



DANBY NEWS

DANBY COMMUNITY AND PARK BECOMES A REALITY

LAST JULY, WE SHARED information about the merger-in-progress of Danby's two not-for-profit community organizations: Community Council and Community Park Association. This step had been a long time in the planning and an equally extended time in process. This Autumn, we celebrate the completion and the creation of Danby Community and Park. DCAP, for short.

In past decades, the two organizations provided recreation and connection for residents of Danby and beyond. They had always had the same goals—to enrich life in Danby—but followed different paths to achieve them. There was considerable duplication of effort and expense. By combining forces, the resulting organization is stronger and more efficient. We're excited for the future.

Together, we will still be offering a Community Concert Series and other public events and workshops—such as the wreath and centerpiece workshop in December. We will still publish the *Danby News*, so that residents can learn about activities from various community organizations including the Danby Seniors, the American Legion, and more.

Importantly, the DCAP will assure the preservation and maintenance of Dotson Park, as it is: 92 acres of natural landscape with fields and trails in the heart of the central Danby Hamlet. The park includes a natural playground, a pavilion, picnic and meeting area, and a nationally-known 18-hole Disc Golf course that winds its way around the fields and through the forest.

The two organizations have a history of cooperative programming to utilize the park: public events as diverse as flower arranging, nature walks, 'open jam' music making, and the annual Harvest Festival. We're anticipating that even more ideas for nature-based programs will be created in the next few years.

In the meantime, we need to replenish the financial resources that were required to make this new organization a reality. We need the help of our Danby community. There is a parallel article outlining ways you can help. You can write a check to Danby Commu-

—continued on page 4 ➔

DANBY IS JAZZED IN MUSICAL WAYS

TO THOSE DRIVING through either of the hamlets in Danby, central or western, we appear to be a sleepy, rural backwater. In truth, there's music rising all across town—especially at two of our businesses: South Hill Cider and Danby Food and Drink.

Our little community has many places to hear music throughout the year. Danby's Community Concerts run year-round (look for more during the winter). There's informal music at Danby's Summer Market.

Danby's Community Church offers spaces (its Fellowship Hall, Sanctuary, and Lawn) for non-religious performances like as a Youth Orchestra concert coming up on Saturday, December 14 and the outdoor concerts that accompany *Sundaes on Wednesdays*.

There are several opportunities to make your own music. In the summertime, we have open music jams in Dotson Park. On Sunday, December 15, we will again have a community Seasonal Songs Sing, to be held this year in the Great Room at *Slow Lane* on Comfort Road.

Two local venues have regular series of music, every week and all year long.

South Hill Cider has been keeping the music scene alive—through the pandemic and into the future. Their outdoor performance area allows visitors to relax, hear music, and enjoy the view. It has become one of the big attractions on this side of Ithaca. Check out Jazz Mondays with Dave Davies and the Rhythm Makers on the 2nd and 4th weeks, and more Jazz on 1st and 3rd Thursdays. On other Thursday evenings, hear the eclectic old-time music sounds of Richie Stearns and friends.

Additionally, Saturday nights offer featured performers. In November, look for Calya Lee, Sarah Noell and Friends, and Jennie Lowe Stearns.

—continued on page 4 ➔

This Month Inside the Danby News:

Wreaths Coming In December	③
Harvest Festival...Rained Out	③
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Community Library	⑥
Senior Strength	⑦
Hospitals Simplify	⑦
Seniors.	⑦
Calendar	⑧

November 2024

Layout: Ted Crane
Count-n-Label Crew:
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Post Office Crew:
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To contribute items:

Danby Area News
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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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Margo & John Yntema
 Garry & Gay Huddle

Mary Fisher & Stephen Ryan
 Beverly Rollins

James Lassoie



Danby-ite J.P. Long has been wowing us with his night time, astrophotography images.

Here's October's comet viewed over the fields north of Jersey Hill Road.

A mirrorless digital camera, ISO 4000, F/4, 2.5 seconds.

How many constellations can you find?

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)

WREATHS IN DECEMBER

BRING HOLIDAY CHEER into, or onto, your home this December by making your own winter wreath. A Wreath Workshop is planned for December 21 in the Danby Community Church's Fellowship Hall; the final date and time, and more details, will be in the December Danby News.

