October 2024 FREE TO RESIDENTS

Danby News

Harvest Festival
Sunday, October 13, 1-5pm

Join the Danby Community at Dotson Park for the 10th Annual Harvest Festival. There's a lot to celebrate. Apples, pumpkins, autumn leaves. The beauty of Danby and it's people. And, most especially, a bright future for the Park. This will be the first Harvest Festival sponsored by the newly merged Danby Community and Park.

Save the date—Sunday, October 13, 1-5pm. It's a family event. There are lots of favorite activities. The Harvest Festival's centerpiece is its pumpkin-throwing trebuchet (and its diminutive sidekick, the potato launcher). Bring a pumpkin (6-8" diameter, maximum)! Or bring your cull potatoes and other small vegetables (2" maximum) for launching. This is always a crowd pleaser.

The trebuchet and the launcher are two very different examples of matter-transporting technology. A trebuchet (not to be confused with a catapult) has its origins in distant history. It's designed to hurl large, heavy objects a long distance.

The difference between a catapult and a trebuchet is their energy source. A catapult uses some form of spring while a trebuchet uses gravity. A trebuchet multiplies its energy with a sling or a second arm segment; compare throwing a ball with your elbow versus your hand. This allows trebuchets to launch things, like pumpkins and pianos, much further and with more force than a traditional catapult.

The potato launcher is a hand held, spring-powered device—in our case, the spring is compressed air. It propels small objects, like lemons and potatoes, very far and very fast. They literally vanish from sight!

There's also a small bonfire for roasting hot dogs (meat and vegetarian) and marshmallows for S'mores, and for singing around at the end of the afternoon. There will be activities for children of all ages, including face painting and exploring the natural beauty that is Dotson Park. In mid-afternoon, around 2-3pm, families can learn more about some of the smaller creatures native to our area from the staff of the Cayuga Nature Center. Come see the menagerie of reptiles and amphibians!

And, yes, there will be toe tapping music. *Uncle Joe Ciccione and his "Rosebud", Renee*, will bring banjo and fiddle tunes and old time songs to the park. They will be playing off and on all afternoon, with breaks where you can ask about their instruments and the background of their music. Joe and Renee have been delighting listening audiences around the Finger Lakes for many years and have been previous concert performers in Danby. They know more than enough tunes to keep us entertained, without repeating a song. It's good to have them back.

At the end of the afternoon, we'll have a sing-around and music swap around the campfire. Bring your voices, bring your instruments, and gather together to bring harmony to this community gathering in the Park.

Dotson Park, 1825 Danby Road, is the recreation centerpiece of downtown Danby. It features a Natural Playground, a Pavilion sheltered by a hyperbolic paraboloid roof, a Disc Golf course, and miles of trails. Learn more at `[dotsonpark.org]`. Make a donation to help preserve the park and provide resources for future improvement.

Join us in the park for a fine Autumn Afternoon. (pg)

Concert: Falling Waters Trio

Danby's Community Concert series returns with a toe-tapping show that will bring joy to your heart. On Saturday, October 26, 2-5pm we're thrilled to present the Falling Waters Trio. Join us for fine fiddle tunes and luscious harmonies woven by Hope Grietzer (fiddle), Rick Manning (mandolin and fiddle), and Tom Hodgson (guitar). They create some of the finest string music in the Finger Lakes.

The event happens in the Fellowship Hall of Danby's Community Church, 1875 Danby Road, on NYS Rt.96B in Central Danby. We're grateful for the community support they've given us over the past few years. There's plenty of parking. Snacks will be available at the break. The concert is open to all and appropriate for all ages. Thanks to grant support, the event is free.

—continued on page 5 ➲

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October 2024

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To contribute items:
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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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...plus all those who have sent subscription-level donations

Apple Harvest!

Heirloom apple trees are all over Danby. Some were deliberately planted by farmers…others grow randomly where birds and animals dropped seeds.

