On July 24, *Sundaes on Wednesdays* features the *Ithaca Concert* Band at 7pm. For those with a yen for cold or with a sweet tooth, the Sundaes are served at 6:30pm. Free, open to the public.

More Wednesdays include August 7 (*Ithaca Ageless Jazz Band*) and August 14 (*Dee Specker*). The Church is at 1859 Danby Road.

Yard Work and Handy Services

The Tompkins County Office for the Aging maintains a list of individuals who are willing to do yard work and/or Handy Man services for older adults.

Summer is here and services like lawn mowing, gardening, and general yard work are very much needed. Many older adults are unable to maintain their yards or may have small tasks that need to be completed around the house.

The Office is updating its list and needs more workers. Specifically, we need individuals who are willing to work outside the City of Ithaca and in rural areas. If you are interested in assisting older adults, either on a paid or a volunteer basis, please call COFA, 607.274.5482.

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Jul 2024

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Danby News
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Danby News: Event Calendar

Jul 1 • Mon
6pm Town Hall+Zoom • **Town Board Meeting**
Jul 3 • Wed
5pm WD Fire Station • **West Danby Water District**
Jul 4 • Thu
Next Week **No Seniors (see Jul 11)**
7pm Zoom • **Danby Community Council Mtg**
Jul 6 • Sat
9:15am Town Hall • **Library Volunteers Meeting**
Jul 8 • Mon
7pm DVFC Station • **Fire Dep't Meeting**
7pm WDFC Station • **WD Fire Dep't Meeting**
Jul 9 • Tue
7pm DVFC Station/YouTube • **Fire District Meeting**
7pm Zoom • **Conservation Advisory Council**
7pm Museum o/t Earth
DCC and DCPA meetings
Jul 11 • Thu
Noon Eagles Club • **Senior Summer Chicken BBQ**
Jul 15 • Mon
8am Community Church • **Coffee and Donuts**
6pm Town Hall+Zoom • **Town Board Meeting**
Jul 16 • Tue
7pm Town Hall+Zoom • **Planning Board Meeting**
Jul 18 • Thu
4pm Community Church • **Danby Food Pantry**
Jul 19 • Fri
4pm DVFC Station • **Danby Summer Market**

Meeting	Date	Zoom MtgID	Passcode
Town Board	July 1	882 2697 6101	905098
CAC	July 9	835 4940 5296	879507
Youth Commission	none	See Town web site	
Planning Board	July 16	893 3897 1114	956288
Town Board	July 15	847 9505 5187	308958
Zoning Appeals	July 23	Unknown?	None?
To join a meeting by telephone, call 646.876.9923			

Warning: Zoom meeting info and agendas change frequently!

Jul 23 • Tue
7pm DVFC Station/YouTube • **Fire District Meeting**
7pm Town Hall+Zoom • **Board of Zoning Appeals**

Aug 1 • Thu
Noon Community Church • **Seniors**
7pm Zoom • **Danby Community Council Mtg**
Aug 3 • Sat
9:15am Town Hall • **Library Volunteers Meeting**
Aug 5 • Mon
6pm Town Hall+Zoom • **Town Board Meeting**
Aug 7 • Wed
5pm WD Fire Station • **West Danby Water District**
Aug12 • Mon
7pm DVFC Station • **Fire Dep't Meeting**
7pm WDFC Station • **WD Fire Dep't Meeting**
Aug 13 • Tue
7pm DVFC Station/YouTube • **Fire District Meeting**
7pm Zoom • **Conservation Advisory Council**
Aug 16 • Fri
4pm DVFC Station • **Danby Summer Market**
Aug 19 • Mon
6pm Town Hall+Zoom • **Town Board Meeting**

Ongoing Events

Seniors Strength Class via Zoom
Mondays and Thursdays, 9–10am
Contact [jmchurch@twcny.rr.com] for Zoom link
Danby Community Library Town Hall
Tuesday, 1–3pm; Thursday & Saturday, 10am–Noon
Books can be returned via the outdoor drop box.
Food Scrap Recycling Town Hall
Saturdays, 9am-Noon
AA Meeting via Zoom: [zoom.us/j/8209358263]
Wednesdays, 7pm

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