For the second year, Julie Clougherty will be showing you everything you need to know. Intimidated by free-style crafts? No need to worry. There will be instructions for those who don't want to have to sweat over developing your own design. You'll have fun choosing and arranging plant materials with a variety of style and material options.

Participants are welcome to share their own festive greens. Got boxwood, grapevine, or bittersweet that needs trimming? This will be a perfect opportunity to turn that into something beautiful for the Winter Solstice and year-end holidays.

This will be Julie Clougherty's fourth plant-based *play day* and the second wreath and centerpiece party. The previous gatherings/workshops have been creative and fun. This is a great time to let you know more about Julie and her family.



Julie's "day job" is as a nurse. As folks in the health-care field know, a nurse's hours are variable. When not caring for the well-being of others, she's tending her garden—or raising chickens—or doing many things to take care of

Dotson Park and community programs in Danby.

Growing and arranging flowers blossomed out of a generous intention to bring beauty to those she helped heal in medical settings.

Julie has been active with both the Danby Community Park Association and the Danby Community Council for well over a decade. In fact, hands-on park improvements, maintenance, and program planning is a family thing for Julie. Her husband, Tom Janda, built and operates the pumpkin-flinging trebuchet that has been a part of Danby's Harvest Festival for close to 10 years.

Julie and Tom's grown kids have been active as well, presenting programs (particularly when one of them was working on requirements as an Eagle Scout), and serving as youth representatives on the DCPA board.

The family has been instrumental in planning the natural playground, building the hyper pavilion, creating a stage area for children's theater, and many other valued elements of the park. Creativity and community are central to who they are.

And it's all done with a light touch.

🐾 (pg)

HARVEST FESTIVAL: RAINED OUT

WE WERE ALL DISAPPOINTED. All the usual elements were in place. The trebuchet was adjusted and ready. Pumpkins were chosen and delivered. Games and face painting were arranged. The Cayuga Nature Center was on board to bring live exhibits and the Health Department was ready to teach us about, well, staying healthy. Musicians' fingers and hands were all warmed us to keep us warmed up!

Only one element was not in line. The *element* of nature. Some years, we've weathered our way through cold and mist. This year, the prediction—and, on Sunday, the reality—was just too cold and way too wet. The hay wagon might have gotten stuck in the back paths of Dotson Park. The fire for roasting hot dogs and marshmallows for s'mores would have been more steam and smoke than flame. We all would have been damp and miserable.

Danby Community and Park wants to extend a special

thanks to Bill Huizinga for allowing us—yet again—to glean his pumpkin patches for our trebuchet fodder. The Huizinga family has a farm fresh vegetable stand at their Willseyville property on Route 96B. In October, they specialize in pumpkins of all sizes for harvest-time decorations and Halloween carving. They grow more than they can sell. This is the third year they have allowed us to gather what we want, before the vines are plowed under. We are very grateful.

Next year's Harvest Festival is also planned for the second weekend in October. It's a Federal Holiday (Columbus Day and Indigenous People's Day) and we'll take advantage of that to offer one or two rain dates.

DCAP's still wants a celebration of its new beginning with merged energy. Perhaps something for Spring? Keep an eye out in the Danby News for information about programs in Dotson Park.

🐾 (pg)

☛ **DCAP Becomes Reality, con't from front page**

nity Park Association (the accounts are still in the old name) and send it to PO Box 6625, Ithaca NY 14851. Any amount, large or small, will help keep the Danby's community heart beating.

Winter time is perfect for dreaming and envisioning. What might be possible in the future? What does the Park need, and what can it maintain? We will be dreaming and imagining over the next few months, and gathering community ideas. Not all will be feasible, but we can at least ponder, what if...?

Most importantly, none of this would be possible without the strong support of our neighbors. Not only the dozens who were able to attend the meeting in July, but all those who voiced the near-unanimous approval and support of our mission. DCAP's Directors feel immensely grateful and uplifted by the support we've received. This gives us such hope and faith for the future. Thank you, thank you, thank you. 🐾 (pg)

WEATHER IN OUR HISTORY

THIS PAST JULY, tornadoes touched down in Central New York. Though Danby was spared it was an historic event. Tornadoes are fairly rare in this area.

In 2011 Danby did experience a tornado. It ripped through the northwestern part of town. A folder of facts and figures about the storm was compiled by Sue Beeners, the Code Enforcement Officer at the time. It is an interesting read. Here is one paragraph:

Twelve houses had minor to moderate damage. Three houses had major damage. One house was destroyed. Five accessory structures received minor to moderate damage. Four were destroyed. Miscellaneous damage occurred at nine properties.