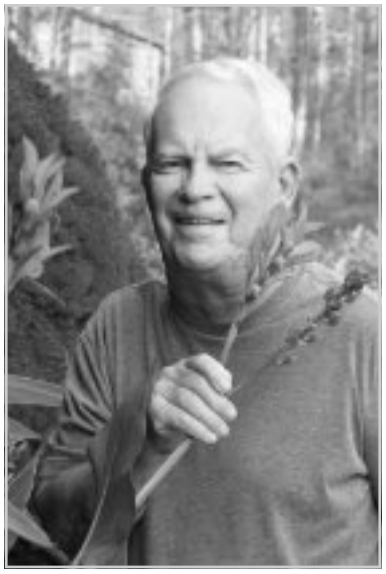
2024 brought a bumper crop of fruit after several years of late frosts and other bad weather.

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: Glenn Grossmann

Sixty years ago, Glenn Grossmann and his wife Jeanne moved to Danby. They now live at the far end of South Danby Road but, for most of these years they had been quite central in Danby. For a long time, Glenn and Jeanne have done volunteer work for the Danby Food Pantry each month.



Glenn Grossmann came to Danby with a degree in forestry and wildlife management from Paul Smiths College of the Adirondacks and three years in the Army. He embarked on a 25 year career as a veterinary technician, mostly working with large animals at the Cornell Veterinary school. "I was involved with the professors, teaching the students, and helping with different surgical procedures," Glenn says. "It's just like being a technician in a doctor's office, assisting with what they need."

Those same years, when Glenn was working with horses and cows as a vet tech, the Grossmanns lived on two different farms on Howland Road. On the first, 80-acre farm, they raised around 25 head of Scottish Highland cattle as well as horses and pigs. On the second, smaller (only 20 acres) farm they planted and sold 20,000 U-Cut Christmas trees.

When he retired from the Vet School, Glenn served as the Tompkins County Animal Control Officer for ten years. He investigated animal cruelty cases and managed dog enumerations for different towns, including the enumeration of dogs in Danby in 2000. Glenn attended the NY State Police Academy for Peace Officer certification. "I had a full uniform, a badge, and worked with both the SPCA and the county Sheriff's department," he explains. The training served Glenn well; when the Grossmanns would winter in Florida, he worked as a road patrol officer for the local Sheriff's Department.

While helping to teach veterinary students about cattle and horses, and raising cattle and horses on his own farm, Glenn also got quite serious about pitching horseshoes. This is not just your backyard shoe toss, and not just a matter of picking up a discarded shoe from a horse in the field.

Glenn laughs at the thought. "Sometimes, we'll pitch a regular shoe just for fun. But there's quite a bit of difference between regular horseshoes and sanctioned shoes in the Association," he explains. "Everyone has their own shoes, and they must meet regulations regarding weight and width—the opening of the shoe."

The National Horseshoe Pitchers Association has a complete and detailed rule book, including different requirements for different ages of players. There are specified distances, regulation "shoes," and requirements for pit preparation and maintenance. Anyone interested in learning the fine points of horseshoe pitching can easily find a nearby club. The NYS Association's web site **[nyshpa.org]** has info about clubs in Elmira, Montour Falls, and Groton.

Horseshoe pitching has been a life-long interest of Glenn's. "My father taught me when I was a kid," Glenn says. "We started in the backyard." At some point, he found a club and started playing at the league level. Glenn has been a professional horseshoe pitcher for over 40 years, winning many titles. He's been in two world tournaments and took first place in his division in 1997. That year, the world tournament was in Canada and he had the chance to compete with players from several countries. "It's a lot of throws," Glenn explains. "We pitch 100s of shoes every game."

Not only are there pitchers across NY State, there are players all around the world. "I don't know the exact number, but there are 100s of people who compete worldwide," Glenn says. "I've played against people not only from the US and Canada, but also Mexico, Japan, and Korea."

Outdoors activities, including forestry and wildlife management, are central to Glenn's life. He is a past member of the Danby Pirates Club. Hunting, fishing, camping with family and friends, and an occasional horseshoe game are what take up most of his spare time now. That, and spending time with his children, grandchildren, and a new, not-quite-two-year-old great granddaughter.

(pg)

Cosmetics and Climate

Cornell Professor Emeritus, Michael Hoffmann, has considered sustainability in many aspects of life. Recently, he cast his eye on cosmetics for an Op Ed published in Forbes magazine. Here are some of the highlights of his thoughts.

Cosmetics have been used for centuries to enhance human appearance, boost self-esteem, improve our mood, and keep us healthy. It's a big business in the U.S. and globally. Annual toothpaste sales in the U.S. are about $3.9 billion, shampoos, $3.5 billion, deodorants, $4.4 billion, and lip cosmetics, $550 million. The growing global market for cosmetics used for skin cleansing and beautification was $370 billion in 2023. Natural, largely plant-based cosmetics are seeing rocketing demand as consumers increasingly seek eco-friendly and sustainable products.

But are these products really sustainable? Hoffmann took a look at several key ingredients to body care and cosmetic products. He finds current and potential problems.

Natural vanilla, for example, used in perfumes and as a fragrance in skincare products, comes from Madagascar where rising temperatures, disease outbreaks, and erratic weather patterns are reducing yields and the aroma and flavor of the vanilla beans. Perfume makers in the south of France face increasing heat waves, droughts, and heavy rainfall, making it more difficult to grow flowers. Scientists have shown that higher temperatures alone reduce floral scents.

As honeybees face growing pressures from climate change, honey and beeswax will be harder to come by. Honey is used in products from lip balms to face masks. And beeswax in lipstick increases its hardness, luster, and applicability.

Cocoa butter, used in many skin moisturizers, is derived from the cocoa bean, the source of our chocolate. Most cocoa comes from West Africa, where changing weather patterns are slashing yields contributing to a 350% increase in the price of cocoa butter. Better stock up on your chocolate, too, before the price skyrockets.

Olive oil, used in soaps, face creams, lip balms, shampoos, and massage oils, comes mostly from Spain, where production recently dropped 50 percent because of record-breaking temperatures and drought. Coconuts, a source of oil for toothpaste and hair care products, are at risk from high temperatures and sea level rise since they are commonly grown in coastal regions.

More than a billion shea trees are the source of shea butter, used as a moisturizer. The trees naturally capture carbon over a wide expanse of Africa. Unfortunately, a growing population, expanding commercial agriculture, and mining are resulting in the loss of about eight million trees a year.

The cosmetic industry contributes to climate change in many ways, from high energy consumption to unsustainable packaging. Luckily, cosmetic companies are realizing that climate change is an important issue for the health of their business...and for their stakeholders.

Fortunately, Hoffmann says, there is a path to a more sustainable cosmetic industry. This includes adopting climate-resilient farming, making more use of biotechnology, improving packaging, and re-using byproducts from other industries. "Let's hope this leads to a new and more sustainable future for the industry and creates a model for others to follow," Hoffmann writes. "We can also do our part. Nearly 70 percent of Americans want to see action to tackle climate change. The increasing risk to cosmetics is one more reason for all of us to act."

"The greatest impediment to action on climate change is the lack of political will," Hoffmann continues. "Electing anyone who won't accept climate change as a reality will affect the world around us with ever-increasing intensity. Consider this the next time you brush your teeth, shampoo your hair, or apply your favorite lipstick." (pg)

Traveling Seafood

Have a yen for seafood? Doug's Fish Fry returns to the Danby Volunteer Fire Company on Tuesday, October 29, 11am-6pm. A portion of its sales go to the DVFC.

Scan the QR code for the menu.