The report goes on to report downed trees and other damage along the path of the storm. A map showing the path of the storm and where tornadoes touched down is included.

Compared to recent hurricanes and tornadoes, Danby's storm does not seem so noteworthy. But it was just as impactful to the individuals involved and it helps complete an overall picture of weather history in the whole country. And it tells a significant part of Danby's history.

Anyone who would like to add any stories of the tornado to the file, contact me, [mbarr@danby.ny.gov] or 607.277-2788 x1008. 🐾 (mab)

☛ **Danby is Jazzed, con't from front page**

The new Danby Food and Drink is off to a rocking start with its own Thursday evening music series. A great way to hear some rising stars in the local music scene, such performers as Cozmic Theo, Louiston, Rose Alaimo, Stacy and the Copycats. Jazz is also a favorite here, and may become a regular feature of the monthly programming. Who knew that Danby was such a cool place to groove?

If you like to make your own music, and want a chance to shine with your neighbors, check out the DFD's new *Open Mic* series on the 2nd Thursdays of each month. On those weeks, Danby Food and Drink welcomes in, "the weekend warriors, the half-retired moms and dads, the youth who are building up their artistry game, and everyone in between the chance to strut their stuff!" You're invited to bring music, jokes, poetry or whatever other performance art you care to share.

While you're at either South Hill Cider or Danby Food and Drink, take the opportunity for some high quality refreshment. Whether you crave dinner or a light bite, there's always something good. And it's not too far from home. Any of these music evenings are a wonderful way to enjoy the beauty of where we live, enjoy time visiting with family and friends, and support a local business all at the same time. 🐾 (pg)



Damage from the April, 2011 tornado.
(above) Comfort Road—newly completed home..
(Below) Hilltop Road.

photos by Ted Crane



REMINISCING #27

I WENT BACK to my Danby Column for November 11, 2004 for these items.

In 1918, the *War to End all Wars* (World War I) ended at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month, Armistice Day. We continue to observe it today as Veteran's Day. The freedoms we relish should be continuously remembered with gratitude, and appreciation for the courageous men and women veterans from past, present, future.

Through the years I had heard lots of ideas for what I called the Danby Wish List. The list included a laundromat, a restaurant, a car wash, and a post office. I think today, in 2024, we would still like to have these places in our neighborhood!

Tim Merritt had come back from his most recent Reserve training with some exciting news. While at Nellis Air Force Base outside Las Vegas, Tim and some buddies used some R&R time to stop in at Jimmy Buffet's Margaritaville Restaurant on the strip. They were introduced to Jimmy Buffet himself, who invited them to be his guests for dinner and a show!

Since Danby kids were now going to South Hill Elementary School, I wrote about a 50s sock hop being planned for the 50th anniversary of the current South Hill School building. During the week there would be school tours, music, and a birthday cake!

The Cornell University Klezmer Ensemble would be giving a free concert on November 21 in Danby's Town Hall. Klezmer was originally the ritual and celebratory music of the Yiddish-speaking Jews of Eastern Europe, where it developed over the course of many centuries.

I had heard from Don Burdick, a former Danby neighbor who moved to Florida with his family. Don was the principal at the Danby Elementary School from 1966 until it closed in 1979. Don reminisced about school field trips and overnight stays in New York City, Niagara Falls, and Washington, D.C. with students. Don said he misses his vegetable garden, friends, and fishing in the streams of West Danby, but he did not miss the snow and cold weather. Sadly, both Don and his wife, Mary Lou, have passed away, but my heart will always be filled with sweet memories of those years and that wonderful Burdick family. (Hello to daughter Lori Burdick and son Bobby Burdick).

Apparently, hunters know all about "the rut." The rut (the breeding season for whitetail deer) usually begins after the last full moon in October and lasts for 2-3 weeks. Boy chases girl, and the pursuit often involves the deer darting across the road, so please be careful driving during this time.

NOTE: As I am writing this in early October for the November Danby News, we are counting down the days until we see our grand-daughter, Maddison Huddle. She's been in Army training for 19 weeks at Fort Sill, OK. She will have a few days at home before her first assignment begins on October 19 at Osan Air Force Base in South Korea. She graduated from the Air Defense Artillery program with very high grades. We will be missing her like crazy but we are so proud of her. According to the Army's Field Manual 3-01, the mission of Air Defense Artillery is, "to protect the force and selected geopolitical assets from aerial attack, missile attack, and surveillance."