I think it would be interesting if old people got anti-Alzheimer's Disease where they slowly began to recover other people's lost memories. —George Carlin

Some say fall is the season when the leaves change. I say it's the season when my sweat pants never change. — Katie Nicole Felton

➲ *Falling Waters Trio, con't from front page*

After a long break (brought, in part by such events as the pandemic), the Falling Waters Trio is performing again. This is a somewhat rare event. It's an afternoon not to miss. Invite your friends. There's room for everyone. And, did we say it's free?

The Trio has performed stunning music, individually and collectively, over many years. The ensemble features the fine interplay of Hope's fiddling with Rick's powerful fiddle and mandolin over the foundations of Tom's rich rhythmic guitar. With Hope and Rick sharing vocals, they lean happily into swing tunes like, *I'm going to sit right down and write myself a letter,* and *It's a Sin to Tell A Lie.* Next, they might pivot to rousing New England reels, bouncy and bluegrassy licks, and then relax with a romantic waltz. Almost anything is possible when these three get together to share music. It's all brought together in perfect synergy.

While each of them is a master of swing, country/bluegrass, and New England contra dance music, their creativity doesn't stop there. Grietzer and Manning are both accomplished tunesmiths. They take inspiration from dear friends and family, special locations, and even family pets. Their first recording, *Whistling Swans* is named for one of Hope's tender waltzes, while the second, *Yellow Barn*, honors a tune written for a barn at *La Tourelle Resort*, where the Trio has often performed as part of the *Winter Village Music Camp and Bluegrass Festival*.

Donations to cover refreshments and other incidentals are always welcome. We can also use volunteer assistance in setting up and cleaning up the hall on concert afternoons. Your donations will also help fund future concerts and community programming. Contact Pamela Goddard, 607.342.4110, if you are able to help.

This program is made possible in large part with funds from the Statewide Community Regrants program from the New York State Council on the Arts, with the support of the office of the Governor and NYS Legislature, and from Tompkins County, administered by the Community ARTS Partnership of Tompkins County. (pg)

Feast For Fans Of A Good Read

Sometimes, it's worth waiting (in line) for what you want!

When we were younger, it was a once-a-year event but there weren't enough days to pass along all the books they had...so now it happens twice a year. It's big, it fills a whole building, and it's amazing. It's the biannual *Friends of Tompkins County Public Library book sale!*

Each Book Sale offers up to 250,000 gently used books, DVDs, CDs, comics and graphic novels, puzzles, games, and other items, organized into 70+ subject categories for easy shopping.

The sale—at 509 Esty Street—is open 10am-8pm during three long weekends in October: Saturday-Monday: October 12-14 and 19-21, and Saturday-Tuesday, October 26-29. The prices aren't as low as they used to be, but they're very competitive with online bargain bins and *then they start dropping*.

Free parking is available across the street. More details are available online at `[booksale.org]`.

Every sale includes four "special" days:
- Seniors and those with a disability: 10/23, 10am-4pm
- Students with school ID: 10/23, 4-8pm
- Dime Day (everything just 10¢): 10/28
- Bag Day ($1 for a standard bag): 10/29.

Scientists have calculated that, depending on the size of the books, Dime Day and Bag Day actually have very similar yields...but the selection is much better on Bag Day.

Proceeds from the Book Sales are used to fund annual grants that support the Tompkins County Public Library and other libraries in the Finger Lakes region.

Incidentally, the works many of the authors quoted in the Danby News—in those little gray boxes—are well represented at the Book Sale. The trick is, knowing where to look, a skill that goes beyond map reading and polite inquiries to the volunteer staff.

"It get so cold in Canada, the politicians walk around with their hands in their own pockets," say Frank.
—*To Look At The Queen*, W.P.Kinsella

Reminiscing #26

In my October 30, 2005 *Ithaca Journal* column I wrote about how Halloween falls between the autumn equinox and the winter solstice. In ancient times it was the date when animals were brought inside for the winter. Our cat, Darla, lived with us for 21 years and, although she liked to roam the back fields most of the year, we started noticing her more often curled up on the bed for the night. This indicated cold weather was coming. She was the only thermometer we needed.

Danby would be celebrating Halloween with a fun night at the Danby Fire Station, held on October 29. This event was always free and open to all.

A pumpkin carving party was going to be held at Common Ground on Danby Road. There is just a big, open space there now where the Common Ground building used to be.

The *2005 Danby Fall Festive*, sponsored by the Danby Church's Women's Society, sponsored the festival, with proceeds helping to support service organizations and church needs. This event was always a success and lots of fun to attend.

An election night supper, roast beef with all the fixings, was scheduled at the Danby Church. Dick Hautala reported that the money raised would be used to keep the church driveway cleared through the winter.

The Danby Seniors Thanksgiving dish-to-pass luncheon was scheduled for November 3 at the Danby Church. Turkey would be provided and blood pressure screenings would be offered.

I wrote about some history linked to the John Thomas Steakhouse building on Danby Road (now closed). Danby church member Ralph Thorpe lived there with his family from 1939-1959. The farmhouse was then bought by the Erie James Miller family. "Jimmy" Miller was the minister at the Danby Church from 1973-1993. I have fond memories of Jimmy. He was a very nice man.

In closing, I dedicated this particular column to the memory of Toni McBride from the Danby Market. Toni was a good friend to the entire Danby community. Toni had a strong spirit, good heart and cheerful presence. Her passing in 2004 left a void in our neighborhood. After her passing, Toni's loving partner, Judy Vandermark, took care of the family farm on Danby Road for a while, finding it very difficult to adjust to life without her best friend.

As October, 2024, comes to an end, be sure to have a safe Halloween and of course, as I always wrote in my columns at this time of the year, "Remember to vote!" [this year on November 5, 2024] (gh)

Danby Food Pantry

The Food Pantry has traditionally set up its larder in the Danby Community Church on the 3rd Thursday of each month, 4-6pm (this month, that's Thursday, October 17).

Those in need at other times can call Joan Barber, 607.280.4776, for an appointment.

Set-up help is needed the day before Food Pantry, 2:30-6pm, on the day of Food Pantry to hand out food, etc., and at 6pm the day of Food Pantry to help put extra food away and clean up the room.

Decorate your home.
It gives the illusion that your life
is more interesting than it really is. **-Charles Schultz**

It may seem difficult at first,
but all things are difficult at first.
—*The Book of Five Rings*, Miyamoto Musashi

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)

I have only made this article longer because
I have not had the time to make it shorter.
—with apologies to Blaise Pascal

Community Library

Cornell Companions will be at the Danby Library on Saturday, October 5, 10:30-11:30am. The dogs love to see the children and hear them read or have books read to them. They also love to share hugs. Plenty of books to go around. Hope to see you there!

Mystery book selections from TCPL have arrived just in time for Halloween for those of you who love this spooky holiday; be sure to stop in and see them.

The *Friends of the Library Sale* will take place during October and we'll be on the lookout for favorite authors. If you have any suggestions for items you would like us to look for, please let us know as we are always updating our list of patron requests. (cp)

Make A Difference!

Make a real difference in a child's life! Join a team committed to change!

The Mentor-Student Program seeks volunteer mentors to work one on one with students ages 9 through 13 (grades 4-7) who benefit from having a positive adult role model in their lives.

This opportunity involves training, support, and meeting with your student twice a week. The program begins in the Fall at SouthSide Community Center. This is a win /win experience for both the student and the mentor as you learn and grow with each other.

Please contact Susie Kossack, Program Coordinator: 607.275.6250, [mskossack@yahoo.com] for more information.

Seasonal Fire Spirits

Danby's Volunteer Fire Company will host its Halloween event on Saturday, October 26, 2-6pm. There will be magic shows, "table or treat" candy, crafts, and a demo of the DVFC's new Extrication tools. Costumes are encouraged!

It is looking for Danby community members who wish to participate/help! Contact [info@danbyfiredept.org].