Happy Thanksgiving to one and all!

🍂 (gh)

HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE

THE 2024-2025 REGULAR HOME ENERGY Assistance Program (HEAP) benefit is scheduled to open November 1, 2024.

HEAP provides assistance with fuel and utility expenses for income-eligible homeowners and renters. HEAP may also be able to help with furnace repair or replacement. The Tompkins County Office for the Aging processes HEAP applications for persons over age 60, and for those who receive SSI or SSD, and do not receive Food Stamps.

An early outreach application was mailed out in September for those who received a benefit the prior season. Submit those applications as soon as possible since HEAP is a first come, first serve program. On November 1, those who did not receive a HEAP benefit the prior season can get an application.

The current income eligibility levels for HEAP in 2024-2025 are: Household Size 1: \$3,322, 2: \$4,345, 3: \$5,367.

For questions or to have an application mailed to you contact the Tompkins County Office for the Aging 607.274.5482.

🍂 (tc)

Three goals for the voting public:
Stability. Security. Dignity.

Why don't buffalo use cell phones?
Fear of roaming charges.

SUPPORT DANBY'S HEART

Help Fund Our Park and Community Programs!

DANBY COMMUNITY AND PARK is dedicated to maintaining Dotson Park and providing engagement and information to bring our community together. From outdoor activities like birdwatching and hiking, to concerts and educational programs and publications, our mission is to create a space where everyone can enjoy nature and connect with their neighbors.

However, we can't do it alone! Our organization is powered by local volunteers, and now we need your financial support to keep our programs thriving and the park a welcoming space for all.

Visit [\[givebutter.com/DanbyCommunityAndPark\]](http://givebutter.com/DanbyCommunityAndPark) to contribute.

This year, we're aiming to raise as much as \$25,000 to fund:

- Park Maintenance: Help us care for Dotson Park so it remains a beautiful, safe, and accessible place for everyone.
- Community Programs: educational workshops, concerts, publications, our annual Harvest Festival, and more. Your contribution makes all this possible.
- Continued Growth: With your help, we'll continue enhancing the park's offerings and expanding free programming for all members of the Danby community.

Your support ensures that Danby remains a place where people can come together to play, learn, and enjoy the outdoors. Every dollar counts toward making our community stronger. Donate today to keep the heart of Danby beating strong! 🐾 (ap)

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, November 21).

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. 🐾

The man is the head, but the woman is the neck.

—My Big Fat Greek Wedding

COMMUNITY LIBRARY

THE LIBRARY IS STAFFED by volunteers on Tuesdays, 1-3pm, Thursdays and Saturdays, 10am-Noon, but all are welcome to come in and browse anytime Town Hall is open. Self check out is available and comfy chairs to sit and read if you'd like a quiet space. The children's area has a small table with plenty of books for all ages as well as some toys.

Thanks to the Cornell Companions the kids had a dog-gone good time reading with Gus, Gayla, and Toucan on October 5!

Our trip to the Friends of the Library Sale was a big success! We were able to pick up several books from some favorite authors. Here's a few:

John Grisham	Camino Ghosts
Charles Todd	A Fine Summer's Day; A Matter of Justice; Racing the Devil; A Duty to the Dead; The Shattered Truth
Richard Osman	The Last Devil to Die
Elly Griffiths	The Chalk Pit; The Dark Angel; The NightHawks
Ann Cleeves	The Crow Trap; Telling Tales; Hidden Depths; The Glass Room; Harbour Street; The Moth Catcher
Frieda McFadden	The Housemaid's Secret; The Perfect Son; The Teacher; Want To Know A Secret?
Sarah J. Maas	A Court of Mist and Fury; A Court of Frost and Starlight
Ruta Sepetys	Salt of the Sea
L.Montgomery	Anne of Avonlea 🐾 (cp)

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 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)

SENIOR STRENGTH TRAINING

LOOKING FOR A LOW-PRESSURE way to stay in shape? The Senior Strength group meets via Zoom on Mondays and Thursdays, 9:30-10:30am.

We're always eager to welcome new participants: it's free, no pressure if you have to go light-duty, no obligation to attend every time, and we always chat and laugh as we work out.

The only things you need are a kitchen-type chair, a set of weights (some use cans of soup; most of us are using 1 or 2 lb. weights), a rubber ball, and an internet connection.

Contact Joanne Church, [jmcchurch@twcny.rr.com] for more info. 🐾 (jmc)

HOSPITALS SIMPLIFY

New York State has mandated that—effective this October—all hospitals must use the same, simplified application for hospital financial assistance.

The income limits have been improved so that even more households are eligible. This includes: patients without insurance and “underinsured” patients, both with incomes up to 400 percent of the Federal Poverty Level. (“Underinsured” patients are defined as those whose paid medical expenses have exceeded 10 percent of their income during the last 12 months.) 🐾 (tc)



Autumn Colors on Lieb Road

photo by Ted Crane

This Issue's Writers

- | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
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SENIORS UPDATE

THE FALL FOLIAGE TRAIN EXCURSION on the Arcade and Attica Railroad, with lunch at the Turkey Run Golf Club, was a great time for all who joined.

There is one more trip before the end of the year, and there are still seats available. Join us as we travel to NYC for the day to see the Rockettes Christmas Spectacular on December 4. This trip will also include time on your own to grab a bite to eat and shopping. Cost is \$130 per person. If you are interested, please get in touch with Tammy, [tm124@yahoo.com].

Our November dish-to-share will be held on Thursday, November 7 at noon in Danby's Community Church. Bring your own table service and a utensil to share your dish.

Don't forget the annual Christmas Party on Monday, December 16, to be held in the Eagles Club's banquet room, 161 Cecil Malone Drive (behind Wegmans). The cost is \$27 for members. If you would like to attend, please get in touch with Tammy, [tm124@yahoo.com], or Theresa, [tklinger617@gmail.com]. 🐾 (tk)

True: An Iowa State Senator claimed he had a business degree. It was a training certificate from Sizzler.

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DANBY NEWS: EVENT CALENDAR

Nov 2 • Sat

9:15am 🏠 Town Hall • Library Volunteers Meeting

Nov 3 • Sun

3am 🏠 Lots of Places • Clocks Fall Back

Nov 4 • Mon

6pm 🏠 Town Hall+Zoom • Town Board Meeting
 Public Hearing: Proposed 2025 Budget

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 and Park 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

Nov 18 • Mon

6pm 🏠 Town Hall+Zoom • Town Board Meeting

Nov 19 • Tue

7pm 🏠 Town Hall+Zoom • Planning Board Meeting

Nov 21 • Thu

4pm 🏠 Community Church • Danby Food Pantry

Nov 26 • Tue

7pm 🏠 DVFC Station/YouTube • Fire District Meeting

7pm 🏠 Town Hall+Zoom • Board of Zoning Appeals

Nov 28 • Thu

All Day 🏠 All Over • Thanksgiving

Dec 2 • Mon

6pm 🏠 Town Hall+Zoom • Town Board Meeting

Dec 4 • Wed

5pm 🏠 WD Fire Station • West Danby Water District

Dec 5 • Thu

Noon 🏠 Community Church • Seniors

7pm 🏠 Zoom • Danby Community and Park Mtg

Dec 7 • Sat

9:15am 🏠 Town Hall • Library Volunteers Meeting

Dec 9 • Mon

7pm 🏠 DVFC Station • Fire Dep't Meeting

7pm 🏠 WDFC Station • WD Fire Dep't Meeting

Dec 10 • Tue

7pm 🏠 DVFC Station/YouTube • Fire District Meeting

7pm 🏠 Zoom • Conservation Advisory Council

Dec 15 • Sun

2pm 🏠 Slow Lane Great Room • Seasonal Song Sing

Ongoing Events

Seniors Strength Class 🏠 via Zoom

Mondays and Thursdays, 9:30–10:30am

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

Meeting	Date	Zoom MtgID	Passcode
Town Board	Nov 4	882 2697 6101	905098
CAC	Nov 12	835 4940 5296	879507
Youth Commission	Nov 14	See Town web site	
Planning Board	Nov 19	893 3897 1114	956288
Town Board	Nov 181	847 9505 5187	308958
Zoning Appeals	Nov 26	Unknown?	None?
To join a meeting by telephone, call 646.876.9923			

Warning: Zoom meeting info and agendas change frequently!