This Issue's Writers

- cp.... Cindy Parlett
- dcc.. Comm. Council
- gh ... Gay Huddle
- pg ... Pamela Goddard
- tc .... Ted Crane
- tk .... Theresa Klinger

Seniors Update

Come join us for our next dish-to-share lunch on Thursday, October 3 at Noon in the Danby Community Church. We meet the first Thursday of the month, so mark your calendar for Thursday, November 7 as well. Bring your own table service and a utensil to share your dish.

This year's Annual Christmas Party will be held in the Banquet Room of the Ithaca Eagles Club, 161 Cecil Malone Drive (behind Wegmans) on Monday, December 16. The cost is $27 for members. If you would like to join us, please get in touch with Tammy, [tml24@yahoo.com].

Upcoming Trips:

Fall Foliage Train Excursion: There are still a few seats available for this train ride scheduled for October 16. For more information or if you have already signed up and have not paid yet, please contact Theresa, [tklinger617@gmail.com].

Rockettes Christmas Spectacular: There are a few seats still available for this day trip to NYC on December 4. Contact Tammy, [tml24@yahoo.com] for more information. (tk)

"May this tusk root out the lice of the hair and the beard." —the oldest decipherable sentence ever found, 1700BCE.

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Oct 2024

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Danby News
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Danby News: Event Calendar

Oct 2 • Wed
5pm WD Fire Station • **West Danby Water District**
Oct 3 • Thu
Noon Community Church • **Seniors**
7pm Zoom • **Danby Community Council Mtg**
Oct 5 • Sat
9:15am Town Hall • **Library Volunteers Meeting**
Oct 7 • Mon
6pm Town Hall+Zoom • **Town Board Meeting**
Public Hearing: Override the NYS Tax Cap
Oct 8 • Tue
7pm DVFC Station/YouTube • **Fire District Meeting**
7pm Zoom • **Conservation Advisory Council**
Oct 13 • Sun
1-5pm Dotson Park
10th Annual Harvest Festival
Oct 14 • Mon
7pm DVFC Station • **Fire Dep't Meeting**
7pm WDFC Station • **WD Fire Dep't Meeting**
Oct 15 • Tue
7pm Town Hall+Zoom • **Planning Board Meeting**
Oct 17 • Thu
4pm Community Church • **Danby Food Pantry**
Oct 21 • Mon
6pm Town Hall+Zoom • **Town Board Meeting**
Oct 22 • Tue
7pm DVFC Station/YouTube • **Fire District Meeting**
7pm Town Hall+Zoom • **Board of Zoning Appeals**

Meeting	Date	Zoom MtgID	Passcode
Town Board	Oct 7	882 2697 6101	905098
CAC	Oct 8	835 4940 5296	879507
Youth Commission	Oct 10	See Town web site	
Planning Board	Oct 15	893 3897 1114	956288
Town Board	Oct 21	847 9505 5187	308958
Zoning Appeals	Oct 22	Unknown?	None?
To join a meeting by telephone, call 646.876.9923			

Warning: Zoom meeting info and agendas change frequently!

Oct 26 • Sat
2pm Community Church
Community Concert: Falling Waters Trio

Nov 2 • Sat
9:15am Town Hall • **Library Volunteers Meeting**
Nov 4 • Mon
6pm Town Hall+Zoom • **Town Board Meeting**
Nov 5 • Tue • 6am-9pm
General Election
DVFC Fire Station - 1780 Danby Road
West Danby Fire Station - 47 Sylvan Lane
Nov 6 • Wed
5pm WD Fire Station • **West Danby Water District**
Nov 7 • Thu
Noon Community Church • **Seniors**
7pm Zoom • **Danby Community Council Mtg**
Nov 11 • Mon
7pm DVFC Station • **Fire Dep't Meeting**
7pm WDFC Station • **WD Fire Dep't Meeting**
Nov 12 • Tue
7pm DVFC Station/YouTube • **Fire District Meeting**
7pm Zoom • **Conservation Advisory Council**

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